



## The Pastoral Perspective

As summer winds down and fall gears up, I have been searching for Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head. From pieces initially distributed as premiums in cereal boxes, to being the first toy with a dedicated TV commercial, to appearing in recent motion pictures and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Mr. Potato Head, who debuted in 1952, has remained a classic across generations as one of the "all-time 100 greatest toys." Sadly, however, the Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head for which I am futilely searching is missing, among other pieces, the "spud" part!

I have recently discovered on my daily ten-mile bicycle ride along a mile section of Route 62, both east and west, scattered pieces of Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head. A pink purse suggests the latter. Here there is an ear and there a mouth, eyes on one side and a foot on the other, surely other unseen pieces lost in the grass bordering the road. For all the parts, however, no Potato Head is to be found. A rather sad state.

In thinking about this, it struck me that herein, perhaps, was a metaphor for today's all-too-busy, stressed out, and overextended people --- with scattered parts of our lives littering the highways and byways of our hectic daily life but lacking the core organizing soul, unifying principle, or enlivening spirit which unites them all in a meaningful whole.

The prophet, Ezekiel, speaking to a displaced if not despairing people in exile centuries ago (593-563 B.C.), articulated in the Hebrew Scriptures a classic vision of the "valley of dry bones." The vision (Ezekiel 37:1-14) was directed to the exiles ("the bones") who had no more hope of resuscitating a defeated, disaffected, devastated, and scattered Israel than of putting flesh on a skeleton and calling it to life. And, yet, in Ezekiel's vision, by Divine initiative, the very spirit or breath of God breathes new life into a scattered people, unites them, enlivens them, and reestablishes or "resurrects" the body politic to new life.

The image of a life-giving spirit bringing together the scattered parts of our fragmented lives and connecting them to a greater, life-giving whole speaks to me of the community of faith. The Church remains the critical place where hope is offered, meaning is given, and life is reestablished, reconstituted, reconstructed, and restored if not "resurrected" at the broken places and dead ends. Here is where worship is not only important but central to our well-being, where fellowship proves not only strengthening and encouraging but energizing and healing, and where mission or outreach are not only self-emptying for the common good but, curiously and paradoxically, deeply, if not transformatively, fulfilling. And what was once scattered, fractured, and disjointed, becomes whole, alive, and hope-filled once again.

Grace and peace,

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

**September 6  
Communion**

**Service at 10:00** Rev. Dr. John Lombard preaching

**September 13**

**Service at 10:00** Rev. Dr. John Lombard preaching

**Music:** " **Sunday-only**" Choir (Youth & Adults)

Join us at **9:00 a.m.** to learn an anthem for this service.

**September 20**

**Service at 10:00** Chan Kim Leng (aka 'Elephant')

We look forward to welcoming Chan Kim Leng, in-country Executive Director of the Sharing Foundation in Cambodia, as our guest preacher.

**Music:** " **OMG**" Choir (ALL ages). The "Occasional Multi-Generational"

Choir meets at **9:00 a.m.** to learn a fun song for ALL vocal ranges and abilities. Even pre-K singers can join us at **9:30 a.m.** and participate with hands and voices.

**September 27**

**Service at 10:00** Rev. Robert Brown preaching

**Music:** **Senior Choir** (Youth & Adults).



### Sunday, September 13th

The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to a delicious brunch following the 10:00 a.m. worship service and beginning of the Church School year.

Enjoy quiche, fruit, pastry, punch, cake and coffee.

Welcome new worshippers and  
welcome back those who have been away!

If you know of a friend or neighbor searching for a church, invite them to come and get to know us!



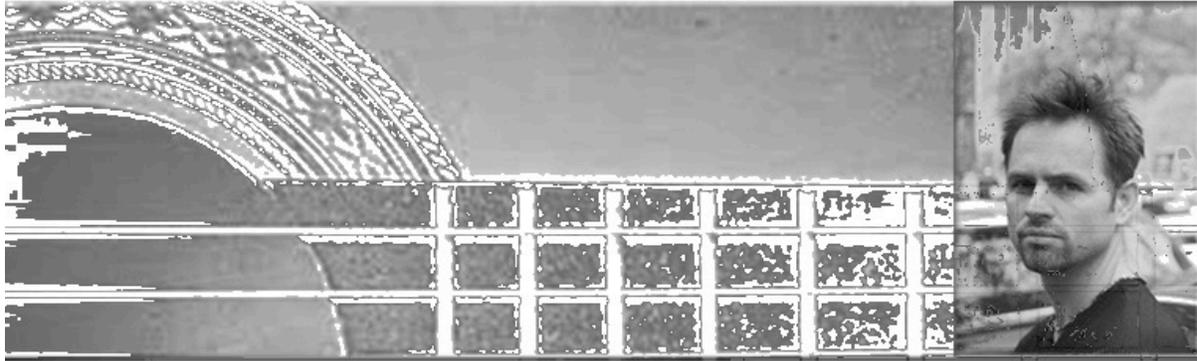
*Bring  
a Friend  
to Church*

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## FIRST Sunday

Sunday September 6 at 5:30 PM  
Featuring the music of **Bryan Graves**  
Worship led by Bob Brown



Informal • Interactive • Curiously Spiritual

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### New Worship Music Leader for FIRST!Sunday Worship

Singer songwriter Bryan Graves will be leading the **FIRST!Sunday** Worship music this coming year. Bryan has been leading worship services for many years at his home church Vineyard of Hopkinton. He produced and released his first CD of original music in 2001 entitled *Ever Ponder*.

