The Trinitarian

From the Rector

You wouldn't know it from the weather, but fall is upon us, and with it comes the beginning of our program year. After a summer of relaxation, we will "hit the ground running" this month. Our first parish clean-up day, Kick Off Sunday, Ministries Fair, Church School registration and more are fast approaching! Please visit our website to read my full September letter by clicking here...

Kick Off Sunday

Please join us after the 10am service on Sunday, September 12th, as we celebrate Father Robyn's first anniversary at Trinity with a luncheon and Ministry Fair, where you can learn more about all of the important ministries at Trinity and how you can be involved. We hope that even those who usually attend the 8am service will join us for this important event.

Focus on Ministry

The Vestry has decided to focus its efforts in the coming year on 3 core areas of ministry: faith building, community building, and parish resource building. We are looking for additional committee members, so please visit our displays at the upcoming Ministry Fair. More info:

- Faith Building, led by Lori Henry and Mindy Weaver, includes worship & music, adult & children's education, and stewardship.
- Community Building, led by Lynne Geliebter and Nellie Duddy, includes outreach, pastoral care, parish activities, and communications.
- Parish Resource Building, led by Bob Miller and Pam McCracken, includes property, finance & budget.

Acolytes

If you are currently an acolyte, or if you would like to become an acolyte, please attend our acolyte practice on Saturday, September 11th at 10:30am in the church. Acolytes must be at least eight years old. It is important that everyone attend. The traditional pizza lunch will follow the practice.

Church School

Come meet your new teachers as we kick off Church School during the 10am service on Sunday, September 12th. Find out more about this year's theme "Living, Loving, Learning - Life in Community." All children
Music Sponsors Needed

For the past 14 years, Trinity has had an outstanding music program. This is due partly to the fact that we are able to secure the services of four section leaders, all of whom hold music degrees, in our Senior Choir. In order to maintain this high quality of music in our worship services, we are asking for sponsors to help offset the cost of the stipends for our soloists. Each week the church must pay $280 for their services. This includes both our rehearsal time and the time spent during our worship at 10am. Because our financial contributions are no longer able to support the entire choir year, we need your help. Donations of $25 or more will be gratefully accepted for our Music Ministry on any particular Sunday or Holy Day. This would be a wonderful way to honor a friend or family member on a Birthday or Anniversary, or to remember a Loved One who has passed away. Your contribution will be acknowledged in our church bulletin. Please specify “Music Sponsor” on the memo line of your check and the date for which it is intended, along with the name of the person you are honoring. May God bless you for your generosity!

Mary Sampson,
Organist/Choirmaster

(regardless of age) will begin with worship in the church, then leave for their classes at the appointed time.

Emergency Food Supply

Our emergency supply of canned goods is low and we ask that you help again by bringing items in on the first Sunday of each month. We will also have envelopes available for those who would like to make a contribution to this outreach project of our parish.

Girls Friendly Society

On Tuesday, October 5th, all GFS members are invited to the Buchanan Building at 7pm for an Ice Cream Social. Come and help plan our program for the coming year. Bring your friends. Our meetings are open to all girls ages five through 17.

We meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 7pm to 8:30pm in the Children’s House. Please contact Dottie Orr for more information.

Memorials

Since our last newsletter, several parishioners and friends have passed away. They include Dorothy Haines (1906-2010), Elizabeth “Betty” Eldridge (1913-2010), Virginia Straub (1914-2010), William “Les” Crawford (1918-2010), Juanita Johns (1920-2010), George Gallagher (1920-2010) and Roy Ricker (1924-2010). Please pray for the happy repose of their souls and comfort & consolation for their families. May they rest in peace.

- Donations in memory of Dorothy Haines by: Mr & Mrs William Haines, Mr & Mrs Frank Johnson, Ms Charlotte Hamill, Mr & Mrs William M Griffiths, Mr Walter Streek, Mrs Lilian Streek, Mr & Mrs Robert Quinn, Mrs Marie Woodring, Mrs Eleanor Clussus, Mr Anthony Klusas, Mr & Mrs John Held, Mr and Mrs Fred Orr, Mrs Robert Greene, Mr & Mrs William McNamara, Mr & Mrs John Lee
- Donation in memory of Elizabeth “Betty” Eldridge by: Mr James Eldridge III
- Donation in memory of Juanita Johns by: Mr & Mrs John Lee
- Donation in memory of George Gallagher by: Mrs Adele Ray, Mr & Mrs Fred Orr
- Donation in memory of Roy Ricker by: Mr & Mrs Kenneth Stevenson

From the Music Ministry

Have you ever wondered why Christians sing when they are together? It is because in singing together, it is possible for them to speak and pray the same Word at the same time. It is the voice of the Church that is heard in singing together. It is the Church that is singing so that you may share in its song. Music is food for our souls and brings us closer to God.

During the summer months, many of you have commented on how much you miss the choirs. In a very short time, they will be rejoining the other ministers at our Sunday services. On September 12, as we begin our Sunday School year, the Volunteer Members of our Senior Choir will be in the choir pews to lead the hymns and service music at the 10:00 a.m.
Mass. Full Senior Choir Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, October 3, at 8:45 a.m. in the Buchanan Building. Teenagers (ages 14 or older) and adults will be welcomed and are encouraged to join us. The Junior Choir (for grades 1-8) will also begin rehearsing on October 3 at 11:10 a.m. in the church choir room. Snacks and drinks are provided, along with musical activities and great songs. The children sing on the first Sunday of the month and on major Holy Days.

