



TRICON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES DECEMBER 2008

From the desk of...

"Mom, are we gonna be poor?" This question, posed by my nine year old caught me completely off guard! When I asked her what she meant, she replied that she had heard how people are losing their homes and jobs and that businesses were closing. She added that I was buying more "boring" food from the store. "Out of the mouths of babes!"

These times of financial uncertainty can cause a great deal of stress in all of our lives, adults and children alike. As I pondered this "intense" conversation I began to think about what was important to our family and what made me feel better when things were not great. TriCon came to mind immediately for two reasons: one it is my place of employment, but more importantly it is a source of comfort and hope.

For all of us at TriCon, (children and adults) no matter how often we visit, no matter what are able to give, no matter what mood we are in, we come to worship or attend Church School and we are welcomed unconditionally. In the spirit of the Christmas Season, I welcome you to share in the joy and love God offers each and every one us.

And "Yes, Charlotte, you can buy a box of Froot Loops."

Peace and joy!

Carrie

Welcome and Thank You Winter Teachers!

Kristi Detweiler, Trish Siefer, Margaret Fries, Katie Rye, Lauren Huyett, Travis Snell, Polly Meyer, Heidi Harring, Jennifer Kamionek, Beth and Gerald Quirk, Anne Lehmann, Sandy Freund, Hunter Hutchinson, Chrissey Honan, Amy Pasley, Erik and Jen Waldron, Susie Winstanley, Hilary Steinert, Scott Harmon, Jeff Weil, Carolyn Stein, Nancy DiRomualdo, Ruth and Tom Piper, Sue Fulshaw, Amanda Hickman, Maryl Bode, Amy Bruning, Diana Kolstad, Joan Rosazza, Lori and David Boisvert and Laurel Baumer.

DECEMBER

Monday, December 1st

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Liaison Meeting | 7:00PM |
| CE Committee Meeting | 8:00PM |

Sunday, December 7th

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Angel Breakfast | 9:00AM |
| Church School | 10:00AM |
| Choose Pageant Roles | |

Sunday, December 14th

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Church School | 9:00AM |
| 5/6 th Grade Movie and Pageant Props | 3:30PM |

Tuesday, December 16th

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Christmas Story Hour | 6:30PM |
|----------------------|--------|

Sunday, December 21st

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Church School | 9:00AM |
| 6PM Pageant Rehearsal | 12:30PM |
| 4PM Pageant Rehearsal | 2:15PM |

Sunday, December 28th

No Church School or Childcare

Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street
Concord, MA 01742
978-369-4837

Carrie O'Brien
Christian Education Director
triconcob@aol.com

CE Office Hours
Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9 - 3



CHRISTMAS PAGEANTS

3rd and 4th Grade - 4:00PM Christmas Eve Service
5th through 8th Grade - 6:00PM Christmas Eve Service

We are eager to begin the preparations for our Christmas Pageants in the anticipated celebration of the birth of our Lord. The 4:00 PM service is the re-enactment of the "Christmas Pageant" by Tomie DePaola and the 6:00 PM service is a "Christmas Living Crèche".



The children will choose their roles and be measured for their costumes during Church School on **Sunday, December 7th**. We have listed the roles below by grade level so your child can think about which part he/she would like. To be fair, children who have attended Church School on a regular basis will have first pick of the lead roles. Children who sing in the Junior Choir are encouraged to participate in our Pageant.

Grades 3, 5, 6, and 7 - Angel, Shepherd, Sheep
Grades 4 and 8 - Mary, Joseph, Three Wise Men, Gabriel, Donkey, Innkeeper, plus a our newly added role...the star! The roles of Angel, Shepherd, Sheep will also be chosen.

All children who wish to be in the pageant must have a permission slip in hand by **Sunday, December 7th**. By now you should have received the permission slip in the mail. Your child should also attend the dress rehearsal the afternoon on **Sunday, December 21st**. This will be the only rehearsal.