Bob Brown and Bryan became close friends about 16 years ago through a Small Group Bible Study. "Bryan is a deeply Spiritual Christian" Bob said. "When we were looking for a permanent worship music leader for our **FIRST!Sunday** worship I approached Bryan. I am thrilled to be designing creative, interactive services with my old friend."

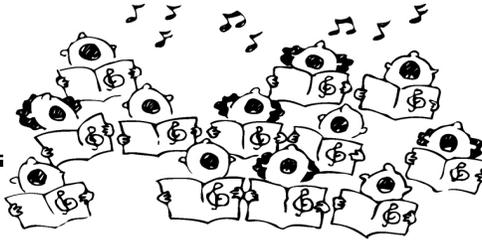
Bryan brings a contemporary music style as he worships God with his skilled acoustic guitar and seasoned vocals. He will play original songs and popular music, as well as leading us in singing the hymns we love and teaching us new tunes.

**FIRST!Sunday** Worship meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month.

It is an informal gathering, often interactive, and somewhat experimental.

Please come meet Bryan on **Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup>**.

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## For Body and Soul: SING

Pick a TriCon Choir this autumn!

### **Sunday-Only Choir** (Youth & Adults) -- September 13 only

*Opportunity for choral singers who can't attend Thursday rehearsals.*

- 9:00 a.m. rehearsal (in the loft) to learn music for that morning's service.

### **Occasional Multi-Generational ("OMG") Choir** (All ages) -- September 20 only

*Drop-in choir for all ages, all voice ranges and musical skill levels.*

- 9:00 a.m. rehearsal (in the sanctuary).
- Sing before the children depart for classes.

### **Hosanna Singers** (Grades K-4) -- September 27 & October 4 only

*Children learn about God through music and singing.*

- Sign up for 2-week Introductory Session: Director, Vickie Wagner  
[vwag@aol.com](mailto:vwag@aol.com)
- Rehearse after Church School (until 11:45 a.m.)
- Sing for 10:00 a.m. worship on October 5 (rehearsal before church)
- Additional sessions will be offered during the coming year.

### **Senior Choir (Youth & Adults)** -- begins September 17

*A deeper, richer musical experience.*

*A welcoming and vibrant "small group" at Tri-Con.*

*Opportunities for solo and small-group singing.*

*Wide variety of musical styles and accompanying instrumental ensembles.*

- "Open Rehearsals" (come, to try it) September 17 & 24
- We sing for weekly Sunday worship (9:00 a.m. rehearsal)
- We rehearse weekly on Thursdays (7:45-9:15 p.m.)
- Regular participation of members is expected.
- Sign-out on calendar for absences.

### **Questions about any choir?**

Contact Victoria Wagner (Music Director)

978-369-4837 (x 227) [vwag@aol.com](mailto:vwag@aol.com)

## **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 or the church entry, and to come for coffee and 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. There are registration forms for Church School for nursery through middle school in the parish hall. For more information, contact Christian Education Director, Carrie O'Brien. For more information on the youth programs, contact Youth Leader, Nick Bruning or Associate Minister, Rev. Bob Brown. Call the church office if you have any questions.

#### **Welcoming Coffee**

**Sunday, September 27 – following worship -  
in the church parlor**



### **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

**Sunday,  
September 13  
during the  
worship service**

### **AN ANCIENT VOICE FOR MODERN TIMES?**

*The Book of Amos*

**Tuesdays, September 29,  
October 6, 13, 20, 27**

The earliest of the writing prophets, Amos wrote about 750 BC during a prosperous and peaceful period. A shepherd tending flocks on the hills of Judah, he traveled north for a ministry of social reform and religious reformation. The prophet recognized beneath ancient Israel's thriving life and economy that its moral and religious foundations were rotten, dominated by a greedy upper class burdening an oppressed lower class. The God of Amos is a champion of social justice, defending the underprivileged and poor. That God detests Israel's religious hypocrisy, noting how the Israelites perform religious acts but fail to perform acts of kindness or justice.

In an age when many in the Church are reexamining the importance of social conscience as a measure of faithfulness and claiming concern for the poor and oppressed as a primary arena for expression of Christian social conscience, might Amos be a prophet not only of ancient times but, in truth, a relevant voice for our own day and a critic of our own culture and enacted values?

