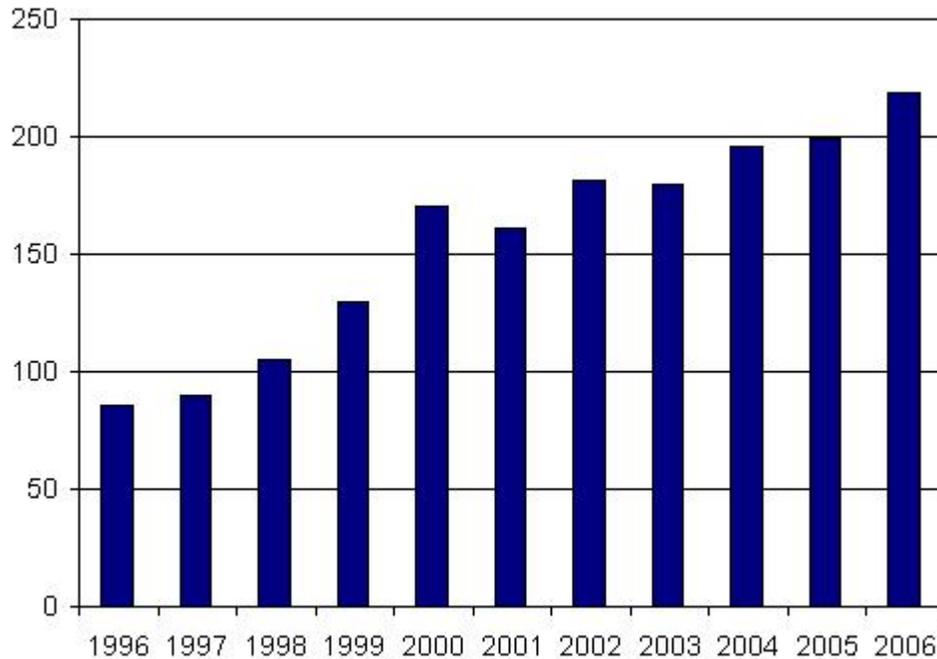


# GROWING !



*(Chart shows average Sunday attendance growth of 254% over the last ten years)*

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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### TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JANUARY 28, 2007

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
708 SOUTH BETHLEHEM PIKE  
AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA 19002

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ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA (SRB)

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- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Call to order
- III. Review of Minutes from previous Annual Meeting
- IV. Remembering those who have died since the Annual Meeting
- V. Voting for Vestry and Delegates

***Lunch Break***

*We pause after balloting for lunch*

- VI. Reports
- VII. 2007 Budget Presentation
- VIII. Recognition of retiring Vestry members: Cheryl Bayard, Robin Chambers-Dixon, Jill Leiby, Dennis Reid
- IX. Election Results
- X. Closing Prayer

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MEMORIALS

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***Remembering those members of the parish family who have died since the last annual meeting***

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*Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer, especially:*

Robert McLemore

Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

## MINUTES FROM THE 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

January 29, 2006

### OPENING

- Father Dave called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM.
- The first order of business was to review and approve the minutes from the 2005 Annual Meeting. No changes to the minutes were necessary.
- A prayer tribute was made to the members of our parish family who died since the last annual meeting. Janet Dundore, Patricia Gray, James Helmich, Martha Johnson, John Lightcap, “Ned” Francis Militello, Hazel Risley James Schaefer and Leona Wells.

### II INTRODUCTION OF VESTRY/CONVENTION CANDIDATES

- Father Dave thanked the retiring Vestry members – Heather Lee Whipple, Bill Davis, Donette Staas, Steve Blodgett

### III THE ANNUAL MEETING

- It was moved and approved that the reports to the meeting were received by the parish. The full reports are contained within the 2005 Annual Report Booklet.
- Father Dave provided the “Rector’s Report” –
  - ✠ The focus and theme of the report was “community.” We at Trinity Church are a community made up of many smaller communities – The Wednesday worshipers, the Thursday worshipers, the Sunday worshipers, the choir, the Vestry, and numerous other groups who collectively comprise trinity.
  - ✠ Dave spoke of the decision made last year to amend the decision to not add a third service. He spoke that he believes that decision was, in retrospect, probably not the best decision. He now believes that the third service would provide a worship opportunity for the many people in the parish and the community who are unable to make it to church on Sunday morning. The Vestry is supportive of this decision.
  - ✠ He would like to hire a part-time youth minister to provide our growing youth population with a high quality youth program.
  - ✠ We have a goal of addressing the complicated and costly roof leak program. A capital campaign may be required to thoroughly and completely address this problem which is causing serious problems to our church infrastructure.
- Dennis Reid, Accounting Warden, provided the highlights of the 2005 budget.
  - ✠ The church’s financial condition is good. In 2005 we had the largest budget ever - \$395K to run the parish. We started with a deficit, which was the result of a concerted decision to tap less of our endowment and become more self-sustaining. We operated on an absolutely balanced budget by year end.
  - ✠ Highlights for 2005: Our total contribution to outreach, including our pledge to the diocese was \$41,615.
  - ✠ Mid-year we changed our investment strategy to reflect market changes and protect our investments. This decision lead to a positive return of greater than 5% for all of our endowments in a year that was virtually flat.
  - ✠ The final expense budget for 2006 is \$402,020, with an under-funding amounting to slightly less than \$28,000.
- Father Dave announced the newly elected members of the Vestry. They are: Cheryl Baird, Laura Gergen, Addie Johnson, Nancy McGarvey and Ed Mahler. The New Deanery/Convention Delegates are: Beverly Black, Karynjean Dickhoff, and Ernie Dixon. Alternates are: Laura Bauder, Cheryl Bayard and Donnette Staas.
- The Meeting ended with the Singing of “Holy, Holy, Holy” and a closing prayer by Father Dave.

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**INTRODUCTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY**

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**CHERYL BAYARD (INCUMBENT)**

I was born and raised in the Midwest and moved to Pa. when I married Peter 29 years ago. I have a daughter Elizabeth who is 25 and works as an insurance agent and just became a new home owner. I have a son John who is 21 and will graduate from Elizabethtown College this spring. I retired from teaching elementary art in both Indiana and Pa. after 37 years just 2 years ago. I love all kinds of crafting and painting. I quilt and sew. I read, love to garden when my knees permit, and am relearning the art of cooking. I even have taken up pinochle and Sudoku.

I have been an Episcopalian for 29 years and a member of this church for 4 and one half years. I am a Chalist Bearer, a member of Altar Guild, an usher and part of the hospitality team. I have used my art talent to teach a Sunday school project and a middle school camp project. I have painted items to be auctioned off on the parish porch, to raise money for a mission trip and to raise money for outreach on the Christmas craft table. I have been involved for 3 years in a Lenten project with the youth of the church creating paintings depicting the life of Jesus and this year we hope to finish the paintings. I have been a representative to Deanery and a delegate for Convention for 2 years. I began working with adults creating new crafts for the Christmas craft table a year ago. This year we raised \$300 for outreach from the sale of our new crafts. I am in the second year of the 4 year journey through Education for Ministry. After EFM on Wednesdays, I am the volunteer office assistant here at Trinity. This past year, I was elected to fill a one year slot on Vestry. During that year, I was secretary and representative to Christian Formation.

My strengths are a love of working with people, a hard work ethic, and the ability to stay organized while multitasking. I like to brain storm with others to find creative solutions to problems. I am a team player. Above all, I value the strong spirituality of this church and its people who are friendly, loving and caring people with a commitment to God, each other, and outreach to the community. This year, I have been blessed with an understanding of the strong pastoral strengths of this church as I have battled my own personal fight with cancer and have felt the strength of God and the prayers of this church supporting me in this battle. The worst part of the battle is almost over and I am looking forward to jumping back into some of the activities I had to put aside during the chemo.



**ERNEST DIXON**

My wife, Robin, and my daughter, Meredith, and I are proud members of the Trinity Ambler family. Over the past six years, I have participated in various ministries, including Real Men Cook, Convention Delegate, Usher, and Stewardship Team. As a member of the Stewardship Team, I co-chaired the Ministries Fair. In this role, had the pleasure of organizing this fun and successful event by working with Ministry Leaders, Fr. Dave and other hard workers on the Stewardship Team. I've also participated in numerous activities including Christmas pageant, golf outing, Carnival and several property "fix-up" events.

My profession is engineering. I work at Air Products, Allentown, PA where I manage a project support organization. My hobbies include woodworking, cycling, and helping Meredith with her homework. Trinity Ambler has a bright and exciting future. I believe this is true because the people in Trinity are dedicated, caring and supportive of our ministries. Our congregation knows how to have fun and I enjoy participating in our various events



**PAM GUZZIE**

I initially came to Trinity to support my new neighbor David Canan and to hear him speak. I never considered myself a very religious person, but with one visit I was hooked to Trinity and the religion. That was six years ago. I have been involved with Trinity on a regular basis since then through a variety of committees. I have been on the property committee, taught Sunday school, initiated and organized the outreach program of Operation Christmas Child (shoe boxes), co-chaired the committee that organized the Interfaith Housing Network guests, as well as given regular attention to the grounds since I live right across the street from the church. I am also a graduate of EFM and gave the sermon on the day of our graduation. I guess some how religion snuck up on me. My husband George and I officially joined the church the day our daughter Samantha was confirmed in October 2006. Our two children Samantha and Cody are involved with the youth group and are joining George on the mission trip this summer. I work out of my home for the Conservancy of Montgomery County advocating for open space and historic preservation. I also baby-sit for the Brown children after school. I feel that Trinity is a very warm, welcoming and spiritual place. I would be honored to have the chance to help it grown in the positive direction it has been headed.



