

# VOICE OF TRINITY

November 19, 2016

Volume 16, No. 06

## Life Together at Trinity

### **Advent 2016**

*A voice cries out:*

*"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God." – Isaiah 40:3*

FROM THE



RECTOR

Advent is traditionally known as an "in between" time. Liturgically, it is the beginning of a new liturgical year, signaling for Christians a period of reflection on a time when Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, was yet to be born. It is a period when we try, as best we can, to develop a sense of anticipation – a time when we sort through the wilderness of our own lives and seek to prepare a way for His coming.

At the same time, as 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christians for whom the historical Jesus has already been born, we also understand Advent as a time between that first coming of Jesus in Bethlehem and His promised Second Coming in glory. It is still a time of anticipation – a time when we reflect upon and look forward to the arrival of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus himself taught that we ourselves are partners in hastening the arrival of the Kingdom even here on earth in our own day. In Matthew 6:9-10, Jesus teaches his disciples the words that we pray perhaps more than any others:

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.*

"In between" times are periods of transition. Transitions – even positive ones – are never easy, because they require change from one reality to another, from one paradigm to another, from one "default" to another. They are by definition periods of uncertainty because we can never know with certainty what is to come.

As we enter Advent 2016, it seems as though the world around us is in transition, in an "in between" time. We see a lot of wilderness in our future, and the road ahead seems anything but straight. Global relations among nations are changing, and our own government in the United States is facing a seismic

*Continued on Page 5*

## Coming Up in the Adult Forum

The Adult Forum Series for 2016-2017 meets following the Sunday morning 10:00 a.m. service, usually in the Library. Here's the schedule for the next two months:

### **December 4 – Imagining Church Music in the 21st Century**

Join our seminarian, Johnson Ramsaur, and retired Diocesan Bishop Drew Smith for an imaginative, interactive program exploring what is happening with congregational music across the world and more specifically in the Episcopal Church, a timely topic when we have an Interim Director of Music Ministries and are exploring possibilities for our music programs.

Bishop Smith will share his observations from a long history as a parish priest and bishop who has traveled and worshipped throughout the Anglican Communion, and Johnson will draw on his experience as a church musician in a number of different traditions, as well as his experience with Episcopal liturgy in seminary. The centerpiece of the presentation will focus on Trinity, so bring any questions you may have about liturgical music. *This forum session will be held in the church.*

### **December 11 – “Amahl and the Night Visitors”**

Come enjoy a video of “Amahl and the Night Visitors,” a one-act opera by Gian Carlo Menotti originally written for television and broadcast live on Christmas Eve of 1951. Discussion will follow the 45-minute video.

### **December 18 – Carol Sing**

Our Interim Director of Music Ministries, Jun Lee, will lead an old-fashioned carol sing.

### **December 25 & January 1 – No Forum**

### **January 8 & 15 - TBA**

### **January 22 – A Preview of Financial Peace University**

This forum session will offer an overview of the nine-week Financial Peace seminar to be offered at Trinity this winter. (See the article on Page 10.)

### **January 31 – TBA**

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## ***A thank you note from Susanne Mantel . . .***

Dear Trinity Family,

Please accept our sincere Thank You to all who attended my husband Ansgar's Memorial Service. Your very presence gave us comfort when it was sorely needed.

Thank you also for all the loving cards and spring bulbs.

It is so good to belong to such a caring community.

Sincerely,  
Susanne Mantel and Family



## ***Spiritual Direction and Pastoral Counseling Available***

The Rev. Helen M. Moore, director of pastoral and spiritual ministries at St. John's Church, West Hartford, is trained as both an Episcopal clergywoman and a psychotherapist. She is now offering pastoral counseling and spiritual direction to those in the greater Hartford community who would like to explore how these tools can support and enhance their emotional, family, and spiritual lives. Pastoral counseling uses many of the same tools and processes as traditional psychotherapy to help people talk about grief, loss, marital complexities, work, and relationships, but also examines issues from the perspective of religious faith and tradition. Spiritual direction is an ancient practice that involves formal conversation focused on where God might be working in one's life.

To make an appointment to learn more about how one or both of these practices might enhance your emotional, psychological and spiritual health, contact Helen by calling the St. John's office at 860-523-5201 or emailing her at [helen@sjparish.net](mailto:helen@sjparish.net).

## **Calendars Still Needed!**

Don't forget to bring in your spare 2017 calendars (any kind) for Helen Hart, who gives the calendars to her clients to use to better organize their lives. Please leave your extras on the name tag table in Goodwin Hall, or call Helen at 860-561-4068 to arrange to get your calendars to her.



