

The Newsletter

Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street
Concord, MA 01742

978-369-4837, Fax 978-287-0406
www.triconchurch.org
triconchurch@aol.com



THE PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE

Remember to Stop and Taste the Lemonade! — The Wisdom of Summer Sabbath

*“Remember the Sabbath” means “Remember that everything you received is a blessing.
Remember to delight in your life, and the fruits of your labor.
Remember to stop and offer thanks for the wonder of it.”*
~Wayne Muller, *Sabbaths*

*“When we consecrate time to listen to the still, small voices,
we remember the root of inner wisdom that makes work fruitful.
We remember from where we are most deeply nourished,
and see more clearly the shape and texture of the people and things before us.”*
~Wayne Muller, *Sabbaths*

As we enter the summer months, many of us shift into a lower gear, slowing down from the frantic pace that has us rushing through our days from September to June. Slowing down is a good thing, for many of us have lost touch with the rhythms of work and rest, play and renewal that are so necessary for emotional and spiritual health. The pace of our working lives is simply too hectic and our schedules are too chaotic. The reduced demands of our summer days can provide a delightful opportunity to reconnect with the rhythms of nature, the wonder of life, and our very human need to stop “doing” and simply “be.”

This summer, I invite you to rediscover *Sabbath*. *Sabbath* is the Hebrew word for the seventh day of the week, the day on which, according to the Genesis account of creation, *God rested*. The third commandment is: “Honor the Sabbath day and keep it holy.” Is there any other commandment for which we have such causal and flagrant disregard? Yet we ignore it at our peril, for there is something deep in the mystery of creation that calls for cycles of work and rest, growth and renewal. Our creation story tells us that even God rested.

The injunction to keep the *Sabbath* invites us to take time away from the demands of work and labor, yet Sabbath is more than a weekend, a holiday or a vacation. It is a way of sanctifying time for a special purpose. Sabbath invites us not so much to *flee* from our ordinary lives, as to be fully present in the moment, to revel in the beauty of life, to discover wonder in the ordinary. Sabbath is

not so much an *escape* from ordinary time as a *consecration* of time so that we are able to see the marvelous in the everyday. Sabbath is about seeing with new eyes. How wonderful that we are commanded to take this time, filled with joyous possibility!

In the summer months, the natural world beckons us to pay attention to life unfolding all around us. We nurture perennials to full bloom and garden vegetables to succulent ripeness. We are more likely to be out on a warm summer's night gazing at the full moon, searching out Orion, or watching for meteor showers. Time at the seashore finds us captivated by the cycles of high and low tides and the intricacy and tenacity of life revealed in tidal pools. A more leisurely summer pace affords us time to enjoy cooking, playing with children and grandchildren, or simply sitting on the porch sipping a cold glass of lemonade.

There is a bluegrass-gospel tune by Matthew Myer-Boulton, called "*Rest*" written as a love-song from God to God's people. The refrain is an invitation to Sabbath:

"Rest, rest; Come lay your head on my breast every now and then.
Rest, rest; Come lay your head on my breast and be home again."

I wish for you in the summer months that you will take time to slow down, that you will find God in the ordinary, and be filled with a new sense of wonder and awe. May you find renewing *Sabbath* rest.

Blessings!

Karin

WORSHIP IN JUNE

June 1 COMMUNION	Service at 10:00	Rev. Ross Lilley preaching
June 8	Service at 10:00	Rev. Dr. John Lombard preaching
June 15	Service at 10:00	Rev. Dr. Karin Case preaching
June 22	Service at 10:00	Rev. Dr. John Lombard preaching
June 29	Service at 10:00	Rev. J. Loring Carpenter



Father's Day

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no 8:30 a.m. service during June, July and August.
The 8:30 a.m. service will resume on September 14.

Our summer Sunday service of worship will be at 10:00 a.m.

The two exceptions to this will be Sundays, July 20 and 27 when we will be worshipping at West Concord Union Church. Their service is at 9:45 a.m.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



WELCOME, 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.

To help you get to know others, you may attend any of the "welcoming coffees" held in the parlor once each month from September to May. To help you decide about joining, we invite you to attend one of the "exploring membership" held three times a year.

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 call Mary Lou Esposito, Membership Coordinator, at the church office 978-369-4837.

Sunday June 8, 2008
Reception of new members
During the 10 a.m. worship service

**Warrant for a Congregational meeting
Sunday morning, June 8th, 2008
immediately following
the 10 a.m. worship service**

To the Members of the
**Trinitarian Congregational Church
in Concord**
County of Middlesex
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

You are hereby notified that a Congregational Meeting of said church will be held on Sunday morning, the eighth of June, 2008 immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service for the following purposes, to wit:

Article 1.