**KAREN REID**

I am Karen Reid. I began attending Trinity Church with my husband, Dennis, and our children, Katie and Dennis Jr., in January, 2000. I am a life long Episcopalian having been baptized, confirmed and married at All Hallows Episcopal Church in Wyncote, PA where I am now employed as the Parish Secretary.

Our family chose Trinity as our Parish Church for several reasons. On our first visit we experienced a traditional service, Father Dave's preaching and beautiful organ and choral music – we were hooked! We appreciated the variety of activities and ministries available for adults and children, including a Youth Group. Last, but certainly not least is the way we were warmly greeted and welcomed by many parishioners. This was a winning combination for the Reid Family.

I have been active in several areas of parish life. Most of my time has been devoted to Adult Formation. I organized the Education for Ministry (EFM) program at Trinity and Mentored a group for 4 years. Eddie Black and I organized and facilitate a Bible Study Group which has been studying the Synoptic Gospels on Thursday mornings for the past three years. I have also led this form of Bible Study as part of the Intergenerational Lenten Series on Wednesday evenings. Last year I began the Pot luck Devotional Classics group which meets once a month to discuss spiritual classics over dinner.

I have been a member of the Altar Guild for the past 5 years and became the Director last fall when Karenjean Dickoff resigned to attend Seminary. I am a member of the Outreach Committee and the Quilting Group which meets on Saturday mornings to make quilts for outreach.

Trinity is a vibrant, spirit filled, giving parish which is growing steadily when many churches are experiencing declining membership. I look forward to helping Fr. Dave and the Vestry lead the parish as we continue to grow and to serve others.



**EILEEN WARREN**

I have been a member of Trinity for approximately 13 years. I became active in the parish by working on the Hospitality Team during the first year of being a member. I have been a member of that team off and on over the entire time I have been a member of the church.

I had the privilege of working on the Altar Guild and eventually became the Altar Guild Head and served in that position for over 3 years. When the Women of Trinity was formed, I took on the role of co-leader and worked in that position leading the Women of Trinity in outreach service projects, fund raising and social events. Some of the events created during my tenure as co-leader continue today, including the Bake Table at the annual carnival; the Fall Rummage Sale and the Treasures from Christmas Past gift table. I take pride in the fact that these events were created during my tenure in the Women of Trinity.

Trinity has been a big part of my life and although I have not recently been as actively involved as I had been in the past, I believe in all the good works Trinity does for our members and the community.

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**THE CANDIDATES FOR DIOCESAN CONVENTION AND DEANERY**

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- Cheryl Bayard
- Donald Davis
- John Dively
- Andrew Pendelton
- Stephanie Reid
- Justin Stroh

Fr David Canan

## We're GROWING!

It's official we are growing. Look at the cover of this annual report. In 2006 our attendance was up an average of 20 persons per Sunday from the previous year. If my math is correct I believe the graph on the cover shows that we have grown a whopping 254% in ten years. That's cause for celebration.

We have grown in every aspect of our parish life. We not only have more people we have more programs. There is a sense that we have grown not just in numbers but spiritually as well.

Maybe you remember for yourself or had a child who went through a big growth spurt. I did! I remember my legs hurting a lot! I had growing pains.

Trinity Church has growing pains too.

What once happened naturally and effortlessly now requires planning and careful implementation. At our size it's more difficult to assimilate new members into the life of the parish; it's easy to lose track of folks; especially ones who don't come every Sunday, and with more people it's even harder to communicate. It's also getting hard to find the right spaces in the building for all the activities.

When I was Rector of a small church I was easily able to speak to every person who came to church on Sunday. When a regular didn't come I missed them immediately and contacted them usually on Sunday afternoon. Now at Trinity, by the time I finish shaking hands at the door, a full 2/3 of you have snuck out the side doors, and most people have already left coffee hour! Sometimes I realize I haven't seen someone but I forget it in the busyness of the day. So someone hasn't gotten to church in weeks and nobody calls except to ask about their pledge card and get them to bring cupcakes to a church function. That is painful.

When I was at the smaller parish I wrote the schedules for everyone participating in Sunday morning worship. It was not a very difficult task. There were probably only 20 people on the whole schedule; here we have nearly 100. We have 10 people writing schedules for 14 different worship ministries. John Dziel invented a computer program so that schedules may be written on line and the program lets you now that someone has been scheduled to for two jobs on the same day. Still we double book! It's frustrating to the one double booked and painful.

Trinity Church is growing because we are a warm, caring, loving community. At our size, if we are to remain that way it's going to take a whole slew of people to do what the Rector did on his own in a smaller church. That requires planning and preparation, probably more committees and more schedules and more opportunities to mess up!

We are also going to continue to look at our building needs and we may need to start thinking about at least a part time additional priest. That's gonna cost money; that's painful!

We'll all get through this growth spurt if we remember our mission and keep it the focus of our life together: **we are a community of Christian people striving to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

Fondly,  
Fr. Dave

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**RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT**

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JANE SAUNDERS – RECTOR'S WARDEN

Each year at the annual meeting we try to impart a theme that we noticed occurring at Trinity. This year we chose “growing.” We are growing in many ways. Attendance is up and there is an abundance of ministries and educational programs we each can choose from to enrich ourselves.

We are lucky here at Trinity. In an age where many churches are struggling to stay open, we are growing. We are unique in that we are a very welcoming, friendly place to be. Fellowship is extremely important to us. I was amazed on Christmas Eve that most parishioners didn't rush home, but lingered until 1:15 a.m. wishing everyone a merry Christmas.

There are problems associated with growing, but they are good challenges to have. How do we address the growing need for space? How do we make sure parishioners' needs are met? These are challenges we will be addressing in the coming year.

Participation from all of us is needed. To make important decisions we need to hear from all of you. Let your voice be heard. As we examine the physical needs of our building and our growing congregation we also have to have input from you.

As we work on these congregation challenges, how will you personally challenge yourself in 2007? What we have in common at Trinity is our love and belief in God our Savior. Trinity offers many ministries to enrich your relationship with God. The fellowship found in these smaller groups can be just as powerful and meaningful in your life as Sunday worship.

Trinity Church is a wonderful place where we as parishioners grow in understanding, fellowship, mission, Christ, and love. I know we will continue our growing in 2007.

Peace,

Jane Saunders

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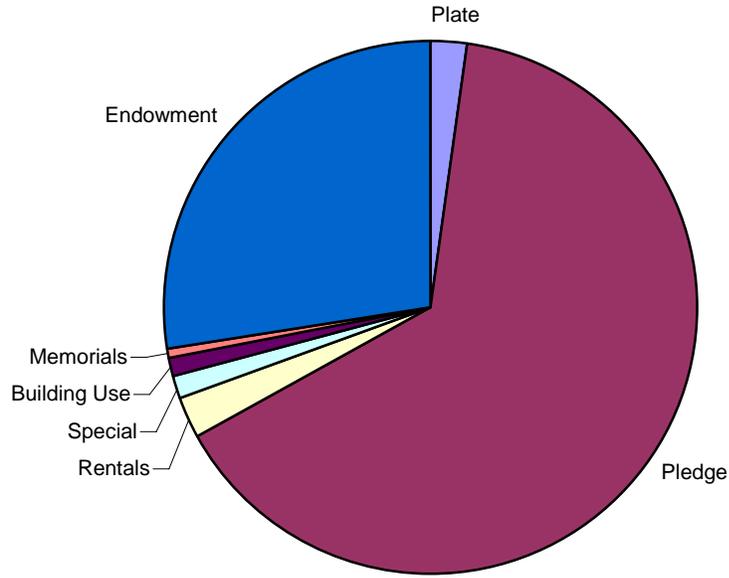
**ACCOUNTING WARDEN'S REPORT**

