



# Messenger

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

June 2011

### Make a note!

**June 19th, Branford Festival Sunday, there will be one service, at 8:00 am. Handicap parking only will be available on Town Hall Drive.**

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## June is bustin' out all over ...

... in a church calendar kind of way. There are three major feast days this month. After the season of Easter, when we hear the stories of Jesus appearing to his disciples, we come to **Ascension Day**. The Acts of the Apostles opens with the story of Jesus promising the coming of the Holy Spirit. After that, "... he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." (*Acts 1:9*) He now dwells as the right hand of God. The day is commemorated on the Thursday before the last Sunday of Easter, this year on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will observe it on the following Sunday.

The next week brings a very big day. The **Feast of Pentecost** heralds the Spirit in all of its fiery finery. The color of the day is red and you are invited to join in by wearing as much

red as you can tastefully manage. One of the gifts of the Spirit is to open our ears to each other, to understand those who speak differently. This year, we will demonstrate that during the reading from Acts with a simultaneous recitation of the Lord's Prayer in as many languages as we can find in our congregation. You don't need to be perfect in your pronunciation, just willing to join in the manifestation of the Spirit. Copies of the Lord's Prayer in a variety of languages will be available. Please call the office and let us know if you wish to take part and in what language.

Pentecost is also a day for baptisms. In earlier times, the feast was referred to as Whitsunday because of the white robes worn by the newly baptized. This year we have eight scheduled for that day. Oh joy!

*(Continued on page 2)*

## From the Rector



On the Feast of Pentecost, June 9, 1549, in the second year of the reign of King Edward the Sixth, the first *Book of Common Prayer* was used in worship in England. Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was the primary creative energy behind what would become a treasure to Anglicans around the world.

The book was truly a product of the Anglican via media or middle way. Cranmer drew on Medieval Latin liturgies particularly those from Salisbury Cathedral, with parts of ancient Greek liturgies, those from ancient France, Martin Luther's new rites in the German vernacular, and also revised Latin worship forms. The passages from scripture and the Psalms were from the newly available "*Great Bible*," commissioned by Henry VIII. Cranmer wove all of these pieces together with a brilliance that set a standard for all of the succeeding versions of *The Book of Common Prayer*. He simplified and paraphrased. This

*(Continued on page 2)*

## From the Rector

(Continued from page 1)

marvelous book put worship and scripture into the hands of the people in a way that was accessible.

Each province of the Anglican Communion has its own version of *The Book of Common Prayer*. The book from New Zealand is particularly lovely. The version in current use in the Episcopal Church was the work of the Standing Liturgical Commission of the Episcopal Church and finally approved in 1979. Many scholars and liturgists contributed. But this book is a living thing. As soon as one version is complete, revisions and additions begin. We have new supplemental liturgies approved in a volume called *Enriching Our Worship*, available since 1997. *The Book of Occasional Services* gives us forms for house blessings, Advent Lessons and Carols, Tenebrae, Commissioning of Lay Ministers, ground breaking for a new church, wedding anniversary blessings, and even information about exorcism!

*The Book of Common Prayer* is truly a treasure containing much more than we see on a normal Sunday. Every bedside table should have one!

Peace,

*Sharon +*

(Continued from page 1) **June is Bustin' Out ...**

Pentecost is the last day for all of the Alleluias. They don't go away as they do during Lent, but we will no longer open and close the liturgy with the festal shout.

The Sunday after Pentecost is **Trinity Sunday**. That makes it a special day for all of the churches named Trinity. In churches named for a saint, i.e., St. Paul's or St. David's, there are patronal feast days when the patron saint is celebrated. The Trinity, however, is ever elusive and therefore not as easily or concretely celebrated, but we shall do so in grand style anyway! Holy, holy, holy! There is one catch. This year Trinity Sunday falls on Father's Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>, which is also the weekend of the Branford Festival. This year, we will postpone it and transfer the feast to the following Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. That makes a good day to mark the end of spring. The final celebratory Coffee Hour will cap the day.

## Summer Solstice and Christianity

In Genesis, it says that God created the two great lights in the sky "for signs and seasons." The winter solstice has always been associated with Christmas, the birth of the Light of the world.

The summer solstice is celebrated any time from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. For Christians, it is associated with the Nativity of John the Baptist on June 24<sup>th</sup>, no doubt an attempt by the church to divert new believers from the old ways. Celebrations around the world often include bonfires or the modern equivalent, fireworks, lots of music, wine, and staying up late to marvel at the length of the day.

