

# VOICE OF TRINITY

January 19, 2012

Volume 12, No. 01

## *Life Together at Trinity!*

### *Good Stewards of Time*

As *The Voice* was about to go to press, members of the office staff celebrated their annual luncheon in honor of our office volunteers. It was a reminder to me and to all of us about the importance of our stewardship of the gift of time.

We don't often think of time in those terms. If you are anything like me, your typical attitude about time is that it generally passes too quickly and there is not enough of it. (One of my favorite days of the year is the one when we have a 25-hour day with the switch back to Eastern Standard Time.) But if we think about time as a gift from God, it helps us put our daily lives into perspective.

Thinking about volunteer time also lifts up *administration* as a ministry – it is not just processing paper, but providing order out of chaos (think Genesis 1) and providing a sound foundation for our common life together.

And so we celebrated our Trinity Volunteers, without whom so many of the functions you take for granted would not happen. I want to lift up those folks who keep God's ministries running more or less behind the scenes:

Peggy Andrian – processes weekly offerings

Pat Bunker – Music Librarian for the Choir School and Trinity Choirs

Gloria Cheyney – Tuesday and Thursday morning receptionist

Jeanne Foldvary – Tuesday and Thursday afternoon receptionist

Anne Green – general assistant for music ministries

Liz Johnson – organizes birthday card ministry, copy editing, general office support, bulk mailings

Liz Kirkpatrick – Church Archivist, organizes and maintains our historical records, prepares monthly worship assignments calendar

Marianne Mallory – Monday afternoon receptionist, assembly of Sunday service leaflets

Penny Pearson – processes weekly offerings, supports pastoral care ministry

Lillian Sandford – assists with bulk mailings

Peter Vreeland – Monday morning receptionist, Database updates

*Continued on Page 9*



## Adult Forum for February

February 5

TBD

February 12

**Speaker: Ellen Dollar**

Ellen will speak on her new book, *No Easy Choice: A Story of Disability, Parenthood, and Faith in an Age of Advanced Reproduction*. (More information about the book is available at amazon.com.)

February 19

TBD

February 26

This session will feature another video from the National Cathedral's "Critical Issues in the Light of Faith" Sunday Forum series, with discussion led by Al Shuckra.

*All sessions run from 11:30 to 12:30 and meet in the Library.*

Our Adult Christian Formation Team is also planning a Lenten Wednesday evening study series, to begin February 29. Details will be published in the next issue of *The Voice*. Stay tuned!

## Trinity's Marsha McCurdy Featured in *Guts & Glamour* Calendar

When media personality and photographer Shelly Sindland wanted to honor "strong" women – including those who serve in traditionally male professions – she turned to Connecticut's female firefighters. The result of her work is the 2012 calendar *Guts and Glamour*, featuring Trinity's own Marsha McCurdy as Ms. November.

Each month of the calendar depicts one of twelve female firefighters from around the state attired in formal dress, while the back cover shows each of them in her "working" outfit. Sindland says, "These women are bold, beautiful and brave! . . . I dressed them up a bit to show that every woman has many layers and different sides and that not just one thing defines them.

Today's modern woman wears many hats, in this case, firefighter hats. For these women, they fight fires, work full-time jobs, go to school, take care of the kids, manage the house and the family business and once in a while, like to get dressed up for a night on the town."

While most of the women pictured are volunteer firefighters, Marsha McCurdy is a career firefighter with the West Hartford Fire Department. She is also a civic activist and certified as an inclusivity trainer for businesses and other organizations.

Calendars may be purchased for \$20 by contacting Marsha or at [www.shellysindland.com](http://www.shellysindland.com). A portion of the proceeds goes to the 9/11 Fund for First Responders.



