

March

The Pastoral Perspective

TriCon Church, you are a bunch of very adaptable people!

Sunday, February 14 did not have a lot going for it church-wise. It was Valentines Day, a holiday and school vacation weekend, Church School was not in session, we were not worshipping in our lovely sanctuary, and it was 8° below zero! But you showed up! Almost every chair we had set up in the Parish Hall was filled.

So many people are working together to make the move from the sanctuary work. We were impressed by all the big jobs that came into play when we made 51 Walden into a sanctuary – sound and light crews, furniture movers, design coordinators, super-greeters, a band. It was a huge undertaking and will be every time we worship across the street.

But being in the Parish Hall requires the same attention to detail on a slightly smaller scale. February 14th was an example. The C.E. Committee came through with charming kits that held cut-out hearts, lace, markers, and stickers – everything a child would need to make valentines. The kids kept busy creating cards and, at the end of the service, we collected those masterpieces so they could be sent to the home-bound. Vickie Wagner and a women's trio provided music that was perfect for the intimate space. The deacons, ushers, hospitality folks stepped into their tasks with good cheer. We smelled the coffee brewing during the service and the transition to refreshment time was just a few easy steps to the side. It was a good day!

It's encouraging to see how supportive everyone has been amid this change. Church vitality specialists have a saying: *What are the three things that prevent a church from thriving?*
Fear of change, fear of change, and fear of change.

In the United States, we are now in an era when churches can no longer assume our membership will grow. People do not come to church because it's the thing to do. We cannot count on the fact that the way we've always done it will be effective. God is calling us to greater outreach, to finding ways to take our faith to the neighborhood rather than assuming people will come to us.

Could this liminal time here at TriCon be a little test of our ability to adapt? To find grace in less than ideal circumstances. To realize that we can be the church in new ways; to know that what counts is our love for God and one another and our purpose as the body of Christ. To claim again that being the church is not a static condition but a constant journey on the Way of Jesus.

In anticipation of Easter, I offer this passage from the Lutheran Book of Worship:

*The Church of Christ, in every age
Beset by change, but Spirit-led,
Must claim and test its heritage
And keep on rising from the dead.*

Blessed be,
Judy Brain

MARCH WORSHIP

EXODUS 2016

During March we will hold all of our morning worship services - including two services on Easter Sunday, March 27 - at 51 Walden Street.

- March 6** **Service at 10:00** Rev. Judith Brain preaching at 51 Walden Street
Choral anthems by Mark Schweizer and Carson Cooman
- First Sunday Service at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall**
- March 13** **Service at 10:00** Rev. Judith Brain preaching at 51 Walden Street
Choral anthems with handbell accompaniment.
- March 20** **Service at 10:00** Rev. Judith Brain preaching at 51 Walden Street
PALM SUNDAY Excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, featuring tenor Matthew DiBattista
- March 27** **Services at 9:00 and 11:00**
Rev. Judith Brain preaching at 51 Walden Street
Baritone Robert Honeysucker and The Choir sing Easter spirituals.
Trumpeter Gregory Hopkins will add a festive flair to the hymns.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 8:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service
Choral responses from the Taizé Community

Good Friday Service, March 25 at noon in the Parish Hall
Music for piano and oboe.

EASTER SUNDAY, March 27

Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m. at the North Bridge
A continental breakfast will be served at the church following this service.

Traditional Easter Services
9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Judith Brain and Rev. Robert Brown officiating
The Choir, soloist Robert Honeysucker, trumpeter Greg Hopkins

Childcare for preschool children;
Older children are invited to attend worship with their families.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



WELCOME TO TRICON!

Whether you are just visiting, looking to find a church home or still feeling your way after several visits, we encourage you to pick up brochures and other information in the parish hall, and to stay for refreshments in the parish hall following the service.

You are welcome to participate in any of our church programs and activities and to sign your children up for Church School or youth programs. For more information, contact Christian Education Director, Carrie O'Brien or Youth Leader, Nick Bruning. Call the church office if you have any questions.

Exploring Membership

An informal gathering with clergy and the Membership Committee for those interested in learning more about TriCon and about membership

**Sunday, March 6 -- 11:30 a.m. - brunch
In the Gathering Room in the Church School wing**

Please call the church office, 978 369-4837, if you would like to participate.

