



VOICE OF TRINITY

August 26, 2021

Volume 21, No. 04

“Because we’re human, we hurt. Because we’re human, we have tears to cry. Because we’re human, our hearts are broken. Because we’re human, we understand that loss is a universal language. Everybody grieves. All of humanity grieves. All of us have setbacks, broken dreams.

FROM THE



RECTOR

All of us have broken relationships or unrealized possibilities. All of us have bodies that just don’t do what they used to do. Though grief is personal, every person grieves.”

~The Rev. Jacqui Lewis, “Good Grief” sermon at Middle Church July 9, 2017

In one of his recent email meditations, Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM, shared the above quote. I often find that grief is one of those things that I’m comfortable with when it stays in its “proper” place, like at a funeral or a significant milestone of a loss. But, when grief shows up at inconvenient times or places, I often try to ignore it, push it to the side, or try to find other ways to put it back into a neat little box on the shelf. Of course, grief never stays in the neat little boxes that we may try to put it in.

As I keep rereading the excerpt from Rev. Lewis’ sermon, I keep thinking more and more of the grief that we often don’t name as grief, the grief that arises from losses that we try to brush off as just a part of life. I wonder if we shy away from naming the grief that we carry out of fear of being overwhelmed by it, or perhaps worse, fear that others will think that we are making a big deal out of a small thing. But, naming the grief allows us to connect with others in a more real way than a superficial smile and “I’m fine.” Naming the grief helps us to open ourselves more fully to God’s transforming love and the assurance of God’s presence in the midst of our sorrows. As we excitedly kick off another church program year, it’s important for us to remember that grief does not negate joy. It’s okay to name as grief the disappointment that our Homecoming celebration won’t feature the bounty of delicious food that usually accompanies Trinity celebrations. It’s okay to name as grief the agitation of once again having to wear masks indoors because the COVID-19 pandemic is not over yet. It’s okay to name as grief the frustration that seemingly simple things around the parish aren’t happening in the way that they used to. It’s okay to name the grief, even as we seek to keep the spark of joy burning bright in our hearts.

Because we’re human, we hurt. Because we’re human, we have tears to cry. Yet even in the midst of the tears that flow and the tears that slowly trickle; even in the midst of days when a sense of loss weighs down every step and days when a sense of loss unexpectedly settles in like a fog; even in the midst of personal and collective grief that we don’t have words for, we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

– The Reverend D. Littlepage, Rector

**Adult Christian Formation –
Plans for 2020-2021 (You Can Help!)**

Over the summer, the task force for Adult Christian Formation (ACF) became keenly aware of another effect of our COVID-19 isolation: since all our Sunday forums and other educational events in the past year took place on Zoom, we have not had much feedback on our offerings. As we begin planning Sunday forums and special events for the coming program year, we are asking for your opinions and ideas. A questionnaire is available now online at [Trinity ACF Survey \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com); paper copies are also available at the church. We hope that you will take a few minutes to let us know what topics and presentation formats interest you.

While we eagerly await your input, the ACF team has put together a tentative outline of programs for the fall. The first ACF Sunday forum will take place on September 26. This will be an open forum with Rev. D., which we're calling "Ask the Rector." There is no particular theme for this forum; whether your questions are about liturgical practices, parish administration, living a faith-filled life, re-opening after COVID-19, or anything else you've been wondering about, join us on Sunday, September 26, after the 10 a.m. service. We will be meeting in the Library (in masks) and we will also be logged in to Zoom, so if you are not comfortable with in-person gatherings yet, you can still be with us. We expect to continue this hybrid format for the foreseeable future.

The Trinity Community for Racial Justice (TCRJ) has designed a tour of Hartford murals. The tour can be completed by automobile in a little more than an hour, and will take place on Sunday, October 10. Look for more detailed information in the next issue of *The Voice*. On October 24, our delegates will report on the annual convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

As you can see, the ACF team (Suzanne Blancaflor, Pat Bunker, Frank Kirkpatrick, Mark MacGougan, Roy McAlpine and Everett Post) has been busy planning and scheduling educational events and forums. We really need your input, though, so that our events meet your needs. Please complete our brief questionnaire! As you do so, please also consider whether you might be called to join our team.