## February

Melanie Nicolini	1
Liz Kirkpatrick	2
Keara Foldvary	4
Hyacinth Miller	4
Dinaka Onoh	6
Olivia Mogor	8
Chris Townsend	11
Elaine Weber	11
Ginny Catanzaro	12
Kim Litsey	12
Judy Miller	13
Bill Knorr	15
Olivia Holmes	18
Clyde Jansing	18
Marc Miller	18
Emma Santangelo	18
Rosa Margeson	17
Winston Rose	19
John Berger	21
Priscilla Viets	22
Keith Hook	23
Jerry Blissett	24
Althea Francis	25
Nina Rattray	25
Mary Register	25
Jane Reik	25
Laquisha Springer	26
Evan Holmes	26
Alice Turcotte	26
Brandon Gonzalez	27
Andrew Mafko	27
Alison Mafko	27
Katie Reynolds	27
Hailey Townsend	27
Catherine Brown	28

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

## Book Group To Discuss Commencement Speech

Trinity Book Group will gather on Friday, February 3, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. to discuss the commencement speech given by David Foster Wallace at Kenyon College in 2005. Copies of the speech may be found on-line; Google "David Foster Wallace Kenyon College" and several sites will come up that offer it, including *The Wall Street Journal* site. (Portions of the speech are also available on YouTube.)

Jane Harris will host the February meeting at her home in Glastonbury. Please give her a call at 860-633-0708 if you plan to attend.

## Evensong Series Continues On February 5

Our monthly Evensong series will resume its usual first-Sunday-of-the-month schedule on February 5 at 5:00 p.m. For this service, the Trinity Choir and Trinity Singers will be singing Adrian Dyson's setting of the Evening Canticles in F, as well as Ralph Vaughan Williams' much-loved anthem "O taste and see."

Our Evensong series will continue on Sunday, March 4.

## Voice Deadline

February 9 (yes, that early!) is the deadline for the next issue of *The Voice*, which will cover all events taking place in the month of March. Materials for this issue can be sent via e-mail to [voice@trinityhartford.org](mailto:voice@trinityhartford.org) or delivered to the parish office by 3:00 p.m. on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## News from the Church School

### J2A and Rite-13

JTA and Rite -13 have started 2012 with a lot of enthusiasm and are looking forward to more contemplative conversations on issues that can greatly enrich these young people's lives. It is our hope that they will gain the knowledge to understand why Jesus used service and a healing touch to solve the world's issues. As their church family, it is important that we continue to support our church school leaders in helping them guide and strengthen our youth to better our community. A couple of ways that we do this is by developing relationships and participating in social events. One event that we have coming up on February 11 is **Laser Tag!** More information will be forthcoming, or you can contact Lynda Curtis at 860-527-8133, Ext. 207, or by e-mail at [lcurtis@trinityhartford.org](mailto:lcurtis@trinityhartford.org) for details.

### The "no rehearsal" Christmas Pageant of The Miracle Births

had rave reviews. The children are certainly budding stars. Our special thanks to the author **Mark MacGougan**, program director **Kate Rousseau**, narrator **Alan Rice** and all our **volunteers**. Thank you all for a wonderful Christmas Pageant!

### Grades 3-5

The following are the lessons for this group for the coming month:

**February 5**  
**Godly Play Eucharist**  
*Parable of the Sower*

**February 12**  
*Naaman's Healing*  
Focus Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-14

### February 19

*Mountaintop Mysteries*  
Focus Scripture: Mark 9:2-9

### February 26

*Fresh Start*  
Focus Scripture: Genesis 9:8-17

### Godly Play

This group continues to meet from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. each Sunday. Children ages three through second grade learn about stories of famous people from the Bible and from our Christian heritage. Stories for January are as follows:

**February 5**  
**Godly Play Eucharist**  
*Parable of the Sower*

**February 12**  
*Parable of the Leaven*

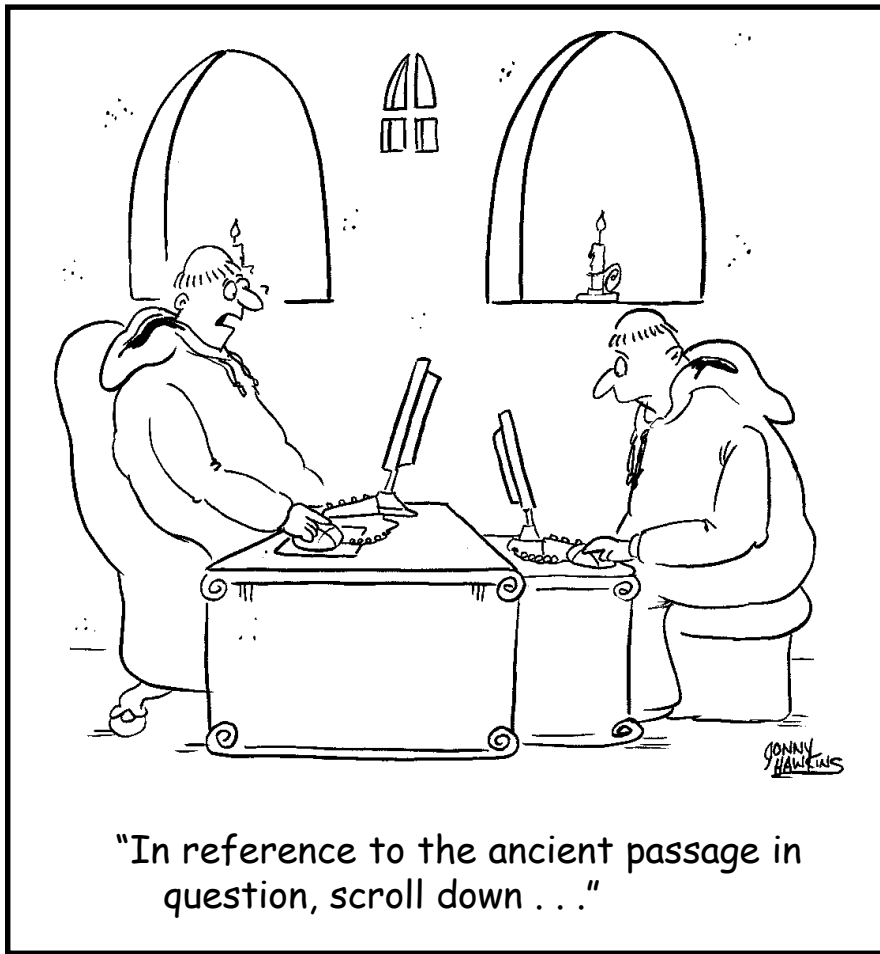
**February 19**  
*Parable of the Mustard Seed*

**February 26**  
*Parable of the Deep Well*

— Lynda Curtis  
Children's Ministries Coordinator

### Did You Complete Your Estimate of Giving for 2011?

Before we get too far into the new year, it is important to check your level of financial giving to God's work during 2011. Last year, we learned that it is not uncommon for people to forget to actually offer all the support they intended to give to the church. If you actually sent in to the church less than you estimated in 2011, it is not too late to send in the difference. Please check your year-end statement to see if there is a balance due and, if so, please send in that balance, as you are able, as early as possible.



Trinity Episcopal Church  
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e-mail: office@trinityhartford.org

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:**

Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

Evensong: 1st Sunday of the month at 5:00 p.m. (October-June)

Compline: 3rd Sunday of the month at 9:00 p.m.

The Reverend Donald L. Hamer, Rector  
The Reverend Dr. Johan Johnson, Priest Associate  
The Reverend Dr. Frank G. Kirkpatrick, Priest Associate  
The Reverend Helen M. Moore, Priest Associate  
The Reverend Dr. Bennett A. Brockman, Assisting Clergy  
The Reverend William J. Eakins, Rector Emeritus  
The Reverend Dr. Robert S. Henderson, Pastoral Counselor

The VOICE of Trinity Church  
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Edited by Katherine S. Wilson

## **CVCO To Offer "A Musical Valentine"**

The Connecticut Valley Chamber Orchestra will present the next concert in its 2011-2012 series on Sunday, February 12, beginning at 3:00 p.m. While the orchestra continues its search for a new permanent conductor, Theresa McGee will serve as guest conductor for this concert. Ms. McGee has led professional orchestras in the U.S. and abroad, and has served on numerous occasions as assistant conductor to Maestro Gustav Meier at the Greater Bridgeport Symphony Orchestra.

The program for the concert on the 12<sup>th</sup>, entitled "A Musical Valentine," will feature *Les Preludes* by Franz Liszt. The program will also include works by Grieg (*Wedding Day at Troldhaugen*) and Tchaikovsky (Waltz and Polonaise from *Eugene Onegin*), two of the younger composers whose works Liszt championed. The orchestra will also perform Glazunov's *Marche des noces*, Elgar's *Sospiri*, *A Walk to the Paradise Garden* by Delius, and the *Adagietto* from Mahler's Symphony No. 5.

Tickets for this concert will be available at the door for \$15 for adults, or \$12 for seniors and students. As always with CVCO concerts, children under 12 will be admitted free of charge. A reception in Goodwin Hall will follow the concert.

