

Trinity TRUMPET

✝ The Church of the Holy Trinity ✝ Issue 1 / February / 2017 ✝

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Let's celebrate
Valentine's Day
every day!

2017 is the Chinese year of the Rooster. People born in a year of the Rooster are very observant, hardworking, resourceful, courageous, and very confident in themselves. Jesus used the rooster when speaking to Peter, remember?



SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 am.....Holy Eucharist
10:30 am.....Sunday School
Second Floor
Confirmation Class
Third Floor
Journey with Luke
Library
Bringing up Christians
Chapel

THURSDAY: (in the Chapel)
12:15 pm.....Holy Eucharist

Trinity TRUMPET

a publication of the
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Storm Cancellation Information

During the week, the church follows the City of Middletown's Board of Education delay and/or cancellation policy. For a 90 minute delay, the church offices will open 90 minutes late (10:30 a.m.). For a school cancellation, the church offices will be closed. For an early dismissal, the church offices may close early.

Please listen to WLIS/WMRD 1150 AM, WTIC 1080 AM, watch WFSB-TV Channel 3, NBC Channel 30, News 8 or check NBC 30's website at nbc30.com. to determine if the church is open or closed during the week, evenings or weekends if there is inclement weather.

Birthdays in February



- 1 Kristen DiStefano
- Dortha Willetts
- 3 Cade Buckheit
- 8 Betty Falco
- 9 Winnie Knapp
- 10 Doretta Wildes
- 12 Jayden Klaus
- 13 Jack Spaeth
- 15 Arabella Ives
- 19 Patricia Elmore
- 22 Noah Felton-Reid
- Joyce Hurlburt
- 23 Derek Wilson
- 28 Richard Bengtson
- 31 Gary Lord

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Interim Rector Report 2016

IT HAS BEEN AN EVENTFUL YEAR AND A GOOD YEAR AT HOLY TRINITY. As you will see from the financial reports, your Endowment has grown, your bills are all paid, and you are in good standing with the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. From the wide variety of other reports you will see that there are many signs of God's presence and mission right here in your midst. And from the number of people involved in these ministries reporting you will find that you have been blessed with inspired, creative, dedicated parishioners.

Next up in the Interim

During 2016 the Vestry re-visited the goals which you set for your interim period in the fall of 2014 and found good progress had been made. The Rev. Lee Ann Tolzmann, Canon for Mission Leadership with the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) attended the August Vestry meeting and reviewed the state of the parish with them. She then consulted with Bishop Ahrens, who is assigned to this parish during your transition time. They determined that you are ready to move into the next phase and enter a search process for your new Rector. This is very good news! Canon Tolzmann will be at the annual meeting to talk about the process and answer your questions.

A new Rector will need to be able to promise you at least five years of service, which, because I am less than four years from mandatory retirement age, I cannot do. Instead, I have been recycled into an Interim Rector and will remain with you during your search, which is anticipated to take one year or even less.

Relationship Between CHT and St. Luke's Community Service

Since coming to your parish, I have been serving as Board Member ex officio of St. Luke's Community Services. There is an historic relationship between our two organizations since the founding of the St. Luke's Home in 1865 by members of this parish. When the Home needed to expand, Holy Trinity sold them its rectory, including the property right up to the back wall of our building to give them enough land to build more apartments. Because of this close relationship, there were some agreements about the common life of our two organizations living in proximity which were never set down on paper, but were "understood" by both parties. So far no one has found any document attesting to an agreement concerning shared parking spaces, for instance.

(continued on page 4)

The St. Luke's by-laws (for an umbrella organization known as St. Luke's Community Services which includes St. Luke's Home) specify that the Rector of Holy Trinity be a Board Member *ex officio*, and that a controlling number of Board Members be named by the parish. (This is the short version.) Over the years, the parish involvement with St. Luke's Home and its umbrella organization seems to have diminished. Holy Trinity ceased to name Members to be elected to the Board. The federal agency of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.) was given the oversight of the Home. St. Luke's Community Services began to focus on new causes unrelated to the Home.

