

THE BELFRY

Trinity Episcopal Church | Wethersfield, CT

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Services

- Sundays - 9 am
Holy Eucharist
- Wednesdays - 8 am
Morning Prayer

Bible Studies

- Thursdays - 10:30 am
Bishop Seabury Room
- Third Sundays - 10:30 am
"Growing in Grace" classes
for confirmation, reception,
reaffirmation and renewal
of faith
Bishop Seabury Room
- Wednesdays - 6 pm
Read and Feed
Bishop Seabury Room

From Our Pastor

"For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with his might through his Spirit in the inner person, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all of the fullness of God."

Ephesians 3:14 - 19



Dear Trinity family,

The passage above is one of my favorite in the entire Bible. The expression "being rooted and grounded in love" is so important for Christian life and ministry.

As many of you know, I just returned from a three-week medical mission in Nigeria. And it was one of the most difficult mission trips I have ever experienced due to the deteriorating security situation. And the most difficult part was doing our medical outreach in a refugee camp. The reason it hurt me so bad was because I have a particular love for the people most severely affected by the tribal violence that forced them to be refugees. When we love someone, it hurts to see them hurt.

(continued on page 2)

Sunday Readings

June 2 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14,16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

June 9 - Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Romans 8:14-17

John 14:8-17

June 16 - Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

June 23 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

Psalm 42 and 43

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

June 30 - Third Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

Galatians 5:1,13-25

Luke 9:51-62

(FROM OUR PASTOR continued from page 1)



But for the followers of Jesus, there is no way out of the love thing. It is the main thing: “God so loved the world, he sent his only begotten Son...” *John 3: 16* and “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in my love.” *John 16:9* and “Whoever does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this is the commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also.” *1 John 4: 20-21*

Now that I have returned to Trinity, I realize how much I have missed all of you and how I experience God’s love here among all of you. Thank you for all of your prayers and love for me when I was away. God has blessed me with a double portion of mission engagement with people I love.

I pray that we all may be “rooted and grounded in love” in everything we do as a Christian community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Tom

From Our Wardens

By Rose Riley and Denise Paternostro

*“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.”*

We have prayed this prayer many times during the last few years and God indeed has responded. Trinity has been joined by many new members and almost all of them have become active in one or more ministries — no “pew potatoes” as Father Tom likes to say.

Our new members have come to Trinity with many skills and many passions. As much as we have helped them grow toward becoming the people our Lord wants them to be, they have helped us grow in God’s Grace, expanding the ministries of Trinity and adding new traditions.

Growth isn’t always easy but Trinity has embraced the challenge that growth brings. We trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to send us not only new people but new passions and joys and that our small community of faithful people will continue to grow in our ability to walk in all the ways that God has prepared for us.

Prayers of the People

Many have commented on the number of names in Sunday morning Prayers of the People and, for some, the number of names makes it difficult to join in the prayers and listen lovingly.

Over the last few months the Vestry, the Worship Committee, Father Tom and the Wardens have considered ways to continue interceding for our parishioners and their concerns while honoring those who have expressed their desire for change. Having prayerfully discussed this issue and desiring to honor all in our community, the following guidelines will be used for maintaining our Sunday morning Prayers of the People.

- Names will be added upon request to the parish administrator and names will remain on the list for a default period of one month.
- Names may be included on the list for longer than a month, however the date on which the name will be removed should be specified. This end date can be modified if a name needs to be kept on the list for longer than initially requested.
- All names will be read aloud each Sunday and will be included in the list of names in the Sunday bulletin.
- Names will be removed after a month unless a request has been made specifically to include that name for more than one month.
- Trinity members who are in nursing homes will remain on the list indefinitely.



*Jesus, Gerasene and Spirits, 1425,
artist unknown, Germany*

Parish Leadership

PASTOR

The Rev. Thomas Furrer
In the case of a pastoral
emergency, please contact
Father Tom at 860-212-6994.

