
Trinity Chapel Newsletter

May 2008



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You!

Rector: The Reverend Marsha Hoecker
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*Sunday Worship Service at 9:30 a.m., followed by Coffee Hour.
Childcare and Sunday School through high school age also at 9:30 a.m.*

Vestry Members

Senior Warden: Paul Wade
Junior Wardens: Maureen Panetta/Nancy Sawyer
Treasurer: Michael King Assistant Treasurer: Karen Akins
Lindsay Comeau, Amy Grundy, Betty Mahon, Tom Shepherd, Beth Wade

Ordinary Time

Ordinary time: is there really any such thing?

This month we will wind up our Easter celebration with Pentecost on Sunday, May 11. Then begins the long church season we call Pentecost, or ordinary time.

Rather than meaning "common" or "mundane," this term comes from the word "ordinal," which simply means counted time (First Sunday after Pentecost, etc.), which is probably a better way to think of this time of the year. Counted time after Pentecost always begins with Trinity Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) and ends with Christ the King Sunday or the Reign of Christ the King (last Sunday before the beginning of Advent). [from CRVoice.org, a resource web-site for Christians].

None-the-less, sometimes I find myself longing for something I might call "ordinary time" or "ordinary life."

Van Morrison has a song called "Ordinary Life" on his *Hymns to the Silence* CD.

It's about how we can get all caught up in busyness and stress, and it's our blessed "ordinary life" that grounds us.

*Ordinary life, be my rock in times of trouble
Get me back on the earth
Put my feet on the ground*

Sometimes it is in our ordinary time and ordinary life that the peace of Christ and the love of God is most apparent. In the simple things like tending the garden or washing the dishes, or sitting across the table from someone we love, we allow our mind and heart to rest. This ordinary-ness can be prayer for us; a time when God can get a

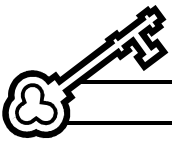
word in edgewise. In the comfort of the familiar we can rest in God.

Celtic Spirituality has always seemed to understand this, expressing the holiness of the ordinary in prayers meant to accompany the lighting of the morning fire or the milking of the cow.

Our lives these days seem to be so busy, and it can be easy to forget God. Perhaps as we move into our church's "ordinary time" we can remember God as we re-connect with ordinary life. Our prayer may be the "driving prayer" as we head to work in the morning, the "bed-making prayer," the "shower prayer," or the "leaf-raking prayer," the prayer that grounds us in ordinary life, grounding us in God.



This is your newsletter! Your family news, special prayer intentions, and information you want to share about the world around us should be forwarded to Lynn Gresock by 5/27/08 for the June issue: 978-448-6947 or lynn.gresock@arcadis-us.com.



On Saturday, April 5, a group from Trinity Chapel and St. David's in Pepperell worked on a Habitat for Humanity house in Townsend. From Trinity we had Marsha and Henry Hoecker, and from St. David's, Linda and Bill Crewe, Terry O'Kane, Deb Hamilton, and Linda Johansen. We were joined by four students from Bentley College.



The main task for the day was installing vinyl siding. We had a large enough crew that not everyone could work at once, but everyone got to contribute. Terry went out on the scaffold with Jimmy, the homeowner (see picture), because she had experience siding her own house, and because the scaffold was too high and shaky for the rest of us! We also had lots of snacks, provided by Marsha and



others. Linda and Linda posed with the Habitat coordinator. The picture of the front of the house has the Bentley students working.



It was a fun and productive day, and a chance to use the skills we learned on the Rectory. I hope we can do it again, either on this

house or a future project in Shirley. Marsha is organizing a women's work day in May – give it a try.

Paul Wade

Strawberry Festival Pre-Silent Auction! The 2008 Strawberry Festival is scheduled for Saturday, **June 28th** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. BUT an important event takes place before June 28th. On **May 18th** during Coffee Hour we will hold our Pre-Silent Auction. At that time we will auction items which are intended for Trinity Chapel members and not the general public. Included will be vacation homes and camps, and other items you might choose to supply. If you have questions in advance, feel free to contact Tom Shepherd.

Strawberry Festival Committee



Let's Party! Trinity Sunday, May 18, is our name day. So let's celebrate together after the service! We're envisioning a block party sort of party, with grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and ice cream "Trinity Sundaes," some music, some dancing, some games...croquet anyone? We're inviting St. David's and St. Andrew's to join us (since some of us had such a great time at the St. David's Beach Party!). So be there or be square! Bring the whole family, and some food to share. (Look for sign-up sheets in the parish hall)

Diocesan Happenings. The April 2008 publication of F.Y.I. provides information about a number of activities, including:

- Congregational development grant applications are invited, with a deadline of May 20;
- Ongoing monthly (May 14) Radical Welcome Circles at the Cathedral of St. Paul in Boston to address ways of being more welcoming to all; and
- Summer camp registration for the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center is now available, with special weeks for family camp and choir camp.

For more information, consult www.diomass.org for the full publication.





In Our Prayers. We continue prayers for parishioners, family and friends who are in need of healing, whether from sickness or sorrow. Please offer special prayers for strength and healing for:

- † Adele Lamoreaux;
- † Phil Lamoreaux;
- † Dorothy Nichols;
- † Betty Mahon;
- † Prudy Harris;
- † Louise Longley;
- † Cathy Longley;
- † Jane Bouvier;
- † Jessica Halloran;
- † Martha Blanchard (Mona's aunt);
- † Judy Knox;
- † Bessie Haynes (John's mother);
- † Donald Cobb;
- † Myles Gray (Frances' son);
- † Helen Wilkins (recovering from surgery);
- † Grant MacLean;
- † Gina Ledger (a friend of Maureen's);
- † Marion Groze (Anna's friend);
- † Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson (Anna's friends);
- † Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cole (Anna's friends);
- † Frank Hogg (Marsha's father);
- † John Scotniki;
- † Jared Yost (Mickey's son);
- † Jaida Yost;
- † Gianna Yost;
- † Connie (Mike Carter's sister; and
- † Joanne and family (Mickey's sister-in-law).

