

...what's happening at the friendly church on the hill

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This Week at Trinity

...what's happening at the friendly church on the hill

From the Rector

In, Collected works of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Roy P. Basler et al, there is a letter to Fanny McCullough. Lincoln wrote this touching letter of condolence to the daughter of his long-time friend, William McCullough:

"Executive Mansion,
Washington, December 23, 1862

Dear Fanny

It is with deep grief that I learn of the death of your kind and brave Father; and especially, that it is affecting your young heart beyond what is common in such cases. In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all; and, to the young, it comes with bitterest agony, because it takes them unawares. The older have learned to ever expect it. I am anxious to afford some alleviation of your present distress. Perfect relief is not possible, except with time. You cannot now realize that you will ever feel better. Is not this so? And yet it is a mistake. You are sure to be happy again. To know this, which is certainly true, will make you some less miserable now. I have had experience enough to know what I say; and you need only to believe it, to feel better at once. The memory of your dear Father, instead of an agony, will yet be a sad sweet

Lectionary November 5, 2017

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12



Prayer List

Immediate Needs: Jenny, Cecily, Allison, and Donna

Chronic Needs: Ann, Cal, Norlyn, and Marlene

Military: Pvt. Gabe Davis

The needs of the world: For the homeless and the hungry, for those affected by natural disasters, for those dealing with issues of aging, mental illness, or addiction

Thanksgivings: For all the colors of Fall, for the search committee, for those who protect and

feeling in your heart, of a purer and holier sort than you have known before.

Please present my kind regards to your afflicted mother.

Your sincere friend
A. Lincoln”

It is possible that several of you could have possibly received a letter like this over this past year and a half that I have been with you. It comes with serving an older, aging congregation. During Lincoln’s law days, McCullough was a sheriff and a clerk of the court. Early in the Civil War, he helped to organize the Fourth Illinois Cavalry, which he served as Lieutenant Colonel. He was killed during a night charge near Coffeerville, Mississippi on December 5, 1862. It is possible that as Lincoln wrote this letter he was recalling his own grief, as a nine-year-old child, when his mother died after a short illness (in 1818). And possibly even more painful was the recent death of his beloved 11-year-old son, Willie, ten months before. Either way, it is a touching letter.

There have been a number of deaths since I arrived, and there have been other tragedies that have affected people’s lives, and given a sense of loss. Each year, during December, I have offered a special Christmas Service for those people who are having a hard time celebrating the holiday. I call it the ‘Blue’ Christmas Service: When Christmas Hurts, and this year it will be on Wednesday, December 6. I invite you to mark your calendar now, and plan to join us. I cannot take away your loss or hurt, but I can help you to be aware of God’s promises of guidance and support, of hope and healing.

search committee, for those who protect and serve, for the blessing of friends, family, and neighbors



Parish Activity Schedule

Sunday, November 5

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 am Trinity Choristers Rehearsal
10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
followed by coffee hour

Tuesday, November 7

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist with
7:00 pm Vestry Meeting

Thursday, November 9

6:30 pm Bible Study



Foodbank

This week: pancake mix

Please come and bring the hurts, sorrows, and broken places in your life.

Faithfully,
Fr. Steve



WINTER HEATING COSTS - HELP IS AVAILABLE

Now is the time to think about applying to TEAM for assistance with winter heating costs.

Households qualify for assistance if they fall below these income levels:

\$34,366 household of one

\$44,940 household of two

\$55,514 household of three

\$66,089 household of four

Applicants are eligible based on a review of their total gross household income, such as wage earnings, unemployment compensation, social security, pension, etc.; household size; and liquid assets, as shown through bank statements. If an applicant is approved for assistance, TEAM will make direct payments to their home heating provider.

Both homeowners and renters who are residents of Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Milford, Orange, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton, and Woodbridge can apply for energy assistance from TEAM.

Next week: ketchup

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Monday and Wednesday from 9 am to 11 am to help sort and date food and stock shelves.

Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 12 pm to help as a “shopping pal” with our clients. Drivers are also needed to fill in and help pick up at local grocery stores. We pick up Monday through Thursday mornings. Drivers must have a small pick up truck or a large vehicle in order to carry donated food back to the food bank.

Volunteers needed to help with food drives.

Help is needed with Food Drives from the Boy Scouts, November 11th 12:00 pm—3:00 pm and 3:00 pm—6:00 pm. And the Police and Haynes Food Drive, on November 18th 12:00 pm—3:00 pm and 3:00 pm—6:00 pm. We need your help to sort, date and box food. The location is the Seymour Oxford Food Bank at 20 Pine Street, Seymour. If you have any questions please call us at [203-888-7826](tel:203-888-7826). Thank you for helping to support our communities, Seymour Oxford Food Bank.



Bible Study Continues

Fr Steve's Bible study on the book of Acts

To schedule an appointment with Energy Assistance please call 203.736-5420 and follow the prompts.

Milford residents – 203.783-3253

Woodbridge residents - 203.389-3429

Orange residents – 203.891-4787

Bethany residents – 203.393-2100 X 124

TEAM, Inc. is a private 501(C)3 nonprofit corporation whose mission is to strengthen our community by educating, supporting and empowering individuals and families. TEAM programs impact the communities of Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Milford, Naugatuck, Orange, Oxford, Shelton, Seymour, Waterbury, and Woodbridge.

continues THIS Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 pm, November 9. As we look at the early church, we will try to compare our purpose, action, and fellowship today. What roles does the church play? What struggles does the church have? Come join us to talk about these, and how we measure ourselves as God's faithful people.

We meet in the Fellowship Room next to the kitchen. Bring your Bible and join us.

See you there!

[forward to a friend](#)

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Our mailing address is:

91 Church St. Seymour CT 06483

email: TrinitySeymour@gmail.com

Web: TrinitySeymour.org

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