

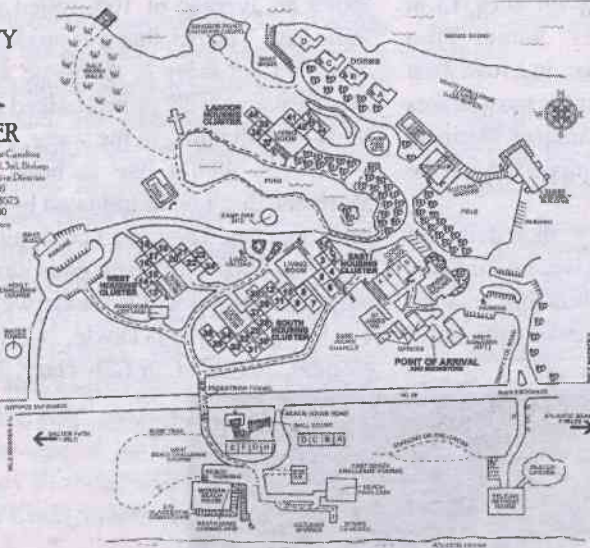
Trinity Center

For Nearly Two Decades A Vibrant Setting For Relaxation, Renewal, Recreation, Learning and Environmental Consciousness

By Ken Benson



Trinity Center
Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina
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"Alice Green Hoffman, a wealthy New England Colonial Dame, began looking for property near Beaufort, North Carolina, in 1911 as rumors of war began. After Alice visited Mr. and Mrs. John Royal in their lodge on the Isles of Pines (as Bogue Banks was then known), she purchased their lodge and all the land from present-day Atlantic Beach to

Emerald Isle. Today this land is Pine Knoll Shores, Indian Beach and Salter Path.

"C. R. "Ring" Davant of Morehead City was a close friend of Alice, and when his friend, The Rev. Thomas Henry Wright, became bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina on October 5, 1945, Ring Davant wanted these two Episcopalians to meet.

Mrs. Hoffman and Bishop Wright became good friends. During one of Bishop Wright's visits, Alice Hoffman asked him how she could donate some of her property to the Episcopal Church. Could the Diocese of East Carolina use the property as a camp for young people? Bishop Wright, realizing that a larger summer camp and a conference center than currently

existed that could be used all through the year would enhance the future ministry of the diocese, readily agreed."

Kent Cooper, renowned architect from Washington, D.C., designed this contemporary multi-use facility. He was the architect for both the Vietnam Wall and the Korean War Memorial in Washington, D.C. He was assisted locally by architect Ken Burnette.

Trinity Center has been a place for people to come for refreshment and retreat since its doors first opened in 1986. The maritime paths, the herons by the lagoon, the porch rockers all invite guests to sit, relax, and enjoy the stillness. Forty-four modern double occupancy rooms with private baths are nestled in clusters among the live oaks. Spacious meeting rooms are available for 8 to 175 persons. Guests enjoy three delicious home-cooked meals served each day in the dining hall.

Youth are served annually with Trinity sponsored programs. Camp Trinity is a summer experience designed to serve the 74 parishes of the diocese. This program offers young people between grades 3-12 an opportunity to experience camping in a beautiful setting under the nurturing guidance of a professional staff of camp counselors. In 2004, 640 campers were involved in this highly rated American Camping Association accredited site. Penn Perry, camp director and coordinator of Episcopal Youth events, proudly says "Campers share in a Christian program that helps them grow spiritually and emotionally and provides them opportunities to develop

new interests, skills and friendships." Four dormitories, two cabins per dorm, house up to 80 campers each session. Campers use Bogue Sound for sailing and canoeing. An Olympic size pool is used for swimming lessons, free swim and water carnival. Campers use the beach for swimming, sand castle building, games and beach walks. Other program facilities include a covered recreation building, an outdoor recreation field, a challenge course, an assembly building, and an open pavilion on the ocean side of the property.

Although many people know of Camp Trinity, it may come as news that they also have a day camp program that runs each week over the summer. The Sound to Sea Environmental Summer Day Program is an important part of Trinity Center's environmental ministry. Here kids come for a wonderful summer experience discovering and exploring the various habitats on a barrier island.

Last year, Trinity Center's Sound to Sea Environmental Day Camp hosted over 300 children (ages rising Kindergarten to rising sixth grade). While at the program, campers learn about the beauty of the earth around them, and how they can help protect it. By playing games and enjoying environmental activities, they also learn the value of teamwork and communication.

With the end of the summer, the Sound to Sea Program is far from winding down. In fact they are just gearing up for their busy season. Whereas Sound to Sea during the summer

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