

A Walk on the Wild Side... At Trinity Center

-Suzannah Crandall, Program Coordinator

The 62 acres of Trinity Center property span from the sound to the sea and includes extensive maritime forest. Guests can enjoy the sights and sounds of these diverse habitats as they traverse the island on one of the many trails on property. The trails are not only utilized by conference guests, but are also used as a learning environment by the students participating in the Sound to Sea Program each week. Trails include the Dune Trail located to the right of the tunnel, the Stations of the Cross Trail next to the Pelican House, the Marsh Walk near the conference pool as well as the gravel paths that lead from the main drive to the tunnel and the beachside of property.

Thanks to a donation from a local resident, the Dune Trail has a new addition, a Barred owl nest box. The owl box is located just off the trail in full view and will hopefully be home to a nesting pair in the near future. Be sure to explore all that Trinity Center has to offer on your next visit on one of the numerous trails. Stop in the Point of Arrival for a map of trail locations.



Sound to Sea Instructors, Grant and Shane, attaching the new owl box

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.

Address all correspondence to: Soundings, Trinity Center, P.O. Drawer 380

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

Editor: Mary Beth Gay

Executive Director: Penn Perry

Trinity Center Board Members: Anna Fay Campbell, The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel, The Rev. John Frazier (Chair), Jan Hindsley, The Rt. Rev. Santosh Marray, The Rev. Stephen Mazingo, Cornell McGill, Jean Moore, The Rev. Mary Ogus, Carl Ragsdale, Dr. John Rozier, The Rev. Canon Matthew Stockard, The Rev. Everett Thomas, Robert Underwood and Jennifer Warner.



Trinity Center
PO Drawer 380
Salter Path, NC 28575

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #5
Salter Path, NC



Trinity Center
Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina
Spring 2011

The Presiding Bishop Visits Trinity Center: Go Beyond Green

A week before the annual observance of Earth Day, The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori visited the Diocese of East Carolina. Her visit included a trip to Trinity Center to spend time with high school young people from across the diocese. This was an exciting and rare opportunity! Each Deanery sponsored five high school youth to attend the event. Saturday, April 16, the youth had a chance to get to know the Presiding Bishop and ask their own questions.



After the question and answer session the group headed outside to explore God's creation. They met with two of Trinity Center's Sound to Sea Environmental Education program staff members. The youth participants, as well as the Presiding Bishop and Bishop Daniel and Bishop Murray, were introduced to the habitats on our barrier island. They learned about the importance of the sound and salt marsh, ate wild edibles from the maritime forest, and eventually found their way to the beach pavilion. Here Bishop Jefferts Schori, who holds a Ph.D in Oceanography from Oregon State University, shared with us information from the research she has done in this precious habitat.



Trinity Center was honored to host this wonderful program where the youth of our diocese were able to spend a morning learning about their faith and the world in which we live with such an esteemed guest.



Camp Trinity:

Mary Beth Gay, Camp Trinity Director

Camp Trinity is looking forward to another fabulous summer full of children! We are proud to say that we are currently full in the majority of our camp sessions, many of them with healthy wait-lists! This year, we have continued our increase in requests for scholarship help. This fund allows us to make Camp Trinity open to all children and allows us to help children in need. We want all children who obtain a place in camp to be able to attend camp, and we want our Christian community available to all our children. This fund is replenished yearly by individuals and churches of the Diocese of East Carolina. This past year, we disbursed over \$40,000 to help pay for more than one fifth of the total attendees of Camp Trinity. This is the most we have ever disbursed! Our requests so far this year have continued to increase, and we are working with many programs across the diocese to help children attend camp. Working with the Episcopal Farmworkers Ministry and St. Peter's, Washington, we help Hispanic children from the eastern and western parts of the diocese. We also have a local program running with Second Blessings that provides financial assistance to local children who have received a spot in camp. We assist in covering the costs of the volunteers for Adventurers camp, our camp for the developmentally challenged. We always try to meet the needs of those who apply directly to us for financial assistance. Help us keep this fund alive and help send a child to Camp Trinity!