New Members will join the church on Sunday, March 20.

ATTENTION MEN OF THE CHURCH Join the Anchor Group

The Anchor Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 a.m. in the church parlor. The Anchor Group is a group for men of all ages who discuss and share issues of religion and spirituality in light of contemporary culture. Any questions, email Greg Howes at howes2012@gmail.com.

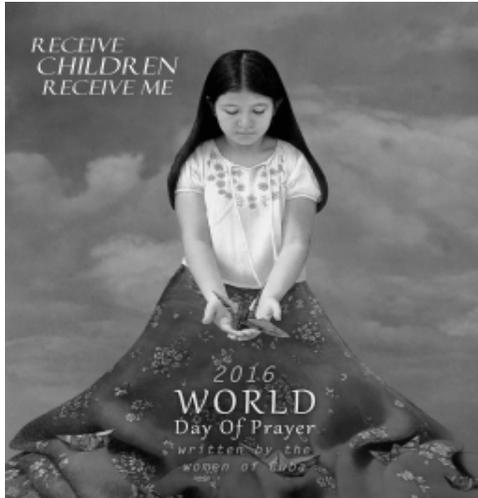
The deadline for the
March Newsletter
is April 15.

CAREGIVERS GROUP

The TriCon Caregivers Group is an opportunity for parishioners and friends in caregiving roles to come together to share accomplishments and failures, joys and sorrows, laughter and hope, as well as information about caring for others and ourselves.

If the role of caregiver is part of your life, please consider joining the TriCon Caregivers Group. **We will meet on Wednesdays, March 2, 16, and 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor.** Call the church office (978 369-4837) for more information.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



FRIDAY, MARCH 4
11:00 A.M.

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CONCORD**

AN INTERFAITH SERVICE
followed by a light luncheon

Receive Children Receive Me
Written by the women of Cuba

Each year this worldwide service focuses on a different culture and a specific theme. Through music, stories and prayer, this year's ecumenical observance is designed to create an understanding of the concerns and needs of the women and children of Cuba, to feel in solidarity with them. *Receive Children Receive Me*, was written by Christian women in Cuba.

Since its North American origins in the late 19th Century, World Day of Prayer has grown to be observed in 170 countries. Its early emphasis on prayer has led to today's annual worldwide celebration, which also promotes justice and equality for women.

This year's World Day of Prayer will be held at **Trinity Episcopal Church**. Please contact the Trinity Church office 978-369-3715 for more information.

GOSPEL OF LUKE BIBLE STUDY

**Sundays through March - 8:45 a.m.
in the church parlor**

What does the Gospel of Luke tell us about Jesus' Baptism, Ministry, Passion and Resurrection? What do we know about the world in which Luke was written? How does Luke inform our understanding about Jesus? We will explore these topics along with Jesus' empathy for the outcast and what he teaches us about prayer and forgiveness.

Facilitated by Seminarian, Nancy Haynes, sessions are designed to stand-alone and no prior knowledge of the topic is necessary. Everyone is welcome. Your presence will enrich the discussion.

It will be helpful to know how many plan to attend so please contact Nancy at nebhaynes@yahoo.com or 978-369-3829.

RETIRED MEN'S GROUP

The Retired Men's Group will meet for lunch on Thursday, March 10 at noon. The speaker will be Kerry Cronin, Archivist, who will talk about recent changes at the Concord Library.

Come and bring a friend for good food, good fellowship and an interesting program. If you have not attended these luncheons before and would like to attend on March 10, please call Robert Nelson (978 369-3105) or Charles Davis (978 369-6250) by March 7. The cost of the lunch is \$10.00.

*Spring
Forward*

Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 13



Knitwits

**JOIN US IN THE PARLOR
Wednesday, March 16 AT NOON!**

The Knitting Group meets in the church parlor once a month. Everyone from beginner to expert is welcome. Bring your own project or work on one of ours'. You need not come every month but can join in when it is convenient for you. You may also choose to work on projects at home. Prayer shawls may be left at the church any time.

Happy
SPRING!

