

THE TRINITARIAN

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Preaching Mission 2007

Preaching Mission a Rousing Success

Praise Him, praise Him,
 Praise Him, praise Him,
 Jesus, precious savior,
 He's worthy to be praised.

Voices rose with these simple lyrics of harmonious praise expressed in song during the devotional service of the Sixth Annual Preaching Mission. Christian Bruce, who walked the middle aisle lining the song's words, and encouraging the singing of the congregation, aided Adrienne Vyfhuis, a soaring soprano. Raymond Reher stood in shock at the lectern on the Epistle side seemingly struck by the spirit while he good-naturedly sang off key to the glory of God. Then the saints came marching in including the guest choir from the Church of the Transfiguration, the worship leaders

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Rector's Reflection

Easter Day, 8 April 2007

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. -Luke 24: 1-2

Beloved:

Easter is about lifting life from lifelessness and finding hope in despair. It is also about rolling away stones from the doors of our hearts and minds, from the gates of our souls and life that we might fully embrace the light of day. Lifting stone can be spiritual practice and a metaphor of forgiveness and new life. Stone lifting is an act of giving ourselves permission to move on into our true selves without fear. Nothing blocks our path when we make our way toward hope, with and in hope. Easter calls forth in us the life of hope beyond stumbling and to a place where stones are always rolled away.

The life we celebrate at Easter is a life whose death was sealed within a caved stone. It was an embarrassing and criminal death, and yet with a sympathetic and privileged burial. Who would have imaged the tragic end to a promising life? Who could have predicted the courage of the women of Galilee who found themselves in Jerusalem? Indeed, life itself is an unfolding mystery of faith, uncertainty and necessary hope. Christ is the hope who gives new life amid the uncertainties of life in order that our lives might be lived with promise. Hold fast to your promised hope.

Furthermore, I want to thank you for blessing me with your inspiring participation this Lenten season and Holy Week activities that was crowned with the glory of God on Palm Sunday and Easter. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, we were blessed. I will remember for years to come the piercing reflections at Friday's Station of the Cross, the

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thoughtful Lenten presentations on Wednesdays, the fine preaching of the Seven Last Words of Jesus by the laity on Good Friday, and the excellent choir concert later that same evening. God has certainly smiled on us. Your faithfulness during Lent enabled our community to go deeper in its preparation and celebration of Easter. My prayer is that our Alleluias this Paschal season will always be of rejoicing with new life and hope.

Have a blessed Eastertide.

Until next time, I am,
Faithfully in Christ,

John Harmon

Men of Trinity

Men of Trinity Sponsor Seder

By Raymond Blanks

Hours before the Seder Service was served on Tuesday, April 3, members of the Men of Trinity arrived early on a warm, spring afternoon to prepare the food for this year's Seder. Several veteran members including Charles Deboe and Charles Woodbury mentored less experienced members like Brion Thompson and Thomas Campbell. The food preparation and set-up was under the leadership of Warren Graves, the group's president.

Under the direction of Marshall Ford, a seasoned Seder supper worker, other men set the tables with elegant faux china and silverware. Vincent Adams put the herbs on the saucers for the ancient ritual service while Raymond Blanks distributed karpas, a mixture of crushed apples and raisins. Woodbury and Blanks later placed the plastic glasses for the Manischewitz Concord Wine and added Styrofoam cups for the salted water needed to reenact the Jewish experience of bondage in Egypt and new life of liberation symbolized by the boiled egg.

Graves arrived with the containers of roasted lamb and saffron rice prepared by Hassan Mohammadi of the

Savoy Hotel. A caterer was secured to relieve Herman Murray, the MOT's master chef who for more than three decades prepared meals but who now encouraged the younger members. Shortly after the end of the work day, Compton Vyfhuis, Sterling Tucker and Aldolphus Ukaegbu arrived ready to add their energy to the group's enterprise and to assume the simple work of waiters.

Once the food was organized and specific assignments were given to the servers and waiters, Graves shared a bottle of tasty Cabernet Sauvignon as a substitute to the sweet Manischewitz. Lively but calm conversations centered on the Nationals losing their opening game, trading stories of childhood remembrances and funny tales like Black men pontificating in the barbershop. While the banter continued, the lamb, rice and gravy were placed on the steam tables as the clock ticked towards the 6 o'clock supertime. All the men were ready and knew their roles. Marshall Ford manned the ticket table and served as the maitre d'.

