

Trinity Episcopal Church
and
Trinity Parish Nursery School

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SEPTEMBER 2011



The Rector's View

Where Heaven Kisses the Earth

Not long ago, I rigged my family's small sailboat, cast off the mooring and headed out to sea. I have done this routine a thousand times, but that afternoon it was different. It would be my last sail of the summer. And I was alone.

The cloudy skies and light breezes had discouraged any crew from joining me, but I was determined. As the boat sailed toward the channel, the wind stiffened and I soon found myself flying out into open water. The steel gray sea did not disappoint me. Its beauty and power were both beguiling and ominous. The air soon kicked up to 20 knots and along the horizon, the blanketed sky and sea met and became one. It looked like heaven and earth had become one in the kiss of eternity. Where would this voyage lead?

Our summer is ending and each of us is heading home to our regular responsibilities. Like my August sail, we are all moving toward God, toward that point where heaven kisses the earth. The voyage of faith, whether in the company of others or not, is always a personal one. Where will this voyage lead?

In Christ Jesus, God promises us that the voyage leads to the Risen One who stands wherever earth and sky meet, who will welcome us home and refresh us. He is waiting to welcome us even now in Trinity's Sunday School and Choir, in the smile of our friends' faces and in the bread and wine of the Eucharistic feast. The doors of Trinity Church are always open, inviting us to a place where heaven kisses the earth and the Risen One welcomes us home.

Father Nicholas+



At the Blessing of the Fleet last June, Father Nicholas got inSpired (enSpired?).

The Excitement of Opportunity

Excitement and opportunity are Trinity's watchwords for the next 12 months. Transitions in our music ministry and our youth and children's ministry are bringing new leadership to our parish. The fresh energy, creativity and vision that these new leaders bring will position Trinity well to meet the yearnings in our parish and the wider

community for coherent programs that nurture youth and inspire adults.

The planned changes in the children's ministry are especially exciting. In short, Trinity Church is seriously investing in its children and youth. We are looking for a long term hire, who will direct the children's programs as well as those of the youth. The new director will work with youngsters from ages four to seventeen.

By unifying the direction of these two ministries, we will achieve better consistency and coherence throughout the entire program. This will allow our families to understand clearly how their child's involvement will contribute to her or his character. By reorganizing the budget, there are funds to hire two assistant instructors to join our volunteer teachers on Sunday morning. Two generous donations have also allowed us to sign on a seminarian from the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale to work with our youth alongside our clergy and volunteers.

For more details on the new director's position and its responsibilities, see the description on our website, www.trinitysouthport.org.

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Helping Children Participate in Worship

Our Church Family is encouraged to greet children warmly before and after the service—by name when possible—so they feel included.

Parents and Caregivers, for the next several years, you will be guiding and worshipping with your children during the Church service. Our Congregation supports you in this important ministry and we hope the following suggestions will help enrich your worship experience.

Before the service:

- ◇ In the Narthex (the entrance area of the Church) there are folders available filled with crayons, worship bulletins and other activities that help your child to concentrate and participate more fully in the service.
- ◇ You are urged to sit close to the **front** of the church so your child will be able to see the activity around the altar. Children can be less inclined to make noise if they are able to see what is happening. If an exit becomes necessary, you are closer to the Ambulatory door from the front of the Church.
- ◇ Explain the purpose of the items in the pew rack (Hymnal, Prayer Book, Bible) and the respect they deserve.
- ◇ Help your child locate the hymns that will be sung at the service, or the Thanksgiving prayer said after the Eucharist.
- ◇ Help children to further participate by explaining the purpose of the offering and why we give back to God. If it works within your family, consider encouraging them to give a small offering of their own.

During the service:

- ◇ Feel free to remain seated with your child to help point out words, read or sing during the service. Encourage them to say or sing the parts of the service they know.
- ◇ Emphasize by words and actions the positive, important happy things you have come to do together in worship.
- ◇ Hug your child frequently during the service. Tell the child how happy you are to have him/her with you in worship

Sunday School time:

- ◇ Feel free to let teachers know you are willing to help by bringing in a snack, helping with an art project, or being a substitute teacher for a session.
- ◇ Do not be afraid to approach a teacher if you have a suggestion, question, or concern about class time.
- ◇ Know that lessons are prepared for all registered students so regular attendance whenever possible helps all to learn.
- ◇ Friends of your children are always welcome to attend as well.

