During my time as Camp Trinity Director, I regularly told the young people under my charge who were seeking leadership positions that if they wanted the power, they probably weren’t ready for the responsibility. If that sounds suspiciously like Uncle Ben’s adage for Peter Parker (With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility), I will absolutely admit to being a lifelong comics nerd. Honestly, though, I have seen that truth played out more times than I can count over my thirty-plus years at Trinity Center. Everyone wants the power; few are ready for the concomitant responsibility.

I have had occasion over the past few months to observe my own staff come together as a team. While I have acknowledged the staff’s essential role in the recovery from Hurricane Florence, I think it might be worth naming my department heads for the vital roles they all played in pulling the Trinity Center staff together. So if you’ll just bear with me, here we go.

Mary Beth Bradberry, Trinity Center Assistant Director and Camp Trinity Director, my right hand, my friend, and my eyes and ears around property. Stephanie Rudolph, Operations Manager, who wears so many hats at Trinity Center, and who also crucially served as the primary motivator of staff during our dark days. Chris Grenier, Group Coordinator, our longest-term employee, who reassured guests that Trinity Center would be back, and who also scheduled (and rescheduled) countless groups while we were rebuilding. Mindy Furrer, Education Director, who somehow found ways to house and feed our Sound-to-Sea instructors when we had neither housing nor dining facilities. Mary Malhiot, Point-of-Arrival Head, who came to work every day and swept and raked since we had no guests to greet and no phones to answer. Steve Smith, Head of Maintenance, who never lost his sense of humor as he was persuading his department to tackle mammoth projects week after week. Georgette Cruz, Head of Housekeeping, who convinced her staff to work hand-in-hand with Maintenance doing whatever needed to be done, wherever it needed to be done, whenever it needed to be done. And Janeen Russell, Head of Food Services, who started her job in July 2018 during our busiest month, who soon after confronted the devastation that Hurricane Florence caused our dining facilities, and who still managed to feed staff lunch, sometimes over an open fire.

I count all of them as friends, and I am grateful for their leadership. I am not sure where Trinity Center would be without it.

And of course, you, Friends of Trinity Center, always you. You may not be leaders on property, but through your gifts of time, money, and prayer, you helped us find our way through a very dark time. When we count our blessings, you are always counted among them.

I cannot remember when this place has looked better. Come and visit when you can.