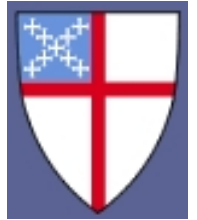


Spring 2008

*We are a community of Christian people seeking to love God with all of our hearts, souls, minds, and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.*



# The Chimes of Trinity Church

## **REPENTANCE: IT'S POSITIVE!**

Dear Friends:

At Christmas I was given a *The Little Book of Hours, Praying with the Community of Jesus*. I have been trying to use it in my personal prayer times. One thing I am really enjoying in using this prayer book is that each morning it provides a short reading on which to think and meditate. Here's one that I very much enjoyed:

***It is a great loss if we greet every day with clenched hands stuffed with our own devices. We will never know what's out there waiting for us if we don't extend an empty hand to the world and wait for the wonder to come.***

I would like to invite you to approach the season of Lent with that attitude. I am afraid that too often Lent feels like the time of the year that the church sets aside for us to beat ourselves up. Thinking about Lent as a season in which to be open to the wonder that God has for each of us is refreshing and inviting for me.

A pretty common definition of repentance is it is "*a change of mind accompanied by regret and a change of conduct.*" I'd like to expand that definition to include: "that might well open one to wondrous new experience of God."

I'd like to share an occasion of repentance in my life. I wasn't doing a good job of praying for people. I used to try to just carry the names of people I needed to pray for in my head. That didn't work. (It may have worked better when I was younger or served a much smaller parish.) Then I tried keeping a list, that was a little better but the lists got long and messy and if I got a prayer request over the phone or by email and the list was in the chapel and not on my desk; I might easily forget to write it down and then forget to pray. (I'm not a total airhead but lots of people need lots of prayer.) What's working for me are the Daughter of the King prayer cards. I keep them on my desk and write the prayer request as soon as I get it. When I go to the chapel to pray I just add them to the pile, when the prayer need has passed I throw them away. No lists to maintain, it's easy and I feel much better about that part of my prayer life. The other thing I have learned to do is pray the names out loud even when I am alone. I don't know why but it helps. (Maybe I just like the sound of my own voice!!) Somehow by working through those cards one at a time and praying them out loud, I feel much more connected to God. What a surprise!

That's repentance. I regretted that lack in my prayer life. The regret led to change. The change opened me up to a new and different connection to God.

So maybe the way to approach Lent this year is to ask what can I do or change that might improve my relationship with God.

Fondly,  
Fr. Dave

### **The Crafters & Christmas Treasures Table**

Sincere appreciation is extended to the entire congregation for your help this year with donations and purchasing items without your support we would not have raised over \$600.00!

Also, thank you to all the ladies in the crafters group for their work on the lovely Christmas items they made for the sale and to all who helped at the sale: Cheryl Bayard, Leslie Vacante, Kelli Moylan, Nancy Militello & Barbara Shields.

## *Holy Week at Trinity Church*

### Palm/Passion Sunday, March 16

- 8:00 a.m. The Blessing and Distribution of the Palms and the Holy Eucharist Rite I
- 10:00 a.m. The Blessing and Distribution of the Palms and the Holy Eucharist Rite II

*Weather permitting; the blessing of the Palms will take place at the Rectory Porch from where the congregation will process into the church. The Cherub Choir will perform.*

- 5:00 p.m. The Blessing and Distribution of the Palms and Come As You Are Eucharist

### Holy Monday, March 17

- 7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer and the Holy Eucharist, Chapel

### Holy Tuesday, March 18

- 7:30 p.m. The Great Litany and the Holy Eucharist, Chapel

### Holy Wednesday, March 19

- 9:00 a.m. The Healing Eucharist, Chapel
- 7:30 p.m. Gospel Reflection with Healing Prayers and Eucharist, Chapel

### Maundy Thursday, March 20

- 6:30 p.m. Paschal Supper
- 8:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar and Church

### Good Friday, March 21

- 6:30 a.m. Good Friday Liturgy with Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament in the Chapel
- 12 noon Good Friday Liturgy in the Church
- 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy with Choir in the Church

### Holy Saturday, March 22

- 9:00 Holy Saturday Liturgy, Church

### Easter Day, March 23, 2007

- 6:30 a.m. The Easter Vigil with Baptisms and Continental Breakfast following
  - 10:00 a.m. The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Easter Egg Hunt for the children; gather on the Rectory porch*
- There is no 5 p.m. Service on Easter Day



## *The Recovery Corner*

Trinity Church is blessed to be home to several 12 Step Programs. However, not many of our congregation may be aware of the spiritual nature of these Fellowships. The purpose of this column is to share some insight into recovery.

