

# Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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## Pentecost - September - 2008

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Greetings,

It seems such a long time since the last time I wrote this column. But, at the same time, it is amazing how quickly the summer went by. Isn't it funny how when we were eighteen, we thought that time passed so slowly? Not so, any longer.

Erma Bombeck said, "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, 'I used everything you gave me'".

We've been talking about our talents and our gifts quite a bit lately. When I think about how fast time passes, I think about the quote from Erma Bombeck.

We have been charged with the duty of providing for others, that we are asked to give of ourselves, and that, in doing so, we must reach out to those considered marginalized, just as Jesus did.

I have been considering for some time how it is I ended up being the rector at Trinity. No, I'm not confused; I just know that there was a force behind me that was not of my own making. I know that in the years before my discernment and final decision to become ordained, there were so many things going on in my life that were nudging me toward this venture.

For example, when I first became an Episcopalian, it was with much convincing on the part of a wonderful priest. He just stopped by my house one day and from then on visited frequently. I was having many doubts. Too much had happened in my life that caused me to doubt even the existence of a God.

Father Peter did not give up. We had long

conversations. Soon, I was not only attending but I was leading the church school, youth group and on the vestry. I knew the minute I walked into that church, before speaking to a soul, that I had found something I'd been longing for; a home.

This was around 1979. It was a long time ago and life has changed a great deal in that time, just as I'm sure it has changed for you.

I could probably write a book about that journey, for it not only brought me to Trinity, but it brought me *into* myself. I learned more about myself in the process of getting to this place and this time than I ever could've imagined.

So, I consider the quote and I consider our duty to be disciples on earth. In doing all this considering, I not only know how but *why* I'm now your rector.

I know that I'm at Trinity through the grace of God. Even while I was blind to the end goal, the force, the little nudges and the big pushes God placed in my road brought me to Trinity.

The reason I'm at Trinity is to help us all become disciples by building a mindset that we are the people Jesus had in mind to work in today's world. I truly believe that Trinity, as the welcoming and loving church it is, will play a big role in this valley to bring Christ into the lives of those who are marginalized.

I know that all of you will do all that you can to welcome people to Trinity and to try and understand people who may have a different lifestyle. But most of all, I know that we have the capacity to love all of God's people.

God's Peace,  
Mother Trula

## OUTREACH

### **Making a difference in other people's Lives** *As you did unto the least of these you did unto me*

Diocesan Convention Outreach Program  
"Sock it To 'Em"

**"New Hope" for those in need in NE PA**  
**Collect socks -- ALL sizes**

We will send one package to convention with our delegate, Patricia Gurney, the rest will be distributed locally. Convention is October 10-11 at Christ Church, Reading; you may drop off your donations any time before then. Sponsored by the Diocesan Episcopal Churchwomen and Diocesan House.

### **The Valley Food Pantry**

The first Sunday of every month is Food Bank Sunday. This is a ministry that has been going on for a long, long time. There was an article in this month's *Diocesan Life* about Northern Tier churches coming together, east of us, to fill up their area food pantries.

Let's be more intentional about our donations. Hunger is always present in all communities.

### **The New Hope Sunday, Sept. 21** **Campaign for a new Sudan and the** **Needy in Pennsylvania**

The New Hope Campaign has surpassed the original goal and has been witness to some remarkable and joyful giving by the people of our diocese.

On Sunday, 9/21, we'll learn more about the status of the campaign and the funds and hear stories and see pictures of the building that has been done thus far in the Sudan and the grants available for the needy in NE Pennsylvania.

Every pledge counts; remember yours. And because the price of building materials has tripled in some areas, consider increasing your pledge or making an extra donation.

### **Fall Book Study**

As you all know, Trinity's mission statement is "To seek and serve Christ in all people." We have lately been focusing on ways to do that. In particular, we are looking for opportunities to reach out to people who may believe that they are not welcome in Church and whose faith we might have an opportunity to recognize and nurture.

We're planning a book study this fall to explore some of these opportunities. Trula is working with other clergy in the Diocese to identify a book that would be appropriate for this mission. As soon as we have the details, we'll let everyone know the "where" and "when." We hope you all will want to be involved and supportive in this new venture

For the Vestry,

John Schoonover  
Senior Warden

### **Prayer for the New Hope Campaign**

Ignite our hearts, O Holy Spirit, with the love of Jesus. Let his compassion for the poor burn in us as we respond joyfully to his call to serve the least of his sisters and brothers. Let our participation in the work of New Hope transform us as individuals and as a community. May our unity of purpose and love for your creatures witness to the world the truth you have revealed to us in Christ. Receive our work as praise for our creation, redemption, and the call you and given us; receive it as our response to your eternal love. Amen