STAFF

Linda Rubera, Administrator
Tuesday-Thursday, 9-12
860-529-6825
operations@
trinityepiscopalweth.org
Dorothy LaBelle, Music Director
Nick Tracano, Sexton

VESTRY

Warren Blessing
Robert Heath, Treasurer
Carol Jones, Clerk
Leslie Jones
Tina LaMorte
Cheryl Lewis
Denise Paternostro, Warden
Rose Riley, Warden
Judith Shaw
Linda Traue

Community Meals Needs YOU

On Monday evening, July 22, we need eight people to assist in serving food to Hartford's hungry and homeless at Christ Church Cathedral. Please sign up to help in the soup kitchen from 4:15 to 6:30ish. No special skills or experience required.

Folks can also contribute food as indicated on the sign-up sheet at the back of our church. Or you can contribute a few dollars to purchase food. For more information, call coordinators Lynda and Warren at 860-742-3253.

Thanks From South Park Inn

We recently donated 720 meal packets that were assembled at the Neighbors Feeding Neighbors outreach event by Trinity and St. Andrew's in Rocky Hill.

Upon receiving our donation, South Park Inn wrote, "We distributed the food items to our various programs: Plimpton House, Veterans/Respite Program, Women and Children, our weekend meals. ... The meals have received a wonderful response. I am also really happy that they are so nutritious!"

We are truly blessed that we were able to help feed so many people.

Outreach to Local, Regional and Worldwide Communities

SAVE THE DATES

June 2 Keane Foundation 5K
 June 8 Golden Oldies Concert
 July 22 Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral
 Sept 23 Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral
 Oct 20 Chili + Rice & Beans Cook-off
 Nov 25 Community Meal, Christ Church Cathedral

TEDDY BEARS & FRIENDS SUNDAY

Thank you all for providing stuffed animals for children at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Three big bags of critters were delivered to provide comfort to many boys and girls.

GOLDEN OLDIES CONCERT

June 8, 7 pm, Parish Hall
 Please join Sal Basile and friends for a concert of singing and dancing. Bistro-style seating, snacks, appetizers, desserts, and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Please bring crackers and cheese, fruit, chips and dips, brownies, cookies or anything that does not require silverware (finger foods only). Our recent concerts have been near capacity so we need your help with food. Admission is \$10 at the door with proceeds going to Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria where Father Tom and his team just conducted free medical clinics to over 7000 people.

WETHERSFIELD FOOD BANK

Items needed for the Backpack Program include healthy snacks such as low sugar breakfast bars, protein bars, and crackers. In addition, they are looking for canned chicken, jelly (plastic jars), pasta, canned goods (low sodium), tuna fish, and peanut butter. This program takes a break for the summer so we will take some donations to a program where Wethersfield families in need pick up a bag of food items once a week. Look for more information in the weekly e-blasts and Sunday bulletins.

OUR SYRIAN FAMILY

Please place items in the appropriate bin in the Parish Hall: paper towels, toilet paper, washing detergent, dish detergent, liquid hand soap, shampoo, no-tears shampoo, and juice boxes for the children. The family is so appreciative of your assistance.

SOUTH PARK INN

South Park Inn provides a continuum of services to those who are homeless. Please consider leaving donations in the box in the Parish Hall. Needed are toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand/body lotion, spray deodorant, feminine hygiene products, toddler diapers, laundry soap, cleaning supplies, towels, pillow cases, twin flat and fitted sheets.

What's Happening with the 150th Anniversary Celebration?

It seems since it's 2019 that we should have begun our celebration of 150th Anniversary but a quick look back through history gives us a little different picture of what was going on in the year of 1869. Although Trinity had not yet been formed as a parish, people had been worshipping in the Episcopal tradition in Wethersfield for about two years. Generally they worshipped at the Old Academy which is just down the road on Main Street. They had already celebrated weddings, baptisms, confirmations and had even started a church school!

