
THE TRINITY MESSENGER

Volume 36, Issue 4

Trinity Episcopal Church, Torrington CT

April 2008

Letter to the Parish

Dear Trinity Family,

On Monday, April 7th, I will begin the second part of my sabbatical leave, begun with the month of November this last year. I'll be back in the saddle the second Sunday in June and, except for a brief cameo appearance the end of April to present this year's class of young adults for confirmation and to take that last Sunday in April, I'll be away from Trinity. I plan to spend the time doing some writing (I think I have a book in me, and want to spend some disciplined time writing to see if that is true), investigating innovative churches of various kinds by reading and web-surfing and perhaps some visiting. I also plan to take some retreat time—some much needed 'Sabbath rest' for my soul, and to do some 'life maintenance' on our two houses and on my self. It's an odd combination of things, but much needed. The last year and a half as the sole priest in a very active parish have been good, but very hard work. And the clerical profession has its own pressures—the 24/7 on call nature of it, the privilege of accompanying people during difficult transitions in their lives, the responsibility for keeping an active organization with a huge physical plant true to its mission in challenging times and in good repair mean that I really need this time to step back, to focus on the person God has made me to be and the work God calls me to do. I need a breather so that I can continue to do this work effectively.

Trinity will have able Sunday help in David Eylers—one of our own—in April, and in the Rev. Lisa Hamilton, who will be covering for the month of May. Wednesday services will be suspended while I'm gone and will resume when I return in June. Melanie will be at the helm in the office, and Linda will be continuing her pied piper work with our children and youth. Jim Allen and Susan Jones, Trinity's wardens, will have oversight of the parish life, and Michaels Rossetti over the administrative work of the budget. Ann Bott is working hard on the tower project, and many, many people are continuing faithful ministries of presence and leadership in adult education, pastoral care, music, teaching and

Vestry leadership. You are in one another's hands, for these months and, if November was any indication, you are in very good hands indeed.

That being said, I hope that you will continue to take care of each other while I'm away. This is the essential work of any Christian community, to care for one another. If you see someone lonely or in any need, please reach out. If you find yourself in need of care, do the same. Your Trinity friends will be the hands and heart of God for you in these days. (They always are!) If you find yourself in pastoral crisis, in need of a priest, please call Jim or Susan or Melanie in the office, and they will call upon one of the clergy locally who will help.

Greet the newcomers and visitors who show up every week with the customary Trinity welcome, and if you don't know someone, put out your hand and say hello. And be nice to each other, too. I know from experience that I just blink and a month seems to pass, so we will see each other again, very soon. Meanwhile, please be assured of my love and my continuing prayers,

Ellen

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Child Care begins Sunday mornings at 7:45am in the Nursery and is available throughout all Worship Services.

9:00am Family Worship Service

service is held each Sunday that Church School is in session September thru June. This service is designed for families with very young children. In this service the teachings, the songs and the prayers are aimed at the hearts and minds of our youngest members but we all learn something each week; that we are loved by this family of faith and most important, that God loves us as we are. This service runs from 9:00am to 9:30am. This informal celebration of the Eucharist that includes child-friendly prayers, abbreviated lessons and a short homily geared for family reflection. Simple joyful music. Church School follows at 9:30am.

Fifth Sunday Celebration

Our children and youth led our final Fifth Sunday for the year on April 6th. It was one of those worship experiences that is difficult to completely put into words as the entire experience was so uplifting and inspiring that words can't really describe the experience. The leaders (our children and youth) created beautiful, meaningful prayers and led us with focus and conviction. Our guest speaker, Kelsey Urban, was so inspiring, telling us about her journey to create her Urban Denim Designs which helps purchase mosquito nets for Mozambique. Our children and youth then presented the "fruits" of their Lenten project; "Kids Helping Kids" raising money to purchase items from the ERD Funds, *Catalog for Life* (see each class's list below). We concluded the Eucharist led by our kindergarten and first graders using hand motions to our hymn "We Break Bread Together on our Knees".

