



REV. SUZANNE WADE, Priest in Charge
revsuzannewade@gmail.com
Phone: 508.472.9656
TRINITY CHAPEL
184 CENTER RD. SHIRLEY, MA 01464
VESTRY MEMBERS
SENIOR WARDEN: Lyn Doran,
JUNIOR WARDEN: Stephanie Hooper
TREASURER: Jim Spall
ASSISTANT TREASURER: Donna King
CLERK: Karen Akins, Betty Mahon, Mary Beth
Wade, Marge Halloran, Sherley Thom. Jim Spall,
Nan Gulliver

MARCH 2022

Living Well Through Lent - 2022

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 13 – I Must be on my way (by Bill Miller)

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going – Thomas Merton

Two years ago, I received an unexpected invitation to apply for a very prestigious position in a dynamic American city. My wife and I were not engaged but believed that our futures were intertwined with each other and with God's call. We knew this opportunity would be challenging, grueling work, and not at all in our plans. We were also keenly aware of the adage, "We plan, God laughs." We sensed that God was calling us, we should be open to change. The interview process was exhausting but we poured ourselves into it, spiritually and soulfully, for months. We kept late nights dreaming the possibilities, praying that this "opportunity of a lifetime," were it right for us, would come to pass. Finally, the verdict arrived. I had been chosen! Elated, we hugged our dogs, kissed each other, and toasted the exciting development. Then at last possible moment, the "powers that be" booted me from consideration. We were devastated by a spiritual and physical sucker-punch. It took us months to let go of this vision in which we had invested so much of ourselves.

No long after the crushing blow, while out walking our dogs (a favorite spiritual practice), we suddenly exclaimed together, "Maybe we should move to Round Top, Texas!" We had never imagined living there, but we loved this tiny, charming town set among the rolling hills of Central Texas – especially its lively music, design, art and culinary scene. Joseph Campbell once said about such liminal moments in our lives, *We must let of of the life we have planned, so to accept the one that is waiting for us.* Campbell also said that when one follows one's bliss (or call), doors begin to open where there had been only walls. For Sandy and me, the doors began to fling open wide. A dream property with trees, a pond, birds, wildlife, and an old German farmhouse became available immediately upon our arrival. The Diocese invited us to plant a creative spiritual community call Saint Cecilia's. Musicians, and other creatives began to connect with us then and there. A dream of another complementary ministry, Free Bird Ranch, suddenly started taking shape. This organization would allow us top ursue those things we were most passionate about: retreats, concerts, wellness classes. As we let go of what we thought we had been called to, our true calling began to manifest itself in mystical, magical ways.

Jesus lived his life according to his true calling – a calling forged between him and God. When the religious (Pharisees) and political (Herod) "powers" tried to dictate his movement, he brushed them aside and continued "on MY way". It's not that the way presented no challenges or chaos—Jesus acknowledged both the danger and the fondness he felt about Jerusalem. But he would not let any fox/weasel deter him from discerning his true identity, his deepest vocation. Were there unexpected detours, roadblocks, and obscure sign along his way? Absolutely. But ultimately, he recognized, as do all true seekers, that *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. And blessed is the one who goes in the name of the Lord. Sometimes we may be uncertain whether we are coming or going, but if we are willing to let go of the life we had planned, we will be empowered to embrace the life to which we are called, traveling distances we never dreamed possible.*



TRINITY CHAPEL'S ANNUAL SECRET LENTEN PRAYER PARTNERS

How it works. Prayer partners also mail notes of encouragement to their secret friend.

On Easter, they reveal themselves and give their secret friend a small gift worth \$5 - \$10.

If you want to take part, on March 6, see Nancy Shepherd and give her your name and mailing address on a slip of paper. Everyone will then draw names to see who their secret partner will be. If you want to take part but will not be at church in person on those weeks, call Nancy and ask her to add your name to the basket.

This great Lenten prayerful tradition makes Easter day a fun surprise for everyone who participates.

The Season of Lent

Lent is a time of reflection and prayer in preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday on March 2, when we are reminded of our mortality and of God's response in the resurrection of Jesus. It continues through 40 weekdays and six Sundays, culminating in Palm Sunday on April 10, followed by Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

You are invited to join us in our Lenten journey of deepening faith by participating in one or more Lenten programs. All programs are open to both members and non-members of St. Mark's and Trinity Chapel.