Submission deadline for the following months *Messenger* is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the current month. Please submit hard copy to the office or e-mail [ajfree-man@comcast.net](mailto: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.

### Communication Ministry Contributors

<i>Features</i>	Rev. Sharon & Ann Freeman
<i>Editors</i>	Jo-Ann Pearson, Jim Atkinson
<i>Layout</i>	Ann Freeman
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### Trinity Officers

Mark McElrath, Senior Warden  
Kris Lockwood, Junior Warden  
Regis Conlon, Treasurer  
Roz Jones, Clerk of the Parish

**Vestry and Council of Ministry** members, see website.

## Parish Life Ministry

### It's a Bigger and Better 104<sup>th</sup> Trinity Church Annual Fair



By Rodney Hayes, Chair

It's only June and already there is excitement about the 104<sup>th</sup> Trinity Church Annual Fair. As Sharon previously outlined, this will be the best of the old fair with exciting additions. Not only will it raise money for Trinity, as in the past, but also the community will learn a little bit about us and be invited to join with us in what we do—help others. Thus, our theme: *Reaching Out. Touching Lives*. Here's how things are shaping up.

As always we're asking for your help to sell tickets for this year's Trinity quilt, *'Ribbon Dance'*. Tickets are \$2 each or a book of 10 is \$15.

We've added a second raffle for an enchanting playhouse that volunteers will construct the day of the fair, right in the middle of all the activities! Seventy-five percent of the proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity in New Haven and 25% to Trinity. The raffle tickets are ready to sell! They are \$10 each and we have 1,000 on hand. We can sell tickets during the Branford Festival, at the town summer concerts, and whenever we have volunteers to sit at a table. Please contact the office if you are willing to take either set of tickets to sell, or if you can give any time at all at our table.



The **Outreach Ministry**, led by **Kim Humphrey**, will take the lead on the Heifer Project and some crafts through international cooperatives like *Colores del Pueblo* that pay a fair return to the artisans. Through Heifer, a gift of livestock—bees, chicks, goats, heifers—becomes income-producing and empowering for an impoverished family. We'll have live animals on the green! If you have an animal or two to loan for a few hours—bunnies, chickens, llamas!—all are welcome in the pen!

And for the Branford Food Council, maybe we'll get into the *Guinness Book of Records*! The public will be asked to bring canned goods to the Fair, so this should make

one heck of a canned goods tree!

Showing the community more about who we are: **Cathy Seibyl** will lead the children's tent with story telling, activities and games. The Scouts, led by **Patrick Freeman**, will add to kids' activities with either a Pinewood Derby or Rain Gutter Regatta—still being decided but it's all great fun. Of course, the Church will be open for tours (volunteers will be given cheat sheets of what to show and what to say), and people can walk a labyrinth in the Parish Hall. Oh, and super cool, the choir will take a "flash mob" approach to rousing harmony. Awesome stuff!

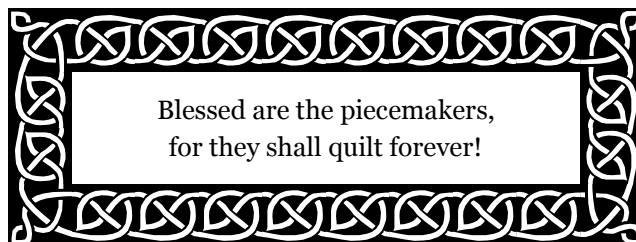
It looks like we'll have the most fantastic Silent Auction ever! **Peggy Esposito** has taken the lead and is clearly a super-organizer! Please see her article and be in touch with ideas, goods or services to donate. Closer to the day, she'll need help making attractive baskets.

Previously we announced there would not be a tag sale, but the committee has reconsidered this because it does draw people. However, we have to make it less a volunteer killer and more financially productive. So, the tag sale is on, but scaled down. Good quality, excellent condition, sellable items will be manageable and bring the financial return we need. We would like your **three best quality items**. Trinity will provide proof of donation forms for income tax documentation. And, you can bring donations to the small room in the undercroft NOW and all summer long.

**Examples of acceptable items include:** dishes and china, glassware, household accessories, tools, garden items, puzzles and games, antiques, collectables.

**What we cannot accept:** no computers, televisions, electronic appliances, exercise equipment, anything damaged, linens, clothing, personal items or children's toys.