Shortly before the service of remembrance of the Passover supper was reenacted, Raymond Reher, Marcus Hendricks and Leo Williams arrived to contribute more manpower. Various symbols of Passover were evident including the bone from the lamb. Eugenie Lewis, the oldest matriarch attending the Seder, lit the festive candles that symbolize "the kindling of the light of Passover." Father Harmon led the service centered on the Passover story, its memory of affliction and deliverance of the Jews from slavery. The service celebrating God's liberation of the Hebrew from slavery from Egypt also included the liberation of the Black experience in America. The wine was blessed. The bitter herbs were eaten as a reminder of the life of the Jews in Egypt "made bitter by our captors." Dinner guests recited the ancient proclamation, "Even in sorrow and despair, God gives us hope."

Acting like an assembly line, the servers fixed the plates and the waiters served the guests. The long day ended before 9 p.m. and the men gathered again in the kitchen transformed as the clean-up crew. Food left over was distributed to guests and other members who wanted a doggie bag in remembrance of the memorial service. At the conclusion of the work and tasks, Michael Mullings locked the church for the night.

Stewardship at Trinity

Maundy Thursday, 5 April 2007

Everything we do at Trinity is an expression of Christian Stewardship. Stewardship is a covenant with God; it is our response and commitment to everything God has given us. All too often when we speak of Stewardship, the discussion focuses on money, rather than all the gifts we have received from God. Yet Stewardship is much more than money; it involves the use of our **Talents**, our gifts and skills. It involves the use of our **Time**, both leisure and business. It involves the use of our **Treasure**, our resources and wealth. Through stewardship, we are reminded that all that we have comes from and belongs to God – offering that God has entrusted to us for his glory.

We are indeed blessed at Trinity. Trinity is full of people who give freely of themselves, their talents, time, and treasure. As we continue with our Stewardship efforts this year and plan for the next, we want to thank you for your generous response to God's faithfulness. It is through this generosity and selfless giving that we are transformed from a dependence on things to a dependence on God. This kind of giving permits us to experience the freedom that comes only from a faith grounded in God.

This year, the Stewardship Committee and the Vestry will lead us all in an every member canvas. We plan to **contact** and **listen** to members, **identify** and **praise** all who plan to give to further God's kingdom at Trinity. We are planning to conduct and invite all members to attend two stewardship workshops in the Spring and Fall of this year. We also plan to conduct a survey that will identify the skills and talents of members to be posted on a special bulletin board to honor and thank all who promise to give of their time, talent and financial resources.

It is hoped that a prayerful reflection will lead to a faithful response to God's presence in each of our lives.

Have a blessed Easter season.

Trinity's Stewardship Committee

Submitted by Marshall Ford

Following is a preview of upcoming activities from TSC for the remainder of 2007 and early 2008:

- For the remainder of 2007, keep giving of your time, talent, and finances, and be faithful in all.
- Create and maintain a skills bank of Trinity's congregation
- Present a speaker on stewardship in October 2007, on Commitment Sunday. — Collect pledges of time, talent, and finances at this time. Pledge forms will be sent out before the meeting and will be available at the door
- Conduct an every member canvass.
- Sharings by members of the congregation on God's goodness towards them.
- Methods of keeping you informed: brochures, church bulletin, The Trinitarian, phone calls, and emails.
- Input from congregation on any of the items listed will be greatly appreciated.
- Recognition of Trinitarians who meet their goals of time, talent, and financial support to God.
- Weekly reports of Trinity income, amount needed for budgetary requirements and present state of the deficit.
- Host a stewardship workshop in the Spring and Fall of 2008 and invite all of the Trinity community.

The Stewardship Committee



What The Bible Says About Death

Submitted by Carol Crecy via e-mail

Death is certain but the Bible speaks about untimely death! Make a personal reflection about this. It is written in the Bible (Galatians 6:7): "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Here are some men and women who mocked God:

JOHN LENNON: Some years before, during his interview with an American magazine, he said: "Christianity will end, it will disappear. I do not have to argue about that. I am certain. Jesus was ok, but his subjects were too simple; today we are more famous than Him" (1966). Lennon, after

Saying that the Beatles were more famous than Jesus Christ, was shot six times.

TANCREDO NEVES (President of Brazil): During the Presidential campaign, he said if he got 500,000 votes from his party, not even God would remove him from the Presidency. Sure he got the votes, but he got sick a day before being made President, then he died.

CAZUZA (Bi-sexual Brazilian composer, singer and poet): During a show in Rio de Janeiro, while smoking his cigarette, he puffed out some smoke into the air and said: "God, that's for you." He died at the age of 32 of AIDS in a horrible manner.

THE MAN WHO BUILT THE TITANIC: After the construction of the Titanic, a reporter asked him how safe the Titanic would be. With an ironic tone he said: "Not even God can sink it" The result: I think you all know what happened to the Titanic.

MARILYN MONROE: She was visited by Billy Graham during a presentation of a show. He said the Spirit of God had sent him to preach to her. After hearing what the Preacher had to say, she said: "I don't need your Jesus". A week later, she was found dead in her apartment.

