



Trinity Episcopal Church Trinity Parish Nursery School

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JESUS' EMPTY TOMB

APRIL - MAY 2009

Later this April, Dorothy, Anastasia and I will lead a group of pilgrims from Europe and the United States to Jordan and Jerusalem. We are always eager to return to the Holy City. During our last visit, I learned again that while pilgrims travel in groups of like-minded believers, they are always solitary. They are always in contemplation of the awesomeness of the God who walks beside them and who lies beyond all they encounter along the way.

Our final day in Jerusalem was unforgettable, and it was into this silent contemplation I fell as we entered the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to wait with hundreds of others for the opportunity to pray inside what remains of Jesus' empty tomb. The line was long and there was much to think about.

I thought about the very first Easter, about the women entering into Jesus' small cramped tomb. It must have been perfectly still there; God had lured them into the silence to speak. *Shhh*. Silence please. We hear this when somebody important is about to speak. "*Silence please, the President of the United States.*" It is only in the silence that one can actually hear someone important speaking. How much more do we need silence in order to hear God speak?

As the line moved along, I thought about the other pilgrims there. I tried to imagine what had

brought these pilgrims from the four corners of the earth to seek the poetry of silence inside the Empty Tomb. I thought too about the angel's words. They seem more for us then for the women, who came looking for a corpse. Why is it that we refuse to value life's paradoxes – that growth requires pruning, freedom depends upon restraint and happiness upon sacrifice? Why do we predictably choose what God has given us over God himself? And we would seek the living among the dead.

When my turn arrived to enter the small structure marking the tomb, my heart was bursting with anticipation. Among the flickering silver oil-lamps and worn stones, here surely I would meet the Risen Lord. I entered and prayed. But I heard nothing, and soon others sought to kneel in my place. And while I was perplexed about this, suddenly a young monk stood beside me, ushering pilgrims out of the tomb. No doubt he read my predicament, for the smile in his eyes said, 'Why do you seek the living among the dead?'

Over the past year, who among us has not been bitterly disappointed? Who has not thought that God has failed in this world? And yet, Jesus' resurrection is God's answer to all that would defeat and diminish us. Each of us bears the marks of God's grace. In spite of and sometimes because of

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life's hardships, God's purposes have made each of us beautiful, each of us strong, and each of us a pointer to God.

You and I are called to watch for where the Risen Christ is at work and to accept his invitation to risk, to help and to love. There are families to be strengthened; marriages to be healed; children to be tutored; there is AIDS in Lesotho to be defeated; there are refugees in New Haven to be integrated; and there is Fairfield and Bridgeport, black and white, rich and poor, to be brought together. Jesus' empty tomb says that Christ Jesus is among us.

May the power and the promise of the Risen Lord be ours. *Nicholas +*

SPECIAL HOLY WEEK LITURGIES AT TRINITY, APRIL 5-12

NEW PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION – DECORATED BIKE AND BANNER PARADE

Bike Decorating - 9:15AM Meet at Perry Green to finish decorating • Blessing of the Palms – 9:30AM at Perry Green • Procession up Center St. – 9:45AM • Bring a decorated bike & your helmet, stroller or wagon for the Procession.



Palm Sunday—April 5

- 9:15 am: Bike Decorating
9:30 am: Harbor-side Blessing of Palms and Procession from Perry Green
10:00 am: Passion Reading & Holy Eucharist at Church plus Young Person's Workshop.



Holy Monday—April 6

- 7:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Homily
7:00 pm: Holy Eucharist with Homily

Holy Tuesday—April 7

- 7:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Homily
7:00 pm: Holy Eucharist with Homily

Holy Wednesday—April 8

- 7:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Homily
11:00 am: Holy Eucharist with Homily

Maundy Thursday—April 9

- 7:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Homily
6:00 pm: Supper with Readings, followed by Foot-Washing and Holy Eucharist

Good Friday—April 10

- 7:30 am: Morning Prayer with Homily
9:00 am: Family Prayer Walk at St. Timothy's Church, Greenfield Hill
12 Noon: The Great Three Hours at St. Paul's Church, Fairfield
7:00 pm: Way of the Cross with Meditations

Holy Saturday—April 11

- 7:30 am: Morning Prayer with Homily
7:30 pm: Festal Easter Vigil at St. Timothy's Church, followed by Dinner

Easter: The Day of Resurrection—April 12

- 8:00 am: Festal Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am: Festal Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:30 am: Egg Hunt for Children

HOLY WEDNESDAY “WALKING WITH JESUS THROUGH HOLY WEEK” WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 7:00 PM

Please join us for a special interactive liturgy at 7:00 PM on Holy Wednesday, April 8, as we walk together through the final days of Jesus' life. The liturgy will be geared particularly toward young people and families. A series of live tableaux in the sanctuary accompany the telling of the Passion Story from the cross.

