



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Trinitarian

September 2018



MUSINGS FROM FR. MAC

This has been a busy year! After I returned following the installation of my two new knees, we kicked off the *Capital Campaign* and with your incredible support and commitment we exceeded our goal and raised over \$345,000. Our new windows are saving us in energy costs; the new air conditioning in the Parish Hall and Lane Chapel have made our dinners, meetings and coffee hours *SO* much more comfortable; our painting contractor went above and beyond in their work in the church (complete scraping and repair of all the walls and special primer and two coats of finish paint); and our new organ will be finished by the end of the month (see the *save the dates* note later in the newsletter).

My year was complicated a bit dealing with my mother's medical challenges and subsequent death. I thank you and am blessed by your support, your cards and your notes. Thank you for all the love you shared with my family and me. My mother was an extraordinary woman and I will miss her.

As one of our diocese's elected deputies, I attended our church's 79th *General Convention* in Austin in July. You can read a great summary of the work of the convention at tinyurl.com/GC79Wrapup. While there were so many great moments in Austin, my most memorable were the daily "flash-mob" pop-up worship services before the first legislative session of each day as we gathered to pray, led by various bishops who were members of [Bishops Against Gun Violence](#). Each day 96 crosses were distributed to wear as reminders of the 96 people in the United States who would die from gun violence that day. By the end of convention 960 of us were wearing crosses representing the 890 men, women and children who died in our country from gun violence while we were meeting.

Sunday School kicks off on September 16th with a new curriculum from Spark House, chosen by our Christian Education Committee (see their letter later in this newsletter). Prior to my arrival Steve Ketcham led our Christian Ed program for over 10 years, and in my twelve years at Trinity, MaryBeth Sweet has served in this role. I am deeply grateful for MaryBeth's service and while two years ago we talked about her stepping down, she continued on faithfully. It is now time for us to step up and identify a new leader to support our youngest members. Let our Senior Warden, Ginny Starkis, or Fr. Mac know if you have thoughts about who our next Christian Education Director should be.

While many of our young people are extraordinarily busy, including Sunday mornings, we want to offer the opportunity to gather as a Youth Group to support spiritual growth and to engage in fun activities. We know that listening to our young people is the way to discern what will work and what is important to meet their needs. We are hosting a *Youth Summit* for all our 6th through 12th graders on Sunday, September 16th, following the 10am service (from 11:30am – 1pm). It will be a time to share and plan for the coming school year. AND – Pizza will be provided (including some gluten free pizzas). Come share your thoughts and ideas.

During the Youth Summit, we will also be discussing the upcoming **Confirmation Class** possibilities as we prepare for Bishop Doug's next visit on November 3, 2019.

I am excited that this past spring your vestry unanimously chose to undertake the **RenewalWorks** program starting this month. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

"A revival is a dedicated series of gatherings that combine inspiring worship, compelling teaching, honest faith-sharing, intensified prayer, and some form of engagement with the mission of God – all for the sake of the spiritual renewal and transformation of people and of society." *The Episcopal Church*
On October 21st, **Revival EAST** will begin at 5:00 pm at the Hanover Theater in Worcester. Music, testimonies, and our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, preaching the Way of Love. There will be a procession to the theater beginning at 4:30 pm from Fuller Park. We will depart from Trinity at 3:30pm. Signup sheets for transportation are in the Parish Hall (we plan on having a bus to take us to and from Worcester). Check out revivalwma.org for more details.

To prepare for our participation in the Revival, I have purchased copies of Michael Curry's book, **Crazy Christians**. If you would like to join in reading Crazy Christians and meet together to share our reading, just see me and I will give you a copy of the book and we will set a time to gather to share our learnings / insights. See more information below.

At the Easter Vigil in 1930 (April 19th) the Rev. Mr. George Barrows baptized five members of Trinity: Shirly Ann Seastrom (5 months old), Marie Antoinette Allen (2½ years old), Clarence Elmer Barrows (36 years old), John Gilbone Wilson (7 years old) and George Harrison Wilson (6 years old). This month, after 88 years of faithful service to God and Trinity Church, we wish Farewell and God-Speed to Marie Antoinette (Allen) Tower, as she and Myron move to Tewksbury to be closer to family.

