

The Newsletter

Trinitarian Congregational Church
72 Elm. St. North Andover, MA
978-686-4445

April 2012

www.natrinitarian.org



April Highlights

Holy Week at Trinitarian

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday Service of Holy Communion Sun. April 1, 10:00 am

*We'll remember the day that Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem through reading the account of Palm Sunday as well as the "Passion" of our Lord.
Original Music by Stan Boothby.*



Maundy Thursday Service Thur. April 5, 7:00 pm

We'll share in communion on the night when Christ first gave us this sacrament. After the Lord's Supper we'll have a tenebrae service, one of the oldest services in Christianity. Based upon the seven last words of Jesus upon the Cross, the service includes readings and spirituals, as the sanctuary gradually darkness symbolizing the death of Christ.

Easter Sunday! April 8, 10:00 am "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" Come and Celebrate!



On Sunday, April 29, Don't Just Come to Church . . . BE the Church!

On April 29 we'll be the church at worship, at fellowship and at service to our community. We'll celebrate God's Love in worship and then make that love visible to our community through acts of service. Sign up to be a part and make a difference.

Ham & Bean Supper Sat. March 31 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Tickets will be sold at the door, Adults are \$7.00, Seniors and Children under 12 years are \$6.00. Children under 3 years are free. If you are interested in helping out please contact either Sarah Dunlap sedunlap50@aol.com or Glen Aver acaver@aol.com.

Christian Education

Thanks for everyone who came to the "Parenting Potluck Series." We hope you got as much out of the sessions as we did. Special thanks to the anonymous donor who paid for Joani Geltman's honorarium. The Christian Education Committee: Anne Webster, Chair, Connie Bouchard-Fogg, Alisa Knight, Kayla Maguire and Lauren Whitaker.

Confirmation Classes this Month

Sun. April 1 - regular class after worship
Thur. April 5 - attend 7 pm Tenebrae Service
Sun. April 29 - participate in "Be the Church Sunday." Service project after worship.

Senior High Youth Group

We had a great time on our Ski Retreat, March 9 & 10. Special thanks to Anne Webster and Pastor Rich for chaperoning. We're meeting Sun. April 1 in the Scout Cabin from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. We're planning a Service Auction for Sun. May 6 following worship to benefit the Youth Mission Trip, as well as a Mother's Day Brunch, Sun. May 13. We're also planning a Ping Pong Tournament in the Scout Cabin, Sun. May 20. The entrance fee is \$10.00 and will go towards this summer's youth mission trip. The tournament will be a double elimination. Sign up by contacting the church office. Our thanks to the Pickles family for donating the ping pong table!!!

Recipes Wanted

The TCC Senior High Youth Group wants your favorite recipes! Look for the TCC Cookbook, coming in May, just in time to help the Youth Group raise funds for their 2012 Mission Trip. Please send your recipe treasures to Janet Swatski (jswatski@comcast.net).

Service Auction - May 6

The Senior High Youth Group is planning a Service Auction for Sun. May 6 immediately following worship. Proceeds will benefit this summer's youth mission trip. All those going on the trip will be donating services (babysitting, lawn care, car washing, pet care, etc. We invite the congregation to be a part. Here are some suggestions: golf lessons, tennis lessons, a boat ride, fishing trip, a fancy dinner delivered to your house. Look for forms in the bulletins this month. Glen Ayer will be our auctioneer. This is not only a great fundraiser but it's fun and promotes fellowship as folks get together for the services they've purchased.

Saturday Painting

We've been quite successful, if we do say so ourselves, with our upstairs spruce-up projects. Check out the stairwell as you enter from the side door, the upstairs area outside of the church office as well as the hallway outside of the upstairs bathroom and music room, and the Davis Room. All the trim and doors received a fresh coat of paint.

Our thanks to the Michaelangelo Church Painting Company: Caroline & John Webber, Hazel Orchard, Paul Jalbert, Dan Day, John Pierce and Rich Knight.

Dance Classes

Dance Classes are held at Trinitarian Church on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm & 8:00 pm and Sunday afternoons at 1:00 pm. The Sunday classes are especially designed for wedding parties preparing for upcoming wedding receptions. For more information please call Glen Ayer at 978-994-0430.

