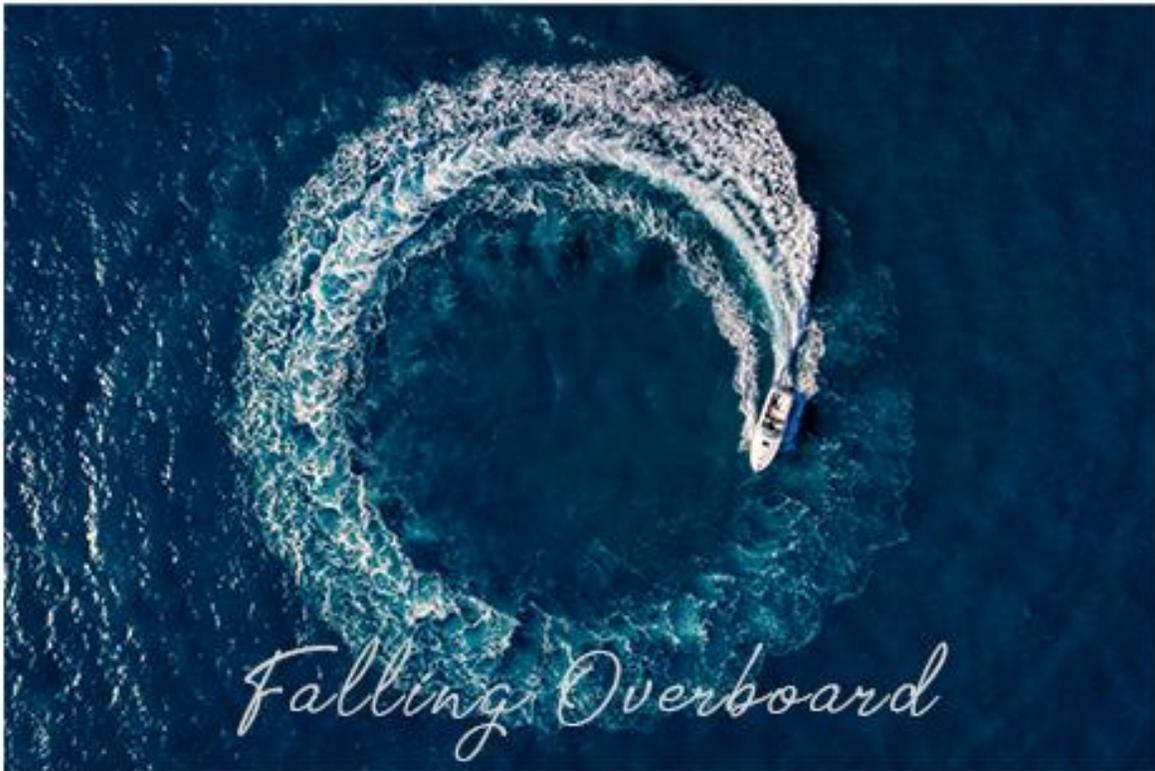


July, 2021



I love boats and boating. Speed boats in particular. In my teens my parents built a lake house near where we lived in Wisconsin, and I still go back every summer – it's my happy place. One of the joys was (and still is) having a fast boat to pull skiers and tubers, to take out to the middle of the lake to watch the sunset, to simply go fast in!

We also had a sailboat (a small Sunfish) and the thrill of that boat was trying to NOT tip over.... or to tip over for the fun of righting it again. Falling out or overboard was part of the fun of our little sailboat. And more than once we'd play the game of pushing someone overboard, and then watching them try to swim after the boat to catch it again. (Not so much fun for the person in the water though!)



A pastor in Michigan (Rev. Kate Kooyman) takes this “falling overboard” and writes about it as a metaphor for our faith:

My faith has changed a lot this year, in lots of ways. Maybe I fell off the boat. Maybe I jumped; I don't know. What I do know is that ...the striving, the chasing, the sheer will it would take to get back on the boat — to go back to the way I used to understand God and myself and the world — is simply not within me.

