



The Carillon - September 2026, Vol. 98 Issue 9 - Trinity United Methodist Church

A Note from our Minister...

Building on the Past and Growing Into the Future

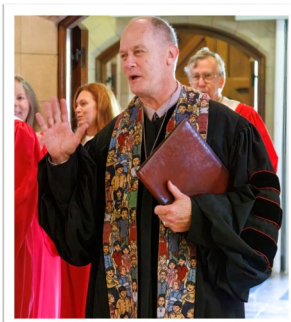
Greetings and Happy September to you all! By the time you receive this newsletter we will be in the thick of the Fall season. The leaves are beginning to turn and there is a crisp chill in the air. We who are fortunate enough to live in New England have been given a special gift by our Maker. Did your summer meet all of your hopes and expectations? Did you go on vacation? Did you go boating, fishing or kayaking all you wanted? Did you try a new restaurant or ice cream shop? If the joys of summer somehow slipped away from you, September is our chance to get it right. The temperature change, the dawns and the dusks, the particular quality of light – all are nearly perfect. There is a special poignancy to September as we enjoy these last warm days and gentle winds. God truly shows the extravagant nature of God's love for us in this season.

This September at Trinity we too feel the excitement and appreciation of this new season. Perhaps this Fall is an opportunity for us to focus. Perhaps in this season of "Reflection" is our opportunity to see how we can grow in our walk with God, and also help our church to do the same. We are rich, extravagantly rich with new opportunities at Trinity right now. Did I mention our Pumpkin Patch on October 10th? Our Sunday School and Youth Fellowship programs are also building on the past and growing into the future. There are new and exciting small groups being formed. Every area of our church is a wonderful blend of the old, the new, and an excitement of our potential.

Let us look at our church this Fall with new eyes – the eyes of what it can be and what we can be. Let's take a congregational deep breath and feel the excitement. Let's stop and wait and be still and let God speak to us of God's hopes and plans for us. I invite you to attend church as often as you can this Fall. We will be introducing many new and exciting opportunities into the life of our church. Come be a part of a healthy congregation. I will look for you in church!

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Calhoun



OUR MISSION:

CELEBRATE God's love.

NURTURE relationships with God and one another.

SERVE our community and world, as we share the light of Christ.

Trinity is a Reconciling Congregation of The United Methodist Church.

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"Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul."

— Peggy Toney Horton

VISIT US ONLINE:
trinityspringfield.org



Please Pray for These Members/Friends:

Bridget B, James B, Janet B, Meri B, Natalie B, Richard B (Deborah F's brother), Mary C, Pat D, David F and family, Drew & Stephanie G and family, Donna G, Courtney H, Pete L, Cristopher L, Diane M, Holly Joy P, Rev. Dr. Bob P, Reena R, Catherine Ann R, Gerald R, the family of Carl S, Lynn T, Tina W, Allie W, Rev. Ronald B. Y, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

We Offer Our Christian Sympathies to:

David F and his family on the passing of his wife, Trinity member Priscilla.

Drew & Stephanie G and their family on the passing of Drew's father, Paul G.

Please keep both families in your prayers during this very difficult time.



Thank You Note

Dear Volunteers and Donors,

Thank you for making this year's Carillon concerts a success. Your generous donations of ice cream, baked goods, and toppings, along with the hard work of our servers, made a wonderful impact on these outdoor events.

We truly appreciate your dedication and look forward to working with you again next year.

The Concert team



September Rose Window

September 4 - In loving memory of Pauline, from Judy & Paula

September 6 - Anonymous

September 10 - In loving memory of David C, Jr., from his mom, Barbara

September 27 - In loving memory of Ted & Jane C, from Ted & Judy

September 30 - Anonymous

SEPTEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

Regular Birthdays Regular Wedding Anniversaries (*Italics*)

9/1 Judy & Charles L
9/2 Berney B, *Brion & Georgia R*
9/3 Russell C, Joseph T, *Caroline & Eric M*
9/4 Brianna C, Charles G, Jr.,
9/5 Colin C, Catherine R
9/6 Isabella T, *Daniel & Heather M*
9/9 Stephen G, Christopher S,
Lisa & Christopher S
9/11 Tim E, *Steve & Karen S*
9/12 Charlotte M
9/13 Zoe K, Anthony S, Nicholas S,
Wayne & Teri L
9/14 James A, Susan C-B, Maximus D,
Dina & A.J. C
9/15 Arianna B, *Nicole B & Shannon C*
9/16 Ava M, *Brenda K & Stephen G*
9/17 Daniel G, Aura I, Jennifer R, Joachim T
9/18 Jenna C, Rev. Dr. David C, Mason C,
Morgan M, *Jess & Christina H, III*
9/19 Richard H
9/20 *Holly & Donald B, Russ & Linda C*
9/22 Henry G, Jackson R, Andrew T
9/24 Michael R
9/25 Rita A, Erin S
9/26 Eric M
9/27 Benjamin P, *Jason P & Beth M-P,*
John P & Christine S
9/28 Amelia H-R, James M, Jennifer S
9/29 Liz P, Benjamin (F) R
9/30 Amy B, Brenda K (J), Kyle L,
Patrick & Laurie H



