

# TRUMPET BLAST



## Trinitarian Congregational Church

February 21, 2021

### *The Breath Before the Blast*

“Lent is only Christian if it is positive.” (Philip Endean, SJ)

Plant a seed or a bulb on Ash Wednesday. Watch it grow, and take inspiration from it.

On Ash Wednesday, we think of Jesus, fasting and tempted in the desert for forty days and forty nights. We think that if we emulate him, and try to resist ordinary temptations, we will somehow gain merit. However, I think Lent is a season to stop confining ourselves, and to try to open up, to grow (even if quietly, at home.) Making an effort to be miserable gets us nowhere. We need to ask ourselves during this season, how we can grow.

(1 Corinthians 3:5-7)

~Patter Field~

\*\*\*\*\*

\* **Note:** In order to safeguard online privacy, contact information appears only in members' personal copies unless members ask us specifically to include it in the online public copy.

**The Breath** - Pastor Rosemary – Submissions for The Breath Before the Blast are gladly welcomed. Please send them to the church office by Tuesday noon.

**Lent Study** - Pastor Rosemary – There will be a Lenten study this year via Zoom, 3 pm Wednesday afternoons from February 17 through March 31. We will be looking at the disciples and how they followed Jesus. Please contact Rosemary for study materials and a link.



photo: John Cameron, with permission, via Unsplash

## Interfaith Council of Franklin County

A Three-Part Online Zoom Program

# Lifting the Veil Racism in Franklin County

Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 7 to 8:30pm

A panel of African Americans who live and work in Franklin County sharing their experiences of racism here

Thursday, March 11, 2021, 7 to 8:30pm

A panel of White people whose families include African American children, spouses, and grandchildren

Thursday, March 25, 2021, 7 to 8:30pm

A panel of Black, Brown, and White antiracist activists sharing their stories from the justice movement

Join Zoom here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83241399041?pwd=WFQYmNkLlR5Fk1d05FY8bGpsO2ZlVktlUT08>

Meet local speakers sharing their personal experiences as African Americans, as members of interracial families, and as antiracism activists. Share conversation with the panelists as we all explore the realities of racism and the important work of antiracism in our towns.

We encourage congregations and community groups to engage in this series together.

All are welcome. Contact [interfaithcfc@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithcfc@gmail.com) with questions.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** - Pastor Rosemary – One Great Hour of Sharing begins this Lent. The theme this year is Let Love Flow. How fitting! After a year of global suffering brought on by Covid (along with so many other disasters) this is an especially important time to reach around the world with our caring love. Because we are still on Zoom our offering will not be collected in the usual way, but we encourage each of you to prepare for a special offering in

March/April (date to be determined). As part of the Lenten season we have also included an OGHs Sharing Calendar that you can use to deepen your spiritual practices. Blessings to all who participate in this essential ministry.

# OGHS Sharing Calendar—*Let Love Flow*

God has blessed us in so many ways. This calendar is designed to help us acknowledge our blessings but to also think about and pray for others. Each day highlights various situations and suggests a donation of coins or bills. Your household can decide what unit works best for you. It is easiest if you select one unit and use it throughout the days on the calendar. The sharing calendar works well with the OGHS coin box. To order additional coin boxes, visit our store at [www.uccresources.com](http://www.uccresources.com). Your gift will allow love to flow into the lives of those who need it most!

