

The Trinity Bell



Volume 7, Issue 5

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

June 2009



The Vicar's Voice.

Celebration is an act of life. People who do not celebrate do not participate in one major element of real honest living. Mentally and spiritually healthy people celebrate more than they deliberate; their focus is on the transcendent issues

and they spend little time worrying about the items of minutiae in life. Acts of celebration become self-defining. They take on a life of their own, a life which blesses all who enter into celebration. The word "celebrate" comes from the Latin, *celebrae*, "to frequent or fill." Celebration is an act of frequency...a mere repetition for repetition sake, as when Trinity Church gathers for the celebration of Holy Eucharist, or for a fiftieth wedding celebration or a high school graduation. The other aspect of celebration is "to fill." There is no denying that after experiencing celebration, we are emotionally the richer for the experience. [There may be a few exceptions if persons are suffering from a lack of mental health, but even then, celebration can elevate the despondent and encourage the dismal].

I want us, as a church, to be constantly and consistently celebrating things that are milestones in the lives of our brothers and sisters. Such celebrations need not include sit-down dinners, expensive decoration, or even scrumptious brunches between services (though who would pass up such delicacies?). No celebrations fill us up as they are consistent experiences and as they are times we spend with those we love to celebrate! A prize-winning duck is no less to be celebrated in a child's

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life than is high school graduation or fifty years of marital bliss! A celebration is a celebration precisely because a person is a person in God's eyes.

What will be our next celebration? I haven't a clue, but I'm ready to enjoy it, and to be filled by it.

Isn't it fun to celebrate new words? I learned the etymology and deep meaning of celebrate because LaVonne asked me to write an article on the word. I trust you are enjoying, with me, the lessons we can learn together from the words which are so often found in our Christian vocabulary. (I will have more to say in this later in *The Bell* when you see "Out of My Mind...")

Bless you,

Under the same wing,

Fv. Jeff Mackey+

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2009

ONE SERVICE 10:00AM

TRINITY SUNDAY

AND

PETITION TO BECOME A PARISH

The Rev. Canon Bob Griffith will join us

RECEPTION FOLLOWING

**Head of the Church
Jesus Christ**

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

Members of the Mission Board

**Virginia Smith, Sr. Warden
Eric Beshore, Jr. Warden
George Bothwell, Treasurer
Linda Wilcox, Clerk
Terrell Bothwell
Kristi Gregory
Ed O'Bryan
Vi Paul
John Wick**

Staff

Clergy

**The Rev. Jeffrey A. Mackey, Vicar
Pat Nahikian, Deacon
Valerie Thomas, Deacon**

Music

Margaret Rice, Choir Director

Office

**Jean Stegall,
Financial Administrator
Linda Wilcox,
Parish Administrator
and Editor of the "Trinity Bell"**

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
Website: trinitymelrosefl.org**

HELP NEEDED!

Trinity Belles and Beaux - three teams of five people each who would be willing to bring the food and beverages from the kitchen to the serving tables for the lunch after the service on the first Sunday of the month. Each team would be activated only four times each year. If you would be willing to be a team member, please sign up on the sign up sheet by the visitors book or see Ginny White or Jane Menzen. Thank you for your cooperation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY


June 4	Mary Jo Clarkson, Jayne Spires		
June 5	Dottie Durham		
June 6	Edna Spratt		
June 10	Eric Arenberg		
June 13	Felicity Trueblood		
June 14	Elena Lowe		
June 20	Mildred Mason		June 29 Nathaniel Stegall
June 24	Gloria Burt		June 30 Debbie Brown

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.

Ushers, Greeters, and Readers

In the next week or so I will be putting together the Server Schedule for the months of July, August and September. Summer is a busy travel time for many of us so if you know you will not be able to serve on a specific Sunday during those months, would you please call me or email me with the dates. My phone number and email address are always in the letter I send out with the quarterly schedule. Thanks so much. Ann Beshore

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

June 22	John and Mary Rynd	
June 23	Wes and Diane Connors	
June 27	Clay and Kelly O'Neal	

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.



CURSILLO NEWS

The Santa Fe Area Ultreya will be held at St. Albans in Chiefland this month. If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, please speak with Father Jeff or anyone who has already attended a weekend for more information.



