



Trinity Bell



Volume 5, Issue 9

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

September 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE SR. Warden

As you might have noticed in the last two church bulletins, we have three upcoming vacancies on the Mission Board that will be filled in an election to be held on Sunday, October 7th. Suki Hoffman, Clay O'Neal and Vi Paul's terms will expire at the end of 2007. I have appointed a three member nominating committee consisting of Eric Beshore, Clay O'Neal and Vi Paul. It is their responsibility to obtain candidates that will stand for election and serve if elected. Qualifications for candidates are, that they be a contributing member of the Trinity congregation in good standing and be willing and able to attend monthly meetings if elected.

Over the past three or four years it has been a difficult task to obtain candidates interested in serving on the board. Last year the nominating committee was only able to obtain three candidates and thus their appointments to the board were unanimous without an election. I truthfully cannot tell you why so many congregation members avoid serving on the board. In talking to nominating committee members they tell me that the standard "I am too busy." followed by "it is a non rewarding job" are the two most common reasons they get for lack of interest. In addition, many congregation members have served in prior years and feel that they have served their tour of duty so to speak. I want to change this. I want to ask several of you regardless of how new you are to Trinity or whether you have served before to step up and let the nominating committee know that you are interested. Serving on the Mission Board is not an honor. It is a responsibility. We need board members that will bring new ideas to our meetings and church. While our history and tradition are important and valued, the "same old, same old" ways of doing

things do not necessarily work.

Just as society around us is changing, so must we make some slight modifications to appeal to new members. A drive from Melrose to Keystone Heights and looking at the number of churches will give you some idea of the challenges we are facing in not only attracting new members but in keeping our current ones.

Perhaps at no time in Trinity's history do we face a bigger challenge than we do in obtaining and funding a full-time priest. A full-time priest is not going to be a magic bullet solution in growing Trinity. All of us must understand that church growth will only come by making our church attractive to those people moving into our area. And, by encouraging those residents already here, who are seeking spirituality in their lives, to come to Trinity where we can offer spiritual gifts, warm fellowship, and a wonderful place to worship. This will be a full time job for not only our new priest but also for each one of us.

As always, please continue to keep the Mission Board, the Search Committee and one another in your prayers.

Alan Pankratz, Sr. Warden

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

On Sunday, September 2nd, we will hold a combined service in the Parish Hall at 10:00 am. The Men's Club will provide breakfast immediately following the service.

Please be sure to mark your calendar so you won't miss this important event and a special time to come together in celebration of the Holy Eucharist and our caring of one another as a church family.

**Head of the Church
Jesus Christ**

**The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson
Howard
Bishop of Florida**

Members of the Mission Board

**Alan Pankratz, Sr. Warden
Jim White, Jr. Warden
George Bothwell, Treasurer
Linda Wilcox, Clerk
Donna Eichelsderfer
Kristi Gregory
Suki Hoffman
Ed O'Bryan
Clay O'Neal
Vi Paul
Jack Rice**

Staff

**Clergy
Pat Nahikian, Deacon
Valerie Thomas, Deacon**

Music

**Margaret Rice, Choir Director
Melanie Yeager, Organist**

Office

**Jean Stegall,
Financial Administrator
Linda Wilcox,
Parish Administrator**

Service Times

**8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday
6:00 pm Wednesday Evening**

**Trinity Episcopal Church
204 SR 26
Post Office Box 361
Melrose, Florida 32666**

**Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Monday thru Thursday**

**Office Phone: 352 475-2177
Fax: 352 475-6181**

Email: trinitymelrose@alltel.net



The Daughters of the King will be attending the Diocesan Fall Assembly for the DOK on September 8th at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Palm Coast. Joan Dalrymple, the National President will be the speaker and we will have a carpool traveling together. Anyone who wishes to attend should turn in their registration to Donna Eichelsderfer or the parish office.



The first fall meeting of the ECW will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 11th, at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. As part of the program, Suki Hoffman will have a wonderful presentation of her recent mission trip to the Dominican Republic. There will be refreshments available. All women of the church are considered to be members of the ECW, so don't hesitate to come and join the fun and to hear about our exciting plans for coming months.