To authorize the Moderator to appoint a Feasibility Study Committee to assess the congregation's willingness and ability to finance the Organ Committee's recommendation that includes purchase of a new organ, moving the organ and choir to the back balcony and constructing side balconies to provide handicap accessibility and expand the seating capacity of the sanctuary.

Article 2.

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

The deadline for the
July Newsletter
is June 15.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

WE WELCOME REV. J. LORING CARPENTER

Rev. J. Loring Carpenter will be our guest preacher on Sunday, June 29. Rev. Carpenter has been a transformational pastor, consultant to congregations and nonprofit organizations, conference center director, and workshop leader for 35 years. He holds degrees from Babson College and Colgate Rochester Divinity School and, with credentials in both the Baptist and Congregational denominations, has guided numerous congregations from difficulties to new vision and active ministry. Rev. Carpenter is currently the Executive Director of Seafarer's Friend in Boston where he is now setting the vision, securing funding and providing general oversight of the agency as it serves the ports of New England.

ABOUT SEAFARER'S FRIEND

Since 1827, Seafarer's Friend has provided ministry and service to all the seafarers entering the ports of Boston, Portland, and Portsmouth.



Coming alongside the maritime community with friendship, faith, and hospitality (their mission statement) chaplains and volunteers provide a caring touch of humanity for those working in the dangerous and lonely maritime industry. Most Seafarers come from third world nations, and depend on visits to the Boston center for calls to loved ones, emails to friends, transportation to the local stores, and counsel when in crisis to make their 4-12 month stay at sea humane and special.

LIVING INTO OUR FAITH; SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

This month, the Stewardship team would like to share a story told by Peg Hoover in a recent Sunday Call to Stewardship. Peg's story is especially timely as the Stewardship team, in discussing a theme for the coming campaign, has focused on thankfulness.



I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked into a large workroom filled with angels. My angel said, 'This is the Receiving Section where all petitions to God, said in prayer, are received.' I looked around and it was very busy with so many angels sorting out petitions from people all over the world.

Then we moved on down a long corridor to a second section. The angel said, 'This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings that people asked for are processed and delivered to the persons who asked for them.' I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally, at the farthest end of the long corridor, we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my surprise, only one angel was seated there, idle. 'This is the Acknowledgment Section,' my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed. 'How is it that there is no work going on here?' I asked.

'So sad,' the angel sighed. 'After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments.' 'How does one acknowledge God's blessings?' I asked. The angel answered. One simply says, 'Thank you, Lord.'



The family of Dorothy Ann Heath would like to thank the church community for their kind notes and prayers during Dottie's illness and at the sad time of her passing.

Richard Heath, his children and grandchildren

* * * * *

Thank you to everyone in the church family for your cards, calls, visits and prayers during my recent hip surgery. I am so grateful to be part of this warm and caring community. I love you all. And a special thank you to our ministers.

Loretta Filipov

* * * * *

A big thank you to TriCon members who contributed the lovely children's and teens' clothing for the families of Merrimack House in Lowell, and to Joan Neisser who delivered the clothes each week. Here is a letter Pam LeFevre, the social worker there, has passed along to us.

"My name is Yulimar Trinidad, and I am a mother of two children. We are currently staying at the Merrimack Shelter along with five other families. I'm writing this letter to thank all the wonderful people that have donated clothing to our children. We really appreciate it and it has really helped us in our time of need. God Bless you always and thank you."

*Sincerely,
Yulimar Trinidad*



**Monday, June 23
through Friday, August 22
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Regular office hours will resume on
Monday, August 25

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, as well as the prayer shawl ministry. Please continue to work on your projects at home and if you need yarn, knitting needles or instructions, contact the church office. Watch the Newsletter or Sunday Events & Comments in the fall for when items will be collected, or you may call the church office for more information.

FYI! A knitting group will begin meeting in September. See the August Newsletter for more details.

STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FAMILY WEEKENDS Retreats for Adult Cancer Patients and their families

An opportunity to learn (while attending a series of workshops), relax and enjoy being in beautiful surroundings. Fun events for children are included.

Opportunities are also available to volunteer as a buddy and to assist patients and their families throughout the course of the weekend.

Dates and locations for the weekends:

June 6-8 Mt. Holyoke College
 South Hadley, MA

August 1-3 Rivier College
 Nashua, NJ

To register as an attendee or as a volunteer buddy, call 1 800 ACS-2345 or go to the website www.cancer.org and click on We-Can-Weekend. Brochures with a registration form included will also be on the resource table in the parish hall.

Susan Stumpf, a member of TriCon, who works for the American Cancer Society has volunteered at these camps in the past and found them to be one of the most uplifting and informative opportunities available. Feel free to call Susan with any questions: 508 270-4885 (work), 978 397-1805 (home).

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

If you would like to donate flowers for the church altar, dates are still available in July and August. Sign up in the parish hall or call the church office.



OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR'S SUMMER PLANS

This summer our Music Director, Vickie Wagner, will be on sabbatical from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Vickie and her husband, organist/harpsichordist Peter Sykes, will spend three weeks in France sightseeing, meeting with musical colleagues, and visiting historic organs and instrument museums. Upon their return, they will perform together at the American Guild of Organists' national convention in Minneapolis. Vickie will spend most of July in Prague and South Bohemia, where she will attend operas and sightsee, as well as participate in her 8th European Vintage Dance Week. The highlight of her August will be the annual week of vintage dance in Newport, RI, followed by some quiet time at home with friends and family!

ATTENTION TEENS (AND ADULTS)!

Interested in acquiring a marketable, useful, fun skill? The Filipov Forum Committee is looking for someone to film the 2008 Forum on September 20. CCTV will train you and provide equipment. Contact Steve Payne at (978) 287-5031 if you are interested.

TIME FOR BREAD

By Carrie Ann Burnap

I do not want to say goodbye, for hello seems only a day ago.
Could those who are connected by Divine love ever be parted?

I do want to say thank you, for your love shows open hospitality.
Could those who have shared hospitality ever be parted?

When you bake bread there is a moment when the yeast takes over
and the bread is granted a life of its own.
At this point it is too late to separate out the parts from the whole
because they have given a piece of themselves away.

Giving of themselves has allowed them to become the bread of life.
Come, take and eat this is my body broken for you.

I do not want to say goodbye, for hello seems only a day ago.
I have enjoyed the bread of life with you and because of this,
we will never be parted.



We are grateful to all who responded to the Blessings for Burma Initiative. Thanks to your generosity, the Kanpelet Home will have a new well, two teachers for the 40+ children, 42 new blankets, 48 school kits, 50 packages of seeds, 14 flocks of chickens and money for medicine and hospital visits for 65 children (and a toothbrush for each child, supplied by Micki Van Horn). In addition, your undesignated gifts will benefit the Home in countless ways. While the recent cyclone did not have a direct effect on the residents of the Home, higher prices, food shortages and the expected need to house additional children will likely impact them.

Your response to aid the victims of the Burma/Myanmar cyclone has also been incredibly generous. Over \$6,000 was contributed to send, along with \$12,500 from our Mission funds, partly through the Foundation for the People of Burma, a group that has direct contact with groups and individuals in Burma who will see that the money is used to directly benefit those in need. We will also direct some of the funds to Church World Service, a UCC affiliate that will be focusing on rebuilding and furthering long-term relief efforts.



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
2007-2008
CONFIRMATION CLASS**

James Maxwell Barrett is a freshman at Concord Carlisle High School. Max loves to play sports including football and lacrosse and is academically partial to math and science. He enjoys every minute of life.

Makayla A. Barton, a student at Concord Carlisle High School, enjoys sports especially field hockey, basketball and softball. Makayla attends TriCon Youth Group and participated in the most recent Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Stephanie Bauer is a student at Lincoln Sudbury High School. She likes singing, dancing, playing tennis, writing and photography. Stephanie sang with the TriCon Junior Choir, participates in Youth Group and was part of the Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Leigh Blumenberg is enjoying her first year at Concord Carlisle High School where she plays volleyball and basketball. Leigh also likes photography, writing and being involved in activities at TriCon.

Joshua Boisvert is a student at Concord Carlisle High School. At school he plays soccer, basketball and lacrosse. Joshua also attends TriCon Youth Group and traveled to Mississippi on the Mission Trip.

Katherine Colman attends Concord Carlisle High School. Her favorite activities include singing, drawing, reading, writing, acting and skiing. She also enjoys spending time with friends on the weekends and watching movies. Katelyn loves animals and the environment. She was part of the Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Lindsay Cook participates in many sports at Concord Carlisle High School. Her favorite sports are lacrosse, ski racing and soccer. She enjoys being an active member of her community, helping the environment and conserving energy. In the future, Lindsay hopes to work on changing the use of energy in the world.

Rachel Cooley is a student at Bedford High School where she enjoys music and art. Other interests include theatre, particularly musicals, reading, and spending time with friends. Rachel attends the TriCon Youth Group and was part of the Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Sara DeLong is a freshman at Concord Carlisle High School. She plays soccer and softball and also enjoys stage managing and skiing. Sara participated in this year's Mission Trip to Mississippi and attends TriCon Youth Group and Discussion Group.

Greg Gouillart attends Concord Carlisle High School and is a member of the school radio station. Greg participates in *Serious Repercussions*, a small hand drumming ensemble and plays drum with the jazz band *Say That Again*, as well as refereeing local soccer games. Greg attended the Mission Trip to Mississippi and loved the people and experiences there.

