



Lifeline

VOLUME 19
ISSUE 10

October 2026

The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church
office@holyltrinityoxfordmd.org



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



Thank You Oxford



Care Pack Donations



Dr. Debra Barbour

9-11 Memorial Candles



Backpack Blessing



Trinity Forum



DOC'S
SUNSET GRILLE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

DOC'S is partnering with Holy Trinity Church
to support Oxford's own
Dick Deerin and Peter Clancy
as they travel to Ukraine to deliver much-needed aid.

10%
OF ALL SALES
ON THURSDAY NIGHTS
IN THE MONTH OF
OCTOBER
WILL BE DONATED

SPECIAL GUEST BARTENDING
with
DICK DEERIN
PETER CLANCY
HUNT HENDRICKSON
and **FATHER KEVIN**
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

*Good People
Good Drinks
A Stronger
Ukraine*

Come out, show your support,
enjoy great drinks, and help send
much-needed aid to the people of Ukraine.



CHEERS and APPRECIATION

- Thank you to all who helped with our **10th annual Thank You Oxford Party**. Much gratitude to those who planned our event especially chairs **Trish Malin and Missy Warfield**, to the various committee heads, **Nancy and Dennis Roberts, Sandy Wrightson, Chefs Larry Paz, Rene van Erven, and Jim Foster**, Food providers, **TAYC, Docs and all of our good home cooks, Jenz Frenz** for the music, **John Malin** for piping us in, and **everyone** who helped set up, host and clean up. The largest crowd ever (~ 170+) enjoyed a marvelous evening of fun, food, and music. Thanks to God for the marvelous weather!
- Appreciation to **Ben and the Doctor Computer crew** for designing and installing the upgrades to our streaming and projection capabilities. You are the best!
- Deep gratitude to **all** who have so generously contributed to our **Send4Ukraine** mission. Thank you and prayers for **Dick Deerin and Peter Clancy** who will be helping drive trucks with relief supplies from Wales to Ukraine in October.
- Thank you to our **Mission team members** for their dedication to spread God's love through local food relief and support of missions locally and around the world who strive to make this earth a reflection of God's kingdom.
- Thank you to **Cora, Connie our Acolytes,, Altar Guild, Choir, Flower Guild, Guest Musicians, Readers, and Ushers** for their generosity of time, talent, and good spirit.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin



KIRKIN' O THE TARTANS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER
4th
9:30 AM

Holy Trinity will hold our annual Kirkin' of the Tartans service on Sunday, October 4th. This service is held to honor the role of The Church of Scotland in the founding of The Episcopal Church. We also honor our town's many ancestors from Scotland who settled this community. A Celtic Holy Eucharist service will be celebrated, and our festivities will include our choir, bag-piper music., and the wearing of kilts. We will sing hymns, pray prayers from our Celtic roots, give thanks for our heritage, and bless the Tartans.

Milestones

Passed On Shirley Bruner, 9/28

Connie's Corner



"Some people believe holding on and hanging in there are signs of great strength. However, there are times when it takes much more strength to know when to let go and then do it." ~**Ann Landers**

"Make up your mind that no matter what comes your way, no matter how difficult, no matter how unfair, you will do more than simply survive. You will thrive in spite of it." ~**Joel Osteen**

"In times of great stress or adversity, it's always best to keep busy, to plow your anger and your energy into something positive." ~**Lee Iacocca**

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.'" ~**Eleanor Roosevelt**

Life is a mysterious thing
 Keeping you on your toes for what it may bring
 The ups, the downs, the in and out
 Things that want to make you shout
 Take the time and reflect
 Take any anger and redirect
 God gave you a heart full of love
 And it is always with you, like the whispering wings of a dove.

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)



Dinner Church
Wednesday, October
28th at 5:30 pm

We are continuing our series of potluck dinners this month. These dinners have all the epicurean and fellowship delights of a typical potluck dinner combined with a church service. This Dinner Church is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th 5:30 pm. The dinner will include an evening prayer service. The potluck theme is **Autumn/Halloween**. Let your imaginations run wild and let's share each other's gastronomic vision of Autumn/Halloween to carry us into the fall.