**Join us on Tuesday, September 29th, at 7:30 p.m., and subsequent Tuesdays throughout October, as participants reflect with Rev. John Lombard on the historic significance and contemporary relevance of Amos. No prior knowledge nor special biblical skills or understanding are required. Only a curious mind, seeking spirit, and passionate heart are necessary. A minimum of six participants will constitute the group. Sign up in the parish hall.**

## 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.

Frequently asked questions about the Caregivers Group:

Q. Who comes to the caregivers group?  
A. The group consists of individuals who are either the primary caregiver for another person or persons, who have responsibility for another person but do not live with that person or who see the role of caregiver in their future.

Q. How often does the group meet?  
A. We meet twice a month in the church parlor.

Q. Do you have to come to every meeting?  
A. The group is very flexible. Come when your schedule permits.

Q. Is the group confidential?  
A. Yes. Group members speak freely about their individual situations.

Q. If I'm uncomfortable speaking in front of others can I still come to the group?  
A. Yes, often participants become more comfortable with time but you are welcome whatever your participation level.

Q. What topics are discussed?  
A. Members of the group share their particular caregiving situations, needs, frustrations, etc. We focus on offering support to each other, always with compassion, and often, with humor.

If the role of caregiver is part of your life, please consider joining the TriCon Caregivers Group. **We will meet on Wednesdays, September 9 and 23 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor.** Call the church office, 978 369-4837, for more information.



## 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ANTIQU SHOW & SALE

Friday, November 6  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 7  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



## OPEN TABLE SEPTEMBER

Back to School  
Time to Fill those Lunch Boxes

**Tuna - Chicken - Ham - Turkey - Mayo**

Please bring cans of meat and seafood and mayonnaise for our neighbors who depend on the Open Table Pantry. Your contribution does make a difference to a needy family!

Leave items in the food bin in the narthex or in the parish hall.

## 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](mailto:howes2012@gmail.com).

## LIFE CHANGES

### WITH SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and thoughts are with Charles and Katherine Denault and their family in the death of Charles' father, Eliot (Peter) Denault on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Peter and his wife, Dorothy were TriCon members before moving to Rhode Island.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service at TriCon for **Norma Hebb**, who died on June 30, on Friday, September 25 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception following.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### CONGRATULATIONS, NAN HOEFLICH

We salute our longtime member, Nan Hoeflich, who was recently recognized in the *Bedford Citizen* newspaper for her 15 years of devoted service in support of the Bedford Community Table and Food Pantry. A copy of the article can be found on the bulletin board in the Hubbard Street entrance of the church.



We are excited to announce our new and improved website at [www.triconchurch.org](http://www.triconchurch.org). You will find all kinds of useful information, including Upcoming Events, Podcasts of Past Sermons, Online Newsletters, etc. And in the works is a new secure section called "Parishioners" that will have church bylaws, council minutes, church directory, Church School parents' resource pages, Confirmation and Youth Group schedules and forms, ushering and candlelighting instructions and more.

### COMING VERY SOON TO A CHURCH NEAR YOU .....

#### Our New Church Photo Directory!



Whether you have been coming to the church for years or are brand new, we want, and need, you to be part of our photo directory. It's easy -it's quick and it will be so helpful to get to know other worshippers.

Photos sessions will take place the weeks of October 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. **You can make an appointment by going to our website - [triconchurch.org](http://triconchurch.org) and clicking the link on the home page or sign up at coffee hour.** Everyone photographed will receive a free portrait and a copy of the directory. You may purchase additional photos if you wish but there is absolutely no obligation!

## ACCESS TO CHURCH



The church locks have all been changed. If you have a church key, it will no longer work – if you have an **on-going need** for a key, please call or email Judy Walpole -- [jwalpole@triconchurch.org](mailto:jwalpole@triconchurch.org) - 978-369-4837 to arrange to get a new one.

We are trying to reduce the number of keys that are out so if your need is only occasional, please get a temporary key when the need arises and return it promptly – thank you for your understanding and cooperation!



## Be a Sunday Morning Volunteer!

**Have you been attending church and wanting to get more involved?**

Here are two easy Sunday morning opportunities to meet other parishioners and help to spread the message of welcome.

**Join the usher/greeter pool** - It's not complicated, complete instructions are given and it's a great way to meet and greet other parishioners.

A list is sent with an "assigned" Sunday but if that is not convenient, switching is usually quite easy and we always have subs to fill in so no one ever has to feel "locked in" to a particular date.

**Serve coffee following the service** – the easiest job in the church - all you need to do is leave church during the last hymn, smile and pour! No need to bring anything, no set-up and no cleanup and you get first dibs on the munchkins!

Email Judy Walpole ([jwalpole@triconchurch.org](mailto:jwalpole@triconchurch.org)) or call her at the church office to sign up or to get more information about either or both of the above.

## A LASTING GIFT

Did you know that our church has an Endowment Fund that was started in 1908 with a gift of \$1,000 from Asa Melvin –a significant sum in that era? Since then, gifts, large and small, have been received over the years from members and friends of our church. The monies are invested under the oversight of the Finance Committee and each year we take a modest percentage of the income to help balance the annual operating budget.