MELROSE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

The first annual Pumpkin Festival in Melrose is preparing for a great event on Saturday, Oct. 13. There will be booths, contests, some cookoffs, pageants for a king and queen and prince and princess and even a lawn mower race!! The Trinity fellowship committee would like to have booths in our courtyard for a Bake Sale and a "Trash and Treasure Sale", as well as games for little ones. If you would be interested in serving at a booth for an hour or so, or if you are able to donate to the Bake Sale or the Trash and Treasure Sale, please let Donna Eichelsderfer or the parish office know, or sign up on the First Sunday in October. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board in the parish hall.



CURSILLO NEWS

The next Ultreya will be held on Friday, Sept. 7th, at St. Anne's in Keystone. There will be a Eucharist Service and a covered dish dinner. Everyone is invited. If you would like to know more about Cursillo, please be sure to come and join the fellowship of the evening and ask lots of questions. Trinity will have a Palanca party on Thursday, Sept. 27th at 7pm. For more information contact Pat Poppell.



NEWS FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Your Search Committee has been working hard to put the final touches on the Survey Results Report. By the time you read this article, you should be able to see the results both on our church website and in hard copy in the church office. In an effort to be sure all parishioners have a chance to see the results we also plan on making them available after the Single Service Sunday on October 7, 2007. Your Search Committee needs to hear each and every voice in our congregation. The survey has been one tool for you to do that. You can also talk with any committee member anytime you have a question or concern. The committee is now at work writing a Parish Profile. As we have been looking at profiles from other churches we have realized just how special our congregation is. You are loving, caring, and giving. God's grace seems to surround our church family. We are blessed indeed. Please keep the Search Committee in your daily prayers.

WELCOME TO MELANIE YEAGER



Last Sunday's music was beautifully played by our new organist, Melanie Yeager. Melanie is a graduate of Florida State with a degree in church organ music, and is currently attending the University of Florida's Dental School. We have certainly been blessed because she has agreed to become our permanent organist. While it has been fun and interesting to experience a variety of different musicians and styles over the summer months, it will be a delight to have our very own organist/pianist once again. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Melanie and welcome her into the Trinity Family.

PRAYERS AND COOKIES FOR KAIROS

The next Kairos weekend will be held Sept. 20 –23rd at River East Correctional Institution at Raiford. You can participate in the weekend by sending your gifts of prayer and cookies along with the team of men who will be serving on the weekend. Over 200 dozen cookies are needed for each Kairos weekend! Cookies have been a tool proven to soften hardened hearts. Ken Blair is serving on the team and will pick up cookies from the parish office on Wednesday, Sept. 19th. If you have any questions or would like more information give Ken a call.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Sept. 9 Ken and Marilyn Blair
- Sept. 28 John and Liz Middleton
- Sept. 29 Ralph and Peggy Renzelman



O God, bless our relationships, assist us with your grace, so that with true fidelity and steadfast love we may honor and keep the promises and vows we make to one another. Let us love one another as a sign of your love for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- Sept. 1 Alex Addington
- Sept. 3 Virginia Smith
- Sept. 5 Sheila Lowry
- Sept. 6 Phil Payne
- Sept. 7 Pat Poppell, Margaret Rice, John Wick
- Sept. 8 Chris Fonvielle
- Sept. 9 Jack Rice
- Sept. 10 Kathi Warren
- Sept. 11 Al Burt, Boyce Booth, Craig Lee
- Sept. 12 Sid Mason, Stephen Stegall
- Sept. 14 Zac Eaton
- Sept. 20 Carolyn Melvin
- Sept. 22 Mary Rynd
- Sept. 24 Flo O'Brien
- Sept. 30 Megan Arenberg



The Deadline for the October Bell is September 17th.

God, our times are in your hand; look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
From the Book of Common Prayer p. 830



TREASURER'S REPORT



Trinity Episcopal Church Income Statement for the Period Ended July 31, 2007

	For the Month		Year-to-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 18,547	\$ 13,335	\$ 97,894	\$ 93,346
Expense	\$ 8,765	\$ 9,055	\$ 57,689	\$ 63,383
Income less Expense	\$ 9,782	\$ 4,280	\$ 40,205	\$ 29,963

FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Dear Trinity Family,

I will be ending my Sabbatical and returning to Trinity in the middle of September. I give thanks for a wonderful time of renewal and refreshment, and I come back with the hope of sharing some of the joy and wonder of the way in which God has worked in my time apart. I feel He has opened my eyes to new ministries that I hope you will want our church to participate in, and which I feel will be of great help to our community and beyond.