Lent-to-Go Bags: Pick up your free Lent-to-Go bag at Trinity Chapel or St. Mark's as we prepare for a Holy Lent. Each bag includes ashes for self-imposition on Ash Wednesday, a daily Lenten devotional, supplies for trying on a new spiritual practice this Lent, and a schedule of Lent and Holy Week activities at St. Mark's and Trinity Chapel.

Mid Week Eucharist at St. Mark's: Join us on Tuesday March 8, 15, 22, and April 4 at 11:30 a.m for a quiet time of prayer and participation in Holy Eucharist.

Daily Compline: Join Rev. Suzanne as she reads the evening service of Compline Mondays-Fridays via YouTube Livestream, viewable 9 p.m.-midnight at www.st-mark.org.

Introduction to Praying in Color: Sunday, March 6: 12:30 p.m. at Trinity Chapel, 3 p.m. at St. Mark's. *Praying in Color* is the intersection of prayer and doodling. It is a visual, active, meditative, and playful way to pray. Learn the basics of "doodle prayer" in this hour-long in-person introduction, an opportunity to "try on" a new spiritual practice this Lent.

Book of Esther Lenten Bible Study, Mondays at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Meredith Marcinkewicz of Trinity Chapel leads this Lenten Bible study using a study of Esther from *Wisdom for Today's Woman. Although intended for women, Meredith emphasizes that the lessons are appropriate for all, and men are welcome to join!* The 8 chapters include: Choices Have Consequences; Responding Wisely; Pride and Pettiness; Fear or Faith?; Trial are for Growing; God is in Control; Sowing and Reaping; and Shaped by God for a Purpose. The study began on Feb. 14, but newcomers are welcome at any time! Email Meredith for the Zoom link at meredith-marcinkewicz@gmail.com.

Season of Lent Continued

.*What is Truth? An Embodied Lenten Series*, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Register for the Zoom link at www.st-mark.org. *What is Truth?* is a six-part series created to accompany groups during the season of Lent (and beyond). This Lenten series offers an opportunity to deepen spiritually; engage in embodied practices that allow for deeper knowledge of self, God, and others; and build resilience in preparation for conversations about reparations within the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. Each session in the series includes prayer, Scripture or contemporary material for reflection, embodied practices, questions to ponder, and resources to deepen the learning. Embodied practices allow us to shift from a head/mind “knowing” disposition and invite us to center in the wisdom that comes from paying attention to what’s happening in our bodies and spirits. Please allow an hour and a half for each Zoom session.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

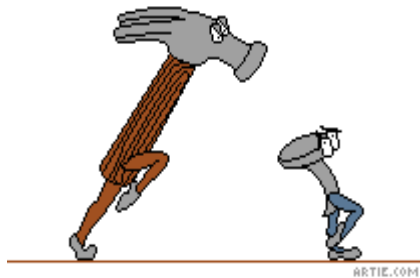
And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

Amen

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES,

February 14, 2022



PRESENT: Nan Gulliver; Nancy Shepherd; Meredith Marcinkewicz; Jean Reed; Lyn Doran; Sharron Pothier; Chet; Stephanie

UPDATE ON BRET AND WORK IN THE RECTORY

1. The dining room and the entrance hall have been painted by Bret at his expense. Bret will next be putting up lights in the kitchen, which he has paid for.
2. Bret has begun putting furniture oil on the pews in the Chapel to help restore them.

UPDATE ON THE CHAPEL AND SHEPHERD HALL

1. The fire extinguishers have all been updated.
2. The electrician, Mike Norton, met with Stephanie and Chet at the Chapel and checked the electrical outlets and the places he thought he would be able to put illuminated Exit signs. He suggested we ask the Shirley Building Inspector to walk through the building and see what he would recommend for placement of exit signs and a possible fire alarm system. Chet and Stephanie volunteered to go through the building with the Building Inspector. Chet will check with the church insurance company to ask how the installation of a simple alarm system would affect the church's insurance premiums. Meanwhile, Mike Norton will go back soon to: upgrade the electrical sockets which need upgrading in the kitchen; fix the wires in the switch at the back of the Chapel; and replace the orange extension cord in the Chapel.
3. The Altar Guild will ask Bret to take out the tall ladder from the granary and put it in the Chapel whenever the Guild needs it there; he will then take it back to be stored in the granary.
4. Sharron reported that Eric Peterson had offered to sand and polish the floors in Shepherd Hall, the Chapel and vestibule in stages, as we have the money to pay for the work.
5. Sharron also reminded us that Eric, who lives across the street from the Chapel, has been shoveling the walkways, voluntarily. Bret continues to sand the walkways and shovel a path from the parking lot to the front walk. We may have to talk in the Spring about making a gravel path from the parking area to the main front walk.