Blessings and Peace,
Fr. Mac



Sunday School Planning

The coming year will be one of transition and reorganization for Sunday School at Trinity Church. The Christian Education Committee has been meeting to address these changes. We are in the process of looking for a new Christian Education Director. While some things will remain the same, a new director will undoubtedly bring change, which may require some adjustment for all of us. Ginny Starkis (our Senior Warden) of Fr. Mac would love suggestions / nominations for this important role.

The committee has developed some guidelines to facilitate the transition and to improve the operation of the Sunday School.

- We will be implementing a new curriculum that will address the needs of the children at their age-level. There will be classes for at least two age groups and possibly three.
- Registration will take place before the start of the Sunday School year to provide time for preparation and planning. Children may also be registered at any time during the year. The registration form is included in this newsletter and is available on our website.
- Your involvement is vital. To implement an effective program with children grouped appropriately by age, we will need a minimum of four to six adults present every Sunday. As part of the registration process we will be asking parents / guardians / grandparents to sign up for six

Sundays to help teach the class. All parishioners, age 16 and over are encouraged to sign up to help out on a Sunday. Sign up at tinyurl.com/TrinitySSHelpers.

- We will also be setting up an online system that will enable you to notify the teacher if your child will not be attending on a given Sunday and will allow you to exchange your assisting Sunday with another volunteer.

While we understand that change can be unsettling, we are also aware that it is transformative and revitalizing.

We look forward to your assistance and support as we work together to provide our children with an inspirational and instructive program of Christian education.

Your Christian Education Committee

Fr. Mac Murray
Dwight Kee

Sarah Prevelige
Ginny Starkis
Mary Beth Sweet

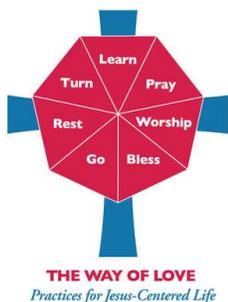
Justin Varteresian
Lisa Ruggiero

RenewalWorks™
A Ministry of Forward Movement

Renewal Works is a program developed to help churches enhance their spiritual vitality and it is coming to Trinity. Self-reflection, sharing, and workshop discussion will help our parish to refocus on spiritual growth and identify new ways that God is calling us to ministry.

In September, all parishioners will be asked to complete a Spiritual Life Inventory, an online survey that explores spiritual life and practices and the church's role in supporting it. A team of about a dozen parishioners will use the anonymous information from this survey to look at where we as a parish have been, where we are now, where we feel called to go, and how we move forward in our spiritual life. Your participation in the survey is very important. As the time for completing it nears, more information will be available.

If you have questions, please contact Brian O'Toole, Kevin Keppler, Ginny Starkis, or Fr. Mac.



Getting Ready for the WMA Revival...

An Invitation to a Book Discussion:

Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus, by The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

The WMA Revival Christian Formation Team is creating a curriculum to accompany the reading of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's *Crazy Christians*. We hope that a study of this collection of sermons/essays from our beloved "Royal Wedding Preacher" will generate excitement in our communities for the WMA Revival on October 21 by making them familiar with Bishop Curry's voice and his passion for following Jesus in this age.

The study is presented in five sessions. In addition to providing discussion questions for each session, we will provide links to video clips of Bishop Curry's sermons. The sessions will also include some discussion of evangelism and "The Way of Love," the simple rule of life Bishop Curry introduced at the 2018 Episcopal General Convention in Austin, Texas.



CALLING ALL SINGERS

For anyone who has had the desire to sing with the Trinity Choir but has feared the weekly obligation, can come and join us on Sunday morning September 30 to celebrate the dedication of our new Smith & Gilbert organ. There will be special organ and choral music that morning. Additional voices will assist in “making a joyful noise” that morning.

The only requirement is a willingness to sing. It is not necessary that you have the ability to read music. The Tuesday night rehearsals on September 18 and 25 will be open to all interested singers. Please contact Randy Bloom at 508-755-7906 or Conbloom@aol.com for additional information. We hope to fill the chancel with enthusiastic singers the morning of September 30.



The United Thank Offering was organized and funded for missionary outreach by women of the Episcopal Church in thanksgiving for life’s many blessings. Blue boxes were used to collect the offerings.