The liturgy invites all participants into a vivid reenactment of the final events in Jesus' life, from his anointing in Bethany to his redemptive words of love from the cross. [*The liturgy includes music and will conclude by 7:45 pm.*]

AGAPE SUPPER AND MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY

Maundy Thursday April 9, beginning at 6:00 PM In the Parish Hall. Please join us as we commemorate Christ's sharing of the first Eucharist with his disciples just before his betrayal and arrest in the garden. We begin our commemoration with a supper in the Parish Hall. After a homily by guest preacher Brian Scofield-Bodt, we continue to the sanctuary for the Eucharist, Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar. The Trinity Schola will sing music by Duruflé and Franck.



CURATE'S CORNER

Every year when spring arrives, I become restless. Thankfully, the longer days mean more time outdoors and the milder evenings give my dog, Toby, even more reason to persist with his stubborn presence at the door until we head out for a walk. We often walk until after the final bird calls and the outline of tree branches against the sky has faded. I catch the smells of damp dirt and pine and get an occasional whiff of a neighbor's grill. The dog is all over the place with his nose to the ground, a reminder that hibernation has ended for the wildlife in our woods nearby.

Walking at this time of year, I experience the infinite possibilities in a world crying out with newness. As Annie Dillard writes, "the landscape of the world is ring-streaked, speckled and spotted." The outdoors opens itself to our imaginations with things that are utterly new. The skunk cabbage appears from beneath dead leaves. Daffodils break forth from bulbs which had been their winter tombs. Children emerge from homes where doors and windows were sealed and silent all winter.

It's no surprise spring comes at Easter. New life is all around us and our risen Christ is with us. We live with the gift of new life—new patterns and new understandings in our creation. Even though we've lived through many springs, the newness we experience this time feels like we have never encountered a spring like this before. Time and winter numbed our senses. This year there were other extraordinary and troubling reasons: the economic downturn, the loss of jobs, and the dwindling value of stock portfolios and savings accounts on which we were relying for the future.

Despite all this, spring returns and so does Christ. Both are made present to us again. Irrespective of our circumstances, whether we like it or not, God cannot be suppressed or contained by our indifference or anger. God is faithful to his character as creator and will never destroy a part of this world. God is at all times and at all places present in our lives. Through his presence, all things—such as spring—are made present to us again.

With the presence of the risen Christ, we have the guaranteed hope of new life and healing from the one whose resources and possibilities—whose very *being*—can never be destroyed or limited by the destructiveness of

this world. This world offers us no guarantees, but our needs are guaranteed by the simplest of words: seek and knock and ask.

Like most things, there is a catch. The catch is that we must remember we are not of this world in the first place. We are God's. And it is God who will catch us up on this journey of life. It is up to us to trust we will be transformed—transformed in ways we might not have bargained for—into a new life of the risen Christ and in which hope springs eternal.

In Christ's Love,

Mother Dawn Stegelmann

STEWARDSHIP

At the request of the Vestry, a standing Stewardship Committee has been formed which will report to the Vestry on a monthly basis. This is the result of a series of fact-finding interviews with other Episcopal Churches in southwestern Connecticut and in light of the current economic environment and its impact on Trinity Parish.

One of the first priorities of this committee, chaired by Mother Dawn, David Williams and Nelson North, will be to broaden the definition of stewardship to include not only the annual appeal, but all of the time and talent so generously given to Trinity in the name of Jesus Christ. We will also be addressing communications and calendar coordination.

2008 Pledges

Final contribution statements for 2008 have now been sent out. If you have a balance remaining on your 2008 pledge, you can still honor that pledge, by sending in your check now. Simply note in the memo that the check is for your 2008 pledge balance. You will receive tax credit for the payment in 2009. If you have any questions regarding your statements or pledging, please email Melanie at finance@trinitysouthport.org.

YOUTH & OUTREACH

Midnight Run to New Haven

On June 29, Trinity youth will once again participate in the Midnight Run to New Haven. Organized by the 11th and 12th graders, and open to all Youth Group members, the run begins at 6 PM in the Parish Kitchen, where they will make bag lunches. At 7:15 PM, the group will head for New Haven where everyone will meet and serve the bag lunches to the hungry and homeless people. Donated clothing also will be distributed. Before heading home, the group will visit the Amistad Catholic Worker House, the home of a family that has chosen to live radically, opening their home to dinner guests five nights a week, hosting study groups and offering medical check-ups and all kinds of Christian service to their community.

