

Trinity Church

#### Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

#### 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,

I am writing to you on one of our rare sunny days in late January. By early February we will all be noticing the increase in light as we steadfastly move toward spring. Like many of you, I cannot wait. In fact I am already looking and listening for those more subtle changes in the season, like late winter bird calls, the budding out of some bushes and trees and those tiny insects called snow fleas!

It is no wonder that I am drawn to the light of creation because of course we are created beings and in so many ways lean toward the light. Sometimes we forget this fact and when we do it is almost always a bad sign because it leaves us hanging out there feeling and acting separated from creation and God and each other.

We are still in the season of Epiphany – the aha time that is dedicated to "following the Light of Christ." And before we know it, we will be entering Lent through the doorway of Ash Wednesday. This year we will once again (God and Covid willing!) be holding an evening contemplative Ash Wednesday service on March 2 at 7pm. As created beings (ashes to ashes and dust to dust) we will have time to see ourselves as part of all creation and as responsible partners in caring for our dear planet.

The service begins with these words. Pray on them in these last weeks of "the season of light" as we slowly walk toward Lent.

"Lent is a journey toward an alternative reality. It's a journey that we take over and over again. It's a journey that moves through fear and despair to touch hope, to embody hope, to create from a place of hope. Like a good herding dog, hope is always nipping at our heels, trying to get us to move in the right direction. Maybe the challenge for us this Lent is not only to sit with the pain of the world, but also to dare to imagine a better world. And to believe – head and heart – that this better world is possible. And then, of course, to work and work for it. Together."

By the time you read this our Annual Meeting will have taken place with all of us doing the hard work of looking back to last year and on to this one. We are still celebrating the reception of four new members to our congregation and a goodly number of visitors who are telling us that they are finding this to be a place of welcome and hope and caring.

This start of the new fiscal year is a good time to give thanks to those people behind the scenes who are keeping us in good stead. I am thinking now of Bing, our church treasurer, and Sue Mead our financial secretary. All the members of our Leadership Team. Greg, our church sexton, and Brook our church secretary and man of many gifts and talents. I am thinking about Lisa who is always sitting in the front pew and welcoming any child that comes through our door. Maybe you will want to send them each a valentine this month! Just don't tell them I suggested it!

Oh my thoughts are wandering as they should because a wandering mind is a great place for Spirit to move around in. Move in us Spirit. Help us to see the increase in light and the Light of Christ. Help us to know our Creator and Creation. Ready us for what is to come and steady us in what already is. Hearten us when we are disheartened and strengthen us when we feel weak. And O Dear God, help us to laugh out loud at small things like snow fleas and big ones like the love that holds us together and helps us to see with clarity and hope.

In Light and Love, Marguerite

Marguerite may be reached at 413-687-1418 or 413-489-303

#### CROP HUNGER WALK



We received information that the grand total for CROPHUNGER WALK 2021 from all the Franklin County churches, including Trinity was \$22,729.19! A portion goes to food programs in Franklin County. Our Friday Night Community Meal is one of those programs. Hurrah!

If you are interested in helping Lois

Bascom and Clare Chapman organize our 2022 walk, please let Lois know so she can fill you in on some tips for a fun and successful walk and possibly another "fun-raiser" between now and the 2022 walk which is scheduled for Sunday, October 2 at the United Methodist Church of Greenfield. The 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tour, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> to Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Grove City College Touring Choir

Choir and attendees are asked to wear masks.



Thank you

### **Trinity Church**

17 Severance St., Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts 01370 February 28<sup>nd</sup>; 7:00 pm concert

The Grove City College Touring Choir, under the direction of Professor of Music, Dr. Katherine Mueller, is a select group of 48 singers. The choir consists of students from a variety of academic majors and tours annually throughout various regions of the United States. The GCC Touring Choir members desire to make beautiful music using the gifts and talents given them by God. In addition to the spring tour, the choir performs for churches, colleges, and community events in the western Pennsylvania area. Past honors include performing with Keith and Kristyn Getty, the Erie Symphony Orchestra, and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

# Come and enjoy a free presentation of beautiful choral music!

LECTIONARY IN FEBRUARY					
February 6	Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13]; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11; Psalm 138				
February 13	Jeremiah 17:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26; Psalm 1				
February 20	Genesis 45:3-11, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50; Luke 6:27-38; Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42				
February 27	Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]; Psalm 99				

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