



Messenger

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*To accomplish great things,
we must not only act,
but also dream.*

Anatole France

A New Plan for Branford's Safety Net

One of the commonly remarked challenges in Branford is that people don't know what kind of help is available or where to find it. Trinity is proposing a solution; a regular day each month for a one-stop gathering to connect people to services and information. From help for hungry children, to resources for families caring for aging relatives, job assistance, how to find food or health services, to affordable energy savings.



Rev. Sharon and Senior Warden Ann Freeman made a visit to a similar program in Old Saybrook that has provided such help for several years now. We believe that Trinity is the perfect place for such a one-

stop venue. It will be a very good thing for the people of Branford.

A luncheon in our Parish Hall on May 15th gathered representatives from all of Branford's helping agencies and more, to discuss the idea. There was universal support for the concept, and a working group stepped forward to work out the details. Stay tuned for the start of something new and helpful, starting with those with basic needs in our community.

There are many types of information needs for everyone, so it is our intent to expand the capacity and the format to help more people as time permits and as the program evolves.

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From The Rector



The lovely small poem, *Late Fragment*, by Raymond Carver, has become the inspiration for a proposed new mission statement for

Trinity. The poem goes like this.

*And did you get what you wanted out of
life even so?*

I did.

And what did you want?

To call myself beloved,

And to feel myself beloved on the earth.

The simply told truth of our desire and indeed, need, to know that we are beloved, to God, to others, and to ourselves, is a powerful thing. It is a re-statement of Jesus teachings. Therefore, it is proposed, our mission statement be:

The mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is that all may know themselves as beloved.

Please sit with this, and share your thoughts with a member of the Vestry, Council of Ministries, or Rev. Sharon. The Vestry will vote on this at the June Vestry meeting.

Peace, beloveds,

Rev. Sharon

Worship Ministry



Sandra Baldwin
Chair

Thank you!

During Lent and the Easter season, the Altar Guild, lay ministers, and all our musicians, prepared for, and performed during many services, at a very high level. It is through their efforts, in conjunction with the continuous effort of Rev. Sharon, that we were able to enjoy a well prepared, meaningful service every Holy Day, and indeed, every Sunday. Trinity is blessed with over seventy devoted parishioners who are Altar Guild members, choir members, chalice bearers, lectors, acolytes, ushers, and videographers. Thank you to each member of the Worship Ministry, for your devotion to Trinity, and sharing your talents. Your contribution to the mission and work of our church is appreciated. We cannot acknowledge and thank you enough for your service.

We will hear our last anthem from the Choir on June 11, **Trinity Sunday, and then it's the summer break. We've heard some** incredibly beautiful anthems this past year. Our thanks to Ron for doing the research to find the music, and challenging the choir. Thanks to the choir for sharing their beautiful voices, giving their time to practice, and lifting our spirits every Sunday.

A New Communion Experience

Those in church on Sunday May 21, witnessed Julia Albert's



First Informed Communion, where she and Rev. Sharon did a Q&A based on Julia's wondering questions. Julia prepared for this day, making a cloth for the children's altar, which was full of symbolism and meaning for Julia, and filled with love by



everyone who helped—godmothers, Sunday School teachers, parents, Rev. Sharon, and of course, Julia. Thanks to **Peter Otis' beautiful photography**, Julia has a keepsake to always have and to show her children.

It is hoped other Trinity children might wish to explore their spirituality in this same way, in the future. Please speak to Rev. Sharon or a Sunday School teacher.

day School teacher.

Well done, Margaret!

Congratulations to Margaret McGhee, our seminarian, for **completing her didactic work. She's off** to a summer of attending preaching camp, and travelling to Spain to walk the Camino de Santiago, an ancient pilgrimage route, for 7 weeks. She returns in the fall for a year of practical experience. Many of you have enjoyed her sermons, and her warm presence has been appreciated. See you in September!



Beach Worship Coming This Summer

Trinity will head out of doors for worship twice this summer, Sundays July 16 and August 13, at 5:00 PM. Simple worship, the beauty of our shoreline, and great fellowship with a potluck cookout to follow. **The 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock services** will still be in the church. This new service is additional for those who might like to try it. The location and more details will follow. If you play guitar and would like to help with our music, please tell Rev. Sharon.

