

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

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Address Service Requested

Guest Preacher, February 2nd
Hymn Sing, February 9th
Ash Wednesday February 26th
Lenten Underwear Drive Begins!

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 2020

Dear Church,

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

Jesus tells us that the commandments can be summed up in one, “Love your neighbor as yourself and love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength.” When we are children, this is one of the first important lessons we learn in Sunday School and even though it lacks religious language, we teach love or respect for others in our schools too. Valentine’s Day is one of those days where we emphasize it. Very young children are happy to give cards to anyone and everyone but as they grow, they become a little more particular about who they “love” or how they will show it.

We are born with a huge capacity to love others, but somehow we lose it a little bit at a time as we grow. Maybe this is what Jesus meant when he says to come to him as a child; full of love, wonder and an eagerness to grow and learn!

How has fear, skepticism, busyness, or attitude shaped the way you express your love for others? If things have changed over the years, it doesn’t have to stay that way. February, with Valentine’s Day coming up, might be a good time to think about making love a priority by showing it every chance you get.

In Faith,

Pastor Debra



Ash Wednesday, February 26th: Meal and Service Won’t you join us for a light meal and service on Wednesday, February 26th. 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.

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

Guest Preacher Sunday, February 2nd: Pastor Debra will be in Israel, so Communion will be served by the Rev. Roger Lier. It will also be Scout Sunday, so come support our scouts! Rev. Lier was last here in January of 2018, and has served as an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ in Massachusetts for more than 35 years. He served as a settled pastor in Revere, Ashby and Andover, and as an interim pastor in Beverly, Nahant (July 2005–July 2006), Bradford, Cambridge, Foxboro, and Dunstable. He also worked as a New England Regional Coordinator for Refugee Resettlement for World Relief Refugee Services and as an instructor in New Testament Greek at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Sunday, February 9th: Hymn Sing! Music Director Chris Wood will lead us in a hymn sing while Pastor Debra continues her trip to Israel.



Annual Meeting Wrap-Up: Annual Meeting 2020 was a time of fellowship and a time of getting down to the business of the church. There were 31 parishioners in attendance. Pastor Debra spoke about working towards a vision for TCC and working towards energizing the TCC community. Each board of committee chair spoke about their work last year and looked forward toward 2020. The Stewardship Committee reported pledges were behind. Next, George Carifio, treasurer, emphasized the health of our investments, but noted we continue to be behind in revenue due to the loss of the Free Christian Church rent. There was a presentation about the Who is Our Neighbor Project by Pam Foote and Betsy Hopkins. The proposed revisions to the bylaws was discussed thoroughly and many questions were asked, and ultimately the revisions were passed. Thanks to everybody who donated food and time, we had a great “enhanced” coffee hour, and to every one who helped clean up and special thanks to Barbara Danais, Susie Northam, and Pam Foote for tackling the dishes!

Moderator:	Ida Strykowski	Barbara Danais
Sarah Dunlap	Carolyn Webber	Ex officio:
Treasurer:	Mission and Outreach Committee:	Chris Wood, Music Director
George Carifio	Dorothy Taylor, Chair	Bev Valle, Bell Choir Director
Collector:	Lorene Beach, Treasurer	Pastor-Parish Relations
Betsy Manteiga	Donna Adam	Committee:
Board of Trustees:	Connie Bruce	Glen Ayer
William Pickles – Chair	Carolyn Fallon	Sarah Dunlap (Moderator)
Don Elliott	Deb Fuedo	Emily Thompson
Tony Agudelo	Katie Murdoch	Karen Urquhart
Chris Lathrop	Mary Murdoch	Pastor Debra Adams
Timothy Siebert	Janet Pickles	Memorial Gifts Committee:
George Barker (Trustee for Life)	Stewardship Committee:	George Carifio
Diaconate:	Betsy Manteiga	Sarah Dunlap
Betsy Hopkins, co-chair	David Deems	Pastor Debra Adams
Pam Foote, co-chair	Kristen Hollenbeck	Investment Committee
Glen Ayer	George Carifio	(Appointed by the Trustees):
John Larkin	Music Committee:	Don Elliott
Mike Lawler	Jay Dumas, Chair	Chris Lathrop
Sue Northam	Bill Pickles	George Carifio
Bruce Robie	Emily Thompson	