Martin Laird, in a beautiful book about contemplative prayer called Into the Silent Land, wrote something that helps me find peace in this new landscape that I'm still making sense of. He says, “Because God is the ground of our being, the relationship between creature and Creator is such that, by sheer grace, separation is not possible. God does not know how to be absent.”

If the pandemic has taught me anything, it's that I really don't have much control in this life. Nothing has felt more like a School of Powerlessness than watching the whole world, me included, try to navigate a situation so utterly unknown. The God who brought comfort to me, the God who drew very near during this last year, has not been the God of “try harder.” Not a God who needs me to swim just a little faster than what I find my body can muster. Not the God who's ever out of my reach.

Maybe I was wrong, all this time, to fear what would happen if I fell out of the boat. Maybe the love that formed the universe, the love that sustains us and enfolds us, was never in the boat at all.

Maybe God is the water. And whether we're swimming or drowning, whether it's smooth sailing or we're being tossed about, by sheer grace we are ever-enveloped in the presence of this God. A God who is wild, a God who is everywhere, a God who cannot be controlled.

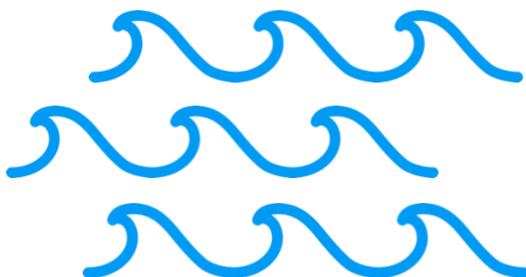
I've come to believe that God need not be chased. Because God is already here.

GOD IS THE WATER!!! YES!!!

May your swimming this summer be blessed!

Gail

Rev. Gail Miller, Minister of Congregational Life



July Worship

Sunday, July 4th	Dawn Jefferson	Communion
Sunday, July 11th	Rev. Gail Miller	
Sunday, July 18th	@ West Concord Union	9:45AM on ZOOM link will be provided
Sunday, July 25th	Dawn Jefferson	

(Rev. Bob Brown is away on Sabbatical, returning to worship on Aug. 22nd)

Our past ZOOM services can be (re)watched on our TriCon Church YouTube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/TriConChurch>



You can find downloadable files of past sermons and bulletins, as well as videos of the sermons, on our website, triconchurch.org.

STAFF LISTING:

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Marcia Macres, Communications
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Jamie Aromaa, Sexton
jamesaromaa@comcast.net

We plan to be back worshipping in the sanctuary as of September 12th. We continue to monitor conditions and are aware that things can change! As of now:

- There will be no need to sign-up; anyone can attend who wishes to do so
- There will be no blocking or assigning of seats
- Masks will be optional
- No one will be asked about vaccination status
- Sanitizer will be provided at the entries
- We will have organ music
- There will be soloists and instrumentalists, as possible and appropriate
- Ushers will be asked to greet parishioners foregoing handshakes
- There will be bulletins and offering plates will be passed
- Windows and doors will be open as much as possible
- We will have coffee hour inside and outside, weather permitting



There are still some aspects of the service that are not decided at this time, including:

Congregational hymn-singing and choir

We are monitoring the latest advisories and will make that decision closer to the date.

Communion

The Deacons will be discussing communion and making modifications as they deem appropriate before our first Communion service in the sanctuary on October 3rd.

Youth Ministry

There may be some changes but we will continue to have a vibrant youth program with varied components.

Children's Ministry

A robust children's ministry program will be offered with the format and timing designed to fit the needs of busy families.

Remote Viewing: For those who are unable, or who chose not, to attend there will be an option to view the service remotely. While, our Tech Team is working with a vendor on installing camera and equipment to allow for optimum and robust flexibility in streaming the service, that is unlikely to be in place in early September. Therefore, we will have a temporary, interim solution to continue to allow remote viewing.



