

Trinity Times

"Growing in Christ, Sharing in Love"

A publication of Trinity United Church

A joint congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ

118 King George Road • Warren, NJ 07059 • Phone (732) 469-5044 • Fax (732) 469-5106

www.trinityunitedchurch.org

Elsie Armstrong Rhodes, Pastor

Cindy Reames, Editor

Volume 9 Issue 8

October 2006

From the Pen of the Stewardship Chair:

By Carol Krueger

Dear Fellow Members and Friends of TUC,

Today we begin our Financial Stewardship Campaign for 2007. To most people in the church, stewardship simply means "money". But stewardship is a lot more than money. It is a year-round, life-long journey, a response to everything we do after we say "I believe."

God is the creator. Whenever we use the resources of the world, we are using God's resources. The Bible tells us that everything belongs to God, (Psalm 24) and we are stewards, or managers, of all God has entrusted to us - our money, our talents, our gifts, and our resources. "Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries." I Cor. 4:1

In the Old Testament, believers were required to give 10% of their income to support the temple and to care for the poor (Lev. 27: 30-33, Deut 14: 22-29, Nehemiah 10:38). The tithe is still a minimum guideline for our giving. The tithe is not a law that brings us merit in God's eyes. It is a means of expressing our gratitude for all God has done for us.

The OT prophet Malachi (Mal. 3:7-10) saw the issue of tithes and offerings as pivotal in the people's relationship with God. The issue was not whether God or the temple needed the people's

money. It was a question of whether or not they regarded themselves as God's people. God promises that he will pour out even more abundant grace into our lives to the degree that we commit to him.

- From Malachi 3:10 *"Bring the whole tithe...test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."*
- And from II Corinthians 9:6 - *"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."*
- Deuteronomy 8:17-18, *"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth."*

Here at TUC we give of our hearts, our time, our hopes, our prayers, and our resources. Giving is just a part of our lifestyle of generosity. When we bless others with our generosity, the praise goes to God. Please consider all that TUC can do in the coming year when you make your pledge or commitment to Trinity United Church.

Praising God,

*Carol Krueger Harry Morgan Cindy Reames Bob Hard Mildred Waack
Elsie Armstrong Rhodes*

2007 Stewardship Committee

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Notes from the Covenant Board

Submitted by Gary Pratt, Clerk of Session

The following are highlights from the regular meeting held September 12, 2006 and a special meeting held September 24, 2006; both were moderated by Pastor Elsie Armstrong Rhodes.

- ❖ A motion was made and passed to approve as amended the recommendation from the ad hoc Personnel Committee and Admin Team that TUC formally implement, as a matter of policy, the prior past practice of opening lay, paid positions only to non-TUC members and non-TUC family members, effective September 12, 2006. Existing lay paid personnel who are currently TUC members, or family members of TUC members, are "grandfathered" and may continue in their present position, until they leave that position.
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to rescind the Gift of the Heart offering (so as not to interfere with the Stewardship campaign).
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to receive the recommendations of the goal group exploring the ministry of Deacons.
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to elect Lynn Merrill as an elder commissioner to the Presbytery meeting in Roselle, NJ on September 26, 2006. Robert Willitts will attend if necessary.
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to approve the recommendations regarding the feasibility of Alternative Worship.
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to approve recommendation of the Ad Hoc committee to offer "Sanctuary - A Ministry for Wholeness."
- ❖ A motion was made and passed to approve the Covenant Agreement between Trinity United Church and Pastoral Assistant Rachel Hackenberg.

PORTRAIT OF PASTORAL MINISTRY (September):

- **Worship** preparation for Sunday mornings, planning my sermon schedule through December '06
- **Pastoral care** of members and friends, neighbors and newcomers; I am also preparing for three upcoming weddings (September 16, October 6 and October 21, 2006)
- **Mission and outreach** – planning and shopping for the Alternative Gift Fair; supporting Covenant for America initiatives
- **Christian education** – facilitating the "Living the Questions" DVD and discussion series, planning for our winter adult education program
- **Leadership development** – I'm enjoying the challenge and gift of "letting go" of some "authority" as I allow others to "run" with *their* ideas ...
- **Administration** takes the form of cards I've written, meeting minutes I've taken, e-mails I've sent; articles I've prepared; committees I've worked with (Stewardship, Congregational Transformation, Christian Education, Worship); editing the *Trinity Times*, working with Gary Pratt on preparing the Covenant Board agendas, searching for a paid part-time child care worker for our church nursery ...

- **Wider church work** includes my working with the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, participating in the Sabbath Renewal Group with other pastors, meeting with the "Wellspring" group

MEMBERS OF THE COVENANT BOARD – 2006

Kit Bebbington	('08)	732-356-3730
Phil Krieter	('07)	908-707-4031
Lynn Merrill	('09)	908-256-1346
Harry Morgan	('07)	732-469-5994
Gary Pratt	('09)	908-647-6094
Cyndy Reames	('09)	732-271-1885
Karen Van Manen	('08)	908-904-1979
Robert Willitts	('08)	732-564-1508

(‘xx) indicates year current term of office expires

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION – 2006

President:	Harry Morgan
Vice President:	Phil Krieter
Secretary:	Gary Pratt
Treasurer:	Carol Krueger

Members of the 2006 Pastoral Relations Committee

Harry Morgan	Kathy Pantalone
Phil Krieter	Gary Pratt
Linda Mobus	Karen Van Manen
Joyce Pratt	

Financial Report:

Ralph Pratt, Financial Secretary; Carol Krueger, Treasurer

In September 2006, income received through pledges and offerings toward the operating budget was \$6,597.65. Included in that amount was \$396.65 received for building use (Healthy Bones and Yoga classes and a wedding). In addition, \$115 was received for special funds: Sunday morning flowers and a special gift.

The following are monies received in the 3rd quarter:

❖ Bible Study	\$56.00
❖ Building Use Donation	\$350.65 Healthy Bones
❖ Building Use Donation	\$300.00 Wedding
❖ Building Use Donation	\$300.00 Yoga
❖ Cemetery Care	\$100.00
❖ R. Flowers	\$75.00
❖ Food Bank	\$1,431.00
❖ Genealogy	\$20.00
❖ Gift	\$236.00
❖ Special Gifts	\$136.00
❖ Parade Float	\$224.00
❖ Profit Share	\$46.46
❖ Tapes	\$20.00
❖ Well Spring	\$400.00
❖ Operating Income	\$16,652.46

The following are Year-to-Date totals:

❖ TUC Income:	\$108,967.76
❖ TUC expenses:	\$106,321.82

At the next **All Teams' Meeting** on **Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 pm**, Teams and committees will be considering their respective budgets for 2007. **All are invited** to be part of these important conversations, so come and bring your questions, concerns and passion for the ministry and mission of Trinity United Church.