Milestone Birthdays 75 & every 5

9/17 Robert C
9/24 Jeannette B
9/25 Thomas S



Milestone Anniversaries Every 5 years

9/4 Andrew & Stephanie G
9/15 Steve & Karen S
9/28 Diane & Robert F

This summer Trinity Church received a very special gift from the estate of Carlos & Lois Whitlock.

In researching Carlos and Lois we learned:

- Lois Wheeler was listed in the 1973 Trinity Church directory. She played handbells at Trinity Church.
- Lois taught elementary school in Ludlow. She played the violin.
- Lois and Nancy Evans performed Bach's Violin Concerto for two violins.
- Carlos was a Navy veteran and graduate of Springfield College. He was a bass soloist singer both as a waiter in his youth and sang in church choirs. Carlos worked for the Phelan Company in East Longmeadow in the human resources department.
- Carlos liked to play tennis on the clay courts in Forest Park and Don Evans played with him. He would visit Trinity Church in the summer after moving to Florida.
- Carlos and Lois were married in the 1990's.
- Trinity Church, its music and building were important to the Whitlocks.

A special church charge conference will be held this fall to accept this non restricted gift from the Whitlock Estate.

Accessibility Project Update

Work on the accessibility project will continue towards completion.

The Trustees have been working tirelessly to bring this project to fruition in a timely and cost effective manner. Unfortunately, there are some things they can't control but they are working to resolve issues as they come up.

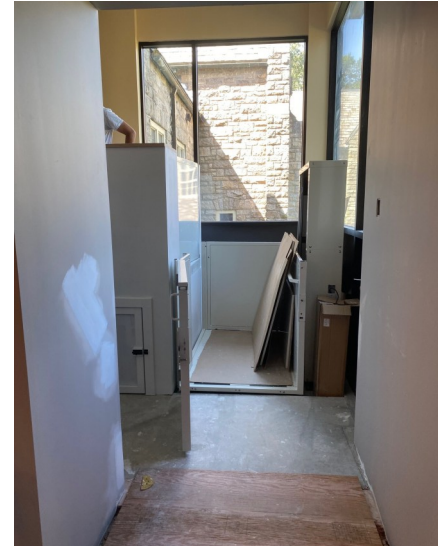
These pictures detail the current progress of the project:



Faux painting of new elevator sheetrock walls to match the paint on existing sanctuary walls.



New millwork installed surrounding a new fire rated door into sanctuary from the chapel narthex. The gray metal frames and window frame will be painted to match.



To the right upper photograph is the new lift under construction seen from the chapel narthex.



To the right bottom photograph is lift seen from the community building floor level near the ladies room.

*"When we fail to provide access and a true welcome for people with different abilities, we miss the fullness of the body of Christ. Every person brings a unique gift that enriches the whole community."
— Lori Erickson*



Music Ministry and Dance Ensembles at Trinity

I am beginning my second year of ministry here at Trinity and I am very excited for the fall, when all the ensembles will be up and running. I invite all current, former, and potential singers and dancers to carefully read the dates and the schedule for startup. If you would like to join one of the ensembles, please reach out to me and I will find a place for you! I especially invite children, from first grade to high school, to consider being a part of this ministry. We have plenty of room for you!

THE CHORISTERS is an ensemble open to children in grades 1-5 which rehearses weekly on Sundays from 12:15-1:00 p.m. and sings 4-6 times during the program year.

THE CHAMBER CHOIR is an ensemble open to girls and boys in grades 6-12 which rehearses weekly on Sundays from 1:00-1:45 p.m. and sings 6-8 times during the program year.

THE YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR is an ensemble open to Youth with some music knowledge and rehearses weekly on Sundays from 1:45-2:30 p.m.

CHANCEL CHOIR is an ensemble open to all adults who like to sing and participate in a friendly group. Music reading is not necessary, just a willingness to learn! The chancel choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and sings each Sunday from September to June.

