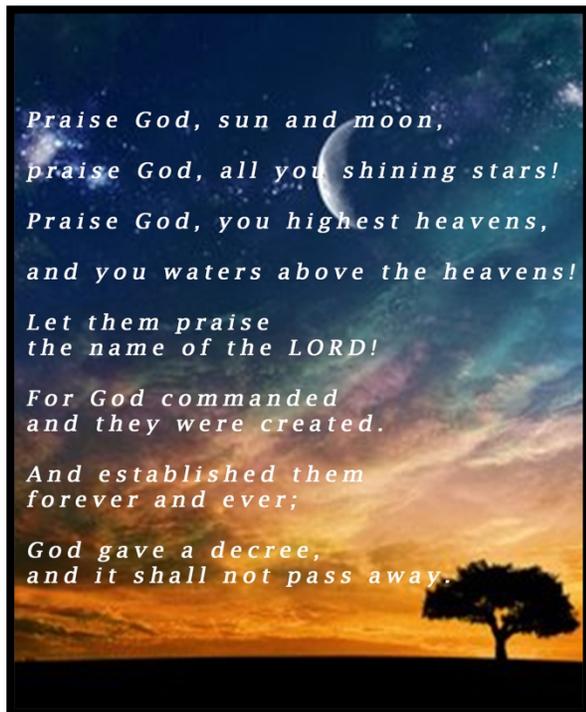


## May 2018

Last month I was at the men's Anchor Group retreat in Franconia Notch, NH. I woke up early and sat at my window overlooking the wild majesty of the White Mountains. In the pre-dawn light, thick clouds were whipping past the jagged horizon as if they were urgently needed somewhere south of here. The powdery snow frantically danced with the wind like some kind of choreographed chaos, scurrying along the surface of the ground then suddenly vaulting up 50 feet in the air like an angry tornado.

As the sun broke behind the thick cloud cover I noticed the moon was still visible in the western sky and remembered Psalm 148.



What hope I felt, sitting quietly watching the raw and wild beauty of the new day come into being. It was one of those moments when the material and spiritual come together in astonishing beauty.

This synergy between material and spiritual is where God becomes most real for me. I don't only see it in these moments of solitude but also in our community.

For instance, the last Sunday of April, we celebrated God's creation and the beauty of the earth. It was a **Worshipping Together** Sunday. A Sunday worship when the children (the jewels of our church) remain in the service and contribute to our delight. I love **Worshipping Together** Sundays because it feels like we are fully becoming the body of Christ when we are all together worshipping our God, delighting in the gift of nature and the awesomeness of creation.

How is it that we plant a seed in soil and it knows how to grow? How is it that water always finds its destination no matter how humanity tries to harness it? How is it that the cosmos holds together and we can't even comprehend its breadth or depth?

This is the wild majesty of our God, a God who creates and blesses and indwells all life with Holy Spirit, loving us into an interconnected, interdependent eco-system in which "we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

The month of May is the perfect time to contemplate the beauty of the earth, to be still and simply notice the unfolding of new life, to recognize the echo of resurrection and renewal.

During the month of May I invite you to notice the beauty of the earth. Take time to look closely at the blossoms bursting forth. Examine the color, inhale deeply of the sweet aroma, hear the distinct sounds of the returning birds, feel the warmth of the sun on your face and take in the splendor and mystery of creation. Notice how spirit animates the material world and God is manifest in our midst.

In faith and hope

*Rev Bob Brown*



May 6            Service at 10:00 a.m.            Rev. Robert Brown preaching  
 COMMUNION

May 13           Service at 10:00 a.m.            Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift preaching

May 20           Service at 10:00 a.m.            CONFIRMATION  
 PENTECOST SUNDAY            Rev. Robert Brown preaching

May 27           Service at 10:00 a.m.            Rev. Robert Brown preaching

**TRICON** EDUCATION            CONFIRMATION

*Confirmation Class in May*

**Saturday, May 12 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
 Final Retreat -- Edwards House, Framingham

**Tuesday, May 15 – 7:00 p.m.**  
 Faith Statement Sharing with Mentors

***Confirmation Sunday, May 20***  
 Brunch for Confirmands, Parents & Mentors - 9:00 a.m.  
 Service of Worship and Rite of Confirmation - 10:00 a.m.

Please contact Rev. Bob Brown, Suzanne Giles, or David Hart with any questions.