CATCHING GOD'S DREAM –
STEWARTSHIP CAMPAIGN 2007

What does it take to catch a dream? To visualize for yourself another's dream – vision – for you? As we begin the budgeting process for 2007, we are endeavoring to catch God's dream for Trinity United Church in a new, different, fresh way. We are looking not just at what we can *afford* but what we are truly called to do as a church. To do that, we need to see ourselves as God sees us – as a mission people, as people who share our treasures, our time, our talents, and our love to help others.

Consider what steps forward you need to take to become like the early Christians in Acts chapter 2: "And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common...praising God, and having favor with all the people. "(Acts 2:43-47)

DISCOVERING GOD'S DREAM
FOR TUC IN 2007
DREAM BRUNCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP

Today we explored together
God's dream and our own
while we enjoyed good food – different versions of
Egg Strata, muffins, fresh fruit, cider, and coffee.

The Stewardship Committee asks you to ponder the following questions as you pray about and complete your 2007 pledge:

- ❖ When you give, do you think of your offering going to God, or just going to "pay the church's bills"?
- ❖ Do you tithe -- pledge 10% -- of your income?
- ❖ Do you contribute more than 10%, or less?
- ❖ What would it take to move your giving up, giving a few percent more in 2007?

During worship on each Sunday in October, members of TUC will spend a Moment for Stewardship, sharing what our community of faith means to them.

Then, on Sunday, October 29, bring your 2007 pledge cards and join others as we present and dedicate them to God and dedicate them to the work of this church, this people, this community of faith.



Admin Team

Submitted by Carol Krueger

The following maintenance items have been handled at the church:

- All requirements have been met for the Fire Inspector:
 - Exit lights replaced or new bulbs added
 - Ceiling tile replaced in foyer
 - Holes in Furnace Room plugged up
 - Fire alarm batteries replaced and tested
- Toilet flusher handles replaced.
- New hot water heater installed in Church.
- Sunday School room freshly painted for Godly Play. Thank you to Thom and Elsie Rhodes, Karen Willitts, Scott and Karen Van Manen, Lynn Merrill and Karen Kaslusky.

A Christian Education Minute

Kit Bebbington and Lynn Merrill, Elders

Children's Christian Education:

GODLY PLAY ~ Bible *study* for the very young
Submitted by Kit Bebbington

The following have as teachers and greeters for **Godly Play**: Kit Bebbington, Lorraine Kimsey, Kathy Pantalone, Cyndy Reames, Kay Hurd, Grant Negri, Seth Olsen, Lynn Merrill, and Karen Van Manen. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Kit or Lynn. Scheduled *Teachers* and *Greeters* should plan to be in the Godly Play Room by 8:20 a.m. on Sunday to help setup, and need to stay until 9:20 a.m. for cleanup.

The text we are using is *Children in Worship*, by Stewart and Berryman. Those who don't know the concept and procedure of **Godly Play** are welcome to come and watch some time before they sign up to help.

We are ALL new with the program. Please look on participation as being part of *our* growth as well as the **children's** growth in worshipping God.

The following is an overview of the October "classes" and the volunteers who will be spending time with the children.

- | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Oct. 1 | Listening to God | Kit Bebbington, Teacher
Karen Van Manen and Grant Negri, Greeters |
| Oct. 8 | The Light | Karen Van Manen, Teacher
Kathy Pantalone and Seth Olsen, Greeters |
| Oct. 15 | Good Shepherd | Karen, Teacher
Lorraine Kimsey and Lynn Merrill, Greeters |
| Oct. 22 | Good Shepherd & Lost Sheep | Lorraine, Teacher
Kit and Grant, Greeters |
| Oct. 29 | Creation | Lynn,
Teacher |

Kathy and Seth, Greeters

For more information on how you can help, contact co-coordinators, Kit Bebbington or Lynn Merrill.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED



Two volunteers (female or male!) are needed each Sunday. You do *not* need to be a parent to care for our little ones. Contact Karen Van Manen at (908) 904-1979 to volunteer.

Adult Education Opportunities:

Sunday Morning Adult Education ~ Fall 2006 STRUCK FROM THE HIP: A JOURNEY TOWARD ANTI-RACISM AND SELF-UNDERSTANDING

Taking our cue from the story of Jacob's wrestling with an angel for self-understanding, this October we will explore the realities of race and racism in America and in the church and in our lives. How is our self-understanding shaped by race? What is the cost of being actively anti-racist? How does racism affect our faith traditions? Join Pastoral Assistant, Rachel Hackenberg, as she facilitates this powerful and important series.

October 1: "The Power of Race"

October 8: "The Kings: From Martin to Rodney"

October 15: "Christ and the Problem of Supremacy"

October 22: "God is Black, Jesus is Gray"

October 29: "Does White Equal Good?"

On **November 5, 2006**, we will welcome guest speaker, **Kent Ira Groff**, Director of Oasis Spirituality Center, to our **9:30 am class**. His topic will be *Connecting with Spiritual Orphans*. The class will explore obstacles to faith as bridges to deeper faith through the raw stuff of life, through the element of purpose, and through inklings of transformation.

Following Sunday School, Mr. Groff will preach during our morning worship service. His sermon title is "Listen to Love, to love" using Mark 12.

In the afternoon, register to participate in a workshop entitled *Discerning Life's Choices: Finding the Calls within the Call*, co-sponsored with and held at Wilson Memorial Church, xxx, in Watchung, NJ. The workshop, costing just **\$10**, will begin at **1:30 pm** and end at **4 pm**.

LIVING THE QUESTIONS

No one is without knowledge except him who asks no questions
~ African Proverb

We still have four sessions in the 12-week **Living the Questions** DVD-based small group study. We have been exploring beyond the traditions and rote theologies in which so many people and local churches seem to be stuck. The emphasis has been and still is on creating a safe environment where we have permission to ask the questions we've always wanted to

ask but have been afraid to voice and we've engaged in honest dialogue about religious ideas.