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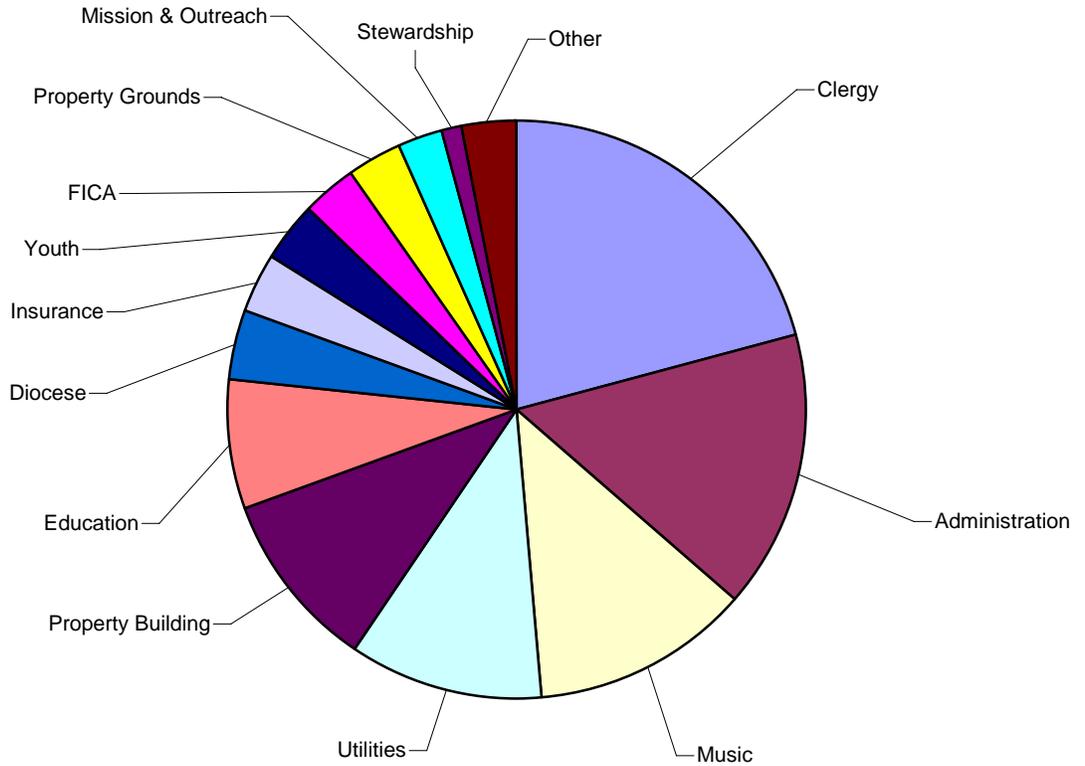
DENNIS REID – ACCOUNTING WARDEN

2006 proved to be one of the most financially challenging years we have experienced at Trinity over the recent past. As you will recall, the 2006 budget was approved even though it projected an overall deficit of almost \$29,000. Substantial to say the least! While no member of the finance committee is comfortable with under-funded budgeting, our experiences over the last three years related to receiving greater than planned annual pledge income in combination with unanticipated bequests provided the basis upon which we presented and gained approval of the 2006 budget. However, unlike recent years, where by summer we saw signs of overcoming the deficit, the ongoing financial activity of the first eight months of 2006 provided little indication that the deficit was being narrowed. In the fall the finance committee and vestry were so concerned about the significant projected shortfall, that a communication was drafted to inform the congregation of the potential financial shortfall that was looming. This communication was included as a Sunday service bulletin insert in early October, and also was included in the fall issue of the Trinity Chimes. While it is the responsibility of the finance committee and the vestry to keep the congregation informed regarding significant financial matters, we will never know if this communication alone was responsible for the dramatic financial turn-around Trinity experienced over the fall and early winter. It is very encouraging to report that, once again as a result of pledge income beyond plan, previously unanticipated funding from bequests, and higher than normal special offerings, the projected 2006 budget deficit was virtually overcome.

2007 Income



2007 Expense



## Income

Plate	\$ 8,500.00
Pledge	\$260,000.00
Rentals	\$ 10,800.00
Special	\$ 5,000.00
Building Use	\$ 5,000.00
Memorials	\$ 2,450.00
Endowment	\$110,000.00

TOTAL \$401,750.00

## Expenses

Clergy	\$ 89,104.00
Administration	\$ 66,612.00
Music	\$ 52,148.00
Utilities	\$ 46,575.00
Property Building	\$ 43,245.00
Education	\$ 30,300.00
Diocese	\$ 16,490.00
Insurance	\$ 14,573.00
Youth	\$ 13,980.00
FICA	\$ 13,978.00
Property Grounds	\$ 12,820.00
Mission & Outreach	\$ 10,000.00
Stewardship	\$ 4,700.00
Other	\$ 13,583.00

TOTAL \$428,108.00

We were able to continue all programs at requested expense levels, while simultaneously; limiting our withdrawals from our investments to the amount originally budgeted in the 2006 plan. In light of this outstanding achievement I want to thank every member of the congregation for their ongoing financial commitment to Trinity over the past year. Additionally I want to congratulate each Trinity ministry team that maintained budgeted expenses at or below originally planned levels. Overall the 2006 financial results attest to the overall stability and strength of the parish.

During the past year Trinity continued its ongoing commitment to various outreach projects and programs. While a significant part of the Trinity outreach activity is funded by dollars allocated in the parish's annual operating budget, many other initiatives contribute to the overall level of the parish's outreach funding efforts. During 2006 in addition to the \$10,000 committed to outreach in the operating budget, an additional \$15,235 was made available to support many programs. These dollars were generated from proceeds related to the Annual Parish Carnival, funds dispensed via the Rector's Discretionary Fund, and various activities coordinated by the Trinity Outreach Committee and the Helping Hands of Trinity. Finally, when taking the parish's 2006 contribution to the Diocese of Pennsylvania of \$ \$16,490 into consideration, our outreach contributions total \$41,725. This contribution total is truly significant and represents an achievement in which each member of the congregation should take great pride.

As indicated in the Finance Committee's report to the congregation referenced above, a significant portion of the parish's annual operating budget is derived from investment income. In order to meet Trinity's ongoing program needs we likely will continue to rely on this revenue stream in the foreseeable future. While this required annual draw on the investments will continue, it is critical that we work to manage the investments to insure that a significant earning revenue base is maintained. To date this strategy has worked well, and I am quite pleased to report that our investment returns during 2006 were superior, resulting in dividend, interest, and market valuation growth in excess of 11.5%; a significant achievement in any calendar year.

As a matter of record it must be noted that during the past year, a decision was made to shift our investments from the management of Merrill Lynch to Wachovia Securities. While I have great respect for the Merrill Lynch organization, and what we accomplished with this organization over the last five years, the transition was based on the fact that our primary Merrill contact, Wendell Barnett, departed the firm and joined Wachovia Securities. In the Finance Committee's opinion Wendell was instrumental in structuring and monitoring our investment portfolio as well as guiding us through very difficult financial times. Over the years Wendell visited Trinity on many occasions, gained a thorough understanding of our programs and needs, and worked very hard to keep our interests in mind at all times. The fact that Wendell himself is an ordained minister gives us great confidence that he fully understands the ongoing circumstances we face as a church. While Wendell's track record over the past five years encouraged our desire to follow him to his new employer, that fact that Wachovia Securities' fees will be close to \$5,000 less on an annual basis played into the ultimate decision to move Trinity's investment portfolio.

The 2007 Trinity expense budget again provides a strong indication of the growth and strength of the parish. The 2007 budget was compiled as a result of financial presentations from all parish ministry teams, and represents a growth in projected spending of 6% over 2006. The overall budget contains projected expenses of \$428,108. As a result of the parish's strong stewardship pledging, approximating a growth of almost 11% on a year over year basis, the budget was approved; however, it again contains a funding shortfall. The deficit in the 2007 budget is \$26,000. This figure is less than the 2006 deficit projection that was several thousand dollars higher. Once again, our recent positive unanticipated funding experiences give us confidence in approving this type of budget. As was the case in 2006, the 2007 budget was compiled holding revenue withdrawals from our investments at a level equal to the 2005 and 2006 draws. Finally it is important to note that the Finance Committee has pledged to work toward balancing the budget over the next several years. During that time we will work with the parish and vestry to keep investment withdrawals at current levels or lower, while simultaneously attempting to consistently reduce the annual budget deficit amount.

Finally, as you are aware, in light of the ongoing controversy in the Diocese of Pennsylvania surrounding the activities of Bishop Bennison, Trinity has made a decision to withhold our annual Diocesan funding until the current situation is resolved. While we will refrain from forwarding these dollars to the Diocese, we will continue to allocate funds for this purpose on an ongoing basis in anticipation of a resolution. In order to insure proper accountability, we will establish and fund an escrow account with Wachovia Securities as a holding account for these designated dollars

In closing I'd like to thank the entire parish for the tremendous cooperation I've received over the past six years during my tenure as Accounting Warden. More specifically I like to thank Father Dave for his guidance, the Vestry for its understanding, the Ministry teams for their hard work, the Finance Committee for its dedication, the Office Staff for their assistance, and John Dziel for all of his help over the years in keeping me up to date with more numbers than I knew what to do with. I truly appreciate the opportunity I've experienced in serving this parish in the role of Accounting Warden, and look forward to continued involvement on the Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dennis Reid, Sr.  
January 2007

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## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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### STEPHEN SCHREIBER – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The year 2006 was an exciting one for the music program here at Trinity. New things happened, adjustments had to be made. It is proven to me time and again, that the music department continues to be a microcosm of the parish at large; peoples' lives change, and they come and go in our own lives. Change is constant.