As we move forward together, we offer some "watchwords." Let's all be:

Patient

Realizing that all may not be "back to normal" right away and that our services and activities might need to be modified, at least in the short term

Flexible

Willing to adapt and try new ways of doing things as we adjust to our post-pandemic world

Considerate

Recognizing that we may have varying degrees of comfort as we regather and respecting the feelings and needs of others

As always, we invite your comments and questions; call the church office or send emails to info@triconchurch.org.



As we plan for resuming in-person worship on September 12th, we are in need of **volunteers for ushering/greeting**. It is an easy job - involves arriving about 25 minutes before the start of the service, welcoming parishioners with a friendly greeting (we'll forego handshakes at least for a while), handing out bulletins and passing the collection plates.

If you are willing to be included in our usher/greeter pool, please email info@triconchurch.org or call the church office. We will set up a schedule with options to switch if the date doesn't work for you and if you know dates now that you are not available, let us know that when you respond. Thank you!

Gardening God's Garden



Plant three rows of peas
Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be open-minded
Lettuce really love one another

No garden without turnips
Turnip for meetings
Turnip for service
Turnip to help one another

Water freely with patience and
Cultivate with love
There is much fruit in your garden
Because you reap what you sow

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme
Thyme for God
Thyme for study
Thyme for prayer
Thyme for others



As we enter July in our Summer of Love (for the Planet), we took a moment to look at climate action in our community.

All of our neighboring communities are addressing the issue of sustainability. Here are the goals for Concord's plan and a few of the specific action items. You can get more information at www.concordma.gov or look on your town's website for what is happening in your community.

Built Environment

Goal: Concord's buildings and solid waste systems minimize GHG emissions and are resilient to a changing climate.

- Increase energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings
- Establish policies and incentives for new development to achieve high standards for sustainability

Energy

Goal: Concord's electricity is % carbon-free, reliable and affordable

- Redesign electric rates to support energy conservation and peak load management
- Provide incentives for building owners to invest in renewable energy

Mobility

Goal: Everyone has access to zero-carbon transportation options to commute and get around Concord.

- Implement a long-term plan to electrify school and municipal vehicle fleets
- Improve availability, accessibility and connections between biking, sidewalk and walking paths

Natural Resources

Goal: Concord' natural resources are enhanced and supported to provide resilience benefits to the community and to maximize biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

- Assess and improve Concord's tree canopy
- Work with landowners to promote sustainable landscape practices

Preparedness

Goal: Concord's critical infrastructure is designed to reduce emissions and be prepared for projected climate impacts.

- Develop an integrated water resource plan
- Conduct a threat assessment for Concord's critical infrastructures



ACCEPTING ANY AND ALL
ELECTRONICS & APPLIANCES!

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

Saturday, July 17th

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street
Concord, MA

Cost to You:

- \$5 each for Computers, DVD Players, Printers, Laptops, Small Electronics
- \$10 each for Microwaves, Small Household Appliances
- \$15 each for Computer Monitors, AC's, Dehumidifiers, Large Printers, Range-Top Microwaves
- \$20 each for TVs up to 24," Washing Machines, Dryers, Stoves, Large Appliances, Grills, Exercise Equipment, Large Yard Equipment
- \$25 each for TVs between 25" and 31," Large Refrigerators
- \$30 each for TVs between 32" and 35"
- \$35 each TVs over 36"
- \$40 each for Projection TVs
- **NO CHARGE:** Cell Phones, **Bicycles in any condition**, Wires, Batteries, Keyboards, Tablets.

ALL TOWNS WELCOME! RAIN OR SHINE
ZERO LANDFILL, CASH PREFERRED, CHECKS (Over \$30)

Questions? Contact: GreenDayRecyclingMA@Gmail.com





Elise Woodward recently gave the following timely stewardship message - perfect for us as we reflect on the challenging year-plus that we have experienced.

Since 1981, I have attended TriCon. I am an "old-timer", with four decades of memories from this church. Recently I have been reflecting on how amazing it is that TriCon has thrived all these years in such remarkable ways. Certainly, it is the grace of God that has allowed our congregation to survive, but I also think Stewardship has something to do with it.

