



The Pastoral Perspective

The gentle sea-breezes off the tidal river along with the sound of seagulls nearby took me back 39 years to my summer ordination as Janet and I sat in the pew listening to the organ prelude played, curiously enough, on a Noack organ, a new instrument in the place of the one my mother played as South Church organist decades ago. The gathering crowd represented a rich tapestry of lives touched, transformed, and otherwise ministered to during a remarkable pastorate. Janet and I recollected the various seasons, junctures, and circumstances whereby we had been blessed by the ministry of Bob Howes, longtime pastor of South Congregational Church (UCC) in Kennebunkport, Maine. In fact, Bob Howes was essentially the only minister I had really known, his predecessor being merely a vague recollection due to my young age; thus, Bob was naturally a "given" as my mentor in ministry. Bob gave me my first Bible in church and a personally inscribed Bible at my ordination in Kennebunkport, plus he came to Concord to celebrate my 25th ordination anniversary.

Through Pilgrim Fellowship, he introduced me to the incredible mission work of Dr. Tom Dooley and, thus, planted the seed for a global awareness and outreach. He presented me my God and Country Award as well as multiple opportunities during my college years to preach in the summer at South Church. We camped out together on a youth retreat in Alstead, NH, climbing Mt. Sunapee, and were kindred souls on the March on Washington and Congressional Visitation for Peace during the Vietnam War. He sat with me before the local draft board over issues of conscience, and he sat with our family as we said good-bye to loved ones. He confirmed me, shared my pilgrimage to ordained ministry, hosted my ordination service, married Janet and me, and baptized our two daughters. Over the years, he was counselor, confidante, and colleague on all matters ecclesiastical. In the end, he was, in subtle, wise, humble, and abidingly faith-filled ways, my pastor, friend, and partner-in-faith -- an embodiment, if you will, of the very Word of God. At age 90, after a full, faithful, and rich life of selfless love and caring ministry, he peacefully concluded his earthly life and joined "the great cloud of witnesses." As Janet and I breathed in the salt air and heard again the seagulls telling us of home that late May day a couple of months ago, we remembered fondly, with others and with thanksgiving, this grace-filled servant of God and disciple of Christ. There was a palpable sense that an era had passed, but, for all the sadness of its passing, how incredibly blessed we had been to have received "the mysteries of God's goodness and grace" through Bob Howes.

The power of that memorial service, the passing of time, and the importance of family and the community of faith give me pause to ponder anew my own work and witness in whatever time is given in which to exercise the same. Surely, bittersweet times (for that is the nature of life itself) beckon me to new seasons filled with promise and possibility, awaiting my discernment and the Spirit's whispering in my ear, along with the recognition that life is changing, albeit living is always, to a point, ad interim.

Just as sitting in South Church on a warm, late spring day, bathed in the refreshing salt air and with the cries of the seagulls outside, took me back to a once new season in my own life, so the service for Bob Howes prompts reflection on a new season unfolding even as the future bespeaks change.

Grace and peace,

AUGUST WORSHIP

In the Air-Conditioned Parish Hall

August 2 **Service at 10:00** Rev. Robert Brown preaching
Communion Joint Service at TriCon with West Concord Union Church

August 9 **Service at 10:00** Rev. Hannah Brown preaching
Joint Service at TriCon with West Concord Union Church

Our regular summer services will continue on:

August 16 **Service at 10:00** Rev. Robert Brown preaching

August 23 **Service at 10:00** Rev. Robert Brown preaching

August 30 **Service at 10:00** Nancy Haynes preaching

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!

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.

CAREGIVERS GROUP

The TriCon Caregivers Group is an opportunity for our parishioners and friends in caregiving roles to come together. This confidential group, shares 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 join the TriCon Caregivers Group. **We will meet on Wednesday, August 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parlor.**

Come as your schedule allows. Call the church office, 978 369-4837, for more information.

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.



Progressive Dinner

Saturday, October 17th

Sign-ups for the dinner will start in September. We'll gather at the church for appetizers, adjourn to various homes for the main course and then to a different home for dessert.

To make it all work, we are looking for hosts to offer their home for dinner or dessert. If you are willing, please sign up in the parish hall or email Karen Barton (karenabarton@aol.com) or Charity Tremblay (catremblay@comcast.net) and indicate how many you can accommodate.



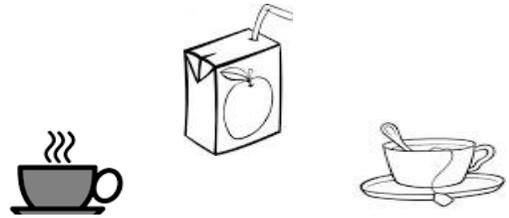
45TH ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE

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

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

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.



OPEN TABLE AUGUST

Coffee, Tea and 100% Juice

Our friends at Open Table would welcome donations of:

coffee (instant or perk);

tea (caffeinated or decaf);

100 % juice (bottles or single serve cartons).

Thank you!

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

LIFE CHANGES

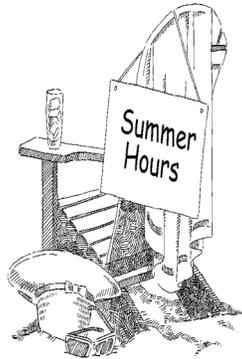
WITH SYMPATHY

Sincere condolences to the family of our longtime member, Norma Hebb, who died on June 30 in VT. For many years, Norma was a part of the group of women who faithfully folded and collated the Sunday bulletins and assembled the monthly newsletter. She was an enthusiastic volunteer, a good friend and a warm and caring person. She will be missed. A memorial service for Norma will be held at TriCon on Friday, September 25 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception following.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will
be open
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
during the summer



COMING VERY SOON TO A CHURCH NEAR YOU



Our New Photo Directory!