Exciting, right? We need everyone's participation—goods and service donations, buying and selling raffle tickets, or volunteering time. Please see the list of coordinators on page 6 and reach out directly to them. Thank you!



## Parish Life continued

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### The Silent Auction is moving right along!

By Peggy Esposito



We have some great gifts so far, including a gourmet dinner for four at the rectory, prepared by our own celebrity master chef! Rodney Hayes a/k/a The Weedin' Woman, has donated her time to prepare your garden for the winter chill. There will be a yoga class, a

massage, a birthday party extravaganza, and everything you need to pamper your pet, too!

We are working on many great gifts and need your help. Please look at the wish list and see what you might be able to solicit or donate.

#### Wish list includes:

Dinnerware, napkins and napkin rings ▪ a fluffy spa robe ▪ coffee mugs ▪ Princess or Cinderella party goods ▪ a venue for a children's party ▪ running items

We are also looking for services that you or anyone you know can provide, for example: handyman repairs, tax preparation, a simple will, eye exam, teeth cleaning, house cleaning, etc. Use your imagination! The list can be endless!

#### A few basket ideas include:

Gourmet foods ▪ Poker ▪ Car care/Carwash ▪ Barbeque Breakfast ▪ Family game night ▪ Family movie night

Please contact **Peggy Esposito** at 203-467-7713 or [peggyesposito@yahoo.com](mailto:peggyesposito@yahoo.com) to volunteer, donate or share ideas.

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### Trinity Book Group

The Trinity Book Group is having its next gathering on Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Guild Room. All are welcome.

The book selection is ***Care of the Soul: A Guide for Cultivating Depth and Sacredness in Everyday Life***. Thomas Moore is the author of the bestselling book and fifteen other books on deepening spirituality and cultivating soul in every aspect of life.

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### Welcome Matthew!

Matthew was born April 8th to Rachel and Christopher Perdo. He was in need of immediate, life-saving heart surgery. Trinity's prayers were answered and so we gave thanks at the 10:00 service on May 22 for the successful surgery.

Matthew needs two more surgeries, so please continue to remember him and his parents in your prayers.

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### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lobster Dinner- June 18

Trinity Church lobster dinner at the Branford Festival is back by popular demand! Eat in the parish hall or picnic on the Green while you listen to the concert.

From 5:00-8:30 pm treat your family or join with friends to enjoy lobster and steamers, corn on the cob, coleslaw and your choice of beverage. Tickets are \$25.00 each, payable in cash or a check made out to Trinity Church.

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### Worship Ministry

By Ron Baldwin

In our observance of Trinity Sunday our opening hymn will be No. 362 in Hymnal 1982, "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Reginald Heber (1783-1826), an Anglican clergyman, wrote the words to this much appreciated hymn. The great poet Alfred Lord Tennyson once referred to it as "the world's greatest hymn."

Heber served a church in Hodnet near Birmingham, England where he made congregational singing a priority. Most congregations in those days sang the Psalms – but most sang them badly. Also, the Psalms which were sung had little relevance to the liturgy. Heber began writing and collecting hymns organized around the Church Year. "Holy, Holy, Holy!" was the hymn for Trinity Sunday in his collection.

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## Parish Life continued

### Interview with Peter Schuller



In an effort to know Sharon's husband a little better, *Messenger* staff sat down with Peter Schuller for a brief chat.

*Messenger:* So the obvious question to start with is how did you and Sharon meet?

*Peter:* The first time I worshipped at Faith Episcopal, I had missed the first fifteen minutes or so because it was World Cup Soccer time, and I was watching one of my favorite teams. I came in as Sharon was already preaching. I liked what I heard (and saw) and so after the service I told her that I liked her sermon but offered that I thought it was too short. Without missing a beat, she came back at me, "How would you know; you were late!" The rest is history.

*Messenger:* What is it like to be a male clergy spouse?

*Peter:* Well, I am not sure whether it matters if clergy spouse is male or female these days, but it does mean that I'm in a particular category of one at Trinity. I really enjoy the role of supporting Sharon's ministry, which I take very seriously, and we do have many great conversations on both the little things and the big issues of parish life. We find lots of connection between her work and mine.

*Messenger:* And what is it that you do?

