



Lifeline

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church

office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org

VOLUME 19
ISSUE 8

August 2026



A Message from Our Rector, *Fr. Kevin M. Cross*



August Picnic/Ice Cream Social



New Member Gathering



Columbarium Work In Progress



Hildebrand Concert

Camp Wright Watering Station





CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Appreciation and Gratitude to **Amy Morgan** for service as our organist at Sunday services and a funeral during Cora's absence for knee surgery.
- Appreciation and celebration on the success of Cora's surgery and return on July 26 for our services and the Leon Fleisher Academy concert.
- Thank you to all who helped with the Academy concert and much appreciation for the young pianists and violinists who delighted us with their beautiful and astounding music program. I wish I had listened to my parents and kept up the piano lessons!
- Thank you to all who assisted with our 1789 Eucharist service and concert in honor of this country's 250th anniversary.
- Much gratitude to the **Cawley family** for picking up the debris from the storm early in July from the church and the whole town. Great community spirit.
- Thank you to our **Jr. Wardens** who have been kept on their toes with all of the storms this summer. The grounds look great and the buildings well-maintained.
- Thank you to the generous donors to our mission fund. You enabled us to donate \$10,000 to Doctors Without Borders working in Venezuela for Earthquake relief.
- Thank you to the donors of food to our weekly Food Pantry collection. You have fed many hungry souls.
- Thank you to the **Daughters of the King** for your dedication to daily prayers for this community.
- A special note of gratitude to **Ginny and Rich Wagner** who were such vital members of this parish. We wish them all the best with their move to the Northwest to be closer to family. We love you!

Blessings. Fr. Kevin

Connie's Corner



"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born... and the day you find out why."~ **Mark Twain**

"Death is not the greatest loss in life. The greatest loss is what dies inside us while we live."~ **Norman Cousins**

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"~ **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

"You cannot do kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late."~ **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness."~ **Dalai Lama**

"Always be a first version of yourself and not a second rate version of someone else."~ **Judy Garland**

"Too many people spend money they earned to buy things they don't want to impress people that they don't like."~ **Will Rogers**

We must do all we can for the embattled in war
So many lives, especially children, with their hearts
tore

God wishes for us all to exist in peace
This should be something we can do with ease
Rebuilding, re-kindling faith, wish there were a pill
To restore lives, to make sure it isn't an ongoing hill
And we still must do our part
To help our local needs with all of our heart
So begin to save a little, put some money away
Remember, even though you enjoy it, do you really
need that latte!

Written by Connie Greenhawk

If you would like to submit a favorite saying or thought,
email to [Connie at office@holytrinityoxfordmd.org](mailto:Connie@holytrinityoxfordmd.org)

Milestones

Marriage

Christopher Schultz and Catherine Cook

Passed On

Shirley Deeley

Venezuela Relief

Many of you have asked if we are able to do anything to help with the earthquake relief in Venezuela. As you may know this was a devastating quake that brought down homes and buildings and resulted in a great loss of life. While some organizations are collecting clothing, our research showed that relief organizations in Venezuela could more readily use funding. Our Mission team researched the best organizations able to offer relief that qualify under qualifications we have identified to ensure the best use of funding for direct relief. Curt Reintsma has been an invaluable member of the mission team in helping us identify the best resources. We decided to donate \$10,000 to Save the Children, an organization with an ongoing presence in Venezuela fully capable of offering medical, food, shelter, and social services to Venezuelan families. We have worked with this organization many times in the past supporting relief efforts. The funding for this donation is provided from a privately donated fund to be used for local, national, and international relief as we try to create glimpses of heaven on earth for all of God's people.



Parish Diocesan Discernment Information Meeting Sunday, September 6th after the 9:30 am service

The Diocese of Easton is in a time of transition and discernment. We are currently without a Diocesan Bishop and so the Standing Committee is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. The Standing Committee has arranged for the Rt. Rev. James J. "Bud" Shand to be our Assisting Bishop while we discern our future as the Episcopal Church on the Eastern Shore.

To be inclusive of all diocesan parishes, the diocese has invited each parish to hold a meeting to educate and solicit opinion about the discernment process. At this meeting, a showing of a video prepared by the Diocesan Discernment Team will be followed by a discussion designed by the committee to gather information and opinions.