Comments on the last Midnight Run

A few weeks ago, I joined our high school youth group on a trip to New Haven for the night. We all took a step out of our comfort zones as we put together bagged lunches and fed the hungry for a night through an organized program called Midnight Run. Midnight Run takes place every Monday night at Trinity Episcopal Church in New Haven and it is something that our PCS group has been trying to plan and set up for quite some time now. Our group was made up of Lenny Carlucci, Rob Merritt, Katie Urquhart, and myself. We were also accompanied by Eric Jeuland, Amy Dutter, and Judy Urquhart who graciously took the time to go shopping for the food that we prepared. We all got together an hour or so prior to our departure and put together about 75 bagged, balanced lunches. We also collected winter coats and other clothes, which we brought and handed out to anyone who needed them. Upon arrival in New Haven, we came face-to-face with a crowd of people waiting to eat. Before we could even get out of the car, people were already coming over to see what we had. We handed out some food and clothes there and we went to a Catholic Worker house that feeds many hungry and homeless people in the neighborhood. I can confidently say that this was a great experience for everyone involved. We hope to make this a regular event.

By Kimmy Clark, 17

Holy Week Taizé Service

On Wednesday, April 8, at 7 PM, the Youth Group will lead us in prayer. We'll have our youth play

instruments for this service, and we can always use more! The schedule that Wednesday is a little different than usual: all youth, grades, 6-12, are involved from 6-8:30 PM. Dinner will be at 6 PM, service preparation at 6:30 and worship from 7 to 7:45 PM. Dinner will follow the service.

Outreach Day Trip (not just for the youth)

Monday, April 13, from 9AM-3PM. Join us for an outreach day trip into New Haven: tour the Ronald Macdonald House where Eric lives, visit the Amistad Catholic Worker House where our youth bring food on 'Midnight Run' nights, see Yale and more. Chaperones and drivers needed.

'30 Hour Famine' to support WorldVision

The youth will join other Fairfield area churches and participate in the '30 Hour Famine', April 24-25, 7 PM-6:45 PM. We also will have an overnight Friday at Trinity. The goals are to raise as much money as possible to feed hungry children and save lives and to make a lasting impact on our lives by experiencing what it feels like to be hungry, learn more about hunger-related problems in the world. The cost is \$15 per person which includes a T-shirt, juice and water throughout the event and dinner on Saturday.



Americares HomeFront Work Day

May 2, 10:00AM-2:00 PM. Once again, Trinity will be going to work on a local project on May 2, 10 AM to 2 PM. All are welcome and there's something for everyone to do.

Sunday Morning Youth Service – May 10

On Sunday, May 10, at the 10 AM service, there will be a *coming of age* 'Rite 13' ceremony for our 13-year-olds, along with a celebration for our graduating high school seniors. A high school student will be the featured preacher.

♪ Notes from the Choir Loft ~ 2008 ♪ *from Alan Murchie*

SOUTHPORT SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2009 GALA OPENING CONCERT THURSDAY, MAY 14 AT 7:30 PM

The Knights Return

I am delighted to announce that The Knights Chamber Orchestra, the brilliant New York-based ensemble led by Colin and Eric Jacobsen, will return on Thursday evening, May 14, to join the Trinity Schola, Chorale and Choristers in music of Ludwig van Beethoven and Felix Mendelssohn. The concert will begin at 7:30 PM and will kick off an exciting second season for the Southport Summer Music Festival.

Encore Appearances by Last Summer's Favorites

The festival will also feature return appearances by members of the virtuosic string quartet Brooklyn Rider, award-winning clarinetist Romie de Guise-Langlois and baritone Jason Steigerwalt, whose "ear-catching

vocal beauty" was noted by New York Times after his 2008 appearance at Carnegie Hall.

Brilliant New Artists

Artists new to the festival include cellist Ashley Bathgate, whose recent Carnegie Hall debut won raves, and violinist/violist/conductor Daniel Lee, who recently shared a Lincoln Center stage with legendary violinists Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman.

The Festival Schedule

Please take a moment to mark your calendars with all the Festival dates! A flier with more information and a tear-off calendar will be distributed in the weeks after Easter. The festival is actively seeking assistance with ushering, ticket sales and hospitality/receptions. Please be in touch (255-0454 x308 or music@trinitysouthport.org) if you might be able to help! Please note that, due to the holiday weekend, there is no concert on May 24.



See back cover for complete schedule

THE TRANSITIONS GROUP

Trinity Transitions Group has grown in size since the last installment of this update. As the fallout from the credit crisis and the subsequent stock market and banking travails have led to resizing in many segments, so we have new attendees, both parishioners and not.

