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## TRICON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES MARCH 2011

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*From the desk of...*

"Now I lay me down to sleep ...", ... "God is great, God is good and we thank Him for this food". All too often these simple prayers are the only ones we teach our children at home. And if this is true we are leaving them without much of a foundation for developing a personal relationship with God, which is the very basis for our lives as Christians.

Why is prayer so important? Prayer is a two-way communication with God. When we engage in daily conversation with any individual whether it be our spouse or friends or fellow workers we grow closer to that person. If we have daily or frequent conversations with God we too grow closer to Him.

Children can be taught that their language is adequate and they do not need to include flowery, complicated words or sentences for God to hear their prayers. Whatever their age or verbal abilities, their own expressions are sufficient and pleasing to God. Young children can begin with short prayers of praise and thanksgiving and as they get older can add prayers for forgiveness and guidance, blessing, intercession and petition. Of course, the great prayers of our faith especially The Lord's Prayer are important to children, but prayers in their own words are important too.

Now, do you as an adult lead a prayerful life? Have you ever heard of the saying, "What you do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say!" How we live out our relationship with God will have a greater effect on the children around us than anything we can say about it. We cannot expect our children to lead prayerful lives if we do not pray ourselves. Teaching your children God's ways, leading them to grow in the Lord, and equipping them for adult life is our responsibility as Christian parents. Prayer is an important element in this process.

I am happy to talk with you about how you can creatively incorporate prayer into your home life. I also have age appropriate guidelines for prayer that I am happy to share with you.

Peace,

Carrie O'Brien  
Church School Director



Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

Liaison Meeting 7:00PM  
CE Committee Meeting 8:15PM

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

Church School 10:00AM

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> -  
Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

SEEKERS Sleepover

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

Church School 10:00AM

Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

Church School 10:00AM

Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

Church School 10:00AM  
Communion Workshop

### **Trinitarian Congregational Church**

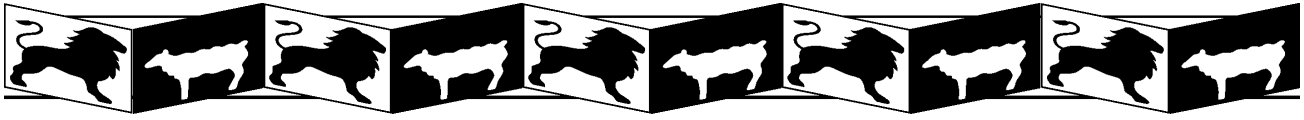
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Carrie O'Brien  
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C.E. Office Hours  
Mondays, Wednesday and Thursdays ...9-3PM

I shared this with our spring teachers at our recent teacher orientation...

*A Kindergarten Church School teacher asked her class if they knew what God was like. One little boy raised his hand and said, "God is an artist." The teacher replied, "Really? And how do you know that?" The boy confidently said, "You know... Our Father how does art in heaven..."*



## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Neighboring Faiths Program

In preparation for Confirmation in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders have had the wonderful opportunity to learn about neighboring Christian faiths. So



far we have visited Bedford's Lutheran Church of the Savior and Holy Family and First Parish here in Concord. We are continuing this unit of study throughout the spring with upcoming visits to the Christian Science Center and Common Cathedral in Boston, Grace Chapel in Lexington and the Quaker Meeting House in Concord.

This is an important program that we encourage all youth to attend. Parents will be sent an email prior to each church visit.

## Happy March Birthday Wishes to...



Alexa Detweiler  
Brett Parker  
William Rye  
Ben Wittenberg  
Keith Colbert  
Carter Wilson  
Alec Hallinan  
Allison Harmon  
Charles Crouse

Charlotte Huettig  
Charlotte Mast  
Haley McMorro  
Alison Quirk  
Carly Mahoney  
Eric Marshall  
Sydney Munn  
William Crouse  
William Butler

## Many, many thanks to our Winter Teachers!

**Pre-Kindergarten:** Melissa McMorro, Melissa Liazos-Coffey, Bob Clarke, Michelle Stewart, Peter Kirkman,  
**Kindergarten:** Shirley Huettig, Byron and Monica Woodman, Jon Piper, Marianne Maurer Ouellette,  
**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** Christian Meyer, Lisa Turkington, Joe Colbert, Kristi Anderson, **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Jennifer Clarke, Eric and Jennifer Waldron, Scott Harmon, **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Dave and Chrissy Honan, Laurie Avakian, Tussie Williams,  
**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Trish Siefer, Anne Lehmann, Hilary Steinert, Tracy Hoaglund, **5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Patrick Tannler, Donna Carlson, Richard and Hilary Robinson, **6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Carolyn Stein, Hunter Hutchinson, Ellen Muhlitz, Marcia Ackley, **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:** Diana Kolstad, Jay Leu, Amy Pasley and Holly Hunter.

### 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.



Explore ... Enjoy ... Contribute

Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade meeting this month will not be fun ... it will be a BLAST!! Make plans now to attend our **March 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> sleepover** at the church. Games, movies, food, more games, more food!! Festivities begin at 8pm Saturday night. Email to come with more information.