As St. Luke's Community Services now seeks to update its organization, by-laws, mission, and perhaps even its name, the Vestry was asked to weigh in on behalf of the parish concerning your desires for continued involvement. Neither the Vestry nor I saw the possibility that we would find from our ranks enough Board Members to serve St. Luke's to fulfill the requirements of the by-laws. It has been my experience that Board Membership for the Rector, even when only *ex officio*, requires considerable time and effort. As you reduce the hours of your clergy staff going forward, it would seem prudent to question the purpose and importance of that expenditure.

Suzanne Scibilia has been navigating the difficult waters of serving on the St. Luke's Board and assisting them in their reorganization efforts while still representing the interests of Church of the Holy Trinity. Thanks to her tireless (and *pro bono*) legal work, there will probably be a resolution of this issue within 2017. That resolution will most likely involve CHT's letting go of its previous control of St. Luke's, which has in any case been unsustainable for the parish. Suzanne will also be working with us to create written understandings with St. Luke's Home about the fair use of our common location in terms of access, parking, plowing, etc. Indeed, we cannot thank Sue enough for her legal assistance to the parish on many issues over the past year!

Letting go of control of St. Luke's does not mean that you will not continue to be in relationship with the Home and its residents. CHT has rallied around the word "community" as its part in God's Mission, and will continue to serve and advocate for the elders among and around us. If any of you have thoughts or concerns about this transition, please let me or Suzanne know.

Pedestrian Walkway Project

After years of discussion of a City project to increase pedestrian access from Broad Street parking lots to Main Street shops, the Parking Department has proceeded on its own and begun making changes to parking lots adjacent to the church, and has even signed pedestrian traffic to use our driveways to gain Main Street access.

(continued on next page)

Although we had been assured of not losing parking spaces due to this project, this has not been the case and mismarked parking lines in our south drive have exacerbated the problem. Suffice it to say that Sue Scibilia, acting as our legal counsel again, will be working with the City on all the attendant concerns, such as liability and easements. Meanwhile, please ignore the parking striping on the south drive until we can fix it in the Spring!

Refugee Resettlement Coalition

In the Fall of 2015 as extensive news coverage alerted the world to the refugee crisis abroad, I received a phone call from The Rev. Mary Ann Osborne of Christ Church in Middle Haddam looking for a Middletown partnership in co-sponsoring a refugee family through Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (I.R.I.S.) of New Haven. This one phone call was the beginning of something neither she nor I could have imagined: the Middletown Refugee Resettlement Coalition, which has joined dozens of faith groups, non-profits, and other organizations such as Wesleyan University with the goal of resettling three families here. In late Spring of 2016, the Abdulkareem family arrived from Iraq and has been successfully launched into life in Middletown. CHT members stepped up to the plate in an amazing way, usually outnumbering every other participating organization with your representation at planning meetings, and continuing to reach out to the Abdulkareems to build relationships to this very day. I would like to thank Jean Maynard, Tracey Hallstead, Jean Hedrick, Dortha and Jon Willetts, Deacon Pat Jackson, Ron and Marie Burlette, Andre Bishop, the Buckheit family, and the many others who contributed in ways big and small to this ministry. The entire congregation contributed through the generous \$1,000 donation from outreach funds which started the ball rolling and set the bar high for others to give. Plans are well underway for receiving a second refugee family very soon.

+ + +

Just as St. Paul always closed his letters to the churches with many greetings and thanks to their leaders, I need to thank in particular the members of the Vestry, the Treasurer and Clerk, and Wardens Taylor Duckworth and Andre Bishop for their extraordinary dedication and service to me and to the entire parish. Thanks also to our staff members: Valerie Hall, Cindy Hursty, Allison Lindsay, Mike Fazio, Mary Godbout, and Suzanne Scibilia who doesn't get a paycheck, but should! I thank God for all of you. I hope you see what I see in you: glimpses of the Kingdom of God in the community of all the Saints. It is my privilege to serve God's mission among you.