Preliminary Results from Kids Helping Kids Lenten Project :

PS grade \$68.00~Purchased-chick, pig, doctor
Grades K-1 \$320.00~5 mosquito nets, 2 trees,
1 pig, 1 goat



Grades 2-4 \$238.00~1 goat, 3 mosquito nets,
1 duck, 1 goose, 1 chicken,
1 fruit tree

Grades 5-7 \$180.00~4 season agriculture gift~
spring, goat, summer seeds and
tools, fall/winter bees and training

J2A Group \$185.00~1 goat and 1 micro-loan
for bike/rickshaw



As you can see the total to date is: \$994.00!!

We are still collecting all the reading Sponsorships and mite boxes so if you haven't brought your in please do as soon as possible. We would like to have a final count by the end of April.

Church School and Journey to Adulthood Youth Program

Our church school continues to meet each Sunday through April and May and will be focusing by class on prayer. Please join us at the inter-generational workshop on Hope Wens. April 23rd. See additional details further in the Messenger. We will also focus one additional time this year of the MDG.

Sunday May 3rd *exploring Goal # 7 Taking Better Care of our World.* We will be looking at water and how important it is in sustaining our lives.

May 11th, Mother's Day, we will be celebrating the feast of **Pentecost**, the birthday of the Christian Church **WEAR RED!!**

May 17th (Sat. AM) I invite all families to join us as Team Trinity walks for the **Bishop's Fund for Children**, (more below).

May 18th Trinity Sunday is the celebration of the Trinity and our "Trinity" Torrington's namesake

J2A Fundraiser: Look for our annual **Scarpelli's Dinner Tickets** on Sale Soon in the UPH.

Join us as our youth and adults travel to New Haven to experience a different type of worship!

U2Charist

Trinity Episcopal Church, NEW HAVEN, CT

Sunday, April 20 at 5:00PM

A U2charist is a unique service of Holy Communion, or Eucharist, accompanied by U2 songs in lieu of traditional hymns. These worship experiences draw hundreds of people of all ages from across Connecticut. Live rock music was heard from our 1816 Neo-Gothic church and across the New Haven Green. The U2charist was initially started in an Episcopal Church in York Harbor, Maine and always features a message about God's call to rally around the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Unlike most of the U2charists throughout the country, our service will again feature the music of the premiere U2 tribute band 2U (www.notu2.com). The band 2U has played in numerous venues across the country. Their live shows have been reviewed nationally as being: "A Beatlemania-like production, geared toward the band U2." and "2U-the world's 2nd best U2 show, period." This uncommon worship service blends the secular and sacred for sole purpose of helping to eradicate extreme global poverty by the year 2015.

Interested in attending contact Linda Snyder through the church office to coordinate.

Leaders Needed There is still a need for a female adult to help lead this program for the next 2 ½ years. If you might be interested please speak with Conrad Sienkiewicz, Roger Coutant, or Linda Snyder. Past leaders who you might want to ask about the experience would be: Faye Tway-Grant, Marcia Lee Allen, Maria Skinner, and Mary Hart.

Rhythms of Grace is an ecumenical church experience for all learning types. A place to dance, draw, wiggle and rest in God. We are presently looking for additional adults who might be interested in helping in this ministry. If you might have an interest in this please speak with Linda Snyder or Ellen. Our next service is Sunday, May 4.

Bishop's Fund 5K Race Saturday, May 17th 2008 at 9:00AM Webster Hill School, West Hartford, Ct.

Join "Team Trinity" as we Run/Walk, participate in Kids' Field Day to benefit: The Bishop's Fund for Children which was established in 1994 under the leadership of Bishop Clarence Coleridge. The Fund not only enhances awareness about the plight of children at risk throughout Connecticut, it raises funds to underwrite social service programs that aid children in our urban, suburban and rural neighborhoods. Over \$240,000 were distributed to 57 programs for children in Connecticut in 2007, including two programs we sponsor/support here at Trinity, The Winchester Youth Service Bureau and Rhythms of Grace. Can't join us? Sponsor a walker/runner. Contact Linda Snyder for additional details or to join our team!!