Holy Trinity will hold our Discernment meeting at Fellowship on Sunday, September 6th immediately following the 9:30 am service. Gordon Fronk, member of the Diocesan Discernment Committee, will help us conduct this meeting.

We hope many of you will join us to ensure our thoughts and prayers are represented at the diocesan level.

A Note of Encouragement from our partner, Diane Thomas, of Scotts Methodist Church Food Pantry on the Go

God is the joy and strength of my life. He removes all pain misery and strife. These lyrics radiates in my heart, my belief, my faith, my hope, and my trust in Jesus Christ. May each of you find that joy in singing. Especially hymns that can bring peace, comfort, relief, appreciation, contentment and joy to your soul and to others.

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced." Psalm 126:3.(By Singing)

Then always give thanks, making sure to accept the blessings and give thanks for everything.

Let gratitude flow and grow for the power of the Spirit that is within each of us. God is guiding us. We serve an all-knowing God. He is present in all things.

Remember that even the smallest things can carry great potential. The singing of a song, a kind word, a smile, a few moments of your time, a look of hope, concern, love, or even a simple prayer. These things can grow into something bigger. God can use even the tiniest acts to accomplishing great works. May this be an endless chain of encouragement.

"The Voices of God's Creation" "Keep Your Head Up"

Be Encouraged.

Love, Diane



GROUP ACTIVITIES

Sunday school resumes September 13th!



On September 13th at the 10:00 service we will welcome old and new friends. As usual, we will meet for a Bible story and activity at 10:00 and then go into the parish hall at the peace. **During this service, we will continue with our tradition of the blessing of the backpacks. All ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to be blessed.**

Sunday school is a one room school house for children ages 5 through 12. Using Bible stories, our lessons focus on God's unconditional love for us and how Jesus showed us how to live our lives. As a way of living the gospel, the children participate in mission projects, such as the Lenten Change for Change program.

We meet the second and fourth Sundays during the 10:00 service. Please let me know if you have children, grandchildren, and/or neighbors who would like to join us.

If your child is over age 12, they are certainly welcome to come to Sunday school as a helper. We also welcome their help as acolytes and we are planning on having various youth group activities throughout the school year.

If you are interested in any of these activities or would like further information, please contact me at barbaracross22@gmail.com



Youth Group

Calling all youth! We are forming a group for our youth who are 12 years of age or older. This group will meet once a month to share good times, work on projects and discuss faith issues of concern to youth. Christian service projects and occasionally getting together with other youth from around the diocese will be part of this experience. We will structure many of our activities around learning about God and faith through nature and service. It promises to be a time of fellowship, fun and faith formation. Please see or call Fr. Kevin to express your interest and/or to address any questions.



WOMAN ON A JOURNEY

With summer in full swing, I wanted to send out an early notice of some *changes to our September schedule*.

Come join us for our Wel-

come Back gathering – a time to share stories and discuss our summer reading

Life: A Love Story, by Elizabeth Berg

This newly published book, March 2026, is a warm, intimate novel about the people and things that make up a life.

In September, our meetings will be the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month

September 9th and 23rd 9:00 am – 10:30 am

We will meet in the Parish Hall and via Zoom

For more information contact Beverly Rohman at 410-829-9561 or beverlyrohman@gmail.com

Inquiring Believers Men's Bible Study to Begin Meeting on September 21

On Monday, September 21, the *Inquiring Believers* Men's Bible Study group will begin its 2026-27 weekly sessions. We meet each Monday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall. We will begin our studies by viewing and discussing the MTV film, *Teilhard: Visionary Scientist*. The film explores the work of 20th century French paleontologist and Jesuit priest, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ and his struggle with church authorities to publish his writing on the relationship between evolutionary theory and research, and Christian faith. We will dedicate our first four sessions to the Teilhard film.

Our gatherings are marked by friendly social interaction and the sharing of ideas and opinions through lively discussion. We often try to look at current events through the lens of a Believer. As always, we are happy to welcome new members. If you would like to join in, please contact Bob Kelly at kellyrf@lemoyne.edu or Dave Poe at davidrussellpoe@gmail.com



GROUP ACTIVITIES.



