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# THE BELFRY

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Trinity Episcopal Church | Wethersfield, CT

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## Opportunities for Prayer, Discussion & Bible Study

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated each Sunday at 9:30 am in the church sanctuary. If you want to participate in 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 at [garth.myers@trincoll.edu](mailto:garth.myers@trincoll.edu)

### SERVICES DURING LENT

Ash Wednesday services will be at noon and 5pm on March 2. Holy Communion will be celebrated at noon throughout Lent.

## From Our Pastor

Dear Trinity Community,

We are about to begin the season of Lent. It's a time of spiritual preparation for celebrating the central truth of our Christian faith: the suffering/death/resurrection/ascension of Jesus. It's the essential heart of what we believe about God and humanity. The Master of the Universe has demonstrated his love for us by becoming one with us in the person of Jesus. And in the person of Jesus, God has shared our joys and sorrows and has subjected himself to the vagaries of sin and death. And in the dying/rising/ascending of Jesus, God has demonstrated to us God's power over the forces of evil and death in our world.

This year, Lent happens to coincide with the outbreak of an unprovoked act of aggression in Ukraine and the death of many thousands of innocent people. This war bears many similarities to the rhetoric and strategies of Adolph Hitler in the 1930's which started the conflagration that led to the death of 50 million people in World War II.

In this Lent, it is particularly relevant to pray for peace and to support the innocent people caught in the fires of war. So, we will be holding a special Holy Communion service every Wednesday in Lent with special intention to pray for peace and to ask for the victory of God over the power of sin and death to be realized in this crisis of our time.

Please join us for this time of prayer each Wednesday if you are able. If you are not able to be present in person, please take some time, wherever you are, to stop and pray for peace.

Sincerely,  
Father Tom

## Prayers for Refugees



Almighty and merciful God,  
whose Son became a refugee and had  
no place to call his own; look with  
mercy on those who today are fleeing  
from danger, homeless and hungry.  
Bless those who work to bring them  
relief; inspire generosity and  
compassion in all our hearts; and  
guide the nations of the world towards  
that day when all will rejoice in your  
Kingdom of justice and of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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Dear Lord Jesus,  
Your family on earth knew the life of  
refugees when they fled to Egypt. Bless  
all who seek refuge on this earth. Meet  
their needs for safety and for home.  
Move the hearts of your people to  
show them welcome. Cause wars to  
cease and bring justice to the nations  
that no one will need to flee again. In  
your great mercy, Lord hear our prayer.  
Amen.

## They're Waiting For Us

### WHO'S THE US?

We are people who have come together from Trinity, Wethersfield; First Church, Wethersfield; Church of Christ, Newington; and St. Andrew's, Rocky Hill for the single purpose of resettling a refugee family.

We are movers, realtors, health care professionals, teachers, financial experts, public transportation gurus, employment specialists, drivers, interpreters, business administrators, homemakers, students and pastors.

We are 40 active volunteers who have spent hours in refugee resettlement and child protection training. And we have the support of hundreds of other people who bless us with their wisdom, household donations and financial support.

We are called Citizens of the World in our co-sponsorship relationship with IRIS (Intergrated Refugee & Immigrant Services).

### WHO ARE THEY?

We don't know.

It's likely they were evacuated from Afghanistan last August with a hundred thousand others who supported our American troops. It's likely that the family has been living in tents on military bases since then.

It's likely we'll receive a large family so we'll secure and furnish an affordable three-bedroom apartment. We'll also provide financial assistance while we help them secure employment so they can become self-sufficient.

It's likely they won't speak English so we've secured three Pashtu interpreters and will help them access ESOL classes.

It's likely they'll need assistance in accessing healthcare and insurance, learning how to navigate public transportation, enrolling children in school, shopping for culturally appropriate foods, managing money, handling medical emergencies, etc.

### **Please pray for us and the family who waits.**

More than anything, we all need your prayers as we prepare for the family's arrival and as we help them resettle over the next year. If you feel called to help, please don't hesitate to contact our team leader, Donna Brown.

## Lenten Program

### *With Gladness: Answering God's Call in Our Daily Life*

Beginning on Sunday, March 6, we will have a special 5-week Lenten program immediately following the 9:30 service. First, we will have a brief teaching presentation led by members of the congregation, then a simple lunch – catered, so you don't have to cook. Then we will have some discussion time at our tables focused on how we can respond to God's call in our daily lives. Join us for a time of fellowship, friendship and spiritual reflection.

We'll need to know if you'll be there so we'll be sure to order enough food. Please take a minute to sign up for the programs you'll be attending. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church on the lectern.

Please know that we will keep tables spaced for social distancing and ask folks to wear masks except when eating.