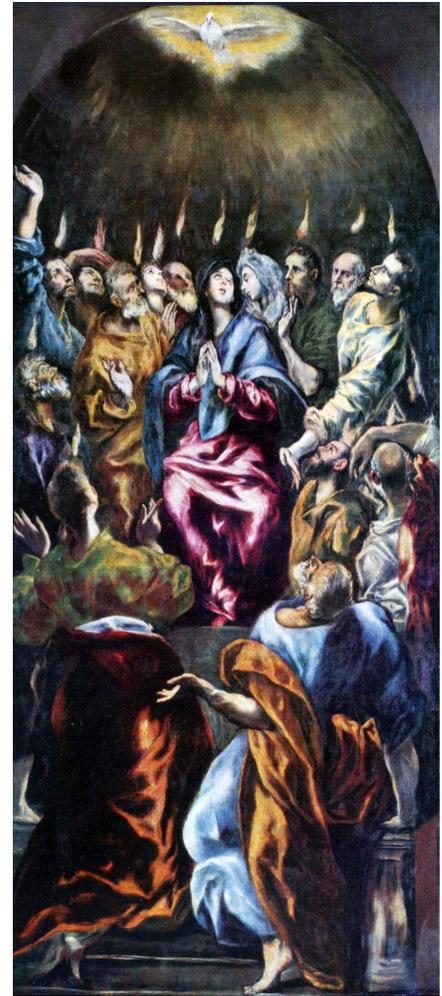
But Trinity Episcopal, Wethersfield didn't really come into existence until October of 1869 when a group of individuals came together to draw up a request to the Diocese of Connecticut to authorize the formation of Trinity Parish, Wethersfield. It took until June of the following year for Trinity to actually be incorporated into the Diocese of Connecticut and it took four years more before the first worship service was held in our new church building in 1874.

So the first formal event in our celebration of a 150th anniversary will take place on October 6 of this year. There will be a Festive Church Service at 4 o'clock in the afternoon with Bishop Ian Douglas presiding. It will be followed by a reception or dinner in the Parish Hall. So mark that date on your calendar and be sure to come. Invitations will be sent out during the summer.

Other major events for the anniversary include a Family Day celebration in February, an Organ and Harpsichord Concert given by Bruce Henley in April, participation as a parish in the Keane Foundation 5K, and our final celebration service and parish picnic on June 14, 2020. We are also looking at participation in the Cornfest, a joint Thanksgiving service with other churches in Wethersfield, an expanded Lessons and Carols, and a number of other events which would be "branded" as Trinity 150 activities.

Finally the Trinity 150 team has selected a slightly different slogan from the one that we had planned to use earlier in the year. The new slogan for a 150th anniversary is:

Love God.
Love your neighbor.
Change the world.®



*Descent of the Holy Spirit, 1604,
El Greco, Museo del Prado, Madrid*

This Month's Bible Verse

"...that you being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all of the fullness of God."

Ephesians 3:17-19



*Holy Trinity, 1400, Andrei Rublev,
Moscow, Russia*

Upcoming Events

JUNE 2

Keane Foundation 5K, 11 am,
Trinity members handing out water
at Broad Street Green station.

JUNE 8

Golden Oldies Concert, 7 pm,
Parish Hall, proceeds to benefit
Kateri Medical Clinics.

JUNE 16

Baptism at 9 o'clock service.

Financial Report

Pledge Status as of 4/30/2019

Total Annual Pledge	\$ 115,542
Pledge Budget	\$ 38,514
Received	\$ 43,528
Difference	+ \$ 5,014

Income/Expenses

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 49,873	\$ 45,370
Expenses	\$ 46,967	\$ 45,370

Nothing transferred from investments in April to cover expenses.

North Central Region Convocation on Reconciliation

On a beautiful Saturday in May, clergy and parish members from churches in the North Central Region met at Saint Paul's in Southington for a convocation on reconciliation. This was a day of sadness and pain but also a day of joy and rededication. This gathering became a sacred space as stories were told and awareness heightened. There is much that must be done to heal the wrongs of past years and set new directions for the future.