– Martha Freimuth



September

Jannel Thomas	1
Michael Igboanugo	2
Marvelous Igboanugo	2
Shakeem Williams	2
Vincent Bygrave	4
Kathie Wilson	5
Tim Watt	8
Bonni McKenney	10
Neill Derick	12
Lindsey Tengtenga	12
Michael Morel	15
Timothy Swingle	16
Michael Okeke	16
Anne Green	18
Carla Griffith	18
Catie Rutstein	19
Amanda Tronchin	21
Elon Bygrave	22
Roy McAlpine	27
Jolanda Sribanpot	28
Kitty Peterson	29
Callie Rutstein	29

If you have a September birthday not listed above, call Barbara Roos in the parish office at 860-527-8133, Ext. 204, and let her know so she can add your special day to our parish records. Please note that we publish only your birth month and day – not the year!



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**[https://www.facebook.com/
TrinityEpiscopalHartford](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityEpiscopalHartford)**

**Fifth Sundays Across the ECCT:
Worship on August 29 Will Take Place at St. Monica's**

*Oh, how good and pleasant it is,
when kindred live together in
unity!*

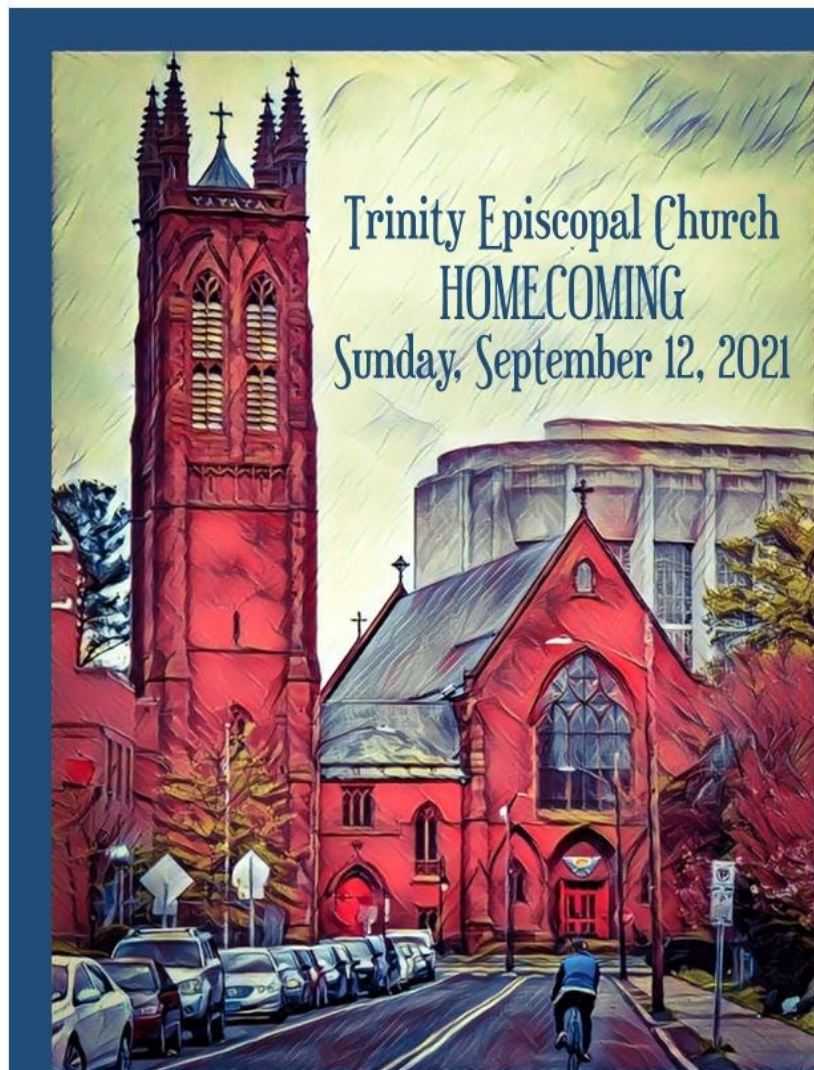
On Sunday, August, 29, Trinity Church will join with other parishes from across the Episcopal Church in Connecticut to worship at St. Monica's Church in Hartford. This 10:30 a.m. service will be held out-of-doors, weather permitting, and will also be streamed by the diocese at www.youtube.com/ctepiscopal. In case of inclement weather, the

service will be moved inside, with masks and social distancing.

