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# THE TRINITY MESSENGER

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Trinity Episcopal Church Newsletter

November

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## Letter to the Parish

Dear Friends,

By now I trust you know that our intrepid curate, Audrey Scanlan, has accepted a call to be the Rector of the Partner Parishes of St. Gabriel's, East Berlin and Our Savior's, Plainville. As I've watched Audrey grow in leadership and confidence in her considerable ability these last years, I've known this day was coming, and I rejoice to see her gifts put further to use in building God's reign of love in this world. But like many of you, I'm more than a little sad to see her leave Trinity. For my own part, I've been incredibly lucky—blessed, of course—twice in my professional life to share the kind of partnership with a colleague that feels like God's new creation in my own life. The first time was when I was a curate, and now this collaboration with Audrey. I thank her—and God—profoundly for that. I can't even begin to enumerate the ways in which she has served God with faithfulness and creativity in her time in Torrington. She will be much missed. Please note the last paragraph of this letter for some plans to thank Audrey for her time among us.

At the same time, I know that it is Trinity's call and privilege to be a place where new clergy can learn everything they need to know about how to serve the wider church. We have been blessed to be a place of formation for new priests, and have seen the whole church enriched by our sending out these gifted and faithful individuals to serve God in other places. Training clergy is part of my own joy in ministry, and it is clearly a strong part of Trinity's contribution to the work of God in the Church.

For example, during the summer and fall, I've had contact with or heard about the ministries of six former curates of Trinity: Richard Losch has retired from parish ministry and has published a couple of books recently reviewed in church magazines. This fall I met and worked with Will (Early) Thompson who acts to strengthen the ministry of other clergy as a coach and consultant. Joanne Neel-Richard continues to minister as interim priest in the Diocese of Connecticut and I see her often at gatherings of clergy (she's also a

new grandmother and will show you the pictures without being asked!). Allen LaMontagne takes up a new ministry as the Rector of a parish on the Eastern shore of Maryland in the Diocese of Easton, and Peter Faass is recently appointed the Priest in Charge of Christ Church, Shaker Heights, Ohio. And, of course, Jim Curry serves the church as Bishop Suffragan of Connecticut. Trinity should rejoice in sending out so many faithful servants into God's harvest.

Audrey's last Sunday will be the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. She'll preach that day, and we will fete her at a coffee hour after the later service. In addition, Frank and I will host a gathering for Audrey and Glenn at our house in the afternoon—watch for the time to be announced. Trinity will assemble a 'purse' for Audrey as she begins her new ministry—to be used for vestments she might need in these two small parishes and to seed her discretionary fund there. As she is starting out this new venture, those things will be welcome and much needed.

Another change in Trinity's life. I've been saying it's like the Beatles breaking up. But the Fab Four made some great music after the breakup, and we know that God calls each follower to spread good news wherever the Spirit calls. As with Bruce, and as will be with Paul, we can do no better thing than to thank God for Audrey's time among us and look forward with eager joy to the ministry she will share richly with the world. Love,

*Ellen*

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## 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.*

The service is focused toward families with young children and is an 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**

Our church school is continuing their first unit studies which include: preschool~Old Testament bible stories; K-1~creation; 2/3~the pentateuch; 4/5/6~covenants.

## **Journey to Adulthood Youth Program**

Our J2A group has been spending their last few meetings discussing with our YAC members what the J2A program is all about and what the pilgrimage will be like. It has been a great learning experience for this group as they prepare to make the decision about their pilgrimage site within the next few weeks.

While our J2A groups have also been busy working on their curriculum, the parents have been busy preparing for the first major fundraiser of the year, the Holiday Fair. Please look further in this letter to see information about that Fair.

## **Church School and J2A Sunday Morning "tweaking"**

After a month of our new Sunday 9:00AM service, and with church school starting at 9:30am, we suggest a few adjustments to our Sunday Morning routine that may help it move a little smoother.

Some of our suggestions are explained below:

**Arrival** If your family attends the 9:00AM service please make sure your child goes directly to class after the service. There are only a few minutes since Church school begins at 9:30AM.