Sunday, March 20

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We will be celebrating the sacrament of Baptism during the worship service on April 24th. If you are interested, please contact the church office by April 8th.



OPEN TABLE MARCH Kid's Bags

For March, we are collecting items for Open Table that we will assemble into "Kid Bags" at our Day of Service on April 3rd. A complete "Kid Bag" would have the following single serve items:

- 100% juice box
- Apple sauce, fruit cup or pudding
- Mac n' cheese, spaghettiOs or soup
- Cheese or peanut butter crackers
- Nuts, raisins or pretzels
- Granola bar
- Small bag of cookies

Everyone is not asked to bring every item - for example, you could bring six packs of juice or boxes of granola bars or six packs of fruit; packages of single serve cookie or pretzel packets, single serve soups or mac'n cheeses, etc. - as long as everything can be separated into a single serve packet.

We will divide the packages and pack the individual bags - hope to have enough items to fill 40 bags.
Thank you!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

PASTORAL VISITS

Please notify the church office at 978 369-4837 of any pastoral care situations or hospitalizations (be sure to give us your room number if you do call). Anyone entering a hospital who desires pastoral care and has not notified the church office must indicate a "congregational affiliation" as part of their hospital admission intake interview if they would like a pastoral visit.

SNOW POLICY

When the Concord Public Schools or the Concord-Carlisle Adult Education classes are canceled, so are our events, classes, meetings. If there is a question, call the chairman or convener. While we hope never to have to cancel a worship service, in the event of severe weather:



1. call the church answering machine,
 2. check Facebook/Twitter,
 3. check the TriCon website,
 4. watch Channel 4 for the latest information.
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SERMONS ON LINE

You can HEAR SERMONS
on line by going to

www.triconchurch.org

OR

Facebook.com and search
Trinitarian Congregational Church

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Cherry colored OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2016 are now available in the parish hall. Please take as many or as few as you need. If you use cash, kindly put your name on the envelope.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday service in 2016, you may sign up on the flower chart in the parish hall.

THANK YOU

The many organizations our congregation supports through our Mission donations often send us thank you letters. Below are two.

On behalf of the board, staff, and youth participants of The Food Project, I thank you for Trinitarian Congregational Church's generous grant of \$2,000...Your continued commitment to The Food Project is deeply appreciated. This grant will help support the youth of next summer's Seed Crew cohort...

*Best wishes,
James Harrison
Executive Director*

Please extend our heartfelt gratitude for the generous gift of \$10,000 we received this week from TriCon Church...Your generous contribution will help make it possible for City Mission to continue to bring dignity, hope and opportunity to individuals and families in our community who are striving to envision and to build brighter and more secure futures...

*Sincerely,
Reverend June R. Cooper
Executive Director*

ON-LINE GIVING AVAILABLE AT TRICON

We are able to accept on-line donations and payments via our website – **Triconchurch.org**. On the homepage, you will see “Click here to make donations and pledge payments”. You will have the option of transferring funds from your bank account or using a credit card. You can make a one-time payment or set up recurring ones.

If you have any questions, please call or email Judy or Amy at the church office:
(jwalpole@triconchurch.org or
abruning@triconchurch.org).

PAYING ON-LINE? DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

If you have chosen the option of paying a pledge by a weekly or monthly electronic transfer or credit card payment thru our website, please be sure that you have updated the information so that your donation continues in 2016.

TRICON'S QR CODE

This QR code automatically opens a special webpage on mobile devices (phones, iPads, etc.) that's designed for smaller screens. You can scan the code with your phone to make the process of giving to the church that much simpler.



LIFE CHANGES



Best wishes to Katherine (Wayland) and Luis Rodriguez on the February 16th birth of Brennan Matthew. Happy grandparents are Carole and Bob Wayland.

WITH SYMPATHY



Our thoughts and prayers are with Chuck Stevenson and his family. Chuck's brother, John Stevenson of Lincoln, died on January 10.

We pray for Alyce Nelson and her family. Alyce's mother, Bertha Dahl, died on January 23. A service was held in CA.

Sincere sympathy to the family of our member, Louise Klemmer, who died on January 25. A service was held at the Duval Chapel at New England Deaconess on February 6.