## Christmastide Services

### ***December 24 - Christmas Eve***

- 5:00 p.m. A celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant, suitable for children of all ages and their families, with music by The Choir School of Hartford
- 9:30 p.m. A musical prelude featuring settings of Christmas carols, anthems and motets with the Trinity Choir, The Choir School of Hartford, organ, brass, strings and percussion
- 10:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist of Christmas, with the Trinity Choir, The Choir School of Hartford, organ, brass, strings and percussion

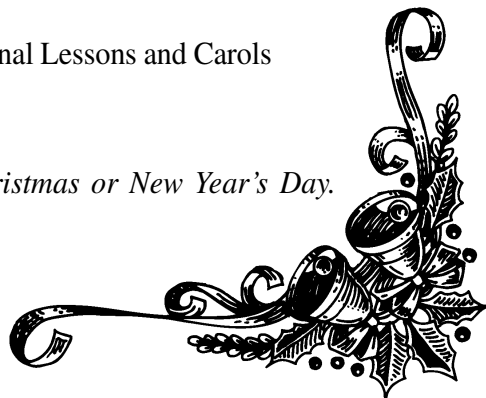
### ***December 25 - Christmas Day***

- 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with sermon and carols  
(one service only this day)

### ***January 1 - Feast of the Holy Name***

- 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with congregational Lessons and Carols  
(one service only this day)

*There will be no childcare on Christmas Eve, Christmas or New Year's Day.*



The parish office will be closed from December 23 through January 2, reopening on Tuesday, January 3. On the days the office is closed, the buildings will otherwise be open for scheduled meetings and activities (and, of course, for scheduled worship services!) In case of a pastoral emergency, please call the office number (860-527-8133) and press 1 for the emergency clergy mailbox.

The office will also be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.

## **Share Your Nativity Set**

Down through the centuries, artists have painted and sculpted the Christ Child in thousands of ways. Many of us invite the Holy Family into our homes each Christmas in the form of a treasured crèche scene depicting what the manger at Bethlehem might have looked like.

Again this year, we are asking you to share one of your Nativity sets for display in the window ledges of the church during Advent and on through January 1, the Feast of the Holy Name. If you are interested in sharing your crèche, contact Fr. Don or Pam Haddad in the church office (860-527-8133, [phaddad@trinityhartford.org](mailto:phaddad@trinityhartford.org) or [dhamer@trinityhartford.org](mailto:dhamer@trinityhartford.org)).

If possible, we would like to have the crèches at the church in time to put them on display by the First Sunday of Advent, November 27. Please include your name and any information you have about the artist or medium when you bring in your crèche.

## **Hartt Ensembles & Soloists To Welcome in the Holidays With Music of the Season**

Trinity Church will host a concert by the University of Hartford's Hartt School on Sunday, December 11, beginning at 4:30 p.m. You are invited to join the Hartt choral ensembles and vocal soloists as they welcome in the holidays with lively music of the season. Audience members will also have the opportunity to sing along with the combined forces of all the ensembles appearing on the program. Edward Bolkovac, Brett Judson, and Benjamin Rauch will conduct the afternoon's program. This will be a wonderful holiday season event for everyone, especially children and their families. There is a suggested donation of \$15.00 at the door for those who would like to help support a planned Hartt choir tour, but you do not have to make a contribution to attend this event, and everyone is welcome to come enjoy the program.

## **Christmas Pageant Schedule Announced**

It's that time of year when the children of Trinity Church are transformed into shepherds and wise men and innkeepers – it's nearly time for the Christmas Pageant! In keeping with our annual custom, Trinity's 2016 pageant will be held during the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Children of all ages, including visitors from out of town, are invited to participate.



This year's pageant will be based on one of Mark MacGougan's series of pageant scripts, with the addition of some speaking parts. Children who would like to be a part of the pageant this year should plan on being at an 11:30 a.m. rehearsal in the church on December 4, when parts will be handed out and costumes fitted. Those who would like a speaking role should plan to be at rehearsals following the 10:00 a.m. services on December 11 and 18 as well.

Children participating in the pageant should arrive at the church between 4:15 and 4:40 on December 24. Last-minute visiting children who would like to be a part of the pageant should plan to arrive at 4:15 p.m. – please let Carla, Kate or Jannel know if they should expect someone who is visiting your family this year. They would also be happy to answer any pageant-related questions you may have.