The Transitions Group seeks to provide the chance for impacted individuals to meet and receive the benefit of joining others who may be in similar circumstances to strategize, inform, and share experiences concerning the search for new opportunities or reinvention to meet demand in the new economy. The group presently meets midday, bimonthly on Thursdays. Interested individuals wishing further information may contact by telephone Jonathan Olson 255-9486 or by email jona-thanolson@optonline.net

Create Your Own Future. April 6, Monday 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Parish Hall. Jane Pollak is speaking on: Create Your Own Future. Successful entrepreneur, public speaker and business coach, Jane Pollak launched her business career in the unlikely field of egg decoration

while teaching school. Her book [Soul Proprietor: 101 Lessons from a Lifestyle Entrepreneur](#) offers practical advice on business, marketing and goal setting, as does her CD on [How I got on the Today Show](#). Her MasterMind/Coaching groups are sought after. Jane's inspirational session is sponsored by Trinity's Men's Group and Transition Group, and is open to the public. Bring a friend.

Trinity "Handymen" are looking for home maintenance projects critical to our senior parishioners with financial or physical limitations. This Trinity men's group initiative is aimed at helping our seniors get repairs made by us or through us. The committee will not be able to take all projects, but believe we can help many individuals who have no where to turn to get simple repairs made so their home can function properly. Contact: Steve Chandler, (630) 386.5096, schandler4@gmail.com, or Jim Funk, (203) 494.3954, hjfunk@optonline.net. We are also interested in anyone with trade skills who can help with these projects.

VOICES FROM OUR VESTRY

Warden's Update

There have been many exciting and wonderful events going on at Trinity! The Church services have been delightful and enriching and the programs are in full swing! With all that is happening we thought we should highlight three items that may not have caught your attention yet.

First, we elected new members to our Vestry. Now, we realize this happens every year but we want to make sure that the new members are well recognized even though we're sure you'll remember this class for many years to come. The new Vestry class attended a special introductory meeting for a refresher on Vestry operations and to bring them up to speed on the work done at the Vestry Retreat in January 2009. You may remember that at the Vestry retreat we coined the phrase, "*We seek to become informed Christians, fully alive in Jesus Christ*", to help focus our Vestry work on the most important goals. As always our Vestry members are available to talk with you about our programs, on-going operations and parish activities. Our newest Vestry members are, Bob Cunningham (2010), Kendall Crolius (2011), Darryl MacPherson (2011), Debbie Sullivan (2011) and David Williams (2011). You can find contact information for the entire Vestry on the Trinity Internet page at

<http://www.trinitysouthport.org>.

Second, the Vestry was given a special presentation by Pam Wesley and Peg North on Stewardship programs. Peg is an expert in demographics and gave a very good review of the special characteristics of the 06890 zip code which is where Trinity is located.

We have started the development of our full year Stewardship Program. One of our primary goals is to continue to build support for the astonishing activities we have by getting more people involved. This doesn't just mean within the

Parish but in our community as well. The activities at Trinity are open to everyone and we hope more people will help by volunteering to organize or support Trinity activities and also by helping us *SPREAD THE WORD*! Whenever you see notices about activities at Trinity, grab some leaflets and pass them out among your friends! We are growing in activities so help share our blessings by making sure our fellow parishioners, Southport neighbors and all the members of the Fairfield community are aware of the good work being done.

Be well, Christ lives!

Jan Perry, People's Warden

Drew Hiltz, Rector's Warden

TRINITY LOOKS BACK – 119 YEARS AGO – 1890

Throughout its long history, Trinity Parish has been deeply involved in the establishment of both church and inter-church publications within the area, Diocese and even the region. The 12th Rector, the Rev. Charles G. Adams, during his tenure, established a monthly paper, titled "The Church Record". "It was the first attempt in this country to put forth a publication which should serve as a medium of communication between the different Rectors and their parishes. All of the New England Dioceses, with the exception of Massachusetts, made it their official organ." Its circulation approached 10,000 copies.

The demands of this task led Rev. Adams to give up his parish post. "He found that when an avocation becomes a vocation, it makes other interests suffer." He resigned May 5, 1890.

By David Sturges (from Guilbert, *Annals of an Old Country Parish*).

THE HAFLI

Wiktionary describes hafli as "an Arab (typically Lebanese) dance party, usually with a professional band and lots of Middle Eastern food". A party is just what was enjoyed on March 7th as the Trinity chefs "cooked up" a Middle Eastern feast for all to enjoy.

