Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
13106 Annapolis Road
Bowie, Maryland 20720-3829

**The Trinity Tidings**
JUNE-JULY 2007

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

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**JUNE 3 WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:00 AM ONLY**

Trinity Sunday, June 3, is the date for the Annual Parish Picnic. On that Sunday, there will be only one service at 9:00 AM where the parish will honor the Sunday School children and their teachers. You are encouraged on that day to wear picnic attire to church.

On Sunday, May 13, during the Discussion hour, Episcopal Senior Ministries' Executive Director Joe Resch presents information to parishioners about programs available in our community. Printed information is available in the church office.

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**JUNE 2007 ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE**

### 8:00 AM

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<td>3</td>
<td>M. Fallon V. Esmacher</td>
<td>J. Trisko</td>
<td>S. Allen</td>
<td>R. Curbelo T. Kirby</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>R. Anderson S. Bower</td>
<td>D. Robinson</td>
<td>K. Sharp</td>
<td>T. Sykes L. Anderson</td>
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The 8 AM and 9:30 AM services are combined into one service at 9 AM. See above notice.

### 9:30 AM

**9:00 AM**

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<td>24</td>
<td>R. Beckley E. Glover</td>
<td>C. Andre</td>
<td>D. Clark A. Kirtland</td>
<td>D. Townsend-Gray G. Sparks L. Tompkins</td>
<td>A. Sparks D. Taylor</td>
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### Altar Guild:
- June 1-15: Liz Biddle, Charlotte Zarate
- June 16-30: Della Whorton, Bonnie Williams
Thank You 2006-2007 Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders
by Tom Cloutier

Enough cannot be said about the selfless commitment of time and energy our Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders give weekly. We are blessed at Holy Trinity to have a dedicated group of parishioners who meet with our youth weekly to continue the teachings and fellowship amongst the next generation.

I would like to thank all who breathe life into the program. The unmentioned are parents who stay or volunteer, who offer to substitute when leaders need time off. It would be rude not to mention how helpful Susan Townsend-Gray has been in this year’s transition in the Sunday School Superintendent role. I appreciate Rev. Bruce and Mother Mariann’s constant support and guidance.

It is great to have Jessie Lackey singing with the lower school again. Thank you to Spencer Cloutier for filling the void of singing with them (when he wasn’t camping on Sundays) from time to time with his guitar.

Please take a moment to show your love to the following: Dorothy Bice, Karen Lanouette, Audrey Denison, Michele Bowen, Julie Gordon, Debbie Brasel, Karen Kalber, Alison Andrews, Ken Wenzel, Trish Butler, Cathy Clark, Craig Ryan, Raylene James, and Eric Maurer, and Children’s Chapel leaders Kathryn Zarate and Verena Smith.

Thank You from the Day School
by Lisa Hawkins, HTEDS Communications Director

The families, administration, faculty and staff, and students of the Day School extend their warmest thanks to the members of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church who supported the Annual Fund for Excellence. Funds raised will provide classroom materials as well as the resources to enhance the technology, music, drama, and athletic programs that benefit students. What a blessing these donations will be to our School as we strive to offer the best possible environment for children as they learn and grow. Thank you!

Holy Trinity’s Response To Church Changes in the 21st Century
by Rev. Bruce McPherson

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Teacher: “What is the nation’s capital?”
Student: “Washington, D.C.”
Teacher: “What does the D. C. stand for?”
Student: “Dot Com.”

(continued on page 3)
In mid-May, Gerry Perez and I attended a conference at the National Cathedral called "The Church for the 21st Century." I found it extremely interesting and appropriate to Holy Trinity as you begin to face the 21st century head-on and think about Holy Trinity’s response to the many changes that are rocking the religious boat at this time. I’ve been reading a very good book recently called *Post-Modern Pilgrims* written by Leonard Sweet, a professor at Drew University in New Jersey. The little story above comes from that book. It is clear that change of seismic proportions is in the air. The rapid change in technology, of which we are all aware, has created a communications revolution no less significant than the invention of moveable type by Johannes Gutenberg in the 15th century. Scholars argue that this invention created the necessary environment for the Reformation. So are we in the midst of a new Reformation?

In his book, Sweet argues that 21st century Christianity has more in common with 1st century Christianity than with a 20th century world that, as he says, “is collapsing all around us.” He describes both churches as “experiential, participatory, image-driven and connected.”

