
Trinity Chapel Newsletter

July and August 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

Marsha's Musings

This mid-summer newsletter gives me the opportunity to reflect on the journey we have been on since I arrived at Trinity Chapel about a year and a half ago.

Last year at this time we were still working long hours to paint the rectory and complete the upstairs bathroom. We moved in just before leaving on vacation in August, and still needed to paint a few floors downstairs. Sometimes it seemed like it would never be completed, but it was (almost) and we have been comfortable here, even as we have identified more that needs to be done. The downstairs bath will be done soon, and hopefully we will find ways to keep the house warmer this next winter, and conserve fuel. When I look out at the huge Japanese dogwood tree all in flower, or listen to the orioles in the back yard, I feel truly blessed to live here.

This community has pulled together to increase its pledged support of the parish, and to give generously in time and treasure to do the work we need to do. We have a hard-working committee that is designing an alternative service which we hope will invite new people into our church. It's a bold endeavor, and very exciting.

But the challenges ahead are great. Our new service will require a lot of planning and time. We also need to continue to invite our friends and neighbors to worship with us on Sunday morning; using cable television and other means available to us to share who we are. We need to continue to find ways to share the Good News.

The financial demands of another winter with very high fuel prices could be daunting. All of us are facing these stresses in our personal lives as well as in the life of our church. Stewardship may

begin to take on a new significance for us. How are we going to be good stewards of God's gifts when they seem to grow more precious every day? How can we conserve these gifts to make them last longer? How do we share them in a way that benefits everyone? How do we help one another and remain faithful disciples of Christ in the midst of our own insecurity?

God has blest us with creativity and we will need that creativity to move forward as a people of faith. We do not know what the future will bring, but we know it will require creativity, openness to change, and most of all, faith.

So as we continue on our journey together let us be open to the Spirit's leading. Let us not be afraid to try something different, knowing we have everything we need.

God is always ready to surprise us with something new.



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 8/26/08 for the September issue: 978-448-6947 or lynn.gresock@arcadis-us.com



June is the month when we have two of our major fundraisers, the Shirley Hoedown and the Strawberry Festival. The Hoedown was on a beautiful day and our pie sales went well. We also sold a number of historic Shirley postcards donated by Bob Harris. Some of the entertainment was provided by Lewis Sheen and his band.

This July we have an additional opportunity, the ShirleyFest on July 26. Trinity has been invited to have the dessert booth, so we can sell more pies or strawberry shortcakes or whatever. 20% of our proceeds would go to Habitat for Humanity, and we keep the rest – a good deal for all.

In addition to being fundraisers, these events are a good opportunity to raise our profile and increase public awareness of Trinity Chapel. If folks see us out there having a good time, they might want to know more. Our chance for subtle evangelism...

Paul



Petitions for a Lambeth Prayer Vigil. You are welcomed and encouraged to join in prayer to support the Lambeth Conference, which will be held from July 16 through August 3.

Gracious and loving God, whom we know as the God of justice, peace and reconciliation and who alone can order the affections of your people, be present with those assembled in prayer, study, worship and converse at this fourteenth decennial Lambeth Conference. Watch with them in their daily round. Lend your Holy Spirit to the diverse minds, tongues and interpretations of Scripture gathered there that they might seek to strengthen the bonds which unite us and seek to dispel those things that divide and separate us.

Let flow the balm of mutual respect which brings a realization that unity does not require uniformity, nor that such unity is achieved at the cost and sacrifice of your great gift of diversity.

Give to the bishops, spouses and other attendees, especially those from Province One of the Episcopal Church, strength to witness to the wholeness of all your creation and people, including our brother Gene who has been excluded and relegated to the margins of this gathering. Help them to raise clear voices as they seek to engage others in dialogue. Also give them open hearts as they listen to other understandings of your purpose and will for your people.

As we keep vigil here at home, strengthen us in that deep sense of solidarity which upholds us in the fellowship of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior, in whose Holy name we pray. Amen.