Our Bell Choir is open to anyone from ages 10 to adult who have a basic knowledge of music notation. No experience is necessary! We will train you. The choir plays for special services throughout the year. The first rehearsal will be on Thursday, November 11, from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Please prayerfully consider being a part of our dedicated and excellent Music Ministry. Only a small time commitment is necessary each week, and you will be richly rewarded as we open "heaven's door" through our music. What greater blessing could God give us in our ministry as singers and ringers? Soli Deo Gloria! Mary G. Sampson, Organist/Choirmaster

Parish Clean Up Day
Please join us on Saturday, September 11th, at 9:30 am for our first parish clean up day of the year. We will be working inside and out, fixing and cleaning, so a wide variety of talents are needed. Donuts and coffee will be provided, along with a luncheon. All ages are welcome.

Parish House Heater
The Vestry approved to contract with Elliott Lewis to replace the current oil-burning heater in the parish house with a more efficient gas unit. Asbestos abatement was completed and air quality tests are normal. At the end of August, PGW will install a bigger gas line and, once the oil tank is sealed off, the work will begin on the heater. We will be ready to turn on the system by October 15th. The cost of the work is about $100,000 and will be financed from our investments.

Prayers & Squares
The Prayers & Squares group meets one Saturday morning each month from 9 a.m. until noon beginning in October. Women of all ages are invited to join the group. The only requirement is the ability to thread a needle and sew a straight seam. The women make quilts which are distributed to the seriously sick of the parish and the vicinity. They serve as visible reminders to the ill that people are praying for them. The group also does sewing as needed by the choir and our celebrants. Nellie Duddy again reminds everyone that age is not a factor. Young ladies are invited to join in the worthwhile endeavor and have an enjoyable experience at the same time.

From the Rector's Warden
On Sunday, July 25th, twenty five adults and children gathered in the Buchanan Building for an informal Eucharist and conversation about Trinity Church. Father Robyn stated briefly that the information from this gathering would help the Vestry and the congregation to begin the process of planning for our future and to come up with a comprehensive strategy for the parish for the next several years. Many volunteered their thoughts, hopes and some
suggestions for our future. A summary of the conversations follows:

- We need to grow
- We need to get out into and become more involved in the community
- We need better communications; signs to let others know about Trinity; talking to each other
- An Outreach program, such as Habitat for Humanity or a Farmers’ Market
- We need to do Mutual Ministry, empowering the lay people and not having the Rector responsible for all that happens at Trinity
- We need to do more networking with other organizations
- We need to find out more about the people who are not here each week
- We need to learn more about God

Over the next several months the Vestry will begin looking at these concerns, work with a consultant and set goals and will be coming back to the congregation for more discussion and implementation of these ideas. We will also be listening to you and we hope that you will listen to us as we plan for the future at Trinity Church Oxford.

Dottie Orr, Rector’s Warden

**Vestry Highlights**

At the June meeting, the Vestry voted to replace the heater in the Parish House (see related article) and decided to hold a Ministries Fair on Kick Off Sunday, September 12th.

**Wedding**

On June 5, 2010, Jessica Lynn Annand and Scott Andrew Lyons were married at Trinity Church Oxford. Jessica is a life-long member of Trinity; she and Scott make their home in Willow Grove. We wish them both many blessings and years of happiness together.

**Women of Trinity**

We will resume our monthly meetings in October. The meetings are held on Tuesdays from noon until 2 pm. Attendees are requested to bring their lunch; beverages and a dessert are provided. At one meeting, the women make soup to be distributed to the sick and shut-ins or needy of the parish. The group also makes holly bows to be used at Christmas services. Speakers for the year will include Father Richard with a presentation on his travels, and Tom Duddy, who will give his annual Old Time Radio presentation. A few open dates are available for suggestions. Women of any age in the parish are invited to join the group. We think you’ll enjoy the speakers and the fellowship. If you have any questions, contact Nellie Duddy at (215) 745-3739.

**September Calendar**

Every Sunday - Holy Eucharist (spoken) at 8am; Holy Eucharist (with hymns) at 10am
Community Building Meeting
Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Phillies Game with Bishop Michel
Monday, September 6, 2010 at Citizens Bank Park (see Dottie for your tickets)

Property Clean-Up Day
Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 9am to 11:30am

Acolyte Training
Saturday, September 11, 2010 at 10:30am in the Church

Kick Off Sunday (Church School resumes & Ministry Fair is held)
Sunday, September 12, 2010 at 10am in the Church

Faith Building Meeting
Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Property Meeting
Thursday, September 16, 2010 at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Vestry Meeting
Monday, September 20, 2010 at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Stewardship Meeting
Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Trinity Tidbit
Did you know that Trinity is a permanent part of the National Constitution Center? Well it is, albeit not intentionally. The Constitution Center’s walls have a local 18th century map imprinted on them. It’s the same map that a copy of hangs in the Buchanan Building. If you’re in the Constitution Center look toward the ceiling of one of the decorated walls and you will see Oxford Church. That’s us.

Contact Info
Please email Chris Claypoole or call her at (215) 745-6114 in the church office with any questions or input for next month’s Trinitarian.

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