



TRINITY TIMES

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

June 2018

Don't Let Fear Stop You! from Pamela †

As we have just celebrated Pentecost, the birthday of the "church" and the receiving of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, I think about all those present those thousands of years ago. With all that is happening in Jerusalem today, my heart goes out to those indigenous Christians of the land, those living stones who make the land holy.

They are the Arabs, the last named in the Acts of the Apostles. These Palestinian Christians who continue to live in the land of the "Holy One" are our brothers and sisters in Christ, part of our family. They have been there since before the time of the Biblical narrative of the Pentecost.

I have been blessed to travel to Israel and Palestine four times in the last 24 years, making friends from Gaza to Haifa, the Galilee to the Sinai and points in between. My first trip in 1994 was primarily to visit many of the ministries of the diocese, from a hospital in Gaza City to schools throughout the Galilee, and a facility in East Jerusalem for handicapped children.

Many folks are afraid to travel to Israel – Palestine, however, from my first time there, has felt like the center of the world. I have been drawn there 3 times since I became rector of Holy Trinity. I would go more often if I was able to afford to go.

When I returned from my trip last October, I told of a small olivewood carving of the Holy Family. It was given to me by Bishara Koury, a Palestine Christian who is also a citizen of Israel. He posts pictures on Facebook quite often of people who are at St. George's to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, or taking the course, "The Palestine of Jesus."

There are many other sisters and brothers in Christ I have met in my four visits. They have enriched and broadened my life in more ways than I can count.



The second time I traveled there in 2001 I went alone with some fear and trembling as there had been unrest of various sorts. The first day I was there, a pizza place was bombed not far from where our small group of eight was having lunch in the Old City.

Yet I never encountered any negativity myself. Joy and wonder of all that I have seen and experienced, along with the people of the land are what keeps drawing me back. I wish that I could share this experience with some of you. **Walking the footsteps of Jesus is an adventure you will never forget. Don't let fear stop you. Life is too short!**

Economy Money Budget Finance Spending

	Month Ended Apr. 30, 2018	Year to Date Apr. 30, 2018	Annual Budget 2018
Pledged Offerings	\$ 8,963.00	\$36,725.00	\$119,155.00
Total Income	\$11,597.82	\$42,078.95	\$141,415.00
Total Expenses	\$12,655.29	\$50,226.33	\$146,239.88
CASH FLOW	(\$1,057.47)	(\$8,147.38)	(\$4,824.88)

A BIG thank you to all who have contributed. It's never too late to write a check to Holy Trinity!

Stewardship is More Than Giving Money

We are all ministers.

R Paul Stevens' mission is to empower ordinary people to good stewardship by integrating their faith and life from Monday to Sunday. A Professor Emeritus of Marketplace Theology and Leadership at Regent College, he does this through teaching, coaching, advocating, and publishing, and has spoken in as many as 28 countries of the world. Here is part of an interview with him by ChristianBibleStudies.com.

How would you define stewardship?

Stewardship is another way of talking about ministry, and it would revolutionize ministry if people could think of it in terms of stewardship—that we are accountable to God for what we do and with what he has trusted to us.



The word *stewardship* comes from the Greek word *oikonomos*, which means **somebody who manages a household**. A person doesn't own the household but manages it. And stewards in the ancient world, of course, were trusted with everything

from seeing that the floors were clean, to the finances, to the public face of that household. Joseph is a good biblical example of that.

We are not the owners but have been trusted with resources and the care of everything—Creation, gifts and talents, money, time, the gospel—for the sake of God's purposes in the world.

People define ministry by what they see the minister doing, which is proclaiming the Word of God and caring for people's souls. And that's tragic, because ministry is more than that.

The word *ministry* in both Greek and Hebrew is the same word as **servant**. And servants are people who are at the disposal of another. And so once we replace the word *ministry* with the word *service*, we begin to see that stewardship is ministry in the

sense that all of us, not just clergy, are responsible to do what God wants and are accountable to him. Of course, we hope to do that in the power of the Spirit, with the anointing touch of God. But it's a service to God and to the world simultaneously. So, the word *ministry* points to the source and the ultimate goal, and the word *stewardship* implies the care of people, resources, gifts and talents, and the grace of God.

Is our accountability to God just individual, or is it also corporate?

The rights of the whole in some ways precede the rights of the individual. We do have an individual responsibility—in the home, family, neighborhood, local church, workplace, etc. But churches could undertake the idea of stewardship much more holistically than they do. We think of stewardship as fundraising to pay off the building and to cover the clergy's salary. But we should see that we're trustees of talents, gifts, time, treasure, and the culture and values in the society around us.

How can we be good stewards without feeling overwhelmed by the responsibility?

This is where worship is critical for us, because without worship we live eccentrically, and with worship we live centrally. Worship reminds us continuously that we're not God. God is God, and we are not God. And that's, I think, the critical element in not feeling overwhelmed. We're not messiahs. We're not God. We are not responsible to bring in the whole kingdom. We have accountability, responsibility, and opportunity, but we're not messiahs. Worship brings us back to that truth.

Parish Life

Parish Life will be setting up a **First Sunday of the Month Brunch** at Nineteen, Olde Point Country Club, after service at noon - all are welcome. Prices are reasonable, and for those who need a little help, see Jeanne Rick – some gift certificates are available (all requests confidential).



