

Trinity Topics

The Newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church in Toledo, Ohio

JULY 2008 VOLUME 134, NUMBER 7



Patricia Resmondo, Jubilee Icon, 2001

Rolling up your sleeves is one way
of getting down on your knees.

Putting our faith to work in daily life



You may have noticed that our prayers of the people now include the workplace prayers that are printed in the bulletin. "This cycle of prayers reminds us that we all have an opportunity for ministry in our workplace. The spirituality of work is just as important as any other kind of spirituality – of contemplative prayer, of nature, or a highly developed religious system. Teachers of contemplative prayer speak of that experience as a 'thin place,' enabling an intimacy between the person praying and God. In contrast, the workplace seems to most of us a 'thick place' where God does not seem so accessible. The reality is that God is everywhere, immediately available to listen to us, to forgive us, to empower us. We can experience God's presence at our

desks, our labs, our kitchens, our classroom, our stores, our factory floors, our hospital corridors, our street corners – wherever we make a living." (**On-The-Job Prayers**) by William David Thompson

We are also sending prayers each week in eTopics to help us remember that wherever we are, we have the resources of our faith: a belief in God who creates, Jesus who redeems and the Holy Spirit who guides.

Susan Lowrey

SUNDAY, JUL 6 ▪ PROPER 9A

Gen 24:34-67; Ps 45: 11-18; Rom 7:15-25a;
Matt 11:16-19, 25-30

9:00a Traditional Eucharist
10:00a Formation
10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, JUL 13 ▪ PROPER 10A

Gen 25:19-34; Ps 119:105-112; Rom 8:1-11;
Matt 13:1-9, 18-23

9:00a Traditional Eucharist
10:00a Formation
10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, JUL 20 ▪ PROPER 11A

Gen 28:10-19a; Ps 139: 1-11, 22-23; Rom 8:12-25;
Matt 13:24-30, 36-43

9:00a Traditional Eucharist
10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, JUL 27 ▪ PROPER 12A

Gen 29:15-28; Ps 105:1-11, 45b; Rom 8:26-39;
Matt 13:31-33, 44-52

9:00a Traditional Eucharist
10:45a Festive Eucharist

SUNDAY, AUG 3 ▪ PROPER 13A

Gen 32:22-31; Ps 17: 1-7, 16; Rom 9:1-5; Matt 14:13-21

9:00a Traditional Eucharist
10:45a Festive Eucharist

All Together Now



Sunday night, a small, informal gathering may have made history. A few representatives from almost every Episcopal church in the area got together over dessert to talk about outreach, with particular attention to outreach overseas.

We were not there to plan a big project. Rather, we were there to let others know where we are in the world and what we are doing. Some churches, like St. Matthew's, St. Michael's and

St. Paul's, have lots of foreign outreach going on, and we all learned more about how they make that happen. Others, like us and St. Mark's, are very involved locally, and may be testing the waters abroad. Others are discerning how to get more involved in the community. Most importantly, all of us are discerning how we may best serve others.

Here's the part that I loved best: every stripe of Episcopalian was at the meeting. Folks that had left one church to attend another sat together, laughed, talked, listened, and got beyond their differences.

But this was more than just "a big warm fuzzy for Jesus." This was camaraderie with a real possibility of joining together for common cause. It's too early to tell what will happen, but we had the sense that God was calling us together for something we could not do on our own.

I ask that you keep this process in prayer. I know we are already doing much outreach. This may not mean that we start a new project; instead, we may expand a project to include lots of other people with lots of other gifts and talents! As my grandmother used to say, many hands make light work. Let me switch that around: many hands make works of light, bringing God's light and love into places in the world, including our own souls, where some darkness had been.

Only God knows where in the world the Holy Spirit will lead us next. One thing is for sure: we will be surprised and delighted by it. We will keep praying with our hands, with our feet, and with our hearts and minds. We will keep rolling up our sleeves to show God's love for all. Glory to God, whose power working in all of us can do infinitely, exponentially more than we can ask or imagine.

Liddy

Many hands make works of light, bringing God's light and love into places in the world, including our own souls, where some darkness had been.

Roll up your sleeves for Emanuel Children’s Home



Ed. note: I asked Lucia Cooper to tell her story about the Emanuel Children’s Home project because it’s so clear that this is something that has captured both her passion and her action. Here’s what she had to say.

