

THE BELFRY

Trinity Episcopal Church | Wethersfield, CT



Opportunities for Prayer, Discussion & Bible Study

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated each Sunday at 9 am in the church sanctuary as well as 10:30 am in the parking lot. If you want to participate in our Zoom Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings and/or Centering Prayer on Wednesday afternoons, please contact the office for an invite. If you're interested in the Richard Rohr Meditation discussions on Saturday mornings, email garth.myers@trincoll.edu

From Our Pastor

Jesus said to them, "These are my words which I have spoken to you while I was with you, that everything written about me in the law and the prophets and psalms may be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it was written that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

You are witnesses of these things."

Luke 24: 44-48

Dear Trinity Community,

We Christians are Resurrection people. Jesus' defeat of death and his Resurrection life is the foundational truth of our faith and life. And we are all sent to share that Good News with everybody who will listen and open their lives to the reality of Jesus' continuing life among us, his followers.

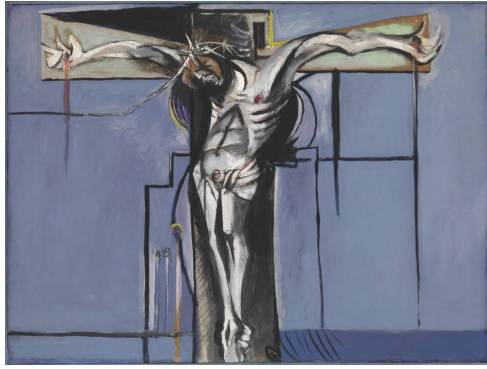
We are now beginning Resurrection Season. The scripture lessons of the next 50 days focus on the Risen Lord Jesus among his people. And it's not just an ancient history lesson. It is now. Jesus is alive. Here. Now. Today.

And this is Resurrection after the pandemic season also. Covid-19 is still here and we still need to exercise caution and self-discipline. But we also need to do the best we can to build up the Church community after this very challenging year of lockdown.

And specifically, it is time for every one of us to do our part in the rebuilding of our faith community. If you are not yet comfortable joining us for worship in person, we ask you to pray for God to inspire all of us to rise up to new levels of service and sacrificial giving of our time, talents and treasure to rebuild on the solid foundation laid before the pandemic.

If you are comfortable with in-person worship, whether inside or outside, please see what you can do to help the ushers, greeters, altar guild and lectors.

continued on page 2



Crucifixion, Graham Sutherland, 1946

SUNDAY READINGS

APRIL 4

EASTER

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18

APRIL 11

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

APRIL 18

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 3:12-19

Psalms 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

APRIL 25

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:5-12

Psalms 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

FROM OUR PASTOR continued from page 1

Please use this renewal time to reach out to your friends, relatives and neighbors. If you know someone who is lonely or hurting or depressed or looking for purpose in life, take the time to help them see the Risen Jesus in you. And invite them to join you at church. We are Jesus' witnesses. That means we share with others how much Jesus' love and life mean to us and invite others along on the adventure of following and serving him.

After Easter, we will be continuing our Sunday service schedule of 9 am in the church sanctuary and 10:30 am outdoors in the rear parking lot. Please do your part to rebuild and revitalize our church by inviting someone to join you.

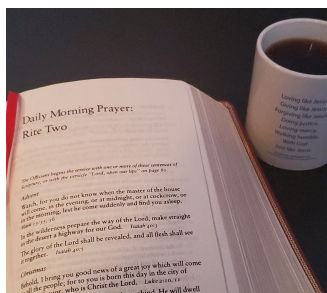
Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord Jesus,
Father Tom

Online Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

As we rejoice at the return of in-person worship at Trinity, we must acknowledge the important role that our online services have played during the past year. Many of us have relied on these virtual links for our spiritual well-being.