Liza Hart, a student at Concord Carlisle High School, enjoys many sports including horseback riding, cross-country skiing, swimming, sailing, and crew. In school Liza's favorite subject is English. She particularly likes spending time with friends and family and was a participant in the recent Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Charlotte Keesler attends Concord Carlisle High School. Her primary sports interest is in horseback riding which keeps her very busy. She also likes to play tennis in the summer and downhill skis in the winter.

Ben Lesser enjoys world cultures and geometry at Concord Carlisle High School. At school Ben plays soccer, basketball and lacrosse. Outside of school, he is part of the TriCon Youth Group and thought the Mission Trip to Mississippi was one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

Madeline Mahoney enjoys singing, dancing, acting, and skiing. At Concord Carlisle High School her favorite subject is history. Maddie sang with the TriCon Junior Choir and is looking forward to participating in next year's Mission Trip.

Morgan Manchester attends Concord Carlisle High School. She loves horses and often competes in horse shows on weekends. Morgan also plays field hockey on the freshman team and enjoys boating and skiing with her family.

Hunter Montgomery is a freshman at Concord Carlisle High School. His favorite sports are soccer, football, and basketball. He also likes to play guitar, and is a Red Sox fan and a diehard Packers fan. Hunter attends TriCon Youth Group.

Ben Noyes is a freshman at Belmont Hill School. His favorite sport is soccer. He also enjoys wrestling and tennis. Ben has been playing guitar for three years and next year will sing in the upper school singing group.

Sarah Robitaille is a freshman at Concord Carlisle High School. Sarah plays soccer, softball and basketball and enjoys spending time with her friends. Sarah is active in the TriCon Youth Group and traveled to Mississippi on the 2008 Mission Trip.

Connor Shea attends Concord Carlisle High School. He is a percussionist, ukelele musician and avid naturalist. An enthusiastic Mission Trip and Youth Group participant, Connor also coaches water sports and conditioning to people with disabilities.

Lena Stein enjoys English and history at Concord Carlisle High School. She also loves field hockey and singing, along with playing the guitar and piano. Lena sings with the Boston City Singers and the CCHS chorus. She went on the 2008 Mission Trip and participates in TriCon Youth Group.

Torie Tremblay likes science and social studies at Concord Carlisle High School. Her favorite sports are cross country, basketball and track. Torie loves attending the TriCon Youth Discussion Group and Youth Group and was part of the Mission Trip to Mississippi.

Thomas Veitch enjoys biology and Spanish at Concord Carlisle High School. He is a member of the Student Senate and loves the opportunity to get involved in his school. Tommy also works on the school newspaper which allows him to both write about and learn more about members of the CCHS community. He plays French horn in the school band and the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Amy Wyeth is a freshman at Concord Carlisle High School. She loves playing lacrosse, basketball and field hockey and enjoys swimming. Her favorite school subject is math but she also likes writing. Amy was part of the Mission Trip to Mississippi.

A MID-SUMMER BARBECUE

IT'S BECOME A TRICON SUMMER TRADITION!

Enjoy an informal barbecue and share some fellowship with other church folk.

**Wednesday, July 16th, 6-8 p.m.
Rain or shine**

Hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, chips, drinks and dessert provided.
\$3 per person donation requested.

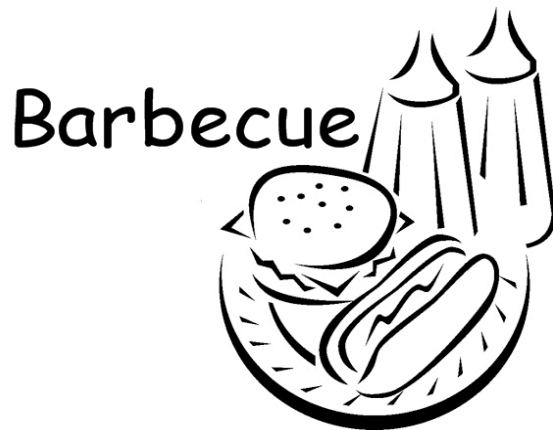
Salads to share are also welcome
(BUT only if you have the time and would like to bring one).

Skilled and not-so-skilled chefs are needed to "people" the grills!

Most importantly, come and have some good food and fun!

In order to plan we need to have sign-ups.

Return this form, sign up on a Sunday, or call the church office.
Hope to see you there!



Yes, I/we will attend the barbecue on July 16th.

Name/s: _____ # _____

_____ would be willing to help with the grilling.

INTERFAITH *Prayer Breakfast*

**Featured Speaker: The Rev. Professor Peter J.
Gomes**
*from The Memorial Church of Harvard
University*

Wednesday October 8, 2008



7:30 to 9:00 am

Sponsored by the Concord Clergy Laity Group
Held at the Morrison Theatre in Newbury Court, Concord, MA

Donation \$10: Advance Tickets Available Through Your Local Community of Faith