

TRUMPET BLAST



Trinitarian Congregational Church

May 15, 2022

We are a church committed to community, loving and welcoming all to the feast of God, nourishing body and spirit.

The Breath Before the Blast

“If you can’t fly, then run. If you can’t run, then walk. If you can’t walk, then crawl. but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.” – Martin Luther King,

~ Roy Patno ~

The Breath - Pastor Rosemary – Do you enjoy the word of encouragement that greets you with each Blast? Can you offer something to the church family that could bring others hope or perspective? Share it in ‘The Breath’. Please send your thoughts to the office by Tuesday at 10:00 am.

Zoom or in-person Meetings: - Suzanne McGowan – Hello dear readers, Do you wonder why you prefer Zoom meetings to in-person meetings, or vice versa?

*I can/can’t See the looks on everyone’s faces?

*Because I can Hear better one way or another?

*It feels Less Communal (or social) on Zoom

*I’m just more Comfortable in-person.

* I don’t have Zoom or can’t drive

The Cabinet has voted favorably (because of the distance she has to travel to TCC) that Rosemary’s use of Zoom from home is understand-able. Working from home is pretty standard in the world of work nowadays. When you come right down to it, Church work is also work.

Care Updates - Patter Field - Dottie Arsenault is at Poet's Seat for rehab. Ed Foster and Chris Shepard are at Buckley and would enjoy a visit. Alice Fortier is at Charlene Manor. Ed Finch is at Vernon Green. All would welcome cards.

Memorial Day - Pastor Rosemary – This year we will be recognizing our fallen veterans in a short Memorial Day observance during our regular worship time. This remembrance is for those service members who gave their life in battle. On Veteran's Day, we will recognize all those who have served or are serving their country. If you have names of the fallen you would like to honor, please give their name to Bill McGee, who will be participating in the program. Thanks.

Mission Ministry – Joanne McGee

Next Mission meeting - Monday, May 16, at 3 p.m. TCC Lounge.

Community Meal - Thursday, May 26, from 5 to 6 pm. Take Out. St. Patrick's will be cooking. For reservations call 413-376-8410 or reserve online at fccmp.org/rsvp/. Reserve before 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 5/25. We will probably hear about the menu in a week or so.

Pam's Table – Saturday, May 28, 10-1. We need your help. Please bake, make soup or casserole so we can give the patrons of the Food Bank some fresh food. Fruit is good also.

Knitters! Mittens for Ukraine. St. James in Keene is organizing a mitten project to ship warm, washable mittens for children to Ukraine in time for the fall season. The mittens will be shipped by Nuday in Derry NH, the organization that assisted refugees in Syria. Do you remember all the personal hygiene articles we collected several years ago? They were shipped by NuDay. The mitten deadline is June 30. Drop off spots in Keene include New England Fabrics, Toadstool Bookshop, Keene Library or the church office. Or I can drive the mittens. If you knit, I will drive. Call me - Joanne [contact information is in your private copy of The Blast]. I posted one of the flyers on the Mission bulletin board.

Goodies for Squakheag - Gail Bedard continues to bake for the residents at Squakheag and will deliver some patriotic cupcakes just before Memorial Day. Thanks Gail! Call Gail to see if you can help [contact information is in your private copy of The Blast].

The Mission Ministry donated \$150 to the **Backpack Project** organized by St. John's Episcopal Church in Ashfield. Partnering with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, the church collects items to fill backpacks for those who are leaving the jail. St. John's specifically asked for the backpacks this time.

Cong. Care Meeting for Trumpet - Patter Field – Congregational Life and Care Ministry met on Monday 4-25. Our delivery of Easter Flowers – small narcissus - went well and they were much appreciated. We checked in about the members we keep in touch with. We discussed how the Coffee Hours are going; Carol O'Brien continues to coordinate them. We also discussed the upcoming Memorial Reception for Kathy Wright, and the need to again have a coherent policy and pricing for receptions. We will discuss and plan this further at our next meeting, on the fourth Monday in May, 5-23, at 3 p.m.

Worship and Music Ministry - Heather Tower – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services were well received. It was decided that the readers should come from the congregation to the floor mike in order to keep the service more intimate for Passion Sunday as well. For Good Friday, the hammer blow was most effective. Easter sunrise needs more TCC folks to make it worthwhile for Rosemary to come up. Morning service was fine as is.

It was requested that the ushers pass the plate, as before. This will begin on May 1.

Mother's Day will again have cut flowers for mother's to take.

It was discussed that due to the increase in folks coming to church with mobility issues that the parking spaces next to the ramp will be left for them. The Trustees will look into handicapped signs for those spaces.

A zoom Bible or book study may garner more participants. A Bible 101 has been suggested so all will know where the various books are located, some historical

references and generally be able to feel more comfortable using the Bible. Please let Rosemary know what you would like to do.

A Jazz and Ice Cream Sundae event was discussed to take place either in July or August.

Due to Heather's change in availability, we will move the meeting to the 3rd Wednesday at 4:00 via zoom. The next meeting will be May 18.

Notes on Trustees Ministry meeting 04.19.22 at 4:00 pm on Zoom - Martha Morse - Present: Gwen Trelle, Suzanne McGowan, Bob Scott, Carol O'Brien, Martha Morse, sexton Tammy Pelletier, Rev. Rosemary Dawson

The Trustees will meet in person on May 17 at 4 p.m. at the church.

Financial Report ((Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual 01.01.22 – 04.18/22)

1. Gwen Trelle (Treasurer) noted the \$5,150 figure for snow plowing & sanding, and the higher than anticipated fuel oil cost of \$4,530.61, already exceeding the budgeted figure of \$4,500. All other expenditures were within expected ranges for this point in the year.
2. In order to reduce copying costs for the Kyocera copier, The Trumpet and all other documents will now be copied in black & white (2 cents a copy) and not color (10 cents a copy).

