

# Trinity Tidings

JUNE – JULY 2004

Building an open community that connects people to God and their ministries

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 23 - Mother Julie Murdoch's last day at Holy Trinity  
Rite 13 Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood
- May 28 - Area Youth Ministry End of Year Celebration
- June 4 - Adult Choir's second annual FIESTA
- June 8 - Holy Trinity ECW Salad Super
- June 6 - Sunday School Sunday – Last day of Sunday School and picnic
- June 12- Clusters of Ministries Meeting
- June 13 - Ordination to the Priesthood of Julie Murdoch
- June 16 - Book Discussion Group, exploratory meeting
- June 26-30 Journey to Adulthood (J2A) group pilgrimage to Montreal
- July 25-31 Area Youth Ministry goes to CAMP JOY

## SUMMER REFRESHMENTS

Refreshments will be served on the lawn after the 9:30 service starting on June 13. Catherine Hamel has graciously offered to organize the volunteers again this year. Please sign up for one week (sign-up sheet is in the back of the church) to bring drinks (iced tea, lemonade, punch, juice are some suggestions), cookies, cups, and napkins. The small table in the back of the church can be used to set out the refreshments. Thanks for supporting this time of fellowship and outreach! If you have any questions, please call Catherine.

**HOLY TRINITY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

(w/Children's)

Chapel 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Parish Hall)

12:00 noon Contemporary Service

(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Sept.-May)

10:45 -Fellowship & Education

Sunday School

Youth Group

Discussion Hour

Adult Bible Study

**TRINITY TIDINGS**

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**VESTRY (Ministry Area)**

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(*Music and Worship*)

Gerry Perez – Senior Warden

(*Personnel, Admin. Leadership*)

Craig Ryan – Junior Warden (*Youth*)

Annie Beckley – (*Buildings and Grounds*)

Christine Bell – (*TBD*)

Kimberly Evans –(*Education*)

Dan Howe – (*Communication*)

Gloria Jarmon – (*Community Service*)

CJ Johnson – (*Evangelism*)

Tom Lackey – (*Stewardship*)

Sandra McGrady – (*Pastoral Care*)

Jeffrey Walker – (*Parish Life*)

*Ex officio*

John Reger-Treasurer

**GOD BLESS YOU, JULIE**

The Rev. Julie Murdoch has been giving her time to Holy Trinity in her ministry as a Deacon as she has finished at Virginia Seminary in Alexandria. Julie graduated May 20. On June 1, she begins as Assistant to the Rector of St. Barnabas' Church, Leeland, and she will be chaplain for Queen Anne School as well. We wish her well and know that she will be a blessing in her new responsibilities there.

On Sunday, June 13, at 10am, at St. Barnabas', Bishop Chane will lay hands on her in the ancient rite of ordination, making Julie a priest. We look forward to being there and taking part in the service.

**GOODBYE AND GODSPEED, SARAH**

Sarah Wood, who has been Seminarian with us from Virginia Seminary since September completed her year with us May 9, with her final sermon and goodbyes. Sarah graduated May 20, and has been called to be Assistant to the Rector of Christ Church and Chaplain of Christ Church School, Christ Church, Virginia, near Urbanna, in the northern neck of Va. Sarah will be a blessing as she begins her new ministry. We'll miss her. We'll keep in touch. God bless you, Sarah.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY, JUNE 6**

Holy Trinity will celebrate Sunday School Sunday on June 6 (a week earlier than previously announced) during the 9:30 am service, followed by a picnic on the lawn. Hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken will be provided. Parishioners with last names starting A-H are asked to bring a dessert and I-Z are asked to bring a salad or side dish. There will be games for the children. Volunteers are needed to help with the set-up and clean-up. If you can help out or need more information, please call Ed Bice. Among the activities will be a car wash sponsored by the youth of the church to help with their many mission related activities (read more about this elsewhere in the Tidings). Join us for some great food and fellowship!!

**PADRE MARTIN**

## A Memorial Tribute

By Peg Johnson

It was with great sorrow that we learned of the death of the Rev. Martin Galeano on 3/25/04. He was the Vicar of San Pablo, our companion congregation in Honduras.

