

SUMMER WORSHIP *August 2019*

I have to say that my favorite time of day is about 15 minutes before the sun peaks over the horizon. Somehow, time and space seem to embrace in a quiet, fluid moment of both utter contentment and anticipation. It's the kind of mystical moment that demands complete mindfulness. I don't even have a choice but to surrender and into the stillness.

This is my time to release everything, to empty myself fully into the magic and beauty of all that is seen and unseen. Paradoxically, it is in the simplicity of this absolute acceptance that somehow allows me to also be open to growth and change.

The poem below is from the late Irish poet, author, mystic and priest, John O'Donohue. It's from a book I often bring to my morning moments called *To Bless the Space Between Us*. A Morning Offering affirms the stillness of this magic emptying moment yet also challenges the reader to live fully aware, "to risk being disturbed and changed", "to live the life that I would love", to "waste my heart on fear no more."

During this lazy month of August, I offer you this blessing from O'Donohue. May you find your "magic moments" in which to dwell in absolute acceptance.

In faith & hope,

Bob

*I bless the night that nourished my heart
To set the ghosts of longing free
Into the flow and figure of dream
That went to harvest from the dark
Bread for the hunger no one sees.*

*All that is eternal in me
Welcomes the wonder of this day,
The field of brightness it creates
Offering time for each thing
To arise and illuminate.*

*I place on the altar of dawn:
The quiet loyalty of breath,
The tent of thought where I shelter,
Waves of desire I am shore to
And all beauty drawn to the eye.*

*May my mind come alive today
To the invisible geography
That invites me to new frontiers,
To break the dead shell of yesterdays,
To risk being disturbed and changed.*

*May I have the courage today
To live the life that I would love,
To postpone my dream no longer
But do at last what I came here for
And waste my heart on fear no more.*

A MORNING OFFERING

By John O'Donohue





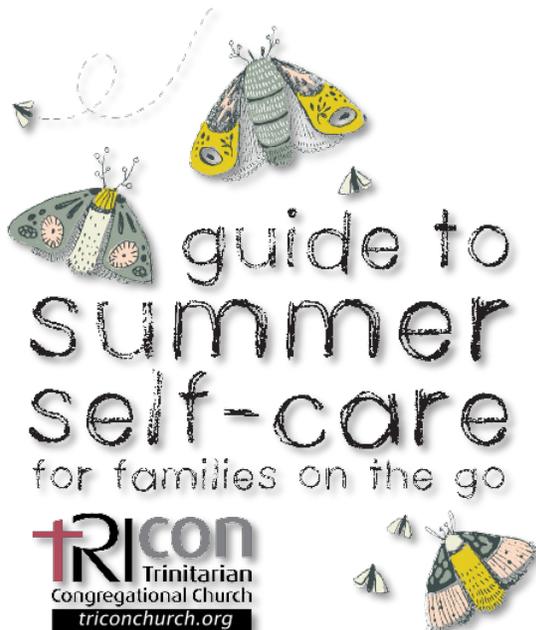
TRICON WORSHIP

August 4 Communion Sunday at TriCon
Shared worship with West Concord Union Church
Rev. Bob Brown Preaching

August 11 Shared worship at TriCon
with West Concord Union Church
Rev. Hannah Brown
Preaching

August 18 An *Animated* FAITH
Rev. Bob Brown Preaching

August 25 FEARLESS
Rev. Bob Brown Preaching



****STILL AVAILABLE****

Summer has its own rhythm at TriCon. As a resource for you these summer months, we are offering you a free booklet filled with great ideas for making the most of being together with family and friends. It's called *A Guide to Summer Self-Care*. You can download it to a device or print it out from TriconChurch.org. Or, if you want a hard copy, we will have some printed out ready for you to pick up at church.

GET YOUR FREE DOWNLOADABLE PRINTABLE
BOOKLET AT TRICONCHURCH.ORG
Or pick up a hard copy at church

Racial Justice

Personal lessons from a faith-based trip to Montgomery, Alabama
By Ellen Quackenbush

When I was in high school, I asked my dear father about “coloreds only” bathrooms and segregated schools in his hometown of Mobile, Alabama. He responded “Ellen, that was just the way it was.” I was confused. My father had always taught me to honor all people and be my best self.

You see, my father grew up in Mobile at the height of the Jim Crow era.

