



The Trinity Bell



Volume 7, Issue 10

Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church

October 2009



The Vicar's Voice

On the twentieth of July I shared with Ms. Linda in the office that I was so very much looking forward to a quiet, peaceful, refreshing August. Well, that, of course, did not occur. Quiet, peacefully, refreshing Augusts simply do not exist in active, living churches. Our

own active calendar coupled with our active work to incorporate St. Anne's dear people into our family has kept the office personnel, our treasurer, our wardens, and the Vicar hopping. And it is healthy hopping without a doubt.

When you receive this, we will have held our Iron Chef contest; and we will have joined with the fine people of St. Anne's Parish to celebrate their history and heritage in their last service in Keystone Heights. October looks down upon us with greedy eyes calling for our fresh commitment to another month of faithful ministry. October 4th will be one service in the Parish Hall at 10:00AM with a full complement of acolytes, servers, crucifers, and other serving personnel, incorporating those who join us from Keystone Heights. We may even catch a glimpse of Kristi Gregory in her Verger attire! We will hold our Mission Board and Convention Delegate Elections, and the month will continue with a rush toward the end and our joyous celebration of All Saints' Day. [And in the midst of the month is the gigantic book sale at the Gainesville Public Library – but please don't tell LaVonne about it!]

As the church moves from "Ordinary Time" [the times after Pentecost and before Advent] we move into the time of the life of Christ [Advent through Pentecost].

We are facing doctrinal lessons soon, and we will with anticipation watch for the coming of Christ.

And to add to our anticipation and happiness, will be our parish status in January of 2010! How good is God!

That is a rapid tour through October and beyond. Hang on, the train is moving.

Under the same wing, *Fr. Jeff Mackey +*

Painting the Parish Hall

The building committee is getting ready for the fall season and will freshen up the parish hall with a coat of paint. The cost of all the paint has been donated. We are hoping that brushes, rollers, paint, trays and drop clothes might be loaned or donated. If you are able to loan any of the above items, please mark them with your name on tape or on the item itself so we will be able to return it to you. If you would like additional information about the painting, please call John Wick. John will let you know when items might be dropped off and when they will be returned to you.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009

ONE SERVICE 10:00AM

IN THE PARISH HALL

LUNCH TO FOLLOW

**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
6:30 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@windstream.net
Website: trinitymelrosefl.org**



ECW

The ECW will meet in the parish hall on October 13th. Our program will be Linda Baker, the Diocese of Florida ECW president. We will also talk about the annual dinner with St. Johns church in December. We need people to head this up. There is also the annual ECW meeting at Camp Weed on October 22nd Registration begins at 9:00. There will be a sign up sheet in the church office for those interested in going. For more information about the Diocesan ECW, go to the web site diocesefl.org and click on Mission and Ministry. Go down the list to Episcopal Church Women for the site. There is lots of information for you about ECW event there. See you on October 13th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Oct. 7	Betty Griffith
Oct. 8	Bailey Spitzner
Oct. 9	Charlie Norton, Kris O'Neal
Oct. 10	Liz Middleton, Walton Smith
Oct. 12	Mike Kreshka
Oct. 18	Jean Allensworth
Oct. 25	Penny Pankratz
Oct. 27	Miles Eaton
Oct. 28	Kelly O'Neal

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.

Book of Common Prayer p. 830

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Oct. 3	Debbie and Danny Etheridge
Oct. 4	Lois and Bud James
Oct. 9	Jane and Robert Menzen Laurie and Larry Alsobrook Virginia and Walton Smith
Oct. 18	Ann and Eric Beshore



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

The next Ultreya will be held on Friday, Oct 2nd here at Trinity. There will be a Cursillo palanca party on Sunday, Oct. 4th immediately following the Sunday service and lunch. If you are interested in learning more about Cursillo, please ask anyone who has attended a weekend and they'll be happy to tell you about it.

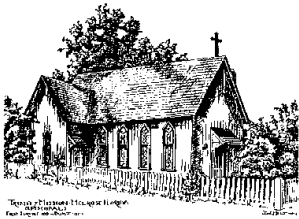


A Message From the Sr. Warden

Many people fear the word “Stewardship”, as it makes them think of money, fundraising, or a guilty feeling or not giving enough to the church. I encourage you to join our Pledge Program towards the true meaning of Stewardship and a joyful, not fearful approach to understanding what we each need to do in God’s kingdom.

