

VOICE OF TRINITY

August 27, 2009

Volume 09, No. 06

Life Together!

The First 150 Years of Welcome, Hope and Healing

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! I hope that you and those you love have had some time for rest and re-creation during the summer months.

FROM THE



RECTOR

Next month we begin the celebration of Trinity's 150th anniversary as a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut. It was on September 10, 1859, that 12 families first petitioned the Diocese for status as a new congregation to serve the Asylum Hill neighborhood and environs. The kick-off of our anniversary observance will be on Sunday, September 13, when Diocesan Bishop Andrew D. Smith will be our celebrant and preacher. This will be followed with our annual Parish Picnic in the Memorial Garden and a "moon bouncer" and other activities for children in the Sigourney Street courtyard. (Further details appear elsewhere in this edition of *The Voice*.) Our celebration will extend a full 10 months, culminating in June 2010 with a visit from the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, as

we mark the 150th anniversary of our official status as a parish.

From its founding, the core values of Trinity have been to seek and serve Christ in all persons, striving for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being – all foundational tenets of our Baptismal covenant. These are not just words on paper – they are embodied in the decision of our founding families to be a "free church," where "no one is higher in right or privilege than another, this common and equal right being based on the common and equal need which each one has for divine help."

For nearly two years, a committee of the Vestry has been planning events which highlight the many ways in which Trinity Episcopal Church has developed and lived out these core values over the past 150 years. But without more, such an observance could also be an extended obituary of glories past and archived in memory. So we have also planned many other activities to assure that the thrust of our 150th anniversary celebration is a look to the future – to consider and reflect on the ways that the people of Trinity are called by God to live out those core values in the 21st century.

I invite you to join us at Trinity as we enter into what I pray will be an exciting and formative time of celebration, discernment and renewed commitment for the future.

Your brother in Christ,

The Reverend Donald L. Hamer, Rector



Logo by Gary Holmes, Gariphics Design

Trinity's 150th Anniversary Celebration Year Is Here!

From this September through next June, the life of Trinity Church will be enhanced by worship, events, exhibits and education that reflect both our history and our many opportunities in the world today.

As we look back at 150 years of parish life, Jim Bradley is writing our history of the past 50 years, to supplement a previously published history of Trinity's first 100 years, while Liz Kirkpatrick is working on our pictorial history. We have also received many "personal histories" – stories from parishioners about their relationships with Trinity Church – and we'll welcome yours!

A theme through the program year will be the Millennium Development Goals and how we may contribute toward making the world a better place. For those of you who may not be familiar with these, at the start of the new millennium, leaders from 191 nations – including the United States – agreed on a plan to cut extreme global poverty in half by 2015. Together they created eight

Millennium Development Goals (MDG's):

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education for children
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Create a global partnership for development

Throughout the celebration year, members of our congregation will be helping us to understand these goals and how we can assist in achieving them.

See the article on page 3 of this Voice on our festivities for Sunday, September 13 – including an exuberant worship service at 10:00

a.m. with Bishop Andrew Smith presiding, the blessing of both a Trinity Icon and a set of banners for our worship space, and a parish picnic and festivities for kids of all ages! Please note our new 150th anniversary logo, designed as a gift to Trinity by parishioner Gary Holmes of Gariphic Design. And watch, too, for our new outdoor banners!

Also mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 4, when we'll celebrate a Homecoming, with Evensong and reception following. Bishop Smith and many more familiar faces from Trinity's past will join us for an evening of worship and fellowship. (See article on Page 4.)

Watch *The Voice* each month to find out what's coming up next. The 150th Anniversary Team looks forward to all of you joining us in this year-long celebration of the life and ministry of Trinity Church!

– Penny Pearson
for the 150th Anniversary Team



Kick-off Celebration and Parish Picnic – Sunday, September 13

September 13, 2009, is a date that must be on everyone's calendar at Trinity Church! The 150th Anniversary Planning Team is arranging an extraordinary launch of Trinity's 150th Anniversary Year for that day, when the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist will feature Bishop Andrew Smith as celebrant and preacher. In addition, several community leaders have been invited to attend and participate in the celebration.

Following the 10:00 a.m. service on the 13th, a picnic for everyone in the parish and invited guests from across the community will take place in the Memorial Garden under a large tent. Grilled items such as hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as beverages, will be provided. Parishioners are invited to bring side dishes and desserts. The planning team is asking that you bring a side dish if your last name begins with A-L; if your last name begins with M-Z, you're asked to bring a finger food dessert to share. Please let Althea Francis know what you plan to bring by either calling her at (860) 243-8450 or sending her an e-mail at affrancis@hotmail.com. During the picnic, a variety of games and entertainment for all ages will take place in the Sigourney Street Courtyard and the Memorial Garden. For more information on the picnic, or to volunteer to help

with cooking, set-up or clean-up, please contact John Hinkston at (860) 232-0692.

Schedule of Events

- 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist
The Rt. Rev. Andrew Smith,
Celebrant and Preacher
Welcome from Special Guests
- 12:00 p.m. Picnic & Celebration
Memorial Garden
Food & Beverages
Flower arranging competition
(see article on Page 5)
Games for smaller children
Church Courtyard
Games for older children
Musical Entertainment

New Banner Set Makes Gradual Debut

WHAT'S GOING ON?????????????
We have new green banners and they're sneaking in one or two at a time! They're arriving in this way because our Banner Guild really needed the space in the Art Room to work. So, as the banners have been completed, they have been appearing in the nave over the summer.