Common Cathedral. We are scheduled to worship and provide food at the Common Cathedral in Boston on Sunday, July 20. Along with St. David's and St. Andrew's we are responsible for feeding 75 people. Can you make some sandwiches? Boil some eggs? Bake some cookies? Or donate some apples? Please contact Tom Shepherd at 978-897-6120 and let him know what you can do.

The best part, though, is being there. If you can, join us for the trip to Boston after our own worship that day. Experience another way of being in church.



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;
- † Mona Longley;
- † Dorothy Nichols;
- † Betty Mahon;
- † Prudy Harris;
- † Louise Longley;
- † Cathy Longley;
- † Jane Bouvier;
- † Jessica Halloran;
- † Martha Blanchard (Mona's aunt);
- † Bessie Haynes (John's mother);
- † Judy Knox;
- † Donald Cobb;
- † Myles Gray (Frances' son);
- † Helen Wilkins (recovering from surgery);
- † Gina Ledger (Maureen's friend);
- † Marion Groze (Anna's friend);
- † Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnson (Anna's friends);
- † Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cole (Anna's friends);
- † John Scotniki;
- † Jared Yost (Mickey's son);
- † Yaida Yost;
- † Gianna Yost;
- † Connie (Mike Carter's sister);
- † Joann & family (Mickey's sister-in-law); and
- † Ann Schradek (Jennifer's friend).

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;
- † Marin Ladd;
- † Jorge Carrillo;
- † Joseph Hillenbrand;
- † Nathan Tarlton;
- † Steven Holmes;
- † Anthony McAuliff;
- † Stu Younger who is in Afganistan; and
- † Bruce Gibson who is in Iraq.

Tri-Parish News. At our Tri-parish meeting on June 12, Maria Plati, the communications director from the Diocese met with us to discuss the possibility of our **publishing a brochure** that highlights the three (possibly, four) parishes of the Nashoba Valley. She shared some ideas and the process that the churches of Boston had used when they did one. We talked about costs, numbers, and distribution. Maria will be getting back to us with more specific information soon. In the meantime each church needs to find someone who can write a very succinct paragraph that aptly describes their congregation.

On Sunday, July 20, the three parishes will again work together to provide the meal for **Common Cathedral in Boston**. We will be sharing the ministry this time with a Congregational Church from Newton. Our responsibility is to bring half the needed food as well as the powdered drink mixes. That means we need sandwiches, hard-boiled eggs, bags of chips, and fruit (like apples or bananas) for 75 people.

We want to gather some folks together this summer who want to be the planning core for a **Tri-parish Youth Ministry**. Please contact Marsha Hoecker, mhhoecker@hotmail.com, 978-425-9541, if you would like to be part of this group. High School students are especially welcome to help us with the planning.

We also hope to begin a **Tri-parish Confirmation Class** in the fall. This will be for young people who are beginning ninth grade in the fall and any older teens that have not yet been confirmed. The youth ministry planning group will help in the design of this class. The class will probably meet monthly, most likely on a Sunday afternoon, for a couple of hours. The participants will explore their faith together, learn about the Episcopal tradition, and discern for themselves what ministry God may be calling them to share as baptized members of Christ's body. In the spring of 2009, they will have the opportunity to be confirmed at the Deanery-wide Confirmation.

St. Mark's Church in Westford has expressed interest in being included in our partnership to some degree. I have met with their Senior Warden and we plan to stay in conversation. They are similar in size to St. Andrews, and have needs similar to our three churches. The possibility of involving more churches in our

partnership brings up the need for a new name. We're wondering how "**Nashoba Valley Episcopal Partnership**" sounds to you?

In the fall we'd like to have a **Blessing of the Animals** on the Shirley Center Village Green to which the whole community in our various towns would be invited. We'd probably do it on Sunday afternoon on October 4, St. Francis Day, and combine it with a Pet Fest. We could invite local veterinarians, give away doggie treats, and maybe offer pet/owner photos. All three (maybe four) parishes would help in the Liturgy. Is this something you'd like to help with? Contact Marsha at mhhoecker@hotmail.com or 978-425-9541.



