



VOICE OF TRINITY

May 23, 2022

Volume 22, No. 03

I typically use this page to reflect on some aspect of the liturgical season or our life together as Trinity Church. This time, however, I am struggling to put together such a reflection. So, what follows is just me sharing some of my thoughts, feelings, and questions after yet another reminder that for some in this country, Black lives don't matter. By the time you read this, more information may or may not have come out about the gunman. By the time you read this, I may or may not have different thoughts, feelings, and questions. But, here is where I am today.

FROM THE



RECTOR

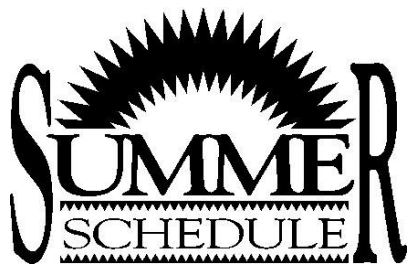
As I write this, it's about four days since a self-proclaimed white supremacist targeted a grocery store, known to predominately serve Black shoppers, and killed ten people. In the hours and days following the shooting, information has come forth making it plain that this violence was fueled by hatred born of white supremacy. Another ten names added to the list of those known and unknown who have been killed because of white supremacy. Another countless number of friends and family racked with grief in the aftermath of gun violence. Another act of violence against Black bodies that adds to the trauma of BIPOC from sea to shining sea.

At May's Vestry meeting (three days after the shooting) we opened with a Dwelling in the Word practice using John 14:23-29. In this practice, you are invited to listen as the scripture is read aloud twice, and, while listening, notice where you stop; notice what words, phrases or ideas grasp you; and wonder where the Spirit of God might be nudging you. As the text was read, two phrases that stood out to me were "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" and "Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." In the subsequent small group reflection I shared my difficulty with "Do not let your hearts be troubled," when there is such a recent and raw pain of violence. As a part of that reflection I also shared that it brings to mind the quote, "If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention," and that I would amend it to say, "If your heart isn't troubled, you aren't paying attention." How can one look around the world, look around the nation, look around our cities and towns, see the suffering of so many people, including ourselves, and not be troubled? Surely Jesus isn't telling us to turn a blind eye or harden our hearts.

As I continue to pray with this passage, what I keep coming back to is that because the peace – the wholeness of God's love – that Jesus gives to us is stronger than anything in all of creation, we do not despair. Yes, the anguish and suffering of the world troubles our hearts, but that's not where the story ends. In the midst of whatever anger, fear, hurt, disgust or sorrow, the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, reminds us of all that Jesus has said to us: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY SERVICES: We will continue to offer two services of Holy Eucharist each Sunday throughout the summer. However, beginning in June and continuing through Labor Day weekend, we will make some changes to our services in keeping with the warm weather and the more relaxed days of summer:

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

Beginning on June 19, this service will be held in the Memorial Garden, weather permitting. Enter from the door opposite the rest rooms in the narthex, or through the Sigourney Street garden gate.

10:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist with summer music and hymns*

Our worship space will be reconfigured for the summer, with the altar moved down to the nave, beginning on June 19.

OFFICE HOURS: During the summer, the office will normally be open as usual, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Alterations to these hours may become necessary because of staff vacations, and will be announced in the weekly bulletin and eVoice.

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES: As always, to reach the clergy person on call in a pastoral emergency, dial the main office number (860-527-8133) and select option "1".

Heads Up! Hartford Returns To In-Person Program

Trinity's young people in grades 8-12 are invited to attend Heads Up! Hartford, a week-long summer camp uniting urban and suburban youth to improve our communities and develop those attending as leaders. The camp will take place from June 22-29 at the Ethel Walker School in Simsbury. Each day, campers participate in community service, worship, fellowship, and recreational activities.

The deadline to apply for HUH is June 5, so now's the time to act! Registration can be done online or by mail; forms are available at headsuphartford.org. Families are asked to contribute \$75 toward the cost of attending, but Trinity Church funds the rest. Trinity's youth have been to this camp over many years, as campers and as counselors, and have found it to be a very valuable and fun experience.