Beginning April 5, you can continue to access a wide variety of spiritual growth opportunities, including Sunday, daily and special worship services as well as meditations from the National Cathedral's YouTube page through the links provided on our website trinityepiscopalweth.org. Also available will be the link to the Episcopal Church of Connecticut (ECCT) diocesan website and its YouTube channel. These are only two of many online spiritual growth opportunities available. Send your suggestions for other online spiritual growth opportunities to our webmaster, Joan Joseph, at golfst4@aol.com

ZOOM Morning Prayer



Join us any Wednesday morning at 8:30 as we gather for Morning Prayer as found in the Book of Common Prayer. Worship leaders Clark Tomlinson and Sarah Butters alternate sending out a schedule of readings the day before so you have a chance to prepare for the service and participate in it if you wish. You are encouraged to use your own Book of

Common Prayer (call the office if you need one). Also call the office to receive your Zoom invitation.

Wethersfield Heritage Walk Expands to Include Trinity Parish

By Tina LaMorte

Very soon, Trinity Parish will begin working with the Town of Wethersfield to create an interpretive sign to be installed in front of our church, as part of a grant recently awarded to the Town to expand Wethersfield's Heritage Walk. The sign will share Trinity's rich history with all who stop by to read it, and the resources that come with the grant will ensure that it will match the quality of the existing signs throughout Old Wethersfield. The grant is funded by Connecticut Humanities, an independent non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for Humanities.

The idea for getting an interpretive sign came out of planning meetings for Trinity's 150th Anniversary that we celebrated in 2019. Being part of the Town's grant brings this to fruition, and is a fitting way to continue to mark our historic anniversary.

Father Tom, our wardens, and the vestry have been supportive of the project, not to mention a cadre of parishioners steeped in church history who have agreed to help with the work anticipated in pulling the project together.

The working group for the project are: Tina LaMorte (designated liaison with the Town); Rose Riley (assistant chair/liaison); Lynda Blessing, Donna Brown, Cheryl Chadsey, Kathy Cole, Marilyn Ford, Nan Heath, Joan Joseph, Billye Logan, Jan Rouse, and Sue Smith. Six of us participated in a Zoom meeting with the Town on March 30 to kick off the project. If anyone else is interested in working on this project, please contact Tina LaMorte at tinalamorte@outlook.com

Background on this Project and the Heritage Walk

Wethersfield's Heritage Walk is a 3-mile, self-guided, outdoor historical project, consisting of 22 interpretive markers in Old Wethersfield. This project was completed in 2016 with funding from Connecticut Humanities and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, and the partnership of numerous volunteers in the community. The number of signs in the initial project was limited by funding.

"We look forward to working with Connecticut Humanities and our new partners (Trinity Episcopal Church and the Great Meadows Conservation Trust) as we work together on the next phase of an expanded Wethersfield Heritage Walk," says Peter Gillespie, director of planning and economic development, Town of Wethersfield.

Being added to the Heritage Walk made sense for us, as Trinity's history in Old Wethersfield dates back to 1729. Church services were once held in the Old Academy at 150 Main Street (the current site of the Wethersfield Historical Society). Our building was constructed in 1874, using brownstone from Portland and was designed by the same architect, Edward Tuckerman Potter, who designed the Mark Twain House. The church's stained glass windows include three by Tiffany.



Mary Magdalene, Girolamo Savoldo, 1513

More About the Heritage Walk and Trinity Parish

The current brochure listing the existing 22 markers on the Heritage Walk can be accessed here:

wethersfieldct.gov/filestorage/4560/4564/no_dots_brochure.pdf

A brief history of Trinity Parish can be found on the Wethersfield Historical Society's website here: www.wethersfieldhistory.org/articles/history-of-trinity-parish-episcopal/

Thanks and Blessings

Many of us have kept many of us in prayer during this pandemic season. Sue Smith specifically wishes to express her thanksgivings for our prayers. She gives "thanks to all the Trinity folks for all the good wishes for my return to good health. Doing better every day." Thanks be to God.



