



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Trinitarian

May 2021

A REFLECTION FROM YOUR INTERIM PRIEST

Spirit can be known only by spirit—God's Spirit and our spirits in open communion. Spiritually alive, we have access to everything God's Spirit is doing, . . . Christ knows, and we have Christ's Spirit.

[1 Corinthians 2:13, 16; translation from *The Message* by Eugene Peterson]

As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost on May 23rd, and as you continue to prepare for new ministry, it is good for us to keep in mind how wonderful and bold Paul's claim is. Consider the infinite possibilities before us if we trust that the living Spirit of Christ within us will guide all our decisions.

We have Christ's Spirit.

The same Spirit that brought forth creation guides all that we do in creating new ministries, new programs, and new ways to worship. We are inspired, not limited, by the constraints we face.

We have Christ's Spirit.

In this Spirit we share life-giving relationships even while we continue to be apart. Our restlessness and loneliness become the impetus to be creative and compassionate.

We have Christ's Spirit.

In Christ's Spirit we support one another in our questions and doubts, our struggles and hopes. We act with Christ's Spirit when we remind each other that in our questions we use the gift of a lively mind, in our doubts we use the gift of a living faith, and in our struggles we use the gift of an active heart.

May Christ's Spirit continue to be our Center, our Hope, and our Peace as we continue in our journey together.

Mother Judith+

DURING THIS TIME – MAY 2021

We have taken some important steps in preparing to return to in-person worship. This month our focus will be:

- Training a group of Digital Ministers who will coordinate hybrid worship.
- Organizing our storage and meeting spaces.

We will continue to hold 2 services every Sunday:

- 9 am - Our principal service of Morning Prayer on Zoom.
- 10:30 am - An outdoor service of Holy Communion in the parking lot; masks and social distancing required.

Because our sanctuary is small and public health protocols have not changed, there are different things we must do to make it a safe gathering place for worship.

The Sanctuary

- We have purchased new filters for the furnace and stand-alone HEPA air purifiers, in addition to a CO₂ monitor.
- Our next step is to plan for occupancy by considering ways to expand participation through scheduling or using Murray Hall and the Lane Chapel.

Worship

- We have purchased the computer, camera, and software necessary for livestreaming interactive hybrid worship.
- Our next step is to develop and train a technology team of Digital Ministers who will learn how to use new software to incorporate recorded instrumental and choral music into live worship and to incorporate interaction with the worship.

Sunday School/Lane Chapel

- Arrange the furniture in the Lane Chapel to accommodate children following public health protocols.
- Plan for hybrid Sunday School so that our children can choose how to participate.

Meeting and Storage Space

- Clear out and reorganize storage areas in the Blue Room, the Mary Moore Room, and the Basement.

Sundays in May

May 2nd Family Service – Sunday School and Youth reading @ 9 am.

5pm – Sacred Ground on Zoom

7pm – Senior Youth Group on Zoom

May 9th Mother's Day – Grandmothers reading @ 9 am.

May 16th Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord (transferred) & Rogation Sunday.

May 23rd The Feast of Pentecost- Holy Communion on Zoom at 9 am

No 10:30 service

May 30th Trinity Sunday – Celebration of Trinity's Mission.

Memorial Day Weekend: Prayers for our Nation.

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

April 19, 2021

Resolved:

- ✓ To renew our certification as an overnight shelter.
- ✓ To thank Gayle Ruscitti and Karen Carig-O'Neill for their service.
- ✓ To record email approval of the 2021 Parochial Report, submitted on March 17, 2021.

Discussion

- ✓ Plans to honor our 2021 graduates.
- ✓ Preparations for return to indoor worship and for new ministry:
 - Air filters have been purchased to be used in the sanctuary, Murray Hall, & the Lane Chapel
 - Equipment for hybrid worship has arrived
 - Beth and Lisa will create a plan to coordinate re-organizing our storage and meeting rooms.
- ✓ What have we done well?
 - Easter Egg hunt;
 - taking steps to move ahead in preparations for new ministry;
 - breakout rooms during Sunday coffee hour.

ROMEOs LUNCHEONS



The ROMEOs will meet for lunch at 12:30 on Friday, May 7th, 2021 at Lowell's Restaurant, Route 140, Mendon. If you would like to attend, please contact Dave Clinkman at clinkman@comcast.net or 508-634-8996 by Wednesday, May 5th, so we can confirm reservations and arrange seating for everyone.

Please be fully vaccinated against COVID, to protect yourself and others. Because of COVID, dining restrictions are still in place. You will need to wear your mask when entering the restaurant, but not at our table while eating. Romeo's is a social group for retired men and other men who wish to join us during their lunch hour.

JULIETs luncheons will resume when we are able to meet indoors at a restaurant. Please contact Pat Keppler for further information.

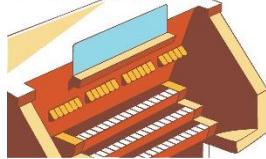


Next Meetings: Sunday May 2nd & Sunday June 6th @ 7 PM on Zoom

On Patriot's Day, we prepared and served 36 Grab 'n' Go meals. In May, we will have a table at the Grab 'n' Go meals with flip flops and summer toys for kids. In June, we will distribute sunscreen and bug spray to our Grab 'n' Go guests. Come and be part of the planning for next year's projects. Watch your emails for the Zoom link.

