



Messenger

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Change is often
rejuvenating,
invigorating, fun....
and necessary.

Lynn Povich

Now It's All About The 105th Annual Fair!

Last year's changes in the Fair brought the best financial results for quite some time and injected fresh energy into all who participated.

Dottie Packer's out-of-the-box approach to extending the Tag Sale for practically six months, enabled many of us to rid ourselves of unwanted furniture, unused sports equipment and excess "stuff." The Silent Auction returned, was beautifully presented by Peggy Esposito, and contributed spectacularly to the financial success. Ideas....energy.... success!



So what do we do this year to keep the momentum of positive change moving? Funny you should ask! Rev. Sharon is inviting the Branford Artist Community to pitch their tents and showcase their talents. This will bring some exciting color and interest and potentially new shoppers. Building on Trinity's more active role in the community—and the growing connections with the arts community through the Branford Cares initiative—invitations to collaborate for mutual benefit will strengthen old and begin more new friendships.

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From the Rector



At the end of June, Paul Birbarie's funeral brought many people to Trinity. It was an occasion to celebrate the life of a man who meant much to the people of this congregation and this town. The experience of those attending the service was one of welcome and a sense that Trinity was a special place. Paul was the fourth pillar of Trinity and Branford that I have buried since coming here; Bob Denhardt, Bill Davis, Don Erickson and finally, Paul.

Thinking about these four gentle men and all that they did for Trinity and Branford has been a little bittersweet. Sweet in the knowledge of how their dedication created so many of the things that are wonderful about this church; the spirit of volunteerism, willingness to do whatever was necessary or

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From the Rector

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travel to other countries to spread Trinity goodness. I find, however, that I am sad as they are not here to enjoy all that is unfolding. They haven't heard of Branford's new appreciation for Trinity as a place that is making things happen. Stories are making their way to me of things that people are saying about us and it would make Bob, Bill, Don and Paul so proud. Branford Cares and the new Native American initiative through our Outreach Ministry just seem like their sort of thing.

It's good to remember those who got us here and stop for a moment to lift up the saints who have gone before us. The love that they gave remains and their examples can continue to inspire us to even more good things. Thanks, guys.

Peace, *Sharon+*

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Sharon said, "I am so proud to be the Rector of this parish. When I'm out in the community, I feel like I'm bragging when I tell people what I do. The Fair this year is a chance to continue in the community what we have begun in the past year. I, for one, plan to have a blast!"

You can too—have a blast, that is! Between us, the most laughs start early Friday evening, putting up tents. There must be a joke about how many adults does it take to assemble one little tent? Come see for yourself!



Outreach Ministry

By Alyson Humphrey



Traditionally, food donations decrease in the summer. Let's change this tradition by remembering to drop off non-perishable food items to the baskets on the right as you enter the back of the church.

Suggested items are: beans, rice, apple sauce, peanut butter, tuna, Dinty Moore stew, egg noodles, cake mix, canned frosting, canned fruit and cereal.

Thanks for your support!

Submission deadline for the following *Messenger* is the 15th of the current month. Please submit hard copy to the office or e-mail ajfreeman@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.

Communication Ministry Contributors

<i>Features</i>	Rev. Sharon, Ann Freeman, Jim Atkinson
<i>Editor</i>	Jo-Ann Pearson
<i>Layout</i>	Ann Freeman
<i>Copy/Fold/Mail</i>	Lynn Aspland, Ruth Buell, Dru Dodd, Jane Dougherty, Bill Gilpatrick, Mary McCarthy, Judy Nelson, Roberta Rowe

Trinity Officers

Mark McElrath, Senior Warden
Sherry Jones, Junior Warden
Ellen Shirey, Clerk of the Parish

Vestry and Council of Ministry members, see website.

Parish Life Ministry

By Peter Hayes, Chair



Parish Life Ministry has been active during the spring. Our Coffee Hour Ministry provided good food, fun and fellowship under the caring and creative leadership of **Jen Zehler**. With her munchkin coffee crew and other helpers, Jen assured us that all was in readiness for any occasion including Easter, Trinity Sunday, and the Bishop's visit. Things will slow down for Jen during the summer with simple lemonade on the lawn.