Confirmation Service The Deanery wide confirmation service will take place here at Trinity on Saturday, April 26th at 11:00am. This year's group of confirmands include our last group of J2A pilgrims; Molly Wilson, Eric Greenlaw, Liz Snyder, Tyler Doll, Chloe Nanni, B.J. Languell, and Ed Coe. Due to schedules some of the group will be confirmed at a later day in June. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they make this adult commitment to the Christian Faith. We will be honoring those who will be confirmed on the 26th during our 10:30am service on Sunday the 27th.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Men's Breakfast Group ...Gathering on Saturday, April 16 at 9am -in the Upper Parish Hall. Farm fresh eggs, toast, coffee, and conversation. Please RSVP by calling Conrad, 738-3337, letting him know that you are attending as well as what breakfast item you will be bringing. This will help him plan for the morning.

Women's EVE-nings is a gathering of women on a chosen Friday (usually the 3rd of the month) at 7:00 PM in the Library. It is a warm and lively group who explore our religious convictions, people, often women, of the Bible, and sometimes other religions and their relationship to Christianity. The next meeting is Friday, May 16.

Souper Seniors although the group has discontinued their monthly gatherings they hope to meet a few times during the year beginning with a picnic this Summer. More information to follow.

Book Discussion Group The following books have been chosen for discussion during the next several months. There is plenty of time to join the bandwagon. Many of our new dates fall on Tues. or Wed. in the hope that choir members might be tempted to join us. The discussions are fun. We serve tea and meet at 7:30pm at church. All of these books have been extremely well reviewed in the press. They are out in paperback and available at your local library.

Thurs. April 17th: The Master by Colm Toibin. A "hybrid" of biography and fiction concerning the author Henry James, this was chosen as one of the 10 best books of the year by The Book Review.

Tues. May 13th: Snow by Orhan Pamuk. The protagonist, in this seventh novel from Turkey's beloved author, returns to Turkey after an absence of 12 years and explores his country's "divided soul" by investigating a wave of suicides in a small village among young girls who were forbidden to wear their headscarves. Reviewer Margaret Atwood called it "an engrossing feat of tale-spinning" and "essential reading for our times".

Date to be announced: What is What by Dave Eggers. This is a retelling in novel form of the story of one of the lost boys who escaped the violence of his small village in the Sudan and finally made his way to the U.S. The N.Y. Times' reviewer said "The considerable appeal of Valentino's (the hero) personality and the force of Eggers's talent turn this eyewitness account of a terrible tragedy into a paradoxically pleasurable experience...An eloquent testimony to the power of storytelling, "What is What" is an extraordinary work of witness and of art."

Quest: A book discussion group. All are most welcome. Wednesday, June 11 at 7:00pm in Parish Living Room. Copies of The Church the Apostles Left Behind by Raymond Brown are available at the Parish office Monday-Friday. The cost of the book is \$ 10. A copy is also available in the Parish Library.

If you've ever wondered why there are so many different churches and so many differences between them, you will

enjoy this clear and concise book written by a wonderful scholar and teacher of the New Testament. Come learn, grow, share and have fun.

Stephen Ministry Supervision and Continuing Education Program will meet on Tuesday evenings. The schedule for our next few meetings are: April 22; May 13; May 27.

HERE AT TRINITY

Parish reminders...

Pledge cards ... Please submit your pledge card for 2008. Pledge cards are available in the back of church or call the parish office 482-6027.

Family News: Do you have some that you would like to share in the Messenger with the Parish?? If so, please submit in written form to the Parish Office or via email to trinity.parish.house@snet.net.

Communion at Worship Celiac disease affects as many as 1 in 133 people. At Trinity we have been happy to consecrate rice wafers for communion for persons who suffer from this genetic intolerance and offer our own wheat-free wafers on request. We welcome everyone to the Lord's table. If you need communion in this form, please speak with our clergy.