After the service:

- ◇ If your child attends Sunday School, ask them what they learned and talk about it during the week.
- ◇ Ask open-ended questions like, “I wonder . . . (who, what, where, when, why, how) . . .”
- ◇ Pray together at home. Include children’s friends, pets, and everyday concerns.
- ◇ Make every Sunday worship a regular part of the time you spend with your children.

“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” *The Gospel According to St. Mark 9: 37*



Fr. Nicholas in July with campers and counselors of the Kids4Peace Camp at the Porter farm in Brattleboro, VT.



If you drive on I-95 North through Bridgeport, be sure to look for this **Kids4Peace** billboard. It was painted on the Porter's Vermont farm by the **Kids4Peace** leadership campers.

Leadership Peace Camp in Brattleboro, VT

During July a dream came true for Nicholas and me. From July 14 – 25, we hosted a co-ed, peace leadership camp for twelve Israeli, Palestinian and American 16-year olds at our farm near Brattleboro. We have waited twenty years for this opportunity to contribute to Mid-East peace, and we want to thank many of you for your generous financial, spiritual and personal support. The young leaders who participated were fabulous.

Kids4Peace USA was our primary partner in operating the leadership camp. Kids4Peace was founded ten years ago as an interfaith peace initiative in Jerusalem and soon spread to the United States. This summer, Kids4Peace shared five of their highly experienced and trained trilingual counselors with us, and they selected our twelve campers from fifty of the best graduates of their previous peace programs.

Each of these Jewish, Muslim and Christian teenagers was highly motivated and responsive. All of them, and their families, have a track-record of commitment to cooperation among the three Abrahamic faiths and to reconciliation in Jerusalem, Israel and the West Bank.

Nicholas and I carefully crafted the camp's English language program which consisted of conflict resolution dialogue, shared worship and religious education, field trips, visiting speakers, chores and recreation (swimming, canoeing, hiking and horseback riding). Among our many visitors were Ambassador Philip Wilcox, a noted expert on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Joshua Muravchik, an

expert on democracy and civil society and the Combatants for Peace, former Israeli and Palestinian soldiers who have reconciled and promote nonviolence. We also spent a day in the state capital, visiting the Governor, the Supreme Court and the Legislature.

Life-long friendships were fostered by campers working in teams of three (Israeli-Palestinian-American). All religious observances were respected and celebrated with visiting imams, rabbis and priests. As an act of unity, we designed and painted the billboard on our driveway that you can see above. Much of the excitement, learning and conflict was captured on film by a crew who will be crafting some videos of the experience.

Our goals were threefold: 1) To develop greater responsibility, initiative, self-expression, communal awareness and good-will in each individual. 2) To deepen personal, national and religious connections among American, Israeli and Palestinian youth. 3) To strengthen the campers personally, intellectually and spiritually to be effective leaders and peacemakers for a future beyond the status quo.

God's grace prevailed and the teenagers and the adults worked through our suspicions and history to reach a solidarity of commitment. The positive feedback from campers, parents, counselors and guest speakers has been overwhelming. We too are energized and excited that this newest addition to the ministries of Trinity Church has been such a success. This ministry will help make today's dream of peace the reality of tomorrow.

~ Sincerely, Dorothy M. Porter

Curate on the Courtyard

Welcome back to Trinity!

We are back. Back *from* summer vacations—and back *to* the many well-loved and joyous opportunities for worship and parish participation.

As members of this wonderful church, which is the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit, we are called together once again to make Christ known as Savior and Lord and to share in the renewing of his world. Within this bigger mission we also are called back for personal reasons—in our search for solace and strength, in our generosity to share our many skills and talents, and in our desire to be in community with one another. Much of this is done, thanks be to God, through multi-generational relationships that can enrich our lives like an extended family. Working together, we know this is where Christ is alive through us and where ministry happens. It is where faith, hope and love are found in abundance.

We need that abundance, especially now with the ten-year anniversary of 9/11 heavy on our hearts and minds. We'll always remember where we were that day in 2001. We'll never forget the shock, grief and loss we experienced on such a grand scale as the events of that morning unfolded and how we spent the following days struggling to make sense of something that was senseless. During those days, the pews at Trinity and at other houses of worship were filled by those of us who instinctively knew to go there. We knew—and have always known—that in the darkest moments of our lives, our faith was the one thing to which we could cling.