Memorial Service for Marjorie Hamer

A celebration of the life of Marjorie H. Hamer, the mother of our former rector, the Reverend Donald Hamer, will be held at St. James' Episcopal Church in Glastonbury on Thursday, May 26, beginning at 10:30 a.m., following visitation at 10:00 a.m. A reception in St. James' parish hall will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Trinity Academy or to the Glastonbury Senior Center, 300 Welles Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033. St. James' is located at 2584 Main Street in Glastonbury.

Book Group To Discuss *The Underground Railroad*

At its June 3 meeting, Trinity's book group will discuss Colson Whitehead's award-winning novel *The Underground Railroad*, which in 2016 received both the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction and the National Book Award, and last year was adapted as an Amazon miniseries. The main character, Cora, is a young woman enslaved on a Georgia cotton plantation who decides to escape. In the novel, the Underground Railroad is not just a metaphor: there is a secret network of actual tracks and tunnels beneath the soil on which Cora travels from one state to the next in the antebellum South.

All are welcome to attend this meeting, which Jack and Penny Pearson will host from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on June 3 at their home in Bloomfield. Please let them know if you plan to attend by emailing pennypearson@comcast.net.

In-Person/Zoom Annual Meeting June 12

The Annual Meeting of the Parish of Trinity Church will take place



on
Trinity
Sunday,
June 12,

both in-person AND via Zoom, right after that day's **9:30 a.m.** worship service (the *only* service on the 12th), which will itself take place in-person and via YouTube. The business to be transacted at this year's meeting will include the election of Vestry officers, at-large Vestry members, a delegate and an alternate delegate to Convention, and the 2022-2023 Nominating Committee.

Members in good standing 16 years of age or older may vote.

Come in person, attend via Zoom – but do plan to be at our 2022 annual meeting, one way or the other!

Welcoming the Newly Baptized . . .

During the May 15 10:00 a.m. service, we were pleased to welcome Suray-Paige Mariah Smith into the household of God in the sacrament of Baptism. Suray-Paige is the daughter of Natalie Thomas Smith and Corey Smith, and the granddaughter of Deborah and Michael Thomas and of Sheila Smith.



NOW YOU'VE DONE IT!!!!

Elizabeth Rousseau, daughter of Kate Byroade and Casey Rousseau, graduated from Trinity College in Hartford on Sunday, May 22, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Public Policy & Law. Elizabeth plans to serve as West Hartford's Democratic Registrar of Voters next year.

Congratulations to Elizabeth! If you are also a recent college graduate, send your information to voice@trinityhartford.org, and we'll put it in the next issue of The Voice.

Bishop-Elect Chosen at May 21 Convention

The Reverend Jeffrey Mello was chosen as the 16th Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut at a special convention of ECCT lay delegates and clergy held on Saturday, May 21. His election from a field of five candidates came on the sixth ballot. A parish priest for over 14 years, he is currently Rector of St. Paul's Church in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Under the canons of the Episcopal Church, a majority of diocesan bishops as well as a majority of the diocesan standing committees must, within 120 days of receiving notice of the election, consent to the bishop-elect's ordination as bishop. The ECCT will then gather at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford next October 15 to celebrate the Consecration of our new bishop.

Youth Sunday Set for June 5

On Sunday, June 5, Trinity will follow its tradition of celebrating the children and young adults of our congregation.

As usual, our graduating high school seniors will be invited to address the congregation during the sermon time. We congratulate this year's seniors:



Chi-Chi Onoh will graduate this June from Hall High School in West Hartford. She is the daughter of Lawretta and Israel Onoh, and a long-time member of The Choir School of Hartford, where she is currently serving as a Prefect. She will be attending the University of Connecticut in the fall.

Peter Rice, son of Elena Zhidkova-Rice and Alan Rice, will graduate from Glastonbury High School in June.

Celine Stephens, daughter of Carmen Modeste and Trevor Stephens, is also a long-time member of the Choir School, where she is now Head Chorister. She will be graduating from the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. This fall, she will be attending the University of St. Joseph, where she plans to major in biology.

