

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Council of 70.....	1-2
Communications Plan	3
Virginia Herring	4-5
Ironing Artist	6
New Staff.....	7
Treasurer's Report.....	8

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The Council of 70: Renewing Our Commitment To Engagement, Connection and Community

After a year of struggle and challenge in 2011-2012, Holy Trinity is clearly in a wonderful season of renewal. With the addition of new clergy and staff members, the introduction of Taize music in our Sunday morning and Wednesday evening services, the revitalization of our ministries to youth and young adults, the commitment to transitional housing ministry on our block for refugees, and the resurgence of the Holy Trinity Day School, signs abound that the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst and positive energy is flowing powerfully in our community.

Now we would like to take it to the next level.

A Year of Co-Creation

At our staff retreat in January, I suggested as our theme for this year: Co-Creation. Specifically, this theme invites us to consider as a community how we can “co-create,” with God and with one another, the kind of dynamic, loving, life-giving, spiritually vibrant, 21st century expression of the Body of Christ that we all want Holy Trinity to be.

The emphasis in co-creation is that we draw forth and create dynamic synergy between our gifted staff and the talents, energies and capacities of our remarkably gifted and capable congregation, to co-create with God a church increasingly capable of truly fulfilling our mission: *To know*

Christ and to make him known, through an inward journey of faith and an outward journey of service, giving thanks to God in all things.

The Council of 70

The Council of 70 is based on the story in the Book of Numbers of Moses and the people wandering in the wilderness. The people are complaining because there is not enough food, God is angry that the people are complaining, Moses is displeased with both the people and God,

everyone is unhappy because this whole “chosen people” thing is not working out as planned. Sometimes religious leadership is like that.

Moses says to God, why have you laid the burden of all these people on me? I can't do this on my own. God tells Moses to gather 70 elders, 70 spiritually mature leaders, and bring them to the tent of meeting. There God draws forth some of the Spirit that was on Moses and pours it onto these 70, the Spirit rested

upon them and they all prophesied.

Back in 2006, we applied this story to our common life by gathering 70 spiritually mature leaders in the Holy Trinity community representing each generational cohort to create an additional layer of leadership infrastructure and to explore, in various ways, how to “engage” more and

continued on page 3

Council of 70 (continued)

more of our members of each generation in the life, mission and ministry of our church. We called it the “Ministry of Engagement,” and convened a wide-ranging series of generational focus groups which involved a huge number of our members and from which we learned a great deal that informs our work to this day.

Seven years later (and I really do believe there is something to these seven year cycles), a new vision and application of this ancient, but important story of shared leadership and the power of co-creation is emerging.

A New Vision of Shared Leadership

The vision begins with the observation that Episcopalians seem to like to sit in or near the same pew each time they come to church (to the point that visitors encroaching in “their” perceived place are sometimes asked to move!). It is inspired by Patti and the Rev. Doug Gilbert who, when they came to Holy Trinity, decided that they would treat their pew and the pews directly in front of and behind their pew as their “parish,” or their spiritual “neighborhood.”

They began using that hour on Sunday morning as an opportunity to practice Jesus’ commandment to love your “neighbor” as yourself. Patti and Doug began by making it a point to get to know the people sitting around them in church, welcoming visitors and exercising a simple, yet very life-giving ministry of greeting, connecting with and caring for this small group of people, mostly at the passing of the peace and following the service.

They notice who is absent, they find out how people are doing, and sometimes let the clergy know if someone might need a call, a note or a bowl of soup. Their hospitality has changed the experience of Sunday morning, in that “neighborhood,” from worshiping with strangers to worshiping in a loving, caring, welcoming community in which the Spirit of Christ is clearly alive.

