
THE TRINITY MESSENGER

Volume 33, Issue 6

Trinity Episcopal Church Newsletter

June 2005

Letter from our Rector

Dear Friends,

There are several matters to bring to your attention this month, so please forgive this 'newsy' letter to the parish in the Messenger.

First, and most important, beginning Sunday, July 3rd, and into the fall, we will be **moving the time of our second service from 10:15 to 10:30**. In the fall, this will enable us to dedicate a full hour between services to Christian education, for both children and adults. Our Sunday school teachers have been crying for more time so that they can complete a full lesson plan on Sunday, and Audrey and I will be able to try to teach a course or two for adults on Sunday morning without having to run out for the next service. Watch for more about this in the weeks to come. And if you show up at 10:15, there's time for a cup of coffee and fellowship before worship—come on into the parish hall. Or use the time in church to sit quietly and say your prayers.

During the summer at 8:00 we will also have a said service, no hymns, just for a quieter time. There may be some hymn-less Sundays at 10:30 when Paul is away—we are trying to save some funds as we can and not having a supply organist helps this. Perhaps one Sunday we'll have some non-traditional music at 10:30. The early service will continue on with less change and turmoil, as we are committed to providing a 'safe, still' place of worship at 8:00.

The flag pole is back! We have erected a new, lighter flag pole on the top of the tower in a place where the flag can be easily changed and the pole can be safely maintained. It also looks to be in fine scale with the height of the tower. Look for a date when we will dedicate the pole. And if you would like to contribute to the project in honor or memory of someone, that's still available, too, as we would like to have a fund to replace the flags when they get worn and we'd like to light them at night. We are preparing a list of those donating for the cause and will display that list in the Water Street vestibule. If you haven't yet purchased your wooden replica of Trinity Church produced as a

fundraiser for the project, they are still available for \$16. A great gift for someone married or baptized at Trinity!

At the May Vestry meeting, I passed out a list of 'talking points' to the Vestry on the situation with Bishop Smith and the six clergy at odds with him over church structure. The next week a press release was prepared which covered most of those points. We'll send out a letter with the release and the points to you, at the Vestry's request. They hope these things will help you to understand a confusing situation and talk about it with some information if people ask! The most important thing that the newspapers have been getting **WRONG** is that these priests aren't being punished for disagreeing; they are subject to discipline because of what they are doing with their disagreement. Look for the letter in the mail.

Finally, I'm humbled and proud to tell you that the Rotary Club of Torrington is honoring me with a community service award on June 14th. Really, this award has to be considered to be shared with all of you; I feel so blessed to be serving in such a giving, active parish with its heart open to the world and the community. Many Trinity folks have been honored with this award before, some of them Rotarians, some not. If you ever wonder if all that we struggle with and take such joy from makes a difference, just look around. We're all blessed to be part of such a parish! Love,

Ellen

Vestry Notes- April Meeting 2005

Treasurer's Report Contributions are up. Have not taken January's endowment draw. We continue to work with Soup kitchen in the renewal of their building usage agreement. Motion made to receive treasurer's report, seconded and passed all in favor.

Worship Discussion of moving 10:15 service to 10:30. This would allow more time for adult/children education. Do not know how coffee hour would be effected. A trial of a 10:30 service will start first Sunday in July and end in the fall. For the summer, "said" 8:00 service. Summer 10:30 service may be "said" at times so as not to pay for a guest organist. 10:30 service will also use trial liturgies.

Building Flag pole is up. Dedication date to be set. Several building projects in the works, including furnace trouble, for which bids are being sought. Landscaping project for fall. Fire alarm system has to be replaced. Investigating problems in the tower. Roof on church is on borrowed time.

Trinity Art Series Art series is struggling financially. Diva concert in September – Warner would be rented. African Childrens Choir coming June 15. October 7 & 8 will have a harvest event. Tea on May 22.

Worship Staffing Seminary student Jenny Gregg from Diocese of PA coming next year. Applying for funding. Deacon Michael Carroll leaving in June to go to St. John's in Waterbury. Rector on vacation from May 30 to June 10. Will have other short vacation time in the summer, to be scheduled with curate. Discussion of Rector's sabbatical.