# Trinity Episcopal Church - September 2008

Pentecost

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 <i>Alan Caum</i>	4	5	6
<b>7 Pentecost 17 - Proper 18</b> 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Coffee Hour  <i>Robert Bennett</i>	8	9 <i>Barbara Strange</i>	10	11	12	13
<b>14 Pentecost 18 - Proper 19</b> 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour  <i>Stephen Barry</i>	<b>15 Holy Cross Day</b>  <i>Jon Murray</i> <i>John Schoonover</i>	16	17 <i>Tom Maneval</i>	18	19	20 Under On Roof: Stewardship work- shop, Montrose
<b>21 Pentecost 19 - Proper 20</b> 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour ----Vestry Meets ----- <b>New Hope Sunday</b>  <i>Caden Hollywood</i>	<b>22 St. Matthew Apostle and Evangelist</b>	23	24	25 Clergy Bible Study VIII, Christ Church, Towanda, 7 p.m.	26  <i>Patricia Gurney</i>	27
<b>28 Pentecost 20 - Proper 21</b> 9:00 Holy Eucharist II 10:00 Coffee Hour  <i>Shelley Strange</i>	<b>29 St. Michael and All Angels</b>  Clergy Retreat, Jesuit Spiritual Center, Wernersville	30  <i>Emily Kelley</i>	<b>Diocesan Prayer Cycle 9/7:</b> Trinity Church, Bethlehem, The Rev. Laura Howell, rector, <b>9/14:</b> Retired clergy of the Diocese of Bethlehem; <b>9/21:</b> Trinity Church, Carbondale, The Rev. Donald Schaible, rector; <b>9/28:</b> Trinity Church, Easton, The Rev. Andrew Gerns, rector		<b>Kajo Keji 9/7:</b> Kendiri Parish, The Rev. Simon Laruba Kenyi; <b>9/14:</b> Keriwa Parish, The Rev. Michael Lumayat Pitia; <b>9/21:</b> Kigwo Parish, The Rev. Charles Tomor; <b>9/28:</b> Kimu Parish, The Rev. Edward Jale	
<b>Trinity Prayer Cycle</b> 9/7 Ruby Jenney, Hildegard Mohr 9/14 Paul and Emily Kelley 9/21 Marcel and Donna Lamb 9/28 Tom, Kathe, Michael, Alex, Elizabeth and Patrick Maneval			<b>Anglicans Around the World 9/7:</b> The clergy and people of the Episcopal Church of the Sudan; <b>9/14:</b> The clergy and people of the Anglican Church of Tanzania; <b>9/21:</b> The clergy and people of the Province of the Church of Uganda; <b>9/28:</b> The clergy and people of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa		Coming in October 2nd: Preconvention meeting - Epiphany, Clark's Summit, 7 pm. 10-11th: Diocesan Convention, Cathedral	

**September Highlights**

**After much discussion, the vestry has decided to keep our worship hour at 9 a.m. through the Fall.**

**Vestry meets September 21st** after coffee hour

**Under one Roof: a stewardship workshop, St. Paul's, Montrose, Sept. 20**

**New Hope Sunday, Sept. 21**

**Would you like a visit or home communion?** Our rector or one of our Eucharistic Ministers will be happy to call on you. Call the church office, 888-5715.

**Volunteer to host a coffee hour!** There is a signup sheet in the kitchen.

**Serving on the Vestry**

Trinity's vestry needs members. Hermine Shapiro moved to Corning and is attending Christ Church there; she is involved in the prayer shawl ministry, and while she misses us, she is very happy there. Beverly Barton, always willing to take on another task recently passed away, and we do miss her, all of us do. After serving for many years on the vestry, Laura Cama is taking a well deserved break.

Trinity's vestry is not like others you might have known or served on. No one ever argues; no one comes to the table with an agenda. Everything is done by consensus and the general feeling is that we are a family of stewards tending to the financial and physical needs of our parish.

Listen and pray. Is God calling you to this ministry of caring?

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**Helping our friends and neighbors get to church**

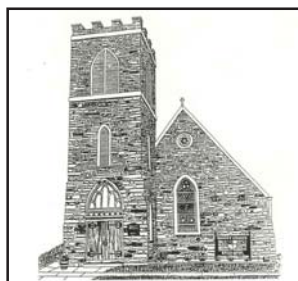
Do you know someone who would be happy joining us on Sunday mornings but perhaps doesn't have a car or is reticent to come to church alone? Give them a call and offer a ride on some Sunday morning.

paraphrase retired Rutgers professor and Lay Activist in our church, Dr. Louie Crew, whose usual phrase is "joy to absolutely everybody," we welcome absolutely everybody, just as our Lord did ... and still does.

Trinity is a unique church and we welcome everyone. Or to

Bring a friend to church.

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**September at Trinity**