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR is an ensemble open to adults who have a solid musical background and rehearses on Thursdays from 5:45- 6:45 p.m.

DANCE MOVEMENT CHOIR is an ensemble open to all ages and abilities, 6 years old to adults, and rehearses on Sundays from 12:15-1:00 p.m. and 1:00-1:45 p.m. The Dance Movement Choir shares movement/dance/ASL pieces with the congregation during the program year.

START UP DATES TO REMEMBER

CHORISTERS - September 20

CHAMBER CHOIR - September 20

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR - September 20

CHANCEL CHOIR - September 10

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR - September 10

DANCE MOVEMENT CHOIR - September 20

For more information about these programs, please reach out to Dr. Bruce Glenny, Director of Music Ministries music@trinityspringfield.org.

For information about the Dance Movement Choir, please reach out to Amelia Hays-Rivest dancemovementchoir@trinityspringfield.org.

I look forward to meeting new and returning members of this ministry in September!

Dr. Bruce Glenny

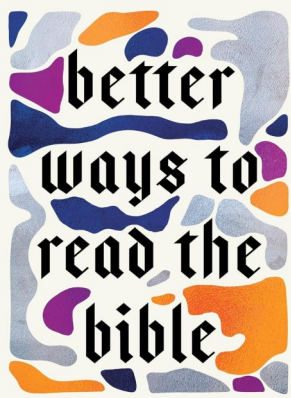


North American Festival of Wales
Gŵyl Cymru Gogledd America

The North American Festival of Wales



The festival takes place in Springfield from September 2 - 6. The events include Welsh language theatre, folk concerts, lectures, and an evening concert at Symphony Hall featuring the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. **The final event of the festival will be a community Hymn Sing at Trinity on Sunday, September 6 in the Sanctuary. The first session from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. is followed by tea served in Asbury Hall and the second session runs from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.** This event is free and open to the public. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this special opportunity. More information can be found at www.nafow.org or by scanning the QR code to the left.



Adult Study Class

Please join Dr. Calhoun for his newest book study on: "Better Ways to Read the Bible" Transforming the Bible from a Weapon of Harm Into a Tool of Healing... by Zack W. Lambert . As a pastor for more than ten years, Zach Lambert has seen the Bible used countless times as something far from the "Good Book"--both in his own life and in the experiences of others. He has seen the Bible weaponized to subjugate women, justify

racism, bash LGBTQ+ people, cover up abuse, and exclude people who speak out against these injustices. If you've been hurt by harmful interpretations or feel disconnected from Scripture, this book offers a path forward to reclaim the Bible's life-giving message.

Please email the church office at: doreen@trinityspringfield.org to register for the class. You can order the book [here](#) on Amazon.

Class begins Thursday, September 24 at 11a.m. in the cafe and runs every Thursday through October 15.



New Member Orientation

Trinity is a growing and dynamic congregation of people. I am happy to report that a new and prospective member gathering has been scheduled for **Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026 from 10 a.m. - noon**. Please join us for this informational meeting and enjoy a continental breakfast in the Parkside Café. This is a great opportunity for you to learn more about Trinity and the United Methodist Church in general. If you choose to join Trinity UMC after the orientation, you will be received into church membership on Sunday, October 25, 2026. Mark your calendar now, it will be a wonderful gathering. Please email Doreen in the church office at: doreen@trinityspringfield.org to register for the orientation. Thank you.



CROP Walk 2026

The 49th Annual Greater Springfield CROP Hunger Walk will take place here at Trinity on October 4th! Since we started walking, our Walk has raised \$592,924.15 to support families all over the world, and this year Team Trinity's goal is to have 30 Walkers raise \$10,000, to support families and communities around the world and here in the Springfield area. In order to help us achieve this lofty goal, we have a matching grant again this year. For the Greater Springfield walk, we have a grant of \$20,000. All of your donations will be matched up to \$20,000.

In the past, you have provided generational farmers livestock like cows, chickens, and pigs who are able to utilize the animals waste as compost fertilizer and improve the quality of their crops. You have helped Ukrainian refugees feel welcome and receive support they need as they have been forced to flee their homes. Your support has brought water into communities, so the children, especially the young girls are able to go to school, instead of walking miles to fetch water every day. Your contribution is helping our neighbors here in the Springfield area who receive support Those who receive support are: Open Pantry, Lorraine's Soup Kitchen, and the Western Mass Food Bank.

We know we can do more together than we can apart, and we hope you help us to come together and provide the support our neighbors need us the most. The Team Trinity web site is up and running. Please go to the CROP Walk web site and sign up for Team Trinity. Watch Thursday Thoughts for details and go to the website here.