Outreach Amounts lower than last year. Discussion on plates being in front and in back of church. May put notice in the bulletin. Have done no international charity so far this year.

Awards Mary Coutant to receive NW Chamber award. Rev. Ellen Tillotson to receive Paul Harris award from the Rotary.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

At both the 8am and 10:15am Sunday Service we offer infant to toddler Child Care in the Nursery which is located downstairs in the Church School area. Child Care is offered from 7:45am to 11:45am.

Children's & Youth Ministries

Church School

Our Church School program year will be ending Sunday, June 5th. Our children will receive a gift from the Teachers and the Parish that day. We will also be thanking our teachers during both services for their ministry with our youngest members.

Our children would also like to thank all those who brought their geraniums and wore red on Pentecost. It was a great birthday party!!!!

Chapel time during the Liturgy of the Word will continue through the end of June for those who wish to attend.

Nursery will continue through the summer. For those of you who are not able to volunteer during the regular program year (another commitment on Sunday morning) we could use your help during the summer

months. Please call the office and we will schedule you at your convenience.

Church School Teachers for the Fall: Our program is in need of 2 or 3 additional teachers for our upcoming year. Each classroom is taught by co-teachers with each pair having one returning teacher and one newer teacher. The curriculum and year calendar as well as teacher's meetings and workshops are available to support your ministry with our children. There is also a position for either an older youth/young adult or an adult to be a shadow for a student or two who might need hands-on help. If you are interested in hearing more about these positions please speak with Linda Snyder.

Journey to Adulthood Program

Rite 13 Rehearsal and Dinner Party for members of this group will be held Friday, June 10th from 6-8:00PM. That Sunday, June 12th we will be honoring these youth during our 10:15 service using the Rite 13 liturgy. We hope that all who are able will join us that morning to pray with, and for, these members and their families, as they begin the hard work of exploring who they are and how and where they belong in their community of peers, our parish family, and the world. Our Celebrities are: Bethany Capitano, Elizabeth Snyder, Chloe Nanni, Molly Wilson, Edward Coe, Tyler Doll, Eric Greenlaw, Tyler Stjerstrom, Kris Setness, and Matt Hokett.

J2A Car Wash- Our J2A group will be holding one of their last fundraisers to benefit their trip to Nova Scotia this summer on Sunday June 26th. Come and have your cars washed (and have some burgers while you wait!) at the Burger King by Big Y that afternoon. See signs and bulletins for exact times and cost.

J2A Pilgrimage and Send Off- Mark your calendars!!

Sunday July 10th we will be praying with and for our group of pilgrims as they make their final preparations for their pilgrimage that begins Sat., July 16th at **around 5:00 AM!!!!** The first part of their journey will be by vans to St. John's New Brunswick. (we're looking at a 10 hours' trip~will they still be talking after 10 hours in a van??) They will spend the night there.

Sunday Morning the group will rise early to make the ferry from St. John's to Digby, Nova Scotia. They will spend two days there on the West Coast in Upper Clements and then make their way to the East Coast through Halifax to a small town called Mushaboom. This will be their "home base" for the balance of their time working on the goals created for the pilgrimage and taking day trips/hikes. The group will also be meeting with the local parish's youth group and participating in their Sunday service on July 24th. Our pilgrims are: Jamie Bares, Jeff Boratko, Iassic Languell, Tom Lapp, Becky McKeen, Pat Gondeck, Justin Miller, Anthony Nanni, Rachel Perry, Amy Pollock, Samantha Randall, Chris Snyder, Amy Symonds, and Alana

Williams with their leaders; Mary Hart, Jim Allen, Roger Coutant, and The Reverend Audrey Scanlan.

