



# TRINITY TIMES

## JULY/AUGUST 2006

### Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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The Rt Rev. Cyril Wismar  
*Celebrant*

Linda Lloyd  
*Senior Warden*  
Alexis Dorf  
*Junior Warden*

Geoffrey Brown  
*Clerk*  
Martha Nesbitt  
*Treasurer*  
Al Dorf, Robert Reid  
*Assistant Treasurers*

Christine Gevert  
*Organist/Choir Director*

Alexis Dorf, *Trinity Times*  
Danielle Gaherty, *Admin. Ass't*  
Lisa Brennan, *Bookkeeper*  
Junior Wright, *Sexton*  
Jeff Silvernale, *Grounds*



Dear Trinitarians,

It gives us great joy to share with you the good news of the establishment of the George and Jane Tuttle Endowment Fund. Sufficient funds to establish the endowment were deposited in May 2006, and the endowment will be completely funded at a future date. The Fund is permanently restricted, with its assets being held on behalf of Trinity Lime Rock by the Trustees of the Donations and Bequests for Church Purposes, Inc., which manages investment assets for the Episcopal Diocese of CT. The "annual spendable amount" will be determined by the Trustees and distributed to Trinity. Generally speaking, this will be a small percentage of the value of the Fund.



This generous act of stewardship reminds us of the old adage "Plant a tree under which you will never sit". George and Jane have planted such a tree with the creation of their endowment fund for Trinity. They join others of whom most of us have never heard – the Tallmadge family, the McNeils, the von Kettlers, the Ellisons, the Ensings, the Goodwins, the Gaylords and Richardson Harwood, to name but a few. All these faithful parishioners made, as their last act of stewardship, bequests to Trinity Church for the benefit of generations to come. We, the current generation at Trinity, are recipients of their legacies, for indeed, we could not have completed the building of the administration and education wing without the money these folks left to us. We thank God for the example that has been set for us by our predecessors, and encourage our current congregation to follow their lead in remembering Trinity in their wills.

Although George and Jane moved to Charlotte, North Carolina several years ago, we still consider them "active parishioners". We keep up with their doings via email and telephone, while they follow our corporate life via our website

and mailings as well as direct contact. For those of us who never met them, let us tell you a little about George and Jane.

Jane served as junior warden at Trinity for many years. She also was a member of the Pastoral Assistance Team, a minister of communion, a choir member, and was active in the altar guild, hospitality, finance and flower committees. Jane managed the Rota for us and made sure that every parishioner received a birthday card each year.

George was, as anyone who has ever been in our kitchen will tell you, the only person who *really* understood how that dishwasher works. He also exhorted us -on a regular basis- to turn off the lights and turn down the heat, and was in charge of grounds maintenance for many years. Who can forget the sight of George arriving in his pickup towing his tractor on a flatbed behind it? He mowed...and mowed...and mowed... Trinity field each summer, along with lawns around the buildings. And many of us remember George giving Bishop Ramos Orench – dressed in full bishop’s vestments – a ride in George’s Model T at one of our Trinity picnics.

We offer deepest thanks to George and Jane for their faithfulness and devotion to Trinity over the many years that they worshiped and served here, and we are grateful to God that they are still members of our parish family.

Faithfully,  
*Linda Lloyd*  
Senior Warden  
*Alexis Dorf*  
Junior Warden

## TELLING OUR STORY



As the first step in our search for the 14th Rector of Trinity Church, parishioners met with our Diocesan Bishop, The Rt. Reverend Andrew Smith, our search consultant, The Rev. Erik Larsen, and The Rev. Dr. Joseph

Krasinski, who served as scribe for the evening, on June 25. The purpose of the meeting was to share our memories of what and where Trinity has been, the common threads that we see, and to use these learnings as a basis for determining where we want to go next.



About 40 parishioners attended the meeting and potluck supper. (One of the things we noted is that Trinity eats exceptionally well, and Sunday evening was no exception!)

Some of our members have been at Trinity more than 40 years, and they told wonderful stories of good times and not-so-good times, while Geoff Brown, our parish historian, filled in some background from Trinity’s beginnings.

We noted that periodically our survival as a congregation has been at stake, but we have always found a willingness among parishioners to use their many gifts to lead us forward to a new place of stability. We have undertaken big projects and seen them to completion—sometimes to our surprise!

We agreed that we have a strong history of hospitality, and to that we are adding our increasing ability to minister to one another and to the wider community. We feel our music program is a strong source of evangelism and want to continue in that vein. Finally, we find ourselves to be both anxious and excited about our future, as we consider to what mission and ministry that Holy Spirit may be guiding us in 2006.

# THANK YOU!!!

A big thank you to all who participated in the Memorial Tag and Bake Sale at the end of May! Under the leadership of Ginny Dildine and Trudy Washburn, we had a huge display of interesting items for sale, along with table after table of books.



