



VOICE OF TRINITY

December 6, 2022

Volume 22, No. 06

When I was a kid, my brother and I would sometimes play with a ball that had half spheres arranged on the surface. The half spheres on the surface caused the ball to bounce in unpredictable ways when it was thrown against a wall or bounced off of the floor. The unpredictability of the bounce increased the harder the ball was thrown, or the more spin was put on it when it was thrown. Although we didn't realize it, this kind of ball is sometimes used by athletes to improve reaction time and hand-eye coordination. It is often the case that when we play, we are developing entire sets of skills that we aren't even aware of. As kids, many of us practiced problem solving, creativity, co-operation, conflict resolution, and many other skills without us realizing it.



For many of us, the older we get, the less we play. I once invited someone to a game night and their very serious response was, "I don't play games." But, maybe this Advent and Christmas season, there is an invitation to re-engage play. Do you incorporate play into your life these days? Play can take many different forms and have many different flavors, but I think that at its core, play is something that we do for no other purpose than enjoyment. No goals to reach. No purpose to fulfill. Just, delight.

Sometimes I think that the harder part is incorporating playfulness into our purposeful endeavors and into the difficult parts of our lives. When Michelle gave her presentation on the music of Haydn, I found myself wondering if he sat down and said to himself, "I'm going to write music that has playful elements in it" – or did he carry such a spirit of delight in his writing that it came out as playfulness? It's one thing to find delight in doing purposeful work that you enjoy, but what about playful delight in the hardest times of our lives? When I think back over some of the more difficult patches of my life and imagine someone trying to talk to me about playfulness, I feel the skepticism and even anger that would have likely been my response. Playfulness during the most difficult time in my life? Playfulness when it sometimes feels like I'm just watching my life spin out of my control? Playfulness in the midst of the wearying hustle and bustle that often characterizes our lives? Playfulness?!? Absolutely!

Perhaps the middle of the hustle and bustle is exactly where and when we need play and playfulness the most. In those moments of finding delight even in the midst of difficulty and despair, we may not realize it, but we are building our ability to receive God's sustaining love and share it with those around us.

What would it mean for you to have a playful Advent? What would it look like for you to have a playful Christmastide? I look forward to hearing your stories of seeking playful delight in this season.

Dr

Adult Christian Formation – Coming Events

Several forums are in the planning stages for January and February.

Sunday, January 29: Trinity’s Cultural Diversity History

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut passed a resolution requiring all parishes to research their history of race and racism. Under the leadership of the Trinity Community for Racial Justice, a group of parishioners has now completed a deep dig into Trinity’s archives and other historical records, and their findings will be reported by Heather Kramer on January 29 in a sermon. The forum will provide an opportunity for questions and open discussion.

Sunday, February 12: Remembering Childhood Church

A facilitated open forum during which we are invited to look back and share memories of our early experience of attending church.

Other forums are being planned, so watch the eVoice and weekly bulletin for news about additional offerings.



Two from Trinity Elected as Delegates to 2024 General Convention of the Episcopal Church

The annual convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, which met in early November at the Connecticut Convention Center, elected four lay delegates and four clergy delegates to represent our diocese at the next triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, in July of 2024. (The last General Convention was held in 2022, postponed from the scheduled 2021 dates because of COVID.)

TWO of the four lay delegates – Marsha McCurdy Adell and Elizabeth Rousseau – are from Trinity Church, Hartford! Marsha, who was co-chair of the Bishop Transition Committee which oversaw the process of selecting our new diocesan bishop, was also elected to serve on the diocese’s Commission on Ministry at the November

diocesan convention. Elizabeth is no stranger to General Convention, as she has previously attended as a youth delegate. Congratulations to Marsha and Elizabeth!

The parish office will be closed on December 26 and January 2.

The office will also be closed on Monday, January 16, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.

Join in a Journey through Advent

You are invited to journey through Advent with *The Womb of Advent* by the Reverend Mark Bozzuti-Jones. For each day of Advent, there is a mantra, a Scripture reading, questions for reflection, and a spiritual exercise.

Each Thursday in Advent, you are invited to join a 7 a.m. Zoom call to share what has touched you and what has challenged you in your prayer and reflection over the past week. Additionally, you can join in discussion anytime you would like by going to trinityhartford.wordpress.com and adding a comment on the relevant post. In order to allow for relatively private and open sharing, the reflection posts will be password protected. To receive the password, please call Barbara Roos at 860-527-8133, Ext. 204, or email her at office@trinityhartford.org.

Copies of the book are available on Sundays after the services or may be picked up from the office by arrangement with Barbara.

Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting ID: 880 7395 3968
Passcode: 996527
Call-in number: 929-436-2866

Voice Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of *The Voice* is Friday, January 13. This issue will cover events taking place in **February and March**. Please send your article (with a very brief description in the subject line) to voice@trinityhartford.org. Thanks!



Special Music and Worship for Advent and Christmastide

Sunday, December 11

5:00 p.m. Choral Evensong for Advent

Join The Choir School of Hartford and the Trinity Adult Choir as we observe Evensong, a candle-lit service of music and scripture in the Anglican tradition. The service will include selections by Christopher Jennings, Vaughn Williams, and Rosephanye Powell.

Friday, December 16

7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope and Remembrance

Again this year, Trinity Church will offer a special service of Holy Eucharist to support those who are having a hard time coping with the holidays. If you are facing the holiday season with a heavy or anxious heart, please do plan to attend.

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Christmas pageant

Especially suitable for children of all ages and their families, with hymns and carols.

9:30 p.m. Musical prelude

The late-night Christmas Eve service will be preceded by a 30-minute performance of “Dancing Day,” a set of eight Christmas carol settings for treble voices and harp written by award-winning English composer John Rutter.

10:00 p.m. Festival Eucharist of Christmas

Music for this service will include pieces by Stephen Paulus and Michael Fink, and will feature the Trinity choirs accompanied by organ and harp. Incense will be used at this service.

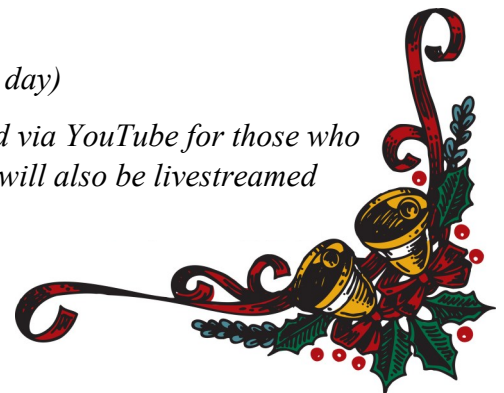
Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist *(One service only this day)*

Sunday, January 1 – Feast of the Holy Name

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist *(One service only this day)*

The Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed via YouTube for those who cannot attend in person. (All Sunday 10:00 a.m. services will also be livestreamed via YouTube, as usual.)



Cycle of Prayer for December and January

December 4

Jennifer Stephens &
Zech Stephens-Walker

Kate Steven

Hellen Strassner

December 11

Sheldon & Riley Sutton and
Shannon Lee

Lindsey, Ngoni &

Sekai Tengatenga

Jannel, Shquia, Jordan, Malik,

Aaliyanna & Matthew Thomas

December 18

Michael, Debbie, Stephanie,

Natalie & Nicholas Thomas

Cecelia Timothy

Beryl Tomlinson

December 25

Torshie Torto

Angelo, Emily, Peter, Hunter,

Logan & Grace Troiano

Jake Troiano

January 1

Joe, Victor, Kaylee &

Destini Troiano

January 1 (cont'd)

Olive, Irwin & Amanda Tronchin

Alice Turcotte

January 8

Benneth, Corlet, Franklin,

Justin & Jonathan Ude

Peter Vreeland &

Richard Charron

Pekah Wallace &

Jay Nolan-Wallace

January 15

Sonia & Cassandra Watson

Tim, Atis & Freya Watt and

Amity Gaige

Bruce Wazorko & Nancy Crandall

January 22

Ernestine, David &

Eugenia Weaver

Marshall Weaver

Elaine Weber

January 29

Nancy & Bruce Whitcomb

Jon, Carol & Daniel Widing

Marc Wiest

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

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.: Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist (in person)

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

Assisting Clergy:

The Reverend Dr. Frank G. Kirkpatrick

The Right Reverend Andrew D. Smith

The Reverend C. Jon Widing

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

Choir School Fundraising - A HUGE Success!

I am proud to report that the fundraiser concert for The Choir School of Hartford on Sunday, November 20, was wildly successful. In our planning, the board had hoped to raise a couple of thousand dollars, which would safely cover the choristers' upcoming overnight trip to NYC in January for the Chorister Festival at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine. On concert day and in the week leading up to it, people gave an astonishing total of \$8,500 in individual donations, thereby quadrupling our expectations!

And then, amazingly, the Choir School received an additional \$10,000 through the Beinecke Trust, facilitated by Dr. Jamie Spillane (Director of Choral Studies at UCONN and board member of The Choir School of Hartford). We are all left speechless.

