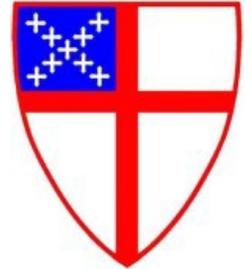


**OCTOBER
2018
INSIDE
THIS ISSUE**



**TRINITY CHURCH
THE BELFRY**



JOY, HOPE, GIVE

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you may abound in hope.”

Romans 15: 13

Dear Friends in Christ,

Every year, in the fall months, we church leaders begin planning for the next year. Specifically, we plan for the financial health and viability of the parish community. And even more specifically, we ask our fellow church members to join us in making a commitment to support the church in the coming year. Usually, we call this stewardship. We are stewards (caretakers and overseers) of the material blessings God has given us and we use our resources to support the ministry of the church.

This year, our stewardship theme is **Joy, Hope, Give**. As the scripture verse above indicates, **Joy** and **Hope** are gifts from God. What we **Give** is our response to God’s gifts to us. And we are asking everyone to think about these three words in this stewardship season.

Joy Ask yourself: “How has God given me Joy in my relationship with God and through my participation in the Trinity community of faith?” Maybe it’s the Joy of knowing, deep in your soul, that God loves you with an everlasting love. Maybe it’s the joy of being strengthened by the prayers of your brothers and sisters in Christ here at Trinity. Maybe it’s the joy of serving in some ministry that brings you closer to people in need and closer to God. Maybe it’s the joy of experiencing the transcendent mystery of God in the worship services and Bible studies. Maybe it’s the joy of knowing that you belong and are valued as a child of God by others in this community of faith. There are many ways of experiencing the Joy that God gives us. What is your way? How has God touched your heart? How has God given you joy?

Hope Ask yourself: “What is my most fervent hope for Trinity?” What good thing do I hope will come to pass in our community of faith in the coming year? Maybe you hope that we will reach out to more people in our community. Maybe you hope that we can expand our outreach efforts to hurting people, both locally and

PAGE 1
Joy, Hope, Give

PAGE 2
Joy, Hope, Give (continued)
Stewardship
Trinity Parish Changes

PAGE 3
Financial
Weekday Bible Study &
Prayers
Ministry Schedule

PAGE 4
Announcements &
Meetings

PAGE 5
Announcements &
Meetings (continued)
Sugar Plum Fair
Blessing of the Animals

PAGE 6
Outreach

PAGE 7
Other Opportunities

PAGE 8
General



JOY, HOPE, GIVE - CONTINUED

around the world. Maybe you hope that you will find a ministry in which you can lend your own talents and gifts to the greater good of our community. Maybe you hope that you will grow deeper in your understanding of God. Maybe you hope to grow deeper in your love and imitation of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. There are many ways that God inspires hope in our lives. How has God inspired hope in you?

Give Ask yourself: "What will I give back to God in gratitude for the joy God has given me?" What will I give to invest in the hope that God has given me?" Saint Paul says, *"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind."* Romans 12:1

When we consider what God has done for us, the only appropriate response is to give back to God sacrificially. That's what it means to be a "living sacrifice." When we ask Jesus to come and make his home in our hearts and souls and lives, His presence changes us. That's what it means to experience the "renewal of our minds." We begin to think and act and live like Jesus. Because he lives in us. What exactly does this mean in my life and your life? How can I give my time, my talents and my material treasure (money) to say thank you to God for all that God has given me? How can I present my own life as a living sacrifice to God? How can I demonstrate the love of Jesus through my giving of myself for the sake of others?

I am going to be thinking about **Joy, Hope, Give**. I invite all of you to join me in this season of reflection.

Yours in Christ, Father Tom

STEWARDSHIP

Our "season of stewardship" will begin on Sunday, October 7. The All-Parish Meeting on stewardship is set for October 28 and Ingathering Sunday will be on Nov 11. Our theme this year will be **Joy, Hope, Give**. As you think about stewardship at Trinity ask yourself:

- What is my greatest joy at Trinity?
- What is my greatest hope for Trinity?
- How can I give to help Trinity serve God in this world?