An excerpt from:

Connecticut bishops respond to President Trump's Executive Order regarding refugees

PRAY for all who are adversely affected by this Executive Order and whose lives are threatened by these actions. Pray also that our President and his administration will have an amendment of heart and reconsider this order. We particularly invite you to add the prayer For Social Justice found on page 823 of the BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER to your personal prayers and Sunday Prayers of the People:

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Middletown Warming Center Schedule

South Congregational Church
9 Pleasant St.
1/29 - 2/18

Church of the Holy Trinity
381 Main St.
2/19 - 3/18



Next month. . . **Lenten Quiet Morning**

You are invited to spend a time of quiet for reflection and meditation this upcoming Lenten season in the Chapel here at Holy Trinity. Brother Thomas will be your guide on **Saturday, March 11, from 9 to 11 a.m.** There will be a sign-up sheet located at the back of the Church. For more information please call the parish office at 860-347-2651.

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM WILLIAM WASCH

For members of the Church of the Holy Trinity

“As we come to the close of a very difficult 2016, I want to express my and my family’s heartfelt appreciation for all your Christian kindnesses this past year. Whether it was dropping off your favorite casserole or some kind words and hugs, they all meant so much to us and we are most grateful.

These tokens kindness all helped us bear the sorrow of the loss of a lifelong partner and my children’s mother. I plan to share two wonderful books of pictures and tributes to Susie that both Christina and Fred’s wife Liz created for me recently.”



SOUP KITCHEN OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’” “The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’” (Matt. 25:37-40)

Holy Trinity’s next opportunity for outreach ministry to the **St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen** will be held on **Sunday, March 5th**. We will be bringing and serving Shepherd’s Pie, Salad, Bread, Fresh Fruits, Lemonade, and Cupcakes for dessert. Dinner is served, from 5:00-6:00, for approximately 100 of our neighbors. “ALL are welcome at our table.”

There are several ways to help out. . .

- Donate financially towards purchase of Shepard’s Pie ingredients.
- Join us on **Sunday 5/5/17** at **10:30** to prepare Shepard’s Pie.
- Shop for, prepare, and deliver other menu items (fruit, salad, bread, butter) or paper goods (plates, cups, forks, napkins).
- Arrive early (4:30) to help butter bread, plate desserts, dress salads, etc.
- Serve or expedite food to servers.
- Assist with clean up (pans, trays, floors, counters, warmers) until 6:30.
- Partner with organizer to make announcements and keep track of donations /volunteers.

We also encourage you to consider joining us for dinner, sharing a meal and perhaps even a story, to deepen our human connections as part of this ministry.

If you would like to take part in this extraordinary service opportunity please contact Taylor Duckworth by email at amd Duck04@hotmail.com or by telephone at 860-918-3818.

*Thank you,
Taylor*



EARTH MINISTRY:

By Dortha Cool Willetts

Critics Vow Protest Against Trump's Revival of Pipelines

Herein is a copy of a news article in the New Hampshire Union Leader:

NH critic of pipeline:

'The struggle continues'

By DAN TUOHY

New Hampshire Union Leader

A GRANITE STATER who attended protests of a proposed oil pipeline through North Dakota said he is not surprised to learn President Donald Trump has taken steps to revive the project.

"The struggle continues," said Lincoln Soldati, a former Strafford County Attorney and retired lawyer from Portsmouth. "I'm very disappointed, but I'm not surprised."

Trump signed executive orders to advance the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines, subject to negotiations, which is a break from former President Barack Obama's position. Keystone XL is the TransCanada project that proposes a 1,179-mile oil pipeline from Alberta, Canada, to Steele City, Neb.

Critics, including some of those participating in the protests at Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota late last year, said the opposition would continue.

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, an Independent from Vermont who campaigned on the issue in his bid for the Democratic nomination for President in 2016, accused Trump of ignoring "the voices of millions" who are concerned about

climate change in order to "put the short-term profits of the fossil fuel industry ahead of the future of our planet."

Sanders said he would do everything he could to stop the pipeline projects.

Environmentalist and author Bill McKibben announced that he would continue to fight the project, and he pointed to news reports that Trump owns stock in one of the companies building the proposed project.

The Indigenous Environmental Network, in a statement responding to Trump's orders, said the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and other sovereign Native American nations were never consulted by Trump or anyone from his administration. It said the executive orders further violates the treaty rights of those tribes.

That people like Soldati are not surprised by Trump's focus should come as no surprise in itself. The Republican National Committee platform includes language stating that Obama killed the pipeline to satisfy environmentalists. The GOP platform signaled efforts to revive Keystone and DAPL, describing the pipeline as important for North American energy and energy security. And Trump has long signaled his interest in it.