Stewardship is the understanding that all we have is a gift from God. It is a part of everything we do. These gifts fall in three categories, Time, Talent and Treasure. The Ministry Fair in March will give each of us the opportunity to volunteer our gifts of time and talent. Today, our challenge as faithful Christians is to determine how God wants us as individuals to use the gifts of treasure he has given us. Prayerfully consider what God has entrusted to you in terms of your treasure. Christian Stewardship is a wonderful blessing.

Virginia Smith, Sr. Warden



Report From the Junior Warden

It was delightful to spend the summer in the cool Colorado Rockies but how wonderful to return to a green Melrose with an overflowing lake. Sometimes getting away can help you gain perspective. While in Colorado we visited the oldest Episcopal Church in Colorado and another almost as old. Both were wonderful historic jewels that reflected great pride of their parishes. Trinity Melrose is very much like both but with important differences. Trinity is blessed with a far superior infrastructure of facilities. On the other hand, Trinity looks worn and in need of upkeep. This last aspect is what got my attention upon returning.

There are many dimensions to this observation – some obvious to the casual observer and others hidden away. First, it is readily apparent that the Trinity complex is in need of a major repainting outside and inside. The grounds, while maintained, are in need of more frequent care. Inside there is a sense of a worn, loved but in need of care facility. Then there are the less than apparent. Numerous air conditioning units are on their last legs and in need of repair. We have roofs that are leaking and have damaged the interiors over the years. Then we have the wonderful and historic stained glass windows in the Church that are showing age and need to be removed, repaired and reset.

Upon reflecting on these observations, I think there are a number of conditions that bring us to this juncture. Trinity has gone through challenging years recently just holding together starting with the death of Fr. Patience up until Fr. Mackey’s arrival. Financial resources have been very tight with the addition of a full time Priest and the economic downturn resulting in deferred maintenance. Lastly our demographics are such that there is a limited pool of volunteers to help with church maintenance, care and repair. On the positive side the volunteers we do have are very dedicated and holding the place together on a very limited budget.

So what does this mean for the future? **We Must Change!!!** We are living on borrowed time and on the investment of the members of Trinity over the last 128 years. We need to continue the great work of volunteers and see how to leverage them even more smartly. We will have to invest more financial resources in eliminating the deferred maintenance that must be done by a contractor. We need to think about how to have, at least, a part time Sexton to better take care of the day to day needs of the church – custodial, setup and light maintenance. I am sure there are many other good ideas of how to deal with this situation. Please let me know your thoughts. However, I think we all know that the bottom line of this situation - **Trinity Must Grow!!!**

So, if you see a need and want to volunteer - let me know. If you do not see a need and want to volunteer - let me know. I am sure I can find a task that would fit your abilities. Remember that in Florida the grounds still grow for many months and Rodney could certainly use assistance with the grounds.

Let’s keep God’s House as a model of our commitment to him.

Eric Beshore, Junior Warden

eabeshore@comcast.net



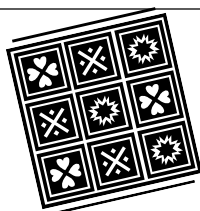
TREASURER'S REPORT

Trinity Episcopal Church

Summary Income Statement for the Period Ended August 31, 2009



	For the Month		Year-to-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 16,873	\$ 14,381	\$ 125,163	\$ 115,047
Expense	<u>13,110</u>	<u>16,402</u>	<u>128,405</u>	<u>131,218</u>
Income less Expense	<u>\$ 3,763</u>	<u>\$ (2,021)</u>	<u>\$ (3,242)</u>	<u>\$ (16,171)</u>



GET READY FOR OUR FALL BAZAAR AND QUILT SHOW!!!

Help Wanted and Needed

The Bazaar is coming soon! We need lots of volunteers to help with taking money and other small jobs on the day of the bazaar. The date is November 7th, and the time is 9 until 2. We also need donations of baked goods, jams and jellies, used books, and any craft items that you are able to make. Fig Poncher, our organist, has donated a beautiful butterfly quilt for our raffle prize, and we have a \$50.00 Publix gift certificate for a door prize. Raffle tickets are now ready for sale, and are \$1.00 apiece or buy 10 and get one free. We also would love to have you get raffle tickets to sell at your workplace or wherever you can. Virginia Smith is in charge of raffle tickets. We will also have lunch tickets for sale for \$7.00. The lunches were so popular last year that we sold out! So be sure to buy yours early so we will know how many to plan for. At this point we are planning to have a spinning demonstration and someone demonstrating how he makes walking sticks. If you have something you would like to demonstrate, please let us know. And finally, our final craft class will be held on Tuesday, October 6, at 10:00 in the Parish Hall. We are going to be knitting some simple scarves. Many of you have expressed an interest in learning to knit. So here is your chance! We will be using large knitting needles, (size 13, 14, or 15), so if you have any of these we could borrow, we would appreciate it. Remember, this benefits the priest fund, and we love our Priest! Thank you all so much. Jean Stegall and Marilyn Blair are the contacts for volunteering or donating.