Watch for news of the third concert in the CVCO's 2011-2012 series, which will take place at Trinity on April 15.

# Outreach at Trinity



## Coming Up in April: Outreach Team Spring Rummage Sale

The Outreach Team is sponsoring a Spring Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Trinity's outreach projects, both locally and globally, including our school scholarship project, which pays school fees for students in our partner parish in Tabora, Tanzania. The Spring Rummage Sale is a great opportunity to meet other members of the Trinity community, serve the broader community by recycling and selling donated items, and raise funds for outreach, as well as a great activity to experience with the Outreach Team!

An invitation to volunteer will come a month or so before the day of the sale. All talents and time are welcomed. E-mail Debbie Hamer at debhamer2001@yahoo.com or call her at 860-216-3881 if you wish to sign up now.

Please consider donating gently used clothing (even better if it is in the original packaging or with tags!), bedding and linens, small housewares, sporting equipment, household fixtures (new), seedlings (share your green thumb), collectibles (we hope to have a collectible corner) and small defriended tools (snowbirds and retirees, that's for you!). Please note, the Rummage Sale cannot accept TVs, computers, furniture, broken or damaged items, magazines and encyclopedias, or used plastic housewares.

Items can be brought to the church starting in March. For special arrangements contact Penny Pearson, 860-243-0020 or pennypearson@comcast.net.

## February Food Baskets

Each Sunday during February, we will be collecting canned soup for "A Place of Grace" food pantry at Grace Episcopal Church on New Park Avenue in Hartford. Other non-perishable food items and clean plastic bags are also welcome. Donations may be placed in the wicker baskets inside the entrances to the church. Thanks to all of you who support this Outreach ministry!

## Mite Box Thank You

The Outreach Team wishes to thank everyone who participated in the Mite box project this past Advent and Christmas season. The boxes are still coming in, so we won't have a tally until later this month. All money received will be sent to AFEDJ (American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem) and then on to the parish of St. Matthew's, Zebabdeh, in the West Bank. Look for an update next month with more information. And thanks again so much for remembering our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land.

— Kate Smith  
for the Outreach Team

## Feeding in the Park Program Continues on February 18

Many thanks to the 16 parishioners who prepared and distributed bag lunches to those in need in Bushnell Park on December 17 as part of Trinity's ongoing commitment to community service. This project, coordinated by Rose Egan of the Cathedral, is part of a feeding program led by the deacons of the Diocese.

Our next scheduled date for this program is Saturday, February 18, when lunch preparation will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the Trinity kitchen. At 1:45 we will bring the prepared lunches to Bushnell Park, where those who wish may participate in the Eucharist by the Pond at 2:00, led by Father Don as Celebrant. We will distribute the lunches following the Eucharist. Everyone is invited to come and help with this outreach project for all or just part of the afternoon.

Donations to offset the cost of this ministry are also welcome; checks may be written to Trinity Church with "Outreach Feeding" in the memo space – or include a note with your donation to indicate that it is meant for the feeding program. There is also a need for new socks and t-shirts, as well as gently used seasonal clothing. Clothing may be placed in the wicker baskets at the entrances to the church located inside the doors to the church, along with our food pantry items.

For more information about our Feeding in the Park program, please speak with Bonnie Matthews, Percy Williamson or Penny Pearson. We hope to see many of you on February 18!

## **Report from the January 9 Meeting of the Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association (AHNA)**

### **Police Report:**

There was no police report because there was no officer available. Personal info from someone at the table said that car break-ins are still an issue – this time on Ashley Street. *Do not leave items in plain view inside a vehicle.*

### **Sigourney Square Park:**

The park will be undergoing capital improvements. \$700,000 total has been spent on the project, which is in the design stages. We reviewed several views for both landscape architecture and playscapes to replace what is currently available.

### **Livable Sustainable Neighborhood Initiative:**

This is a cooperative effort between the city and the neighbors to provide a safe, clean space for everyone. It aims to help incorporate neighborhoods on the fringes into the activities of each neighborhood zone in the city. This initiative is relying heavily on information provided by calls to the 311 line. The city needs to hear the opinions of the people living in the city, and also wants to know if things need changing. Use 311 to report streetlights that are burned out; use it to report trash not being collected; use it to report cars parked improperly on the streets; use it to report sidewalks that need work. Use 311!