Thank you... Dear Friends of Trinity, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all your prayers, well wishes, countless food deliveries and telephone calls. I am so grateful for my army of angels and their continuous prayers. Your support has provided me with strength and courage. Thank you all so very much. Heidi Greenlaw and Family

Need a place to plant vegetables as your yard is too small or you live in an apartment/ condo or no sun in your yard...or just want to spend time outdoors...The Torrington Community Garden can provide you the space for your garden. They maintain two planting areas in Torrington. Plots are \$ 20 each and gardeners are asked to do a little volunteer work to keep costs down. For more information call Ann or Tom Bott 485-0211 or Kiki Downey 489-8971.

Spring Cleanup The Property Commission invites you to join us Saturday morning, April 26, 2008 from 9am to 11am, and help clean up winter's debris from Trinity's landscape. We will be sweeping the parking lot and sidewalks, raking the back yard, cutting down the weed trees, and disposing of landscape debris. We need willing hands and strong backs. We could use someone

with a pick up truck to haul debris away. If you have access to a pick up truck please call the office and let us know that you intend to be there. Rain date is Saturday, May 3, 2008 – same time.

The Clock Tower Project As you may already know, the tower is in need of serious repair. One hundred years of penetration by rain and snow from the tower roof and through the mortar joints of the granite masonry has caused the internal wooden support beams to rot, the hands of the clock to slip and bind against the clock faces, stair treads to fail, the brick work lining the inside of the tower to crumble, and paint and plaster in the vestibule at the base of the tower to peel. It is estimated that it will take at least \$500,000 to restore the Tower and its Seth Thomas clock works.

The Tower is an important feature of downtown's skyline. It is a stalwart reminder of Torrington's origins and identity. The church and tower were built in 1897-1898. The remaining buildings were complete by 1920. A list of Trinity's leadership at that time includes the industrial giants who built the city of Torrington.

The tower, church, parish hall and rectory were all designed by Henry M. Congdon & Sons of New York City, well known ecclesiastical architects. Henry M. Congdon is responsible for architecturally important churches in Manhattan, Baltimore, and Cambridge. He was also involved in the design of the original wing of the American Museum of Natural History. The entire Trinity complex is listed both individually and as part of Torrington's downtown historic district on the State's Register of Historic Places.

The Clock Tower Project Committee is currently laying the ground work for a major capital campaign throughout the greater Torrington community to restore the Tower. State money is being sought from the Historic Preservation Trust and Connecticut's Commission for Culture and Tourism. Matching funds will be sought from private foundations, known philanthropic individuals throughout Litchfield County, and businesses who will benefit from downtown's revitalization.

Watch for Project updates in the Messenger.

If you are interested in working on this project, please contact the office or Ann Bott 485-0211.

FOR THE CALENDAR *Sunday, April 20* at 9am – joint meeting of the Clock Tower Project Committee and Property Commission to review restoration architect proposals, update on work done by Advanced Construction, and review of donor prospect lists.

Saturday, April 26 9am to 11am – Spring Clean Up of Trinity's parking lot, gardens, & landscape. Rain date – Saturday, May 3, 2008 same time. Volunteer with pick up truck needed.

Trinity Arts Series 2008 Season

Saturday, April 19, 2008



Trinity Arts Series presents pianist Paul Bisaccia in "Gershwin by Bisaccia" at 7:30 PM. This concert will include lots of standard and favorites such as Swanee, S'Wonderful, and I Got Rhythm as well as the seldom

played original solo piano version of Rhapsody in Blue that Mr. Bisaccia played in the PBS Special, "Gershwin by Bisaccia". Although Gershwin's music is well known, this concert will also include seldom played original solo piano arrangements that Gershwin himself made. Preferred seating ticket prices are \$15. and open seating is \$10. Call 860 485 0211 for tickets.

Paul Bisaccia is a charismatic performer whose highly accessible program appeals to a wide audience. He is one of those rare recitalists who can be entertaining without compromising the music or his artistic standards. He will provide a little history, more humor and many anecdotes about Gershwin that will make the man who made the music come alive for an evening. An intimate evening such as this is how Gershwin himself performed his pieces for friends.

