

TRINITY TIMES

The Newsletter of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Hampstead, NC
www.holytrinityhampstead.com

August 2018

Come Away!

from Pamela †

Throughout our lives we go away. The going can be for many and various reasons. Life changes is one of those reasons. Often, we are headed to a new place, a new school, a new job, a new home. These life changes can be both exciting and stressful, joyful and sad.

We often then take time for rest and relaxation. The vacation is upon us and we rejoice in a change of scenery and routine for a time. Yet, how often have you heard someone say on return, "I need to go home to rest before I go back to work"?

Our life seems to be too busy, whether we are at home with our usual myriad of activities or on vacation and rushing to see and do as much as we can in the time we have set aside for the visit, to refresh ourselves in a meaningful way.

After returning from their missionary journey Jesus invites his disciples to come away. He is well aware of the need for them and for himself to rejuvenate. He said to them, *"Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."* Mk. 6:31

We need to receive that invitation. It was much easier for the disciples of Jesus to find a deserted place than it might be for us today, but it isn't impossible.

Why a deserted place you might ask? I used to have a room in my home set up for prayer and meditation, yet even there I could easily get distracted. A deserted place offers fewer things to keep our minds and bodies busy.

Being fortunate enough to have visited the land of the "Holy One," many of my favorite deserted places can be found there. One such reflection I had last



fall as I sat overlooking the Judean desert at Wadi Qelt follows:

"The movement of the land and the vegetation with clumps of 'green' and occasional trees seems to me as a metaphor of life - life with its ups and downs flowing through the years with adequate sustenance and occasional bonuses, all given through God's grace, as the desert receives from the water of life."

You don't need to go several thousand miles to find a deserted place, a place to be alone with God. A place where you can listen and feel the stillness of creation.



There have been many mornings in the past 18 years when I have walked alone on the beach on Topsail Island with

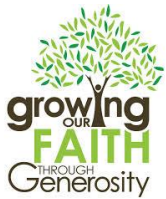
nothing in sight but sand and water. Those are the times when I hear that "still small voice."

Come away and listen!

Stewardship: Be a Blessing

“I will bless you . . . , so that you will be a blessing” (Gen. 12:2). The Lord blessed Abraham so that he would be a blessing. How did He bless Abraham? He promised that from His seed would come the savior of the nations.

And Abraham believed that promise, trusted that the Lord would provide it just as He had promised. Thus, everything Abraham did was colored by that promise. He willingly gave of himself and his household in service to the Lord in view of that promise.



Our God in heaven has richly blessed us. Not only has God given us everything that we need to support this body and life, but God has also provided that promised seed in His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the savior of the nations. He is the

redeemer of the world. He is the one who has conquered sin, death, and the power of the devil by His death, resurrection, and ascension.

Just as we are richly blessed, we are also thereby freed to be a blessing. Since God has endowed us with gifts, we are set to endow others. Thus, we give of the blessings we have received so that others may be blessed. We do this in our homes, our communities, and our churches.

We press the blessings God has lavished upon us in service to those around us. We use our time, our talents, and our treasures to be a blessing even as they have been a blessing to us.

The Lord blesses us. And He enlists us to be a blessing to others. So, whenever you put that envelope in the collection plate, when you set out to serve at the local food pantry, when you sit down to help your kids with homework, think of this: **The Lord has blessed you, so that you will be a blessing.**

Chestnut Chapel Service:

September 2nd at 11 am

Come away to North Topsail Island to join our brothers and sisters in Christ at Chestnut Chapel! Our Holy Eucharist will begin at **11 am on Sunday, September 2nd**. There will be NO service at Holy Trinity.

Come early to enjoy a walk on the beach. Stay after service for a scrumptious brunch offered by the women of both parishes. **Holy Trinity is committed to bringing iced tea and lemonade (ECW) and a variety of desserts (signup sheet in the Narthex).** A parishioner is also providing a ham. Other

“goodies” will be provided by the good women of Chestnut Chapel.

Come away to the Island and enjoy fellowship, food and worship!

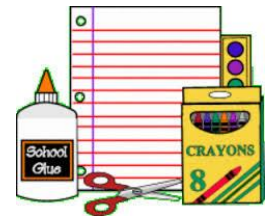
News and Notes from Outreach

The school supply sections in local stores are full of new pencils, notebooks, pencil cases, erasers, and backpacks. Suddenly we realize that summer won't last forever!

Schools will open before we know it and children will be headed back for a fresh year meeting new teachers and friends. Some will have all of the supplies they need on the first day and others will struggle to fulfill the materials list that their teacher has prepared.

The Outreach Ministry has started a collection of school items to help students at **North Topsail Elementary** (our neediest school). A wish list is posted on the bulletin board for you to take with you when you shop. If you could pick up an item or two from the list and place in the box under our board, we could ensure a successful school start for many students.

“Why do we help provide supplies to our local students?” you may ask. Every year school budgets are cut, resulting in less money to purchase all the supplies needed for each child during



the school year (crayons/pencils/paper, etc.) Supply lists are sent home with each student asking the parent to purchase items for the coming year. Many cannot balance food costs, clothing, living expenses, and medical expenses with the added costs of required school supplies. This is where WE and the community come in to give a helping hand.