Welcome to Ministry



Billye White joins the team of ushers at our **10 o'clock service.**



Worship Ministry *continued*

Pastoral Care Ministry

We welcomed into Holy Baptism

Oliver Maxwell Glazewski



Tyler Hailey Sarg



Cathy Seibyl
Chair

Celebrating Trinity’s “Wisdom Generation”

Plans are in the works to honor and celebrate Trinity’s “Wisdom Generation”, all those in our parish who are 90+ years old, as well as those who have been married 50+ years, or would have been married 50+ years. On Sunday, September 10th we will acknowledge the remarkable legacy of longevity of these individuals, and the gifts they bring to all of us.

So we don’t leave anyone out, we need your help now in identifying all parishioners who are members of our **Wisdom Generation**. Trinity’s parish files unfortunately do not contain everyone’s date of birth or everyone’s date of marriage. So, if you fall into either category, please contact the church office with names so that our celebration is inclusive and complete. trinitychurch@trinitybranford.org

Keeping Connected, Sharing Love

Rev. Sharon, Cathy Seibyl and Lay Eucharistic Visitors, make pastoral visits with homebound parishioners, sharing news, distributing prayer shawls, and offering communion. Below, Rev. Sharon visited with Jeanne McParland, who is wrapped in her new prayer shawl.



Mission/Outreach Ministry



Kim & Paul Humphrey, Chairs

(with Alyson & Adam Humphrey)

The Mission/Outreach Ministry is energized and active under the renewed team leadership of Kim and Paul Humphrey, and Maryann Allen. Regular meetings are scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month, at 11:30 AM in the Guild Room. Meetings are open to everyone. Ideas, questions, and volunteering, are encouraged and most welcome. Where does your heart lie? While traditional programs continue, new ideas emerge from conversations with community leaders. Please, join our conversation.

A wonderful Mission/Outreach Ministry Fair was held in May during coffee hour, to inform everyone about the current priorities receiving support. Also, parishioners took bags filled with



supplies helpful to homeless people, to distribute (see top photo). One parishioner has reported her recipient was SO thrilled to have a toothbrush and toothpaste.

Through Outreach we offer help in two ways: (1) cash out of the Outreach budget, and (2) volunteer time. If you enjoy to serve, be sure to check these websites for how and when to be present. These organizations receive our financial support.

- <http://www.caringcuisine.org/>
- <http://columbushouse.org/>
- <http://newreach.org/>
- <http://solarityouth.org/>
- <http://communitydiningroom.org/>
- <http://www.branfordfoodpantry.org/>
- <http://www.stpaulstjames.org> (Loaves & Fishes)

Trinity's Closet Draws In A Collaborator

Sincere thanks goes to donated to, and helped with, Trinity's Closet, with a special welcome to Trinity's newest members-- Michelle and Robin. The goods tables were well stocked for about 80 attendees. In part, the contributions received were from members of St. Therese church. It is hoped this collaboration will grow to increase their donations, and that their volunteers will come, too.



Left to right: Audrey & John Hanniford, Michelle McKean, Ellen D'Agostino, Robin Marsan, Dru Dodd & Bobbe Otis.

Contact person for outreach activities, include:

- Paul Humphrey, Crow Nation
- Loretta Merlone, Common Hope
- Steve Sharma, Bake Sale/Branford Festival & Walk for Hunger
- Bobbe Otis, Columbus House
- Beth Mishler, Homeless Bags
- Dru Dodd & Ellen D'Agostino, Trinity's Closet
- Rev. Sharon, Community Resource Help Day
- Alyson Humphrey, Rental Assistance pilot program (thru Branford Cares)

Crow Stories

Sean Kernan of Branford, has made an impressionistic and experiential film about life on the Crow Reservation. He has also created a website, that introduces the stories, provides clips and stills from the film, which certainly shows a lot about the way of life and the culture. To see for yourself go to www.crow-stories.net. To see the film, there's a screening at the Guilford Free Library, on Thursday, June 8, at 7:00 PM.



