

# The Newsletter

Trinitarian Congregational Church  
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## THE PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE

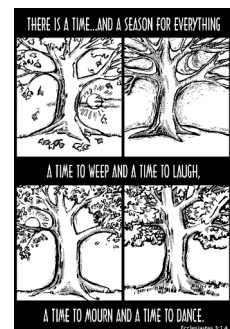
Hope runs high as the Red Sox take to the field this spring. For some, dreams of yet another championship season come as a welcome relief to the nightmare Patriots Nation has suffered since its agonizing Super Bowl XLII defeat. Even though it has been weeks since the Patriots' 17-14 loss to the Giants, some, including Patriots coach, Bill Belichick, have had a hard time accepting the reality and moving on.

According to Mike Reiss of the Boston Globe, "in reviewing a 2007 season that was filled with unexpected twists and turns, Patriots coach, Bill Belichick, acknowledged that the pain still lingers from losing Super Bowl XLII. 'Sure,' [Belichick] said. 'It's hard to think of 18-1 as being a disappointing season. It is. We had our chances, but in the end...We just needed to make one more play somewhere along the line and we just weren't able to do it.' "

I wonder how many of us have felt similarly with respect to our own lives. Surely, some of us have pondered the notion that our lives might have turned out far differently or perhaps more of what we might have desired, hoped for, or wished for if only we could have had one more opportunity, one more break, one more chance, or one more season by which to have changed our lives' direction. In short, could one more "play" have made the difference?

The truth is that, this side of heaven, we shall never know. What we do know, however, is that agonizing over what could have been or being anxious over what might be accomplishes little. Life is what it is, fragile, imperfect, incomplete, and occasionally unfulfilled, in the current moment. But that reality notwithstanding, God-given life is still good and truly to be valued and cherished. We cannot change the past (although we can change its meaning), and most likely we shall fail in predicting the future (although we can always strive to realize it in our lives). We can only live in the present albeit how we live and the attitude we bring to bear may well be a matter of choice and free will.

So, perhaps the prayer for this springtime of our lives might be: Help me, God, not to bemoan the "one more play somewhere along the line" which might have changed the course of my life or otherwise made all the difference. Enable me with grace and humility to accept life, however given and as imperfect as it is, and truly to celebrate the little victories I do enjoy and to honor the inevitable defeats, disappointments, and distressing seasons I come to know as occasions to grow in faith, spiritual depth, strength, and understanding. For it is in all the seasons of life, dear God, that you are shaping and molding me ever more fully to be the person you have called me to be.



Blessings,



## April Worship

<b>APRIL 6</b>	<b>Service at 8:30</b>	Prayer and Holy Communion
<b>COMMUNION</b>	<b>Service at 10:00</b>	Carrie Burnap preaching
<b>APRIL 13</b>	<b>Service at 8:30</b>	Prayer and Holy Communion
	<b>Service at 10:00</b>	Rev. Graham Standish preaching
<b>APRIL 20</b>	<b>Service at 8:30</b>	Prayer and Holy Communion
	<b>Service at 10:00</b>	Rev. Dr. John Lombard preaching
<b>APRIL 27</b>	<b>Service at 8:30</b>	Prayer and Holy Communion
	<b>Service at 10:00</b>	Rev. Dr. Karin Case preaching

### *The Season of Easter*

As we live into the Easter Season, let us remember and tell **FAITH** looks forward and backward. "*Faith* is walking to the edge of all the light you have – and taking one more step." *Faith* looks forward when tested.

But *faith* also looks backward – the memory of God's presence in the past buoys our belief that God will not leave us in the future.

God of past, present and future, help our remembrances of you give us strength and confidence in the living of these days. Amen.

Excerpts from the Upper Room  
Disciplines Book of Daily Devotions



## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



### The Sermon on the Mount

#### ADULT BIBLE STUDY The Sermon on the Mount

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**Seven Wednesdays, beginning April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7:30 - 9 p.m., in the church parlor**

The Sermon on the Mount, Jesus' initial instruction in core Christianity for the disciples has five major portions:

- The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)**
- Interpreting the Law for the Kingdom (Matthew 5:13-48)**
- Piety in the Kingdom: Charity, Prayer and Fasting (Matthew 6:1-18)**
- A Heart for the Kingdom (Matthew 6:19-34)**
- Standards of Judgment in the Kingdom (Matthew Chapter 7)**

Bill Wilder, a new member at TriCon and a retired electrical engineer, will facilitate this class in examining the Biblical text with the aid of John R. W. Stott's expositional commentary, *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*.