There will be no worship at either 8:00 or 10:00 a.m. at Trinity on the 29th as we join in this special service at St. Monica's, one of a series of services in "Fifth Sundays Across ECCT," a collaborative worship project being offered this year by the ECCT in partnership with Christ Church Cathedral. St. Monica's is located at 3575 Main Street in Hartford.



The church office and buildings will be closed on Monday, September 6, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.



JOIN US FOR A BIG (BUT RESPONSIBLY SAFE) PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 12 – an event we're calling Homecoming Sunday.

Following the 10 am service, there will be a wide range of activities, including:

- Delicious refreshments
- Fun games
- Guided tours of the Trinity Church buildings
- Prizes
- And, most importantly, the chance to see your Trinity Church brothers and sisters live and in three dimensions!

Welcome Home!



120 Sigourney Street • Hartford, Connecticut • 06105-2796
860.527.8133 • www.trinityhartford.org

Cycle of Prayer for September

September 5

Yolanda & Art Sribanpot
Kathy Steinwedell
Jennifer & Zech Stephens

September 12

Kate Steven
Debbie & Savannah Stowell
Hellen Strassner

September 19

Ngoni, Lindsey & Sekai
Tengatenga
Debbie, Michael, Stephanie,
Natalie & Nicholas Thomas
Polly Ann, Jannel, Jordan &
Malik Thomas

September 26

Cecilia Timothy
Torshie Torto
Angelo, Debbie, Pete, Hunter,
Grace & Logan Troiano

Book Group To Discuss The Story of More

For its September gathering, Trinity's Book Group has chosen *The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go from Here* by Hope Jahren, an American geochemist and geobiologist currently at the University of Oslo. In this book, she explains the science behind key inventions- electric power to large-scale farming to automobiles - that, even as they help us, release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. She covers current and projected consequences of global warming and actions we can take to fight back. All are welcome to attend this 7 p.m. meeting on September 24; it is expected to be in-person! Watch the eVoice and Sunday bulletin for the location.

Choir School Enjoying 2021 Summer Course

Sixteen choristers, including two new to the program this year, are participating in The Choir School of Hartford's 2021 summer Choir Course

Week, led by Michelle Horsley, our Director of Music



Ministries. The program meets from 9--5 each day, August 23-27, and the schedule is a busy one! This year's course offers a very full calendar of music projects, sessions with guest clinicians, workshops, games, rehearsals and community building activities. Guests this year are Benjamin Rauch (lecturer and conductor at Hartt / private vocal coach / former member of GRAMMY-winning ensemble Chanticleer), Anna Zayaruznaya (professor of musicology at Yale / scholar in 14th-century motets and the history of music notation), Debbie Stowell (violinist and violist, studying Suzuki method and pursuing a degree in music education at Hartt), and Jonathan Reuning-Scherer (Director of Music at Emanuel Lutheran). Sessions will include music in liturgy, harmonization projects, sightreading circles, conducting practice, composition, assembly of a kit pipe organ, world rhythms, and handbell workshops. A field trip to the Wadsworth Atheneum will cap off the week.

The Choir School and the Adult Choir will be back in the choir loft to begin the new program year Sunday, September 12.

Trinity Episcopal Church
120 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06105-2796

www.trinityhartford.org

Phone: 860-527-8133 Fax: 860-527-2863

Email: office@trinityhartford.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Thursday mid-day prayers at noon (via Zoom)

Sundays at 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Memorial Garden

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

Links to YouTube services at trinityhartford.org

The Reverend Dorothea M. 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

Bishop Search Website Now Available

As the Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, moves towards his announced retirement date of October 2022, the work of the diocese's Bishop Transition Committee is well underway, and the new Bishop Search & Transition Website is up and running. Visit the site to learn all about the search process and timeline, and meet the members of the Bishop Transition Committee (which includes Trinity parishioner Marsha McCurdy Adell!) You can also sign up to receive ECCT's Bishop Transition eNews, explore the role of bishops in the Episcopal Church, and register for the Zoom listening sessions which the BTC has planned over the coming month, including one on September 16 for the North Central Region of our diocese, of which Trinity is a part. Visit ctbishopsearch.org to find everything you need or might like to know about the process of finding a new bishop for Connecticut, all on one easy-to-use website.

