

The SPARE



Trinity Episcopal Church Trinity Parish Nursery School

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SUMMER 2009

The Rector's View



The Holy Trinity

The seventh of June is Trinity Sunday, our parish feast day—the day we celebrate the grace of God's full revelation of self to us. For most, the Holy Trinity is confusing. I hope this essay will make God's three-in-oneness clearer.

The mystery of the Trinity stands at the heart of God. Belief in the Trinity stands at the very heart of the Christian faith. As our Russian Orthodox friends are so fond of reminding us, it is not

belief in Christ Jesus that identifies us as Christians, but belief in God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is our faith.

From the beginning, Christians have understood the Holy One to be the Holy Trinity, but we have always understood the Being of God to be a mystery: that the exact nature of God's Being cannot be fully known by human reason apart from revelation nor fully explained by us once it is revealed. The mystery is above reason, but it is not contrary to reason.

The Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God existing in Three Persons and One Substance. The Three Persons are not three gods but one God. The Trinity is not a plurality. Unitarians, Muslims and Jews reject the belief of God as Trinity. But it is not so easy for us to reject because we hear Christ Jesus himself speaking of Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the OT abounds with images of the Trinity. Scripture appears to be pointing us away from God's oneness. And indeed it does, but it does not. The Bible's monotheism

is not monotheism of number but of essence.

God's essence is eternal, uncreated, incorruptible, incorporeal, unchanging. The essence or substance of God is the First Nature of time and eternity. It is God, not the Father, who is the unique First Nature. God exists in one substance and three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There never was a time when the Trinity was not, and because God's being is Trinity, the substance of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is identical and co-eternal. They are united in will, action and authority without composition, strife or separation. For a glimpse of this, read the Lord's visit to Abraham in the eighteenth chapter of the Book of Genesis. The Lord appears as three figures who speak as one and are addressed as one. God is one.

Does this mean that the Father was never God alone? Yes it does. Father, Son and Spirit are co-eternal and of the same substance. It is the Trinity that is the First Nature. There never was a time when

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The Rector's View

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the Trinity was not. Otherwise, the Son and Spirit would not be God; but created, lesser beings and therefore unworthy of worship.

Where is Christ Jesus is all this? Christ Jesus is the human being in whom the Second Person of the Trinity—God the Son—experienced creation and dwelt among us. Think of the first chapter of the Gospel of John. “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God... and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” By his sinless life and death of perfect obedience Christ’s humanity enters into union with the Trinity after his resurrection and ascension into heaven.

Because we are created in the image of God, without God we are lost. God’s being offers us a better way of being. The way to healing and salvation is found in the profile and Persons of God. I want to make three points about this for us.

First, we can live with ambiguity. To define or conceive of God fully with words is impossible. God’s Glory that we behold in Creation and

Scripture is like a shadow or a reflection. God alone knows the unmingled nature of the Trinity. But the knowledge of the Trinity’s transcendence is not illogical. We can know of something without totally comprehending it. How many of us totally comprehend our children or spouses or ourselves? We are not children. Faith must live with ambiguity. Being able to do so is a mark of maturity.

Second, we are never complete in ourselves. Anglican priest and poet John Donne wrote, “No man is an island,” and yet we pride ourselves as a society of individuals. An “individual” is defined by independence, differentiation and an inability to go beyond oneself. The Trinity is a society of persons. A “person” is defined by relationships. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in their interdependence constitute the unity of the Trinity. Thus, God’s being is a life of love and personal communion. In creation, in the Incarnation and in the outpouring of the Spirit, God gives us life, forgiveness and power as a gift of love. These make us able to enter into communion with God.

Communion is true life; it is God’s life. It is that life into which we are baptized.

Third, the mystery and inter-relation of Father, Son and Holy Spirit tell us that we know the Trinity best when we know God’s mission. God is not an abstract being, and we can glimpse God’s mission in the reading from Genesis. Creation is a Trinitarian process: from the Father through the Son in the Holy Spirit. God the Father creates a beginning and orders heaven and earth that our lives might have love, purpose, sense and meaning. Let us seek the Father in the world around us. God the Son makes and restores all creation that our world might overcome sin and find love and purpose and meaning. Let us recognize the Son living, working, and walking beside us. God the Holy Spirit breathes life into creation, leading, perfecting, and completing all things to God’s glory with God’s presence and love. Let us rejoice in the power and presence of the Spirit within us.

*Pax et Veritas,
Nicholas T. Porter +*

Blessing of the Fleet and Road Race

On the morning of Saturday, June 6, the Southport Festival and Blessing of the Fleet will be held. The parade begins in the Trinity Church parking lot and proceeds to the Lower Wharf for music, speeches, free hot dogs, the boat parade and benedictions.