A Very Special Preview Sale!

This year the Bazaar is going to be open to Trinity Church members only, on Friday evening, November 6th, from 6:30 until 8:00. Punch and cookies will be served. Many members cannot come on Saturday, or they are helping with the Bazaar, and do not get a chance to see all the marvelous craft items that are for sale. So please come and do your Christmas shopping on Friday, November 6, at this "*special for you*" event.

Garden Shoppe at the Bazaar

Now is the time to be getting plants ready for the Bazaar. Repot or dig and pot your donations now so they will look their best by November. We also can sell plant and garden related items such as nice pots, tools, garden ornaments, etc. Please contact Jean Giesel or Kathi Warren for information about garden items.



THANKSGIVING IN THE PARK

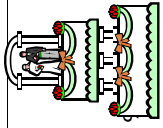
Planning is well underway for Thanksgiving in the Park and this year we're hoping to be able to feed approximately 350 people in Heritage Park! Last year we were blessed with so many helping hands and an abundance of food for the people we served. You made Thanksgiving a day that made it's name a living reality. If you would like to help again this year there are many opportunities. If you haven't received a letter in the mail, please contact Linda in the office or talk to Father Jeff and we will see that you get additional information and put you in touch with the Thanksgiving in the Park team.

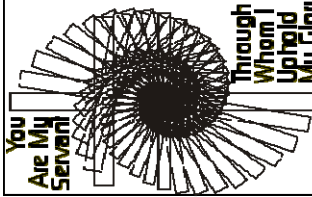
THANKS for GIVING!



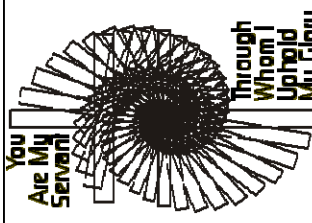
October 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>DONT FORGET TO..... Make your plans to attend the Fall Bazaar and Quilt Show on November 7th. Pray about your gift of love and Stewardship to Trinity on Nov. 1st Pray about how you might be able to help with "Thanksgiving in the Park." Turn your clocks back an hour on Halloween night so you'll be on time</p>						
4 FIRST SUNDAY ONE SERVICE 10:00am Lunch Following	5 7:00pm Scouts	6 10am Craft Class Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	7 Evening Service 6:30	8 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	9 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	10 Alsobrook Wedding Reception Thrift Shop 
11 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	12 7:00pm Scouts	13 Access 10am-2pm 10:00 Outreach Mtg. 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	14 Evening Service 6:30 Mission Board 7pm	15 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	16 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	17 Thrift Shop 9am-12
18 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	19 7:00pm Scouts	20 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	21 Evening Service 6:30	22 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	23 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	24 Thrift Shop 9am-12
25 8:30 & 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:15 Coffee 9:45 Sunday School	26 7:00pm Scouts	27 Access 10am-2pm 5:30 pm AA ~ Wicker	28 Evening Service 6:30	29 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	30 Access 10am-2pm 10 - 4 Thrift Shop 7:00 pm AA ~ Wicker	31 Thrift Shop 9am-12 Men's Cursillo Women's Cursillo



SERVER'S SCHEDULE ~ OCTOBER 2009



Date	Service	Crucifer	Acolyte	Eucharistic Minister	Intercessor	Lector	Usher	Greeter
4-Oct-09	One Service 10AM	Jerry Thomas Morgan Garcia	Elena Lowe	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas	Kristi Gregory	Eric Beshore Ed O'Bryan	Ann Beshore Virginia Smith
11-Oct-09	8:30	Paul Stegall	Morgan Garcia	Paul Stegall	Paul Stegall	Jeanne Eaton	Jeanne Eaton	Jennifer Williams
	11:00	Elena Lowe	Elena Lowe	Suki Hoffman	Suki Hoffman	Suki Hoffman	Liz Middleton	Joyce King
18-Oct-09	8:30	Craig Lee		Craig Lee	Craig Lee	Danny Etheridge	Danny Etheridge	Debbie Etheridge
	11:00	Kristi Gregory		Kristi Gregory	Kristi Gregory	Jean Giesel	Jim Zowarka	Betty Zowarka
25-Oct-09	8:30	Rodney Paul	Morgan Garcia	Rodney Paul	Deacon	Paul Stegall	Paul Stegall	Joyce Chesnut
	11:00	Elena Lowe	Elena Lowe	Pat Poppell	Pat Poppell	Pat Poppell	Kristi Gregory	Linda Wilcox

Donna Eichelsderfer* Amanda Gray Kelly O'Neal Laurie Alsobrook

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...