A sign-up list is posted in the Parish Hall or you may call the office at 410-226-5134 to RSVP.

Celebrating God's Good Graces Through Stewardship

Hopefully you have all been eagerly anticipating our annual stewardship appeal. J Once a year, we formally set aside time to assess what is meant by stewardship. We think about what we are individually and collectively being called to do with our time, money, and talent to grow, strengthen and enrich our mission as a church. Our mission, as passed down from Christ to the apostles to us, is to create a glimpse of God's kingdom here on earth, in this time and place. I am sure many of you might be inwardly groaning: *Oh no, here comes the money pitch.* Well, I am not going to deny it. My hope is that my comments will help you discern what you are being called to do to support this community. I hope to build a framework within which you will be able to discern God's call for you to engage in stewardship.

We shouldn't and can't be reluctant to discuss such a topic in church. After all, if you take a careful look at Jesus' teachings, Jesus focused many of his teachings on "just" economics and the proper use of wealth. Why? Because he knew that our relationship to money, how we control it or let it control us, impacts our entire lives. No doubt, material treasures can be the source of good. However, the allure and immediate gratification offered by such treasures also has the potential to overwhelm us and create discord in our spiritual life. Therefore, we cannot nor should we even try to ignore talking about it.

In his letters St. Paul wrote to church communities about issues that were impacting their development. In several letters he addresses the topic of money. His point is usually to be careful not to love money too much and to realize that issues about money and its proper use can be as damaging to a community and to one's personal spiritual journey as anything else.

Especially these days, as we all know, money can be the source of much anxiety. We all worry about having enough, we mourn the loss of what we may have lost in times of market turmoil, and we all spend an inordinate amount of time feeling anxious about money. I urge you to listen to what Paul writes to the people of Philippi. *"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God."* In other words, pray and bring everything no matter how trivial or insurmountable to God. This may sound too contrite, too easy to say but, really, has excessive worrying ever made your situation any better? We have a God, who is head over heels in love with us. Bring your worries to God and ask for God's care and guidance. You may or may not be enriched in material ways, but I guarantee you, you will worry less. And really what price can be put on the easing of anxiety and tension?

Good stewardship is the expression of gratitude. We are blessed and then invited by God to celebrate and express our gratitude through sharing our blessings. If we accept God's invitation, our acceptance must lead to action. The action that is called for is to bring ourselves and all that we have to the feast. Stewardship is how we demonstrate our desire to accept God's invitation. It is part of how we express our gratitude for the blessings of this life.

There are two key verbs that describe stewardship: call and go. We respond to God's call for good stewardship and that response begins with acknowledgement of the goodness extended to us through God's good graces. Accompanying this call is an invitation for us to go. To go out and invite others to God's banquet. This feast is not for us alone. We are expected to go forth in gratitude and share our blessings with one another.

We can clearly express our desire to accept God's call through our stewardship. We are called to collectively pledge our treasures to meet the financial and talent needs of our mission as The Church of the Holy Trinity. Such needs are seen in mundane budget items like the upkeep of buildings, salaries, and educational expenses to help us grow, music to help us rejoice, and a myriad of other expenses. What I find so remarkable about this congregation is its prioritization of mission. You are a very generous community who are committed to bring the Good News beyond the walls of this church to the local communities and to those in need around the world. Each year we make a commitment to set aside a tithe of our pledge budget for mission. Most years we have greatly exceeded this goal – a reflection of your love for all of God's good creation.

It is important to keep in mind that all of these things equip us with the capability to carry out our mission of spreading the Good News. In practicing generosity, we answer the call of God's mission. We enable this community to go forth and create glimpses of God's kingdom. When this small community does so, it is like a small pebble dropped in a pool of water that creates ripples love, mercy, and goodness that spread out to the very ends of the earth. I urge you to keep this in mind as you make your decision about how you will respond to the stewardship pledge drive. I ask you to think about the blessings in your life and decide how you will give thanks to God for his bountiful care. And, most of all, I encourage you to pray for guidance about it and all things.

