

THE TRISAGION

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Join us in Supporting the Chapel!

There's now *even more* good news about spreading the Good News in Snyder County! Last month, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit made an offer on a half-acre parcel of land in Beavertown. It was everything we were looking for: central to our mission field, attractive, easily accessible, visible, with plenty of street parking. Our offer of \$40,000 was accepted (the asking price was \$56,000), and we now have 90 days to close.

Think about it: we can make this happen by God's Grace if only:

- one (1) donor gives \$1,500,..... \$1,500
 - two (2) donors give \$1,000 each,..... \$2,000
 - four (4) donors give \$500 each, \$2,000
 - eight (8) donors give \$250 each, \$2,000
 - ten (10) donors give \$100 each, and..... \$1,000
 - twenty (20) donors give \$50 each..... **\$1,000**
- \$9,500**

Already about \$24,000 has been saved since the Chapel first started earmarking funds in April of 2008, a few months after the community's first reader's service. Last month, Chapel members immediately gave another \$9,200, leaving us only \$7,000 shy of the total we will need (not including closing costs).

This would give us more than enough to meet the sale price and the costs of closing. Of course, each person's circumstances are different, and anything you can donate helps our cause. If need be, your offering may even be made in six installments, one per month through the year's end.

Here is how you can help: Prayerfully consider a one-time donation/pledge to the Chapel of the Holy Spirit Building Fund to help us raise the remaining funds.

We pray God's blessings on you and earnestly hope that you will join us in spirit and in prayer in this undertaking. To give, simply detach the



The Chapel's choir completely fills the back of their current worship space making finding a new home more necessary.

enclosed form in this edition of *The Trisagion* and return it (and your check, if possible). Specify "Chapel of the Holy Spirit Building Fund" in the memo line.

Thank you in advance!

- Fr. Basil and the Chapel of the Holy Spirit Community

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
 119 S. Sparks Street
 State College, PA 16801
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Schedules

	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Altar Servers*
July 3	Julianne Vaughan and Beth Roberts	Megan Leathers and David Swisher	Team A
July 10	Elaine Fites and Dee Patel	Ben Roberts and Ed Miranda	Team B
July 17	Mat. Dea Biezdorf and Mat. Kelly Olynyk	Lashyn and Mark Radomsky	Team A
July 24	Russian Ladies	Melody Thompson and Mark Fedun	Team B
July 31	Karen Cartel and Dana Van Dulin	Megan Leathers and David Swisher	Team A
August 7	Mat. Jennifer Gadhnan and Megan Leathers	Ben Roberts and Ed Miranda	Team B

* Team A: C. Dook, N. Fedun, M. Haupt, A. Miranda, N. Peltan, S. Olynyk, and Jn. Stockis
 Team B: J. Cartel, M. Dook, P. Dook, J. Miranda, B. Olynyk, S. Peltan, and Jn. Stockis

■ CHAPEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT Special Notice: All-Parish Meeting Scheduled

There will be a special called meeting of the entire parish of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church on Sunday, July 31 following the Divine Liturgy to discuss and approve the purchase of a 0.55-acre parcel of land in Beavertown, Snyder County, Pennsylvania, provided all conditions of the contract have been met and sufficient funds have been raised or pledged.

1. A majority of registered parish members, age 18 and over, is required for quorum. Voters must have fulfilled their Lenten obligations of Confession and Holy Communion to participate.
2. Two-thirds (2/3) of those attending and voting must vote in the affirmative to approve this purchase.
3. Should a quorum not be present, the meeting shall be adjourned until Sunday, August 7, at which time those members present and voting shall constitute a quorum, a two-thirds vote in the affirmative being required to purchase.
4. Title will be held in trust for the Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania, by Holy Trinity Parish Corporation. "Chapel of the Holy Spirit" is a legal alias of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church.