## Love Your Neighbor Even More!

To supplement Trinity's new outreach magazine, webmaster Joan Joseph created an outreach page for our website. This page features all of the outreach partners listed in the magazine and provides information on current activities, links to our partners' websites and photo galleries. Our home page will continue to list current outreach activities but will now send you to the new outreach page for details. In addition to traditional outreach activities, a section on the environment entitled *Simple Ways to Care for God's Creation* (inspired by Bishop Scruton) has been relocated to this page. [Click here](#) and enjoy.

## Spring Training

Mark your calendars to join ECCT's Annual Spring Training & Gathering workshops running from March 21 - April 2. Registration opens March 1. Topics include worship, vestries, creation care and parish administration, website development and more.



Of special interest is the April 2 plenary session *A Radical Welcome: Embracing God, the Other, and the Spirit of Transformation* with Canon Stephanie Spellers. She will offer deeply spiritual and pragmatic ways for us to face our fear of change and embrace the challenges to step more confidently into God's future for us, preferred and promised, together.

## 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  
Susannah Brown  
Sarah Butters  
Peter Dewberry  
Don Ghostlaw  
Robert Heath, Treasurer  
Melanie Hepburn, Clerk  
Carol Jones  
Charles Melchreit  
Garth Myers, Co-Warden  
Rebecca Scruton, Co-Warden

## Business Report

### *Pledge Status (through January)*

Total Pledge	\$ 13,238
Received	\$ 20,975

### *Income/Expenses (through January)*

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 22,805	\$ 15,425
Expenses	\$ 15,447	\$ 16,014



## Soups to Go

Ginger Smith will be selling her homemade soups (and cookies and mac & cheese and breads) in the Parish Hall on March 13 from 9 to noon. All of the proceeds will go to supply food to the children of Copprome Orphanage in Honduras when Ginger visits them. Here's some of the goodies that will be available:

Soups: chicken noodle, chicken barley, minestrone, split pea and ham, New England clam chowder, chicken curry, vegetable beef, chili, Louisiana gumbo, Portuguese potato kale, Manhattan clam chowder, corn chowder, tomato basil, red lentil, minestrone, butternut squash and more.

## Lenten Quiet Day

The Companions of the Holy Cross invite you to a virtual Quiet Day on Saturday, March 12, 10-1. The leader will be the Rev. Betsy Fisher of the Diocese of Western MA. There will be an introduction (Centering Prayer), 2 separate meditations, plenty of quiet time and a final gathering for sharing. Finding a quiet place at home may be a challenge, but you can also munch when you want to munch. Interested? Email Kate Smith at [kate48smith@comcast.net](mailto:kate48smith@comcast.net)

## Weekly Prayer List

### MONDAY

David Anderson, Sarah Blessing, Audrey Booker, Denise Carson, Lorraine Ficara, Jerry Gemmell, Connie and Raymond Harasymiw, Bruce Henley, Leslie Jones, Dorothy and Lauren LaBelle, Michael and Cheryl Lewis, Paul and Keri Milne, Joan O'Brien, Denise and Carl Paternostro, Marc-Yves Regis, Jan Rouse

### TUESDAY

Brown family (Susanna, Mike, Avery Catherine), Kathy Cole, Vicki Crafa, Susan Fennelly, Tom and Maryjane Furrer, Don Ghostlaw, Carol Jones, Nancy Knapp (Chloe and Tate), Taylor Measel, Rose and Ray Riley, Ginny and Mike Rowland, Ginger Smith, Mel and J.R. Stanko, Clark and Joyce Tomlinson, Anne Tranberg, Leslie Watson

### WEDNESDAY

Tim Boardman, Dan Carcaud, Arnold and Barbara Cosgrove, Bruce Duncan, Larry and Terri Finucane, Arline Hallisey, Joan and Greg Joseph, Martha Koehler, Precetaj Family (Xhex [Jack], Eleana and Mara), Jane-Helen Ross, Linda Rubera, Sue Smith, Angela and Martin Strodel, Joan True, Mary Lou Wall, Susan and David Whitehouse

### THURSDAY

William Boornazian, Lorraine Brodeur, David and Mary Chellstorp, Shirley Davies, Sue DeCesare, Peter and Sheila Dewberry, Marilyn Galek, Bob & Debra Garten, Rob and Nan Heath, Michael Kucka, Geraldene Lohman, Myers family (Garth, Melanie Hepburn, Atlee and Phebe), Anne Pimm, Rebecca and Gordon Scruton, Watson family (Kirk, Tracey and Hayes), John and Diane Zarillo