## **MARKERS ALONG THE JOURNEY**

### *Search Committee Updates & Comments*

#### **REFLECTIONS FROM JEAN VANDERGRIFT**

(Written April 18, 2018)

Waiting is not easy. Waiting in traffic, waiting for test results, and waiting for the ninth inning can all be vexing. One of the hardest aspects of an interim process to describe and defend to participants is the waiting.

I recently revisited *When The Heart Waits* by Sue Monk Kidd, because I remembered it as having been insightful for me personally and professionally when I originally read it. Kidd candidly describes the uncomfortable, yet necessary waiting that her mid-life crisis provoked in her and her relationships. On one of her long walks, she discovered a cocoon hanging on a branch, brought it home, and then watched the metamorphosis unfold over time, making connections to her own spiritual journey.



Those who look on from the outside during a confidential search process often feel particularly frustrated. Using the metaphor of the transition from a caterpillar to a butterfly, these observers are naturally curious as to what exactly is going on inside that chrysalis! Even though they understand why search information is not made public, and they don't want to compromise the outcome, the waiting is difficult.



#### **UPDATE FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE**

(Written April 12, 2018)

To the Congregation: We are pleased to provide a general update on the search process for a new Senior Minister. As most of you know, our committee was formed early in November 2017 to have the appropriate time to team-build, immerse ourselves in the final stages of the transition process, and to prepare ourselves for the upcoming search. There was a very thoughtful and thorough process recommended to us from the UCC, in which we have put our faith and have followed appropriately. As prescribed in our own internal TriCon process, the first step in receiving candidates was to consider the profile of Rev. Bob Brown. We received his profile in mid-late February 2018, and we began our discernment of Rev. Brown's candidacy in early March 2018, approximately one month ago.

Our last month has been extremely productive, engaging in a very thoughtful process with Rev. Brown. Every member of this committee has dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to this process and has put a great deal of thought, energy, prayer, deliberation, and contemplation

I particularly appreciate Kidd's conclusion that there are three stages of waiting. She finds them present in most of the big biblical narratives, such as the exodus from slavery through the wilderness into the Promised Land, and Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. I think that these three stages translate rather well into the context of interims too.

1. **Separation.** This is the letting go of what has been to opt for what will be. It is the good-bye, the grief work, asking questions of identity, thinking outside-the-box, and opening to new leaders
2. **Transformation.** This is the deep level change that occurs in the give-and-take over time between people as they vision and make adjustments within church life, in relationship to their neighbors, and to God. Sometimes confusing and dark, this 'cocooning' stage can also be fun and creative.
3. **Emergence.** This is the new entity, wondrously formed through the above stages, that is now able to greet the future with wings of strength and grace.

God bless you, TriCon!

Jean



into our work. While we do not want to put a definitive timeline on our process with Rev. Brown, we certainly are in the later stages of that process, and we envision a recommendation on Bob's candidacy this spring.

Please know how grateful we are for the Congregation's ongoing support, patience and prayers. You all have entrusted us with an incredibly important task that we are taking very seriously. Our goal is to represent your collective voice in this process to bring forward the best candidate possible to fulfill God's vision for TriCon, something we are very committed to doing. Thank you.

#### Your Search Committee

Matt Boger  
 Peter Bruning  
 Loretta Filipov  
 Michele Forinash  
 Paul Mahoney  
 Ellen Quackenbush  
 Prescott Stewart, Chair  
 Jane Turner Michael



**GOD is calling us**

to be a **nurturing community of**

**faith**

that **HONORS GOD** through  
**service & mission**



Mark Twain's America—  
Vintage American "Heart Songs" and Dance Tunes:  
*Ken Burns' Pianist*  
***Jacqueline Schwab in Concert***

Trinitarian Congregational Church  
Sunday, May 6, ----- 3:00 p.m.

Jacqueline will perform Stephen Foster "heart songs," brooding Irish airs and rousing Scottish fiddle tunes, side by side with soulful African-American spirituals, Civil War songs, Cuban habaneras, Tin Pan Alley ragtime tunes. Her evocative arrangements celebrate some of the many multicultural contributions to American musical heritage and the vibrant spirit of community music making still with us. Her signature style—described by the *New England Folk Almanac* as "the jazz/classical improvisational spirit of Keith Jarrett and the touch of George Winston ...."—is hard to categorize but easy to recognize. Ken Burns wrote: "Jacqueline Schwab brings more feeling and intensity to music than anyone I know. Her playing is insistent, physical, heartfelt and ... unusually moving." Critic Scott Alarik wrote she has "... an uncanny sensitivity to the moods and proprieties from other eras."