For parents who plan to attend the 10:30am service and arrive shortly before the start time of Church School, please accompany your child/ren to their classroom. If the teacher is not in the class (maybe still attending the 9:00AM service) please stay with your child until an adult arrives.

**During Class** If a parent needs to speak with a teacher we ask that you please wait until the class is over, unless it is an emergency. We ask for your understanding and cooperation to ensure that classes are not interrupted.

**Ending** Church school generally ends between 10:20-10:25AM. As we cannot predict an exact time that a lesson will be completed, when picking up your child please be on hand at 10:20. Every effort will be made to end class close to that time. If you are detained in picking up your child/ren after class, those children will be taken to the Nursery awaiting your arrival. If your child usually attends Chapel Time they will be brought to the Chapel.

Mornings run more smoothly. If you have any suggestions please feel free to share them with Linda.

## **Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule**

Can you believe were talking about the Christmas Pageant!!!!? Tammy Williams has again agreed to direct our Christmas Pageant this year. Letters will be sent to all Church School and J2A students in Nov. with casting cards. Please make note of the rehearsal and pageant dates: Rehearsals: Sunday, 12/3, 12/10 from 12:00-2:00PM; dress rehearsal 12/16 9:00-11:30; Pageant Sunday 12/17 at the 10:30 service. If you have any questions about the pageant please speak with Tammy or Linda Snyder.

## **Adult Spiritual Formation**

### **Women's Eve-ning Begins its Fourth Season**

On the third Friday of each month from 7-9 PM, the women of Trinity gather in the Undercroft chapel for social time, study, refreshments and discussion. Next Meeting is November 17. Mary Skilton and Jan Skoczylas will lead the program using the theme of "light". For more information, call the parish office.

**Grief and Spirituality:** on the first Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 p.m., Trinity's ongoing grief and bereavement group meets. It's a group with a flexible agenda and flexible membership—feel free to come one time or fifty as you may have need. If you plan to attend, please call the parish office by 3:00 that day to let us know you are coming. Next meeting Wednesday, December 6.

**Knitting Group to resume** The 'Trinity Knitters' will gather once again on the first Wednesday of the month from 1-3 PM next meeting is Wednesday December 6. This group welcomes all ages and abilities- from those just picking up the 'sticks' for the first time, to those who can work a cable stitch, drink tea and tell stories all at the same time! See The Reverend Audrey Scanlan, Curate, for more information.

**Rhythms of Grace** Our service for special needs children, their caregivers and families, continues the first Sunday of the month at 1 PM in the Undercroft Chapel. Rhythms of Grace is coordinated and celebrated each month by Linda Snyder, our Director of Children's and Youth Ministries; Erik and Helen Ann Landgraf, Special Education Ministers; and the Reverend Audrey Scanlan, Curate. Our next service is Sunday, November 5 followed by next month Sunday, December 3.

**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.

*Tues. December 5* Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards

*Tues. January 23, 2007* Birds without Wings by Louis de Bernieres. We loved Corelli's Mandolin so much that we are eager to read that author's newest book about the waning years of the Ottoman Empire. This novel focuses on a fictional town where Christians and Muslims live in peace until the Balkan wars and World War I destroy that harmony.

*Thurs. February 22* Acts of Faith by Philip Caputo. This novel takes place in the 1990's during the Sudan civil war. We see Americans who are providing aid to the region, but are thwarted by the war itself, a slave trade and corruption. "Caputo's devastating novel is a parable about American idealism and the dangers of missionary zeal" writes the N.Y. Times

*Tues. April 10* Arthur and George by Julian Barnes explores the relationship between Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, and George Edalji, a man he is trying to save from a miscarriage of justice in 19<sup>th</sup> century Britain.

*Tues. May15* The Great Fire by Shirley Hazzard concerns a story that takes place during World War II and follows an American major who is sent to Hiroshima to study the effects of the bomb explosions on the Japanese culture.

