

The Quest

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

March 2024

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:
Monday - Wednesday - 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Thursday - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(413) 625-2341

Pastor - Rev. Kate Stevens
Leadership Team Co-chairs:
Beth Martin & Eileen McCusker Rauch
Music Director - Keith Rollinson
Church Secretary - Brook Batteau
Nursery Attendant - Lisa Porter
Facilities Staff- Pat Valeski

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 friends,

This last Monday night, the 26th of February, the Interfaith Council of Franklin County hosted a panel called "We're all in this Together; a multi generational package of Hope." The panel included a 5th grader from Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, a twenty something Land conservationist, a young climate therapist and a woman who responds to climate change through music. The question posed to all of the panelists was "how do you use your gifts to address the climate emergency?"

The responses were diverse; the therapist informed us dealing with trauma, especially for young folk, facing questions about what the world would be like in 20 or 30 years; the conservationist shared about saving a precious wildlife corridor that was going to be developed; the 5th grader talked about a campaign she ran with a few friends to get rid of plastic utensils at the school (and they succeeded) and the naturalist/singer told us about a year long journey she took visiting, for an hour, one place in nature every day for a year and she sang a song she wrote to honor that time.

Because the heat was out in the church where we met, we were crowded into a small meeting space with a few space heaters; it was crowded and extended out into the cold hallway. But we were warmed by our own enthusiasm. The questions we were left with were: how do you find joy even in the midst of worry about the future; and how do you use your gifts to address the climate situation?

Lois Bascom, with the support of many others in the church, is heading up our efforts to learn more and act more around climate change at our church. We have the "One Home, One Future" banner on the front of the parsonage and will receive materials from that campaign for Earth Day Sunday, April 21. We have also slowly been getting rid of plastic use here at the church. If you want to use your gifts for this work at the church, contact Lois.

Blessings to you all and to this green, green earth,

Kate

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Greetings and Peace from The Leadership Team who welcome you all to the season of Lent. We pray this season will be meaningful to each of you.

Pat Valeski our new Custodian, attended our last Leadership Team meeting. Pat has completed his training and has really hit the ground running! We thank him for all his excellent work.

Ted and Tony Hanna also joined our recent Leadership team meeting to discuss our Community Meal Program and Serve Safe Certifications. Ted has assumed the role of manager of the Community Meal Program from Tony. (Tony will remain on the team.) They reported that Ted and new member Barrett Martin will need certification and that Tony needs re-certification for Serve Safe. Mark Kaufman and Emily Gopen who will continue on the Team are certified. The Leadership Team voted unanimously to cover the cost for all 3 certifications. Trinity Church is very proud to hold this important function every Friday in our Fellowship Hall and are extremely grateful to this wonderful and dedicated team.

Thank you to Rev. Kate who organized the successful Fat Tuesday on Friday event at the Community Meal on 2/9/24. This was a HUGE success with approximately 100 meals served and entertainment enjoyed during the night with a 4 piece jazz band. The \$400 dollars raised will be returned to the Community meal. We are grateful they plan to make this an annual event.

We are looking forward to our Annual Meeting and team members have been hard at work with the planning and organizing for this event. The meeting will be held on March 10th, 2024 after our church service. We are planning to host a potluck prior to the meeting as we did last year. If you cannot come to this important event in person, there will be a Zoom link for you to click on to allow you to attend online, with everyone else.

We are happy to share that we have received a request from the Farmer's Market group to continue utilizing the Baptist lot and we have agreed to this request. We hope everyone will plan to come and shop locally on Friday afternoons this summer!

By the time you are reading this The Search and Call Team will have had our 1st interview with the 3d candidate to answer our minister search request. Please continue to pray for a good outcome from this interview process.

Mark your calendars: Palm Sunday Brunch following the Palm Sunday service on 3/24/24; Good Friday service 3pm 3/29/24 and the Easter Sunrise service, 7a.m. at Apex Orchard and our Easter 10:00 service on 3/31/24. Further information on these events will be announced during Sunday services.

With Blessings, from your Leadership Team:

Beth Martin, Janice Waldron-Hansen, Clare Chapman, Nancy Parland, Eileen McCusker Rauch

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Attention All Singers!

Please lend us your voice in celebration of the upcoming Easter holidays! If we can round up enough singers, the Trinity Choir will perform on Easter, March 31, and perhaps Palm Sunday, the 24th, as well. We will rehearse on Sundays March 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 9am in the Sanctuary, prior to service. If possible, we will add a Thursday evening rehearsal or two. Guaranteed fun time!

Would you let me know if you can join in – via email:

ktrollinson@gmail.com ,

or after service on March 3?

I look forward to hearing (from) you!

Keith

COMMUNION GLASSES

The Leadership Team voted to begin using our glass communion cups again, beginning on Sunday, March 3. At one time, these were used for every communion service. Then it was decided to use plastic as a healthier alternative. As we are a part of the One Future, One Planet program, we now understand that plastic does not biodegrade and the oceans and earth are full of it to the point of endangering wildlife and our own lives with its toxicity. Our goal in this program is to reduce the use of plastic at Trinity Church. These cups will be put through the dishwasher, which has the ability to kill germs. What else comes to your mind that we might consider?

On Behalf of the One Planet, One Future Team,

Lois Bascom

PHOTOS FROM THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



Karyn and Dusti Dufresne

Rev. Megan Stowe

FAT TUESDAY ON FRIDAY MEAL PHOTOS



CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 10:30 Kids Movement. 5:30 pm Community Meal.	2
3 10 am Service.	4	5	6 9:30 Playgroup	7 7 pm AA	8 10:30 Kids Movement. 5:30 pm Community Meal	9
10 10 am Service. 11 am Annual Meeting.	11	12	13 9:30 Playgroup 11 – 3:30 Clothes Closet	14 7 pm AA. 10 am Being and Believing.	15 10:30 Kids Movement. 5:30 pm Community Meal.	16
17 10 am Service.	18	19	20 9:30 Playgroup	21 7 pm AA	22 10:30 Kids Movement. 5:30 pm Community Meal.	23
24 10 am Service. Palm Sunday Brunch	25	26	27 9:30 Playgroup 11 – 3:30 Clothes Closet.	28 7 pm AA 10 am Being and Believing	29 10:30 Kids Movement. 3 pm Good Friday service 5:30 pm Community Meal.	30
31 10 am Service. Easter!						

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS IN MARCH	
March 3	Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22; Psalm 19
March 10	Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
March 17	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33; Psalm 51:1-13 or Psalm 119:9-16
March 24	Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, [40-47]; Psalm 31:9-16
March 31	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

EASTER SUNDAY PLANTS!



Time to order spring plants in honor and memory of loved ones for Easter Sunday

If you wish to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter by ordering a plant, please fill out and clip this form and put it in the collection plate or return it to the church office by *Palm Sunday, March 24*.

Plants available to order are Easter lilies, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths— depending on availability. This year lilies are \$10/each and the others are \$6/ each.

Please make checks payable to **Trinity Church**.

Plants not picked up will be delivered to our elder parishioners and others who are not able to attend the worship service.

In memory of _____

Given by _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Number of lilies you are ordering _____

____ I will pick up my plant(s) on Easter Sunday.

____ Please give my plant to someone to enjoy.

STARKEY SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now available for the **Starkey Scholarship** interest free loans. Applicants must be members of Trinity Church. Please return the applications to the office no later than May 1, 2024.

Please inquire by email or at the church office.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS!

Don't forget to spring your clock forward on Sunday (March 10) at 2 a.m.