He had been in poor health for quite awhile when he was hospitalized for a broken leg and blood poisoning developed. It was suggested that the medicine he took to prevent rejection of an earlier kidney transplant may have weakened his immune system and general health.

Martin and his wife, Lydia, came from Nicaragua in the 1970's. Their children are Julio, Maria, Diana and Leo.

I had the pleasure of spending a day with them all on a visit to their home in 2001. I was greeted with the warmest of welcomes and they were so kind, gracious and fun to be with. Our language difference was no barrier to my most memorable time in Honduras. Saying farewell was much like brothers and sisters would do with lots of hugs, kisses and tears, wondering if we would see each other again. This family is the real living memorial to Martin.

After Holy Trinity's relationship with San Pablo began in 1992, two churches were built. Martin arrived in 1994. The first church was destroyed by Hurricane Mitch in 1998. We agreed to help build the new church and Martin watched over the construction. The new San Pablo has experienced much growth since it's completion in 2001. It is beautiful and a great memorial to Martin's work

Perhaps, we remember Martin best for his trip to Bowie in 1999. Among our memories are the Baltimore visits to the Seafarer's Mission and an ocean liner, Hausner's Restaurant, painted screens, Philip's restaurant at the Inner Harbor at night. He kept saying "beautiful, beautiful, beautiful". We remember the picnic, tours of NASA, Smithsonian, Bowie, Holy Trinity church, grounds and schools, the crab feast and spaghetti dinner, the motor boat ride in Annapolis with Martin holding on for dear life, the blessing of a parishoner's new home, the

very touching sermon at Holy Trinity, our Sunday Discussion and Virginia Brandt's Communion at Larkin Chase.

What a pleasure it was to have him with us. It was only a few days but a lifetime of wonderful memories of our brother, Martin. He was a good sport and so grateful for his visit. He thanked us over and over and told us that of his whole trip to the Diocese of Washington he loved being with the people of Holy Trinity the most. On the other hand, I believe we are the ones that owe him a debt of gratitude. We learned so much.

If you have memories of Martin, please write them down or tell a Honduras Committee Person and we will try to get them to the family.

Martin, it was great knowing you. We love you and miss you. May you rest in peace now that your earthly work in the name of Christ is done. God Bless You.

-Your Amigos at Holy Trinity

**ASSISTANT CLERY****UPDATE**

As I mentioned at the Annual Meeting, Holy Trinity submitted a proposal to the Diocese to help fund a position for an Assistant Clergy person . The news as of early May, is that the proposal has been presented to Council at their April meeting. It was decided for Council to consider how other, similar proposals would be handled, and some members of the Council are working on that issue. So our proposal is still under consideration, but no other news at this time. I will continue to keep everyone up to date as things develop.

Gerry Perez, Sr. Warden

## TOILETRIES AND FOOD FOR SAMARITAN MINISTRIES

On Mother's Day, Holy Trinity parishioners brought 40 bags filled with toiletries and food, and made cash donations, to be delivered to Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington for it's "Next Steps" program.

The "Next Steps" program helps the homeless and others to help themselves to successful life changes and greater self-reliance.

Verena Smith, who organized this year's drive wishes to thank everyone for their participation. If you like more information about Samaritan Ministries go to [www.samaritanministry.org](http://www.samaritanministry.org), call 202-722-2280 or contact Verna .

## CROP WALK FOR HUNGER WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Joan Trisko and Peg Johnson joined several other churches walking in the fifth annual CROP walk through Bowie. Some walked 3k, some 5k, and some 10k. Joan did 5k and Peg brought up the rear with 3k.

Bowie is truly a beautiful place, with its lovely trees, that gorgeous wisteria on Starlight Lane, and the flowers in bloom.

It was also a great joy to participate in this walk knowing that we and our sponsors were helping others here and around the world. CROP (Church World Services), CROP Walkers and Sponsors help to dig wells (50,000 more people in Malawi have access to safe water now), to support nutrition research of the

Moringe tree (to increase life expectancy of AIDS/HIV patients across Africa), to support food pantries (Bowie Pantry), soup kitchens, and many other relief efforts.