YAC Mission Trip Our oldest youth group will be joining a group of youth from St. John's in Washington to travel to McDowell County, W. Virginia. Here, working with the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia's Outreach Ministry, our youth will be assisting in repairing the substandard housing the county residents call home. This area was once a coal mining area which was stripped of this natural resource and left with large caverns from the mining which cause flooding each year. In 2001 a major flood destroyed:

- 824 single family homes
- 684 mobile homes
- 17 multi-family homes

With major damage to:

- ~1735 Homes
- ~ 641 people living in shelters
- ~ 301 structures condemned

McDowell County, West Virginia is one of the poorest areas in the nation. The area is devastated by unemployment, natural disasters, and poverty. The Highland Educational Project is trying to first assist the residents by fixing some homes, and relocating other families whose homes are beyond repair. This is obviously a large ongoing project. Our group will be helping to paint and do minor repairs. We are also hoping to work with the young children of the area in some way. We will be leaving for this trip on Sunday Aug. 7th, taking the train from N.Y. to West Virginia and returning late Friday Aug. 12th. Those going are: Laurel Symonds, Ashley Liuiza, Margaret Coe, Eric Greenlaw, Chris Allen and Linda Snyder.

New Rite 13 Class: We will be beginning our new Rite 13 class in the Fall for any youth who will be turning 13 in the next two years (are presently 11/12yrs old). There will be an informational meeting for any parents who would like to hear more about the program on Sunday June 26th at 9:15AM in the Chapel. This program is open to any youth in this age frame so grandparents, aunts, uncles, if you know of a child who might be interested please speak with a clergy person or Linda Snyder and we will invite them to this meeting.

THE HARDEST WORK YOU'LL EVER LOVE: If you've been around Trinity for any time at all, you will have noticed the lively presence of our teens and young people engaging with all of us in the Christian life. The Journey to Adulthood Program is our six-year educational and formational program for teens, and is a curriculum through which they learn to become mature adults and develop a sturdy faith that will help them all their lives. We need two men and two women to come forward to take on a two-year ministry with one of the upcoming Journey classes. There is a strong

curriculum in place and a well-developed support system at Trinity for your work with our teens. They will never forget you, and you will have the joy of knowing some extraordinary young people and helping them on their road to a full life. Come forward—you won't be sorry.

Information Meeting for those who would like to know more about the J2A Youth Program and the possibility of leading one of the groups will be held on Wednesday, June 22nd at 7:00PM in the Living Room.

Another opportunity to learn more about this program~There is a workshop being offered on Fri. evening 6/17& Sat. the 18th in West Hartford. This is a workshop for new and returning J2A leaders, mentors, coordinators, etc. from all over New England. Linda Snyder will be attending and would welcome any "traveling companions" who might wish to attend. Please contact the Office.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Book Discussion Group see schedule below for the dates and books the group will discuss in the coming months:

All books are in our Trinity Library. They are available in paperback and at other libraries if our copy is out.

July 21st: 7:30 The Dante Club by Matthew Pearl. A novel of suspense that mixes the cultures of wealthy Bostonian men of letters and the denizens of the seedy streets of that city in a mystery of the 1860's.

UPCOMING EVENTS/SAVE THE DATE

Sun June 5 5:00pm Concert Trinity Choir
Suggested Donation - \$10.00
Proceeds will benefit the Trinity Church Music Program

Sat June 11 9:00am Men's Breakfast
This special meeting will be held in the Upper Parish Hall from 9 to 11:00am. Women are cordially invited to attend this month's meeting. A PBS video entitled "A Hidden Life" will be shown, and there will be ample time for discussion following the video. See article within "Here at Trinity" below for more info.

Wed June 15 following 12:10srvc Souper Seniors
next month July 20

Sun June 5 5:00pm Concert Trinity Choir
*** see article within "Here at Trinity" ***

Sat June 11 9:00am Men's Breakfast
*** see article within "Here at Trinity" ***

Thurs June 16 7:00pm Interfaith Council Gathering
Open House- All adults and children are welcome to come to the Dae Yen Sa Temple, New Hartford. A great opportunity for all to gather and discuss topics including Star Wars, Harry Potter and Buddha. Please call if bringing a group 860-489-3254.