Recently a bequest was received from the estate of Marillyn DeMott that will be added to this Fund where it will benefit the church for many years to come. Lyn and Jim DeMott were faithful members of our church for over 50 years and contributed in so many ways, including serving as the managers and "heart" of the annual Antique Show for over 30 years, raising significant funds for mission. We are grateful to Lyn for this lasting, on-going contribution to the church's mission and ministry.

When making your estate plans, please consider how you might remember the church in your will or trust. There are various vehicles ranging from a simple bequest to a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Call Judy Walpole in the church office if you would like to receive information from our Planned Giving Committee.



## A "GREEN" ADDITION

Note that we now have a bike rack near the Hubbard Street ramp for those who might like to cycle to church or park their bikes here while on errands downtown. If the interest warrants, we will purchase another to place near the Walden Street entrance. Let us know what you think!

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## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Green OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2015 are 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.

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## ON-LINE GIVING AVAILABLE AT TRICON

We are able to accept on-line donations and payments via our website – [Triconchurch.org](http://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](mailto:jwalpole@triconchurch.org) or  
[abruning@triconchurch.org](mailto:abruning@triconchurch.org).



## 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.



## NEW PHOTO WALL!

The Mission Committee has updated the photos in the hallway by the kitchen with great photos of just a handful of the Mission and Outreach Programs that YOUR generous donations have made possible. Take a few minutes and look at each one and know that your money has helped so many. Thank you for your continued support.

The TriCon Mission Committee often receives thank you letters for donations it has allocated. Below is a sample:

*We are immensely grateful to the Trinitarian Congregational Church for its recent grant to Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ) (\$4,000)...Thank you! ...[your] choice to support C4RJ affirms the work we do: partnering with police to address crime in a way that heals victims, holds offenders accountable, and puts things right in our communities....Please know how much we appreciate it.*

*Sincerely,  
 Christy Barbee  
 Acting Executive Director*

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The deadline for the  
 October Newsletter  
 is September 15.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Electronic and Appliance Recycling Day**

**Saturday, September 5  
9am -2pm**

**TriCon Church Parking Lot  
Open to the Public**

Accepting all electronics including monitors, TV's, computers, printers, stereo equipment, electronic games, fax machines and copy machines as well as any appliances such as washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves, water tanks, ac units, dehumidifiers, all items with freon and any item with an electrical cord. Snow blowers and lawn mowers with gas removed, exercise equipment and any small engine items are also accepted.

Fees are \$5 each monitor or computer, \$10 any appliance or small TV and \$15 each TV over 20", \$20 for TV over 36".

Cell phones, car and truck batteries, bikes and tools are free.

The recycling day is run by an outside firm and the church receives a small stipend in exchange for the use of our parking lot. Any questions may be directed to [J.wood36@yahoo.com](mailto:J.wood36@yahoo.com).

## **HEAR THE SECOND-LARGEST PIPE ORGAN IN BOSTON!**

**At Old South Church (UCC), Copley Square**

**Sunday, September 20 at 3 p.m.**

**Organists Vickie Wagner and Peter Sykes  
will perform his critically acclaimed transcription of  
"The Planets" by Gustav Holst.**

Sponsored by the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, the hour-long program will include a multimedia presentation. Listen to the music and watch live video of the organists as they play this massive organ, as well as NASA images of the planets and artistic renderings of the gods for whom the planets are named. The duo's recording of "The Planets" was named Best of 1996 by Audio Review, a *Super CD* by Absolute Sound in 1999, and garnered accolades in every review. You can listen to some of it here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwZkAgGuNdU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwZkAgGuNdU)

The 115-rank instrument was built in 1921 by Boston's Skinner Organ Company for the Auditorium in St. Paul, MN. When that building was demolished, the organ was saved from the wrecking ball and brought to Old South in the 1980s. Since then it has been rebuilt, reconfigured and tonally altered for its new home.

Admission is free. Donations to the AGO gratefully received. If you'd like to carpool from TriCon, call the church office.

**LIKE us on Facebook (triconchurch) and FOLLOW us on Twitter (@TriConChurch)**

## RACHEL'S BOX Celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

September 15, 4:30 – 5:30 at TriCon

Rachel's Box Project maintains an active part of the Concord area domestic violence prevention efforts, offering material designed to assist victims of abuse or violence. The specially designed boxes (one of which can be found in the TriCon library) provide resource and informational material as well as support and volunteer information. Originally sponsored by the Network for Women's Lives, it is an ongoing mission of the Domestic Violence Services Network. The event is open to the public. For more information, please contact Nancy James, [npjames@npjames.com](mailto:npjames@npjames.com) or 978-369-2771.

## ADOPT A ROUTE For Meals on Wheels

*Minuteman Senior Services* volunteers deliver lunchtime meals to homebound senior citizens in sixteen area towns. Volunteer drivers are particularly needed in Concord. Support and training are provided.

Call 781 221-7093 for more information or to volunteer.