### **Committee reports:**

#### Housing:

Meeting January 23 at noon at 280 Sigourney Street.

#### Education/Cultural Affairs:

Meeting January 17 at 6:30 p.m. at West Middle School.

#### Public Safety:

Meeting at the YWCA at noon on January 19, when goals for 2012 will be discussed.

#### Transportation & Economic Development:

- Broad Street Streetscape – taking another look at the effective redo for Broad Street. Folks felt that the people were not being heard and arranged a January 13 walk with those in charge of change for the entire length of the street to look at issues. Concern was raised about the paving of the temporary parking lot on the NW corner of Broad Street and Capitol Avenue, as that area was to remain green in some fashion and anchor the change for the street.
- Sigourney Street Bridge replacement – ongoing discussions about the design, traffic flow, etc. It is coming to light that not all regular users of that bridge have been told that it will be closed down for approximately 18 months while the work is completed.

#### Communication:

Work on the Website is ongoing but nearing completion.

**The Hartford Fire Department** has smoke detectors free of charge for those living in the neighborhood. Call for an evaluation and possible installation.

### **Hartford 2000:**

Director Ted Steege gave out information and let AHNA know that Hartford 2000 wants to work collaboratively with all the Neighborhood Revitalization Zones. It is the NRZs that make up the larger group, Hartford 2000.

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 6, 2012 –**

**6:15 p.m. at Asylum Hill Congregational Church.**

– Boo Morton




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## Crossroads . . .

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### Prayer

*The desire to pray is God's gift to us. In longing to communicate with the Creator, the soul seeks the source of its being and worships the presence that knows each one of His creations as intimately as a mother knows her child. As we ponder the mystery of God, who talks to and listens to us, the believer realizes an inborn agility to take the leap of faith required to be in communion with God. (Taken from the DOK pamphlet "Prayer Changes Me")*

Daughters of the King commit to the discipline of a rule of prayer and vow to pray daily. Prayer is a regular part of our lives as Christians. Our Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer* is an excellent resource for all sorts of prayers. Many books have been written on the subject of prayer. There is so much out there about the hows, whens, whys and whats of praying that it can become a little overwhelming. We might even get so caught up in all of it that we start to wonder if we are doing it right.

Prayer is nothing more than a conversation with God, and there is no wrong way to talk to God. As a child, I loved the TV show *All In*

*the Family*. I learned my first prayer ever from watching that show. Archie Bunker would get all stressed out about something and say in his unmistakable voice, "Stay with us, Lord!" That simple prayer says it all: it acknowledges our dependence on Jesus, and that His comforting presence will get us through anything. I grew up thinking that if Archie Bunker can pray, anyone can pray!

God loves us and wants to be an interactive part of our lives. God doesn't care about the words we use or the form and structure of our prayer. God just wants to be involved in an ongoing conversation with us. We love to post all kinds of updates on Facebook. What if we took the time to say things to God, too? When I see sunbeams breaking through the clouds I like to say to God, "Dude, that's really cool; thanks for showing me how beautiful you are!" No matter what I have going on, I will talk to God about it, either silently or aloud.

What if that's all it took to pray to God? What if praying to God was as easy as talking to a friend? What if God wanted you to pray with the words in your heart, without judgment, no matter how they came out or what they sounded like? God loves you and gave you those words anyway. Let them out of your heart so they can go back to God carrying your hopes and dreams. God delights in hearing everything you have to say, even if it's as simple as saying "hi."

Whenever you ask God for help, you open yourself up to new possibilities that might not have existed before.

Once you do that, don't go immediately looking for the answers. Be open for ways God will have them show up. God often will reveal truths to us through experiences. May the Light and Love of God be made known to you, in ways unique to you, to show you just how loved and supported you truly are. And so it is.