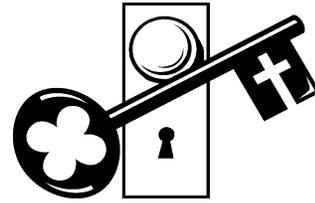
Photos will be taken
during the weeks of
October 12th and
October 26th. Sign-ups

are available now at:

<https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/trinitariancongregationalchurch/index.php?page=10> and at coffee hours in early September. We hope everyone in the congregation will have their photo taken so we can all get to know each other better and greet fellow worshippers by name!

There is absolutely no obligation to purchase any photos and everyone photographed will get a free photo and a copy of the directory.

The deadline for the
September Newsletter
is August 15.



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 - 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!

SUMMER PASTORAL CARE

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

OFFERING ENVELOPES

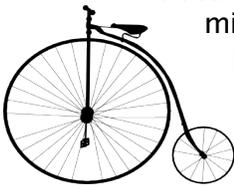
Green OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2015 are available in the parish hall. Please take as many or as few as you need. If you use cash, kindly put your name on the envelope.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday service in 2015, you may sign up on the flower chart in the parish hall.

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!



SERMONS ON FACEBOOK

You can HEAR SERMONS on line by going to

www.triconchurch.org

OR

Facebook.com and search Trinitarian Congregational 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”. You will have the option of transferring funds from your bank account or using a credit card. You can make a one-time payment or set up recurring ones.

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

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.

THANKS FOR GIVING

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

On behalf of all of us at REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, thank you for your generous donation of \$3,500. Your gift makes a powerful statement that you have joined us to help build healthy communities by ending dating and domestic violence....We at REACH seek to empower individuals through intervention, prevention, education and advocacy programs. ...We are grateful for your generosity to our organization and your commitment to helping individuals and families in need....Together we can reach beyond domestic violence.

*Sincerely,
Laura R. Van Zandt
Executive Director*

CHANGING LIVES
AT ALL AGES AND STAGES



Nick Wilbur, a 2015 graduate of CCHS and an active participant in our youth program delivered the following moving message at a recent service:

“TriCon means a lot of things to a lot of people; and, in my case, you could say it means a lot of things to one person. TriCon is a place to celebrate triumphs, to mourn losses, to spend time with friends, and to worship God. These last two may be of particular impor. When I speak about religion with many of my non-TriCon peers, they paint me a picture of boredom, a picture of stuffy places and stuffy people unable to connect with a 21st-Century teenage audience. Here, in this church, nothing could be further from the truth.

The Youth Program has been a more-than-integral part of my high school career, and helped me to make friends and foster relationships that I know will last for many years. One of these relationships is of course between myself and God. It is here, within these walls, that I have come to define divinity and what it means to my life. Without TriCon, I may never have been able to do this, and therefore, simply would not be the person I am today. Please, help TriCon keep helping others as it has helped me.”



Our Song Shall Rise to Thee



Fund-Raising: Thanks to all who have contributed, we have pledges and gifts that total just over of \$1.2 million, bringing the project to 81% of the goal of \$1.5 million.

If you have not yet made a pledge or a donation, please consider doing that so you can be a part of bringing this wonderful addition to our worship and our music ministry. Gifts of all sizes are welcomed, needed and valued. All donors will be listed in the program when the new organ is dedicated.

Construction: The Organ Committee continues to meet with our architect to refine design plans so we can obtain construction bids. Some more structural analysis will be undertaken early in August to aid in this process. Options for the newly raised balcony rail are being explored with the goals of meeting code and addressing safety issues while still allowing for maximum site lines and sound transfer.

Organ: Our organ, Noack Opus 59 is beginning to take shape in the builder's workshop. This is a long process as each part is carefully and lovingly hand crafted. We will have some photos of the work-in-progress to show in the near future.

The Organ Committee:

Bill Ackles, Chair

Carol Antos

Holly Darzen

Jim Davidian

Mary Lou Esposito

Michele Forinash

Amanda Hickman

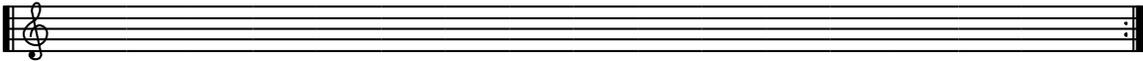
Sue Kingston

John Lombard

Russell Sanna

Vickie Wagner

Judy Walpole



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

Name/s _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Donations may also be made online thru our website: TriConChurch.org

TRICON WORSHIP

Summer Sermon Series

The Parables of Jesus
master storytelling to pique the imagination

JULY

12

Once Upon a Time

19

As If!

at West Concord Union Church

AUGUST

2

Lost & Found

16

A Dangerous Road

23

Building Bigger Barns

Follow along on line: www.triconchurch.org or follow us on Facebook



*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!

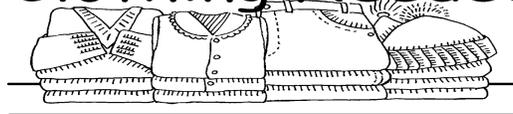
Place your donations in the marked box in the parish hall **during the August and September**. Thank you!

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