CURATE'S CORNER

Summer is here and the resolution I made to do some spring cleaning *this* spring has ended up on the “walls” of my Hall of Fame Resolution Breakers. These include going to the gym three times a week, making an annual mammogram appointment, putting aside more time for prayer and reading *every* article in the too-many-to-count magazines I bought to support my children’s schools. One year, I even bought two subscriptions to Reader’s Digest so they could get extra prize points and win some sort of cheap toy that lasted about two days.

What is it about making promises to ourselves and to others that often end up being unrealistic? It’s more than just our wishful thinking. I believe we all have good and honest intentions but at some point we run out of steam and discover we’re very good at finding and making excuses when the tough gets going and we no longer feel tough enough.

A favorite excuse of mine is that I just don’t have enough time. Usually, my friends will nod their heads and at least sympathize, if not commiserate, with me. This opens the doors of my predictable conscience and allows my guilt to flee without even so much as a backward glance. So as I let responsibilities pile up and I continue to take on more than I can possibly do because I’m a world-class pleaser, some things have to give. And as many of us know, those things are the ones we like the least and want to avoid.

One of my favorite writers, Anne Lamott, wrote, “God cannot clean the house of you when you’re still in it.” The first time I read that I stopped and thought about it. Why would I want God to clean the house of *me*? I can’t spring clean my house on Briar Brae Road in Darien much less find the time to invite God to take a stab at “cleaning” in the *person* I am. And yet, there is a profound connection.

As much as I hate to admit it, my material

clutter is a reflection of my emotional clutter. The piles of papers, winter clothes and half-read books that I need to throw away, give away or store away are similar to some of the responsibilities, obligations and worries that pile up in my emotional and spiritual life. By filling my life with too many piles, I leave little or no space for God who I have no doubt would like nothing more than to bring in some cleaning supplies and make room for at least “a little empty cell in my heart” from which God is given control over my limited self-control.

In Philippians 2:7, Paul writes that God in Christ “emptied himself” or “made himself nothing” to be born as a real person like you and me. So as God comes to us, so God sends us into the world. But if we continually allow our lives to be filled or crammed with earthly things or resolutions that easily overwhelm and distract us, how can we know what it means or how to make the needed room for God in our lives? For the life and peace we are promised by loving God and loving one another?

As we experience these summer months, we are given more opportunities and time to be outdoors after work in the evenings, to visit—or be visited by—family and friends, to attend cook-outs, to go to the beach and to go to church in casual dress. Summer is a chance to be released from some unnecessary obligations and inhibitions that deny us the chance to let go and let God help us stay spiritually minded and fully alive in Jesus Christ.

Let go. Catch a firefly and watch God show you the light of Christ in a new way.

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, 825)

~ Mother Dawn + 

YOUTH & OUTREACH

Future Goals for Outreach and Youth

With June heat and school vacations upon us, I look back at this first year at Trinity and am so thankful for your warm welcome and eager participation. Both our outreach and youth ministries are slowly and steadily renewing and expanding.

My main goal for mission partnerships and youth ministry is deeper relationships. The key to growth is in the cohesiveness of our community. As the Mission & Outreach Committee has recently adjusted its purpose and goals, we've rediscovered some hidden passions. We serve others because *that is where we experience God among us*, and we share those experiences back at Trinity because *God's love binds us into a single people*. Our service is part of God's Good News.

And I am so enjoying getting to know our teenagers! We've grown closer and gotten more comfortable with each other. The theme of the conference for youth ministers I attended in April was "sharing our very selves," and it is truly in sharing ourselves that the Kingdom of God comes into view. Why? Because we are created in God's image and for loving relationships. . .it's as simple as that!

From the firm rock of relationship, I look forward to seeing tangible and exciting results, such as more face-to-face interaction between ourselves and our mission partners in Bridgeport and New Haven, and between our teens and our adults.

