

The Trinity Tidings

AUGUST 2008

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

"I hope that each of you is enjoying a period of rest and refreshment over the Summer months."

. . .The Rev. Leslie M. St. Louis

at right: Scout bench and Healing Prayers' box in the contemplative prayer garden



photo by Sherrill Bower



Crab Feast on September 7 by Verena Smith

The Hunger Committee invites everyone to attend it's 13th Annual Hunger Committee Crab Feast. It will be held on Sunday, September 7th from Noon to 3 PM, on the church grounds.

Not a crab eater? Not to worry. There will be great fare from Red, Hot and Blue, terrific barbecue, and hot dogs for the kids. Preschool kids eat for free! We ask that you bring your own beverage. Beer is welcome. So save that date, Sunday September 7, and enjoy fellowship as well as good eating.

Please read the Sunday Bulletin for the price or information or contact Verena Smith at 301-464-0188, or Beth Nelson at 410-798-1813. And, as always, all proceeds go to alleviate hunger.

Sunday School Registration September 7 by Donna Rand

Independence Day is behind us and that means the start of a new school year is close at hand. Sunday school registration will take place on Sunday, September 7, following the 9:30 AM service. All children are welcome and encouraged to participate! On that same note, we would like to encourage participation of the adults as well. Our children need teachers for the year ahead and we ask your help! If you are able to volunteer some of your time then we ask that you please consider spending it with our youth after church on Sundays. If you are able to help with a Sunday School class or have any questions at all, please contact Dave or Donna Rand for more information at dland@comcast.net or donna.m.rand@gmail.com.



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 AM – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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

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through 2011: Craig Ryan – Junior Warden

through 2009: Annie Beckley Tom Lackey

through 2010: Rick Anderson Ames Perry

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through 2012: Candace Carlisle Eric Maurer

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Diane Clark (2009) Kirt Kirtland (2010)

Alternate Delegates:

Mary Yuhus (2009) Jim Diggs (2010)

Rector's Message

Greetings to you in the midst of this hot and humid time. I hope that each of you is enjoying a period of rest and refreshment over the Summer months. I know that our children are enjoying the time to stay up late and sleep even later, times at the beach or at the pool, perhaps travels to see family and friends. Summer is always a time when things relax a bit and we get to wind down.

As August approaches, it is my hope, however, that your thoughts are beginning to the return of the “program year.” I look forward to seeing the return of our children to Sunday school, the choir to the choir stalls and those of you who have taken the summer off to see you in the pews. When we return as a worshipping community we will be continuing along our journey together building a new relationship, priest and parish and doing the work of discernment. Discerning each of our roles in this place and in God’s plan for us and discerning our role as a community of Christians in this world.

One of my favorite authors William Countryman has written, “if you are human you’re a priest.” Countryman writes that by priest he means, “any person who lives in the dangerous, exhilarating, life-giving borderlands of human existence where the everyday experience of life opens up to reveal glimpses of the Holy. And not only lives there, but comes to the aid of others who live there.” This is what we are called to do, you know, to live in such a way that we experience the Holy in everything we do and then share that with those around us. The question for us to discuss is to what degree are we willing to live into the understanding of our link to the Holy and to other human beings?

What is it that you bring to this conversation, what needs are you aware of that you and you alone have unique talents to meet? We are engaged in a process not unlike the building of a garden, each of us brings specific visions for what we think the garden ought to look like and specific talents for making that happen. The plan of this garden arises out of the interplay of our imaginations and the context of this particular place. There are myriad ministries in this place, ministries in which we can experience the Holy and share that with those whom we meet. I ask that you pray about your specific talents and your desires. Look over the list of the ministries on the next page that we have in the church, think about ministries we don’t have but that you would like to see us have; seek the place where there is soil that needs your specific touch.

(See *Rector's Message*, continued on page 3)

(Rector's Message, continued from page 2)

I pray that the remainder of your summer is blessed, know that you remain in my prayers and that I look forward to our coming together in communion, soon.

In Christ,

The Rev. Leslie M. St. Louis

Ministries at Holy Trinity (See *Rector's Message* on page 2)

Buildings and Grounds
Pastoral Care Ministry
Educational Ministry
Adult Choir
Children's Choir
Handbell Choir
Youth
Sunday School
Adult Education
Sunday Discussion Hour.
Education for Ministry
Rectory Readers Book Group
Episcopal Church Women
Hunger
Honduras
Holy Trinity Foster Child
Shawl Ministry
Healing Garden Guild
Communications

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

Support the Rectory Preservation

Sherrill Bower's beautiful, limited edition print of Holy Trinity is now available as affordable notecards. A shrink-wrapped collection of 10 cards with envelopes sells for \$10.00, \$6.00 of which is tax deductible. Proceeds will benefit the Rectory Restoration/Preservation project.

To order please contact [Bonnie Branham](#), 301-503-3172, or [Karen Sharp](#), 301-262-8425, or Church Secretary Michelle Upton.

