



Messenger

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Published by Trinity Episcopal Church — on the Green in Branford, Connecticut

Easter 2013



Holy Week Worship



Palm Sunday begins our walk to Easter. We mark Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with the Liturgy of the Palms in the Parish Hall followed by our own procession into the church. We begin with triumphant

Hosannas but the reading of the Passion Gospel changes everything. The Palm Sunday worship ends in pathos and silence.

Tuesday Night is a simple spoken Eucharist at 7:00 pm.

Wednesday Noon is a simple spoken Eucharist.

Maundy Thursday is the remembrance of two important parts of Jesus ministry, servanthood and



presence. We wash each others' feet as he commanded us and we celebrate the Eucharist as if for the first time. In the symbolic stripping of the altar, Jesus' human vulnerability is exposed and we are left in silence as he is taken away. To honor his request that someone wait with him, we invite members of the community to take turns holding a vigil till the morning. There will be a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall foyer or call the office.

Good Friday is a difficult day. It is the one day of the year when we deny ourselves the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Trinity is part of the community Cross Walk which begins at St. Mary's and ends at Trinity. The arrival at Trinity is usually around 2:00 pm.



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Holy Week Services

March

Sunday, 24	Palm Sunday
Tuesday, 26	7:00 pm Holy Eucharist
Wednesday, 27	12:00 pm Holy Eucharist
Maundy Thursday, 28	7:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar, Watch
Good Friday, 29	Noon Ecumenical Cross Walk; 6:30 pm <i>The Faces of Christ</i> 7:00 pm Liturgy, <i>I Was There</i>
Easter Sunday, 31	8:00 & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Holy Week Worship

(Continued from page 1)

Submission deadline for the following *Messenger* is the 15th of the current month. Please e-mail to **ajfree-man@comcast.net**. Photographs are welcome.

It is respectfully requested material not be formatted (no bolds, underlines, bullets, truncated lines, unusual spacing, etc) since graphic design software doesn't know what to do with it!)

Articles and event notices will be reviewed by an editor. Editorial rights are reserved for clarity and to fit space constraints.

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A color issue is on **trinitybranford.org/news**

Trinity Leadership

Senior Warden: Mark McElrath

Junior Warden: Rodney Hayes

Parish Clerk: Ellen Shirey

Treasurer: Michael Freeman

Assistant Treasurer: Katherine Rowe

Vestry

Andy Campbell, Janet Daley, Dru Dodd, Kelley Esposito, Terry Kron, Ed Monico, Peter Otis, Kathy Sanchez, Carol Schaller,

Staff

Parish Administrator: Jane Dougherty

Sexton: Nancy Williams

In the evening we will begin with a special Godly Play story in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm, *The Faces of Christ*. Then we will gather in the church for *I Was There*. This series of dramatic readings, eye-witness accounts of Jesus last hours is powerful and helps us to understand the depth of Jesus' suffering and the grace with which he died for us.

Holy Saturday is a day of waiting.

Easter Sunday begins with the festal shout, "Hallelujah, Christ is risen!" Music will abound at both services as the power of death is overcome by love. At the end of each service, a rousing rendition of the *Hallelujah Chorus* will send us out in joy. At the 10:00 am service, all who wish to take part in the singing are invited to join the choir. Music will be provided.



Easter Music

By Ron Baldwin, Music Director

Pealing bells, roaring organ, trumpet fanfares, soaring choral alleluias, lustily singing congregation. Sounds like Easter at Trinity!

Easter Day at both the 8:00 and 10:00 am Eucharists, the Trinity Choir and returning trumpet soloist, **Matt Montagna**, will offer special Easter music.

Both services will begin with the festive sound of trumpet and organ performing *Prelude to Te Deum* by the French baroque composer, Marc-Antoine Charpentier. During the services the choir will sing *Christ Our Passover* by MacFarlane and *Come, Ye Faithful* by Thatcher. The services will close with the singing of the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's oratorio, *Messiah*.

Communication Ministry



Ann Freeman
Chair

Membership Directory

It's taken a little time to research our options and come up with the perfect membership directory for Trinity, but it's done and we're excited about the choice. Membership directories help us to connect with one another, but print directories contain out-of-date information, practically speaking, even as they print. Today, there's an online option that can also be printed, and there's an app for iPhone and Android smart phone users, and iPad users. Contact information, accessible 24/7, with identifying photos, on the technology of your choice, that's perfection!