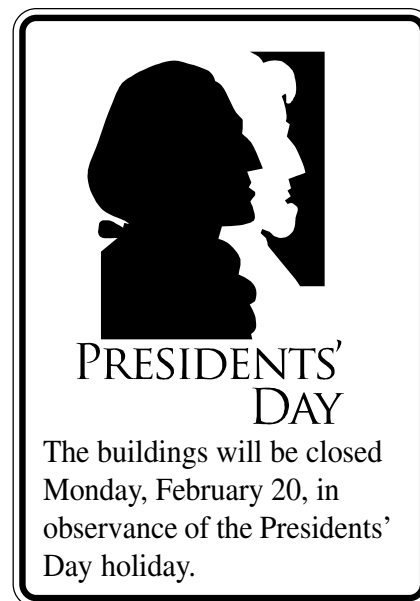
If you are interested in learning more about The Order of the Daughters of the King®, please contact Marion Porter, JoEllen Jansing, Marianne Mallory, or Pam Williams. We are always looking for new members.

– Marion Porter  
President, Trinity Shepherds  
Daughters of the King

### Directory Update

Please make the following change to your 2010 Parish Directory:

Moseley, John-Albert  
2 Shenandoah St  
Dorchester, MA 02124  
Cell: 860-604-0730  
Email: jamtenor@gmail.com



## Annual Appeal Update

As Trinity winds up its 2012 Annual Appeal campaign, results are promising so far, although we are still a way from our goal. As of press time, these are the results:

**NO CHANGE** – 59 households submitted an estimate of giving for 2012 that was equal to their 2011 estimate, for a total of \$116,265.

**DECREASE** – 18 households decreased their level of giving from that of 2011, for a total decrease of \$10,788.00. The 2012 total from these households is \$31,058.

**INCREASE** – 51 households increased their financial support for a total of \$158,118 for 2012, an increase of \$15,657 over 2011.

**NEW** – Estimates of giving were received from 18 new households; their 2012 total is \$10,570.

Compared with 2011, our average estimate of giving has increased from \$2,107.29 to \$2,164.46. Estimates of giving for 2012 to date now total \$316,011. This leaves us approximately \$23,000 behind our goal, with 31 estimates still not returned. If you have not yet submitted an estimate of giving for 2012, please do so as soon as possible – it assists the Vestry tremendously in managing the financial affairs of the parish.

## Compline Series Continues

The Trinity Compline Schola will offer prayer for the end of the day – the monastic office of Compline – on Sunday, February 19, at 9:00 p.m. Please enter and exit through the main Sigourney Street doors, which will open at 8:45 p.m.

Our Compline series will continue on the third Sunday of each month.

## Sign Up Now for “Explore Trinity” Series

A reminder: Trinity’s new EXPLORE class series for adults considering membership in the parish begins next month. If you have come to Trinity from another faith tradition, and/or would like to know more about the Episcopal Church, these classes are for you! It doesn’t matter if you’re a newcomer to the parish or have been attending for some time; here’s the place to find the answers to your questions.

Join Father Don in exploring questions of faith and life in this multi-media program. Sessions will take place Mondays from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. beginning March 19. Everyone is welcome! Please register by calling Pam Haddad, Parish Secretary, at 860-527-8133, Ext. 204, or send her an e-mail at [phaddad@trinityhartford.org](mailto:phaddad@trinityhartford.org).

## Congratulations to Enid Oberholtzer

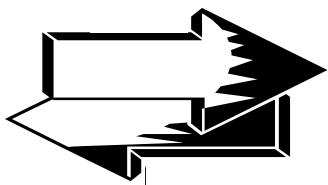
Trinity parishioner Enid Oberholtzer, who has served for a number of years on the Board of The Royal School of Church Music in America, including the past two as President, will shortly be receiving a Fellow of the Royal School of Church Music (FRSCM) Award. This award recognizes achievements in church music and/or liturgy of international significance, or for exceptional musical and/or liturgical work within the RSCM.

In addition to her time as President of RSCM in America, Enid has served as the organization’s Child Protection Officer, Training Course Committee Chair, and UK representative to the Board of RSCMA. She has worked tirelessly, both in her time as a Board member and long before that, to further the work of the RSCM.

The Fellow’s award is the highest bestowed by RSCM, and no more than five are conferred each year globally. Enid will receive this prestigious award in June at England’s Exeter Cathedral. Congratulations, Enid!



*Trinity*



*Connections*

### VAN FOR SALE:

The Conference of Churches is looking to sell a 7-passenger 2002 Ford Windstar mini-van in good condition, gray with a back seat, 44,338 miles. Asking price is \$4500 or best offer. Contact the Reverend Lydell Brown at 860-247-0017 for more details or to make an offer.