Many of us continue to have fear, anxieties and concerns about illnesses and addictions, job and retirement security, estrangement and isolation from family and friends, aging parents and the challenges around raising children in our educated, highly demanding and high-expectation communities. None of these issues is unfamiliar to God's people—to Adam and Eve “in the beginning,” to Job who does no wrong yet suffers to the point of death in the

hands of Satan, to Mary who witnessed people shouting for her Son's crucifixion at the hands of weak political leaders.

As we re-enter our sacred space and common life together in the name of Christ this fall, my prayer and my wish is that we work doubly hard to support and encourage one another with mutual affection. Regardless of the challenging and difficult days that seek to define us and our world in this new century, God will continue to sustain us with the Light and Love of Christ. This Light and Love are already within us. All we have to do is find ways to share these gifts and seek them in one another. That is part of the joy of ministry.

For there is nothing—no burden too great, no sorrow too deep—which can separate us from the love of Christ who will never forsake us.

~ *Mother Dawn*+

A Prayer by Peggy Eastman

As we reunite with church family members who have been away for the summer, as we welcome our guests and as we grieve the loss of others who have died or moved away, may the following prayer express our thoughts:

Lord, we know well that all life is in flux. Will not this green springy lawn we tread on today soon wither and turn to sparse, anemic blades? Will not the bright sunflowers whose petal-haloed heads seek the sky soon droop like stricken sentinels on shriveled stalks? We know these lessons, and yet we resist.

What of the faces we see no more, those once we saw almost weekly in the same church pew? We miss them; we would wish them back. We know this is impossible, and yet we resist. How we linger over what is gone;

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Meditation & Prayer

Continued from page 4

How we long for the comfortable and familiar, settling into them as we would into an old stuffed chair that remembers our contours. How we resist the new and unknown; fearing them as we would the turn of a corner on a zigzag street in a foreign city scented with wood smoke and cinnamon.

Lord, you were ever on the move; you knew not to linger. Help us learn how not to cling to what cannot be regained or restored in this life. Help us be open to new faces, new voices and the new people sitting in that particular pew where once sat those we see no more.

For all of it, every blade of grass, every petal from every sunflower, every face we ever loved, is joined in You. Why ever should we fear change when our one true constant is You?

~ Chosen by Mother Dawn+

Remembering the 10th Anniversary of 9/11

The Fairfield Clergy Association, the Tent of Abraham Interfaith group, The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, and The Fairfield Museum invite the community to an interfaith observance on **Sunday September 11 at 3:00 p.m.**, at the Fairfield Museum, 370 Beach Road, Fairfield. Led by clergy from local Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities, the service will honor the memory of those lost, as well as the shared bonds of faith and hope which draw us together as a community.

Following the observance, any who wish may participate in 'Sacred Listening Circles' at the Museum that provide the opportunity to share personal reflections of 9/11, speak of our hopes for the future, and to listen to the voices of others.

A Late Summer Night Reverie

August has its own unique magic. I've just come in from sitting in the dark on my back steps to listen to the night sounds of August. They've always been a mystery and a pleasure to me. I've never seen the little creatures in the trees that make these sounds. It's a special kind of nature music that brings me peace and wonder. It's rhythmic, syncopated, harmonic, dissonant, sotto voce, occasionally forte, continuous but never monotonous, and, probably, diminuendo and intermittent by the inevitable end of the night at the dawning of a new day.

With such a lulling background it's a wonderful time to pray, a sort of communing with God. And a time to just listen and let your thoughts wander, and pray what's in your head and heart.

The soft air of a summer night wafts gently by, felt but unseen, with the tiniest scent of new-mown hay.

Oh, the wonders of these soothing moments! We must relish them and store them up, for the busy months to come.

~Jean Winton

My Definition

Love is
The climax of my happiness.
And the pinnacle of my pain.
Love is
The fire in my heart with
An eternal flame.

*Isabelle, a 10th grade Lakota
at Red Cloud Indian School
Pine Ridge, South Dakota*

~ Chosen by Father Nicholas+

Summertime Superstars!