Alice Tweed did her usual superb job of coordinating the bake sale and luncheon. Danielle Gaherty baked the yummy quiches and it did not take long until hungry shoppers and the annual bicycle tour group that stops in for refueling (and rest room use!) had pretty much devoured everything we offered. Alice extends her thanks to all who contributed to the tables, and looks forward to working with you again!

Tag and Bake sale workers gathered again in the early evening –along with other Trinity folks who joined in—for what is quickly becoming the annual Memorial Day picnic! Al Dorf grilled 20 lbs of steak and the rest of the participants brought bread, salad, yummy side dishes and dessert.

Thanks also to those who shared their cooking talents at the Trinity Sunday picnic June 11. We celebrate our name day after the later service, and we did so again in grand style this year. Special thanks to Malcolm MacLaren for the meat!



## SUMMER SUNDAY SOCCER

Summer Sunday Soccer is well underway, thanks to the leadership of organizer Geoff Brown. A record 23 youngsters we are fortunate in having signed up, and we are fortunate in having the most talented coaches at the Hotchkiss School. Both coaches work with the Berkshire United Club as well. Returning as assistant head coach from last year will be Patrick Cooke, who coaches youth soccer in Pelham, NY.



After a brief worship service by the statute of St Francis behind the education wing, the children learn and practice new skills and en-

joy low key small sided games. They rejoin the adults in church for the Eucharist if their parents wish them to do so and attend coffee hour following the service. Young people over age 3 are welcome to the group every Sunday or whenever they are in town. Come and bring a friend! For further information: Geoff Brown at [geoff@betweentheakes.com](mailto:geoff@betweentheakes.com) or 860-824-0640.

## IN THE NEWS...

Congratulations to **Donna Bearn**, who has completed her certification as a massage therapist. Too much gardening? Weekend warrior syndrome? Call Donna!

**Mary Anne Carley's** artwork was featured at the General Convention of The Episcopal Church in Columbus in June. Webmaster Geoff Brown linked our website so that we too could enjoy Mary Anne's interpretations of scriptural events.



Thanks to **Luis Francke**, who has agreed to take over the position of flower committee chairperson after Kerry Noble's resignation upon her relocation to Idaho.

Trinity is happy to welcome new parishioner **Lynn Gaffney**. Lynn and her husband Bill Backus have just moved into a new home—designed by Lynn, who is an architect—in Sharon. (You can visit Lynn at her website [www.lynn-gaffney.com](http://www.lynn-gaffney.com)). Although she is only here on weekends, Lynn has already been active in the various events at Trinity, and we are delighted that she has agreed to participate on the Rota and hospitality committee.

Hotchkiss Magazine ran a three page article on **Richard Kirby**, the women's soccer coach at that school. We are privileged to have him helping *our* youngsters as well!

An article in the *New York Times'* Connecticut Section on June 18 discussed farming trends in the Northwest Corner. **Malcolm MacLaren** was one of those interviewed for the feature.

Congratulations too are due **Olivia Novik** for her tennis prowess and her leadership role on the Varsity tennis team at Indian Mountain

School.

We also welcome new parishioner **José Or-raca**, who has moved to Sharon with his wife Sadako. Jose has joined the choir and will be forming a committee to reorganize and update our archives. As José's professional background is the conservation of works on paper, he is the perfect man for the job!

## BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACKS

Outreach chairperson Cheryl Duntz has announced that we will once again undertake the buying and filling of backpacks for elementary school aged children.



The plan is to work with the principals of the northwest corner elementary schools, who will identify those students in need of basic tools for school when they begin the year. Each year a different community will be chosen to receive the backpacks; this year we will begin with Canaan.

Backpacks will be due at Trinity in early August, when they will be blessed and then taken to the school by the outreach committee. If you are unfortunate enough not to have an elementary school person in your household, our Trinity Church backpack consultants Courtney Duntz and Hayley Kozlowski will be happy to advise you on your purchases!

## WANTED!!



With the retirement of Sunday School head John Lloyd in June, we are in need of someone to take on this important position. The education of our children in the rudiments of our faith is probably one of the most important—if not *the* most important thing that we do at Trinity. There are a number of curriculum options available in print and on line, so the teacher will not have to “invent the wheel” each week.

Please speak to either Linda (518-789-3295) or Alexis (860-364-0816) if you have ideas on how we might proceed in this area.

## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

No, this is not a plan to send you to seminary! Rather, it is a four year program (Sept-June) which enables participants to begin to think theologically about their lives. Participants commit to one year at a time, so the group is typically composed of different members doing different readings and reporting on them.

Having completed the first year (a study of the Old Testament) , I can enthusiastically recommend EFM to anyone interested in learning more about scripture and the church in general. For me, reading the an entire episode –the *whole* Joseph story, the *whole* Jacob saga—at one sitting made the stories come so much more alive than merely hearing short segments in the readings on Sunday morning.