John Lombard writes, "*Bill has led this class before and he has great gifts to offer us. He contributed greatly to our recent offering on "Simply Christian" and should prove a wonderful guide and facilitator for this exciting opportunity to explore a familiar, favorite and central Scripture passage which both defines and expresses the core of our Christian faith and ethic.*"

Participants are encouraged to bring their own Bibles, as well as any commentaries on Matthew or on the Sermon on the Mount that they may have found meaningful. Sign up in the parish hall. Those providing an email address will be sent an outline of materials to be covered in each session and notes for the first session. Copies of John Stott's book are available for purchase in the parish hall.

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## CHURCH LEADERSHIP RETREAT

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**Called as Partners in Christ's Service**  
**Sunday, April 6**  
**11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**



A follow-up Church Leadership Retreat has been scheduled to build on the leadership retreat that was held in January 2007. All who attended that event, including myself, felt it was a very

moving and rewarding experience. Current committee chairs and co-chairs, church officers, clergy staff and church staff are invited to attend on April 6. Like the previous leadership retreat, this gathering will be devoted to discerning, discovering, embracing, envisioning, and implementing ministry and mission in our church community. Lunch will be included.

I look forward to as many of our leaders as possible participating in this retreat. I know you will find it rewarding. Please sign up in the parish hall.

I am also very excited to announce that Graham Standish, author of the very popular book, "Becoming a Blessed Church," will be conducting an all-day seminar sponsored by the MA Conference of the UCC at our church on Saturday, April 12. All members of our church community are invited to participate in this wonderful seminar. (See enclosed flier for registration and cost.) Graham will also be preaching at our April 13 worship service.

Liz Haff  
 Moderator

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## UNITED HOMES SHELTER MEALS

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We provide a hot meal once a month to the 100 homeless men who receive food and lodging through the United Homes Shelter in Dorchester. Cooking takes place in the church kitchen after Sunday coffee hour. Drivers are particularly needed to take the meal to Dorchester at 4:30 p.m. You may drop off the food or you may remain to serve it. Servers return to Concord about 7:30 p.m. (If you are not serving, you may return to Concord immediately after dropping off the meal.)

The upcoming meal schedule is:

- April 6
- May 4

If you would like to volunteer on a particular Sunday, please be sure to sign up in the parish hall or call the church office ahead of time so we can plan for cooks and drivers.

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**Spiritual Enrichment**

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Spiritual Enrichment Group meets on Monday mornings from 9:45 – 11:15 in the parlor. Newcomers always welcome! Come once, come often!

**Monday, April 7** Marsha Martin will share her recent experiences of "A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land."

**Monday, April 14** "Encounters with Jesus"

**Monday, April 21** Patriots' Day  
 No Spiritual Enrichment meeting

**Monday, April 28** "Encounters with Jesus"

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## ATTEND A COFFEE

As a church, we come together to discuss issues and concerns and to share ideas and solutions. In March we held several small coffees in the homes of church members to consider the following topics:

### Organ - Choir – Sanctuary Space



At this time, we have the fortunate dilemma of feeling a space squeeze in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings as our active congregation welcomes more new families. At the same time, we know our aging and deteriorating organ requires us to carefully think of alternatives to address that situation. Additionally, our strong and dedicated choir needs us to understand the serious lack of space and deficiencies in the choir loft and the real potential to lose, or not attract, choir members due to those problems.

The coffees held so far have offered helpful opportunities to receive feedback, provide additional information and conduct a healthy dialog. Additional coffees have been scheduled for April. We need everyone's input and best thinking to come to the right decisions. Please plan to attend a coffee and let your voice be heard. Sign up in the parish hall or by calling the host or hostess.

#### April coffees are scheduled for:

**Tuesday, April 8th at 7:30 p.m.**  
at Art and Jeannette Taylor's  
44 Martin Road, Concord 978 371-0867

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**  
In the TriCon church parlor  
RSVP to church office 978 369-4837

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.**  
at Alice Hatch's  
65 Nashoba Road, Concord 978 369-1047

**Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**  
at Liz and Hank Haff's  
10 Philip Farm Road, Concord 978 287-0284



The Mission Committee announces a spring mission initiative: *Blessings for Burma*. Inspired by the courage of the Burmese people and our capacity and generosity as a church family to offer hope and help, we will offer seven events and activities to provide our congregation the opportunity to learn more about the Burmese people and their country, and to understand the impact our gifts, large or small, can make.

