

THE CARING CONNECTION

To facilitate mutual ministry, connecting needs with resources



*"From thee I receive,
to thee I give."*



WHAT IS THE CARING CONNECTION?

The Caring Connection (CC) provides practical assistance and spiritual support to members of our Church community in the following ways:

Hospital and Home Visits

CC volunteers supplement the pastoral ministry provided by our clergy by making visits to members of our faith community in the hospital, assisted living facilities and homes.

Meals For Those in Need

CC volunteers bring meals to church members in times of crises or recuperation. The Caring Connection also prepares frozen meals that are available in the church freezer for those in need.

Memorial Receptions

The parish hall and parlor are available to a bereaved family following a funeral or memorial service. Volunteers set up and clean up, provide beverages and serve as hosts for these receptions.

Transportation

Volunteers provide rides for those who need transportation to medical appointments and to church and other destinations.

Families with New Babies

The Caring Connection visits families with new babies, delivering a children's prayer book and offering support as needed.



Knitting Ministry

CC volunteers make shawls, known as "lovable hugs" that are given to those who are ill, grieving or otherwise in need. Handcrafted baby hats are also delivered to newborns.

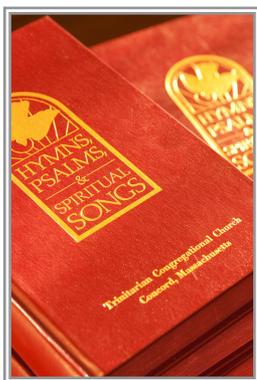
Flower Ministry

After the Sunday service, the flowers are often delivered to members who are ill. Also around Christmas and Easter, plants are given to those who are recently bereaved, ill or in nursing homes.

Care Notes

Condolence letters are sent to those who have suffered a recent loss.

THE CARING CONNECTION



As a community of faith, we recognize that each of us has special talents, as well as special needs, and that we are empowered to minister to one another.

Caring through helping is truly a mutual act. An individual who receives support one day may be the person to provide support for someone else later on.

Jesus commanded His disciples to:

"Love another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you."

— John 15:12b-14

HOW DO I CONTACT THE CARING CONNECTION?

Any member of our church family may bring a need to The Caring Connection by contacting one of the coordinators:

Cynthia LaMothe
978-369-9676

Polly Vanasse
978-369-5268

or by speaking to the clergy:

Rev. Bob Brown

Rev. Gail Miller

or by calling the **Church Office at 978-369-4837**

The Caring Connection respects the confidentiality of all referrals and requests for assistance. The clergy can also provide referrals to professionals who provide support in a wide range of challenging situations.

HOW CAN I BECOME A CARING CONNECTION VOLUNTEER?

Call one of the coordinators, the clergy or the church office and offer your time and talent.

This just might be the day when you can begin to make a profound difference in someone's life!

A Message from The Reverend Robert W. Brown



At the heart of Christian living is the caring we offer to one another. Many at Trinitarian Congregational Church are involved in The Caring Connection providing friendship, concern and support that is encouraging and strengthening.

Few of us go through life without knowing the ache of a broken heart, the pain of a hurting body, or the burden of a troubled or anxious spirit.

We invite you to consider The Caring Connection as a resource in times of need. Capable and caring individuals are ready and eager to respond in a gentle, quiet and confidential way. You are the key to activating The Caring Connection.

WORSHIP

MUSIC AT TRICON

Joyful sounds of praise and worship

SENIOR CHOIR

This choir for teens and adults sings at most services from mid September through mid May. Newcomers are always welcome! Rehearsals are Thursdays evenings and Sunday mornings. The repertoire ranges from Renaissance motets to jazz to gospel tunes, from great masterworks to arrangements of folk melodies from various cultures. Every December, an entire service is designed around the choral music, typically including a professional instrumental ensemble.



THE HOSANNA SINGERS

This children's choir (grades K-5) sings several times during the year. Each 2-4 week session includes after-church rehearsals and culminates in singing for worship. Singers develop musical and choral skills, learn hymns and sacred songs, and enjoy friendship. The older children may opt to prepare more challenging music, and to sing solos or duets.



OCCASIONAL MULTI-GENERATIONAL CHOIR

The "OMG" choir for all ages and vocal abilities gathers on occasional Sundays to learn a fun song for that morning's worship.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL SOLOISTS

Worship is enriched by guest musicians from the greater Boston area and by the accomplished instrumentalists, singers and composers from our own church family that share their musical gifts. On any given Sunday, you may find TriCon folks of any age playing piano or organ, flute or clarinet, trumpet or guitar and singing hymns or anthems!

MUSIC AT TRICON

THE ORGAN

Our organ, designed and built for our sanctuary by the Noack Organ Company of Georgetown, Massachusetts, was installed in 2016. A work of art mucially and visually, it is graced by serveral intricate wood carvings.