The new green set is based on both the Tree of Life and Gifts of the Spirit. There is mention of the Tree of Life in both Genesis 2:8-9 and Revelation 22:2, bracketing all the Old Testament history, laws, and poetry and the New Testament and

October 4 Evensong: Homecoming for Trinity Clergy

As a part of our 150th Anniversary celebration, the October Evensong has been planned as a homecoming for all clergy who have served at Trinity over the years. Over 40 invitations have gone out to clergy around the country who were at one time a part of the Trinity community. Officiant and preacher at the Evensong will be our Diocesan bishop, The Rt. Reverend Andrew D. Smith, who served as a curate at Trinity (not to mention that his wife, Kate, is a life-long member!) The Trinity Choir and the Choir School of Hartford will sing Herbert Sumsion's *Evening Service in A* and Henry Balfour Gardiner's "Evening Hymn." There will be a reception following the Evensong for clergy and parishioners to gather and share stories of Trinity from throughout the years.

Gospel. Images of the twelve Fruits of the Spirit appear on the banners; the image of the Tree of Life will be on the matching altar frontal. Since the symbols for each of the twelve fruits of the Spirit are not necessarily actual fruits, the Banner Guild looked into the history of symbols and found other plants to symbolize some of them.

The new set of banners will be dedicated on September 13 to mark the beginning of Trinity's 150th anniversary celebration.

– Nancy Whitcomb
for the Banner Guild



Icon of the Trinity To Travel to Parish Homes

During the celebration of our 150th anniversary from September 2009 to June 2010 and beyond, each Trinity household will be receiving a visit from an icon of the Trinity. This icon is a reproduction of a Russian Orthodox icon “written” by Andrei Rublev, who was born circa 1360.

An icon is not a painting in the usual sense, although it is a painted image. Every paint-stroke has a meaning hallowed by centuries of prayer, and by the prayer of the one who “writes” the icon. Not every religious painting can be considered an icon. In the way that they can convey some of the mystery of God’s life with us, icons are analogous to the Scriptures, conveying meaning beyond words.

Before you welcome the Trinity icon into your home, you may wish to consider preparing a special place for it to rest where you might be able to gaze at it for a few moments during the day. A schedule of icon visits will be published shortly. Each household will keep it for approximately three days and then bring it to the next household on the schedule. If you want to see an image of the icon before it arrives in your home and deepen your appreciation for its symbolism, a helpful website to visit is www.wellsprings.org.uk/rublevs_icon/rublev.htm.

For more information about icons in general and the Rublev Trinity icon in particular, please visit www.trinityhartford.org.

**Trinity Episcopal Church
120 Sigourney Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06105-2796
www.trinityhartford.org
Phone: (860) 527-8133 Fax: (860) 527-2863
e-mail: office@trinityhartford.org**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

**Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.
Evensong: 1st Sunday of the month at 5:00 p.m. (October-June)**

**The Reverend Donald L. Hamer, Rector
The Reverend Barbara K. Briggs, Assistant Rector
The Reverend Ronald J. Kolanowski, Assistant Rector
The Reverend Dr. Frank G. Kirkpatrick, Priest Associate
The Reverend Helen M. Moore, Priest Associate
The Reverend Patricia Jackson, Deacon
The Reverend William J. Eakins, Rector Emeritus
The Reverend Dr. Robert S. Henderson, Pastoral Counselor**

**The VOICE of Trinity Church
Published monthly, August to May, for Trinity’s members and friends
Edited by Katherine S. Wilson**

PICTURE THIS!

The 150th Anniversary Committee wants Trinity Church pictures. If you have pictures of Trinity Church, of events here, or of Trinity parish events anywhere in the world, from any time in the last 150 years, will you share them? If you loan pictures to us we will scan them and give you back the originals if you wish. Digital photos are good, too.

Send or bring your pictures to the 150th Committee at the church office. The following information is very important for you to include to the best of your ability:

- a. Who are you, do you need the pictures back, and where can we reach you?
- b. What event or scene does each picture show?
- c. When was the picture taken (exact date, month and year, or decade)?
- d. Who’s in the picture? Do the best you can!

This will be an ongoing project this year, but the sooner we have pictures, the sooner we can copy and organize them. They will be displayed at many events over the next year, so you can enjoy them, and help us identify the “who, what, when, and where” of these and other pictures we already have. Pictures will help us document the life of the parish, revealing important and fascinating things that we do not find remarkable, but which may be very significant to later parishioners as “old photographs” to treasure.

QUESTIONS? – Ask Liz Kirkpatrick in person, by phone, or at lkirkpatrick44@hotmail.com.



What Happened in September Long Ago?

One Hundred Fifty Years Ago -

On September 12, 1859, twelve men living in the new neighborhood of Asylum Hill met and agreed to form a “religious society” to be called Trinity Church. The first parish meeting was held two weeks later at the home of Hezekiah Huntington on Farmington Avenue. Huntington, president of Hartford Fire Insurance Company, was elected Senior Warden. Edward Goodman, an attorney who lived on Broad Street, was elected Junior Warden and Elisha Johnson, a prominent attorney, State Senator and State Representative who also lived on Farmington Avenue, was elected clerk. It was Johnson who presented the petition from the fledgling society to the Diocesan Convention in New Haven in June 1860 requesting union with the Diocese and official recognition as Trinity Church.

Fifty Years Ago –

On September 21, 1959, the parish had a special meeting to announce the calendar of events planned to celebrate its 100th birthday. As outlined by Rector Rip Van Winkle, there were to be special worship services, musical programs, a pageant on church history, and an anniversary dinner at the Hartford Club. The most ambitious plan, however, was to expand the church

facility with the construction of a new Education Building. The estimated cost was \$280,000. By January 1960 the capital campaign had raised \$250,000. According to the church newsletter, the wardens admonished those who had not yet pledged, stating that “few were likely to be around to contribute to a 200th Anniversary Fund.”

By November 1960 the steel framing was in place and the new building was taking shape. Expenses were running ahead of estimates and at the same time it was realized that the Farmington Avenue parking lot needed improvements and Trinity needed to replace its inefficient heating system. The parish approved borrowing \$40,000 in order to complete the full scope of needed work. The Education Building was officially dedicated on September 17, 1961 – a wonderful legacy from the 100th anniversary which continues to serve Trinity Church today.