BONSCOTT: The ex-vocalist of the band AC/DC. On one of his 1979 songs he sang: "Don't stop me, I'm going down all the way, down the highway to hell". On the 19th of February 1980, Bon Scott was found dead; he had been choked by his own vomit.

CAMPINAS, Sao Paulo In 2005, in Campinas, Brazil a group of friends, drunk, went to pick up a friend. The mother accompanied her daughter to the car. She was so worried about the drunkenness of her friends, she said to the daughter, holding her hand, who was already seated in the car: "MY DAUGHTER, GO WITH GOD AND MAY HE PROTECT YOU." The daughter responded: "ONLY IF HE (GOD) TRAVELS IN THE TRUNK, CAUSE INSIDE HERE IT'S ALREADY FULL". News came later that they had been involved in a fatal accident and everyone had died. The type of car was unrecognizable, but surprisingly the trunk was intact. The police said there was no way the trunk could have remained intact. To their surprise, inside the trunk was a crate of eggs, none was broken.

Christine Hewitt: A Jamaican Journalist and entertainer said the Bible (Word of God) was the worst book ever written. In June 2006, she was found burnt beyond recognition in her car.

Many more important people have forgotten that there is no other name that was given so much authority as the name of Jesus. Many have died, but only Jesus died and rose again, and he is still alive. JESUS!!!

"What benefit does it have, if a man gains the whole world but loses his soul? What can man give in exchange of his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

Senior Ministry

Episcopal Senior Ministries Sunday May 6, 2007



The Episcopal Diocese of Washington encourages all parishes to set aside Sunday, May 6th, 2007 to increase the awareness of, pray for, and support **Episcopal Senior Ministries** and all the Episcopal affiliated homes and services in the Diocese:

**Age-in-Place Program &
Christian Communities Group Homes**
2501 18th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018

The Fellowship of St. John
Church House, Mount St. Alban's
Washington, DC 20016

Cedar Lane Apartments/St. Mary's Home
22680 Cedar Lane Court
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Collington Episcopal Life Care Community
10450 Lottsford Road
Mitchellville, Maryland 20721

ESM Cares, Geriatric Care Management Service
4545 42nd Street, NW, #314
Washington, DC 20016

Friendship Terrace Retirement Community
4201 Butterworth Place, NW
Washington, DC 20016

St. Anna's Fund
Church House, Mount St. Alban's
Washington, DC 20016

St. Mary's Court
725 – 24th St., NW
Washington, DC 20037

St. Philip's House
15721 Baden Naylor Road,
Brandywine, MD 20613



Episcopal Senior Ministries is a non profit organization that improves the lives of older adults through a wide range of quality affordable programs including housing, care management, transportation, education, and volunteer training and support. Services are available to all seniors, families, and community members regardless of religious affiliation. For more information visit our website at www.esm.org.

More for Seniors

*The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington
requests the pleasure of your presence at one of the
2007 Diocesan Senior Celebrations
Presented by
Episcopal Senior Ministries and the
Diocese of Washington, DC*

Tuesday, May 8th, 2007

*Eucharist- 11:00 am with
The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane,
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese
of Washington, Presiding*

*Luncheon & Program-12-1:30pm
St. Paul's Church
Piney Parish
Waldorf, Maryland*

Or

Thursday, May 10th, 2007

*Eucharist- 11:00am with
The Rev. Milton Williams ,
Interim Rector
St. Timothy's, DC*

*Luncheon & Program-12-1:30pm
St. Paul's Center
Rock Creek Parish
Washington, DC*

*Please join us as we recognize Senior Volunteers who contribute to their
congregations and throughout the community.*

News at Trinity

New Ministry Started*By Raymond Blanks*

A sudden snowstorm began as the 10:30 a.m. service started February 25th and many felt a sense of surprise with the radical change in the weather. Not only had the weather changed but a new ministry was also launched that day. Each week, two members of the lay Eucharistic ministry are dispatched by Father John Harmon to spread the word and to share communion with members who are unable to attend church.

With the congregation as witnesses, Kay Pierson, the leader of the ministry, and Raymond Blanks stood before the altar as Father Harmon declared: "In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you may go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood." The same elements served in church are also used for this new ministry. The congregation affirmed the assignment and responded, "We who are one body, because we share in one bread and cup." Father Harmon then gave the two ministers a portable communion kit, a small wooden box with the elements as well as the paten, chalice and purificator. In spite of the snow, Doris Deboe was waiting for their visit. Fortunately, the Deboe family lives just a few blocks from the church; so the two pressed on to fulfill their commitment and meet Mrs. Deboe's expectation.