Marie: *I heard you’re pretty passionate about the Emanuel Children’s Home nursery project in Honduras.*

Lucia: That is true. It all started at a recent vestry meeting when there was a presentation about the Emanuel Children’s Home in Honduras. I learned that in an effort to eliminate exploitation of children, Honduras does not allow adoption. As a result, there are a large number of orphanages in Honduras. I also learned that the Emanuel Children’s Home does not have a nursery. Infants are sent instead to state-run institutions that provide little more than a crib and food. The minute I heard that, I knew we had to act and act fast.

Marie: *Why did the description of the state-run nurseries disturb you so much?*

Lucia: My reaction goes back to a course I took during my university days at the University of Michigan. The course was called “Socialization of the Child”, and it explored original research about child rearing. One piece was Anna Freud’s study of World War II orphans. She found that even with immaculately clean and safe surroundings and even with sufficient food, there was a high death rate among the orphaned infants. And the orphans who did not die grew up demonstrating a high degree of anti-social behavior. Freud concluded the problem was due to a lack of continuing human interaction at a very early age.

Marie: *How can a nursery at the Emanuel Children’s Home provide a better environment for orphaned and abandoned infants?*

Lucia: The Emanuel Children’s Home will provide consistent adult care with a very low ratio of infants to adults. In addition, with a nursery at the Home, groups of brothers and sisters will no longer have to be separated if one is an infant.

Marie: *Why do we have to act so fast?*

Lucia: The sooner the nursery at Emanuel Children’s Home is built, the sooner infants can be raised in a warmer, more personal way than in the state institutions. If our fast action results in one child being raised in such a way that he or she can reach their full human potential, our efforts will be worthwhile.

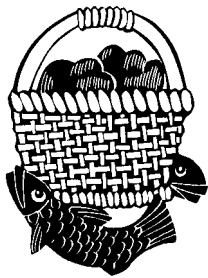
Marie: *What is Trinity doing to help?*

Lucia: The Outreach Committee has empowered a subcommittee to assist the Emanuel Children’s Home. On the Honduras subcommittee, we have a dedicated group of individuals who have started fundraising efforts. The current estimate is that it will take about \$15,000 to create the nursery.

Marie: *What fundraisers has the Honduras subcommittee planned?*

Lucia: First, we are participating in the Old Orchard neighborhood garage sale on Saturday, June 28. And second, we are planning an event in November called “Art with a Heart” where original art will be sold. And we have more ideas too. We are hoping others will become as passionate as we are about the nursery and their donations will help us reach our goal of \$12,000 more quickly.

Roll up your sleeves for the hungry



St. Mark's Community Meals

In January 2007, we began offering family-style community meals on the

last Sunday evening of the month, from 4:30-6:30 pm. Contact St. Mark's at 419-244-3717 or stmarkstoledo@aol.com to volunteer to help set up, serve or clean up.

Volunteer at Feed your Neighbor

Local FYN food distribution sites are in need of people to manage the sites, process referrals, stock and maintain inventories and do clerical work. Any amount of time you can donate will help! The value of volunteers amounts to well over a million in-kind dollars! Visit www.trinitytoledo.org for a Toledo Area Ministries volunteer application or more information.

High prices of food and gas mean tough times for local food banks

The sluggish economy is hurting those who need the most help. High prices of food and gas mean tough times for local food banks and the organizations they help. Every month a local soup kitchen serves up thousands of meals to those in need at Our Lady of Lourdes church, but there have been some drastic changes when it comes to the people who need the most help.

Every Wednesday, hundreds of hot meals are served up at Our Lady of Lourdes food pantry. After lunch, people are sent home with grocery bags filled with several meals. Diana Snyder says Our Lady of Lourdes has been helping put food on the table for her 5 children for the last 6 years. "I am very thankful for this. And it's not just the people serving, it's the people who donate and it's a blessing," says Snyder.

Bobb Pacholski has been volunteering at the food pantry for more than 2 decades. He says a lot has changed over the years. One of the biggest changes is the age of the people in need. "Used to be about 65-percent were 60 and over. Now that number is reversed. 18-40 is the big age group we see with kids," says Bobb. A lot of the food at Our Lady of Lourdes comes from the shelves at the Toledo Northwest Ohio food bank. "Usually we did 3.5 to 4 million pounds in the last year or so, but we're down to about 3 million pounds because we do not have the donations coming in," explains Barbara Grandowicz.

The food bank and the agencies it helps like Our Lady of Lourdes work hard to make sure everyone gets the help they need, and that often means serving more than food. It sometimes means giving people hope.