Renewing the Ministry of Engagement

The first steps in renewing the Ministry of Engagement and the Council of 70 are to bring in Annie Slaughter, our new Gateway and Engagement Coordinator (featured on page 7) and to call forth 70 individuals and/or couples, representing all three services, to take on this simple, yet very significant ministry of intentionally greeting, connecting with and caring for the people sitting near them in church on Sunday mornings; and, in this way, helping to make Holy Trinity an increasingly warm, loving, caring community in which the Spirit of Christ is clearly alive. As this spirit of community grows, we expect it might become contagious.

We are well aware that our mission as a church and the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself extend far beyond that hour on Sunday mornings. However, this



Passing the peace during worship services is a time to connect with others. Learn the names of those who worship near you as you shake hands.

seems like an important place to start because, as Episcopalians, worship is central to who we are and what we do, and because a variety of other ways to “engage” people in the life, mission and ministries of our church can flow organically out of what happens on Sunday mornings.

It might mean that the “passing of the peace” takes two or three minutes longer, but even a clock-watcher like me thinks the tradeoff would be worth it as we become an increasingly warm, loving, caring and connected church.

This is a ministry of engagement, designed to intentionally renew our connections with and caring for one another as a community of faith, increasingly loving one another as Christ loves us.

We have some other, potentially exciting, ideas about how the Council of 70 and the Ministry of Engagement might unfold from this beginning. However, one step at a time; and I would like the next steps to emerge organically out of the Council itself. If you have questions about or an interest in the Council of 70, contact Annie Slaughter, annie@holytrinity.com. Who knows where the Spirit may lead us in this next season of our life together in Christ?

– Rev. Tim Patterson

Holy Trinity's Communications to Receive Fresh Look

The Communications Task Force is Working to Streamline Communications

Look for a new look this fall.

At its February meeting, the Vestry approved a communications plan recommended by the Communications Task Force. The plan includes a redesign of several Holy Trinity publications. When fully implemented, the plan should make it possible for parishioners to get news in a variety of visually appealing ways.

Task Force members are Cameron Cooke, Cissy Parham, Harriette Knox, Hattie Aderholdt, and Bill Drake, all past or present vestry members; Joe Soler, a parishioner; and Jo Owens, staff communications coordinator.

"Joe Soler approached me about redesigning our website, which he does professionally through his company, MadMonk Interactive," Jo Owens said. "The Holy Trinity website is very dated, so we jumped at the chance."

The Communications Task Force began discussions about what the new web site should include, and how an updated, interactive website would affect other ways the church communicates. A survey done last summer helped show how parishioners prefer to get their news about Holy Trinity.

Approximately 1,724 surveys were mailed to parishioners. A total of 408 surveys were returned or taken online for a return rate of 23.6 percent.

Survey results showed that the primary sources of information for parishioners are the *Bulletin*, *ePistle*, and *Parish Post*. More than 50 percent of those responding named the *Bulletin*, *Parish Post*, letters, pew flyers, *ePistle*, and postcards as the communications vehicles they read most.

Of note: while 95 percent of respondents have an email address, only 62 percent of them get the *ePistle*. Only 26 percent of respondents use Facebook and only 10 percent of respondents read the HT Facebook page.

"We haven't updated our communi-

cations since 2007," said Communications Task Force member Harriette Knox. "Things have changed in the last six years. People use the internet more; they get news through social media; and they're used to getting news instantly. We need to make better use of electronic media."

The first phase of the communications plan is to get the website up and running. The new design will look more inviting, be easier to navigate, feature more Holy Trinity stories, and include videos and blogs.

"We want the website to be the place parishioners and visitors can get up-to-date information and stories 24 hours a day," Owens said.

Once the website is up and running, the *Parish Post* will go to an every-other-month schedule and include only in-depth feature stories. Slight redesigns will make the *Parish Post*, *Bulletin* and *ePistle* easier to use and more current looking.

The website is designed to be the primary source of information and reference. The *ePistle* and *Bulletin* will have information people need to know immediately and in the coming weeks. The *Parish Post* will tell longer stories about Holy Trinity ministries and parishioners.