A physical therapist had just completed his periodic services as the two visitors from Trinity entered the house and found Mrs. Deboe in bed in a room next to the living room. She had dozed off as daughter Kathy gently alerted her that the visitors from church had arrived. "Mommy, Raymond and Kay are here to give you communion," she informed her mother. The brief service was explained and then conducted with Charles Deboe and daughter Kathy also participating. The house was warm and quiet and the service was conducted in conversational and intimate tones that generated an increased sense of reverence.

The short service began with Kay Pierson reading from "Communion Under Special Circumstances" that included various biblical passages. The gospel appointed for the day was also shared before Kay shared her reflection of the sermon centered on the story of the temptation of Jesus preached earlier in the

worship service by Father Harmon. This is an aspect of the ministry because Episcopalians are people both of the word and sacraments. Blanks then led the confession of sin, absolution and the Lord's Prayer. Then the peace was exchanged among the four people surrounding Mrs. Deboe's bed. He then gave the bread and wine intoning the same words as in church, "The gifts of God for the people of God" before administering the communion to Mrs. Deboe. A post-communion prayer was also shared. The service was nearly 20 minutes, required no kneeling and was served to Mrs. Deboe in bed. The Eucharistic ministers left the house to return the communion box to church and conclude their service in the first experience of this new ministry.

Members who serve as Eucharistic ministers were trained prior to being sent to serve communion to members physically challenged. In a three hours training session, the group intensely explored aspects of the service as well as the rules governing communion. They learned how to depend on the scriptures and the sermon in sharing their message with the infirmed. Handouts were shared and members were urged to sign up for periods to serve in this new ministry. Many members felt that this expanded dimension of being a Eucharistic minister not only gives them another opportunity to serve but also to witness to those needing this new ministry.

Hendricks Wins Major Award*By Raymond Blanks*

Marcus Hendricks, an honor student at the innovative School Without Walls, was awarded a four year, full scholarship to George Washington University. Marcus, the second son of Kay Pierson and Cedric Hendricks, was one of nine District public school students awarded the Stephen Trachtenberg Scholarship that is estimated to be worth \$200,000. Trachtenberg, the University President, declared that, "These nine students represent the talent and intellect of future leaders of the District." Marcus secured the award based on his class rank, grade point average, college admission test scores, recommendations, leadership quality, community service and extracurricular activities.

The tall, young acolyte has a 3.7 GPA and ranks among the school's best students. He plans to major in aerospace or mechanical engineering. Other possible majors include international affairs or linguistics. Marcus hopes to become an astronaut or to build spacecraft. His interest in this career goal is stimulated by the esoteric question, "Are we alone in the universe?"

Marcus acknowledged that he was shocked to win the prestigious scholarship "because there was such competition" from fellow classmates and other top students in the District's public high schools. He asserted that, "Many of my peers had better GPAs, more distinguished community service records, and more impressive extracurricular achievements than those of my own." Like other teens his age, Marcus enjoys soundtracks and video game music that provide respite from the various and pressing demands top students face today.

Ukaegbu Wins HBCU Essay Contest

By Raymond Blanks

Chidiebere Ukaegbu is an outstanding senior at the distinguished Banneker Academic High School and will be a freshman at Howard University in the fall. He just won a \$1,000 scholarship. Chidiebere, an acolyte, ranks tenth in his class and has a 3.6 grade point average. However, the scholarship was awarded to him based on an essay contest on the topic, "Why Historically Black Colleges Are Important?"

The future doctor who plans to specialize in radiology learned about the essay contest from his school. He wanted to win to lessen the financial burden of college on his parents. He decided to apply for the scholarship. Chidiebere's balanced young life reflects a renaissance man with deep involvement in education and religion. He is further rounded by hobbies of track and field, especially the 100-meter dash, oil pastel drawings and reading science fiction.

Shiloh Baptist Church HBCU Council awarded the scholarship to Chidiebere at a recent ceremony held at Shiloh in honor of the second son of Alice and Aldolphus Ukaegbu. He observed in his winning essay the historic role

HBCUs have played for more than a century in enabling and fostering the education of African Americans. He also asserted that at a HBCU, he will more "likely find people with similar interests," and a serious student study group with others who also share their culture. He further maintains that at a HBCU, he will become more "empowered by a mentor who looks just like me." Chidiebere believes that HBCUs still play a vital role and cater to the whole needs of young African American students with greater sensitivity and appropriate supportive services that fosters success. He also feels that at a HBCU, he will not be split between intellect and identity Black students so often face on other campuses.

