



# TRINITY TIMES

## JULY/AUGUST 2009

### Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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10 am –1 pm

The Rev. Dr. Robert Clements  
*Vicar*

Linda Lloyd  
*Senior Warden*  
Roy Bickley  
*Junior Warden*

Geoffrey Brown  
*Clerk*  
John Lloyd  
*Treasurer*

Al Dorf, Bob Reid  
*Assistant Treasurers*

Christine Gevert  
*Organist/Choir Director*

Gretchen Hachmeister  
*Sunday School*

Lisa Brennan, *Bookkeeper*  
Jeff Silvernale, *Grounds*  
Junior Wright, *Sexton*  
Alexis Dorf, *Trinity Times*

#### FROM THE VICAR'S DESK:

A bishop's visit is a marvelous time to reflect on one's congregation, especially when he does all of the work. I get the rare privilege of listening to someone else in the pulpit and experiencing someone else celebrating the Eucharist. Without much to do I can enjoy the organist's talent, that of the choir and the children's choir, and appreciate everyone who participates, from the altar guild to the flower arranger, the readers, the ushers, and the intercessor, without distraction.



It's also a good time to thank all those who have made the past year so successful. As I said on the Sunday of the bishop's visit, we have managed to boost attendance, work towards increasing giving, re-established Sunday School and kept our current programs strong.

I wish to thank Christine and the choir for their consistently inspiring music. I'd especially like to thank Gretchen and Randy, along with Cheryl, Russell, and Marian, for seeing that each Sunday we have a viable children's program, one that has inspired both participation in the choir and the memorable artwork that adorns the parish hall.

I'd like to thank Alice and Emily, Luis, Biz, Jane and Michael for their continued excellence in seeing that the altar is neat and ready, and that the sanctuary is always appropriately presentable. It's a joy to confidently lift the veil on the paten and know that the host will be there.

Clearly, I need to thank the congregation, both veterans and newcomers, for their prayers for the continuing mission of the parish, one that we can continue to nurture.

I suppose that thing that I appreciate the most, as it at the base of all our corporate achievements, is the fact that, Sun-

day after Sunday, people come to church prepared to be happy to be in one another's company. Genuine smiles and energetic conversations at our ample coffee hours are more transformative and evangelical than any program adapted from some well-intentioned pamphlet from the national church.

We have much for which to be thankful, and much good work accomplished over the last three years. May we always be so blessed, and so ready to work towards the building of Jerusalem.

Thanks for the great year.

*Father Rob*

### NOTES FROM THE VESTRY



...Estimates for repairing the narthex roof and subsequent plastering are expected shortly.

...Gretchen Hachmeister has agreed to continue as head of our children's education in the fall (thanks, Gretchen!)

...Bishop Smith congratulated Trinity on no longer being a P.A.W. (Parish Against the Wall) as our finances have improved, along with our average Sunday attendance, now 70 people each week. He would like to see us extend our outreach efforts, perhaps partnering with a parish in Africa or Latin America.

...Donations of between \$1,000 and \$1,100 have enabled us to fund a water well pump in a village in east Africa. As information becomes available, it will be posted on our website.

### SUMMER READING



Looking for a good summer book to read on the beach, in the hammock (or on the porch, while you watch it rain?)

The Trinity Bookshelf in Walker Hall has a great selection of hardcover, paperback and audio books, at unbeatable prices! Stop by when you are at church and make your selections. When you are done, bring them back so they can be resold, benefiting the ECW coffers and thus our parish.

### JULY 4 PICNIC



The traditional Independence Day fireworks celebration will be held at Lime Rock Park on Saturday, July 4, and there is no better viewing spot than the lawn next to the church!

Plan to come with your picnic, along with friends and neighbors anytime after 6 pm. We will fire up the grills for anyone wishing to use them, but all of us will be responsible for our own food. This does not mean, of course, that sharing and trading won't take place, as they always do!

And while you are shopping for your picnic ingredients, don't forget to pick up an item or two for the OWLs kitchen basket next to the baptismal font! Emily says they are in particular need of breakfast items.

### WELCOME MACKENSIE!



Our *third* baptism of the year will be celebrated on July 5, when we receive into the household of faith Mackensie Marie Zele, daughter of Laura and Matthew and great grand-daughter of Alice Tweed.

It is our prayer that Mackensie will grow in love and knowledge of God and in the Spirit's gifts of wonder, patience and understanding.

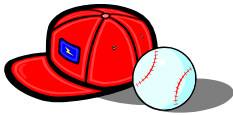
### HOW IS SHE MY SISTER?

St. John's in Salisbury is offering a five week discussion group focusing on women in Scripture and how our understanding of their lives and times might be linked to our

own beliefs and practices today.

