



Trinity Episcopal Church

36 Main St, Newtown Ct

www.trinitynewtownct.org

Thursday, 01/16/2020

Please note ~ the church office will be closed on Monday, January 20.



Mean girls is who they were. Only they weren't girls, they were grown women. Here's what happened. I was in a crowded deli just over the NY border. People were sitting anywhere there was a vacant chair. The place I found was at a table with three beautiful, well-dressed women. With such close proximity I couldn't help but hear them talking. At first, they were talking about their kids, the Christmas holidays, places they had traveled, people they had seen. Then the conversation shifted to a fourth friend who was not present. Within minutes they were ripping this friend to shreds, comparing texts she had sent to each of them, demonizing her as the devil because she hadn't responded quickly enough to the woman who was going through a divorce. My turkey panini was delicious however overhearing this conversation lessened by appetite and turned my stomach. What I wanted to say was "shame on you!"

This happened last week and yet I can't get their conversation out of my head. Why can't we just be kind to each other? Why do friends gang up on each other? I was always taught if you can't say something nice about someone, don't say anything at all. Being kind takes so little effort really. There's good in all of us, so why not look for the good? And when we disappoint or fail to live up to expectations, why not talk directly rather than gossip about it with others? If I'm sounding sanctimonious, I don't mean to. What I want to do is call us all to a higher standard of being kind. Ephesians 4:32 says it so well, "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

There's a home on Poverty Hollow Road that makes we smile every time I see it. Out in their yard is a simple hand-made sign with two words, BE KIND. That's it. Be kind one to another, and to your family, and to your friends, and to your enemies and to strangers. It's a rough world out there and all of us need a little more kindness.

Kindly, Jenny+

Vestry Nominations

The vestry of the Episcopal Church is responsible for overseeing



parish finances and properties, as well as being leaders of ministry in the areas of missional engagement, parish life, formation, and worship. Nominees must be 16 years and older, active baptized members, and preferably confirmed Episcopalians. At our Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020, as it stands now, we will be electing one vestry member to serve for a three-year term. The area of ministry for this position is as liaison to Formation. If you are interested in learning more about serving on the vestry, please reach out to [Jenny](#) or one of our wardens, [Laurie Trotto](#) and [Dennis O'Conner](#), to discuss responsibilities in more detail.

Trinity's Calendar

Due to an increase in meetings and activities that are being scheduled on Trinity's campus, we are implementing a new policy that all room requests MUST be made through the "Reserve a Room" page on Trinity's website. <http://www.trinitynewtownct.org/reserve-a-room.html> Please fill the form out completely, including whether you will need any special equipment. For repeating meetings, feel free to schedule a full year at a time!

For those of you who have already begun doing this - **thank you!**

Contribution Envelopes

Contribution envelopes are in the back of the church. Please pick your up at your earliest convenience.
Thank you to all who already have!



Bible Study Returns!

It's Back! Our popular Saturday morning Bible study of the New Testament book of Acts resumes this Saturday, January 18, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the church library. For this Saturday, please read Acts 18:23 to 21:17 (this conclusion of Paul's third missionary journey) and Acts 21:18 to 22:1-30 (the beginning of the end for Paul as he is arrested in the Temple, attacked by a mob, and he mounts a defense of his ministry). Please come—we hope to see you there!

ADULT FORMATION

Save the Dates

Budget Forum ~ January 19
Annual Meeting ~ January 26
Men of Trinity Superbowl Party ~ February 2
Mardi Gras Auction ~ February 22



**Formation and Confirmation for Youth Continues –
Will you join us in this journey?**

As we continue to discern confirmation for our youth, I encourage all parishioners to continue to hold Caitlyn, Lily, Ella, Brady, Matthew, Aidan, and, Tain in your prayers. If you are interested in learning more about our journey, please [click here](#) for upcoming dates and meeting topics about the [Way of Love](#).

The next regularly scheduled group learning session on “Bless & Go” will be held January 19th. This group learning time will be held in the Johnson Room immediately following our worship service.

For more information, please feel free to call or email the [church office](#).

**YAC Gatherings –
Will you join us in this journey?**

YAC is a group gathering that is designed for young adults who have already completed confirmation. This is so that, following confirmation, an intentional space is offered for continuing discernment and community building. So, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, know that you are welcome here!

Our next YAC gathering is scheduled for February 2th from 12:00 – 2:00PM in the Johnson Room. This time will be an opportunity to explore faith-in-action projects for the YAC group. Lunch will be provided.

I encourage all to continue checking the calendar on the [church website](#) for additional dates for this offering.

MEN OF TRINITY



Join us for fun and fellowship as we
watch the Super bowl on 2/2/2020 at
6pm in the Glover Community Room.
Food will be provided,
bring your own beverages!
Please RSVP to Kim in the office!

On January 12, the Stephen Leadership Team held an Epiphany Conversation on "The Art of Listening". It was very well-received and greatly-appreciated by those in attendance.

We realize that not everyone had the chance to come to the first session, so for those of you who missed it—we are holding a repeat session on Sunday February 16. We hope you will take advantage of it!

LET THERE BE LIGHT AMONG US!

*Extra Repeat Session for
The Art of Listening - February 16*

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak.

James 1:19a

It's something we do all the time—but do we really? Listening is an art—but it's also a set of skills—one of the underpinnings of our life in Christian Community, in our families, in fact anywhere and anytime we want to be in meaningful contact with the people we care about. Learn more about how you can be a better listener.

And save the date for the second conversation!

February 23: Maintaining Boundaries

Brought to you by the Stephen Leaders team.
Coffee and Refreshments will be available.

Praise and Thanksgiving

For those requesting our prayers: Arlene Coleman, Peter Jameson, Rev. William West, Maureen Trotto, Bode Kloos, Karen Gardner, Judith Harris, Michael Hansen, Ann Moore

For those celebrating a birthday this week:
Nancy Maxwell, Abigail Ferreira

Trinity's Video - [check it out!](#)

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www.trinitynewtownct.org

There are events happening at Camp Washington - [click here](#) to learn more!
[ECCT](#)