Thanks & Praise

Each August, Dorothy and I are always impressed by the beauty and calm of our beloved Trinity Church. This is due to the dedication and leadership of our staff, volunteers and committees. This summer was especially impressive, and several major projects deserve everyone's attention and appreciation. I hope that you are as amazed and appreciative as Dorothy and I.

Major **buildings and grounds** work occurred at the **Rectory** this summer, with the barn being repainted and its windows repaired, the back yard cleared and seeded with grass, the leaky Rectory roof replaced and the gutters completely repaired. **Jim Funk** took the lead on all this work, ably assisted by Bahman Azarm, Nelson North, our sexton Russ, and others. Jim Funk also did the patient work of arranging the removal of two trees that threatened the church building and playground. All this was done just before the hurricane. Thank you, Jim! You are a superstar.

In the **Church-complex**, the heating and cooling system was upgraded to insure better efficiency and control. **Jen Smith** tackled this complicated task. Thank you, Jen! You are a superstar.

In the **Offices** this past spring, our entire computer/information system was replaced with a state-of-the-art system donated by members of the parish following Lisa Newton's leadership gift. This too was a vital, complicated and delicate task that would not have occurred without the diligence and expertise of **Courtney Mucha** and **Kendall Crollius**. Thank you, Courtney and Kendall. You two are superstars!

During July, the **Interim Music Director Search Committee** identified Brandon Beachamp to be our interim organist and choir master for the next twelve months. All the interviewing of candidates, following up on references, and coordinating schedules was exhausting, and yet **Phyllis Schnebel**, **Darryl MacPherson**, **Stephen Stout** and **Margaret Reick** persevered and found Brandon. Welcome Brandon and thank you, Phyllis, Darryl, Margaret and Stephen. You are superstars!

The **Search Committee for Director of Children's and Youth Ministries** also worked hard during July, recruiting candidates, reading resumes, conducting interviews and checking references. Former vestryman and professional educator, **Bob**

Cunningham led the committee that included Alison Barry, Janet Wahnquist and Barbara Seymour. Together they evaluated some 70 applications and interviewed six candidates. A second round of interviews to identify the finalist will take place just after Labor Day. Bob and Alison also designed a new curriculum for our Sunday Church School. Thank you Bob, Alison, Janet and Barbara! You are superstars!

The **Search Committee for the Music Director** also did much work preparing for the search and learning for us what sort of new leaders we seek. **Nancy Edmiston** is the chair of this large and varied committee. Her love of Trinity, her passion for music, and her organizational skills will serve us and this effort well. For details of the Committee's work during July, see her report on page 9. Thank you, Nancy! You are a superstar!

Trinity's **Vacation Bible School** is always a highlight in August. The songs, the excitement and the learning easily capture the hearts of the children, teen volunteers, and adult helpers alike. This year, vestry-woman and choir member, **Janet Souza** organized and led the cooking/nutrition-themed VBS. It was Janet's first time leading the entire ministry, but you would not have guessed that. Janet did a fabulous job. Thank you Janet! You are a superstar!

Finally, I would like to thank my colleague and our Curate, **the Rev. Dawn Stegelmann** for her pastoral leadership in our parish this July. Dawn has blossomed into an excellent preacher, teacher, and pastor. She and her many spiritual gifts are a true blessing to our parish. Without her dependable leadership in Southport, Dorothy and I could not have launched the peace camp for Israeli, Palestinian and American teenagers in Brattleboro during July. Thank you, Dawn! You are a superstar!



Trinity Welcomes Interim Music Director

Brandon Beachamp

is our Interim Music Director for the 2011-2012 academic year. He is very happy to be at Trinity with our tradition of dedication to music and enthusiastic singers of all ages. As a church musician, Brandon particularly enjoys working collaboratively with people to enable them to grow through making music, helping them to be more expressive and to connect through music with the others around them.



Brandon has worked extensively with young people, often within the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) tradition, which he likes for the way it can engage and keep kids involved in making music. He especially likes the way that RSCM programs can be used with great results in very diverse groups of people in different places and settings.

Brandon graduated from Westminster Choir College with a Bachelor of Music in Sacred Music. As Choir School Director at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, MN, he directed a program for choristers grade two through high school – leading the children in weekly singing in worship and in monthly choral evensong. He worked with the very youngest singers there as well, starting at age three.