It's not too late to enter into the remaining discussions. Contact organizer, Karen Van Manen or Pastor Elsie to receive the Participant's Guide, then join the group at **7 pm until approximately 9:15 on the following Thursday evenings:**

- **October 5:** Lives of Jesus
- **October 19:** Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry
- **November 2:** A Passion for Christ: Paul the Apostle
- **November 16:** Out Into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christianity

For more information contact Karen Van Manen at kjvanmanen@aol.com or (908) 904-1979. You may also want to visit www.livingthequestions.com.

(**Disclaimer** from Living the Questions intro: Please be aware that the issues and concepts discussed in the DVDs and written material will challenge many people's worldview and understanding of the divine. For some it will be radically new information. For others, it will be an affirmation of what they've known deep down for a long time.)

"Come let us worship together"

Sue Coslick, Worship Chair and Cyndy Reames, Elder



Numbers that Matter: Worship Attendance

September 3	30 Adults	3 Children/Youth
September 10	31 Adults	7 Children/Youth
September 17	42 Adults	9 Children/Youth
September 24	39 Adults	6 Children/Youth

COMMUNION was served to 33 people during morning worship service on Sunday, September 3, 2006.

Worship Wonderings...Children in Worship

Nurturing the worship life of children is more than a chore; it is a holy responsibility and a joy! God longs to receive the praise and prayers of our little ones. Children can and do worship God. The Holy Spirit is at work in our children, drawing them close to the heart of God. Occasionally we see the evidence of the Spirit's work. The little girl who took two pieces of communion bread from the passing plate (because they were small and she was very hungry) is the same child who requested prayers for the pets separated from their owners after the hurricane. The young boy drawing his favorite cartoon characters in the margin of his bulletin is the same child who sings "Immortal, invisible, God only wise" from the bathtub.

Some churches explicitly exclude children from the central act of worship by planning "children's events/activities" that keep them out of the sanctuary. Other churches exclude children from active

participation in worship in more subtle ways. Adults shoot dirty looks at wiggly children in their pews (or seated on the floor in front). Ushers instruct parents on

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where to find childcare the minute they enter the building. Worship leaders preach and pray about the needs of the world without realizing that they have overlooked the very real needs of the children in their midst.

Adopting the Christian practices of inclusiveness and hospitality toward children in worship will help us to better reflect the Lord we love. It takes the whole church family to make nurturing the worship life of children more than a chore.

Worship with children is indeed a joy! So, how can we - the adults of TUC - nurture the worship life of the children in our midst?

[Adapted from an article by Nancy A. Mikoski in "The Presbyterian Outlook" ~ April/May 2006 issue]

Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not" (Mark 10:14). In that spirit, beginning Sunday, October 1, 2006, we are inviting our children to be part of our morning worship service. To begin, one Sunday each month, during the hymn immediately following the sermon, the children will be brought upstairs to join in the "Act of Response" portion of our worship: the Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer, the Offering, the final hymn, and the Benediction. Eventually, the children will become part of the worship each week.

Including children in our worship and other activities can be an enriching experience for all the adults of our congregation as they watch the young ones learn and grow in the faith. Yes, there will be squirms and some possible mishaps as the children learn the difference between the worship time use of the sanctuary - when we are quieter, respectful, and more subdued - and the hospitality time - when they can talk freely, eat, and "play." But, we believe all of the initial "discomfort" the adults feel as the children learn their "church manners" and, the spiritual experiences the children will have being part of one of the only inter-generational activities available in the 21st century, will be worth the effort.

Advent ~ Christmas ~ Epiphany 2006

The Advent season begins on December 3. Our focus this year will be on "Sensing the Holy." Each week, the worship will center around one of our five basic senses as we experience the holiday season in a unique way. Here's a look at the upcoming sermon topics under consideration: "Seeing the Signs," "Listen Up," "Sing Out," "Tasting Gladness," and "Trembling with Joy."

We will welcome back to our Sunday worship service the Madrigals of Franklin High School, always a treat to see and hear! In addition, Musical Director, Sue Coslick, is coordinating a special Christmas concert, scheduled for Sunday, December 17, featuring our own Adult Choir as well as other musical guests.

A special Readers' Theater presentation is in the works for Sunday, December 31. A progressive dinner, surely a treat for our sense of smell, is being

coordinated as a way of celebrating Epiphany, or Twelfth Night, on January 6, 2007.

Watch for more details in the next issue of *Trinity Times*.

Peacemaking and Neighbors in Need Offering

By Karen Van Manen

On October 1 our church celebrated World Communion Sunday with Christians around the world. Presbyterian and United Church of Christ congregations received the Peacemaking / Neighbors In Need special mission offering on that day. It is one way we recognize our unity in Christ and our commitment to walk in God's paths of peace.

Through ministries of the PC (USA) and UCC, this special offering supports peacemaking initiatives and peace education throughout the church. The offering also supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States and Puerto Rico that seek to alleviate suffering through justice advocacy and direct service. These ministries address poverty, economic development, human rights, violence, racial and economic justice, and environmental concerns.

As we face another year of bloodshed and hatred in places around the world, may we allow God to teach us to walk in God's paths of nonviolence and trust that God's vision for the entire world's nations, including our own, can become reality. Together with others, your participation in the Peacemaking/Neighbors In Need Offering can make a difference in the world. Contributions will continue to be received throughout the month of October. Thank you for your generous support.

OUTWARD BOUND ~ MISSION AT TUC

Karen Van Manen, Mission Chairperson

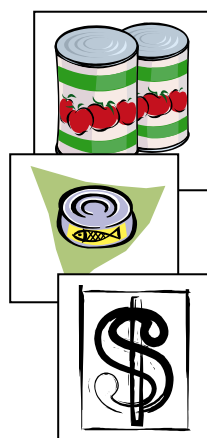
FOOD BANK NEWS

During September 2006, \$601.00 was contributed by TUC members and friends and will be used to purchase 10 times the amount of food we could purchase individually. But we still need to bring our contributions of non-perishable food items.

The next **Hunger Offering** will be received on **Sunday, October 15, 2006**. However, your contributions of cash or food-stuffs can be brought into the church at any time. The basket is always kept in the narthex (the little entry way off the sanctuary).

Staples such as stews, soups, tuna, pastas and sauces, rice, cereal, vegetables and fruit, peanut butter, canned meat, and powdered milk fill the bags of those on low incomes.

Continued thanks go to Ernie Cottrill and Joanna Marston for delivering our food donations to the Food Bank distribution center and to Paul Krueger, for the volunteering he does each week at the center.



Interfaith Hospitality Network

Submitted by Marj Bowlby

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County sponsors temporary housing for individuals and families. Guests of the Network are given support while they deal with the circumstance that caused their homelessness and they're given temporary transitional housing until permanent housing can be found.