Junior Warden's Report – Building and Grounds Vision

Thank you for your continued support in improving the Trinity physical plant. A number of you have stepped forward to take on long needed maintenance items that we will all see the results of in the near future. Most recently however, the sprinkler system has been refurbished and is now operational as well as things you do not see like repaired faucets, caulking, touchup painting and A/C tuning.

We are facing some challenges connected with the use of the hall and kitchen. Since the first of the year, we have had a pattern of the following: lights left on, doors not locked, dirt and food on the floor, dirty dishes or poorly washed items not put away, food left in the refrigerator improperly stored, A/C left on a very low setting, food soil on tables, chairs and tables left out and trash not removed. These conditions have occurred after use by both members and community organizations. There are detailed policies in place which are unfortunately not being followed. As a result, I presented to the Mission Board a series of approaches to deal with the situation which if allowed to continue will adversely impact Trinity's budget and degrade valuable assets (hall and kitchen) to both Trinity and the community. As a first step the Board agreed to have users revalidate their signed agreements which establish rules of use. In addition users will be required to complete and sign a checklist after each use. It is hoped that heightened awareness will rectify the situation and that more constraining and costly approaches to users will not have to be instituted. So let's all help out and remind users to leave the facilities in a clean and secure condition.

Keep up the good work on God's House,

Eric Beshore
Junior Warden
eabeshore@comcast.net

For those of you who read this report and are not members of Trinity Church, please rejoice with us that our Church is growing. A growing child is messy, often in chaos, and seldom cleans up after himself. It is so true of a maturing church as well. I read the Junior Warden's report with a sense of "too bad, but thank God we're messy and needing cleaning rather than being stagnant and needing nothing". So as we struggle with those things that correspond to growth and maturation in our community life, please join with us in prayer that we will have wisdom, direction, and discernment which can only come from the Lord.

Expectantly, Father Jeffrey Mackey+

Crafty People Needed – No Experience Necessary!

Yes, we are already hard at work getting ready for the November Bazaar, and the date has been set for November 7th. Did you know that the income from the Bazaar goes directly to the Priest Fund? Last year we raised over \$3,000, and we are aiming higher this year. We try to make unique items to sell each year. They have to be something a little different and not expensive. On the third Monday of each month, we gather to accomplish this. Now we know that there many more of you out there who could help us. You do not have to know how to do crafty things; you just have to be crafty enough to listen to the experts who lead us! And if the task is too hard, believe me, we can find something for you to do. And men, we know that there is a wealth of talent in our congregation. So join us on June 15th at 10:00 in the Parish Hall for some fun and crafts. We are also collecting large chip bags for an upcoming craft. We really would like the colorful ones like Doritos or Cheetos if possible. You can leave them at the office for Jean. Thank you all!

**The deadline for
the July Bell is
June 22nd th.**



TREASURER'S REPORT



	For the Month		Year-to-Date	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 16,680	\$ 14,381	\$ 64,063	\$ 57,523
Expense	<u>22,234</u>	<u>16,402</u>	<u>69,407</u>	<u>65,609</u>
Income less Expense	<u>\$ (5,554)</u>	<u>\$ (2,021)</u>	<u>\$ (5,344)</u>	<u>\$ (8,086)</u>

GATOR DOCK - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Gator Dock" is our theme this year - a curriculum brought to us from Group, Inc (the same company that offered "PowerLab" last year, "Avalanche Ranch" the year before - so you know it will be good stuff!)

The dates are July 13-17 (Monday-Friday), and we will welcome kids each evening at 5:30 PM. Our kickoff will be at 6 PM sharp, and the rotations include crafts, snacks, games, a short movie, and a finale each night at 8:00 PM (Parents - please join us for the finale - see what your child has learned!).

We are planning for 50 kids from our community... more can be accommodated, but there would be an additional cost for a late order that may have to be passed on, so **EARLY REGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT!** All we need at this time is the child's NAME, AGE, and CONTACT NUMBER, so please don't delay! Call the office at 475-2177 to get on the list.

Please keep the VBS volunteer staff in your prayers, as we complete the plans for another outreach venture in our community. Efforts are futile without inspiration and guidance from our Lord; sharing knowledge of His grace is our mission.

Vi Paul and Clay O'Neal, directors of VBS



TRINITY SPRING FAIR GARAGE SALE CRAFTS

A Booth for Every Purpose Under Heaven!