#### **Wednesday, April 9, 12:00 noon**

Retired Men's Group Lunch

"Myanmar: The Road Ahead" with Nag Hlaing Maung,

#### **Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m. Worship**

Mission Moment *Blessings for Burma*

#### **Wednesday, April 16, evening**

##### **6:30 Burmese Supper and Slides**

for individuals and families of all ages - savor an authentic Burmese supper, see fascinating pictures of the life and culture of Burma, and enjoy meeting some of our Burmese friends and partners in this unique project.

##### **7:30 "Burma Today: Courage under Adversity"**

U Ba Win, Bard College Vice President

#### **Sunday, April 27, One Room Schoolhouse**

Creating Educational Burmese Games

#### **Forum following April 27 Service**

"Rangoon: Cause for Hope or Concern?"

Maan Sukte, recently back from Burma

#### **Sunday, May 4, 10 a.m. Worship**

Guest Preacher: Dr. Brita Gill-Astern

Andover Newton Theological School

#### **Thursday, May 8, noon Book Group**

"Finding George Orwell in Burma" by Emma Larkin

#### **Sunday, May 11, 10 a.m. Worship**

Mother's Day Dedication of Gifts

## TALK TO THE LORD

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Talk to the Lord in confidential session with others. The Monday morning prayer group meets every week in Margaret Crockett's office. You may arrive any time between 8:45 and 9:15 a.m. All are welcome to join the group coming once, coming more, making prayer requests.

Place your prayer request in the mailbox for Margaret Crockett in the Reception Office.

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## RETIRED MEN'S GROUP

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The Retired Men's Group meets for lunch on Wednesday, April 9 at noon in the church lower dining room. The speaker will be Nang Hliang Maung, a native of Burma (Myanmar), who will speak on *Myanmar: The Road Ahead*. This is one of the events in the church's Blessings for Burma program for April. Come and bring a friend for good food, good fellowship and an interesting program.

If you have not attended these luncheons before and would like to attend on April 9, please call Ellis Walker at 978 369-5757 or the church office before April 4. The cost of the lunch is \$8.00.

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The deadline for the  
May Newsletter  
is April 15.



## THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR PRISONS

Wednesday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.  
TriCon Church

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The recent appointment of Harold Clarke as Commissioner of the state's Department of Correction (DOC) signals some likely significant changes in the prison system. For information and insights about what these changes might be and how they might affect our citizens and towns, Concord Prison Outreach invites you to hear Clarke speak on "The Commissioner's Vision."

Former prison chief in Washington state, Harold Clarke has been mandated by Gov. Patrick to revamp the DOC in MA with more emphasis on reentry programs and staff training. Patrick has pointed out that over 90 percent of the people who are in corrections facilities will be released one day and "they need to be released prepared to rejoin a productive society." Clarke's challenge, "will be to revamp a corrections system that has been focused for years on tough-on-crime policies while cutting to a bare minimum training and reentry programs."

Acclaimed as one of the country's top corrections officials, Clarke brings many years of experience as prison chief to his new post. The two prisons in our town have always greatly mattered to our citizenry. Here's a perfect opportunity to ask questions about your concerns. This special community event is supported by the League of Women's Voters, the Concord-Carlisle Human Rights Council and the following faith communities: TriCon, First Parish, Holy Family, Trinity Episcopal Church and West Concord Union Church.

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## AN INVITATION TO NEWCOMERS

If you are new to TriCon or have been attending for some time but are not yet a member, please read on! We encourage you to learn more about our congregational mission and ministries, to get involved in a group within the church, and to explore the significance of being a member.

### "Welcoming Coffee" Getting to Know Us

**Sunday, April 13**  
Coffee and conversation  
with church leaders  
Following the 10:00 a.m. service  
in the church parlor

Our intention is to make you feel welcome, to answer questions you may have, and to help you develop relationships within the church. If you have questions, please call Susan Henderson, Chair of the Membership Committee, at 978-369-4854, or Mary Lou Esposito, Membership Coordinator, at the church office 978-369-4837.

