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Trinity Times

July 2008

A DISCERNING COMMUNITY

By Harry Leip

The act of discernment, the “distinguishing between” or “sorting out” of things, is a crucial component in every adult’s life. In our lives we may discern what profession to pursue, where to live and what type of faith community to join. The process of discernment for ministry gives an inquirer the opportunity to wade into the deceptively deep waters of God’s call, held afloat by the community.

The discernment for Holy Orders invites a person to listen closely to three voices – God’s voice, the community’s voice and the person’s voice. As Christians, we are all called into ministry through the waters of Baptism; the purpose of the spiritual discipline of discernment helps to answer the question: *Called into what?* This spring, a discernment group was formed to work with Harry Leip to answer the open-ended question, “to what is God calling him?” The discernment group will be meeting throughout the summer to help focus and reflect with him on personal and communal aspects of call to ministry. Through silence, praying together and group discussion, the discernment group is helping Harry to discern a possible call to the diaconate.

This fall, we will have a noon forum on the diaconate which will discuss the theological and practical implications of this ancient and important ministry which the Episcopal Church, as well as many other churches, has recently reclaimed.

In addition to his discernment group, Harry is also enrolled in the Episcopal School for the Ministry’s three year theological studies program. For first year students, the summer class teaches the fundamentals of preaching. As part of his coursework, Harry will be preaching at Trinity on Sunday, July 20 and Sunday, August 17.

***THE REV. ANNE KELSEY IS ON VACATION UNTIL MID-JULY.
HER “NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY” WILL RETURN IN THE AUGUST ISSUE.***

COMING UP

HABITAT, ANYONE?

The **Episcopal Habitat for Humanity Project** (<http://www.ehfh.org/>) is building a house in the Jeff-Vander-Lou neighborhood this summer. This year we have a clean, breezy site with trees for shade on an open hilltop east of Grand and just north of Martin Luther King Drive, and we're building a four bedroom house with a full basement and partial second floor (under eaves) for a really nice lady and her family. Trinity has been asked to supply volunteers on **Saturday, July 12** and **Friday, July 25** (both 7:30 to 3:30 with lunch served by Habitat). There is work for all skilled and unskilled levels. Please contact Anne Hennig (314-2384513 or ahennig@wustl.edu) or Chuck McManis.

The next **Trinity Book Group** will be at 7 p.m. on **Saturday, July 19th**. We are reading *My Sister's Keeper* by Jody Picault. The gathering will be at the home of Joyce and Carlos Daughaday at 727 Yale Ave.

A DOUBLE-HEADER ON JULY 26

By *Martha Baker*

It was so much fun last year that we're doing it again: the Summer Left-behinds (those of us still in St. Louis on a hot July day while everyone else is off at band camp or at a spa in Sedona or in the rain forest in Costa Rica or at cooking school in Mexico or by the Carolina beaches or climbing the arm of the Statue of Liberty or meditating with the brothers in an abbey or cavorting on the Riviera) will picnic Saturday, July 26, 2008, at 5:30 in the South Parish Hall. Bring a dish to share.

Bonus Time in the Garden, pre-picnic:

Why: To divide irises.

Who: Gardeners or gardener-wanna-bes or people in condos who miss working in the soil. If we have enough volunteers, we can form teams for each bed of iris and be done in a jiffy.

When: July 26, 2008, 3 p.m.

How: I'll show you how if you don't know (very simple).

What: If you have a pitchfork, a trowel, and a paring knife, bring them, and I'll supply the Comet. Gloves optional.

Where: If it's hotter'n the hinges on the doors of Hades, we'll quickly dig up the irises then sit where it's cool to divide them before replanting.

Hint: It's not terribly dirty work, but wear an apron over your summer frocks, so you'll look spiffy for the Left-behinds' Picnic.

Come for one or both gatherings, stay as long as you like for either, have fun.

