



REV. SUZANNE WADE, Priest in Charge
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TRINITY CHAPEL
184 CENTER RD. SHIRLEY, MA 01464
VESTRY MEMBERS
SENIOR WARDEN: Lyn Doran,
JUNIOR WARDEN: Stephanie Hooper
TREASURER: Chester Hooper
ASSISTANT TREASURER: Donna King
CLERK: Bill McKenna, Betty Mahon, Nancy Sawyer,
Marge Halloran, Sherley Thom. Jim Spall,
Nan Gulliver

MAY 2021

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART IS CELEBRATING SPRING

TRINITY CHAPEL YARD SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Stop by and say hello.

We will be selling books, and housewares and other items.



SAVE THE DATE.

**The Annual Trinity Chapel Strawberry Festival is scheduled for
June 26th.**

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

After more than a year of pandemic isolation, I am both delighted and exhausted by emerging opportunities be around people, including church. Preaching an Easter sermon in front of a live congregation was like water on parched soil. It doesn't matter to me that the altar is outside and faces are still covered by masks, just being among you all as we together proclaim the good news of God is a blessing beyond measure.

At the same time, however, the slow return to normal is also stirring up a lot of anxieties that I shelved when the pandemic changed everything. Church attendance was on the decline long coronavirus made large gatherings dangerous, and I wonder whether that will change as things slowly return to normal. If it doesn't, how long can any of our congregations hang on? How can we help a new generation find in the church the spiritual nourishment that has sustained us?

I don't have the answers to those questions, but this week's gospel at least reminds me where to begin. If we are not rooted in Jesus, then nothing we do will bear fruit. Fruitfulness depends on our faithfulness as His disciples, our willingness to abide in him and to invite him to abide in us. It's a demanding calling, asking us to give our whole selves to following where Jesus leads. It's not always where we want to go, and asks us to leave behind a way of life we're comfortable with.

It is also not a calling we undertake alone. As John says, we do it as branches of one vine. None of us can do it all by ourselves, and none of us bears fruit alone. So as we enter into this time of change and discernment, we need to be intentional in connecting with one another and sharing our prayers and our stories. We need to listen to one another and to the people outside our walls that we hope to reach. We need to show up for one another – even if we are doing it masked and distanced, sitting on folding chairs on the lawn.

Beginning May 17, I'll be joining the Monday evening Zoom Bible study to offer a program I call Water Walking 101. Based on Matthew 14: 25-32 and John Ortberg's book *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*, Water Walking 101 invites us to look for God's presence in our midst and discover where God is asking us to go. We will tell our own stories of times when we have walked in faith and confidence and the storms that hold us back. Even if you can't make the discussion group, I invite you to consider reading the book: copies are readily available online from Amazon (which includes new, used or Kindle) or Barnes and Noble.

I look forward to hearing your stories, my fellow branches, as we seek to abide in Jesus and he in us.

Suzanne



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From Nancy Shepherd

Dear Friends of Trinity Chapel

We are all looking forward to a fun day on Saturday, May 1st at the Yard Sale, but we need a few loving helping hands. Here is what you can choose from.

1) Friday afternoon, April 30th at 4:00 pm we need strong and mighty people to help set up tables, chairs and tents. If you're not so strong and mighty, you can help price items.

2) The sale will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday. If you are an early riser, you could help price other items before we open.

3) We will be closing down at 2:00 pm. At that time we will need people to take down.

Of course during the Yard Sale we will encourage all attendees to socially distance and to wear a mask.

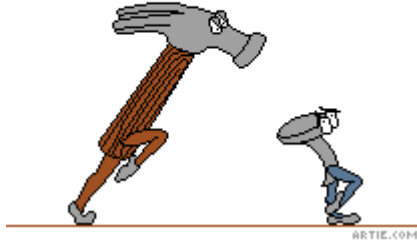
Also, next door at the ***Shirley Historical Museum***, you can purchase a bowl of Meredith's delicious chili.

Many hands make light work and smiley faces.

Capital Campaign News: Donna King reports that we have received a donation of \$1,000. The funds were received through Tithely.