Do you have some white elephants sitting in your garage taking up valuable space?

Are there lots of undusted knick knacks that you'd like to find new homes for?

Are you a crafter, a baker, a candlestick maker?

We have just the thing for you.

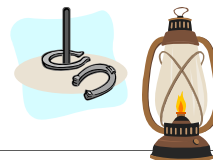
Booths will be \$25.00 each and a donation of one item to be raffled.

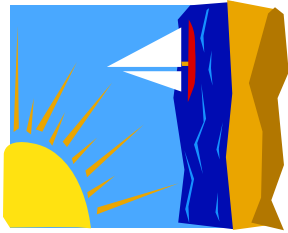
**The booth holder keeps all of the profits, and it's your decision about what to sell.
All things great or small are welcome!**

If you'd like to reserve a space, please call the church office or Donna Eichelsderfer as soon as possible.



JUNE 13th 9:00AM - 2:00PM HERITAGE PARK

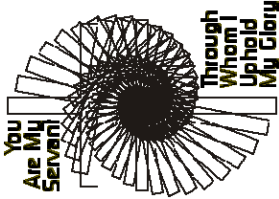




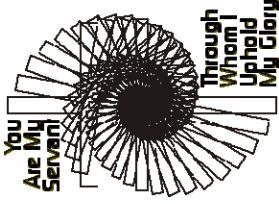
June 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 pm Scouts	2 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	3 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist	4 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop Isaiah Class 1:00pm 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	5 Ultreya at St. Albans	6 Thrift Shop 9am-12
7 Trinity Sunday One Service 10:00am Parish Petition Lunch Following	8 7:00 pm Scouts	9 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	10 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist Mission Board	11 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop Isaiah Class 1:00pm 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	12	13 Thrift Shop 9am-12 Garage Sale and Craft Fair in the Park
14 Rev. Gayanne Silver 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	15 7:00 pm Scouts	16 Access 10am-2pm 10am Craft Class 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	17 6:00pm Evening Prayer	18 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop Isaiah Class 1:00pm 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	19	20 Thrift Shop 9am-12
21 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	22 7:00 pm Scouts	23 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	24 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Holy Eucharist	25 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop Isaiah Class 1:00pm 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	26	27 Thrift Shop 9am-12 Men's Club
28 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	29 7:00 pm Scouts	30 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	<p>On Sunday June 7th, Trinity Sunday, our namesake day and the day we celebrate the HOLY TRINITY, we will have one service at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. The Rev. Canon Bob Griffith will be with us from the Diocesan office, and we will be signing a Petition to become a Parish.</p>			



SERVER'S SCHEDULE JUNE 2009



Date	8:30				11:00			
	Eucharistic Ministers	Reader	Usher	Greeter	Eucharistic Ministers	Reader	Usher	Greeter
7-Jun-09	One Service 10AM		Paul Stegall	Joyce Chesnut	Jerry Thomas	Ken Blair	Liz Middleton	Joyce King
14-Jun-09	Suki Hoffman Paul Stegall	Clay O'Neal	Clay O'Neal	Kelly O'Neal	Suki Hoffman Paul Stegall	Kristi Gregory	Kristi Gregory	Linda Wilcox
21-Jun-09	Kristi Gregory Craig Lee	Craig Lee	Eric Beshore	Ann Beshore	Kristi Gregory Craig Lee	Margaret Rice	Ken Blair	Marilyn Blair
28-Jun-09	Pat Poppell Rodney Paul	Mary Rynd	Danny Etheridge	Debbie Etheridge	Pat Poppell Rodney Paul	Suki Hoffman	Ed O'Bryan	Troy McGee
Altar Guild	Penny Pankratz, Terrell Bothwell and Donna Eichelsderfer							

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.

Out of my mind...

As you know, my friends, I am completely enraptured with words. I owe this to several teachers and elderly friends I had as a child. My first grade teacher, Mrs. Clare made me memorize word meanings more than any other kid in the class – she told my mother it was “because he can!” Miss (no Ms.) Miriam Smith who taught me English in grades 8, 9, and 10 force fed me words, while Mrs. Cawston experimented with seventh grade reading curriculum and tested it on our entire class in Woodstock, NY. In tandem with these ladies was an old “spinster” lady in the West Hurley Methodist Episcopal Church, Miss Hanna, who asked me to visit often so that we might play Scrabble and Canasta. She taught me new words weekly. To this day, our little paperback dictionary is the only thing that comes between LaVonne and me in the den. We use it each evening as we read. But something much larger is coming between us.