Open to the public – no charge – free will offering.



## MOTHERS' DAY

TEATEATEATEATEA

TriCon Parish Hall  
Wednesday, May 9  
11:30 am

To honor mothers,  
women who are mothers women who have mothers  
and women who had mothers!

Sign up on our website or in the parish hall.

Donations of cookies, bars and tea sandwiches are welcomed but not required.

Indicate on the sign-up if you'd like to bring something.

Optional donations of new, unopened toiletries (including hotel or travel size)  
to be donated to the mothers at the shelter in Ayer would also be welcome.



## "I Arise Today"

Multi-Generational Women's Retreat

Saturday, May 19, 2018

9:30 am – 4:00 pm at TriCon

"I Arise Today" refers to the Latin term *Lorica* – a mystical garment that protected the wearer from danger and illness. Celtic Christianity developed the prayer genre – *loricae* – which called on the Trinity and all of Creation to protect the body and soul from harm. This retreat will be an opportunity to discover your sacred space, a sense of renewal and strength, and your voice in these unsettled times we live in.

Retreat leader, Susie Allen, has a Masters of Divinity degree from Andover Newton and has led retreats for over 17 years. She was an associate pastor of the UCC Church in Boxborough for 7 years where she focused on child and family faith issues. For the past 18 months she has co-led a leadership program at the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation. A wife, mother and grandmother, Susie lives in Maynard.

This retreat will be a wonderful opportunity for the women of TriCon to bring their creative spirit and support to help celebrate one another in fellowship. The retreat will begin with an introduction and creation of a covenant for the day. There will also be music, prayer, creating/writing of psalms, labyrinth, worship and communion and social time during coffee and lunch.

Contact: Demi Ayres – [demi.ayres@gmail.com](mailto:demi.ayres@gmail.com), Betsy Swaim – [betsyswaim@icloud.com](mailto:betsyswaim@icloud.com) or Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift – [revdrjvandergrift@triconchurch.org](mailto:revdrjvandergrift@triconchurch.org) with any questions.

Registration cost: \$60. (includes morning drinks, pastries and lunch)  
Scholarship funding available through the church office.

Sign up on-line at [triconchurch.org](http://triconchurch.org) or call the church office.



## ***Celebrating Community***

*What if?.....*

Loretta Filipov gave this thought-provoking Call to Stewardship at a recent service.

*What would happen if there were no TriCon? What difference would it make if we weren't here? Well, dozens of our youth group members and their adult leaders might not have traveled to the southwestern part of the country, Appalachia or New Mexico to help nurture community and build friendships.*

*There might not be an antiques fair, something we have done for 48 years, that sends many thousands of dollars to mission.*

*Our Caring Connection volunteers might not visit the sick and the homebound with flowers and food and care; to name a few.*

*If we weren't here, might someone do all these good things in our stead?*

*Maybe so. But what we have, what is particular to us, is this community, you and me and all of us. And we are doing this, and much more. And that's important to me.*

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### **ENDOWMENT FUND GIFT**

It is exciting news to announce that we have received a very generous anonymous gift to our general Endowment Fund of \$500,000. Gifts and bequests to the Fund are a wonderful way to give a lasting legacy to the church. Each year we take a modest amount (approximately 4%) from the interest earned by the Fund to supplement the annual operating budget. This significant addition to the fund means that another \$20,000 is available to fund current expenses while preserving the principal and long-term value of the Endowment.

We are extremely grateful for this major donation but even small amounts added to the Fund can reap significant benefits over the long-run. While doing estate planning, please consider including a bequest or gift to the church.

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## **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 refreshments in the parish hall following the service.

You are welcome to participate in any of our church programs and activities and to sign up your children 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 with any questions.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**New Members Joining**  
**Sunday, June 3**  
 during the worship service

### **ATTENTION MEN OF THE CHURCH Join the Anchor Group**

The Anchor Group meets on the **first and third** 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).

