

Trinity Shining Stars!

The Trinity Center Shining Stars are nominated by department heads and chosen by Trinity Center's Executive Director, Penn Perry. Each person is honored with a certificate and a monetary gift and presented at Trinity Center's quarterly board meetings.

The Trinity Center Board is proud to announce that Lathema Wallace, Housekeeping, and Andrew Williams, Food Services, were the recipients in February.

Congratulations and thanks to all these employees for the hard work they do to make Trinity a successful place!



TRINITY CENTER

I would like to make a donation to Trinity Center.
Please apply my donation of \$ _____ to:

- General Fund (for general use)
- Endowment Fund (restricted)
- Scholarship Fund (camp and programs)
- Employee Fund (in lieu of tips)

Please make checks payable to Trinity Center.

I wish my gift to be made:

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Please send acknowledgment of my gift to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please cut out and return this form to:

Trinity Center
P.O. Drawer 380
Salter Path, NC 28575

Thank you for your gift!

Trinity Center's Vision Statement:

"Trinity Center welcomes all people to the spiritual home of Episcopalians of East Carolina, where we share God's gifts of community and hospitality in a natural coastal environment."

Soundings is published by Trinity Center, the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina.

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Salter Path, NC 28575, call us at (888)874-6287 or (252)247-5600, or trinity@trinityctr.com.

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How Can We Utilize Trinity Center: As a parish? Group? Individual? Youth?

Mickie Whitley, Assistant Group Coordinator

Trinity Center is a comfortable and casual place offering a serene atmosphere away from everyday distractions. Many people think of us like a favorite jacket or pair of earrings—especially groups that come year after year. We are the “go to” option that is sure to satisfy. But for those new to Trinity, we are as an admired garment one wonders how to pair with the rest of the wardrobe.

Trinity Center is different things to different people. Hosting all types of retreats and conferences, we regularly hear the joyful noise of Choir Groups and Music Conferences mingling with the sound of the waves. During Family Retreats and Reunions, we cater to adults and children having the time of their lives together. Women’s groups hold self-proclaimed “slumber parties” nearly every other weekend while men’s groups have “guy weekends.” Both genders have Conversation Groups, Conferences, Bible Study, Writing Workshops, Immersion Arts & Crafts, Health & Wellness Focus and Therapy Groups or Yoga Retreats. Educators call us for Staff Planning and Training; County and State Governments & Associations use us for public and private sessions. And always, weekends or weekday, there are the sounds of youth of all ages playing, laughing, singing, learning—enjoying.

Our conferencing and meeting spaces are designed to support the needs of various sized groups, up to 175 people. All spaces are smoke-free, climate controlled and located within easy walking distance from one another. Our sixty plus acres span from Bogue Sound to the Atlantic Ocean and offer guestrooms with private baths, youth dormitories, dining facilities, private beach access and pavilion, swimming pools, indoor and outdoor chapels and meditation gardens, sound-side docks, outdoor activity fields and ball courts, numerous walking trails over dunes and through salt marshes, glimpses of wildlife or flora and fauna of the maritime forest ...we even have Bogue Banks’ only tunnel and our own private little island for meditation!

Please come and enjoy the accommodations at Trinity Center. We guarantee a setting that will refresh your spirit.



Download Soundings online at www.trinityctr.com

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Volume 17, Issue 1

Summer Sound to Sea from a Pelican's View:

-Kelli Kaelin, Sound to Sea Instructor and Karena Bond, Lead Sound to Sea Instructor

Grandma Pelican,

It's that time of year again! I saw a flyer for Summer Sound to Sea at the fishing pier. I remember flying over Trinity Center last year and seeing all of the campers having a blast! In the morning, campers got out of cars and ran around screaming and laughing in the field. When they were all called inside, I heard lots of loud, exciting songs coming from the building. When the songs were finished, they came out in smaller groups. A bit later, I saw them in the sound fishing for food. They picked it up as if they were going to eat it, then set it free. Other times I flew over the pond and they were doing the same thing! Silly kids! Some of the kids went into the maritime forest. I'm not sure what they did in there because the trees are so dense. Sometimes Sydney Squirrel would tell me stories of children looking under logs and through the trees for food. It seemed as though they were looking for their nuts, but they never ate anything there either! When they finally got hungry enough from looking at all of that food, they ate overlooking the ocean. My friends Carl Cardinal and Brenda Blue Jay hung around waiting for the little ones to share a snack, but they never did! Everything seemed to calm down after they ate and I could sit nearby and listen to the stories that they told. The campers broke up into groups again after story time and went looking for materials to build their nests. The things they chose didn't look very functional for nests, but they did look nice when they hung them on the walls. Sometimes they even sparkled! When the campers finished with all of that hard work, they came back outside with their bright colored swimming feathers on! They all met back at the feeding spot before flocking together on the beach and in the ocean. It's always the best part of my day to fly over and watch the campers enjoying the sand, sun, and surf; sometimes they would even build things in the sand! The saddest part of my day came when the campers left the beach. That meant it was time for them to return home, but not without playing a few more games of course! Who knows what adventures they'll have this summer?! Maybe I can join them!

