



TRICON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES DECEMBER 2011

From the desk of..

Advent, the "Season of Light" marks the beginning of the Christian calendar. Light plays a significant role in Christianity and is an important symbol of Advent. Each week as we move through Advent towards the birth of our savior the light of God (think Advent wreath) grows brighter with hope, renewal and life as darkness fades away. Light is at the core of life. Light trumps darkness.

This reminds me of a story from *One Hundred Wisdom Stories from Around the World* by Margaret Silf ...

There once was a dark cave, deep down in the ground, underneath the earth and hidden away from view. Because it was so deep in the earth, the light had never been there. The cave had never seen light. The word "light" meant nothing to the cave, who couldn't imagine what "light" might be like.

Then one day the sun sent an invitation to the cave, inviting it to come up and visit.

When the cave came up to visit the sun it was amazed and delighted, because the cave had never seen light before, and it was dazzled by the wonder of the experience.

Feeling so grateful to the sun for inviting it to visit, the cave wanted to return the kindness, and so it invited the sun to come down to visit it sometime, because the sun had never seen darkness.

So the day came, and the sun went down and was courteously shown into the cave,

As the sun entered the cave, it looked around with great interest, wondering what "darkness" would be like. Then it became puzzled, and asked the cave, "Where is the darkness?"

Source unknown

Hurrah for the light!! Looking forward to celebrating the radiance of God with your family!

Peace,

Carrie



Sunday, December 4th

Angel Breakfast	9:00AM
Church School	10:00AM
Choose Pageant Roles in Class	

Tuesday, December 6th

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

Sunday, December 11th

Church School	10:00AM
SEEKERS Meeting	11:30AM

Tuesday, December 13th

Christmas Story Hour	6:30PM
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Sunday, December 18th

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

Saturday, December 24th

3 rd and 4 th Grade Pageant	4:00PM
5 th - 8 th Grade Pageant	6:00PM

Sunday, December 25th

Family Worship	10:00AM
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Trinitarian Congregational Church
54 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742
978-369-4837

Carrie O'Brien
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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 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 4th**. We have listed the roles below by grade level so your child can think about which part he/she would like. Children who have attended Church School on a regular basis will have first pick of the lead roles.

Grades 3, 5, 6, and 7 - Angel, Shepherd, Sheep
Grades 4 and 8 - Mary, Joseph, Three Wise Men, Gabriel, Donkey, and Innkeeper. The roles of Angel, Shepherd, Sheep and Candlelighters are also available.

All children who wish to be in the pageant must have a permission slip in hand by **Sunday, December 4th**. An email was sent to all registered Church School families. Your child should also attend the dress rehearsal the afternoon of **Sunday, December 18th**. This will be the only rehearsal.

Christmas Pageant volunteers are: **3rd and 4th Grade Pageant:** Hunter Hutchinson, Caty Kessler and Hilary Steinert; **5th - 8th Grade Pageant:** Sue Fulshaw, Pam Nelson, and Susie Winstanley.

Additional volunteers are needed to shepherd our casts. Please contact Carrie O'Brien help out.

Angel Breakfast Sunday, December 4th



The Angel Breakfast, a TriCon tradition, is a special time for our Pre-K's and K's. Each child is invited to bring one special adult guest (parent, grandparent, friend, babysitter, etc.) to this memorable breakfast. Invitations have already been sent to Church School registered children. This event will take place at 9AM, **prior to the 10AM worship service**, in the parish hall. If you have not done so already, please RSVP to Trish Siefer at thesiefers@gmail.com. Thank you to our Angel Breakfast Committee Trish Siefer, Leslie Feigh, Mark House, and Kristi Detweiler, for creating a magical morning. Don't forget to bring your cameras!

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 13th

On Tuesday, December 13th, 6:30 - 7:30PM children, ages four to eight, are invited to join Rev. Lombard and Rev. Brown around the fireplace in the parlor for a Children's Christmas Story Hour. The evening will conclude with hot cocoa and Christmas cookies. Please RSVP by calling the church office at 978-369-4837.



Caroling from the Balcony Sunday, December 18th



This will be our sixth annual Church School Christmas caroling from the balcony. At the end of the 9AM service children in Grades 1 - 4 will be escorted to the balcony from their classrooms where they will treat the congregation to a selection of Christmas carols.

Happy December Birthday Wishes to...



Lillian Woodman
George Littlefield
Katherine Nicholas
Benjamin Clarke
Millie Kirkman
Connor Monahan

John Davidian
William Feigh
Nicholas Steinert
Natalie Waldron
Lowell Hutchinson
Steele Hall

Lindsey Piper
Isaac Carlson
Thomas Salemy
Alexis Steinert
Matthew Kirkman

Peter Bruning
Amelia Amodei
Katrina Judicie
Holly Anderson
Abigail Butler

ADVENT WORD SEARCH

ADVENT	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM
CANDLE	HOLLY	HOPE
ISAIAH	JESUS	JOSEPH
JOY	LIGHT	LOVE
MARY	MESSIAH	MISTLETOE
PEACE	PURPLE	WREATH

SEEKERS Meeting

Sunday, December 11th, 11:30

Bring your favorite song(s) to share on CD, iTunes, or we can pull them up on YouTube. (No profanity or inappropriate topics). Rev. Bob Brown, our music guru, will lead this session as we listen to each song as a group and discuss possible connections with God. Please bring \$5 for a pizza lunch. Pick up at 12:30PM.

SEEKERS Mission Trip

Friday, January 27th - Sunday, January 29th

We are heading to Portland, Maine to participate in mission work and fellowship! SEEKER parents will be contacted with specific details. This is a not to be missed event! Space is limited though so please reserve a spot for your child early.