#### **The Choirs:**

The choir system at Trinity is usually is comprised of two choirs, the Youth Choir, which includes those of eight years and older, and the Trinity Choir, which is the adult choir. The basic responsibility of the choirs is to assist the rector in leading the congregation through the parts of the worship service. Their presentation of anthems enhances the services and, hopefully, inspires the congregation. This year, 2006, Trinity continued without a youth choir, since the number of youth available to participate in a choir was so low as to make it impractical to continue rehearsals and keep a choir functioning. Our youth are increasingly active young adults, and there is just no time in their schedules for rehearsing. This situation will end next year, when there will be a group of youngsters who will be able to join the Youth Choir. At this time plans are in an embryonic state in forming a Family Choir, where children and adults who are usually unable to commit the time to being in a choir regularly will be able occasionally to get together as a choir on a Sunday morning and sing something uncomplicated, yet still be in a choir.

In the meantime, the focus on children and choirs has shifted to the Cherub Choir, comprised largely of enthusiastic children in Godly Play. Under the direction of Maureen McCauley with occasional assistance from Barb Davis and Mindy Cutcher, these children sing usually on the first Sunday of the month. Maureen is always looking for assistance, so if you'd like to help her, please contact her.

The Trinity Choir continues to experience growth in membership, and now consists of 31 members when all are present. Their commitment and dedication to weekly rehearsals and participation in the worship service easily make this group, in my opinion; the most dedicated one in the parish. In keeping with the philosophy of the Director of Music, no auditions are necessary and everyone is welcome regardless of musical ability. In other words, if you can carry a tune, you are welcome to join us. There is exceptional talent in this choir, and their offerings of solos add much to the worship service. This choir has two section leaders: Andrea Petska, Alto, and Herb Ruzann, Bass. The search for a tenor section leader continues. The Trinity Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 and sings from the Sunday after Labor Day to the end of June, as well as various holidays during the Church Year. My heartfelt thanks are extended to each and every member, with special thanks to Maureen McCauley, who handles the robe inventory, and Nancy Dixon, who helps as the Trinity Choir's librarian.

#### **Instrumentalists:**

Trinity is blessed with much talent within the parish and further blessed in that its members so voluntarily offer their talents to the worship service. Some are actual music professionals and others are eager volunteers who just play beautifully. There are so many people to thank that one risks omitting a name, but our thanks are extended to Mindy Cutcher, John Dively, Patricia Martin, Maureen McCauley and Joe DeTato. Special thanks go to Ernest Wells, who occasionally substitutes for the Director of Music and helped accompany an anthem at the Trinity Choir's Christmas Concert.

**Musical Instruments:**

Trinity's Schantz pipe organ continues to attract attention both locally and nationally because of its unique and successful design, as well as its magnificent sound. Occasionally, requests are made from organizations outside of Trinity who wish to utilize it. Pipe organs are complicated mechanisms, and Trinity's is no exception. It continues to be maintained by Patrick J. Murphy and Associates, Inc. Trinity's organ is tuned only twice a year compared to the usual three or four times other churches' organs require. This is largely due to the stability in temperature in the sanctuary. In addition to the Schantz organ, Trinity also has a Rogers electronic organ in the parish hall, a gift of Susan Adair from the estate of Elizabeth "Betty" Adair.

Trinity currently has three pianos: an Everett grand piano from the estate of Elizabeth Adair; a Baldwin spinet from the estate of Robert "Bob" Gallagher; and a Sambrick console from the family of Gladys Gould. They are all maintained by George Husted of North Wales.

**Conclusion:**

The Music Department, in conclusion, had an active year. Trinity's annual Service of Advent Lessons and Carols was presented on December 3. A new Christmas Pageant, "Christmas with St. Nicholas," in conjunction with the Church School, was presented on December 17 with much success, followed in the afternoon by a concert given by the Trinity Choir and soloists and instrumentalists. This is in addition to the other Sundays and commemorative events of the Church Year, such as Ash Wednesday and the Vigil of Easter.

The success of the Trinity Choir and the accomplishments of Trinity Parish in its vibrant life in the community come from the same source. It is because the people here at Trinity live out their ministries in their organizations, care for one another and wish to help one another as a way of spreading Christ's gospel. One can trace this directly to Father Canan's own philosophy and his ministry.

The Grace of Our Lord be with you.

Steve

Stephen Schreiber, Director of Music

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**2006 PARISH STATISTICS**

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**Membership – Growing – Parish list has been updated this year to reflect “active” members.**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Total # of Baptized Persons	405	406	422	463

**Worship Attendance –**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Easter Day Attendance	405	440	395	408
Average Sunday Attendance	180	196	199	216

**Church School – Holding steady**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Children in Church School	43	51	45	49

**Plate Offerings and Pledge Contributions –**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Plate Offerings and Pledge Contributions	\$175,379	\$211,201	\$240,799	\$255,175

**Pledges –**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Number of Pledges	107	127	138	132
Total Amount Pledged	\$140,000	\$164,667	\$227,066	\$241,012

**Other – The Carnival continues to be a great community event, providing substantial funds to Mission & Outreach!**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
Community Carnival Proceeds	\$17,000	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$14,000

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

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## ADMINISTRATION

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JOHN DZIEL

As our congregation has grown, we have continued to offset additional workload and increasing productivity by automating processes that were repetitive in nature. For example, our worship schedule can now be directly edited by team leaders “on-line” 24 hours a day. This up-to-the-minute schedule is then printed directly into the Jingle each week. This system replaces a patchwork of missed phone calls, post-it notes, and interoffice memos that was not only very time-consuming but was not always accurate. We are now preparing to do the same thing with the Parish Calendar which tends to be out of date two minutes after we print it! We also upgraded our copy system as we are now publishing in excess of 130,000 pages a year, most in the form of booklets. The new unit operates at twice the speed of the one replaced.

The primary office staff consists of three people: John Dziel (Financial and Technologies Administrator), Sheila Bistany (Office Administration), and Eddie Black, (Baptismal Vocations.) Special thanks go out to Cheryl Bayard and Steven Chester who have been helping out in the office as well as sending out ministry reminders. The tertiary administrative staff includes a long list of volunteers who handle every other aspect of operating the church from Altar Guild to Property.

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## ADULT FORMATION

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CHERYL BAYARD

The year 2006 has continued with a variety of formation opportunities for adults.

**EFM-“Education for Ministry”**, a theological education program of the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee has expanded from 2 sessions to three sessions. This is a four year program of Old Testament, New Testament, Church History and Theology mentored by Fr. Dave, Jeff Lawrence, Karynjean Dickhoff and Eddie Black. A Wednesday morning seminar has been meeting at Trinity for six years. And we now have Sunday and Monday evening groups. Carole Allsop, Cheryl Bayard, Eddie Black, Anne Canan, David Canan, Steve Chester, Barb Davis, Reita Detweiler, Karynjean Dickhoff, John Dively, Inge Eichstetter-Hanes, Laura Gergen, Pam Guzzi, Jenny Gregg, Kathy Guerin, Annette Irvin, Addie Johnson, Jeff Lawrence, Ed Mahler, Bob McGann, Teri McGann, Al Mathis, Marjorie Parsons, Andrew Pendleton, Marianne Randall, Karen Reid, Stephanie Reid, Kelly Rupprecht, Jane Saunders, and Jay Walton are current participants or graduates who worship at Trinity. In addition, the current groups have participants from 4 other congregations.

**The Synoptic Gospels Bible Study** is in its third year and meets on a Thursday morning. There are 10 participants in the group including the leaders, Karen Reid and Eddie Black.

**The potluck classics** group is in its second year. They meet once a month on the last Wednesday of the month and each brings a pot luck dish. There are about 15 parishioners who share great food and discussion. The book, Devotional Classics which is a compilation of excerpts from spiritual classics written by C. S. Lewis, Martin Luther, Dallas Willard and Frank Laubach was used for the beginning of the year. This group was lead by Karen Reid until she retired to take over as Director of Altar Guild. Marge Parsons lead the group from Sept. on. The October book was Loving One Another by John Wesley and the November book was The Present Moment by Jean-Pierre de Caussade. The group did not meet in December.

**The Lenten Intergenerational Dinner Series** continued in 2006. This begins with a potluck dinner followed by break out sessions for a variety of age groups. This past year the youngest children worked with Barb Nelly on crafts and stories. Cheryl Bayard and Carole Allsop worked with the middle school and high school students on painting twelve events in the life of Jesus with a multicultural approach. The adults had a number of choices. Karen Reid led a discussion of the book Devotional Classics.

Another group was lead by Al Mathis and as always the evening closed with the walking of the Stations of the Cross.

These programs will continue in 2007.

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## ALTAR GUILD

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KAREN REID

*"AND YE SHALL KEEP THE CHARGE OF THE SANCTUARY  
AND THE CHARGE OF THE ALTAR" NUMBERS 18:5*

Trinity Church is blessed with a beautiful Sanctuary and Chapels in which to worship and praise our Lord. It is truly a joy to care for and to prepare these sacred places for worship each week.

