

A Note from our Minister...

Living Simply

I love this time of year! The air is getting cooler, and everywhere we look there are signs of Fall. This beautiful season offers us a wonderful opportunity to reexamine our lives and to search for what is really important. I am reminded of a man I met who came struggling down the trail high up in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. The backpack he was carrying must have weighed 75 pounds, so he was more than willing to stop for a moment and chat. "This is my second day out," he said, 'and the mistake I made was in bringing too much. I've got gourmet food in my backpack, a cell phone with ear buds, several books, binoculars, and enough camera equipment to start a store! I'm debating right now whether to dump some of it and go on. I've got so much clutter with me that the trip isn't fun."

How many times in life do we feel this way? Often when I am reading the marvelous teachings of Jesus, I think of this story about the burdened-down backpacker and the clutter he was carrying. Like a thread running through Jesus' teachings is this advice: Simplify! Don't clutter your life with unnecessary burdens. Even when it's classy clutter, it's still clutter.

The early American group of Christians called the Shakers must have recognized that and accepted it. They came up with a lifestyle that carried simplicity to an extreme, but they also came up with what must be among the most beautiful of American hymns—"Tis the Gift to Be Simple," written by Elder Brackett in 1844. Many years later, Aaron Copeland took the tune of the hymn as the theme of his symphony, "Appalachian Spring." Remember the words?

*"Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where I ought to be;
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight."*

Jesus' teachings echo through that claim: The gift to be simple **is** the gift to be free. That burdened-down backpacker in the Rocky Mountains would have understood the claim, and so should we—if you want to be free, then simplify!

The Rev. Adam Hamilton, Senior Pastor of the Church of the Resurrection, wrote in his book entitled, **Enough**: "We are not thinking about the things of God while the creditors are calling. We can't experience the blessings and the joy that comes from freely giving to things that matter when we can't make ends meet. We can't even, 'be still, and know the [he is] God' (psalm 46:10), because we've got too many gadgets we're listening to."

Simplify my friends, so that you may discover joy through simplicity and generosity. The more we have, the more we have to lose, and the less free we become.

Grace and Peace, *Dr. Calhoun*



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Trinity's Office & Building will be closed on Monday, October 13, 2025, in observance of the holiday! Have a happy & safe day!

VISIT US ONLINE:
trinityspringfield.org





Prayer Requests:

Please Pray for these Members/Friends:
James A, Bridget B, James B, Meri B,
Natalie B, Peg C, Mary C, Dominick E,
Sophia G, Courtney H, Tony I, Pete L,
Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L,

Amy L, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R,
Alfredo R, Jennifer R, Henry (Bing) S, Carl S, Lynn T, Allie W, our
service members and their loved ones, and those affected by
gun violence and natural disasters.



We offer our Christian sympathy to the M
family, upon the unexpected passing of
Trinity member, Orlando M. Please keep
his entire family in your prayers during
this very difficult time.

October Rose Window

October 4 – In loving memory of Pauline,
from Judy & Paula

October 10 – In loving memory of David
Coffin, Jr., from his mom, Barbara

October 13 – Anonymous

October 27 – In loving memory of Ted &
Jane Chmura, from Ted & Judy

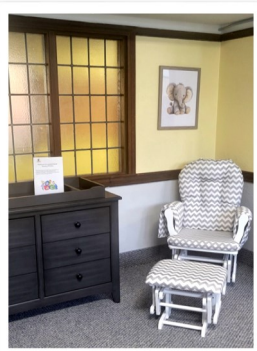


Thank You Notes

A great big, “**Thank you!**” I would like
to thank all of the volunteers who
helped make the Block Party a success.
It is wonderful to be part of such a
giving church community.



Jennifer Johnston-Marius, Membership & Evangelism Chair



We would like to thank the United Women
in Faith for the beautiful renovation of the
church nursery. The transformation is
remarkable and will make a big impact
for our members and guests with infants
and small children. We also appreciate all
of the gifts received to help support the
growth and learning of our children. If
you have not had a chance to see it,
please stop by on Sunday after worship
and take a look.