A Child Shall Lead Them

By Raymond Blanks

Young people typically are not found at the 2nd and D Streets homeless shelter in Northwest operated by the Community Creative for Non-Violence (CCNV). That pattern was recently changed on a Friday night when Ubochioma Ukaegbu, also known as Obi, arrived at the crowded site to serve hordes of people from young adults to senior citizens. He didn't come to the shelter alone. His parents, Josiah and Ulumma, and a small cadre of members accompanied him from the Trinity parish. Obi didn't come empty handed either. He came to realize an ambition to serve people often forgotten or ignored. Obi is thirteen and is a student at Paul Public Charter School where he is an honor student.

Obi, who is also an acolyte, learned about the homeless in his English class. In Washington, nearly 10,000 adults and children are homeless. The idea to organize a project for the homeless encouraged him to prepare a meal for those who live at the shelter. One Sunday, the tall, thin student made an appeal to the congregation to support his project and contribute a dish. Then the saints from Trinity went marching into the shelter but a child led them.

Young Ukaegbu decided to do something because he wanted "to better the less fortunate around me." He concluded, "...The least I can do is feed them some food," from his family's surplus. Instead of feelings of pride for his compassion, Obi instead confessed that this effort sup-

ported by members of Trinity made him “thankful,” Regarding his first works as a young Christian, he simply added, “I hope to continue in the role of a good Samaritan in the future.” But for the immediate future, the new young servant will enter his freshman year at the prestigious

Banneker Academic High School. In an ancient era, there was a boy who provided two fish and five loaves of bread that Jesus used to feed thousands. At the shelter, many discovered that God still uses the young to feed the hungry and neglected.

Points to Ponder

Obituary of the Late Mr. Common Sense

Submitted by Rodney Lewis

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as: knowing when to come in out of the rain; why the early bird gets the worm; life isn't always fair; and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to

do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer Tylenol, sun lotion or a band-aid to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement. Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by his three stepbrothers; I Know My Rights, Someone Else Is To Blame, and I'm A Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

From the Bishop

The Right Reverend John Bryson Chane D.D. Addresses the 112th Convention

Following are quoted highlights from the Bishop's address January 27, 2007. The full text of the address is found at www.edow.org and then link to 112th Convention.

Bishop Chane opened the meeting by asking the delegates and visitors, diocesan staff and guests from the diocesan partnership with the Anglican Province of Southern Africa represented by the Diocese of the Highveld to join him in prayer. He concluded his prayers by saying "May our journey begun this day be a journey where we understand that in order to become a mission-centered diocese, we must care for and support the work of each of our parishes and that such work must come from each of us and the integration of our parishes, one to another. No man is an island and no one parish by itself is a diocese. For the model of a diocese is one of mutuality and integration, not of individuality and segregation. O God help us now to grow more fully into this understanding so that we can continue to pursue the building up your kingdom through our work as the many congregations that make up the one Body of Christ in this great diocese. Amen."

"For the last four years, we have been building a foundation for mission and ministry in the diocese that is now bearing fruit. With the direction of the "Three Years Out" study of the diocese that many of you participated in, the Diocesan Council and I have, with the input of regional clergy and laity, established a Statement of Vision for who we are as a diocese; "A people of God, living out our faith together."

"As we move from vision to mission we have said that; "The mission of the Diocese of Washington is to build up the Body of Christ by equipping the people of the diocese, individually and together, to carry out their ministries in the world."

"Much work has already been done by so many of you to begin to live into various parts of the vision, mission and goals of the diocese. Beyond the success of our ever expanding South African partnership, our continuing work

in Honduras and our role as an important participant in the life of the nation's capital and the broader Episcopal Church we can celebrate a myriad of other mission initiatives that have made a great difference in the lives of literally thousands of people.

"Our ever-expanding and always creative work in youth and young adult ministries has been generously supported by many of our parishes, clergy and laity. After searching around the larger Episcopal Church for other models of this work, it can truthfully be said that we have one of the fastest growing and most creative youth ministry programs in the country. Our outreach to young adults, initiated by several of our congregations and supported by diocesan staff, promises to be the next level of missionary outreach to a huge population of persons who up until recently have been mostly forgotten by the church.

"Diocesan staff outreach and support of our 20 Episcopal/parish affiliated schools, their heads and chaplains, has quickly developed as a new and exciting ministry that continues to support the very important work of our schools to well over 5,500 young people and their families whose lives are touched each day by the Episcopal Church's presence.

"Full time college chaplaincies at the University of Maryland and Howard University, a part-time chaplain at Bowie State University and congregation-based ministries near Georgetown University and George Washington University are growing new mission and ministry initiatives to Episcopal and non-Episcopal students alike. With possible future financial grants to the diocese, college work may expand to community colleges. With the partnerships developed between diocesan staff, our excellent Episcopal school chaplains and motivated parishes, this broad college work has emerged as some of the best and most comprehensive in the Episcopal Church today. Recently, thanks to the mission initiative of Saint Andrew's, College Park, and the hard work of our chaplaincy at the University of Maryland, the new Episcopal/Anglican Student Residential Center was opened on the grounds of Saint Andrew's, next to the university campus. It is one of only a handful of such Episcopal centers in the United States today.