The information above was compiled by Karin Peterson. Each month during our 150th anniversary year, Karin will be writing about events at Trinity Church that took place during that same month in years now long gone by. Look for her column in each issue of The Voice during the coming months!

Mark Your Calendar for 2nd Annual Flower Arranging Contest

On September 13 during the kick-off of our 150th Anniversary celebration, we will have our second annual flower arranging contest. This contest is open to all ages. There’s just one rule: flowers must be from your own garden (or a friend’s), not store bought. You can even use wild flowers! Let’s have some really original arrangements: think of interesting containers – get together with a friend or even a child from the parish and collaborate. Maybe a 150th anniversary theme would be appropriate!

If you have any questions or if you plan to bring an arrangement, please contact Percy Williamson at (860) 646-8575.

October 4 Is “New Member Recognition Sunday”

On Sunday, October 4, we will officially recognize at the 10:00 a.m. service all who have joined our parish community during the past year. This will be a wonderful opportunity to formally meet new friends who have joined us in committing themselves to worshipping and serving God through the ministries of Trinity Episcopal Church. We hope you will be on hand to welcome them at this service and to enjoy fellowship immediately following the service.

At 12 noon on the 4th all new members will join in a quarterly New Members Luncheon, where they will continue to learn about the ministries at Trinity and meet other new members.

Diocesan Committee Announces Nominees for Bishop

The final list of nominees for Connecticut's 15th diocesan bishop has now been announced. The four nominees are: the Rt. Reverend James E. Curry, currently one of Connecticut's two bishops suffragan; the Reverend Mark Delcuze, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Ridgefield; the Reverend Dr. Ian T. Douglas, Angus Dun Professor of Mission and World Christianity at Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, Massachusetts and Associate Priest at St. James's Church, Cambridge; and the Reverend Beth Fain, Rector, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cypress, Texas.

Three opportunities to hear from and meet all four nominees have been scheduled for October 2/3. "Town Hall" meetings with the candidates will take place on Friday, October 2, at Connecticut State University in New Britain, beginning at 7:00 p.m., and on October 3 at Grace Church, Old Saybrook, beginning at 9:30 a.m. For these two events, all four candidates will sit on the same stage and address pre-submitted questions presented by a moderator.

The third opportunity to meet the nominees will take place on October 3 at Trinity Church, Southport, beginning at 2:00 p.m. This event will be a traditional "walk about," at which groups of people will meet with one nominee at a time, ask questions, and listen to that person's positions on pertinent topics. Nominees will then move to a different room until they have the opportunity to meet with each group. For further details

and much more information on the nominees and on the process of electing our new bishop, please visit the Diocese of Connecticut's web site, www.ctdiocese.org, and click on the relevant links on the home page.

Our new bishop will be elected on October 24 at the Diocese of Connecticut's upcoming Annual Convention, and will be consecrated on April 17, 2010.

Check out our 151st Year! Come to the Ministry Fair!

Trinity will hold its annual Ministry Fair on September 20 after both services. This is an opportunity to learn about the many ways in which the members of Trinity live out the Good News of Jesus Christ within our own community of faith and in the world. It is also a great chance – especially for those who are relatively new to our community – to ask ourselves how WE will help carry the Good News in the coming year by becoming a part of one of our many ministry teams.

Exhibits and information tables will be set up in the sanctuary and in Goodwin Hall, where you can visit with old friends and make some new ones as well. And of course, there will be plenty of food and refreshments! Come join us – it's a great way to see how we at Trinity are the Body of Christ in the world, and how you can be more of a living member of that body!

UBUNTU: Theme of the 76th Convention of the Episcopal Church

For 10 days in July, the Episcopal Church was gathered in convention in Anaheim, California. The theme of Ubuntu – the practice of listening intentionally to all voices in recognition that we are all connected one to another – served as the basis for this convention.



This was indeed an historic general convention that addressed funding ministries in light of the economic realities faced by many of the diocese and church endowments over the past two years; affirming the desire to pursue mission with other partners in the Anglican Communion; affirming full membership of same-sex couples living in lifelong committed relationships; and access to all the sacraments by all persons in the Church.

For more detailed information about what happened in Anaheim, pick up a copy of the letter from the Presiding Bishop and the August 2009 issue of *Episcopal Life* magazine from the literature tables at the entrances to Trinity Church. You can also go online at www.episcopalchurch.org/gc2009.htm for even more information, including a special media section with video clips and interviews, or visit our diocesan website at www.ctdiocese.org and follow the General Convention link on the home page.

Trinity's Singers Travel Far and Wide To Summer Courses

Each summer the Royal School of Church Music (of which our choirs are affiliates) holds courses in various venues around the country and in the UK. This summer we had three of our young choristers and three of our adult singers attend a total of three of these courses.

Taylor Bradley and Caroline Ryan, accompanied by Enid Oberholtzer, traveled in July to the Carolina course in Raleigh, North Carolina, where they sang with Simon Lindley, Organist and Master of the Music for Leeds Parish Church in West Yorkshire in the UK. These two girls, both of whom were probationers this past year, placed into the elite semi-chorus based on their auditions. Again this year, Savannah Berger attended the King's College course in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, where she was a PIT (proctor-in-training).

John Nowacki and Karl Pearson, two of our adult singers, also attended the King's course, for which Richard Tanner, Director of Music at England's Blackburn Cathedral, was the director. Kathie Wilson once again attended the Royal School of Church Music's annual Cathedral Singing Week, held this year at Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland, and directed by the Cathedral's Director of Music, Judy Martin. (Dinners for this course were held in the cathedral's vast crypt, with a good view of the mummified cat and rat discovered years ago in the building's organ pipes.)

Here is a bit of what Caroline and Taylor had to say about their week

in North Carolina. To read the full text of their thoughts on the course, please visit our website at www.trinityhartford.org.