Camp Trinity's summer will officially kick off Saturday, June 4 with our Discoverers I session. Be sure to go online and check out our website: www.trinityctr.camp/campt for pictures and fun throughout the summer!

Summer Sound to Sea:

-Mindy Furrer, Program Director

It is beginning to feel a lot like summer here at Trinity Center. As we approach the beginning of May the warmth reminds us that summer is just one short month away. The Sound to Sea program is gearing up for another summer of fun. The Summer Sound to Sea Day Camp kicks off its first week on June 15th. We will again utilize four themes to help campers explore this beautiful barrier island property. During "Icky Creatures" campers will see the wonder of some of the smallest critters as they dip net in the pond for nymphs and other bugs or look to the forest floor for the elusive roly-poly. They will also get up close to some of the larger animals our habitats have to offer by learning about sea turtles and whales during our "Water Wonders" theme. What better way to explore this island than by using your five senses! During "Sensing It" campers will have the opportunity to taste wild edibles, listen to the sounds of the ocean and the wind blowing through the forest, and look with new eyes at these beach habitats. Or they can find out how animals and humans have learned to survive on this island during the "We Will Survive" theme. The themes help the campers choose up to three weeks of day camp, each time seeing the habitats of a barrier island in a new light.



**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!

My Thoughts:

-Penn Perry, Executive Director

For Trinity Center, the busy season runs from the beginning of May through the end of October, which means we have now officially entered our busy season. We're not closed from November through March, of course, but we are doing less business, especially during the week. What we try to do is perform all sorts of maintenance and housekeeping tasks during our quiet season so that the center can run well when it absolutely must. So for us, as for many households, with the arrival of spring comes spring cleaning.

What does spring cleaning mean for our sixty-two acre property filled with many buildings? For us, it means all sorts of tasks are being performed all over Trinity Center. In our two dining rooms, all tables and chairs are removed and deep cleaned, all carpets are washed, all vents and ducts are removed and deep cleaned, and all windows are washed. For housekeeping, all common areas including furniture are deep cleaned, all rooms are deep cleaned, and all baseboards are wiped down. For maintenance, undergrowth (or overgrowth) is pruned all over property, decks are power-washed, storage areas are deep cleaned and organized, and air conditioning units are checked and repaired. Up in administration, old files are purged and new promotional materials are generated and distributed. Meanwhile, Sound-to-Sea is closing its academic year programs and preparing for summer day camp, and Camp Trinity is just gearing up for its summer season.

This year our spring cleaning had an additional purpose as we prepared for a recent visit from Katharine Jefferts Schori, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States. Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori came to Trinity Center as a part of her visit to the Diocese of East Carolina. She participated in a diocesan youth retreat that also involved Sound-to-Sea. Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori, who has an academic background in oceanography, was quite impressed with our environmental education program. We were very happy to show off our facility, and I believe our own Bishop Daniel was quite proud as well.

As a result of all the spring cleaning, Trinity Center is looking its best right now. We are even flying a new Episcopal flag in our main entrance. Though much of our camp and conference business happens with groups from outside our own diocese, we are still proud to be the camp and conference center of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina. Come and visit when you can.



Beloved Rocking Chairs Around Trinity Center:

Trinity Center is in the process of replacing its rocking chairs all over property. We have our Adirondack rocking chairs custom-made by a local craftsman, and we'd love you to consider donating one. For \$350, you can cover the cost of the replacement of one of our chairs and have a plaque with your name on it attached to the rocking chair. You may also donate in memory or honor of someone special. Here's your chance to have your name or the name of someone you love placed on Trinity Center property. If you are interested, please contact Arleen Oliver at Trinity Center by phone (888-874-6287) or email (aoliver@trinityctr.com).