He also served as Choral Director and Coordinator of the Middle Years Programme for Music at the Atlanta (GA) International School, where he provided classroom music education for grades 6 – 9 and directed the middle and upper

school choruses and school musical productions.

Most recently, Brandon served as Interim Organist/Choirmaster at Christ's Church in Rye, New York, where he worked with adults and children of all ages in a music program that is similar to Trinity's.

Brandon is currently a Masters student in Psychological Counseling at Columbia University Teachers College where he is beginning what he likes to call a "parallel career" to his work in the church.

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Choir Season at Trinity!

From the very youngest singers to the most experienced adults, there is a place for everyone in Trinity's Music Program.

Rehearsals

Cherub Choir – ages 3 through Kindergarten:

Tues., 4 - 4:30 PM, *starting Sept. 13*

Junior Choristers – Grades 1 & 2:

Tues., 4:30 - 5:15 PM, *starting Sept. 13*

Middle Choristers – Grades 3 & 4:

Wed. 4:30 - 5:30 PM *starting Sept. 7*

Senior Choristers – Grades 5 through High School:

Mon. or Wed. from 5:30 - 6:30 PM, and

Sun., 11:30 AM - 12 Noon

Schola – Adults and changed-voice teen boys:

Sun., 11:30 AM - 1 PM

Services

Cherub Choir: 4-5 times per year as scheduled

Junior Choristers: once per month, plus Feast Days as scheduled

Middle Choristers: twice per month plus Feast Days as scheduled

Senior Choristers: every Sunday and Feast Days as scheduled

Schola: every Sunday and Feast Days as scheduled

Coming soon—info about Trinity Chorale rehearsal and a performance schedule for the 2011-2012 season.

For more information, or to discuss your or your child's participation in the Music Program at Trinity, please contact Brandon Beachamp, at 203-255-0454 x308 or music@trinitysouthport.org

What's Coming?



Save the Date:
Saturday, Nov. 12th

We'll be having a Honduran dinner in the parish hall! The Rev. Barbara Boghetich, pastor of San Lucas Church in Honduras (*in front of Fr. Nicholas in the picture to the left*) is coming to town—and we're going to celebrate!



TRINITY BOOK GROUP, 2011-2012

“The Spirit of the American Experience” continues! 6:30 PM to 8 PM in the Parish Library, first Wednesdays of each month:

Mark your calendars: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 7, April 4, May 2 and June 6.

Come at 6 PM with a brown bag dinner.

Book discussion begins promptly at 6:30 PM.

This year we will continue to meet American authors and poets whose writings reflect the nature of their personal experiences, various environments, and ever-changing personal and national conflicts at different points in our nation's history.

We invite you to come along as we begin with the founding of our nation and works of Thomas Paine and Anne Bradstreet.

Sept. 7 – Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*; and Anne Bradstreet, “Of the Four Ages of Man” and “Before the Birth of One of Her Children”

(Copies are available in the Volunteer Office.)

Readings scheduled for the rest of the program year:

Oct. 5 – Edgar Allan Poe, “The Cask of Amontillado,” “The Raven,” and “The Bells”

Nov. 2 – Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and Sojourner Truth, “Aint I a Woman”

Dec. 7 – O. Henry, “The Gift of the Magi”

Jan. 4 – Walt Whitman, “Vigil Strange I Kept on the Field One Night” and “When Lilacs Last in the Door-yard Bloom'd”

Feb. 1 – Edith Wharton, *Age of Innocence*

March 7 – Henry Adams, *The Education of Henry Adams*

April 4 – Katherine Anne Porter, *Flowering Judas and Other Stories*

May 2 – William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*

June 6 – John Updike, *Rabbit, Run*

Eastertide Pilgrimage in 2012

Father Nicholas and Dorothy are considering two pilgrimages next spring. One is the classic journey to Jerusalem and the Holy Land in late April, and the other is a more unusual adventure to forgotten Greek, Armenian, Assyrian and Syrian Orthodox churches of eastern Turkey in late May. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Fr. Nicholas at nporter@trinitysouthport.org. Friends and family are always welcome to come along.

In Our Community

Update on the Search for a Full Time Music Director

Appointed by Nicholas, the Music Director Search Committee held its first meetings during the summer months. Committee members are: Whit Biggs, Claire Bolman, Nancy Edmiston, Elizabeth Fath, Mark Grayson, Tom Lloyd, Darryl MacPherson, Adele Moran, and Janet Souza.