Taylor:

My experience at camp was nothing like I thought it would be. I made so many new friends. My music director, Mr. Lindley, taught me so much. . . . My favorite piece was "Pueri, concinite." That wonderful piece is sung in Latin. . . I hope to come back to RSCM Carolina Course next year.

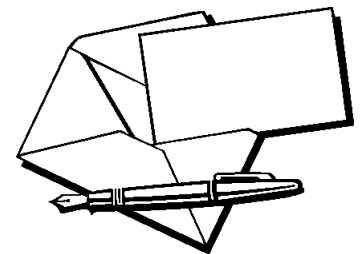
Caroline:

Boo! Hoo! It is sad to say the Carolina camp has ended for the year. My experience at camp was all the friends I made and all the music I learned. Mr. Lindley (Music Director) really sparkled up things with his humor and his directing. . . . I met amazing, talented and hysterical friends. Overall, I thought the RSCM Carolina camp was a blast and I hope to be there again.

A Thank You from Elaine Weber

Thanks to all of the wonderful people at Trinity who sent food during my mom's recent health crisis. She has recovered very well from the surgery and is now taking oral chemo without any side effects noted. In fact she is doing so well that we are considering having her return to my sister's home in Portland, Connecticut, where she resided before her illness. Not bad for someone who will be 89 years old in September!

Thanks also for all of your prayers.



– Elaine

Trinity To Host Hartford Seminary Peacemaking Scholar

Trinity Church is one of four faith communities in the Hartford area selected to host one of Hartford Seminary's International Peacemaking Scholars for the coming school year. Ezekiel Abdullahi Babagario, a 37-year-old Baptist student from Nigeria, will call Trinity his church home during his one-year stay in the U.S. Mr. Babagario will worship with us on a regular basis, and seek opportunities to share his faith and culture with our community.

The Clement & Ifeoma Mogor family has agreed to serve as the principle host family for Mr. Babagario. We hope that the rest of the Trinity community will also extend invitations for him to meals, social events and experiences in everyday American life to help make his transition to our culture more hospitable. He arrives in early September and will hopefully join us on September 13 for the celebration to launch our 150th Anniversary at Trinity Church.

How Shall I Repay the Lord?

We will be proudly observing Trinity's 150th anniversary during the coming year. This will not only be a time of celebration but also a chance to reflect on the past and all the people who have gone before us to make Trinity the beautiful, vibrant gift that she is to all of us today. The Annual Appeal for the year 2010 will be starting in September. The theme for this year has been taken from Psalm 116:

"How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things he has done for me? ...I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord."

This passage asks us to reflect upon all the good things in our lives and also asks us to sacrifice a portion of those good things as a thank offering. The goal of the Annual Appeal is to inspire us to notice how God has blessed each one of us and to consider how we can respond in thanks by offering our own gifts to further God's kingdom.

The Annual Appeal Team and the Vestry recognize that today's uncertain economy makes any commitment of financial resources more of a challenge. It's a good time to remember that a "pledge" has never represented a financial contract with the church – what you give to the church is between you and God, whether it is in writing or not. But knowing what you plan to offer the church in financial support IS important to the parish leadership in creating a budget to sustain parish operations. That is why we will be asking you to make an Estimate of Giving for the coming year. If at some point your

financial circumstances change (for either the better or the worse), please feel free to notify the church office and then change your giving accordingly.

Stewardship Sunday this year will be held on October 18, and the packets with the Estimate of Giving cards will be mailed out early the following week. Please prayerfully consider following in the footsteps of the Trinity members who have gone before us and give generously.

– *The Annual Appeal Team*
Martha Freimuth and Steve Smith,
2010 Co-chairs
Boo Morton and Marion Porter,
2011 Co-chairs
Percy Williamson, 2009 Chair
Don Hamer, Clergy advisor

Friends of the Choristers Plan Tag Sale

This year's Friends of the Choristers tag sale will be held on the morning of September 26 at John and Nancy Berger's home, 33 Belknap Road in West Hartford. The Friends are still looking for donations of tag sale treasures. If you've got items you'd like to give to the cause, contact Kelly Bradley at (860) 721-8697 for donation information and to schedule a pickup, if needed.

The tag sale will benefit the activities of The Choir School of Hartford. A tithe of the funds raised will be donated to the Academy Fund of the African Children's Choir, which will appear at Trinity on October 21.

Everyone's also invited to stop by the Bergers' to shop on the 26th!



Shakeem Williams	2
Philip Barrett	2
David Scott	3
Terry Blackwood	4
Gary DeMichele	4
Olivia Bedard-Shepard	4
Kathie Wilson	5
Pat Shields	6
Jerel Noel	8
Chris Bernard	9
Bonni McKenney	10
Neill Derick	12
Laura MacGougan	12
Arch Stuart	13
Blossom Iweka	13
David Kramer	14
Eddie Brunelle	15
Atiya Almagro	15
Michael Okeke	16
Gus Andrian	17
Anne Green	18
Aaron Berardino	19
Mardi Bloomfield	21
Amanda Tronchin	21
Ruby Grant	24
Roy McAlpine	27
Todd Berardino	28
Grace Haronian	28
Jolanda Sribanpot	28
Kitty Peterson	29

If you have a September birthday not listed above, please call Kathie Wilson in the parish office at (860) 527-8133, Ext. 204, so she can add your special day to our parish records.

A Year in the Making - Our New Roof!

We are happy to announce that on Wednesday, September 2, 2009, the roof project at Trinity Church will finally be completed. The

project began exactly a year ago, with construction getting underway on September 3, 2008. The first few months of the project went along smoothly until

the snow storms in December brought the work to a standstill. Weather again became a serious problem in the spring of the year, with a record number of rain days from April through June.