Lisa Will-Smith and **Mimi Will** are celebrating their **50th birthday** on **Saturday August 16** in the parish halls. The birthday bash begins at 7:30 p.m. and will include food and drink (soda, wine and beer). In lieu of gifts, please bring canned or boxed goods for the Trinity Food Pantry. Please call Lisa at 314-644-4124 to let her know that you plan to come. Casual attire required!

A funeral service for Larry Sather will be at Trinity on Saturday, July 19, at 2 p.m.

GOODS 4 GIRLS: A project to help fulfill the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

By *Alexah Strongheart*

On June 21st, a group of Trinitarians got together to sew washable and reusable sanitary pads for girls in Africa. We were able to create 73 pads in the four and a half hours we were together. Since every girl gets 5 pads – we can say that 14 girls will have an opportunity for a better education because of our work that day. Not too shabby!

Those who participated seemed to enjoy the time together and asked if we could do this again. Many thanks to: **Claire Corliss, Kim Corliss, Joan Dunbar, Betsey Gardner, Eden Harris, Marjorie Hoeltzel, Jackie Judd, Margaret Kane** (who cut from home,) **Hazel Kirk, Anne Kelsey, Harry Leip, Ed Riedel, Linda Small, and Jeff Wunrow** And a special thanks to **Doris McManis** who did so much “prep” work – from

creating patterns to grabbing cloth off sale tables to getting us a nice discount at Jackmans Fabrics, where she works.

Barbara Bradshaw and **Chuck McManis** didn't sew, but the project wouldn't have happened without them.

FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN (AND BUILDING COMMISSION)

Trinity has applied, and received notification of acceptance, for a matching grant from the Bishop's Office (actually, the Trustees of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri.) This grant will be used to update the women's restroom.

The next step is to get the Aesthetics Committee to select the color of the new toilet partitions. (Yes, the Pepto pink will be replaced, and women will actually be able to latch the stall door shut and it will stay shut!) The countertop, sinks and faucets will be replaced, and there will a lower sink and counter (more accessible for those in chairs and shorter humans,) and a higher sink and counter. And, yes, we will get rid of the stretch in front of your neighbor to access the soap, towels and trash.

The first thing women may notice this month is that the exhaust vent will automatically go on when the light does. There has not been a working vent in the ladies' room for a very long time, and that will be resolved. The flickering – psycho – lights will also be fixed.

Eventually, when the toilet partitions go up in the women's restroom, both men and women will see a baby changing station in their restroom.

Please be patient, as it will take a little time for this project to be completed. But it should be wonderful once it is!

- Alexah Strongheart



Spot is On The Spot

By Kate Worland

After a great deal of organizing, accomplished mainly by Alexah Strongheart, SPOT began to work on the Strategic Plan for Trinity, which will be ready in the fall. With the consultation of Jeff Wunrow, who initiated this process and has experience in it, we realized that we had inadvertently skipped a step.

Subsequently, we distilled the ideas proposed during the small-group brainstorming sessions into a double-sided page of suggestions that had been repeated several times. Believe me, after all of your hours of creative-thinking, this was quite a task accomplished by the committee! Now we ask you to participate just one more survey. (Please be assured that even if your idea is not on this survey, it is not forgotten. We will include all of the small-group sessions in the full report for the Vestry to review.)

“Didn't we already do a survey?” you may ask. Yes, but this survey is different and very important. It is your final opportunity to voice your thoughts before we finish the report. **Even if you were not able to attend the brainstorming sessions, even if you are not a parish member, we need your opinions now.** We need three additional pieces of information:

- Which priorities do you think are crucial?
- Which activities will you devote personal time and energy to?
- Which ideas do you oppose?

Watch the Mail for your survey and its cover letter. Every family's envelope will contain copies for **each person over twelve years old.** (Please ensure that everyone signs his or her copy before returning it.)

Because we need to incorporate this information into the final report, which is due in the fall, please mark your choices and return this **before the first of August.**

You can mail in this survey, place it in the SPOT box on the piano, or give it to a committee member: **Susan Adams, Michael Haggans, Willie Meadows, Alexah Strongheart, Ted Taylor, Barbara Uhlemann, Dick Woodhouse, or Kate Worland.**

Thank you for your valuable contributions here and in the small-group meetings.