We are asking members of the parish to speak on Stewardship on each of the Sundays between October 7 and October 28. We are asking that they briefly reflect on what stewardship means to them. We know that their insights will help us all as we think about what stewardship means to us.

TRINITY PARISH CHANGES

We want to share some information about changes coming to our parish. Beginning in the new year, Father Tom Furrer will be with us on Sunday mornings on a more frequent basis. He will also continue the work he does for us during the week in the areas of Pastoral Care and Christian Education. Our work with Grace on "two parishes sharing a single missional priest" has been placed on hold as we continue to discuss an increased role for Father Tom in our parish. Your Wardens.

FINANCIAL

Pledge Status as of 08/31/2018

Total Annual Pledge \$80,845
 Pledge Budget \$53,897
 Received \$59,360
 Difference + \$ 5,463

Income/Expenses as of 08/31/2018

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$76,093	\$74,224
Expenses	\$87,383	\$90,624

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES & PRAYER

Tuesday Evenings

Come and explore the Parables together in order to discover an entirely new dimension and depth to our understanding. Meetings are at 7 pm through November 27.

Wednesday Morning

Join together for a peaceful, centering time of prayer and worship. Mid-week Morning Prayer takes place at 8 o'clock in the side chapel. The facilitator is Rebecca Scruton.

Thursday Morning

Meet at 10:30 in the Bishop Seabury Room for a time of studying Scripture, seeking to be led by the Holy Spirit in our personal and communal lives. Feel free to come early for conversation and connecting. The facilitator is Rebecca Scruton.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
Opener	D. Paternostro	D. Paternostro	D. Paternostro	D. Paternostro
Celebrant	Rt. Rev. G. Scruton	Rev. V. Miller	Rev. J. Alexis	Rev. T. Furrer
Eucharistic Minister	D. Paternostro	S. Basile	R. Colburn	J. Joseph
Lector	G. Smith	C. Chadsey	C. Helfant	M. Koehler
Intercessor	G. Lohman	D. Paternostro	J. Shaw	R. Riley
Ushers	C. Chadsey M. Kucka	D. Chellstorp M. Chellstorp	D. Paternostro M. Kucka	D. Paternostro M. Kucka
Closer	K. Cole	D. Paternostro	R. Riley	K. Cole
Counters	R. Riley C. Harasymiw	N. Knapp D. Paternostro	L. Jones D. Zarillo	G. Myers C. Tomlinson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETINGS

FINAL 2018 CATHEDRAL DINNER, NOVEMBER 26

Everyone's assistance is needed. Please donate food, money or your time in helping prepare and serve a dinner to approximately 100 people at Christ Church Cathedral. It's an enjoyable time, it's quick (about two hours) and, most of all, it's rewarding. Please join us in helping others. Sign-up sheet is in the rear of the church.

CEILING PROJECT UPDATE

One of our current projects is the installation of a new ceiling in the Parish Hall and the rooms around it. We have obtained quotes and references from several contractors. We have also updated our electrician on the installation of new LED lights. Our asbestos study showed that we're clean on everything. This ceiling project is highly visible, complicated, and will not be finished quickly. But progress is being made and updates will appear in upcoming issues of The Belfry. If you have questions or ideas, feel free to contact Warren Blessing or any member of the Property Committee.

BOOK CLUBS

MORNING BOOK CLUB AND LADIES LUNCHEON

The next book club selection is **The Lake House** by Kate Morton on Monday, November 12, at 10:30 am at Barbara Cosgrove's home. The luncheon is on October 2, noon, at The River Restaurant in Wethersfield. If you need a ride, call Sue Ellen DeCesare, 860-214-2498. All are welcome to both gatherings.

EVENING BOOK CLUB

The next selection is **The One-in-a-Million Boy** by Monica Wood on Monday, October 8, at 5:45 pm for pizza and discussion at the home of Joan Joseph. All are welcome.