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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Phone: (860) 527-8133 Fax: (860) 527-2863  
email: [office@trinityhartford.org](mailto:office@trinityhartford.org)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:  
Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

The Reverend Donald L. Hamer, Rector  
Mr. Jun Lee, Interim Director of Music Ministries  
Assisting Clergy: The Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith,  
The Rev. Dr. Frank G. Kirkpatrick, The Rev. George A. Chien  
The Reverend William J. Eakins, Rector Emeritus

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for Trinity's members and friends

Edited by Katherine S. Wilson

## **Women's Chorale Concert To Offer Music of Many Cultures**

The West Hartford Women's Chorale will present "Many Cultures, One World" at Trinity Church on Friday, December 16, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Chorale, directed by Ethan Nash, will sing in Spanish, Latin, Hebrew, German and English, covering several centuries of great music from world-wide cultures in this celebration of peace and unity. The program will feature contemporary hits include John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is over)," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and "Shed a Little Light," made famous by James Taylor.

Admission to this event is by free will offering. A reception will follow the concert.

## **Service of Remembrance Planned for December 21**

The Christmas holidays are generally thought of as a happy and joyful time, but they can

be very difficult for those dealing with loss and sadness. Again this year, Trinity Church will offer a special evening service of Holy

Eucharist to help support those having a hard time coping with the season. This Service of Hope and Remembrance will take place on Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 7:30 p.m., and will include a homily by Fr. Don.

Everyone is welcome. If you are facing the Christmas season with a heavy or anxious heart, please do plan to attend.

## **From the Rector Continued from Page 1**

transition, creating even more uncertainty. Our own Episcopal Church and other Christian denominations are coming to grips with what has become known as "the post-Christian era" when the Church is no longer in a position of cultural and political prominence, and we Christians are learning the importance of interfaith collaboration and cooperation as we seek to achieve Isaiah's vision of a better, more just, more peaceful society.

In this Advent 2016, I invite you to join with one another and reflect on that vision of Isaiah that we Christians believe is fulfilled in the life and teachings of Jesus the Christ. Please join us as you are able throughout this season of Advent and through Christmastide as together we pray and reflect on how we, as brothers and sisters of Jesus, can be part of bringing that vision closer to reality in our own time.

Your Brother in Christ,  
*Don+*  
The Rev. Donald L. Hamer  
Rector

## **Annual Appeal Update**

As of the time *The Voice* was going to press, our annual ingathering has been underway for only about a week, but already there are some encouraging signs. Of the 43 responses as of November 13, five households have maintained the same level of giving as for 2016; eight households have modestly reduced their level of giving; 25 households have increased their level of giving over 2016, and there have been five new intentions of giving. The totals thus far for these 43 households is \$174,337. This represents an increase of \$26,442 over 2016 from these same households.

If you have not already done so, please do submit your Intention of Giving form for 2017 by placing it in the Sunday offering or mailing it to the office as soon as possible. If you do not have a 2017 offering package, you may pick one up from the information tables on Sunday morning, or contact Pam Haddad at the church office at 860-527-8133 to request that one be sent to you.

It will be necessary for us to significantly exceed our 2016 budget of \$375,000 for pledge revenue in order to stay within a sustainable draw on the existing endowment to balance our 2017 budget.



**Do you like Trinity?**

**Like us on Facebook**

**[https://www.facebook.com/  
TrinityEpiscopalHartford](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityEpiscopalHartford)**



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

### *December*

Tess Eckhardt	1
Marcia C. Lee	1
Margaret Rousseau	3
Justin White	3
Marcia A. Lee	6
Ron Gripp	8
Sasha Lewbel	8
Asker Downer	9
Joe Troiano	13
Deborah Williams	13
Jonathan Ude	14
Linda Leyhow	15
Anne Rapkin	15
Jim Register	15
Helena Haddad	15
Max Eckhardt	15
Georges Annan-Kingsley	15
Linda Eckert	17
Emmanuela Igboanugo	18
Nancy Whitcomb	19
Levi White	20
David Weaver	20
Kachi Onoh	23
Kaylee Troiano	23
Paw Say Wah	24
Andrew Rose	24
Nicholas Thomas	25
Amity Gaige	26
Elizabeth Windnagle	27
Emma Cheyney	29
Jonathan Garcia	29
Andrea Dyrness	29
Dianne Bowens-Waller	31