OCTOBER

Regular Birthdays

Regular Wedding Anniversaries (*Italics*) (S)- Staff



10/1 Fred L, Allison R
10/2 Madeline J, *Gary & Kristina S*
10/3 Cristoper L, *Rick & Amy B*
10/4 Samuel S
10/5 Skylar C
10/6 David H, Judith W
10/7 Colleen B, Jess H III, Lynn T
10/8 Adrianna B, Paul C, *Nate & Joanna O*
10/9 Christopher H, David J
Deb M, (S) *Rev. Dr. David & Julie C*
10/10 Karin K, Adelyn N
10/11 Charly S
10/12 Alex R, Christina S, *David & Cyndi L*,
Scott & Pat W, *Camille & Nate T*
10/13 Steve H, *Nancy & David H*
10/14 Stephen F
10/15 David M, Debra R
10/17 Ava B, Jack D, Kenneth S
10/18 Scott A, Beverly B, Garrett S,
Pheobe Olin & Cody Minahan
10/19 James A, Endel L, Nathan S
10/20 Laurie H, Mason H
10/21 Apryl T
10/22 *John & Teri D*, *Fred & Hope L*
10/23 Gabriel W, Abigail B, Thomas B
10/24 C. Stephen S
10/25 Lynn M, John M, Isla M, Mia M,
Ellen & Jeffrey B
10/26 Amy B
10/28 Jaden B, Tom L, Joe Z, *Greg & Melissa M*
10/29 Jacki B
10/30 Kathryn S
10/31 Ryan C



Milestone Birthdays 75 & Every 5 & 90 +

10/14 Susan P
10/21 Caroline B



Milestone Anniversaries Every 5 years

10/3 Colin & Crystal Chisholm - 10 years
10/17 Brian & Sarah Crawford - 15 years
10/18 Paul & Donna Gourinski - 50 years
10/24 Brenda & Thomas Sheldon - 10 years

Welcome Kelley Ellsworth, our new Church Administrator

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is excited to announce that we have a new church administrator. Please welcome Kelley to our family.



Kelley Ellsworth grew up in Connecticut, attending a United Methodist Church where her family were lay leaders. A seasoned administrator, Kelley has over 20 years of experience in the areas of housing, economic, & food security, animal welfare, environmental protection, and mental health. Inspired by volunteer work she had performed while attending Smith College, Kelley began her nonprofit career in 2001 working with a large Habitat for Humanity affiliate in South Carolina — leading construction volunteers for two years as an AmeriCorps member, followed by two more working in the office. An opportunity to work for an affiliate in southern Maine allowed her to move back closer to family. Years later, she became the Director of the local, Maine Habitat on whose Board she served. After nearly eight years in that position, she returned to Connecticut and began renovating a 1950's home.

In her free time, Kelley enjoys DIY projects, baking, and spending time with her 3 rescues & 1 foster dog [from *Perfect Imperfections Rescue & Sanctuary*].

New Member Orientation



A new and prospective member gathering has been scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Trinity Parkside Café**. Please email Doreen at doreen@trinityspringfield.org in the office to sign-up for this informational meeting, and enjoy a continental breakfast in the Trinity Parkside Café. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Trinity and the United Methodist Church in general. Mark your calendar now! It will be a wonderful gathering. If you choose to join after the orientation, you will be received into church membership on Sunday in the near future.

It's Almost Here! Trinity's 3rd Annual Pumpkin Patch Festival—Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Please join your Trinity family for a day of family fun and festive fall activities on the front lawn of the church. Stop in with the kids and grandkids, and stay as long as you like.

There will be: **Pumpkins and Mums • Pumpkin Painting Scarecrow Photo Ops • Local Craft Artisans Games & Activities • Food Trucks • Cider Apple Crisp • Baked Goods • And MORE!!**

Free entry and parking. Pumpkins, food, and certain activities available for purchase. You can reach us via email: pumpkinpatch@trinityspringfield.org.