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, there will be refreshments in the Memorial Garden, giving members the opportunity to congratulate our 2022 graduates.

COVID Protocols: Adapting to the Data

As the COVID-19 numbers continue to rise and fall, Trinity Church will continue to monitor the situation and adjust our COVID protocols accordingly. Over the summer months, please be sure to check the weekly eVoice for the current protocols in place each week.

As always during this long and trying pandemic, remember that, whatever Trinity's protocols may be at a given time, there will still be various levels of comfort in our community with masking, handshakes, and hugging. When attending services in-person, please be respectful of others whose decisions differ from your own.

ECCT Offering Anti-Racism Course

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut is partnering with the Kaleidoscope Institute to offer an anti-racism course taking place via Zoom over the first two weekends in June. The two Saturday sessions will begin at 10:00 a.m., and the Sunday sessions at 2:00 p.m.; participants must attend all four sessions. The course is designed to help us embrace and enact the vision of Becoming Beloved Community – an ongoing and lifelong journey.

There is no cost to attend, but space is limited, and registration is required. To sign up (by May 28), go to trinityhartford.org/antiracismtraining and click on the blue "Register" button.

News from Trinity Academy

With its last day of school for 2021-2022 set for Friday, June 3, Trinity Academy is in the midst of an eventful finish to the academic year.



On May 11, students from all grades participated in the school's annual Science Fair. First graders learned about reptiles and amphibians, second graders studied types of weather, third graders learned about the solar system, and fourth and fifth graders grouped up and used the scientific method on an experiment of their choosing.

On May 19, Trinity Academy hosted its first ever Community Block Party from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Local vendors, social services, organizations, and more filed into Goodwin Hall on behalf of the Hartford Community. The idea behind this event was to set students and families up for success as the summer approaches. Things like toiletries, snacks and books were given out for free.

Trinity Academy does not host summer classes, but partners with the Watkinson School and their SPHERE program. This program runs for five weeks on Watkinson's campus, providing breakfast, snacks, and a hot meal for Hartford students (grades K-5), and offering weekly field trips, physical activities, art classes, and more! In fact, four of Trinity Academy's teachers will be teaching there this summer!

– Allison Bernhard,
Principal

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

1st & 3rd Thursdays: Holy Eucharist at noon in the Chapel

All other Thursdays: Mid-day prayers at noon in the Chapel

Sundays at 8:00 a.m.: Holy Eucharist in person in the church

Weather permitting, this service will be held in the Memorial Garden June 19 through Labor Day weekend

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.: Holy Eucharist (in person and via YouTube)

Links to YouTube services at trinityhartford.org

The Reverend D. Littlepage, Rector
Michelle Horsley, Director of Music Ministries

Assisting Clergy:

The Reverend Dr. Frank G. Kirkpatrick

The Right Reverend Andrew D. Smith

The Reverend C. Jon Widing

The Reverend William J. Eakins, Rector Emeritus

The VOICE of Trinity Church

Published in August, then bi-monthly, September to May,
for Trinity's members and Friends

Edited by Katherine S. Wilson

Notes from the April and May Vestry Meetings

The **April meeting** of the Vestry, held via Zoom on the 26th of the month, began with a Bible discussion led by Rev. D. on John 21:1-19, which tells of the appearance of the risen Jesus to the disciples as they returned to fishing in the Sea of Galilee.

Rev. D. offered a Rector's Report that addressed the following:

- Gratitude for a Holy Week and Easter where she was able to be physically present with a majority of the congregation – some for the first time.
- Excitement for the return of Sunday School. As of May 1, there will be Godly Play at 9:45 and all-grades Sunday School after the 10 a.m. service.
- IRIS is interested in expanding the space it rents from Trinity.
- Vinnie Pacileo, our Facilities Manager, will have shoulder surgery in a week.

Vinnie joined the meeting to participate in a discussion of the former apartment space in the Parish House. One question is whether the space should continue to be classified as residential or should be changed to commercial. The fire safety system that has been installed is appropriate for commercial space but not residential, so either the classification or the fire system needs to change. Several questions were raised about the implications of a classification change. Rev. D. and Mark MacGougan and possibly one or two others will do more research.