TRINITY FOOD MINISTRY

Many companies are noting their company values in their publications. Most list values such as “recruiting and retaining superior employees” and “providing the highest customer satisfaction.” Macy’s stores had adopted “giving back to the community” as one of their stated values. And Trinity Food Ministry has benefited from this value. The Macy’s Galleria store has for the third time held a food drive among its employees and donated the food and cash to our pantry. This year the store has established a goal of \$1,919 as well as donations of food. Macy’s Foundation will match dollar for dollar all cash donations of \$25 or more. Thank you Macy’s Galleria employees!!!

These gifts and all donations of food and money are greatly appreciated. The statistics for June show an increase of 16% in the number of clients visiting the pantry. In total, 463 came for food, of which 49 or 10.5% had never previously received food from our pantry.

This month, with school children enjoying vacation and not receiving lunch at school, we need peanut butter.
- Steve Turner

GREEN CORNER

RETAILERS OFFER RECYCLING FOR CFL BULBS

(Excerpted from a June 24, 2008 article by Stephanie Rosenbloom in the New York Times)

Some big retailers are promoting compact fluorescent light bulbs as a way to save energy. But improper disposal of the bulbs creates a hazard, because they contain small amounts of mercury.

Recycling them is about to get easier. Home Depot, the nation's second-largest retailer, will take back old compact fluorescents in all 1,973 of its stores in the United States, creating the nation's most widespread recycling program for the bulbs. All United States Home Depots will take part in a new program.

Until now, consumers had to seek out local hazardous waste programs or smaller retail chains willing to collect

the bulbs for recycling. Some consumers have waited for retailers like Wal-Mart to have a designated recycling day. Others bought kits to mail the bulbs to a recycling facility. The Environmental Protection Agency has been looking into putting bulb drop-off boxes at post offices. But those plans are not final, and across most of the country, recycling the bulbs has been inconvenient at best. Home Depot's program, which will accept any maker's bulbs, will bring relatively convenient recycling within reach of most households.

Both Home Depot and Wal-Mart, the nation's largest retailer, have vigorously promoted the bulbs as part of their commitment to the environment. Wal-Mart announced in October 2006 that it wanted to sell 100 million compact fluorescents by the end of 2007. It surpassed that goal, selling 193 million bulbs to date. Wal-Mart has accepted expired bulbs at take-back events in particular markets and is exploring how to do it consistently on a national level. The need for a national recycling program became apparent to Home Depot as sales of compact fluorescents, which had been slow compared with sales of incandescent bulb, climbed to 75 million last year, from about 50 million in 2006. And a recycling program is likely to drive even more people to Home Depot.

Lately, consumers have been getting the message — in stores, from the media and through awareness campaigns — that compact fluorescents use up to 75 percent less energy, last longer and cost less over time than incandescent bulbs. The average household reduces its energy budget by \$12 to \$20 a month using compact fluorescents. Additionally, better technology has made the bulbs' harsh glow somewhat warmer and softer, though many people still object to it.

Mercury is found in other common household items like electronics, appliances and pesticides. Its vapors, however, can harm people and pollute the environment, which is why recycling is encouraged. (In some places it is against the law not to recycle the bulbs.)

The E.P.A. devotes pages of its Web site to cleanup instructions for broken compact fluorescents. Before even beginning to clean up a spill, consumers are advised to leave the room (along with their pets), open a window and shut off any operating air heating or cooling systems. That may seem foreboding, but experts see a greater health risk from the mercury emissions produced by coal-burning plants to power less efficient bulbs.

The Environment and Spirituality Group meets regularly on the second Sunday of each odd month. The next meeting is Sunday, July 13, noon to 1 in the Library. All are welcome!

