

The Quest

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

May 2026

About Trinity Church

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 is available.)

Office hours:

Monday - Wednesday - 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Thursday – 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(413) 625-2341

Pastor - Benjiman Durfee

Leadership Team Co-chairs:

Beth Martin & Wayne Perrea

Music Director - Keith Rollinson

Church Secretary - Brook Batteau

Nursery Attendant - Lisa Porter

Facilities Staff- Pat Valeski

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From Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Dear Trinity,

Time flies when you're building joy! The Campaign Executive Committee (CEC) for the Building Joy Capital Campaign has been working tirelessly behind the scenes as we move toward the official launch of our campaign to restore our organ, install a generator, and upgrade our AV technology. If you haven't already marked your calendar for our **kick-off brunch at the Shelburne Falls Pub and Brew at 11:30 on May 31st**, please do! It is going to be an exciting event to celebrate the progress we've made and announce our campaign to the community. You should have received an RSVP in the mail (if not, please contact the office) and we hope that you will join us!

Beginning this Sunday, I'll be preaching a **Building Joy Sermon Series** based on Paul's "Letter of Joy" to the Philippians. I encourage you to read the full letter to the Philippians on your own so that Paul's message can continue to work on both at home and when you come to worship. Together we'll be exploring how Resilience, Harmony, and Service—the three pillars of our Building Joy campaign—are essential components of a joyous, Christian community. The CEC has also planned a few other fun worship elements (Sheldon the Snail has been rehearsing)! I'm also excited to welcome Grace Pugh-Hubbard, Climate Care Coordinator for the New England United Methodist Conference, as our guest preacher on May 17. She'll be speaking to us about creation care efforts throughout New England and inviting to the many opportunities the conference offers for us to work together to care for our Mother Earth. I have the privilege of serving on the

conference Creation Care Circle with Grace and we are thrilled to announce that **Bill McKibbon, climate activist and fellow United Methodist, will be joining us for a conversation at our next Virtual Creation Care Café on May 26th at 7pm.** We will host a watch party that night at Trinity Church for anyone who would like to participate in this event together (the Zoom link is also available for those who can't make it to the watch party).

Finally, May 24th is Pentecost Sunday, the day that we celebrate the “birthday of the Church,” when the Spirit came upon the first disciples. It is clear to me by your gifts and graces that the Spirit is still living, moving, and breathing amongst all of us here at Trinity Church, which fills me with great hope! **I invite you to wear red on Pentecost Sunday for this special, joyful celebration!**

Keep building joy!

Pastor Ben

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Trinity Church experienced another beautiful and blessed Holy Week! We were very happy to have the Rev. Kate Stevens lead us in our joyful Palm Sunday service as Pastor Ben continued to rest and heal! Many joined together for a delicious Palm Sunday brunch following the service. Gratefully, Pastor Ben was feeling well enough to return to us for the remainder of Holy Week. He led many in a truly meaningful Maundy Thursday service including a meal and thoughtful prayer and meditation. Our sanctuary remained open on Good Friday and Holy Saturday for self-guided prayer and reflection. Finally,

Easter Sunday arrived! Those who attended the Easter Sunrise Service at Apex Orchards made their own sunshine and worshipped together during a lovely service lead by the Shelburne Congregational Church, enjoyed a delicious breakfast there and then came to Trinity Church for the Easter Sunday Service. We are exceedingly grateful for Pastor Ben's deeply spiritual guidance throughout this service of joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. Special thanks as well to Ginny Ray for organizing the beautiful flower memorials, to our dedicated lay leaders, and to Keith Rollinson and Nancy Parland for their amazing music. Hallelujah, Christ has risen!

Trinity Church has been very fortunate to have had Bob Spencer mow our Baptist lot faithfully and without fanfare or compensation for many years. He has decided that it is time for him to “retire” and all of us extend our sincere gratitude to Bob for his years of dedication, keeping the Baptist Lot in pristine condition!

The LT discussed several “housekeeping” issues during our latest meeting, including a positive test for radon in the parsonage which will require mitigation, in addition to some other less troublesome repairs including repair to a central support column in the basement. In relation to the Church and office building, Pat will be installing a window in Pastor Ben's office like the

one installed in the nursery to conform with Safe Church Compliance standards. Other items included the need for additional fully accessible parking spaces and the placement of a bike rack for those coming to services and events on two wheels! Finally, as noted last month, our lift remains a top priority for Trinity Church to be safe and accessible to all and research continues on this topic.

Wishing you continued happiness and blessings,

Sarah Neelon, Clare Chapman, Wayne Perrea and Beth Martin

MEMBERSHIP AND BAPTISM

Membership in a church is a very personal decision and is meaningful to different people in different ways. Respecting this diversity, Trinity Church encourages membership but does not require it for participating in the life of the church. All church ministries, events, and our communion table remain open to everyone. **If you would like to become a member of this church**, either by profession of faith or by transferring from another church or denomination, please reach out to Pastor Ben at pastordurfee@gmail.com. A new member orientation class will be offered for those exploring membership.