## VISIT THE ISLAMIC CENTER OF BOSTON

As a follow up to her visit to the Church in February, Sepi Gilani, of the Islamic Center of Boston, has offered us a tour of the Center, located at 126 Boston Post Road in Wayland. We will meet at the church parking lot on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and will depart promptly at 1:00 p.m. Sign up in the parish hall and indicate if you are interested in carpooling.

The Islamic Center of Boston (ICB) was established in 1979 (1399AH) as a non-profit, non-sectarian religious, educational and cultural organization. The center services the Muslim community west and north of Boston although people travel to get to this center from as far away as New Hampshire and Falmouth. The Center's membership includes many ethnic groups and represents Muslims from all over the world.

Sponsored by:  
The Christian Education Committee



## WE NEED YOU!

Are you a knitter or crocheter looking for your next project? The Prayer Shawl Ministry is having a get together in the church parlor on Wednesday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Your presence and ideas will be welcome. Supplies can be furnished. Call Betty Farfaras with any questions at 781 935-0709.

## A REMINDER TO KNITTERS AND SEWERS

Although the Material Aid Group is no longer formally meeting at the church, their work continues. Our church community remains actively involved in the baby blanket project for AIDS babies and in the City Mission Society Christmas shop. Please continue to work on your projects at home. You may watch the Newsletter for information about when items will be collected or you may call the church office for more information.



## Over 80 Birthday Party

Coming in May!

Watch for your invitation in the mail!

## READING THE SPIRIT BOOK GROUP

Thursday, May 8, 2008 at noon



As part of our church's focus on Burma this spring, the Reading the Spirit Book Group will discuss "Finding George Orwell in

Burma" at its May 8th meeting. Everyone is welcome to join in for a lively discussion. Bring a friend.



SAVE THE DATE

Women's Union  
"Getting Organized"  
(part 2)

Monday, May 12 at noon



## Announcing

### The 7th Annual *Al Filipov Peace & Justice Forum*

September 20, 2008

It is a pleasure to announce that this year's *Al Filipov Peace and Justice Forum* speaker will be Captain James Yee. Captain Yee, a Chinese American, was born in New Jersey and graduated from West Point. He converted from Christianity to Islam in 1991.

As a military chaplain at the US prison at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba that has become controversial for treatment of detainees designated as enemy combatants, he represented Muslims in the military with great distinction. He has spoken to chaplains and other military personnel about Islam and about the treatment of Muslim detainees.

In spite of his excellent record, Chaplain Yee, was famously and falsely accused by the US government of spying, espionage and aiding alleged Taliban and Al-Qaeda prisoners and was held for 76 days in a naval brig. While incarcerated he was subjected to the same solitary confinement and sensory deprivation techniques that were used against the prisoners to whom he had been ministering. He was subsequently cleared of all false charges and received an Army Commendation medal for "exceptionally meritorious service".

Captain Yee has lectured extensively on religious diversity issues and on the challenges of protecting both national security and civil liberties. He has spoken on Capitol Hill to Congressional staff members, and also at Harvard, Dartmouth, Duke and Northwestern.

In October 2005, Yee published his book, *For God and Country: Faith and Patriotism Under Fire*. In it, Yee writes about his experiences as a prisoner. This book will be on sale during the coffee hour in April and May at the special pre-forum price of \$10.00.

## LIFE CHANGES

### NEW BABIES

Best wishes to Shannon and Bill Johnston, and big brothers, Will and Christopher on the February 4<sup>th</sup> birth of their daughter, Brighton.

We welcome Liliana Grace Carman, born on February 28 to Amanda and Greg Carman.

Congratulations to Jeff and Johanna Filipov and big sister, Sophia, on the March 19 birth of Benjamin Max Alexander. Delighted grandmother is Loretta Filipov.

### WITH SYMPATHY

We pray for Lisa Tharp and her family. Lisa's sister, Jeannie Kauffman died in February. Services were held in CT and TX.

Sincere sympathy to Diane Gregg and her daughter, Meredith Harrington. Diane's mother, Helen Gregg died on March 5. March 10 services were in Bennington, VT.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ellen Quackenbush and her children Alex and Nikki Moore. Ellen's mother, Nancy Quackenbush, died on February 25. Services were held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord.

Heartfelt condolences to Pete and Lucile Smith and their family. Their son, Stanley Smith of Littleton, died suddenly on March 11. Services were held at Littleton Congregational Church.

