

THE BELFRY

Trinity Episcopal Church | Wethersfield, CT

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Services

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

Bible Studies

- Wednesdays, 6 pm
Read and Feed
Bishop Seabury Room
(more info on page 6)
- Thursdays, 10:30
Bishop Seabury Room



A Word from the Wardens

Our Celebration on October 6

How blessed we are as a church to be celebrating our 150th birthday. Just about two years ago we deeply worried that we were not going to be able to continue to exist. However, at a momentous parish meeting, we decided that we would do everything we could to continue on and, that with God's grace, we were going to thrive.

Two years later we find ourselves an exciting, vigorous community. Many mission and outreach initiatives are underway, opportunities for Bible study occur year round. We are financially more stable and we have begun to grow in membership.

But far, far more importantly, we have grown in the joy of being Trinity Parish.

We were speaking with Bishop Laura Ahrens recently and she asked us, "How is Trinity doing? How are you all?" We replied that

(continued on page 2)



The Mulberry Tree, Vincent Van Gogh, 1889 (Scripture: Luke 17:5-10)

Sunday Readings

October 6

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 13

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 20

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 27

Sirach 35:12-17
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

(OUR CELEBRATION ON OCTOBER 6 (continued from page 1))

we were good. We were blessed to have Father Tom and we were doing well in many ways. And we were a happy church.

We thought about that later and reflected that we are very much like a happy family. We have challenges. Right now we are deeply concerned that Father Tom is able to quickly regain his health. We mourn with parish members who have suffered losses. But underpinning our concerns or sadness is a strong sense of joy in being together, in being able to minister to each other in times of sadness and celebrate together in times of joy. And most of all we have a strong sense of being bountifully blessed by God.

This is what we will truly celebrate on the 6th of October.

Special Women's Lunch With Nana Dogo



Ministry with Widows and Other Women in Need in Nigeria *October 15, 12 noon to 2 pm*

Nana Rahilla Dogo will be our guest speaker. She is the president of the Mothers' Union – a dynamic force for women's empowerment all over Africa – and is in charge of all women's ministries in the Anglican Diocese of Kafanchan in Nigeria where she has developed a women's vocational training center to help women become economically self-sufficient. Because of violent persecution of Christians and other factors, many women in northern Nigeria are widowed young and live a precarious life. The Anglican Diocese of Kafanchan has more than 2,000 widows. Come and hear the inspiring story of Mrs. Dogo's ministry to empower women and perhaps discover strategies for women's ministries here in the United States.

Donna Brown is in charge of the food for this event and needs your help with providing desserts. Please let her know what you can bring to share. Her email is dbrown921@cox.net

Honest Conversations with Muslim Neighbors

Who are our Muslim neighbors?

What do they believe?

How do extremist actions worldwide affect them?

In an effort to build bridges and educate ourselves, we will sponsor “Honest Conversations” on Sunday, November 17 at 1pm in the Parish Hall. The program was developed and supported by the Connecticut Council for Interreligious Understanding (CCIU), the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut and the Hartford Seminary.

The format of the presentation involves attendees writing questions on cards. The questions are given to three speakers who take turns responding. The speakers are Muslims who live in our community and have their own unique view of the world based on their varied experiences.

Several members of our church attended one of these sessions a few months ago and felt it was very informative and well-presented. If you’d like more information, please contact Warren Blessing at 860-742-3253 or ctvalleywc@yahoo.com

Kateri Medical Services Benefit Dinner

Saturday, October 19, 5:00 - 8:30

First Cathedral, 1151 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield

Keynote speakers: Bishop Markus Diogo and Nana Dogo
 Music provided by: The Tapestry Singers of Connecticut

Please RSVP at bit.ly.com/Kateri2019 or let Father Tom know at katericlinic@gmail.com by October 6.

Remembrance Sunday

November 3 will be the day that we celebrate All-Saints Day. At Trinity we especially remember those Trinity members who died during the last year. We also remember those individuals who lost their lives in the last year to mass shootings and major natural disasters. It is important on this day to reflect on the tragedy of mass shootings in American life and to reaffirm our determination to do what we can to remove its dark shadow.



*The Vision after the Sermon (partial),
 Paul Gauguin, 1888
 (Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31)*

Parish Leadership

PASTOR

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

CURATE

The Rev. Darryl Burke, Deacon

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



The Pharisee and the Publican,
JESUS MAFA, 1973 (Scripture:
Luke 18:9-14)

Soup Sale to Support Children in Honduras

Be sure to mark your calendar for November 10, the day Ginger Smith will sell her famous homemade soups to help raise funds for Copprome Orphanage in El Progreso, Honduras. There will be 28 different kinds of soup available for purchase after church in the Parish Hall. Eleven will be vegetarian!

