

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

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LAWRENCE, Ma



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God doesn't take the summer off, and neither do we.

*August Events:*  
*Mini-Golf, Guest Preachers,*  
*Ice Cream Social*

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**Pastor, Rev. Debra Adams**  
**Music Director, Christopher Wood**  
**Administrative Secretary, Dorothy Taylor**  
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**Moderator, Sarah Dunlap**  
**Handbell Choir Director, Bev Valle**  
**Sexton, Doug Beach**  
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# The Trinitarian Times

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



August 2019

Dear Church,

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

Recently, I had a conversation with a member about finding time to be with God in the frantic pace of life. We talked about prayer and the difficulty our responsibilities and activities create for quieting our minds and bodies in ways that help us to listen to what God is putting before us. Summer provides a wonderful opportunity for some to find ways to unwind and contemplate God. Even when given the time to decrease our regular activities, so many find it challenging to turn their minds from mentally exhausting thoughts. For me, it brought to mind Elijah's search for God's still small voice while striving to please in ways that weren't really working for him.

*1Kings 19:11-12...He (God) said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.*

While it's true that God can be found in the earthquakes and storms of our lives (isn't that where we most want to find God?), I believe that God does God's best work in us when we are silent, focused and open to listening. For me, that is best accomplished in the midst of God's creation. As I prepare to head off on vacation with Jay, one I hope involves a lot of hiking and kayaking, I will be on the lookout for where and how I see God around me. How do you feel God most in the storms of your life? And where do you see God at work in and through you when your pace slows sufficiently enough to notice?

May the days of summer bring you joyful opportunities to bask in the love of God.

*Pastor Debra*

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**Pastor Debra** will be on vacation August 5th through August 18th. Emergency Pastoral Care will be available, contact the office or Sarah Dunlap.

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

# *What's going on in August... and beyond*

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## **Sunday Worship will be at 10 am all Summer!**

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***Time to Chase That Little Ball Again!*** TCC Mini-Golf Outing  
**Sunday, August 4, 11:30 am, Cedarland Family Fun Center,**  
888 Boston Road, Haverhill, MA 01835. Cost will be \$6.00 for 18 holes.  
Bring extra money if you want lunch and/or ice cream afterwards

All ages – and guests – are welcome  
Prizes will be awarded!



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**Guest preacher on Sunday, Aug. 11th - Rev. Edwin Vaeni.** Rev. Vaeni spent two years as interim pastor here after the retirement of Rev. Herbert Schumm, and he impressed last year with his sermon on “Hospice Spirituality.” This year’s sermon is titled “Do Not Be Afraid.”

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**Guest preacher on Sunday, Aug. 18th – Glen Ayer** Deacon Glen will take to the pulpit. We’ll follow up with an Ice Cream Social. What better way to celebrate summer than ice cream?



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### **Rally Sunday and Cook-Out, Sept. 8th**

We’ll gather for worship and to thank God for all our shared experiences this summer – and those to come – then enjoy a cook-out in the church yard after the service.

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The **Weekly Bible Study**, which meets Wednesday mornings at 10 am, will be starting up again in early September. Come join us for a cup of tea, insightful study and lively conversation. The first meeting date will be announce in church.

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### **Annual Prayer Shawl Tea, September 17, 2019**

The Trinitarian Congregational Church is honored to be hosting the 15th Annual Prayer Shawl Tea for Communities Together. Their Prayer Shawl Ministry is one of the many ministries we participate in.

The Tea will be on September 17th at 2 pm. The invitees will include prayer shawl ministry knitters and crocheters from many different parishes and organizations, hospital and hospice chaplains, and members of Communities Together.

We are expecting approximately 60 people. Baked goods and more baked goods are needed! Please speak with Sarah or Dorothy if you can contribute two dozen (or more!) of either cookies or bars. **NO NUTS PLEASE!!** They can be dropped off in the kitchen (LABELLED, please) starting September 15th.

It would also be great to have volunteers to help serve and clean up. Servers will need to be at the church by 1:15 pm and plan on staying until 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to come for all or part of that time.

Please speak with Sarah (978-886-2191) if you can help in ANY way. This event is very moving and speaks to us as servants of God.