Pumpkin Patch Festival Bake Sale

The Pumpkin Patch Festival is almost here and this year it will include a bake sale, "*Autumn's Bounty*." Think of apples, pumpkins, cranberries, cinnamon, and all the delicious goodies you can make with them! Of course, what's a bake sale without chocolate chip cookies, brownies and blondies? Our bake sales have always been very popular with the public, and we hope you'll help us with this one.

You can drop off your items in the kitchen on Friday, October 17, 2025. Thank you for helping to make this bake sale a success.

Questions? Please reach out to Kris Goold: hospitality@trinityspringfield.org.

Would You Like to Join the Trinity Tech Team?

Do you consider 'muting yourself on Zoom' a spiritual gift? Then the Trinity Tech Team is for you! We handle the church's livestream each Sunday and keep the audio and PA system running smoothly. Don't worry if you're not a pro. If you can move a computer mouse and want to serve, we'll train you. We ask for just a once-a-month commitment, and anyone age 13 and up is welcome to join. Interested? Reach out to us at trinitytechteam@trinityspringfield.org.

Help Wanted: Join the Church Parkside Café Team, and help create a warm, welcoming space for fellowship and connection. Team members volunteer once a month or so to run the café on Sunday mornings to ensure smooth operations. This is a great opportunity to serve others while building friendships and sharing hospitality. No experience is necessary—just a willing heart and a smile! E-mail gallery-cafe@trinityspringfield.org to sign up or to ask questions.



Stewardship CAMPAIGN

Opportunity for "Living Saints" The 2026 Stewardship Pledge Campaign

Each of us plays a vital role in the life of our church. Trinity's Stewardship & Finance Committee is excited to announce the 2026 Stewardship Pledge Campaign under the theme, "*Living Saints*." This year's theme highlights the everyday saints within our congregation—those who quietly serve, give, and live out their faith with extraordinary hope and love. As stewards of our Methodist tradition, all members are invited to recognize their role in supporting the church's mission, ministries, and future. From maintaining the grounds to nurturing spiritual programs and outreach, stewardship is how we collectively care for the legacy and vitality of Trinity.

The 2026 pledge goal is \$455,000, a necessary target to meet the increasing costs of insurance, utilities, maintenance and operations, staffing, and ministry programs. With a projected year-end deficit of \$30,000 for 2025, and expenses exceeding income by approximately 7%, the committee urges members to prayerfully consider increasing their pledges by 5-8%. Even a small increase can make a significant difference considering all pledges received. Members are encouraged to submit their pledge by using the QR code provided here, submitting a pledge card, or by visiting Trinity's website: www.trinityspringfield.org under the "Give" tab. Together, as living saints, we can ensure Trinity remains a strong and welcoming spiritual home for all.



Trinity Community Gallery October Exhibit: The Trinity Community Gallery will feature the art of the Pleasant View Artist Group who work in a variety of mediums. The members of the group, under the direction of renowned, award-winning artist Jeff Kern, are dedicated to their work. Exceptional artwork in oil, acrylic, pencil, watercolor, dry pastel, & oil pastel will be displayed.

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

CROP Walk 2025 — We walk in memory of Jane Schneeloch.

GET YOUR WALKING SHOES READY! On Sunday October 5 at 1:00 p.m., we kick off the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk from the front lawn of Trinity Church. In years past, Trinity has been a great supporter of the walk. Since COVID suspended the in-person group walk for 2 years, we have struggled to get the donations and number of walkers back up. We're hoping that this is the year to return to being the top fundraisers in the Greater Springfield Walk! Our goal is to raise at least \$4,000 and have at least 25 walkers.