ANNUAL CONVENTION

The annual convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) will take place on October 26 and 27 in Mystic, Connecticut. All church members are welcome. If you would like to attend go online to the ECCT website, www.episcopalct.org/events/annual-convention/2018/ or call the church office. Regular registration ends on October 23 and is \$85; walk-in registration is \$100.

T-SHIRT SALES

Our first Trinity t-shirt sale was a great success. Fifty-nine were sold and a profit of just over \$200 was realized. The vestry has directed that this money will be used for outreach in Nigeria.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETINGS - CONTINUED

CHOIR MUSIC

The Music Committee has planned our Veterans Day, Advent and Christmas choir music. Now all we need are choristers! Here's the list of rehearsals and performances.:

November 4	Rehearsal immediately after service
November 11	Anthem, "May the Road Rise up to Meet You"
December 2	Rehearsal immediately after service
December 9	Anthem, "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" and rehearsal immediately after service
December 23	Festive Lessons and Carols at the 9 am service Anthem "Lo, How a Rose er'e Blooming "with Linda Traue on Celtic Harp. Another anthem to be determined.
December 24	Christmas Eve service at 5 pm Anthem from Lessons & Carols and Silent Night with descant.

Contact the office if you think you would like to sing. A member of the Music Committee will contact you. Come sing with us!

LOOKING FORWARD TO YE OLDE SUGAR PLUM FAIR

With temperatures recently in the low 80s, it is hard to think that planning for Ye Olde Sugar Plum Fair has begun. The date for the fair is Saturday, November 17 and the time is 9 - 2. The stage has been cleared for the collection of books, DVDs, puzzles, and Christmas collectibles. Please pack them securely and label them clearly. We will have beautiful, live holiday plants again this year, and we will again have a table of beautiful hand-carved items by Warren Blessing, and original water color pictures and cards, all of which will make beautiful holiday gifts. So, save the date!

As the weather cools, turn your eyes to the next Belfry for more details and turn your minds to how you can help make this fair the best parish-wide event yet. There is something to do for everyone who wants to join in. Please contact Connie Harasymiw or Rose Riley with new ideas and offers to help. Or, feel free to contact any of the following: Ginger Smith for Food Court; Greg and Joan Joseph for Books, Etc.; Kathy Cole and Lynda Blessing for Pet Gifts; Vicki Crafa and Barbara Cosgrove for Christmas Collectibles (this is where items in good condition can be re-gifted along with household and Christmas items); Marilyn Ford and Cheryl Lewis for Baked Goods; Jan Rouse and Connie Harasymiw for Home Made Gifts.



Blessing of the Animals - Bring your pets for a blessing of the animals on October 7 at 4 pm.
Refreshments for pets and owners provided.

OUTREACH TO LOCAL, REGIONAL AND WORLDWIDE COMMUNITIES

SUPPORT FOR NIGERIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN

Another big thank you to those who gave to send 43 children to school. Our total donation was \$2,150. That is amazing!

Golden Oldies Concerts

A record crowd came to the parish hall on September 8 to listen, sing and dance to the wonderful music of Sal Basile and his colleague, John. Over \$800 was raised to help fund some of Trinity's needs. Please take a moment to thank Sal for his wonderful contribution to Trinity.

SAL'S NEXT CONCERT

Will be Saturday, November 10, at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. Bistro-style seating, hot and cold appetizers, fruit and punch will be provided. Donate \$10 at the door with proceeds to benefit outreach programs in Wethersfield, Hartford, Haiti, and Nigeria. Come and join us for another wonderful evening of music, singing and dancing. If you have a favorite appetizer recipe, please make it and bring to share as many of you already do. We are asking for appetizers only which works much better.