Christmas Pageant volunteers are: **3rd and 4th Grade Pageant:** Amanda Hickman (Chair), Hunter Hutchinson, Hayley Barnes, Heidi Haring and Pam Nelson; **5th - 8th Grade Pageant:** Amy Pasley, Donna Carlson and Sue Henderson.

Also, if anyone has a talent for sewing, we would love to have more shepherd, angel and sheep costumes.

Angel Breakfast Sunday, December 7th



The Angel Breakfast, a TriCon tradition, is a special time for our Pre-K's and K's. Each child is invited to bring a special guest (parent, grandparent, friend, babysitter, etc.) to this memorable breakfast. Watch the mail for your child's invitation. This event will take place at 9AM, **prior to the 10AM worship service**, in the parish hall. Please RSVP so that we will know how many angel goodies to purchase. Thank you Anne Lehmann, Trish Siefer, Kate Harmon and Leslie Lilly for creating a magical morning. Don't forget to bring your camera!

TRI-CON CHURCH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission to intentionally provide to all of the children in our Church School program the following:

Provide our children with a foundation in Christian education such as learning the stories of the Bible, the history of Christianity and what it means to be a UCC member, and the components of worship.

Provide our children with many opportunities to participate in our church community and programs outside our community.

Provide a safe, caring and nurturing environment with other children and adults.

Teach our children the important faith traits such as generosity, responsibility, courage, joy, stewardship and humility so that they will include and apply them to their daily lives.



Christmas Story Hour Tuesday, December 16th



On Tuesday, December 16th, 6:30 - 7:30PM children, ages four to eight, are invited to join Rev. Lombard around the fireplace in the parlor for a Children's Christmas Story Hour. The evening will conclude with hot cocoa and Christmas cookies. While your children are in the parlor, parents are invited

to share fellowship and Christmas treats in the Parish Hall! Children are welcome to wear their p.j.s!

Happy December Birthday Wishes to...



Ethan Bondick
Lindsey Piper
William Feigh
Katherine Nicholas
Isaac Carlson
Natalie Waldron
Katrina Judicke
Amelia Amodei
Kayleen Honan
Jivan Galper
Lowell Hutchinson

John Davidian
George Littlefield
Abby Wilcox
Nicholas Steinert
Benjamin Clarke
Kylene Aziz
Peter Bruning
Chloe Bruning
Thomas Salemy
Alexis Steinert
Holly Anderson

Attention Church School parents...Have you logged onto *Akaloo* yet??

As of this date, a number of families have not signed into *Akaloo*. All parents (Pre-K through 8th Grade) are encourage to log onto our *Akaloo* website and become familiar with all it's offerings. All of our Church School calendar activities, event, announcements and curriculum are listed so please use this website to gain information about our program. If you have registered your family this year you should have received an email invitation from *Akaloo*. Please let me know if you have any questions or need help logging on.

Coming Up In

January

Social Justice One Room Schoolhouse
Sunday, January 18th

YOUTH GROUP SCOOP

5/6th Grade Movie and Making Pageant Props Sunday, December 14th 3:30 - 6PM

When asked what they wanted to do for their December Youth Group event the 5th and 6th graders all agreed watching *The Nativity Movie* (rated PG) would be perfect. But that is not all. In addition, the kids will help to make much needed props for our Christmas Pageants. We expect this program to run from 3:30 until 6PM. Attending children should be signed up with Sue Fulshaw at stful@aol.com.

In the meantime, we would welcome large cardboard appliance boxes. You can drop them off at the Church School office.

7/8th Grade Mission Work Sunday, January 25th Time TBD

Anne Randle has planned a great opportunity for our 7th and 8th graders to participate in mission work. On Sunday, January 25th, our kids will travel to the Pine Street Inn (woman's side) to serve supper. Specific time commitment to be determined. A food or car drive might be associated with this as well and will be discussed with the kids during class time. Thank you Anne for bringing us this opportunity!

Do you have a great idea for a Youth Group activity? Please contact either Sue Fulshaw stful@aol.com or Jen Hart jenheardhart@aol.com