Would You Like to Host the Coffee Hour on Sunday Morning? by Denice Swisher

Beginning on September 7, the Coffee Ministry will again host the coffee hour, serving coffee, tea, juice, donuts, and bagels after the 9:30 Service each Sunday. Volunteers are needed to set up coffee and tea, provide donuts and bagels (you will be reimbursed for your expense), and clean up afterward. Anyone is welcome to sign up for a month, or part of one.

If you have never done this before but have always wanted to, now is the time to try it. I will be more than happy to show anyone what needs to be done. It is a very rewarding feeling to see everyone enjoy their coffee and donut while mingling and meeting any new members. I can take your name and answer any questions after the 9:30 AM Service or you can reach me at peachiedhs@verizon.net or 410-672-7263 (before 9:00 PM). Thanks so much.

Education for Ministry Has Fall Openings by Arleen Dale Kirtland

Education for Ministry has a limited number of openings. New, or returning students, are most welcome on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Arleen Dale Kirtland at lawnranger@unidial.com or 240-305-6514 for more information. **Education for Ministry**, affectionately known as **EfM**, is 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 regularly, usually once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years and 18 Continuing Education Units for each year's work. Come and join us for fellowship and fun as we learn about God's Word!

Join Rectory Readers for Good Books, Good Food and Good Company by Mary Yuhas

Have you been reading a good, thought-provoking book this summer that you'd like to share? Or, would you like to have been reading a book like that but were not sure what to choose? Please consider joining the Rectory Readers in September. We are a group of about 12 men and women who get together in the Rectory on Wednesday mornings from 8 to 10 AM. We've been together (not all the same folks for this whole time) for four years and always can find room for additional participants.

Our first get-together in the Fall will be Wednesday, September 10. That would be a very good time to come find out what we're about, if you're interested. For the first two weeks of meetings we will share synopses of books we've read this summer and recommend them for the group to read, or not. Those two weeks would be a good introduction to us. We'll decide then which book or two we might order and proceed from there. We usually read several chapters each week; the goal is not only to inform but to enjoy.

There are really no leaders, as such, because we all take turns providing what is needed. Those needs are: refreshments that we share during fellowship time from 8:00 to 8:30 and a leader for each week who facilitates the discussion. I think all of us who have been part of this experience would say that we never would have read all the books we've read if we didn't have the added inspiration and ideas of the other members.

Why not give it a try? You can call me at 301-262-1827 if you know now you'd like to come, or you can be a last minute attendee and just show up on the Wednesday, September 10.



Wednesday Morning Bible Study by Arleen Dale Kirtland

I am excited to announce that Bible Study will resume on Wednesday Mornings, starting September 24, at 10:30 AM.

This year we will use *Devotional Classics – A Renovare Resource for Spiritual Renewal*, by Richard Foster as our study guide. These devotional classics have “stood the test of time and ...seek to form the soul before God.” Authors span the history of the church from its earliest years to the present day.

Readings are short while filled with inspiration! Please join us for a time of study and fellowship as we seek to know the love and goodness of God.

For more information, please contact Arleen at 240-305-6514 or lawnranger@unidial.com.

The book can be found at Amazon.com. If you click on *Search another edition of this book*, you will be able to preview parts of the book.

Milestones in the Parish

Deaths

May 24, 2008

Alec Slepitza, in Bay Village, Ohio

July 6, 2008

Alma Lovett, mother of Sally Gilbert

“Give rest, O Christ, to your servant”



Previews for Sunday Discussion by Kimberly Evans

The time is approaching to start up our program year, and here are some of the coming attractions for Sunday Discussion. Tradition reigns at the start of the year – our traditional take on the old Maryland social tradition of the crab feast with a Holy Trinity twist. Picking crabs will give us time to catch up with old acquaintances and meet new in a friendly, informal setting. (No one can be formal around crabs!) While we feed ourselves with crabs and fellowship, we'll be raising money to feed the hungry in our community as well. Watch for the Hunger Committee's announcements in the Sunday Bulletin for further information on when and where and how to sign up.

On September 14 we'll talk about how we grow as Christians at Holy Trinity. What is our continuing education program for developing mind and spirit in our faith? What **SHOULD** such a program be? As you can see below, we have a few ideas lined up already to start us off, but we're really looking for your input. What are we doing right and where would people like to go with this program? We'll have some concrete ideas for consideration to keep this philosophical topic grounded. Come and give us your 2 cents; it'll be worth every penny.

Oh, and sandwich making is back 😊. The Hunger Committee will be telling you more about that.