Two of the projects I hope Trinity will want to be a part of are:

1. Become a Community Access Partner for the Department of Children and Families. Our church could provide assistance to those who need food stamps, Medicaid, and other help but have to drive elsewhere to apply.
2. Volunteer on a once a month basis to drive up with me to St. Mary's Mission in Jacksonville to help with their feeding and clothing program and/or to St. Andrews, Interlachen, to help with their many programs to provide assistance to West Putnam County residents.

While away, I took some wonderful trips, had time with family and friends, time to work in my yard, and time to just *be* with my Lord. I was fed spiritually while away with a wonderful Bible study, and I hope to offer a Kerygma Bible study on the book of Romans sometime in the fall for others who are hungry to learn more of God's Word.

I found that the Lord often led me to be in just the right place and at just the right time to encourage another who needed a reminder of the awesome love God has for His children. I hope to again be in the office one day a week (or available anytime by phone) for those who may need a listening ear, encouragement, or other help.

Your servant in Christ, Deacon Pat

There are times I get so busy and on the go, I forget God, who he is and what he does for me and then W-H-A-M, He will remind me.

That is just what happened last night. I had been on the go, all day. I was at the church working with the craft group when my husband called to say he had sold a car to an old friend we had not seen in several years. Our friend was a member of a previous church where I had been assigned, a young father and wonderful husband. It was a shock to us all back then when he was diagnosed with a malignant tumor at the base of his brain. I as well as the whole church entered into prayer for him and his family. I called him and told him I was praying for a miracle as did my sister. Marilyn sent him many cards during his time of chemo and radiation.

After some months, the doctors felt quite sure he had a miraculous cure. I will never forget the day he came to me with tears of joy streaming down his cheeks and said, "I feel sure because you and your sister were so faithful with your prayers, God has healed me".







I was blessed by his words, but we all know that it is by His stripes we are healed and just when we tend to forget, He heals us again and again and again. It has been well over ten years now and this man of God is still strong, loving his children and wife. Thank you God, for reminding me of your awesome power and love.

Your faithful deacon and friend,
The Reverend Valerie Thomas



September 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 First Sunday Service 10:00am Parish Hall Breakfast Following	3  LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	4	5	2 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm Craft Group in Parish Hall	7  Ultreya St. Anne's Keystone	1 Thrift Shop 9am-12 H- 12:30pm 
9 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Spiritual Dev	10 7:00 pm Scouts	11 ECW Meeting 10am	12 7:00 pm Mission Board	13 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	14	15 Thrift Shop 9am-12 H- 3:30pm 
16 8:30 Jesus in the Park 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Spiritual Dev	17 7:00 pm Scouts	18	19	20 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm Craft Group 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	21	22 Thrift Shop 9am-12 A 
23 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Spiritual Dev	24 7:00 pm Scouts	25	26	27 10 - 4 Thrift Shop open 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker 7:00pm Palanca Party	28	29 Men's Club 8:00am Thrift Shop 9am-12 H 
30 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Spiritual Dev	Our Fall Yard Clean Up Day will be held on Sat., October 6th and we can use all the help we can muster. The boys from Camp Blanding will be coming to help again and we will need tools, man power and people to help supervise and direct the boys. This is always a fun day with lots of fellowship and fun and a delicious lunch from the grill! Please see Rodney to sign up.					



SERVER'S SCHEDULE ~ SEPTEMBER 2007



Date	Chalice Bearer	Reader	Usher	Greeter	Chalice Bearer	Reader	Usher	Greeter
Sept. 2, '07 One Service			Eric Beshore	Ann Beshore	Jerry Thomas	Laurie Alsobrook	Kristen Gregory	Debbie Brown
Sept. 9, '07	Paul Stegall Suki Hoffman	Jeanne Eaton	Jeanne Eaton	Donna Eichelsderfer	Paul Stegall Suki Hoffman	Marilyn Blair	Ed O'Bryan	Yvonne O'Bryan
Sept. 16, '07	Kristen Gregory Craig Lee	Alan Pankratz	Rodney Paul	Vi Paul	Kristen Gregory Craig Lee	Liz Middleton	Clay O'Neal	Kelly O'Neal
Sept. 23, '07	Pat Poppell	Paul Stegall	Jim White	Ginny White	Pat Poppell	Margaret Rice	John Wick	Ardyce Wick
Sept. 30, '07	Kristen Gregory Craig Lee	Craig Lee	Paul Stegall	Ann Beshore	Kristen Gregory Craig Lee	Jean Giesel	Ed O'Bryan	Yvonne O'Bryan
Sept. Altar Guild	Debbie Brown, Ardyce Wick and Ann Beshore							
Mission Board Members	Suki Hoffman and Alan Pankratz							

Thank you for placing yourself in the service of Our Lord and His Church. If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please arrange for your replacement and notify the office.