FUND RAISING IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AT THE CHAPEL AND RECTORY:

1. The vestry voted to support a Silent Auction fund raiser this Spring to raise money for painting the rectory and hopefully the Chapel as well.
 - a. Nan agreed to be the chairperson for this fund- raising project.
 - b. Nan will find out more about a fund -raising project at the 110 Restaurant. Presumably 10% of the bill would go to the fund- raising event.
 - c. Meredith will find out more about the Gala Bird on- line auction, which a Leominster theater group is sponsoring.
 - d. The Bull Run restaurant can be approached to give something for the silent auction.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MINUTES continued

- e. Maybe the vestry would agree to designating all or most of the money generated from our usual fund raisers to go for Property repairs.
 - f. Meredith mentioned a painting pictures party as a possible fund raiser.
 - g. We will organize the specific details of our Silent Auction fund raiser at our next Property meeting, Monday, March 7th.
2. The vestry also supported the idea of a Special High Tea, which Sharron said she and her daughter would like to work on for later in the Spring- maybe around Mother's Day. Stephanie agreed to help with this. We would charge \$25.00 a person. We would, however, have to be aware of Covid restrictions.
- a. We need to plan the date for the Tea around other scheduled Spring events. The Town Wide Yard Sale will be held the first Saturday in May. The first Saturday in June will be the Shirley Fest, and the Strawberry Festival will probably be the last Saturday in June.
3. Other Fund-Raising projects which we had mentioned, and the vestry discussed were:
- a. An Old- Fashioned Family Games Day outside in the yard at Trinity, at which we would serve hamburgers and hot dogs. This event might also help to attract young families to Trinity Chapel. We could update our Trinity Chapel pamphlet to hand out to participants at this event, who were interested.
 - b. A Musical Event, featuring Emily Faucher, Sherley Thom and other parish musicians would also be a fund-raising opportunity.
4. Chet reminded us that there is about \$10,000.00 in the Restoration Fund. The rectory painting will cost \$13,000.00, but we already have had \$2000.00 donated for this project, which means we need to raise \$11,000.00 more. We will also get a quote to paint the outside of the chapel, which also should be done this year to help preserve it.

NEED TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE TO TRINITY CHAPEL.

We all agreed that we need to increase the number of Trinity Chapel communicants. Maybe fund -raising community events might help attract more people? Maybe we could use the Town Hall for some of our fund-raising events?

THE NEXT PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 9 AM.

Respectively submitted,

Stephanie Hooper



The Rectory NEEDS to be painted.

The estimate is \$13,000 and we have already received a \$2,000 donation.

We only NEED \$11,000 more.

We NEED people to take charge of the fundraising campaign.

We NEED people with good fundraising ideas.

We NEED people to run events that will earn money from the general community, not just from Chapel members.

It could even work if different people took charge of different community events or projects. Unless someone is willing and able, it does not NEED to be just one person doing everything.

If you are interested in being one of many people who are working to raise money to paint the rectory, contact Stephanie.

A NOTE FROM OUR TRESURER

“ We are paying our bills.”



Some Reminders

Lura White School Snacks Collection: Trinity Chapel is once again collecting nutritious snacks for students at the Lura White School in Shirley for in-school and take-home weekend brown bags. Donations granola bars, cheese crackers, 100 % juice boxes, boxes of raisins, snack packs of 100% fruit and similar nutritious snacks (not nuts or peanut butter, please!) can be left in the basket at the entranceway at Trinity. St. Mark's parishioners who would like to participate in this program may drop off their donations in the office on Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday mornings and Rev. Suzanne will deliver them to Trinity.

Loaves & Fishes Soup Collection: Trinity continues to collect donations of hearty soups for the Loaves & Fishes food pantry. Collection basket can be found in the foyer.

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen Salad: Trinity parishioners supply the ingredients for salad when our collaboration partners at St. Mark's serve the meal at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen in Lowell. The next meal is **Wednesday**, If you would like to be added to the online sign up, please email Rev. Suzanne at revsuzanne@trinitychapel.com.