Heartfelt sympathy to Jim and Linda Crawford and their family. Their son, Benjamin, died on February 3. A memorial service will be held in VA on March 5.

Sincere condolences to Sue and Bill Stumpf and their family. Sue's mother, Muriel Virginia Curll, died on February 18. A service was held in Northborough on February 23.



A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Katrina Judicke, a senior at CCHS and a member of our Youth Group gave the following Call to Stewardship at a recent service.

For the first fourteen years of my life, my world was a bubble with a diameter about two miles long. It stretched from Carlisle center to the preschool I attended when I was two. All the important events in my life had taken place in this circle, and in my opinion, this circle was perfect. It had all I could ever need - friends, family, Kimball's ice cream. What more could any kid ask for.

During this time, I felt little connection to God. My world was small. The question of the existence of God was too big: God was worldly, universal, massive. How could I possibly understand something so much larger than myself. The idea was too immense, too uncomfortable, so I ignored it. For the first fourteen years of my life, I was happy keeping God and religion out of the picture.

It was for this reason that I didn't want to go on the Kentucky Mission Trip as a freshman. I was scared to think about God, scared to deal with the discomfort and uncertainty that comes with pondering such a vast question. At the urging of my parents, I decided I would go anyways thinking that I would hate it and then be able to remind my parents whenever they wanted me to do the dishes of the time when they sent their poor daughter on that miserable trip to rural Appalachia.

No one was more surprised than me when I realized the day after coming home that I wanted to go back. On the trip I met many types of people I had never met before. I saw homes and communities I will probably never see again. I made friends with a little girl named Jalen. I laughed until I cried at bad puns and I rode a tricycle down a hill in a thunderstorm.

Sitting at my kitchen table the morning after we arrived home, I realized I had stumbled on something special. There is an extraordinary character to the Mission Trips that's hard to define. They are a blend of the most difficult experiences and the most joyous moments. Trust me - between Kentucky, New Mexico, and Jamaica, I can think of many really, really difficult moments.

But these trips have a quality of something larger than yourself, something worthwhile and intangible. I haven't found anything like it anywhere else. This community embodies togetherness, love and connection while still encouraging each individual in their journey to develop themselves and their personal faith. And if that's not the will of God, then I don't know what is. I can't think of anything better.



YOUTH GROUP
Sundays, March 6, 13 and 20 -- 7:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Discussion Group meets in the Youth Room on the lower level every Wednesday. If you're new, come tell us what's on your mind. If you've been to Discussion Group before, come bring your opinions, and let yourself be heard. You are not alone.



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Sunday, March 6 – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. ***First Sunday Service*** Confirmands & Mentors
We will join the First Sunday Service. Dinner will be served following.

Sunday, March 20 – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. ***Forgiveness*** Confirmands & Mentors
Read: *Words for the Journey*
Chapter 7, Sin
Chapter 8, Grace

Thursday, March 24 – 8:00 p.m. ***Maundy Thursday*** Confirmands & Mentors
Confirmands and Mentors attend the *Maundy Thursday service of worship*.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS**Church School Newsletter Now On-Line**

Our monthly Church School newsletter is now available on-line! Church School families, and any other interested TriCon members, will receive our newsletter via MailChimp, our new on-line email provider. In addition to important detailed program and event information, this version of our newsletter will also include Carrie's Comments, photos and links to click that will directly connect you to family resources, Class Liaisons and other program volunteer staff, and our TriCon website. Only our Church School calendar and special announcements will be included in the monthly TriCon newsletter.

All registered 2015 - 2016 families are already on our on-line email distribution list.

If you are new and would like information about our Church School program, please contact Church School Director, Carrie O'Brien, at cobrien@triconchurch.org. You may also visit our church website at www.triconchurch.org.

CHURCH SCHOOL MARCH CALENDAR

Church School takes place during the 10:00AM Sunday service.

Parents drop off Pre-K through 8th Graders in the TriCon Parish Hall between 9:50 and 10:00AM before heading across the street to 51 Walden.

Nursery age children go directly to the nursery at the beginning of the morning.

