

# Trinity Times

A newsletter for the members and friends of Trinity Episcopal Church

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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The Rev. Trula Hollywood, Deacon

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## Early Pentecost - July - 2006

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Greetings,

I walked over by the Susquehanna River today, as did many others, to watch the force of the water as it rose and threatened to spill over into our community. I began to consider the strength of the water and to compare it to this season of Pentecost.

Pentecost begins with fire and wind in such force that people were truly afraid but also in awe of the power of the Holy Spirit. The rush and force of the river today makes me think of the power of the Holy Spirit. I am fearful but also cognizant of the awesome power of the water.

Some of the awe comes from knowing that the possibility of flooding, of the loss of home and maybe even life, is a lesson for me to learn about how much control I really have over the happenings in my life.

I, like a few other people I know, have a strong desire to somehow control the forces in life. I know that this is a mere illusion for the most part. It is true; I have control over how I behave and how I react to outside forces. I, of course, have some control over my health but not total control.

We all face the storms in life; the illness, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, the loss of financial security. This is why we need to draw on the power of the Holy Spirit. We can't control and we can't face the storms in our lives without drawing from that power.

As the world around us presents with hunger, death, disaster and war, our focus must remain on the real force in our lives so that we may be able to help those that suffer.

There are people right here in our valley that face these real life dilemmas. They also face loneliness, substance abuse, physical abuse and many other social concerns.

We can be the force in the lives of those facing these circumstances. We are, ourselves, an awesome force to contend with when we draw our strength from the right source. I believe most of us don't even come close to recognizing our potential for accomplishment.

The river represented to me not only a symbol of the Holy Spirit but also of the circumstances in life with which we have no control.

I find that if I take the circumstances and bring God with me into those circumstances, I can survive and accept that some things are just beyond my control.

Trinity is in for many changes within the next several months. I will be ordained in August and all of us will be looking forward to helping our church grow. The potential within the people who belong to Trinity is awesome. There is great potential for the people of Trinity to be a real asset to those in our community as well. The Holy Spirit is working amongst us and together we will face the glory and the storms ahead.

There has already been much effort and I am confident that there is more to come. I, for one, am looking forward to meeting the challenges ahead of us!

God's Blessings,  
Deacon Trula



Date: Thursday, June 29, 2006 7:08 PM

**Note #28611 from PAUL MARSHALL to BETHLEHEM OF PA:**

Croutons,

Nothing in my professional and spiritual life has been as rewarding and challenging as serving as your bishop. Ten years have gone by very quickly.

I think the most important thing I have learned in our time together is the extent to which Grace is a living reality. I have participated in both ends to the process of forgiving and being forgiven, teaching and learning, leading and following. I have overcome enough of my own fears to know that wherever people actually want to be reconciled to each other in Christ, God provides the way. The life of this diocese is so much more than the sum of its parts, and only God can be behind that reality.

While I will go to my grave believing that leadership is essential, I live with the happy knowledge that this diocese, which does not rest on huge endowments, works because so many people, adults and children, pitch in on so many levels. When I consider the nearly 100% participation in our partnership with Sudan and in response to Hurricane Katrina, I see what St. Paul means by the Body of Christ functioning for its Head, the Lord Jesus.

When I came here, I came believing with the early Church (and dear Bishop Seabury) that the bishop's primary colleagues are not fellow bishops, but the local clergy. I am profoundly grateful for the community our priests and deacons create, community of prayer, teaching, and learning. Over the years I have come to look forward to our monthly small group meetings, from which I always take away more than I bring.

Diana joins me in thanking you for having us among you. It is a high privilege and certainly the source of much joy.

I would like to say more and no doubt will, but typing with one finger is a bit exhausting. I ask for your continued prayers for our common ministry, and especially for my healing. As some of you know, there were some complications to this third surgery that are adding to the discomfort of recovery. Nothing, however, looms that will keep me from resuming the regular schedule of events and visitations in September.

For the future: our two tasks of evangelism and work with the Sudanese will give us much to do, and I ask that we continue the excellent job of keeping our focus on those ministries.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the various special events scheduled for the summer, and join you in thanksgiving that we were spared a repeat of the 1972 flood.

Yours in Jesus' service,

+Paul

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**What really happened at this June's General Convention?**

You can hear first hand from the deputies who attended at a gathering on Monday, July 10, at Prince of Peace, Dallas at 7 p.m.

While the news stories we hear emphasize politics and issues, the process of General Convention is rooted in prayer, Bible study and worship. No vote or decision is made without prayer and the invocation of the Holy Spirit.

We can coordinate transportation through the church office, making final arrangements on Sunday, the 9th.



### Valley Food Pantry

The first Sunday of the month is our "Food Pantry Sunday," but don't worry if you forget. You may bring food any Sunday. There are those in need right here in our neighborhood who will be grateful that you shared.

### The Bridge

The Bridge of Penn-York Valley Churches helps those in need with cash, furniture, clothing, utility bills, and other emergency needs. Your donation is tax deductible. You can write a check to Trinity with "The Bridge" on the *for* line of your check.

### How Does Your Garden Grow?

Lots of flowers? How about sharing for the altar? Too many zucchini? Bring them to church to share!

*God willing*  
*The Right Reverend Paul Victor Marshall*  
*VIII Bishop of Bethlehem*  
*will ordain*  
*The Reverend Trula Louise Hollywood*  
*to the sacred order of priests*  
*in Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church*  
*on*  
*Tuesday, August 15, 2006*  
*The Feast of St. Mary the Virgin, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ*  
*at Church of the Redeemer*  
*in Sayre, Pennsylvania*  
*at 7 o'clock in the evening*  
*Your prayers and presence are requested*

*Clergy, white stoles*

*A reception will follow*

*R.S.V.P by August 1 - 570-731-4280*

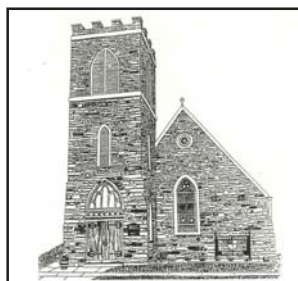
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### July Highlights

Sunday, July 16, Vestry Meets

Saturday, July 29, Bishop's Day with Kids, St. Luke's Scranton

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**July at Trinity**