The Doubt of St. Thomas, He Qi

Parish Leadership

PASTOR

The Rev. Thomas Furrer

For a pastoral emergency, please call
860-212-6994.

STAFF

Linda Rubera, Administrator

Tuesday-Thursday, 9-12

operations@trinityepiscopalweth.org

860-529-6825

Dorothy LaBelle, Music Director

VESTRY

Warren Blessing, Co-Warden

Sarah Butters

Peter Dewberry

Connie Harasymiw, Co-Warden

Robert Heath, Treasurer

Melanie Hepburn, Clerk

Carol Jones

Greg Joseph

Rebecca Scruton, Co-Warden

J. R. Stanko

Ann Marie Stavola

About Our Flower Fund

By Trinity Altar Guild

This fund was set up to pay for weekly and holiday flowers. The purpose of flowers is two fold: 1) to adorn the sanctuary, and 2) to offer parishioners and friends the opportunity to remember special people who have touched their lives.

A flower fund form is circulated before Easter and Christmas. You may also contact the church office with a request and/or donation at any time.

At holiday time a special floral leaflet is printed, and accompanies our service leaflet listing all the holiday memorial and thanksgiving recipients/donors. Following tradition, we have no arrangements during Advent and Lent.

Our arrangements are designed by Kim's Flower Shop, Wethersfield. For weddings and other services at Trinity, we suggest you patronize them for your floral needs.

Please know your voluntary donation to the Trinity Flower Fund is received with gratitude and appreciation.

Visiting Copprome in Honduras

By Ginger Smith

I arrived in Honduras on the 10th of March. The children and I were so excited to see each other again!

Since there were only beans, rice, eggs, onions, and tomatoes in the kitchen, I bought plenty more healthy food for them. I cooked two meals every day and one of their favorite foods was lasagna!

There are currently 45 children at the orphanage. About ten came in the last nine months

because their families had no money for food. There are at least eight sibling groups. We enjoyed many hugs and kisses every day.

So, thank you to everyone who has bought soup or jams to support the children at Copprome. I look forward to returning in October.



Mission & Outreach for 2021

By Warren and Lynda Blessing

We had another successful **Community Dinner** for Hands on Hartford in March. We have a great base of parishioners who support these dinners with either cash or food donations. We are looking for new people who are interested in helping support our neighbors in Hartford. We are hoping that we will soon be able to start preparing and serving the meals again. Our next dinner will be on May 24.

In March we also had our first planning meeting for 2021. We had a good group that met via Zoom on March 11. Our intent was to start collecting new ideas. Without knowing the prognosis of Covid-19, it's difficult to decide what we can do at this time but we can list ideas for the future.

We'd like to identify a parishioner to be the contact person for each organization we support. It helps in establishing a personal connection and keeping in touch with what the organizations needs are. If you have an interest, please let us know.

Our next participation with our Cathedral's **Church by the Pond** and **Lunch in the Park** will be on April 24. Father Tom will lead the worship service outdoors in Bushnell Park in Hartford at 2 and bagged lunches will be shared after the service. If you have any questions or would like to participate in making and/or distributing lunches, please contact Leslie Jones at lesliejonesie@gmail.com

We also captured new ideas, possibly having a "Mission Sunday" a few times during the year. After a Sunday service, we would have a speaker to discuss one of the organizations we support and to learn more about their efforts and progress. There is still interest in doing our Chili & Bean Dinner with other churches and in joining with St. Andrew's to participate in the Neighbors Feeding Neighbors initiative.

And of course, we're interested in your ideas!