THE MUSIC OF EASTERTIDE

From the
ORGANIST



For more than a year, COVID has altered nearly all aspects of our lives. Church music has been no exception. The use of music in worship, given the adaptations required to keep everyone safe from spreading the virus, has forced worship leaders to find novel ways to add music into services. We at Trinity started with organ preludes and a couple of verses of a familiar hymn for Zoom worshipers to sing from their computer-based locations at home. Also, tech-savvy parishioners have worked diligently to find better and better ways to provide video and especially audio for our at-home Zoom worshippers. Now that we are in Eastertide, the decision was made to open Zoom worship with a hymn recognizing the season, a sung “Alleluia” response, a live solo, and ending worship with a celebratory postlude. The intent of the postlude is to express “the immense joy in our hearts when we receive the Eucharist and fill us with energy to go out and bring what we have received to others.”

The traditional Easter Day postlude is “Toccata” from the *Organ Symphony V* by Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937), conveying that “immense joy and energy” with an allegro tempo, stunning organ registration, and a clever melody played by the feet. Other postludes for the season are based on hymn tunes such as “Gelobt sei Gott” [Hymnal #205], “Awake, Thou Wintry Earth” by Johann Sebastian Bach, and “God of Grace and God of Glory” [Hymnal #594], using the brilliant reed stops of the organ. Hopefully, we can continue that joy and energy expressed in these postludes not only during Eastertide but throughout the year.

*Randy Bloom
Minister of Music*

SUNDAY SCHOOL



We have great news in Church school! We have 8 children who have joined our Zoom church school this year! 4 of these children are from our collaborative churches (St. Matthew's in Worcester and United Parish of Upton) and 4 from our own church. It is exciting to see a program grow, especially while we are having remote classes! May will be our last full month of church school this year and we have been thrilled to be able to get together each Sunday this school year, even if only on Zoom.

We will celebrate our Sunday School students on June 6th at our 9 am service: the last day of Sunday School for the program year.

*Rachel Carpenter
Sunday School Coordinator*

ECUMENICAL VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Dining in the Kingdom of God

August 2nd – 5th Time TBD

K-12 Hybrid: In person in our parish halls with social distancing and on Zoom

About 2 hours of program each day, ending with a table blessing for supper time.



A Partnership with Trinity, St. Matthew's-Worcester, and the United Parish of Upton.

Each day will have a theme and skill for young people learning how to cook or bake. Each recipe will be for something that can be enjoyed cold, so we do not have to eat at the same time. We are eager to incorporate recipes from a diversity of cultures.

Volunteers can contribute to the program in-person, or by Zoom, or by preparing a pre-recorded video. Each day we will tell stories from Scripture which highlight meals, and also weird and wild expectations about food and dining. Each day we will also learn a new song. Senior High youth may earn community service hours by participating as leaders and guides.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS: MEDITATION AND MOVEMENT ON ZOOM

7:30-8 PM on May 5th & June 6th

Led by Cindi Scrimgeour and Michelle Madden, we will join in a quiet half hour of guided meditation, music, and gentle movement. The zoom link will be send by email on Wednesday mornings.

GOOD NEWS GARDENS



On Sunday, April 18th, Good News Gardens, Milford began our celebration of Earth Day by giving away several small plants. We also gave them away on Thursday, April 22nd and Sunday, April 25th. We had a little over 200 containers of plants (flowers and vegetables) to give away.

One of the people who took plants on April 18th explained that he had heard about the plants when he came to the community meals. His sister bought him a medium-sized planter box and he is excited to have a small, raised bed garden on the front lawn of his home. Some of the other residents are going to help him. He said he always had a garden growing up. He genuinely seemed enthusiastic about getting his hands in the dirt again. Another gentleman came to get some plants and we ended up chatting about the similarities and contrasts of the Catholic and the Episcopal churches. A very interesting conversation. We also had some of our parishioners take plants. Our hope is that people will share the harvest with others.

I am so appreciative to all who are helping to nurture this program. To name just a few...

Madelyn Stochaj created our logo. Mother Judith arranged to get the banner made. Dwight Kee hung the banner. The folks at community dinners gave out notices about GNG in the dinners-to-go. Millie Williams and Beth Moeller provided flowers and helped to plant them in the church planters. Our plan is to replace the pansies in the planters with vegetables after the risk of frost is gone. The Youth Group donated plastic containers, Wayne Stochaj loaned Charlie Johnson his power tools, and Charlie and Jon Haynes turned the five-gallon pails into self-watering planter/containers. We plan to give these away for people to grow tomatoes or pole beans. Marge Waugh donated seeds. Katherine Côté and Aida Mitchell donated containers and trays. The vestry supported this new mission. Charlie Johnson and his green thumb grew all the plants from seed. Kevin Keppler helped to carry flats of plants to help us set up on Sunday. To everyone, I say thank you.

There are ongoing workshops and webinars to learn about gardening, food insecurity, and caring for our fragile earth at <https://www.diocesewma.org/good-news-gardens/>

Respectfully,
Mary Johnson



Boy Scouts of America Troop 2 in Milford is looking for new scouts: boys age 11 to 17.

BSA Troop 2 will teach your child independence, strength, pride, leadership, and a variety of other skills. Outdoor survival skills, community service, and duty to God and country are just a few things that your scout will learn with Troop 2, all while having fun. We have weekly meetings, do regular camping events, summer camp, day trips and community service. We have over 93 years of rich Troop history with Sacred Heart Church as our sponsor and over 135 Eagle Scouts. Join and help keep the legacy going.

Contact scoutmaster@troop2milford.org for more details.



Just a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the June edition of *The Trinitarian* is May 15th. Content that is submitted late may not make it into the newsletter but can be included in the weekly email blast. All articles should be sent to: news@trinitychurchmilford.org.



From the Editor

Last month I wrote about spring and beautiful weather. This month shortly before I started working on this newsletter, we had a very late snowstorm. I must admit, the snow on the flowers was rather lovely, and even though it appeared some flowers might not make it through, they persevered and are just fine. And so shall we be, in time.

Elizabeth Klisiewicz, Editor
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