As an incentive, Greater Springfield CROP Walk has been granted Matching Funds. For every dollar you donate ONLINE, a gift from the closing of Bethesda Lutheran Church will match your donation up to \$20,000. Your donation of \$50 is enough to provide five, two-week food packets for nourishment and support. Your donation of \$80 provides chickens for four families, giving them a constant supply of eggs, helping children become stronger and healthier. Your gift of \$100 provides two beehives, an option that creates stable jobs working with nutritious honey that can be harvested, eaten, and sold.

In these times of government funding cuts to key programs, it has become our duty to pick up the slack. Remember, 25% of the funds we raise stay local and benefit the Western Mass Food Bank, Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry.

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement—taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world!

Please join us in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others.

To register for the walk or to donate (or both) click [here](#). After you donate, you will see that your funds are matched. If you have questions, please contact Diane Mackie at missions@trinityspringfield.org.

**The Missions Committee thanks you
for your support!**

Trustees' Update: Accessibility Project



Our initial Accessibility Project is off to a good start!

Demolition has taken place in the former basement Junior Achievement space in preparation for excavation of the elevator pit.

Pews were removed (Trinity Team) in the East Transept and an enclosure built around the location of the future elevator shaft.

Coordination and relocation of Comcast (Xfinity) lines under the future chapel lift has been undertaken by several contractors.

Excavation for and placing of concrete and rebar for the parking lot entrance and chapel lift foundations is underway.

The new sound system in the sanctuary is fine-tuned and is a wonderful improvement to the old sound system.

An electrician worked on outlets, exit signs, and several other small projects both at the church and the parsonage.

Member, Chris Rodgers generously contributed his time to the re-painting the parking lot lines.

The Trustees are thankful for the progress of the work and the gifts, donations, and bequest money that help make these very special projects possible!





TRUNK OR TREAT

Put on your costume and come trunk-or-treating at Trinity UMC!

October 26th
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

361 Sumner Avenue
Springfield, MA 01108

SEE YOU THERE!

Be a Trunk for our Annual Trunk or Treat!

We'll be holding our annual trunk or treat on **Sunday, Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.** This is such a fun time—handing out candy, treats, and love to kids in our community. To be a trunk this year, [click this link to sign up!](#)



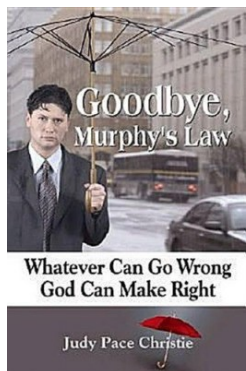
New Ministry: Earth Advocacy Team

Would you be interested in being a part of a new ministry at Trinity? This team will work with Rev. Calhoun to coordinate, plan, and implement congregational and community action to care for the Earth and renewable resources. The team will:

- Help the congregation understand theological and biblical foundations for environmental awareness and Christian responsibility for Earth stewardship.
- Provide opportunities for people in the congregation and community to learn about issues and actions that have impact on health and future of the planet.
- Lead the congregation in the annual celebration of Earth Day, Arbor Day, and/or other efforts to raise local and community environmental awareness.
- Link with organizations, people, and resources in and beyond the congregation with environmental issues.

Please contact Rev. Dr. Calhoun for more information.

Upcoming Book Studies with Rev. Dr. David Calhoun



Goodbye Murphy's Law: Whatever Can Go Wrong God Can Make Right

We live in a world where people tend to expect the worst. But God has an amazing plan for each of us, and this plan is not some elusive, mystical riddle we cannot decipher. We can move past dry spells and give up dread and fear. We can shape a vision for our life that is large and special and meaningful. Join Rev. Dr. David Calhoun as we explore this marvelous little book by Judy Pace Christie as she encourages us to seek and discover God's will in our lives through listening, discernment, prayer, and perseverance. We will discuss ten important questions to help us live a more hopeful, encouraging, engaging, caring, eloquent, practical, prayerful, devoted, Christ-centered life. Judy Pace Christie encourages us "To do our best and trust that God will do the rest." All classes are held in the Gallery & Café. **Mondays: November 24, December 1, 8, & 15 at 12-1:30 p.m.** The book for Rev. Dr. Calhoun's study can be ordered

new or used on Amazon. To sign up, please email Doreen in the office: doreen@trinityspringfield.org.