Saturday, May 10, 2008

Third Annual Memorial Organ Recital featuring Nicholas White at the organ console. There is no fee for this concert, but attendees may make a memorial/thanksgiving gift in honor of someone, or make a free will offering the night of the concert. This year the names of those being honored will be read at the beginning of the concert. In addition the names of those honored and the donors will be listed in the program.

The program will feature works by Bach, Franck, Messiaen, Vierne, Langelais, as well as one of Nicholas White's compositions.

To make a memorial/thanksgiving gift, send your check and names of honorees to the church office by May 7, 2008.

Parishioner Contact information: Marine Gabe Grant has been deployed to the Middle East. To say your "Hello's" you may email or write to his address below:

Note: Gabe has a **NEW e-mail** address below:
E-mail: grant.gabriel.lcpl@hotmail.com

LCpl Gabriel Grant
3/2 I CO (3rd Plt 2nd Squad)
UNIT 73095
FPO AE 09509-3095

We remember and pray also for Mike Davis another Trinity young person, who is in the Navy.

Trinity Fund-raiser Scrip Pre-Paid Cards... Order your cards BETWEEN worship services in the Upper Parish Hall, or DURING THE WEEK by visiting the Parish Office.

Continental Breakfast offered following our three (3) worship services.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2



This is an extremely important ministry as you are one of the first "welcoming" elements for our family members or a newcomer on Sunday mornings.

Continental Breakfast is being offered following our three (3) Worship Services.

We are in need of Host/Hostesses to make coffee and set-up the prepared items following our 8am and 10:30am Worship Services.

Won't you consider this fun rewarding opportunity to mingle with fellow worshipers and to offer hospitality to one another. Please sign up! Sign up sheet in Upper Parish Hall.

*** HOPE * HOPE * HOPE * HOPE * HOPE ***

An event for all ages. Wednesday, April 23rd at 6:15pm. Potluck supper, beverages provided. Special program for children. Presentation by Gail Farrar, RN and The Reverend Carolyn Dukinski. Questions call Carolyn at 491-8819. Sign up sheet in Parish Hall.

Don't forget to wear your name button on Sunday, and leave it in the church for the next week!

Parishioner Parking Stickers - Did you know we have them???? Although, you may only park in our Parking lot to attend Sunday Worship, during the week our parking lot is used by the public when they choose not to use the street meter parking while attending their class at the YMCA or doing their errands in town. To assist us in the monitoring of the lot and to ensure available parking for our Parishioners during the week, we encourage you to obtain a Parking Sticker by contacting the Parish Office, 482-6027 or [pick one up at Sunday Coffee Hour.](#)

Altar Flowers Please consider giving altar flowers! The donation is \$25 per Sunday and sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall.

Stephen Ministry Corner "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galations 6:2

We all experience challenges in life-times when we could benefit from the support of a caring Christian friend. Stephen Ministers are ready to provide the emotional and spiritual care we need when faced with a crisis or difficulty. We have a group of trained Stephen Ministers that are ready to give caring, confidential care to someone in the church and/or community that needs a non-judging, prayerful individual to walk with them in times of trouble or confusion. Their identity will remain confidential, what takes place in the caring relationship remains private. Jane St. Pierre and Mary Hart are Stephen leaders and would be happy to provide information on Stephen Ministry to those who would like a Stephen Minister, would like to become a Stephen Minister or just want more information on the program in general. Please talk to them sometime-they welcome all inquiries! Their contact information is available through the Trinity office. Look for more information monthly in the Stephen Ministry Corner!

Messages from Caring for Creation...



This new logo was created by Carol Taylor. The Caring for Creation Committee thanks her for her generous gift of time & talent!

Caring For Creation Corner

Trinity has an active group of parishioners concerned about the environment, dedicated to opening our eyes to all the ways we can become responsible stewards of God's creation. Please join us to find out how you as

an individual or Trinity as a congregation can make a difference on how we impact our Mother Earth.

Please stop by the Clean & Green display in the Upper Parish Hall between services on Sundays April 20 & 27 . The Caring for Creation Committee will have information that may interest you.