Our prayer shawl ministry is an extension of our pastoral care to members of our community who are ill and/or home bound. Members of this ministry knit our Prayer Shawls and while doing so he or she is in prayer for the person who is to receive it. *"As I make this prayer shawl I prayed for the one who will receive it. I prayed for that one to receive from God the help needed. I prayed that they would be reminded that they are not alone. I prayed that they would find in this shawl a place of comfort and strength."* At our monthly healing Eucharist service, the shawls are blessed and then gifted to those in need by Fr. Kevin and our pastoral ministry team. We **need volunteers to knit shawls for distribution**. If you like to *"kinit one, purl two..."* this is the ministry for you! If you are interested in joining this vital ministry, please call the parish office or Suzanne Fischer.

Would you like
to help at the
food pantry?



Scotts Food Pantry on the Go

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12: 11- 13.

Our partnership with Scotts Methodist Church "Food Pantry on the Go" has led to opportunities for us to work with this critical partner of the local food pantry network. Several of us show up once a month to help distribute fresh protein, vegetables, and fruit at Scotts Methodist Church in Trappe. This ministry typically serves over 100 local families per month.

The next distribution day is Thursday, August 27th. We gather at 7:30 am and usually finish by 10. You are invited to join us in volunteering to help this wonderful mission. If you are available and interested, please email or call the church office 410-226-5134.



Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King, a worldwide order of women dedicated to prayer and service. Our next Daughters of the King Meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 11^h, 2026 at 9:00 am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.



The Trinity Forum at Holy Trinity Wednesday, September 23rd at 3 pm.

This forum offers interesting beginnings for discussions about faith, the role it plays in our lives and in leadership. The Trinity Forum (TTF), guided in its formative years by Os Guinness, has published a number of essays that challenge the mind and awaken the senses in our lives of citizenship and leadership. In the coming months, Al Sikes, who chaired the Forum's Board for a number of years, and I will lead these discussions around selected essays.

Our next forum will be held on Wednesday, **September 23rd at 3:00 pm**. We will consider an essay exploring Abraham Lincoln's leadership and faith. **Abraham Lincoln; Words that Challenge, Words That Heal** is a new essay written in observance of the 250th anniversary of the birth of our nation. *"If the story of Lincoln's political leadership has long been recognized, his faith story, and the ways he conveyed it in his speech and writing, have been either overlooked or misunderstood."* Our first forum on an essay by Victor Havel was a well-attended and lively event. The forum will be conducted in-person and via Zoom. Copies of the Lincoln essay will be available from the church office in early September. Please sign up by calling the church office or via the sign-up list in the parish hall. If you have any questions, you may **talk to Al Sikes or Fr. Kevin**.



Holy Trinity Helps Camp Wright

In the heat of July several intrepid souls answered a call from Camp Wright to build four water stations for the campers. Dennis Roberts, Sandy Wrightson, Tim Smith and as supervisor Al Smith worked as a team to construct the water stations which can be seen on the cover. The space under the Water dispenser is for a trash can but one ingenious camper used it to escape the hot sun. Thank you to our team of wood workers for blessings the kids with much needed relief!

Music

Music Lifeline News August 2026

Summer Leon Fleisher Academy Day



Sunday, July 26th Holy Trinity hosted select students from The Leon Fleisher Summer Academy for a fun afternoon complete with a boat ride, lunch, practice time, and a concert. Students had to compete for a boat spot, showing dedication to their studies, outstanding performances, and going “the extra mile!” Two students returned from previous years: Lily and Ming. The others were so excited to have time on the water and perform their pieces for a full audience.



Upcoming Hymn Sing

August 30th at 4 p.m. Monte Maxwell will lead us in an old-fashioned Hymn Sing! At the USNA these “Sings” are a favorite event so we thought we would share the experience with you. Think of your favorite hymn - rummage through the hymn book index - remember those times singing in church with your families and let Cora know! Please bring a friend and join us!



A New Quartet Comes To Holy Trinity!