Blessings. Fr. Kevin



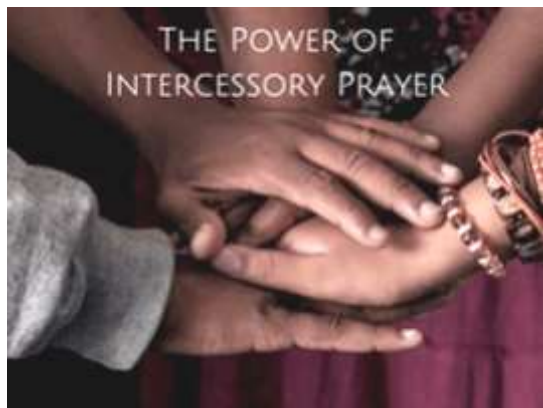
GROUP ACTIVITIES



Sunday School

Christmas Pageant

Yes, it may seem early but we need to start planning for the Christmas Pageant now. It is typically at the 3:00 family service on Christmas Eve. If you have children or grandchildren who would be interested in being in the pageant, (perhaps they are visiting for the holiday), please let Barbara know. I modify the pageant based on who will be able to participate. One year we had three queens instead of three kings. All ages are welcome, including adults if you feel called to do this.



Intercessory Prayer Group – Tuesdays at 8:30 am

Paul exhorts his followers in the following manner, *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. Be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”* **Ephesians 6:18**

We as Christians are called to prayer for ourselves, others and the whole of creation. I believe strongly in the power of prayer. One of my t-shirts carries the logo saying, **“Prayer is the most powerful form of wireless communication.”** Intercessory prayer is when we take up the welfare and concern of others mediating to bring about healing and comfort. This group meets in

person and via Zoom at 8:30 am every Tuesday. Please consider joining for prayer bringing your intentions for yourself and others. These sessions run for 20 – 30 minutes.

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, October 13th, 2026 at 9:00 am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

WOMAN ON A JOURNEY

Come join us for our biweekly gatherings – a time to share stories and discuss our current reading.

Making Peace With What I Can't Control by Lysa Terkeurst.



This newly published book, September 2026, offers a life-giving alternative to the exhausting madness of trying to change people who don't want to be changed, prevent outcomes we fear, and manage things outside of our control

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

October 14th and 28th 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 Meets on Mondays at 5 pm

On Mondays the *Inquiring Believers* Men's Bible Study group will continue 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.

New Hearing Aid Device Assistance



Along with the recent upgrades to our audio and video systems we have installed a new system called **Audiofetch**. Audio Fetch is a new system that will stream the audio of our services and meetings in both the church and our parish hall. The system streams the audio to smartphones. Once the application is downloaded to a phone, this system works well as a hearing assistive device that streams audio to hearing aids allowing users to hear better without distractions or distracting others. If you are interested in using this technology, please see Fr. Kevin or look for the **Audiofetch** instruction cards in the church and hall.

Scotts Food Pantry on the Go

Would you like to help at the food pantry?



"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, September 22nd. 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.

Calling to Annual Meeting Summary

The 2026 Annual Meeting of The Church of the Holy Trinity will be held on Sunday, November 8, 2026 immediately following our 10:00 am service. At this meeting we will conduct our Vestry and Convention Delegate Elections for 2027. We will also acknowledge and give thanks for the service of Vestry members Martha Callahan, Thomas DeMarco, and Susan Grauel, whose terms will end on December 31, 2026.

The 2026 Financial report and 2027 proposed budget will be presented for your approval by Treasurer, Dick Deerin.

Our Junior Wardens Bill Ritchie and Michelle Mactavish will report on our 2026 Building and Grounds projects, planning for 2027, and we will hear a status report on the planning for the Gathering Garden.