Marjorie Beatteay, a member of our church, died on March 11. Graveside services were held on March 18. We pray for Marjorie's daughter, Judith Wilfert and her family.

Our prayers are with Sally and Dale Clutter and their family. Sally's father, William Leighton, died on March 18. Services were held in Winchester on March 24.

Heartfelt sympathy to Shirley Rohan and her family. Shirley's husband, George, died on March 19. Services will be held at TriCon on April 5.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

**Sunday, April 6** 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Youth Group

**Sunday, April 13** 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Youth Group

**Sunday April 20**  
NO Youth Group (school vacation week)

**Sunday, April 27** 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Youth Group



### CONFIRMATION CLASS

April Schedule

**Sunday, April 6** 4:00 -7:30 p.m.

**Worship at Hope Church**  
(Confirmands and Mentors)

Read: Words for the Journey  
Chapter 10, Worship  
Chapter 14, Baptism  
Chapter 15, Communion

Meet in the church parking lot at 4:00 to carpool to Roslindale Congregational Building, 25 Cummins Highway, Roslindale, MA. Worship is at 5:30 and we should return to TriCon by about 7:30.

**Scheduling for the Confirmation retreat in April is still in process (due to outside complications beyond our control). Please watch your mail for further information.**

## WEDNESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP

Talk with your Youth Group friends about what's on your mind -- serious or fanciful. Discussion Group meets from 7:30 to 8:30 every Wednesday night in the youth room or the church parlor. All high schoolers are welcome.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST



News from our  
Music Director

Our Music Director, Victoria Wagner, has been nominated for the office of national Vice-President of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). We wish her well in the elections, which will be held later this month. Vickie was also nominated for that office in 2006, and for the office of national President in 2000. She declined the nomination for Treasurer in 2002. She served three terms (1994-2000) as New England's elected representative on the guild's National Council, and as a member of the Budget & Finance committee. A past Dean of the Boston Chapter, she was on the steering committee for the 1990 AGO National Convention in Boston.

The AGO is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. The Guild serves approximately 20,000 members in 330 chapters throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia. Founded in 1896 as both an educational and service organization, the Guild seeks to set and maintain high musical standards and to promote understanding and appreciation of all aspects of organ and choral music.



## STUDIES SHOW SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH

It's not too late to join the choir for the spring season and boost your physical and spiritual well-being. A joint study from Harvard and Yale Universities reports that choral singing boosts the immune system. Among seniors, singing reduces the need for visits to the doctor and emergency room, as well as the use of prescription drugs. (Reported in *Arthritis Today*, March-April 2008).

Choir rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:45-9:15 and Sunday mornings 9:15-10 a.m. in the choir loft. The choir does not sing on April 20 (Patriot's Day weekend). Our season ends May 18 and resumes in mid-September.

For more information, contact director VickieWagner (vwag@aol.com) at 978-369-4837 x227.

## WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

Bill and Rose Mary Crampton send their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all your prayers, food, cards, phone calls, the prayer shawl, etc. We have both felt totally surrounded with your love and kind thoughts. Please keep the prayers going while we move slowly forward in the coming months.

## CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CLOTHING NEEDED FOR Merrimack House Families

All sizes of young children's and teens' clothing are needed by the current residents of Merrimack House. Some baby things are also in short supply. This is the time of year when you may be going through last year's summer's clothes and finding things that are still in good shape but don't fit. Please consider donating your children's gently used items to Merrimack House. You may place them in the marked boxes in the parish hall any time between April 13 and May 11.

We'll be looking for clothing as school starts as well, and would appreciate your holding on to good fall and winter things until our notice in September and not delivering them at this time.

With thanks, the Social Concerns Committee.

## LIVING INTO OUR FAITH; SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Over the next few months, the Stewardship team would like to share some recent Stewardship messages that have been given by members offering the Sunday Call to Stewardship. They are inspiring personal



stories of the impact our church has had and continues to have in their lives. The following message was given by Allene Riley Kussin on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

This morning we have been encouraged to pay attention to our moments. So in this moment, let me ask you a question. Why are you here this morning? Have you considered that question recently?

If you have been around TriCon for any length of time, and I had not been introduced to you, you'd likely identify me as "Fritz's wife" or "Rebecca's sister." And you'd make the assumption that, "Yes, of course she'll become a part of the TriCon family of attendees," simply because of those facts. What you wouldn't have likely known is the reality of choice I felt confronted with regarding a church home.