Later, when he ran a primarily black factory in Newark, NJ, he was strong advocate for his workers’ rights—helping some blacks to get a GED, and others to advance in their careers. He often provided “letters of introduction” for his workers to shop in the lower-cost “white-only” stores in downtown Newark versus the higher-cost stores in the “black” neighborhoods.

It has been 10 years since my 101-year old father passed on. And I have wondered, how did my father, who grew up in the segregated South, become an advocate for his black workers in the North. I think this was rooted in his view of family. He viewed his factory workers as his family; hence, felt an obligation to protect their rights. I think this is also rooted in the Southern view of family-first. What my dear father never considered was social or political action on behalf of the wider black community.

Last month, I joined 35 members of Boston faith communities for June Cooper’s, *Boston City Mission Pilgrimage for Truth and Justice*. Our trip was organized around first-person stories from African American Alabamians, born in Selma and Montgomery, who had been part of the Civil Rights movement. These women love their home and are working *tirelessly* to revive the African American arts, culture and community in Montgomery. They were also eye witnesses to lynchings. These are some amazing Montgomery women we were introduced to:



Georgette Norman
Brown Chapel

Georgette Norman, former director of the Rosa Parks museum, was our tour guide as we drove from Montgomery to the Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma. She described her efforts to protect 20 Alabama sites that were central to the civil rights movement by entering them in the Worlds Monuments project. Among these monuments is the Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma, which was the center of the Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC) in their effort to register blacks to vote. Churches were central to civil rights, as state laws prohibited “mass assembly” in public places. Most civil rights strategy and action plans were discussed in church sanctuaries. Georgette continues to use arts, theater and dialogue to build bridges between white and black citizens of Alabama.

Josephine Bolling McCall, whose father, Elmore Bolling, was lynched on the road between Selma and Montgomery in 1947 by whites who thought his lumber and firewood business was too successful. Sadly, according to Josephine, the last thing the whites said was “He’s too good to be a nigger.” She wrote a beautiful tribute to her father, [The Penalty for Success \(www.penaltyforsuccess.com\)](http://www.penaltyforsuccess.com). She recounts many inequities and insults her father had to overcome, including having to bring a white friend along when he wanted to buy a truck. The white person negotiated the price, then when the sale was finalized, told the dealer to put the truck in Elmore’s name. When Elmore’s sons drove the truck, they were instructed to say that the truck was owned by a wealthy plantation owner (who was one of Elmore’s major customers), so the police would not confiscate the vehicle.

Shatkita B. Jones, community outreach coordinator for Kress on Dexter, a former 5&10 department store that is now the center of the revitalization of the former black business district in Montgomery.



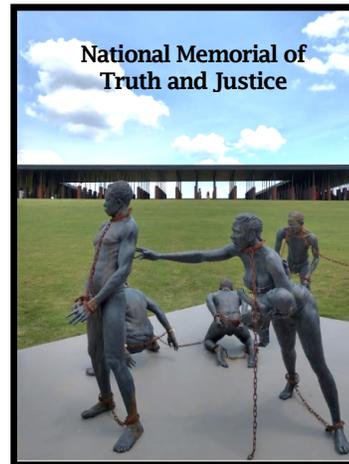
Shatkita uses theater and community dialogue to build the consensus for how to rebuild Montgomery. A Sudbury couple, Sarah and Mark Buller, purchased the building, invested \$25 million and founded Montgomery Builds to revitalize the downtown. Community voice is the guide for Montgomery Builds' restoration and mission.

Then there are the physical sites, museums and monuments that bring the horror of America's slave past and racial inequities into stark relief.

For me, the, was both the most silent and the most powerful. One silent steel box for every county that lynched an African American—over 4000 lynchings across the South, with Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas in the lead—with the name and date of each victim etched in steel. No words were needed to communicate the scale of the horror.

As I entered the monument, I encountered a statue of a mother cradling a child and, likely, reaching out to her husband. A separation play enacted so many times in the slave trading center of Montgomery. This statue stopped every visitor in his or her tracks.

Bryan Stevenson's *Equal Justice Initiative museum* brings it all home, connecting slavery, the KKK, Jim Crow, and mass incarceration into a seamless, systematic web of racial injustice. This museum hits you in the face with the reality that racial injustice is alive and well. But also provides tangible paths for action. I saw many whites visiting the museum, but also quite a few black family reunions (they all had matching T-shirts). So maybe this is a path for dialogue. For those who want to learn more, Bryan's book, *Just Mercy*, is a must read.



As for me, my response is to work with the Social Action Committee (SAC) and Bob Brown on next steps. Please email me (equackenbush206@gmail.com) , members of the SAC, or Bob Brown with questions, suggestions or ideas for next steps.