Over the years the United Thank Offering has collected and given away more than \$133,000,000 for building and transportation programs, refugee support, literacy and education programs, and elderly and medical care throughout the United States and the world.

In the last 25 years, the United Thank Offering has become a ministry not just for women, but one for men and children as well.

Please bring your blue box to the breakfast on Sunday, October 14th, or fill an envelope with a donation to United Thank Offering. Take a blue box home with you today and drop a few coins into it daily as you thank God for the blessings in your life.



The annual Welcome Back Picnic will be held on September 9th at 11:30am. The Methodist Church and Coptic Orthodox Christian Church will join us this year. We will have all the regular treats. In addition, we will serve some slow roasted pork and beef smoked over charcoal and applewood chips.

The dessert will be watermelon and we need volunteers to bring some. No other items are needed.

Contact me at londavescott@gmail.com if you can help out. Let’s hope for a beautiful day.

*In Christ,
Dave Scott*



ROMANS 16 DAY

by Linda Buskirk, Episcopal Church Foundation

A recent lectionary reading, Romans 16:1-16, got me thinking...

In this passage, Paul commends to the church in Rome a long list of friends in Christ. They are women and men whose faith and service Paul has witnessed, experienced, and sometimes by which he benefited.

Priscilla and Aquila “risked their lives” for Paul. He writes that he and “all the churches of the Gentiles

are grateful to them.”

Epenetus was “the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.” Andronicus and Junias were in prison with Paul. Mary, Tryphena, Tryphosa and Persis, are all praised for their “very hard work” for Christ and the church. The mother of Rufus was like a mother to Paul.

Greet them, Paul urges. Welcome, accept, value them as fellow believers.

Paul also sends to Rome greetings from those serving with him in his ministry. Gaius, gifted with hospitality, sends greetings. Even Corinth’s Director of Public Works, Erastus, sends greetings. What a joyful litany of gratitude. It got me thinking about the folks in my faith community - those who are moms or dads to many, those who work very hard in service at the altar, in the nursery, in the office, in the choir, and those who live their faith in service beyond our church walls, serving the poor, serving us all in local government, or shining as examples of Christ’s love.

Maybe the liturgical year should include a Romans 16 Day, on which we celebrate what we appreciate about each other. On second thought, us goal-oriented Americans might turn that into an awards ceremony for Saint of the Year.

There’s no competition involved in greeting each other in ways that show our appreciation and gratitude for one another. Every day can be Romans 16 Day, when we make it a point to smile, commend, accept and appreciate – as opposed to avoiding, eye-rolling, gossiping or worse. Let us intentionally be examples of the love and grace of Christ Jesus to each other, to newcomers, and to our brothers and sisters in Christ in other faith traditions.



ROMEO’s LUNCHEON

The Romeo's group will meet for lunch on September 14, at 12:30, at the home of Brian O'Toole, 10 Redwood Drive, Milford. During the lunch, Fr. Mac will speak on activities at the recent General Convention. If you wish to attend, please forward \$10 to cover the cost of food to Dave Clinkman, 162 Millville Street, Mendon, MA, 01756, before Monday, September 10. Or you can give your \$10 to Brian or Dave at church at the 9:00 Sunday coffee hour on September 2 (Dave) or 9 (Brian). Romeo's is a social group for retired men and other men who wish to join us during their lunch hours.

BUSY FINGERS CHRISTMAS FAIR TABLE



Trinity's Christmas Fair is less than four months away.

If you have already started some handcrafted projects to donate to the Busy Fingers Table, thank you! If not, please consider supporting the Church by making a handcrafted item for the table. It would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already given me items for the table. If you have any questions, please contact me at 508-634-8996.

Thank you.
Lucille Clinkman



The latest version of our Trinity Calendar is now available seven days a week, 24 hours a day on our Trinity Church web site. Please visit www.trinitychurchmilford.org and click on the EVENTS tab at the top of the page! If you need a paper copy of the monthly calendar, please call or send an email to the church office.

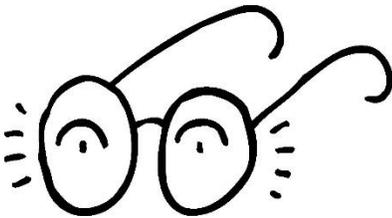
LESSONS FROM A SNOWMAN



- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!