September

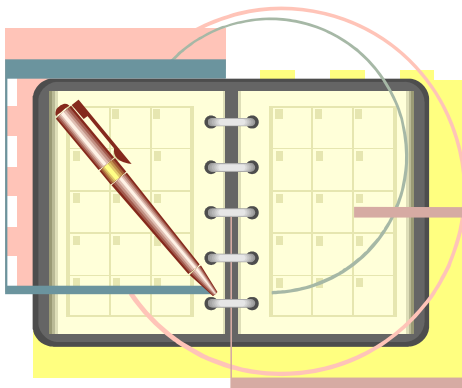
September 7	Crab Feast - Hunger Committee
	Sunday School Registration
September 14	Growing as Christians at Holy Trinity - K.Evans
September 21	Sandwich Making - Hunger Committee
September 28	Nicene Creed in Historical Perspective - A.Kirtland

October

October 5	Nicene Creed in Historical Perspective - A.Kirtland
October 12	Nicene Creed in Historical Perspective - A.Kirtland
October 19	Sandwich Making - Hunger Committee
October 26	Islam (1) - S.McGeiver

November

November 2	Islam (2) - S.McGeiver
November 9	Islam (3) - S.McGeiver



Building and Grounds Updates

by Harold Sandy

BGE has now completed the cutting down and removal of trees along Maryland Route. 450, in the wooded area in front of the church, and the pine tree in front of the small cemetery across from the church entrance. The majority of these trees were in the 90 foot high range, most were hollow or had dead tops, and all threatened to fall during storms and cut electricity going to Bowie and to our buildings. Threats to our electric, telephone and computer lines are enormously reduced. BGE obtained all necessary permits from the County, kept us informed of all trees to be cut and on what dates, and left cutting areas quite clean. Kudos to BGE!

The Day School's first grade children planted many beautiful flowers near the education building, and thanks to plentiful rain this Summer, almost no watering has been needed. Most grounds work involved weeding, pruning, limbing up trees, and the like.

The 90 foot poplar tree that fell on our largest red shed, used for storage by the Boy Scouts and the Day School, has been cut up and, thanks to Carl Vettel, most wood has been taken to the Lions Club where it will be sold as firewood in support of their hearing and eye programs. We are awaiting the final amount the insurance will reimburse us. We'll be asking members to put in sweat equity one evening for a shed-razing, to break it up for carting to the dumps with our various pickup trucks. We'll do this just before delivery of a new replacement shed.

Sincere thanks to Jim Diggs also for repairing the steps to the front porch of the rectory.



photo by Sherrill Bower

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.

Renewal of Marriage Vows

by The Rev. Leslie M. St. Louis

The Diocese of Washington and the Washington National Cathedral are co-sponsoring with Episcopal Senior Ministries a Renewal of Marriage Vows for couples married 25 years or more on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at 2:30 PM at the Washington National Cathedral. A reception in St Alban's Parish will follow for the couples and their invited guests. Pre-registration is required and there is \$50 fee for a couples and a \$25 fee for additional guests who will attend the reception. For more information, call (202) 414-6314.

PRISCM's Focus for Election Year: Education and Economic Development by Gerry Perez

The **Partnership for Renewal In Southern and Central Maryland (PRISCM)** held its issue summit recently and decided to focus on Education and Economic Development in the region. The organization is gearing up for a major political action tentatively set for October 23, 2008. The plan is to bring at least 500 residents together to support an Education and Development agenda before the election in November. Please pencil that in on your calendars. It will be a great time to hear candidate's positions before casting a vote.

PRISCM (in which Holy Trinity has been a member since 2005), also celebrated its third annual fundraising banquet on June 29, 2008, and had a great turnout. Attendees enjoyed a chicken dinner at Colony South Hotel and Conference Center, and heard a rousing speech by Dr. Iva Carruthers, General Secretary of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference. She spoke on the struggle of the African-American church, the roll of the Church in community issues, and the need for organized members of the faith community to get involved in public issues.

For more information, please see Gerry Perez.



Hunger Committee Food and Toiletries Drive by Verena Smith

A big **thank you** to all who participated in our Samaritan Ministry "walking food" and toiletries drive. More than 20 bags filled with groceries and toiletries as well as \$125 in checks were delivered to Samaritan Ministry. Letters were sent as requested to those who were honored. A special thank you goes to Sherada Washington. Sherada asked the **TARGET** on King Highway to contribute to our drive. **TARGET** gave us \$100 worth of product, which was greatly appreciated. And thank you to those who gave gifts anonymously.

The following people were honored: Richard Keller, Eleanor Hill, Regina Glover, Steve and Benny Mae Lynch, James Fatheree, the Sykes family, Toby and Sherada Washington, and Nelson and Audrey Denison.

The following people were remembered: Pat Anderson; Tony Turcotte; Anthony Dragotto; the Howe, Sparrow and Garwood Families; Bill and Phyllis (parents of Julie Jones); Cordelia England Sollers and Basil Duke Sollers; Harold and Ruth Vettel; Adolf Blass and Minter Foster; Mary Milan's loved ones; Daphne's loved ones; Regina and Pat (Sue Love's loved ones); Bertron Sober's parents; Laura Francis; Cathy Clark's grandparents; Bob and Lillian Smith; and Anthony and Tina DiIorio.