It's important that the church have up-to-date information on parishioners and to be able to communicate quickly by having email addresses for everyone. The Task Force will run a parish-wide campaign to update the church database and add parishioners to

the *ePistle* mailing list.

Every parishioner has a "page" in ACS, the church-specific database system. "Many people don't know how to update their information or use ACS," Knox said. "The Task Force will gather important information and input information or help parishioners input the information. If Holy Trinity had everyone's birthdates, emails, interests, and occupations in the database, the church could more easily reach out to people with targeted news and opportunities to get involved."

The goal of the Holy Trinity communications plan is to invite people to and engage them in the life of the church; welcome visitors and new members; and present a consistent image and message in a visually appealing way.

"By communicating more effectively, we can reach more people, reduce our carbon footprint, save money and prioritize staff time," Owens said. "I think people are really going to like the changes and the ability to get information quickly."

Co-Creation ABOUT CO-CREATION CONFERENCE SERVANT LEADERSHIP SCHOOL SACRED SPACE THE LABYRINTH

APRIL 12 - 15

Co-Creation 2012 is a conference from April 12th-15th 2012, featuring cutting-edge speakers and writers on contemporary Christian spirituality. This conference will be held against the background of "Sacred Space for the City: A Celebration of Arts and Spirit," a four day festival offering outstanding concerts, art-walks, labyrinth-walks and other cultural events. [Learn More](#)

Welcome to ServLeader.org

The Servant Leadership School of Greensboro in collaboration with Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church (two large urban churches) along with partners FaithAction International and Greensboro's Temple Emanuel on Greene Street have invited artists, theologians, musicians, nonprofits, churches to come together to create transformative leadership to help shape our future in accordance with God's dream. [Learn more](#)

SACRED SPACE FOR THE CITY

WHAT IS IT? This art exhibition is a multi-site art walk that also includes two outdoor sites for sculpture. [Learn more](#)

CALLING ALL ARTISTS! Artists living in Guilford County in 2012 are eligible to submit work for consideration in the open call to artists. [See details and submit samples online.](#)

THE SPEAKERS

Brian McLaren
A ecumenical global networker among innovative Christian leaders. [See bio](#)

Diana Butler-Bass
Author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture. [See bio](#)

THEORY U

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Joe Soler of MadMonk Interactive designed the Co-Creation 2012 website

The Rev. Virginia Herring Will Retire on May 19

The Impact of Her Ministry Cannot Be Measured

“How do I sum up fourteen years of ministry at Holy Trinity? I can’t—there are too many wonderful memories, holy moments, and extraordinary people to be able to narrow it down,” said the Rev. Virginia Herring, assistant to the rector. Over the last fourteen years, she has blessed babies, performed funerals, celebrated the sacraments, preached, taught, led the church’s outward journey of service, led the TWIGS, and so much more.

Ginny was called to Holy Trinity in 1992 as the assistant to the rector, the Rev. Tim Patterson. Tim has a gift for recognizing the gifts and strengths of others, and using those gifts to build up the parish. Certainly Ginny has given freely of her numerous gifts, and as she was called into new situations, she developed new gifts.

“Just two weeks after I started here, Lutheran Family Services called and said they have a refugee family that needed housing. It was arranged to put them in the duplex on Smith Street. A committee was working on furniture, but I had to work with the agency to make it all happen.

“Within a month of arriving, I was at the airport at 11 o’clock at night with a committee of people that were very nice, but that I didn’t really know since I hadn’t been here very long. We were there to welcome the Ramadani family into Greensboro; it was very poignant. There were five of them, and between them they had one small duffle bag that was the size you’d take to the gym; it had everything they owned in it. That was my entry into refugee work at Holy Trinity.”

Ginny oversees the outreach program at Holy Trinity. She heads up the outreach projects that take place, such as Stop Hunger Now, Barnabas Household Goods Collection, and Soles4Souls. She also works with Christian Social Ministries as they grant money to organizations throughout Greensboro. Through her work with refugees, outreach projects and grants, Ginny has helped to transform thousands of lives near and far.