Our advertising campaign is under way and we have nearly 20 applicants for the position thus far. The campaign includes: online postings at the American Guild of Organists, the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, the Association of Anglican Musicians and The Living Church Magazine (both online and in print). The plan is to begin reviewing applications in the fall and identify a slate of candidates to interview. From that we will compile a list of finalists to invite to Trinity for a day of interviews.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Search Committee Chair, Nancy Edmiston at: nedmiston@snet.net

The Connecticut Hospice, Inc.

Volunteer Training in Norwalk

The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. is sponsoring its Fall Volunteer training in October, 2011. This volunteer course will inform and prepare prospective volunteers in all aspects of Hospice Care.

Representatives from nursing, social work, pastoral care, arts and bereavement departments of The Connecticut Hospice will make presentations describing their individual roles in the interdisciplinary care of hospice patients in the home care setting.

For more information, please contact Patricia A. Corradino, Director of Volunteer Services at 203-315-7510 or 1-800-8-HOSPICE, ext. 510, or Email: pnowak@hospice.com

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Begins Wednesday, Sept. 21, 9:15-11 AM in the Parish Library. We will be studying the Gospel of St. John.

We seek to incorporate Christian principles into our daily roles as mothers, wives, daughters and members of the community.

For further information, contact Charlotte Bartol, sascohill@optonline.net, or Dabney Bowen, dabney.bowen@gmail.com

IN-SPIRE-ATION § AN ART SHOW

To reunite our church family and offer hospitality to visitors this fall, parishioners are invited to submit art for the *In-SPIRE-ation Art Show* that will be in the Parish Hall. Artwork may include **1)** work on paper or canvas, **2)** needlework, or **3)** photographs *not to exceed 36 inches*, matted or framed, ready to hang. Drop off your artwork at the church between 9 AM and 4 PM on the weekdays: Sept. 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, or—by special arrangement—Sunday, Sept. 11. The art show will open on the day of our Homecoming Picnic. For info, contact Mother Dawn, 203-255-0454, X305, or curate@trinitysouthport.org

Life Line Screening

In Southport

Where:

Southport Congregational Church

When:

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Pre-registration is required.

Call:

1-800-324-1851

Priority Code: ISC5603

www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners

Trinity Parish Nursery School

Welcome to a new school year at TPNS! Although the summer flew by, I am always eager for the children to return to school in the fall. School bells ringing, crisp cooler nights, new school clothes – it is my favorite time of year! I also enjoy your visits to the school in August to drop off paperwork or just say hi!

We have been busy this summer sprucing up our classrooms and halls. Russ has been very helpful repairing and replacing things throughout the school. We're ready to welcome our new and returning families to TPNS for a year that promises growth, enrichment, and new adventures.

Calling all Parents! – Would you like to volunteer some time as a classroom representative? We would love to recruit a few new parents to help us organize parties, a classroom gala gift, and other functions that take place during the school year. We have two parent reps per classroom, so you can share the fun. We also need a Book Fair (Co) Chairperson(s), Photo Day helper, and new candidates for our TPNS School Board. Please see Meg ASAP if you are interested.

In partnership with parents, grandparents, caregivers and the community, we provide a loving, family atmosphere to support our children. I look forward to a wonderful school year filled with lots of learning and adventures. I encourage all family members to visit our school and become involved in the many classroom and school activities. We welcome your time and talents as well as your comments and suggestions. Together we will make this a terrific year!

~ Meg Reilly, Director, TPNS

Some reminders:

Arrival: Please arrive on time (9:00 AM) and *not any earlier*. The teachers need from 8:30 to 9:00 AM to prepare for the day.

Parking—both drop off AND pick up: for all families is in the upper parking lot, corner of Pequot Ave. & Center St. **Only exceptions:** cars with *newborn* children, *sick* children, or *carpools of 3 children or more*—and of course—our *Gala Auction-winning family with a pass to park in front of the red doors!* Thanks for cooperating!

Parent sign-in: Indicate on the sheet posted on the classroom bulletin board where you can be reached during school hours.

Bathroom: Teachers ask that before entering the classroom you have your children use the bathroom and wash their hands. It prevents the loss of classroom learning time and outside play.

