



TRI-CON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES NOVEMBER 2011

From the desk of...

On Sunday, October 2nd, 8th grader Gillian Pasley delivered an eloquently written Call to Stewardship during worship. It is worth publishing in this newsletter as she beautifully captured the heart of our program and our church community in her own words, from her own personal experiences.

"It takes a village to raise a child." We've all heard this phrase time and time again at various stages of our lives, and whether you're in the position of the child or the villager, it's meaning rings true. In my case, and so many others, it takes a church to raise a child. It takes

being a baby, just baptized, still oblivious to all those who love you, but feeling the presence of the love all the same. It takes being a kindergartner, running to the parish hall in a new dress in order to get the doughnuts before they're all gone. It takes the feeling of being a child on Christmas Eve, so alive and warm and excited. It takes the guidance of adults in the church, adults that aren't your parents who will talk to you and help you with the parts of life you can't

understand yourself. It takes having a group of friends you meet up with every Sunday, who share something more with you than all your other friends at school. It takes the feeling you get when you walk down the hallway from the Church School classrooms to the parish hall, finally a teenager, realizing that you've walked this hall, these steps, during every year and every stage of your life. It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes a loving, faithful community to raise a child into a caring, compassionate adult.

Our loving, faithful community is our church. But like the children in it, families grow up as well. Families go through the life cycle of our church, and at some point we need to step up and take the place of those who have given so generously to the church in years past. I am asking every one of you to think about what you can give to our community, and take action. With each person giving a little more, the burden becomes a little less. If every one of us contributes what they can, our church can continue to grow and

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Tuesday, November 1st

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

Sunday, November 6th

Church School	10:00AM
4 th Grade Bibles	

Thursday, November 10

Seekers to HEADING HOME	4:30PM
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Sunday, November 13th

Church School	10:00AM
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Thursday, November 17

Seekers to HEADING HOME	4:30PM
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Sunday, November 20th

Church School	10:00AM
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Sunday, November 27th

Advent Family Worship	10:00AM
Childcare provided (up to age five)	

**Trinitarian
Congregational Church**

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Carrie O'Brien, Church School Director
CE Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays 9-3



reach out, like the many children who've walked through its halls over so many generations.

So today I am asking you to give. Give so that your children, your grandchildren, your friend's children, your nieces, your nephews, even the children you see every Sunday and don't know the names of, can continue to grow up and learn to live life in a place where they can know they have support, know they are accepted, and most importantly, know there are people who love them.

"It takes a church."

Well said, Gillian!

Peace,

Carrie

4th Grade Bible Sunday Sunday, November 6th



We will be presenting the 4th Grade Class with their own Bible Story Book, Dorling Kindersley's *Children's Illustrated Bible*, during the worship service. These Bible

storybooks are beautifully bound and full of interesting Bible stories and artwork, including maps and color photographs of artifacts, plants, biblical places, animals, people, and architecture. Children should arrive in the parish hall no later than 9:45 a.m. so they can gather and enter the sanctuary as a class. We hope the Bible storybook will bring joy to each of our 4th Graders. An email was sent in October to all current 2011-2012 registered families asking whether they would like their 4th Grader to receive a copy. Please contact Carrie O'Brien if you have any questions.

Winter Church School Session Begins Sunday, December 4th

We are grateful to the following folks for teaching this winter and sharing their faith and enthusiasm with our kids ... Monica and Woody Woodman, Melissa Liazos-Coffey, Katie Rye, Jon Piper, Christian and Polly Meyer, Shirley Huettig, Beth Knauss, Lisa Turkington, Melissa McMorrow, Heidi Harring, Scott Harmon, Ruth and Tom Piper, Hilary Steinert, Trish Siefer, Joe Colbert, Tracy Hoaglund, Amanda Hickman, Marcia Ackley, Hunter Hutchinson, Carolyn Stein, and Amy Pasley. Thank you!

We still have opportunities to teach in the 2nd, 3rd, and 6th grade classrooms so please consider joining our teaching teams. **A special invitation goes out to members of our congregation who are not current Church School parents. This is a wonderful way to connect with the children of our community and for them to connect with you! Only a five Sunday commitment!**

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.



New Teacher Training Format

It is true that an inspired and informed teacher is one of the most important factors in a student's success at learning. That's why it is critical that all teachers attend our teacher training sessions. These sessions offer opportunities to connect with your team of teachers (new and seasoned), review curriculum, ask questions about the class personality, likes and dislikes, and share teaching tips and ideas. We realize however that other commitments in life can get in the way of attending the meetings. So rather than meeting as a large group, each class will be meeting separately with their Liaison. The meeting date will be determined by everyone's availability. Please look for an email from your Class Liaison. Making the connection with one another in person is much more effective than trying to play catch up via email.

Special Season of Light Family Worship Service Sunday, November 27th

Our church liturgical year begins with Advent, the season of Light, as we await with joyful anticipation the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will celebrate the start of Advent with a very special family 10AM worship service celebrating the season with the symbols, song, and stories of hope, love, joy, and peace. We are looking forward to worshipping with you and your family. Childcare is available for children up to age five.



Happy November Birthday Wishes to...



Catherine Lilly	Hallie Nelson	Audrey Feigh	Anna Bruning
Evelyn Freund	Meg Wilson	Chase Parker	Maggie Stewart
Nicholas Roos	Kara Wilson	Ben Meyer	Kimmie Colbert
Emily Muhlitz	Adair Olney	Michael Avakian	Cole Liazos-Coffey
Grace Campbell	Drew Freund	Brandon Ouellette	

SEEKERS

A Faith-Based Youth Group Program for 7th and 8th Graders

Explore ... Enjoy ... Contribute ...

CropWalk SEEKERS Recap

TriCon had terrific participation lead by our SEEKERS and their colorful banner. Joining our SEEKERS were this year's Confirmands and their mentors and many others from our congregation. This was the most successful walk in our church's history with about \$8,700 contributed. A total of over \$51,000 was raised for local and international hunger relief. Thank you all for your donations and enthusiasm!!

Heading Home/Open Table - Thursdays, November 10th and 17th, 4:30 - 7:30PM

Mission work will be the focus in November as we visit Heading Home in Medford, MA, an organization dedicated to helping homeless families find permanent housing. Our kids will spend time with the children of HH as their mothers take a well-deserved break. Space is limited, so for those who are unable to go we will be baking dessert here at the church for Open Table. We are looking for adult chaperones for Heading Home and here at TriCon. Please contact Sue Fulshaw at stful@comcast.net if you can help out.