

THE CHRONICLE

MAY, 2007



SUNDAY, MAY 6th
8:00AM – HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 AM – COMBINED SERVICE
10 AM - PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
(coffee and danish, program for young people, child care provided)
(**no 11am service**)

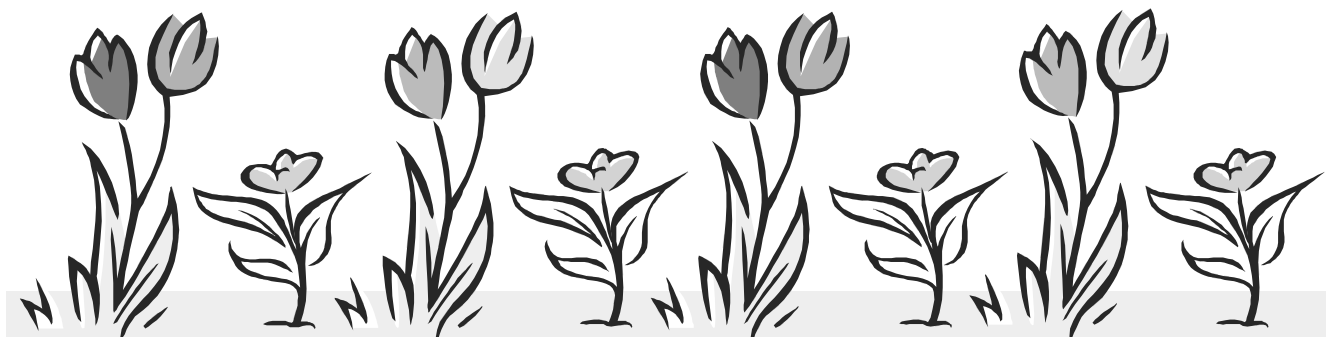


SUNDAY, MAY 20th, ALL SERVICES
HONOR LAY MINISTRIES and TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY



SUNDAY, MAY 20th
5 PM: ALL PARISH COOKOUT
(in front churchyard)

SUNDAY, JUNE 3RD, 10 AM
PENTECOST SUNDAY
The rite of Holy Baptism will be administered at the 10 AM service. If you (or your child) would like to receive this sacrament of initiation and incorporation into Christ's Body the Church, please speak to the rector now.



FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR...

Dear Friends,

The change of seasons is upon us in Swarthmore. Flowering trees and shrubs are seen everywhere these days. Even without the beauty of this sight, I always know from personal experience when the change of seasons happens – I get my annual attack of the sneezes and the sniffles brought on by the little invisible beasties that are emitted by nature’s budding plant life.

But other more profound changes are happening as well. The college will soon end the semester’s classes and exam period will start. Some of the students who have worshipped with us during their college years will graduate; others will head off on their summer jobs. Church School will be winding down and will hold a teacher appreciation event at the 9 am service on May 20. Our adult choir, adult forum and the 11 am service will all go into their summer recess.

Meanwhile, the search process is entering its most personal phase as the final prospects for rector are visited, and the emerging finalists make their visits to Swarthmore. Fortunately, our youth representatives are able to join the search committee for these visits and interviews in Trinity’s home town. By the end of June we may know the name of the new rector who has been called to join and lead Trinity in its future ministry. Joyce Tompkins and I will be covering all the summer services until the new rector arrives.

When it comes, leaving Trinity will be difficult and sad for me. My two years at Trinity have been a great opportunity to use my gifts in ministry and to make a transition in my priesthood. I could not have asked for a more welcoming or supportive congregation than Trinity has been.

On a personal note, my wife Kathryn Rossé and I will be celebrating the marriage of our eldest daughter Kate to Matthew Zibelman on Memorial Day weekend. Kate and Matt will then be moving to Chicago to begin their four year medical school residencies.

Change is in the air and in the parish and in our lives. I pray that all of these changes may through the grace of God lead all of us to some wonderful new beginnings.