## CONCORD CROP WALK

The Concord area CROP Hunger Walk will take place this year on **Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>**. Join your neighbors in walking together to take a stand against hunger and poverty in our community and across the globe. Music and banner contest at 1:45, the walk itself starts at 2:15. It is always a fun day. Ask your friends to sponsor your walk or walk with you! Money goes to Church World Service for global relief and to local food pantries and dinners. For more information go to [www.concordcrop.org](http://www.concordcrop.org).

## GOOD NEWS ON ADVOCACY FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES

The Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness (ANEFH) is pleased to report success in its efforts to secure funding for key homeless prevention programs in the FY 2016 state budget. Advocates from ANEFH, in partnership with Mass Coalition for the Homeless and other groups, convinced legislators to over-ride gubernatorial vetoes and restore funding for Housing and Services for Unaccompanied Youth and for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP).

In an uncommon display of unanimity, the Legislature voted unanimously to restore \$2 million to support the creation of housing and wraparound services for some 4000+ youth and young adults who are outside the care of parent or legal guardian and need help with housing, education, job training, health care and counseling. One such youth is Synthia Kennedy who has been active in a Mass Coalition for the Homeless campaign to raise awareness.

*"We have worked so long and so many sleepless nights and tear-filled days, to get people to do something to support us," Synthia said... [and] 'this might all be in vain' crossed my mind. I can't wait until we can start putting this money to work, and changing lives and the communities we live in."*

The vote to restore \$3 million to the MRVP program will mean about 800 new rental vouchers to provide families, disabled and seniors with cost-effective, long term housing stability and reduce the number of homeless families in shelters and motels.

For more information on how easy it is to add your voice for this vulnerable population, go to [www.endfamilyhomelessness.net](http://www.endfamilyhomelessness.net) or talk with Barbara Schiappa at (978)369-4345 or [schiappab@comcast.net](mailto:schiappab@comcast.net).

Congratulations and gratitude to all Tri Con members who are already advocates for your good work this year.

**LIKE us on Facebook ([triconchurch](https://www.facebook.com/triconchurch)) and FOLLOW us on Twitter ([@TriConChurch](https://twitter.com/TriConChurch))**



## THIS IS THE TABLE OF THE LORD, SET FOR YOU

"This is the table of the Lord, set for you." We hear those familiar words as we prepare to celebrate the sacrament of Communion but, indeed, those words symbolize so much more about the table of the Lord that is set for us here at TriCon.

The "table" offers us gifts of faith, hope, solace and joy. It offers us opportunities to learn and grow, to share fellowship and to support each other in good times and bad. It affords us the privilege of nurturing new generations of young people in our faith and bringing tangible signs of God's love and grace to those less fortunate.

To "set the table", our church is dependent on gifts and pledges from all of us. Please consider what you can contribute in the coming year as we kick-off our Stewardship Campaign on Sunday, October 18th.

Then most households will receive pledge materials through our "neighborhood" route system where a pouch will be passed from house to house within a general geographic area to receive confidential pledges. Some members, for various reasons, will receive the materials via a mailing.

No one will be contacting you to ask for a pledge. It is your decision but as you decide, we hope you will discover and commit to a level of giving that honors God's generosity to you, that increases your joy and that ensures that the bounty of the Lord's Table will be there for all.

In our budget for the coming year, priorities are centered on staffing. We are delighted to be launching our new updated website but we need increased hours in our very part-time tech position to keep the site current and to add features such as a "parishioners only" area where we can share important church information and enable faster, more useful communication within the congregation.

We need to review compensation for several positions that are under-funded, we aim to increase administrative support to remove some of that burden from our dedicated clergy and a cost-of-living adjustment for all our hard-working staff is an equally important goal.

To make all of these things possible, a 4% increase in total pledges will be needed. That amounts to \$80 on a pledge of \$2,000. Some may be able to do more and some less but whatever your contribution to the collective support for our family of faith; it is valued and appreciated.

Your Stewardship Team

Thad Jackson, Chair; Bill Barrett, Shirley Huettig, David Kolstad, Katie Wilson

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

We are excited to launch our monthly Church School newsletter on-line beginning with our September 2015 issue! 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 now 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](mailto:cobrien@triconchurch.org). Please also visit our church website at [www.triconchurch.org](http://www.triconchurch.org).

**CHURCH SCHOOL SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

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

*Nursery, Pre-K and K age children go directly to their classrooms at the beginning of the morning. 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders begin the morning in worship and are then released to their classrooms.*

**Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

7:00PM Liaison Meeting - Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaisons

**Welcome Back Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

10:00AM Service of Worship - Blessing of the Backpacks  
Bring your backpack to church to be jointly blessed with others

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

8:30AM New Teacher Orientation  
This brief orientation is geared for fall teachers new to our program

9:00AM Teacher Workshop  
All fall teachers will meet as a group before breaking out into individual classes.

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

11:15AM Hosanna Singers Rehearsal

11:15AM SEEKER Parent/Youth Meeting  
For 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents. Let's plan a fun SEEKER year!