Rev. D. laid out a list of tasks that need volunteer coverage during Vinnie's upcoming absence.

Vestry members volunteered for various roles and in some cases also volunteered to recruit other church members to help. Please contact the church office if you are willing and able to help with any of the following:

- Greeting at the door for Sunday 10 a.m. services
- Physical set-up for coffee hour
- Preparing and serving refreshments for coffee hour
- Planning and serving a New Member Luncheon
- Change-over of the church to summer configuration during the week after the annual meeting on June 12
- Digging of holes in the Memorial Garden as needed for the interment of ashes

Rev. D. provided an update on "DOMIN-GO" – a community event that will take place on Sunday, June 26, starting at 9 a.m. This will be a large street fair during which most of Farmington Avenue will be closed to traffic, creating a logistical challenge for the 10 a.m. service, but also representing a chance for Trinity Church (and the Choir School, Trinity Academy and IRIS) to reach out to the community. Rev. D. asked the Vestry to think about how we might want to use that opportunity.

The last order of business was approval of a consent agenda consisting of minutes from the

regular March meeting and a supplemental March 29 meeting.

The Trinity Vestry held its **May meeting** by Zoom on the 17th. The meeting started with a Bible discussion led by Rev. D. on John 14:23-29, in which Jesus describes his relationship to God the Father and to the Holy Spirit.

Rev. D. gave a Rector's Report that addressed the following:

- Postponement of the Newcomers Luncheon due to COVID concerns. Hoping to reschedule in June.
- Best wishes for Vinnie Pacileo, Trinity's Facilities Manager, who is recovering from surgery.
- Gratitude for everyone who has helped out in Vinnie's absence, including Barbara Roos, who has been meeting with contractors, and Peter Green, who fixed a broken piece of equipment.

IRIS is pleased with how their new satellite office in our Parish House has worked out. They originally moved in on a one-year lease, but would like to move to a long-term lease and expand the space they use. This may have some bearing on the question from the April meeting regarding whether the church should change the designation of the upper floors of the Parish House from residential to commercial.

Godly Play has been successfully re-launched. However, the attempt to restart the after-church

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Final Adult Forum June 5

The last Adult Forum of the program year will take place June 5, Youth Sunday. Following our long tradition of celebrating the young people who are such an important part of our parish life, there will be a brief reception after the 10 a.m. service. The forum will follow; it will be in the form of a panel discussion with our young members, who will join us in person or via Zoom to tell us what they are doing, and how they are doing. The forum will be offered in-person in the sanctuary and via Zoom.

If you have a suggestion for a forum, or would like to join the ACF team, contact Martha Freimuth at 860-605-0703 or lems.cove@yahoo.com.

Grounds Opportunities for Summer

Trinity Church's grounds need your help to keep them looking at their best over the summer.

Many people use our buildings, just pass by on the sidewalk or drive by in their car, and it is important that the grounds make a good impression in order to complement our beautiful buildings. Our Memorial Garden also needs some help so that it too can serve its intended purpose as a place of rest and tranquility. You can help in a variety of ways:

- A **workday** has been scheduled for Saturday, June 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, with refreshments provided. The workday will involve sprucing up the various beds

and walkways, getting rid of the weeds which are growing fast, and various other tasks.

- Consider **adopting a planting bed** to maintain over the summer. You don't have to do all the work alone – you could team up with another parishioner! This would involve weeding and watering as necessary, as well as making sure that there is no trash lying around to detract from the appearance of the area. Contact Peter Green for more information or to sign up to tend a plot this summer.

Thank you very much for your consideration in helping Trinity to remain a place of welcome, inside and out.