Faithfully, Lou Temme,

Interim Rector



PRAYERS: Bob, LuAnn Fitz, Jeremy Wilson, Brownie Ulrich, Libby Ballinger, Neal Dyer, Patrick Gassaway and Sarah Davis. **Departed:** Pat Boyer, Harold Bullock

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Year to Date		MARCH	
RECEIPTS	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total Income	110,430	103,241	47,629	31,675
EXPENSES				
Total Expenses	105,013	116,025	38,921	39,719

*Copies of the complete treasurer’s report are available through the office.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL 16TH:

The vestry had a presentation on the Green Roof project by **Peter Weber**, volunteer grant writer. The project was begun during Imagine Trinity with the installation of a double thick rubber roof on the education wing. This would then be the foundation for the Green Roof which is made up of living plants growing on a bed of lightweight lava rock. The cost of installing the rock and the plantings was to be raised from grant applications. Peter reported on the latest application. The green roof life expectancy is 45-60 years.

The Search Committee report was given by **Mary Anderson**, People's Warden. She noted that the search process was splitting into two tracks, with visits to prospective candidates still being made through the first weekend of May, and a first candidate's visit to Swarthmore scheduled for mid April. Lou Temme asked for vestry approval of the absentee ballot slate of candidates to be mailed to the congregation along with the requirements for voting membership at the May annual meeting. Lou also reminded the vestry of the Bylaws requirements for the election process for a new rector.

Treasurer **Andrejs Penikis** gave the financial report and said it was one of the most positive he has given in a few months due to a big surge in pledge giving. **John Hollyer**, chair of Finance, asked for approval of a motion to appoint the Finance Committee as the negotiator of the new rector's compensation package. The package will be based on the parameters set by the vestry along with the diocesan clergy compensation guidelines.

Lou noted that the Holy Week and Easter services had gone well, the music was outstanding, the children's choir was wonderful, and that overall attendance was similar or slightly ahead of last year. Property Chair **Ed West** and Lou will review the interior of the rectory property and make a list of recommendations based on its future use as a rectory or as a rental property. Ed reported that a leak in the acolyte closet caused by a falling slate had been repaired, but a recent wind blown rain storm pointed up another leak in the same area.

To conform to Diocesan Guidelines for Safe Church Life, the vestry adopted a new policy developed by **Amy Sisson** and others that calls for all adult volunteers working with youth groups to undergo background checks. Fellowship Chair **Dick Koelle** gave us a run down of the many fellowship events planned from April to June. **Jen Donlevie**, membership chair, mentioned that the Easter Egg hunt was not only fun for the kids but afforded many of the adults from the 9 am service a chance to meet and talk. **Mary Anderson**, worship chair, mentioned the positive developments in music at the 9 am service, most particularly the youth choir. **Fran Vartanian**, Memorials chair, said there would be a new plaque made to identify the Cleaves Room. The old one is fading.

We noted that this meeting was the last official meeting for **Fran Vartanian, Martin Beck, and Joe Hampel**. Next month their replacements will take their seats on Vestry.

Lou Temme

Celebrate the end of the Church School Year at the All-Parish Cookout!



Date: Sunday, May 20th
Time: 5:00 pm in the front churchyard



Come one, come all on Sunday, May 20th at 5:00 p.m. in the church circle drive. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. All welcome!! Please sign up in the back of the church. Please offer to bring a side dish or a finger dessert to share and to help set up and clean-up. For more information contact **Anne Hollyer** at 610-891-0291, abhjwh@comcast.net See you there!!!



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME - TO THE BLUE ROCKS, FRIDAY, MAY 18TH



Game time for this annual event is 7:05PM. Tickets for the box seats are \$7 each. We have already purchased our initial block based on sign-ups, but expect that we can add additional seats adjacent to this group, particularly for those who sign up promptly. Call **Dick Koelle** (610-566-4087 or rnkoelle@comcast.net) if you want to join the fun or have any questions.



SAVE THE DATE: CANOE TRIP DOWN THE BRANDYWINE RIVER



SATURDAY, JUNE 16th

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

...WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2007, AT 10 AM IN THE PARISH HALL

The regular business of the corporation will be conducted including the annual election of vestry persons and delegates to the Diocesan Convention. There will be a brunch in conjunction with the Annual Meeting; please sign up in the back of the Church if you can bring sandwiches, snacks, desserts, or other appropriate dishes and/ or can help with set-up or clean-up.

