



# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity Episcopal Church ✦ Shelburne, Vermont

The Rev. Jane Butterfield, Interim Rector

802-985-2269 ✦ trinityshelburne.org

December 2014

*As it is written in the prophet Isaiah . . .*

***“See. I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’***

*(Mark 1:2,3)*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Here we are in Advent, the season of watchfulness, preparation and impending glory; a time of special expectation at Trinity as we enter the second phase of the Transition to a new Rector. I hope this time of change and unknowns is enriching a sense of new beginnings for Trinity, that the new year in the church cycle is like festive lights in the darkness of long winter nights, inspiring hope and delight.

In the midst of cheerful expectations, however, we cannot entirely escape anxieties. Life is uncertain. The stubbornness of poverty and racism in our society, protracted global wars and entrenched personal conflicts can deepen the inevitable doldrums of an in-between time at the church. Add to that the implacable unknowns of the future and sudden calamity—events beyond our control—and we can feel powerless, discouraged and grieved.

My family calls me the “Event Planner,” a sometimes relentless cheerleader. Here at Trinity I’m something like Isaiah’s messenger, crying in the wilderness of the unknown future, “Get ready to see where God is leading. Take time to be in

prayer and calm yourself in the light of God’s presence in Christ.” Someone is indeed coming, new life in the Spirit of God awaits you! Yes, sudden disaster can threaten the best laid plans, BUT God is able to redeem even death itself. And change? An opportunity for the Almighty as we are more inclined to turn to God and cooperate in such times.



This is where we *really need to be prepared*. This is when years of laying down the reflex of prayer kicks in and we reap the lessons of the past, reviewing the many ways in which God was with us throughout. Then, as the dust of change settles, the

redeeming presence of the Holy Spirit emerges and illuminates the landscape of our future.

So let’s straighten out our priorities and get in shape, toning our souls with unceasing prayer, study of God’s word and spiritual alertness. Jesus is inviting us to God’s unfolding mission of redeeming glory in the world. Let us be ready to say, as Mary did, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” For nothing will be impossible with God.

Waiting with you in Christ,  
Jane

*○ Come, ○ Come Emmanuel*

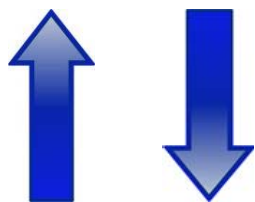



## Celebration of Our Faith

Trinity parishioners gathered in force on November 16<sup>th</sup> for Evensong, an Appreciative Inquiry meeting, and a delicious meal! We advanced our ministry discernment process by considering which aspects of our shared experience we would like to carry forward with a new rector and which things we would like to leave behind. Ann Cooper, our Companion in our transition, facilitated small group discussion followed by sharing with the whole group. We had four conversations about the following questions: What was happening during a high point, when you felt Trinity was doing God’s work and fulfilling its mission? What was happening during a low point? What three things do you value most about Trinity? What happened during a time when you particularly appreciated the ministry of a priest? What for you will be Trinity’s most exciting, energizing, and important accomplishments over the next three years?



General categories describing responses are listed below. For a full record of the conversations, please look for a display in the McClure Room! With thanks,

**Ann Dillenbeck** ([adillenb.vt@gmail.com](mailto:adillenb.vt@gmail.com), 425-2106)  
for The Ministry Discernment Committee

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>High Point / Low Point</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>High Point Outreach</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Worship/Liturgy</li> <li>● Welcome</li> <li>● Personal Connection/Community</li> <li>● Place/Space (Memorial Garden)</li> <li>● Pastoral Care</li> <li>● Membership</li> <li>● The Role of the Rector/Interim Rector</li> <li>● Communication</li> <li>● Stewardship</li> <li>● Addressing Hard Questions</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Low Point Process of Eliminating Associate Rector Position</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Other Separations</li> <li>● Problems with Decision Making, Planning, Communication</li> <li>● Problems with Worship/Liturgy (Moving the Altar)</li> <li>● Problems with Hospitality</li> <li>● Low Youth Involvement</li> <li>● Problems with Vestry Recruitment</li> <li>● Problems with Christian Formation/Education</li> <li>● Problems with Pastoral Care</li> <li>● Haven't experienced it</li> </ul>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3 Things You Value Most</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3 Things You Value Most</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● People/Fellowship/Community ● Outreach/Ministries ● Welcome</li> <li>● Worship/Liturgy ● Place/Space ● Lay Leadership ● Pastoral Care</li> <li>● Faith/Spiritual Experience ● Music ● Inclusivity ● Role of Retired Clergy</li> <li>● Conversations with the Youth ● Continuity ● Energy and Enthusiasm</li> <li>● Number of people willing to work through difficulties</li> <li>● The beauty of the children at worship and at play</li> </ul>	
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Ministry of a Priest</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Your Lifetime . . . The Ministry of a Priest</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pastoral Care ● Faith/Connection with the (Episcopal) Church ● Sacraments</li> <li>● Mission/Social Justice ● Inclusion ● Respect/Dignity</li> <li>● Ministry Discernment ● Study</li> </ul>	
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Accomplishments Over the Next 3 Years</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Accomplishments Over the Next 3 Years</b></p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Expanding Ministries/Mission/Outreach ● Calling/Welcoming a New Rector</li> <li>● Growing Membership ● Enhancing Our Music ● Adding to Our Fellowship</li> <li>● Stewardship/Achieving Fiscal Stability ● Maintaining Continuity/Traditions</li> <li>● Increase Christian Formation/Education Opportunities</li> <li>● Engage Youth During Sermons</li> <li>● Heal the Rifts and Create a Loving Acceptance for All Parishioners</li> </ul>	