Reports will be offered from leaders of our Mission, Sunday School, Worship, Women of Holy Trinity, Spiritual Development, and Music programs. All of these reports and more will be included in our 2026 Annual Report. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

A/V and Streaming Upgrades

In an effort to bring the experience of live worship to our community, we have made upgrades to our video and audio capabilities. You may have noticed a few glitches the past few weeks but those have now been addressed. You will notice a much-improved video and audio streaming experience. In addition, the audio in the church has been enhanced by the placement of two additional speakers. New to the church and hall is technology that will provide a clearer signal to those of you wearing hearing aids. This system, "Audio Fetch" will be available in the next couple of weeks. Also, a new projector has been installed in the hall that will enable much improved presentations of services and programs in the hall. We would appreciate hearing from you about your experiences and if there is anything you notice that needs further attention. These enhancements are funded by donations and contributions to our endowment funds.

GROUP ACTIVITIES**Pledges or Donations From Investment Accounts or IRAs**

Recently we have had some issues with the receipt of pledges made from investment accounts and IRAs. We have found a common factor with these donations and IRAs is that checks are being sent to the street address of the church or the street address is listed with a bank. It is important to know that the church is in the area of Oxford that does not receive mail delivery. All of our USPS mail is required to be delivered to our post office box (P.O. Box 387). Any mail addressed to the street address is not delivered to the church and usually bounced back to the sender. After we investigated several of these issues, we discovered that many of investment houses had not informed the representative that a check had been returned. Thus, you, the representative, and the church remained unaware of the receipt failure. This has caused confusion and led to inaccurate account statements.

What can be done? You can help by making sure your fund administrator is aware that all such mail must be sent to our Post Office Box. Thank you for your understanding and generous support.

Our address:
The Church of the Holy Trinity
POB 387
Oxford, MD 21654



Animal Blessing

in Celebration of the Feast of St. Francis

Sunday, October 4th at 12 noon

On the front lawn of

The Church of the Holy Trinity

502 S. Morris St.

Oxford, MD

**All creatures whether they walk, fly, swim, or
slither are welcome!**



More
Thank You
Oxford





The Holy Trinity Choir is full of exciting, friendly people who love to sing together. We are looking to welcome new members. Travel frequently? No Problem! Work on Fridays? No Problem! We sing twice a month. You are welcome to come on the Sundays we sing early to rehearse.



Jenny Greenteeth
(The Chivalrous Crickets)

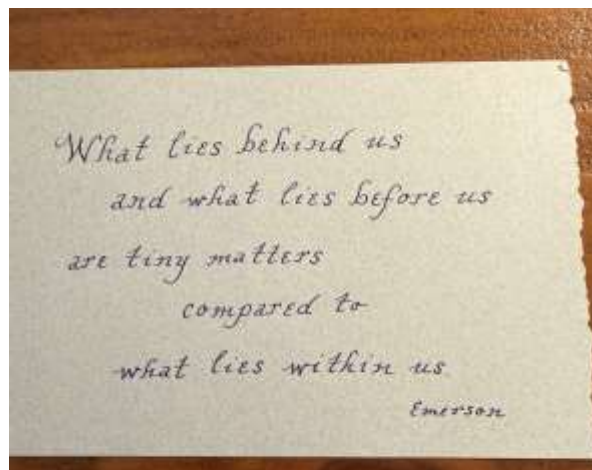
October 4, 2026 3 p.m.
The Church of the Holy Trinity
502 S. Morris St. Oxford MD 21654

A wonderful group of folk musicians performing music from Celtic and American traditions, Jenny Greenteeth captivates audiences with ancient Gaelic language repertoire, wonderfully weird British ballads and tunes from "beyond the veil," featuring vocal harmonies, harp and fiddles, Irish whistle, drones and percussion.

A free will offering will be taken up for the performers. Attendees are also requested to bring a non-perishable food item for local food pantries.



Care Pack Delivery



Singing Soldiers





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 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**