### **SILENCE IN THE STORM: A WEEKLY MEDITATION GROUP**

When: Mondays, 10:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M.  
 in the Church Parlor

Looking for a quiet space for meditation and prayer? We meet weekly in the church parlor. We explore both guided and unguided meditation and prayer with music and occasional speakers. We mainly seek to find and honor the present. It is an exercise in being, rather than doing.

For more information, please contact Liz Crowell at [Lbenema@gmail.com](mailto:Lbenema@gmail.com) or 781-608-4765.



### **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Sunday, May 13**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism during the service on Sundays, May 13 and June 17. If you would like to have your child baptized, or you would like to be baptized yourself, please call the church office at 978 369-4837 by May 4 for the May baptism and by June 8 for the June baptism.

The deadline for the  
 June Newsletter  
 is May 15.



## Knitwits

WANT TO LEARN  
TO KNIT?

JOIN THE KNITWITS  
IN THE PARLOR  
Wednesday,  
May 23 AT NOON!

Join the Knitwits at their next meeting. We'll teach you a simple stitch or two and get you started on a small project with our knitting needles and yarn.

Experienced knitters always welcome!



# Happy Birthday

**Were you born in 1938 or earlier?**

**If so, you're invited to a party  
on Wednesday, May 30!**

Every year, the Caring Connection holds an annual Birthday Luncheon for all those in our congregation who are at least 80 years young. This year's party will be on Wednesday, May 30.

Join us for good food, good company and this year's special entertainment - show tunes sung by our own very talented, Marcia Macres!

If you qualify but didn't get an invitation, please call the church office so we can be sure you are included in this fun event.

## LIFE CHANGES

### NEW BABY



We welcome Samuel Bret Frederickson, born on March 6<sup>th</sup> to Brita (Bero) and Seth Frederickson and big sister, Elin. Beaming great-grandparents are Burke and Jo Bero.



*With Sincere Sympathy*

Heartfelt condolences to Judy Walpole and her family. Judy's husband, Jim, died on March 28th. A memorial service was held at TriCon on April 6th.

A member of TriCon for 40 years, Jim Walpole was a generous, kind, and caring man who moved through this world with quiet dignity and left the world a better place. He will be greatly missed.

Sincere sympathy to our former members, Lucinda and Charlie Wittenberg and their family. Lucinda's father, Malcolm Reed, died on April 9 on Martha's Vineyard. A memorial service was held on April 26 in Edgartown.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Vickie Wagner and her family. Vickie's father, Wade Wagner, died on April 13. A service was held in PA on April 18.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST



### EASTER FLOWERS

**THANK YOU**, Rebecca Purcell, Linda Longden and Holly Pompe van Meerdervoort for decorating the sanctuary so beautifully on Easter morning.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

Dear Church Family,  
I have been overwhelmed by your many, many cards and notes of sympathy. I am truly grateful for your outpouring of care, concern and support – thank you, all.

Judy Walpole

**THANK YOU, TRICON!**  
**for your continuing generosity**

#### **Easter Offering**

Our Easter offering raised over \$6,200 for the Greater Boston Food Bank. Serving 190 cities and towns in Massachusetts, they give out enough food to feed 142,000 people monthly. Thru school programs, food pantries, outreach to seniors and those in isolated communities, the Food Bank is a vital source of fresh and nutritious meals for many needy families and individuals. Thank you to all who contributed to support their important efforts.

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## *Your Generous Mission Dollars at Work* **MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT**



### COMMUNITY SERVINGS

Community Servings is a not-for-profit food and nutrition program providing services throughout Massachusetts and in Rhode Island to individuals and families living with critical and chronic illnesses. We give our clients, their dependent family members and caregivers appealing, nutritious meals, and send the message to those in greatest need that someone cares. Our goals are to help our clients maintain their health and dignity and preserve the integrity of their families through culturally appropriate, home-delivered meals, nutrition education, and other community programs.

**TRICON**  
OUTREACH

Learn more at:  
[triconchurch.org/missions-outreach](http://triconchurch.org/missions-outreach)

**THANK YOU,**  
**FROM COMMUNITY SERVINGS**

On behalf of Community Servings' clients, volunteers, and staff, I want to thank you for your generous grant to support our *Nutrition Program for Individuals & Families affected by Life-Threatening Illness*. Your \$5,000 contribution will help us to provide 650,000 medically tailored meals to 2,200 critically ill clients, their dependent children, and caregivers this year....Thank you for your tremendous support.