Are you interested in being baptized or having your child baptized? Please reach out to Pastor Ben for more information! If you've been baptized in another Christian denomination, it is not necessary for you to be baptized again. We accept and believe in one baptism by water and the Spirit.

STARKEY SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now available for the **Starkey Scholarship** grants. Applicants must be members of Trinity Church. Please return the applications to the office no later than May 15, 2026.

**Please inquire by email
or at the church office.**



CLOTHES CLOSET MAY DATES

Saturdays, the 9th and 23rd, 10:00-12:00

Wednesdays, the 13th and 27th, 11:00-3:30



Da Camera Singers

Sheila Heffernon, artistic director
Heather Reichgott, accompanist

Hear Our Voices: We've Always Been Here

Celebrating the music of LGBTQ+ composers
throughout the centuries

Guest Artist: Justina Golden, mezzo-soprano

Free Admission

Supported by



Donations
accepted at the
door & on our
website

Saturday, May 30

7:30 pm

Trinity Church

17 Severance St.

Shelburne Falls, MA

Sunday, May 31

4:00 pm

Helen Hills Hills Chapel,

Smith College

123 Elm St.

Northampton, MA

www.dacamerasingers.org

AUDREY'S ANGELS - IN MEMORY OF AUDREY CLARK

On May 2nd come to Mohawk Trail Regional School from 10-3 and attend the 4th Annual Audrey's Angels Craft Fair and shop from over 50 unique vendors, including jewelry, home decor, candles, blind date with a book, wood crafts, soaps, gift baskets, stained glass, pottery, hair accessories, and more. Lunch is available for purchase from Oakridge Detachment Marine Corp. Vendor fees benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in memory of Audrey Clark, a resident of Shelburne who died in 2019 at the age of 25. There will be a drawing of vendor items that will benefit the Mohawk Trail Student Council.

On May 17th come to the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School for the 27th Annual Shelburne Falls Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis - 1 p.m. registration and start walk at 1:30. Two routes are available: 1.5 mile flat route or a 3 mile hilly route. Both go over the Bridge of Flowers (no dogs allowed). Team Audrey's Angels walks in memory of Audrey Clark, a resident of Shelburne who died in 2019 at the age of 25. You can join our team or create your own. *See more photos below*



GREAT STRIDES
CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION



CALENDAR FOR MAY 2026

Friday	1	10:30 am Kids Movement; Farmers Market; 5:30 pm Community Meal
Saturday	2	
Sunday	3	10 am service
Monday	4	9:30 Playgroup
Tuesday	5	
Wednesday	6	9:30 Playgroup; 11 am - 3:30 pm Clothes Closet; Climate Chorus (7-8:30 pm)
Thursday	7	7 pm AA
Friday	8	10:30 am Kids Movement; Farmers Market; 5:30 pm Community Meal
Saturday	9	10 am - 12 pm Clothes Closet; 1-2 BOF Plant Sale at Baptist Lot
Sunday	10	10 am service; Mother's Day
Monday	11	9:30 Playgroup
Tuesday	12	
Wednesday	13	9:30 Playgroup
Thursday	14	11 am Contemplative Prayer Group; 7 pm AA
Friday	15	10:30 am Kids Movement; Farmers Market; 5:30 pm Community Meal
Saturday	16	
Sunday	17	10 am service; 12:00 pm Creation Walk
Monday	18	9:30 Playgroup
Tuesday	19	
Wednesday	20	9:30 Playgroup; 11 am - 3:30 pm Clothes Closet
Thursday	21	11 am Contemplative Prayer Group; 7 pm AA
Friday	22	10:30 am Kids Movement; Farmers Market; 5:30 pm Community Meal
Saturday	23	10 am - 12 pm Clothes Closet
Sunday	24	10 am service
Monday	25	9:30 Playgroup; Memorial Day
Tuesday	26	
Wednesday	27	9:30 Playgroup
Thursday	28	11 am Contemplative Prayer Group; 7 pm AA
Friday	29	10:30 am Kids Movement; Farmers Market; 5:30 pm Community Meal
Saturday	30	7:30 pm Da Carmera Singers
Sunday	31	10 am service; 11:30 Building Joy Celebration



Trinity Church
invites you to be our guest at the

Building Joy Kick-off Brunch

to start our
capital fundraising campaign
to
Restore our organ, advance our technology, and install a generator to become an
emergency meal facility

Sunday, May 31
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shelburne Falls Pub & Brew (formerly The Sweetheart restaurant)
Mohawk Trail and Maple Street, Shelburne Falls

Childcare provided for little ones 3 months to 10 years



_____ We'll be there (# of adults)

_____ Number of children (please list names and ages below; please indicate how many will require child care)

_____ Check here if you need a ride

NAME _____

PHONE _____

RSVP by May 15

By mail: 17 Severance Street, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370; by phone: 413.625.2341; by email: trinitychrch@gmail.com, or stop by the church office Monday -Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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LECTIONARY FOR MAY 2026	
May 3	Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
May 10	Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21; Psalm 66:7-18
May 17	Acts 1:6-14; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11; Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36
May 24	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39; Psalm 104:25-35, 37
May 31	Genesis 1:1-2:4a; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20 Psalm 8 or Canticle 13 (or Canticle 2)

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