This was the first time in my years and years and years of church attendance that I began to see the Old Testament in the context of its times. Learning about the social, political and economic circumstances which impacted the people of God helps make what happened to those folks more understandable. Exploring the questions about the reliability and accuracy of the text themselves raises further interesting questions.

For further information, speak to EFM mentor Mary Anne Carley at [macarley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:macarley@sbcglobal.net) or 860-364-5652.

Alexis Dorf

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TRACTOR



In thinking about our always precarious parish finances, I have been wondering why it is so difficult for some of us (myself often among them!) to let go of our money.

I believe the issue centers on symbolism as much as the actual dollar value of the cash. For most of us, I would guess, money is security. A nice hefty balance in the bank or brokerage account makes us feel if not impregnable, at least well fortified.



That thought, of course, leads me directly to the story Jesus tells of the farmer with the blockbuster harvest (Luke 12: 13-21). He was awash in grain and decided to build bigger barns to hold it all and then retire to a condo in Florida and play golf (well, not really, that last part...) At any rate, before he could even call in a contractor to get an estimate on the barns, God told him that he would die that night.

Jesus comments that “you can’t take it with you” and suggests that the farmer would have been better off if he had recognized that his material wealth was God’s, not his, and that his well being depended on God, not the fullness of his barns. This point is true for us as well. The security that we all seek is not to be found in the fullness of our IRAs or pension accounts – it is recognizing that we are God’s beloved children and are always under God’s care and protection, never out of God’s sight, never beyond God’s awareness.

The only response to such love, I believe, is to love what God loves, and to use the resources with which God has endowed us to work towards the fulfillment of God’s dream - creating the Kingdom of God on earth. In that place, justice and righteousness are paramount, and each person will have what s/he needs. And as we are all too aware, the coming of that Kingdom will involve the letting go of our money, or more accurately, the returning to God a portion of what is God’s to begin with.

As Christians, we tend to gloss over the part of our faith that demands – not suggests or recommends, but *demands* – that we share part of what we have with others. That portion is the first 10% - the tithe. We respond “well, the tithe was in Biblical times when they didn’t have social security and taxes” (except that they *did* have



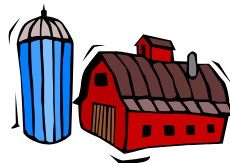
taxes – remember Matthew and Zacchaeus?).

We try “is that 10% before or after taxes?” We make every effort in every creative, imaginable way to wriggle out of that 10%. But that is what it is – a dime on the dollar. We are to return to God 10%; we get to keep 90%. A good deal, by anyone’s standards!

There are two useful exercises we can practice in working our way towards tithing. First, we can determine what percentage of our income (before or after taxes, your call!) we are now returning to God’s work through either Trinity or other institutions. If we are returning 1%, we can make it 2% this year. If we are returning 4%, we can try going up an additional ½ or 1%. Eventually, we will make it to that Biblical tithe, that 10%.

The second exercise is to make the “firstness” of the tithe as important as the tithe itself. We can do this by writing out the first checks each week or month to God’s work at Trinity or other places, and then pay our bills from the remainder of our income. Is this a leap of faith? You bet it is. But I absolutely guarantee that it works, as will others who have tried it. I don’t know how or why it works, but there is always enough to pay my expenses after my return to God of what is God’s. I have never run short. I may not have everything I *want*, but I certainly have everything I *need* – and more.

*Bring the full tithe into the storehouse...and thus put me to the test, says the Lord. See if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. (Mal. 3:10)*



This “overflowing blessing” has certainly been my experience, and I invite you to make it yours as well.

© Alexis Dorf

## COMING UP SOON: THE ART SHOW!



Trinity's 23rd Annual Invitational Art Show will be held from August 26 through September 4 in Walker Hall. Chairperson Linda Lloyd has invited a number of artists—some familiar fa-

avorites and some new—to participate in this exhibit and fundraiser for our parish.

An opening night reception for the artists will be held at 5:30 on Friday August 25.

Parishioners will be needed to “sit” the show during weekday afternoons and on weekends. Please say “yes!” when you are asked to take your turn on the schedule. In fact, sign up with someone you don't know and you will find that by the end of your shift, you have made a new friend at Trinity!

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



If we have your email address on file at Trinity, this will be your last print edition of the *Trinity Times*. From now on, we will be sending your copy by email in the .pdf format so that you can download and read it online. If you do not have access to a computer, you will continue to receive the *Trinity Times* in your postal mailbox.

The decision to make this move is partly a function of trying to use our income wisely, and partly a matter of good stewardship of the trees from which all this paper is made!

Questions, problems? Talk to Alexis Dorf at [alexisdorf@aol.com](mailto:alexisdorf@aol.com) or 860-364-0816 and we will resolve them with dispatch!



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