

TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
(United Church of Christ)
72 Elm Street
North Andover, Massachusetts 01845

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Lent Begins March 6th
March Events:
March 6: Ash Wednesday
Thursdays: Lenten Book Study
March 10: Rummikub and Dominoes
March 16: Super Saturday
Undies Sundays!

Pastor, Rev. Debra Adams
Music Director, Christopher Wood
Administrative Secretary, Dorothy Taylor

Moderator, Sarah Dunlap
Handbell Choir Director, Bev Valle
Sexton, Doug Beach

The Trinitarian Times

Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC
72 Elm St. North Andover, MA
978-686-4445
www.natrinitarian.org
offices@natrinitarian.org



February 2019

Dear Church,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:7b)

Lent is a Journey that moves us toward the Cross

A friend once asked me to go with her to a Maundy Thursday evening service telling me that it is impossible to truly experience the joy of Easter morning if you haven't been through the trial and stood at the cross. So I went. It was so powerful, I could scarcely believe it. And she was right because when I woke up on Easter morning, it wasn't like any other Easter morning I had ever experienced. Like me, many Christians are so eager to get to Easter that they don't experience the journey that leads to the cross before we arrive at the tomb. For those who have not yet fully experienced this most spirit-filled journey of our Christian faith, I invite you to come along with us this year. In preparation for that journey, here is some guiding information that might help map out your path.

Lent is the 40 day period of repentance and renewal beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Easter. The Lenten period allows us time to recall the Easter story and absorb its meaning.

Observing Lent prepares us to celebrate Easter in a richer more fuller way through penitential practices like fasting that help us to understand the full meaning of Easter, through repentance by remembering our baptismal commitment to inner renewal, through resolution that recalls Christ's suffering in ways that encourage us to act more Christ-like, and through participation in worship services that can strengthen our faith.

Look for more information about our Lenten journey in this newsletter.

Yours along the way,

Pastor Debra



Thank You!

Thank you to all who came to and participated in my installation as your 14th pastor. Thank you for being with me to celebrate the covenant we made together. A special note of gratitude goes to the Search Committee, Chris Wood and the choir, and Bev Valle and the bell choir who made the whole thing possible!! I also want to thank you, the church for your generous gift of a stole. I will delight in wearing it during the many years we will have together.

Church Office hours : Monday through Wednesday, 9 to 12:30, Thursday 12:30-4, Friday 9-12:30

Volunteer Ministries

Thank you to all who took the time to fill out and pass in your blue volunteer ministries sheet. We have put together a list so that when something comes up in your area of expertise, we'll be sure to ask you if you would like to help. If you have not yet done so, please fill yours out and get it to Dorothy as soon as you can! For this to work, all gifts and talents must be made known and shared for the common good.

Meet our newest member! Mike Lawler has been affiliated with other area churches before coming to TCC with his friend Ida these last few years. He enjoys the services and being in fellowship with the people here. He believes that he has found a home in this faith community. He is excited about getting involved and has expressed an interest in joining the Diaconate and helping with special events. In his spare time, Mike enjoys fishing.



Ash Wednesday, March 6th: Meal and Service

Won't you join us for a light meal and service on Wednesday, March 6th. We will have a light meal at **5:30 pm** followed by an Ash Wednesday service at **6:15 pm**. There will be a sign-up sheet at coffee hour, or you can contact Dorothy in the office at 978-686-4445 or offices@natrinitarian.org.

Spring Forward with Rummikub, Dominoes and Pizza!



The Deacons invite you to celebrate Daylight Savings Time after church on **Sunday, March 10** with games and pizza from Stacey's. We'll gather in Carvell Hall after coffee hour, to play Rummikub or dominoes, followed by pizza from down the street. If you've never played these games, they're easy to learn and lots of fun for all ages. If you own a Rummikub set or dominoes, bring them along. Please sign up at coffee hour so we know how much pizza to order (also, let us know if you have allergies). Family and friends are welcome!