## **Ash Wednesday Offering To Benefit Outreach Fund**

Our 2012 special Ash Wednesday offering will go to Trinity's Outreach Fund to benefit the many organizations and ministries supported by our parish Outreach Team throughout the year.

You will find an Ash Wednesday offering envelope included in your box of offering envelopes for 2012. Please make checks out to Trinity Church, earmarked "Ash Wednesday offering." (If you do not use offering envelopes, you may pick up an Ash Wednesday envelope from the information tables at the church, or just mail your check, correctly earmarked, to Trinity Church, 120 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06105.)

## ***Paid Internship Opportunity at KSU***

The Diocese of Kansas is seeking applicants for the position of campus intern at Kansas State University in Manhattan, starting with the 2012-2013 academic year.

Young adults interested in this opportunity to further their vocational discernment while exercising gifts for ministry are encouraged to consider serving one or two years in residence as a campus ministry intern at KSU. Applications are now being accepted for the coming year. A description of the intern position and an application form are available on-line at <https://sites.google.com/a/episcopal-ks.org/campusministry/forms>. For more information, e-mail the Reverend Michael S. Bell at [mbell@episcopal-ks.org](mailto:mbell@episcopal-ks.org).



### ***Ash Wednesday Services***

Ash Wednesday falls on February 22, marking the official beginning of the forty days of Lent. Services of Holy Eucharist with sermon and Administration of Ashes will be held at 7 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. A service of Holy Eucharist, sermon and administration of ashes with choirs and hymns will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m.

### ***From The Rector - Continued from Page 1***

Percy Williamson – Wednesday receptionist

Ray Wilson – schedules lay assistants in worship

Together these folks offers thousands of hours per year toward the carrying out of God's mission here at Trinity. If you, too, would like to support our office operations, please call Pam Haddad and let her know of your interest. And next time you see one of these office volunteers, don't forget to say "thank you!" Have a blessed month!

Faithfully in Christ,

*Don+*

The Rev. Donald L. Hamer, Rector

### ***Rector's Wish List***

*(Items high on the Rector's list that didn't make it into the budget)*

1. Set of Blue Advent vestments and matching paraments for the Altar – \$4,000.00 est.
2. Updates to sanctuary sound system – \$5,000. This project will include replacement of worn-out speakers; rewiring of microphone jacks; a new pre-amp, equalizer and controls; moving the controls for the equipment out of the choir loft for better access; improvements to the wireless system; and separating out the sound system for Goodwin Hall. The Property Team has requested \$3000 from the capital budget towards this undertaking, but completing the whole project now (by far the most efficient and effective way to do it) will require the wished-for additional \$5000.

*If you are interested in contributing towards either of these "wish list" items, please speak to the Rector.*

## ***A Report from Malawi: An Update on Kim Litsey's Mission Trip***

### ***Where I Stay***

Not long after I arrived in Malawi, I began to notice people using the expression “where I stay.” When you ask someone where he or she lives, the answer will be: “I stay in Chirimba.” “Where I stay” indicates the place in which the person currently resides. One’s home is the village or township in which one is born. I believe when someone owns a house here your birthplace remains your “home.”

Perhaps because I am 8,000 miles away from where I stay in Connecticut, this has special meaning for me. Even Connecticut is “where I stay” compared to California, which is where I was born. And Malawi is certainly where I stay currently.

Sitting in Blantyre, Malawi, has enabled me to shift away from a Western-centric perspective. Listening to BBC radio with its *Focus on Africa* program and local and global news, I am interested to note what seems to be a universal impatience with the status quo among citizens world-wide. Our civil society seems extraordinarily interdependent at the moment.

Maybe it’s my situation, but the global world that we have watched emerge during the past century seems to have arrived on the scene quite suddenly. It is as if I have been studying an ancient cartogram and cross-checking it with a contemporary atlas, only to have someone open up Google maps and say, “Let me put in the address and see if I can find it.” What was once in the distance is now close at hand.

During its programs, the BBC offers both call-in and Twitter to gather comments from listeners from Australia to Austin, Texas, to Angola about issues such as the lifting of fuel subsidies in Nigeria. Being on mission in Malawi, I am aware of the opportunity we have as members of the Anglican Communion to be the light of Christ in this interconnected and quickly changing world, whether we are partnering with a local social service program or a church or school in another country.