Cycle of Prayer for June—August

June 5

Roger Hough
Azubuike & Comfort Igboanugo
Emeka, Esther, Emmanuela,
Michael & Marvelous
Igboanugo

June 12

David Johnson
Horace Johnson
Casandra Joseph and Elyon &
Garvey Udokwu

June 19

Liz & Frank Kirkpatrick
Lisa Koester
Bill Kofalk

June 26

Heather & James Kramer
Louise Krippenstapel
Frank, Emily, Andrew &
Alison LaCroix

July 3

Bill & Lynette Lawrence
JoJo Leano & Zaida Martinez
Marcia A. & Marcia C. Lee

July 10

Kate Lindsay
Lou Loomis
Jacqui & Marc Lucier

July 17

Adair Lummis
Mark & Linda MacGougan
Maria Maldonado

July 24

Susanne Mantel
Fred Margeson
Maung Oo, Ma Aye,
Paw Say Wah, Tro Moo &
John Aye Moo

July 31

Roy McAlpine & Emily Estes
Antoinette McCrary
Cassandra McLeod

August 7

Ray McFarland
Rich McMenamy
Merle Melhado

August 14

Judy Miller
Lily & Marc Miller
Carmen Modeste &
Celine Stephens

August 21

Clement, Ifeoma, Jane, Olivia,
Krista, Austin & Franklin Mogor
Kenneth Mogor
Elizabeth Moore

August 28

Margaret Moore
Boo Morton & Suzanne Blancaflor
Donald Neely

Summer Birthdays



If you have a summer birthday not listed below, please call Barbara Roos in the parish office at 860-527-8133, Ext. 204, so she can add your special day to our parish records.

Jo-Ann Sadosky	June 1	Corlet Ude	June 29	Josepha Schrijn	August 2
Mavis Bennett	June 1	Nigel Francis	June 30	Frank Kirkpatrick	August 4
Walton Foster	June 1	Bella Esponda	June 30	Stephanie Thomas Smith	
Kristen Williams-Garcia		Aaron Dilone	July 2		August 4
	June 3	Cecelia Timothy	July 5	Ismael Rubio	August 4
Adair Lummis	June 4	Jean Peelle	July 8	Kodi-Jane Mogor	August 7
David Pontrelli	June 4	Leslyn Clark	July 10	Peter Vreeland	August 10
Mark MacGougan	June 5	Peter Green	July 10	Sasha Esponda	August 11
Richard McMenemy	June 5	Bill Kofalk	July 10	D. Littlepage	August 12
Trocari Griffith-McCalop		Kendall Okeke	July 10	Christina Gellman	August 12
	June 6	Kimberly Okeke	July 10	Amy Arlin	August 13
Riley Sutton	June 6	John Robinson	July 12	Suzanne Gates	August 14
Gavin Cheyney	June 10	Carolyn Rogers	July 14	Joseph Annan-Kingsley	
Robin Foster	June 10	Fiona Cheyney	July 15		August 16
Sam Clark	June 10	Maung Oo	July 15	Fred Margeson	August 16
Madison Ross	June 10	Celine Stephens	July 15	Hunter Troiano	August 17
Suzanne Blancaflor	June 11	Trudi Campbell	July 16	Pamela Garcia	August 18
Kate Steven	June 14	David Barrett	July 17	Cathy Rowe	August 18
Sophiya Esponda	June 16	Kate Smith	July 17	Agatha Okeke	August 18
Bruce Whitcomb	June 17	Olive Tronchin	July 17	Penny Pearson	August 19
Jacqui Lucier	June 17	Susan Eaccarino	July 18	Davonté Griffith	August 20
Meg Foster	June 17	Helen Hart	July 19	Julian Rose	August 21
Tro Moo	June 18	Ellen Richardson	July 19	Karl Profe	August 21
Marc Wiest	June 19	Jonathan Reik	July 20	Eugenia Weaver	August 24
Franklin Ude	June 20	Donald Romanik	July 22	Susanne Mantel	August 24
Leroy Bohlen	June 23	Benneth Ude	July 22	Michael Thomas	August 26
Alexia Williams-Garcia		Merle Melhado	July 23	Amy Williams	August 26
	June 23	Philip Green	July 23	Kevin Rennie	August 28
Boo Morton	June 24	Pollyann Thomas	July 25	Malik Thomas	August 30
Levi Bohlen	June 26	Sue Hart	July 25	Carmen Belgrave	August 30
Justin Ude	June 28	Krista Mogor	July 26	Edgar Garcia	August 30
Phil Reynolds	June 28	Ray Wilson	July 28	Freya Watt	August 30
Margery Samuels	June 29	David Carson	August 2		