Two area churches that are involved in this program are Pluckemin Presbyterian Church and the Plainfield Quaker Meeting House. Marj Bowlby has been working with the Pluckemin church and was pleased to relay information from coordinator, Jane Madison, that they were fully staffed for the August 20-September 3 "session." TUC members and friends are being encouraged to volunteer for the **December 17-December 24** session. Two volunteers are need for each of the following periods during the session:
5-7pm – Greet the arriving guests at the church
7-9pm – Help with homework, visit, play games
Overnight – Sleep at the church with the guests
 Volunteers are also needed to prepare meals for the guests.

To volunteer, contact with Jane Madison (jane@tclstile.com; 908-722-7381 evenings) for helping at Pluckemin Presbyterian. If Plainfield is closer, more convenient, contact Donna Madison (madisontwofish@aol.com) for the schedule at the Plainfield Meeting House.

Daytime volunteers are also needed as babysitters and tutors for children and adults. Call 908-704-1920 for more information on this mission opportunity. SIGN UP SHEET IN PCN NOTEBOOK ON PIANO

TAPE MINISTRY

Coordinator Merl Coslick

Missed the last worship service? You don't have to miss the sermons thanks to the TUC tape ministry! Tapes and CDs of each week are available on the tape table at the back of the sanctuary. You can also listen to them on the Internet through a link on the TUC website site!

Your support is sincerely appreciated. To help in any way (financially, technically, or by tape distribution), contact Merl Coslick, Gary Pratt, Henry Coslick, Thom Rhodes, or Scott Van Manen. Won't you consider becoming part of this team?

Jail Chaplaincy

Coordinator Kay Hurd

The Jail Chaplaincy of Somerset County needs the following personal items in individual or regular (not family or hotel) size:

- Shampoo (two in one – shampoo and conditioner)
- Tooth paste

- Deodorant: (stick not spray)
- White T Shirts, briefs, sox

Please, no razors or toothbrushes. The county supplies these items.

Put your contributions in the collection box in the narthex.

A Covenant for a New America

By Ernie Cottrill

"Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy."
Proverbs 31:9

The Covenant for a New America movement provides an opportunity to work with the larger community. Members encourage government officials to join the covenant and work to move people from Poverty to Opportunity.

The Covenant movement does not require financial commitment. Rather, it asks supporters and partners to advocate for poverty solutions by lobbying our elected officials and candidates, speaking out to others via op-ed articles in newspapers, and spreading the movement by advocating to friends and churches.

In January 2007, a series of adult education sessions will be presented on the issue of poverty in our country and how we as individuals and as a community can make a difference.

Currently, letters have been sent to Senator Bob Menendez, Senatorial candidate Tom Kean, Representative Mike Ferguson, and House candidate Linda Stender inviting them to become partners in the Covenant movement. We offered to visit their offices to present a case for the Covenant. As a result, a delegation from TUC has been invited to meet with Representative Mike Ferguson October 4th in his Warren office. Up to six representatives will make the trip. The number is limited by available space in his conference room.

For more information contact Ernie Cottrill, 732 560 8765, elcottrill@optonline.net

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR at TUC

Saturday, November 11 ~ 9 am – 4 pm

For several years, TUC has supported Fair Trade by serving Fair Trade Coffee at all our functions. Now, we are taking our "mission" one step further by offering an *Alternative Gift Fair*, just in time for Christmas shopping, featuring gift items from Ten Thousand Villages. At Ten Thousand Villages, they believe a fair deal is important. They offer a 50% advance as working capital to artisans and pay in full when an order is shipped. They monitor working conditions and how workers are paid. As people of faith we, the members and friends of TUC, can apply our own principles of love and justice when we make purchases of gifts that are part of the Ten Thousand Villages program.

In addition to the many gifts items from Ten Thousand Villages, the *Alternative Gift Fair* will feature opportunities for gift giving from The Somerset County Food Bank Network, Heifer Project International, and the Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Volunteers will be needed for many tasks including unpacking, sorting, pricing, and displaying the gifts from Ten Thousand Villages; set-up and clean-up of the *Fair*; and "sales" personnel. A sign-up sheet will be in the PCN Notebook on the sanctuary piano on October 8. For more information, contact **point-person, Pastor Elsie**, at 732-469-5044. Pg 6

SSOT: Summit Supports Our Troops
Submitted by Marj Bowlby

One way we can offer support to our servicemen and servicewomen and show them how much we appreciate the sacrifices they are making, is by contributing to care packages being compiled and sent by SSOT. Marj Bowlby is acting as the liaison for TUC friends and family. Contact her at 732-469-2059 to arrange to drop off your donations or see her at church on Sundays. In addition to the items listed below, the GIs also appreciate getting "letters from home," sharing thanks and encouragement. The letters should not contain anything political, war-related, or demoralizing. For more information, log onto www.SSOT.org.

When shopping for items to contribute, consider what you would love to receive in a bag if you had to carry the contents on your back, in a 120 degree, dry, windy climate AND you hadn't had any US food or snacks AND you hadn't visited a PX or store of any kind for months. You've been wearing the same two pair of socks, underwear and T-shirts since you arrived AND in between periods of intense physical and emotional activity and rest, are extended periods of boredom. Here are some ideas if you can't think of any thing:

- Toiletries: foot powder, Lotrimin AF, boot liners; anti-fungal creams; skin lotion with SPF, facial moisturizers; wet wipes; deodorant; lip balm; eye and nose drops (saline type); toothpaste and toothbrushes; shampoo and conditioner; vitamins; toilet paper (small travel or hikers packs); hand sanitizers
- Entertainment & Technology: international phone cards; hand-held video games; cards; digital cameras and disposable cameras with return postage, film; AA and AAA batteries; blank CDs and new or gently used DVDs; sports equipment such as football, volley and soccer balls, Frisbees, hacky sacks, dart sets, jump ropes; DVD players with headphones; small, good quality flashlights; Ziploc bags; single load laundry packets or tablets
- Clothing: neck coolers; sunglasses (no brands visible); socks (wicking type; underwear and T-shirts (brown, olive, white)
- Food and Drink: drink mixes (individual servings are best) such as Gatorade, Crystal Light, Kool Aid; powdered coffees, hot cocoa mix, tea; beef jerky, summer sausage; nutritional meal bars; sealed packets of trail mix; cookies and crackers in closed packs; sardines, tuna, chicken.
- Communication Items: pocket sized spiral notebooks with plastic covers; envelopes, cards, post-cards; pens; paper; small padded envelopes
- Miscellaneous: magazines on sports, fishing, outdoor living; hard candy; hair ties without metal

pieces (must be black, brown, or yellow to blend with hair.

