

TRICON
VISION

September 2018

GOD is calling us



to be a nurturing community of

FAITH

that HONORS GOD through
service & mission.

Rested & Ready...

That was a headline I read recently that really seemed to capture the spirit of TriCon Church as we begin our program year. In between restful summer vacations and the hiatus of evening committee meetings there has also been a lot of getting ready. We have been planning, preparing, and gathering together for worship, prayer and fellowship.

This past summer, we concentrated on a sermon series called *The Beatitudes*. Each Sunday, we focused on one of the eight short sayings of Jesus from his sermon on the mount. We received such a positive response to this series that we thought it might be good to put them together in a little booklet. *The Beatitude* booklets will soon be available to pick up at church or you will be able to download the e-book from our website.

In late July we were blessed to identify and hire our new Youth Leader, Christine Kelley. Everyone who has met Christine is enchanted by her energy and passion for teens. We will officially commission her ministry with us during worship on Sunday, September 16th. I will be leading Youth Group with Christine beginning on September 9th. Also, Christine will join me in facilitating the Wednesday High School Discussion Group, which resumes on September 19th.

Suzanne Giles, David Hart, Amy Bruning and I have been busy planning to receive a large Confirmation group for incoming high school freshman and sophomores. At this date 28 students and 28 adult mentors will meet throughout the year to explore faith and form community.

Also this summer we voted in the new pastoral search committee. We have already been meeting regularly and are well on the way towards meeting candidates who will apply for a call to become our next settled *Minister of Congregational Life*. Please pray for God's blessing on our insight, wisdom and discernment.

AND SO WE BEGIN, RESTED & READY

Sunday September 9th is *Welcome Sunday*, a joyful celebration of worship, followed by an

always-festive brunch and assortment of lawn games (*weather permitting*), hosted by the Fellowship Committee. **September 9th** also begins **the all-new Children's Ministry**. Even if you don't have children at TriCon, be sure to read more about this exciting new customized children's program in this newsletter or online. **We are still in need of volunteers** who can share in the joy and blessing of being with these jewels of TriCon Church. Children's Ministry Director, Carrie O'Brien, has designed a curriculum that is creative, easy to follow and requires only a gentle heart and collaborative spirit.

This coming fall we will be looking closely at our vision statement and putting our words into practice. In September we focus on worship. Diaconate leaders will be making one-on-one appointments with many of you to ask what does "vibrant worship" mean to you and why do we gather in this way? What do you value about worshipping together and how exactly is God honored? In October we will examine what it means to "honor God through service and mission." On **Mission Sunday, October 21st**, we will examine scriptures about poverty and hunger and hear from someone who works closely with the growing number of undernourished people in our community. Following worship we will take our service to the street when we unify together to support and participate in the **Concord Crop Walk**. No matter what your age or ability there will be a place for you to join team TriCon in tangibly helping to alleviate hunger in our neighborhood.

The pages that follow are filled with many other ministries and outreach opportunities designed for each of us to live out our faith, stand for justice and grow in grace while nurturing community. It is who we are and why we exist. Forums, discussion groups, retreats, worship services, concerts, the Antique Show, and so much more, are vehicles for nurturing community, showing compassion and proclaiming the good news of the Gospel. It's an exciting season for TriCon Church! Join us.

In faith, hope and great anticipation,

Bob

Rev. Robert Brown – Senior Minister



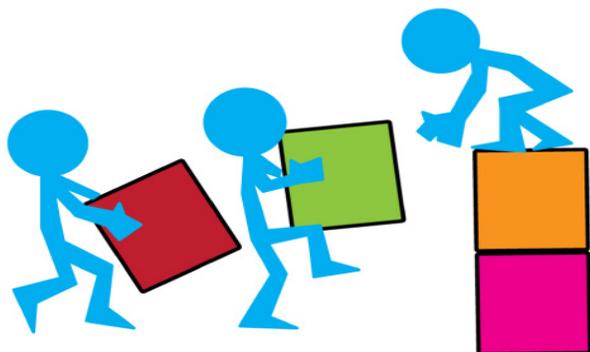
MARKERS ALONG THE JOURNEY

REFLECTIONS FROM JEAN VANDERGRIFT

I feel blessed that transition continues at TriCon, at least for a few months. Since you are looking for the right person to fill the second clergy position, I get to work a little longer with Bob Brown, the staff, and you! Together, we will live further into God's Vision for this congregation.