The idea for the Hafli began at a luncheon prepared and hosted by Jean Moffitt for the prayer shawl knitting ministry. A simple inquiry, "Do you ever give cooking lessons?" took on a life of its own. Subsequent conversations with Fr. Nicholas evolved into plans for a parish-wide event to complement the March Middle East Forums and provide an evening of fun. Twenty-seven parish cooks signed up and applied their culinary skills to learning and preparing the foods featured on the buffet table.

The menu featured the thirteen "pillars" of Lebanese cuisine which include (but are not limited to) the national dish, "Kibbe" (both tartare and baked), "Fatayer" (individual meat and spinach pies), "Mihshi Waraq Inab" (meat and rice stuffed grape leaves), and "Tabbouleh" (parsley and wheat salad). It was representative of similar foods shared by many Middle Eastern countries.

A cousin's band was engaged to supply the music. They also demonstrated and led the Lebanese national folk dance, the Debkeh. Another committee provided for the festive ambi-

ance which included colorful scarves trimmed with bangles. Guests used these as "props" when they came up to dance (who knew we had so many wannabes?!).

The joyous spirit of the Hafli permeated this special evening at Trinity.



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Spring Curriculum

Kindergarten – 5th graders will have instruction in the following units:

April 19 & 26 *Teach Us to Pray*

May 10, 17, 24 *Breakfast on the Beach*

The K – 5th graders will rotate to a different Learning Station each Sunday. The Learning Stations for the Spring are: Art, Storytelling/Video and Games/Cooking. The various stations help to reinforce the unit being taught.

Preschool Spring Curriculum

April 19 – *Jesus Dies and Comes to New Life*

April 26 & May 10 – *The Friends of Jesus*

May 17 & 24– *Holy Spirit Comes*

The Bible stories for the preK children will be from the New Testament of the Bible. These stories have been chosen for their appropriateness for our younger children and to tell of Jesus' teachings, miracles and faithfulness to God. Each session includes flannel board figures, art, games, song and prayer.

If you would like to take a closer look at the weekly lessons or volunteer to be a co-teacher on a rotational basis please contact Wendy, Director of Church School at 255-0454x309.

Church School Calendar

Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday – No Church School – Childcare provided

Sunday, April 12: Easter – No Church School – Childcare provided

Easter Egg Hunt after 10AM service

Sunday, April 19: Church School Lessons - 9:45AM

Sunday, April 26: Church School Lessons – 9:45AM

Sunday, May 3: Parish Breakfast – No Church School

Sunday, May 10: Church School Lessons – 9:45AM

Sunday, May 17: Church School Lessons – Teacher Recognition at 10AM service

Sunday, May 24: Church School Lessons – LAST CLASS

Sunday, May 31: Pentecost Services at St. John's – All families are welcome

Special Young Person's Worship

Sunday, June 7: Trinity Sunday - *Trinity Sunday Picnic with games for the children*

There will be an **Easter Egg Hunt** for all children on Easter Sunday, April 12th, following the 10:00AM service. Children are asked to meet in the undercroft area of the church to await starting instructions. Easter egg collection bags will be provided.



Come to
Vacation
Bible School



Come to
Vacation
Bible School

Vacation Bible School 2009

Camp E.D.G.E.: *EXPERIENCE + DISCOVER GOD EVERYWHERE*. This year's theme is an extreme adventure camp where children will go on exciting Bible treks to experience and discover God everywhere, every day.

Extreme Bible Treks will introduce children to Bible characters who have experienced and discovered God in many ways. Kids will learn an E.D.G.E. Pledge with each story to encourage them to live their lives on the E.D.G.E. each day.

Children will extend their learning through every activity: making special memories at the Art Apex, singing new music at Music Max, experiencing science activities at Exploration Ridge, participating in recreational activities at the Rec Plex, and enjoying tasty snacks at the Snack Express.

Dates: August 24th – 28th, 2009

Time: 9:30am – 12:00pm

Place: Greenfield Hill Congregational Church, 1045 Old Academy Rd, Fairfield

Ages: 4 – 10 year olds may register

11 year olds – adults are encouraged to assist

Directed by: Trinity Episcopal and Greenfield Hill Cong. Churches

Registration: \$35.00/child Checks: to Trinity Episcopal Church

Look for your Camp E.D.G.E. registration form in the Church School web pages, in the Church School office or in the church office. Registration is limited so be sure to register early! Questions: contact Wendy, Director of Church School at Trinity Episcopal Church.