What goes into the directory is what you would expect. Name and address, phone number, email address, children's names. You choose which elements you want displayed/printed, and which not. The best part is you add a photo of your choice. If you have a great portrait you like, or a family photo from vacation that captures everyone at their best, then that's the one you upload (We'll help if you need it). We will offer portrait photo sessions if you need an update, and put the photos on a CD, at **very** low cost. Or, if we have a recent photo of you in our Trinity photo album and you'd like us to use that, it will be done!



Fun features

- group shots of everyone in each ministry, so watch for scheduling information and make sure you are in the group!
- a member business group. Self-employed professionals and business owners are invited to participate, and parishioners are encouraged to check the listings.

The directory will be accessed through our password protected, parishioners-only web site and it also has its own password protection. You will see the entire directory but only be able to edit your own record.

Many churches take this approach now since it's safe, convenient, and flexible. You can expect we will nudge you from time to time to keep your contact information current.

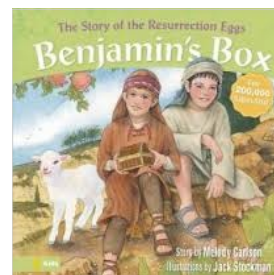
Christian Education Ministry



Martha Monico
Chair

Snuggly Stories Family Evening, Saturday, March 23

A donkey, praying hands, three coins, and a strip of leather...what do all these have in common? Come along with Benjamin and see. Families and their little ones are invited to a pajama party in the undercroft at 6:00 pm. The evening will begin with a Resurrection Egg treasure hunt followed by the beautifully illustrated story, **Benjamin's Box**, a fictional narrative of a young boy who lived in Jerusalem during the time of Jesus. Each item Benjamin finds corresponds to one of the eggs.



A potluck supper will follow. Trinity will provide the chicken fingers and beverages. Please RSVP **Jen Zehler** at godly-play@trinitybranford.org if you can attend this fun family event. **Families are asked to bring an empty egg carton for each child that is attending.**

Adult Forum, Sunday, April 21

Dr. John Seibyl will be our Adult Forum speaker between the services at 9:00 am. Neurodegenerative brain diseases like Alzheimer's disease (AD) have become endemic with the aging demographics of developed countries. One in eight older Americans has Alzheimer's disease, now the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States. The impact of Alzheimer's extends beyond the patient, affecting families and communities, requiring tremendous family support, social services resources, medical care, and long-term care services. This forum walks through recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's dementia, with the aim to extend understanding of the science behind the promising new treatment of this devastating disorder.

John is Executive Director and senior scientist at the Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders and Co-founder and President of Molecular NeuroImaging, LLC, in New Haven. He is the former Chief of the Section of Nuclear Medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital. His research work has involved developing novel brain scanning techniques to support the assessment of new therapies in Alzheimer's disease and other brain disorders.

Parish Life Ministry



Peter H. Hayes
Chair

With the weather we've had this year, I know it seems like spring will never come. However it begins on March 20th! With that in mind, it is time to look forward to events coming hosted by the Parish Life Ministries.

First and foremost is Holy Week which begins on March 24th with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter Sunday. All of the ministries will observe this solemn and joyous time of year. The Lord is risen, the Lord is risen indeed.

The Parish Life Ministries should begin thinking and planning for those events that we do every year. Before you know it, it will be time for the Lobster Dinner during the Branford Festival. I would encourage our newcomers to volunteer for this and other events that we do (the Fair, Jazz concerts, Branford Cares etc.), because these are fun ways for us to get to know each other. Anyone interested in joining us, email me with your interests and we will be sure to find a way to use your talents. parishlife@trinitybranford.org.



One area that I think we should include as a Parish Life Ministry is to establish a committee to organize, plan, and execute post natural disaster dinners for Trinity and the town

of Branford. Volunteers are needed. Hopefully, we won't need to use this ministry but let's be prepared.

I wish you all a glorious Easter.

Trinity Transitions

Our condolences to **Carol Schaller** on the loss of her brother Charles R. Covert II, and to **Peter Schuller** on the loss of his brother, Michael Schuller. Trinity also lost long-time parishioners, **Chester Bentley** and **Frederick (Fritz) Reimers**. May their souls, and those of all the departed, rest in peace. Amen.

The Fair

Dottie Packer, Fair Chair



Trinity Fair activity is well under way! If you have started your spring cleaning please note: Dottie's garage doors opened March 1 to receive donations of furniture and Tag Sale items for the September 7 Trinity Fair. Any questions please contact either Dottie or Pam at trinity-fair@trinitybranford.org.

The Trinity Craft Group

By Peggy Esposito



We are moving along and having lots of fun and fellowship. We have finished our first group project, seashell wreaths and we are very proud of our work! Individual group members are working on baby hats, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, boo-boo bunnies and more.