- They are experiential – “In post-modern culture no one wants a ‘second-hand’ God, a God that someone else defines for us. Each one of us is a Jacob become Israel: a wrestler with God. The experience is the message.”
- They are participatory – more and more people are becoming aware that “the current system of fund raising … is increasingly inadequate for the postmodern world… The success of Habitat for Humanity is based on its participatory structure. You get and do something personally; you get to know the people for whom you are doing it; and you get to give both money and time.” When the disciples asked Jesus how he could feed so many people, he took the five loaves, blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people.
- They are image-driven – Language itself is image making. Aristotle said, “No one thinks without a picture.” Images were extremely important to early Christians as they struggled to tell of their experiences of God in Christ. Jesus used extended metaphors to describe the kingdom of God. And so they are today. There’s a church called “The Rock.” Its domain name is [www.thewater.org](http://www.thewater.org) - a “mixed metaphor.”
- They are connected – “The paradox is this: the pursuit of individualism has led to this place of hunger for connectedness, for communities not of blood or nation, but of choice. The Internet is not a disseminator of information as much as it is a social medium – the first thing a teen does after getting home is to log on. “The church exists to incarnate connectedness and to inculcate greater consciousness of connectedness. At any moment, however ordinary and uneventful, ‘me’ is inextricable connected to ‘we.’”

All of this might be summed up in the song “Christmas” from the rock opera *Tommy* by Pete Townshend and the WHO. The father talks to his son who doesn’t know what Christmas morning means, who doesn’t know what day it is. He doesn’t know who Jesus was or what praying is. How can he be saved from his eternal grave? Tommy can you hear me? Tommy can you hear me? Tommy can you hear me? How can he be saved? Suddenly Tommy responds: See me, feel me, touch me, heal me! See me, feel me, touch me, heal me!

Or it could all be summed up in the words Jesus said to Thomas: *Do not doubt but believe. Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side.*

Summer is upon us. It’s easy to relax into the heat and the joy of summer; to experience it recreationally; to participate fully in its heightened activity; to understand the power to heal that lies in these “lazy, hazy” days; and to connect in real and personal ways around the ball field and the barbeque pit. At Holy Trinity we will spend the summer finding ways to make our church more experiential, participatory, image-driven and connected. We hope you will do your part by remaining connected with us. It is not that the church is here for you. You are the church and the church is here for the world.

Bruce+
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Eucharist . . .
by Rev. Mariann Babnis

About three weeks after my surgery on my lung, I was talking to Bruce about coming back to work. He said, "Let's not hurry – take it a couple of days at a time." Well, that was about the last coherent conversation I had with him in three months! Shortly thereafter I suffered a stroke and returning came to an abrupt halt.

My health is almost back to normal. I’m still working out at the local hospital a couple times a week on speech, physical and occupational therapy. I’ve had two doctors' visits in two weeks and they say everything’s OK.

But I wanted to thank you for all that you did for me – everyone who prayed, sent cards, sent flowers, brought dinner (and more!) and called. The number of cards I counted was over 140 and there were 11 cards that accompanied flowers! Your response to my recent stroke was phenomenal. I’ll never be more prepared than I was in eating so many frozen dinners!

I especially want to thank Bruce McPherson for slogging along most of the time by himself, and Evelyn Kirby for making the arrangements for all my food. ‘I couldn’t have done it without you!'

I’ve started to work at Holy Trinity a couple of days a week – Tuesday and Thursday – for the next few weeks, and of course on Sunday. I hope this schedule helps me get back to work and not waste a lot of time.

But most of all, I just wanted to say, "Thank You for all you’ve done for me. And may the Lord bless you and keep you always."

Make A Half-Year Pledge to Support Church’s Work
by Tom Lackey and Ames Perry

In the rush of the holidays and new year, perhaps you forgot to get your financial pledge for 2007 to Holy Trinity. Maybe you are new to Holy Trinity and would like to, now, make a pledge to the church.

You are in luck! For those who have not yet pledged, we will be taking 6-month written pledges (July-December 2007) during June. Forms are available at the back of the Church. Help us all continue the good work at Holy Trinity.

God Blesses Us with New Trees and Plants
by Harold Sandy

The Junior Girl Scout Troop (4th graders) wanted to "give something back to Trinity" and donated two azaleas that grace the northwest corner of the education building.

Dr. William and Chris Robichaux, uncle and aunt of Eddie Clydesdale, donated the Japanese black pine (planted on the front lawn just west of our church sign) in Eddie's memory. This tree has unusual growth habits (usually a layered effect) and may attain 60 feet in height.

Sally Gilbert donated the replacement pyramidal boxwood in front of the education building.

Two old boxwoods by the Parish Hall entrance bit the dust and the Day School funded the two replacement trees known as "Sky Pencil hollies." These hollies have leaves similar to boxwoods, grow two feet wide and 8 feet high, and will act as wonderful contrasts to the pyramidal boxwoods next to them.
Welcome Holy Trinity's New Parish Secretary  
by Rev. Bruce McPherson

Ms. Mary Warren-Oliver became Parish Secretary in May 2007. She has extensive experience in Health Care Management, including accounting and insurance processing. Currently, she also serves as an Instructor in Medical Office Procedures and related matters at Gibbs College in Vienna, VA. She may be reached at 301-262-5353 or htc@httrinity.org.