Some Things Don't Take Vacations.

Every summer, collections drop off, but bills don't, and the checkbook balance gets slim. Instead of facing a big catch-up payment in the fall, an advance payment on your pledge would help us get through the summer. Thank you!

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

- A Diocesan Resource Day will be held at Bentley College in Waltham on September 27 that will focus on "communities of passion," formed through a strong shared interest;
- A silent weekend retreat will be offered at the Society of St. Margaret in South Duxbury on June 6 through 8, and a celebration of St. Margaret's Day will occur at St. Margaret's Convent in Roxbury on July 19; and
- The 4th annual Cathedral Worship Learning Party will be held on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17, focused this year on exploring new ways of "doing church."

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

Loaves and Fishes. Please continue to remember food and other donations for a thanks offering. During these times of high fuel prices, there are many who find themselves needing a little assistance to have the basics. Be generous!

ShirleyFest Fundraiser for Habit for Humanity: "Blues, Brews, and Bar-B-Que"...and Blueberries? On Saturday, July 26, Habitat for Humanity is having a fundraising event at the park on Benjamin Hill in Shirley. Trinity Chapel has been invited to sell desserts at the festival. We will keep 80% of our earnings and 20% will be donated to Habitat and used for the project in Shirley.



The theme of the event is "Blues, Brews and Bar-B-Que." There will be bands playing the blues, local breweries offering tastes of their wares, and barbeque from various local businesses.

Marsha has tickets for the event. The \$25 entry fee, besides supporting Habitat entitles you to 10 oz. of local brew (or 12 oz. of a soft drink) and all the blues you can soak up. The barbeque is extra, but 20% of those earnings go to Habitat, too!

We've agreed to sell baked desserts and another group is selling ice cream novelties. Marsha and Henry are coming back from Maine the weekend before and have offered to bring back lots of wild blueberries that they can buy wholesale from the farmer. Can we make a bunch of blueberry cobblers? The blueberries can be distributed in church on Sunday, July 20, or you can pick some up at the rectory. Then bake up a storm...using the biggest rectangular pans you can find. It was suggested that we have cookies to sell as well...in small bags; maybe 2 or 3 to a bag.

They expect about 600+ people at this event, so we could raise a lot of money. We will be the only organization selling dessert other than the ice cream. So we need to bake as much as we can.

Mona Longley has agreed to organize a baking party at the church on Friday, July 25. We can use the church oven and the rectory oven, so we can do a lot in a day. If everyone brings a little flour, sugar, butter, or cornstarch, we should be able to bake a lot of cobblers. We'll buy some pans ahead of time, so we can be consistent in

the size of our servings. Bring your favorite recipes or use the one that's provided. Bake some cookies at home and bring them to the baking bee and we'll sort them into bags. So sign up to bake with Mona; there will be sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall.

Since the other group is not selling ice cream by the scoop, we could add ice cream to our cobbler (for an extra .50) but that would require someone having access to a small freezer and a way to transport it. We will have access to electricity. If anyone has such a thing...please call or e-mail Marsha.

So think blues, brews, barbeque and BLUEBERRIES! You can't beat the wild blueberries of Maine for flavor and we'll be buying them at the peak of the season! This fundraiser should certainly net us over \$1,000, if we have the goods to sell.

Fall Confirmation Class. Beginning this fall we will be offering a confirmation class for young people in the ninth grade or older. Adults wishing to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church are also welcome to be part of the group. If there are enough adults we will arrange for part of the class to have the groups separated for discussion. The classes will meet monthly on Sunday afternoon and will last two hours, including time for lunch. Participants will be from Trinity Chapel; St. Andrew's, Ayer; St. David's, Pepperell; and possibly St. Mark's in Westford.