Stewardship implies maintaining—working together on what we value, protecting and sustaining for the future, and keeping the faith. Collectively, we are stewards of this congregation and this church property and all it encompasses. Together, we make it happen: our worship, our music, our sermons, our fellowship, our mission trips, our Church School, our mission giving, our prayers: this is Stewardship.

Often, we don't acknowledge the effort required to maintain. It's more interesting to think about innovation than to consider maintenance. The past year has shown that we actually need to maintain while innovating, it's not either / or. I think it is this creativity that has contributed to TriCon's longevity: This is Stewardship: maintaining today while innovating for the future. Let's celebrate the creativity of this church.

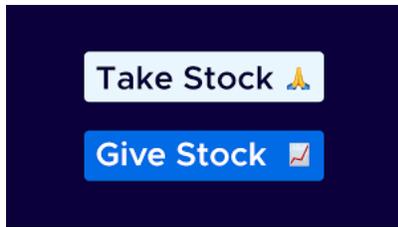
Thank you for all who have helped us to be innovative and creative as we have developed new avenues to worship, to grow together and to minister to each other and to all who have contributed to sustain and maintain our programs, services and facilities.

Our Church Endowment Fund includes contributions starting with \$1,000 given by Asa Melvin in 1908, "the income only to be used for the salary of the pastor."

Additional gifts over the years, wise investing and favorable market conditions have brought the total market value to over 2 million dollars. We use a portion of the income each year to provide a valuable supplement to our annual operating budget.

We have recently received a \$10,000 bequest from the estate of Nan Hoeflich, a long-time TriCon member, who was a teacher in the Arlington Public Schools for many years. Her gift will be a lasting legacy which will benefit generations for many years to come. As you are doing estate planning, we encourage you to make a similar significant investment in the future of our church.





Donate Stock

If you have appreciated stock, using it to pay your pledge or to make a donation to the church, can be a win-win. You can avoid a capital gains tax and the church gets the benefit of the appreciated value. Call the church office for more information. *If you have given securities before, please be advised that the transfer information has changed, so please call the office for the new instructions.*



TriCon's Annual Antiques Show will not be held this year. Because of the large amount of preparation that goes into the show that needs to be done in beginning of the year, we decided to postpone again. We were still very early in the vaccination process, social distancing requirements were still very much

enforced, and the vision of the show dramatically altered to accommodate those restrictions made it so it would not be a successful venture.

Our Antiques Show raises money for the Mission budget, as all proceeds go towards outreach efforts supported by TriCon Church. **We are asking if you might be interested in a Patriot's Day event at the**

church to raise money for mission. We are wondering what ideas you might have. Our thoughts include renting tables to our parishioners and friends who might wish to sell their wares (art work, crafts, etc.); bakers who might donate baked breads, pies and cookies; a yard sale with donated goods... **We welcome your thoughts!**
info@triconchurch.org



BACKPACK Drive

We are collecting NEW BACKPACKS and SCHOOL SUPPLIES! July 1st to September 12th. Drop off outside the Walden St. door, in the large bin.

For children whose parents are struggling to fund the basic necessities, there are no fun 'back-to-school' shopping trips. But, we can help!

Backpacks are especially needed, but please consider stuffing one with an assortment of some school supplies -- notebooks, pens, pencils, calculators, lunch boxes, highlighters, folders, scissors

thank you!!

WITH DEEPEST
Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are with Tom and Charity Tremblay and their family in the death of Tom's mother, Barbara, on May 27th in Virginia.

We include prayers for Louisa McKown and her family following the death of her husband, David McKown, in Florida, on June 4th.

TriCon's Joan Rosazza won a silver medal in swimming in the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. A book has been written about Joan and it traces Joan's journey from the YMCA pool in a small Connecticut city to standing on the Olympic medal stand in Melbourne receiving her silver medal from the Prince of Denmark. Her book is being sold on Amazon. *One Woman's Olympic Journey: Joan Rosazza - Melbourne 1956*, by Bill Ryan.