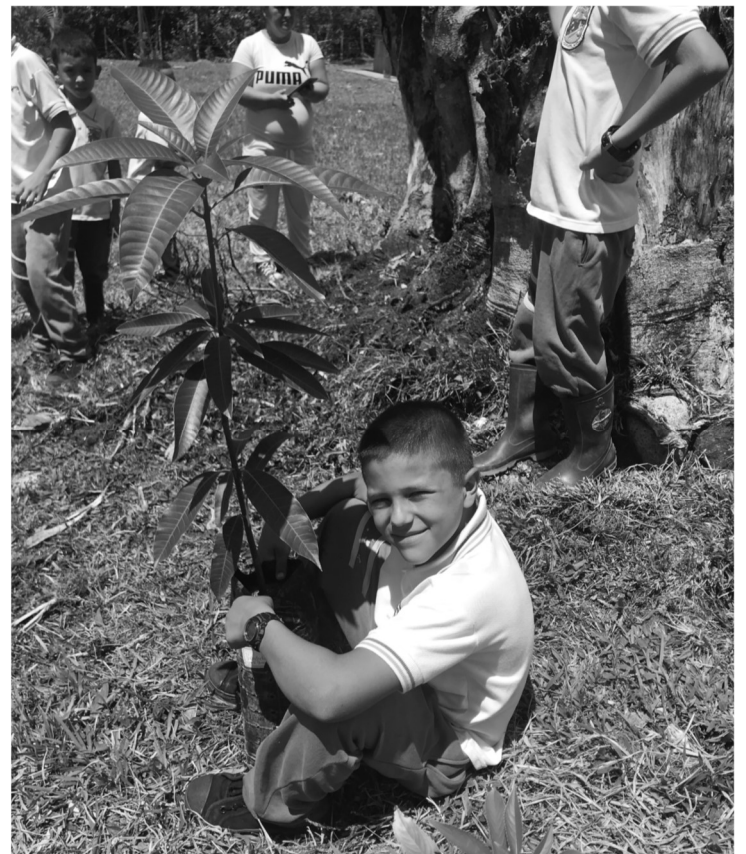
## A Visit to La Sagrada Familia in Colombia

Last fall, the Board of Missions voted to support a primary school in Colombia. With the help of a slideshow, I presented some of the challenges they faced particularly with regard to the building. Most of those stem from poor drainage that has accelerated the decline of an already aging structure. This school (located directly adjacent to a military facility) serves children away from the center of town where the poorest families struggle on farms way up in the hills. I visited the school twice before and brought simple school supplies, but I knew they needed much more. This connection inspired me to bring their needs before Missions.

My sister-in-law Adelfa's family live and work in San Carlos, Colombia. They have provided wonderful hospitality on my four trips there. Her sister Claudia teaches at the school and has helped me understand the difficulties in teaching students in this environment. She seeks to foster a relationship with our congregation (and perhaps other organizations) so the children can experience the support of people from other areas while creating a more adequate and safe environment where they can learn and grow.

I spent two days at the school with the children. On the first day, the children came downhill from the school to greet my motorcycle taxi upon arrival. I was excited to see that some of them remembered me from other trips. The students were told that I was learning Spanish and that if they spoke clearly and slowly, I would be able to understand them. Taking turns around the room, each one told me their name and grade before we engaged in more conversation. We talked, read together, practiced some English, ate lunch together and played outside with new balls bought with money from our church. They showed me around and I gave them more supplies from my own school. Later, the children helped to sort the activities and put them safely in the new storage cabinets purchased from part of our donation. Later, we painted a rainbow mural on the side of the school and planted a mango tree in honor of our new relationship. On the last day, the children each presented me with a personal card. These are posted near my office door. I hope to have a more complete display of pictures at coffee hour in September, but thought you might like to see these in the meantime.

With you in service to God,  
Pastor Debra



Dear Pastor Debra Adams and TCC, 6/20/19

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship. Attending TCC has been a part of my life since I was born and I will miss it so much next year when I'm in college. Thank you for always making me feel welcomed and loved by the church community. I will always cherish the memories I have made at TCC, but I hope to make many more when I am back from school. I appreciate everything you have done for me. ♡ I promise I'll be back, TCC is like my second home. I'll miss you all.

Thank you!

Love,

Grace Adam

Dear Trinitarian Congregational church,  
Thank you so much for the scholarship. It will help reduce the cost of books and supplies greatly. Thank you for everything you've done to help me grow as a young adult. I will miss you guys!

Love,

Andy Robie

Dear Pastor Debra,

June 2017

I've felt so lucky to have grown up at the TCC and will continue to build upon the foundation I've found and developed here. Thank you so much for opening up the Missions Board to me and giving me a generous scholarship from the church. TCC will always have a place in my heart and I'll be back soon!

Thank you,

Katie Murdock

Dear Pastor Debra Adams,

My name is David O'Leary and I am one of the recipients of the 2019 Barbara Mason Muchowski Chemistry Award. Thanks to your generous sponsorship of the Barbara Mason Muchowski Chemistry Award, I am able to pursue my passion of chemical engineering at Northeastern University by using this generous scholarship towards my tuition.

I am an undergraduate student entering my freshman year at the College of Engineering program at Northeastern. Throughout high school, I have been able to maintain a 4.73 weighted GPA while swimming, practicing martial arts, golfing, and participating in Student Council, Spanish Club, and the National Honor Society. I look forward to pursuing a career as a chemical engineer upon my graduation in May of 2023 from Northeastern.

I am honored to be a recipient of such a prestigious scholarship.

Sincerely,

David O'Leary

David O'Leary



Trinitarian congregational church,  
Thank you so much for your generosity. It is great to have organizations like you supporting the North Andover community.

Kaelyn





We held an outdoor service with a blessing of the animals on June 23rd which was well attended by both two- and four-legged friends! It was a beautiful day, and a beautiful service. Thanks to Deb Feudo for the treats and water, and to Hazel Orchard for the punch and cookies!