*To sign up to receive the Church School newsletter, please contact Carrie O'Brien at [cobrien@triconchurch.org](mailto:cobrien@triconchurch.org) or call the church office.*

## YOUTH GROUP



In early September, ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH will be sent a mailing about Youth Group and Youth Discussion Group. Please call the church office if you do not receive your mailing by September 10.



## CONFIRMATION CLASS

### High School Freshman Register Now

The 2015/16-confirmation class is now being geared up for fall. This is a dynamic, energetic, contemporary, re-imagined look at what it means to be a Christian today. We don't give answers; we uncover and discover our faith together. Class leaders David Hart, Suzanne Giles and Rev. Bob Brown are looking forward to another exiting year of discussion, lock-in sleepovers, service projects, field trips and retreats.

Many have all ready signed up. If you have not and are interested in the class PLEASE register **TODAY**. Registration forms can be found [www.Triconchurch.org](http://www.Triconchurch.org) or get in touch Bob. There is a bit of prep work that needs to be done to insure the best possible start to the class, so don't delay.

Revbobbrown@triconchurch.org  
978-369-4837 or text 978-204-7739.

### Upcoming dates:

Sunday, September 13 11:20 a.m. **Orientation for Confirmands & Parents - Lower Level**

**Sunday September 16**

**\*Final Deadline for Confirmation Class Registration\***

Tuesday, September 15 7:30 p.m. **Orientation for Mentors**

Sunday, September 20 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class Commissioning during the service  
(arrive by 9:45 a.m.)

11:30 a.m. Coffee for Parents and Mentors

Sunday, September 27 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – First Confirmation Class

# TriCon Fall



## Progressive Dinner

**Saturday, October 17, 2015**

Please join us for the not to be missed bi-annual TriCon Fall Progressive Dinner.

This special evening begins with all guests meeting for light appetizers at the church.

From there you will "progress" to your Dinner Host destination. Prepare to share a sumptuous meal with lively conversation among TriCon friends, old and new. After dinner, guests will come together at the home of a Dessert Host to share sweet treats and stories about the evening.

Guest sign-up is through parish hall sign-up sheets and email (Jill Robitaille at [jb.robitaille190@gmail.com](mailto:jb.robitaille190@gmail.com)). Please include the names and phone/email contact information for those who will attend. Also, if you are able to bring a light appetizer serving 6-8 people, please let us know.

If you would like to host a group of 8 to 12 people for dinner, or a group of 30-40 for dessert, please contact Charity Tremblay ([catremblay@icloud.com](mailto:catremblay@icloud.com)).

We look forward to seeing you, for the first time or once again, at this fun fellowship event!

The Fellowship Committee

Charity Tremblay, Holly Salemy, Jill Robitaille, Amy Pasley, Kathy Manley, Karen Barton



**TRICON**  
COMMUNITY



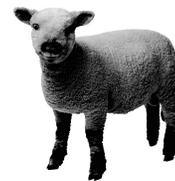
## Blessing Of The Animals 2015



**October 4<sup>th</sup> - 5:30pm**  
**at FIRST!Sunday Worship**



Come celebrate the gift of pets and the special relationships forged with our animal friends. Bring your pets to be individually blessed and receive your own certificate of pet blessing! You can also bring photos of past pets that you remember fondly and light a candle in honor of your one time companion.



**October 4<sup>th</sup>** is recognized as the day of the church calendar to acknowledge the life and contributions of Francis of Assisi who lived over 800 years ago. Francis was born into a wealthy family and enjoyed a comfortable life, but renounced all wealth and possessions and dedicated his life to God. He served the poor, and taught us to celebrate and care for Creation. October 4th we will honor and celebrate all God's creatures in this

### Special **FIRST!Sunday** blessing service.

Bring the kids, bring your dogs, cats, hamsters, goldfish, chickens, goats, snakes, spiders, or any living thing that we can ask God's blessing upon. Even if you're pet-less, come witness a mini Noah's Ark spectacle.



## TriCon Celebrates **National Coming Out Day** *Sunday, October 11 - 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.*

**National Coming Out Day** is an annual awareness day internationally observed on October 11. It is a day to recognize members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community, promote a safe world for LGBTQ individuals and celebrate the act of "coming out" to family, friends and the world.

Trinitarian Congregational Church is pleased to host our own **Coming Out For Equality**, a "coming out" storytelling event in the sanctuary at TriCon Church on Sunday, October 11 from 4:30 until 6:00PM. Along with these compelling stories will be a time for audience questions

and a talented transgender choir performance.

Hosting this community wide event proclaims and demonstrates TriCon's commitment to being an open and affirming congregation. As a community of faith, we know that God's radical love and welcome is the overwhelming theme of the Bible. Biblical narratives continually challenge our assumptions of who's in and who's out. Our mission and pleasure is to act on our faith and proclaim this good news.

**Coming Out For Equality** is free and open to all people. We hope to reach out to a marginalized and largely underrepresented community with the goal of shedding light on the challenges still faced today in the LGBTQ world and learning how we **ALL** can support and advocate for positive change. Come listen to these compelling stories and join the discussion. If you want to join the organizing committee or are willing to help us host that day please contact the church office or any of the people below.