During this next phase of ministry, my role will adjust. Among the features of my job that will change from what it has been over the last eighteen months is the work of transition. I will be available as a sounding board and lend support to the search process, but will not be giving it oversight. As additional adjustments, I will take up work with the Christian Education Committee, begin working with sub-groups of the Diaconate on a few initiatives that advance the Vision, and give more time and attention to Children's Ministry with Carrie O'Brien, including the Voyagers, Seekers, and their families.

In conjunction with Bob Brown and Vickie Wagner, I will continue to collaborate in worship, preaching, and special services. Together, Bob and I, with the Caring Connection, will cover pastoral care and visitation, along with corresponding tasks of administration and communication.



TriCon's Vision and Priorities require a team approach. Indeed, everywhere these days, faithful and effective congregational ministry calls for ministers to be adroit and job descriptions flexible. So the above job outline may modify as we go. Bob's collegiality lends itself well to this reality, and this direction for the interim suits me too. Above all, the Holy Spirit is being active and involved.

What fun to go forward!

Jean



YOUR NEW SEARCH COMMITTEE

On Sunday, August 5, the congregation elected the following church members to serve as the Search Committee for the second minister:

Matthew Boger
Phyllis Clarke
Leslie Feigh
Michele Forinash
Suzanne Giles
Paul Mahoney, Chair
Charity Tremblay
Lucas Wilbur, Youth Member

Al Filipov peace & justice FORUM 2018

this year honoring
UTEC
Breaking barriers to youth success



UTEC works with young adults ages 17-25 from Lowell, Lawrence and Haverhill who have histories of incarceration or serious criminal activity. Participants build core competencies through social enterprises, blended education, and intensive supports. Join us to hear a panel of participants talk about their experiences.

“Reduced Recidivism and Increased Education and Employment”



Sunday, September 16, 2018

4:30 pm Program and Award Presentation

Free and open to all - donations welcome



Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street, Concord MA 01742
(978) 369-4837

Thank you to our Endorsers:

Christ Church United, UCC, Lowell . City Mission Boston . Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries
Justice & Witness Ministries, Massachusetts Conference, UCC . Massachusetts Council of Churches
Trinitarian Congregational Church, Concord



For more information contact Al Filipov Peace & Justice Forum . www.AIFilipov.org

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

September 2	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching
September 9	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching
September 16	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift preaching
September 23	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching
September 30	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching



Sunday, September 9th

The Fellowship Committee
invites everyone to a delicious brunch
following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

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

Lawn Games - weather permitting!

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

An All-TriCon Invitation to Participate

Brand NEW Children's Ministry Program beginning Sunday, September 9th

Our new Sunday program is comprised of four distinct components. While each is separate in scope and delivery, all four work as one and are equally integral to our goals of nurturing faith formation and building intergenerational relationships.



NEW Mission Project Sundays - *This program allows for intergenerational community building as well as supporting mission, what Jesus has called us to do.* These mornings will be dedicated to learning about some of the mission and outreach organizations that TriCon supports and helping those in our own TriCon community by participating in service projects, such as decorating placemats for Open Table or making holiday cards for our own Caring Connection.



NEW Creative Church - *This program provides opportunities to build intergenerational relationships and show who God is in words and actions.* All ages will meet together and learn about a Christian theme through different table activities. A brief worship celebration ends the morning.



NEW Exploring Faith Groups (formerly known as Church School)- *Faith Groups allow for smaller groups of kids to build on their own community and learn about important Christian themes and Bible stories.* Carrie is writing custom curriculum, so it is very easy for our leaders (formerly known as teachers) to use (less preparation!).