PARISHIONER PROFILE

BRIAN ALMS

By Etta Taylor

Brian Alms may have the distinction of driving the farthest distance each Sunday morning to worship at Trinity. It takes about 50 minutes, he says, to get here from Godfrey, Illinois, near Alton, where he has lived since the spring of 2004. And why here from there? Well, he says, when he decided to finally “settle down” near family, after travels around Illinois and Iowa in various careers, he built a house and then went looking for a church. A friend, who knew the Diocese of Missouri, said he thought since Brian had been accustomed to a more high church tradition, he might want to check out either Christ Church Cathedral or Trinity here in St. Louis. The latter was his choice and he is delighted to have become part of our community,

Asked about the name “Alms”, Brian started out thinking it was probably English. But in doing a bit of genealogic searching he found someone living in the Kansas City area with that name and got in touch with him. The name was spelled the same, but the pronunciation there was “Ams” and the derivation was Dutch. It was thought that perhaps that the first group of the family had come to our country as mercenaries to fight in the Revolutionary War, had stayed on in Pennsylvania, then later moved west as the country expanded and cheap land became available.

Both Brian’s parents came from and lived in Peoria. They were married nine years before Brian was born and then, three years later, his sister, Carol joined them. But the parents divorced in the early 50s and Mrs. Alms went back to work – for the telephone company. Brian says that he and Carol had to grow up pretty fast then and learned quickly to take responsibility for their own lives. Brian went to high school in Peoria and then on to Bradley University in the same city, earning a degree in history. After that he went to the University of Iowa and in 1967 was awarded a Master’s in history. He got another Master’s in 1973, this time in Library Science, also from the U. of Iowa. Between these two degrees, he taught school back in Peoria and thought he would continue on with that as a career, but budgets cuts dictated otherwise. Brian heard of a job available in Kankakee, IL, went to interview there, liked it and ended up directing library programs for the Kankakee School

District for some 25 years, becoming known as “Mr. Library”!

Retirement was next and what to do? He tried Florida, and decided against that; the same with going back to Iowa. His gut feeling was that he wanted to be close to his sister and her two sons, Jonathan and Jim, who lived in Alton. Carol agreed and showed him where a new subdivision was being built outside town, called Levis Estates. Brian, who have never even owned property before, is now the President of the Homeowners’ Association there and loves everything about his new home. There is room for his many books – many of them on Civil War history of which he is a real “buff”; he has visited almost all of the major Civil War battlefields. Other interests for him are classical music, especially choral music, and stamp collecting – of uncirculated U.S. stamps (although that one is sort of on the back burner now, he says.) And this new house was blessed by a retired Episcopal priest, a longtime friend of Brian’s.

Brian’s parents were not church-goers, but after their divorce Brian and Carol were sent to Sunday School at a Baptist Church on the corner near where they lived. Brian was baptized there, but after that “fell away” from church for about 40

years. It was a sense of loss, after the deaths of his mother and of his partner of some eight years, Larry, that opened up some new channels of thinking and wondering. He was visiting friends in Chicago and one Sunday morning wandered by an Episcopal Church that was getting ready for its 11 o’clock service. He said he had never seen anything like it and wanted to know more. He thought he needed to go back to Chicago, but a friend took him to St. Paul’s right there in Kankakee and that was where Brian was confirmed in 1997. In fact, he was one of the last confirmands of then Bishop of Chicago, Frank Griswold, who was installed as Presiding Bishop shortly thereafter.

At Trinity, Brian, who began to learn about liturgy at St. Paul’s, has furthered that interest being one of the Sunday morning altar party in various capacities. He was trained by Harry Leip and now serves on Harry’s Discernment Committee. “Trinity is such a tolerant, open-minded community,” says Brian, “...there are so many real quality people.” Well, we all know that is a strong focus for getting us here, even when if we are not coming from Godfrey. Welcome, Brian!

KEEPING IN TOUCH

There are happy milestone occasions in the **Kirk** family: **Laura** graduated from Grinnell College and is back at home now, working at the History Museum; her email is kirkclaur@gmail.com.