After Trump's actions, Soldati called it a "reality of the new America."

—*dtuohy@unionleader.com*

See more at: www.newhampshire.com/Keystone_XL_pipelineorder

Church of the Holy Trinity Burial Lots at Indian Hill Cemetery

A Continuing Series by Diane Reid, *Parish Historian*

The 46th and 47th burials in the church lots at Indian Hill Cemetery were those of Owen J. Nichols and his wife Lucy Terry Nichols:



NICHOLS, Owen & Lucy

46. Burial #7570 - Owen J. Nichols was born in Colchester CT on 14 Jul 1917 to Charles A. and Florence (Austin) Nichols. He died at Middletown of a heart attack on 1 Jul 1990. He was an electrician at Pratt Whitney Aircraft for many years. He married Lucy Beatrice (Terry) (Forbell) in Maine on 14 Jun 1941.

47. Burial #7646 – Lucy Terry Nichols was born Lucy Beatrice Terry on 18 May 1913 in New York State. Her parents were Samuel Gurney and Elizabeth (Wicker) Terry. The family were living in East Hampton CT by 1920. Lucy married Lester Forbell abt 1932. Their daughter Faith Forbell was born in 1933. The parents divorced, and Lucy married Owen Nichols on 14 Jun 1941. Owen adopted Faith who was then known as Faith Nichols. Lucy died 11 Mar 1994 at Cromwell.

48. Burial #7686 – Edward Murray Bennett was born in Milford CT 2 Jul 1928 to Edward L. and Mary B. (Dolphin) Bennett. He died 28 Jan 1995 in East Hampton at Cobalt Lodge where he had resided for several years. The family moved to Middletown by 1940 where his father worked at the state hospital. Ed worked in the Middletown at various jobs, including as a bus driver, a job he held for many years. He had a great passion for trains and railroad lore. His wife's name was Judith. She died in 2005, burial place not known.

49. Burial #7795 - Jean Agnes Harris, widow of #41, Donald Harris, died in Middletown of 16 Dec 2000. She was born Jean Agnes Hamilton in Nova Scotia, Canada, 21 Nov 1937 and had lived in Middletown for over forty years. She was a member of our parish. She and Donald were survived by their son, Donald W. Harris.

The remains of fifty persons are buried in our two lots. William Tate and Capt. Caleb Adams were not listed on the Indian Hill records as buried in the Holy Trinity lots. Sarah Goodwin, the first person buried there was removed to a private space to rest with her daughter's remains.

From 1851, one year after the opening of Indian Hill Cemetery to the year 2000, residents of the old St. Luke's Home, children from the Middletown Orphans Home, and those who were friendless or without the means to purchase a private plot have had a final resting place in our sacred ground.

FEBRUARY 2017

KEY: AF = Adult Forum, BS = Bible Study, CC = Confirmation Class, CH = Chapel, CR = Century Room, CMR = Community Room, HE = Holy Eucharist, LIB = Library, LCC = Lighthouse Church, OE/A = Overeaters Anonymous, PB = Praise Band, PCO = Pastoral Care Office (next to CMR), PH = Parish Hall, SS = Sunday School, WSG=Women's Support Group

1 - Wednesday

9-noon Clothing Closet/BSMT
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m.—3 p.m. Carl Loges/PCO
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi /PH
7:00 p.m. Praise Band/SANC

2 - Thursday

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. House of Talents/CMR
12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist/CH
6:00 p.m. WSG/CH
7:00 p.m. LCC Worship Prac./CH or LIB

3 - Friday

9:30 a.m.—3:30p.m. Carl Loges/PCO
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

4 - Saturday

9:00 a.m. NA/PH
9:00 a.m. Choir Practice/BSMT
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

5 - Sunday - Epiphany 5

9:00 a.m. Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Sunday School - Second Floor
Confirmation - Third Floor
Journey with Luke - Library
Bringing up Christians -
Parents and Grandparents - Chapel
1:00 p.m./LCC CH-SANC/CH/CMR
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

6 - Monday

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. OEA/ CMR
6:00 p.m. Nar-Anon/CR
7:00 p.m. Buddhist/LIB