### *January*

Maung Chint Aye	1
Ma Aye	1
Ifeoma Mogor	1
Sandi Cone	3
Cathy Hunter	3
Carrie Margeson	3
Doug Viets	4
Stephen Zhitnik	5
Connie Bain	5
Beryl Tomlinson	7
Jordan Moore-Thomas	8
Emily Bohlen	9
Antoinette Legister	9
Kiara Burgos-Santiago	9
Jenna Mayfield	14
Valerie Pogue	15
Lah Shi	16
George Chien	16
Ned Miller	16
Percy Williamson	16
Jorja Henderson	19
Steven Ross	19
Betty Anne Cox	20
Drew Smith	20
Jordan Bernard	21
Zechariah	
Stephens-Walker	21
Peter Rice	24
Quinn Duva	25
Yasmeen Ross	26
David Weaver	26
Ernestine Weaver	27
Jonelle Eugene	29

## **Good News / Not-so-Good News**

The Good News is the Gospel. The other good news for Trinity is that in 2016 we received intentions of giving of approximately \$375,000 – a record for our parish. The not-so-good news is that as of mid-November, many of us are significantly behind in meeting our stated intentions of giving. If you are not sure how much you pledged in 2016 or are not sure where you stand relative to your stated intention of giving, please call Pam Haddad in the church office for the details. THANK YOU!

## **Hospitality Hosts**

### **December 4**

Steve Zhitnik &  
Anne Rapkin

### **December 11**

Rich McMenamy  
Boo Morton

### **December 18**

Jo-Ann Sadosky

### **December 25**

Christmas Day

### **January - TBA**

## **Voice Deadline**

The deadline for the next issue of *The Voice* is 5:00 p.m. on January 13. This next issue will cover all events scheduled to take place in **February and March**, including events in the first month of Lent. (Ash Wednesday falls on March 1 in 2017; Easter Sunday is April 16.) Please send your articles to [voice@trinityhartford.org](mailto:voice@trinityhartford.org).

## Trinity Academy Students Study a Variety of Cultures, Religions . . . and Creatures!

Trinity Academy students have been hard at work since the start of the school year. The students enjoy Art, Yoga, Martial Arts and using the Library for reading and research in addition to our strong academic curriculum.



Louise Loomis, Ed.D, fondly known to the students as “Dr. Lou,” and Tom Smith have been presenting Thinkathons that develop critical thinking through reasoning puzzles, creative activities and projects that relate to the “All School” curriculum. “Trinity Academy is a school with a fine combination of strong academics, enriching and broadening experiences and a healthy and safe environment that develops happy and confident children,” says Dr. Lou.

Fr. Don is teaching a Spirituality class to our 4<sup>th</sup> graders, who are learning about new cultures and different religions. They are currently studying the story of creation as handed down through the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim traditions. The class will explore a community service project.

The students studied the cultures of Africa, India, and Japan in preparation for their Social Studies Fair held on Wednesday, November 16. In Art, they created projects that complemented their country of study. On the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>, our families joined together for a Cultural Night Pot Luck dinner. Each family shared a dish from their own culture. After dinner the families visited the classroom to learn about the country their child had studied.

Hartford non-profit KNOX, Inc., has brought programs on reconnecting youth with insects they encounter daily. The students have been challenged to approach these tiny creatures with care and compassion. A highlight was a visit from Bo Bee and the Hartford Children’s Curiosity Cabinet. The students learned about the importance of the honeybee to our environment. The Connecticut Science Center has led hands-on experiences to encourage the students to think about themselves as a part of the larger world. Further enrichment will include a visit to the Science Center on November 22.

Here are three ways to help **support** Trinity Academy:

■ If your place of business participates in the **United Way**, you can designate Trinity Academy, Hartford, as your designated charity by using designation code DS1111.

■ Register your 13-digit **Stop & Shop card** and each time you use it you will earn cash for Trinity Academy. Email this 13-digit number from the back of your card and your last name to [development@trinityday.org](mailto:development@trinityday.org) and we will register you, or you can register your card yourself through the Stop & Shop website on the A+ School Rewards page.

■ Register Trinity Academy as your designated charity on **smile.amazon.com**, then make any Amazon purchases through the [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

website. You can shop the same products, same shipping options and Amazon Prime as on the regular Amazon site.

Mark your calendars and save the date for our upcoming Excellence Dinner, “The Magic of Trinity,” on Saturday, March 25, 2017, at The Bond Ballroom in Hartford. It will be a magical night filled with many surprises.

We would love for you to stop by and visit the school and meet the children and witness all the wonderful learning they are doing. We welcome volunteers as well. Call the school at 860-251-8337 to arrange your visit or learn about our volunteer opportunities.