These are only suggestions! Keep in mind that whatever is sent needs to survive the shipping *and* the heat!



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
 118 King George Rd. ~ Warren, NJ
 Friday, October 13, 2006
 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 \$12.00 per meal
 includes
Fish & Chips, Drink, Dessert
Take Out Available!!
 Cooked by the
Argyle Fish & Chips of Kearny
 for more information:
 call 732-469-5044
 or log onto our website!
www.trinityunitedchurch.org

More on the Fish Fry...

Argyle Fish & Chips of Kearny will be providing the fish & chips and the condiments as well as the plates, napkins, flatware, and take-out containers. TUC members and friends can help by providing desserts (cupcakes, brownies, or cookies) and drinks (canned soda, tea, or bottled water). We are in contact with Girl and Boy Scout troops in our area, looking for Community Service Opportunities, to provide volunteers to set-up, serve, and clean-up. However, some adults are still needed. A sign-up sheet is available in the PCN Notebook on the sanctuary piano. Or, contact **coordinator Mary Teel** at 908-212-1921.

Flyers are available on the piano to hand out to your neighbors, friends, and family.

Bride in our Past, Promise in our Future
Warren Township Celebrates
200 Years

WARREN BI-CENTENNIAL CALENDAR:

Sat 10/7: 5K Run / 1 Mile Walk	9am
Sun 10/22: Interfaith Worship Service	4pm
At Our Lady of the Mount	
167 Mount Bethel Rd., Warren	

For location and other details, see the calendar

**Houses of Worship in Warren Share
in an Interfaith Worship Service**

On **Sunday, October 22**, members of our choir and Pastor Elsie will be among the leaders of the **Interfaith Worship Service**. Following in the tradition of the Thanksgiving Interfaith Services, this service will celebrate the unique richness of the many houses of worship in Warren with Mayor Garafola offering the welcome and Town Historian, Alan Siegel, as the keynote speaker.

**TUC FLOATS AN ARK FOR
WARREN'S BI-CENTENNIAL PARADE**

By Yvette Halpin

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Over a year ago when I was assigned the responsibility to be the representative for TUC in the Bi-Centennial planning, I took it to heart and listened to what was desired of us...and what was said was that they wanted all the churches to create a FLOAT for the parade.

AND CREATE A FLOAT IS WHAT WE DID!

True to TUC, and all the passionate and loving souls that come in the door, *EVERYONE* participated and it showed! Thank you to all who contributed, whether it was money for supplies; time for meetings to design the float; the muscle of the expert builders who built the "Ark"; the creative design of the "fish" banners, displaying the various activities and missions of TUC, and the talent of the team who cut them out and applied the letters; the energy of the painters; the sewing genius of the wonderful animal heads created especially for us and willingness of the folks who put them on their heads; the determination of the walkers holding the banners and passing out flyers; the acting talent of our great "Noah," who made everyone smile; the delight of the children who added fun and laughter; the skill of the printer who did our great banner; and the patience and support of everyone who listened each Sunday to our calls for help and then responded in every way possible. *(And special thanks to Yvette, whose passion kept us all motivated, inspired, and "afloat." You are the best!)*

OUR FLOAT WAS TERRIFIC!
WE GOT CLAPS AND STANDING OVATIONS!
HOW COOL IS THAT?!!!

**"In Diversity, Longing for
Peace"**
Interfaith Service for Peace
Speaker:
The Rev. Kathleen Stone

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
CELEBRATES 160 YEARS**

Trinity United Church, "TUC," began as a Swiss/German Evangelical Lutheran Church, founded on November 2, 1846. The founding congregation was led by the Rev Friedrich Besel, a graduate missionary from Basel Seminary in Switzerland. Over its 160 year history, the denominational affiliations have evolved as follows:

- 1855 - The Reformed Dutch Protestant Church
- 1858 - Yoked with the Plainfield German Reformed Church
- 1871 - Coontown Congregational Church
- 1946 - Warren Congregational Church
- 1957 - United Church of Christ
- 1970 - Trinity United Church

In October 1968, United Presbyterian and other families met with members of Warren United Church of Christ for worship, thus commencing a joint Christian ministry in Warren Township. Following eighteen months of mutual ministry, the participating families celebrated the selection of a name, Trinity United Church, and official recognition as a congregation of the **United Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** and the **United Church of Christ**. After meeting in the gym of the Mount Horeb Elementary School for a number of years, the congregation voted to renovate the present structure on King George Road. The newly refurbished building with Sunday School rooms and office space was dedicated in 1979. Our one large meeting room is the center for worship and fellowship activities.

Following an intensive mission design study in 1979, the following statement was written about TUC: "We see Trinity United Church as a friendly, caring congregation, seeking the will of God. We encourage flexibility in our response to God and are willing to explore new ways of serving others in our church and the larger community."

Since March 2003, the Rev. Elsie Armstrong Rhodes has led the current congregation as it has worked to share its vision with the Warren area by sponsoring such events as the Annual Community Art Show each spring; offering Alternative Worship Services, including a Blessing of the Animals Service; and hosting a booth at the Warren Expo.

TUC, may be a small community, with just 80 members, but it has a big heart, contributing to and working with such local and global organizations as the Somerset County Food Bank; FISH; Interfaith Hospitality Network; Heifer Project International; the Somerset County Jail Chaplaincy; Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity; and the Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child.

In 2004, we adopted the motto, "Growing in Christ, Sharing in Love." It is in this spirit that we seek to be

obedient to Christ and practice God's Word, as revealed to us in Christ Jesus' teachings, in our daily lives, and to work to bring the joy of our faith to our community at large.

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How would you celebrate your 160th Anniversary?!?

At Trinity United Church, on **October 29**, we will celebrate by dedicating our pledges for 2007, which will enable us to continue the work our "ancestors" started in 1846. Then following the service, we "toast" to the health of this community of faith with coffee, juice, and "birthday" cake. Come join us and see if we are able to fit 160 candles on the cake!

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Psalm 85:8

DEDICATION CELEBRATION OF THE PEACE POLE PROJECT

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 29TH
3PM AT THE LABYRINTH
11 NORTH LANE, WARREN**

The peace pole project was started by the World Peace Society an organization dedicated to uniting people across the world through the universal saying "May Peace Prevail on Earth." You can go to their website www.worldpeace.org. There you will find all links to the peace pole project.