255-0454x309 or ws-churchschool@trinitysouthport.org



**MARDI
GRAS**

Vacation Bible School 2009



Date: August 24-28, 2009

Time: 9:30am – 12:00pm

Ages: 4 – 10 yrs

Location: Greenfield Hill Congregational Church, Fairfield

Registration Fee: \$35.00 (Checks payable to Trinity Episcopal Church)

Directed by: Wendy Steinfeld, Trinity Episcopal Church

Marcia Carothers, Greenfield Hill Cong. Church

Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Names: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (_____) _____ Cell number: _____

Home e-mail address: _____

Age: _____ School grade entering in fall: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Mother: _____

Father: _____

Other: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____ Latex allergy? Y N

Home church: _____

Name of 1 special friend your child might like to be with: _____

_____ **I would like to be a crew leader of a small group of children (no prep work)**

_____ **I would like to be a snack leader, music leader, science leader, craft leader**

_____ **I would like to help set-up the week before VBS (week of Aug. 17)**

_____ **I would like to help with the closing party on Friday, August 28 at 12:00pm**

_____ **I would like to make a donation towards VBS operations**

TRAVELS WITH TRINITY

MIDDLE EAST FORUMS

Thursday Evenings in Lent

Trinity Church Parish Hall

6:00 PM **Simple Supper**
6:30 PM **Evening Prayers**
7 – 8:30 PM **Programme and**
 Discussion

April 2: **Swords into Plowshares**
 Israeli and Palestinian
 Fighters talk Peace: a film

Presented by Bruce Barnett, Film-
Producer

Forums Are Free of Charge and
Open to the Public

Parking in Upper Lot on Corner of
Center Street and Pequot Avenue

grims are parishioners of Trinity Church. They will be joined by many others from Paris (France), Houston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Winston-Salem and Bakersfield. The purpose of our pilgrimage is to embrace new life and to grow emotionally, intellectually and spiritually through a deliberate encounter with our Lord in the land, in ourselves, in our fellow pilgrims and in the local Christians, Muslims and Jews we meet.

Please pray for us and the peoples of the Middle East while we are there. Pray for our personal growth and for healing and peace in the region. More precise details of the pilgrimage can be found on the Church website, www.trinitysouthport.org. Be well, Jesus lives!
Nicholas Porter +

Trinity in Kenya, August 2009

This August, Eric is planning to take several Trinity teens and adults to western Kenya to learn about Christian medical missions in a rural and undeveloped area. At the invitation of a self-taught Kenyan farmer and priest, Father Alfred Keyas, whom Eric and his wife, Jane, met on a trip in 2006, the travelers will be taught about income-generating projects and medical missions. The goal of the trip is to increase cross-cultural dialogue between Americans and Kenyans and between urban, suburban and rural people. Those interested in this trip, which will be Aug. 16-30, should contact Eric to find out more about the application process and pre-trip preparation.

Wednesday Bible Study on Pilgrimage

The Wednesday Bible Study with the Rector will be on Easter Pilgrimage for three weeks, and therefore will not meet on **April 8, April 15 and April 22**. We will resume our discussions of Biblical leadership and the Book of Exodus on Wednesday, April 29. Bring your lunch and bring your mind!

JORDAN – JERUSALEM

Pilgrimage Preparation Sessions

Sunday Evenings in Parish Hall

5 – 6:30 PM

April 5: **Sword and Scepter –**
 Modern History and Politics
 of Jordan and Jerusalem.

THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM!

To celebrate Easter this year, Dorothy and I are leading a pilgrimage to the Holy City of Jerusalem and to the other Holy Land of Jordan. We depart on the Tuesday of Easter Week, April 14th, and return on Saturday, April 25th. We begin in the Biblical Wilderness of Jordan and conclude our journey at the Empty Tomb of Christ Jesus in the Church of the Holy Sepulchere in Jerusalem.

Forty-five pilgrims, young and old, male and female, will join us. Several of the pil-

SAVE THE DATES



PENTECOST SUNDAY SERVICE

May 31 • 10:00 AM

St. John's Episcopal Church • 768 Fairfield Avenue

(at the corner of Park and Fairfield Avenues) • Bridgeport, CT 06604

6 congregations • 5 languages • 4 choirs • 1 great Celebration

Come Join the Fun!! • Special Activities for children

"And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?" Acts 2:8

CHURCH PICNIC TRINITY SUNDAY, JUNE 7



Trinity's annual church picnic is scheduled (rain or shine) for Sunday, June 7, immediately following the 10:00am service. There will be games of skill and chance and activities for children of all ages. The Men's Group will be in charge of grilling the hot dogs and hamburgers for all in attendance.

Please help to make the picnic a culinary success by bringing a dessert or a salad.

If your last name begins with letter A – L, please bring a salad to feed 8 – 10 people.

If your last name begins with letter M – Z please bring a dessert to feed 8 -10 people.