Thanks Holy Trinity for a fun walk, and yes, together we do make the difference. -Peggy Johnson (Hunger Committee)

## BOOK DISCUSSION PLANNED FOR WEEKDAY MORNINGS IN SEPT

By Harold Sandy

LET'S DO IT! Let's have an exploratory meeting about the possibilities of starting a book discussion group. Meet in the rectory on Wed, June 16, at 8:30 a.m.

Men and women, all ages, you have been longing for something deep and satisfying like digging into good books and having a chance to discuss them with compatriots who have read them and would like to discuss them with you! Perhaps you are retired, or your home or work schedule is open for a weekday morning, or you have flexible work hours and it is possible for you to join us.

Steve Cone and I recently met two men from Christian Community Presbyterian Church, whose group has been meeting since 1996. They shared the list of about 24 books they've read, (all touch on religion in some way) and their insights on what works well for them. Their meeting of about 15 people starts with a light breakfast and-chit chat for a half hour. Of

course, Holy Trinity's folks would make their own choices.

Please join us for the meeting on June 16, to explore possibilities.

## CLUSTERS BREAKFAST MEETING, JUNE 12

The Vestry invites everyone involved in the Ministries at Holy Trinity, and all others who are interested, to a celebratory breakfast meeting on June 12, from 9 AM - 12PM. It's our chance to say, "thank you for all of the great work done this past year." The Rev. Canon Carol Cole Flanagan (Canon for Congregational Development for the Diocese) will be our guest speaker at breakfast.

After breakfast the Cluster's will meet separately, to discuss how Ministries relates to each other, how to use the "overlaps" to our advantage. We will brainstorm ways to work together to achieve our mission of, "build-ing an open community that connects people to God and their ministries". Thanks everyone, for all you do. Please plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

**DAY SCHOOL***LABOR OF LOVE***CAMPAIGN RESULTS**

The families, administration, faculty and staff, and students of Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School extend their warmest thanks to all those who supported the school's *Labor of Love Annual Giving Campaign*. Through the collective generosity of many loyal families and friends, we raised more than \$55,000, a new campaign record. These funds will support a wide range of enhancements in many areas, including technology, the fine arts, physical education, the Media Center collection and services, and professional development for our teachers.

We are especially grateful to those members of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church who responded to our appeal. What a blessing these donations will be to our school as we work to provide the best possible environment for children as they learn and grow. Thank you for making this, our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, a memorable year!

Adult Choir

Second Annual Fiesta

June 4, at 7: 00 p.m.

**DAY SCHOOL EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION**

Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School is pleased to announce the graduating Class of 2004.

Michael Bartoo-Abud,  
Michael Berman,  
Akeyla Bigelow, Samantha Bowen,  
Samantha Brasel, Stephanie Brashears,  
Nicholas Chapa, Allison Dennis,  
AnnaLee Emmons, Katherine Erice,  
Zachary Fritz, Richard GuzmanCortes,  
Marvin Harris, Rebecca Heller,  
Taylor Hendley, David Hill,  
Nicole Hill, Randall Jackson,  
Shayna Jackson, Erick Johnson,  
Angela Kweon, Kristen Lackey,  
Rachel Liebe, Brittany Loftin,  
James Lohr, Jennifer Loya,  
Jonathan Mason, Veena Meer,  
Marc Mendoza, Gregory Michelsen,  
Matthew Miller, Walter Moore,  
Timothy Moorehead, Brandon Mullins,  
Aaron Nobles, Kate Piret,  
Ashley Ragland, Daniel Ryan,  
Jennifer Schinabeck,  
Chadwick Seamon, Caroline Selle,  
Allison Simons, Chrystal Smith,  
Lena Smoot, Laura Thomas,  
Emily Thorpe, Brittany Varner,  
Shara Walker, Rebecca Watson,  
Marta Wesenberg, Bethany White,  
Allyson Williams, James Willson,  
Gregory Wingerter, Sophia Youn,