Meetings will be held from 6:30-8:00 pm on Thursdays, July 16-Aug. 13. Alexis Dorf will be the facilitator. For further information, please contact Alexis at alexis-dorf@sbcglobal.net or 860-364-0816.

## SUMMER SUNDAY SPORTS



For our summer sports ministry 2009, Geoff Brown is offering a program of bat and ball games for younger children in July and volleyball for older youngsters in August. Frisbees and soccer balls will be available for those preferring those sports.

Trinity children, grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, neighbors, in-laws and out-laws are all welcome to join Geoff and his co-coaches at 10:20 on Sunday mornings.

After a brief prayer service, the children will have an opportunity to play the sport of their choice, and then will join the adults in church for the Eucharist. Those not choosing to attend the liturgy will need to be picked up by 11:15.

A generous donor is again funding t-shirts for the summer program. If you have not ordered yours already, contact Geoff at geoff@betweenthe lakes.com. or at 860-824-0640.

We will mark the end of the summer sports season with our annual Sundae Sunday on August 23, when our customary coffee hour will be replaced by all the ice cream you can eat with all the toppings you can pile on!



## ANNUAL INVITATIONAL ART SHOW

Trinity's Annual Art Show will open with an artist's reception on Friday, August 28 from 5:30-

7:30 and daily viewings from noon until 4 pm through September 7.

Long time favorites, as well as new artists, will be featured, along with a number of our own Trinity talent.

Come see, enjoy and buy a favorite work; 35% of the price goes to Trinity's budget.

For further information, speak to Tom Schindler (schindlerthomas@yahoo.com) or 860-435-9961.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TRACTOR



In doing the research for the discussion group "How is She my Sister?" at St. John's in Salisbury this summer, I came across the comment "Hospitality is a Form of Worship". The origins of this phrase are credited either to the Talmud or to a Jewish proverb, depending on where one looks. I must say, the idea stopped my highlighter right in its tracks.

I have always thought of hospitality as offering food and friendship to those we know as well as those we don't ("Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" [Heb. 13:2]), but I certainly never thought of it as worship.

That got me to thinking about our outreach efforts at Trinity as being an extended form of worship. According to Maimonides, the highest form of philanthropy is the instance in which neither the donor nor the recipient know one another. Certainly, our gifts of food to the OWLs Kitchen fit that definition. We simply provide needed sustenance to our brothers and sisters who are in need, not knowing who gets what or when it is distributed.

Our recent Church World Services project raised \$1,000 in a mere two weeks in order to provide a village in Africa with a well pump. To my shame, I rarely give thanks for the clean, pure water that comes from my

# BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!

Trinity's outreach ministry invites you to provide a backpack or lunch **bag** (not a lunch box!) for a child in need of school supplies for the coming year.

Suggestions for filling your backpack:

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Erasable pen                            | Mini stapler     |
| Markers                                 | gluestick        |
| Spiral bound notebook (2 or 3 sections) | scissors         |
| pencils                                 | highlighters     |
| Assignment pad                          | Pencil sharpener |
| ruler                                   | crayons          |



For filling lunch bags: freezer paks, reusable sandwich or snack boxes, an item or two from the above list.

Backpacks and lunchbags should be delivered to Trinity by August 23, when they will be blessed and delivered to local schools.

***THANK YOU FOR HELPING A CHILD IN NEED!***

Further information: Pat Barton at [patriciabarton@hotmail.com](mailto:patriciabarton@hotmail.com) or 860-435-8869

taps for drinking, washing, doing dishes and laundry, or watering our animals and plants. The only time I think about it is when we have a power failure and the water runs out until we start the generator. But for families in the third world, potable water is the difference between life and death, especially for infants and young children. When you don't have to expend time and energy worrying about water, you can undertake other work instead. Again, hospitality extended to brothers and sisters in Christ, this time a world away both geographically and economically. Again, the worship of God by acting in love for those whom God loves.

And this brings me to another idea for our extended hospitality. Opportunity International is a Christian organization inspired by Jesus' call to serve the poor. It provides microloans to entrepreneurs to start or expand their businesses in emerging nations and has recently created [www.optInnow.org](http://www.optInnow.org), whereby individuals (and congregations!) can review a list of entrepreneurs and then become "bankers" to fund -in whole or in part- a particular individual. The minimum donation is \$25.00. The donor is then able to track the progress of the entrepreneur, and when the loan is repaid to Opportunity International, the money is then lent out to someone else, thereby leveraging the original donation.

I will be asking the Vestry to consider a donation to [www.optInnow.org](http://www.optInnow.org) at their next meeting, with the idea that we as a congregation would be able to see exactly how we can make a difference in a family or village's life, as we have done with the well pump. Please take a moment to visit the website, and tell a Vestry member what you think about this proposal.

*Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from one who wants to borrow from you. (Mt 5:42)*

- Alexis Dorf

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address correction requested

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