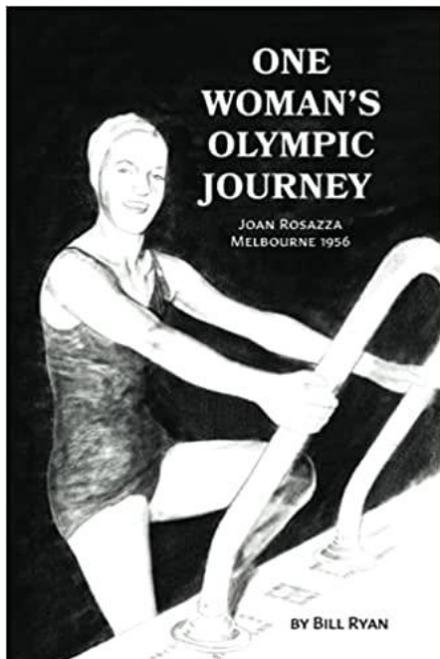


PHOTO DIRECTORY!

Email Elaine Ayres (ejanird@gmail.com) or contact the church office if you need your account set up. We'd love to see your smiling faces! Thank you for participating.



The TriCon Church OFFICE IS OPEN, Monday through Friday, 9:30 - 12:30. Please come by to see us if you're in the center of town!

With Bob on sabbatical and vacations looming throughout the clergy and staff, please call the church office if you need PASTORAL CARE and we can direct you.

Courtyard Coffee on Wednesday, July 21st at 11 AM. Bring your drink and come by for a visit! If it's very hot or rainy, we'll meet inside the cool parish hall.

TriCon MT 2021

SERVE

As this goes to press, the high-school Youth Mission Trip is in Providence, Rhode Island. The trip's service is in the areas of homeless ministry, vacation bible school for inner-city children, clearing local weeds and brush, and working on a community garden ... among other things! We can't wait to hear all about it!!



Gail and Christine will plan ways to engage with the congregation to let us know about their experiences when they return.

Christine Kelley is our TriCon Youth Leader, running Sunday night Youth Group, Wednesday evening Discussion Group, the annual Mission Trip, and a few other outings throughout the year.

While this past school year was met with challenges during the pandemic, the group remained a loyal and robust core of kids who continued to meet, outdoors when at all possible, or on zoom. The return to in-person, outdoor, distanced Youth Group and Discussion Group in early Spring was a much-needed look at faces in real time.

The Mission Trip had a shorter on-ramp than usual years, but the care groups met together with their adult leaders and their senior leaders to prepare for their work in Providence. We are so thankful we were able to pull off a trip this year!

All high-schoolers will receive information later in the summer with plans and hopes for the upcoming year. Christine is working over the summer to creatively embrace the new school year program and welcome all of you (some new, some back) to the magic that is TriCon Youth Group!

Christine can be reached anytime at ckelley@triconchurch.org.





Snapshots from
Providence, Rhode Island





Here are TriCon's high-school graduates of 2021!



Julia Clarke is the daughter of Drew and Jennifer Clarke, sister to Ben Clarke and Bonnie the dog. Julia adores all things TriCon - from going to weekly DG and YG meetings as well as attending the annual Mission Trips. She has made lifelong friends with her fellow youth groupers and loved spending the last 4 years with such a special group of people. At CCHS, Julia did a bit of everything including Class Government, field hockey goalie, and theater tech. Outside of school, Julia enjoys working at Revolutionary Concord, athletic conditioning, and discovering new ice cream flavors. This fall, Julia will start at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester - Go Crusaders!

Charlotte Dressler looks forward to attending the University of Maryland at College Park in the fall. She plans to major in Philosophy, Economics, and Political Science. Charlotte plans to be on a pre-law track. She is grateful for the opportunities to participate in mission work at TriCon, and wishes her friends all the best!