The Racial Healing, Justice and Reconciliation Ministry Network who convened this convocation will offer many opportunities to participate during the year including:

Trip to Providence, July 13, 9-4

Walking tour on the history and legacy of slave trading in the neighborhood of College Hill, Providence, RI led by the Center for Reconciliation. Bus departs Trinity Church, Brooklyn, CT, \$45.

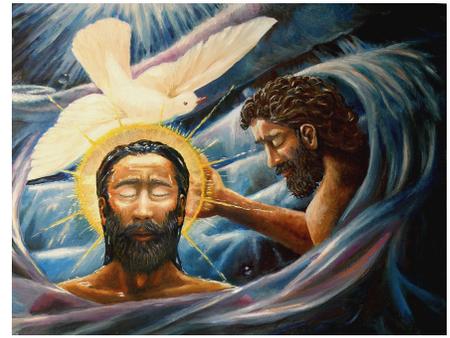
Trip to Washington, November 16 -17

Bus trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC. \$100 pp (double room) for bus and museum entrance. Overnight lodging is included in the \$100 but will be paid to the hotel directly by participants. Food not included.

If you have questions about these trips please contact event coordinators Valarie Stanley (v.j.stanleys@gmail.com) or June Aziz (juneaziz@aol.com) or your warden, Rose Riley (rosekriley@sbcglobal.net). Also, please tell Linda Rubera in the office if you are planning to go so that she can let other parish members know so that shared travel arrangements can be made.

Lay Ministry Schedule

June 2	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	R. Colburn
	Lector	C. Chadsey
	Intercessor	J. Shaw
	Ushers	M. Kucka
		D. Paternostro
	Closer	R. Riley
June 9	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	G. Smith
	Lector	M. Koehler
	Intercessor	R. Riley
	Ushers	D. Paternostro
		M. Kucka
	Closer	D. Paternostro
June 16	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	D. Paternostro
	Lector	G. Myers
	Intercessor	L. Jones
	Ushers	C. Chadsey
		M. Kucka
	Closer	K. Cole
June 23	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	S. Basile
	Lector	G. Lohman
	Intercessor	C. Chadsey
	Ushers	M. Kucka
		D. Paternostro
	Closer	R. Riley
June 30	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	D. Paternostro
	Lector	C. Helfant
	Usher	M. Kucka
	Closer	D. Paternostro



Baptism of Christ, 2005,
Dave Zelenka, United States

Lulu Xavier's Baptism and Birthday

On Sunday, June 16, Lulu Xavier will be baptized into the "Household of Faith" at our 9 am service. To add to the joy, she will also be celebrating her first birthday.

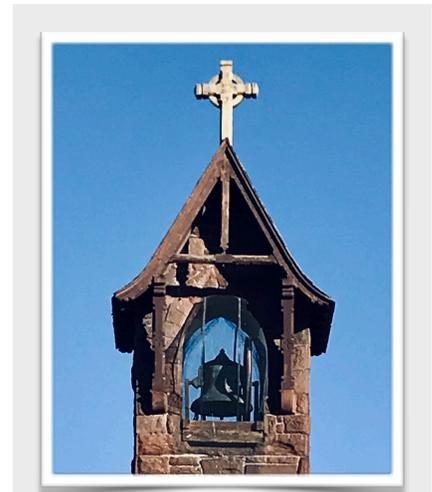
Please join with our community in this special worship service and at the potluck brunch reception which will follow the service. Parish members are asked to bring a favorite brunch dish for the reception.

A 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



The Belfry

The Belfry is a monthly publication of Trinity Episcopal Church, 300 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109. Send items for the next publication to lesliejonesie@gmail.com by June 26.

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If you prefer to receive The Belfry by email, please contact the office at operations@trinityepiscopalweth.org or 860-529-6825.