We will launch our crafts on May 18th on the Green, in a craft fair to benefit Branford Cares. Please mark the date on your calendars.

At that time we will offer more spring/summer crafts with a preview of our fall/winter/Christmas items. This is our opportunity to introduce our group to the community and invite them to come and see more at the Trinity Fair in September!



How's this for the most adorable baby hats ever?

We need your help to cost effectively create our beautiful items. Please check your supplies to see if you have any of our wish list items. If not, maybe you would be able to purchase some of the supplies we need.

(Continued on page 5)

Parish Life Ministry *continued*

(Continued from page 4)



Wish List

Small toys (up to 3 inches); Game pieces; Scrabble games; scrapbook paper; fabric scraps; buttons; Mason jars; baby food jars; Cricut programs to lend; birdseed; picture frames; styrofoam balls; glue guns and glue sticks; Christmas lights preferably on white wires.

Please join us on the first and third Monday of each month. We meet in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm. There is no commitment, just come when you can! Questions? craftersgroup@trinitybranford.org.

Trinity Book Group, April 3rd

The April selection is *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, by Jamie Ford. This is a historical fiction best selling novel set in the 1940s, about the love and friendship of a Chinese boy and a Japanese girl during the Japanese internment in World War II. The discussion is held in the Guild Room, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

First Sunday Breakfast, April 7

Gather together at 9:00 am in the undercroft for a delicious breakfast and fellowship. On the menu is scrambled eggs, bacon and a croissant, juice, tea or coffee. \$3.50 per adult, \$2 per child, \$10 family maximum. Please sign up in the foyer, call the office or email: firstsundaybreakfast@trinitybranford.org. Thank you!



Music at Trinity: A Community Concert Series

Our lovely church will now be the setting for the community to come and experience lovely classical music. Our first concert, a trial run, will be held on **Friday, April 19th at 7:00 pm**, with a performance by the **Mooretet Quartet** from Yale, and classical guitarist **Neal Fitzpatrick** from Branford. The program will include pieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Villa-Lobos, Brouer, and Ibert



There will be a reception following the concert to give time for concert-goers to meet the performers.

Tickets will be \$15 each and may be purchased after church on Sunday, and weekdays at the church office.

And before the concert, why not enjoy a delicious dinner at one of the downtown restaurants? Details to follow. Dinner and a concert sounds like a great night out!

Stewardship of the Earth

The Earth Day 2013 campaign, *The Face of Climate Change*, is designed to provide people with the opportunity to unite their voices in a call for our leaders to take climate change more seriously. Every person is encouraged to do their part and become one of the faces of climate change. Between now and **Earth Day, April 22**, the campaign will collect and display images of people, animals, and places directly affected or threatened by climate change, as well as images of people stepping up to do something about it. They will tell the world their stories through pictures sent in to earthday.org/2013.

Earth Day Network recognizes that faith leaders have been a driving force behind the most important and successful social movements. They encourage all people of faith across the globe to join them on Earth Day this April as they, "Save Everything We Love." **Irejn.org**.

The future will not be saved by our good intentions. It will be made better, or worse, only by our actions. What can you do to steward God's beautiful creation? Take a shorter shower, car pool, reduce electric consumption, turn down the thermostat a degree, reduce your use of plastic, be an organic gardener, etc.,. Together, there's much we can do.

Outreach Ministry



**Janet Constantino,
Chair**

We welcomed two new members at our March meeting, **Kathleen Myers** and **Carroll Ryan**. There is plenty of room around the table for more, so please consider coming to our next Outreach meeting on April 14, 2013, 11:30 am in the Guild Room.

Outreach minutes are on Trinity's intranet (the parishioner site). January 2013 is available.

Trinity's Closet, April 27th



By Kathy Sanchez, Coordinator

We open our doors twice a year to individuals and families in Branford who are having a hard time making ends meet. For the first time, First Congregational Church, First Baptist Church, United Methodist Church, and Shoreline Community Church, have offered to help.

Guests come to Trinity to shop from a selection of donated household and personal items. How can you help? Two ways: volunteer to help with set-up on April 26th and greet our guests who will shop on April 27th, and/or donate items for distribution.



Items that are needed: household cleaning supplies, personal items shampoo, toothpaste, paper goods, new pillows, bed/bath linens, new or gently used spring/summer clothing. To volunteer, contact

Kathy Sanchez at trinitycloset@trinitybranford.org. Bring donated items to the Church office daily between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm, or to Church on Sunday. Thank you!