Blessing to our wonderful TriCon family,

Ellen Quackenbush



Bibliography

Georgette Norman uses Alabama's history to build bridges and spark dialogue

<https://www.alabamaneewscenter.com/2018/02/14/georgette-norman-hopes-use-alabamas-history-build-bridges-spark-dialogue/>

Twenty sites that defined the civil rights' movement

<https://www.wmf.org/project/alabama-civil-rights-sites>

Montgomery Builds—Kress on Dexter

<http://montgomerybuilds.com/>

<https://savingplaces.org/stories/how-one-building-creates-a-community-in-downtown-montgomery-alabama#.XRKM2ehKhPY>

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/travel/2019/02/21/montgomery-ala-restoration-and-reconciliation-are-full-swing-and-sudbury-native-center/aapMbduXlbgfOh6Vk592sl/story.html>



Join the Mass Council of Churches in commemorating 400 years of black resiliency.

The year 2019 marks 400 years since the first enslaved Africans set foot in Jamestown, Virginia. Since then, Black communities have demonstrated remarkable resiliency in the face of cruelty, terror, and systematic oppression. African Americans have not only created pathways to survive but, in many instances, to thrive. Through it all, the Black Church has endured as a beacon of hope and testimony to resurrection. On September 20, 2019, people of faith will gather to honor ancestors, commemorate 400 years of resiliency, and pray for an end to systemic and racial injustice.

Join Bishop Claude Alexander of Park Church in Charlotte, North Carolina for a service of hope and solidarity

Friday September 20, 2019 at 7:30pm
Greater Framingham Community Church, Framingham MA

AUGUST WORSHIP

The members of West Concord Union Church will be worshipping with us in our air conditioned Parish Hall on Sundays, August 4 & 11.

August 4	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching
August 11	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Hannah Brown preaching
August 18	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching Rev. Gail Miller's first Sunday
August 25	Service at 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Brown preaching



Sunday, September 8th

The Fellowship Committee invites everyone to a delicious brunch following the 10:00 a.m. worship service and beginning of the Children's Ministry year. Enjoy quiche, fruit, pastry, punch, cake and coffee. Welcome new worshippers and welcome back those who have been away!

IMPLEMENTING the



We need your INPUT and PARTICIPATION.

Sunday, September 22nd, 5 - 6:30 PM

All-church dinner and discussion

Sign up on our website or in the parish hall

Families welcome - Childcare provided



GOD is calling us

to be a **nurturing community** of

faith

that HONORS GOD through
service & mission

THREE PRIORITIES
under the Vision

Create Vibrant Worship

through a spectrum of opportunities

Live Out Our Faith

through caring for one another
and
hands on service and mission

Cultivate Our Church Community

to grow and thrive through
increased collaboration,
communication,
and
harnessing our collective talents

Please RSVP by
Sept. 18th -- sign up on
church website, call the
church office, or paper
sign ups in the parish
hall



UNDERSTANDING THE CHURCH BUDGET

Our Church budget is just over \$1 million dollars –not surprisingly, the largest percentage (66%) is devoted to **Personnel**. The Personnel budget breaks down into the following:

Salaries for our full-time clergy and Music Director, Church Administrator, and Newsletter Editor/Administrative Assistant and five part-time staff including our Director of Children’s Ministry, Membership Coordinator/Administrative Assistant, Media/IT Coordinator, Youth Leader and Sexton