Nominations for Vestry (elect four) are: **Ginny Davis, Donald Hann, Mary Laxton and Sue Warren**

Nominations for Diocesan Convention (elect three) are: **Ann Kane, Sue Warren and George Whitfield.**

FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

I will not leave you orphaned: I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

John 14:18-19

Easter is the resurrection glory that is celebrated every Sunday all through the entire year. And the continuing good news is in the above passage in the gospel of John. Jesus fulfilled this scripture in the appearance to Mary at the empty tomb. He then came to Peter, the one who denied him, and to the other disciples who were gathered together. And he appeared to convince Thomas that he truly had risen, indeed. He did not leave them orphaned and alone.

And he continues to come to those of us who feel orphaned and alone in this world. We are not orphaned in this life; we are children of God. He calls us by name, invites us to fellowship in his spirit, and calls us not to hold onto him, but to share him with others. So the truth of the Easter Gospel is that Jesus comes to us, calling us by our name to follow and obey him and to tell others this wonderful truth. The Lord is Risen, he is risen indeed.

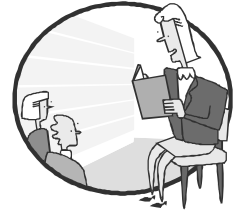
Deacon Mimi Greenwood

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

As any parent of school aged children knows, May can be an especially crazy month. Families are often overwhelmed with a multitude of end of year activities and spring sports, all competing for our time. Add church school activities to the mix and it's just too much sometimes. It is hard to believe, but our church school year will be wrapping up this month and we still have some activities on our plate.



While the adults are attending the annual Parish meeting on May 6th, we have made child care arrangements for the children. For several years, we have enjoyed the wonderful company of story teller Vickie Towne. Unfortunately, she is unavailable this year, but she did recommend her friends Tom and Denise Wareham members from a Baptist church in Yeadon. They will entertain the children from 10:00-11:30 during the annual meeting to sing with the children and tell Bible stories. The older youth of the church will be providing child care



May 20th is the final day of Church School for the year and it is a big day! At the 9:00 service, the Sunday school teachers will be recognized for their contributions and the 4th and 5th grade Sunday school classes will share their amazing knowledge of our beautiful stained glass windows. Then at 5:00pm, we will celebrate the church school year with an all Parish Cookout in the church yard. We invite and encourage all parish members to join us for this fun family supper. Please look for more cookout information in the Bulletin and the sign-up sheet in the back of the church.



Believe it or not, we do most of the planning for next year's Church School programs right about now. Please consider how you would like to be involved. It takes a village of dedicated volunteers to make our Sunday school program viable. We need parents to help teach, coordinate outreach projects, and organize special events. The strength of our program can be attributed to having many helpers. As we anticipate the arrival of a new rector, the church school needs you to be involved. Please contact **Anne Hollyer** (610)891-0291, abhjwh@comcast.net or **Robin Shields** (610) 565-5414, rshields55@yahoo.com to let us know how you can contribute your talents to the children of our parish. **Anne Hollyer**

NICARAGUA PARTNERSHIP



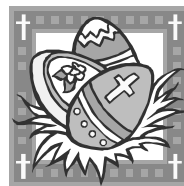
Students of the campus Protestant ministry at Swarthmore College are joining with Swarthmore Presbyterian Church in a long-term partnership with several small rural communities in Nicaragua. The partnership is fostered by CEPAD (the Central American branch of the World Council of Churches). Funding assistance for campus ministry participation has been graciously provided by the Lang Center, Partners in Ministry, and Trinity Church. Members of Swarthmore Presbyterian have been working toward this partnership for several years; finally this year, the partnering Nicaraguan communities have been identified. An initial, relationship-building trip will take place from May 27-June 3. The team will include **Joyce Tompkins**, campus ministry chaplain, **Erin Floyd**, a Swarthmore College frosh, and several members of the Swarthmore Presbyterian church, including Pastor **Dick Wohlschlaeger**. We will spend one day in orientation in Managua, and then stay with local hosts in the rural villages in the mountainous area northwest of the city. It is the hope of this initial team that we will get to know our Nicaraguan partners and begin to identify long-term needs that will drive the future of the partnership. Future trips are planned and participants from other members of the Swarthmore church community may become involved. Erin and Joyce will present more information about their trip at an Adult Forum during the fall. **Joyce Tompkins**

Let's Give Thanks for our Ministries...