Parish Life Ministry



Judie Cavanaugh, new Chair of Parish Life, has jumped into this role with **energy and style**. **There's always something or someone to celebrate**, events to plan for, new ideas to bring forth, and more. The newest idea is a Movable Feast (a/k/a Progressive Dinner) from Mary MacDonald, so save the date of July 22. More details to come.

All of our celebrations and events could do with support/assistance for Judie—planning, buying, setup, cleanup, errands, and helping at the event. If you would enjoy to be part of fellowship and hospitality at Trinity, please be in touch with Judie at parishlife@trinitybranford.org. **She's got a schedule!**

TRINITY OUT THERE!

A New Plan for the Trinity Fair

Trinity and the Friends of the Library are teaming up for a big Saturday on September 30th. Our Fair will spring up next to the big tent of the Library Book Sale, and offer many of our traditional activities and delights, including (but not limited to) a blueberry pancake breakfast, lunch, needlework and other homemade items, bake sale, the tag sale, jewelry, the

labyrinth of canned goods, apple crisp and cream, and our silent auction - declared by many to be the best ever! Because of the traffic that the book sale generates, we plan to extend our hours and add dinner to our day. Team leaders are lining up and will have plenty of jobs for the willing hands of Trinity. Stay tuned and save the date.



Calling all Volunteers!

Currently, Trinity invites the public to our activities and events when large community gatherings occur on the Green – like the Branford Festival, the summer Branford Jazz On the Green, and Town Tree Lighting Night. Each event has a team leader, who is busy planning and organizing for the day, and depending on Trinity volunteers to help prepare before hand or to be present on the day. Below is how you can help and who to contact.

Don't be shy, reach out!

<p>Branford Festival Saturday, June 17</p>	<p>Outreach bake sale. Team leader is Steve Sharma ssharma698@aol.com</p>	<p>Bake your best cookies and cakes; divide them into small bags/portions ready for sale. Remember to label contents clearly, particularly if containing nuts, peanut butter, gluten-free, etc.</p>
<p>Branford Jazz on the Green Thursdays, June 22-August 17 Approximately 7:15-7:45 PM</p>	<p>Instrument zoo during intermission Team leader is Barb Mullen namamullen@gmail.com 203-627-8318 (c)</p>	<p>Do you have a musical instrument to lend? Can you show a young child how to play it?</p>
<p>110th Annual Fair Saturday, September 30 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM</p>	<p>Volunteer Coordinator: Maryann Allen Jewelry: Lisa Rucinski Breakfast & Lunch: Mitch Rucinski Dinner: Drew & Nate Fouser Tag Sale: Sherry Molaskey Homemade goods: Open Silent Auction: Peggy Esposito Heavenly Chocolate: Open</p>	<p>Setup on Friday evening; Staffing the venues (2 hour shifts); Serving food; Donate goods; Sponsor an expense; Cleanup on Saturday; Publicity</p>
<p>Town Tree Lighting Night Saturday, November 25 4:00-7:00 PM</p>	<p>Kids activities Team Leader: Martha Monico edmarthamonico@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Bake cookies and cakes. Scouts will offer hospitality food and drink.</p>

Buildings & Grounds Ministry

New Red Doors and Red Doors Made New



After a long planning project, the exterior doors in between the church and the parish hall have been replaced. The project was part of last year's Foote Trust grant. The doors came in battleship grey - not red, as all Trinity doors should be! Rumor has it that Rev. Sharon donned her overalls and took on the painting project.

(Interesting what one can see when driving by the church on a Saturday morning!)

Trinity's most famous red doors are also getting some much needed attention. They are being completely restored by a local expert on such things, Tim Munson of Old World Methods. The first door is currently at Tim's shop, leaving the gothic shaped plywood to keep out the elements. The project will continue into the summer, and when all the doors have been returned, we will celebrate. This project is being done in memory of Chip Shelton, son of Charlie and Doris Shelton.