WETHERSFIELD SOCIAL SERVICES

Here are the opportunities presented to us by our Town Social Services in addition to our ongoing outreach for South Park Inn, the Town Food Bank, and our Syrian Family.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Collection of donations begins on October 21 and ends November 11. Needed are canned corn, canned beans, instant mashed potatoes, boxed stuffing, cans of gravy, cranberry sauce, cake mixes and frosting, cookie and brownie mixes, quick bread mixes, juice, mac & cheese mixes, frozen turkeys. Parish members will be needed to transport the donations to Town Hall on Monday, November 12. On the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 17, help assembling the Thanksgiving baskets is needed. Please sign up at the back of the church or at the Outreach Table in the Parish Hall. A basket or tub will be on the table by the Outreach Bulletin Board to collect the food items. For more information, call Marilyn Ford at 860-529-1869.

HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

This program replaces the Christmas and Three Kings Toy Drive that we have done for many years. We will support children through Wethersfield Social Services, South Park Inn, and two gifts each for the three Syrian children. Several volunteers are needed for the Distribution Day on December 18. Please call Donna Brown at 860-563-2129 for more information about this opportunity.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

FRIENDLY SHOPPER AND FRIENDLY VISTOR PROGRAMS

Wethersfield Social Services coordinates and supervises the Friendly Shopper and Friendly Visitor programs which serve home bound seniors. This program does require a time commitment, but two people can sign up as a team and take turns shopping and visiting. Brochures with contact information are available at the back of the church and on the Outreach Table in the Parish Hall. Call Rose Riley 860-721-0547 for more information.

BOOT PARTY AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHERDRAL ON DECEMBER 8

We need a coordinator to handle this. We collect small plastic bags of toiletries for this event which helps serve the needs of 600 homeless and disenfranchised people in Greater Hartford. Volunteers assist with distributing morning snacks, cleaning feet, and handing out lunches, socks, gloves, and personal care packages. We also have the opportunity to collect items for this event. See or call Rose Riley or Marilyn Ford if you are interested.

DINING FOR DOLLARS

We need a coordinator to get more information and set this up with the Bertucci's. A portion of the proceeds comes back to our church. If you are willing to do this, please contact Rose Riley or Marilyn Ford.

WETHERSFIELD FOOD BANK

The Food Bank has provided a new list of food for those in need: canned pasta, rice, cans of chunk chicken, plastic or glass containers of jelly, peanut butter, tuna in water, cans of fruit in 100% juice, low sodium soups, pasta sauce, no salt added canned vegetables, granola bars, fresh produce, cereal, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste.

SOUTH PARK INN

Please continue to place donations for this Hartford shelter in the box in the Parish Hall. Always needed are toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotions, spray deodorant, feminine hygiene products, diapers, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, towels, pillow cases, twin flat and fitted sheets.

LOCAL SYRIAN FAMILY

There is a basket in the Parish Hall for the family we are helping. They are so grateful for the items and gift cards you have donated. A recent delivery was made of the paper goods and personal care items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, hand soap (bar and/or liquid) along with household cleaning supplies such as Windex, Mister Clean, bleach, and laundry detergent are always needed. Due to unforeseen circumstances, they also need basmati rice, macaroni, tomatoes (plain, no spice), and plain tomato sauce.

Thanks to all of you who support these programs for those who are less fortunate. We are truly being the "hands and feet of Jesus."

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

300 MAIN STREET

WETHERSFIELD, CT 06109

TELEPHONE 860-529-6825

WWW.TRINITYEPISCOPALWETH.ORG

OPERATIONS@TRINITYEPISCOPALWETH.ORG

OFFICE HOURS

TUE, WED & THURS

9 AM TO 12 PM



MISSION STATEMENT

Trinity Episcopal Church is an ever-evolving Christian Community committed to deepening our relationship with God by: *offering worship and education for all ages, caring for and servicing one another and those beyond our community, being open and welcoming.*



Thank You, LORD!

THE PRAYER FOR PARISH MISSION

Dear and Gracious God, Please send us the people we need in order to become the church You want us to be, and please send us the people who need us in order to become the people You want them to be. Help us to respond with love to those You send, making room for them at our table and in our hearts so that together we can share Your love with our neighbors in need both locally and around the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who met people where they were, loved and cared for them, and invited them into a deeper relationship with You. Amen.