Women's EVE-ning Summer Picnic will be held on July 7 at the home of Kate Flower in Goshen. To sign up and for directions, call the Parish Office 482-6027.

LEC, A French non-profit organization is looking for families in the area interested in hosting a French teen in their home for a three week period this summer. Students speak English, have insurance and arrive with a French-speaking chaperone. Students have a wide variety of interests: sports, arts, music, movies, computer. This is a great opportunity to share the American way of life with others. Please contact Jackie Smith a 860-618-3476 for more info and a look at some student profiles.

HERE AT TRINITY

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.pariah.house@snet.net.

Professional office space available for rent here at Trinity. The space is located on the second floor above the Parish Office. Call the Parish office, 482-6027, for more information.

Graduation News

Miranda (Languell) Boden recently graduated cum laude (with distinction) with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education from Central Connecticut State University. Miranda was a recipient of the CCSU Honors Program Scholarship and the CCSU Board of Trustees Scholarship, a member of the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, the Golden Key International Honor Society and member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Miranda is the wife of Brenden Boden and the daughter of Marge and Joe Languell.

Kevin Pollock will be graduating from Lewis Mills High School on the 22nd of June and will celebrate his 18th birthday at the "project graduation" celebration in the wee hours of the morning of the 23rd! He will be attending Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzard's

Bay on the Cape this fall in pursuit of a degree in Marine Transportation.

Tamara (Tammy) Williams graduated this May from Eastern Connecticut State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. During her studies at Eastern Tammy she danced with the Repertory Dance Troop and served as their president. Tammy was also a residential assistant for 4 years and studied theater in London England this past summer. Her future plans are undecided at this time..

Ashley Liuiza recently graduated from Torrington High School and is planning to attend the UConn Torrington branch in the fall to study elementary education to become a elementary school teacher. She enjoys dancing, playing basketball and has raced junior dragsters for seven years. Although Ashley will be busy continuing her education, she plans to continue helping with the pre-school program here at Trinity.

Let All The World In Every Corner Sing! Sunday, June 5, 2005 at 5:00 PM A concert of choral masterpieces from 6 centuries presented by the choir of Trinity Episcopal Church Torrington, under the direction of Paul Halley with music by Byrd, Britten, Tavener, Górecki and Halley and featuring Vaughan Williams' "Five Mystical Songs", with Bruce Fifer, *soloist*. George Sovak, *saxophone*, Nick Halley, *percussion* & Stephen Fraser, organ.
Suggested Donation - \$10.00 Proceeds will benefit the Trinity Church Music Program

MEN'S BREAKFAST (11 June) HOSTS WOMEN, (ain't it somthin?) Silly headline, but a serious invitation..... Women are most cordially invited to attend the last Men's Breakfast (prior to its summer hiatus) on the 11th of June from 9:00am until 11:00am in the Upper Parish Hall. The program is of a spiritual nature, and it is one that will interest many men and women alike. It's a Public Broadcasting System's (PBS) video special presentation of the Sisters of St Mary. They were the first monastic order of Episcopal sisters/nuns formed in the United States, in the city of New York (1863). Their history shows some of the difficulties they had in obtaining sanction to form as an order of the Church from that time.

The video is named "The Hidden Life", yet these nuns (often of silence) were really are not hidden (cloistered yet not hidden). This writer might have named the video "The Humble Life." They began the first pediatric hospital in NYC, and also had a home for prostitutes as well as street and orphaned children. Their way of developing and deepening their way of life comes through prayer, Bible Study and by the joyful sharing of Jesus Christ. Some of the sisters speak to their reasons for seeking a monastic order, and these reasons range from despair to feeling directly led to monastic life.

Father William (Bill) Penny worked at the St Mary's Children for a number of years, and holds these sisters in great esteem. Bill and his dog Freedom (whom many of you know) will be a part of the program on the 11th.