CONTINUING Worshiping Together Services - *This program offers children and youth (Pre-K - 8th Grade) the opportunity to acquire the practices and understand the rituals of worship thru participation and observation. This is a time for the entire Body of Christ to worship together.* Services will be appropriate for all ages and will be designed by Bob and Jean with Carrie's help. Children and youth can serve alongside adults as liturgists, greeters, bulletin designers, and candle lighters.

Designed to support our TriCon Vision and Priorities of ...

CREATIVE WORSHIP, SUPPORTING MISSION and NURTURING COMMUNITY

... participating in our new Children's Ministry program at TriCon will be a meaningful and fun way to engage in the life and future of our church while building on faith.

Whether you are an experienced Children's Ministry volunteer or new to the idea, we welcome you! TriCon Church is strengthened by its volunteer participation and we appreciate what all of you do to enhance our church community. Sign Ups available now. Choose to help often or just once. Training is available. There is little to prepare and much to be gained.

To volunteer and/or for more information, please contact Carrie O'Brien, Children's Ministry Director at 978-369-4837 or at cobrien@triconchurch.org.



YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP

Welcome and Welcome Back to TriCon senior high Youth Group!

We have *lots* of **fun** things planned!



Youth Group resumes

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9TH, 7 - 8:30 PM

Discussion Group resumes

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19TH, 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Youth Group **Retreat**: we will be going on a **Zip Line** tour and staying overnight at **Zoar Outdoor** in Charelmont, MA, Oct. 6th - 7th. Details, and permission form and waiver were mailed.

The **Mission Trip** will take place over the April 2019 public school vacation week. We will be helping in **hurricane rebuilding in Puerto Rico**. Letter, Calendar, and Application were mailed.

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE YOUR PACKET IN THE MAIL, with information on Youth Group, Discussion Group, Fall Retreat, and the Mission Trip, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL Amy Bruning: abruning@triconchurch.org
Or find info on our website
www.triconchurch.org

Christine Kelley, Youth Group Leader
ckelley@triconchurch.org
978.337.6171 call or text

Bob Brown
revbobbrown@triconchurch.org
978.204.7739 call or text

Nick Bruning
Mission Trip
nbruning@triconchurch.org
978.618.1629 call or text

Sunday, 9th – Youth Group 7-8:30PM
Sunday, 16th - YG, 7-8:30PM
Wednesday, 19th - Discussion Group 7:30-8:30PM
Sunday, 23rd - YG, 7-8:30PM
Wednesday, 26th - DG, 7:30-8:30PM
Sunday, 30th - YG, 7-8:30PM

THE LEGACY CONTINUES!

August 15, 2018

Hello high school Youth Group families,

We have some exciting news! During the summer we were blessed to identify our new Youth Leader. **Christine Kelley** is a Westford resident who teaches middle school students through the CASE collaborative, has a Masters in Education, and has been active in her own Methodist church with their confirmation class and youth group. She has two daughters in college, is fluent in Spanish, and plays center midfield on a women's soccer league. Christine is energetic, engaging, and passionate about working with teens. We are enthusiastically anticipating a great year.



Sunday night Youth Group and Wednesday evening Discussion Group will be facilitated by Bob and Christine. The yearly mission trip, which will take place in April, 2019, will be run by **Nick Bruning**, in collaboration with Bob and Christine.

Inside you will find

- Sunday night Youth Group and Wednesday night Discussion Group information
- **Zoar Outdoor Zip Line** overnight/retreat in October and Permission Form
- April Mission Trip to **Puerto Rico**, Hurricane Relief information and Application

Welcome back to everyone and welcome to newcomers! I can't wait to reconnect with you all and introduce you to Christine at the **first Youth Group** on **September 9th**.

In faith, hope and great anticipation,

Bob

Rev. Robert Brown

Hello everyone! I have heard such great things about TriCon Youth program. I can already see how much the church values its youth. I am excited to be joining you this year and am looking forward to meeting each one of you. *Christine*

SEPTEMBER:

Sunday, 9th – Youth Group 7-8:30PM

Sunday, 16th – YG, 7-8:30PM

Wednesday, 19th – Discussion Group 7:30-8:30PM

Sunday, 23rd – YG, 7-8:30PM

Wednesday, 25th – DG, 7:30-8:30PM

Sunday, 30th – YG, 7-8:30PM

New Members - Joining September 30th!