On any given Friday and Saturday you will find one of four Altar Guild teams changing Altar linens, frontals and hangings according to the season; cleaning, polishing and preparing the Chalices, Patens, Ciboriums, Wine and Water Cruets for the Eucharist; changing the Vigil Candles and the Sanctuary Light in the Holy Family Chapel; and, changing the Holy Water in the Stoups. On Sunday mornings after worship, we set up the Holy Family Chapel for the two services during the week. We also prepare the Sanctuary for the services in which the special milestones are celebrated in the lives of our parishioners: Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Christmas and Easter are the Altar Guild's favorite time of year! The whole group gathers together for a morning of special preparation befitting these high holy days. We begin with prayer and close with a wonderful meal and fellowship. In between, we have cleaned and/or polished every piece of brass and silver in the Church - the Processional Cross and Altar Crosses, Eucharistic Vessels, Candlesticks and Followers, Candle Lighters, Censer and Boat, and the Gospel Book; we have dusted and vacuumed the Sanctuary, Nave and Chapels; cleaned out the shelves in each pew and stocked each with the proper number of Prayer Books and Hymnals; and we have prepared the individual Vigil Candleholders which will be given to each person before worship. It seems like a lot to do, but many hands make light work!

Thank you to all of the members of Altar Guild who serve in this ministry:

Susan Ody, Don Davis, Joan Goodhard, Catherine Reid, Joan Whitney, Nancy McGarvey, Adele Butler, Evelyn Carpenter, Jill Hayes, Pat Pfeifer, Annette Irvin, Veronica Gallwey, Cheryl Bayard and to our outgoing Director, Karenjean Dickoff.

A special thank you to several members who perform double duty laundering the Altar and Eucharistic linens each week: Cheryl Bayard, Evelyn Carpenter and Veronica Gallwey.

The Altar Guild is open to all men and women of Trinity Church. It is a very special ministry and we welcome any who would like to join us.

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## BAPTISMAL VOCATIONS

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EDDIE BLACK - ASSOCIATE FOR BAPTISMAL VOCATIONS

✠ Baptismal preparation. Trinity Church had eight baptisms this year.

Keith Mario Brown	Ella Catherine Pritz	Jake Martin Sparra
Sofia Craighill Talman	Hannah Rose Mooers	Matthew David Jennis
Emilie Margaret Derbyshire	Cadence Rose Anderson	

I have met with the baptismal families to learn and exchange ideas about supporting children in their Christian development and begin to discover the meaning of baptism. Parish sponsors supplement the catechist's sessions with home visits that continue conversation and worship in preparation for the baptism.

Baptism is adoption into the church family. We give witness to this not only by the act of 'washing' and 'sealing', but through a party. Celebration and the large baptismal certificates that the congregation signs mark the importance of the event. The signatures of the congregation on the baptismal certificate are a symbol of the commitment the congregation has verbally made to the new Christian.

The size and design of the certificate give witness to Baptism being an important event, and it is intended that the certificate be displayed in the home as a reminder that one is a Baptized person and commitments were made to the Baptismal Covenant. The parish family has responded generously by assisting in preparing food for the celebrations.

✠ Bishop Bennison visited the parish in October 2006. He baptized Matthew David Jennis, confirmed Annalise Marie Baird, Elizabeth Morgan Black, Kristen Elizabeth Blodgett, Christopher David Canan, Nicholas H. DeViso, Bryan J. Dingley, Meredith Chambers Dixon, Briton Sean Gergen, Samantha Kathleen Guzzie, Caroline Kershner, Michael Koziol, Timothy Ryan Lawrence, Lauren E. Mazzotta, Yulia Milne, Daniel Martin Norman, Brendan Robert Stancato, Matthew Fernando Vacante, and received George John Guzzie, Pamela Anne Guzzie, Carol Williams Morgan, Eric Seth Vorcheimer, and Mardi Jane Vorcheimer.

The confirmands and their sponsors met over a period of thirteen months in preparation for reaffirming their baptismal vows with the bishop. One of the highlights was a trip to Manhattan in May where the group experienced a variety of sacramental rites, Times Square and the South Street Seaport area; and we stayed at Fr. Dave's former congregation, St. Paul's, Rahway, NJ. During the thirteen months we got to know the variety of worship offered in the Book of Common Prayer and discussed the meaning of our baptisms.

Episcopal 101 was offered with sessions about our use of the Bible, our worship, how our church operates, and how we were shaped by being the church in England.

✠ Baptismal Ministries Team – This ministry team works with the Associate for Baptismal Ministries in planning and preparing for visitors, initiation, and integration of new people into the life and ministries of the congregation. Presently the members are Megan Phillips, Barb Davis, Justin Stroh, and Gretchen Pendleton.

✠ Post Worship Hosting - following the 10 a.m. service, hosts ask visitors to complete our visitor information sheet, which is copied and used by the Daughters of the King to deliver a Visitor Basket that contains a baked good and information about our church.

✠ Photo Wall and Pictorial Directory. The photo wall has been maintained this year by Cheryl Bayard. Brian Phillips has taken most of the photos. The photo wall has continued to grow as more people continue to join us and others who previously had not had their photos taken are added. The Communications Committee dedicated a "New Faces" portion to the bulletin board where we feature the new photos prior to their addition to the Photo Wall.

The parish pictorial directory is printed and distributed in January for the annual meeting. If your photo has been missed, please speak up, and if your children have aged - please - get a new photo taken.

✠ Stewardship – The *Servant Ministries* brochure was updated and printed for the September Ministries Fair. This replaced the Time and Talent card that had in previous years been included in the annual stewardship mailing

✠ Thursday Morning Bible Study - Karen Reid and I have been leading a Bible study at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings for the last three years. This growing group usually has eight to ten people gather to read and compare the story of Jesus as written by Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

✠ Brochures - I update and produce the church's brochures that are in the track rack and distributed with the visitor baskets.

✠ Education for Ministry – EFM is a theological education program of the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, one of the seminaries of the Episcopal Church. Participants commit one year at a time to meet regularly in seminars led by mentors – Fr. Dave, Jeff Lawrence, Karyn Jean Dickhoff and myself. There are four years of the program – Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, and Theology.

A Wednesday morning seminar has been meeting at Trinity for six years. In addition, we now have Sunday and Monday evening groups. Carol Allsop, Cheryl Bayard, Eddie Black, Anne Canan, David Canan, Steve Chester, Barb Davis, Reita Detweiler, Karyn Jean Dickhoff, John Dively, Inge Eichstetter-Hanes, Laura Gergen, Pam Guzzi, Jenny Gregg, Kathy Guerin, Annette Irvin, Addie Johnson, Jeff Lawrence, Ed Mahler, Bob McGann, Teri McGann, Al Mathis, Marjorie Parsons, Andrew Pendleton, Marianne Randall, Karen Reid, Stephanie Reid, Kelly Rupprecht, Jane Saunders, and Jay Walton are current participants or graduates who worship at Trinity. In addition the current groups have participants from 4 other congregations.

Eddie Black  
Associate for Baptismal Ministries

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## CARNIVAL

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### JOHN DZIEL

To say this year was our most challenging yet would be an understatement! Still, despite massive storms that closed us on two days and kept attendance low on the other two, we managed to net \$14,000! This figure includes expenses that were incurred when the heavy rains collapsed four of our tents, three of which were unsalvageable. It is amazing to look at the numbers and see that we gave last year's figures a run for the money. One area even beat those figures!

We followed up with a review meeting later in the month. There are several issues which we will be addressing next year. The biggest is upgrading the security. There have been some problems in a local school district that spilled onto our grounds. To keep the carnival safe, we have to address this.

At Fr. Dave's insistence, Sandi and I have retired after twelve years of running the Fair and Carnival. His belief is that twelve years is simply too long. Also, there is a natural problem in keeping the logistics of the carnival out of the office where it interferes with church business. All of the duties for the chair are carefully outlined in a "Carnival Manual." The job may seem overwhelming, but as long as the timeline is followed, it is actually an orderly and manageable process.

Michael and Jill Marsceill will also be retiring as the Chairs for Pete's Grill. A change in Mike's employment will prohibit him from being able to run the Grill next year. Like the Carnival itself, Pete's Grill has also become a well organized and documented event. Again, if you love to cook, this is a wonderful opportunity to run a restaurant for a week!

In addition, Roy Irvin has retired from Grounds, and Sandi Dziel has retired from Money Handling.

We are currently under contractual obligation with Oscars for the 2007 Carnival. At the end of that carnival, the new chair will need to renegotiate a new contract.

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## CHURCH SCHOOL

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### CAROLE ALLSOP

During this past year we have continued with our cherub choir and a pageant written by our own parishioners, but also changed our class structure to accommodate our growth.

Godly Play is now taught on two levels, 4years thru 1st grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade thru 5th grade. Grades 6 and above are led by Kelly Rupprecht, our youth director. Classes begin at 9:45 and the children come to church during the peace and remain for the rest of the service.

The Cherub choir sings the first Sunday of each month and many thanks to Maureen McCauley, Barbara Davis and Mindy Cutcher for teaching/leading the children. We practice at the beginning of class time.

All the classes had a good time making Christmas cards for our military.