Faith in Action at Trinity Church



Update on Trinity's Afghan Family

The Dadwall family is progressing in all respects. Ferooz is employed at a local furniture-manufacturing firm. His days are quite long: to eight hours of work Monday through Friday is added a total of three hours for the bus ride to and from the factory. Nevertheless, a couple of times each week he rides his bike to an evening ESOL class offered by the town. The older kids, Abna, 8, and Abdul, 6, are doing very well at school; Abna's English is astounding and Abdul, who is shy about speaking, is now beginning to regularly converse in English. The pre-schoolers have, not surprisingly, mastered the word "no!!"

Saheba is finding it quite challenging to handle all the kids on her own now that Ferooz works all day, and without the other family and friends she had in Afghanistan to help out. But she will get some relief over the summer, when the kids will hopefully each have a camp experience. And next fall the pre-schoolers will be at a public pre-school program all day. Baby Zoya, at 6½ months, is a real charmer. She's eating solid food now, jumping up and down on Mom's lap, and recently got her first tooth.

Last week Ferooz received the news that one of his younger brothers had died, apparently of a stomach virus that, had decent medical care been available to him, would have been treatable.

The refugee team wants again to express its gratitude to the generous members of Trinity parish who have contributed diapers to the family and provided bicycles for all the kids.

– Anne Rapkin,
for the Outreach/Faith in Action

Life Jackets Needed for Our Afghan Kids

The end of school is almost here! Trinity's Refugee Resettlement Team hopes that, through summer camp experiences and/or trips to the town pools, Abna (8), Abdul (6), Mohammad (4) and Amjad (3), will be able to enjoy some time in the water during what promises to be a brutally hot summer. However, none of the children can swim and all need life jackets. Therefore, the Team is asking for donations of life jackets, whether gently used or new. If you can help out, please contact Anne Rapkin via email at anne.rapkin@gmail.com, or give her a call at 860-521-5992. Thanks!

Church by the Pond on June 18 and August 20

Trinity's summer opportunities to participate in this ministry led by Christ Church Cathedral are **Saturday, June 18**, and **Saturday, August 20**.

- We'll meet in the Trinity kitchen at 12:30 to prepare bag lunches; enter through the outside door to the kitchen.
- At 1:45 we'll bring those lunches to Bushnell Park, where we'll participate in the worship service by the pond, led by Rev. D.
- We'll distribute our lunches and personal care items following the service, and finish around 3:00.

All parishioners and families are welcome. Volunteers will observe the mask and social distancing protocols in effect at the time for in-person worship.

Please contact me at pennypearson@comcast.net or 860-243-0020 if you have any questions, or plan to participate.

– Penny Pearson, convener

Stay Tuned

Watch the Sunday bulletin and weekly eVoice for opportunities to support students returning to school this fall!

Wrapping Up Another Year of Music at Trinity: Reflections on the Year from Michelle Horsley

As we wrap up the season and plan for next year, I want to formally celebrate the devoted singers – adults and choristers – who comprised the music ministry at Trinity Church throughout this season. Through it all, our singers have been both flexible and steadfast, holding space for continued musical growth and allowing for grace in our interactions with one another.

Holy Week and Easter were filled with choral and instrumental music; on Easter, we were joined by a marvelous string quartet. On May 7, the choristers performed alongside Voices of Concinnity in a concert titled “The Open Heavens” which honored musical depictions of heaven by a variety of composers. Chi-Chi Onoh and Olivia Mogor were featured soloists, and Celine Stephens joined in an ambitious sextet ensemble with Voices of Concinnity members! We celebrate the courage and hard work it takes to prepare for these performances, especially at this age. It was a thrill for our choristers to feel what it’s like to sing with an all-professional ensemble and to be musically challenged as they rose to the occasion. Earlier in April we also welcomed two outside choral concerts from UConn and The Hartt School, filling our sanctuary with music and community from beyond our walls. Just a couple of weeks prior, on March 27, the choristers, along with four other RSCM programs, performed a collaborative Chorister Evensong which packed the Trinity College

Chapel and was another huge musical accomplishment.