'Confirm not Conform' Confirmation Curriculum

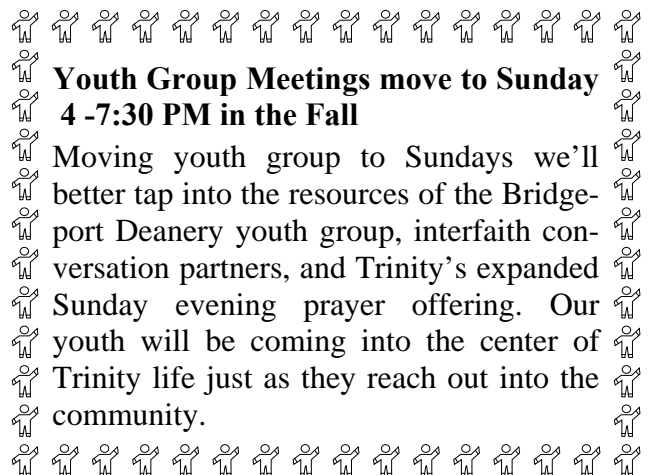
This year we got good momentum and we are ready to further invite our young people into our Sunday worship and outreach efforts. Next year, we'll be using a new program for confirmation classes that takes our young people's involvement and questions more seriously.

Youth Sunday a Great Celebration

Youth Sunday on May 10, was a great high point this year. The address by Martha Stout reminded me that Jesus' power comes from his steady and faithful companionship no matter what we're going through: "He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will not grow faint or be crushed" (*Isaiah 42:2-4*). Martha's affection and confidence were contagious and people are still talking about it.

After she spoke, parents blessed their 13-year-olds with Fr. Nicholas and me on the chancel steps. The power of the gathering was remarkable; there were many teary eyes in that circle of 30-odd members standing around each kneeling teenager; and I loved the joy that rippled through the church.

In a few weeks, on June 14, we'll have another opportunity to celebrate our teens—this time our confirmands and graduating seniors. Both groups have broken new ground, offering their time and talent to feed the hungry through visits to the homeless in New Haven and during the 30-Hour Famine. Once again on that day we'll celebrate their life with us, God's life among us all, and what God has accomplished through our service to others.


**Youth Group Meetings move to Sunday
4 -7:30 PM in the Fall**
 Moving youth group to Sundays we'll better tap into the resources of the Bridgeport Deanery youth group, interfaith conversation partners, and Trinity's expanded Sunday evening prayer offering. Our youth will be coming into the center of Trinity life just as they reach out into the community.

♪ Notes from the Choir Loft ~ 2009 ♪ *from Alan Murchie*

Southport Summer Music Festival 2009 Begins!

The Trinity Choirs were thrilled to collaborate with the brilliant young New York-based orchestra *The Knights* for our music festival's gala opening concert on Thursday evening, May 14. It was a particular thrill to look out and see the galleries on both sides of the nave filled with music-lovers of all ages! My deepest thanks to all who attended and to all who gave so much to make the evening possible: our Friends of Music donors, our greeters and ushers, the church staff, and, most of all, our extraordinary team of parish musicians.

In the many conversations I've had with those who attended, I've heard many consistent themes, none more so than the evening's palpable *joy*. A feeling of joy and celebration ran through the evening's events, from Nicholas and Dorothy Porter's festive tailgate party, through the ecstatic music-making of the ninety musicians onstage: The Knights, led by Colin

and Eric Jacobsen; soloists Melanie Russell, Casey Breves and Jason Steigerwalt; and our choirs, the Trinity Chorale, Schola and Choristers.

The festival continues with our *Sundays at Six* chamber series. Upcoming events will be:

June 7

Laura Atkinson, mezzo-soprano, with strings and organ, playing:

Vivaldi | Stabat Mater

Brahms | Piano Quintet

June 14

Romie de Guise-Langlois, clarinet, and Ashley Bathgate, cello, playing:

Brahms | The Last Chamber Works

including the Clarinet Trio in A minor

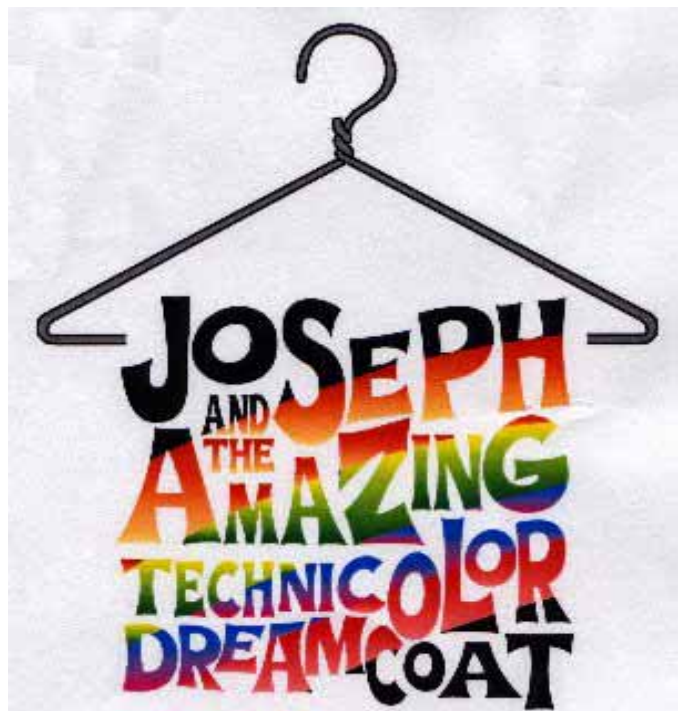
All performances begin at 6 PM in the sanctuary.