The Christmas pageant about the life of St. Nicholas and the legends that have shaped so much of our Christmas traditions was presented on the 3rd Sunday in Advent, and was enjoyed by everyone who attended. This was researched and written by Trinity parishioners Eleanor Sypher and Darrell Walters. The cast included the church school children, grown up children known as adults, and the choir. Making this a great intergenerational presentation.

As always this program could not be continued in any way without the support and time of the teachers, doorkeepers, and others who help to keep the wheels rolling each week.

Carole Allsop  
Church School

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## COMMUNICATIONS

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### TIM BAUDER

This year we continued to refine the Chimes and web site while addressing some other areas of communication within the parish. Two new regular features were added to the Chimes newsletter over the course of 2006. **Behind the Scenes** profiles different groups (and the individuals that make up the groups) within the parish that may go unnoticed, but that perform vital functions. Some of the groups profiled this year were the Altar Guild and Tellers. **New Faces** tells a little bit about the new members or regular attendees at services whose faces you might see in the pews on Sunday. Both of these are part of our efforts to recognize individuals in the parish and keep the feeling of a close-knit community as our numbers grow. Special thanks to Joanna Clarke and Leigh Irvin. Joanna took over the layout and assembly of the Chimes this year which gave Leigh a much deserved break after many years. One final note on the Chimes. Our standard practice is to send an email notification so that you can download the new issue of the Chimes from the web site. If you would like to receive a mailed copy just let John or Sheila in the office know.

John Dziel continues to do a tremendous job updating our web site. One of the additions to the site this year is the Trinity Forum which is an interactive area for Chat and Blogs that John developed. Kelly Rupperecht uses “Kelly’s Blog” to keep the Youth Group up to date on their activities and scheduled events. Another major effort by John this year was the development of a program that uses a database for scheduling and tracking via the Web all of the various ministries that take part in our worship services. With the new system, team leaders can change the schedules at any time and the online schedule is updated automatically so everyone can see who is scheduled for a specific duty on any given date.

In addition to the New Faces feature in the Chimes, we also added a New Faces section to the main bulletin board in the Narthex to feature the pictures of the most recent additions to our parish. As pictures are taken of new members, they will be placed in this area for a few months before being “filed” alphabetically on the main photo board. Another addition to the Narthex and the rear entrance are pedestal signs by the entrance doors with maps of the building and a posting of events and their locations within the building. This should help new members or outside groups find their way a little easier.

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## DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

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### CAROL SZWAJKOS – PRESIDENT, ANAM CARA CHAPTER

The Anam Cara Chapter of the Daughters of the King (DOK) has continued to grow and serve our parish. During 2006, our accomplishments included the training and installation of three new members in July. The chapter’s membership now numbers seventeen Daughters and is one of the largest groups in the diocese. The group met on a regular basis throughout the year for prayer and bible study on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings.

We also gathered on a Saturday in June for a morning of prayer followed by a picnic luncheon.

As our service to Trinity Church, we prayed daily for those families and friends who requested prayers. We prepared and delivered approximately 55 small welcome baskets with literature about Trinity Church, along with home baked goodies, to families who had visited on a Sunday morning. Our chapter also contributed a basket for the Carnival's Parson's Porch. In the fall our chapter participated in the Ministry Fair during which a number of women indicated interest in becoming Daughters of the King. Preparation classes for prospective members are now planned to begin with a service and brunch on Saturday, February 17, 2007 with training classes scheduled for March 3, April 14, and May 5.

The highlight of 2006 was our Women's Retreat at St. Marguerite's Retreat House in Mendham, NJ in October. In attendance were 23 women, including Daughters and women from our parish and from other parishes and chapters in the diocese. Fr. Dave and Rev. Maxine Dornemann lead us in discussions on the topic of PRAYER and also guided us through a variety of prayer services. In addition, Ginny Guyer and Anne Canan enhanced our services, prayers and meditations with their musical talents. We enjoyed the peace and serenity of shared services with the Sisters of St. John the Baptist in the convent's chapel, the beautiful grounds and fall weather, as well as delicious meals prepared for us by the retreat house staff. Our next retreat is planned for October 12-14, 2007.

During 2006, our chapter honored Fr. Dave, Anne Canan, and Barbara Shields for their work with the Daughters by making donations in their names to the Daughters of the King's National Masters, Endowment and Self-Denial Funds.

On the diocesan level, the Anam Cara chapter hosted the general Spring Assembly meeting here at Trinity Church. Our members also participated in the diocesan DOK retreat in Cape May in August and the Fall Assembly in Philadelphia in October. Anne Canan is also currently serving as a diocesan officer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Szwajkos, President of the Anam Cara Chapter

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#### HUMAN RESOURCES

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ROBIN CHAMBERS-DIXON

This year is the close of my elected term and I chose not to seek re-election to Vestry. Serving on Vestry has been a privilege. Now it is time to allow someone else the opportunity to learn a great deal about parish involvement.

I express sincere gratitude to those who served on the Human Resources Committee. We were a great team and together, and with requisite growing pains, created a requirement for church management: The Trinity Church Manual.

Serving on Vestry has been fun, demanding and enlightening. Each of the wonderful people with whom I served made an essential contribution to Trinity's success. Every wish for continued success to the Human Resources Committee and Trinity Episcopal Church.

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#### MISSION & OUTREACH

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EDWARD MAHLER

**It may safely be said that Trinity Episcopal Church's Mission and Outreach Programs reached new levels last year. We received full participation from our members whose dedication and enthusiasm assure us of reaching our goals. Our activities and missions are many and varied. Our emphasis in our programs is to work within our immediate community, in the greater region that surrounds us and internationally.**

Again, last year, through Interfaith Hospitality we hosted two families and one individual. And again Trinity members gave generously of their time and talents and energy in providing meals, transportation and babysitting assistance. A special thanks must go to Laura Gergen and Pam Guzzie for a well run and successful effort. We will be hosting families again in 2007.

We gave our support and financial assistance again to The Community Cupboard and Interfaith Housing, each receiving \$2400. Roy Irvin continued his leadership in the delivery of canned goods to the Community Cupboard for distribution.

Real Men Cook continued to prepare frozen meals and soups for, Aid for Friends, in Philadelphia and Montgomery counties for which we contributed \$700.

Other activities include Mission Possible, where a senior youth group went to West Virginia and a Summer Service Camp where middle school youth spent one week in Chester in August.

Again, the Spring Carnival was a rousing success and if we might be blessed with good weather for all four days it could be a fantastic success. Yet with the \$8400 we realized we were able to do some great work. We were able to help an organization called Five Talents which aids small businesses to get started in depressed countries, \$1000. We also participate with MWAMBA an organization dedicated to helping talented young men and women in Africa receive an education they would never be able to realize otherwise, \$1050. We supported the Silver Spring Martin Luther School Lunch Program, \$850, the Diocese of Mississippi, \$1000, Chester Eastside, \$1000, Episcopal Community Services, \$2500, and Jenny, our Seminarian, \$1000.

Chester Eastside is one of our more ambitious programs, because they are so desperately in need of help. For their program of offering educational opportunity to youth in Chester we gave them two brand new PC's, two monitors and six new digital cameras. We plan a mutual relationship with Chester Eastside in 2007.

With \$3000 proceeds from the Rummage sale we were able to provide two beds for Interfaith Housing, \$500, Books of Common Prayer in Spanish to a Diocese in Guatemala, \$500 and Chester Eastside, \$1000.

Trinity again, as it has for the past eight years, supported the Christmas Angel Tree Project, under the auspices of ECS. Under the guidance of Addie Johnson, Trinity members participated as "angels" by contributing 97 Christmas gifts for under served children in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

As you can see our Mission & Outreach Program is in full swing and making Trinity Ambler a Positive force, not only locally, but broadly in carrying out the work Jesus would have us do. Many thanks to all of you and your ever so valuable help and participation

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PARISH LIFE

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JILL LEIBY

Another year has past and as I graduate from my Vestry term, I know I will always be a part of the hospitality team. So many new faces are joining us at Trinity and staying after the service. I love coffee hour. Not just the yummy food and drink, but the feeling I get from being with family. Sometimes for me, I feel overwhelmed with joy surrounded by my congregational family.

One of our newer members in her Christmas letter that she sent out to her family and friends, described how welcome she felt here in our church, she stated that Trinity had a "good works" oriented strain of Christianity. I read this and realized that was a perfect description of how you feel working on the hospitality team serving our parishioners and providing an hour to enjoy each others company. Each month we continue to celebrate the month's birthdays on "Hello Sunday" which is on the first Sunday of each month.

In March we had the "Lenten Series" potluck dinners Wednesday nights, followed by Lenten activities. My favorite is helping "Real Men Can Cook" prepare 50 frozen meals for Episcopal Community Services to later deliver to the homebound. After the activities we congregate in the church for "Stations Of The Cross".

Two Easter services were held this year. The early risers sunrise service is always my favorite. Very somber and emotional and after The Great Vigil a special reception breakfast followed.

The 10 am Easter Great Vigil and Holy Baptism also had a lovely reception.

We never forget our Mothers and Fathers on their special day with extra nice coffee hours.

On October 26 we hosted the Montgomery Deanery Convention, which in case you hadn't heard our Father Dave is now the Dean of.