Housing allowances and travel and expense reimbursement for the clergy

Health insurance for the clergy and three staff members

Life and disability insurance for the clergy

Worker’s Comp. insurance

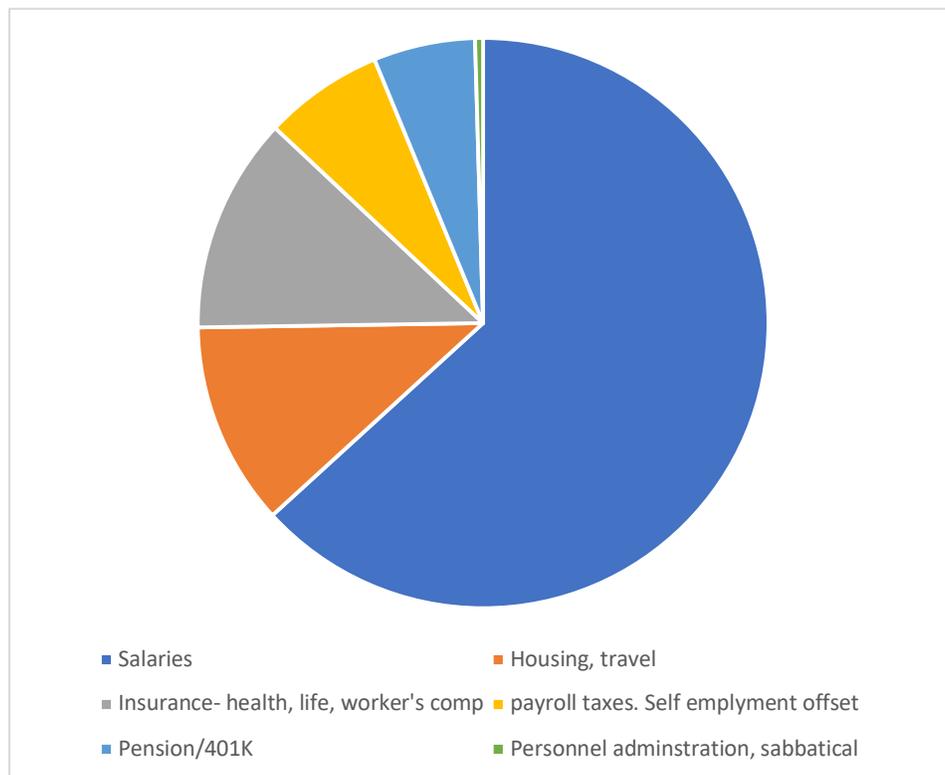
Payroll taxes for lay employees and **Self Employment tax offsets** for the clergy

Pension/401K contributions and 401 administrative costs

Education funds for the clergy and Director of Music

Personnel administration for advertising for new hires and incidental expenses such as guest minister stipends

Sabbatical funding – annually we add a small amount from the Personnel operating budget to a fund to cover future sabbatical expenses.



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 September Newsletter is August 15.

Open Table Donations JULY/AUGUST 2019

Cereal - all kinds!







Helping Our Neighbors Locally and Globally Serving Over 300 Guests Weekly





Forty-Ninth Annual **November 1st and 2nd, 2019**
 Friday, 10am - 5pm
 Saturday, 10am - 4pm



Admission \$10
Visit our TriCon Café for lunch or a sweet!

this card is good for
\$1.00 off
one admission

Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street, Concord, MA
triconchurch.org





SERMONS ON LINE

You can HEAR SERMONS on line by going to www.triconchurch.org
 OR
 Facebook.com and search Trinitarian Congregational Church



Women of Spirit Group: Spiritual Support and Discovery

The Women of Spirit Groups are growing! The groups were launched as an initiative last spring and have fulfilled a soulful need for the women in the Church. Our intention is to deepen our relationship with God through discovering and practicing different kinds of prayer.

If you are spiritually curious and seeking a connection with other women, one of these small group opportunities might be for you. There are two different groups, each facilitated by church members: one meeting Wednesday mornings and one on Thursday evenings.

**ON SEPTEMBER 12, AT 7:00 P.M.
we will hold an informal gathering at the church
to answer questions and discuss the upcoming year for the Women of Spirit groups.**

Please come if you are interested, whether a new or a returning group member. You can sign up for the informal gathering and/or the groups through Sign-Up Genius on the church website or by calling the church office.

**The Wednesday morning group (Wednesdays: 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6 and 11/20)
will begin on September 25th, facilitated by Cheryl Shea and Monica Woodman.**

**The Thursday evening group (Thursdays: 9/26, 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, and 11/21) will begin on
September 26th, facilitated by Allene Kussin and Liz Crowell.**

The groups will pause for Advent and return in early January. If you have questions, please contact Allene Kussin at: morningbalcony@icloud.com.



Double your Gift- Double the Impact

To provide new **backpacks** for homeless children, 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 July, August, and through September 20**. Thank you!