Our third annual Lobster Bake during the Branford Festival was a smashing success. **Mitch Rucinski** and his amazing crew served over 100 lobster dinners and raised \$1,300 for Branford Cares. The entire event, though tiring, was a lot of fun. I look forward to our fourth!

Left to right: Sandy Baldwin, Jen Zehler, Mike McGuinness, Rodney Hayes, Peter Hayes, Mitch Rucinski, Lisa Davis-Rucinsky, Jeff Rowan

Speaking of Branford Cares, yours truly set up a table at Brewers Bruce & Johnson's Marina during their annual marina picnic. With the owner's permission, I set up a table promoting Branford Cares, accepting donations. I was not having much success because most people said that they didn't have their wallets with them because the event was free. Several took the information card hand-out and said they would send something in later. When I was breaking down, John McMahon, the owner of the marina, asked how I made out. When I told him I only made \$10.00, he opened his wallet and put a \$100.00 bill in the pot. Thanks, John, for your incredible generosity.

As the summer progresses, Parish Life will be heavily involved in the Church Fair with the pancake breakfast, lunch and quilt raffle, all to raise money for the Church. I look forward to everyone pitching in to help at the Fair.

Just a heads-up: **Gena Eggert** and I will be hosting a picnic (hot dogs, hamburgers etc.) sometime in August to raise money for Branford Cares. The event will be held at Brewers Bruce & Johnson's Marina. Details will be published when we nail down the date. Look for that in the Trinity In Touch e-mail.

Thank you to the sub-ministries in Parish Life for their continued support of the projects in which we are involved. Have a great summer. See you at the cook-out.

Trinity Transitions

Welcome summer parishioners! It's good to see you back with us, again!

So long, **Gayle & Bill Calabrese**. After forty years at Trinity, we're not sure who's going to miss each other more. No question you leave a hard-to-fill spot on the Altar Guild and Outreach Committee. Lucky you to join your family in Florida—happy days together!

We remember **Paul Birbarie**, **Sue (Hazel) Hallier**, **Mary Cooke**, and Scott Hoese's grandfather Max Lewis Hoese. May their souls and the souls of all the departed rest in peace, Amen.

Trinity's 105th Fair Saturday, September 8, 2012



By Rod Hayes , Chair

It's that time of year again!
Time to get ready for our
Annual Fair!

Dottie Packer and **Pam Bold** have already begun
collecting tag sale items, and

Peggy Esposito and her team have quite a collection
of Silent Auction articles/services almost ready to go!

We need lots of helpers for before, during and after the Fair, so please volunteer to help out in any way you can. We'll need help with the tag sale, baked goods, jewelry, donations to the silent auction. Please find a way that you can donate a few hours to the biggest fund-raiser the Church has all year! You may contact me with any questions, comments or to volunteer, rodneyhayes@yahoo.com or 203-481-5918.

Thanks! I look forward to working with you.

Buy your quilt raffle tickets—win a beauty!



The quilt is called *Around the Twist*, handmade by Trinity Quilters. The tickets are \$2.00 each. Tickets will be sold after each Sunday service, at the Thursday night Jazz Concert Series, and in the office.

Silent Auction

By Peggy Esposito

The Trinity fair is fast approaching, and the Silent Auction is just getting off the ground.

Last year was very successful due to terrific support. We have some really exciting ideas for this year and need your help. Please look at the wish list and see what you might be able to solicit or donate.

Feature Items



If you are willing and able to help with some of our "feature items," or to help subsidize the purchases, we would like to offer any or all of the following:

iPad, Kindle Fire or Barnes & Noble Nook, tickets to a Broadway show, Pro Sports tickets, tickets to Radio City Music Hall, a Keurig coffee brewer, use of your vacation home, beer, wine or fruit-of-the-month club, just to name a few.