Once again this fall Laura Gergan organized and hosted a fun filled Hayride and Bonfire at Merrimead Farms for the families to enjoy the lovely countryside evening followed by a raging bonfire complete with hotdog roast and s'mores making . Thanks Laura!

December 17th was a fabulously busy day at Trinity. Both the Christmas Pageant at the 10 am service and in the afternoon, the lovely sound of our very talented Trinity Christmas Choir Concert directed by our Steven Schreiber. A great day filled with beautiful music and receptions to celebrate both groups following their performances.

As Father Dave says "I love a busy church!" So do I.

Consider joining the team! I'm sure I speak for all my hostesses and hosts; you get more out of serving others than you put into it. And it feels good!

My thanks to our wonderful coffee hour helpers, (not in any order and please forgive me, I hope I didn't leave anyone out)

Annette and Roy Irvin, Margaret and David Manchester, Cheryl Bayard,

Barbara Shields, Nancy Militello (Barb and Nancy also are in charge of funeral receptions), Bunny Ashmore, Eilleen Warren, Cathy and Stephanie Reid,

Janet Himes, Skip Kershner, Carol Szwajkos, Carol and Solon Morgan, Robin and Ernie Chambers, Laura and Rob Gergan, Becky Curlett, Diana Griffith,

Carol and Thomas Cei, Elizabeth Atkinson and Kathleen Chester.

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## PASTORAL CARE

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### ADDIE JOHNSON

Pastoral Care encompasses several different categories; they are: (1) Eucharistic Ministers, (2) Parish Nurse Services, (3) Education for Parents of Adolescents, (4) Food for Families in Need, and (5) Transportation Services.

#### Eucharistic Ministers:

The most important aspect of Pastoral Care involves the ministry of five Trinity members who serve as Eucharistic Ministers (EMS); they are: Al Mathis, Roger Clarke, Scottie Kershner, Rita Detweiler, and Addie Johnson. Last year the EMS spent several months of seminar training with Fr. Dave discussing such areas as (1) Working with Alzheimer Patients, (2) Devising Scripts for Communion Services at Home and Hospital, (3) Serving severely handicapped members, and (4) Providing love and comfort to those who are ill/or and elderly. (This list is not all inclusive.) At seminars, the EMS share successful and rewarding experiences which serve to enhance their ministry. Prayer and communion with those unable to attend our services keeps our disabled parishioners in community with our total church congregation; parishioners express their gratitude for both visits and communications.

Parish Nurse Services: Early on this past year our Parish Nurse, Mrs. Jennifer Prater, spent a great deal of time assisting our Refugee Family, the Mustapayevas. She assumed the responsibility of overseeing and coordinating their healthcare needs.

Jen enabled the family to access essential medical services. The children needed many updated vaccinations, well-being visits, and improved nutrition; this was especially important for the younger child to offset her anemic condition. Visits for various members of the family necessitated some hospital stays and initially, weekly doctor appointments.

Mrs. Prater worked through the Lutheran Settlement translator to communicate the needs of the family. Jen also conducted a great deal of medication teaching and nutritional education in addition to providing emotional support.

For Trinity parishioners, Jen held a monthly program for blood pressure readings; she is available when necessary to assist parishioners who may experience illness while attending Sunday services. On occasion, parishioners have been referred to the Parish Nurse for education on particular diseases or specific medications. We are truly appreciative for the services she has provided Trinity and its Mission/Outreach Program.

#### Education for Parents of Adolescents:

The Education for Parents of Adolescents Program was initiated with articles in the Chimes and the Jingle announcing the establishment of a small start-up library and numerous web-sites available to assist in obtaining desired information. Parents have started to access texts utilizing an honor loan system. Several have cited the web-sites as being particularly useful. Addie Johnson and John Guerin provided the educational references.

#### Food for Families in Need:

For this ministry, several Trinity parishioners volunteer to provide meals for families or individual members experiencing severe illness or hardship; referrals for this service are forwarded from the Rector. The coordinators for this ministry consist of Annette Irvin, Suzy Maynard, and Lynda Basham. This year, our coordinators did not receive any referrals. It is apparent that many families utilize mainly frozen dinners unless restricted diets necessitate requests for specific foods. However, this service is still available to those in need. Requests are to be made to the Rector.

## Transportation:

This committee consists of a three-member team, Stephen Chester, Roy Irvin, and Bill Davis who have volunteered for this ministry. Initially it was designed to assist elderly or infirm parishioners who wish to attend church services and who lacked transportation. This year netted only one such request, however one of our parishioners who became disabled was provided transportation to work. We are appreciative of Stephen Chester's willingness to assist in this manner.

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## PRAYER SHAWLS

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PAT SAUNDERS

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides handmade shawls for those who need the comfort of prayer, love, and the joy of peace given by members at Trinity. Prayer shawls have been made for members of Trinity, for friends and family of Trinity members and sometimes for people we don't even know. They are made for those who are sick, going through troubled times, and for those who need comfort. They are also for those who are going through joyful but stressful times. This ministry is perfect for creative and artistic people looking to help others.

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## PROPERTY

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LAURA GERGEN and PIERS PRATER

This has been a busy year for us, with many needed repairs and updates being done to our grounds and buildings. Of course we also had some surprises throughout the year as well. We are thankful for all of the volunteers and the time they so generously donated. We appreciate each and every contribution. The phrase "Many hands make light work" comes to mind and that was truly the case for us. We always have room for more hands, so if you're ready, willing, and able, give us a call.

Trinity has beautiful grounds. Unfortunately with that comes a lot of necessary upkeep. We have focused on preserving that beauty and at the same time making the grounds less labor intensive. We removed 2 pear trees that were damaged and dying in front of the rectory and removed some saplings and vines around the air conditioning units. There were also some other damaged trees around the rectory that were removed. The flower beds around the sexton's cottage and the rectory were cleaned up. We did some weeding and mulching, cleaned out the storage shed, and turned the flower bed in front of the office into lawn. These efforts will continue this spring for anyone wanting to jump in and give a hand!

Our building is a busy place. Always something going on – needed repairs, emergency repairs, and just general maintenance. The roof drain problem in the parish hall has been fixed, thanks to an ingenious design by Dave Manchester! Once this was done, the walls of the parish hall with water damage were repaired. And then the flooding moved into the kitchen...but this wasn't from rain. After 2 plumbers were contacted, the problem with the drains in the kitchen was repaired and the kitchen is dry again! The ceiling tiles in the narthex were replaced and the narthex, hallway, and parish hall were painted. The light bulbs and fixtures were also replaced in the narthex, sanctuary, parish hall, and kitchen, as well as emergency lighting batteries being replaced throughout as needed. The sound system in the narthex was repaired and the water fountain finally works! The dehumidifiers in the basement were hardwired, allowing safer and continuous operation. Both the front and back rectory porches were repaired, sanded, and painted, along with the outside benches.

Our emergency repairs in the building included a pipe leak in the Boy Scout room, the sprinkler system backflow, and a pipe leak in the sanctuary. Thankfully, these have all been fixed/repared and are in working order.

We always have a “honey-do” jar with odd jobs that need to be done. These are usually just simple little things that can be done with one or two people in one day or less. If you find yourself bored, looking for a little something to do, we’ve got lots of things to choose from and would be happy to help fill your time.

Thanks again to all our volunteers and we look forward to meeting many new volunteers this year!

## GROUNDS

### WE LOVE TO PLAY IN THE DIRT!

St. Paul tells us in I Corinthians 12:7 “To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” He goes on to tell us about the various Spiritual gifts we each may have. I like to think that being part of the grounds committee is for the “common good”. We help praise God by keeping His yard clean and neat and by planting beautiful plants to His glory. I think of plants like I think of calories.... God must have loved them, He made so many of them.

This year we had many accomplishments as we worked as a team for the common good. We had several cleanup days where we focused on the areas near the office windows and along the parking lot side of the rectory. We continue to focus on ways to keep the buildings dry, like last years berm which helps keep the basement dry. This year we will be working on re-grading around the rectory and the parish hall. We have also faced the loss of more of the trees along the front walk.

We thank GOD for the Love and Care that Pat and Jane Saunders bring to God’s yard. They are responsible for those beautiful lots along the front and side walkways. I am also so grateful for all those who feel the call of the Spirit to help around the property, especially Piers, Laura, Missy, Skip, Carol, Bunny, Steve, David M., Barb, Bill, Andrea, Pam, and so many others I have missed. Without each one of you we would not be as successful.

We would like to invite all of you to join our team. There is still lot of things to do around God’s yard. We have some lots that really need LOVE so think about taking on a “Love-a-Lot.” No experienced required. Maybe you too will find this a way to praise and glorify God. Come play in the dirt too!

Your Sister in Christ,

Scotti Sawyer-Kershner

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## STEWARDSHIP

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### NANCY MCGARVEY

The mission of the Stewardship Team is to help the entire congregation understand that everything we have is a gift from God. Our time, talent, and treasure are all freely given by God and as good stewards we will share these gifts as much as possible with others in honor of Him.