– Barbara Roberts  
Director of Development

### Greening of the Church Set for December 23

With Christmas and New Year’s Day both falling on a Sunday this year, the schedule for preparing the church for the holidays is a little unusual. Due to a scheduled dress rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant by our Church School and youth, the traditional Greening of the Church will take place on Friday morning, December 23, starting at 9 a.m. If you are available to help, please contact Jane Harris ([jaharris@snet.net](mailto:jaharris@snet.net)) or Pam Haddad in the church office (860-527-8133, Ext. 204, or [phaddad@trinitychurch.org](mailto:phaddad@trinitychurch.org)).



# Outreach at Trinity



## **Ten Thousand Villages Event To Benefit Scholarship Fund**

On Sunday, December 11, from 12 noon to 4 p.m., a percentage of all sales at the Ten Thousand Villages store at 967



Farmington Avenue in West Hartford Center will be contributed to Trinity's Tanzania Scholarship Fund. One of the

oldest and largest fair trade retailers in the world, Ten Thousand Villages works to improve the lives of disadvantaged artisans in 36 countries. The shop offers unique handmade gifts, jewelry, home décor, art and sculpture, textiles, serve ware and personal accessories representing the diverse cultures of artisans in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. It is a great place for holiday shopping, and this is a wonderful opportunity to support our Outreach Team's Scholarship Fund!

This last year, the Scholarship Fund provided scholarships for Emelda Janson and Grace Birusha, two girls from our partner parish, Holy Trinity Parish in Mbugani, Tabora, Tanzania, who attend St. Peter's School in Tabora. We need to raise \$2,000 to continue these scholarships for the next school year, which starts in January. Help us reach our goal, and enjoy the chance to purchase some unique

holiday gifts, by shopping at Ten Thousand Villages on the 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information about this event, please contact Debbie Hamer (860-216-3881 or debhamer2001@yahoo.com).

## **Donate to the Scholarship Fund; Receive a Gift**

Support our Tanzania scholarship fund and receive a special gift from the Outreach Team! Following each of the services on November 27 and December 4, team members will be in Goodwin Hall to accept donations for the fund. No donation is too small. Those who contribute \$20 or more will receive a wooden Christmas tree ornament made in Tanzania, or a set of note cards featuring original African-inspired artwork.

As noted in the article to the left on the Ten Thousand Villages event, we need to raise \$2,000 to continue to offer scholarship support for 2017 for our two scholarship students. We're off to a great start; the September bake sale raised \$718 for this project! Please consider a donation to help reach the \$2,000 goal so Grace and Emelda can continue their schooling, which benefits not only these two girls but the whole of Holy Trinity Parish.

For more information, contact Debbie Hamer (contact information above).

## **Don't Forget – It's Almost Time for the Giving Tree**

Our 2016 Giving Tree will make its debut in the Baptistery on November 27, the First Sunday of Advent. You are invited to be a part of this annual holiday project and make this a merry Christmas for one of the Hartford children whose Christmas wishes are listed on the tags hanging on the tree.

To fulfill a wish, take a tag off the tree, and follow the directions listed near the tree. Please return your wrapped gift to the Baptistery *with the tag attached* by Sunday, December 18, so your gift can be delivered in time for Christmas. If the price of granting a wish is more than you can afford, consider splitting the cost with another Trinity Christmas elf!

– Don Cook  
for the Outreach Team

## **Church by the Pond**

Trinity's next opportunity to prepare and distribute bag lunches in Bushnell Park for those in need is Saturday, December 17. This is part of our ongoing commitment to community service, and is one of the "Church Street Eats" programs coordinated by Christ Church Cathedral.

Beginning at 12:30, we will assemble packages of toiletries in Goodwin Hall, while we also prepare bag lunches. At 1:45 we will bring the lunches and gifts to the park, where we will participate in the Eucharist by the Pond at 2:00, then distribute our lunches and toiletries, finishing at about 3:15. Come for as much of this time as you can – friends and families are welcome.

## (More) Outreach at Trinity



### ***A Syrian Refugee Family Is Coming to Hartford!***

A Syrian refugee family has now been assigned to Trinity Church. The family of three – a mother, 19-year-old son and 10-year-old son – will arrive in Hartford on Tuesday, December 6.

The Trinity Church refugee resettlement team, together with staff and students from Trinity College, will be working to find employment for this family, enroll the youngster in public school, connect the family with medical providers to attend to their medical needs, sign up the adults for English classes, and acquaint the family with community resources – in general, to provide them with the tools they need to build a new life for themselves here in the Hartford area.

If you have some time and would like to participate in this resettlement work, please give Anne Rapkin a call at 860-521-5992, or send her an email at [a.rapkin@snet.net](mailto:a.rapkin@snet.net).