Voice Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of *The Voice* is Sunday, September 19, at 5:00 p.m. This issue will cover all events scheduled to take place in **October and November**. Please send your article to voice@trinityhartford.org; be sure to send along your information to this address (only) so that it doesn't go astray.

News from the Trinity Community for Racial Justice

"Resolved, that this Convention direct each Parish, Worshipping Community, and Intentional Episcopal Community to take steps to discover and document historic complicity in racism in their parish and communities." (From Resolution 7 of the 2020 ECCT convention)

- This summer the Trinity Community for Racial Justice has been working on several projects. The first project is in response to the requirement in Resolution 7, quoted above, that asks us to take steps to discover and document historic complicity in racism in our parish. Under the guidance of Liz Kirkpatrick, our parish archivist, and with the help of many resources from the ECCT, we have begun to review our records and other sources to put together the story of Trinity in the context of the question. We are focusing on three eras in our country's and Trinity's history, using our archives and the resources available for this type of research in Hartford and beyond.

We are seeking members of our parish who love history, love Trinity and its mission, and can do some targeted research on important people, related institutions and other questions, including interviewing members of the parish and others who were witnesses to important milestones in our history in the late 20th century. We are already well under way with our project plan and research work, but we need more help to be successful. The project will run until June 2022. We will be using Realm as a project management tool.

If you would like more information about supporting this team, please contact Heather Kramer (heatherjk1989@gmail.com).

- The Trinity webpage for TCRJ has been updated and reorganized. If you have not yet had a chance to see our new and improved organizational design, or the newest content on the page concerning our current focus topic of racial disparities in housing, please use the link below to access the page on the Trinity Website. We hope to have a speaker forum on this topic sometime this fall.

trinityhartford.org/community/racial-justice/resources-and-documents

- Have you noticed that Hartford is a city of murals, many of which describe the struggle for racial justice? The TCRJ is planning a mural tour of some of the best of these in the near future. Stay tuned for more information and dates.

The Trinity Community for Racial Justice

Rev. D. Littlepage

Martha Freimuth

Cathy Rowe

Kathleen Peterson

Suzanne Blancaflor

Heather Kramer

Liz Kirkpatrick, TEC Archivist

Notes from the June Meeting (and Summer Activities) of the Vestry

The June 15 Vestry meeting opened with a video of the Cambridge King's College Choir performing "And I Saw a New Heaven" by Edgar Bainton, which had been selected by Casey Rousseau.

The Vestry then passed the consent agenda, which included approval of Vestry minutes from the May meeting as well as confirmation of Jennifer Reilly to be a board member for The Choir School of Hartford. Jennifer has been an active supporter of the Choir School. She is the wife of Jim, who is in the adult choir, and the mother of Sophie (a chorister), PJ and Carolyn.

New Vestry members were welcomed and those present introduced themselves.

The Vestry members then split into groups of two for one-on-one community-building conversations, following Relational Meetings guidelines provided by Rev. D.

Visitors included Martha Freimuth and Drew Smith, who together with Mark MacGougan provided an update report regarding the Capital Campaign (The Campaign for Trinity). In round numbers, the campaign has so far raised \$650,000 – with \$550,000 collected and \$100,000 in outstanding pledges. This is short of the goal of \$750,000, but the campaign is not yet over and the amount raised to date represents very generous giving from parishioners and others that is much appreciated.

Money raised by the campaign has been spent on a variety of projects that have made the Trinity buildings more sound, secure, and attractive. One concern is that the most current project – a complete upgrade of the fire safety systems – cannot be funded from the money raised to date by the campaign. The remaining cost of the project is about \$110,000. This is more than the outstanding campaign pledges and will be due over the next few months, which is sooner than most of the outstanding campaign pledges will be paid. The project was necessary for building safety, and so had already been started.