We will welcome new members on **Sunday, September 30th**, and would love to include you, should you be ready to join TriCon church.

Sept. 23 - 11:15 - noon - 'exploring membership orientation event'

Sept. 30 - joining during worship service

Email or call Amy Bruning if you are thinking about joining in September.

Paul Mahoney, chair of Membership: paul@mahoneyarchitects.com
Amy Bruning, Membership Coordinator: abruning@triconchurch.org ~ church office: 978-369-4837

TRICON
EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION

Our TriCon Confirmation Program is open to entering 9th and 10th graders. If your child would like to participate and has not signed up yet, please email/call Amy Bruning, or go to our TriCon website for the Registration form.

Rev. Bob Brown, Suzanne Giles, and David Hart facilitate the Confirmation Program.. We are excited to have a big class this year, and are looking forward to exploring our faith together.

There will be an **Orientation for the Confirmands and Parents Sunday, Sept. 16th, at 11:30 AM.**

The **Confirmation Commissioning** will take place during the 10 AM worship service on **Sept. 23rd. First Class will be that evening, from 5-7 PM.**

There is an **Orientation for the Mentors Sunday, Sept. 23rd, at 11:30 AM.**



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

September 2018

***Welcome to a new year of Children's Ministry
and a brand, new Children's Ministry program!***



Sunday, September 9th

10:00am Exploring Faith Groups

Tuesday, September 11th

7:00pm Mentor Panel Workshop

Sunday, September 16th

10:00am Exploring Faith Groups

11:15am SEEKER Parent and Youth Meeting

Sunday, September 23rd

10:00am Exploring Faith Groups

TBD SEEKER Hike

Sunday, September 30th

10:00am Creative Church

11:15am Voyager Parent and Youth Meeting

**IMPORTANT NOTE
for PARENTS**

We would like to know who will be joining us on Sunday mornings. It is important to register your family for our Children's Ministry program. The Registration Form can be found on our TriCon website at www.triconchurch.org.

Helping to support Children's Ministry makes it possible for us to offer all of our children's events, activities and programming. Find your place to participate on our TriCon website under SIGN UPS/ NEWS.

Check out our September on-line 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 Children's Ministry program, please contact our Children's Ministry Director Carrie O'Brien at cobrien@triconchurch.org. You may also visit our website at www.triconchurch.org and click the Christian Education tab.

Children's Ministry Morning Routine

Before the 10:00AM service, nursery age children, up to age three, are dropped off in the nursery on the first floor of the Children's Ministry wing. Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade join worship with their families for the first part of the service before leaving for programming.

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 Children's Ministry or youth programs. Call the church office with any questions.

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.

The deadline for the
October Newsletter
is September 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, September 5 and 19 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor.** Call the church office (978 369-4837) for more information.



Senior Choir sings during the service on Sunday, September 9.

**Senior Choir (teens & adults)
rehearsals begin
Thursday, September 13
7:45-9:15 p.m.**

*Newcomers are welcome for a season,
a year, or a lifetime!
Regular participation is expected,
but perfect attendance is not.*

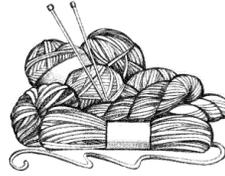
- Sing music in a wide variety of styles.
- Strengthen musical and vocal skills
- Meet new people, deepen friendships, laugh together.

Contact Music Director, Vickie Wagner, at vwagner@triconchurch.org or 978 369-4837.



FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN

Saturday, September 22



Knitwits

**Wednesday,
September 26
at noon
in the Church
Parlor**

The KnitWits are returning from their summer break and will meet on Wednesday, September 26th at 12 noon in the Parlor. As a group, we meet on the 4th Wednesday during the school year from September through May, excluding December. **All knitters at any skill level are welcome to join us. Come and get help, give help, share projects, get new ideas or just enjoy the conversation. If you are new to knitting, we are happy to welcome you and teach you some basic stitches. If you need a project, we can make suggestions.** As a group, we make prayer shawls for the Caring Connection, plus donations of hats, mittens, and scarves for City Mission Society.



48TH ANNUAL ANTIQUES SHOW

**Friday, November 2
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 3
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

See the October Newsletter for opportunities to volunteer during this All-Church event.

Open Table - SEPTEMBER 2018

Cereal - all kinds!



Helping Our Neighbors Locally and Globally

Serving Over 300 Guests Weekly





Nurturing Community

Each fall, during our stewardship campaign, we ask worshippers to make a commitment, a pledge or gift, to support the work of the church for the coming year. It is only through the support of our worshippers that the church is able to survive and flourish.

This year, we will be conducting the campaign a little differently from past years. You will get a booklet in early October highlighting the many activities and ministries and laying out the financial picture and budget but there will be no haversacks distributed by neighborhood routes. During the month of October, there will be a series of “house parties” and “church parties” where parishioners will be invited to share refreshments and conversation and to offer input and ideas and talk about what is important about the church.

In November, pledge cards will be mailed and there will be the opportunity to pledge by mailing the card, bringing it to a service or pledging on-line. The theme is **Nurturing Community**.

At a recent Sunday service, Lucas Wilbur, a junior at CCHS gave the following Call to Stewardship which so beautifully illustrates the meaning of community.

*There is so much good TriCon does that I could talk about: everything from donations to Open Table to mission trips. However, I'd like to take today to talk about the less obvious, yet just as - if not more important - thing that TriCon provides us - **community**.*

*As a member of the youth community here at TriCon, I can wholeheartedly say I feel lucky to be a part of it. In Youth Group, no one is a stranger; everyone is welcome. It is impossible **not** to have a good time when everyone here -adults and kids alike -care about each other and a community that creates friends and memories that last a lifetime.*

Recently I have also had the privilege of being a member of our search committee for a new minister for our church and that has opened a whole new window into what this church really is. I get to spend time with people from all walks of life who I can see are devoted to this church, devoted to making it better every day and devoted above all else to working for the good of this congregation.

That devotion makes this church not just a bunch of people who happen to show up at the same time each Sunday -it makes us a community. And it makes us a family!

Caring Connection



The **Caring Connection** provides practical assistance to parishioners in various ways such as meals and transportation to church and doctors, as well as assisting the clergy in offering pastoral care thru hospital, nursing home and home visits, notes and calls. This month, **we are highlighting the transportation role and seeking more volunteers to**

be on the list to provide this vital service to those in our church family needing help.

Transportation Guidelines:

Caring Connection transportation is available for scheduled, non-emergency medical appointments and rides to church. Whenever possible, please provide at least three days' notice. We have very limited ability to accommodate same day requests.

While volunteers are glad to assist by stowing walkers and offering a steady arm or hand, the parishioner must be able to exit and enter a vehicle and walk with minimal assistance. If the parishioner requires assistance entering or exiting their home in situations requiring more than a few stairs, icy sidewalks or in other potential hazardous conditions, the volunteer may be unable to accommodate the request.

Neither the Church or the individual volunteer assumes liability for falls or any changes in medical condition during the transport time. In respect of the volunteers' time and the needs of other parishioners, please limit requests for transportation to rides to church, doctor's appointments or other essential needs.

Yes(!), add me to the list to provide transportation to:

- Church services
- Local medical offices
- Out-of-town appointments:
 - Lahey Clinic
 - Boston hospitals

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

In general, best days/times for me are: _____

When a need arises, you may be called but there is no obligation or expectation if the request does not fit with your schedule. Thank You!

ITEMS OF INTEREST



OUR CLOSETS ARE FULL! ARE YOURS'?

It's very possible there's something in our closet that belongs in your closet! We have jackets, coats, sweaters, shirts, hats, gloves, scarves, etc., etc., etc.