Moving into this community and having an almost readymade entrée into life here, did NOT presuppose in my mind attendance and involvements based on my "connections." My faith experience and my commitment to living it out honestly demanded I be alert to the "where" and "how" of the church family I would choose to give of my energies, my talents and resources. In other words, where I would worship and participate with my life in the work of bringing something of God's kingdom to intersect and interact with life here on earth.

TriCon became that "where," that place for me, not because of marriage or family involvements, much as I am grateful for them, but because God is loved and worshipped here; truth is wrestled with; and, the living out of a vital faith is sought after with integrity. That's why I chose TriCon as the church family where I could give of myself.

My prayer is that you will consider the real reasons you are here and how you can substantiate those with your participation at this fundamental level of giving.

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES

New church directories are available in the parish hall. Please feel free to take one.

## THOUGHTS FROM A NEW CHOIR MEMBER

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In past newsletters, members of the organ and music committees have shared their thoughts on what it's like to sing and worship from our choir loft. One of the church's newest members joined the choir this February. As a veteran of many church choirs and a newcomer to ours, she brings a unique perspective, which we asked her to share with you.

There were many reasons why we joined TriCon last November, and one of them was the choir. We loved the selection of music and talented voices, as well as the fabulous organ playing from Vickie. My husband and I met in church choir, my sister was a choir director, and joining a church choir has always been a priority for us. My husband, Bill, has been in a class in DC for the last 7 weeks, but I joined the choir without him. I have thoroughly enjoyed learning the music and getting to know the other members. Everything has been great, except for the negative impact the choir loft has on my Sunday worship experience. I don't like to complain, but since this topic is currently under discussion, I agreed to share my perspective as a new choir member.

As a military family, we have moved frequently, been involved in a number of churches, and have seen many choir lofts. I have to say, TriCon's is the smallest and highest one I have ever been in! I was very surprised at how small the space is because it looks larger from the sanctuary. It's also very difficult to hear your own part and to blend with the other singers, partly because the organ is so close to our ears. We often do not have enough space to sit within our own vocal sections. When we stand to sing, it's so cramped that our music folders actually overlap with those of our neighbors! When an anthem has organ accompaniment, it is impossible for us to see Vickie's conducting and still direct our voices toward the

congregation. We work very hard on the pieces, and these obstacles make it very difficult to convey the emotion and musicality of the music.

The most troubling part for me, however, is how separated I feel from the worship service when I'm in the choir. The experience is almost like being in a little closet and listening to the service on the radio. If I had young children singing in the junior choir or participating in the children's moment, I could never see them from the loft. That would keep me from joining this church's choir, even though I love to sing! The choir can't see the expressions and gestures of the ministers, the flowers, or the bread and wine on the communion table. The railing is so high that unless you are sitting right next to it or standing up, you cannot see most of the congregation. This makes me feel completely disconnected from the community and has a negative impact on the spirituality of worship.

I hope I do not sound too critical. We love the church with its beautiful sanctuary and New England charm, and we know that these types of decisions are difficult and costly. I will not be leaving the choir, and over time I will become more accustomed to the problems with the space. But there is no doubt that the current situation limits growth, and it provides a less than positive experience for the new member deciding whether or not to be part of the choir.

Janet Cooley

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**DONATE  
FLOWERS  
FOR THE  
ALTAR**

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Dates are still available to donate flowers for the altar during 2008. You may sign up in the parish hall or call the church office.

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## WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

3 / 16 / 08

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Breht and Leslie Feigh moved to Concord a little over a year ago from Boston's South End. Leslie grew up in Canton, MA and Breht is originally from Indianapolis. Breht is the CFO of American Dental Partners in Wakefield. Leslie is at home with their children, Audrey (age 2) and William (3 months).

Scott and Kate Harmon and their daughters, Caroline, Lauren and Allison, moved to Concord from Princeton, NJ last year. Both Scott and Kate grew up in military families and were married while Scott, himself, was in the Army. Scott now works for a high tech company in Burlington and Kate is a "retired" CPA now at home guiding their daughters through school, sports, girl scouts and their newly formed dog sitting business.