“The development of the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys, which will eventually be situated across the river in Southeast Washington, continues to move forward with great speed and with the support and blessing of the Diocesan Council. Funding has already been secured to hire a project director. The work in progress is a significant response by the diocese to those young people of color who continue to be marginalized by the public education system in the District of Columbia.

“Latino ministry continues to expand and grow under the leadership of our full time Latino Missioner. And the congregations in the diocese where this ministry is expanding now numbers six and could expand to more if additional funding could be found. To support this mission to Spanish speakers, I have said to all those in our ordination process that ordination to the priesthood will be contingent upon their ability to have a working knowledge of conversational Spanish and the ability to celebrate the sacraments of the church in the native tongue of those from the Spanish speaking world; a number that now approaches 600,000 souls within the broad geography of the Diocese of Washington and Northern Virginia.

“Following the work of last year’s convention, a committee was formed by the Diocesan Council to begin an extensive study of the heritage and history of the African American experience in the Diocese of Washington. This work is well under way. Oral history will “be gathered by taping stories and interviews. Archival research is ongoing and the Rev. Carlton Hayden has been tasked with the writing of this work in such a way that it can be used by congregations of the diocese as an educational tool for the study of both racism and the significant role played by the black church in the diocese. To my knowledge, we are one of only a few dioceses in the Episcopal Church that has taken to heart the national church conversation about “telling the story” of our African American heritage and its contributions to the life of the church. Such work by our diocese can be a useful model for the rest of the Episcopal Church as we and the larger Episcopal Church struggle with the past evils of slavery, segregation and now the stain of racism.

“The Racial Reconciliation Task Force formed by the Diocesan Council a few years ago will be meeting with the

council in March to discuss plans to expand anti-racism training within the diocese. I will be asking the council to make mandatory the requirement that any person elected by the convention or appointed by the bishop to serve on any committee, task force or commission will be required to attend anti-racism training. Likewise all members serving on Church House staff will be required to participate in such training provided by the Racial Reconciliation Task Force. This action is in keeping with the policies of the national church and is, in my opinion, overdue as a requirement in the Diocese of Washington. I trust that I can count on the support of this convention to move this requirement forward.

“As the cathedral, under the strong leadership of Dean Samuel T. Lloyd, continues to move forward in redefining its mission and ministry I am pleased to say that such work promises significant partnerships with the Diocese of Washington. Some of these partnerships are already under way, especially in the area of global work and Katrina relief efforts. This new cathedral/diocesan relationship has been one that I have been hoping and praying for ever since I became bishop. I am truly grateful for the dean’s leadership and the leadership of his staff, and fully support his vision for the future development of the cathedral’s far-reaching mission and ministry to the diocese, the city, the nation and the global community.

“Finally, I am pleased to announce the decision to promote Jim Naughton, who has served well in the position of Director of Communications, to a position of broader scope; Canon for Communications and Advancement. This new position and title recognize Jim’s outstanding performance as well as his dedication and interest in the areas of parish growth, outreach and marketing. In this new position, Jim will continue to exercise broad oversight with regard to the communication efforts of the diocese, although Lucy Chumbley will assume a higher degree of responsibility as editor of the *Washington Window*. Amy Elliott likewise will assume a greater degree of responsibility as our diocesan webmaster. One area of Jim’s new portfolio will be the responsibility for assisting with the development and strategic priorities of diocesan development and fund raising.

“As a response to the “Three Years Out” study, the Diocesan Council created the Congregational Development Committee, which has been charged with creating strategies for supporting congregational life and growing healthier congregations. This committee’s most recent report to the Diocesan Council was quite comprehensive and promises a solid new direction for supporting the life, health and growth of all our congregations, both large and small. Their work will in many ways find a symbiotic relationship with the work entrusted to Jim Naughton

“Likewise, in order to address the major crisis of affordable housing within the District of Columbia and throughout the rest of the diocese, by action of the Diocesan Council, the Committee on Affordable Housing and Land Use was formed. It will be working throughout the rest of this year to present to the council and then the 2008 convention a full study addressing these issues with recommendations as to how the diocese and its parishes might be more effective in responding to the crisis of affordable housing. Attention will also be paid to ways in which the diocese and its parishes might make more effective use of their existing property for possible partnership in developing low and affordable housing starts with other nonprofits.