A peace pole is an internationally-recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Whatever the location, the presence of a Peace Pole announces that this is a special place, dedicated to peace on Earth. As we plant this Peace Pole in our community we are linking with people all over the world who have planted their Poles in the same spirit of peace.

Everyone in the community is invited including children and senior citizens. There will be a folk singer present to help us share in music and peace.

Words of Masahisa Goi, founder of the World Peace Prayer Society: "We are facing an age where the politics of the world must be carried out by each individual. If you fling all your thoughts into these simple words, *May Peace Prevail on Earth*, and, from this prayer keep living your lives anew, before you know

it your individualistic feelings will diminish, and you will feel yourselves wishing for the happiness of mankind, with a feeling of humanitarian love welling up from within."

Please join us that day to celebrate Peace at our community labyrinth.

Sharing Scripture

By Andrew Galgoci

Looking to foster Passionate Spirituality here at Trinity United, Sharing Scripture asks a member of TUC to share with the rest of the congregation one of his or her favorite biblical passages and why the passage means so much to that individual. Doing so gets us to delve into our Bibles and allows us to gain a unique theological insight to our fellow congregants. Sharing Scripture aims to reveal our passion for the Word of God and give others an understanding of what touches us spiritually. This month's contribution is from Joyce Pratt.

Joyce shares 2 Corinthians 6-9: *Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.*

This verse was given to me in 1993 during a dark time for me, as I had to turn in my car keys and would now be in a household with NO DRIVER. My last day driving to work was emotional for me, as it was the last time I would be independent and get to work myself.

After dropping off Gary at his building I was driving down Rt. 202, feeling very down and depressed about the coming doom of not driving. As I was pouring my heart out to God (along with my protests), a beautiful song came on the radio as I pulled into the driveway of my office building. The theme of the song was based on 2 Corinthians 6-9 and voices kept telling me to "Walk by faith, NOT by sight." Of course this had different meaning to most folks... but God was talking to me in that moment, letting me know that I can lean on him and not to trust my own understanding. I pulled into a parking space as tears were running down my face. God really was here and cared about what was going on in my life. It was 20 minutes later that I was able to compose myself to get out of the car and head into work. When I got home that day, I parked the car and turned off the engine for the last time. I felt a twang in my heart, but knew that God would carry me though. That was 1993, 13 years ago, and we are still living in a car-less household. It is not easy, but God has sent a few angels our way to help with transportation. Ralph & Norma Pratt (Gary's parents) have been wonderful in helping out. We also have a few good neighbors that help. TUC members have made sure we can get to church and meetings, etc. We thank ALL of them for their kindness. I do my grocery shopping online. Thank God for peapod.com!

Stepping out in faith takes on a personal meaning for me as I move forward through this degenerative process of losing vision. But NEVER feel sorry for me, as I have GOD on my side and I "Walk by Faith, NOT by sight."

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Words of Wisdom from the Healing and Wholeness Ministry

Nurse's Prescription

By Kay Hurd R.N., Parish Nurse

IT'S FLU TIME AGAIN!! **What is the Flu (Influenza) you might say?** The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. Every year 5% - 20% of the population gets the flu and about 36,000 people die from flu. The flu virus is spread person to person in respiratory droplets caused by coughing and sneezing. Most healthy adults maybe able to infect others 1 day before feeling sick and up to 5 days after becoming sick.

Who is at risk?

- All children 6 months – 23 months of age,
- People 65 or older
- Adults and children 6 months or older with
 - chronic heart or lung conditions,
 - metabolic diseases like diabetes, chronic kidney diseases,
 - those with diseases that weaken the immune system like lupus and other rheumatoid diseases,
 - Those who are on immune system weakening medications, (cancer, HIV/AIDS)
 - Women who may become pregnant during the flu season
 - People who have any disease that make it hard to swallow or handle body secretions, like brain infections, spinal cord diseases, seizure disorders or other nerve or muscle disorders.
- People 50 to 64 years of age, because nearly one-third of people 50 to 64 have one or more medical conditions that place them at an increased risk.
- People who might transmit flu to others, health-care workers, teachers, out of home caregivers of children or people 65 years or older.

Who should not be vaccinated?

- People with an allergy to eggs
- People who have had a severe reaction to the flu vaccine in the past
- People who developed Guillian-Barre Syndrome
- Infants less than 6 months of age
- People who have a moderate or severe illness with a fever should wait until the symptoms pass.

How might one prevent getting the flu?

You might stay home in your room alone for the flu season (November through April) – or – The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccination each fall. There are two types: 1) The flu "shot," an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus), is given by

injection and approved for use in people older than 6 months, including healthy people and those with chronic medical conditions, and 2) The nasal spray flu vaccine, live weakened (attenuated) flu viruses. This LAIV vaccine was approved in 2003 for use only among healthy people between the ages of 5 to 49 years. Both vaccines work in the same way; they cause antibodies to develop in the body which then provide protection against influenza virus infection. It takes about two weeks for the vaccines to develop antibodies to provide the protection. In the mean time, you are at risk for getting the flu. That's why it's better to get vaccinated early in the fall, before the flu season really gets under way. You must receive a flu vaccine every year because the flu virus changes from year to year.

Where can I be vaccinated?

Your doctor will have the vaccine, make an appointment and insurance and Medicare will pay for it. **Somerset Medical Center** will be giving "flu shots" on October 25, 2006, but you must call and register. There is a cost (\$25) for this or you may use your Medicare card. **Other hospitals** will be giving the vaccines, as well. **WATCH THE PAPERS!** Other sites will be available beginning in October, and continuing throughout November and early December. If you have any questions about whether or not you should be vaccinated, call your Doctor.



BODY AND SOUL

Body and Soul will be meeting on **October 12 at 7:30 PM**. Come and bring a friend. The subject of the night will be *Balance in Your Life*. What is Balance? How do we get Balance? We begin with a gathering quiet devotional time, move into the spiritual issues of "Balance" and then into the physical issues of "Balance" and end with a spirited movement and healing laughter, in balance of course. Come join us.



"LAUGH OUT LOUD"

By Yvette Halpin

THE NEW CLASSES HAVE STARTED

BUT

**THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR YOU
AND YOUR LAUGH!**

Try it you may find you like it.

Mondays at 8 PM & Thursdays at 11 AM

On the popular television show, Dancing with the Stars, actor Harry Hamlin was given a laughter leader to teach him how to relax, unwind and be more flexible in body and mind. .and guess what...?

He was voted back the next week!