Another area where Ginny’s gifts truly shine is when she is leading worship. “Ginny is her most authentic self when she is in the pulpit. She is a gifted and faith-filled preacher,” said Rick Vaughn, former senior warden of the Vestry. Her sermons speak to the heart of matters, and as the years have gone by, the congregation has gotten to know her through the stories she’s shared about her own life.

The congregation has in turn shared itself with her.

“What a privilege it is to be in a place long enough to see the children grow up. You baptize them as babies, and then they are teenagers. You see little kids running around, and then you’re doing their weddings. The tenderest moments have been being with people—when they die, with new moms. If there is any favorite moment at all, it is that I have been allowed here to live a sacramental life, connected to the

continued on page 5

To have had a priest of Ginny Herring’s quality among us for fourteen years, with her wisdom, faithfulness, deep spirituality, and extraordinary diversity of gifts, has been a blessing beyond measure for Holy Trinity Church.

- The Rev. Tim Patterson

Ginny has been an integral part of Healing Ground’s retreat ministry. She was not only on our initial Visioning Council but also lived on site at Tatum House for to help launch the expanded ministry. She has co-led pilgrimages to Iona and England, been an on-site retreat leader and is leading our Quiet Day in the Quiet Garden retreat on Friday, May 3rd focusing on “Reflections.”

-Pat Bailey and Dee Irwin

Ginny “lives” God’s love and spirit by example. Her life is a shining example to our parish, our community and the world. Genuine, caring, compassionate, grounded, creative, authentic are just a few of the words to describe Ginny.

- Terri Cartner

She has meant so much to me personally. Ginny mentored me as I joined the church. I’ve always been in a class that she’s taught, and she has helped shape my spiritual journey like no one else. Ginny Herring is the reason I’m at Holy Trinity.

- Annie Slaughter



Join us for a reception to honor Ginny May 12 at 10:15 a.m. in the Haywood I

Ginny has been a mentor and a friend to me and I will miss her dearly. I have been honored to witness her compassion, her heart for the least of these, her delightful sense of humor and her unfailing wisdom. She embodies the Gospel in everything she does.

- The Rev. Ginny Bain Inman

Ginny is a caring, wonderful person and I consider her a friend. She will be missed, but Ginny should do what is in her heart.

- Marilyn Stella

Her faith, grace and kindness are obvious. God's light clearly shines through her. But among the things I like most about Ginny are her sense of humor and willingness to be just a bit irreverent. It makes her relatable and likable in a way that I think some clergy aren't willing to do.

- Jennifer Burton

Ginny Herring met our family when we were members of St. Anne's in Winston-Salem. In

1998 we moved away, and two years later we moved to Greensboro. David moved back first, and one Sunday he visited Holy Trinity. In his visit he learned that Ginny was a priest at a church that he, by happenstance, had chosen to attend. From that initial visit came our affiliation with Holy Trinity. Holy Trinity is truly an integral part of our family's Greensboro experience. Ginny, I am bereft.

- Kelly Evans



's ministry at Holy Trinity on Sunday, Duke Room.

Eucharist and to God's people through the Eucharist in such an intimate way. It is the gift of priesthood."

Another area where Ginny devotes her time is with the TWIGS. She leads a weekly bible study for them, plans summer events, and takes them on trips twice a year. Elizabeth Stallings, the oldest active member of the TWIGS said, "Ginny has been our faithful leader. Her bible studies each week are wonderful, and then she switches gears and takes us on these great trips."

Ginny's hand has also helped to shape the ministry at Healing Ground, formed and run by Pat Bailey and Dee Irwin. As the retreat center was getting off the ground, Ginny moved to Tatum House, a 19th century log cabin on the adjoining property. "I loved my years living at Tatum House. The first spring was a surprise party as the beautiful English-style gardens came into bloom," Ginny remembered fondly. She led retreats and pilgrimages with Healing Ground, and has been involved with their ministry from the beginning.