A reception follows in the Parish Hall.

Chorister Show

Thursday June 11 at 6:00 PM

Our Chorister season ends with the traditional Chorister Show, featuring the remarkable talents of our younger choristers. The show begins at 6:00 PM in the sanctuary on Thursday evening, June 11, and is followed by an ice-cream reception for the whole family. This year's show will include solo vocal and instrumental performances and will conclude with a group performance of the beloved musical "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Don't miss it! For more information, call Alan at the Music Office, 203 255-0454 x308.



PARISH DOINGS



Mother Dawn with Mugisa Isingoma, President of the Mother's Union and United Women for Peace and Social Promotion. She is the wife of the new Archbishop in the Anglican province of Congo.

Clergy Summer Schedules

During June, July and August, the Rector and the Curate will be spending much needed time with their respective families on vacation. The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann will be out of the office from June 25 through July 11. The Rev. Nicholas Porter will be out of the office from July 13 through August 16. Our Director of Youth and Outreach Ministries, Eric Jeuland will be leading a service trip to Kenya during the first half of August.

Sid's Ordination

Former parishioner and youth minister, Sidney Symington will be ordained to the sacred order of deacons by the Episcopal Bishop of Rochester on Saturday, June 6, at 3 PM in Saint Michael's Church, 23 Main Street, Geneseo, NY. Please keep Sid in your prayers. He may be reached at Box 328, Geneseo, NY 14454, tel: (203) 209-2339.

Wednesday Bible Study

Our Wednesday Bible Study concludes its fifth season on July 1. In June we focus on the Gospels' post-Resurrection appearances of Christ Jesus. We meet from 12 to 1 PM in the Parish Library. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. Bring your lunch! (There will be no meeting on June 3.)



Food for Pequot Library Book Sale Fundraiser: July 24-28

David Nessel and many other parishioners are leading us toward a new fundraiser that is also a great opportunity for fellowship. This year, the Pequot Library has invited us to provide the food for their book sale. We'll be feeding 15,000 people over 4 days and we'll need all the help we can get. Don't miss it and be ready to pitch in!

Handymen Want Your Calls!

Dear Trinity Friends,

There are times in life when an extra hand with household repairs is appreciated. There are a group of Trinity parishioners willing and ready to respond to requests that involve "light repair."

Examples of the kind of work being offer are:

- Change smoke alarm battery
- Change ceiling light bulbs
- Leaf raking in fall
- Door locks or leaky faucets
- Light carpentry or broken windows



This ministry cannot exist at Trinity unless we have parishioners who call and ask for assistance. Please contact Rev. Dawn at (203) 255-0454, your call will be answered promptly.

Sunday morning, June 28, several roads leading into Southport will be closed due to the running of the Fairfield Half-Marathon. **Please leave yourself extra time to arrive at worship!**



PARISH DOINGS

Adopting a Social Worker

I am asking all of the Trinity family to join me in a great joy: offering children in difficult situations a second chance. On June 7, Trinity will adopt a social worker. We will sign a covenant with the social worker and Covenant to Care in Connecticut. After that, the social worker will tell me as the liaison what kinds of items – food, clothing, furniture, etc. – her clients need. I will convey the need to the congregation via bulletin boards, phone trees, or email. It might be backpacks for children returning to school in the Fall, or a baby shower to collect items for new moms and infants, or moving furniture donations. We will show God's love in tangible ways.

About 15 years ago I met my friend, Meral Prewitt. She works with Covenant to Care of Connecticut (CCC) and the 'Adopt A Social Worker' Program. Connecticut has a large number of children (about 75,000) at risk each year, and CCC helps approximately 25,000 children per year with the aid of faith-based communities. Children right in our own communities are being abused, neglected or living in severe poverty, and at risk of being separated from their families or not being reunited with their families unless their basic needs are met.