There are some surprising benefits for you to uncover.

Just \$25.00 for 8 sessions
(All donated to church building maintenance)
Call Yvette for details, at 732-469-7858

but there are others who need help as well. Let's make sure no one misses church because of a missed ride.

Thank you for your help.

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I would like to thank everyone who is supporting me in VISIONWALK 2006. Your contributions have helped me to more than meet my goal of raising \$2000 for research in the area of vision disorders. Your prayers are still important as I "walk the Walk," with the help of Gary, on Saturday, October 21 in New York City. Thanks!

Joyce Pratt

PEOPLE CARE NETWORK (PCN)

Coordinator Joyce Pratt

Meals on Wheels...

Many of our friends and "family" are in need of meals, either while they or one of their loved ones are unable to cook for themselves. Healthy, nutritious soups and casseroles can make a tiring, sad, discouraging time a little more bearable.

To help in an on-going way, contact PCN coordinator, Joyce Pratt at 908-647-6094.

Hospitality Time – Providers Needed

The new sign-up sheet for the fall is in the PCN notebook on the sanctuary piano. Providing snacks after worship service is an easy way to share hospitality and stewardship. Snacks can be as simple as popcorn and sliced apples or as elaborate as...well, as your own creative culinary talents will allow. Juice, milk, and coffee are provided by TUC. In the back of the notebook is a complete description of your "job" when signing your name.

Pictorial Directory Update –

After much work the new TUC Pictorial Directory will finally be ready sometime in October, thanks to the persistence of Gary and Joyce Pratt.

In the meantime, Debra, our wonderful, talented, amazing church secretary, has compiled a simple directory of TUC members and friends. This small, easy to use listing of phone numbers, addresses, and emails is available at the church.

"Hey, Buddy, can you give a friend a ride?"

If you need a ride to or from church, let Joyce Pratt know. If you can provide transportation, let Joyce know. A sign-up sheet in the PCN notebook is available for those who help with "driving Miss Piper"

5-Minutes with...Ellen Waldstein

By Scott Van Manen

(Ellen and Scott spoke outside the Warren Firehouse, while waiting to participate in the Warren Township parade.)

SV: How did you end up coming to Trinity United Church?

EW: I read about the alternative service prior to Christmas last year and I really liked the sound of it. I've tried many different services over my adult life, and it appealed to me.

SV: What did you like about it?

EW: I liked that the church was small. I liked the participation of the people here in the service. I liked that there wasn't a lot of formality and not too much structure. Those alternative services in particular allowed people to immediately become involved at a personal level with their own concerns.

I really like the prayers of the people. A friend of mine at another church said she had gone to the minister and asked, "Can't we have some avenue to pray for people?" And that was something he wasn't interested in. Part of what I was looking for in a church was a place where I was able to express concern for others, or feelings for others.

There's something about Trinity that is really amazing. The people connect with each other, and they are very connected their beliefs and their faith in a very open way that I haven't seen that much any place else.

There's a Great Blue Heron. That's my daily bird.

SV: What do you mean?

EW: I almost see one every day. See the long tail?

SV: Sure.

EW: And it has a really long neck. And, when it flies you can see the silhouette like that.

SV: Yeah.

EW: And the Great Blue Heron has a bone structure that allows it to swallow things whole without having problems with his neck.

SV: Really? I love Blue Herons.

EW: I am able to walk my dog just a mile down from my street. It's actually Warren Township land. It's very, very wet. I have to wear these boots a lot of the time. There are herons really out there.

SV: Wow that's wonderful. I had a dream about one once.

EW: About a Heron? Really?

SV: All I dreamt was I saw the silhouette of a Heron.

EW: You know, there's a wonderful book, "Wheel on the Schoolhouse" by Meindert DeJong. It was read to me as a child, and I think you and Karen would really like it. It takes place in the Netherlands, and it

all about hope and faith. It's not, you know, overtly religious, I mean you can read it that way if you want, but that's really what the book is about. And there are these children and the wheel on the schoolhouse, and they are hoping to have cranes come back. Anyway, you're talking about that dream just made me think of it.

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SV: Did you go to church when you were growing up?

EW: Oh Yeah! It was a huge part of my growing up.

SV: What are your earliest memories of going to church?

EW: The earliest ones are very positive. There was this wonderful sense of community. I was the angel in this wonderful Christmas pageant.

SV: What do you do when you are not in church?

EW: Well, when I had children, I got very heavily involved in volunteer work and was very active in this town. Books and libraries are an important thread. I was co-chair of this committee to raise money because this town is very cheap. They did finally approve a library building, but not any furniture, so we raised over a quarter of a million dollars.

SV: Wow.

EW: That was a wonderful thing. That was a real growth experience for me, to take a forefront kind of role. After that, as the kids got older, I needed to help out with the income. At 47 I went back to school to become a nurse. I got my RN in 2001. I became a visiting nurse in this area. And that goes back to this issue of wanting to feel like praying for people was something that you could do. That was something I wanted to do, just because I had a lot of patients that I would really feel concern for. Not that we ever really talked about religion, but a lot of times you just sort of knew that they were going to die. I felt like that was a valid emotion.

SV: Wanting to pray for somebody...

EW: Yeah. It was extremely difficult. It was extremely exhausting. I get emotionally caught up with things. It's a good way to be in a way, but it was very difficult to have enough space for my patients and for my family and for myself. So I'm still working as a nurse, but now it's in an office. My favorite parts of the job are still dealing with family members. I like being in that helping kind of role.

It's not what I thought I was setting out to do, when I went back to school. I do miss that hands-on touch with people, and so on.

SV: I'm thinking about something you said before, that books have always been a very important thread.

EW: When I was a child, my dad would take us to different branches of the Baltimore library. It always seemed like there were new books there that you hadn't seen before. Then when Bob and I were first married, that became part of our married life. It was just like a great thing to do, go to the library a lot. And then when we moved to New Jersey and had

kids, we were very active in the library, and we always read a lot to our kids.

SV: When you see a book, or think about books, is there something that ties all the books together in your mind?

EW: It's an ongoing sharing of ideas and thoughts. I guess that's what's so exciting about books! I think you can get a whole different perspective.

Halloween

By Heather Harris-Galgocci

The observance of Halloween is believed to have its origin among the ancient Druids. The Druids believed that on that evening, Saman, the lord of the dead, called forth evil spirits. They lit large fires during Samhain (now known as Halloween) in the hopes of warding off these spirits.