In addition to events, we have been proud to see three choristers demonstrating immense progress in their piano lessons, and all our younger choristers “leveling up” in their Voice for Life curriculum, thereby earning new ribbon colors to wear each Sunday. It has been a music-heavy spring season! What a joy to prepare for these events and to witness this musical community continue to grow in skill and friendship.

The Trinity Episcopal Church Adult Choir has also been consistently active during this time, continuing to sing music – new and old – every week. Our singers have remained compassionate and flexible as we navigate illness, infection rates, and life events. We have continued meeting each week to rehearse and build our community through collaborative music-making. We have been blessed to have had four new regular singers this past 2021-2022 season – Ash de las Casas, Kristen Williams, Adrian Dilone, and Andrew Gardner. We’re also grateful for choir members who returned after last year’s season, when in-person rehearsals were not yet possible. We have also benefitted greatly from the musicianship of John Michael Walker, a graduate student in music history at The Hartt School, who has served as our tenor section leader this year.

The final service of the season for The Choir School of Hartford will be Sunday, June 5, Youth Sunday.

Our graduating choristers – Chi-Chi Onoh and Celine Stephens – will be sharing messages from the pulpit, and both the choristers and adult choir will sing favorite anthems from the year as well as selections for Pentecost. The choristers are preparing a reception following worship that day, and invite everyone to share their favorite treats. The Adult Choir ends their season June 12, the day of the Annual Meeting. We’re hoping for an end-of-year choir party, scheduling and COVID allowing.

As I reflect on what we’ve been able to do in 2022 despite an ever-changing COVID landscape, I am proud of the ways we’ve been creative in our music-making while also staying safe. I am happy to report that there have been zero cases of COVID in either of our choirs in 2022. With God’s grace and a continued commitment within this community, our music ministry will remain strong and adaptable. It is an honor to be a part of it.

– Michelle Horsley
Director of Music Ministries



Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association – Spring 2022

Police Report – Officer Palmieri is spending time checking out tinted car windows and doing some education about what is allowed on car windows. Also of concern are panhandling, trespassing and quality of life issues (noise, speeding and traffic). Time is being spent at Sigourney Park to ensure compliance with issues concerning alcohol use and litter. Officer Palmieri is seeing more compliance with both issues.

Executive Director’s Report – As always, we are seeking funding. Please speak to friends and stakeholders about donating to AHNA. There is a gift of support from The Hartford that is currently being utilized. AHNA’s health is good but always needs infusions! The AHNA Community Partners’ breakfast will be held September 14 at the Town and County Club.

City of Hartford Updates – Virtual meetings concerning gun violence were held on 5/14, 5/16 and 5/22.

Planning/Development Services Update – Grace spoke about exciting plans for Domin-Go Sunday, June 26, from 9-3 p.m., when Farmington Avenue will be closed to vehicular traffic. Farmington Avenue from Whitney Street to Bushnell Park will be open. Businesses and residents are encouraged to participate and enjoy; there will be entertainment, food, children’s activities, art displays, sports events and more! There was a good article about this event in the AARP April 2022 newsletter. This event take place again in September.

Greater Hartford Mobility Study – Information is being collected and shared concerning more useful bus stops/lines, bike paths, improvements to sidewalks and safety. This is a work in progress and dovetails with plans for better traffic conditions in Asylum Hill and environs.

Committee Reports –

Quality of Life: The Committee is working with the police to recommend placements for cameras for crime hot spots. Also working with DPW about garbage concerns. Safety concerns are still the primary concern of most residents.

Economic Development: The Committee is focused on three blighted properties – 85 Sigourney Street, 150 Woodland Street, and 1 Myrtle Street. They will be meeting with city officials to determine how to address these problems.

Communication: There are continuing discussions about hiring staff, getting updates to the website and improving social media outreach.

Strategic Planning: Progress is being made in the areas of composting, tree assessment, Farmington Avenue streetscape, blighted property inventory, and public safety cameras. Youth Challenge is providing two interns to contact the 50+ nonprofits in Asylum Hill to develop an Asylum Hill Service Directory.