As a parent and responsible adult, my heart bled and as a Christian, Christ's compassion flowed through me. As I think back to my first donation to Covenant to Care in Connecticut 15 years ago, I remember Meral telling me how thrilled the clients were to not only get furniture but furniture that matched. It made me smile then and it still makes me smile now. Won't you help me make more people smile? *Patty Ford, Adopt A Social Worker Liaison*



TRINITY SUNDAY JUNE 7 PARISH PICNIC



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 is 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





NEWS FROM HONDURAS

The school year is almost over here at St. Mary's Bilingual School in Tegucigalpa, and I'll soon be heading home. As you know I've been teaching Christian Education to about one hundred and fifty children every week, ages 4 to 14. (Fr. Gerardo, the dean of the cathedral, teaches Christian Ed to the secondary school kids.) This week is exam week so I am busy giving and grading exams. The topic for everyone in all of my classes is The Gospel of Mark. It has been very rewarding to read with the children each week, and to now be able to say to the parents, "Your child has read The Gospel of Mark." Although Honduras is a very religious country, and every household has a Bible, not many have actually read it. And we have read it in both English and Spanish.

So, how is your knowledge of Mark's Gospel? Here are some of the statements the 4th through 6th graders had to state were either True or False:

The Gospel of Mark has 18 chapters.

Mark's Gospel begins with the birth of Jesus.

Scholars believe that Mark is the first Gospel to have been written.

Mark wrote at the end of his Gospel that the women ran away in fear and did not tell anything to anyone.

The parable of the prodigal son is one of the favorite parables of the Gospel of Mark.



This is "the year of Mark" in our lectionary cycle.

In their essay question – Why did we read the Gospel of Mark this year? – some answers were, "Because it's the shortest." "Because it tells us about Jesus." "Because we wanted to read a whole Gospel from beginning to end." "Because God sent Jesus to us." "Because I want to read about Jesus as a man and not a baby." "Because I want to know how much God loves us." "Because it is true."

So, Philip is on the road with Jupiter. They are driving home through Guatemala, Belize and, of course, Mexico. They expect to be home in Connecticut in two or three weeks depending on how difficult or easy the trip turns out to be. I will fly home at the end of May when classes are over for the year. Although we didn't end up staying a full year, I have had an incredible experience which will last all my life, and change my outlook on many things forever. I hope too that in the future Philip and I will continue to come down to Honduras with a brigada to continue the work and the friendships begun here. I look forward to coming for a visit to tell you more about all of this. Hope to see you at the end of June.

¡La bendición y la paz de Dios sea con Ustedes para siempre!

Heidi





Lesotho Program Update

The Bana Ba Rona project has made great progress, and we are fully supporting 25 orphaned and ill children in collaboration with Baylor Medical Center and Texas Children's Hospital (TCH), which oversee the medical treatment of these children at their clinic, based in Maseru, the capital of Lesotho. Your funds go toward providing food, clothing, tuition, and healthcare for opportunistic infections commonly associated with disease, as well as special assistance as requested by TCH.

In addition and at the special request of TCH, Trinity has funded a playground at the clinic to alleviate the children's 4 to 5 hour waits. This playground will help make the time pass more quickly, and keep the children occupied as they wait. It has been successfully completed (see photos), and the heads of other clinics are eager for this humanizing element to come to their patients.

Future projects may include additional playgrounds at other clinics, an outdoor PA system to announce each child's name, as well as other projects that may be recommended by Dr. Edith Mohapi, director of the clinic. However, Trinity is first and foremost committed to providing the basic living needs for our 25 children in Lesotho.

If you would like to become involved in this program, please contact Les Mitchell at lcmitch@optonline.net or 259-3556.

Faithfully submitted,

Holli Horine, International M&O Chair

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Americares Homefront Day

To show concern for others is the cornerstone of **Americares**. Each year, all across America on the 1st Saturday in May, volunteers (skilled and not so skilled) turn out to help their neighbors. It is with this giving heart that Trinity turned out to help an elderly neighbor in Fairfield and greatly improved the quality of his life—and with this giving of ourselves for a few hours, we also received. *Michael Banten*

Thank you to the volunteers for making a homeowner's wish come true. Bahman Azarm and Solo Construction, Michael Banten, Drew Hiltz, Glenn Horine, Eric Jeuland, John Kendall, Darryl MacPherson, Nancy MacPherson, David Nessel, Mara Neville, Chris Rieck, Stephen Stout, Carl Walker, and Chloe Walker worked hard, and it was fun being together on this project. Jerry said it "felt like Christmas" that day. Also, special thanks to the following local businesses who donated food for our volunteers:

Doughnut Inn - Assorted Doughnuts

The Country Cow - Sandwiches for Lunch

Billy's Bakery - Bagels and Croissants

Stop and Shop on Villa Avenue -

Water and Granola Bars

Blessings to all, Jill Walker



TRAVELS WITH TRINITY



The Gifts of Pilgrimage

A pilgrimage is a journey to encounter God. The Anastasia Pilgrimage to Jordan and Jerusalem was just that – an encounter with the Risen Lord. With men, women and children from Europe and America contributing their faith and friendship, our time together in the Holy Land was powerful. Each year, as an act of thanksgiving, the unspent funds are donated to support the mission and outreach of the Church in the Middle East and other charities. Due to the very large number of pilgrims this year, \$20,000 will be distributed to the following ministries in the Middle East and Connecticut:

- † Center for Women and Families, Bridgeport
- † Bethel Recovery Center, Bridgeport
- † Covenant to Care
- † Bridgeport Council of Churches



- † Bridgeport Deanery of the Episcopal Church
- † The Meal and After-School Programs at St. Luke's and St. Paul's Church, Bridgeport
- † The Meal Program at Operational Hope, Fairfield
- † Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, New Haven
- † Your Place Youth Center, New Haven
- † St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem
- † World Vision, Jerusalem
- † American Near East Refugee Aid, Jerusalem
- † Carter Center, Ramallah
- † St. John's Eye Hospital, Jerusalem
- † The Peace Center for the Blind, Jerusalem
- † Jofeh Center for the Deaf, Jordan
- † Jordan Career Education Foundation, Amman

The Lord is good to us. What a joy it is to share the blessings of our pilgrimage with others!



TRINITY'S HISTORY & NEWS

Jack Urquhart's Korean War 1950-1953

Jack Urquhart received a commission as a lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers Reserves on his graduation from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1949. He was called to active duty during the Korean conflict and served as a training officer at Fort Leonard, Missouri and Fort Belvoir, Virginia. In 1953, he was assigned to the 370th Amphibious Support Regiment stationed in Panama. This unit's mission was beach preparation prior to amphibious assault. They were in Panama to complete field training in transit to Korea for a possible second Korean landing.

When the Panmunjom Peace talks began, the 370th returned to the U.S. Jack stayed in Panama assigned to the area command with 100 men and lots of equipment (now not needed in the war). His mission was to rebuild deteriorating roads the Army had built through the jungles during World War II. Farms and small villages had located on these roads which

provided them with access to markets. The original roads made of oyster shells and crushed coral with wooden bridges had become unusable. As a goodwill gesture, the Army agreed to reopen them for the natives.

When it wasn't raining, they rebuilt 20 to 30 miles of road through the jungles, some of the most dense in the world. When not on the construction site, Jack would serve as officer of the day on the Atlantic Locks.

When Jack returned to the States he was assigned to the Engineer's Research Lab back at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The labs were then evaluating gas turbines for trucks and tanks and a prototype design of a small nuclear reactor for Thule, Greenland, technologies which would later play an important role in Jack's civilian career.

Jack remembers his military career fondly; it was fun and gave him leadership opportunities well in advance of his peers.

Submitted by Ann O'Reilly

Trinity Looks Back 264 years ago—to 1745

During the thirty years following the 1725 establishment of Trinity Parish in the first church meeting house on Mill Plain Road, moves, prompted by hard times, were made between clergy and congregation to solidify its financial well-being from yearly hardscrabble to a self sustaining part of the colonial Church of England.

The Rev. Joseph Lamson, the second Rector, began a formal effort "to bring about the speedy endowment of the parish." It began with bequests totaling 350 pounds following the deaths of three members of the congregation, including Mrs. Jerusha Sturges in 1747.

In addition to this, Dougal McKenzie, ordered in his will that the whole of his

homestead on the eastern bank of Mill River and two other tracts that he owned should be taxed in perpetuity for the support of the Parish (a charitable election which the Town allowed landowners to exercise then with their property taxes).

By 1762, additional bequests had increased the endowment to over 600 pounds, part of which was to be designated for purchasing the traditional "glebe" or plot of land for the serving Church of England clergyman as a benefit of his office. The first glebe was nine acres of pasture and woodland at Round Hill, purchased from Jonathan Sturges in 1767 for Rev. Lamson and the Parish in Trust of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

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

TRINITY TYMES

TRINITY PARISH NURSERY SCHOOL

A Note from the Director...

Where did this year go? It seems like only yesterday you and your child were walking down our halls anxiously waiting to begin school. Now we are approaching our last week, and so many changes have taken place. The children have grown, not only in size, but in confidence and wisdom. They are ready for new challenges.