Please offer special prayers for the souls of Renee Raymond (Bert's brother) and Stanley Evans (Prudy's brother-in-law) who have recently died, and for their families and friends.

Prayers continue also for our men and women in the armed forces, especially:

- † Hector Fernandez;
- † Ned Sullivan;
- † Mike Adelberg;
- † Tim Fahey;
- † Frank Main;
- † Charles Therrien;
- † Christopher Phelps;
- † Bill Duddridge;
- † Marin Ladd;
- † Jorge Carrillo;

- † Joseph Hillenbrand;
- † Nathan Tarlton;
- † Steven Holmes;
- † Stu Younger who is in Afganistan;
- † John McLure and Bruce Gibson who are in Iraq; and
- † Anthony McAuliff who has been shot in Iran.



Where Two or Three Are Gathered: TAG Team News

Looking for companionship on your spiritual journey?
Come travel with us at *Common Ground* (time and place)
A new worship experience from Trinity Chapel, the Episcopal Church in Shirley Center

"I like Jesus, but Christians scare me."
Check out "*Common Ground*," where there is always room at the table. (Time and place)
A new worship experience from Trinity Chapel, the Episcopal Church in Shirley Center

"Church? Who has time for that nowadays?"

We do. We are a church with an unconventional service at an unconventional time; a church that welcomes your questions about spirituality and won't claim to have all the answers; a church that wants to help you grow in faith, **YOUR way.**
Common Ground (time and place)

These are some of the advertising ideas we've been playing with as we plan the launch of our new service for younger spiritual seekers in our community. We've decided that, initially at least,

our new service will be held twice a month, beginning in October. We are still trying to decide between Saturday or Thursday evening. We have agreed on the name "Common Ground," which we hope conveys a sense of inclusion and welcome: "...a time and place that we hope will become holy ground for you and your family..." as we say in the postcard we plan to send out.

If you've got some ideas for our team please let us hear from you. Talk to Karen Akins, Marsha or Henry Hoecker, Karla Leonard, Lew Sheen, or Nancy Sawyer.



Loaves and Fishes. Donations for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry can be a wonderful way to be mindful of our blessings and our mission to share those blessings with others.



CHURCH CHUCKLE

These notices reportedly appeared in various church newsletters and bulletins. Continued from last month's newsletter.

The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."

*

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

*

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

*

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

*

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

*

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

*

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

*

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

*

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

*

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

*

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

*

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

*

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

*

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."



**MAY 2008
CALENDAR**

Thursday, May 1.

7:00 p.m. Tri-Parish Ascension Day Service,
St. Andrew's Church in Ayer

**Sunday, May 4. The Seventh Sunday of Easter.
Rogation Sunday –
Our Celebration of Earth Day**

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Lector: Meg Gresock Chalice: Paul Wade
Prayers: Nancy Shepherd Acolyte: Patricia
Crucifer: Sam

Rogation procession through the Center at the end
of the service.

*In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St.
Paul's Church, Hopkinton; St. Luke's Church, Hudson; Christ
Church, Hyde Park (Boston); Iglesia de San Juan, Hyde Park
(Boston); and Mount Hope/Buzzards Bay Deanery.*

Tuesday, May 6.

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Habitat Women's Work Day at
Townsend house.

11:00 a.m. Rivercourt Residences Eucharist.

Sunday, May 11. The Day of Pentecost.

9:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist. Baptism
of Matthew Reed Marchand.
Mother's Day.



Lector: Sue Cody Chalice: Kirsten Lund
Prayers: Bunny Stewart Acolyte: Dakota
Crucifer: Tyler

*In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of:
Ascension Memorial Church, Ipswich; St. John's Church,
Jamaica Plain (Boston); Grace Church, Lawrence; Esperanza
Academy, Lawrence; Episcopal Church Women; and The
Massachusetts Council of Churches.*

Saturday, May 17.

Town-wide Yard Sale; Trinity yard sale on rectory lawn.

Sunday, May 18. Trinity Sunday.

9:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist.

Lector: Karla Leonard Chalice: Tom Shepherd
Prayers: Nancy Sawyer Acolyte: Lindsay
Crucifer: Meg

Pre-silent auction auction. Trinity Block Party after
the service, a cookout with Trinity Sundaes,
dancing and games.

*In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St.
Augustine's Church, Lawrence; Church of Our Redeemer,
Lexington; St. Anne's in the Field, Lincoln; St. Anne's Church,
Lowell; and Commission on Ministry.*

Wednesday, May 21.

7:30 p.m. TAG team meeting at the rectory.

**Sunday, May 25. The Second Sunday after
Pentecost.**

9:30 a.m. Memorial Day Weekend Ecumenical
Service at First Parish Meetinghouse.

*In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St.
John's Church, Lowell; St. Alban's Church, Lynn; St. Stephen's
Memorial Church, Lynn; St. Paul's Church, Lynnfield; and
Vocational Deacons.*



**Monday, May 26.
Memorial Day.**



LOOKING AHEAD

- **Saturday, June 7.** All Town Hoe Down. Pie bakers be ready!
- **Saturday, June 28.** Strawberry Festival.