I am interconnected myself with several Episcopal communities in the United States: Trinity, Hartford; Trinity, Wethersfield; All Saints, Beverly Hills; Thad’s in Santa Monica; and Holy Spirit in Silver Lake, and each of them in its own way embraces and welcomes the other. These churches represent another aspect of “where I stay,” because for many members their “homes” are elsewhere, and the church provides a place to belong, sort out their faith in God, and find a way to channel frustrations in ways that will bring about justice.

As Anglicans, we have a lot to celebrate and to share with others about welcoming and being received by the other both locally and globally. And, I look with hope as we continue to engage in being the Universal Church as we wrestle with the growing pains of living in our ever more interconnected global world. After being here in Malawi working and worshiping with fellow Anglicans, I will never again pray for the Universal Church on Sunday in the same way.

## **Stephen Ministry Accepting Applications**

As the first class of Stephen Ministers at Trinity prepare to graduate from their training in March, the Stephen Ministry leadership team of Sandy Kissel, Percy Williamson and Fr. Don Hamer are beginning to accept applications for those wishing to have a Stephen Minister assigned to them.

Stephen Ministry is a lay Christian caring ministry that is practiced in over 10,000 Christian congregations around the world. Stephen Ministers go through an intensive training course and are supported in their ministries with ongoing peer supervision as well as continuing education and training.

Stephen Ministers provide a listening ear and spiritual support to individuals who are going through a difficult time such as the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, or any of myriad other life circumstances in which individuals can benefit from the support of a Christian caregiver.

The length of time for a particular Stephen Ministry relationship varies by need and circumstances but can last up to a year or more if appropriate. Care receivers are always paired with a Stephen Minister of the same sex. Our first graduating class has six women and two men.

If you think that you or someone you know would benefit from the ministry of a Stephen Minister, please call the church office at 860-527-8133 for an application, or speak to Fr. Don, Sandy Kissel or Percy Williamson.

### EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

<i>Page 3</i>	<b>February 3</b> 7:00 p.m. Book Group at Jane Harris' home
<i>Page 3</i>	<b>February 5</b> 5:00 p.m. Choral Evensong
<i>Page 4</i>	<b>February 12</b> 3:00 p.m. Connecticut Valley Chamber Orchestra concert
<i>Page 5</i>	<b>February 18</b> 12:30 p.m. Feeding in the Park lunch preparation
<i>Page 8</i>	<b>February 19</b> 9:00 p.m. Compline
<i>Page 9</i>	<b>February 22 - Ash Wednesday</b> Holy Eucharist with imposition of ashes at 7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Drumming Circle	2	3 7:00 Book Group at Jane Harris' <i>Office closed</i>	4
5 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Children's Eucharist 11:30 Adult Forum 5:00 Choral Evensong	6 11:00 Banner Guild 6:30 Stephen Ministry training	7	8 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Trinity Episcopal Day School meeting 7:30 Drumming Circle	9 3:00 <i>Voice</i> deadline 6:30 Annual Appeal Team	10 <i>Office closed</i>	11
12 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 12:30 Pastoral Care Team 3:00 CVCO concert	13 11:00 Banner Guild 6:30 Stephen Ministry training	14 5:00 Loaves & Fishes crew 7:00 Property Team	15 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Drumming Circle	16	17 <i>Office closed</i>	18 12:30 Feeding in the Park meal preparation
19 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum 9:00 Compline	<i>Presidents Day</i> 20  <i>Buildings closed</i>	21 7:15 Vestry	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 22 7:00 Holy Eucharist 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Holy Eucharist	23 6:00 Choir School parents meeting	24 <i>Office closed</i>	25
26 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Trinity Shepherds 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum	27 11:00 Banner Guild 6:30 Stephen Ministry training	28	29 12:10 Holy Eucharist 7:30 Drumming Circle  <i>Lenten evening study series begins</i>	<i>Italics = A.M.</i> Normal type = P.M		

# February 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS:    March 4    Choral Evensong (5:00 p.m.)  
                                   March 18    CitySingers & Choir School of Hartford concert (4:00 p.m.)  
                                   March 19    EXPLORE classes begin (7:00 a.m.)

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

Trinity Episcopal Church, 120 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06105    (860) 527-8133    www.trinityhartford.org