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CHILDREN	<p>Children remain the poorest age group in America. Progress has been made, but too many children are still hungry</p> <p>Give two units for each child in your family.</p>	<p>Good nutrition is a critical part of ensuring that all human beings can use their bodies and minds to live an active life and reach their full potential</p> <p>Give one unit for each meal you've eaten today.</p>	<p>Substantial global progress has been made in reducing child deaths since 1990. The total number of under-5 deaths worldwide has dropped by 58%</p> <p>Give two units in thanksgiving for the progress being made.</p>	<p>Can you really imagine Jesus saying, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these?"</p> <p>Jesus cares for children and so should we. Please give a generous donation today!</p>	<p>Children represent the future, and ensuring their healthy growth and development ought to be a prime concern of all societies</p> <p>Give three units in honor of the children in your congregation.</p>	<p>Malnourished children have a higher risk of death from common childhood illness such as diarrhea, pneumonia, and malaria</p> <p>Give one unit for each child under 5 in your extended family.</p>	<p>In the first 1,000 days, babies' brains form new connections at an astounding rate. With every nutritious meal, hug and kiss, you help build a baby's brain</p> <p>Share one unit for each baby you kissed this week or three units if you were unable to kiss a child.</p>
CREATION	<p>Over one billion people do not have access to safe water and 2.4 billion have no access to decent sanitation</p> <p>Give three units today.</p>	<p>Cars are harmful to the environment. Taking public transportation, walking, or riding a bike are good options that help the environment</p> <p>Give one unit for each time you rode in a car today.</p>	<p>Plastic pollution is one of the biggest threats to worldwide ocean health. Skyrocketing plastic production and limited recycling are factors</p> <p>Please give one unit, and commit to recycling and/or limiting use of plastic bottles.</p>	<p>Through wisdom, God founded the earth; by understanding God established the heavens</p> <p>Give one unit for every bottle you threw away this week that still had water trapped inside of it.</p>	<p>Approximately 3 billion people lack access to clean-cooking solutions and are exposed to dangerous levels of air pollution</p> <p>Give two units for every home-cooked meal you enjoyed today.</p>	<p>The proportion of people using drinking water from improved sources has been steadily improving</p> <p>Give one unit for each faucet in your home.</p>	<p>Many poor villages still lack reliable electricity. The U.S. uses 22% of all electricity consumed in the world</p> <p>Give one unit for each electrical appliance in your home.</p>
NEIGHBORES	<p>Immigration is an international hunger and poverty issue. Many undocumented immigrants are fleeing hunger, extreme poverty, and violence</p> <p>Give two units to support lawful pathways to citizenship in the US.</p>	<p>About 40% of the world's population, mostly people in the poorest countries, risk contracting Malaria, which causes 300 million illness and 1 million deaths annually</p> <p>Give one unit for every doctor you have.</p>	<p>\$30 can provide a thermal blanket for a refugee, or 1 mat to prevent them from sleeping on the cold ground</p> <p>Give two units for every blanket on your bed.</p>	<p>Feel God's presence and joy through helping others for God loves a cheerful giver</p> <p>Give the number of units you think would be pleasing to God.</p>	<p>The proportion of people living in extreme poverty is half of what it was in 1990. Yet 1.4 billion people still live on less than \$1.25 per day</p> <p>Share a unit for each meal you have eaten in a restaurant in the past week.</p>	<p>Worldwide, over 100 million elementary school-aged children do not attend school</p> <p>Give one unit for each year of formal education you have received.</p>	<p>The U.S. has significantly reduced the number of refugees it is admitting into our country</p> <p>Give one unit for each person you know who came from another country. If you know more than 5 people from another country give 3 units.</p>
LET LOVE FLOW	<p>"We cannot rest until every child who lives in poverty, a refugee camp, an isolated village, a fragile setting, or who has a disability has a chance to go to school"</p> <p>Alice Albright</p> <p>Give two units today in thanks for your education.</p>	<p>Floods are the most widespread natural disaster aside from wildfires. 90% of all U.S. natural disasters declared involved flooding</p> <p>Give two units if you live in a comfortable home that has never flooded.</p>	<p>Providing an education to girls and young women is one of the strongest ways to end cyclical poverty</p> <p>Give one unit in thanksgiving as you name each girl and woman important in your life.</p>	<p>One plants, one waters, but only God gives the growth.</p> <p>Share two units in thanksgiving for the ways God has blessed you so that you can bless others.</p>	<p>In 2018, wildfires burned 8.6 million acres in the United States. Many of the homes that were impacted were completely destroyed.</p> <p>Give 1 unit for every smoke detector in your home.</p>	<p>For every \$1 invested in water and sanitation, an average of \$4 is returned in increased productivity</p> <p>Give one unit for each time you washed your hands today.</p>	<p>Support disaster survivors. Become a UCC Disaster Recovery Volunteer. Help communities rebuild, visit <a href="http://ucc.org/disaster">ucc.org/disaster</a> for info</p> <p>Share one unit if you have ever volunteered at a disaster site or two units if you have not.</p>

Sources: Church World Service, Bread for the World, Children's Defense Fund, UNICEF (United Nation's Children's Fund), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Oceanic Society, World Food Programme, World Health Organization, American Red Cross, the New York Times and the U.S. Census Bureau

Order additional OGHS materials at [uccresources.com](http://uccresources.com)

19

**TCC Ministries** - Suzanne McGowan – Our TCC ministries are beginning to schedule regular meetings and are choosing their representatives to the Cabinet. At this point, all meetings are being held on Zoom. This is likely to be the case until we've all had our COVID vaccine jabs, until the congregational "herd" reaches immunity, and/or good weather makes outdoor meetings possible. In the meantime, the weekly Trumpet is your regular source of information about activities of the ministries.