I come by this information from first hand experience. Over twenty years ago I had the good fortune to “hit bottom” and enter the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. I got sober attending meetings at another Episcopal church and realized several years into my recovery that there were other “services” offered by that church- usually on Sunday mornings. Since that time, I have been an active member both in AA and currently within the Trinity congregation.

Alcoholism is described within our fellowship as a physical, mental and spiritual disease. Our preamble clearly defines our intent.

– (We) are a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism....

Jesus’ commandment to love each other is sorely tested when the person is affected by alcohol or drugs. Many years and tears may mark the drinking career of an alcoholic. When the Holy Spirit (or Higher Power, as many new AA’s refer to God) intervenes, that sick and suffering soul may be guided to finally attend an AA meeting. There they will be welcomed and taught the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions.

First impressions are important, though, so it is quite possible that one of our Trinity congregation members may actually make the first contact with a newcomer. Our Jingle has the locations of our meetings printed. If you are in the building just prior to our meetings and notice a new person, please welcome them and direct them to the meeting area. We’ll take it from there. Also, if you are in the building while a 12 Step meeting is in progress, please do not enter the room unless it is an emergency.

Does the Program work? Yes, if we continue to expand our spiritual base, practice all the Steps and work with another suffering alcoholic. More about our Steps and Traditions in future columns.

Anonymously yours in Christ

## **WEDNESDAYS IN LENT**

Wednesday evenings in Lent are back! Of course they are! There are Wednesdays in every week of Lent! OK so our annual mid week Lenten program is back again this year, some of it's the same, some is different. The program has 3 parts: supper, program, and prayer. You can come to all or any part that you choose.

### **6:30 Covered Dish Supper in the Parish Hall**

#### **7:00 The Program**

+ *Experiences in prayer* led by Fr. Dave in the Chapel. Highly experiential with some teaching including: "Everything I needed to know about prayer I learned at Weight Watchers!!"

+ *The History of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church*, led by John Bayard.

+ **Book Discussion:** *The Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen*. The discussion will be led by Brian Peterson and Helen Mirkil. Books can be ordered at any book store, online or through Groton House Books and gifts where all the profits support local mission projects.

+ *If you'd rather use your hands and do some service for the Church*, the property committee will gather folks to do a variety of small projects around the church and the Rectory. Rumor has it those who select this option will receive extra stars in their crown when they get to heaven!

+ *Jr High and Senior High Students* will delve into the word AGAPE. The five week series will discuss the five Greek definitions of love: Eros, Philios, Agape, Storge, and Thelema and ultimately will investigate the LOVE that Jesus calls us to give. Each Wednesday will involve discussion, an activity, craft or game. Contact Kelly R with any questions!

+ **Veggie Tales** in the Nursery for the youngest!

### **8:00 Evening Prayer in the Church**

**Station of the Cross Friday Evenings in Lent 7:30 p.m. in the Church**

## ***The Reconciliation of a Penitent***

The ministry of reconciliation, which has been committed by Christ to his Church, is exercised through the care each Christian has for others, through the common prayer of Christians assembled for public worship, and through the priesthood of the Church and its ministers declaring absolution.



The Reconciliation of a Penitent is available for all who desire it. Confessions may be heard anytime and anywhere. Lent is an especially good time to make use of this sacramental rite.

Two equivalent forms of the service are provided in the Book of Common Prayer. When the penitent has confessed all serious sins troubling the conscience the priest gives such counsel and encouragement as are needed and pronounces absolution. The content of a confession is not normally a matter of subsequent discussion. The secrecy of a confession is morally absolute for the confessor, and must under no circumstances be broken.