## *You are Invited*

*to a*

### **Celebration of Trinity's Future: A Discernment Meeting**

**January 11, 4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.**

**Evensong  
Supper and Dessert**

#### **Tell us what we need for our future!**

Draw on our Baptismal Covenant to answer 3 questions:

Who are we now?

Who is God calling us to be?

What gifts and skills do we need,  
both from ourselves and from clergy leadership, to get there?

**There will be activities for people of all ages with child care available.**

### **Space for Grace**



**9:15 - 10:15**

**Sunday Mornings**

#### **Space for Grace in Advent**

**Advent 2 (Dec. 7):** "Rediscovering the *Book of Common Prayer*, it's history, theology and role in our spiritual formation"

**Advent 3 (Dec. 14):** Continuing in the *Book of Common Prayer*

**Advent 4 (Dec. 21):** Dr. Henry Carse, founder of Kids4Peace, shares his spiritual journey from Hinesburg to Jerusalem.

#### **Space for Grace in Epiphany**

**January 18:** "Horizons of Mission at Trinity"

**February 1, 8 & 15:** continuing "Horizons in Mission"

**The Altar Guild** would like to add a few more members. If you are willing to help between services or after the 10:30 service, please contact **Paulette Hammond** either by phone at 985-4051 or at [phammond679@yahoo.com](mailto:phammond679@yahoo.com).





**The Trinity Flower Guild** is busy making plans for our annual Christmas flowers and decorations and we welcome your donations in Memory of or in Thanksgiving for the loved ones in your lives. Those remembered in this way will be noted in the Christmas Eve Service Bulletins. Checks should be made payable to the **Trinity Flower Guild** and placed into a Holiday Flower donation envelope (in the pews) and placed in the collection plates or delivered to the Trinity Church Office. For further information, please contact **Dorothy Glendinning** at [dorothy@marshotel.com](mailto:dorothy@marshotel.com) or **Paulette Hammond** at [phammond679@yahoo.com](mailto:phammond679@yahoo.com) Thank you!

**Please provide the following information with your check:**

❁ Your name, ❁ Donation amount, ❁ Gift in Thanksgiving for and/or in Memory of (provide names).

**Stewardship Update:**

At the conclusion of the "Bountiful Blessings" Campaign, the Stewardship Committee is grateful to have received 70 pledges totaling \$181,118. The Vestry has begun its work on the 2015 budget. Please help Trinity make a responsible budget by **making your pledge soon**, if you have not done so, already. Thanks!

— **Kim Musante**, for the Stewardship Committee



The **Giving Tree**, one of our annual outreach projects, has been hung in the McClure Room. The tags on the tree (and there are still many) each show a gift for a child or family. Remember, these gifts stay LOCAL and help out local families from Shelburne, Charlotte, Hinesburg and Williston.

Thank you for helping to make this wonderful project so successful year after year.

— **Dorothy & David Glendenning**  
Giving Tree Coordinators

**So, How Does This Work & What do I Have to Do?**

1. Select a tag (or tags)
2. Find the spreadsheet (located next to the tree), match tag/ribbon color to spreadsheet.
3. Match the number on your tag to the same on the spreadsheet.
4. Fill in your name & phone number.
5. Put your tag(s) on your refrigerator door so you'll remember where they are!
5. Buy your gift (ask for a *gift receipt* if you purchase clothing).
6. Wrap the gift & **TAPE THE TAG TO THE FRONT** (remember, it's on your refrigerator).
7. **Return the gift(s) to Trinity by DECEMBER 14 . . .**  
*. . . or they may not reach the recipients in time*





## Salvation Army Dinner

On November 16, **SAM4U youth**, with help from **Lisa Jensen** and **Annick Cooper**, did most of the preparation for the meal served at the Salvation Army the next evening. **Lydia Hill** and I finished what they had started, with help from **Jean Henshaw** and **Missy Sisters**.