To those children and families who are moving on to other schools next year I wish you our best. We will miss you! To our current and new families I look forward to a magical new school year filled with wonder and exciting learning opportunities for us all. TPNS is such a special place because of all of you. **THANK YOU!**

A special thanks to everyone who came to the Quick Center last month to hear Madeline Swift speak about children and discipline. She combines humor with great strategies and ideas to help manage children's behavior. We were thrilled to be able to sponsor her along with the United Way and other local preschools. Next

year we'd love to be able to offer several of these evenings for parents.

Our second annual "Spring into Trinity" Gala was a huge success thanks to all of you. The total raised from this event was \$21,085.53. All of this money will be used for enrichment programs and scholarships for our children. Thanks to all the parents who contributed to the classroom baskets, thanks for your help in planning the event, thanks for attending the gala. Thanks to the companies and families who donated items and to you all for bidding on these items. Thank you to all of our staff for contributing their time and talents. Thanks to our co-chairs, Pam Iacono and Liz Giardina for putting this amazing evening together.

Thank you for making "Teacher Appreciation Week" so special. We enjoyed our delicious breakfast and all the creative gifts and activities you provided for us. We are one lucky staff!

Meg Reilly
T.P.N.S. Director

Spring Into Trinity...

We would like to sincerely thank you for all of your help with and support of Spring Into Trinity. We truly could not do have done this without all of you. It was a wonderful social evening and we are pleased to announce that we raised \$21,085.53 for enrichment and scholarship programs, surpassing last year's total! But more important than the money raised were the friendships formed pulling this whole event together. Thank you to Meg for all of her support and encouragement and a huge thank you to our

committee members. We have had a great run at that helm of this event, it's been an incredible adventure! We are pleased to be handing over the reigns to Erin French and Robyn Bilotta who have graciously volunteered to chair Spring Into Trinity 2010!! We encourage you all to get involved with a committee next year, all of them are tons of fun and the payoff is so rewarding.

Pam Iacono, Co-chair
Liz Giardina, Co-chair

TRINITY TYMES

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Summer Fun Club

June 1 – June 19

Our summer program begins on Monday, June 1 and will end on Friday, June 19. Hours for all students are 9:15 AM–12:30 PM. We have an exciting fun-filled program for you. Please remember to pack a lunch (with an ice pack) and safe shoes (**NO Crocs**).



Enrollment Reminder for 2009-10

To the parents who have their children at T.P.N.S. for the 2009-10 school year, you are obligated for the entire year's tuition if you decide to withdraw your child and your child's spot cannot be filled by another during the school year. Please keep the office informed of any changes. We will be mailing paperwork to you in mid July with a tuition reminder for August 1.

Fall Registration...

We have a few spots available for the fall session. Please see Meg or Michele with any questions.

Parent Representatives...

Calling all parents! – Are you interested in being a Classroom Rep for your child's room next year? We are hoping to fill these spots sooner rather than later for the fall. Please let me know if you are interested! Stop by or call if you would like more info regarding the responsibilities of this position. Another great way to get involved in your child's school community.



Special Person Night...



We enjoyed hosting our "Special Person" evening last month. The children loved introducing, and spending time with their "special person." The teachers did a wonderful job setting up their classrooms and welcoming all their visitors. Thanks to all who attended!



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

May 10 • Mother Dawn Taught First Communion Lesson

We in the Episcopal Church strongly believe that all baptized children are welcomed at God's table. But, we recognize that in each child's life there comes a time to provide some additional instruction about what they need to know and do when they come to the altar each Sunday. Mother Dawn met with the Church School children recently to teach a special First Communion lesson. She explained to the children that we: *Come* to church as a community to worship, *Listen* to God's word and *Do* by praying, reciting the Creed and most importantly sharing in the Eucharist. Finally we *Go* out into the world to serve others and rejoice in the power of the Spirit. Mother Dawn guided the children through the preparation, serving and receiving of the Eucharist. The children left with a better understanding of the meaning and importance of the Eucharist.

The children were given a First Communion workbook with pages to color and puzzles to complete to enrich their understanding of the meaning and importance of the Eucharist. If your child did not receive their copy please stop by my office to pick one up.

Be sure to look for the red Holy Communion booklets located in the Narthex. They are written especially for the children and will help to further enhance your child's Communion experience.



Children's Ministry Committee Members 2008-2009

Daphne Mitchell, Dawn Hiltz, Susan Ludwig,
Alison Barry, Amy Borruso, Catherine
Cunningham, Catherine Friedline, Lis Reed



Children Plant Courtyard Flowers

Have you noticed the marigolds blooming in the church courtyard? Well, you can thank the Church School children for planting those flowers and for adding yellow and gold colors to that area. The planting was a service project that the children were happy to do for their church. The youngest children helped plant the flowers in the three planters on the stone wall while the older children dug into the gardens and planted 7 flats of flowers. The children were pleased to know that the flowers would be enjoyed by all of us throughout the summer and into the fall. Thank you children!