In 2004, Ginny won a Lilly Sabbatical Grant, one of only 30 given out worldwide. She created a project that traced her roots—spiritual and family. Ginny, her four daughters, and a spiritual director went on a pilgrimage to Iona to explore their spiritual roots. Journals were created for the congregation to follow along and pray with them throughout their journey.

During that same sabbatical, she took her son to explore their family roots in Virginia. To conclude the sabbatical, she flew to Seattle to stay with a friend from seminary. Her time in Seattle was spent renewing her friendship and reflecting on her recent journeys.

With the few short weeks she has left, Ginny's guiding hand will still be at work. She will continue to preach and teach, lead outreach, TWIGS, assist in worship and the many other responsibilities she carries. Then there is a short transition time before she begins as the priest-in-charge at St. Wilfred Episcopal Church in Sarasota, Florida. Though she hates to leave all those she loves at Holy Trinity, Ginny is excited about the slower pace of life in store for her in Florida. She will work part-time serving a smaller congregation.

As she departs, Ginny remembers her beginning here. "The first time I was in the sanctuary, I was blown away by the wood carvings. It wasn't only the artistry, it was the presence of so much wood in the worship spaces that just felt very warm to me. Later, I was invited back one Sunday to preach, and again it had such a warmth about it.

"What I felt in that wood was the prayers of the people, and when I came here, I discovered the warmth which is imbued in the wood is resident in the congregation. This is the warmest, generous, most grace-filled congregation I've ever been with. They are lovely dear people, and they have a way of taking you into their hearts that's going to make it very difficult to leave."

- Jo Owens

Julia Duke is Holy Trinity's Ironing Artist

Caring for the Church's Linens for Nearly 40 Years

One of the most treasured people at Holy Trinity isn't a parishioner.



Julia Duke – 85 years old, full of life, funny, and Baptist – has been ironing Holy Trinity's altar linens for nearly 40 years.

Now, you might be thinking that anybody can iron. And you'd be right – and wrong – because nobody irons like Julia.

"I've tried. I can't iron fair linen," said Sacristan Margie Allen. "We do the washing and Julia does the ironing and it's been that way for years."

Altar Guild member Helen Barnes said she thinks ironing is a dying art, and Julia may be one of its last artists.

Ironing altar linens is no small job. Holy Trinity has multiple sets of linens for the church, chapel and children's chapel. A set includes fair linens, corporals, purificators, and lavabo towels.

The fair linen covers the top of the free-standing and high altars, hanging down the sides. Corporals are folded linen squares that are placed on the fair linen and under a chalice. The chalice has a purificator – a folded napkin-sized linen – draped over the top. The paten with a priest's wafer goes on top of the purificator. That is covered by a square, linen-covered board called a pall. The whole is topped with the burse, a silk covering that matches the silk hangings in the church. Chalicists use additional purificators to wipe the chalice rims, and priests use a lavabo towel while preparing communion. Other linen pieces are used in the sacristy, baptistery, and on the credence table.

After the last Sunday service, a

member of that week's Altar Guild team takes the linens home to hand-wash, refold and return to the sacristy.

On Thursday, Altar Guild member Helen Barnes takes the clean linens to Julia for ironing and picks up the previous week's ironed linens.

In a typical week, Julia gets one fair linen, two corporals, a dozen purificators, three lavabo towels and several other cloths to iron. She's done it every week since 1975.

"Mrs. Nan Davis got me the ironing job," said Julia. She worked in the Davis's home at the time.

Julia said her father and husband didn't believe that women should work outside the home, but she wanted to make her own money. She worked briefly at a textile company, but the machinery was too heavy for her to operate, and she went into private service.

She would work in the Davis's and other homes during the day then go to Holy Trinity in the evening and iron linens in the sacristy. (The sanctuary was left unlocked until the early 1990s).