On the following evening **Jean Henshaw** helped set up for the meal and **Emily and Will Kallock**, and **Dana and Leo Valentine Sarandos** and a friend of Leo's came to help serve and clean up. 81 people were served and 30 came back for seconds.

A Big THANK YOU to all who helped out!

— Lori Wilson

## United Thank Offering

As UTO coordinators for Trinity Church, we are especially thankful for the story Canon Titus told recently about visiting a school in Africa which had a cornerstone engraved with a message stating the little building was made possible in part by the United Thank Offerings of the Episcopal Church. Unless the school was ancient, Trinity had a tiny part in the existence of that building! Remember our thankful offerings are pooled with those of Episcopalians from around the world to fund the UTO projects. So Canon Presler's story made the UTO REAL!

Now it's time to begin a new thankful season, moving toward the spring Ingathering. The Blue Boxes or envelopes are waiting—whatever your favorite way of sharing your thankfulness may be—please remember the UTO—we may be helping to build another school, or some other wonderful fulfillment of a special need, somewhere in the U.S. or elsewhere in the world. And Thank You.



— Your UTO Coordinators,  
**Betty Ann and Don Lockhart**

## The Trinity Institute 2015: Creating Common Good

On **January 22 - 24, 2015**, St. Paul's Cathedral will present a simulcast of "**Creating Common Good**," a practical conference for economic equality.

As Christians, we care deeply about social justice and know that the church can create change. But on a practical level, how do we take on the pervasive, overwhelming issue of economic inequality? This year's Trinity Institute speakers have real-world experience making change happen. They will provide you with hopeful, practical tools you can use in your community to make a positive economic impact.

Come learn practical ways to help advance God's mission for all to have enough to live with dignity. The conference will explore the theological under-pinnings of economic justice, and offer practice in talking about the issues and working for change.

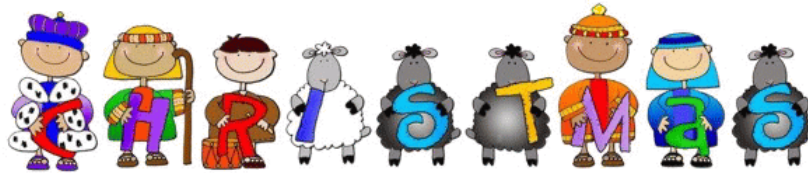
To make this happen at St. Paul's we need people to sign up for the following tasks: ❖ **Doorkeeper** (registration and information, collecting registration fees) ❖ **Hospitality** (snacks and setup/take-down) ❖ **Administrative Support** (printing, tech set up and group organization) ❖ **Small Group Facilitators**

(training provided), ❖ **Publicity** (poster distribution, press releases, social media posting and photography at the event). With the exception of the on-site logistical groups, *it's very likely that no meetings will be required*. Sign-up for these groups will begin this week.

Talk it up! Tell everyone you know who is interested in solving the problems of income inequality and poverty, whether or not they are members of a church. This will be a helpful experience for them and they may find allies they never thought would help them get started.

**Register early.** We'll have a web site and paper registration form available soon. If you'd like more information about this event and the teams listed above, visit the Institutes web-site: [www.trinitywallstreet.org/trinity-institute/2015/home](http://www.trinitywallstreet.org/trinity-institute/2015/home) or e-mail **Veronika Travis** at [vtravis@live.com](mailto:vtravis@live.com) to be added to her list and receive information.





## Christmas Pageant, Tuesday, December 24, 2014 at 4:00pm

We have a casting call out for sheep, shepherds, angels, donkeys, etc., as well as for speaking parts. If you know anyone who would like to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant please contact **Annick Cooper**. We are all very excited and will be practicing after church on **December 7, 14 and 21**.

On December 7th, we will block the play for the speaking parts and learn the songs, the 14th we will get costumes and walk through the play for all participating and on the 21st we will have a full dress rehearsal including costumes.

On **December 24, all participants should be at the church by 3:15**, in order to get dressed and gather together for support and fun! I am sure that it will be a night to remember. If you have any questions, please contact **Annick Cooper** at [acooper@sbschools.net](mailto:acooper@sbschools.net).