Other Foote Funded Projects

There will be a flurry of improvements to our buildings, particularly the Parish House - otherwise known as the Office. There will be a much needed exterior repainting. The doors that have faded to pink will return to their bright red, matching all of the others. The old asbestos tile in the vestibule will be properly removed and new flooring installed. The Guild Room's stained carpeting will also go away, replaced by a hard surface which will be more appropriate and durable in such a heavily used room. Area rugs will sustain the cozy aesthetics. The lovely bay window that looks out onto the back green will be rebuilt to ensure its structural integrity, and the draughty Sunday school windows

will be replaced. All in all, our Parish House will receive quite a makeover!

The sound system in the church also received an electronic upgrade and will be back under a maintenance contract.

The remaining part of our \$70,000 grant is a reimbursement for the \$30,000 architectural feasibility study for the renovation of the downstairs. That was a lovely surprise!

Next Steps for the Downstairs

The design for the downstairs by local architect Tony Terry was much appreciated by all who gathered to see the plans and hear from Tony and Bob Barnett. The next thing to do is to figure out how to make those plans a reality - which means, how do we pay for it? Your Vestry is hard at work identifying a Capital Campaign consultant from several highly qualified candidates. They are all intrigued by this project as it has great potential for the entire community. We will keep you informed.

Rectory Grounds Get A Makeover!



If you drive by the rectory any time soon, beautiful spring colors will catch your eye. Rev. Sharon has been practicing **the art of perennial and vegetable gardening, and it's paying off!** Peter and Sharon have also planted new maple trees, and improved the plantings in the beds around the house and garage. They are determined to defeat the Sassafras trees. **God bless 'em! As Peter says, "When we leave the rectory it will be in better condition than when we came."** Trinity is lucky to have such good caretakers. (Retirement is a few years away, so the makeover continues!)



Administration Ministry

News From ECCT



Our beloved bishop, Laura Ahrens, has put her name into the search for a new bishop for the Diocese of Delaware, her home state. While we would miss her terribly, we wish her every blessing in this process.

Meet Our New Missionary

Trinity is one of 29 parishes within the South Central Region of the Episcopal Church in CT, one of six regions. Each region now has a new Missionary. Meet The Rev. Rachel Field.



Each Region Missionary’s core task is the same: **“To challenge the Episcopal parishes and worshipping communities to expand their reach into local neighborhoods by collaboration with potential community partners — from other faith-based institutions to social service organizations to government agencies.”**

Rachel said, **“I am delighted to return to the South Central region of Connecticut to support and encourage the ways in which you are listening for and following God’s mission of love for the world. I am first and foremost a beloved child of God, as are you. I was working as a research biologist and environmental educator on the Eastern Shore of Maryland before pursuing ordination and attending Yale Divinity School (class of 2016). In this current time of ecological crisis I am moved by the invitation of Jesus to “love your neighbor” and to imagine how our liturgy can further incorporate Creation as our beloved neighbor. When I am not spending time in or around churches I can be found hiking with my energetic dog Frodo, birding, gardening, playing my Appalachian dulcimer, or baking (anything involving chocolate).”**

Help Wanted

Trinity is looking for a part-time, experienced, bookkeeper. If you know of anyone who would be interested in a few hours a week, please contact Rev. Sharon.



Submission deadlines vary. Please e-mail articles to **communication@trinitybranford.org**. Photographs are welcome. It is respectfully requested that 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.

Messenger Contributors

Features Rev. Sharon, Ann Freeman

Design Ann Freeman

Copy Editor Bill Baskin

Photos Peter Otis, unless stated

Copy/Fold/Mail Jane Dougherty



Trinity Leadership

Senior Warden: Ann Freeman

Junior Warden: John Seibyl

Parish Clerk: Bobbe Otis

Treasurer: John MacDonald

Vestry

Neil Anglemire, Debbie Bradley, Janet Daley, Brenda Feniola, Bill Holohan, Dave Howell, Mary MacDonald, Celia Toche, Jen Zehler

Staff

Parish Administrator: Jane Dougherty

Sexton: Nancy Williams

Musical Director: Ron Baldwin