— Fr. John Reeves, Rector, and
the Holy Trinity Parish Council

Our Calling to Evangelize

The Church is not a museum for historical nostalgia. Nor is the Church an archeological site from the time of Justinian. The Church is indeed the living body of Christ. She is dynamic and always permeated by the power of the Holy Spirit who descended on the disciples like a mighty wind. The Church must live with the conviction that She is always sent. Therefore, we must "go" and never stop until the end of time... [As] the Perfect Missionary our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ [said], "lift up your eyes and see how the fields are already white for harvest" (John 4:35).

— Metropolitan PHILIP (Saliba) of New York

Team to Attend "Boot Camp"

BINGHAMPTON, NY – To ensure that the emerging mission community in Beavertown has a focused vision for outreach to Snyder County, a selected group from the Chapel will attend an intensive church growth and evangelism workshop here on August 1-3. In addition to developing a working plan for the future, team members will also learn about the many factors that affect church health from a variety of experts, including Fr. Jonathan Ivanoff, Holy Trinity's Natural Church Development coach, Fr. Sergius Halvrosen, Director of Field Education at St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Fr. Alexander Atty, Dean of St. Tikhon's Seminary.

Nearly 50 Students Instructed in the "Fruits of the Spirit"

Forty-eight children aged 3-14 enjoyed an exciting week of Vacation Bible School (VBS) last month, exploring St. Paul's exhortations to bear the fruits of "love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22-23). In addition to learning through dozens of activities, songs, and crafts, participants vowed to live a fuller life according to the Holy Spirit, hanging each day the actions they planned to take on a tree that sprung up in the Parish Hall.



Chapel of the Holy Spirit Pledge Form

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please accept my tax-deductable:
 pledge donation (enclose check payable to "HTOC"; memo "CHS Building Fund".)

in the amount of:
 \$1,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250
 \$100 \$50 \$ _____
Other Amount

(Place this form in the enclosed envelope and mail/bring to: 119 S. Sparks St., State College, PA 16801.)

View more pictures from Vacation Bible School at holytrinity-oca.org!

■ NEWS & NOTES

The Orthodox Church Beyond Our Parish

OCA Bishop of N.Y. and N.J. Affirms Sanctity of Marriage

NEW YORK, NY – On June 24, the same day public officials redefined the meaning of marriage to include unions between same-gendered persons, Bishop MICHAEL of New York and New Jersey issued a statement on the sanctity of marriage.

Repeating the affirmations of marriage, family, sexuality, and the sanctity of life adopted by the Orthodox Church in America's (OCA) Holy Synod of Bishops in 1992 and echoed by all the canonical bishops of North America (SCOBA) in 2003, his archpastoral letter states, "As children of God, we are called to conform our sexual behavior to the commandments of Christ. As Christians, whether single or married, we are called to a life of chastity, pleasing to the Lord. This means struggling against those passions that incline us to "fall short of the glory of God" (*Rom. 3:23*)—fornication, homosexual activity, or adultery...

"No matter what the prevailing pressure of the culture or the legislation of the state may proclaim, the timeless teaching of the Church echoes the rule of marriage revealed to us by the Lord, written in the Scripture, and re-affirmed by the wisdom and examples of the Saints. Gay marriage or any other unblest sexual activity is not the love that the Lord extols...

"Let us bear witness to the truth taught by Our Lord and lived by His Saints, in our daily conversations with our families, our fellow Christians, our neighbors and co-workers. Let us teach the Orthodox Christian vision of marriage, as a path to salvation shared by husband and wife... Let us join in prayer that the people of faith across the states of New York and New Jersey will

continue to stand fast in the divinely revealed truth of what marriage means. And let us by our example witness to the life of chastity to which every human person, made in the image and likeness of God, is called."

Visit "News & Notes" at holytrinity-oca.org to read the full text of Bishop MICHAEL's archpastoral letter.