Building and Grounds Issues

- Landscaper Joe Smith has done the Spring cleanup of the outside TCC property for \$660.00.
- Gwen and Tammy are making the arrangements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Garaventa Elevator Company for the yearly inspection of the elevator. This involves fees to both entities.
- Tammy is ordering replacement light bulbs for the chandeliers in the sanctuary, and will work with Bob Scott (and a big ladder!) on putting them in. Thank you, Bob and Tammy!
- Tammy suggested that pachysandra be planted as a ground covering on the sloping banks along Holton Street, bordering the parking lot, to prevent soil erosion and eliminate the need for difficult mowing. The Trustees agreed and approved the purchase of 4 flats of pachysandra from Wanczyk Nursery at \$50 apiece.

- Tammy is keeping the Clothing Shed organized with its many donations. St. Pauly's comes every two weeks for pick-up. It is a convenience for the community and a good source of income for TCC.

Administrative Issues

Administrative Assistant has left for another job. After some discussion, the Trustees decided to advertise the position for 8-plus hours a week at a rate of \$15 per hour, and continue with Tuesday and Thursday morning office coverage. We thank Helen for her good service to TCC and wish her well in her new position! The job description for this position is already being advertised in local daily newspapers and is attached at the end of this Trumpet.

- In the meantime, Marion Scott has volunteered to come to the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning the first week of May. We are very grateful!
- At present, TCC has only one congregant (Gwen Trelle) with ServSafe certification, and we are hoping others will volunteer for the training. Information can be found at www.servsafe.com, and more will follow in The Trumpet. The Job Description, which is already being published in local daily newspapers is attached at the end of this Trumpet.

Coffee Hour – Carol O'Brien – The coffee hours for the rest of the month are as follows:

May 15 – Chris Harris and Lynne Walker

May 22 – Joanne McGee

May 29 - Clayton Bezio and Bernie Colbeth

The sign up sheet is on the counter in the lounge. Thanks, Carol

Call Stories

Liz Miller

God said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. - Ezekiel 2:1 (NRSV)

We tell stories of biblical prophets as if receiving a call from God is reserved for an elite squad of ancient rabble-rousers. Surely our own lives have stories of being called to specific purposes, quietly shaped by the Holy Spirit.

What of the young boy who loved trees and couldn't be dissuaded to stay out of them, even after he climbed so high the fire department had to bring him down? Was that not the seed of his call to environmental advocacy, founding his church's Green Team and serving on the UCC's Council for Climate Justice?

What of the middle-aged woman who remembers that within an hour of her husband's untimely death, friends were on her doorstep, holding vigil through the grief, filling her freezer with food, and slowly bringing her back to life? Was that not the foundation of her call to be that person for others, the one always arriving with a casserole, checking in long after everyone else stopped showing up?

What of the recent retiree who left a corporate career to focus on volunteering for social justice causes but found herself volunteering to write policy and to lead restructuring processes for small organizations? Were the skills she acquired over 30 years in the workplace not woven into an emerging call to serve in new ways?

God told Ezekiel to stand up and listen. Perhaps I will hear God's voice if I lean in and remember what formed me, if I pay attention to my gifts and skills, if I understand calling a lifetime of listening and acting.

Prayer

I long to know what purpose you intend for my life, O God. Let's talk.



Birthdays - Patter Field – If you have a birthday this month, don't see it in your private 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.

Calendar Dates to Remember - Gatherings are shifting from Zoom to the church. Please contact the Chairperson to find out where.

| May 2022 | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1 Worship 10:00 | 2 | 3 Trustees 4:00 | 4 AA 7:00 Lounge | 5 | 6 AA 7:00 Fellowship Hall | 7 |
| 8 Worship 10:00 | 9 | 10 Cabinet Meeting 3:00 | 11 AA 7:00 Lounge | 12 | 13 AA 7:00 Fellowship Hall | 14 |
| 15 Worship 10:00 | 16 Mission Ministry Meeting 3 p.m. Lounge | 17 Trustees 4:00 | 18 AA 7:00 Lounge Worship Ministry 4:00 | 19 | 20 AA 7:00 Fellowship Hall | 21 |

| May 2022 | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|--------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 22 Worship 10:00 | 23 Life and Care Ministry 3:00 | 24 | 25 AA 7:00 Lounge | 26 Community Meal 5-6 p.m. | 27 AA 7:00 Fellowship Hall | 28 Pam's Table 10-1 |
| 29 Worship 10:00 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Standing Times for Ministry Teams:

2nd Tuesday – Cabinet 3:00

3rd Tuesday – Trustees 4:00

3rd Wednesday – Worship 4:00

Last Monday – Life and Care 3:00



Congregational Life and Care Ministry - Patter Field and Michele Lawler – The Congregational Life and Care Ministry meets the last Monday of the month at 3:00 at the church. Contact Michele Lawler for an invitation. We welcome your participation and ideas!

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 [contact information is in your private copy of The Blast]. 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 will also be happy to offer prayers of praise!

Patter Field and Michele Lawler - If you know anyone who would appreciate a regular check-in call, or needs immediate help or support, please call Michele or Patter [contact information is in your private copy of The Blast]. Also, if you would appreciate a call now and then, or need some support or help, feel free to call or text us. Phone calls and cards make a difference, lift moods, and bring smiles! Be well, be safe, and blessings to you.

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 Tuesday at 10:00 am to the church office, busoff147@gmail.com. Printed copies will be sent to members who are not online.

Pastor Rosemary's Contact Information

Those who receive private eblast copies of The Blast will find it there. Others should call the church office (see below).

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Website Administrator

Ted Thornton