We are *not* currently accepting any more donations of furniture or clothing, so please do *not* deliver any items to the church without first contacting Anne. After our family has arrived and we can assess their sizes, we will ask for donations of gently-used clothing.

May God be with this family as they prepare to begin a new life in the United States.

### **Outreach Team To Collect Toiletries, Warm Clothing**

Again this Advent, the Outreach Team will be accepting donations of new toiletries and gently-used warm clothing to be distributed to those in need in our community. On Sunday, December 11, team members will be in Goodwin Hall after both services to receive donations. Toiletries will be distributed as part of our Feeding in the Park/Church by the Pond ministry day on December 17. Requested items are:

- tubes of hand cream (no bottles, please)
- toothpaste (without mouthwash, please)
- toothbrushes

Small-sized toiletries of all varieties (such as you get in hotels) are also welcome.

The gently-used warm clothing we collect will be given to Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford to distribute as part of the Church Street Eats ministry. Requested items are men's, women's and children's:

- coats, sweaters, jackets and sweatshirts
- shirts and pants
- shoes and boots
- gloves, hats and scarves

Please plan to participate, however you are able. Thank you!

– Penny Pearson  
for the Outreach Team

### **Mid-day Eucharist January 6**

Trinity will offer a celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the Feast of Epiphany, Friday, January 6, 2017. The service will be held in the Chapel at 12:10 p.m. and will end prior to 1:00 p.m.

### ***Avery Ensemble To Present “Russian Stories”***

The Avery Ensemble, piano quartet-in-residence at Trinity Church since 2007, will present a free concert at the church on Saturday, January 7, 2017, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The program, entitled *Russian Stories*, will trace the tale of twentieth-century Russian history through the voices of Russian composers who preceded the Communist Regime, as well as composers who suffered under it, and lived to see its downfall. The evening's program will include Prokofiev's one-movement Piano Sonata No. 3, the Sonata No. 1 for cello and piano by Alfred Schnittke, and the String Quartet No. 8 by Shostakovich, and will finish with Anton Arensky's triumphantly romantic Piano Quintet. The four core members of the ensemble – violinist Annie Trépanier, violist Steve Larson, cellist Hans Twitchell and pianist Adriana Jarvis – will be joined by violinist Aaron Packard, a frequent guest on Avery Ensemble programs. Avery Ensemble's performances have been praised by Audiophile Audition as “marvelous,” and by the Classical Voice of New England as “committed. . . excellent. . . amazing and persuasive. . . . simply outstanding.”

For more information on the musicians and the program, please visit [www.averyensemble.org](http://www.averyensemble.org).



Please come to a  
Holiday Open House  
at the Rectory



240 Kenyon Street  
Hartford

Sunday, January 8, 2017

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Don and Debbie Hamer

A Trinity tradition continues this year with the annual Rector's Holiday Open House. Come join Fr. Don and his wife, Debbie, at their home for a Christmastide time of fellowship and holiday cheer. All Trinity members are most welcome and encouraged to attend – it's a great way to meet folks you may not get a chance to engage in conversation on Sunday mornings! (In case of significantly bad weather on the 8<sup>th</sup>, this event will be postponed to January 15.)

### **Book Group To Discuss Austen Novel at First Meeting of New Year**

Looking for something to read that offers sparkling wit, humor, some obstacles to overcome, and a happy ending? Try *Mansfield Park* by Jane Austen, the selection for the January meeting of Trinity's Book Group! Everyone is welcome to attend this gathering on Friday, January 13, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The evening will begin with dessert and then launch into discussion of this classic Austen novel. Jonathan and Jane Reik will host the meeting at their home in Farmington. Please let them know if you plan to attend by contacting Jon at 860-463-1267.

### **Winter Seminar Can Help You Find Financial Peace**

Do you have a firm grasp on your financial life? Do you feel like you are struggling financially and can't get ahead? Do you have debt that you think will never go away?

This winter, Trinity will be hosting an offering of Financial Peace University. The course is nine weeks long and will meet weekly. It will teach you how to think about money and to start to align your financial life to help you get out of debt and to build a nest egg to bring security and financial peace into your life.

On January 22, the adult forum will be dedicated to an overview of the class to give you an idea of what is included, how it works, and what benefits it can bring to you and your family. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please reach out to Kevin Chick at [kevinjchick@gmail.com](mailto:kevinjchick@gmail.com).



"Because they didn't have e-mail then. That's why God sent an angel to proclaim the baby's birth."