Mission Trip Sunday, July 21st, was HOT but the group was amazing. Thanks to the folks who went on the trip: Grace Adam, Bobby Caldwell, Nick DiBlasio, Luke Dipolito, Lucy Dipolito, Justin Holland, Matt Manteiga, Connor Palleschi, Ben Ramos, Sydney Ramos, Jeff Robie, Andy Robie, Katie Robie, Colton Webster, Cathryn Webster, Billy Reed and chaperones Anne Webster and David Webster

The golf outing on June 23rd was enjoyed by all the participants!



Pastor Debra took part in a clergy build for Habitat for Humanity in June.



## From the Trustees

Dear Congregation:  
we officially sold the parsonage July 3rd. Bill Pickles attended the closing at the Registry of Deeds with our Attorney, Chris Caldwell.

Bill and the Trustees would like to thank you all for your help and support thru this long process. It is finally over and now we can concentrate our efforts on the numerous other things we are working on.



## Looking Ahead

**NEIGHBORHOOD NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Tuesday, August 6, 6 to 8 pm, St. Michael Parish, Main Street, North Andover.** Join in the NEIGHBORHOOD National Night Out taking place in the Saint Michael School parking lot. Meet neighbors, NAPD Safety Officers, and local vendors for a fun night celebrating our community! Please note, no free hamburgers and hot dogs will be served, but there will be popcorn, other goodies and loads of fun!

### **Lazarus House Hike for Hope, Sunday, September 29th 11:30 am.**

Last year Pastor Debra and Jay Dumas walked, this year we would like to field a whole team of TCC walkers. It's a three-mile walk through Andover to raise funds for Lazarus House Ministries which helps head of households and individuals living in poverty regain their dignity and become self-sufficient members of our community by offering emergency shelter, food and clothing to people in crisis and then providing transitional housing, advocacy, education and work preparation. Contact Dorothy Taylor (dtaylor01930@yahoo.com) if you want to walk with our team!

## **FALL FLEA MARKET OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**

TCC will once again be sponsoring a flea market. This year's event will be held on October 26th, 8 am to 1 pm. It will be held in Carvell Hall and the Duncan Room. TCC will NOT have a White Elephant or Jewelry table. Lunch will not be available.

There will be dealers, a bakery table and a small raffle. The raffle will be \$100 worth of scratch tickets. Just one item.

We will need people to donate scratch tickets— maybe one \$10 ticket, or five \$2 tickets, or whatever amount and number you can until we reach \$100 worth. This is a VERY popular raffle item.

Sarah will be starting to announce this event in church beginning in mid-September. If anyone is interested in helping, call her at 978-886-2191.

Stay tuned for updates on this very important fund-raising event!





## Message from Missions

One word about the **Heifer Project** Collection this year: WOW! Thanks to the amazing generosity of the congregation, we collected enough to purchase the price of 2/3 of a heifer, 1/2 of a goat, a flock of ducks, funding for sending a girl to school, and more besides. Many thanks to team member Karen Robie for her passion for this project.

Just a reminder — **Hunger Doesn't Take the Summer Off.** Children who can get free and discounted meals during the school year often do not have access to the same services in the summer. Local agencies have fewer donations, so they can't fill in the gaps. Won't you consider dropping off some canned tuna, a jar of peanut butter, or breakfast cereal so we can continue to help our neighbors. Thank you to those who donated in July — we delivered to Bread & Roses shortly after their kitchen and pantry were remodeled.

Part of our Missions budget each year is reserved for helping to sponsor the Communities Together **Vacation Bible School.** This year's theme was "The Incredible Race," and children learned about the human race beginning in the Garden of Eden. You can see pictures of your pledge dollars at work at [communitiestogether.org](http://communitiestogether.org) or on Facebook.

St. Michael Parish will be hosting a **Neighborhood National Night Out on August 6, 6 to 8 pm.** TCC has been invited, and while we won't be having a table, it would be great if we showed support for this event by showing up and being neighborly.

We'll be getting into the swing of the **busy giving season** come September! The Missions Board will be meeting in August (!) to make plans right up through Christmas. It's never too early to plan, and with all our vacations and summer relaxing we'll have lots of energy for helping our neighbors. Upcoming Missions Projects include some of the usual (Thanksgiving Boxes, Holiday Bag Drive), some new things (Lazarus House Walk for Hope, Santa Parade give-aways) and the return of a favorite, the Shoebox Ministry! Stay tuned, we'll be making announcements on Sundays and sending out email reminders!

*Your Missions Board*

### Stewardship Nugget

A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great.

*- Proverbs 18:16*

**THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A GREATER NEED FOR LOVE**

Plant or support a community vegetable garden.



### "SOX" CAMPAIGN

The Red Sox are struggling, and yes, we are going there: so many people struggle to make ends meet because of the high cost of housing, food, gas, insurance and everything else. Here in the Boston area the cost of living is about 50% above the national average. What does this have to do with socks? Well, every pair of socks you donate goes to someone who has lost their home and is struggling to get back on their feet. A \$10 package of socks can ensure someone gets to work each day with clean, dry feet and that can help their self-esteem, not to mention the boost they get knowing someone in the world cares for them. Please donate white men's and women's athletic socks, and thank you!