Let's help our children become good students by providing them with the basic supplies. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Christie Hawkins and Joy Ball, Outreach Ministry



Parish Life will be having a planning meeting on **September 23rd, right after church. Bring your ideas about activities and your calendar.**

Also, be on the lookout for a Parish Life survey in **early September.**

Economy Money Budget Finance Spending

	Month Ended June 30, 2018	Year to Date June 30, 2018	Annual Budget 2018
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Pledged Offerings	\$ 7,570.00	\$50,240.00	\$119,155.00
Total Income	\$ 7,844.33	\$57,964.49	\$141,415.00
Total Expenses	\$10,410.66	\$72,368.00	\$146,239.88

CASH FLOW (\$2,566.33) (\$14,403.51) (\$4,824.88)

As you can see, our shortfall is growing. Please keep your pledge up-to-date and don't forget Holy Trinity when you go on vacation. We need every penny!!

Episcopal Church Women Gathering



Holy Trinity's women are cordially invited to attend The Episcopal Church

Women August Gathering at Trinity Center on **Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 9am.**

Our speaker will be Barbara Lau of the Pauli Murray Project and Duke Human Rights Center. Hear about Pauli Murray, civil and women's rights activist, lawyer, Episcopal Priest, and author.

Please sign up in the Narthex and give your \$20 (cost for refreshments and lunch) to Jeanne Rick. Carpools will leave the church at 7:30 am.



*Our own Jo Anne Kilday, of East Carolina (formerly a Holy Trinity parishioner), was honored as a **Distinguished Woman of the Episcopal Church Women** at General Convention. Congrats, Jo Anne!*

What's most significant in what Jesus promises us is that we can change. We CAN change, and we NEED to change to become fully and wholly the person god has created us to be.

*Br. Curtis Almquist
Society of Saint John the Evangelist*

August Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays:

2 Joy Ball
Kris Kirwin
5 Iris Evans
9 Emerson Graham
10 Christie Hawkins
14 Branch Crawford
16 Jim Cook
26 Jane Neiderberger

Anniversaries:

2 Emily & Rob Graham
3 Jim & Pattie Vaugh
4 Bob & Beth Ronne
15 Don & Janice Fox
27 Jim & Ellen Cornette

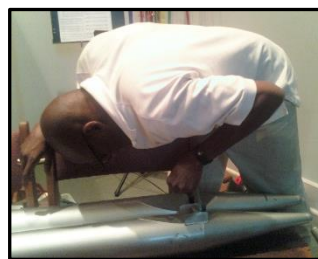
Bible Study at Holy Trinity

On July 4th the Holy Trinity Bible Study group completed the 34-lesson course *Kerygma: The Bible in Depth*. A celebration was held at the home of Roger and Jeanne Rick, complete with hamburgers, hot dogs, and a cake for birthday boy Roger. A study of the Book of Revelation will begin in September **on Wednesday mornings at 10 am**. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



Top: Jeanne Rick, Roger Rick, Sharon Seago, Vivian Kersey
Bottom: Lynn Ruhnke, Bruce Pennington, Carolyn Beddow, Jackie Redington

Our Organ DOES Have Pipes!



Lewis Moore works diligently and carefully on our organ; and, for those Doubting Thomases, we DO have pipes! He had to take one home to his shop for repair so if you miss a low note in the music, that's why!

THIS MONTH: There was no "national" holiday, so we are highlighting TWO crazy holidays this month.

National S'mores Day: August 10th



S'mores are a favorite Campsite treat for young and old kids. If you're at a Campfire, chances are, there's S'mores. Sticky and gooey, and loaded with sugar and carbs, S'mores are nothing short of delicious. Who was the first

person to create S'mores? We don't know. But, we're all sure glad they did!

National S'mores Day celebrates this tasty summer treat. It's appropriately observed in August...Campfire prime time. Don't limit your consumption of S'mores to the campfire. They are popular with kids year-round, and can be baked in the oven, or microwave.

The origin of S'mores dates back to the 1920's. It's believed the recipe was created by the Campfire Girls. Girl Scouts soon discovered it and found it to be chocolatey delicious. Before long, S'mores became a campfire staple for everyone.

S'More folklore suggests that S'mores got its name right by the campfire. After eating one, young kids chanted "*gimme some more!*"

National Honey Bee Day: August 18th



Why today is National Honey Bee Day! Let's celebrate and show our appreciation for the hard working Honey Bee, who works so hard to produce the liquid sugary treat, that is loved so much by bees and humans.

Speaking of hard working, did you know that many bees have to travel 55,000 miles to produce just one pound of honey? To get that pound of honey, those bees need to gather nectar from two million flowers. A single bee will gather just a 1/2 teaspoon of honey in its lifetime. After all of this hard work, honey bees deserve this special day of recognition.

This day was first established for beekeepers, as a way to promote honey and to encourage educational programs. But, this is too special a day to limit to the beekeepers. We appreciate hard working honey bees, too. After all, they produce honey that we enjoy, and they are vital to the pollination of a wide array of our fruits and vegetables. Now, that's certainly something to appreciate

National Honey Bee Day was declared by Thomas J. Vilsak, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, on August 11, 2009. It is sponsored by Pennsylvania Agriculture, Inc.

◆◆◆◆◆ **Holy Eucharist Begins Sunday at 10:00 a.m.** ◆◆◆◆◆

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
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"Leading, Listening, Loving, and Sharing through Christ"