Baskets

We are also putting together baskets including: Poker, Car Care, BBQ, Family Movie Night, Girls' Night In, "Go Green" products, Fisherman, Gourmet Foods, etc. Please let me know if you would like to put together a basket or donate items towards the building of one.

Services

We are also looking for services you or anyone you know can provide. For example, handyman services, tax preparation, a simple will, eye exam, teeth cleaning, house

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105th Fair continued

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cleaning. Use your imagination, the list is endless.

Etcetera

And finally, (for now!), we need nice bottles of wine, champagne and chocolates, family games and jigsaw puzzles to complete many of our items.

One last thought, I had an idea for a 'Design Your Own Halloween Costume'. I need a master seamstress willing to work with someone to help design and sew the costume. If this is you, please contact me!

Please contact Peggy Esposito at 203-584-0443 or peggyesposito@yahoo.com to volunteer, donate or share ideas.

Tag Sale



Dottie Packer is collecting clean, quality items to sell. She says, "My garage is open and available for those who wish to donate furniture." Call for a pickup 203-450-1984. Small items you are able to bring to Trinity, can be dropped off at the room just before the tunnel, under-

neath the church.
What we cannot accept: no computers, televisions, electronic appliances, anything damaged, clothing, personal items or children's toys.



Outreach will offer information about all of our ministries and potential new ministries (this includes Kiva and Heifer). We are working on selling Native American and other wonderful items. We will say more as the details unfold.



Due to the declining revenue generated from book sales and the amount of workers and time needed to sort, etc., we will not be selling books at the Fair this year. Please, if you have books to donate, give them to the Blackstone Library Book Sale which is held a bit later in September.

Parish Life Ministry *continued*



We are pleased to introduce Cheever Tyler

Cheever Tyler's Facebook page says this about himself: "I am a recovering lawyer and now a wandering "do goodnik," who believes in God and kindness." This man has lived a lifetime of kindness. Cheever, a graduate of Yale College class of '59, found New Haven to be a community where he could raise six children while he worked at the law firm of Wiggin and Dana.

Cheever is an accomplished photographer, playwright, poet, filmmaker, sculptor, author, lawyer, activist, and philanthropist. He was *Business New Haven's* choice for 2003 Citizen of the Year where he was described as "the Elm City's indefatigable do-gooder, ringleader to good-deed-doers, cheerleader if ever there was one."

The Arts Council of Greater New Haven bestowed its C. Newton Schenck III Lifetime Achievement Award on Tyler for his consistent support and activity in the arts. His plays, short stories and poetry have been enjoyed by many. He has produced two books about the arts in New Haven and is working on two more.

He has successfully led fundraising campaigns for dozens of nonprofit organizations. These you will recognize: the Shubert Theater, United Way, Connecticut Public Television, Columbus House, the University of New Haven, and the New Haven Public Education Fund.

Now that Cheever worships at Trinity, the "do good-niking" continues. Rev. Sharon spoke about Branford Cares in her sermon, and Cheever immediately (literally, at the Peace!) offered a \$2,500 match to kids under 18. Please make sure any child you know is aware of this match. Encourage children to think about others less fortunate than themselves--perhaps friends at school or in the neighborhood--and come up with an idea on how to raise money over the summer that would help kids and their families in need. Register on branfordcares.org.

Do it for Branford Cares. Do it for Cheever!

Finance Ministry



Updates from Carol Schaller

The Legacy Society

The Legacy Fund Trustees are pleased to report a warm welcome from Trinity Parish for the newly created Legacy Fund. The kick-off reception in late May was well attended with an estimated total of more than 100 convivial celebrants. Mimosas and delicacies from La Cuisine were the order of the morning. Brochures were made available. We already have five inductees into the associated Legacy Society whose names (where authorized) will be inscribed on a recognition plaque in our foyer.

Those who choose to gift the Church by midnight, December 31, 2012, will be permanently designated as **Founding Members** of the Legacy Society. The names will be listed in the order in which the living gifts and pledges are received. There will be room for Sustaining Member names to be added on an annual basis, beginning January 2013.

Additional information is available through the Church office, (203) 488-2681.

