



Holy Trinity's Mission: Building an open community that connects people to God and their ministries.

At the reception held Sunday, March 2, 2008, honoring the Interim Rector, Senior Warden Gerry Perez and Junior Warden Craig Ryan present Rev. Bruce McPherson with parting gifts, including a beautifully framed Sherrill Bower original photograph of Holy Trinity Church. Parishioners Bonnie Branham and Mary Yuhas coordinated the celebration.



photo by Chip Harman

Holy Trinity Honors Rev. Bruce McPherson's 18 Months of Service as Interim Rector by Karen Sharp, Tidings Co-editor

On March 2, 2008, following the 9:30 AM service, our congregation honored Rev. Bruce McPherson for his 18 months of service as Holy Trinity's Interim Rector.

Parishioners Bonnie Branham and Mary Yuhas coordinated the beautiful event, with approximately 160 people attending. They were ably assisted by parishioners Elizabeth Albaugh, George Albaugh, Roxie Allison, Jill Anderson, Barbara Arnold, Annie Beckley, Suzanne Bentzel, Barbara Blass, Dick Blass, Sherrill Bower, Pete Branham, John Brewster, Ursula Brewster, Trish Butler, Elizabeth Chamberlain, Diane Clark, Jack Croft, Susan Croft, John Daniels, Linda Eisenhart, Steve Esmacher, Vicki Esmacher, Don Evans, Silvia Evans, Ellen Glover, Peg Johnson, Julie Jones, Tom Jones, Tom Lackey, Fran Litzel, Sue Love, Julie McElroy, Sandra McGrady, Dave Nelson, Petey Nettles, Yvonne Owens, Barbara Paul, Gerry Perez, Ames Perry, Donna Rand, Craig Ryan, Harold Sandy, Joan Schmidt, Bess Sharland, Jean Sharland, Karen Sharp, Gabrielle Sparks, Denice Swisher, Marti Tracey, Scout Troop 403 and Scout Leader Jim Morehouse, Carol Tyrance-Graves, Janice Vettel, Carl Vettel, Ken Wenzel, Mary Wenzel and Bob Wright. Very special thanks go to Holy Trinity non-members George Jimenez and Kelly Ednock who worked so tirelessly from planning and shopping all the way through cooking and clean up. Only with the support of so many could this event have been such a success and wonderful tribute to the Interim Rector!

On behalf of the entire congregation, Senior Warden Gerry Perez and Junior Warden Craig Ryan presented Father Bruce with a gigantic Thank You card, a Sherrill Bower original photograph of the church, beautifully framed, and a Holy Trinity brass Christmas ornament. Upon receipt of the gifts, Father Bruce commented that whenever he has been asked what parting gift he would like from a parish, he always answers, "The Church," and he always receives a photograph!

As Senior Warden Gerry Perez stated in his article in the March issue of *The Tidings*, "We are blessed to have had Bruce with us during this time. He has shepherded us through change, re-tooled the church office, and expanded our outreach to our Bowie area neighbors in search of a new church home." He has also prepared the way for our new rector, Rev. Leslie St. Louis. We eagerly anticipate her arrival later this month.



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

13106 Annapolis Road
Bowie, Maryland 20720-3829
Phone: 301-262-5353
Fax: 301-262-9609

Website: <http://holytrinitybowie.edow.org>

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Reverend Leslie M. St. Louis, Rector

lstlouis@htrinity.org

Reverend Mariann Babnis, Assistant Rector

mbabnis@htrinity.org; (301) 809-1015

John Daniels, Youth Minister

jdaniels@htrinity.org

Michael Arrington - Music Director

Michelle Upton - Secretary

Fritz Miller - Bookkeeper (Tues, 10 AM to 2 PM)

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite II
(w/Children's' Chapel 2nd-5th Sunday
- Parish Hall)

10:45 AM – Fellowship & Education,
Sunday School, Youth Group,
Discussion Hour, and Adult Bible Study

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

(September -May)

10:15 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THE TRINITY TIDINGS

Published monthly except July
Deadline for Articles – 15th of Month

Email: tidings@htrinity.org

Co-Editors: Evelyn Kirby, Karen Sharp

Feature Writer: Evelyn Kirby

Production/Distribution:

Sally Gilbert, Sherrill Bower, Della Whorton

Vestry

Rev. Leslie M. St. Louis – Rector

through 2009: Gerry Perez – Senior Warden

through 2008: Craig Ryan – Junior Warden

Candace Carlisle

Eric Maurer

Trish Butler

through 2009: Annie Beckley

Tom Lackey

VACANT

through 2010: Rick Anderson

Evelyn Kirby

Ames Perry

Ex officio

Michelle Upton – Secretary

VACANT – Treasurer

Rev. Mariann Babnis - Assistant Rector

Katherine Mathis – Chair, HTEDS Board

The View From Here: The Rev. Leslie M. St. Louis

Dear Friends,

I write to you this evening shortly after meeting with Saint Paul's Youth Group for our last meeting together. This evening we watched the movie *Jesus Christ Superstar* as a way of experiencing the Passion of Christ and entering into Holy Week. You may recall that the movie ends with the crucifixion of Christ; seconds after he breathes his soul into the hands of God the screen goes black and the movie ends. Parker, my teenager who resolutely claims there is no God, jumped up immediately and said, "We can't stop here, we have to have the resurrection!"

I couldn't agree more, we can't end with Good Friday, we have to move onto the resurrection. Isn't it interesting that we cannot understand our faith without both, we must have the darkness of death and the white light of rebirth, and in fact we must interpret death in and through the light of resurrection. I often think, as I enter Holy Week, how odd it is that we Christians understand our faith and indeed our entire lives through an event for which there is no proof and that in fact we have no way of explaining or understanding the Resurrection.

You will be reading this in the days and weeks just after we have come together to proclaim anew the resurrection of the Lord. We will all be walking freshly with the Jesus who comes through locked doors, who meets us on the beach with breakfast prepared, who walks with us on a new road to a new life. I can think of no better time for us to begin our ministry together than at the beginning of new life, this time when things seem known and yet unknown when we have close to us the memory of the loss, the experience of the death and yet when we bask in the glory of the birth, the new life.

I eagerly await our journey's start, knowing that Christ will lead us and guide us every step of the way. Knowing that the promise of the resurrection we have just proclaimed is real and fully ours here and now, all we have to do is jump up and say, "We have to have the resurrection."

In Peace,
Leslie+

Holy Trinity's Vision

...to become a dynamic spiritual center that reflects our community in its diversity. Here people will be welcomed and accepted and will find growth and fulfillment in the vitality of the Spirit.



**A WELCOME PRESENTATION
ON CURRICULUM CHANGES
AND BUILDING PLANS
BY MARCY CATHEY,
DAY SCHOOL HEAD,
SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 10:45 AM,
IN THE PARISH HALL.
OUR SCHOOL IS
OUR LOVING OUTREACH
TO THE COMMUNITY.
PLEASE ATTEND, EVERYONE.**

**Grate Patrol Thanks Holy Trinity
for \$500 Check
by Catherine Hamel, Hunger Committee**

The following e-mail was received by the Hunger Committee, on behalf of Holy Trinity, on February 12, 2008:

"What a wonderful surprise! Thank you very much.

"I can speak for our entire parish in thanking you for your long standing and generous commitment to helping those in need. Please pass along to the other members of Holy Trinity our gratitude and blessings. We will let you know when the check arrives.

"In the meantime, I hope that you enjoy a fruitful Lent.

"Tina Mallett, St. Paul's Parish for the Grate Patrol"

**Annual Meeting Set
for Sunday, April 27, 2008**

Senior Warden Gerry Perez, on behalf of the Vestry, invites everyone to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 27, at 11:00 AM, following refreshments. Our new rector Rev. Leslie St. Louis will participate. Members will elect the Junior Warden and three Vestry positions, as well as one Diocesan Convention Delegate. Nominating Committee Chair Rick Anderson reports that, so far, the following names will appear on the ballot: Trish Butler, Eric Maurer and Candace Carlisle are running for their current Vestry positions and Craig Ryan is seeking re-election as Junior Warden.

**Support the Rectory Preservation!
by Karen Sharp, Rectory Preservation
Committee Member**



photo by Sherrill Bower

Purchase Sherrill Bower's beautifully framed, limited edition print of Holy Trinity Church for \$150.00!

\$50 of your purchase is tax deductible.

This photograph will be framed to the finished size of approximately 17.25" x 21.5" with acid free matting and UV impenetrable glass protection by the professional, wholesale certified picture framing company Studio Frameworks of Crofton. Studio Frameworks and Sherrill Bower are making this exclusive, limited-time offer as a fundraising project for the Rectory Preservation. A minimum of 50 orders must be submitted by June 1 for Holy Trinity to receive this discount offer.

To order, please contact: Bonnie Branham at bonniebranhamallenauditing@verizon.net or 301-503-3172, or Karen Sharp at karenmsharp@comcast.net or 301-262-8425.