The Vestry discussed whether money should be taken from the "old" endowment to cover the remaining cost of the fire safety systems. This would be permissible, as fire safety systems are a necessary capital expense. It was not clear, however, how much money would be needed, and members of the Vestry expressed reluctance to use any more endowment money than necessary. The final resolution approved by the Vestry was to authorize the Treasurer to draw on endowment funds for this purpose, if needed, up to a maximum amount of \$100,000. As additional funds are received by the Capital Campaign, they would be used to repay funds withdrawn from the endowment.

The Capital Campaign report also noted that two projects that had

been planned to be included – painting the interior of Goodwin Hall and repaving the parking lot – are currently on hold pending the raising of additional funds. There was some discussion within the Vestry whether some portions of these projects might be accomplished by parish volunteer labor.

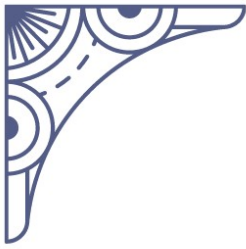
The Vestry also agreed to have a special joint meeting with representatives of the Capital Campaign to discuss how best to coordinate between the Capital Campaign and the Annual Appeal. This meeting will be on Wednesday, September 29.

Rev. D led a discussion on whether Vestry meetings should be in-person or by Zoom. The consensus was to alternate between in-person and Zoom meetings, but to have a Zoom link available when the meetings are in-person. The next regularly-scheduled Vestry meeting, which will be on Tuesday, September 21, at 7 p.m., will be in-person.

On a separate matter, Mark reported that the church has been in discussions with IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigration Services) regarding the possibility of having them lease the former SIM offices on the second floor of the Parish House, to be used as a satellite office, supplementing their New Haven office. This was not yet ready for Vestry action.

There was also a brief discussion of the desire to have a special

Continued on Page 9



The Wardens, Vestry, and Parishioners request your prayers and presence for the Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of

The Reverend D. Littlepage

as Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church
120 Sigourney St.
Hartford, CT 06105

Saturday, October 2, 2021

11:00 AM

The Right Reverend Laura Ahrens, Presiding
Bishop Suffragan, Episcopal Church in Connecticut

The Reverend Glenna Huber, Preaching
Rector, The Church of the Epiphany
Washington, D.C.

Clergy: Red Stoles

Masks will be required.

RSVP appreciated: www.tinyurl.com/trinityrector

The service will also be live-streamed at
www.youtube.com/TrinityHartford



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION



Faith in Action at Trinity Church



Walk Against Hunger Returns for 2021

The Connecticut Food Bank / Foodshare Walk Against Hunger is returning September 18, 2021, and you are invited to participate as a member of the Trinity Church team! This year's walk will be stepping off at 10:00 a.m. on the 18th both virtually and live at Dunkin' Donuts Park, home of the Hartford Yard Goats. Check-in for the Walk will begin at 8 a.m.

This will be the first statewide Walk for the recently combined CT Food Bank / Foodshare organization, rallying the community to bring awareness to the issue of food insecurity in Connecticut. Funds raised from the Walk will help support not only Connecticut Food Bank / Foodshare but the partner agencies that help them serve the estimated 545,000 people in Connecticut, including 164,000 children, who struggle with hunger.

Renee DiNino from The River 105.9 and Scot Haney from WFSB will be this year's Walk Against Hunger emcees. There will be plenty of entertainment on Walk day, and the event is FREE to the public; no registration fee!

Pre-registration is now open; go to Foodshare.org and click on the "Register now" button in the Walk Against Hunger banner at the top of the page. Click on "Join a

team" and fill in Trinity Hartford Walks as the team name. You can designate the funds you raise or that you donate to the Connecticut Food Bank/Foodshare general fund, or select one of the partner agencies listed.

Detailed information about the Walk is available from the Foodshare website, or contact our Team Captain, Lily Miller, for more information; you can reach her at 860-916-1994 or millbabins@aol.com.

Trinity Hartford Walks team members are encouraged to wear their Trinity Church t-shirts for the walk this year. Don't forget to wear yours on the 18th!