The overall number of people being helped at Our Lady of Lourdes is down a bit, but it has nothing to do with need. Leaders at the Our Lady of Lourdes food pantry say that with gas hovering at \$4 a gallon, a lot of people aren't able to spend the money to get to the free lunches every Wednesday and that's why numbers are down a bit.

Some people have been carpooling and others are starting to use the bus to get to the food pantry. Every month about 2,300 meals are served up and about 1,000 bags of food are sent home with people.

To see how you can volunteer at the Toledo Northwest Ohio food bank, go to toledofoodbank.org/volunteer.htm.

Multifaith Council picnic scheduled

The Multifaith Council, with whom we work each year to build a Habitat For Humanity home, will hold its sixth annual free Potluck Picnic on Sunday, July 13 from 3 to 7 pm rain or shine! The location is Glen and Jean Torrence's Farm, 5002 Black Road, Monclova, OH 43542. There is no cost: bring a dish to share and lawn chairs – you may want to bring fishing equipment or a musical instrument. Kosher hotdogs, corn, watermelon, grills and beverages will be supplied. Activities include hayrides, games and a toddler pool. This is a great way to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with members of other faith communities. For more information, call Woody Trautman on 419-215-4312 or check www.multifaithcouncil.org.

FOCUS news

St. Michael's In the Hills will host a bazaar on Thursday, July 17 from 9 am to 12 noon. Invited vendors, such as Pampered Chef, Traveling Vineyard and Garden Delights, will sell their goods and donate a percentage to FOCUS. A small donation at the door will be requested.

On July 20th, the Outreach Committee is hosting a Kitchen Shower to benefit FOCUS. Many FOCUS participants, when they are able to secure housing, have nothing with which to furnish or outfit their new living spaces. FOCUS tries to help these individuals by providing some basic essentials for their new home.

Trinity has decided to help out in this effort by replenishing FOCUS' supplies. We will be collecting new and like-new, unwrapped kitchen items at the 10:45 service on July 20th. Among the items FOCUS needs are: pots and pans, mixing bowls, spatulas, can opener, pizza cutter, and other kitchen utensils, glasses, kitchen cleaning supplies, towels, sponges, buckets, mop, wastebasket, garbage bags, toaster, blender, hand mixer, and other small appliances, pot holders, and cookie sheets.

FOCUS' Executive Director Kyle Grefe will be with us at the service that morning to talk a bit about the important work FOCUS does and to receive our gifts. There will be sweet treats following the service and an opportunity for

financial donations by those who are so moved. Questions are welcomed and invited, and should be addressed to Karen Wabeke, Valerie Garforth, or Barbara Clarke.

Stewart Academy School bags

During July and August the Outreach Committee will be supplying school bags for us all to take home and fill with a list of school supplies for needy students at Stewart Academy for Girls. The filled bags will be transported to the school in time for the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic year. The list of items is posted on Trinity's web site (trinitytoledo.org), or you can pick one up at church on Sunday.

We plan to bring the filled school bags into church for blessing on Sunday, August 24.

Renaissance news

New and returning residents are moving back into Renaissance Senior Apartments now and each one is receiving a Welcome Home bag from Trinity. The bags include the following: dishwashing liquid; ice cube tray; dishcloth/dishtowel; roll of paper towels; box of Kleenex tissues; pan scrubber (rectangular sponge with scrub side); bar of soap. The bag will also contain information about the Next to New shop because Renaissance residents are among our best customers! This will be an ongoing ministry to all new Renaissance move-ins to let them know they have friends at Trinity.

Troy Alexander, Renaissance Manager, reports that sadly a former resident, John Jones, died during the recent heat wave and is missed by staff and residents alike. Please keep them in your prayers. She also reports that the second floor group home is being converted back into independent living units available for rent to seniors 55 and older. For tours, please call Troy on 419-241-3721.

Dragon Boat Festival 2008

This will be the fourth year that Trinity's Righteous Rowers team participates in the annual Partners In Education Dragon Boat Festival to be held in International Park on Saturday, July 26. All parishioners are invited to come by the team tent during the day to lend their support. Team Trinity will be Silver sponsors of the event, which means



our name will be included in prominent advertising locations. To cover the cost, which has been advanced from the Outreach budget, we are asking each team member to solicit sponsorship of about \$100. For more information speak with Steve Salander.