Marsha Hoecker will design the class, hopefully with input from representatives of the other parishes. Lay people as well as clergy will be involved in the teaching, which will be shared, according to the skills and interests of the teachers. Topics that will be covered are:

- Scripture: Knowing the story, knowing Jesus
- Episcopal Church History: Knowing our tradition
- Episcopal Polity: How does it work?
- The Book Of Common Prayer: We are what we pray
- Spirituality and Prayer: How do I connect with God?
- Faith and Practice: The Baptismal covenant
- Mission and Ministry: What is God calling me to do?

We will also include opportunities to serve in the community and visits to other churches.

The first class will be in late September, and continue each month through May, finishing in time for the deanery confirmation in the Spring. Please contact Marsha Hoecker if you or your child would like to be part of the group.



JULY AND AUGUST 2008
CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 1 – Saturday, July 19.

Marsha's summer vacation. *Katherine Ragsdale from St. David's in Pepperell will be available for pastoral care during this time. Her contact information will be on the parish answering machine and available through members of the Vestry.*



Friday, July 4.

Independence Day.

Sunday, July 6. The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer.

Reader: Sue Cody

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Christ Church, Needham; Grace Church, New Bedford; St. Andrew's Church, New Bedford; St. Aidan's Chapel, South Dartmouth; and the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center.

Sunday, July 13. The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer.

Reader: Karla Leonard

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Martin's Church, New Bedford; Grace Church, Newton; St. John's Church, Newtonville; St. Andrew's Chapel, Hyannis Port; and the Neponset River Deanery.



Wednesday, July 16 – Sunday, August 3.

Lambeth Conference begins.

Sunday, July 20. The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Lewis Sheen Chalice: Tom Shepherd
Prayers: Donna King

Common Cathedral following the service.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls; St. Paul's Church, Newton Highlands; Trinity Church, Newton Centre; St. Paul's Church, North Andover; and Hospital Chaplaincies.

Friday, July 25.

Blueberry Cobbler Baking Party, Parish Hall.

Saturday, July 26.

ShirleyFest Fundraiser for Habit for Humanity: Blues, Brews, and Bar-B-Que

Sunday, July 27. The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Maia Cody Chalice: Kirsten Lind
Prayers: Lynn Gresock

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Brooks School Chapel, North Andover; Grace Church, North Attleborough; St. Mark's Church, North Easton; Grace Church, Norwood; and Trinity Chapel, Oak Bluffs.

Sunday, August 3. The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Beth Wade Chalice: Paul Wade
Prayers: Karin Akins

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Church of the Holy Spirit, Orleans; St. Peter's Church, Osterville; St. Paul's Church, Peabody; Emmanuel Chapel, Manchester-by-the-Sea; and the Cape Cod & Islands Deanery.

Sunday, August 10. The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Steve Longley Chalice: Tom Shepherd
Prayers: Marge Halloran

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. David's Mission, Pepperell; Christ Church, Plymouth; St. Mary's of the Harbor, Provincetown; Christ Church, Quincy; and Chapel of St. Philip of Bethsaida, Mattapoisett.

Sunday, August 17. The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Meg Gresock Chalice: Lew Sheen
Prayers: Nancy Sawyer

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: Trinity Church, Randolph; Church of the Good Shepherd, Reading; Trinity Church, Rockland; St. Mary's Church, Rockport; and Chapel of St. James the Fisherman, Wellfleet.

Sunday, August 24. The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Sue Cody Chalice: Kirsten Lind
Prayers: Nancy Shepherd

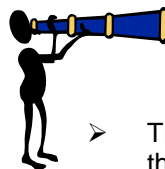
In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Cyprian's Church, Roxbury; St. John & St. James Church, Roxbury; Society of St. Margaret, Roxbury; Grace Church, Salem; and Parish Historians within Congregations.

Sunday, August 31. The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

Reader: Karla Leonard Chalice: Paul Wade
Prayers: Bunny Stewart

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for the people of: St. Peter's Church, Salem; St. John's Church, Sandwich; St. John's Church, Saugus; North Shore Deanery; and Deans.



LOOKING AHEAD

- Tri-Parish Confirmation Classes to begin in the fall
- Blessing of the Animals in early October