The Oil Painting classes will be starting for the fall session on Friday, September 14th and will end on Friday, November 16th. Classes are from 10 am till noon. Sal Ferreira is the instructor, participants vary from 6 to 15 each week. It is 2 hours of great fellowship among us. We have a very happy group and willing to help one and all through each session. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Sal Ferreira at salvasf@verizon.net by August 24th. He will be happy to advise you on materials needed and what to expect. If you would like to contact someone who has been in this class since 2007, please contact Arlene Person at aperson179@gmail.com for any further information. Looking forward to seeing everyone in September.



EYEGLASS RECYCLING

Trinity's participation in the Milford Lions Club eyeglass recycling program continues. The total number of glasses collected by Trinity parishioners for people in need is 333. Anyone with eyeglasses, glasses cases, or gently used sunglasses that they no longer need, can put them in the collection box near the piano in the parish hall. Thanks to all who have contributed so far!

MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Change the Babies - Don't forget to drop change into the canisters around the Parish Hall for the Mampong Babies Home in Kumasi, Ghana. Everything collected goes to help feed, clothe and take care of the babies whose mothers died in childbirth and their families are unable to take care of them. Many of the babies remain at the home until they are four to five years old.

Food Pantry - Don't forget to drop items off in the basket in the Narthex for the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Each month the bulletin lists the items we are collecting, however, you can bring in items not on the list. Perhaps there was a buy-one-get-one special, or a really good sale on something, or you had a coupon. Please do not bring in items in glass jars, as they are breakable. Food items, cleaning supplies, paper products and health/beauty items are always needed.

Bottles/Cans - Please bring in your *clean* returnable bottles and cans and leave them in the bins under the stairs. Please keep cans, plastic bottles and glass bottles in separate bags/boxes to make sorting easier. The money collected when these are redeemed goes to the Daily Bread Food Pantry.

REST AND RAINBOWS



Sometimes it's important to work for that pot of gold. But other times it's essential to take time off and to make sure that your most important decision in the day simply consists of choosing which color to slide down on the rainbow.

—Douglas Pagels, *These Are the Gifts I'd Like to Give to You*



COMMUNITY DINNER

Trinity Church serves free dinners three times a month in a clean, pleasant, and friendly environment. Anyone who is hungry or lonely is welcome. There are no eligibility requirements. All are welcome to come enjoy fellowship with a satisfying meal.

Our upcoming dinners will take place on September 26th through 28th. If you are interested in helping prepare and serve the dinner, please contact communitymeal@trinitychurchmilford.org for how to serve in this meaningful mission.

NewsLetter DEADLINE

Just a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the October edition of *The Trinitarian* is September 15th. All articles should be sent to: news@trinitychurchmilford.org. Please do not send articles to the church office.



From the Editor

Yes, September is nearly upon us. It's been a whirlwind of a summer season, with many personal health woes. When such things happen, it is hard to focus on anything else. But even during tough times, I try to give praise and thanks every day for this beautiful world God has given us. May you do the same.

Elizabeth Kłisiewicz

Editor

news@trinitychurchmilford.org



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Worship Schedule Wednesday, 9am
Saturday, 5pm
Sunday, 8am and 10am

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MILFORD, MA 01757
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September, 2018

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events ~ Save the dates!

Sunday, September 9 following the 10am service

- Welcome Back Picnic in the Parking Lot
- Signup sheet to help out in the Parish Hall

Sunday, September 16

- Start of Sunday School
- Registration form included in this newsletter
- Volunteer signups online at <https://tinyurl.com/TrinitySSHelpers>

Sunday, September 16 following the 10am service

- Youth Summit for all 6th – 12th graders – Pizza Provided!
- Discuss Youth Group and Confirmation Class Plans for the coming year

Sunday, September 30 at the 10am Service

- Dedication of our new organ
- All singers invited to participate

Sunday, October 21 Depart Trinity at 3:30

- Revival with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry at Hanover Theater in Worcester
- Transportation signup sheet in Parish Hall

At a Date To Be Determined

- Organ Concert and Reception with Timothy Smith, our organ builder