– Michelle Horsley
Director of Music

Spiritual Sing Planned for MLK Jr. Weekend

On the weekend when we honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., everyone is invited to come to church at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, January 15, for a fun, casual pre-service singing session. This special half-hour session is open to music-lovers of all ages and levels of experience. Led by Michelle Horsley, we'll gather in the round to sing our favorite spirituals and gospel songs in preparation for worship.

News from Trinity Academy

We are having a great year so far! Our new teachers are thriving and we are so lucky to have them.

We just had our annual gala on November 10, and it was a great evening! We had a silent and live

auction, casino style gaming, food provided by Café

Louise, and mixology demonstrations

provided by The Barrel Age. We thank everyone in your congregation who donated, attended, or supported our gala in any way.

The gala was held in honor our Co-Founder Dr. Louise Loomis. We are so grateful to Senator Blumenthal for attending our event and awarding Dr. Lou with a Certificate of Special Recognition in honor of her tirelessly championing of early childhood education. It was absolutely a night filled with gratitude and love for our staff and students at Trinity Academy of Hartford.

As the holiday season approaches, please keep Trinity Academy of Hartford in your thoughts. As you know, we are fully supported by our community and people like you! We are forever grateful to Trinity Episcopal Church for their continued support and generosity. We are always available for tours and would love to meet you. Contact us to set up a tour to learn more.

– Allison Bernhard
Principal,
Trinity Academy



If you have a December or January 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.

December

Margaret Rousseau	3
Marcia A. Lee	6
Ron Gripp	8
Joe Troiano	13
Deborah Williams	13
Jonathan Ude	14
Jerrod Cammock	14
Anne Rapkin	15
Linda Eckert	17
Emmanuela Igboanugo	18
Jon Widing	22
Kachi Onoh	23
Nicholas Thomas	25
Amity Gage	26
Elah Windnagle	27
Jonathan Garcia	29
Dianne Bowens-Waller	31

January

Ifeoma Mogor	1
Sandi Cone	3
Stephen Zhitnik	5
Beryl Tomlinson	7
Jordan Thomas	8
Dorcas Blanchard	10
Heather Kramer	15
Valerie Pogue	15
George Chien	16
Percy Williamson	16
Jorja Henderson	19
Steven Ross	19
Drew Smith	20
Zechariah Stephens-Walker	21
Adrian Dilone	22
Peter Rice	24
Susan Post	30



Do you like Trinity?

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityEpiscopalHartford>

Faith in Action at Trinity



Holy Land Giving Tree: Help for Ahli Hospital

The Holy Land Giving Tree has again been set up in Goodwin Hall. The Outreach Team is offering pictures of needy children from the Diocese of Jerusalem along with olive wood ornaments for your own tree or as a gift. We will be supporting Ahli Hospital in Gaza, where all people are in need of electricity, medicine, electricity and other basics. COVID-19, as well as the usual regional unrest, have made this a very bad time for everyone in Gaza. This is Trinity's international outreach to a place where our own religion began.

Donations will be sent to the hospital through the Diocese of Jerusalem. If you can't make it to church, you can send a check, made out to AFEDJ (American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem) with Ahli Hospital in the memo, to the church office. All money is sent weekly directly to the AFEDJ Center. Our tree will be set up through December 18. Please stop by!

AFEDJ offers an online Advent Calendar with a dose of joy and hope in a daily email message available to anyone who signs up at (<https://www.afedj.org/advent>). See what is happening in the Diocese of Jerusalem!

Church by the Pond December 17

Trinity's holiday opportunity to participate in the Church by the Pond ministry led by Christ Church Cathedral is **Saturday, December 17**.

- We'll meet in the Trinity kitchen at 12:30 to prepare bag lunches. Please 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 holiday personal care items following the service, and finish around 3:00.

All parishioners and families are welcome to participate. Volunteers will observe mask and social distancing protocols in the kitchen, and the Cathedral's mask protocol in effect at the time for the in-person worship service at the park.

Please contact me if you have any questions, or to let me know you are planning to participate on the 17th (pennypearson@comcast.net, or 860-243-0020).

– Penny Pearson,
Convener

Don't Forget to Bring in Your Giving Tree Gift!

If you took one of the tags from our 2022 Giving Tree, please remember to place your gift under the tree by **Sunday, December 11**. We are committed to the children from Trinity Academy and the Covenant to Care Adopt-A-Social Worker program whose holiday wishes were listed on the tags, and it is important that all the gifts be returned by the 11th so that they can be distributed on time. Gifts should be returned unwrapped, in a gift bag *with your copy of the tag from the tree attached*. Thank you very much to all those participating in this year's Giving Tree.