"Today you are You,  
that is truer than  
true. There is no  
one alive who is  
Youer than You."  
- Dr. Seuss

Michele Forinash  
Co-chair

Liz Crowell  
Co-Chair

Rev. Bob Brown  
Associate Minister

## *Our Song Shall Rise to Thee*



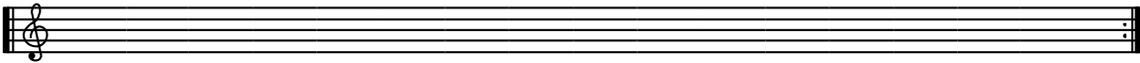
### *Noack, Opus 159*

Work is progressing on our organ with the completion date of June 2016 in mind. Noack Organ has been building organs since 1960 with a commitment to superb quality, concept, design and workmanship. Check out their website –noackorgan.com – and see examples of their work.

Didier Grassin, the designer of our organ, has more than 25 years of experience in the field. His interest in organs began in his native home of Poitiers, France where he grew up in the shadow of the famous Clicquot organ. Didier holds a Master of Science in acoustics from the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research at Southampton University, UK and Diplôme d'Ingénieur from Université de Compiègne, France. His designs can be seen in England, France, Japan, the Middle-East, Malaysia, China, Canada and the United States.

If you have not yet make a pledge or contribution, please consider doing so now. All donors, large and small, will be listed in the commemorative program when the organ is dedicated.

Full participation is critical and every contribution is important!



I/we wish to pledge/give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Organ Campaign to be paid over:  
(Check one) 1  2  3  years

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donations may also be made online thru our website: [triconchurch.org](http://triconchurch.org)



*The Al Filipov  
Peace & Justice  
Forum  
presents*

**Ms. Malika Saada Saar**  
speaking on her work advancing human rights

*Presentation of the Fifth Annual Al Filipov Peace & Justice Award*

**Sunday, September 27 - 4:00 p.m.**  
**TriCon Church Sanctuary**

Ms. Saada Saar is Special Counsel on Human Rights at *The Raben Group*. She also serves as Director of the Human Rights Project for Girls (*Rights4Girls*), a human rights organization focused on gender-based violence against young women and girls in the U.S. As a human rights lawyer and advocate, she has led the effort to shut down Craigslist sex ads that served as the leading site for the trafficking of children for sex, ended the federal practice of shackling pregnant mothers behind bars in U.S. prisons, and successfully advocated for millions in federal funding for treatment services for at-risk families.

Ms. Saada Saar has been featured in the Daily Beast, Huffington Post, O: The Oprah Magazine, Newsweek, Politico, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, USA Today, Elle, Redbook Magazine, Essence, Tavis Smiley Show, BBC, ABC News, Good Morning America, CNN, and National Public Radio. She has also been honored by Brown University's highest alumni award, *The Roger Williams Award*, and by Georgetown Law Center's esteemed *Robert F. Drinan Award for Public Service*.

Newsweek and the Daily Beast have named Ms. Saada Saar as one of "150 Women Who Shake the World." The Obama White House selected Ms. Saada Saar to serve on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Human Rights.

Ms. Saada Saar holds a B.A. from Brown University, an M.A. in Education from Stanford University, and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and three children.

***The Al Filipov Peace & Justice Forum* honors the memory of long time TriCon member, Al Filipov, who died in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.**



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## Double your Gift- Double the Impact

To provide new backpacks for the homeless children served by Cradles to Crayons, a generous donor has agreed to provide a backpack for every one donated.

For children whose parents are struggling to fund the basic necessities, there is no fun back-to-school shopping trip but we can help!

**Backpacks are especially needed but please consider stuffing one with an assortment of some of the following important school supplies so these needy children can start the school year equipped for learning!**

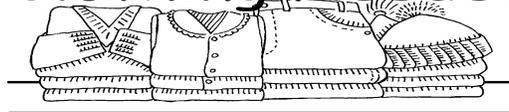
Place your donations in the marked box in the parish hall **during the August and September**. Thank you!

GLUE STICKS  
COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS  
NO. 2 PENCILS  
SMALL NOTEBOOKS  
FOLDERS TO FIT INTO BINDERS  
WATER COLOR PAINTS  
NOTEBOOKS  
COMPUTER PRINTER PAPER  
CONSTRUCTION PAPER  
SCOTCH TAPE  
SMALL BOTTLES OF HAND SANITIZER

PENS (BLUE, BLACK, AND RED)  
BALLPOINT PENS  
POST-ITS  
PENCIL SHARPENERS  
LARGE PINK ERASERS  
BOTTLE OF WHITE GLUE  
LOOSE-LEAF NOTEBOOK PAPER  
CALCULATORS  
RULERS  
STAPLERS