Sunday, March 6

10:00AM

Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. followed by Church School
Worship Service Location: 51 Walden Street

Friday, March 11 - Sunday, March 13

SEEKERS Mission Trip to Portland, ME

Sunday, March 13

10:00AM

Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. followed by Church School
Worship Service Location: 51 Walden Street

Sunday, March 20

10:00AM

Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall at 10:00 a.m. followed by Church School
Worship Service Location: 51 Walden Street

Sunday, March 27 Easter Sunday

9:00AM and 11:00AM - Easter Sunday Worship

Easter Egg Hunt following 9:00AM worship

Worship Service Location: 51 Walden Street

To sign up to receive the Church School newsletter, please contact Carrie O'Brien at cobrien@triconchurch.org or call the church office.

Easter Flowers



EASTER FLOWERS

Please fill out the form below and return it to the church by Monday, March 21.

Members of our church family are invited to contribute to The Flower Fund to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The Flower Fund makes it possible to provide cheerful bouquets and plants several times during the year, delivered, along with a friendly visit by a member of The Caring Connection, to those in need. In addition, The Flower Fund provides transportation, as well as a few very important and appreciated “extras” for our elders. You may want to remember or honor a friend, family member or a special blessing in your life, while helping to make a difference in the lives of others. All donors will be listed in the bulletin on Easter.

I/We wish to contribute \$ _____ to The Flower Fund. Please list our contribution as follows:

Given by _____

In memory of _____

or

In celebration of _____



Homes for Low-Income Families... *do we care enough?*

Sunday, March 13, 2016,
Forum Talks: 2:30-4:30 PM

Meet homelessness and housing organizations leaders:
1:45 to 2:30 PM

Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St. Concord

Twelfth Annual Forum on Family Homelessness
Sponsors: The Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness
& Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries.

Co-sponsors: Episcopal City Mission, Citizens Housing &
Planning Association (CHAPA), Mass Coalition for the
Homeless, and the UU Mass Action Network

· Over 200,000 families in Massachusetts are at risk of homelessness, spending more than 50% of household income on housing. Why? Not enough housing units are available and wages have not kept pace with housing costs.

· A family of three, with an income of 30% of the area median income, can afford to pay \$636 a month on housing. A fair-market two-bedroom apartment in Metro-Boston is \$1,454 a month.



Chrystal Kornegay, Undersecretary,
Department of Housing & Community
Development

Deborah Goddard, Former Managing
Director,
Policy & Program Development,
Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency



Speakers

Program

- **FAMILY HOMELESSNESS 2016.** Remarks by Chrystal Kornegay on the critical need for more low-income housing and the Governor's 2017 budget.
- **LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING.** Remarks by State Senator James Eldridge highlighting legislation for Housing Production with a focus on Multifamily Housing.
- **COMMUNITY ISSUES WITH LOW-INCOME HOUSING.** Remarks by Deborah Goddard on Multifamily Housing and Community acceptance.
- **OUR ADVOCACY CAN HELP HOUSE HOMELESS FAMILIES.** Remarks by Citizens Housing & Planning Assoc, Mass Coalition for the Homeless, and The Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness.

Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.
For more information visit www.endfamilyhomelessness.net.

SEE our website www.triconchurch.org, LIKE us on Facebook (triconchurch) and FOLLOW us on Twitter (@TriConChurch)

CARING CONNECTION VOLUNTEERS

A **SMALL** amount of your time can make a **BIG** difference to someone else!



There are so many ways you can help the Caring Connection care for our church community

- Helping to host a memorial reception following a service
- Visiting someone in a nursing home, assisted living or confined to their own home
- Cooking meals in our church kitchen to be stocked in the freezer when needs arise
- Cooking a meal at your home for a parishioner in need
- Driving a fellow church member to church or a doctor's appointment

The commitment is flexible. We will contact you when a need arises and if it fits your schedule, great, but if not, there is no obligation -we'll try you another time.

If YOU can help, fill out the following form and leave it in the church office or the collection plate. Or contact Kathy Flynn (978-369-6934) jk.flynn@verizon.net or Cynthia LaMothe (978-369-9676) clamothe@verizon.net

Name

Phone # and Email

-
- Help with memorial receptions
 - Visit someone
 - Cook in the church kitchen
 - Cook at home
 - Drive someone

Thank you!