Super Saturday Registration is Open Through March 2

Super Saturday will be **March 16th** at the Minnechaug Regional High School in Wilbraham, MA! The featured speaker will be Rebekah Anderson, seminarian, writer, and disability activist. Registration is open now, and closes March 2nd. If you would like to join Pastor Debra, Pam Foote and Sarah Dunlap or for more details, see the website: <https://www.macucc.org/eventdetail/11156586?>

Lenten Book Study

Join Pastor Debra in an exciting new Lenten book study every Thursday evening at 6pm during Lent. In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

If you are interested, please let Pastor Debra know and order your copy as soon as possible online (be sure you acquire the book or ebook if that is your preference and not the Leader's Guide or DVD used in the study.)



ENTERING
THE PASSION
of JESUS
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK



Pastor Parish Relations committee to meet quarterly

The PPRC will meet quarterly, and the next meeting will be in March. The PPRC works to support Rev. Adams and the mission of the TCC. It assists in fostering a healthy relationship between the congregation and the pastor in order to enhance the effectiveness of the church's mission.

Functions of the PPRC include advocacy for the Pastor, listening to the congregation, supporting the congregation and the Pastor, understanding roles within the TCC community, and dealing with conflict if necessary. Members of the committee are available to hear your concerns. Please speak with Glen Ayer, Sarah Dunlap, Emily Thompson, Karen Urquhart or Pastor Debra if you have questions about the committee and their role in the church.

Message from Missions

It's time once more for the **Lenten Underwear Drive!** We'll take diapers, baby wipes, pull-ups, underwear in children's sizes, cash and coupons! If you have coupons that expire before April, give them to a member of Missions for purchasing the needed items. Coupons that expire in April will go to Communities Together for this important ministry. Drop your items off in the office.

One of our on-going ministries is to provide a meal to **Bread and Roses** every other month. Lorene Beach has been the driving force behind this bi-monthly event, picking up the supplies and delivering to Bread and Roses. Thanks, Lorene!

March 22nd is the United Nation's Clean Water Day. Providing clean water for all is also an important part of the UCC overseas ministry. We will be having a presentation in March on **Living Waters for the World**, a group that has developed filtration systems to fill the niche of people with available, contaminated water.

Pick up a **postcard** and invite a friend to our Easter Season services. Postcards were mailed to the neighborhood to invite everyone to join us for this important season.

The food pantry items for **March are pasta and sauce**, to be delivered to Lazarus House.

Thank you for your continued support of our outreach to the local and global communities.

Your Missions Board



We will be collecting funds for Ida Strykowski, one of our deacons, who had damage to her home due to high winds on February 25th. Any donations of money would be appreciated. Make checks out to "Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC" and put "For Ida" on the memo line. Thank you!

Stewardship Nugget

One of the dangers of having a lot of money is that you may be quite satisfied with the kinds of happiness money can give and so fail to realize your need for God.

- C.S. Lewis (1898-1963) British novelist, poet, academic, lay theologian, broadcaster, lecturer

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A GREATER NEED FOR LOVE

When brushing your teeth, turn off the tap to save water.



"SOX" CAMPAIGN

On any given day, roughly 9,500 high school students in Massachusetts are without a home, with roughly half that number living without a parent or guardian according to the Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Lack of affordable housing is the primary reason for people living on the streets in Massachusetts. The fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the Commonwealth is \$1,424. In order to afford rent and utilities and spend only 30% of income for housing, a household needs to earn \$56,967 annually or \$27.39 a hour. The average renter's wage is \$19.70. A person making minimum wage in 2018 (\$11) would have had to work 100-hours per week, 52 weeks a year, to afford the two bedroom rental home. Hard to believe that few pairs of socks can make a difference in a person's life, but it is true! Won't you pick up a package of socks the next time you are shopping?

Yoga for Everyone

The wonderful instructors and the great group at our Friday Night Yoga class will help you achieve stress relief and help you strengthen your body. You might be surprised just how easy yoga is! Drop in any **Friday at 5:30 pm, bring a mat and \$10. No contract required.**



Please wear your nametags. If you prefer, you can have yours on a string rather than a clip on. Let the office know if you need a string or if you need a new nametag. It's a small request, but it is something we can all do to make visitors feel more welcome.