“As the diocese reevaluates its current assets that have been held in such funds as the Philips Fund and the Closed Parish Fund, and as additional income is realized from the sale of property within the diocese, the council recently adopted a policy under which such funds would be held separate from operating funds and expended only for specified purposes such as addressing the current situation of economically imperiled congregations. Imperiled congregations are defined as those possessing a combination of diminishing congregational size, inadequate operating funds and the lack of cash reserves. Also, congregations that present special growth opportunities should have the attention of the diocese to support their efforts in further growth in mission outreach and membership growth.

“As I reflect on the search for a common language for doing the mission of Jesus Christ as individual congregations, as regions and as a diocese, I share the following thoughts with you. First there must be a blueprint for such work to be successful. I believe we already have a portion of that blueprint as it is found within the vision, mission and

goals statement of the diocese. And I believe that a significant portion of the blueprint is also found within the core teachings of Jesus Christ and his clear admonition to the disciples to go forth into the world to minister in his name. This blueprint is refined by the profound theological reflections of the Apostle Paul. His understanding and teaching of the church as the unified body of Christ, with each community and individual possessing unique and special gifts that must be merged together into one unified body, is a teaching that the institutional church of the 21 st Century seems to have lost. It must be reclaimed!

“It is no secret that the work of engaging in common mission requires among other things great leadership. Such leadership must initially come from the clergy in charge of congregations and the laity who have been charged with the responsibility of being the core leaders of the mission and ministry of a parish’s common life. If the leadership is stressed, tired and unenthusiastic or compromised by conflict or apathy then there can be little hope for aggressively carrying out the mission of Jesus Christ within the congregation and beyond into the surrounding local community and world.

“As clergy and lay leaders serving a parish, we must have a passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and an enthusiasm for living it and teaching it. The leaders of any congregation and its members must be passionately engaged in giving the message of the Gospel away, and living it well in their own personal lives so that others are not only witnesses to it but are confirmed in their faith by leaders speaking unashamedly about their own faith journey in Jesus Christ. To be Christ in the world requires great energy, a willingness to take risks, a need to possess genuine humility and an acknowledgment that all we have and all that we are, are gifts given by God and experienced through the Holy Spirit.

“As clergy we must above all else love the people we have been called and elected to serve, even those who seem unlovable. We must truly love our vocation and community life as lived out daily in the parish with all the challenges that such community living presents. If we love our people, see our ministry as vocation and not a job or profession and are willing to work hard at building up the Body of Christ, then we can be true agents of mission, and will be leaders

that others are willing to follow.

“Congregations must become more aware that no matter how great their individual resources of time, talent and treasure might be in comparison with other congregations, they must have a connection with all the congregations of the diocese. “For those who have been given much, much will be asked.” Congregationalism is not in the Anglican/Episcopal dictionary. Silos belong on farms, not in dioceses. All congregations in a diocese are connected one to another and all have a responsibility to one another, if we are to live well into the model of Christ’s teaching. A diocese exists as shared residences, not as gated communities.

“In closing, I realize that this address has not been one of the sexiest I have ever delivered, but what it attempts to do is to give each of you as delegates to the 112th Convention a sense of where we’ve been, where we are now and

where I hope we can be in the coming year. As always I extend my deep appreciation and thanks to the dedicated staff at Church House and for their work that has extended itself above and beyond the call of duty. To my compatriot in the journey, Canon Paul Cooney, I say once again thank you for your leadership, your friendship and your willingness to travel the extra mile with me and all the brothers and sisters who make up this wonderful diocese. I also want to thank the hundreds of people both clergy and lay who give so unselfishly of their time to grow the greater good and ministry of this diocese. Without your willingness to serve and give of your time, none of the work of the church and diocese would be possible. You have responded faithfully and unselfishly to the Prayer Book admonition to take your place in the councils of the church.

“It continues to be an honor and a great privilege to serve as your bishop during these times of great challenge and opportunity. Am I still having fun? You bet I am!”

At the Convention

Photos courtesy of Rodney Lewis



Trinity's convention delegation

At the Convention



Helping out at the Daughters of the King Exhibit



At the Daughters of the King Exhibit

Preaching Mission...*continued from page 1*

and lectors, the guest preacher and the rector. An hour before the service, a hot, tasty meal of baked chicken, a green salad, a pasta dish and lemon pound cake prepared by Gwen Turner of Gwen's Joy Catering Service was served to members of the visiting choir, the guest minister, the rector, the senior and junior warden and members of the Evangelism Committee who sponsored the event.