Day School News

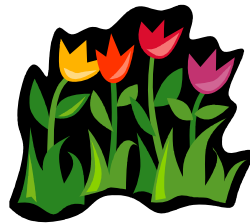
by Laykin Zarro, HTEDS Marketing & Communications Director

The Lower School students have been involved with community service projects. These wonderful students made blankets and scarves that Chaplain John delivered to Project Warm Nights. First graders made posters welcoming home servicemen and women who will be returning from Iraq. The students carefully incorporated the lessons they learned in grammar as they wrote thoughtful words on their posters. The third graders made wonderful greeting cards, letters, and beautiful posters for Operation Welcome Home Maryland. This organization serves to welcome home our military service men and women from the war zones of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait. The special creations of the Holy Trinity students will be included in the welcome home goodie bags and their posters will be displayed prominently.

The Middle School students got into the swing of Presidential politics. The Holy Trinity Girl Scout Junior Troop 2044 conducted a mock election at the Daisey Lane campus. Two hundred and twenty students cast their votes and elected Barack Obama as the Democratic Presidential Primary Candidate and John McCain as the Republican Presidential Primary Candidate. These students rated the war in Iraq, education, health, and the environment as their top issues of concern. In creative writing, seventh graders wrote Presidential Candidate Letter handouts. The students selected a candidate that they supported and gave their opinions on important issues.

The children in the Preschool/Kindergarten division are enjoying the wonderful words of Dr. Seuss books. They read *Fox in Socks* and compared their own silly socks. They designed special sock puppets. After reading *Green Eggs and Ham*, they graphed their favorite green foods. During circle time, they mixed up some scrambled eggs, added food coloring and ate green eggs. After reading *One Fish, Two Fish, Blue Fish*, the students sorted different colored fish on Venn diagrams. They also went fishing in a lowercase fish pond and an uppercase fish pond to find letter matches.

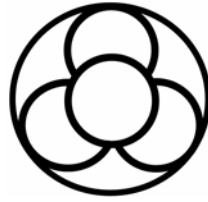
Enjoy a fun-filled summer during our Summer Celebration summer camp program (Preschool to Grade 9). Campers can develop athletic skills, explore the fine arts, enhance study skills, and more. To view the full brochure and to register, visit www.htrinity.org.



TULIPS... PICK YOUR COLOR!

by Harold Sandy, Buildings and Grounds

Tom and Kathy Andrews sent 100 tulip bulbs last year from Amsterdam in appreciation for the European trip we gave them upon Father Tom's retirement. The bulbs came in ten glorious colors and all appear to be popping up beautifully at this writing. Treat yourself and look for their blooms soon in the gardens around the education building.



A Revolution Round the Sun by Karen Mallon Sharp, Tidings Co-editor

[Dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) defines a year as "the time in which any planet completes a revolution round the sun."

With this issue of *The Trinity Tidings*, Evelyn Kirby and I have come full circle as co-editors. When we assumed this responsibility, we volunteered for a two-year stint. Thus, we embark together, next month, on the second revolution of our commitment.

I am blessed to have had the benefit of her expertise as the editor of this newsletter previously. Together, we have developed a process which seems to work for us, though it is far from flawless. Each month we learn something new about putting one of these babies together. And honestly, that's exactly what it feels like, sometimes. That we are in labor. Though one might say it's a labor of love.

The Tidings is only as good as the articles included in it. That's where you, a member of the congregation, come in. We all are potential contributors to the newsletter. One need not be a chair of any ministry area to write an article. We encourage each of you to present to us for publication information you believe to be of interest to the parish. We are grateful for all who take time out of their busy schedules to send us their articles.

As part of the Communications Ministry, we would be remiss if we failed to thank Sally Gilbert, Sherrill Bower, and Della Whorton for processing each issue for mailing. And we also want to thank Michelle Upton, our Parish Secretary, for all of her assistance in the laborious process. We are also indebted to our Webmaster, Chip Harman, who uploads the web version by the 20th of the month, along with the Assisting in the Service schedule.

We thank Sherrill Bower, also, for so graciously allowing us to include her beautiful professional photography in the website version because Webmaster Chip Harman simply will not allow us to upload a blank half page.

...We must also express our unending gratitude to Bob Laursen, the former Chair of the Communications Ministry, who, from its inception, so excellently steered our group. We will miss his expertise and direction, but wish him and Ann all the best as they move to their new church.

Currently, submissions are due by the 15th of the month for the following month's publication. Evelyn or I send out an initial call for copy as well as a final call for copy as reminders. We do, however, accept articles anytime. We prefer that submissions be made by e-mail to tidings@htrinity.org to facilitate more easily their incorporation into the publication.