Piper Harring is the daughter of Heidi and Vaughn and younger sister to Reilly and Alden. She started at TriCon in the Sunday Pre-school and has loved her time at TriCon as part of the Seekers, Youth Group and including this June, four Mission Trips - her highlight event each year. The very tight bond among this class and their Spring COVID car circles helped them through the dark parts of 2020. At CCHS, Piper played field hockey, raced for the ski team and was a 2-year captain, participated in two musicals and this spring has taken up rowing. She is also President of Weather Club. And of course, Piper loves to sing both with CCHS and at TriCon. In September, Piper will be joining her sister, Alden, at Middlebury College pursuing Environmental Studies and will join other TriCon alums, Blaise and Cole Siefer and Zander Kessler.

Andrew Kamionek is the son of Ted and Jennifer, and brother to Jackson and Tyler. He has been attending TriCon since he was an infant, was baptized and confirmed at TriCon, and has enjoyed being a part of Youth Group. Andrew was part of the Puerto Rico Mission trip in 2019 and the 2021 Providence trip. He has done volunteer work with the Concord-Carlisle Youth Hockey program for 6 years, mentoring younger players on the ice. While at Concord-Carlisle High School, Andrew played on the Hockey team, Freshman year on JV and Varsity for the last 3 years. His Senior year he was an assistant captain and received the Unsung Hero award Junior and Senior year. This Fall Andrew will be heading west to Colorado to the University of Denver to study business/pre-law and to enjoy the great outdoors!



Lindy Kessler is the daughter of Caty and Nat, and sister of Zander and Charlie. At CCHS she was on the field hockey, squash, nordic skiing and track teams. She was also busy with many clubs, including Thinkers Agenda, Weather Club and Spanish Club. In the summer, Lindy enjoys sailing competitively and teaching sailing to younger children. Youth Group was a very important part of her high school experience. Lindy feels lucky to have attended the Mission Trip each year and is grateful to have formed such strong bonds with the TriCon community. In the fall, Lindy is excited to head to college at the University of Richmond and study cognitive science. She will miss her TriCon friends!

Matt Lehmann is the younger brother to Will and the son of Anne and Bob Lehmann. Matt has attended TriCon since preschool including participating in the Seeker program and both Texas and Puerto Rico mission trips. In addition, Matt was the TriCon student deacon for two years. While at CCHS he ran all 4 years and in his senior year was elected as the captain of the cross-country team. He also played on the CCHS baseball team for 4 years. He was selected as a CCHS student advisor, was awarded the class acts presidential award and was invited to join the National Society of High School Scholars. During the summers he volunteered at a marine biological lab working with scientists in both bio science and environmental restoration projects. Additionally, he worked for the YMCA as a camp counselor since 9th grade. He heads off to Denison University this fall.



Ronan Macres is the son of Marcia and Jason and younger brother of Dalton. Ronan was baptized and confirmed at TriCon, and participated in church school, Christmas pageants, Youth Group, and two Mission Trips. At Westford Academy, Ronan excelled in academics, found a new outlet for creativity in ceramics, and was a leader of the GSA Club. He has also studied multiple languages including Greek and Mandarin. Outside of school, Ronan is a musician (piano, guitar, ukulele, and singing), has a great eye for photography, enjoys exploring the outdoors, swimming, traveling, and playing with his rescue pets Speckles, his 3-legged dog, and his bunny Truffle. He is looking forward to attending SUNY Binghamton in the fall to study Psychology.



Courtney Piper is the daughter of Jon and Kristin Piper, and older sister to Lindsey and Teagan Piper. She is also the granddaughter of Ruth and Tom Piper. Courtney has been attending church at TriCon since she was 2 years old. She has gone through all of the church school programming through her elementary and middle school years. In high school, she was an active member of the youth group and discussion groups. Pivotal to her high school experience were her four mission trips. For her fourth trip she was a care group/senior leader as well. For Courtney, the choice between a mission trip vs. an important sports commitment required very little consideration - she chose mission work every time. At CCHS, she was a part of the student senate for four years, and participated in field hockey, squash, Nordic skiing, spring track and Spanish club.