We are to become the proud adoptive parents of a secondhand set of 17 volumes of the Oxford English Dictionary (I wanted a new set of 20 volumes, but the \$1,200 price tag took that off the table for us!). Remembering that one of the church’s I served as Interim Rector some years ago had an unused OED in the attic office, I queried them as to their availability, and lo, and behold, they were willing to sell. I made my usual low offer (always begin there and be willing to quickly move up if you really want a volume) and they accepted my first offer. By the time you read this, I will have seventeen volumes of words sitting ready-for-use between my life-long companion and me! Thankfully, she understands.

I am forced back to words for several reasons, if the words I intend are not the words you hear (or read) then you have not heard me. We have, therefore, not communicated. The postmodern demand that words can mean anything the reader or hearer wishes totals out to be meaninglessness at best. Do you remember Lewis Carroll of *Alice in Wonderland* fame? Carroll, who was born in 1832 and died in 1898, was a mathematician and logician who was also an Anglican deacon. His expertise was not fiction writing. But he was about 100 years ahead of his time being an Anglo-forerunner of postmodernism. He writes, “When I use a word, Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, ‘it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less.’” To so choose what a word means, renders the word meaningless, unable to communicate any object meaning between author and receiver. Objective meaning is therefore lost. That is why I have committed myself to being a student of words (albeit an amateur one). The Word, made essentially necessary to our understanding of Christianity in John’s Gospel, is specific, objective, and full of meaningful definition. I do not recreate the Christ, the Word in my own image, I dare not. He is who he is! It is to him, the Word, that the Scriptures affirmingly point. We dare not miss him who is essentially central. It is why we must remain faithful to the texts of the Scriptures we claim as our own.

Lewis Carroll would not allow anyone to mess with the mathematical precision of the statement *a plus a equals 2a*. This is mathematical fact. But he was, even as a Victorian, willing to make words mean what he wanted them to mean, “no more, no less.” It is no wonder people in his day concluded he was at best odd, and probably lacking much in mental health – he was even thought of by many as a pedophile. When you have to reinvent vocabulary each time you use it, you soon go crazy. It happens to brilliant people all the time.

I have written all this to say that what the Scriptures seem to be clear about is that Jesus, as the second person of an ultimately undefinable “Godhead” is who he claims to be. Skeptics have questioned this for centuries, and it became quite popular to question Jesus in the nineteenth century. People got paid big bucks for being a Biblical critic. But I am convinced that the Rev. Canon Robert Farrar Capon sums up the specificity of Jesus the Christ quite conclusively:

However brilliantly the biblical critics may reconstruct the “historical “Jesus, what they come up with is not history but postulation. For my money, the only historical Jesus there is, for better or worse, is the Jesus the Holy Spirit has disclosed to us on the pages of the New Testament--every word of which, one way or another, represents something the Spirit thought supremely worth mentioning about Jesus. If that gives us problems, and difficulties, and even contradictions (and it does in many places), it simply enjoins upon us the labor of interpretation that all historical documents call for.

I really must stop – yes? I want to pick up more on postmodernism in months ahead. Now I must go and contemplate the statement heard from the lips of a TV evangelist two weeks ago, “It is probably true, that if you use your intellect, you will wind up in hell.” I need to parse this to decide if he meant it or if I can get those words to mean something else.

Apologetically long, Father Jeffrey+

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JUNE 2009

SPECIAL EVENTS IN JUNE

- | | |
|---------|--|
| June 5 | Ultreya at St. Albans |
| June 7 | First Sunday - Trinity Sunday
Petition to Become a Parish |
| June 10 | Mission Board |
| June 13 | Garage Sale and Craft Fair in the Park |
| June 14 | The Rev. Gayanne Silver joins us |
| June 16 | Craft Class |
| June 27 | Men's Club |

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 Parish Hall

1st Sunday of the Month

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

**Wednesday: Holy Eucharist
and Evening Prayer 6:00 pm**

Thrift Shop

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

Access Program

Tuesdays 10am—2pm