A Thank You and Two Requests

Saheba Dadwall, the mom of Trinity's Afghan refugee family, wants to express her gratitude to the generous people in this parish who have donated supplies for her soon-to-open home dress-making business. All we are still looking for are dress-maker's forms: one for an adult woman and one for a girl. If you have any connections you could use to obtain one or both dressmaker's forms, let Anne Rapkin (860-521-5992) know.

The Dadwall family is also in need of a replacement for their children's stroller, which, after a year's heavy use by three kids, is on the verge of collapse. The little boys are now big enough to walk on their own, but one-year-old Zoya is not. If you have access to a used toddler stroller in good condition, please let Anne know as soon as you can.

The Greening of the Church

People look east, the time is near,
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.

People look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

– Eleanor Farjeon

Each year on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, after the 10:00 a.m. service, the Nave of Trinity Church is transformed from Advent Blue to a festal display of red, white, gold, and green. There are banners to be changed, wreaths and garlands to be hung, and much more.

Many volunteer hands and hearts help this joyful work to go forward quickly. Please plan on Sunday, the 18th of December, to get your after-church coffee and refreshments and then join us in the Nave to prepare the space for the celebrations that will follow on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Choir School Plans Trip To New York City

Our choristers have been honored with an invitation to participate in the 2023 Chorister Festival at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City over the weekend of January 27-28, 2023. Please wish our young singers well as they take this exciting overnight field trip down to the big city to sing in the largest cathedral in all of North America!

– Michelle Horsley
Director of Music

Christmas Flowers and Music



If you would like to contribute to the 2022 Christmas flowers and music in memory of a friend or family member, or as an offering of thanksgiving, please fill out the form below and send it to the parish office, along with your check, by Monday, December 19. Checks, which may be for any amount, should be made payable to Trinity Church and earmarked “Christmas Memorials.” Names of those in whose memory contributions have been made will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.



TRINITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS - 2022

I enclose a check for \$ _____ for the Trinity Church Christmas flowers and music in memory of/
thanksgiving for:

(Please print)

Contributed by: Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Designate my contribution for (check one): Flowers Music 50/50 Flowers & Music

Notes from the September and October Vestry Meetings

Rev. D. has made a practice of having Vestry members take turns leading opening prayer and meditation as well as having small group “check ins” to begin every Vestry meeting. These practices have made it possible for the Vestry to get to know one another on a deeper level, as well as to prepare members to approach meetings with love and support for one another and the work to be done. The Vestry is thrilled about being able to meet both in person and online to provide flexibility and comfort for our members.

The highlights of **the September meeting** started with the Rector’s report celebrating our Homecoming Sunday and Vinnie Pacileo’s return to work, reviewing janitorial topics, and updating the Vestry on illness and loss experienced by parish members with a request that the Vestry keep these members in prayer. The return of Godly Play and the addition of four new members to the Choir School were celebrated.

The Stewardship campaign is being led by Warden Tim Watt this year. It was suggested that stewardship be made a year round effort led by non Vestry members, as was done in the past at Trinity, with a service term consisting of one year to learn, one year to lead, and one year to teach. Current Vestry members will be needed to get the process started. It was planned to hold a brainstorming session regarding this approach at the October Vestry retreat. It was also suggested that stewardship

ongoing efforts include a thank you to parish members for all their support and mission work.

Lastly, the Vestry worked with the new Vestry Resource Guide, focusing on the Vestry Visioning section.

The **October meeting** was full of exciting plans and sharing of moments of joy as well as discussion of ongoing efforts to get some Trinity programs to continue.

The Vestry heard from Marsha McCurdy Adell, who expressed great joy at the installation of our new Bishop, the Right Reverend Jeffrey Mello, and the Vestry thanked Marsha for the contributions she made to the Bishop’s search and selection as a member of the diocese’s Bishop Transition Committee.

Rev. D.’s Rector’s Report began with an update on her employee review process as well as a discussion of some mechanical issues requiring rework that Vinnie is managing. She expressed gratitude for the strong participation of parish members in the funerals of Margaret Moore and Ginny Catanzaro and shared thanks from Jannel Thomas for the support of the church after the passing of her mother, Pollyann Thomas.

Financial reports from the Treasurers have been streamlined to make them easier to understand. Casey Rousseau spent time explaining Trinity’s current financial picture, and the group spent time using the Vestry

Resource guide to learn more about best financial, administrative and governance practices, including checks and balances to ensure proper financial oversight of all spending.