In addition to the original scope of work it was determined that the entire roof over the Education Wing was in need of replacement, which further extended this project well beyond the initial estimate for completion and added over \$100,000 to the original cost. It was discovered that due to lack of ventilation in that section of the roof when the Education Wing was built, the roofing material had acted like a giant sponge and absorbed trapped moisture for nearly 50 years, destroying the roofing material supporting the slates. In essence the entire roof sheeting as well as the slates had to be replaced.

In the end the project total came to just under \$785,000.00. The work was funded through an initial grant of \$200,000 by the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, a low-interest \$100,000

loan from the Diocese of Connecticut, and a \$500,000 loan from People's Bank.

The Vestry hopes to raise an additional \$200,000 from members and friends of the parish through the Raise the Roof campaign. The fundraising effort thus far has netted pledges of \$29,660.00 and gifts totaling \$31,598.00, which together total less than half of our goal.

Many thanks to all of those who have pledged and given gifts to support this project. If you have not made a pledge or given a gift to help with this effort you are encouraged to do so. Simply make your check payable to the Trinity Church "Raise the Roof Fund."

The following persons have given gifts to the project since the last printing of *The Voice* in May of this year:

Grace Crooks
Lucia Wilfred
Bill & Blanche Hamilton
(in memory of Bob Turcotte)

Food Basket Schedule

The suggested items for the Sunday food baskets for the month of September are listed below. Donations go to "A Place of Grace," a food bank run by Grace Episcopal Church, located on New Park Avenue in Hartford.

September 6 - bar soap
September 13 - powdered milk
September 20 - baked beans
September 27 - canned fruit

You Made It Possible!

During the services on Sunday, August 16, 56 filled back packs were blessed by Fr. Ron. They were then turned over to our new Social Worker, Lakesha Ruth, from Covenant to Care. Fifty-six children will be delighted with their new school supplies, and their parents will be relieved. Covenant to Care, specifically the Klingberg Family Center, is very grateful for these gifts.

Thank you again for your generosity, even in difficult times.

– Susanne Mantel
for the Outreach Team

Correction to a previous announcement:

The Back Pack project does not benefit foster children, but rather the children of financially challenged families in Hartford serviced by the Klingberg Family Center.

21 to 39 Years Old? Come Kayaking!

On September 26 our 20s and 30s group will gather to go kayaking at noon. Bring a friend! The day will end with a meal at the Reverend Ron Kolanowski's house in Mansfield. Please call Pam Haddad in the parish office at (860) 527-8133, Ext. 301, by September 21 to reserve your space.

If you have your own kayak, please bring it along. Don't have your own kayak? A limited number of extra kayaks will be available; please let Pam know if you'll need to borrow one. (You will need to transport the borrowed kayak on the roof of your car.)

A message from our Pastoral Counselor: Global Warming

Church is a deep experience. It is not confined to a building or Sunday morning. It does not depend on fancy clothes, a sacred Text in our hands, or high grades in confirmation. In fact it does not depend on you or me.

Known or unknown it is.

Underneath the day to day, church exists as a sacred village, known to some but evident in all are our lives.

It is not confined to a denominational or religious name, or to a creed or a particular land.

Church brings a warming to the entire globe, where conversations become campfire chats, where meetings become gatherings at the water hole, where passages of time find their needed ceremony, and where tears, music, dreams, and whines become prayers.

Children are brought to the world by their parents but are raised by all of us, through the stories we share and the examples we show.

Our planet is a sacred village where almost 7,000,000,000 live who share human life in a vast assortment of wonderful similarities and challenging differences.

To be consciously part of the sacred village requires us to treat ourselves and all our brothers and sisters across the globe, and on our street, with warmth and respect, knowing that we depend on each other in order to live.

God whispers to every one of us around the world and hopes we hear, or will try again when we don't.

The sacred village church was in the beginning and will be until the end, underneath our lives, holding together the whole world, warmly and deeply.

– by the Reverend Dr. Robert Henderson
Director, Pastoral Counseling Center, Inc.

He can be reached at Rob444@Cox.net
or (860) 659-0183

Book Group To Discuss C. S. Lewis Story

Do you like to read? Meet and talk with other Trinity folks? Eat dessert? If so, consider coming to Trinity's Book Group, which meets the first Friday of each month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. You're welcome to come to one meeting, several, or all. The group meets in the homes of members who'd like to host a gathering. Stories and books under discussion all have a spiritual dimension, but vary widely, and are chosen by consensus.

The readings for the first three meetings of the year are: 1) C. S. Lewis' novel *Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold*; 2) a selection (TBA) from *Listening for God: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith, Vol. 2*; and 3) *The Battle for Christmas*, by Stephen Nissenbaum. All three books are available at amazon.com.

Friday, October 2, is the date for the first meeting of the program year, and *Till We Have Faces* the featured book. Mark and Linda MacGougan will host the group at their home in West Hartford. Please contact them if you plan to attend, or if you have any questions – or recommendations! (Reach them at 860-561-1588, or macgougans@comcast.net.)

– Linda MacGougan

NOW YOU'VE DONE IT!!!!!!

★ Kristina Peterson graduated from Salve Regina College in Newport, Rhode Island, this past May 17 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

★ Kim Litsey was awarded a Master of Divinity Degree from Yale/Berkeley Divinity School on May 24.

Notes from the June and July Vestry Meetings. . .

The Trinity Vestry actually met three times over the summer – once at its annual overnight retreat, a second time at its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 16, and a third time at a special meeting on Sunday, July 12, to consider and pass a revised 2009 budget. The Vestry has had a very busy summer.

Vestry Retreat

The Vestry Retreat was held at Camp Washington beginning on Friday, June 12, and continuing through Saturday afternoon. Friday evening began with a time of fellowship and getting to know each other, especially the four new Vestry members, followed by a review of Vestry roles and responsibilities. On Saturday morning the Vestry worked on its homework, a review of a Harvard Business Review article on “Discovering Your Core Values.” Following a period of reflection, the Vestry members then gathered to brainstorm on what they considered to be their own “core values” as they think of Trinity, as well as the core purposes that form a part of God’s mission at Trinity. After lunch, the Vestry members took to the arts and crafts tables as they placed on poster board their BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal) for Trinity – a look at what they hope Trinity will look like in the year 2019. These posters have been displayed in the Nave over the summer and will continue under discussion when the Vestry returns in September.