"I'd get to the church late, and it was dark, and I'd hear noises and be afraid," Julia said. "Mrs. Davis said, 'I don't blame you,' so she talked to your pastor about me ironing them at home."

Julia began ironing the altar linens at the Davis's home in the evenings after her regular duties.

Julia remembered, "The pastor said, 'If you're going to iron the linens, you need to have communion.' So he came to Mrs. Davis's house one time and gave me communion before I ironed."

Later, Julia picked up the linens and ironed them at her own home. As she got older and eventually stopped driving, her daughter or grandson picked up the linens. Now Helen delivers and picks them up.

"If you think about it, Julia predates all of us in the Altar Guild," Margie said. "She was doing this work long before any of us."

Julia has worked with a variety of personalities in the Altar Guild.

"Once, they told me I wasn't folding them right," she remembered. "So I said, let's go down to the church so I can get an understanding. And I told the lady, 'I'm a Baptist, so you'll have to send them to me how you want it folded.'"

The linens now come to her folded. Then she puts her ironing secrets to work.

"I sprinkle it with water, roll it up and put it in the freezer overnight," Julia said. "I take it out and spread it out, and iron with a steam iron. If it's icy enough you may not need steam. The only way you iron decent is freeze them first. No spray starch. And you need a good, hot, heavy iron."

Julia is meticulous. She spreads a sheet out under the ironing board so the fair linen won't touch the floor. She covers her sofa with a sheet to spread out the smaller pieces.

"I iron on both sides, then fold or roll it up while it's warm. Don't ever press the folds," she said. "Then be sure it's dried out. If you put linen away damp it will mildew. No. You can't do that."

Julia's granddaughter helps with the ironing between her job and college classes.

"I'm teaching her how because she wants her little piece of money," Julia said. "I want her to learn no one gives you nothing free. I told her just iron and grandma will fold them. She's so much like me growing up... thinks she knows everything! I don't let her do the long pieces. Only I do those."

The Altar Guild honored Julia in 2008 by buying and dedicating a fair linen in her honor. It is embroidered along a hem "To the glory of God and in honor of Julia Duke" and was dedicated at a church service that Julia and her family attended. She was also a guest at a lunch honoring Holy Trinity Altar Guild members.

"Julia is an institution at Holy Trinity. She's part of us," Margie said. "She's poured her heart and soul into this church, and she's a special part of the Altar Guild."

– Harriette Knox

Annie Slaughter Joins the Holy Trinity Staff

Gateway and Engagement Coordinator

“My New Year’s resolution for 2006 was to find a church home. I had attended Christmas and Easter services at Holy Trinity with my friend Mebane Ham, so this church was first on my list as I was searching. I came to a service in January in 2006, and I’ve never left,” said new Holy Trinity staff member Annie Slaughter.

Annie now serves as Holy Trinity’s Gateway and Engagement Coordinator. As Gateway and Engagement Coordinator, Annie is tasked with welcoming visitors to the parish, facilitating their transition to membership, and engaging new and old members alike in the life and ministry of the church.

Her position at Holy Trinity fits Annie’s lively, engaging, and deeply spiritual personality, though her previous and current work experience is in a different field.

The first of her family to graduate from high school and college, Annie found she had a knack for accounting. “This is the first time in 42 years that I haven’t had a calculator on my desk, and I love it. I’m working with people, not numbers,” noted Annie.

A job juggler, Annie has always worked. She worked through her years

at High Point College (now University), and she was already working two jobs before taking her position at Holy Trinity. She now works part time at the church, as well as keeping her regular accounting hours at Chakras Spa. In addition, Annie keeps the books for a few other small businesses in town.

Though the two fields may seem opposite from one another, Annie’s guiding and welcoming spirit has served her well in the small businesses where she’s worked. “I love to work in businesses run by young people, and I find myself mothering them.” Not only does she share her wisdom, she shares her spirituality as well.