### FRIDAY

Sal and Mimi Basile, Donna Brown, Darryl Burke, Nancy and Paul Buttaro, Ray and Denise Colburn, Gebhardt Family (Patrick, Jennifer, Hannah and Lily), Rob Jensen and Mitch Grayson, Tina LaMorte and Peter Spangenberg, Paula and Arthur Massa, Bruce and Jeanne Miner, Kevin Miner, Barbara Napolitano, Carl Rafala and Sue Krupenevich-Rafala, Judith Shaw, Stavola Family (Jerry, Ann Marie, Elizabeth, Catherine and Pete), Linda and Tom Traue

### SATURDAY

Warren and Lynda Blessing, Sarah Butters, Mark and Cheryl Chadsey, Ashley Marek, Desrochers Family (Helen, Ben, Molly, Hannah and Andrew), Marilyn Ford, Corinne Helfant, Karpf Family (Jessie, Tom and Bernadette), Billye and Jack Logan, Judith and Charles Melchreit, Robert and Arney Pulford, Tummescheit family (Heidi, Hubertus, Olivia, Philip, Clara and Jacob), Heidi Viola and Brianna Narducci, Xavier Family (Brooke, Fred, Lulu and Za), Darren Yovan and family

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*Editor's Note: If you would like to add someone to this prayer list or make a correction, please let Rebecca Scruton know at [rspsrnl14@gmail.com](mailto:rspsrnl14@gmail.com)*

## Bishop Transition Team and the Election of Our Next Bishop Diocesan

In the middle of March, the Bishop Transition Team will be on retreat with the candidates for bishop. The slate of nominees will be announced during the week of March 28. There will be state-wide “meet & greets” with the nominees during the month of May. Then, ECCT will hold a special election convention on May 21 in order to elect the next bishop diocesan. On October 15, 2022, there will be a celebration as the 16th bishop diocesan of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut will be consecrated.



We're joining Wethersfield's Hunger Action Team and collecting donations for our local food pantry during March. Here are the things they need most: jelly, rice, baked beans, canned ravioli, oatmeal packets, snack items, juice, laundry detergent, toothpaste, single toothbrushes, soap, shampoo and conditioner. Think about filling a re-useable grocery bag with these items during Lent. For more information, contact [Anne Tranberg](#).

## Easter Flowers

Please consider honoring a loved one by making a donation for Easter flowers. The altar guild gratefully accepts any amount you give but suggests a donation of \$50.

When making a donation, please make your check payable to Trinity Parish and indicate “Flower Fund” on the memo line. The print deadline for the Easter bulletin is April 11.

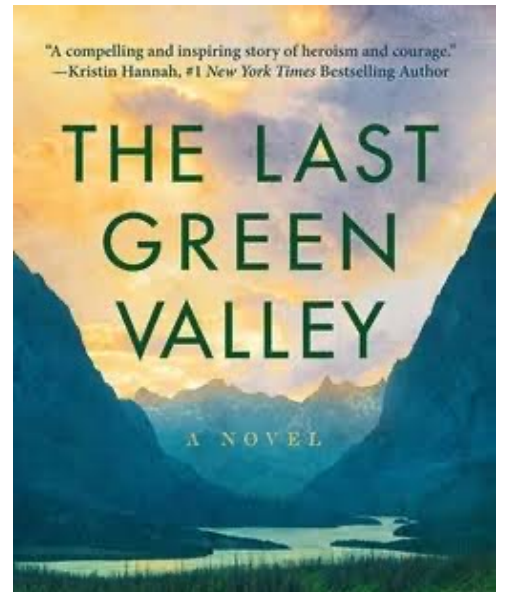
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Please indicate (M) for memorial or (T) for a living thanksgiving donation after the name on the line(s) below.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

You may deliver your payment in three ways:

- Mail your check to Trinity Parish, 300 Main Street Wethersfield, CT 06109
- Bring your check to the office, Tuesday-Thursday, 9-12
- Include with your Sunday contribution



## March Book Club

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The Evening Book Club will meet on Tuesday, March 15 (snow date, March 16) at 5:45 for pizza and discussion at the home of Barbara Rowley. This month's selection is *The Last Green Valley* by Mark Sullivan. “In late March 1944, as Stalin’s forces push into Ukraine, young Emil and Adeline Martel must make a terrible decision: Do they wait for the Soviet bear’s intrusion and risk being sent to Siberia? Or do they reluctantly follow the wolves—murderous Nazi officers who have pledged to protect “pure-blood” Germans?” For more information, contact Joan Joseph at [golfst4@aol.com](mailto:golfst4@aol.com)

## 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](mailto:lesliejonesie@gmail.com)

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### Trinity Episcopal Church

300 Main Street  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

*If you prefer to receive The Belfry by email, please contact the office at [operations@trinityepiscopalweth.org](mailto:operations@trinityepiscopalweth.org) or 860-529-6825.*