Valerie Garforth, Outreach Chair

Help make pillows for heart patients

Please join in an Outreach opportunity to help stuff pillows for Jill's local chapter of the Mended Hearts. These pillows are given to heart patients following heart surgeries in the hospital. We'll be meeting at Epworth United Methodist Church located at 3077 Valleyview Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43615 on July 16th at 9:30 a.m. Thank you for your helping hands!

Jane Bueche

Nursery Note

We've got many children here at Trinity, and it's a beautiful thing! However, as we have more and more children, we ask that only those under the age of 4 be in the nursery. Thank you.

Fishing line and finances



If you are like me, the bills have been piling high and the income has been on the low side. In these times, it can be enticing or even necessary to throttle back on what we give to Trinity. If it is necessary, we certainly understand that, and if you do need to adjust your 2008 pledge, please let me or Jane Bueche know.

Personally, since my cash flow is not great, I am considering making a stock donation, which is another option for giving to Trinity.

I was thinking about this whole giving thing the other day. In an uncharacteristic moment, I went out in my canoe on the river (well, that's not uncharacteristic!) and for the first hour I picked up fishing line and other litter along the banks (that is uncharacteristic). I had seen a goose snared in fishing line a year or two ago and I guess it made an impression on me. I am sure it probably died and I had no means to help it as it moved away from me. What took me two years to respond to that? I have no answer and no real defense to that question.

I can say that being part of the Trinity community makes me think about these things and maybe, prods me toward action. I will tell you that it felt good to collect two bags of litter and a pail of fishing line. Maybe I saved some duck or goose from injury or death. They are just waterfowl but they are part of God's world.

You know what else? It felt good to just paddle for another hour after I picked up this junk and enjoy being there. I noted where there were more snares of fishing line but I was OK with giving myself this time and recognizing that I cannot change everything by myself. I can come back and do some more another time. Maybe others will do this also.

When we make a contribution of time, money, whatever, and more of us join in, we are moving closer to that paradise on earth. It's something to think about.

Thank you for your contributions to Trinity Episcopal Church!

*Chuck Kiskaddon
Treasurer*

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL — PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY



Trinity Episcopal Church

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Parish Staff

Elizabeth Hoster, *Rector*
Wayne F. Anthony, *Associate for Music and the Arts*
Susan Lowrey, *Associate for Spiritual Development*
Marie Harkey, *Associate for Digital Ministries*
Virginia Shafer, *Executive Secretary*
Jane A. Bueche, *Parish Accountant*
Bridget Blanchard, *Organist*

Parish Vestry

Becky Roth, senior warden; Jeff Albright, junior warden; Charles Kiskaddon, treasurer; Jason Rahe, clerk
Lucia Cooper, Bud Gartz, Jane Gomersall-Zohn, Jennifer Siebold, Sherre Owens Smith, Karen Wabeke, Jim Zechman.

Parish Offices

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Episcopal Diocese of Ohio

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800.551.4815 216.771.4815
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., *Bishop Ordinary*

Next-to-New Thrift Shop

Mon & Thurs, 9:30 am – 3 pm;
Jeanne Mitchell, *Manager*

Building Services

Johnson's Cleaning Services, *Housekeeping*

services

SUNDAYS 9 & 10:45 am, Holy Eucharist
10 am Adult Formation
HOLY DAYS as announced

prayers

For the Parish community:

Eckhart family & other flood victims in the Midwest, Ruth Pontius, Karen Sink, Kathi Sink, David C. Nelson, Hank Coyle, Charlotte Etter, Ray Lehman, Laurie Madrazo, James Hamilton, Justin Pershing, Barb Simmons, Cheryl Davis, Kate Whitmore, the children and staff of Emanuel Childrens Home, Trinity, Vero Beach during their transition, those on death row, all victims of war and violence; Marie Harkey and David S. Nelson in their continuing vocational discernment.

For those who have died: In the world: Tim Russert (political analyst), Stan Winston (special effects master), Cyd Charisse (actress), Tasha Tudor (writer/artist), Dody Goodman (comic), George Carlin (comedian).

vision & mission

Trinity is called to be a progressive, inclusive and creative urban community.

- We will practice radical hospitality.
- We will be engaged in the life of our city.
- We will stand with those in need: the poor, the sick, the friendless, the marginalized.
- We will actively invite all to experience and celebrate God's living presence.
- We will journey together toward a Christ-centered life, pursuing personal ministries that connect us to God, to one another, and to the world around us.