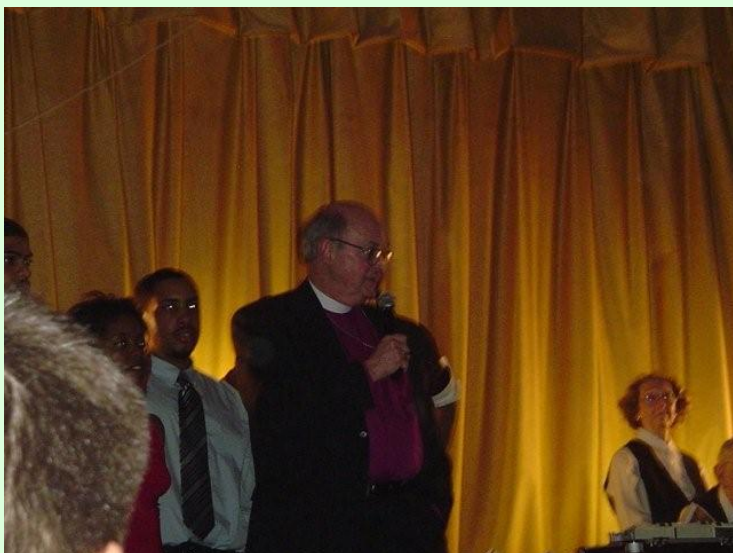
An individual who is troubled by something for which they just can't forgive themselves may find the rite very helpful. Fr. Dave will stay after Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings in Lent for individuals who would like the ministry of reconciliation. Other times can be arranged by appointment.

## Trinity Youth Group Update

The Youth Group continues to grow as new friends have joined us from both the congregation and the outside community. We have been active almost every Sunday night and have enjoyed fellowship meetings as well as activities such as the Bishop's Ball and Caroling to the Homebound. Our meetings include general discussion, games and activities aligned with a theme in Christianity, food and fellowship, and a moment for prayer/worship. We have 16-20 members who consistently attend and often bring friends. We also have some wonderful adult volunteers to assist and care for the youth.

### ECS Youth Project:

The Youth Group helped to coordinate the ECS Christmas Angel Project this season, which was very successful. As usual, the congregation at Trinity was beyond generous in supplying newborn gifts and supplies as well as movie tickets to the Teenage Challenge Ministry. The congregation also provided a wonderful Christmas for several thankful families in our local area.



### Upcoming events:

The Youth will continue to meet Sunday nights from 6-8pm in the Narthex. We will be attending the U2 Eucharist and dance at ST. Thomas Church as well as participate in Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 13th. Our fundraising drive for the 2008 Mission Trip to Florida will be in full force soon and we would like to thank all of you ahead of time for your consistent support in our efforts to raise funds!

If you are interested in attending a Youth Meeting please feel free to drop in or contact Kelly R. Junior High students are encouraged to check out SEARCH (Sunday School) from 9:45am-10:45am in the church school room downstairs. As always bring a friend and a strong desire to have fun!

God Bless!  
Kelly Rupprecht

### Pictures from the 2008 Bishop's Ball !

More youth group pictures can be found on our website as well as our new Flickr Photo Site!

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/trinityambler/>



## ***On the Property Front!*** Laura Gergen and Piers Prater

2007 was another successful year for the Trinity Property Committee. We accomplished two major projects and a myriad of smaller projects throughout the year. Many thanks to everyone who came out and helped us get this work done. We couldn't have done it without you!

The design and construction of a new restroom in the basement of the church was a huge project and a major improvement for the church school. Check it out, it's FABULOUS!

The other major project that Property tackled this year was the alleviation of water in the Rectory basement. This fall, we installed a drain box to catch water from the church yard before it gets to the house and connected it and the downspouts on the North side of the house to piping that goes to the sewer. Then we installed window wells outside the basement windows on the south side of the house, regraded the side yard and installed piping out to the driveway into which we connected the sump pump piping and all of the downspouts on that side of the building. And guess what???? The basement is DRY!!

In addition to those endeavors, we also continued to attack the ornery leaks plaguing the Church, polyurethaned the sanctuary floors, cleaned out several of the storage rooms in the basement, properly disposed of hazardous waste and old computer parts, had a garbage disposal installed in the church kitchen, repaired the water heater in the Sacristy, repaired the water main, paved over the grassy area next to the handicap parking lot, replaced the water heater and dishwasher and installed a water softener in the Rectory, and carpeted the Sexton's cottage for our tenant.

For 2008, we have a long list of projects to complete as well. Some of our upcoming projects include:

- Trimming the pear trees in front of the rectory
- Removing various tree stumps around the property
- Removing broken slate walkway pieces along Church Street
- Painting the office wing
- Touch up painting around the building
- Replacing damaged ceiling tiles
- Remove carpeting and install tile floors in Church school rooms
- Sealing the flat roofs
- Replacing some of the exterior doors on the building
- Building a new exterior basement door for the Rectory
- Sealing and restriping the parking lot
- Additional gradework on North side of Rectory

Misc. repair work in the Sexton's cottage.

As always, we're looking for more able bodied volunteers to spread the work among. Join us!! We'd love to have you!