*Peter:* I have a fairly eclectic professional life. I practiced law and investment banking for about 10 years, then became a management consultant, and finally discovered that I just needed to try something different, find a new way of thinking and doing things. I run a small non-profit research center called The Institute for Applied Theology and Science. That gets me involved in some pretty big projects, like studying and cataloguing the nature of human consciousness. My research covers everything from human spirituality to neuroscience, complexity science, quantum physics, and information theory. I'm working on the bigger picture. It's great fun. For example, lots of neuroscientists think they understand human consciousness but none of them takes into account the spiritual nature of humanity. What makes my research different is that I'm trying to make those connections and tie pieces together.

On top of that, when we moved here, I decided to take some of the research I have been doing in information theory and build a commercial product, so I have become a partner in a merchant bank called Point Capital Partners. I am starting the process of commercializing a "knowledge network" that I designed, which should make it more efficient for small networks of professionals to make the best use of their information and what can be gleaned from it.

*Messenger:* And what led you to such eclectic pursuits?

*Peter:* Frustration with my professional life. That's what got me started—trying to understand the nature and dimensions of human consciousness, so we could think about doing things differently. All my life, I have believed that humanity could do better than it does.

*Messenger:* Well, that's a lot to take in, but we'll look forward to learning more about your work as we get to know you better. Those of us who know you a little already, see there is another side to you. It is rumored you are a very good golfer and a rabid Red Sox fan! Your wife tells us you are just a big kid at heart. And, it's hard to top all this, but parishioners give you top marks as a waiter/coffee pourer at First Sunday Breakfast! Do you have time for other passions or interests?

*Peter:* I always try to be outdoors as much as possible and if I'm chasing a ball, all the better. I grew up playing every sport imaginable and still try to keep up with tennis, soccer and golf. Fortunately, Sharon enjoys most of the teams I follow. She's become a true member of Red Sox Nation but seems less taken with the Pats.

*Messenger:* We understand you have family on the East Coast. Who are they and where are they?

*Peter:* My mother lives in Cambridge, Mass, and I have a brother up in Lincoln. My older brother is in Delaware, and my sister and her husband (she's the other clergy spouse in the family) are currently in Jerusalem working for the Bishop there. I have another brother up in Maine, so it's good for us to be back in New England. Plus we have Robbie the one-year-old grandson in Framingham!

*Messenger:* We're glad that you're finding your own special place at Trinity. We are benefitting from who you are and what you do. Assisting Sharon with the development and presentation of the Lenten Spiritual Journey series really demonstrated for us how your and Sharon's

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Parish Life continued

### Questions? Volunteering to help. Here's who to contact.

Fair Item	Lead/Contact Person	Contact Information
Chair	Rodney Hayes	rodneyfhayes@yahoo.com
Outreach – Heifer & Kiva	Kim Humphrey	kimshelper01@yahoo.com
Outreach – International	Steve Sharma	ssharma698@aol.com
Playhouse Raffle / Construction	Sharon / Scott Denhardt	retor47@trinitybranford.org / doreend13@sbcglobal.net
Quilt Raffle	Dru Dodd	dru.dodd@snet.net
Tower of Canned Goods	Mike Dodd	michael.dodd@snet.net
Tag Sale	Dottie Packer	dottie_packer@yahoo.com
Children's Tent	Cathy Seibyl	cathy.seibyl@snet.net
Books	Martha Monico	edmarthamonico@yahoo.com
Baked Goods	Gayle Calabrese/Sue Rowan	reefeo2005@yahoo.com
Jewelry	Lisa Davis-Rucinski	ladr10@sbcglobal.net
Needlework	Ruth Knowlton	r.b.knowlton@att.net
Labyrinth	Bob Barnett	robertsbarnett@yahoo.com
Silent Auction	Peggy Esposito	peggyesposito@yahoo.com
Pancake breakfast	Mitch Rucinski	203-481-2230
Peach Shortcake	Nancy Collins	203-488-4762
Lunch	Peter Hayes	seyahpeter@yahoo.com
Scouts Derby/Regatta	Pat Freeman	Patrick.b.freeman@snet.net
Publicity-Flyers/Signs	Ann Freeman	ajfreeman@comcast.net
Church Tours	Jim Atkinson/Sharon	203-315-8639 / rector47@trinitybranford.org
Choir/Tone Chimes	Ron Baldwin	ronbaldwin@live.com

### (Continued from page 5) Interview with Peter Schuller

passions intertwine. You created a thought-provoking, yet practical process anybody can do for themselves to improve their relationships and lives. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated, and we thank you for that work. We look forward to seeing what else you have to bring us.