Volunteers are needed to supervise the children playing the games. Please call Wendy, Director of Church School, to volunteer. 255-0454 x 309

TRINITY TYMES

TRINITY PARISH NURSERY SCHOOL

A Note from the Director...

Happy Spring Everyone!

When I think of spring I think of new life, new beginnings, and most importantly, hope. It was a cold, snowy winter and I am ready to embrace the warmth and promise of the new season.

I am also feeling very thankful for all of the blessings in my life. As we prepare for our "Spring Into Trinity" gala I am grateful for your hard work and dedication to T.P.N.S. I see our parents volunteering in the classrooms, reading to the children, making special snacks, and sharing every day. You have all reached out to me over the past few weeks and I can't tell you how much that means to me. I am blessed to be a part of this special community. Thank you!

Here's to a spring full of love, laughter, and thanks for each new day.

Meg Reilly
T.P.N.S. Director

New Fives' Class

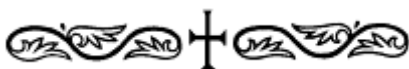
Due to popular demand we plan to open a second five's class this fall. Daphne Mitchell will head this class and work closely with Marianne Sabo for a smooth addition. Both five's classes will follow the same curriculum.

Souper Bowl

Thanks for your support with our soup collection in January. We collected 225 cans of soup for the Connecticut Food Bank.

Assemblies with Alan...

We had a wonderful assembly with Alan on Monday, March 16th. As the children become more comfortable, each class is "presenting" a song or two for the rest of the school. Please know that you are welcomed and encouraged to join us. The next assembly is scheduled for Monday, March 30th at 9:30am.



Madelyn Swift Presentation... April 8th

We are pleased to announce our partnership again this year with other area preschools and the United Way. Madelyn Swift will present "Navigating the Tunnels of Life" for all interested parents. T.P.N.S. has 35 free tickets for parents to attend. This presentation will be held at the Quick Center at Fairfield University at 7:00 pm. Let Michele know A.S.A.P. if you would like to reserve tickets.

Special Persons' Night Out...

We invite each child to bring a "special adult" with them to school on Tuesday, April 21 from 6:00-7:00 pm. They will begin the evening in their own classroom, followed by an ice cream party and outside play if weather permits.

Spring Into Trinity...Friday, May 1st

Save the date! Plans are underway for our second annual "Spring Into Trinity" gala. Thanks to all of our parents, families, and teachers who are working so hard to make this a successful event for our children. ALL proceeds from this event will be used to fund enrichment programs and build up our scholarship account for our families. Please feel free to contact Liz Giardina or Pam Iacono with any questions.

Volunteers for Next Year

We are looking for parents who are interested in helping out with special events and fundraisers for next year! We will need several volunteers to chair certain events. What a great way to be involved with your child's education. Please let Meg or Michele know if you can help. Thanks!

Donations Needed...

We are looking for any old towels to have on hand. If you have any available please send them to the office.

TPNS Summer Camp 2009...

We offer a three-week summer program for children attending our school. Camp begins June 1st

TRINITY Tymes

Continued from previous page

and will end on June 19th. Each class will meet from 9:15am-12:30pm. Generally, the teachers who are on our staff will be working at our camp. Registrations are due by Thursday, April 9th.

Parking

Our challenge continues to keep our children safe during drop-off and pick-up times. We have been advised that Center Street MUST remain free of parked cars at ALL times. The four-way intersection is extremely dangerous and cars parked on Center Street further block this area. Thank you for your cooperation!



Important Dates to Remember

Thursday, April 9th – Summer Camp Forms due
 Friday, April 10th – Good Friday (No School)
 Monday, April 13th – 17th Spring Break (No school)
 Tuesday, April 21st – Ice Cream Social (6-7pm)
 Friday, May 1st – 2nd Annual Spring Into Trinity
 Tuesday, May 12 – Annual Beach Party (Sasco Beach)
 (Raindate, Wednesday, May 13th)
 Wednesday, May 27th – Last day of school
 Monday, June 1st – 19th – Summer Camp

LEADER RECOGNITION DAY AND RECEPTION – MAY 17TH

For All



Trinity Church School Teachers, Shepherds, CMC Members and Youth Mentors!

All Teachers, Shepherds, CMC Members and Youth Mentors will be recognized for their ministry and service on Sunday, May 17th following The Peace at the 10:00am service. A reception for all Church School volunteers and their families will take place in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

CHRISTIAN MORALITY AND THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

A Trinity Adult Forum on Thursdays, April 23 and 30, May 7

6 PM Light Supper and 6:30-8 PM Presentation and Conversation

Mother Dawn will explore the meaning of spirituality and its relevance for the moral life in the contexts of suffering, hope and a better world.