**NEW CHURCH SIGN**

What will a new sign look like in front of Holy Trinity as the road is widened and speed quickens? That's a subject for several ministry areas to think about. That's communication, certainly, telling folks who we are. That's parish life too, if we have moveable letters announcing "craft show" or "yard sale" or "welcome Bishop Chane!" It's also evangelism, and it's Christian formation as well. And it's parish operations, if we want to pay for it, and have it installed and lighted. We need participation in the

discussion of what the sign needs to accomplish. Have you signed up for a ministry area?

—Tom Andrews

**CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION**

At a beautiful service at the National Cathedral Bonnie Williams and Arlene Kirtland were presented for Reception, having been confirmed in other denominations, and Kirt Kirtland was presented for Confirmation. These three and other people from many congregations, were presented to Bishop Chane and Bishop Harris for this adult profession of our baptismal promises, renewing our covenant with God to follow Jesus Christ. Congratulations to all three.

**CORRECTION**

The second paragraph of the article entitled, "Search for the Next Head of Holy Trinity Day School," in the May, 2004 issue, should have read: "The search consultants from Educator's Collaborative, Rev. Woodward and Mr. Bonney (Pete and Jim) interviewed representatives of the school community on March 17 & 18 at the school to develop a profile of the school for candidates and gain a sense of the opportunities and challenges facing a new head."

*We regret any confusion this error may have caused.- ed*

## "NOTHING GOES WITHOUT SAYING" Rite 13 Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood

How often do we think things like, "She knows I love her - it goes without saying" or "He knows how much I appreciate all his hard work - it goes without saying"? The truth is, words can be a powerful affirmation, and the absence of the right words can leave a void that really hurts. The truth is, very little goes without saying, and the important things should NEVER go without saying. There are things we know, but sometimes we still need to hear them loud and clear.

During the noon service on May 23rd, we will have a chance to say some important things to our Rite 13 class. We will celebrate an important rite of passage, "The Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood" with these teenagers: Samantha Brasel, Karen Lackey, Steven Clark, Danielle Nelson, Claire Daniels, Daniel Ryan, Patrick Galloway, Allison Simons, Kristen Lackey, and Rebecca Watson.

This ceremony gives us a way of saying to our young people things we have meant to convey all along - things like: "We stand with you as you make your way on the journey; we're here if you need us; we think you're terrific; we love you." We often assume that our teens feel appreciated and accepted as a vital part of our congregation, but adolescence can be such a time of uncertainty, and some things just can't be said often enough. Please keep these teens in your prayers as they prepare for this significant event.

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### AREA YOUTH MINISTRY YEAR-END CELEBRATION

The Area Youth Ministry of St. Andrew's, St. George's, St. Christopher's, and Holy Trinity, Episcopal Churches will gather (at a place to be determined) from Friday evening, May 28, at 7:00 p.m. until Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. to celebrate the end of the school year and help launch us into the summer season.

All youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and higher are invited to attend. All you need to do is show up. So watch the bulletin for an update, or contact Mary Ryan, Eric Mauer or Erin Iverson if you have any questions.

Our planners have worked hard to bring together an evening of fun and fellowship with activities including movies, more comedy skits, (see next page for more about skits), games, and worship to celebrate the season of Pentecost. We look forward to seeing everyone on May 28<sup>th</sup>!

### GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Weight of the World Through Youthful Eyes

By Kathryn Zarate

Walking around the church grounds as the sun sets with the weight of our Lord on our shoulders, youth and adults alike gathered on Good Friday for a Stations of the Cross service. The reading of the Passion followed us as we caught a mere glimpse of what Jesus went through in his last hours. As we followed the cross into the church, where it remained, our heads bowed in prayer and our minds were given over to the love we received and the love we must continue to pass on. The youth are quick to celebrate Christmas and Easter and this service gave them a chance to see pain as well as joy. The young and young at heart are reminded now and always of the sacrifice and anguish that gave way to light all because our Lord put the weight of the world on the shoulders of his beloved Son.