She loves her part time work at Gråem chocolate and as a field hockey coach. She will be forging a new path this fall as she heads off to Baltimore, MD to attend Johns Hopkins University. Courtney plans to study biology and play field hockey for JHU.

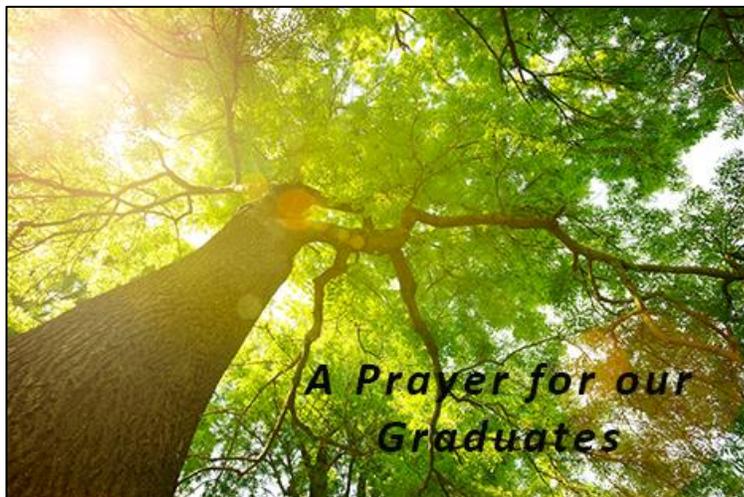
Cole Siefer is the son of Trish and Shane Siefer and brother to Blaise, Declan, Elias and Ainsley. TriCon has been a consistent part of Cole's life. The values learned and friendships formed in the various settings from Church School, to the Christmas Pageant, to Seekers, to Youth Group have all played a large role in Cole's life. Cole proudly and eagerly participated in four Mission Trips (final Trip in June this year). Cole graduates from CCHS as a three-sport varsity athlete (soccer, wrestling and lacrosse) and was Captain of the wrestling team. This Fall, Cole will head to Middlebury College to study economics. He's excited to join many TriCon alums including his brother Blaise, Piper and Alden Haring and Zander Kessler at Middlebury.



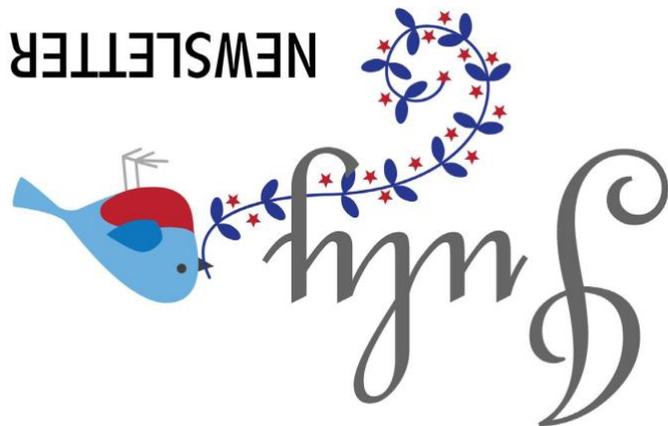
Alexis Steinert is the daughter of Hilary and Langley and the little sister of Max and Nicholas. Alexis has been a part of TriCon since the early days of the Angel breakfasts and Christmas pageants. She was confirmed in the spring of 2019. Lexie is a graduate of Groton School where she dedicated much of her time to drama, art and music. This fall she is headed to Vanderbilt University.



Noelle Emerson Waldron, or "Ella," is the younger sister to Natalie and Naomi and daughter of Erik and Jennifer. Ella is a graduate of CCHS. She will be going to Endicott College in the fall. Her parents are thrilled that she will be studying nearby. She has valued her time at TriCon, and has been attending since being in the nursery. She spends a lot of her free time hanging out with friends and working at Comella's Pizza. Though she will miss her friends in youth group, she is excited to start this next chapter in her life.



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)



NEWSLETTER

Return Service Requested

TO:

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email: info@triconchurch.org
website: www.triconchurch.org

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