### ***5<sup>th</sup> Annual Trinity Hackers Open On The Horizon May 31<sup>st</sup> 2008 – Mainland Golf Club***

Planning for the 2008 edition of the Annual Trinity Hackers Open is well underway. This year's event will once again take place at the Mainland Golf Club near Lansdale on Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup> starting between 9:00 AM & 10:00 AM. The outing will take place a little later in the spring this year, hopefully assuring ideal playing conditions. The event's financial proceeds all go to the Trinity scholarship fund which provides financial grants to qualified Trinity high school seniors each year.

The golf outing is contested using the "best ball" scramble format that tends to insure all teams remain in the hunt for the first place honors. Further, the outing is open to all, so if you have friends or relatives that are not Trinity members, feel free to invite them. Perhaps you can organize a team or several teams. Remember, the greater the number of players, the greater our scholarship account funding will be in 2008.

As has become our tradition, the outing will be followed by an awards ceremony and family picnic. All players and their family members are invited to attend the post golf picnic. The picnic is included in the individual players entrance fees.

While we intend to post detailed event information shortly in the Narthex, and on outdoor banners, the cost per player will be \$75. Sponsorship opportunities include Prizes, Picnic Beverage, and Picnic Food at a cost of \$100 each, General Event at \$75, and Individual Holes at a cost of \$25. Finally, anyone wishing to become the overall event Title Sponsor can do so for a cost of \$500.

Please note that while individual player fees add somewhat to the success of our fund raising efforts, sponsorships are critical to the financial success of the Scholarship funding event.

Questions can be directed to Roy Irvin or Dennis Reid.



## ***BEHIND THE SCENES***

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY  
with  
Patricia Saunders and Nancy Dixon

“Shawls...Made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles...”  
Written in 1998 by: Janet Bristow © 2008

***“In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Gallo, now graduates of The Hartford Seminary, gave birth to a ministry...combining their love of knitting/crocheting with a spiritual practice reaching out to those in need of comfort and solace as well as in celebrations and joy...There are endless possibilities...”***

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY  
[www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Trinity Church began five years ago when Patricia Saunders and Nancy Dixon were introduced to the concept of the Prayer Shawl. This was a ministry that they could do while doing something good for others. It is a time of relaxation and prayer that is inspirational to them as they use the special stitching and patterns

to create the shawl. The shawls bring comfort to those who receive them or they are given in celebration of joyous occasions. Prayers are said for the recipients, known or unknown, prior to, during and at the end of the stitching. Then, at various times of the year the completed Prayer Shawl is presented at the altar to be blessed by Father Canan. He also offers prayers for the shawlmakers and for the person to whom it will be given.

Patricia stated that many times when she is wearing one of the Prayer Shawls others would admire it and learn about this ministry. They can return to their churches with the idea of starting a Prayer Shawl ministry of their own. Patricia and Nancy would like to hear from any members who might be interested in this ministry.

The blessings of the Prayer Shawl encircle the shawlmakers and receivers. Thank you Patricia and Nancy for providing Trinity Church with this unique ministry.

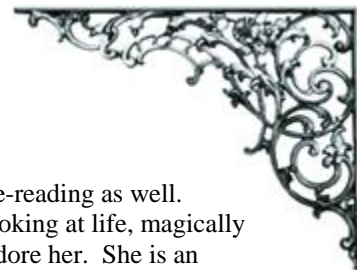
Contributed by: Edith North and Lynda Basham

### ***What's New at Trinityambler.com !***

2007 was quite a year of change on our website! The focus has been to make our site more interactive. Worship leaders can now make changes to the site 24/7, so the site always contains the most up to date information. Our Youth section is being expanded to include a Flickr photo area so that weekly pictures can be added by Kelly and members of the Youth Group. The site contains a wealth of information about the church as well as an ever increasing library of publications.

Next time you are online, go to our site and click on "Site Map." I think you will be surprised at just how much you may have missed in prior visits!

***THE PASTORAL CARE CORNER***  
***PARENT RESOURCE LIBRARY BOOK REVIEWS***  
*Addie M. Johnson and Ernest Dixon*



**STARGIRL** by Jerry Spinelli

This is a “must read” for young girls entering middle or high school! Parents will enjoy pre-reading as well. The story surrounds a young girl who, through her kindness, thoughtfulness, and unusual ways of looking at life, magically changes the lives of everyone she meets; at first, almost all the youngsters in her high school class adore her. She is an absolute dreamer in how she uses her uncanny talents to have other youngsters view their adolescent lives differently. Present is the perennial “enemy” gal who defies Stargirl’s every good deed yet is unable to stop her good will actions. However like any young gal, Stargirl goes too far with her unique ideas and finally invites dislike and confusion among her classmates; the uniqueness that made her different acts to destroy her.