7 - Tuesday

5:30 p.m. First Tuesday, Hymn Sign/PH
7:00 p.m. LCC/CH & SANC

8 - Wednesday

9-noon Clothing Closet/Basement
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. NA H&I—CR
6:30 NA Convention Committee/LIB
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi /PH
7:00 p.m. Praise Band/SANC

9 - Thursday

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. House of Talents/CMR
12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist/CH
6:00 p.m. WSG/CH
6:00 p.m. NA H&I—CR
6:30 NA Convention Committee/LIB
7:00 p.m. LCC Worship Prac./CH or LIB

10 - Friday

9:30 a.m.—3:30p.m. Carl Loges/PCO
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
6:00 p.m. NA/PH
7:00 p.m. Youth Group/3rd Floor

11- Saturday

9:00 a.m. NA/PH
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

12 - Sunday - Epiphany 6

9:00 a.m. Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Intergenerational Program -
"Loving Our Neighbor" - creating Valentines/PH
1:00 p.m./LCC CH-SANC/CH/CMR
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

13 - Monday

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. OEA/ CMR
6:00 p.m. Nar-Anon/CR
7:00 p.m. Buddhist/LIB

14 - Tuesday - St. Valentine's Day

6:30 p.m. - Finance Committee/CMR
7:00 p.m. LCC/CH & SANC

15 - Wednesday

9-noon Clothing Closet/Basement
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:30 p.m. - Finance Committee/CMR
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi /PH
7:00 p.m. Praise Band/SANC

16 - Thursday

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. House of Talents/CMR
12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist/CH
6:00 p.m. WSG/CH
7:00 p.m. LCC Worship Prac./CH orLIB

(February Calendar continued on next page)

17 - Friday

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

18 - Saturday

9:00 a.m. NA/PH
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

19 – Sunday – Epiphany 6

9:00 a.m. Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Sunday School - Second Floor
Confirmation - Third Floor
Journey with Luke - Library
Stop Ageism presentation
by Eric Rodko - Chapel
1:00 p.m./LCC CH-SANC/CH/CMR
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

20 - Monday / Presidents' Day

(Church offices closed)

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. OEA/ CMR
6:00 p.m. Nar-Anon/CR
7:00 p.m. Buddhist/LIB

21 - Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting/CMR
7:00 p.m. LCC/CH or LIB

22- Wednesday

9-noon Clothing Closet/BSMT
10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi /PH
7:00 p.m. Praise Band/SANC

23 - Thursday

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. House of Talents/CMR
12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist/CH
6:00 p.m. WSG/CH
7:00 p.m. LCC Worship Prac./CH or LIB

24 - Friday

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. NA/PH
7:00 p.m. Youth Group/3rd Floor

25- Saturday

9:00 a.m. NA/PH
9:00 a.m. Choir Practice/BSMT
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

26 – Sunday – Epiphany 6

9:00 a.m. Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Intergenerational Event – Pancake Breakfast
Fundraiser to sponsor the Youth Group
Mission Trip – Parish Hall
1:00 p.m./LCC CH-SANC/CH/CMR
5-7 p.m. NA PR/CR
6:00 p.m. NA/PH

27- Monday

10:00 a.m. NA/PH
11:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m. Carl Loges/ PCO
6:00 p.m. OEA/ CMR
6:00 p.m. Nar-Anon/CR
7:00 p.m. Buddhist/LIB

28 – Tuesday

7:00 p.m. LCC/CH or LIB

The Church Mouse. . .with odds & ends

.....

February facts:

Named after the Latin word *februum*, which means purification because the month was a time for purification.

The old Roman calendar considered winter a monthless period, thus it only consisted of 10 months. The month of

February was added, along with January around 700 BCE by Numa Pompilius. (some still think Jan. & Feb. “monthless”)

February's birth flower is the primrose (or the violet): it's birthstone is the amethyst.

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The Church of the Holy Trinity
381 Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457

SUNDAY:

9:00 am.....Holy Eucharist

10:30 am.....Sunday School

Second Floor

Confirmation Class

Third Floor

Journey with Luke

Library

Bringing up Christians

Chapel

THURSDAY: (in the Chapel)

12:15 pm.....Holy Eucharist