Love,
Penelope Pelican



Camp Trinity Summer 2015: Send a Child! Sponsor a Child!

-Mary Beth Bradberry, Camp Trinity Director

Attention Camp Trinity Supporters: Have you signed up a child for camp? Want to sponsor a child to come to camp? Welcome Packets for summer 2015 have gone in the mail! Also, there's GREAT NEWS - Camp Trinity still has spaces in SEVERAL camp sessions!

You may also sponsor a child to come to Camp Trinity by donating to our Scholarship Fund. This fund allows us to continue to operate Camp Trinity on a need-blind basis, so that all children who obtain a place in camp are able to attend camp, and so that Christian community is available to all our children. This fund is replenished yearly by individuals and churches of the Diocese of East Carolina, as well as by the diocese itself. This past year, we disbursed about \$40,000 to help more than 100 children attend Camp Trinity. Help send a child to Camp Trinity!

Call today to see what's available and send in an application to reserve your spot! (252)247-5600 ext. 17 or www.trinityctr.com/camp and click on the "DOWNLOADS" tab.



The Way Forward:

-Penn Perry, Executive Director

Itend to tell people that Trinity Center should always expect two weather emergencies a year. One of those is almost always a hurricane, while the other might be anything from a severe lightning storm to a bad nor'easter. The most likely culprit, however, is the snow/ice event.

For two weeks in February, Trinity Center (and most of the rest of the eastern United States) really took it in the chin from a circular pattern of cold weather systems. We had a couple of instances of snow/ice, and at one point the entire property remained below freezing for almost 60 hours. This event caused us all sorts of problems.

I have heard Trinity Center described as a bunch of buildings on a forest of telephone poles. In order to best survive potential hurricanes, most of our buildings are built up off the ground so that extreme winds and storm surge can move underneath. Oddly enough, what helps us in one weather emergency can hurt us in another. Our pipes are often up in the air underneath those buildings, which means they are exposed to the elements when it is very cold. No matter how well-insulated they are, many of them will freeze and burst when it is below freezing for over two full days. During this weather event, even with all the faucets dripping and the thermostats set to keep interiors warm, we had fifteen pipes burst, with guests on property.



Such a challenging time requires a staff willing to work hard and think creatively. I observed many members of my staff working tirelessly to keep our guests in spaces with running water and hot water. I listened to them planning car pools to make sure key personnel made it over the icy bridges onto the island. I watched them keeping smiles on their faces as we continued to offer our best service to the guests on property. Thankfully, our guests were mostly good-humored about the entire event, which made it easier on us.

We did lose a fair amount of business, especially school business. Much of North Carolina dealt with the cold weather, and several schools just could not make it to Trinity Center. Most of the schools were able to re-schedule their events. Luckily for Trinity Center, our emergency fund was well-stocked thanks to the recent generosity of our owners, the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina.

I suppose if there's a silver lining to be had, it's that spring seems to be upon us around property. The weather is in the mid-60s today, and the sun is shining. Trinity Center, like a lot of places, just feels better when the weather is nice and the greenery is growing. I must admit that I am glad to be able to once again walk around property without a jacket.

Come and visit when you can.

Trinity Center Wish List: This Issue's Most Needed Item!

Golf carts! Many of you have probably seen Trinity Center staff buzzing around on golf carts to meet the needs of guests. Did you know, however, that there are many groups and people who request to use a golf cart for the duration of their Trinity Center stay? It's true! Groups can rent out our "guest golf cart" to help with mobility issues, etc. Unfortunately, our current guest golf cart is starting to show its age and will soon need to be retired. The small fee we charge for use only covers our maintenance costs and not cart replacement. If you know of any gently used (or new) golf carts needing a new home, please contact us! We have room to spare in the garage and would love to find a donor to provide our guests a new ride!