Themes of popularity, fitting in, and “sameness” are all highlighted in “Stargirl”. The game of leader and followers act to bring home the concerns of all our youngsters. This book is cited as a New York Times Bestseller, Parents Choice Gold Award Winner, Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year, and an ALA Top Ten Best Book for Young Adults.

Addie M. Johnson

**Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters: 10 Secrets Every Father Should Know** By Meg Meeker, M.D.

“Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters” revealed the important role that I play in my daughter's life. I learned how my actions and lifestyle influence how my daughter relates to the rest of the world, including her friends, my wife, and most importantly, boys. I cherish my relationship with my daughter and this book taught me that my daughter looks to me to be her hero, protector, and person of stability (even if she does not show it). “Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters” supported the values and discipline that I strive to instill in my daughter, including integrity, self respect, respect for others, and managing personal business. I’ve used several tips presented by the author to improve communications with my daughter and to monitor her social activities such as instant messaging, text messaging and relationships with boys. I recommend this book to fathers, future fathers and mothers. I will refer to this book repeatedly as my daughter and I grow together.

Ernest Dixon

**WHEN PARENTS HURT: Compassionate Strategies When You and Your Grown Child Don’t Get Along**

by Joshua Coleman, Ph.D.

“This unique book supports parents who are struggling with the heartache of having a teenager or an adult child who is troubled, angry, or distant. Such rifts can cause unspeakable sorrow that parents too often must bear alone”. The authors “offer insight, empathy, and perspective to those who have lost the opportunity to be the parent they desperately wanted to be and who are mourning the loss of a harmonious relationship with their child.”. Case examples and healing exercises help parents reduce anger, guilt and shame; learn how temperament, the teen years, their own or a partner’s mistakes, and divorce can strain the parent-child bond; (and learn) to maintain self-esteem through difficult times”.

Dr. Coleman is an internationally recognized expert in parenting, couples, families, and relationships. He is a Senior Fellow with the Council on Contemporary Families and has two critically acclaimed books: “The Marriage Makeover” and “The Lazy Husband.”. He is also a frequent guest on the *Today* show, *20/20* and *Good Morning America*.

*Addie M. Johnson*



## Easter Memorial Flower Envelopes

If you would like to include names for the Easter flowers, please use our Easter Memorial Flower envelopes which are in the Narthex.

The deadline for Easter flowers is Palm Sunday, March 16.

**Office Information**  
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Web: www.trinityambler.com

**The Staff of Trinity Church**  
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rector@trinityambler.com

**Stephen Schreiber, Director of Music**  
rs89@aol.com

**Carole Allsop, Christian Education Director**  
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**Sheila Bistany, Office Administrator**  
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**Morgan Beam, Nursery:**  
morganbeam@hotmail.com

**Kelly Rupprecht, Youth Minister**  
kellyrupprecht101@msn.com

Chimes submissions to chimes@trinityambler.com



### The Vestry of Trinity Church \*

<b>Barbara Davis</b>	*
<b>Brian Phillips</b>	*
<b>Ernest Dixon</b>	Accounting Warden*
<b>Laura Gergen</b>	Property*
<b>Cheryl Bayard</b>	Clerk of Vestry / Christian Formation*
<b>Addie Johnson</b>	Pastoral Care*
<b>Eileene Warren</b>	New Members*
<b>Karen Reid</b>	Hospitality*
<b>Sue Adair</b>	Worship*
<b>Ed Mahler</b>	Mission and Outreach*
<b>Nancy McGarvey</b>	Stewardship*
<b>Piers Prater</b>	Property*

\* Vestry positions are not officially assigned yet

#### Marriage:

Jessica Lee Mellom to John G. Fields on November 9, 2007

#### Baptisms:

Charlotte Brynn Olshefski and Kaitlyn Grace Zacharia on January 13, 2008



#### Deaths:

Stewart Wagoner on December 8, 2007

Trinity members mourn the passing of The Reverend John A. Schultz on January 17, 2008, Longtime Rector at Trinity

### ***LENTEN MORNING OF PRAYER & REFLECTION***

***For All Women*** SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**Leader: Rev. Maxine Maddox-Dornemann**

Sponsored by the Daughters of the King, Anam Cara Chapter  
\*Look for details in the Sunday Jingle