SCISSORS  
SHARPIE MARKERS  
COLORED PENCILS  
CALENDARS  
CRAYONS  
HIGHLIGHTERS  
POCKET FOLDERS  
DRAWING PAPER  
SCHOOL BOXES  
KLEENEX

## Clothing Needed



### for Homeless Women and Children

*When you are sorting and replacing your children's clothing for fall and winter, please remember the youth and teens at Millie's Place Family Shelter in Lowell. Gently worn and new items such as jeans, pants, sweaters, shirts, socks, casual shoes and outerwear (including jackets, caps and mittens) will be greatly appreciated. Casual wear for the young mothers and infant and baby clothing are also needed.*

*(No summer things, please.)*

**Donations may be left in the parish hall from August 30 - September 20**

**The Safe Church Policy** is designed for the protection of persons involved in activities and programs of the church. The policy is augmented by **the Safe Church Procedures**, complete copies of both document available in the church library, Christian education resource room and administrative offices.

## **Trinitarian Congregational Church, Concord, Massachusetts Safe Church Policy**

### **Mission Statement**

As a community of faith committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ, we strive to be welcome to all and to treat each individual with the love and dignity that God bestows upon each of us. Trinitarian Congregational Church is committed to creating and maintaining programs, facilities and a community in which members, friends, staff and volunteers can worship, learn and work together in an atmosphere free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, exploitation or intimidation.

Trinitarian Church has no tolerance for child abuse, child neglect, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct. Trinitarian Church will take allegations of such behavior seriously and will promptly respond to ensure that a safe environment is maintained in all church activities.

### **Purpose of the Safe Church Policy**

The Safe Church Policy is designed to provide a framework for the operation of the activities and programs of the church in a manner that ensures the physical and emotional safety of all persons.

### **Safe Church Committee**

The Safe Church Committee shall be comprised of five members of the congregation, nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation from candidates recommended by the clergy.

The Safe Church Committee, with the guidance and assistance of the Church Committee, staff and clergy will be responsible for:

- Reviewing the Safe Church Policy and recommending any revisions to the Church Committee;
- Reviewing Safe Church Procedures, approving any changes and coordinating any revisions with the staff, clergy and/or any other persons responsible for implementing the procedures;
- Ensuring the implementation of the Safe Church Policy and Procedures;
- Responding to all allegations of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment alleged to have been committed by or against members of the Trinitarian Congregational Church community at the church or at activities scheduled by the Trinitarian Congregational Church.

Any member of the Trinitarian Congregational Church community who has concerns about the emotional or physical safety of a church community member, either at the church or at activities scheduled by the church, may contact a member of the Safe Church committee.

### **CORI (Criminal Offender Record Check) Administrator**

The Chair of the Safe Church Committee, or his/her designee from the Committee shall serve as the CORI Administrator.

### **Screening**

All employees over the age of 18 and all volunteers responsible for the chaperoning and/or supervision of children and youth shall require a CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information Check). Volunteers shall complete a Volunteer Participation Form and Employees shall complete the Employee Disclosure Form.

Failure to fully disclose conviction for a crime or the commission of a violent crime, a sex crime, or a crime against children shall be grounds for dismissal or removal from participation in activities.

### **Dissemination of Information**

The Safe Church Committee shall be responsible for establishing standards and procedures to ensure that the congregation is informed about Safe Church policies and made aware of any changes that materially impact the implementation of those policies.

All employees over the age of 18 and all volunteers responsible for the chaperoning and/or supervision of children and youth shall agree to abide by the Safe Church Policy and Safe Church Procedures.

### **Training**

All employees over the age of 18 and all volunteers responsible for the chaperoning and/or supervision of children and youth shall attend training that includes information regarding the prevention and reporting of child abuse and the maintenance of a safe church environment.

### **Supervision of Children and Youth**

Adequate supervision of children and youth shall be provided at all church sponsored activities, classes and programs. No adult will be alone in the church, or at a church scheduled activity, with a child/youth that is not his or her own, or a relative, without written permission from the child's parent.

### **Response Policy**

The Safe Church Committee shall respond promptly to all allegations sexual harassment or sexual misconduct and will have an established policy and protocol to ensure the safety of the alleged victims and other members of the church community.

Failure to comply with the Safe Church Policy and Procedures shall result in corrective action and in the case of serious violation, immediate dismissal from employment or volunteer position.

### **Sexual Misconduct and Harassment**

Sexual misconduct and harassment are prohibited. All employees, members, and friends of Trinitarian Congregational Church, are responsible for ensuring that their behavior is free of sexual misconduct and harassment.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect**

Suspicious of child abuse and/or neglect should be reported to the Massachusetts Department of Social Services or to a member of the clergy who shall take appropriate action.

### **Building Security**

The Safe Church Committee shall work with the Church staff and the Property Committee on procedures to ensure the safety and security of the building.

Failure to comply with the Safe Church Policy and/or Safe Church Procedures shall constitute grounds for revoking key privileges for an individual or a group.

### **Safe Church Committee Members**

Jeff Campbell, Leslie Cheney, Tom Piper, Carolyn Stein