“I don’t throw the bible at people, but they know through the way I live my life how my faith grounds me,” Annie said.

– Jo Owens



Wanda Poole Fills Holy Trinity Staff Position

She begins work to renew Stewardship and Planned Giving

In March, Wanda Poole joined the staff as the Stewardship and Planned Giving Coordinator, a position funded by the Holy Trinity Foundation.

Wanda, mother of three, grandmother of ten, came to Greensboro in 1986 and joined Holy Trinity in 1989. She grew up outside of Sacramento, California and attended the University of the Pacific where she majored in international relations and history. After getting married, she and her husband moved to North Carolina where he was from.

Wanda’s career has taken her to public relations and development jobs at Well•Spring Retirement Community, the Men’s ACC Basketball Tournament, Greensboro College and most recently the Children’s Home Society.

“I worked as part of the Tournament Host Committee for the Men’s ACC basketball tournament when it returned to Greensboro in 1995. It was



such fun,” said Wanda.

She also worked with Holy Trinity’s Associate for Pastoral Care, Craven Williams at Greensboro College. Craven said, “Wanda presents a realistic picture of who she is every time she is with you. No pretenses, no affections – simple, direct, honest.”

Wanda is spending her first weeks at Holy Trinity getting to know the lay of the land. “Right now I’m meeting

with current and past Vestry members, Every Member Canvass chairs, representatives of interest groups, and those who have been involved in planned giving. My job is to try and reach people in a new way.”

Our current approach to stewardship and the EMC worked very well for a number of years,” said rector Tim Patterson. “However, while our ministries have expanded and the demands of the church have increased, our EMC pledging has reached a plateau over the last several years. We see an opportunity to revitalize our EMC and our understanding of giving as an essential part of the practice of our faith. Wanda will help us in this area, as well as further develop our extremely important planned giving ministry.”

Wanda’s background in development serves her well as the church seeks to refresh the ways it connects with the parish through money.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
607 North Greene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 272-6149
www.holy-trinity.com

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The Rev. Timothy J. Patterson
Rector

Return service requested

The Rev. Virginia N. Herring
The Rev. Ginny Bain Inman
Assistants

Money Matters

Our Treasurer's Report

As the old adage says, "time flies" and it really has moved fast in 2013 so far. Of course this is an "Early Easter" liturgical year. We have completed the Every Member Canvass, the budgetary process, moved through the Lenten season and celebrated Easter Day. The next few months we will focus our attention on some of the more routine activities we become involved in. No doubt you will see construction-type projects around the church as we continue our planned waterproofing of these glorious stone walls that surround us.

As I mentioned a couple of months ago, we are continuing and enhancing several of our programs this year using funds outside of the Every Member Canvass. We continue to be blessed by parishioners who have remembered Holy Trinity in their will, most recently we were informed of a very nice bequest made by Mary Carleton Miller. In the coming months some things will be appearing around the premises. One of the most notable of them is a Steinway piano currently in Broome Hall, but probably destined eventually for the sanctuary. Mary was a dear lady with whom I enjoyed some nice memories over my 20 plus years at Holy Trinity, and she is a perfect example of how any of you can make a difference by including the church in your will. If you have questions about how to construct a "codicil" as the lawyers call it, please contact me or Wanda Poole, and we can either help you or send you to the right person who can.

While we often think of giving as being the money we contribute to the church, we are also called to give of our time and talents. As Holy Trinity increases in size, so do the needs for volunteer servants. We must always remember that those volunteer efforts are a critical part of our financial operations and that if we purchase the replacement for those services there is an impact on our finances.

Finally, as I have said before, if you have questions about our church finances, please e-mail me jcompton1@triad.rr.com. I am committed to making the finances of Holy Trinity transparent to all parishioners.

God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.

– Martin Luther



John Compton is a parishioner and serves as Holy Trinity's treasurer. He can be reached via e-mail at jcompton1@triad.rr.com.