**PRAYERS , DRIVERS,  
AND MONETARY  
DONATIONS NEEDED BY  
THOSE ATTENDING  
CAMP JOY**

Holy Trinity youth plus those from other Area Youth Ministry churches, St. Andrew's, St. Christopher's, St. George's, continue preparations for their July 25-31 mission trip to West Virginia.

At CAMP JOY (Christian Appalachian Mission Project-Joining Other Youth) our youth will help make home repairs for families in the West Virginia community of Berkeley Springs who could otherwise not afford to fix their homes.

By the end of May we will know what our projects for the week will be, and what supplies and skills we'll need. Everyone in our congregations is welcome to support our efforts in a number of ways.

First, please pray for all the youth and adults who will be participating for the week. We will need to work hard, be safe, and have fun for the week to be a true success.

Secondly, if you would like to make a donation of money or supplies, we will gladly accept it. Please get in touch with Erin Iverson or any of the youth leaders at your church to find out how easy it is to make a donation.

Finally, we will need help getting all our supplies and participants to West Virginia and establishing our campsite. If you would like to help drive us there or back or both, please talk with Erin Iverson or Mary Ryan. We are all looking forward to a week filled with hard work, fun, and the spirit of love and giving.

These Holy Trinity youth will be attending: Lauriane Stewart, Rebecca Watson, Karen Lackey, Kristen Lackey, Julian Spehr, Samantha Spehr, Matthew Ryan, Daniel Ryan, Patrick Galloway, Catie Vandermeys, Danielle Nelson, Erin Johnson, Natalie Jones, Allison Simons, Kathryn Zarate, Lauren Gleason, Steven Clark, Brittany Varner, Laura Thomas, Joe Ruh and Cherie Harman.

Adults accompanying the group are: Jessie Lackey, Mary and Craig Ryan, Lydia Sugihara, and Erin Iverson.

"If you missed the opportunity to participate this summer, we're planning other mission trips again next year, so plan on joining us then."

**SKITS AND STUFF IS A  
NIGHT OF LAUGHS FOR  
AREA YOUTH MINISTRY**

More than 30 youth and 10 adults from the four churches of the Area Youth Ministry gathered at St. Andrew's in College Park in late March for a night of improvisation. They explored their prowess at comedy and drama along the lines of the TV show "Whose Line Is It, Anyway?"

Participants broke into four small groups led by a high school student who helped plan the evening. Each group was given two bible stories that they rehearsed as the basis for two skits, then gathered back in one group and the real fun began.

The groups did their first skit using a bag of props. The group had 30 seconds to figure out how to incorporate their bag of props into their skit.

Their next skit was done while changing genres. As they acted out their story, an audience member would yell a different genre (western, horror, or soap opera) and the group would switch into that genre while continuing with their story. It was loads of fun for the audience and the budding actors. Look for more "Whose Line Is It, Anyway?" fun at the lock-in at the end of the year.

## J2A GROUP ON PILGRIMAGE

This is the year for our J2A group, the middle group in the Journey to Adulthood Program, to go on a pilgrimage. Our young people have chosen to journey to Montreal for their pilgrimage from June 26 to 30. According to Leader Resources, the authors of Journey to Adulthood, "It doesn't matter where they go as long as they go in search of the traditions of faith-filled men and women, in search of the footsteps of the saints who have gone before us. They go in search of their own encounter with the divine, with Jesus Christ. And because God is good and loving, He is easily found on pilgrimage. The ancient Irish pilgrims say it is not how many miles we travel that makes the pilgrimage, it is the distance traveled by the heart. Pilgrimage is not a sight-seeing expedition, nor is it a mission trip or a service opportunity. Young people go on pilgrimage for one reason, to seek and to find Christ. The transformation visible in the young pilgrims when they return is nothing short of miraculous. They have spent time away living and breathing the questions of faith. They have sought and been found by God. They have had ample opportunity to use the many skills they have learned in the program. They return to the community ready to receive the new status of Young Adult." What an exciting time for our young people! We are looking forward to returning to Holy Trinity, renewed in the spirit,

and ready to take on new adult responsibilities in our community. Please keep our pilgrims in your thoughts and prayers as they journey together with God: Lauren Gleason, Wesley Jarmon, Erin Johnson, Susanne Moeller, Kellen Smith, Lauriane Stewart, Catie Vandermeys, Kathryn Zarate, Eric & Kelly Maurer, Erin Iverson