## Cycle of Prayer for December & January

### December 4

Boo Morton  
Donald Neely  
Paul Nelson  
Gertrud Newhall

### December 11

Ula Nurse  
Jason Oberholtzer  
Tom and Enid Oberholtzer

### December 18

Agatha, Michael, Kendall,  
Kimberly and Kenny Okeke

### December 25

Israel, Lawretta, Kachi, Dinaka and Chichi Onoh

### January 1

Vinnie and Ann Marie Pacileo  
Jan Peake

### January 8

Jack and Penny Pearson  
Karl, Roxanne and Chloe Pearson

### January 15

Jean Peelle  
Al and Marion Pereira  
Karin Peterson

### January 22

Kitty Peterson  
Kristina Peterson  
Joan Phelps  
Ann-Marie Pierce

### January 29

Robin Pogue  
Valerie Pogue  
David Pontrelli  
Karl Profe

## Christmas Memorials



If you would like to contribute to the 2016 Christmas flowers and music in memory of a friend or family member, please fill out the form below and send it to the parish office, along with your check, by December 14. Checks, which may be for any amount, should be made payable to Trinity Church and earmarked "Christmas Memorials." Names of those in whose memory contributions have been made will be listed in the Christmas bulletins.



### TRINITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS - 2017

I enclose a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Trinity Church Christmas flowers and music  
in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Contributed by: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Designate my contribution for (check one): ☐ Music ☐ Flowers ☐ 50/50 Flowers & Music

## Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association News

### Police Report:

“Apple picking,” the stealing of cell phones, and car break-ins are items of concern. Be aware of your surroundings and take items of interest out of your cars. Panhandling is a continuing problem, particularly in the 300 block of Farmington Avenue.

### I-84 Project:

There are still neighborhood meetings happening asking for input on the project. There continues to be lots of discussion about changing entrance/exit ramps in Asylum Hill.

### City of Hartford Update:

There was a discussion on recycling and garbage pickup, and what items qualify for pickup.

### West Middle School:

The open house was a great success. Parents and neighbors are learning about what the “community” part of a community school is all about..

### Visit from Mayor Luke Bronin:

The Mayor shared his thoughts on blight management, public safety and education –

- A blight bank has been established with federal funds to identify blight and clean it up. A blight director has been hired; this person has experience working in Flint and Detroit, Michigan, and New Orleans.
- Three grants were secured for the hiring and retention of police officers.
- A search is underway for a new Superintendent of Schools. There will be a regional search, as the search committee would like to hire “locally.” The community school option seems the best fit for Hartford. It would appear that consolidation of schools will be necessary. This is an ongoing discussion – all open to the public.
- There is a huge focus on community relations with police and members of the neighborhood. Meetings are ongoing.

There was recognition of **Deacon Bonnie Matthews**, who has been attending AHNA meetings during her time at Trinity Church. The chair recognized her for her love for “the other,” her dedication to the neighborhood and her service to all.

.. – Boo Morton

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*Christmas Memorials*

## ***A Refresher on Stephen Ministry***

We frequently get questions about the nature of Stephen Ministry, and so thought it would be good to review what Stephen Ministry is and how it functions as part of our community life at Trinity.

### **What is Stephen Ministry?**

Stephen Ministry is a ministry in our congregation in which trained and supervised lay persons, called Stephen Ministers, provide one-to-one Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or difficulties.

### **Who is involved?**

**Stephen Leaders** oversee and direct our Stephen Ministry. They recruit, train, organize and supervise our Stephen Ministers; they also identify people in need of care, and match them with a Stephen Minister. At Trinity, the Stephen Leaders are Sandy Kissel, Percy Williamson and Fr. Don.

**Stephen Ministers** are the caregivers. They have engaged in 50 hours of initial training in Christian caregiving, including general topics such as being a good listener, feelings, boundaries, assertiveness, and using Christian resources in caregiving. In addition, their training covered specialized topics such as ministering to the divorced, hospitalized, bereaved, and aging. We currently have ten active Stephen Ministers.

**Care Receivers** are the recipients of Stephen Ministers' care. They are people from our church or community who are experiencing divorce, grief, loss of a job, loneliness, hospitalization, serious illness, or any of a number of other life situations. Stephen Ministers usually meet with their care receivers once a week for about an hour for as long as the care receiver will benefit by the relationship.

### **What do Stephen Ministers do?**

Stephen Ministers are caring Christian friends who listen, understand, accept, and pray for and with care receivers who are working through a crisis or a tough time.

### **Are Stephen Ministers counselors?**

Stephen Ministers are not counselors; they are trained lay caregivers. Their role is to listen and care – not to give advice or counsel. Stephen Ministers are also trained to recognize when a care receiver's need exceeds what they can provide. When that happens they work with care receivers to help them receive the care they need.