I mention this to remind all of us that folks are no longer elected to ministries. If there's a TCC activity you're curious about, think you might be interested in, please follow-up. You can be part of any ministry, do as much or as little as you like, participate in more than one ministry, and well, you get the picture. No ministry is closed to you; you've heard the phrase "we are all ministers." Consider becoming a minister just a tiny bit more than you already are; take part in one (or more) of the TCC ministries. Demands are light while appreciation and satisfaction are high.

Thanks for reading,  
Sue

### **Calendar Dates to Remember**

Feb. 18 - 4:00 pm Trustee Meeting

Feb. 22 - 1:30 pm Congregational Life and Care Ministry Meeting Feb.

24 - 3:00 pm Lenten Study Group

Mar. 1 - 4:00 pm Worship and Music Ministry Meeting Mar. 3

- 3:00 pm Lenten Study Group

Mar. 9 - 3:00 pm Cabinet Meeting

**EXODUS 3:1-11** - Roy Patno – One of my favorite books in the Old Testament is Exodus. One of my favorite stories in Exodus is Moses at the burning bush. It speaks to me of my relationship with God. God is so loving, caring and patient with me and I am so hesitant and resistant.

**Valentine's Day** – Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Valentine's Day fundraiser. We made a \$520 profit.



**Congregational Life and Care Ministry** - Patter Field and Michele Lawler

**Some Information from the Congregational Care Team** - Patter Field – Seniors over 75 are now eligible to receive their COVID 19 Vaccine (two shots, given a few weeks apart.) Appointments are available at the Greenfield Senior Center. Parking there is limited, so you may have to walk or have someone drop you off and pick you up, but the facility itself is spacious and safe, and the system is working well.

To book an appointment go to [vaxfinder.mass.gov](https://vaxfinder.mass.gov) and follow the prompts, which are simple and clear. If you do not have a computer, call a trusted friend or relative who does, and they can book the appointment for you. You will need your personal information and insurance information and numbers. The prompts will first take you to the John Zon Center, and then redirect to the Greenfield Senior Center, where there are many appointments available.

**Cards Welcomed** - Patter Field – Alice Fortier is still at Charlene Manor. Her room has been changed a few times because she had COVID. But she came through it! A card or a morning phone call would be welcome. She can be reached at 413-223-4108.

**Come pray with us!** - Michele Lawler – In your own space and at your own time, of course. If you would like to be part of our prayer ministry, please contact Michele Lawler. If you have a prayer request, let Michele know. All requests will be held in confidence by the prayer ministry members. Please request prayers for anything you wish - big or small. We also will be happy to offer prayers of praise!

**Patter Field and Michele Lawler** - If you know anyone who would appreciate a regular check-in call, a call, or needs immediate help or support, please call Michele or Patter. Also, if you would appreciate a call now and then, or need some support or help, feel free to call or text us. Be well, be safe, and blessings to you.

5

Phone calls make a difference. This is the time of year we feel most isolated, and this year COVID-19 is still surging around us and making it worse. Call your TCC friends for a friendly chat! It will lift moods and bring smiles.



**Birthdays** - Patter Field – If you have a birthday during February, but don't see it in your personal copy of The Blast, and would like us to add it, please contact Patter.



**Offerings** - Your offerings support the church. Please mail your checks to the office at 147 Main Street, Northfield, MA 01360. All donations will be processed on a regular basis in order to meet ongoing expenses.

**Loaves and Fishes** - Cathy Hawkins-Harrison – If you or a Northfield neighbor need assistance with groceries, oil/propane, or funding for an essential expense, please contact Cathy at 413-498-2038. Please pass the contact information on to a Northfield neighbor who may need assistance.

**Announcements for the Trumpet Blast** - Helen Adams – Please send your articles and announcements by Thursday at 10:00 am to the church office, [busoff147@gmail.com](mailto:busoff147@gmail.com). Printed copies will be sent to members who are not online.

**Pastor Rosemary's Contact Information**

Look for it in your personal copy of The Blast.

**Trinitarian Congregational Church**  
**147 Main Street, Northfield, MA 01360**  
**413-498-5839 // [busoff147@gmail.com](mailto:busoff147@gmail.com)**