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.

Annual Hunger Committee Crab Feast  
by Verena Smith

Save the date! Don’t miss this great annual event, Sunday, September 9, 2007 after the 9:30 AM service. Crabs, corn, Red Hot & Blue BBQ and more. Look for more information in the August and September Tidings and summer bulletins. Call Susan Croft for details at 301-262-8970.

Eagle Project  
by Spencer Cloutier

Just a huge note of thanks to all who helped me complete my Eagle Project for Boy Scouts. As many of you noticed, the drainage field next to the cemetery is now clear and can handle the amount of water the upper soccer field, roof of Parish Hall and parking lot can produce. Special thanks goes to Mr. Reiber for his mentorship of the project starting in December of 2006. Parish members who participated were Mr. Reiber, Kathryn Zarate, Mr. Harold Sandy, Mr. Don Evans, Mr. Dick Blass and Ms. Raylene Grant. I appreciate the support in this milestone of mine.

Yard Sale A Big Success  
by Members of the Hunger Committee

Thank you to everyone who donated “gently used” goods for the Hunger Committee Yard Sale. The net proceeds were approximately $1,110.
Kathy And Tom Andrews  
Bike, Hike, and Boat in Europe

Dear Friends,

We just returned from a very lovely trip to Europe and we send you our thanks as it was your gift on the occasion of Tom’s retirement that made the trip possible. During our trip we visited Bruges, Amsterdam, and Berlin, and traveled from place to place by train.

In Bruges we took a boat trip through the lovely canals, viewed Flemish art at the Groeninge Museum, biked along the canals, walked and walked through the lovely streets, and enjoyed the food and spirits at the outdoor cafes.

We timed our trip so that we would be in Holland when the tulips were in bloom and spent a great day at the Keukenhof Gardens just outside Amsterdam. What a magnificent place! There were tulips of every color and description as well as a large variety of flowering shrubs. In Amsterdam, we visited the Van Gogh Museum, saw the Rembrandt exhibit at the Rijksmuseum, toured the canals by boat, and walked and walked through the lovely streets.

We left Amsterdam and headed by train to Berlin. We very much enjoyed the tempo in Berlin; it is a huge, lovely city, and we were delighted to find it to be very bike friendly and we did a good bit of our sightseeing by bike. We visited the remains of the Wall, the Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, went to the top of the glass dome on the Reichstag Parliament Building, walked along Unter den Linden, visited the Berlin Cathedral and the bombed out remains of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, took a boat trip on the River Spree and enjoyed the large central park- the Tiergarten.

As a token of our appreciation, we ordered tulip bulbs in Holland to be delivered to Holy Trinity for planting in mid-October. The package will be labeled to your attention, Harold Sandy, so please select a nice spot on the grounds where next spring they can be enjoyed by all.

We thank you so much for the trip and send our love and best wishes to you all.

Kathy and Tom Andrews

Congratulations,  
EFM Graduates  
by Vicki Esmacher

Education for Ministry (EFM) mentors Elizabeth Chamberlain and Vicki Esmacher extend congratulations to the three graduates of this four-year program. They are Dianne Clark and Debbie Robinson who are pictured above, and Linda Eisenhart who was unavailable for this picture.

The EFM website says it “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 once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years.”

There are some openings for first year students in Holy Trinity’s program. Ask Dianne, Debbie, Linda or the mentors about their experience and how it can help you grow in knowledge and faith.
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<td>Trinity Sunday</td>
<td>Eucharist 9:00 am - 10:30 am</td>
<td>Children’s Choir Rehearsal - Music Room 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Brownies - Parish Hall 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>Rectory Readers 8:00 am - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Adult Choir Rehearsal-church 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm</td>
<td>Junior Girl Scouts - Room 208 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>Parish Picnic 10:30 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Finance Ministry meeting 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Education for Ministry 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Scout Troop 403 - Parish Hall 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
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<td>Stewart Vocal Recital 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Cub Scout Pack 403 - Parish Hall 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Brownies Troop 2370 - Art Room 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Junior Girl Scouts - Room 208 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Brownies Troop 2370 - Parish Hall 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>S-Anon Fellowship - Rm 208 11:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<td>AA Meeting - Parish Hall 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm</td>
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<td>Eucharist/Family Service 9:30 am - 10:45 am</td>
<td>Finance Ministry meeting 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Education for Ministry 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Scout Troop 403 - Parish Hall 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
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<td>Voices for Quality Care - Parish Hall 10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>Piano Recital - Parish Hall 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Cub Scout Pack 403 - Parish Hall 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Father’s Day</td>
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