9th Annual Spring Training and Gathering

*Tuesday, April 6 through
Saturday, April 17*

Gather with Episcopalians from across Connecticut for learning, prayer and fellowship. All are welcome — people in the pews, vestry members, parish leaders and staff. A variety of engaging workshops will be offered via Zoom. Each workshop is 90-minutes long and most are offered on two different days and times. The closing plenary session will be on Saturday, April 17, from 9-11 am and is entitled "*Parish Life After COVID: Psychological and theological reflections as we gather in new ways.*" Learn more about the various workshops at www.episcopalct.org/spring-training/



He Is Not Here, Walter Rane

This Month's Book Club

The Evening Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30 pm. Our selection is *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. "An inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her. This is an intriguing imagined look of the human side of Jesus." Contact Joan Joseph at golfst4@aol.com for details

GIVE. PRAY. FAST.

Thanks so much for your generosity in donating to the Wethersfield Food Pantry and Capital Community College during Lent.

Donations to the Wethersfield Food Bank will continue after Lent. Just leave your non-perishable food items and personal care items on the office porch on Sundays before noon. Anne Tranberg will assure that your items will be delivered.



Road to Emmaus, Janet Brooks Gerloff

Safe Church Training

From the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT): Safe Church Training includes an online course followed by a 3-hour live session on Zoom. This training is grounded in our call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and respect the dignity of every human being. It offers an opportunity to increase and enhance our ability to live out our Baptismal Covenant within our communities of faith and in the world beyond. To find out more or to register online, go to www.episcopalct.org/Find-Resources/General-Parish-Operations/Safe-Church-Resources/

Business Report

Pledge Status (end of February)

Total Pledge.	\$ 21,883
Received	\$ 21,202

Income/Expenses (end of February)

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$28,358	\$28,494
Expenses.	\$24,192	\$28,494

Poems for Easter

By Gordon Scruton

Risen Christ, Raise me
From earth's way to your
love's way
Mid earth's violent greed

May I live in Christ
Christ live in me, extending
Risen life to all.

May whole creation
Rejoice, welcoming Risen
Christ! Love conquerors all.

Sun rises, then sets
Then rises again, like tides.
Tulips bloom, die, bloom

next Spring. And Christ: life,
death, then risen life. There is
something more than death.

O Life, teach me how
to let go, die, trust deep Life
to emerge again.

Learning About Systemic Racism

Want to learn more about the structures that support white supremacy? If you want to take a deep dive into understanding your role in systemic racism and what you can do to bring about healing and reparations, Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford offers this list of important works by Black change makers and their allies.

Anti-Racism Reading List

Stamped From The Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi
How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi
Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880 by W.E.B. DuBois
Stony The Road by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lesson for Our Own
 by Eddie S. Glaude, Jr.
The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson
Caste by Isabel Wilkerson
Anything by Zadie Smith
Anything by Toni Morrison
Anything by James Baldwin

Recommendations by Ibram X. Kendi

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander
White Rage by Carol Anderson,
They Can't Kill Us All by Wesley Lowery
The Half Has Never Been Told by Edward Baptist
The Condemnation of Blackness by Khalil Gibran
Muhammad's Evicted by Matthew Desmond
Redefining Realness by Janet Mock
Eloquent Rage by Brittney Cooper
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates,
The Color of Law by Richard Rothstein
Thick by Tressie McMillan Cottom
Fatal Invention by Dorothy Roberts
Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson

Updated Weekly Prayer List

May your kingdom come and your will be done

Monday: The Brown family (Susanna, Mike, Avery Catherine); Kathy Cole; Roger Dickinson; Tom & Maryjane Furrer; Jimmy & Kristine Gonzalez; the Diaz-Lopez family (Josue, Kayla, Josue Jr.); Carol Jones; Nancy Knapp (Chloe & Tate); Rose & Ray Riley; Ginny & Mike Rowland; Ginger Smith; Mel & J.R. Stanko; the Steidel family (Ellie, Amy, Alexandria); Clark & Joyce Tomlinson; Anne Tranberg; Leslie Watson

