

# The Quest

## Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



### DOES WHO WE ARE

Trinity Church is an ecumenical Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation. We are affiliated with the American Baptist Church, the Episcopal Church, the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church.

Sunday service hours:  
10 a.m. (Nursery care available)

Office hours:  
Tuesday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
(413) 625-2341

Pastor - Rev. Marguerite Sheehan  
Music Director - Keith Rollinson  
Church Secretary - Brook Batteau  
Nursery Attendant - Lisa Porter  
Sexton - Greg Sudak  
Leadership Team Chair- Virginia Ray

Sunday services can be viewed on  
Falls Cable, channel 17.  
The scheduled broadcasts are:  
Tuesday - 10 a.m., Thursday - 10 a.m.  
Sunday - 9 a.m.

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### *From the Pastor*

Dear Faithful Friends,

Welcome to August in New England! As I write this in the end of July, I am jubilant as the long heat wave in our part of the county has finally broken. I even had to put on a flannel shirt today as I did my early walk with Penny. What joy!

Now we are eager for rain. And every day we join other people in other places who are continuing to go through heat waves, floods, drought, and war. It reminds me of our beautiful hymn This Is My Song. "This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine."

This summer, without even planning it, I have been preaching on prayer. Prayer for each other, for our church, for our country, and for every struggle, and every joy, which besets us. I am sure that Jesus' disciples were not content with the one time teaching that gave them what we call "The Lord's Prayer." Because one time teachings, as powerful as they are, do not help our forgetfulness. Perhaps what we need, and I think that Jesus would agree here, is to develop and nurture an attitude of prayer. Oh hear our prayer, thou God of all the nations, ourselves we give thee, let thy will be done!

Which is of course, easier said than done. And which is why we gather every Sunday worship and in many other ways and places, to listen in community to what God is saying to us and doing to and through us. Otherwise we get stuck in just listening individually to what we are saying to God. It is a fine thing to hear what we are saying. But in the end, it is not enough.

This summer, in the heat and in the cooler days that are yet to

come, I invite you to join me in a deeper kind of listening and praying. One which is active (praying with our hands and feet) and one which is persistent (keep knocking on heaven's door.) One that is centered in Divine and human love. One that nurtures a persistent attitude of gratitude, of faith, of hope and of healing.

Small prayers help because we can remember them and pray them often. Prayers like thank you. Help me. Mercy, mercy, mercy. Peace be with you. Yes, I will. Be with me. Breathing in and breathing out your love. My daily bread. I am sorry. Please forgive me. I am yours Lord.

When it is cool enough, get out into God's beautiful world and just stand there, or sit there, or walk about, like God walked about in the Garden. Put yourself in God's place for a moment and look around and see that in so many ways, "It is good." Even on bad days, goodness is rooted in creation.

Thank you, friends, for your faithful, persistent, and powerful prayers. I am humbled to hear you utter them in our Sunday prayer time and I am humbled to see all the ways you act in prayer. It is good to be part of a praying community. Asking, one day after another, "teach us to pray."

In summer gratitude, *Marguerite*

*Marguerite may be reached at 413-687-1418 or 413-489-3031*

## NEW CUSTODIAN

Please welcome  
Lisa Mroczek,  
our new  
church custodian!



## MEMORIAL GARDEN NEWS

There should be new bushes in the garden by the time you read this. They were purchased at Shelburne Farm and Garden, which gave us a discount. The discount made the two new canna lilies in the pots by the front door essentially free.

So if you are looking for plants, garden supplies, think about looking in this wonderful local garden center.

*Lois Bascom, for the Garden*

Thanks to our Trinity "garden tenders" for their faithful service in the garden. Here is Lois and Beth Bascom, Sheila Clinton and Sherry Clark working together one day in July.



## FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

We're looking forward to our mini-retreat on Saturday, Aug. 20, when we will use Franciscan friar, ecumenical teacher, and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation Richard Rohr's "Creating a Congregational Manifesto" to guide our discussion. We may bring some of Rohr's ideas to the full congregation in future.

As we say thank you to Greg Sudak, who has retired, we welcome Lisa Mroczek as our new custodian. Lisa lives in Ashfield and has many years of experience as a housekeeper for a private estate nearby with multiple dwellings that required a significant amount of special maintenance and upkeep. Lisa will help with garden work as well and we are confident she will help keep our church attractive, clean and comfortable.

Our team will also prepare and serve the Friday Night Community Meal on Aug. 26, again making shepherd's pie, as we did when the Grove City College choir performed here in February. If you would like to help with another community meal, please contact Co-Manager Tony Hanna.

We hope you are enjoying the light, the warmth, the bounty of summer blessings,

Ginny, Eileen, Clare, Nancy, Dusti

## LECTIONARY IN AUGUST

August 7	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
August 14	Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
August 21	Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17
August 28	Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

## AUGUST CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>10 am Tai Chi.</i> <i>11 a.m. Listening to the Gospel Group.</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <i>5:30 pm Community Meal.</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <i>10 am Service.</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <i>10 am Tai Chi.</i> <i>11 a.m. Listening to the Gospel Group.</i>	<b>10</b> <i>11 - 5 Clothes Closet.</i>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <i>5:30 pm Community Meal.</i>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <i>10 am Service.</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <i>10 am Tai Chi.</i> <i>11 a.m. Listening to the Gospel Group.</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <i>5:30 pm Community Meal.</i>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <i>10 am Service.</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <i>10 am Tai Chi.</i> <i>11 a.m. Listening to the Gospel Group.</i>	<b>24</b> <i>11 - 5 Clothes Closet.</i>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <i>5:30 pm Community Meal.</i>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <i>10 am Service.</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <i>10 am Tai Chi.</i> <i>11 a.m. Listening to the Gospel Group.</i>	<b>31</b>			