Christian Explorers Program Summer Program for 4 – 8 year olds

Christian Explorers is a summer program for children 4 – 8 years old that will take place during the 10:00 AM sermon each Sunday in June and July. Interested children will be invited to join Wendy, Director of Church School, in the undercroft for a child-friendly message and some free time on the playground. All Christian Explorers will rejoin their families in the sanctuary at the time of The Peace.

Childcare Summer Hours

For children 0 to 3 years old, our Childcare Room is open each Sunday this summer from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The loving childcare staff this summer will be Marge Cardillo and Ada Caputo.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Vacation Bible School 2009

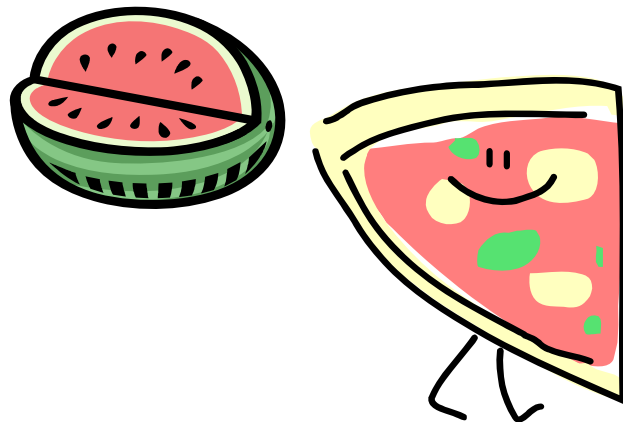
Only 8 Spots Remain - Register Today

Camp E.D.G.E. = EXPERIENCE + DISCOVER GOD EVERYWHERE. This year's theme is Extreme Bible Treks that 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, and extend their learning through every activity: making special memories at Art Apex, singing music at Music Max, experiencing science activities at Exploration Ridge, participating in activities at the Rec Plex, and enjoying tasty snacks at Snack Express.

Look for **registration forms** in the Church School web pages, in the Church School office or in the church office. Contact: Wendy, Director of Church School at Trinity Episcopal Church: 255-0454x309 or ws-churchschool@trinitysouthport.org

HELP us get ready for Camp E.D.G.E. We still need:

- Crew Leaders and teen Assistant Leaders (no prep work involved)
- Craft, Snack, and Science Leaders
- \$ donations for VBS operations
- Decorating help August 20th or 21st
- Clean up & take down help on August 28
- Volunteer for 1 day: photographer, registration table, substitutes
- Can you donate popsicles, watermelon or pizza?



Leader Recognition Sunday • May 17

Church School Teachers, Shepherds and Children's Ministry Committee members were recognized during the 10:00am service. I would like to thank the following people once again for their service and their devotion to the ministry of Trinity's children throughout 2008 – 2009 Church School year. *Wendy Steinfeld*

Church School Teachers 2008-2009

Laura Amicucci
Catherine Avery
Robert Avery
Elise Bates
Amy Borruso
Charlotte Bartol
Alison Barry
Michael Barry
Mary Field Barrett
Dabney Bowen
Megan Cody
Catherine Cunningham
Amy Dutter

Andy Dutter
Ann Marie Forehand
Catherine Friedline
Emily Garber
Dawn Hiltz
Drew Hiltz
Holle & Justin Horine
Alexa Horton
Stephanie Kodweis
Susan Ludwig
Ann March
Daphne Mitchell
Joan Neiley
Shelly Olson
Joy Pickett
Dorothy Porter

Megan Pratt
Katharine Radziewicz
Lis Reed
Edward Rieck
Debbie Reynolds
Olivia & Sam Schneble
Phyllis Schneble
Suzanne Schulz
Elizabeth Searight
Barbara Seymour
Finley Shaw
Steve & Isabelle Smith
Chloe Walker
Eileen Weber
Elaine Whitney

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

Cassia Ward
Parish Secretary

James Weldon
Sexton

Ed Michaels
Photography Consultant

Announcing The Second Annual
"TRINITY IN MOTION" WALK
To benefit the Holy Trinity School in Haiti
September 19, 2009

The event is being organized now.

If you would like to help, contact Holli Horine at 254-8408 or
hollihorine@aol.com

Southport Summer Music Festival 2009

Sundays at Six

Alan Murchie, piano

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

NEXT EDITION OF THE SPIRE:

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009

Deadline for articles:

AUGUST 15, 2009