Minutes from Rectory Renovation Gang Meeting,

April 23rd



Present were: Nancy Shepherd; Meredith Marcinkewicz; Karla Leonard; Jean Reed; Chet Hooper; and Stephanie Hooper. Nan Gulliver was absent.

Our first item of business was to review the rectory repair items which we had discussed at our last meeting.

1. Darwin Fajardo has finished repairing the walkway and stone steps at the rectory. Darwin will meet with Stephanie and Chet soon to discuss the railings he is going to install at the two front doors and along the bottom stone steps. After he has finished this project, we will pay him \$7000.00 from the Wexelblat Rectory Fund.
2. Fred Shoemaker hopes to install the gutter over the porch and downspout very soon.
3. We have two estimates for installing $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stone and pitching and grading it in the parking area next to the chapel and in the rectory driveway. Darwin Fajardo 's estimate was \$3,200 and Guthrie Brothers' was \$1,800. We would like to accept Guthrie Brothers' bid and will ask the vestry for its approval.
4. We discussed contacting McKenzie Engineering company again, as we had in 2011, to assess the overall structural safety of the rectory and of improvements that should be made.
5. We asked Meredith to talk to Bret about whether he wanted help from Paul Swider with the window sill repairs that need to be made. Bret had said that he knows how to install window locks.
6. We also asked Meredith to talk to Bret about whether he could build the steps that need to be built outside Marsha's old office at the rectory.
7. Bret had asked whether we could pay \$ 638 to rent a dumpster for seven days from Metrano Removal Service. Bret could then put into the dumpster the rotting wood from the kitchen porch he is planning to tear down and replace. Meredith will contact Bret about more specific details about how he plans to restore the porch. Bret would also like to put into the dumpster the wood , windows and stuff from the old shed in the back he has started to tear down.
8. Meredith will ask Bret what kind of paint he has been using to paint the floors in the kitchen, dining room and Marsha's old study.
9. Bret told Meredith that he can replace the rotten wood parts of the old cross that used to be over the church entry door.
10. Bret has not replaced the door knob for the main door, yet, because he has not found the right door knob. Meredith will go antique shopping and see what she can find. We might ask Bret to take a picture to show exactly what type of knob is needed.
11. Bret and his wife have been having trouble with mice at the rectory, so we will hire an exterminator to go to Shepherd Hall and the rectory and take care of the mice problem.
12. Meredith will tell Bret that at our Rectory meeting every is two weeks. We will expect an accounting of the repairs that Bret has made during the intervening two weeks.

Rectory Minutes Continued

Jean Reed then gave us an update on the progress of the Trinity Chapel Restoration Campaign.

1. There has already been a meeting of the Campaign Committee, followed by a soft campaign opening , informing the parish about the campaign.
2. The next phase will involve Publicizing to people beyond the parish that we are having the campaign. Meredith has written a letter that will be sent to between 100 and 250 people.
3. We will also send a weekly report in the e-blast. We will also mention in the monthly newsletter what we have fixed and what is yet to be fixed.
4. People also mentioned that we will have a yard sale May 1st, as part of the Shirley Town- wide yard sale to help generate more money for Trinity.

A Meditation from Father Richard Rohr—April 29.

Jesus said to his disciples, “In those days, after the tribulation, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light. And the stars will fall from the sky. And the powers in the heavens will be shaken, and they will see ‘the human one coming on the clouds’ with great power and glory. . . . Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” (Mark 13:24–27, 31)

Apart from the book of Revelation, Mark 13, along with parallel Gospel passages, is a primary example of apocalyptic literature in the New Testament. It is Jesus’ way of showing that everything is passing away. If we don’t hold this counterpoint in mind, we do one of two things: we take this world far too seriously, or we try to hold on to everything. We think it’s all going to last, but it isn’t. The 21st century, the United States of America, capitalism, our churches and our political parties, and all the rest are passing away. We might recall the Buddhist heart sutra “Gone, gone, entirely gone” when we watch old movies—even celebrities and stars die. We can take this as a morbid lesson, or we can receive it as the truth ahead of time, so we’re not surprised, disappointed, and angry when it happens in our generation.