At the Retreat the Vestry also discussed the resignation of Warden

Sara Carson as detailed in the Rector’s letter to the Parish, setting up a sub-committee to consider prospective candidates to fill that position in accordance with Parish by-laws.

Vestry Meeting of June 16

Following opening prayer, the Vestry passed the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of the May 2009 meeting.
2. Ratification of an earlier on-line vote to authorize the additional roof work described in Change Order 3 (contractor’s proposal of June 1, 2009) for an additional cost of \$114,500. This work was necessitated by structural damage to the Education Wing roof, requiring the east side to be replaced as well as the west side.
3. Suspension of regularly scheduled Vestry meetings for the months of July and August.

The Vestry then went into Executive Session to consider the report of the Subcommittee which had met on Sunday, June 14. Following its recommendation, the Vestry elected life-long parishioner Barbara (Boo) Morton to fill Sara’s unexpired term until the elections of 2010. As previously reported in the Rector’s letter to the Parish, the Vestry elected not to fill the vacancy caused by Boo’s election as Warden.

There being little else to report since the Vestry retreat, the remainder of the meeting was devoted to feedback for the Rector

on earlier Vestry discussions of the 2009 operating budget held during the Rector’s sabbatical. This discussion was in response to the Vestry’s resolution, passed on May 5, 2009, encouraging the Rector to find any and all ways to reduce the 2009 and subsequent budgets to a level that would require a draw from the endowment of no more than \$525,000 per year. (The draw for previous years has approached \$650,000.) This discussion formed the basis for the special meeting held on July 12.

Special Vestry Meeting of Sunday, July 12

The proposal considered on July 12 was a product of the Rector’s several consultations with the Executive Committee of the Vestry following the June meeting. It was quickly concluded that the goal of reducing the draw to \$525,000 with six months remaining in the 2009 budget was neither prudent nor practical. The Rector initially recommended across-the-board cuts in staffing and other areas that would have achieved approximately \$64,000 in savings for the last six months of 2009. Upon discussion with the Executive Committee, it was felt that the impact on program and the financial impact on the personnel and their families did not justify the relatively small short-term savings to be achieved. At the special meeting, the Vestry approved a scaled-back proposal that achieves approximately \$34,000 in savings from July 1 – December 31, as follows:

(Continued on Page 12)

Training Required for Those Working with Children

Part of being a welcoming community where we work hard at hospitality is keeping our children safe. Because this is an important part of our ministry, ALL adults who work with children in any capacity and have not already done so must attend a basic safe-church training day before the end of the 2009 calendar year. If you attended a safe church training day more than three years ago, you must attend an evening recertification session before the end of 2009. Please register for one of the following and bring your certificate of completion to the parish office:

Basic Safe Church Training
(Saturday 9 - 4, lunch provided):

9/19/09 Holy Trinity Church,
383 Hazard Avenue, Enfield

9/26/09 St. Peter's Church,
59 Main Street, Cheshire

10/17/09 St. Paul's Church,
200 Riverside Avenue, Riverside

10/17/09 Christ Church,
521 Pomfret Street, Pomfret

11/21/09 Trinity Church,
651 Pequot Avenue, Southport

Safe Church Recertification (6:30
p.m.-9 p.m.), supper provided):

9/17/09 St. Mary's Church,
41 Park Street, Manchester

9/21/09 St. John's Church,
400 Main Street, Niantic

9/29/09 Trinity Church,
36 Main Street, Newtown

TO REGISTER, contact Mary Hart at (860) 233-4481, 1-800-842-0126 or mhart@ctdiocese.org. Or, register online at www.ctdiocese.org/registration.

Vestry Notes

Continued from Page 11

1. Reducing Fr. Ron's position from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ time, enabling him to be at Trinity two Sundays per month and serving as supply clergy at additional compensation for other Episcopal congregations on the remaining Sundays. This arrangement was made in consultation with Fr. Ron and with his consent.
2. Further reducing Trinity's pledge to the Diocese to just under 10% of the revised 2009 budget, with a plan to increase the percentage back to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % in the 2012 operating budget.
3. Moving \$3,500 of Choir School expenses from the Parish operating budget to the Choir School budget.
4. Identifying an additional \$6,000 in cost savings from the existing 2009 budget.

The Vestry encourages parishioners to speak to Vestry members or members of the clergy with any questions or concerns about Vestry business.

Voice Deadline

September 17 is the deadline for the next issue of *The Voice*, which will cover all events coming up in October 2009. Materials for this issue can be sent via e-mail to voice@trinityhartford.org or delivered to the parish office by 4:00 p.m. on the 17th. Thanks!

Church School 2009-2010: Godly Play

Children aged three through grade six will be embarking on a journey through prayer, story, worship, work and play. Storytellers will tell stories from the Bible and from Christian tradition. Children will be asked to respond through wondering questions, work, and in a symbolic meal. There will be two groups of Godly Play sessions. Group I is for children age 3-Grade 2; Group II is for Grades 3-6.

Please register your child at your convenience throughout the month of September. We will be happy to accommodate any special needs you have; let us know how we can be of assistance. Your registration form will also provide us your emergency contact information. Please call Lynda Curtis at (860) 527-8133, Ext. 207, and let her know that you would like to register your child/children.

Parental involvement in Trinity's Church School program is welcomed and encouraged. Please speak to Barbara Briggs, Kate Rousseau, Kim DeMichele, Clement Mogor, Jo-Ann Sadosky, or Lynda Curtis if you would like to lend a hand in any way. Thanks!

Coming this Fall!