The Parish Life Committee will have a reorganization meeting in September. Please consider joining this ministry of fellowship.

Any ideas for summer activities are welcome – contact Pat Gopsill, pgopsill@gmail.com.

Pat Gopsill, Parish Life Ministry

News and Notes from Outreach

Thank you to those who attended our second program addressing the opioid issues in our area. Two organizations were represented: Catherine McDowell spoke about a cottage community for recovering women in the Hampstead/Holly Ridge area and Mary Parks spoke about an intensive outpatient program in Wilmington, Pavilion by the Sea. The public was invited, and we hope the important information presented will reach others whose lives are in crisis.

The Outreach Ministry wants to support the women and children living at the **Roots of Recovery** community by involving all of Holy Trinity in a **“Shower.”** Our “Shower” event will be in the form of a **potluck luncheon on Wednesday, June 27 at 12:30.** We ask each guest to bring a lunch item to share and a shower gift. The shower gift will be based on needs that we know exist in the women’s community shelter at **Roots of Recovery.**



A bulletin board in the Narthex will display the several items that we know are needed. Just pick a “raindrop” from the shower-themed display, purchase the item printed on it, and bring to the luncheon. We will collect all items and present

to Catherine McDowell for use by the women and children of the support community. Examples of items needed are pillows, laundry pods, paper products, hygiene products for women, babies, and children, cleaning supplies, sheets, hair brushes, diapers, clothes hangers....and more.

The building plan for this support community consists of a *Welcome Center* and 21 two-bedroom cottages, with parks and playgrounds. The continued success of this recovery unit depends on the involvement of the local community. We hope that Holy Trinity will provide some of that involvement.

Please join our “Shower” luncheon for an enjoyable experience that will support this important group.

Christie Hawkins, Outreach Ministry

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

2 Dominic Clinch
Pat Stafford
4 Carolyn Beddow
11 Vivian Kersey
12 Jason Clinch
22 John Wolfe

Anniversaries:

12 Norm & Pat Gopsill
14 Jim & Doris Cook
28 Dave & Dianne Mahoney
30 Eric & Jennifer Loewen

Father's Day History

Like Mother’s Day, Father’s Day has a history that goes well beyond greeting cards. The first known Father’s Day service occurred at the Williams Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, thanks to the efforts of Grace Golden Clayton. Mrs. Clayton had asked her pastor, Dr. R. Thomas Webb, if a Sunday service could be held to honor fathers.

While missing her own dad, who had died in 1896, Mrs. Clayton especially wanted to have a service in remembrance of the over 200 fathers who had died in the Monongah mining explosion that had occurred a few miles south of Fairmont on December 6 of the previous year. (It was the worst mining disaster in U.S. history, killing more than 360 men and boys, and leaving about 1,000 children fatherless.)

Although the Fairmont service was the first known to honor fathers, it did not turn into an annual event, nor was the idea promoted (a large July 4 celebration in Fairmont and a tragic young death from typhoid fever having taken over the news at the time).

Happy
FATHER'S
Day

Several other people across the nation had similar ideas throughout the years, but Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd is credited for being the one to popularize it, starting events that led to Father’s Day becoming a U.S. national holiday.

Continued on page 4

Father's Day History from page 3

Her story began as she sat listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Mrs. Dodd thought that it might be nice to honor fathers as well. Her father, William Smart, had raised his children alone on his farm after his wife died giving birth to their sixth child.

Mrs. Dodd proposed to the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA that they celebrate a "father's day." She chose the 5th of June because it was her father's birthday. The idea received strong support, but the good ministers of Spokane asked that the day be changed to give them extra time to prepare sermons on the unexplored subject of fathers.

The first Father's Day in Spokane, Washington, was observed on June 19, 1910 (the third Sunday in June), and became an annual event there. Soon, other towns had their own celebrations. In spite of widespread support, Father's Day did not become a permanent national holiday for many years. The first bill was introduced in Congress in 1913, but in spite of encouragement by President Woodrow Wilson, it did not pass. In 1966, Lyndon Johnson issued a proclamation designating the third Sunday in June to honor fathers.

Finally, in 1972, when President Richard Nixon was president, Father's Day was signed into law to be celebrated annually on the third Sunday in June. It has been an official, permanent national holiday ever since.

Each month, we will highlight one of the wild and crazy holidays our nation (and the world) celebrates...just for the fun of it!



June 9: Donald Duck Day

Happy 84th Birthday, Donald. We hope that Daisy Duck bakes you your favorite cake!

Donald Duck Day is in honor of Walt Disney Donald Duck's cartoon debut, in "The Wise Hen" on June 9, 1934. Donald is most famous for his semi-intelligible speech and his mischievous and temperamental personality. Along with his friend, Mickey Mouse, Donald is one of the most popular Disney characters and was included in TV Guide's list of the 50 greatest cartoon characters of all time in 2002. He has appeared in more films than any other Disney character, and is the most published comic book character in the world outside of the superhero genre.

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

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church 107 Deerfield Road Hampstead, NC 28443
--

"Leading, Listening, Loving, and Sharing through Christ"