Ellen Quackenbush has lived in Concord for over thirty years. She has two children, Alex Moore, a senior at BU majoring in advertising and Nicole Moore, a junior at Concord Carlisle High School, who loves ice hockey. Ellen, who is returning to TriCon after having been a member here in the 1980's, is a market research consultant at Seagate Technologies and enjoys hiking, cross-country skiing, biking and exploring all the wonderful parks and hiking trails in New England.

Steve and Katie Rye moved to Concord from Bronxville, NY in 2006. They have three children Nicholas (6), William (4), and Charlotte (1 ½) and the whole family is enjoying the rich history of Concord and the welcoming community of friends they have found here. Steve has worked in finance for the past 20 years and Katie's background is in higher education (French history). Steve and Katie enjoy swimming, biking, travel, watching movies and spending lots of time at the playground.

Fred and Lisa Turkington moved to Sudbury from Canton, CT in 2006. Fred is the town administrator for the town of Wayland and Lisa is an insurance claims and risk analyst at Risk Strategies Co. in Boston. Fred and Lisa have two daughters, Natalie (5 1/2) and Rachel (3 1/2). Family activities include walking their yellow labrador retriever, Casey, and trips to the Cape to visit extended family. Fred also enjoys golf and history and Lisa likes hiking, home improvement projects and gardening.

Fred and Tussie Williams moved to Concord from Pittsburgh in 1985. Now Maynard residents, Fred works for Oracle having changed careers from banking to software support. Tussie worked in investment research and mutual fund sales and switched careers to tutoring Latin and children's reading, math and handwriting. Tussie plays tennis on a competitive team and Fred is a member of the TriCon choir and also sings with other music groups. Both Fred and Tussie enjoy reading, traveling, gardening, the Rhode Island beaches and visiting grandchildren in St. Paul, MN.

Jeff and Lisa Weil moved to Sudbury from Marblehead eleven years ago. Jeff is a Vice-President of Services and Support at Empirix, Inc. Lisa was a product marketing executive at Fidelity Investments and is now at home with their children, son, Parker, who is 7 and daughter, Sophie, who is 2. The family enjoys bike riding, swimming and hiking.

Ray Wong and Beth Knauss have lived in Concord for 12 years. They have two daughters, Allison in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and Jenna in 4<sup>th</sup>. Ray works for Harvard Vanguard in Burlington and Beth is a "retired" lawyer now at home with her children and active in volunteering. The family enjoys skiing, and travel to see new places and visit family. Ray also likes golf and Beth is a gardener.

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## STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

Almost all of us at TriCon have been affected in some way by cancer either as a patient who has undergone medical treatment or as a caregiver for a family member or friend with the disease. In an effort to find out how our church could provide additional support to those individuals and families affected by this disease, the Stephen Ministry team is seeking input from you. Please fill out the survey below and return it to the church office, offering plate or box in the parish hall.

We thank you for your help and for any suggestions you may have. Should you have any questions or comments that you would like to share directly with us, please contact Carol Gupta (978 371-0018) or Demi Ayres (978 369-4250) or speak with any of TriCon's Stephen Ministers who are listed below.

The Stephen Ministry Team

Leslie Ackles  
Tom Bates  
Gail Kearns  
Milt Schwenk

Demi Ayres  
Daisy Crane  
Pat Davis  
Marie Sciaraffa

Carol Gupta  
Barbara Feehrer  
Ellen Leckband  
Bonnie Soleau

Alice Hatch  
Joyce Novak

## CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY OF NEEDS AND RESOURCES

Feel free to attach any additional comments you may have to the back of this survey. For your information TriCon presently offers meals, rides, pastoral assistance and Stephen Ministry support to anyone in need in the congregation.

**SURVEY QUESTIONS:**

1. How do you think TriCon could be most helpful to those in the church whose lives are impacted by cancer?

Please check any that you feel would be helpful:

- Provide a forum on the topic for all those interested \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide a series of information programs led by chaplains and medical personnel on cancer \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide a flyer or booklet of resources offered within the church \_\_\_\_\_
- Offer a support group \_\_\_\_\_
- Other suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

2. For those who have served as a caregiver to someone with cancer – how could the church be more helpful to you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to share some of our thoughts with others in an open forum? If so, please include your name and phone number.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

3. For those who have undergone treatment for cancer or are in the midst of that treatment now, how could the church be more helpful to you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to share any of your experiences with others in an open forum? If so, please include your name and phone number.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_