### **Can I trust a Stephen Minister?**

Trust is essential to a caring relationship. Confidentiality is one of the most important principles of Stephen ministry, and what a care receiver tells his or her Stephen Minister is kept in strictest confidence.

### **Why the name *Stephen*?**

St. Stephen was the first lay person commissioned by the apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need.

### **What is the Pastor's Role?**

Pastors will always be the primary caregivers, but there is no way pastors can meet all the needs for care. God has called all of us in the "priesthood of all believers" to minister to one another. Stephen Ministry multiplies ministry by turning pastors into equippers who can enable lay people to provide caring ministry.

### **How can someone receive care from a Stephen Minister?**

Fr. Don is our Stephen Leader who coordinates referrals. If you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, you can talk to him or to any of our Stephen Leaders. If you are inquiring about Stephen Ministry for someone else, you should be sure to get his or her permission first.

### **What does it cost?**

Stephen ministry is available to our members and community free of charge. Leadership training seminars are subsidized partially by our pastoral care budget.

– Your Stephen Leaders, Sandy Kissel, Percy Williamson & Fr. Don



120 SIGOURNEY ST., HARTFORD, CT 06105-2796

## EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

<i>Page 8</i>	December 11
<i>Page 4</i>	12 noon Fundraiser for Mbugani scholarships at Ten Thousand Villages in West Hartford
	4:30 p.m. Holiday Concert by Hartt School vocal ensembles and soloists
<i>Page 5</i>	December 16
	7:30 p.m. West Hartford Women's Chorale concert
<i>Page 8</i>	December 17
	12:30 p.m. Church by the Pond lunch preparation
<i>Page 5</i>	December 21
	7:30 p.m. Service of Hope and Remembrance with Holy Eucharist
<i>Page 7</i>	December 23
	9:00 a.m. Greening of the Church
<i>Page 3</i>	December 24 & 25
	Christmas services
<i>Page 9</i>	January 6
	12:10 p.m. Epiphany service of Holy Eucharist (in the Chapel)
<i>Page 9</i>	January 7
	7:30 p.m. Avery Ensemble concert
<i>Page 10</i>	January 8
	2:00 p.m. Holiday Open House at the Rectory
<i>Page 10</i>	January 13
	7:00 p.m. Book Group at the Reiks' home

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Italics = A.M.</i> Normal type = P.M.				1	2 <i>Office closed</i>	3
4 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum	5	6	7	8	9 <i>Office closed</i>	10 8:00 Brotherhood of St. Andrew
11 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum 12:00 Fundraiser at Ten Thousand Villages 4:30 Holiday concert with Hartt choirs	12	13 7:00 Outreach Team	14 7:00 Property Team	15	16 7:30 West Hartford Women's Chorale concert  <i>Office closed</i>	17 11:30 Meal preparation for Church by the Pond
18 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum	19	20 2:00 Loaves & Fishes food preparation 7:15 Vestry meeting	21 11:00 Loaves & Fishes serving crew at Immanuel Church 7:30 Service of Hope & Remembrance	22	23 9:00 Greening of the church  <i>Office closed</i>	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 5:00 Pageant & Holy Eucharist 9:30 Musical Prelude 10:00 Festival Eucharist
<i>Christmas Day</i> 25 9:30 Holy Eucharist with sermon and carols	26 <i>Office closed</i>	27 <i>Office closed</i>	28 <i>Office closed</i>	29 <i>Office closed</i>	30 <i>Office closed</i>	31

December 2016

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Italics</i> = A.M. Normal type = P.M.						
1 9:30 Holy Eucharist with congregational Lessons & Carols	2	3	4	5	<i>Feast of the Epiphany</i> 6 12:10 Holy Eucharist <i>Office closed</i>	7 7:30 Avery Ensemble concert
8 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Brotherhood of St. Andrew 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum 2:00 Open House at the Rectory	9	10 7:00 Outreach Team	11 7:00 Property Team	12	13 7:00 Book Group at the Reiks'  <i>Voice deadline</i> <i>Office closed</i>	14
15 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum 11:30 Choir School parents meeting	<i>M. L. King Jr. Day</i> 16  <i>Buildings closed</i>	17 2:00 Loaves & Fishes food preparation 7:15 Vestry meeting	18 11:00 Loaves & Fishes serving crew at Immanuel Church	19	20  <i>Office closed</i>	21
22 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum	23	24	25	26	27  <i>Office closed</i>	28
29 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Godly Play 11:30 Church School, JTA 11:30 Adult Forum	30	31				

January 2017

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