2007 EASTER EGG HUNT

Nearly 500 Easter eggs of all sizes and colors covered the back yard on Easter morning. Following the 9:00 a.m. family service approximately 20 children of all ages eagerly waited to gather up the eggs. Our youngest egg hunter was only two years old. In just about 10 minutes all of the eggs had been gathered up and placed in baskets and bags. Then it was inside again as the children enthusiastically opened each egg to see what was inside. There were prizes like cross necklaces and magnets with phrases like, Jesus is Risen and He Lives. Of course, there were also eggs with candy inside, but with every egg that had candy there was an uplifting quote from various books of the Bible. The parents also had a great time and while the children were emptying their eggs everyone had an opportunity to say hello, talk about Easter plans and even meet some newcomers. The weather was cold, but the Spirit was warm and inviting. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Jen Donlevie



Sophia Martinson asked us to add this bit of humor in *The Chronicle*:

Father O'Malley answers the phone.

"Hello, is this Father O'Malley?"

"It is".

"This is the IRS. Can you help me?"

"I can."

"Do you know a Ted Houlihan?"

"I do."

"Is he a member of your congregation?"

"He is."

"Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?"

"He will."

CHESTER CHILDREN'S CHORUS SEEKS SUMMER READING VOLUNTEERS



The Chester Children's Chorus invites adult volunteers (18 and over) to read with a child 8 to 10 years old this summer. Reading takes place in Lang Music Building at Swarthmore College weekdays from 11 to noon. The dates are June 25 through July 26. Men are particularly welcome to read with the boys. More information is available at 610-328-8180 or www.chesterchildrenschorus.org at "You Can Help!"

Andrea Knox, Managing Director, Chester Children's Chorus



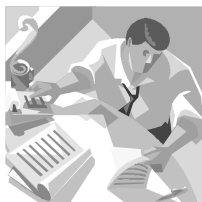
Trinity Youth



The YAC and J2A kids are working hard to complete the services and jobs auctioned off at the Youth Auction on March 11. The youth auction raised over \$1300 for youth activities at Trinity including the Mission Trip to coastal North Carolina. Parishioners should contact **Barbara Nagel**, (610-543-0567 or nagel.barbara@gmail.com) if they have not heard from their youth worker.

The youth also enjoyed a movie night. They watched *Gridiron Gang*, ate pizza, chips and cake, and had a great time. Afterwards they had a lively discussion about the movie. **Amy Sisson**

TRINITY CASH CONTROLS



Gene Martenson recently passed along to me a *Time* magazine article, "Pilfering Priests." The story detailed fiscal abuses in Catholic churches and came on the heels of a study by a Villanova University professor (*Plain Talk About Churches and Money*), which dealt with problems of embezzlement and fiscal incompetence in Catholic churches.

I am writing this short note to reassure Trinity parishioners that we have numerous controls in place to prevent such problems. Let me mention a few:

- We have a professional accountant, Bill Mullen, to maintain our accounts. He does an excellent job and knows the intricacies of both financial management and Diocesan policies.
- Trinity's clergy do not handle contributions. Many of the problems mentioned in the tales of horror arose from dishonest Priests handling large quantities of cash contributions. (Here's yet another reason to write checks for your charitable contributions.)
- Who handles our money, then? The Assistant Treasurer is in charge of Counters. Every Sunday two counters add up receipts, complete a receipts report and a deposit slip and drop the proceeds at First Keystone Bank.
- Clergy do not have authority to sign checks. (The Rector does maintain a discretionary account, which he controls. The statements and cancelled checks for that account do come through the accountant, however.) The Treasurer, key Vestry members and some long-time parishioners are authorized by the Vestry to sign checks. Any check in an amount over \$1,000 requires two signatures.
- The Finance committee regularly reviews bank statements and compares them to the reconciliation report prepared by the accountant.
- The Church's finances are audited annually by an independent accounting firm.
- The Treasurer prepares detailed financial reports for the Vestry to review at every Vestry meeting.
- The Finance Committee sets policies regarding handling of contributions, maintenance of accounts, and investments.

In summary, we make sure that many competent individuals are involved in all aspects of the Church's finances. It may not be the most efficient way to do things, but it ensures that problems are unlikely to arise and would be detected early on if they did. Knowing all this reassures me. I hope it reassures you and Gene, too. (Just kidding, Gene.) **Andrejs Penikis, Treasurer**