All women and men of the parish, please join us on the 11th of June at 9:00. Coffee, tea, bagels, coffee cake, juice, etc will be provided. As is the custom at the Men's Breakfast, a free will donation basket will be available on the food counter (self service). It will be helpful if you sign up for this event just so that we have an idea as to how much baking etc the men must accomplish. Sign up sheets will be in the Upper Parish Hall as well as in the back of the church (ask an usher). You can also call the Church Office to sign up, and if you have not signed up, please come anyway. It will be a good sharing, some new learning - a pleasant fellowship.

"NOTHING GOES WITHOUT SAYING" How often do we think to ourselves things like, "She knows I love her - it goes without saying" or "He knows how much I appreciate all his hard work - it goes without saying"? The truth is, words can be a powerful affirmation, and the absence of the right words can leave a void that really hurts. The truth is, very little goes without saying, and the important things should NEVER go without saying. There are things we know, but sometimes we need to hear them loud and clear.

During the 10:15 am service on **Sunday, June 12th**, we will celebrate an important rite of passage with some of our 7th and 8th Graders. This class is named **Rite-13** after the special liturgy we will celebrate with them on this day. In some respects, this is a new way of saying to our young people things we have meant to convey all along - things like: "We stand with you as you make your way on the journey; we're here if you need us; we think you are terrific; we love you." We often assume that our teens feel appreciated and accepted as a vital part of our parish, but adolescence can be such a time of uncertainty that some things just can't be said often enough.

One of the unique aspects of the *Journey to Adulthood* program is that it seeks to provide rites of passage that are often lacking in our culture. We help define points along the path to adulthood that tell our young people they are making progress; they are growing; they are becoming adults. Rite-13 is the liturgical cornerstone that lays the foundation for the entire congregation of Trinity Episcopal Church to rise up and in one mighty voice tell our young people, "You matter to us. Your lives are of inestimable value. The journey you are now embarking on is significant." It is a way that we fulfill our baptismal covenant of "seeking and serving Christ

in all persons."

The Rite-13 Liturgy is a rite of passage that recognizes the gift that God bestows upon each one of us: the gift of manhood or womanhood. This is a free gift that we cannot earn and need not prove. This gift is the essence of who we are. The same energy that pushes us through adolescence gives us the power to change the world. As these young people grow and mature, their knowledge and skills will increase, but the core of who they are remains the same.

Here is a priceless opportunity for us to affirm all that is good in the young people who live and grow around us and to recognize them as young men and women in our midst. Don't miss this incredible chance to say out loud in a very powerful way what we have meant to say to them all along. Remember, **NOTHING GOES WITHOUT SAYING!!** Our Celebrities are: **Bethany Capitano, Edward Coe, Tyler Doll, Eric Greenlaw, Matt Hokett, Chloe Nanni, Kris Setness, Elizabeth Snyder, Tyler Stjernstrom and Molly Wilson.**

Pick a date for Altar Flowers Please consider giving altar flowers! It is a wonderful way to remember loved one, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or simply to thank God for his many blessings. The donation is \$25 per Sunday and sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Please contact the office for available dates. Your gifts of flowers will keep the altar looking beautiful throughout the year.

Recipe ALERT!!! *Trinity Cookbook Project Underway* We have a committee (we could always use a few more), we have a few recipes turned in already, but we need a lot more to call this a cookbook. So as you plan your meals, think of the recipes you and your family love the most and make copies for us. All we ask is that if they come from a cookbook, tell us which cookbook. There is nothing wrong with reprinting recipes from other people's books. If the receipt has a family history or a good story, include that. We will have baskets clearly labeled "RECIPES" at the back of the church starting in May. For the time being, any recipe you want to submit is great. When we get enough to see where we need more, we'll let you know. If you have any questions, please call Susan Jones at 860-738-7869. If you have recipes on your computer, you can email them to Susan at sdjones@sdjones.net. Let's get cookin', Trinity!

During the month of June, the Outreach Committee is accepting donations to benefit the Community Kitchen of Torrington. The Community Kitchen of Torrington is committed to providing a nutritious meal to any individual who, for whatever reason, is unable to provide a proper meal for him/herself. This facility is located in the lower parish hall of Trinity Church and is an independent, community effort that serves over 1,200 meals per month to those in need. Any contribution you can give will be

greatly appreciated! Thank you very much! The Outreach Committee.