SUMMIT TO OFFER PRACTICAL INSIGHT ON INNER-CITY OUTREACH AND MINISTRY

COLUMBUS – St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox Church will hold a two-day interactive conference here on July 26-27 for anyone interested in learning how to minister to those struggling in urban and suburban settings. Through speakers, workshops, and open discussions, the summit will explore the challenges faced by social outreaches today. Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in the host parish's community meal program and interact with individuals who have "hands-on experience" bringing the Light of Christ to those in need beyond the walls of their churches. The \$75 cost covers all materials, lunches and an evening meal. For more information, logon to midwestdiocese.org.

WATER BROUGHT TO REMOTE VILLAGE THROUGH OCMC MISSION EFFORTS

LOUPWALA, NORTHERN KENYA – Without a reliable source of water, the Turkana people here once fought to survive. Thanks to its generous donors, the Orthodox Christian Mission Center announced last month the completion of a borehole water well that will provide the people of Loupwala with water for years to come. In nearby Lodwar, OCMC funds also supported the completion of a church and will support the operations of a primary school located on that church property. This month, watch HTOC-TV, our parish's weekly digital bulletin, to view video of the Mission Center's work here.

■ MATTHEW 25

Quarters from Heaven (via Holy Trinity)

BY MELODY THOMPSON – In thinking about our quarter collection effort for Centre House (the local homeless shelter) my mind was "nudged" into one of those strange connections and I thought of the old song "Pennies from Heaven." Oldsters like myself will remember the title of the song, but how many of us ever focused closely on the lyrics?

Believe it or not, the old Bing Crosby song has a strong theological message. It first talks about not appreciating what we have until it's covered by clouds. But the lyrics also remind us that blessings can come from those clouds. Today, the residents

Performance Posted Online

The Konevets Russian Quartet performed to a packed house at Holy Trinity last month. In case you missed the concert, or wish to see it again, the group has permitted videographer Artem Balashov to post video of their full performance online. We have posted links to it on holytrinity-oca.org.

Summer Schedule Changes

Please note the following schedule changes and additions to the following ministries this summer:

- To accommodate our growing group of new catechumens now preparing for Holy Illumination, **Orthodoxy 2.0** will join forces with **Orthodoxy 101** this summer to offer specialized instruction. The combined group will meet on the second and fourth Saturdays in July and August at 4 p.m. All are welcome.
- The Junior Orthodox Youth Association (**Jr.OYA**) for children in grades 5-8 will meet on July 24 this month; the high school group (**OYA**) is postponing its July meeting to plan an overnight August retreat.
- **Vespers** is canceled on Wednesday, June 13 so the altar and nave can be repainted. An oil-based primer will be applied to remove and limit future soot buildup.

of Centre House are likely feeling that their skies are pretty cloudy. But we can help them see the "silver lining"—that there are people who care about them in their distress—by contributing quarters for their laundry needs or for parking when they go for job interviews.

Inflation may have necessitated changing pennies to quarters, but the meaning is still the same. Please help your neighbors at Centre House by depositing quarters in one of the two collection receptacles (one in the Narthex and one in the Parish Hall), which can be identified by the photograph of Centre House. ■

Archdiocese Sponsors Outing

Watch the Pirates take on the Cincinnati Reds with fellow Orthodox Christians from the Archdiocese on Monday, July 18, at 7 p.m. The cost is only \$19 and includes a Pirates Ball Cap! To order tickets or learn more, contact John Schultz at (304) 479-5071 or email jpsvw@comcast.net by July 11. The event is being co-sponsored by the Archdiocesan Youth Committee and F.O.C.A.

For the Record

BAPTISM

- **Heidi Elizabeth**, daughter of Andre and Megan Wagner, baptized June 4, sponsored by Vincent and Camala Mazeski.

FAREWELL

- **Reader Willis (Mark) Mwangola** moved to Statesboro to study Supply Chain & Operations Management at the Georgia State University.

YOUR GENEROSITY

- **\$726.85** given to rebuild the Konevets Monastery on Lake Lagoda, Russia from a freewill offering collected after the Konevets Quartet concert.