All items in search of an owner have been moved to the closet off the narthex. Why not take a look? You just might find something you didn't know you were missing.

Please claim your belongings by October 1st. Unclaimed items will be donated.

The church kitchen has also become home to a collection of abandoned WATER BOTTLES. If you are missing a water bottle that you can't live without, please claim it before it is thrown away.



SERMONS ON LINE

You can HEAR SERMONS
on line by going to
www.triconchurch.org

OR

Facebook.com and search
Trinitarian Congregational Church

NEW BACKGROUND CHECK FOR SAFE CHURCH

For a number of years, as part of our Safe Church policy, we have asked all volunteers working with children and youth to submit information for a CORi check which covers Massachusetts records. Our insurance company is now requiring that we also do a national background check. You can do it on-line and it is quick and easy. We will be sending information this summer to those who have volunteered in the past. Please watch for it and take just a minute to help us fulfill these insurance requirements.

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.

For more information, call the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday service in 2018, you may sign up on the flower chart in the parish hall or on our website.

LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL PARENT/CHILD TEAMS

for a meaningful service project!



What: Several families share the responsibility for

delivering the food that we collect for Open Table to the food pantry on Everett Street in Concord.

When: The delivery can be made between 2 and 5pm on Tuesdays. With several families involved, each only needs to take a turn once a month.

Why: Open Table depends on, and is very grateful for, our generous continuing support. Your children will be able to see the tangible results and benefits of providing for others.

If you want to join the rotation, please contact Judy Walpole (jwalpole@triconchurch.org) in the church office.

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.

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”. Any questions, please call or email Judy or Amy at the church office: jwalpole@triconchurch.org or 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.



Your Generous Mission Dollars at Work MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT



The Sharing Foundation, Cambodia

The Sharing Foundation's (TSF) mission is to help meet the physical, emotional, educational and medical needs of orphaned and seriously disadvantaged children in Cambodia. TSF is celebrating its 20th year of providing hope to children through its Roteang Orphanage, Health Programs, Educational Programs, Farm Project, and Village and School Improvement Projects.

TRICON
OUTREACH

Learn more at:
triconchurch.org/missions-outreach



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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!

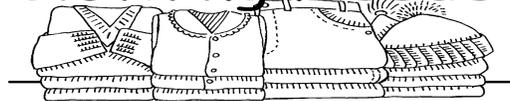
Backpacks are especially needed but please consider stuffing one with an assortment of some of the following important *School Supplies* so these needy children can start the school year equipped for learning!

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

School Supplies:

COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS	NOTEBOOKS	NO. 2 PENCILS
GLUE STICKS	SCISSORS	SCISSORS
ONE INCH BINDERS	RULERS	POST-ITS
COLORED PENCILS	BALLPOINT PENS	PENCIL SHARPENERS
PENS (BLUE AND BLACK)	CRAYONS	LARGE PINK ERASERS
FOLDERS TO FIT INTO BINDERS	CALENDARS	WATER COLOR PAINTS
BOTTLE OF WHITE GLUE	HIGHLIGHTERS	SCOTCH TAPE
COMPUTER PRINTER PAPER	CALCULATORS	DRAWING PAPER
LOOSE-LEAF NOTEBOOK PAPER	POCKET FOLDERS	
CONSTRUCTION PAPER	SCHOOL BOXES	
SMALL BOTTLES OF HAND SANITIZER		

Clothing Needed



for Homeless Women and Children

*When you are sorting and replacing your children's clothing for fall and winter, please remember the children at **House of Hope** in Lowell. Gently worn clothing and new items such as jeans, pants, sweaters, shirts, socks, and casual shoes are needed for the children and teens. Baby clothing for newborns is also needed for the Welcome Baby baskets prepared for the young mothers. (No winter coats or pajamas, please.)*



House of Hope Inc.

Donations may be left in the parish hall from August 1 – 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 documents 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) and a National Background 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

Carolyn Stein, Chair; Jeff Campbell, David Kolstad, Melissa McMorrow, Tom Piper