In late June, I met a wonderful young violinist, Lily Wang, through Chesapeake Music’s Chamber Music Festival. Lily has an impressive musical background and was looking for performance experiences. While I was preparing/undergoing knee surgery, Denise Nathanson helped introduce Lily to a few Holy Trinity guest musicians and they are now a quartet! A great quartet! Sunday September 6th Ashley Watkins (flute), Lily Wang (violin), Nevin Dawson (viola), and Denise Nathanson (cello) will perform for their first time at our 9:30 a.m. service. Please join us as we welcome this new music ensemble!

August Service Musicians:

August 2 9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity Choir, Denise Nathanson (Cellist)

August 16 8 & 10 a.m. Services Amy Morgan, Substitute Pianist/Organist

August 23 8 & 10 a.m. Services Melissa Wise, Soprano

September 6 9:30 a.m. Flute Quartet (Ashley Watkins, Lily Wang, Nevin Dawson, Denise Nathanson)

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Amy Morgan for substituting for church & funeral services in July as I underwent Knee Replacement surgery.

Rev. Cross for covering service logistics, "watering" the piano, helping to organize the Academy student afternoon.

Ray Stevens and G. L. Fronk for taking the Academy students on a boat ride and all that goes with this adventure!

Gordon Fronk for organizing the kids boat ride and chauffeuring a couple in his fun car (a second surprise)!

Dennis Roberts & Sandy Wainwright for creating and helping with the Academy Lunch.

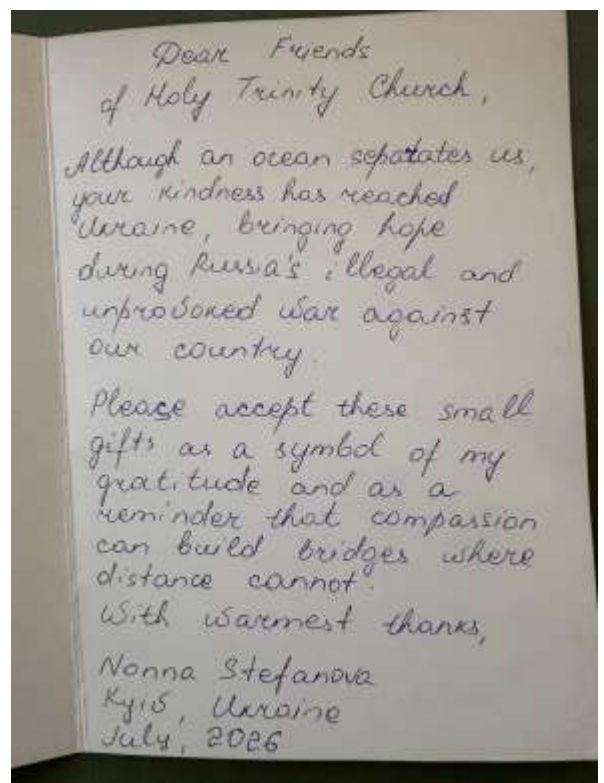
Vestry Members: Art Dent, Walda Roseman, Michelle Mactavish, Bill Ritchie; Barbara Cross and Carol van Erven for helping with the Academy Student afternoon and concert setup.

Connie Greenhawk for ordering boating shirts, hats, sunglasses.

If I have missed anyone who has helped cover my duties while I've been a little preoccupied, thank you. My recovery is coming along very well and my progress has been amazing!



**Appreciation From
Ukraine**





PO Box 387
Oxford, MD 21654-0387
410.226.5134
Email:
office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org
Web:
www.holyltrinityoxfordmd.org

The Church of the Holy Trinity



Lifeline

MISSION

The Church of The Holy Trinity, an Episcopal Parish in Oxford, Maryland: a caring Christian community dedicated to growing in God's love through worship, study, service and fellowship.

Who We Are

We are a small parish with a big heart comprised of committed people willingly sharing their talents to help those in need.

We are all seekers on a spiritual journey; encouraging of others also on the journey, and non-judgmental of where one might be on that journey.



Service Schedule is as follows:

Sunday Holy Eucharist Services are held 8:00 am and 10:00 am. On the first Sunday of every month a combined service at 9:30 am. All services are in-person and broadcast