Ginger has been visiting the orphanage twice a year for the past 18 years. While there, she organizes and sponsors field trips, movies, birthday and pizza parties, and responds to specific needs such as shoes, athletic equipment, clothes, education and computer needs. The greatest need at this time is food so Ginger will use her soup money primarily for food for the children.

Ginger visits again from October 22 to November 1.

Outreach to Local, Regional and Worldwide Communities

CHILI + RICE & BEANS COOK-OFF

October 20, 5 pm, Parish Hall and Seabury Room

St. James', Glastonbury; Christ, Middle Haddam; and St. Andrew's Rocky Hill will be joining us for this event which has taken on a life of its own over the past 12 years. Food is served in taster cups so people can try whatever they wish and go back for more of their favorites. There are two competitions – Judged and People's Choice, with prizes going to the 1st and 2nd place winners in the Chili and Rice & Beans categories.

Pay at the door: \$10 for adults, \$3 for children (ages 3 to 12), and \$25 for a family of 5 (2 adults only). All proceeds go to St. Vincent's Center for Disabled Children in Haiti, an Episcopal school where 200 children (100 deaf, 60 blind, and 40 in wheelchairs) receive special educational opportunities and life skills training.

Speaking at the event will be Bishop Marcus Dogo from Nigeria on "Educating Children in Third World Countries."

A sign-up sheet is in the back of the church for desserts and corn bread. St. James' will be providing one-half of the desserts and most of the corn bread. Thanks for helping helping with this event.

Join us for a fun evening with wonderful recipes and fellowship.

GOLDEN OLDIES CONCERT

November 16, 7 pm (note change in date)

Come join your church family and the community for another great Sal and Dave concert in our Parish Hall. Sal Basile will be playing guitar and Dave Spitzer his bass guitar and keyboard, and both will be singing favorite songs. Bistro-style seating, snacks, appetizers, desserts, and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Please help us by bringing snacks, finger foods, crackers and cheese, chips and dips, fruit, deviled eggs, brownies, cookies. \$10 at the door with proceeds going to Kateri Medical Services in Nigeria to buy medicine for the clinics Father Tom supports and where he will be traveling in November.

WETHERSFIELD FOOD BANK

Your response to our requests has been amazing. Thank you for your generosity. Please continue to bring canned chicken and tuna in water, jelly (plastic containers), pasta, rice, peanut butter, cans of fruit in 100% juice, low sodium soups, pasta sauce, no-salt-added canned vegetables, and cereal.

OUR SYRIAN FAMILY

Thank you for the items you regularly donate. We will continue to provide paper towels, toilet paper, washing machine detergent, dish detergent, liquid hand soap, shampoo, no-tears shampoo, juice boxes for the children, vegetable oil and olive oil.

Outreach to Local, Regional and Worldwide Communities

BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are supporting Wethersfield Social Services by providing snacks to over 60 school children who take home backpacks full of healthy, kid-friendly items to keep them going over the weekend. Healthy snacks like granola bars, protein bars, low sugar breakfast bars, peanut butter and cheese cracker packages, and juice boxes are needed. These go to lower income families in Wethersfield.

SOUTH PARK INN

Always appreciated are gift cards (Walmart, grocery stores, fast food restaurants, Cost Cutters); bus passes; laundry detergent and cleaning supplies; new or lightly-used twin sheets and bath towels; underwear, t-shirts and pajamas (especially xl, 2xl and 3xl) for both men and women; adult incontinence products; new office supplies (copy paper, pens, pencils, post-its, file folders). With cool weather approaching please also think of sweatshirts and warm socks for men and women. Larger sizes are most needed.

COMMUNITY MEALS AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

If you'd like to join in for a fun and rewarding experience, please join us on November 25 for the last community dinner this year. No special ability is needed except for the desire to help out. If you haven't tried it, please do. Lynda and Warren Blessing can answer any question you might have (860-742-3253). They also provide rides with advance notice. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church for contributions or to join us.



The crew from the September 29 community meal at Christ Church Cathedral where 102 dinners were served.



*The Ten Lepers, Bill Hoover, 2013
(Scripture: Luke 17:11-19)*

Family Learning Center

A new year is beginning for the Family Learning Center - the program that uses our church school facilities in the lower level of the Parish Hall. We are blessed to be able to assist in this program which allows parents to gain fluency in English while their babies and pre-school children are across the hall being cared for and having fun with other children from many different cultures. Here's some information about classes and participants for the upcoming year:

- Families registered – 15
- Children in the program – 19
- Infants & toddlers – 9
- Preschoolers – 10
- Countries represented – 15
 - Japan (5)
 - China (2)
 - Peru (2)
 - Syria (2)
 - El Salvador (1)
 - Sudan (1)
 - Turkey (1)
 - Puerto Rico (1)
- Languages spoken – 5
 - Japanese (5)
 - Spanish (4)
 - Arabic (3)
 - Chinese (2)
 - Turkish (1)



Our Altar Guild designed this floral arrangement to represent "Fire and Heat." Each arrangement during September was representative of our Season of Creation.