We also appreciate your comments and suggestions. With all of us working together, our publication helps us to get the word out in a timely fashion because *The Tidings* is the single method of communication that reaches all in the parish. And it is available both in print and online at <http://holytrinitybowie.edow.org/tidings.html>.

See ya 'round!

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

by Chaplain John Daniels, Youth Minister

Christmas in April needs more unskilled volunteers for their distribution of materials, supplies, shirts, etc. to House Captains on Saturday April 19th, at their warehouse located in Upper Marlboro between the hours of 6:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Holy Trinity Church and School members age 14 and above are encouraged to support this worthwhile organization. Please contact Chaplain John Daniels at the church office (301-262-5353) or jdaniels@htrinity.org if you are interested.

Also for more information on Christmas in April, go to <http://www.christmasinaprilpg.org/>. Thanks in advance for your love and support for those in need.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN...

- ...a member of your family is admitted to the hospital, so that visits can be made.
- ...you have a death or serious illness in the family so we can offer you prayer and support.
- ...a new baby arrives or you have other happy news to share.
- ...you are homebound (even short term) and would like to receive the Sunday bulletins to keep in touch with what's going on at Holy Trinity.
- ...you are planning to move(out of town or locally) or your phone number or e-mail has changed so the church records can be updated.
- ...your group plans to have a meeting, so we can place it on the church calendar.
- ...you would like to have our Rector Leslie, our Assistant Rector Mariann, or a member of the Congregational Care Ministry visit you or you feel the church can assist you in any way.

You can reach the church office by phone at 301-262-5353 or FAX at 301-262-9609. Office hours are 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The Parish Secretary is in the office from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. After hours, feel free to leave a voice mail message and someone from the office will return your call.

You can also reach us by e-mail. Leslie's e-mail address is lstlouis@htrinity.org, Mariann's is mbabnis@htrinity.org, and Michelle's is mupton@htrinity.org. If you recently got e-mail, please e-mail us to let us add you to our list of member e-mail addresses so we can send announcements and information updates.

Also, check out the church website at <http://holytrinitybowie.edow.org/> where Chip Harman, our webmaster, keeps the public and the congregation informed about current church events, presents the latest issue of the monthly newsletter, *The Tidings*, and includes the schedule of those assisting in the church services as well as general information about Holy Trinity.

We look forward to hearing from you!

BOWIE PANTRY NEEDS OUR SUPPORT

by Peg Johnson, Hunger Committee

Non perishable food items for the Bowie Community Pantry are always needed. They may be placed in the food basket located in the narthex/vestibule of Holy Trinity Church on any Sunday. Tom, Mary and Keith Sykes deliver this food to the Pantry. Your donations are greatly needed and your kindness will be greatly appreciated by those in need. For more information, visit <http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org/>.

**Alleluia!
The Lord is risen!**



**The Lord is risen indeed!
Alleluia!**



photo by Karen Sharp

The Meanings and Gifts of Taking EFM (Education for Ministry) by Della Whorton, Year 4 EFM Student

I initially began EFM, searching for acceptance of my son's death. I found that, but it was just a beginning. EFM opened my eyes to a dimension of Christianity I had never seen. The structure of EFM revealed the strength of the Word, love and hope of God through His direct and indirect voice and the life and sacrifice of His son.

It has certainly regenerated my 'curiosity knob' and has emboldened my voice in expression of my faith; just ask me! That same curiosity shown in this year's Year I is a delight, which brings in another factor; we in EFM are all in it together. We have a relationship that has to be experienced to be understood and I'll value it for the rest of my life.

There is a lot of reading required and much more available. One thing leads to another and time is the only restriction to the wealth of information available. **THERE ARE NO TESTS!** There is friendship, understanding and satisfaction and no need to ask; it's there for the taking.

Editor's Note: The EFM website describes the course as "a program of theological education-at-a-distance of the School of Theology of the University of the South." Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. Students meet once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years." **Congratulations, Della!**

One Last Thank You



Rev. Bruce McPherson
photo by Karen Sharp

Dear Holy Trinity Friends,

One last thank you for your friendship, your hospitality and your generosity. Thank you for the well wishes and the gifts of two Sundays ago. Everyone should own a copy of Sherill Bower's magnificent photograph of the Church. And most importantly, thank you for your passion for the good news of Jesus Christ. I will cherish the many memories of our time together. I know that you will be as welcoming to Leslie as you were to me.

Many blessings to all.
Bruce