**Questions and Theology** This group is open to anyone interested in exploring what's new in the talk of God and God's action in The World. Next meeting is Monday, December 4 at 7:00pm. Please prepare by reading *The Phoenix Affirmations* by Eric Elves.

## UPCOMING EVENTS/SAVE THE DATE

**Trinity Fundraiser Scrip Pre-Paid Cards..** Order your cards BETWEEN worship services in the Upper Parish Hall, or DURING THE WEEK by visiting the Parish Office. If you're able to help in this effort, speak to Tammy Randall or The Rector.

### Vespers Service on First Sundays

Mark your calendars for a time of peace and reflection in the candlelit sanctuary of Trinity Church.

Upcoming Vespers Services

Sunday, November 5

"All Saints" - 7:00pm,

Sunday, December 3

"Advent" - 7:00pm

Sunday, December 31

"Nine Lessons and Carols" - 5:00pm

**Stephen Ministry Supervision and Continuing Education Program** will meet on Tuesday evenings November 7 and November 21 from 7 to 9pm.

The **Caring for Creation** committee here at Trinity welcomes anyone interested to come to the next meeting on Wednesday, **Nov. 8 at 7:00pm**.

**Holiday Fair** Saturday November 11 from 9am to 3pm in Upper Parish Hall.

**Men's Breakfast** Please note. Our meeting in November will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, November 18 9 to 10:30am Upper Parish. Next month's meeting will be on our normal 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday date of December 9.

**Wopela**, The traditional Native American Thanksgiving Wendell Deer with Horns, from the Lakota Nation with others attending, will lead the traditional Thanksgiving Prayers. The service will be out doors and last about 30 minutes. **Sunday, November 19 at Noon**  
The International Buddhist Temple, 19 Kinsey Rd, New Hartford (Kinsey Rd is just East of Home Depot in Torrington).

**Vestry Meeting**, Monday, November 20 at 7:30pm in Parish Hall.

**Souper Seniors** Wednesday, November 22 gathering in the Parish Hall following the 12:10pm service. Next month's gathering is Wed, December 20.

**Questions in Theology** group plan to meet Monday December 4 at 7:00pm to discuss *The Phoenix Affirmation* by Eric Elves

**Christmas Angelicus- Concert**  
here at Trinity

**RESERVE NOW AS WE EXPECT SELL-OUTS!!!**

Tuesday, December 19 - 7:30pm

Wednesday, December 20 - 7:30pm

Friday, December 22 - 7:30pm

Tickets:

Priority, \$35; Student Priority, \$20;

General Admission, \$25; Student General, \$12

For tickets & information - 860-496-8841 or visit their website [www.chorusangelicus.org](http://www.chorusangelicus.org)

**Trinity Arts Series "The Three Kings Celebration"** is planned for Saturday, January 6, 2007 at 7:30pm. Currently, details are being outlined for the event. Updates will follow in Sunday Bulletins and future Parish Announcements & Messenger.

### HERE AT TRINITY

**"Sexton's Wish List"** Winter is approaching and we are in need of a "snowthrower". Ideally, it should have a Dual Stage 5.5hp engine with a 24 inch clearing path. This size will provide the mobility needed to clear entrances to our buildings and sidewalks and help keep up with the re-clearing required each time a city plow truck goes by. If you can make this wish come true contact the Parish Office.

**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](mailto:trinity.pariah.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.

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

### OPERATION OVERFLOW SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

It is getting cold at night.

Operation Overflow, our emergency shelter, is gearing up to provide housing for the homeless beginning on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

Trinity has committed to hosting the shelter for the first five weeks: from November 26<sup>th</sup>-December 30<sup>th</sup>.

We need help in three areas:

1. **Please pray** for those who are without shelter. Pray for those who act as Christ's hands and serve as volunteers.
2. **Become a volunteer.** Training and Information Sessions are Thursday, Nov 2nd at 7 PM here at Trinity and Wednesday, Nov 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at Beth El Synagogue. Call the parish office 482 6027 to tell us that you're coming. New and repeat volunteers are welcome
3. **Volunteer by making phone calls** for Trinity to staff our month. We have a large list of volunteers: We need someone from Trinity to make the calls.