HomeFront Program In Branford, May 4th

Saint Mary's Catholic Church is taking the lead in this year's Homefront Program. The home of a deserving family in need will be repaired by volunteers. Trinity people interested in helping can contact **Dottie Packer** until a coordinator is announced.

Many thanks to the "snowbird" fill-ins who covered the Columbus House Ministry in March. Left to right: **Maureen McGuinness, Pam Bold, Carol Brunt and Jim Atkinson**. What a great crew!



Photo: Mark McElrath

The Origin of the Easter Lily. The beautiful trumpet-shaped white flowers symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, hope and life—the spiritual essence of Easter. Often called the "white-robed apostles of hope," lilies were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white lilies sprung up where drops of Christ's sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. Churches continue this tradition at Easter time by banking their altars and surrounding their crosses with masses of Easter Lilies, to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.

Leadership



**Mark McElrath
Sr. Warden**

Retreat Report

On Saturday, March 9th, Vestry and the Council of Chairs spent the day at St. John's Episcopal Church in North Guilford talking about where we are as a parish, effectiveness of our leadership structure, and making plans for our collective future. We started by reviewing the capital budget projections for the next 12 years with Mike McGuinness our chair of Buildings and Grounds Ministry. The master plan is posted on Trinity's intranet, the password protected portion of Trinity's web site. We decided to move forward with the following in 2013:

- Elevator feasibility study
- Godly play area: flooring replacement, painting, new light fixtures, bathroom upgrade
- Rectory hatchway replacement
- Parish house exterior painting (front only)



We discussed my plan to pull together some financial and legal experts from within the parish, to review our endowment portfolio. The financial experts will look at how we are invested and make recommendations on how best to maximize growth and returns. The legal experts will look at how these endowments are structured to make sure we are honoring the benefactor's wishes and advise whether or not adjustments are required.

After lunch we discussed parish leadership and how the Council of Chairs can operate more effectively. We decided to create a calendar that summarizes ALL parish activities. The goal is to do a better job coordinating and supporting all parish activities across ministries. The Chairs committed to meeting more frequently, and both Vestry and the Council agreed to share information in a timelier manner.

There was lengthy discussion and excitement about starting a new Health Ministry, a concept submitted by **Janet Constantino**.

We also talked about how to do a better job of welcoming newcomers: we would like to bring back greeters and review/revitalize an existing program with new volunteers.



**Rodney Hayes
Junior Warden**

Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women

The 132nd Annual Meeting of The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Connecticut will be held Thursday, May 2, at The Aqua Turf, Plantsville (Southington).

9:00 am	Registration Coffee and Displays
10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Business Meeting and Program
12:30 pm	Luncheon

The guest speaker will be The Reverend Timothy Safford, Rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, *"Voices Found: The Witness of Three Founding Mothers of the Episcopal Church"*

Reserved seating only - \$18.00 per person. **Deadline April 14.**
Baby sitting available - reservations needed
(reservations are non-refundable and cannot be made without payment)

Please make your check payable to: Rodney F. Hayes. I will send in one check for the parish. Car pooling will be available. For further information contact Rodney Hayes at juniorwaden@trinitybranford.org

One of the many benefits of a program-style (the empowerment of laity) parish, is people are encouraged to participate at any level. We are always looking for help for outreach projects, we can use a hand cooking/serving/cleaning at parish life events, we need greeters/ushers, we need help raking leaves/cleaning at our spring clean-up day. You are encouraged to jump in for a project/event that interests you. You will be amazed at how much fun you will have and who you will meet. Service doesn't require a lifelong commitment. It's up to you how much time you give.

Trinity Episcopal Church
1109 Main Street
Branford, CT 06405

The Rev. Sharon Gracen, Rector
Ronald Baldwin, Organ Master &
Choir Director

Parish Office 203-488-2681

e-mail: trinitychurch@trinitybranford.org

www.trinitybranford.org

Worship at Trinity

Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

9:45 AM Sunday School and
Nursery Care

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
With music and choir

Televised on Channel 18
And AT&T Channel 99
7:00 PM Sundays

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

April 2013, Special Dates

every day calendar @ [trinity branford.org/news](http://trinitybranford.org/news)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 Crafters Group	2	3 7 pm Trinity Book Group	4 Council of Minis- tries 7 pm	5	6
7 9 am First Sun- day Breakfast	8	9 Noon Pastoral Care	10	11	12	13
14 ECW reg deadline; out- reach mtg 11:30	15 6:30 Crafters Group	16 Vestry	17	18	19 7pm Trinity, Community Con- cert Series	20
21 9 am Adult Forum	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26 4 pm – 6 pm Trinity Closet setup	27 Trinity's Closet
28	29	30				