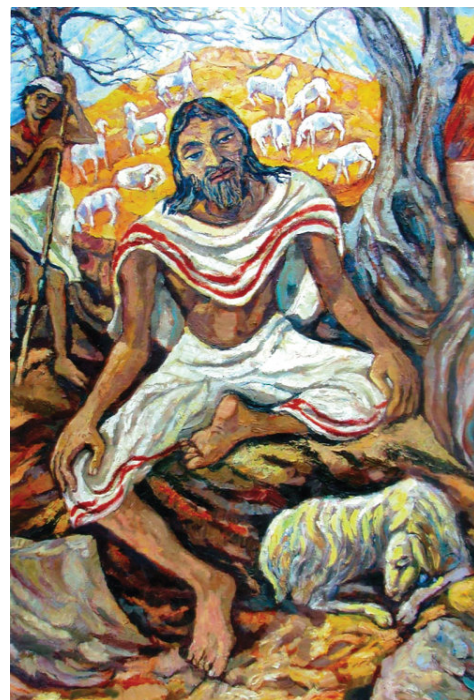
Tuesday: Tim Boardman, Dan Carcaud, Arnold & Barbara Cosgrove, Bruce Duncan, Arline Hallisey, Joan & Greg Joseph, Martha Koehler, Jane-Helen Ross, Linda Rubera, Sue Smith, J.P. Thomas & Mauricio Garcia, Nick Tracano, Joan True, Hugues Valcourt & Margarita Velez, Mary Lou Wall, Susan & David Whitehouse, Marc Yves Regis

Wednesday: David Anderson, Sarah Blessing, Audrey Booker, Denise Carson, Vicki Crafa, Lorraine Ficara, Connie & Raymond Harasymiw, Bruce Henley, Leslie Jones, Dorothy & Lauren LaBelle, Michael & Cheryl Lewis, Paul & Keri Milne, Joan O'Brien, Denise & Carl Paternostro, Jan Rouse

Thursday: Warren & Lynda Blessing; Sarah Butters; Mark & Cheryl Chadsey; Ashley Marek; the Desrochers family (Helen, Ben, Molly, Hannah, Andrew); Marilyn Ford; Corinne Helfant; the Karpf family (Jessie, Tom, Bernadette); Billye & Jack Logan; Taylor Measel; Judith & Charles Melchreit; Allison Read, James Ebert & Jamie; Barbara & Ed Rowley; the Tumnesheit family (Heidi, Hubertus, Olivia, Philip, Clara, Jacob); Heidi Viola and Brianna Narducci; Darren Yovan and family

Friday: William & Marion Boornazian; Lorraine Brodeur; David & Mary Chellstorp; Shirley Davies; Sue DeCesare; Peter & Sheila Dewberry; Marilyn Galek; Rob & Nan Heath; Michael Kucka; Geraldeen Lohman; the Myers family (Garth, Melanie Hepburn, Atlee, Phebe); Anne Pimm; Robert & Arney Pulford; Rebecca & Gordon Scruton; the Watson family (Kirk, Tracey, Hayes); John & Diane Zarillo

Saturday: Sal & Mimi Basile; Donna Brown; Darryl Burke; Nancy & Paul Buttaro; Ray & Denise Colburn; Theo Fitzgerald; the Gebhardt family (Patrick, Jennifer, Hannah, Lily); Rob Jensen & Mitch Grayson; Tina LaMorte & Peter Spangenberg; Paula & Arthur Massa; Barbara Napolitano; Carl Rafala & Sue Krupenevich-Rafala; Judith Shaw; the Stavola family (Jerry, Ann Marie, Elizabeth, Catherine, Pete); Linda & Tom Traue; the Xavier Family (Brooke, Fred, Lulu, Za)



The Good Shepherd, Jyoti Sahi

A Prayer for Social Justice

Almighty God, who created us in your image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, p. 260

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 is a monthly publication of Trinity Episcopal Church, 300 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT. Send articles and photographs to lesliejonesie@gmail.com

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Trinity Episcopal Church

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