If you have any questions or would like more information, see Diane Mackie or email her at missions@trinityspringfield.org. Thank you and see you at the walk on Sunday, October 4!



Trinity's Mitten Tree

Trinity's Mitten Tree 2026 will be dedicated to the memory of Arlene Mackie. Please plan to donate knitted, bought, or gently used mittens, hats, and scarves to Arlene's Tree during the month of December. Our Parkside Pantry guests will be happy to receive your Mitten Tree gifts.





Pumpkin Patch Festival Bake Sale - Saturday, October 10

The Pumpkin Patch Festival is almost here and this year it will again 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 9.** Thank you for helping to make this bake sale a success!

If you have any questions, please contact either Brenda Sheldon: ppbakesale1@trinityspringfield.org or

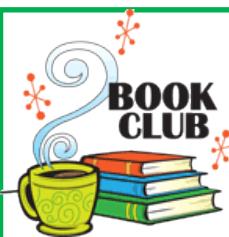
Lisa Everett: ppbakesale2@trinityspringfield.org



We're Looking for Communion Stewards

The sacrament of Communion can look very different when you have an opportunity to serve it to others. If you'd like to join our team of communion stewards, please email your name and the best way to contact you to: communion@trinityspringfield.org.

Cathy MacGovern will be in touch with you about training. Thank you for considering participating in this worship ministry.



Trinity Book Club

Our next Book Club Meeting is **Thursday, September 3 at 3:30 p.m.** in the Cafe previously the Parlor. We will be discussing "Angel Falls" by Kristin Hannah. Vera Baker will be the discussion leader. Please

let me know if you will be attending at:

tumcbookclub@trinityspringfield.org.

Books for next two months are as follows:

October - "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi - Wendy is the leader

November - "Whistler" by Ann Patchett - Colleen is the leader

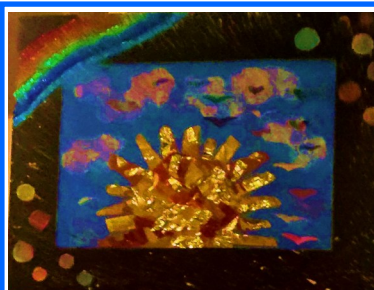
Please bring suggestions of other books to the meeting or email me if you can't make the meeting. In fact, when you come across a book you think would make a good Book Club read, email me name and author and I will start a list. Thank you.

Help Make the Pumpkin Patch Festival a Success!



Would you like to support Trinity's Pumpkin Patch Festival in a special way? Financial gifts help offset the cost of pumpkins, children's activities, entertainment, decorations, and supplies, allowing us to provide a welcoming experience for everyone who attends. If you would like to make a donation,

please mark your gift "**Pumpkin Patch Festival**" or give online [here](#). Every gift, large or small, helps us extend hospitality to our community.



Trinity Gallery—Looking Up

Plan to check out the exhibit in the gallery featuring the art of Trinity's people. The centerpiece is the canvas Rob and the youth created during Lent.

Other artists include Nicole Baker, David Baker, Noreen Acconcio, Joyce Belliveau, Chris Rigali, Chris Sterritt, Clara Lee Sharrard, Jim Sharrard, Lyn Nolan, Andrew Varnon and Lynette Varnon.



Refresh

Unwind the coil of constant drive
And let the weary spirit rest
You need not force the heart to strive,
Or bear the weight upon your chest.

Breathe out the echoes of the rush
Breathe in the silence, deep and slow.
Within this quiet, mossy hush,
Allow the grounded roots to grow.

For every river meets the sea,
And every winter yields to spring;
The soul is given leave to be,
And listen to the birds that sing.

So let the shadows fall away,
And drink the morning's golden dew
A fresh horizon greets the day,
And all that's lost is made anew.

Anonymous

- Poem submitted by the Worship Committee



Trinity Sunday, September 13, 2026

Join us for a new Twist as we Return-to-Church for Trinity Sunday! Following worship on September 13th, gather in Asbury Hall as we kick off the program year, making **Connections** over homemade **Pizza**--from our very own Trinity kitchen--and through classic, intergenerational **Games**.

Also, we still need some donations of the following games: Uno, Checkers, Connect 4, Twister, Chutes & Ladders, Jenga, Boggle, Candyland, Don't Break the Ice, or Tower Stack. If you have a copy of any of these in your basement or closet, please let us know, so that we can borrow it for the day. If you can help, contact Abney Seyler or Nate Olin (membership-outreach@trinityspringfield.org). Thanks!



The Carillon

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STAMP



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.