A few years ago I was instrumental in getting a professor friend of mine accepted into a PhD program in counseling psychology. She and I laughed as I called her chosen vocation “pseudo-science,” but she has long since forgiven me, thinking that I was only joking. Alas. There is more “gravy than grave” to quote Charles Dickens. I am grateful that I am a clergyman and not a psychologist. I get to preach the Scriptures and not the theories of a Freud, a Jung, a Jaspers, or a Skinner. My theories are merely my musings on Biblical theology. I may not be right all the time, but my material is impeccable.

Recently I have been joyfully skipping through an autobiography of a fundamentalist-turned Episcopalian-turned Roman Catholic. He is one of my favorite writers and one of the most brilliant men in America today. His name is Thomas Howard. I re-read his book *Christ the Tiger* words taken from T. S. Eliot, the literary Anglican genius. The book exudes grace [what else?] and is a whirlwind ride through a young man’s spiritual life and pursuits. One quote will have to do:

In the figure of Jesus we saw Immanuel, that is God, that is love. It was a figure who, appearing so inauspiciously among us, broke up our secularist and religious categories and beckoned us and judged us and damned us and saved us and exhibited to us a kind of life that participates in the indestructible. And it was a figure who announced the validity of our eternal effort to discover significance and beauty beyond inanition and horror by announcing to us the unthinkable: redemption.”

WOW! Redemption...the truth that God is love. And as Geddes MacGregor writes, “‘*God is love:’ ...at best a joyful shout that might as well be merely a devout person’s way of saying, “Wow!”* [You may be interested in Geddes Macgregor’s, *He Who Let’s Us Be*, one of the best books ever written on evil, sin, and why God doesn’t always intervene].

The second book I am reading is on the homosexual controversies in the Anglican Communion. It is a small book and yet is it deep and thorough and humble. Dr. Oliver O’Donovan, formerly Regis Professor of Moral Theology at Christ Church College, Oxford, has written, *Church in Crisis: The Gay Controversy and The Anglican Communion*. I highly recommend it though it is a dense read. LaVonne and I once heard Dr. O’Donovan speak for an hour and we left the hall with hundreds of others all repeating over and over again, “What did he say?” But this is different – O’Donovan makes his point.

You will revel in the depth of O’Donovan’s theology and thought. He is powerfully insightful and insightfully powerful. There is one line that I marked each time I ready the book [I am on my third read]. It says, “*Sin lacks the dignity of a point of view.*” Now that will preach someday!

So on a cloudy day, pick up an Anglican book and get lost in the corridors of theology. And if you get stuck, as I have, give me a call, pour me a Southern Comfort, and we will see if we can untangle the theological knot.

In Christ, *Fr. Jeff Mackey+*

GIGGLESOME

There was a Scottish painter named Sam who a penny pincher, so he often thinned down his paint to make it go a bit further. He got away with this for some time, but eventually the Baptist Church decided to do a restoration job on the outside of one of their biggest buildings. Sam put in a bid, and, because his price was so low, he got the job. He set about erecting the scaffolding, and buying the paint and, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with turpentine. Well, Sam was up on the scaffolding, the job nearly completed, when suddenly there was a clap of thunder, the sky opened, and the rain poured down washing the thinned paint from all over the church and knocking Smokey off the scaffold to land on the lawn among the gravestones, surrounded by puddles of the thinned and useless paint. Sam was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he got down on his knees and cried: Oh God, forgive me; what should I do?" And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke.... "Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"

**Trinity Episcopal Church
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OCTOBER 2009

SPECIAL EVENTS COMING SOON

- Oct. 2 Ultreya at Trinity
- Oct. 4. First Sunday—One Service at 10:00am
- Oct. 6 Craft Class 10:00am
- Oct. 10 Alsobrook Wedding
- Oct. 12 Office Closed for Diocesan Meeting
- Oct. 14 Mission Board 7:30pm
- Oct. 15 Men's Cursillo
- Oct. 20 Parish Party Planning Meeting
- Oct. 22 Women's Cursillo
- Oct.31 Happy Halloween! Men's Breakfast

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1ST THE CLOCKS WILL
BE CHANGED FOR DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**

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

Wed. Evening Bible Study

1st Sunday of the Month

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

**Wednesday: Holy Eucharist
and Evening Prayer 6:30 pm**

Thrift Shop

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

Access Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am—2pm