The spiritual message is really quite simple, although a very hard one for us to learn. It is saying that nothing is permanent. Apocalyptic literature tells us to be prepared for that, so we won’t be shocked or scandalized when someone dies, or something is destroyed. You might learn this truth the moment after you hear of the death of your mother or father, when the rug is pulled out from beneath you. Or, during that moment when you go to the doctor and get a fatal diagnosis and are told you have three months left to live. Or when your house is destroyed by a tornado or flood in seconds. Apocalyptic literature describes such moments and crises. Again, this message is not meant to be heard as a threat, but as a truth that nothing lasts forever. Our great hope is that there will be something we can grasp onto, something that’s eternal, something that’s God. We want the absoluteness of God, the eternity of God, and we can’t fully find it here.

God puts us in a world of passing things where everything changes and nothing remains the same. The only thing that doesn’t change is change itself. It’s a hard lesson to learn. It helps us appreciate that everything is a gift. We didn’t create it. We don’t deserve it. It will not last, but while we breathe it in, we can enjoy it, and know that it is another moment of God, another moment of life. People who take this moment seriously take every moment seriously, and those are the people who are ready for heaven. If religion isn’t leading us into an eternal now, an eternal moment, an always-true moment, an always-love moment, then we have not lived the moment at all.

Lyn Doran—Newsletter editor
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THOSE IN OUR MILITARY

JONATHAN OAKES, ALEX CORMIER, ANDREW CULLEN, DENNIS HARD, DUNCAN SCHAF, BRANDON HARSCH, TOM STRICKLER

Angie

Ann

Anderson, Ross (Marsha's step -uncle)

Belforte, Virginia (Nan's Sister)

Blackwell, Branden (Donna's grandson)

Bonnacolta, Patricia

Boyd, Jane

Carter, Mickie

Carter, Mikel

Connors, Margaret

Christy, Ann (Sharron)

Currier, Alan (Marsha's friend)

Dean, Susan

Desler, Ray (Sharron)

Donna, (mother of a friend of Mary Ellen's)

Fratoni, Elena (friend of Jean & Carol)

Glazer, Pam (friend of Lyn)

Gole, Bob

Gracey, Ariana (Jean Reed's granddaughter)

Gray, Marilyn (daughter of Fran Gray)

Gray, Martin (son of Fran Gray)

Guadalupe, Mellisa

Gulliver, Nan

Hoff, Chris (cancer friend of Stephanie's)

Hamilton, Katie

Harron, Robin

Holly

India—Covid

Jefferson-Tate, Rene

Landry, Ed

Leonard, Charlie

Lindsey, Jerry

Mattila, Melanie

Mezick, Margaret

Meyer, Maureen

Moss, Willine (Covid)

Naugler, Christopher

Naugler, Cindy

Naugler, James

Panetta Paul (Maureen's brother)

Panetta Mary (Maureen's niece)

Panetta, Maureen

Patton, Bob (Karen's brother-in-law)

Pellerin, Kerry (friend of Amy's who has M.S.)

Pothier, Mark (Sharron and Vince's son)

Phil (friend of Nancy Sawyer)

Reed, Izzy

Reed, Nicki

Richardson, Elaine

Sarah, (grandchild of a friend of Jean's mother)

Schmidt, Keara (chorus member with Maureen)

Sanft, Judy (friend of Karen)

S, Joe

Vita, Marie (friend of Jean and Anita)

Z., Pat

MAY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
T	R	I	N	I	T	Y YARD SALE
2 Holy Eucharist 11:00 AM Coffee Hour 4:00pm	3	4 Shirley Town Election	5 St. Mark's Soup Kitchen Joint Vestry Mtg w/ St. Marks 7:00 PM	6	7	8
9 Happy Mother's Day 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour 4:00 PM	10 No Bible Study	11	12	13	14	15
16 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour 4:00 PM	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour	24 Bible Study Rev. Suzanne	25	26	27	28	29
30 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Coffee Hour 4:00 PM	31 MEMORIAL DAY					