Morning Book Club

The next meeting will be November 11 at 10:30 am in the Trinity Church Library. All are welcome. The book that will be discussed is *The Room on Rue Amélie* by Kristin Harmel.

The Ladies Luncheon

The next luncheon will be on October 8 at noon at Eastside Restaurant in New Britain. All are welcome. Any questions or in need of a ride, please call Sue Ellen DeCesare at 860-214-2498.

Business Report

Pledge Status as of August 31, 2019

Total Annual Pledge	\$ 115,542
Pledge Budget	\$ 77,028
Received	\$ 79,917
Difference	+ \$ 2,889

Income/Expenses

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 93,235	\$ 90,739
Expenses	\$ 88,647	\$ 90,739

If you'd like to learn more about the business of the church, you can check out the monthly vestry minutes on our website at trinityepiscopalweth.org/vestry-minutes.

Ye Olde Sugar Plum Fair

Ye Olde Sugar Plum Fair will be on Saturday, November 23 from 9 am to 2 pm. Come and shop for the holidays and have lunch with your friends. We'll have knitted hats, scarves and blankets, and many other handmade gifts. There will be books and puzzles as well as gifts for all your animal friends. Come and enjoy fresh baked goods and a wonderful Food Court.

We hope you'll come and shop for the holidays and come to help out. If you can help for a couple of hours, check out the list of tables below, find a friend listed below and offer support, or talk to Connie or Rose. We also need donations of baked goods and donations to the Book & Puzzle Table and for the Regifting Table.

- Greg and Joan Joseph - books, puzzles, etc.
- Vicki and Barbara - Christmas collectibles and regifting
- Marilyn Ford - baked goods
- Jan Rouse - handmade gifts
- Paul Milne - Food Court
- Nan Heath - special gifts
- Lynda Blessing - pet gifts

Read and Feed Bible Study

The Read and Feed Bible Study which is based on Brian McLaren's book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, continues in the Seabury Room at 6 pm on Wednesday evenings. Bring your own dinner; beverages and desserts will be provided.

We will eat at 6 and begin our discussion at 6:30. If you don't wish to join the group for dinner, please come at 6:30 for the discussion. Bible Study generally ends between 7:30 and 8.

Lay Ministry Schedule

October 6	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	G. Smith
	Lector	J.R. Stanko
	Ushers	M. Kucka
		D. Paternostro
		K. Cole
	Closer	R. Riley
October 13	Opener	C. Harasymiw
	Eucharistic Minister	A.M. Stavola
	Lector	C. Helfant
	Intercessor	L. Jones
	Ushers	J. Stavola
		M. Kucka
	Closer	D. Paternostro
October 20	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	S. Basile
	Lector	S. Butters
	Intercessor	C. Chadsey
	Ushers	D. Paternostro
		M. Kucka
	Closer	K. Cole
October 27	Opener	D. Paternostro
	Eucharistic Minister	R. Colburn
	Lector	G. Myers
	Intercessor	K. Cole
	Ushers	M. Kucka
		D. Paternostro
	Closer	R. Riley



Our Altar Guild designed this floral arrangement to represent "Mountains and Hills" for the last week in our Season of Creation.

Evening Book Club

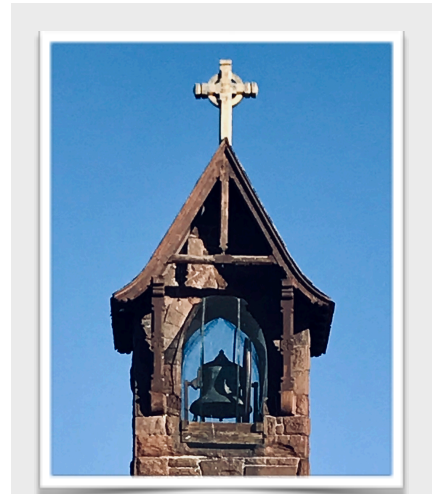
The Evening Book Club will be meeting on October 8 at 5:45 pm for pizza and books at the home of Donna Brown. Join us for a lively discussion of Brene Brown's *Braving the Wilderness*. Brene Brown is a research professor at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work who has spent more than a decade studying vulnerability, courage, authenticity and shame. Don't have time to read any of her books? Check out any of her Ted Talks, YouTube videos or her Netflix special instead! Contact Joan Joseph at 860 666-4847 for more information.

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

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