Hanna Memorial Window Update

The Stained Glass Window Committee has met and discussed the views of the Parish regarding the unveiling of



the proposed new window artwork. We are grateful to all who took the time to voice their support, approval or disappointment, views and suggestions. It is a vital function of the

volunteer leaders of Trinity to share plans, understand our Church community objectives, and respond to your collective vision. Thank you for meaningful guidance.

We listened, and now we will move forward with your good thoughts in mind. Thank you.

Administration



Report on Table of Chairs Meeting, June 26th, 2012

By Mark McElrath (in for Sherry Jones)

Outreach chair Kim Humphrey reported we are assisting the Center Pole Empowering Youth program for the Crow Indian Reservation. This is an initiative to help Native American groups. Kim also reported Outreach is very busy on many fronts and there is always room for more participation.

Parish Life chair Peter Hayes reported First Sunday breakfast was discussed which everyone agrees is a great time of fellowship. We kicked around ideas on what we could do to encourage more folks to participate.

Building and Grounds chair Mike McGuinness is gathering information and quotes to repair the flooring in the nursery and Godly play areas. If schedules and budgets allow we would like to complete this work this summer. ~ Updates at the Rectory continue with some tile work in the upstairs bathroom. ~ The water issues in the undercroft and Rectory basement have been remedied. ~ We are looking for someone to oversee the maintenance of our landscaping in coordination with Mike. If you or someone you know might be interested please contact Mike.

Worship chair Sandy Baldwin reported lay readers have completed training. She also mentioned she is looking for ushers for the 10 o'clock service. Sunday attendance is holding steady. We discussed doing a parish-wide call to "check in" with parishioners. This will most likely be done by Vestry late summer/fall.

Finance Ministry chair Bill Baskin reported that even in this struggling economy our funds are doing well and continue to grow. Bill reported the Legacy Fund is already up to \$57,000, which is a great start. He talked about how fortunate we are to have **Katherine Rowe** serving as the assistant treasurer. She is organizing and streamlining our day-to-day financial management system working closely with Bill. We continue to seek a Treas-

urer to work with Katherine and Bill.

Sharon filled in for **Spirituality Ministry** chair Bob Barnett reporting they are asking our college students to fill out a questionnaire to see how we can stay in touch and provide value while they are at school. It was suggested that we do the same with our armed forces members.

Sharon also reported for **Christian Education** chair Martha Monico, that Education is working on a monthly adult forum, looking for how much interest there is in the parish.

Mark reported that the Vestry is planning to meet with Bishop Laura Ahrens on Tuesday, September 18th and invited the ToC to join that meeting.

Communication Ministry

Welcome **Cynthia Frawley** (membership directory), **Sara Carreon** (online listings), **Judi Cavanaugh** (bulletin board). Also, thank you to **Rich Esposito** (photographer-re.com), who photographed the Bishop's visit.

Membership Directory

By Cynthia Frawley



As our church continues to grow we are looking to move along with it. You might recall our most recent directory was printed in 2009. A lot has changed since then! With that in mind, the coming months will bring us Trinity Membership Directory 2.0. We're aiming for updated portraits and accurate contact information so we can stay truly connected as a community.

Goals include high quality photos at low cost; in-house production; options of print, CD and online photos—emphasis on the online format—which will be accessed via the protected parishioner website. Overall advantages will be real-time availability of current information, and easy to add newcomers. Stay tuned for more details as to when and how we'll make this happen.

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

Sheppard Fund Deadline July 23, 2012

The Trinity Scholarship Fund is available to Trinity parishioners.

New applicants must complete the application form and write a brief essay on how Trinity has impacted their life.

Students who previously earned scholarships, should note how they gained from their experience and how they can assist those younger than themselves to achieve their dreams.

ALL applications must be received by July 23.

The application form may be found on the home page of trinitybranford.org. Questions and completed paperwork go to juniorwarden@trinitybranford.org.



Summer Sunday School

July 8th to August 25th

Little Trinitarians will experience the wonder and stories of God's creation, at the usual time in the cool Undercroft or outside, weather permitting.