

# The Quest

## Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

January 2020

### 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.

Regular Sunday service hours:  
8:30 a.m. (Eucharist)  
10 a.m. (Nursery care available)

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

Pastor - Rev. Marguerite Sheehan  
Music Director - Cheryl Hanna  
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 - 8 p.m.  
Thursday - 8 p.m.  
Sunday - 8 a.m.

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### From the Pastor

Dear Faithful Friends,

I love writing my "New Year" letter to you in late December when January still seems far off (mostly because December is such a busy month!) While writing today, I received a lovely meditation on Joseph, who some people call the foster father of Jesus. The meditation, penned by the Reverend Stephen Garness- Holmes, is an encouragement for Joseph, and for us, to give ourselves without knowing what is going to happen and how it will influence us and the world. He says that love is all powerful, but in Joseph's case, marriage was what was being asked for. "Pray to be faithful, to be present, to be loving when you cannot know what will come of it."

Stephen's meditation made me think of life in our church. This month we are receiving into membership 6 individuals who while not marrying us (!) are for sure committing themselves on a new level to God's desire for them and our church. These people are Sally Alcorn, Sarah Neelon, Patti Gerry- Karajans, Dusti Duphene and her nephew Richard Twiss and Beth Ann Bascom.

On January 5th we will joyfully welcome these individuals into full membership, knowing that this decision is not a one-way street. We too, whether members or active attenders or worshippers considering our future relationship to Trinity, will affirm our commitment saying:

Let us, the members and friends of Trinity Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ. *We*

welcome you with joy in our common life and we promise you our friendship, our encouragement and our prayers. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowing and love and be witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ as we strive to follow him every day.

Reverend Garness- Holmes says to Joseph, "Your life will not be as you wish it. Those you love will let you down. This world is full of flaws and disappointment. It is also full of the Mysterious One."

This prediction is as true of church membership as it is of marriage. It is true for all deep and faithful relationships. We know that we will let others down and we will be let down. We know that we are full of something and someone that will help us in the days and years to come. This One, this Light of Christ, this Holy Spirit, abides within us and between us, encourages and strengthens us. And that my friends is what holds us together.

Thank you everyone, for all the ways that you show up at Trinity Church and in our communities and in our world. Thank you for giving yourselves without knowing the outcome. Thank you for being present and faithful and loving. Without you we would be less. With you we are more. More faithful. More daring. More courageous. More willing to see and follow Christ every day.

May this be a faithful New Year! *Marguerite*

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

## THANK YOU



Thank you, Sarah Davenport, for continuing your Mom's tradition of donating the beautiful wreath that adorns our church above the front door each Advent and Christmas season.

Thank you to all who continue to support the tradition of helping out the Adopt-a-Family giving.

By buying from our HallClark Jewelry and Roses during the holiday season, combined with outside craft fair sales, we were able to split \$200 for extra groceries to our 3 families, and an additional \$175 to United Church of Bernardston's Adopt-a-families. I was able to discern that David Neil's "put your talents to work" sermon was from 2007. An amazing 13 years of giving. Thank you for keeping Audrey Clark and her team Audrey's Angels talents alive.

*Sandra Gaffey*



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SPEECH

**Join us on  
Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
January 20 at 12 noon at Trinity Church.  
Watch, hear and remember his words.**

**"I have a dream." And more.**

***"I Have a Dream"***



**All are welcome to come for a noon time gathering as we take a moment on this special day, to listen and remember and consider our own dreams for this time.**

**Trinity Church, 17 Severance Street, Shelburne Falls MA  
For more information, call our church office 625-2341**

## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY



As in past years Trinity Church will be participating in Souper Bowl Sunday in support of the Western Mass Food Bank with a soup luncheon and free will offering on February 16th following the 10:00 a.m. service. In past years we have raised over \$1,000 for the food bank which supports local food pantries such as the one at Cowell Gym and our own Friday night community meal. Every dollar donated to the food bank translates into \$9 worth of purchasing power due to their ability to purchase in bulk. The Souper Bowl is a fun and delicious way to show your support.