Our last fundraising event will take place on June 6th, at the annual parish picnic. The J2A group will be washing cars at Holy Trinity to raise funds for their pilgrimage. Please come to the parish picnic ready to have your car washed and to give a donation to help our young people journey together with God.

## STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY FOUR FROM HOLY TRINITY

*"Without you there is no church."*

by Kathryn Zarate

The Diocesan Stewardship Conference held in early March, was both inspirational and enlightening. The Rt. Rev. William Burrill's meaningful speech quickly made it clear to all attendees that the church truly needs our "two cents". As he says, "Don't ever say you're 'going to church' because without you, there is no church." That one statement could be the sole pitch for stewardship. From the twenty-five cents a child plinks into the collection plate to the wise old Sunday school

teacher who shares her wisdom; we all are a vital part of this church.

So remember, the next time you say you're too tired to go to church... "without you, there is no church".

Those attending from Holy Trinity were Father Tom Andrews, Tom Lackey, Kathryn Zarate and Area Youth Minister Erin Iverson.

## CHANE GANG CONCERT RAISED \$10K FOR DIOCESAN YOUTH

Bishop Chane and other members of The Chane Gang returned to the stage Friday, April 30 at a hotel in Bethesda, Maryland for a gig that drew a crowd of almost 400 and raised more than \$10,000 for diocesan youth ministry.

The audience, including the very young to the still-young-at-heart included Holy Trinitites Mary and Craig Ryan, Peg Johnson, Sally Gilbert, Linda and Earl Eisenhart, Arlinda and Jim Andrews, Beth & Dave Nelson, Donna Brennan, David Dunwiddie, and our four church area youth minister Erin Iverson.

## ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Date	Time	Lector	Intercessor	Eucharistic Minister	Acolyte	Usher
June 6	8:00	S. Allen M. Fallon	S. Esmacher	S. Allen	W. Jarmon	R. Curbelo R. Trisko
	9:30	A. Beckley O. Fahnbulleh	R. Stimpert	M. Ryan T. Lackey	D. Nelson, Z. Brasel D. Townsend-Gray	R. Stimpert K. Kowalewski
June 13	8:00	M. Yuhas V. Esmacher	Steve Cone	J. Diggs	J. Spehr	H. Tucker L. Anderson
	9:30	A. Kirtland T. Lackey	K. Kirtland	D. Leilich S. McGeiver	Karen Lackey, B. Dunwiddie, E. Dunwiddie	J. Walker A. Beckley
June 20	8:00	S. Bower	J. Trisko	D. Robinson	L. Zampella	T. Kirby
	9:30	N. Reger A. Zarate	L. Eisenhart	D. Clark G. Perez	A. Jarmon, J. Judd G. Blancke	K. Kirtland G. Perez
June 27	8:00	D. Stahman B. Spehr	R. Longmire	S. Gilbert	R. Bowen	R. Trisko H. Tucker
	9:30	T. Vandermeys R. Allison-Sanchez	P. Reiber	R. Beckley C. Harman	S. Spehr, B. Walker W. Gordon	R. Blass B. Kallal

*Altar Guild: June 1-15: Sally Gilbert, Janice Vettel  
June 16-30: Della Whorton, Nancy Smith*