NEXT EDITION OF THE SPIRE:

SUMMER 2009

Deadline for articles:

MAY 15, 2009

TRINITY'S HISTORY & NEWS

LUDENDORFF BRIDGE

Bill Wheeler

Remagen is a German town on the Rhine River. It has existed since the time of the Romans; surviving The Thirty Years War, the War of Spanish Succession, and conflicts between Russian and French forces during the Napoleonic period.

South of Remagen, with the onset of the Battle of the Bulge, the Bridge at Remagen became important. Toward the end of World War II, when the Allies were fast advancing eastward, the Bridge at Remagen was crucial. The Rhine is wide at this spot and if the Bridge were blown up by the Germans (which was their plan) the American army and the end of the war would be delayed - if not in question.

As the American army came in range of the Bridge, they were surprised to find it standing!. The Germans had thrown the switch three times to detonate bombs and knock out the bridge. Nothing happened. They had also blown a hole in the ground on the west end of the bridge twelve feet deep & thirty feet wide, to catch American tanks before they got on the bridge. A fierce battle began.

The German commander sent a volunteer sergeant out on the bridge to detonate a bomb by hand. It worked, but not entirely. The American troops began picking their way across the remains of the bridge. Within the first twenty four hours, close to eight thousand men had crossed the Rhine. Five tanks went across immediately and the army engineers had patched the bridge.

A British Barrage Balloon Unit put balloons aloft to interdict the path of attacking German aircraft. as the German bombers and V 2 rockets tried to destroy the Bridge. U.S aircraft and anti aircraft fire from the ground shot down eight out of ten attackers. Later a twenty one plane German bomber fleet lost sixteen to anti aircraft fire.

A high intensity floodlight, mounted on tanks, was positioned at water level, as a shield against bombing attempts by German frogmen.

There was sufficient command flexibility at all levels to exploit the Americans' good fortune at Remagen.

When the Bridge finally collapsed, twenty eight American engineers were killed. Six German frogmen swam out to destroy American pontoon bridges. No success. All were taken prisoner.

Bill Wheeler said this was the first time he had seen the faster, jet powered plane - a new German weapon, but lacking precision. None of its bombs hit the target.

Charges of treason were brought against five German officers involved in defense of the Bridge. The one who survived was already a POW. The other four were shot. One of these was a lieutenant in his early twenties.

The present Bridge at Remagen was built during World War I. It handled pedestrian, automobile and train traffic. It was never rebuilt after World War II. Its remaining towers are used today for a museum. The American flag flies in memory of our soldiers who lost their lives to win the Battle at Remagen.

Ann O'Reilly assisted in this project of "Trinity Heroes"



THE SPIRE

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TRINITY PARISH NURSERY SCHOOL

651 Pequot Avenue
PO Box 400
Southport, CT 06890

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

8:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:45 Church School *and Child Care*
10:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite II *with Choir*

We're on the Web!
www.trinitysouthport.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

203.255.0454/ 203.255.6096 (FAX)

The Rev. Nicholas T. Porter
Rector

The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann
Curate

The Rev. R. Mark Glidden
Associate Clergy

Alan Murchie
Organist and Choirmaster

Eric Jeuland
Director of Youth and Outreach

Wendy Steinfeld
Church School Director & Photographer

Meg Reilly
Nursery School Director

Melanie Andrews
Financial Officer

James Weldon
Sexton

Ed Michaels
Photography Consultant

Southport Summer Music Festival 2009 Gala Opening Concert

Thursday May 14—The Knights Chamber Orchestra
with the Trinity Schola, Chorale and Senior Choristers

Felix Mendelssohn | 200th Anniversary Celebration
Cantatas, Motets and excerpts from the Oratorios

Ludwig van Beethoven | Symphony #7 in A Major

Sundays at Six
Alan Murchie, piano

Sunday May 17—Casey Breves, tenor; Jason Steigerwalt, baritone
Mendelssohn | Songs With and Without Words

Sunday May 31—Johnny Gandelsman, violin and Eric Jacobsen, cello
members of Brooklyn Rider
Haydn | Piano Trio in E Major
Mendelssohn | Piano Trio in D minor

Sunday June 7—Laura Atkinson, mezzo-soprano, with Strings and Organ
Vivaldi | Stabat Mater
Brahms | Piano Quintet

Sunday June 17—Romie de Guise-Langlois, clarinet; Ashley Bathgate, cello
Brahms | The Last Chamber Works, including the Clarinet Trio in A minor