Scholarship applications are now being accepted

Trinitarian Church Scholarship

The scholarship is open to graduating high school students who are confirmed and have participated in the life/activities of the church. The amount of the scholarship varies from year to year. Apply on the church website

<http://natrinitarian.org/about-us/trinitarian-church-scholarship/>

or pick up a copy in the office.

Return completed applications to the

Trinitarian Congregational Church Office, 72 Elm St., North Andover

Applications are due by March 31st

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Bible Study meets on **Wednesdays** at **10:00 am** in the Davis Room. We will embark on a study of the book of Esther. All are welcome!

Sunday Flower Arrangements

The cost of flower arrangements for Sunday morning has gone up this year to \$45. This price includes delivery. Contact the office at 978-686-4445 or

offices@natrinitarian.org if you would like to give flowers on any Sunday. Or, if you would rather pick up your own flowers, arrange to drop them off.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SCHEDULE YOUR MEETINGS and EVENTS WITH THE OFFICE

Have pity on your poor church secretary and make sure your board, committee or fellowship group checks the calendar and checks in with the church office before scheduling an event.

Have you signed up to host Coffee Hour or to Greet?

Help make our Sunday mornings warm and friendly for visitors! There are sign up sheets at coffee hour each week.

Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

At the Annual Meeting held on January 27th, the slate of officers, committee and board members were voted in to their positions as listed below. There was also a vote taken and the sale of the parsonage was approved, with two no votes recorded. The budget has been set but the church will need to find some additional income to make up for the loss of Free Christian Church as renters.

Moderator: Sarah Dunlap	Sue Northam Crystal Reid	Music Committee: Sarah Dunlap Bill Pickles
Treasurer: George Carifio	Peggy Sims Ida Strykowski 2 open positions	Ida Strykowski Emily Thompson, chair Caroline Webber, Diaconate Rep.
Collector: Betsy Manteiga	Christian Mission and Outreach: Lorene Beach, Treasurer Connie Bruce Mary Murdoch Janet Pickles Karen Robie Carolyn Fallon Deb Fuedo Katie Murdoch Dorothy Taylor, Chair Kristen Dunbar	Ex officio: Chris Wood, Music Director Bev Valle, Bell Choir Director
Auditor: Barbara Whidden		Pastor-Parish Relations Committee: Sarah Dunlap Karen Urquhart Glen Ayer Emily Thompson Pastor Debra Adams
Board of Trustees: William Pickles – Chair Don Elliott Tony Agudelo Chris Lathrop Maura Deems George Barker (Trustee for Life)		Memorial Gifts Committee: George Carifio Sarah Dunlap
Diaconate: Bruce Robie, co-chair Caroline Webber, co-chair Glen Ayer Pam Foote, recording secretary Betsy Hopkins John Larkin	Stewardship and Financial Planning Committee: Betsy Manteiga David Deems Kristen Hollenbeck George Carifio	Investment Committee (Appointed by the Trustees): Don Elliott Chris Lathrop George Carifio

2019 Lenten Service Series

Noon service followed by light lunch.

Please join Communities Together, Inc. for a series of Wednesday Lenten Services- a time of spiritual reflection and renewal.

March 6 St. Paul's Episcopal Church

390 Main Street– North Andover

Guest Homilist: Rev. Will Green– Ballard Vale United Church – Andover

March 13 Spanish Free Methodist Church

774 Essex Street– Lawrence

Guest Homilist: Rev. Cecilio Perez – Chaplain at Holy Family Hospital

March 20 Hye Pointe Armenian Church

1280 Boston Road - Bradford

Guest Homilist: Rev. Edward Frost – Director of CPE, Spiritual Care and Ambassadors at Holy Family Hospital

March 27 St. Augustine Parish

43 Essex Street– Andover

Guest Homilist: Rev. Dominic Barbieri - Chaplain at Holy Family Hospital

April 3 First United Methodist Church

47 Peters Street - North Andover

Guest Homilist: Rev. Jon Paul - Free Christian Church – Andover

April 10 First Baptist Church

253 Lawrence Street - Methuen

Guest Homilist: Rev. Debra Adams - Trinitarian Congregational Church – North Andover