The Torrington Conservation Commission is seeking volunteers of any age to help at the annual Earth Day Clean Up on Sat. April 26, 9 am to 1 pm. Meet in Coe Park. Help is also welcomed for the annual Naugatuck River Clean Up co-sponsored with Trout Unlimited on Sat. June 7, 9 am to 1 pm, at the Sullivan Senior Center parking lot on Albert St.

Next meeting for Care for Creation is Tuesday May 6 at 7:15 in the library. Please join us to talk about environmental programs and topics.

Green Tips for April...

Let this be the year you grow a few of your own vegetables. Try just a small patch (the community garden has space available), a raised bed or even a couple of containers. Tomatoes are perfect for containers and cucumbers can be trained to grow vertically in a pot. Your own produce tastes great, its cheap and very rewarding.

Most commercially grown produce is coated with pesticide and herbicide residues. **THOROUGHLY WASH YOUR VEGETABLES.** Here are two methods: fill a bowl with cool water. Add a teaspoon or two of vegetable-oil based soap into the water. Add veggies and soak for a few minutes. Use a scrub brush to remove the residue and rinse under running water. Or add white vinegar to the water instead of the soap.

Its Spring! Do you really need to have the greenest lawn? Skip the fertilizer and still be guilt free. "Avoid Toxins: they create poisonous water and toxic dumps, and are responsible for many endangered and extinct species of wildlife. They can also be neurotoxic, carcinogenic, and central nervous system depressants. If they find their way into our drinking water they can cause chronic illness." (Clean & Green by Annie Berthold-Bond 1994)

Simplify your life: Consume less. Repair instead of replace. Buy used instead of brand new.

Forget the artificial air fresheners: Sprinkle baking soda on rugs and carpets before vacuuming as a deodorizing treatment. Most carpet powders you buy are baking soda based! Just a brief note on this - not recommended for areas that are very humid as the baking soda may stay in the carpet. (Borrowed from green livingtips.com)

In the Community

Come to a town hall meeting with McCall Foundation representatives to discuss underage drinking

A drawing will be held and one lucky person in attendance will receive a:

FREE iPDO Nano!!
PARENTS WIN A FREE GAS CARD

Students who bring a parent will receive an extra raffle ticket

Give us your thoughts, help us with this challenge!

Where? Torrington City Hall Auditorium
When? Tuesday, April 29th
What Time? 6:00 p.m.

Sponsored by McCall Foundation with a grant from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the State of CT Office of Policy Management and the Connecticut Coalition to Stop Underage Drinking

Project Homeless Connect ----Friday, May 16

The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Homeless Outreach Team in conjunction with the Litchfield County Continuum of Care and the City of Torrington will be hosting its first Annual Project Homeless Connect.

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one stop community wide event designed to deliver free resources to people and families experiencing homelessness in our community. The event is similar to the well know and well regarded Stand Down event provided to our Veterans. The goal for this annual event is to end homelessness and provide individuals and families experiencing homelessness an opportunity to learn about and receive services and connect with needed resources. The event is an innovative approach in engaging citizens, non-profits organizations, government and corporations to partner together to resolve this long standing issue. Some of the resources that will be offered include: Information on housing, Medical, Dental, Employment, Legal, Veteran Services, Credit Counseling, Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse, Mental Health and much more. In addition to resources, Project Homeless Connect will provide a pathway to housing and self -sufficiency. By holding this event, Torrington and Litchfield County will be joining other cities in Connecticut and around the country in working toward the common goal of ending homelessness. This event is endorsed by the US Interagency Council on Homelessness. The event will take place on Friday, May 16 at Coe Park and the

Torrington Armory from 9:30am to 4:00pm. We are looking for volunteers for the day to help set up tables, chairs, greet visitors, help filling our forms, help with making appointments, food service etc. Please e-mail or fax Sarah McIntyre at mac7289@optonline.net / fax (860) 693-7811 or Amy PacSay at anpacsay@hotmail.com / fax (860) 489-4807 with the services you are interested in volunteering for that day.

Parish News

Baptisms

Aurora Correll
Victoria Fox

Deaths

Irving Lown
Vitold Leonard Przetak
Lawrence W. Louchen

"Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them."