Green Committee: We are applying to Hartford Love Your Block for two grants to expand our work with composting and encouraging pollinating plantings. There was a clean up day at Sigourney Park on May 21 which was coordinated by Our Piece of the Pie.

Budget: The budget was reviewed and approved by the general membership.

Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association meets the first Monday of the Month at 6:15 p.m. Currently meetings are virtual.

– Boo Morton



Thursday Noon Services Now In-Person

All Thursday 12:00 noon services are now once again being held in person in the church; these services will no longer be available on-line. A service of Holy Eucharist will be held in the Chapel on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, with Noonday Prayer on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays. All are welcome to attend; please enter the church through the Sigourney Street entrance.

Vestry Notes from April and May – Continued from Page 5

Sunday School has not yet been successful. Rev. D. is working with Roy McAlpine to develop a plan to better address the needs of the older youth in our parish.

The proposed slate for the incoming Vestry and Officers was discussed and approved.

Some Vestry members expressed an interest in providing an activity, refreshment, or other participation in the DOMIN-GO event to be held June 26; a task group was appointed.

Thanks and appreciation were expressed to those whose Vestry terms are ending:

Mark MacGougan (Warden)

Kitty Peterson (Warden – she will be nominated to once again serve as Clerk in 2021-2022)

Alan Rice (Clerk)

Leslyn Clark (Vestry – she will be nominated as a Warden for 2021-22)

Cathy Rowe (Vestry)

Kate Stevens (Vestry)

Vestry members also spoke of their appreciation for Rev. D.'s leadership this past year and for the support of fellow members.

Regret was expressed that the Vestry was unable to hold a retreat this year. Members have found Vestry retreats in prior years to be helpful and meaningful.

Some frustration was expressed regarding the back-and-forth nature of this past year, with people working to restart church programs and regain a sense of normality only to have progress

undone by recurring COVID outbreaks.

Rev. D. explained that she plans to use the June meeting to provide orientation and training for new and returning Vestry members. She hopes to establish a Governance Committee that will suggest updates to the bylaws and to the format of Vestry meetings.

Several Vestry members expressed a desire to become more active in welcoming. There was a consensus that Vestry greeters should once again be stationed at both entrances for 10 a.m. services and write welcome notes to those who sign the guest book (as a supplement to the notes written by Rev. D.). The plan was to do this on an informal basis for now and set a formal schedule for fall.

There was a discussion about the optimal size of the Vestry. Some members believe a smaller Vestry might be more effective, although it was acknowledged that the body needs to be large enough to provide a healthy and representative variety of perspectives. There was support for the idea of amending the bylaws to allow for a range of Vestry sizes, but the group was not prepared to finalize or vote on a wording. Rev. D. and Marsha McCurdy Adell will take a closer look. If they recommend a change for the congregation to vote on at the annual meeting, they will circulate a draft by email for a Vestry vote prior to the meeting.

The Vestry approved the consent agenda, which consisted only of

minutes from the meeting held on April 26.

Alan Rice, on behalf of the Property Team, reported on the following: When St. Mark's Church, New Britain, moved out of their former church building, Trinity Church agreed to receive into its Memorial Garden the cremated remains of some individuals originally laid to rest at St. Mark's. The question is how best to acknowledge the presence in our garden of these additional remains. After reviewing options with Bill Kofalk and Mark MacGougan, Alan recommended temporarily hanging a wooden plaque, which formerly hung at St. Mark's with the names of those whose ashes were interred there, on the north wall of our sanctuary, just inside the door from the narthex. Long-term, when the next plaque for the Trinity Memorial Garden is installed in the narthex, the names of the transferees from St. Mark's will be included on that plaque. The consensus of the Vestry was in favor of this plan.

The next scheduled meeting of the Vestry will be held June 21.

Voice deadline

The deadline for the next issue of *The Voice* is Friday, August 12. Please send all materials for the August issue, which will cover all September events and activities, to voice@trinityhartford.org. Please have all materials for the August issue in on time so events at the start of our next program year can be properly publicized.



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