Safe shoes: Sturdy rubber-soled shoes and sneakers are best for ease and safety while climbing, running and biking. Jelly shoes and Crocs are not allowed. Thanks for keeping the children safe!

Snack: We remind you to pack a small, nutritious, nut-free snack, with protein when possible, to keep up children's energy level. Carbs truly s-l-o-w them down. Thanks for your cooperation!

Pick-up time: Be prompt in picking up your child. If you're delayed, please call the office (203-259-8456) to let us know. It is unsettling for your child to see everyone else going home while he/she is still waiting.

TPNS Dates to remember*:

Wednesday, September 7 – New Parent's Orientation, 7:30PM in the Parish Hall

Tuesday, October 4 - Back to School Night— Parent's Fall Open House, 7:00PM in the Parish Hall
After a brief welcome, all parents are invited downstairs to their child's classroom. We encourage you to attend and see what a school day looks like for your child.

* *Please note: For these functions, children stay at home!*

Trinity Parish Nursery School

Absence: Please call the school office or email TPNS@trinitysouthport.org to notify us of any absence.

Illness: Keep children at home if they have experienced:

- fever
- sore throat
- stomach ache
- an unidentified rash
- vomiting
- persistent cough
- runny nose
- a sleepless night

If you are *not sure* if you should send your child, *please call us the morning of to discuss!*

Stay days: It's not too late to sign up for stay days this year. Please see Bev in the office to request your days. We also offer "drop-in" stay days for your convenience. Call the office the day before—or the day of—to make sure there is room. You can pay the \$25.00 fee when you arrive with your child that day.

Playground: We have some new fencing

and more sunshine after the removal of a couple of trees over the summer. We welcome the arrival of a new tunnel for the children on September 7. The teachers are as excited as the children to get outside and "play!" Thanks for all of your efforts, time, and contributions to *Spring Into Trinity* that helped make our playground so great!

TPNS has a few open spots available in each grade level. If you know someone looking for a preschool program, please have them call the office for more information: 203-259-8456.

Music for Children

Trinity Church Hosts Mary Ann Hall's Music for Children

There will be 45-minute Open House sessions in September to experience these programs. A joyful, creative curriculum grows with your child from birth to age 14, meeting the child's developmental needs on an emotional, cognitive, physical, social, vocal, and even mathematical level by connecting the Art of the Music with the Heart of the Child. A class might tell a story, visit the farm, meet a character, or follow a theme—we reach your child through his/her world of fantasy-play with live piano, voice, and guitar in every class. Come experience how your child's music can be more free than you ever imagined!

Music For Children Open Houses Southport Location: Trinity Episcopal Church's Parish Hall

Thursday	9/8/11	10:30am & 4pm
Saturday	9/10/11	11am
Thursday	9/15/11	10:30am & 1pm
Friday	9/16/11	10:30am & 1pm
Thursday	9/22/11	All day
Friday	9/23/11	1pm & 4pm

Mary Ann Hall's Music for Children
P.O. Box 3457, Westport, CT 06880
 phone: **203.854.9797** or Toll-free: **877.YES.MUSIC**
 email: mail@musicforchildren.net
 website: www.musicforchildren.net



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRINITY PARISH NURSERY SCHOOL

651 Pequot Avenue
PO Box 400
Southport, CT 06890
203.255.0454
203.255.6096 (Fax)

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:45 AM Church School and Child Care
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist, Rite II



Trinity Church Staff

The Rev. Nicholas T. Porter, *Rector*

The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann, *Curate*

The Rev. R. Mark Glidden, *Assoc. Clergy*

Brandon Beachamp, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Meg Reilly, *Nursery School Director*

Melanie Andrews, *Financial Officer*

Cassia Ward, *Spire Editor, Communications*

Ed Michaels, *Photography Consultant*

Russ Preisick, *Sexton*

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday — Friday
9:00 AM — 4:00 PM

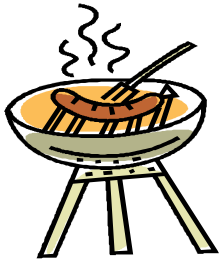
**SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, September 18!**

◆ **Trinity Welcome Back BBQ**

◆ **Trinity Info Fair**

AND

◆ **In-SPIRE-ation Art Show
Grand Opening!**



following the 10 AM Eucharist