Future Studies (Dates to be determined.): *Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned, But I Have Several Excellent Excuses* by James W. Moore • *The Undivided Soul* by Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan

Notes from Music Ministry



I am happy to report that all of our Adult and Youth Choirs are up and running. We have a wonderful adult handbell choir which will ring once a month at Sunday service, the chancel choir rehearses every Thursday and provides musical leadership in our worship services, a chorister choir for elementary school children, a chamber choir for teens, and a youth handbell choir. I have worked with each of these choirs, and I can say they are talented, dedicated individuals. **It is my pleasure to be their director.**

Thursdays—Adult Handbell Choir: 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. • Adult Chancel Choir: 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Sundays—Choristers: 12:15 - 1 p.m. • Chamber Choir: 1 - 1:45 p.m. • Youth Handbells: 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.
Dance Movement Choir: 12:15 - 1 p.m. and 1 - 1:45 p.m.

To join an ensemble or for more information, please contact Dr. Bruce Glenny, Director of Music Ministries, at music@trinityspringfield.org or, for the Dance Movement Choir, email Amelia Hays-Rivest at dancemovementchoir@trinityspringfield.org.

Fall Theme Reflection: Saints - Past, Present, Future

One of my favorite moments during Boar's Head is near the end, when all is dark but for the single light shining on the stained-glass image of Christ. You can feel the moving of the Holy Spirit in that moment, and it is always a powerful opportunity to spread the healing message of Salvation. In fact, the stained-glass windows throughout the sanctuary and chapel provide constant reconnections with God. I wonder sometimes if the creator of those images, artist Wilbur H. Burnham, understood the impact those pictures would have on all those entering this church.

This is a testament to how God works. He instills in us passions and talents that have the power to spread joy and hope to the world. When we listen to that "still small voice," we build and create opportunities for spiritual connection. Burnham may not be a saint in the traditional sense, but he is a saint for our church. His work continues to serve God and to bring people closer to the Divine. There is a message there for all of us. God wants to use us—to move through us—to help the world. Are you listening and responding to the promptings of the heart?

Lisa Everett, Worship Committee Chair



Trinity Book Club



The Trinity Book Club will be meeting on Thurs., Oct. 2 at 2:30 p.m. at Arlene M's home. We will be discussing *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Mother. Sondra Stence will be our discussion leader. This book is a fascinating historical fiction about how Van Gogh's widowed sister-in-law worked tirelessly to get his work noticed. Without her efforts, we probably would never have seen Van Gogh's sunflowers.

Future books are:

November—*The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid (Discussion Leader - Colleen Bugbee)

December—*My Friends* by Frederick Backman (Discussion Leader: Wendy Regan)

January—*Salt to Sea* by Ruth Seteyf (Discussion Leader: JoAnne Evans)

February—*27 Summers* by Elin Hilderbrand (Discussion Leader: Arlene Mackie)

All Trinity members and friends are invited. Our book choices are eclectic and hopefully allow members the opportunity to learn about authors and books that they might never have read on their own. Your local library can order a copy of any of these books through CWMARS. The majority are also on LIBBY, the Western Mass shared library on-line book app. For more information, contact Colleen Bugbee at tumbookclub@trinityspringfield.org.



Mitten Tree

It's time to start preparing for Trinity's Mitten Tree 2025! Last year our Parkside Pantry guests were very appreciative of our Mitten Tree gifts. Share your warmth by donating knitted, purchased, and gently used mittens, hats, and scarves to our Parkside Pantry guests.

Donations will be accepted throughout December.

Thank you!



The Carillon

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Springfield, MA 01108
(413) 737-5311
www.trinityspringfield.org
info@trinityspringfield.org*



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church, welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.

STAMP