The previous night, the revival that was held for three nights, began with the melodious music of the Men's Choir of People's Baptist Church in Silver Spring who were dressed in black suits and ties and who sang with verve "until the power of the Lord came down." Beyond the keyboard, drums and piano, the men sweetly fused tenors, baritones and basses making "a joyful noise unto the Lord." Each night during the revival, a brief period of "Faith Sharing" was set aside to allow members and visitors to testify, "to the awesome deeds the Lord has done." More women had words of testimony than men but all people who spoke declared thanksgiving for God's constant presence, help and tremendous love. This portion of the service had an echo of an earlier period of evangelical worship in the deep south in a previous era. Interestingly, the testimonies of the men were primarily focused on experiencing God in personal terms while the women talked not only about themselves but also their present or absent spouse and especially depending on God in raising their children. What was declared in testimonies may reflect the influence of gender that also differentiates as well the different spirituality between men and women.

The Reverend Eldridge Spearman, the seventh pastor of Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church in Silver Spring, was the guest evangelist. In a stirring and stimulating sermon on the topic, "Moving From Success to Significance," he focused on the centrality of the new commandment of love authored by Jesus. He urged his anticipating listeners to pause and turn first to another person and declare, "Neighbor, I love you." Everyone followed his directions laughing in fear and ill at ease.

Then the Howard University Divinity School graduate preached like a Baptist and created the old fashion practice of "call and response" dialogue between the preacher and the people in the pews. Spearman declared, "If you're not doing something significant in your life, it does not matter how long you live." He described success as efforts to benefit oneself personally whereas significance involves serving others as well to improve and advance the common good.

Spearman, a former legislative aide to the District's Congressman Walter Faunteroy, maintained that, "God wants to do something in our lives beyond ourselves." He added that the church is not only ours by membership but also because the people of God also engage in the purpose and plan of God. He emphasized that, "Success means nothing if we do not also help others." He suggested that people of faith need "to seize the moment and grasp the opportunity to serve God." The 60-year-old minister said that people of faith should "not only speak for moral values but for justice as well." The Christian, he advised must realize that the current age remains also "kingdom building time."

Through service, Spearman suggested, God "gives one moment in time when I can be more than I am" by serving others and not only focused on achieving personal success. The faithful cannot live only for themselves but must discover that "God put something within us so that we can do something significant" not serving our personal interests only but to also share and care for others.

Each night nearly a hundred people attended the preaching mission. One night some long time members of Trinity rose to their feet clapping to the beat of the music. Each night of the revival was devoted to different populations including men, women and youth. One member commented, "I don't know if I was revived but I know I was converted."

Trinity Preaching Mission 2007

Photos courtesy of Rodney Lewis



Mary and Crew



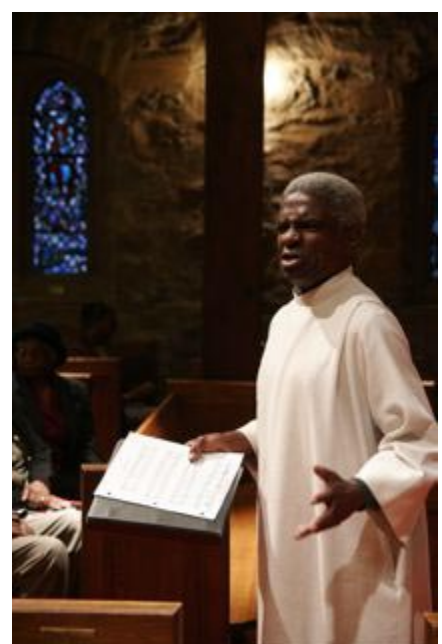
Men's Night Choir



The Lessons



Our Rector



Praise and Worship



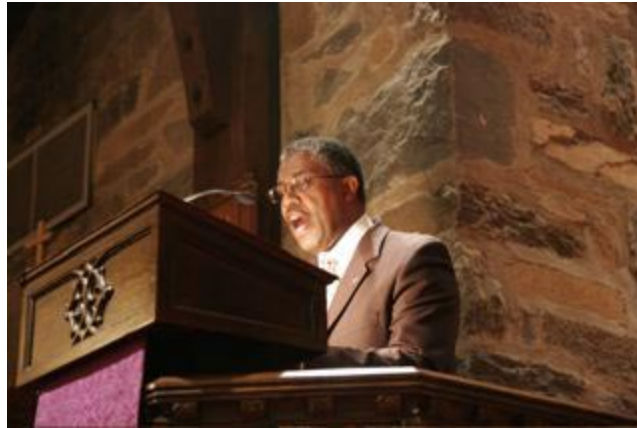
The Gospel



The Lessons



Rev. Spearman reflecting



Rev. Spearman Preaching God's Word



Preaching the Word



Praise and Worship Women's Night



Allison

Dear Trinity family,

We regret our extended absence. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, we have been unable to publish our newsletter since last October. Please accept our apology and continue to support our efforts as you have so graciously done so in the past. Our mission would be impossible without you.

*Gratefully, **The Trinitarian** staff*

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THE TRINITARIAN

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