The ancient Celts also believed that the spirits of the dead revisited their earthly homes on that evening. The Romans (after conquering Britain) added elements of their harvest festival (held on November 1) to these observances. In addition, some aspects of our modern Halloween celebration have a Native American heritage. Pumpkins and corn were both part of the sacred trinity of Native American foods which included squash, beans, and maize.

The name of "Halloween" has a distinctly Christian origin. In efforts to diminish non-Christian celebrations, the Roman Catholic Church incorporated Samhain festivities into the Christian calendar. In the year 731, November 1 was declared All Saints' Day (All Hallows Day). October 31 subsequently became All Hallows Eve (eventually shortened to "Halloween"). Even though the church encouraged Christian activities for this celebration, many "non-Christian" elements still survive in Halloween today.

The practice of trick-or-treating on Halloween originated in Irish Samhain traditions and became popular when Irish began immigrants began coming to the United States. According to their Samhain customs, people opened their doors on Halloween to provide food to the wandering dead. As a result, people started dressing like wandering dead souls and demanding food from residents. Just something interesting to think about when trick-or-treaters arrive at your door this year!

Happy Halloween!

Sources: www.history.com; www.urbanlegends.about.com

What's happening in and around TUC

A CapPALS

Join voices with others seeking ways to turn their love of a cappella singing into outreach opportunities. The next rehearsal dates scheduled for this fun loving, dedicated group are **Saturday, October 14, October 28, and November 18** at the church from **10 am-12 pm**. For more information on becoming a member, or if you have an opportunity for this group to perform, contact Harry Morgan at 732-469-5994.

“Project Healthy Bones”

This active, joyful, exercise and fitness group now meets **each Monday at 9:30 am and Wednesday at 10 am**. For more information on how you can become involved contact the leader for the group, Carole Juth, at (732) 469-5666.

Yoga: Stretching Into New Territory

The gentle exercise known as Yoga is at TUC. Certified Yoga Instructor, Yvette Halpin leads sessions on **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am and Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm**. For more information and/or to register, contact Yvette at 732-271-8786.

PR for TUC

Submitted by Yvette Halpin

In the 21st century, word of mouth is not enough for the work of the church to become known. It takes advertising and planning and consistency. It takes teamwork. At TUC, **Yvette Halpin, Andrew Galgoci, Kay Hurd, Gary Pratt, and Joyce Pratt** are doing that teamwork. For more information on the team, to make them aware of something that needs to be publicized, or to offer suggestions on resources for publicizing, email them at publicity@trintyunitedchurch.org.

CineMinistry

The next CineMinistry viewing will be on **Sunday, November 26**, beginning at **4 pm**.

Contact coordinator, Thom Rhodes at 732-748-3370 for further details. All CineMinistry events are open to the community.

Readers' Club

No man is an island, but sometimes we feel the need to escape to one. In "An Island to Oneself," author Tom Neale does just that. Read about his adventures and experiences, and then join the Readers' Club on Sunday, November 12, 2006, at 1pm to discuss the

book -- and possibly, what you would do with such complete solitude for more than a year. For more information contact Cyndy Reames at 732-271-1885. Location to be determined.

Readers' Club is open to everyone. Get your copy of the next book (available online at amazon.com or in your local library). For more information contact Gary Pratt at 908-647-6094 or Cyndy Reames at 732-271-1885.

TUC ON- LINE AUCTION – Update

By Ellen Kanarek

With about six weeks to go before bidding opens on our online auction, we are developing a dynamite catalog of items, services, and special experiences for people to bid on. We have original artwork, gourmet food items, collectibles, autographed books, computer consulting, and much more. Many of the items have been donated by members of the TUC family, some have been donated by friends of TUC members, and some have been bought on consignment (that is, we have “bought” the item for a reduced price, and will keep whatever has been bid over and above that price; note that TUC pays nothing if the item is not sold).

Have you participated yet??

If you haven't thought of anything to donate yet, here are some ideas that might help:

- Think of things you yourself would bid on, and then ask someone you know to donate them.
- Consider your own place of work: do you have skills someone else could use? Would your business contribute an item or a service? Businesses can also help by donating cash to help defray the costs of the auction, or can offer to sponsor one of the consignment items by agreeing to cover TUC's cost if the item is sold. Businesses that donate cash are sponsors of the auction, and will receive valuable advertising when their logo and URL are displayed prominently on the website.
- Are you willing to donate a little of your time? Baby-sitting? Gardening? Household repairs?
- Can you share your hobbies? Knitting? Cooking? Sailing? Skiing?

Remember, you can donate to the auction catalog yourself by going to **tuc.cmarket.com** and clicking on “donate an item,” or you can contact any member

of the auction committee for help at auction@trinityunitedchurch.org.

One more important thing: besides items in the catalog to bid on, we will also need lots of people to do the bidding! Please help by sending the auction committee at least 10 e-mail addresses of family, friends, and anyone else who should be notified about the auction.

On-Line Auction Committee Members

Kay Hurd: kwhurd@msn.com
Ellen Kanarek: ekanarek@aerweb.com
Gary Pratt: prattdiv@patmedia.net
Joyce Pratt: joycepratt@patmedia.net

Trinity United Church

118 King George Road
Warren, NJ 07059

"Growing in Christ, Sharing in Love"

October 2006

TRUTH IS ELUSIVE
TO THE ONE
WHO REFUSES TO SEE
WITH BOTH EYES.

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Sunday Sermon Notes

Worship begins at 10:30 am

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:30 am

Pastor Elsie Armstrong Rhodes can be reached at the church at 732-469-5044, on her cell at 908-304-3605, or via email at thereverend@trinityunitedchurch.org

October 1: "A Table Prayer"

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Scripture: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22;
James 5:13-20

The Rev. Elsie Armstrong Rhodes, preaching
Special Guest Vocalist: Tim Walton

October 8: "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"

Scripture: Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Mark 10:2-16
The Rev. Elsie Armstrong Rhodes, preaching

October 15: "Going through the Eye of a Needle"

Scripture: Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Mark 10:17-31;
Amos 5:6-7

Rachel Hackenberg, Pastoral Asst., preaching
Hunger Offering will be received

October 22: "Find Your Seats"

Scripture: Job 38:1-7 (34-41) and Mark 10:35-45
Readers' Theater

October 29: "Seeing with Blind Eyes"

Scripture: Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Mark 10:46-52
The Rev. Elsie Armstrong Rhodes, preaching

November 5: "Listen to Love, to love"

Scripture: Mark 12:28-34
The Rev. Kent Groff, preaching
Communion Served