In March 2006 six members of the Stewardship Team returned to a conference on Stewardship, Evangelism and Congregational Development sponsored by Province 1 (the seven dioceses in New England) in Westborough. This was an excellent conference and the team came home with renewed enthusiasm for the stewardship year. We plan to attend this conference again this year.

The column, “Stewardship, It’s not Always About the Money” continued in the Chimes with several members of the Team contributing columns.

In September we sponsored the Ministries Fair as a kick-off to the new program year. Once again the response from the congregation was outstanding. This fair provides the opportunity to socialize with one another and to talk with various chairpersons about all the different ministries offered here at Trinity. And although there is a push for folks to sign up at the fair, this is not the only time during the year to volunteer. New volunteers are always welcome for any of the ministries; just contact the appropriate chairperson.

The theme for our fall pledge campaign this year was “Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all” and was once again a success. We thank everyone who has pledged so generously. To date we have received 165 responses with 132 pledges totaling \$241,012.72. Fifty-one of these pledges were increases over the past year. We rely very heavily on our pledged income and are grateful to all those with such a strong commitment to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Stewardship Team members-- Carole Allsop, Eddie Black, Dave Canan, John Dively, Ernie Dixon, Scotti Kershner, Skip Kershner, Ed Mahler, Nancy McGarvey, Pat Pfeifer, Jane Saunders.

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## WORSHIP

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SUE ADAIR

“O worship the King, all glorious above!  
O gratefully sing his power and his love!  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with Praise.”  
*Hymnal #388*

The worship committee met on a quarterly basis to plan the upcoming services and special events in addition to the regular Sunday services which can include baptisms and confirmations and following our calendar: Advent, with special activities, Christmas with special music and pageant, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Lenten activities, Holy Week, Easter with the special Vigil followed by Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints.

We thank all those who organize and schedule this small and loving army of participants: acolytes, crucifers, LEM's, chalicists, readers, altar guild, ushers, greeters, tellers, and hospitality. We give special thanks to John Dziel who devised a program for these and others to write the schedule on line. The program signals an alert when someone is scheduled for more than one duty on a Sunday. And thanks also to Cheryl Bayard and Steve Chester for sending email reminders for worship duties.

- A major focus last year of the “plan for ministry” was to put in place a “third service.” This service was actually started on September 17, 2006 at 5 p.m. That service is advertised as the “Come As You Are” service.

The initial thinking was that if we could have 25 people at this service on a regular basis, it would be a success. To date, the average attendance is 30 people. This service is (mostly) held in the parish hall with contemporary music, gospel reading, homily and prayers. Some parishioners make it their regular service, but many others drop in when they can't make it to 8 or 10. Teens enjoy it.

- Another aspect of our worship involves the Healing Prayer Ministry. Initially, healing prayers were available during Holy Communion in Lent on Sundays and at both the mid-week Eucharists. Healing prayer, anointing with oil, and laying on of hands is now available at all services at Trinity. This powerful and comforting ministry has become an important part of many of our lives, both as receivers of prayer and as the teams that pray with others! If you would like to participate as part of a prayer team contact the Parish office.

- Starting in Lent, Trinity is implementing a new “prayers of the people” format. (See Winter Chimes.) Our hope is to have a weekly list which Sunday worshippers can add names, both petitions and thanksgivings, for that day only! An ongoing prayer list will use the prayer cards found in the pews, which, when filled out, will be prayed for by parish members for 30 days. Urgent prayers can also be made known by contacting the Parish office.

We hope to encourage not only prayers of petition but also to provide an opportunity for our prayers of thanksgiving and gratitude for our many blessings!

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Adair  
Vestry Liason to the Worship Committee

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## YOUTH MINISTRIES

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### KELLY RUPPRECHT – YOUTH MINISTER

It is a wonderful, amazing, and encouraging thing that youth can come to youth group and experience something once that changes their thinking.

Wouldn't it be great though, if that could happen just about every single time? Wouldn't it be great if we could all really get to know each other, beyond "Hey, what's up, how's school?" Wouldn't it be great if we could get down to the “nitty-gritty” and support each other in our struggles? Wouldn't it be great if the focus wasn't on us but on God? Wouldn't it be great if we sat down and really talked about Joy, and Love, and Peace, and a Hope that never fails? Wouldn't it be great if we dropped all of the pretense? Wouldn't it be great if we were shown a God who made us, who lived among us, and remains with us? Wouldn't it be great if words couldn't even describe how awesome youth group is? That is the hope and the vision for our Youth Group which we have already begun to see come to fruition!

This past year has been full of surprises and wonderful fellowship opportunities. Trinity's Youth Group is beginning to grow and develop into a wonderful community focused on discovering faith, developing stewardship, and learning the meaning of living as a Christian. In the process of building community, we are creating an environment where all students can feel part of a family, grow in their faith, discover their gifts, and help change a piece of their world.

### **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:**

The High School Youth Group has met every Sunday after the Contemporary Service from 6-8pm. They have participated in many different activities and discussions and have begun to dig deeper into what their faith life is all about. We have had game nights, movie nights, manhunt in the graveyard, and many other fellowship activities all connected to a theme of biblical discussion. High Schoolers have participated in two overnight retreats thus far. One was entitled “Wholly Me”- Relating to God, Others and Yourself. It was a wonderful opportunity for activities, discussions, and prayer reflection as well as building relationships with youth from various community churches. We also participated in an Overnight Prayer Retreat where speakers discussed a variety of ways to bring prayer into our everyday lives.

Many of the High School participants join us for the Contemporary Service but we hope that the numbers continue to increase, as the worship component becomes an even more integral part of our community.

### **SEARCH (JR. High SUNDAY SCHOOL)**

The Junior High Students participate in SEARCH every Sunday from 9:45-10:45am. The purpose of this group is to explore and challenge the life application of biblical principles in a dynamic and fun way. Students have discussed who Jesus really was and what his teachings mean in our everyday lives.

### **Third Friday Fellowship:**

Junior High Students also participate in Third Friday Fellowship from 6:30-8:30pm. They have started to work towards developing community and have had some very fun fellowship nights including movie and pizza nights, making cookies for the homebound, and game nights. The Junior high students worked on a prayer chain for the Springfield Community and discussed some very difficult issues relating to depression in young adults.

We hope to continue to grow this Fellowship Group and find an additional night that works for all of our busy Junior High Students.

### **Summer Service Camp:**

Junior High Students from Trinity and St. Matthews participated in Summer Service Camp again in Chester with Chester East Side Ministries. The students delved into Social Justice and worked hands-on in a variety of capacities throughout the week such as cleaning up the streets of Chester, working with youth at the YMCA, assisting in a back to school program stuffing backpacks, and visiting with seniors at a senior day program. They also participated in discussions with community leaders in the afternoons and were given a first hand perspective on the many issues affecting the community of Chester. The students were challenged to come up with their own solutions to assist the City of Chester and have promised to continue working alongside them. They held a Bowl-A- Thon in the Fall and started to raise money to purchase computers and cameras for a class to be held at Chester East Side Ministries. They also worked at the First Annual Chester East Side Ministries Carnival to further assist in fundraising and to bond with the community.

**MISSION POSSIBLE 2006:** Senior high youth from Trinity, St. Matthew's, Maple Glen; Christ Church, Pottstown; Emmanuel, Quakertown; and St. Thomas', Whitmarsh traveled to Man, West Virginia to do a variety of projects including repairing homes and work with students at a day camp. Although the work was challenging the group stepped up to the challenge and made a notable difference in the lives of the people of Man, West Virginia.

The Mission Possible Trip for 2007 will be to New Orleans, Louisiana to assist in the continuing work to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. Many fundraisers have already been scheduled for this effort and it looks to be one of the largest contingents of youth thus far!

### **IN CONCLUSION:**

So as we look ahead to 2007 and the future of Trinity's Youth Group there are many reasons to smile and answer those "Wouldn't it be great questions" with a YES it is!

Thanks to all who have assisted in the activities and projects thus far! We look forward to more adults volunteering in making these groups great.

Big Thanks to Father Dave, Jay Walton, and the parents and students of the Junior and Senior Youth Group!

God Bless!

Kelly Rupprecht :)

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**THE VESTRY OF TRINITY CHURCH**

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*Jane Saunders – Rector's Warden*  
*Dennis Reid, Sr – Accounting Warden*  
*Cheryl Bayard – Clerk of the Vestry*  
*Robin Chambers-Dixon – Human Resources*  
*Laura Gergen – Property*  
*Piers Prater – Property*  
*Jill Leiby – Parish Life*  
*Tim Bauder – Communications*  
*Ed Mahler – Mission and Outreach*  
*Nancy McGarvey – Stewardship*  
*Sue Adair – Worship*  
*Addie Johnson – Pastoral Care*

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**THE STAFF OF TRINITY CHURCH**

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*The Rev. David Canan – Rector*  
*Stephen Schreiber – Director of Music*  
*Eddie Black – Associate for Baptismal Ministries*  
*Kelly Rupprecht - Youth Minister*  
*Carole Allsop – Church School*  
*John Dziel – Financial Administrator*  
*Sheila Bistany – Office Administrator*  
**Morgan Beam – Nursery Director**