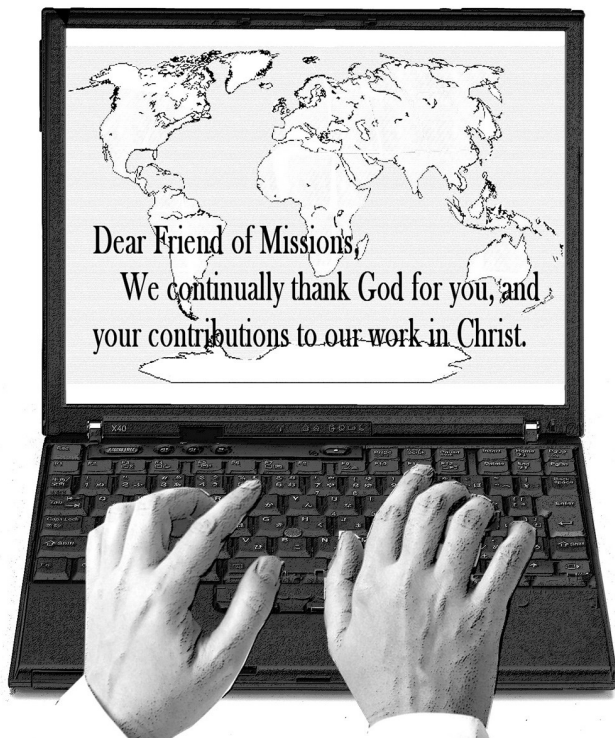
Southern New England Conference Begins The Southern New England Conference officially came into being with the New Year, and the change is becoming more and more visible.

At the end of December, the Conference's Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Massachusetts Secretary of State's office, establishing it as a nonprofit. On Jan. 1, employees of the three historic conferences became employed by the Southern New England Conference.

Perhaps more visibly, the Conference launched a new **Facebook page** and new website - sneucc.org - and all staff now have email addresses that end in [sneucc.org](mailto:staff@sneucc.org).

Hands and Feet of Christ: Message from Missions

It seems as though Christmas was just a week or so ago, but we are quickly approaching the Lenten Season. As in other years, the Missions Committee will be collecting diapers, pull-up pants and children's sizes of underwear throughout Lent to donate to the Communities Together underwear drive. Diapers are extremely expensive, and young families often need a little help with supplying their babies with this essential product. Last year's response was phenomenal, thank you, so let's do it again this year! If you aren't sure what to get, we will collect cash donations and pool the money to buy larger boxes of diapers.



Many thanks to all who donated to our January food drive. Troop 87 chipped in by bringing food donations to their Merit Badge College on January 26th. We have a great donation for the People's Pantry this month.

In February, we will be making an appeal for cash donations to the Southern New England Conference's initiative to help erase medical debt for low income families. So far this movement has eliminated more than \$18 million dollars in debt in Chicago and St. Louis for senior citizens and others with inadequate insurance. Watch for more information and for our Missions Moment.

And more thanks to all who donated to the Warmth Tree this year! Coats, hats, mittens, scarves — it's not just the warmth of the items but the warmth of your heart that comes from these generous acts.

Your Missions Committee

RETURN OF THE "SOX" CAMPAIGN

The Red Sox will be heading for Florida for spring training, and we'll be looking for socks in our "Box of Sox." For people who live in the streets, socks can be a lifesaver. We need new, white athletic socks, for both men and women. People lose their places to live for so many reasons, and getting new housing can be almost impossible. References, first and last month's rent and security deposits can be out of reach for those working minimum wage jobs. Please remember those less fortunate when you are out shopping and please bring us socks!

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A GREATER NEED FOR LOVE

Switch to LED light bulbs
in your home and office.



Stewardship Nugget

You can give without loving.
But you cannot love without giving.

-Amy Carmichael (1867-1951)

Author, missionary in India

Super Saturday Registration is Now Open!

Register Early to Reserve Your Spot.

March 14, 2020

Minnechaug Regional High School
Wilbraham, MA

Super Saturday is a way for leaders in the church and anyone who is interested to attend workshops that will educate participants in a variety of topics, from marketing, stewardship and social justice to environmental issues. It is a rewarding way to connect with other congregations who have questions about the future.

Go to <https://www.sneucc.org/eventdetail/12792138> for more information on workshops and registration.



My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
— JOHN 10:27 NIV

Remember the last time you went someplace new and maybe felt a little confused, lost, or lonely? Let's make sure visitors to church (and regulars, too!) see a friendly face with an outstretched hand at the front door. Sign up to be a greeter on Sunday morning. There are sign-up sheets in the Davis Room, or contact Dorothy in the office (offices@natrinitarian.org or 978-686-4445) and make a commitment to be a little early one Sunday and smile!



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
Applications are due by March 31st

Flea Market tables available for the Troop 87 Flea Market April 4th! Contact Sarah Dunlap 978-886-2191 if you are interested.

The Diaconate is still working on the “**Who is My Neighbor**” project, based on workshops at last spring's and this fall's UCC Super Saturday. The idea is to learn more about ourselves, the people with whom we engage, and those we'd like to engage. This process of information gathering should help us determine TCC's true mission. Members of the Diaconate will be meeting with TCC boards, committees and other groups, such as the choirs and Bible Study group, to ask three questions:

- What do you personally need, or wish was available in our community?
- What does our community as a whole need?
- What are the strengths and gifts that you/TCC bring – or could bring – to our community?

The deacons are also happy to meet with individuals interested in answering these questions, or you can email your answers to us. We hope to complete our internal interviews, as well as interviews with those who use our facilities, prior to the annual meeting in January. Pam Foote (pfoote@comcast.net) and Betsy Hopkins (betsyhopkins@earthlink.net) are leading this market research project for the Diaconate – please contact one of them if you have any questions or are interested in participating.