Parenting Tips from Joani Geltman

Guidelines for Kids & Cell Phones:

1. No Cell Phones in Bed. Kids will stay up all hours of the night texting their friends or playing games on their phones.
2. Block Photo Capacity. Many teens today are not thinking through the dangers and consequences of sending inappropriate pics to one another.
3. Monitor their activity with permission. Kids may not be aware of how many texts they're sending. The average is 80 a day! You can download reports and review it with them.
4. Limit usage. Have regular times where the phone is turned off - at school, over dinner time, at bedtime, etc. We adults need to model cell phone moderation.

Guidelines for Facebook - Questions to Ask:

1. Can this post be misinterpreted by anyone?
2. Does this post intentionally hurt someone's feelings?
3. Does this post give out too much information?
4. Can photos or videos posted of me come back and shoot me in the foot?

Joani stressed that we parents did not grow up with this technology. So unlike other topics (driving a car, homework, dating, etc.) we don't know what all the "best practices" are to follow and to teach our kids. Hope this helps!

Knight Lines

If we Protestants had "holy days of obligation," Holy Week would be at the top of the list. These days that are fast upon us go to the heart of our faith - God's self-sacrificing, self-giving love. In Holy Week the purposes of Christ are fulfilled. Love is embodied, the sacrifice for sin is made, salvation is won, the grave is conquered and love has the last word.

As one who studies the texts year after year, I find that I never get tired of thinking about this week. I especially love the questions that arise when I read the texts. On Palm Sunday, as the crowds longed for an earthly ruler to save them, did any of them remember Jesus' words, "My Kingdom is not of this world"? At the Last Supper, did Judas ever waver in his decision to betray Jesus? And if he did what he was "destined" to do, according to the texts, did God judge him mercifully? On Good Friday, only the disciple John is mentioned as being at the foot of the Cross. Where were the other disciples? And on Easter Sunday as the women went to the tomb to anoint the body, did any of them think for even a second that he might be raised?

Martin Copenhaver says this:

"Although the story is not new, it renews us. And we do not tire of it any more than we tire of bread or sunlight, and we need it just as much. We can no more tire of this story than we can tire of the words, 'I love you' - which is the message this story brings, God's love made known to us."

I hope you'll immerse yourself in The Story this Holy Week. Our services will provide you with opportunities to do just that. It's "the old, old story of Jesus and his love." But it's ever new and ever ours.

Serving Christ with You, Rich Knight

Willy Wonka Thanks!

Thanks to all who made the musical so successful – the cast, director, support folks, all our volunteers, and those who came to enjoy the show.

3rd Annual Mother's Day Brunch - Sunday, May 13th (immediately following worship)

Mark your calendars for this very special event! Bring the mothers in your life to celebrate all they have done! Join us for a wonderful brunch and special music and terrific fellowship. All proceeds go towards this summer's Youth Mission Trip to Monson, MA where tornados devastated the town last year. Our youth group will participate in much needed home repairs.

Exchange Student Opportunity

The Pacific Intercultural Exchange is an organization that facilitates the placement of high school exchange students from around the world with local families. From Thailand to Norway to Brazil, they have several wonderful students aged 16-17, that would love to be a part of an American family for the school year. Laura Walta, an Area Representative, has hosted six students over the past several years and found it to be a wonderful experience that has changed her life! North Andover High school has agreed to enroll one or more exchange students and families are needed to host them. Families provide a bed, meals, and a parent's love and care. Church members make excellent host parents and seem to have room in their hearts for strangers- especially children. Students come with English skills, health insurance and their own spending money. They also provide a great deal of enthusiasm, a wealth

of cultural knowledge to share, and the curiosity and awe you might expect of a teenager from another culture. The host family commitment must be secured as soon as possible as their arrival is scheduled for late August. To learn more about hosting, please contact Laura@Walta.org or 978-857-0624.

TCC Scholarship

Attention graduating seniors! If you are interested in competing for a TCC Scholarship, pick up an application in the church office! Applications are due by April 30th so they can be reviewed by the Board of Christian Education and the scholarship can be awarded on Children's Sunday, June 10th.

Are You Part of Facebook? Be sure to "Like" TCC's page to receive all the latest updates and events on TCC's calendar!

On the Air...Have you seen us on TV yet? Our services are being televised on North Andover CAM, channel 22 on Comcast and channel 24 for Verizon users. Right now our regular times are:

Tuesdays at 11:00 am

Thursdays at 9:00 pm

Sundays at 4:00 pm

Check it out!

Daily Lectionary

If you would like to download a copy of the Daily Lectionary, you may visit the MACUCC Website at MACUCC.org. Search Daily Lectionary and click on the month.