Understanding Faith Traditions

A Five Week Video-Based Series – "Wisdom of the World's Religions"

Wednesdays 10/14-11/18 (no session 10/21) - in the Library

Soup Supper 5:30; Video 6-7; Discussion 7:00-7:30

Discussion Leaders – Frank & Liz Kirkpatrick

Journey to Adulthood 2009 - 2010

Christian Formation for Young People in Grades 7-12

The Journey to Adulthood program is one in which the honoring of “questions” is central to the approach of Christian formation. JTA is specifically designed, through use of story, study and conversation, to provide a safe place in which the real-life questions that emerge among young people can be honestly shared and explored. It is an approach to Christian formation that is less about memorizing information and more about honoring and exploring questions, giving the young people who participate a working knowledge of their faith.

Rite-13 – Sunday mornings following the 10 a.m. service (Leader: Grace Haronian)

Youth in grades 7 and 8 will participate in the group known as Rite-13. The Christian faith, like any other religious tradition, is rooted in a heritage of shared memories. Rite-13 provides a balance between activities – and steady exploration of the development of personality and faith in its classes.

In November those members of the group who have reached or are about to reach the age of 13 will be invited to participate in the Rite-13 ceremony, in which young people ritualize the beginning of their journey away from childhood and toward becoming young adults. A special intergenerational dinner to honor all our Rite-13 youth is being planned for the fall, and will be open to all families and supporters of the JTA program.

J2A – Sunday mornings following the 10 a.m. service (Leader: Amy Arlin)

The second group in the program, known as J2A, is for 9th and 10th graders. The structure will be less formal classroom time with a drop-in feel and program elements. J2A builds on Rite-13 by training young people in necessary skills of adulthood in a Christian context: Listening, Assertion, Negotiation, Research & Information Management, and Partnership & Leadership.

As with Rite-13, there is a common systematic focus on all the aspects of a whole person. Self, Society, Sexuality, and Spirituality are the areas which are covered, in depth, in the light of the Gospel, in order that the reality of young people’s lives can be strengthened, encouraged, healed, corrected, and empowered by the life and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

The program takes seriously the need to deal with what is real for young people, to honor their questions, to assure them that they are real people with real, valid, and authentic experiences. And we undertake to place a scriptural, spiritual, and liturgical frame around each and every one of those experiences.

Young Adults in the Church (YAC) (Coordinator: Rev. Ron Kolanowski)

This program is for 11th-12th graders and focuses on responding as an adult to one’s faith through group

discussions, social and recreational activities, social ministry activities, and retreats. Each young person is assigned an adult mentor who meets periodically with them and supports them in their spiritual, academic and social development. Each young person is also expected to engage in at least one active ministry at Trinity.

Confirmation

Confirm Not Conform, Trinity’s confirmation program for those who are 16 or older, is offered in alternating years and will again be offered starting in September 2010.

Registration and additional information about all Journey to Adulthood programs will be available on September 20 at the Ministry Fair. Look for additional details on the Journey to Adulthood program in the *Journey to Adulthood Newsletter* which will be available in early September.

New Directory Coming In September

Watch for the new Trinity Church directory of names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of members and friends of the Trinity Church community – coming in September. If some of the above information for your household has recently changed, and you did not note the changes in the directory proofs posted in Goodwin Hall over the summer, please notify Kathie Wilson in the parish office at (860) 527-8133, Ext. 204, as soon as possible.

Healing Ministry and the Grace of Forgiveness

The ministry of healing is the ministry of all the baptized. Whether you knit prayer shawls, bring casseroles to families, are part of a prayer team, serve sandwiches in the park, are a member of the Pastoral Care Team, or are available whenever needed to reach out to someone in need, you are doing the healing work of Jesus.

Several parishioners have been exploring this ministry by meeting once a month to pray together and to study a book called *Making Your Church a House of Healing*. Most recently this group grappled with the question of sin and forgiveness. Jesus commands his disciples to continue his ministry of forgiveness. HOW are we to do that? The following reflection is based on a letter about forgiveness written by Michel Rondet, a Jesuit priest, author and theologian:

Forgiving is not forgetting. We can neither forget the offense that was done to us, nor the one we have committed ourselves. Our very being is somehow marked by it, and so are our relationships. We would have to cease to be human in order to forget a grievous offence.

Forgiveness doesn't attempt to forget that which is evil. Rather, it triumphs over evil by destroying the logic that leads from offense to vengeance. When a victim forgives her offender, she breaks the cycle of violence. This is what Jesus did on the cross when he forgave his executioners.

To forgive, then, is not to forget. Nor is it to excuse or grant amnesty. It is rather to refuse to identify the offender with the evil he or she has

committed. It means looking at the offender with the same look of love with which Jesus looked at Peter after he had denied him three times. It's as if Jesus says to Peter: "You are the man who denied me, but I can see beyond your moment of weakness. I can see in you the rock that I expect you to be for your brothers and sisters so that you will affirm them in their faith."

Some people have been able to say to an offender, "You are a criminal. You took my child, but I can still see in you the image of God who created you, and I hope that one day you will see it too, and that it will change your life."

Forgiveness goes beyond human logic. We tend to think, "an eye for and eye, a tooth for a tooth", or worse, since vengeance tends to escalate each time a counter-attack is launched. Forgiveness only comes naturally to God because it is only in God that hope is never lost. In the Lord's Prayer, when we pray, "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us", we are not saying to God that God's forgiveness should be measured by our ability to forgive, nor that God should forgive us because we forgive. We are praying to be open to God's forgiveness. It is impossible to forgive without first opening ourselves up to the possibility of forgiveness—for ourselves and for others. It is God's forgiveness that changes our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh.

What we ask of God our Father is actually what God is accomplishing in us through the life that Jesus gives. Jesus gave himself for us and

forgave us all in one movement. When we ask for the grace of forgiveness, we are leaving our old life of recrimination and pay-back and entering a new life with Christ: one where we get to let go of our hardened hearts and be healed of our hurt.