Who Is My Neighbor?

Hello! We are looking for **young adult (18+) volunteers**, 2-4 hours per month for **The North Andover Social Club** (The Club) an organization providing social and recreational activities for young adults with disabilities, age 18-35, in the town of North Andover. Volunteers are needed to help facilitate our events such as Bingo, Karaoke, Cooking and just having FUN! The only requirement is that you like to have FUN, are respectful, and have an interest in or connection to the special needs community. We meet at the Church one day a month on Thursday or Friday, from 7-9PM. If you're interested, please contact Lisa Staff at 617-240-8180 or at NorthAndoverSocialClub@gmail.com.

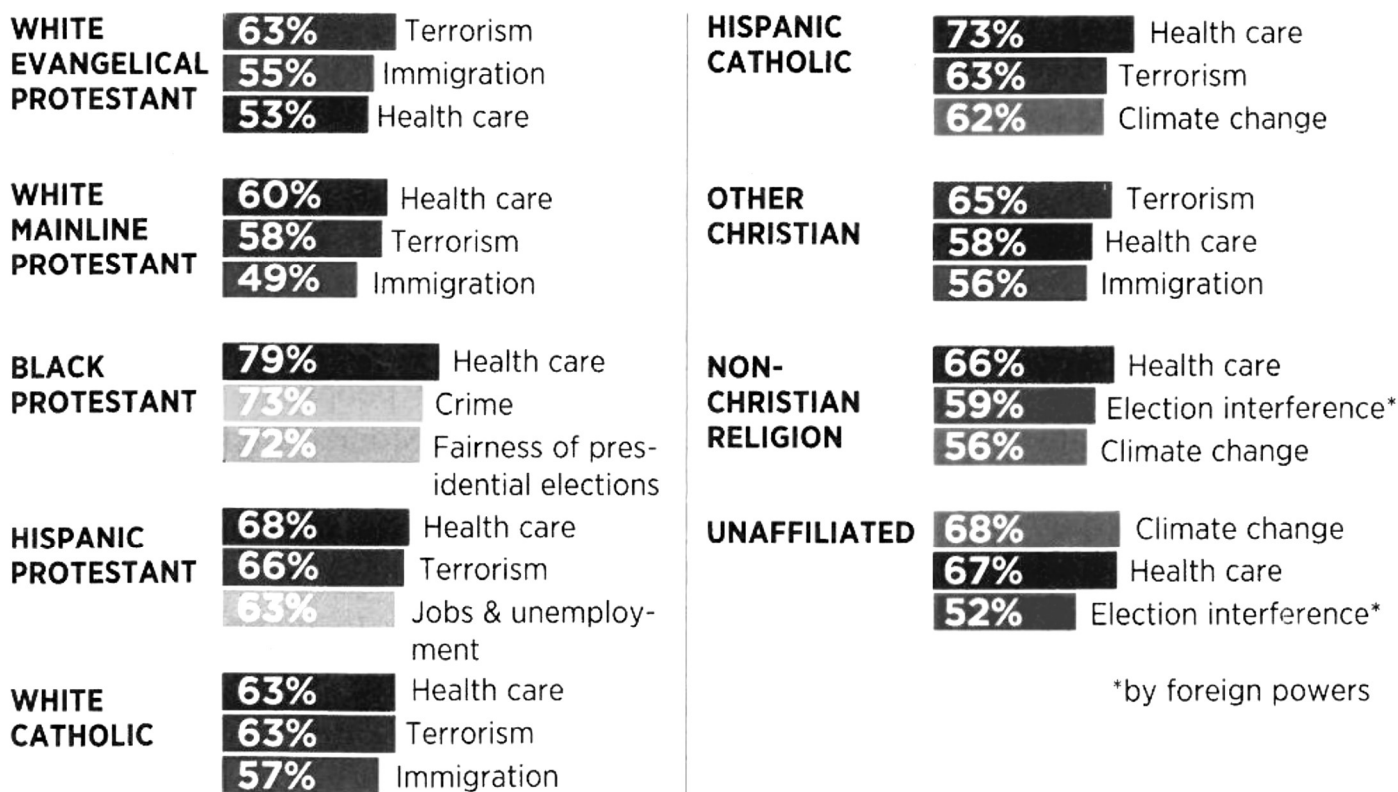


Weekly Yoga continues! There's a new instructor in town! This is a no-commitment yoga session, where you will stretch and bend and relax. Bring a mat, it's only \$10 when you drop by. **Fridays, 5:30 pm.**

CRITICAL ISSUES

SOURCE: PPPRI 2019 AMERICAN VALUES SURVEY

Top three most critical issues by religious affiliation



*by foreign powers

Inclement Weather Cancellation Policy

Winter is here, and with it comes unpredictable snow fall and poor driving conditions. Sunday worship service cancellations will be announced on TV (WBZ) and (WSBK). They will no longer be announced on the radio. You can also see cancellations on CBSBoston.com.