TIME & TALENT —This month we want to recognize the Trinity Church Choir volunteers along with Director of Music, Paul Halley and the Organ Scholar, Stephen Fraser.

We feel extremely fortunate and blessed to have music of this high caliber in our church. Worship through music takes on a whole new meaning with the presence of our choir.

Before the choir takes their well deserved break for the summer, take a few moments to directly thanks some or all of the following choir members:

Jim Bagnaschi	Elena Barrett
Pamela Bellows	Shaylan Burkhart
Carol Bushey	Douglas Carrier
Margaret Coe	Martin Dodd
Terrence Fay	Stephen Fraser
Jim Garfield	Joyce Gustavson
Nick Halley	Paul Halley
Samantha Halley	Vanessa Halley
Ann Havemeyer	Susan Jones
Sonya Kobes	John LaPorta
Diana Mundy	Meagan Olivieri
Meg Race	Glenn Scanlan
Karen Sovak	Laurel Symonds
Carlton Taylor	Charlie Tirrell

Wood carvings by the "Cat's Meow" of our beautiful church on sale for \$ 16.00. They can be purchased by calling the Parish Office, 482-6027. All proceeds - Flag Pole project.

The Best Spiritual Books and Movies of 2004 chosen by Spirituality & Health Magazine. A copy of this list is available on the kiosk in the Parish Hall or by going to their website www.spiritualityhealth.com.

Church Budget News! Here is an update on our operating financial situation. The figures presented represent the four months: January, February, March and April. Income is running at 112% of budget, thanks to those of you who responded to the Wardens' letter asking for advanced payments on your pledges and a generous anonymous gift at Easter. Operating expenses are pretty much on target.

We reached our goal of increasing pledge income by \$50,000! Total pledges reached \$254,948, a \$57,301 increase over 2004. As Ellen would say, "Yippee!" If we can increase by this same amount for 2006, we will be well on our way to sound operational financing.

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We still are working to reduce the budget deficit. Currently it stands at \$54,131 down from the \$64,525 reported in the Annual Parish Meeting in January. This improvement is the result of late pledges coming in after January, calls to non-pledging Parishioners by the Vestry, and by members of the "Dollar A Day Club." The Vestry continues to work at ways to close this gap. **STAY TUNED!** **PS: Help our cash flow.** Please keep your pledge payments current through the summer months.

Communion at Worship Celiac disease affects as many as 1 in 133 people. We at Trinity 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.

Operation Overflow Extends Its Thanks Many thanks to the great many volunteers from Trinity Church who supported us in our second year of offering emergency housing on cold winter nights. Operation Overflow was open 120 nights this year, filling a total of 300 beds for 77 individuals. Trinity Church has provided space, volunteers, parish representatives, steering committee members and prayers to make this interfaith project of compassion a success.

"Beyond Shelter" FISH has recently been awarded a grant for this program. This successful program model works with individuals and families in the shelters to help them find permanent housing. Additionally, a Housing Coordinator continues to work with the families and the landlords to assure that they stay housed and receive the support they need to do so. Since most of these individuals and families are formerly homeless, many do not have any household items. If you have household items including furniture, pots and pans, etc you wish to donate please call Amy PacSay of FISH at 496-1648.

TRINITY ARTS SERIES 2005
www.trinityartseries.org

Fiber Revolution Come see these stunning and unusual works of art hung throughout Torrington's historical landmark, Trinity Episcopal Church. The participating artists, exhibiting their work under the Fiber Revolution name, use fiber as their medium: dyeing it, painting it, cutting it, tearing it, stamping it, fusing it and embellishing it. The final step-quilting of the surface-brings a dimensional depth to the artwork that mere paint cannot.

African Children's Choir June 15 7:00pm
www.africanchildrenchoir.com

Trinity Arts Series brings the phenomenal African

Children's Choir to Torrington. Tickets, more info: 482-4411 or www.trinityartseries.org