*Acolytes are responsible for finding  
a substitute if they cannot service*

Date	Time	Lector	Intercessor	Eucharistic Minister	Acolyte	Usher
July 4	8:00	P. Ballish J. Brewster	S. Cone	S. Cone	D. Townsend-Gray	L. Anderson T. Kirby
	9:30	J. Geissler J. Ruh	K. Kirtland	T. Lackey D. Leilich	S. Spehr, W. Gordon G. Blancke	A. Sparks M. Powell
July 11	8:00	S. Fallon C. Wehrenberg	J. Trisko	D. Robinson	J. Spehr	R. Curbelo R. Trisko
	9:30	E. Glover G. Harwood	L. Eisenhart	M. Ryan G. Perez	Karen Lackey E. Dunwiddie B. Dunwiddie,	C. Reiber P. Reiber
July 18	8:00	R. Curbelo V. Esmacher	R. Longmire	J. Diggs	G. Blancke	H. Tucker L. Anderson
	9:30	G. Jarmon E. Mauer	P. Reiber	R. Beckley D. Clark	D. Nelson, J. Judd L. Zampella	R. Stimpert K. Kowalewski
July 25	8:00	S. Allen S. Bower	S. Esmacher	S. Allen	A. Jarmon	T. Kirby R. Curbelo
	9:30	D. Howe J. Gordon	R. Stimpert	C. Harman S. McGeiver	D. Townsend-Gray B. Walker, Z. Brasel	J. Walker A. Beckley

*Altar Guild July 1-15: Pam Harman, Betty Spehr*

*Acolytes are responsible for finding*

*July 16-31: Charlotte Zarate, Liz Biddle*

*a substitute if they cannot service*

### Sunday Morning Worship Summer Schedule

8:00 Holy Eucharist - Rite I (healing prayer on 2nd Sunday)

9:30 Holy Eucharist - Rite II (healing prayer on 2nd Sunday)

Nursery care provided for your infant, 9:15a.m – noon, for those who wish it

10:45 Fellowship & Refreshments – on the lawn

**June 6 - Sunday School Picnic** – (Note: This is a change from date announced earlier!)

**VESTRY RETREAT – 2004**

A letter from Tom Lackey

**PLEASE READ THIS LETTER**

Dear Friends at Holy Trinity:

Each year the vestry of Holy Trinity goes away from Bowie for a retreat dedicated to discussions of the current activities of the Church and observations for its future. This year we met again at the beautiful and peaceful New Windsor Conference Center in New Windsor, Maryland (a “suburb” of Westminster). As early as 1915 it was the site of Blue Ridge College, but I don’t know when it closed. Fortunately, it’s still open as a conference facility

Those present were: Father Tom Andrews, Kimberly Evans, Craig Ryan, Sandy McGrady, Gerry Perez, Gloria Jarmon, Christine Bell, Tom Lackey and John Kunkel (the Chair of the Board of Governors to the Day School). We met for a total of 9 hours on Friday evening May 7<sup>th</sup> and on Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> for morning and afternoon sessions. Initially, we talked about ourselves and our different religious and geographic backgrounds, as we continued “team-building”. All are dedicated to the future of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church! The remainder of our time together was spent discussing these five topics:

**1. The structure of vestry meetings.** We want to be efficient with time and focused on the purpose of the Church. We open all meetings with evening prayer. We recognized that as our Church has been changing in the past year, the work of the vestry has also been evolving. We decided that it would be a good idea that regular communications be made between the ministries and the vestry, encouraging e-mails, but accepting verbal reports at vestry meetings. Father Tom and the wardens of Holy Trinity during their regular monthly meeting will create an agenda for the vestry meeting that will occur later that month. Routine ministry reports will be made to the vestry either by e-mail or orally, but during the vestry meetings, time also will be committed to “brainstorm” future goals or current issues involving the Church.

**2. Role of the vestry.** As we have moved from a pastoral (pastor-centered) to a program (ministry-centered) church during the past year, there have been some challenges for all of us. We recognized that one of the roles of the vestry is to **support** the actions of the ministries. Also, the vestry is to keep the “mission statement” and its meaning constantly before the congregation. We need to make sure that there is a **trust** between the vestry and the ministries. The vestry is not trying to steer the ministries in any particular direction, but **the vestry is there** as a philosophical, practical and financial support for the work of the ministries. The vestry clearly has a business role in Holy Trinity (It is the group that is **ultimately** responsible for the actions of the Church). The spiritual role of the vestry’s work is also very important to us. The members of the vestry are ordinary members of the Church, who have volunteered to take additional responsibility for the future and property of Holy Trinity.