The organ's 1,729 pipes were hand-crafted from wood and/or metal. At nearly 16' tall, the biggest wooden pipe sings the lowest pitch, and a pencil-sized metal pipe sounds the highest. Each individual pipe belongs to one of the organ's twenty-five "stops," a group that shares a specific tone quality. A typical stop has one pipe for each of the thirty notes on the pedalboard, or a pipe for each of the fifty-eight notes on either of the two keyboards ("manuals"). Organists combine these twenty-five stops in different ways to create a vast array of sound colors. "Pulling out all the stops" makes a grand sound indeed!



Our Music Director

Victoria Wagner has served as our Organist and Choir Director since 1986. A graduate of SUNY Fredonia and The New England Conservatory, she has performed at conventions of both the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society. She has given solo recitals in France, Germany, Canada, and Iceland.

If you would like to participate in the music-making at TriCon, or if you have questions about the program, please contact her at vwagner@triconchurch.org.

IF YOU ARE NEW OR VISITING WITH CHILDREN

Education, programs, and activities for children and youth



If you are new or visiting with children today, you are welcome in our church, children's programming, and nursery. We are delighted to have you with us.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Ministry programming takes place most Sundays during our worship services from September to early June.

Children up to preschool age may be dropped off in our nursery, located on the first floor of the children's wing. Our caring staff will find you if your child needs you. Children should be picked

up after worship concludes.

Pre-K - 8th graders typically start in the worship service, and leave with the program leaders following the "message for young people."

At the end of the worship service, children will be dismissed and you may meet your children in the parish hall. Pre-K and Kindergarten children should be picked up after worship.



Children's Programming includes a focus on Exploring Faith, Worshiping Together, Creative Church, and Mission Sundays.

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary.

Activity packets are available from the ushers. During summer services, and other non-children's ministry Sundays, there is childcare for children up to age 5.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK AN USHER FOR ASSISTANCE.



IF YOU ARE NEW OR VISITING WITH CHILDREN



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

Middle school classes for 6th, 7th and 8th grade youth meet on Sunday mornings during the worship service. In addition, we offer outreach projects and fellowship events through the “Voyagers” program for 5th and 6th grades, and the “Seekers” youth group for 7th and 8th grades.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

At TriCon Sunday night Youth Group, we strive to provide a lightly structured, fun, and thoughtful environment for our high school aged youth. Through games, conversations, a retreat weekend, and service projects, teens participate in a welcome break from their busy schedules and develop lasting friendships based on mutual respect, acceptance, and inclusion of all. Wednesday night Discussion Group is a quieter time to discuss varying and diverse issues.



MISSION TRIP

The annual Mission Trip service week offers opportunities for our youth to learn about themselves, one another, and their growing role in this faith community. The high-schoolers and their adult leaders gain much from serving our neighbors in need with respect and openmindedness.

CONFIRMATION

Classes for 9th & 10th grade are offered beginning in the Fall every other year.

Questions? Contact:

Carrie O’Brien
Church School Director
Nursery – 8th grade
cobrien@triconchurch.org

Christine Kelley
Youth Leader
ckelley@triconchurch.org



Also feel free to call the Church Office at 978-369-4837, visit our website at triconchurch.org, or fill out the Welcome Card found in your pew.

MISSION GIVING AT TRICON

Your generous mission dollars at work

WHAT WE DO MATTERS!

We are committed to allocate a significant portion of our pledged income to support programs and organizations which make a positive difference in people's lives. The Mission Committee allocates these funds amongst many diverse local, national, and international organizations. Our mission funds include well over \$100,000 from the church budget, all of the proceeds from the Antiques Show, and the congregation's generous response to the Christmas and Easter offerings. TriCon's support of these organizations includes the volunteer efforts of many in the church. Parishioners also contribute regular donations to the Open Table food pantry; backpacks and school supplies for homeless children; Christmas gifts for needy inner-city children and clothing and 'mitten tree' gifts for children living in shelters.



KASIISI PROJECT, UGANDA

TriCon funded the library building and added thousands of books at Kigarama. These students are enthusiastic readers and formed the first book group for girls at Kigarama Primary School.



SHARING FOUNDATION, CAMBODIA

Provides "family", education and hope for several hundred Cambodian children through its Roteang Orphanage (a Montessori-based preschool), Khmer literacy and English language programs, a school for farm children, and computer and sewing schools.



MINUTE MAN ARC

Since 1958, Minute Man Arc has supported both children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities through its Early Intervention Program for Children with Hearing Loss, Family Services, Recreation, and Adult Services. Due to the support they receive from Minute Man Arc and its volunteers, many are able to live and work in their communities.