Sincerely,  
David B. Waters  
CEO

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## FROM THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Nick Bruning is leaving his role as Youth Leader after 13 years of dedication to the youth of TriCon. He will be missed! The Personnel Committee is working with the clergy and Moderator to fill the Youth Leader position. If anyone is interested in the role, or knows someone who might be a good fit, please contact Carole Wayland, Personnel Committee Chair, at [cmwayland@gmail.com](mailto:cmwayland@gmail.com). Below is a short scope of work, with a more detailed set of responsibilities available upon request.

### TriCon Youth Leader Scope of Work

To plan, coordinate and lead the Sunday evening Youth Group, Wednesday Discussion Group and Mission Trip in cooperation with, and with direction from, the Associate Minister. To support the mission and purpose of the Trinitarian Congregational Church and its Youth Program, especially by facilitating the spiritual growth and faith development of youth.

## HEARING AID UNITS

Available on Sunday Mornings

Do you have difficulty hearing our Sunday service? Individual hearing units that are part of our sound system are available on Sunday mornings. Just ask an usher for help.

We also have a hearing loop for those whose personal hearing aids are compatible with it.

For more information, call the church office.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Canary yellow offering envelopes for the year 2018 are available on the literature table in the parish hall. Feel free to take as many as you need. Please put your name and your giving code (if you know it) on the outside of the envelope.

## 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”. 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.



## SERMONS ON LINE

You can HEAR SERMONS  
on line by going to  
[www.triconchurch.org](http://www.triconchurch.org)

OR

Facebook.com and search  
*Trinitarian Congregational Church*

## REMINDER: FIND IT ON OUR WEBSITE TRICONCHURCH.ORG

If you have recycled your paper copy of this Newsletter and then remember an article you wanted to save or are looking for a date you forgot to put on your calendar, you can always find it on our website. Past and current newsletters are available there as well as a complete calendar of church events and lots of other important information about the church.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### COOPERATIVE METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES OF GREATER BOSTON

52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Fundraising Dinner,  
Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm,  
at Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline.

Rev. Liz Walker, formerly news anchor at WBZ-TV, will speak on "Moral Courage in Public Policy." For tickets, visit:

[www.lizwalkercmmdinner2018.eventbrite.com](http://www.lizwalkercmmdinner2018.eventbrite.com)

### VISIT CAMBODIA WITH *THE SHARING FOUNDATION*

To mark its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, *The Sharing Foundation* is sponsoring a trip to Cambodia from October 28 - November 4, 2018. For more information or to view an itinerary of the trip go to *The Sharing Foundation* website:

<https://sharingfoundation.org/about-us/news-updates/>. Registration to the public will begin on May 5.

**Open Table - May 2018**

**Cooking Oils**  
*Olive, Canola, Sunflower, Vegetable...*

smaller  
containers  
are  
preferred





Please **BAG ALL DONATIONS** and place in the bin in the Parish Hall.

Helping Our Neighbors Locally and Globally

Serving Over 300 Guests Weekly





These nutritious staples are very much appreciated by our neighbors at the Open Table Pantry.

## TRICON COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

Church Council	Russell Sanna
Diaconate	Matt Boger
Christian Education	Otto Judicke
Fellowship Committee	Holly Salemy/Kara Chappie
Finance Committee	Betsy Veidenheimer
Library Committee	Ellen Campbell
Membership Committee	Paul Mahoney
Mission Committee	Heidi Harring/Dale Ryder
Music & Arts Committee	Marcia Macres
Nominating Committee	Trish Siefer
Pastor/Parish Relations	Bill Ackles
Personnel Committee	Carole Wayland
Property Committee	Jim Davidian
Safe Church Committee	Carolyn Stein
Social Action Committee	Holly Darzan & Janet Lawson
Stewardship Committee	Jeff Campbell



# CHURCH SCHOOL



### **Sunday, May 6th**

10:00am Children's Chapel  
Church School

### **Sunday, May 13th**

9:15am 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Breakfast  
10:00am 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bibles in Worship  
Church School

### **Sunday, May 20th**

10:00am Church School

### **Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**

8:00am SEEKER Mission Trip to Portland  
SEEKER TriCon Sleepover

### **Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day Weekend**

10:00am Worship Service  
No Church School  
Childcare for children up to age 5

### **Exciting Announcement**

Brand new programming is already in the planning for next year. This includes a new curriculum, teacher support workshops and a new Church School format.