**3. Organizational structure of Holy Trinity.** We acknowledged that there are “overlaps” between some of the ministry areas, **but this is not necessarily a bad thing!** Who is supposed to do what? If there is important overlap between our ministries, this will encourage communication and cooperation between the ministries. Not a bad idea!!! Here’s an example: If we consider a new, **bold** sign along Route 450 for Holy Trinity, this would involve the following committees: Building & Grounds, Communications, Evangelism, and perhaps others. These ministries will need to coordinate their ideas and work together for the good of Holy Trinity. This spirit of cooperation will be a **positive** for our church.

**4. Where are we in connection with the Strategic Plan?** Our first year of the 5-year plan started in September of 2003. We have come a long way since then. Members of our congregation have gotten involved in ministries who were not previously active. In the past year, we have been focused on the implementation of the Strategic Plan (If **you want to review the Plan, go to the Church’s website for a complete copy**). In the coming year, the vestry will continue that focus, but will also stress **connecting to people and connecting them to God and their ministries (our mission statement!!)**.

We concluded that we were right on target and, perhaps, ahead of schedule for the goals that were set. The ministries do need to annually evaluate their progress and the vestry needs to stay in touch and support the work of the ministries. We will arrange for a celebration of the work of the individuals involved in the work of our ministries. We will set aside a Sunday, probably in early September, to recognize the volunteer work of all ministry members for Holy Trinity.

- 5. What goals should we have for the coming year?** This was a time for “brainstorming” by the group. Some of the ideas were:
- C **Grow** in numbers as a congregation. Our geographic area is growing, we need to participate in this. Everything gets easier with more people involved.
  - C **Goal:** We need to increase our congregation by **at least** 10 families this year. **You** can help! Talk to someone you don’t know at Church. **You may be the first impression** for Holy Trinity to that new person!
  - C **Welcome newcomers** during announcements and give yourself (vestry member) as a contact person to meet to talk about our great Church. Father Tom is always available, but give them another person to chat informally about this wonderful group of people.
  - C **Increase the visual exposure of Holy Trinity.** Route 450 has been moved about 50 feet away from us. Our sign is small, and it has become smaller to passing motorists. **WE NEED TO BE BOLD IN OUR SIGNAGE TO MOTORISTS WHO PASS OUR CHURCH! SHOULD WE PUT A FLOODLIGHT ON THE CHURCH SO PEOPLE CAN SEE IT FROM THE ROAD??**
  - C We want more activities between the Church and the Day School. How about a **joint** “Ice Cream Social”? How about a contemporary “Tent Service” at the Middle School? (By the way, have all of you been to the Middle School campus that we own? If not, let us know. We could arrange a group tour of the facility for those interested in the future!)
  - C Let’s make newcomers more welcome! We can set up tables in Parish Hall after our service to allow all to **sit down** and talk with people. If we stand, we may congregate with comfortable friends. If we have a seat, we might be more inclined to sit down with someone we don’t know and strike up a conversation!
  - C Our community and parish has become very diverse. We need to stay focused on making Holy Trinity reflect that diversity. How do we connect with all the new building developments on our doorstep? What are your ideas??

I have been on the vestry for only a couple of years, but I felt that **this** was a most productive retreat. We were all about the business of the Church. This is a dedicated group. We want to support **your work** at Holy Trinity. We **need your support** for the time and effort that we commit. **Our goal** is the same! We are on the edge of something **really important here!** **TOGETHER WE CAN DO GREAT THINGS FOR HOLY TRINITY!!!** Please help us in any way you can!

The retreat was a great experience for all of us! I wish you all were here to add to the discussions that took place. Please express your reactions to these comments to a vestry member or Father Tom. Communication is the key for the success of the Strategic Plan and our success at Holy Trinity!

Best Wishes,  
/s/ Tom Lackey,  
Proud Vestry Member