Mary Alice has finished her second year at Eden Seminary where she is working to become a UCC Pastor. Mary Alice and her husband Cary Suter are at 1528 Seven Pines Rd., Apt H, Springfield, IL 62704. Her email is maksuter@yahoo.com.

Ellie and Brian Reitz were married in Naperville, Illinois, on June 7, 2008. Joe Summers, Hazel's brother, performed the ceremony. Ellie and Brian live at 1549 Wedgefield Circle, Naperville, IL 60563. Ellie's email address is hazelekirk@hotmail.com.

Former parishioner **Betsy Porter** has her icon of St. Francis in *Originally Blessed*, a new book celebrating the 25th anniversary of Matthew Fox's landmark *Original Blessing*. The book will be introduced at a Creation Spirituality conference at DePauw University July 31-Aug. 3. Betsy's icons and other art are displayed, among other places, at St. Gregory of Nyssa in the San Francisco area, where she now lives and practices architecture. You can find out more at Betsy's website: <http://www.betsyporter.com>

IN OUR PRAYERS

We keep in our prayers those who are ill or in need:

Mimi Will, Jeanie Ader, Pat Way, Jackie Judd, Dick Weber, Janet Sanders, Sallie Fuhri, Stephen Nichols, Michael Bentz, John Drescher, Jan Dunlap, Nancy Cadenhead, Dee Scott, Eldright White, Hogan Cercelius.

...and those with ongoing challenges:

Camilleann Nelson, Kayte Foxworth, Margaret Kane, Emma Johnson, Mary Moore, Betsey Gardner, Joan Dunbar.

All who work for justice and peace: Kathi McDonald at St. George's College in Jerusalem.

Serving in the military: Chuck Clement, Chad Clement, Patricia Roddy Jones, Andrew Bredow, Scott Lehrmann, Jim Hall, Martin Burkart, Keith Burkart, Craig Hickerson, JonMichael Bentz, John Worland, Tony Elkin, Jeff Holzbauer.

Family Members: Frank Hritz, Dolores Friesen's brother, recovering from knee surgery; Christy Glenn, Marjorie Hoeltzel's granddaughter; Joseph Schmidt (and his family), nephew of Georgiana Cameron, in prison awaiting sentencing; Lorene Andris, Jim Andris' mother; JonMichael Bentz, Michael Bentz's son; Dan Clement, Alexah Strongheart's cousin, cancer; Janet Flanders, Alexah Strongheart's cousin, cancer; John Miller, Jim Pfaff's brother-in-law, recovering from a stroke; Michael (Tony) Reece, Jackie Judd's son, Barrett's esophagus; William Edwards, Jane Edwards' grand-nephew, bi-polar; John Mayhan, Bill Mayhan's brother, encephalitis; John and Gini Gardner, Betsey Gardner's step-father, terminal bone-marrow disease; Margie, Dolores Friesen's sister now in assisted living; Rebecca Turner, Steve Turner's mother; Adele Holloman, Mary Ellen Anderson's sister; Christopher Edwards and Beth Edwards, Jane Edward's nephew

Friends:

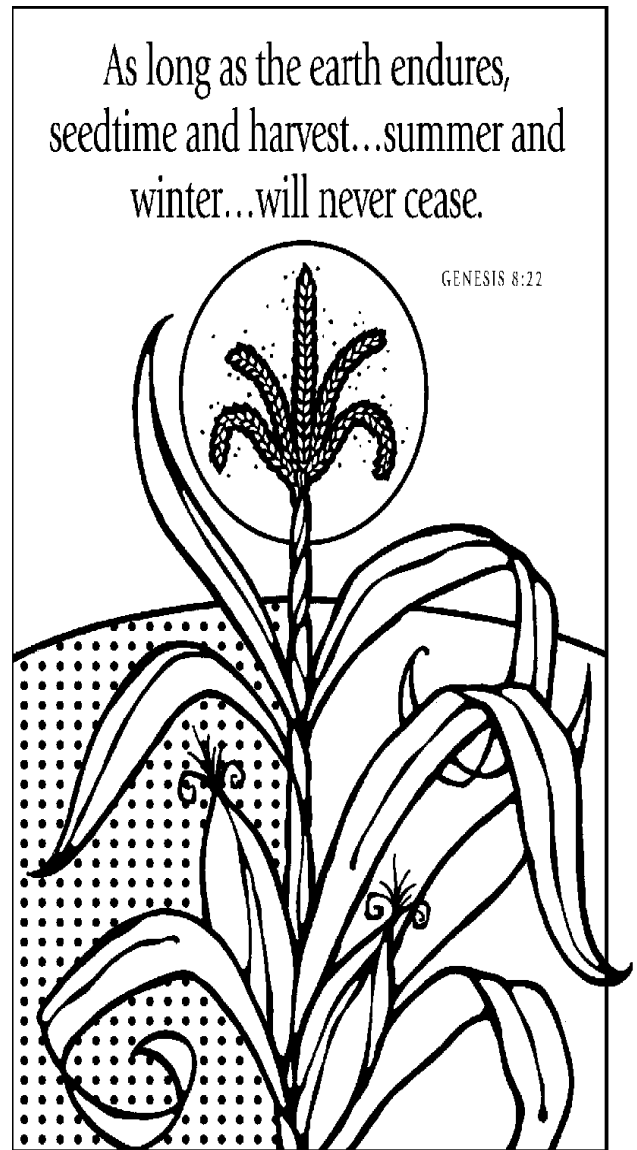
Willow Pastard; James Brooks Gibson, friend of Ann Watts, infant with health problems; Marcie McMurphy, friend of Ann Watts; Carl Gerdau, friend of Ellie Chapman, recovering from surgery; Danny Porter, friend of Greg Smith, massive stroke; Ed Etheredge, friend of Virginia Benson; Caroline Wohlforth, cancer; Joan Kinyon, friend of Barbara Bradshaw, cancer; Jim Bourne, friend of Gil Fisher, prostate cancer; Willard Cobb, friend of Darrell Berg, colon cancer; Evvy Cobb, friend of Darrell Berg, lung cancer; Chris Ferry, friend of Jim Pfaff, cancer; Frank Warthen, friend of Brian Alms; Adam Frey, friend of Brian Alms, testicular cancer; Lexie Cunningham, lung transplant, and her grandmother Jeannine Houchin; Mary Russell, friend of Joan Dunbar, hip replacement; Lillye Bryant, friend of Joan Dunbar, liver problems; Ethelyn Davis, friend of Joan Dunbar, back problems; Lucille Morgan, friend of Joan Dunbar, back and eye problems; Eran Eaton; Steve Post, friend of George and Virginia Benson; Lee Willnow, cancer; Sandra Weber, friend of Lisa Carpenter, poor health; Louise Lears, friend of Gil Fisher; Marilyn, friend of Anne Kelsey, lymphoma; Kay Chandeysson, friend of Ann and Bill Baker, stroke; Jeanne Gordon, friend of Martha Baker, recovering from hip replacement; Leon Milsap, friend of Gil Fisher, cancer; Mary O'Neal, friend of Joan Dunbar

Departed:

Larry Sather, Randy Ford, George Van Winkle, Lois Wright, Kirk McNamer.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ellen Elizabeth Weber
7 Jill McGuire
The Rev. Brooke Myers
Margaret Anne van Bakergem
9 Otha Thomas
11 Dean Bradley
13 Jan Dunlap
14 Ted Taylor
15 John Uhlemann
DeMarcus Allyn Winston
23 Rhonda Cagle
24 Etta Taylor
25 Patricia Degener
Mona Elizabeth Davis
27 Ben Davis
28 Steve Gray



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DATED MATERIAL

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Holy Eucharist

Sunday - 8:00 a.m. (Rite I) and 10:30 a.m. (Rite II)

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

(except June – August)

Thursday - 6:30 a.m.

TRINITY TIMES

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