Light and Peace Needs YOU!

Light and Peace is a community outreach program for children in Asylum Hill directed by Lynda Curtis. This program year we need adult volunteers to cook and serve meals, serve as hosts and hostesses, help lead the evening worship and be positive role-models for the participants and interact with them throughout the evening. We are aiming at a 1:2 ratio, that is, one adult for each two children. With registrations anticipated at around 25, we will need at least 12 adults each week.

Every Monday beginning October 4, we will gather from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. The program will begin with a family-style meal followed by worship with lots of music and a story. The evening ends with an arts and crafts activity and prayer.

Training for Volunteers

On Monday, September 28, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., all Light and Peace volunteers will gather for training and preparation for the 2009-2010 season. Whether you will be cooking, serving, hosting, storytelling, leading the liturgy or helping with arts and crafts, please contact Lynda Curtis at the church, (860) 527-8133, Ext. 207, or call Pam Haddad in the office, (860) 527-8133, Ext. 301.

African Children's Choir To Perform at Trinity This October

On Wednesday, October 21, beginning at 7:00 p.m., the African Children's Choir will sing a concert at Trinity Church. Made up of 25 children from Uganda and Kenya, many of whom have lost one or both parents to poverty or disease, this world-renowned choir helps its members break away from the everyday cycle of poverty and hopelessness. After being selected for the choir, the children spend five months at the Choir Training Academy learning songs and dances, attending school and Sunday School, and having fun. The Choir shows the world that its members, like the millions of abandoned and traumatized children in Africa, have beauty, dignity and unlimited potential.

The African Children's Choir Training Academy facility is currently in need of major renovation, so The Choir School of Hartford will donate a tithe of the proceeds from its own fall tag sale to the Academy Fund. Our Choir School students will also host the children of the African choir for dinner before, and overnight following, the October 21 concert, building bridges and friendships between our two choir schools. There will be a free-will offering taken during the concert to support the work of the African Children's Choir.

We hope to fill the church for this wonderful event, so please tell your friends, families, neighbors and invite them to accompany you. It will be an evening you won't soon forget!

Thanks for Help with The Garden Project!

Many thanks to all who donated plants for our Memorial Garden project this summer: Althea Francis, Jim Bradley, Christine Gellman, Percy Williamson, Don Hamer and Bert Landman. In addition, we had several gifts of money to purchase specific plants: Anne and Peter Green bought a rose bush in memory of Peter's parents, and Janet Wilkinson donated another rose bush and some perennials in memory of her parents.

Another BIG thank you goes to the many volunteers who turned out on June 6 to help with weeding, planting, and other projects in the Memorial Garden and other plantings. Organized by Peter Green, Steve Foldvary and Bert Landman, this large group of

volunteers got an enormous amount of work done in a single day, and made a big difference to the beauty of our garden areas this summer.

VOICE Available Electronically

We have heard from many of you that you would prefer to receive *The Voice* electronically via e-mail rather than via "hard copy" sent through the United States mail. Additionally, the latest edition of *The Voice* is always available on our website, www.trinityhartford.org. Of course, the electronic version saves postage as well as staff time.

Please send an e-mail to voice@trinityhartford.org if you would like us to send *The Voice* electronically rather than by mail.



EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST . . .

September 13 - 150th Anniversary Kick-off!

Page 2

10:00 a.m. Celebration Eucharist with the Rt. Reverend Andrew D. Smith

Page 3

12 noon Parish Picnic

September 20

Page 6

9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Ministry Fair & Church School registration

September 28

Page 14

6:00 p.m. Light and Peace training

September 26

Page 8

9:00 a.m. Choir School tag sale at the Bergers' home

Page 9

12:00 p.m. 20s and 30s Group kayaking expedition

October 2

Page 10

7:00 p.m. Book Group meeting at the MacGougans' home

October 4

Page 5

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with New Member Recognition

Page 3

5:00 p.m. Evensong: Homecoming for Trinity clergy

October 21

Page 15

7:00 p.m. African Children's Choir concert

More coming events are listed on the calendar included in this Voice. Check the Sunday bulletin or www.trinityhartford.org for a complete schedule of events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 Holy Eucharist, breakfast and Bible study 12:10 Holy Eucharist	3 5:30 Adult Christian Formation Team	4	5
6 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Children's Eucharist	7 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Buildings closed</i>	8 7:00 Outreach Team	9 7:00 Holy Eucharist, breakfast and Bible study 12:10 Holy Eucharist	10	11 5:30 Annual Appeal Team	12 9:00 Worship assistants' breakfast
13 <i>150th Anniversary kick-off!</i> 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:30 Parish Picnic	14	15 5:00 Loaves & Fishes crew 6:00 Vestry dinner with Bp. Smith 7:15 Vestry meeting	16 7:00 Holy Eucharist, breakfast and Bible study 12:10 Holy Eucharist	17 <i>Voice</i> deadline	18	19 9:00 Altar Guild & Flower Guild breakfast
20 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Ministry Fair 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:15 Ministry Fair	21	22	23 7:00 Morning Prayer, breakfast and Bible study	24	25	26 9:00 Choir School tag sale at the Bergers' 9:30 Boy Scout meeting 12:00 20s & 30s kayaking party
27 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 11:30 Church School & JTA 12:00 150 th Anniversary team	28 6:00 Light & Peace training	29	30 7:00 Holy Eucharist, breakfast and Bible study 12:10 Holy Eucharis 7:00 Boy Scout Committee			<i>Italics = A.M.</i> Normal type = P.M.

September 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS: *October 4 Homecoming Evensong (5:00 p.m.)*
October 14 Soup supper video program begins (5:30 p.m.)
October 16 Avery Ensemble concert (7:30 p.m.)
October 21 African Children's Choir (7:30 p.m.)

Calendar of parish events. Check the weekly schedule in the leaflet for additions & changes