MISSION GIVING AT TRICON



HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Household Goods provides a full range of household items free of charge for people in need. Each year, hundreds of volunteers contribute over 35,000 hours to support more than 2,500 families. Tens of thousands of gently used household items are donated annually.



CONCORD PRISON HOLIDAY GIFT BAGS

The Holiday Gift Bag Project provides all inmates at MCI Concord with gift bags during the holiday season. These simple gifts and handmade cards let the men know that they have not been forgotten. For many recipients these gift bags are the only presents they receive. As one inmate wrote, "I want to thank you for the gift bag you gave me and the card you wrote me. It really means a lot; it shows me that even though I ended up in prison, people still care."



CITY MISSION

City Mission Society is the oldest multiservice social justice agency in New England, serving tens of thousands every year through direct service to families on the brink of homelessness and by offering outreach engagement programs.

Your generous mission dollars support the following programs:

CLIMATE AWARENESS & DISASTER RELIEF

Concord Climate Action Network (CAN)
All Hands
UNICEF

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

Minute Man Arc
Restoration Project

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Services Network
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence

EARLY EDUCATION & SUPPORT SERVICES

Concord Area Preschool Association
Concord Children's Center Scholarship Fund
First Connections

INNER CITY SERVICES

City Mission Society
Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries
Seafarer's Friends Society

HOMELESSNESS

Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness
Household Goods
Solutions At Work
United Homes Shelter

HUNGER

Gaining Ground
Open Table

INTERNATIONAL

Kasiisi Project
Lamontville Thembalethu Care Center
Metta Partners
The Sharing Foundation

HEALING VIOLENCE

Utec
Communities for Restorative Justice
Concord Prison Outreach

AND MORE...

Christmas and Easter Offerings
Concord Carlisle Human Rights Council
Mass. Conference, United Church of Christ
Girl's Choice
Operation Homefront
PFLAG
Youth Group Mission Trip



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triconchurch.org • Facebook/Twitter: [triconchurch](https://www.facebook.com/triconchurch)

SUSTAINING THE CHURCH'S MISSION AND MINISTRY

Showing thanks for God's loving presence in your life

The church is a spiritual home. Out of our abundance we regularly give to the church as a spiritual practice. It is a bold act of faith that affirms God's presence among us and solidifies our commitment toward sustaining the work of TriCon Church.

We hope you will join in this good work by committing to pledge or give in accordance with the abundance that God has blessed you with and may you also find joy and fulfillment in the practice of extravagant generosity.



Frequently Asked Questions About Stewardship

HOW IS THE CHURCH FUNDED?

Trinitarian Congregational Church is self-sustaining. Year to year we fund our ministry, worship and outreach on the willingness of the congregation to generously share a portion of their income.

WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC SOURCES OF CHURCH SUPPORT?

Pledges and gifts to the church make up the majority of the church's income, supplemented by rental and endowment fund income. There are no other sources of funding; we have no denominational financial support.

WHAT ARE THE CHURCH'S EXPENSES?

Personnel and program are the largest expense items, followed by mission giving and outreach contributions; the funds necessary to maintain our property; and a small amount dedicated to administration and technology.

WHY IS MISSION SUCH A MAJOR PART OF THE BUDGET?

We believe that when God blesses us, we in turn are compelled to be a blessing to others. The Gospel instructs us toward generosity in advancing the causes of peace and working for justice. As pledges increase so does our ministry and outreach.

SUSTAINING THE CHURCH'S MISSION AND MINISTRY



Each year we practice this generosity as a church by giving away more than 20% of our total income. We find spiritual joy in giving to organizations and institutions that help relieve the suffering of those on the margins, the ones struck by disasters and supporting people who work for justice.

WHO PLEDGES TO THE CHURCH?

Parishioners who consider this their "church home" pledge to support the on-going work of the church. You do not need to be a member to pledge.

HOW MANY PEOPLE PLEDGE AND WHAT IS THE AVERAGE PLEDGE?

Last year, the average pledge was \$2,700. Pledges of any amount are needed and appreciated.

WHY SHOULD I PLEDGE RATHER THAN JUST GIVE WHEN I COME?

While gifts are welcome, we need pledges to build a budget and make commitments to our staff, our programs and organizations we support.

HOW DO I MAKE A PLEDGE?

Each fall, the Stewardship Committee conducts a campaign asking parishioners to make a pledge for the coming year. Those new to the church during the year can pick up a pledge card at any time and indicate their intention to contribute for the remainder of the year.

HOW CAN I PAY A PLEDGE?

Pledges can be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually by putting or sending cash or checks in the offering envelopes; giving electronically via our website or by donating stock.

WHAT IF I MAKE A PLEDGE AND CANNOT FULFILL IT?

A pledge to a church is not a legal obligation. If your circumstances change, you are not required to fulfill a pledge.



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COMMUNITY

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