Relief Aid for Haiti

On August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck southwest Haiti. Tropical Storm Grace followed two days later. More than a million people, half of them children, have been impacted by these back-to-back disasters, and the death toll is now over 2200. Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners are responding with direct assistance, as partners plan long-term recovery. Your gift can help in the wake of these disasters. To assist in relief efforts, please visit episcopalrelief.org/haiti-relief.

"Welcoming Refugees" Program To Address Cultural Differences

IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigration Services) invites you to attend a Zoom program on "Welcoming Refugees:

Deepening our Understanding of Culture – Their and Ours" from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 22. We all know we have cultural beliefs and values, but often give little thought to them when we are working with immigrants and refugees in their struggles to acculturate into the US. We arm ourselves with general knowledge about their culture, while ignoring our own, yet often we automatically see things through our own cultural lenses, hindering our ability to help refugees adapt to this new land. Through the use of numerous examples of cultural disconnects, this session will explore the broad categories of culture and their own cultural lenses, and offer suggestions for more in-depth exploration in times of cultural disconnect or discordance to enhance our ability to assist refugees.

This session will be moderated by psychotherapist Dr. Judi Durham, whose focus is on trauma, and who is a Professor Emerita at the University of Saint Joseph. She will be joined by Naji Aldabaan, whose family was co-sponsored under Judi's leadership and whose story was featured in the book *Welcome to the New World*.

If you would like to participate, email office@trinityhartford.org to be sent the registration link.

More Faith in Action

A Note of Thanks for Our Backpack Collection

Thanks to your generosity, Trinity was able to present 23 backpacks to Covenant to Care for Children on August 9. We received the following note of thanks from Covenant to Care's regional coordinator:

*Dear Trinity congregation,
I just got off the phone with your new matched social worker Mari from DCF Hartford. First of all, she is honored and thrilled to be chosen to be matched with your church, and reports that "The backpacks were awesome, and filled with excellent supplies." The workers were thrilled with them and have already distributed them to the children in need in their caseloads.*

*Many Blessings,
Catherine Haugh
Regional Coordinator
Covenant to Care for Children*

We are so pleased to have gotten off to such a good start in renewing our long-standing relationship with the Covenant to Care Adopt A Social Worker program. Trinity joined this program in 2006, but the relationship had flagged significantly in recent years. Now we're back with a new social worker as our partner; watch for more projects to come during the new program year!

An Opportunity To Resettle An Afghani Refugee Family

Many of us have watched with anguish newscasts about civilians fleeing Afghanistan in fear for their lives. Trinity Church proposes to offer what help and hope we can by again resettling an Afghani refugee family in the Hartford area.

We will help the family find housing, furnishings, clothing, jobs for the adults and public education for the children, English lessons, and health care, and generally help them acclimate to their new surroundings as they recover from the trauma of their sudden departure from home in Afghanistan.

"I was a stranger, and you invited me in."

—Matthew 25:35

There are big jobs and little jobs for us to do – a job to fit every volunteer.

This is important – indeed, sacred – work: an opportunity to offer the hand of welcome and hospitality to our suffering sisters and brothers. Please contact Anne Rapkin for more information (860-521-5992 or a.rapkin@snet.net).

"Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Vestry Notes Continued from Page 6

event to help launch the new program year in the fall. This was subsequently organized into plans for Homecoming Sunday on September 12.

Over the summer, the Vestry has conducted some additional business:

- In late July, the Vestry approved by email a resolution to confirm Kitty Peterson for a one-year term as Warden and to confirm Alan Rice for a one-year term as Clerk. This represents a new role for Kitty, who had been serving as Clerk, and a return engagement for Alan, who served as Clerk for several years before he became a Warden. Kitty and Alan will be commissioned for these roles in church on September 12.
- A supplemental Vestry meeting has been called for August 24 to review plans to lease second floor Parish House space to IRIS.

Time To Mask Up Again!

As new cases of COVID-19 continue to mount, Trinity Church is again requiring everyone attending indoor services or otherwise spending time in our buildings to wear a mask. We can all keep each other safe by being diligent about wearing our masks at Trinity until the time comes when it's safe to leave them at home.



120 SIGOURNEY ST., HARTFORD, CT 06105-2796