**THIRD ANNUAL
TriCon Celebration of Service
Sunday, April 3, 2015**

**the Social Action Committee is organizing a
Day of Service**

Following a brief worship service, which will include Communion, parishioners of all ages will be asked to devote some time to a service project. There will be options for all ages and abilities -some out in the community and some right here at church.

Activities will include yard work, baking for Seafarer's Friends, letter writing to soldiers and cards for prisoners, decorating and assembling kids' bags for Open Table, making table decorations for nursing homes and more. Watch the weekly bulletin and website for more information. A sign-up will be on the website soon.



At noon, all are invited to assemble back at the church to enjoy a light lunch and share information about their projects.

COMMUNITY EVENT

CCHS Parents Association Presents

Julie Lythcott-Haims

Wednesday, March 16 - 7:00 p.m.

The author of "How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success," she will share her insight into the ways in which overparenting impacts children, parents, and society at large, while providing practical strategies for those who wish to ensure that the next generation can take charge of their own lives with competence and confidence. Register at cchspa-JLH. Email events @cchspa.org for more information.



Exodus 2016 is going very well – all have been *patient, flexible and cheerful* and it's even been fun! – Thank you!

All services at 10 except for Easter Sunday

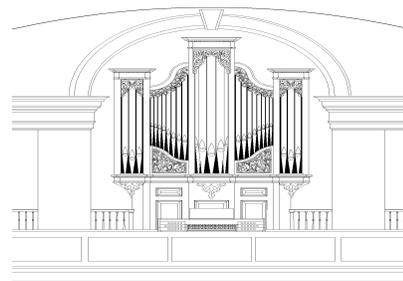
Mar 6	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
Mar 13	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
Mar 20	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
Mar 27	51 Walden- Easter Sunday Two services at 9 and 11
April 3	Parish hall
April 10	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
April 17	Parish hall
April 24	Parish hall
May 1	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
May 8	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
May 15	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
May 22	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
May 29	Parish hall
June 5	51 Walden; *Children's Chapel
June 12	Parish hall
June 19	Parish hall
June 26	Parish hall

*Children's Chapel – on the Sundays when the service is at 51 Walden, parents should drop their children off at the church before the service where there will be a special children's chapel worship service before they proceed to their church school classes.

Our Song Shall Rise to Thee *Noack, Opus 159*

Organ and Construction Update

Organ: Work continues on our organ at the organ builder's shop. Check out our website for photos or if you are interested in seeing first-hand our TriCon organ under construction, join a field trip to the Georgetown, MA, Noack workshop on Thursday morning, March 31. Sign up in the Parish Hall or call the church office. Space is limited so reserve early.



On Sunday, March 13th, following the worship service, our organ builder, Didier Grassin will be in the church parlor for a fireside chat to share information on the process of crafting the organ, to give an update on the progress and to answer questions.

There will also be a May 21st Open House at Noack when the organ will be complete and on display ready to be introduced to the congregation before it is bought to Concord for installation following Memorial Day.

Construction: Meanwhile the construction is proceeding on schedule. As with all such projects in an existing, almost 100 year old building, there have been a few surprises and glitches to be worked out but nothing insurmountable. Our contractor, CE Floyd and our architects, Mangel Inc. have been able to adjust and make accommodations as needed with no loss of momentum.

We were extremely pleased to learn that the area in the basement, where ledge was suspected, turned out to be ledge-free. Those findings allowed us to extend the elevator so that it could go down to the basement level. This will give us an easy way for those in the choir loft or narthex to access the lower level restrooms without having to walk down the side aisle in the sanctuary. It will also be useful for transporting things to the choir loft area and improve circulation to and from the sanctuary for many purposes.

We will have photos of the construction, which at this point, looks more like de-construction, on our website in the next few weeks. Check it out.

Funding: We have pledge and gifts totaling \$1,336,000 of the \$1,650,000 needed to complete the project. Fund-raising efforts continue -watch for more in the coming weeks. Meanwhile if you have not pledged or given, please consider doing so.

We will be arranging a line of credit to pay the bills that are now coming due. If you have a pledge that you can pay this spring that will reduce borrowing costs.