

## ***The Voice of Trinity – another piece of history at Trinity***

*By Allison Dean Wright, Interviewer for the Voice of Trinity*

While most of us experience Trinity Cathedral in person - for worship and learning on Sundays and for various activities throughout the week - many others experience Trinity by listening over the radio.

Every Sunday morning for more than 70 years at 560 AM on the radio dial our beloved Trinity parish has been broadcasting to our community the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ, thought provoking insights and information on community services. Think of it. Every Sunday for more than 70 years this parish has produced "*The Voice of Trinity*". It is the oldest radio program in this area and, according to all indications, the "*Voice of Trinity*" is the longest continually running parish produced radio show in the United States.

The "*Voice of Trinity*" originally hit the airwaves in 1932 or 1933 and was a live broadcast. It then went to tape and now is on CD. The Federal Communication Commission used to mandate that you broadcast religious programs, but that is no longer a requirement.

Jim Seay, our dedicated producer, started working with the *Voice of Trinity* in 1962 at WIS Radio which is now WVOC. During that time Reverend Jim Stirling would record lessons every Thursday. The sermons were a week behind until the early 1980s. There were only 16 pieces of music at that time, but now there are 150 hymns and anthems. Jim has worked all over the world in radio – Australia, Dallas and San Antonio, Texas, Dover, Delaware, Richard and Norfolk, Virginia. Trinity is fortunate to have Jim's expertise in producing this show each week.

The Reverend Susan Heath, Canon for Adult Programs, says "I am always overwhelmed by the reach of the broadcast. I can't tell you how many times I've introduced myself to someone or had a clerk in a store read my name on a check and say 'Oh! I listen to you on the radio.' I think about the people who listen whom I will never know when I'm taping."

In addition to the clergy who participate in the show each week, members of the church act as interviewers for the second segment of the show. Lee Ruef says, "It is truly a blessing to be involved in this important and historic Cathedral ministry that both reaches out and reaches in. It is a vehicle to keep our clergy staff and the Cathedral's many exciting ministries before the community and to keep our parishioners informed and up to date. Dean Linder and the clergy staff do an excellent job Sunday after Sunday with homilies and insight. And the program provides the Cathedral with the means to play a key role in assisting community social and health programs to deliver their messages to those two audiences as well. We have a great responsibility to carry on this long tradition of service to the community and the Cathedral parish."

Sally McKay, a longtime interviewer for the "*Voice of Trinity*," says, "Being involved in the "*Voice of Trinity*" for the last many years has been one of my most meaningful involvements at Trinity. I enjoy interviewing members of our parish and the community and giving them the opportunity to share their experiences with us through the medium of radio."

By listening to the *Voice of Trinity* every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. on WVOC you can learn about the various ministries going on within the church, upcoming events, hear from the Lenten Worship speakers, meet new employees of Trinity, learn about the youth activities and Trinity Bazaar, special services, the Men of Trinity, The Daughters of the Holy Cross, the Young Adults Single and Married, and a host of other topics.

Shan Rose, another interviewer, says "Working with the VOT enriches lives of the interviewers, interviewees and audience. I know this because of the many times total strangers, within and

without the Trinity parish, once they learn my name have spontaneously told me they are regular listeners and how much they appreciate VOT. Many of those interviewed have expressed their appreciation also. I personally feel blessed by the opportunity to talk with so many dedicated, energetic folks who give so much of themselves to church and the community."

Every Sunday morning thousands listen – not just our own parishioners but people of all denominations.

"I listen to *Voice of Trinity* every Sunday that I am in town. It helps me focus on the lesson for that Sunday. The lesson and hymns help me to prepare for worship. The interview portion is usually very informative. It may be on something that is happening that I do not know about or it may give another perspective of an ongoing activity. The Dean's perspective gives much to consider and is very inspiring" says Jeri Fellers, a member of Trinity.

If you are interested in becoming an interviewer with the *Voice of Trinity* contact Allison Lee, Director of Communications, at 771-7300. You don't have to have a background in radio!