From Suzanne



NANCY SAWYER
DAVE THOM
DONNA KING



JEAN REED





Betty Mahon

Nan Gulliver

Sharron Pothier



From Nancy Shepherd: I have recently read a great book by John Philip Newell which I thought some of you might enjoy. I can even lend you a copy. The first chapter begins: The first thing that is said about humanity in the Hebrew scriptures is that we are made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26). Or, as Julian of Norwich puts it, we are "of God". We are made of the Light that was in the beginning. We are made of the Wisdom that fashioned the universe in the glory of interrelatedness. We are made of the Love that longs for oneness. This is not to deny our capacity for falseness. It is simply to say that deeper still is our of-Godness. What would it look like for these true depths to come forth again? A primary feature of such rebirthing is the desire to move back into relationship with everything else that is of God.

Each chapter of Newell's book contains thoughts by such people as Mary Oliver, Thomas Merton, Carl Jung. This first chapter is called, "Reconnecting with the Earth". I hope some of you will give it a try. Happy Lent



THOSE IN OUR MILITARY

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

Angie

Ann

Anderson, Ross

Aunt Laura

Begg, Theresa & Family

Blood, David

Bonomi, Betty

Bonnacolta, Patricia

Boyd, Jane

Carter, Mickie

Carter, Mikel

Charity

Christy, Ann

Conners, Margaret

Craft, Ruth

Paula & Chris D.

Daley, Helen

Dean, Susan

Fallon, Art

Fratoni, Elena

Desler, Ray (Sharron)

Glazer, Pam (cancer)

Gracey, Ariana (Jean Reed's granddaughter)

Gray, Marilyn (daughter of Fran Gray)

Gray, Martin (son of Fran Gray)

Guadalupe, Mellisa

Halloran, Mike and Marge

Hoff, Chris

Holly

Jefferson-Tate, Rene

Leonard, Charlie & Jim, Karla

Mahon, Betty

Mattila, Melanie

McKenna, Bill

Mezick, Margaret

Meyer, Maureen

Moss, Willine

Nick and Terri, Mary

Panetta Paul (Maureen's brother)

Panetta Mary (Maureen's niece)

Panetta, Maureen (recovering from surgery)

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

Pothier, Mark (Sharron and Vince's son)

Phil (friend of Nancy Sawyer)

Ray and Marge

Richardson, Elaine

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

Sadie, Sarah

Sawyer, Nancy

Schmidt, Keara (chorus member with Maureen)

Sanft, Judy (friend of Karen)

Sheen, Trisha

Shirley's Father, Brother and Family

Slezak, Polly

Spaeth, Ellee (died)

Sullivan, Paul (Karen's cousin's son)

Sutton, Joe S

Wales, Edith (Lyn's cousin)

Wynn, Anderson

Zevos, John

MARCH 2022

COFFEE HOUR IS RENEWED!!!

	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Feb 27	Feb 28	1	2 St. Mark's Soup Kitchen- Trinity Salad- Donations <hr/> Ash Wednes- day Service	3	4	5
6 Marge A.G 10:15 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist	7 PROPERTY COMMITTEE 9 AM	8 Lenten Midweek Eucharist 11:30 St.Mark's	9 <u>What is Truth</u> <u>Lenten Study</u> <u>Lead by</u> <u>Suzanne 7pm</u>	10	11	12 SPRING FOR- WARD YOUR CLOCKS
13 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Nan A.G. VESTERY 2:00 pm	14 Book of Esther 7:30 PM	15 Lenten Midweek Eucharist 11:30 St.Mark's	16 THEOLOGY AT THE TAVERN <u>What is Truth</u> <u>Lenten Study</u> <u>Lead by</u> <u>Suzanne 7pm</u>	17	18	19
20 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Sharron/Lyn AG	21 Book of Esther 7:30 PM	22 Lenten Midweek Eucharist 11:30 St.Mark's	23 <u>What is Truth</u> <u>Lenten Study</u> <u>Lead by</u> <u>Suzanne 7pm</u>	24	25	26
27 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Lyn—AG	28 Book of Esther 7:30 PM	29	30 <u>What is Truth</u> <u>Lenten Study</u> <u>Lead by</u> <u>Suzanne 7pm</u>	31	Apr 1	2