(The Pageant goes to the Arbors on January 4th.)



### Music for the Pageant

Any adult or child is interested in singing in a small choir or playing an instrument in the pageant, please contact **Nora Senecal** at [nsenebrecht@earthlink.net](mailto:nsenebrecht@earthlink.net) or at 802-324-0241 or **Anna Brom**. Thanks!

## Join us for Caroling & Fun at 4:00 p.m. on December 14



Join the fun on **Sunday, December 14**, as a group of Trinity parishioners continue the tradition of caroling to some of our neighbors in Shelburne. We will gather in the McClure Room at Trinity at **4:00 p.m.** for a very brief "practice" before heading out for caroling in a nearby neighborhood. Post-caroling festivities will continue back at Trinity with pizza, salad, hot cocoa, gingerbread house decorating, and fellowship. All ages are welcome to join in. No musical or singing experience necessary! This activity has always been such a great tradition and really gets everyone in the true spirit of Christmas! The event is free with donations accepted to cover the night's expenses.

Any **Youth Group member** who attends the caroling event should bring a wrapped present (something they already have at home, maybe something funny or quirky) for the Youth Group's Yankee swap that will take place at the church after caroling.



## The Rev. Sherry Osborn Appointed Interim Rock Point Summer Camp Director

The Rev. Sherry Osborn was one of the priests who served at Trinity after Craig retired and Jane joined us. You may remember her beautiful voice as she sang parts of her sermon.

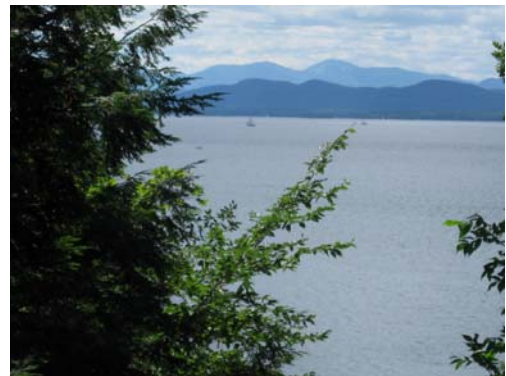
Bishop Ely recently announced that Sherry has been appointed as the 2015 Rock Point Summer Camp (RPSC) Director. "I am delighted to welcome her into this ministry and know that there is a **wonderful summer in store for our campers at Rock Point.**" This is a year-round position that will be full-time in the weeks before, during and after camp and will be part-time the remainder of the year. As RPSC director, Sherry's responsibilities will include developing and overseeing all aspects of the summer camp program.

Sherry grew up in Vermont and, after years of work as Nature Educator Consultant, Camp Director and Education Director for the Adirondack Mountain Club, she was called to ordained ministry. She was ordained an Episcopal priest in 2003, and served nine years in parish ministry in both the Diocese of Massachusetts and the Diocese of Vermont. Sherry holds a bachelor's degree in Therapeutic Recreation from Green Mountain College, a master's degree in Outdoor/Environmental Education from Boston University, a Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School and a Certificate of Anglican Studies from Berkeley Divinity School at Yale.

"I'm thrilled to join the Rock Point Camp community and honored to join in its rich history of tradition and the unfolding of new possibilities," said Sherry. "I love camp! Camp can be a wonderfully supportive community; a place of silliness, challenge, playfulness, exploration, discovery. A place to grow in confidence, connect with the sacred, learn new skills, see old friends and meet new friends. I look forward to meeting parents, families, campers, alumni, and volunteers this winter. I'd really like to hear your favorite camp stories . . . and your dreams for next summer. Let's be in touch!"

Rock Point Summer Camp is held annually at the [Bishop Booth Conference Center, located on the shores of Lake Champlain, Rock Point, Burlington.](#) For more information about the camp, check out the following links: <http://rockpointcenter.wix.com/rockpointcenter#!Summer%20Camp/c1h64>

<http://rpsc.wordpress.com/> (The camp "Blog" with lots of pictures of past events.)



## *O, Come Let Us Adore Him!*



*Join us in celebrating the birth of Our Lord.*

*Wednesday, December 24*

- ✦ *4:00 p.m. ~ Christmas Pageant*
- ✦ *8:00 p.m. ~ Service of Lessons & Carols*

*Thursday, December 25*

- ✦ *9:00 a.m. ~ Christmas Morning Service*

Trinity Episcopal Church  
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If you would like to receive a Full-Color, PDF (via e-mail) version of this newsletter,  
please contact France at [france@trinityshelburne.org](mailto:france@trinityshelburne.org)