PONDERING

Suki Hoffman

I've been pondering some of the readings and memories that I've had over the last few weeks. "Grace is divine love in action, a gift given unconditionally by God". All we have to do is open our hearts and accept it with thanks and praise. We have the choice each day choose good or bad - thoughts, actions, deeds etc. We can balance life with God at the center. "My part is to contribute whatever I am able and then allow God to do the rest". I should thank God for the gift of a new day if nothing else. Remember, "This is the day that the Lord has made." The love expressed by us in word or action "is like a pebble dropped into a pond where the ripples radiate outward in an ever-expanding circle. It radiates far beyond just one person." "God is my friend and guide, my comfort and strength. He's with me at all times and in all circumstances. God is with me." When we recognize our needs, we open ourselves to God's presence and help in all situations. I end with this quote: "God, I relax now into Your loving embrace. I release all cares or concerns to You, knowing that You are my ever-present support and comfort, You enfold me in divine love. My heart and mind and body are infused with the sacredness of this moment, and all is well." Thank you, Lord for the peace that flows into my life abundantly.

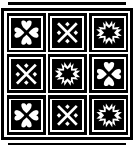


TRINITY'S WEBSITE



If you have a home computer, have you had a chance to visit Trinity's website? Craig Lee has done a wonderful job of creating and maintaining the site and it's very good looking as well as informational. The "Trinity Bell" is always posted, as well as the schedule for Sunday servers. There are terrific links to other sites of interest, and soon the results of the recent Parish Survey will also be posted. If you don't have a computer but would like to see the website, drop by the parish office anytime and ask Linda to show it to you. The website address is: www.trinitymelrosefl.org (Don't forget the "fl" or you'll go to a church in Massachusetts!!)

FALL BAZAAR AND QUILT SHOW



On Saturday, November 10th, Trinity will be hosting it's first annual Fall Bazaar and Quilt Show from 10:00am until 2:00pm in the Parish Hall. We will have lots of quilts on display and our busy bee crafters are working away making things for the bazaar. If you would like to be a part of the show or help with the crafts please get in touch with Marilyn Blair or come to one of the crafting parties. The next one will be held this Thursday evening, Sept. 6th at 7pm in the Parish Hall. The crafts are easy to learn and fun to make and there's always much laughter and fun. Come and join us!

WHEN YOUR HUT'S ON FIRE

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him. Everyday he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements, and to store his few possessions.

One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, with smoke rolling up to the sky. He felt the worst had happened, and everything was lost. He was stunned with disbelief, grief, and anger he cried out, 'God! How could you do this to me?'

Early the next day, he was awakened by the sound of a ship approaching the island! It had come to rescue him! 'How did you know! I was here?,' asked the wary man of his rescuers.

'We saw your smoke signal,' they replied.

The Moral of This Story:

It's easy to get discouraged when things are going bad, but we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives....even in the midst of our pain and suffering. Remember that the next time your little hut seems to be burning to the ground. It just may be a smoke signal that summons the Grace of God.



Trinity Episcopal Church
204 SR 26
Post Office Box 361
Melrose, Florida 32666



SPECIAL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Sept. 2
10:00am | First Sunday Service at
in the Parish Hall |
| Sept. 3 | Labor Day—Office Closed |
| Sept. 6 | Craft Group—Parish Hall 7pm |
| Sept. 7 | Ultreya at St. Anne's in
Keystone Heights |
| Sept. 11 | ECW Meeting 10:00am in the
Parish Hall |
| Sept. 12 | Mission Board Meeting |
| Sept. 20 | Craft Group—Parish Hall 7pm |
| Sept. 27 | Palanca Party 7:00pm in the
Parish Hall |



REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday : 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:15 am Coffee

9:45 - 10:45am Children's Sunday School
Adult Spiritual Development

Youth Group

After 11:00 Service on Sunday
Wed. Evening Bible Study at Betty's Pizza

1st Sunday of the Month

One Service only at 10:00am
In the Parish Hall

3rd Sunday of the Month

8:30 Service, "Jesus in the Park"
In the Park

Wednesday: Evening Service 6:00 pm

Thrift Shop

Open 10 am to 4 pm Thursday
9 am—noon Saturday