If you are interested in helping out by contributing a pot of soup please let me know by email: [juanitaepiceno@gmail.com](mailto:juanitaepiceno@gmail.com) or by phone @ 413-522-9794. Thanks!

## NEW MEMBER SERVICE



*New Members Are Joining*

*On January 5, during our 10 am worship service, we will welcome new members to Trinity Church. Please join us on this special day when we will also celebrate the Epiphany and acknowledge and affirm our own spiritual journeys.*

**FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Our team met Dec. 12.

Several new members will join our church on Sunday, Jan. 5. If you are interested in membership, please talk with Marguerite.

By the time you read this, we will have enjoyed another annual caroling event on the Baptist Lot, viewing a Max Lucado film with a potluck supper, and held our awesome Christmas Eve service.

Annual meeting will be held this year on Sunday, Jan. 12 immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service. We hope to have annual reports for you next week. If you would like one to be sent electronically or in the U.S. Mail, please call the office (413.625.2341) and ask Brook for one. The report will include, as usual, of our operating budget, expenses, and revenue this year — a year of two large capital projects, the sanctuary roof and parsonage windows.

If you are a member and interested in serving on Leadership Team, please speak to one of us.

We have been having frustrating elevator issues during the past few months and thank Brook for his efforts to resolve them. We believe that a viable plan is now in place and look forward to reopening it soon.

Please come to church on Jan. 12 and stay for annual meeting. We look forward to this time of meeting together in the business of our church as well as fellowship.

Our best wishes for a healthy, joy-filled New Year,

*Ginny, Juanita, Lois, Beth, Eileen*

**TAIZE SERVICE****TAIZE**

*Experience the Sacred through song and silence*

**A Service of Chanting and  
Prayer in the Spirit of Taize**

**Candlelight and prayers for peace**

**Tuesday, December 31 at 7:00 pm**

**Come to learn chants at 6:30 pm**

**Second Congregational Church  
16 Court Square Greenfield, MA**

**413 774-4355**

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

SUNDAY	MON	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7 pm AA	<b>3</b> 5 pm Community Meal	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:30 & 10 am Services. <b>New Member Service.</b>	<b>6</b> Martial Arts	<b>7</b> Tai Chi 10:30 am	<b>8</b> 11 - 5 Clothes Closet. 11 a.m. Contemplative Gospel Group. Choir 6 p.m. Playgroup Potluck.	<b>9</b> 7 pm AA	<b>10</b> 5 pm Community Meal.	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30 & 10 am Services. <b>Annual Meeting</b>	<b>13</b> Martial Arts	<b>14</b> Tai Chi 10:30 am	<b>15</b> 11 - 5 Clothes Closet. 11 a.m. Contemplative Gospel Group. Choir 6 p.m.	<b>16</b> 7 pm AA.	<b>17</b> 5 pm Community Meal.	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30 & 10 am Services.	<b>20</b> Martial Arts <b>MLK Day</b>	<b>21</b> Tai Chi 10:30 am	<b>22</b> 11 - 5 Clothes Closet. 11 a.m. Contemplative Gospel Group. Choir 6 p.m.	<b>23</b> 7 pm AA	<b>24</b> 5 pm Community Meal	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30 & 10 am Services.	<b>27</b> Martial Arts	<b>28</b> Tai Chi 10:30 am	<b>29</b> 11 a.m. Contemplative Gospel Group.	<b>30</b> 7 pm AA	<b>31</b> 5 pm Community Meal	

## LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

January 5	Jeremiah 31:7-14; Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a; Matthew 2:13-15,19-23 or Luke 2:41-52 or Matthew 2:1-12; Psalm 84 or 84:1-8
January 12	Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17; Psalm 29
January 19	Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42; Psalm 40:1-12
January 26	Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23; Psalm 27:1, 5-13