School Supplies:

COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS

GLUE STICKS
ONE INCH BINDERS
POST-ITS
FOLDERS TO FIT INTO BINDERS
WATER COLOR PAINTS
HIGHLIGHTERS
LOOSE-LEAF NOTEBOOK PAPER
DRAWING PAPER
BOTTLES OF HAND SANITIZER

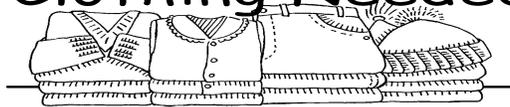
NOTEBOOKS

PENS (BLUE AND BLACK)
SCISSORS
COLORED PENCILS
LARGE PINK ERASERS
BOTTLE OF WHITE GLUE
COMPUTER PRINTER PAPER
POCKET FOLDERS
CONSTRUCTION PAPER

NO. 2 PENCILS

BALLPOINT PENS
RULERS
PENCIL SHARPENERS
CRAYONS
CALENDARS
SCOTCH TAPE
CALCULATORS
SCHOOL BOXES SMALL

Clothing Needed



for Homeless Children

When you are sorting and replacing your children's clothing for fall and winter, please remember gently worn items such as jeans, pants, sweaters, shirts, socks, and casual shoes are needed for 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.)

Donations may be left in the parish hall from July 1 – September 20

AL FILIPOV peace & justice FORUM

this year honoring
LOIS GIBBS

*Environmental Justice Pioneer,
Love Canal Association Organizer*



Followed by a conversation with Zero Hour, a national youth-led movement adding their voice to the conversation around climate and environmental justice.

**Sunday, September 15, 2019
4 PM Program and Award Presentation**

Free and open to all - donations welcome

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

Thank you to our Endorsers:

City Mission Boston . Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries
Justice & Witness Ministries, Massachusetts Conference, UCC . Massachusetts Council of Churches

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

Please mark your calendars now for the *Al Filipov Peace & Justice Forum*. This year we are honoring Lois Gibbs for her lifelong work for environmental justice. Ms. Gibbs was the primary organizer of the Love Canal Homeowners Association where, in 1978, she brought public attention to the Love Canal environmental crisis in Niagara Falls, NY. Her actions resulted in the evacuation of over 800 families to live in safer environs. A pioneer in the field of environmental justice, she has worked to help train and support local activists with their environmental work. Ms. Gibbs is currently the Executive Director of Center for Health, Environment, and Justice in Washington, DC.

The *Al Filipov Peace & Justice Forum* was founded to promote peace and justice among all people and to demonstrate the power of an individual to make a positive difference in the world. The forum honors the memory of Al Filipov, a beloved member of our congregation, who died in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Held annually since September 2002, the Forum invites a distinguished individual to speak about his or her work and vision.

Our Children's Ministry Program



Sunday, June 9th – Childcare available for children
Sunday, September 1st up to age five during worship

Sunday, September 8th 2019-2020 Children's Ministry
 begins

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.

LIFE CHANGES

Just married!

Molly Wolf and Patrick Mascia were married in North Yarmouth, ME, on July 13th. Molly, the daughter of Russ Wolf and Marty Gilpatrick, grew up in the TriCon congregation. She is currently in a fellowship program at Massachusetts General Hospital. Patrick, a native of OH, works as a management consultant. The couple is residing in Cambridge.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

SUMMER PASTORAL COVERAGE

We will have full pastoral coverage over the summer months. In the event of a pastoral concern, please call the church office 978-369-4837. If the church office is closed the phone message will tell you how to reach a minister.

ALTAR FLOWERS

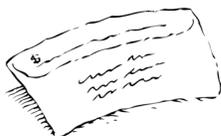
If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday service in 2019, you may sign up on the flower chart in the parish hall or on our website.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office
will be open
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



OFFERING ENVELOPES



Light blue offering envelopes for 2019 are now available in the Parish Hall.

Feel free to take as

many as you need. Please mark your giving code on your envelopes, if possible.

HEARING AID UNITS

Available on Sunday Mornings

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.

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.

USHERS/GREETERS AND COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED

In August, we put together schedules for the fall for ushers/greeters and coffee servers – two easy ways to participate in the life of the church and get to know more of your fellow parishioners.

New volunteers are always needed. You do not have to be an official member to usher/greet or serve coffee. Please call the church office or email Judy Walpole at jwalpole@triconchurch.org or Amy Bruning at abruning@triconchurch.org if you would like to volunteer.

Ushers are asked to come a few minutes early, hand out bulletins, greet arriving worshippers, take up the offering and stay a few minutes after the service to straighten up the pews. Complete instructions are provided and each week, there is an experienced head usher to give direction, as needed. Children are always welcome to participate with their family before going to class and – a popular bonus – they get to ring the church bell!

Coffee servers are asked to leave church during the last hymn and pour the coffee, which the sexton will have ready. He also does all the clean-up. Children are always welcome to participate with their family and – another popular bonus – they get first dibs on the munchkins!

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.