Although Godly Play has restarted, the full Church School has not resumed. Kate Byroade has stepped away from her Church School leadership position, and Warden Leslyn Clark remarked that the church needs the Vestry’s help with support for restarting the Church School. There are two parishioners who are considering supporting this effort. In addition, a Governance working group will be created to focus on the revival of ministry quadrants, documenting their processes and method of leadership and working with the Vestry, as well as understanding how best to maintain their focus in the future. Jacqui Lucier will lead this working group with Leslyn Clark, and will be soliciting members to support their efforts.

The plan for the Vestry Retreat to be held later in the month at Trinity Retreat Center in West Cornwall was shared, and members learned that the weekend will be a time for them to get to know one another better, to spend time in prayer and Bible study, as well as to have brainstorming sessions on topics to lead the Vestry efforts for the remainder of its members’ current terms and beyond.

Continued on Page 9

Vestry Notes– Continued from Page 8

The meeting was completed with updates from the parish, including plans for the ECCT convention attendees and the news that Marsha McCurdy Adell has submitted her name for consideration as Deputy to General Convention as well as the Commission on Ministry. As always, the Vestry finished the meeting with prayer, with Jacob Troiano leading Compline.

– Heather Kramer

Book Group To Discuss Buechner Novel

Godric, a tale of historical fiction based on the life of 12th-century holy man Godric of Finchale, is Trinity Book Group's selection for January. The book was written by Frederick Buechner – a theologian, ordained Presbyterian minister, and acclaimed writer. Book Group will meet on Friday, January 6, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the home of Mark and Linda MacGougan. Please let them know (macgougans@gmail.com or 860-561-1588) if you plan to attend the January meeting so there will be plenty of goodies. All are welcome, whether for one meeting or regularly.

Coffee Hour Returns!

Sunday morning coffee hour has at last returned. Join other Trinity members in Goodwin Hall following the 10:00 a.m. service for a cup of coffee and a chance to catch up with everyone. Help is needed to keep coffee hour running; please sign up on the list posted in Goodwin Hall.

Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association – Fall 2022: Annual Meeting and November Monthly Meeting

Executive Director's Report:

- David MacDonald reviewed the Strategic Planning report which was presented at the Community Partners breakfast. A copy of the report is available on the website, www.asylumhill.org.
- Bernie Michael was recognized at the same meeting for his time with the board, both as a member and as a staff person.
- Accomplishments of the past year include, but are not limited to, DominGo; Comet Diner redevelopment investment promise of \$1.2M from the city, Streetscape work on Farmington Avenue, NINA's work on the home at 275/285 Farmington Avenue, and the St. Joseph's Community Center that is part of the work done on the St. Joseph's Cathedral property.

Police Report:

- Officer Palmieri reported ongoing work to improve the quality of life on Asylum Hill. He is working with storeowners and land lords to decrease loitering and panhandling.

Updates from the City:

- A reminder that leaf collection has started and free leaf bags are available at City Hall. A toy drive has begun. Drop off and distribution will be at City Hall. Distribution date is December 17.

Presentation of Candidates for Board Membership:

- Presented and approved for board membership were Paul O'Meara, Janine McMahon, Wayne Benjamin, Ken Johnson for incumbent spots, and Alexis Dwyer, Ted Carroll and Claire Bergin as new members.

City Development:

- Grace Yi reported that street improvement plans for Asylum Avenue are underway. The plans will be presented as they develop further.

NINA:

- Remediation/remodeling work is ongoing at 847 Farmington Avenue (a single family home behind the Cathedral) and 29 Ashley Street (a single owner one-family house) ,which is almost completed.

AHNA meetings are held on the first Monday of each month via Zoom. All are welcome. Please check the website (www.asylumhill.org) for the meeting link.

– Boo Morton



120 SIGOURNEY ST., HARTFORD, CT 06105-2796

EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

<i>Page 3</i>	December 11 5:00 p.m. Evensong for Advent
<i>Page 3</i>	December 16 7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service of Hope and Remembrance, with Eucharist
<i>Page 6</i> <i>Page 6</i>	December 17 12:30 p.m. Church by the Pond meal & gift preparation 2:00 p.m. Service by the Pond in Bushnell Park
<i>Page 7</i>	December 18 11:30 a.m. Greening of the church
<i>Page 3</i>	December 24 & 25 Christmas services
<i>Page 9</i>	January 6 7:00 p.m. Book Group at the MacGougans
<i>Page 4</i>	January 15 9:15 a.m. Spiritual Sing