*Peter:* Thank you. I am certainly enjoying being at Trinity and also can't wait to see what's next!

### Outreach Ministry

The Outreach Committee needs home-baked treats, preferably non-melting, individual size, for our bake sale at The Branford Festival. The sale starts at 6:00 pm on Friday, June 18, and continues Saturday at 10:00 am. Trinity's baked goods are famous (in town!), so they are sure to sell fast.

Volunteer sales staff are also needed. Proceeds will go to Trinity outreach programs. If you can help, please contact **Steve Sharma** at 203-258-5023, or the parish office at 203-488-2681.

## Saint of the Month

### Background

The Episcopal Church publishes *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, containing feast days for various men and women the Church wishes to honor for their commitment to Christ and their witness to their faith. Such witnesses, by the grace of God, live in every age.

### Columba, Abbot of Iona, 597



Many legends have gathered about Columba, but there are also some historical data concerning his many works in the writings of Bede and Adamnan. According to one story, Patrick of Ireland foretold Columba's birth in a prophecy:

"He will be a saint and will be devout,  
He will be an abbot, the king of royal graces  
He will be lasting and forever good;  
The eternal kingdom be mine by his protection."

Columba was born in Ireland in 521, and early in life showed scholarly and clerical ability. He entered the monastic life and almost immediately set forth on missionary travels. Even before ordination to the presbyterate in 551, he had founded monasteries at Derry and Durrow.

Twelve years after his ordination, Columba and a dozen companions set out for northern Britain, where the Picts were generally ignorant of Christianity. Columba was kindly received, allowed to preach, convert and baptize. He was also given possession of the island of Iona, where, according to legend, his tiny boat had washed ashore. Here he founded the celebrated monastery that became the center for the conversion of the Picts. From Iona also, his disciples went out to found other monasteries that, in turn, became centers of missionary activity.

Columba made long journeys through the Highlands, as far as Aberdeen. He often returned to Ireland to attend synods, and thus established Iona as a link between Irish and Pictish Christians. For thirty years he evangelized, studied, wrote and governed the monastery at Iona. He supervised his monks in their work in the fields and workrooms, in their daily worship and Sunday Eucha-

rist, and in their study and teaching. He died peacefully while working on a copy of the Psalter. He had put down his pen, rested a few hours, and at Matins was found dead before the Altar, a smile on his face. He is quoted by biographer Adamnan as having said, "This day is called in the sacred Scriptures a day of rest, and truly to me it will be such, for it is the last day of my life and I shall enter into rest after the fatigues of my labors."

### Administration

#### Have you missed your Trinity Church e-mails?

If you haven't seen two e-mails each week, every week, then please let the office know. We have two instances where people have been unsubscribed, but it was none of their doing! We're checking with the software developers resolving those two instances, and hope there aren't any more. The boilerplate explanation from the office is "technical operating difficulties beyond our control", but we will follow up.

### Leadership Notes

By Mark McElrath, Senior Warden

I am happy to announce that **Otty Norwood** by unanimous vote has been appointed by the Vestry to fulfill the balance of Laura Radulski's term which expires January 2012.



The exterior painting will continue to completion when the weather cooperates.

Regis Conlon, Treasurer, reviewed the financial reports for the last quarter and stated pledges are keeping up with our expenses, though just barely.

Preliminary plans for a mutual ministry review involving the Search Committee, Vestry, Rev. Gracen and Search Consultant Rev. Greg Welin, are under way.

### (Continued from page 4) Worship Ministry

The tune associated with this hymn was composed by John Bacchus Dykes for the 1862 edition of the English hymnal, *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The tune is named *Nicaea* in honor of the church council held there in Asia Minor in 325 A.D. that established the doctrine of the Trinity.

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### 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  
7:00 PM Sundays

#### Wednesday

12:10 PM Eucharist & Healing  
Service, Guild Room

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## June 2011, Special Dates

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Trinity Book Group	2 Ascension Day	3	4
5 First Sunday Breakfast	6	7	8	9 Saint Columba, Abbot of Iona	10	11
12 Feast of Pentecost	13 First Book of Common Prayer	14	15	16	17 Branford Festival	18 Branford Festival
19 <b>One Service 8:00am</b> Father's Day	20	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25
26 Trinity Sunday celebrated	27	28	29	30		