Please see the Reverend Audrey Scanlan with your enquiries.

**The Holiday Fair** Saturday November 11 from 9:00AM 3:00PM. Donations for the tea cup auction, bake sale, book sale or any craft items, please contact Marge Languell at 482-9719, or [marjoe7177@yahoo.com](mailto:marjoe7177@yahoo.com).

**J2A Donation Drawing:** Anyone who makes a \$5 donation to the J2A Pilgrimage 2007 fund can enter a drawing for a Trek 3700 Bicycle (retail value of \$300). Entry blanks will be available in the Upper Parish Hall. Drawing takes place Saturday, November 11 as the Holiday Fair closes.

**Altar Flowers** Please consider giving altar flowers! 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.

### Message from Caring for Creation...

#### Trinity supports clean energy, clean air and a healthy planet

On October 1, Trinity Church celebrated an Earth Sabbath with a special liturgy, earth-inspired prayers, and hymns that rejoiced in the beauty of creation and with words of reflection and inspiration. We also launched our Clean Energy Campaign. Through CL&P's *Clean Energy Option*, Trinity is now purchasing clean energy for the church and parish hall.

#### What is clean energy?

It is energy that is *renewable* because it is produced from natural sources that constantly replenish themselves-unlike fossil or nuclear fuels-and *clean* because it results in little or no harmful pollution, greenhouse gas emissions or radioactive and mining wastes. Clean, renewable sources available through the *Clean Energy Option* are wind, water (hydro-electric) and landfill gas.

#### Why clean energy?

Worldwide power generation produces more pollution than any other single activity. In the U.S., electric power accounts for:

- Two-thirds of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions-an air pollutant that causes acid rain
  - One-quarter of nitrogen oxides (NOX) emissions-an air pollutant that causes ozone smog
  - 40% of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions that contribute to global warming
  - One-third of mercury emissions- a neurotoxin that causes developmental damage to children
- Pollution from traditional, dirty power plants causes asthma attacks, heart disease and lung cancer leading to lost school and work days, hospitalizations and premature deaths. Children and seniors are most susceptible.

#### What can I do?

The least expensive and most effective way to address the problem of polluting electricity generation is by purchasing clean energy from CL&P. Enrollment forms are available at the church office. To calculate your additional cost, multiply \$0.0115 by your monthly kWh

usage. Sterling Planet, one of two providers, has offered to help Trinity Church to offset the additional cost through a rebate program on the purchases of its members.

If you are concerned about the increase in asthma and respiratory illness in CT, energy independence, and global climate change, conserving energy and purchasing clean energy are the most effective solutions.

*Won't you consider joining this campaign to clean up the air and heal the planet?*

**Note:** If you already participate and are purchasing clean energy from CL&P and Sterling Planet is your provider you can help Trinity increase our rebate by informing the Parish office. When calling the Parish Office please provide the name listed on your CL&P account, your account number or your billing address.

The **Caring for Creation** committee here at Trinity welcomes anyone interested to come to the next meeting on Wednesday, **Nov. 8 at 7:00pm**. This fall we sponsored the film showing of *An Inconvenient Truth*, helped organize the Earth Sabbath, and publicized the Clean Energy Clean Energy Campaign. As people of faith, we know that the creation is the exquisite handiwork of God. Our actions and lifestyle choices that lead to the health and healing of the planet are ways we can be good stewards of the Earth. We look for ways in which caring for creation can be integrated into the fabric of our church life, our home lives, and our personal lives.

If you have any questions, contact Lynn Fulkerson at [lynn@irejn.org](mailto:lynn@irejn.org) or 496-1427 or go to <http://www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com/>

### Parish News

#### Births

Piper Carr

#### Marriages

John David Florkowski & Jessica Amy Foeller

#### Deaths

Roger Friend

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

**Baptisms November 5**

Caroline Sarah Sienkiewicz

Logan Anthony D'Angelo