Your input is vital to our planning process. By registering EARLY, we will be able to tailor programming to meet the needs of our TriCon families.

### **Registration for 2018-2019 Church School begins in May.**

Check out our May online Church School newsletter for detailed information about calendar programming as well as news, photos and announcements.

If you are a new family and would like information about our Church School program, please contact our Church School Director, Carrie O'Brien, at [cobrien@triconchurch.org](mailto:cobrien@triconchurch.org). You may also visit our church website at [www.triconchurch.org](http://www.triconchurch.org) and click the Christian Education tab.

*\* On Children Chapel Sundays, Church School begins right at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. Children will be released to their classes following that brief service.*



April 20, 2018

Dear TriCon Church,

For 13 years, Nick Bruning, has been our beloved Youth Program Director. Over time this experience has led him to recognize his true desire for a full time career in volunteer-based, non-profit service work. For a while now he has been searching for just the right position to fully engage the skills, gifts and abilities that have been nurtured and developed through his work at TriCon.

Last week Nick accepted a new position at *Community Servings*, in Jamaica Plain. This is a growing organization that supplies nutritionally appropriate meals to critically ill patients in and around Boston. TriCon Church actually supports *Community Servings* through our mission funds.

Nick loves our youth beyond measure but has come to the difficult conclusion that he must resign his position as Youth Director in June. I have had the pleasure of working closely with Nick over my 9 years here and have learned a great deal from him. He has been extraordinarily dedicated to our youth and has created a rich and enduring culture of respect, mutuality, and true Christian fellowship among our high school students. The kids in the youth program and I are going to deeply miss his distinctive leadership.

Personally I am thrilled for him and pray that he finds blessing and fulfillment in exercising his vocation outside of TriCon. We have been so very blessed these past 13 years by his service to us. I am certain that many more people will be positively affected through his leadership style with an approach that values personal connection and mutual respect as the primary measure of successful service.

Next month we will officially honor Nick and bless him as he journeys out into this next chapter of his life. I will be working with the Personnel Committee and Church Council to explore our staffing options and program opportunities to insure a future that will continue to build on the firm foundation that Nick Bruning has so carefully and intentionally built.

In faith and hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob".

Robert Brown  
Acting Senior Minister



## From the Youth Leader

To the TriCon Community,

In the fall of 2005 I was hired to be the Youth Leader. Little did I know how my life would change over the next 13 years. In that time, I have run over 400 Sunday night Youth Groups, facilitated over 500 Wednesday night Discussion Groups, and led 13 Mission Trips. I would guess that during my tenure, around 250 high school kids have participated in one form or another in at least one on these activities. I am truly blessed to have had the opportunity to be there with them.

I am often asked to describe the youth program, and I never really have had a good answer. We are a spiritual group, but we are definitely not bible study. My knowledge of the Bible is limited, at best.

We play a lot of games, often times pretty physical games, but we are not gym class. There is no hierarchy of those picked first and picked last.

We laugh together and cry together. We care for each other, but we are not group therapy. We have our own rituals, especially surrounding the Mission Trip, but we are not a club. We are open to all, regardless of where you live, where you go to school, or even where your parents may go to church.

The best I can describe Youth Group is as follows: We are a group of teenagers (and a couple of adults), on varying paths of faith, that respects and embraces our differences, and that enjoys each other's company. We believe in each other, in understanding what made us who we are today, and supporting where we are going in the future.

Even though I am stepping down as the Youth Leader in June, I am still a member of this congregation. And I know first-hand that this congregation values its youth. The Youth Group will change and evolve in the future, just as it did under my tenure. With the support of this congregation, I have no doubt that it will remain a vibrant and important part of our church.

Warm regards,

Nick Bruning



## **LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER!!**

### **BOB LEHMANN**

Bob grew up in CT and graduated from Middlebury College. Bob spent his 20's teaching math and computer courses to the children of both expatriates and locals in England,



Switzerland and Japan. He moved to Boston to be close to the Red Sox and complete a Master's degree in computer science and an MBA. The Red Sox eventually rewarded his loyalty.

Bob entered the business world working for Fidelity. He enrolled in a cooking class in 1997, and while he learned how to make great garlic bread, the real reward for his efforts was meeting Anne - a classmate. Anne and Bob married in 1999 and moved to Concord. Will arrived in 2001 and Matt in 2003.

In 2008, Bob joined a boutique research and consulting firm in Cambridge. During his five years there his most memorable project was a strategy war game he led with leaders of the nuclear power generation division of GE that took place during the Fukushima reactor accident in Japan.

Now at a software company in Bedford, Bob can ride his bike to work and has more time for other activities. The family enjoys visiting Anne's family's home outside Bar Harbor. Bob and Will set a goal of skiing at the 36 largest ski resorts in New England before he heads to college (25 so far). Matt and Bob set a goal of visiting all 30 major league baseball parks before he turns 21 (10 so far). Bob has also been more involved at TriCon - he joined the Diaconate last year. Passionate for the environment, Bob installed solar panels on their house and now enjoys plugging his electric car "into the roof" when he gets home.

### **CAROLYN STAFFORD STEIN**

Carolyn started attending TriCon when eldest daughter Lena—now 24—was just three. Daughters



Audrey and Natalie followed Lena in making their way through Church School, Seekers, Youth Group, Confirmation, and Mission Trips. The girls are the light of her life, as they are for Carolyn's husband, Eric.

Carolyn and Eric met in their freshman year at Brown and moved together to Boston after college for law and medical school, respectively. With the exception of a short stay in the Bay Area (Eric still speaks wistfully of the Palo Alto weather), they have been in the area ever since, with the last 23 years in Carlisle. They did move houses within town six years ago, but managed to keep very nearby to Kimball's.

Carolyn served as a federal prosecutor at the US Attorney's Office and then spent more than 20 years at Harvard Law School in the Office of Public Interest Advising, advising students and alumni on careers in public service. Eric completed his residency at Mass Eye and Ear and is in a private practice in Chelmsford and Lowell. Carolyn recently left HLS to pursue new challenges, although she is still figuring out just exactly what they may be. Active in a number of area non-profits, Carolyn loves to read, walk, attend yoga classes, and travel. She and Eric took an amazing trip to Laos in February, but most of their travel of late has been to NJ, upstate NY, and Nashville to hear their girls sing in a cappella groups and college choirs and at "writers' rounds" for aspiring singer-songwriters.

At TriCon, Carolyn taught Church School all the many years her children were enrolled and now serves as Chair of the Safe Church Committee and as a new member of the Mission Committee. Carolyn believes their family has been blessed many times over by the loving community of faith they have found in TriCon.



## Serve *Dinner* at Open Table in Maynard



Since its beginning over thirty years ago, Open Table has served more than 500,000 dinners!

Open Table provides healthy food, friendship, fellowship, and support to those needing help with groceries and meals.

TriCon volunteers get together every third Tuesday at the new kitchen facility in Maynard where we spend a few hours helping set up and serve a Community Supper, with care and respect, to those in need.

### ***Dates for Spring/Summer available!***

Tuesdays: May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, and Aug. 21st  
5:30 - 7:30PM

Please sign up through the church website, on the paper sheets in the Parish Hall, or by calling the church office.

[www.triconchurch.org](http://www.triconchurch.org)

You can find all current sign-up opportunities in the middle of the home page.



# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00am Anchor Group	2 7:30pm Youth Discussion	3 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 9:00am Worship/Communion 3:00pm Jacqueline Schwab concert 7:00pm Youth Group	7 10:30am Meditation Group	8 7:00pm Diaconate	9 10:00am Caregivers Tea 11:30am Mothers' Day 7:30pm Youth Discussion	10 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	11	12 9:00am - 3:00pm Confirmation Retreat
13 MOTHERS' DAY 10:00am Worship/Baptism 7:00pm Youth Group	14 10:30am Meditation Group	15 7:00am Anchor Group 7:00pm Confirmation Faith Statements	16 7:30pm Youth Discussion	17 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	18	19 9:30am - 4:00pm Women's Retreat
20 9:00am Confirmation Breakfast 10:00am Worship/Confirmation 7:00pm Youth Group	21 10:30am Meditation Group	22 7:30pm Church Council	23 7:30am Finance Committee 10:00am Caregivers 12:00pm Knitwits 7:30pm Youth Discussion	24	25	26 8:00am SEEKERS Mission Trip to Portland
27 10:00am Worship	28 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed	29	30 12:00pm 80+ Birthday Party	31		

April

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					