

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



From

REV. RYAN MILLS

DR. ROBERT FORD

HEIDI EDGERTON



The Trinity Window

December 2023

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

202 Elmwood Dr., New Haven, CT, 06510
Phone: 203.797.8521 | Fax: 203.795.7917
offices@TrinityLutheranNH.org

www.TrinityLutheranNH.org



From the Pastor

*What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary.*

*Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.
"What Child Is This" LBW No. 40*

He who came once as a tiny newborn baby, who on Mary's lap is sleeping, will come again in glory as King and Lord of all. He who came once as a tiny newborn baby, is God's Word made flesh to bring salvation to you and me.

Join us this month for the season of **Advent** as we watch for his coming. And then join us on that holy night, **Christmass Eve**, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh among us.

Join us in December for: **The Four Sundays of Advent**, with the lighting of the Advent Candles and the singing of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

Advent and Christmas decorating, Sunday, December 3 after worship, decking the halls at Trinity for Advent and Christmas!

Pizza and Handel's "Messiah", Sunday, December 10 after worship, we'll enjoy a pizza lunch and the Christmastime favorite, Handel's "Messiah," performed at Yale's Battell Chapel.

Caroling at The Mary Wade Home, sharing the joy of this Season with the residents.

Intergenerational Nativity, on Sunday, December 17 during worship.

Christmas Eve Candle-light Communion Service Sunday, December 24, at 5 p.m.

We will then continue celebrating the full **12 Days of Christmas into 2024!**

Come, Lord Jesus!
Haste, haste to bring him laud!
And Merry Christmas!

--Pastor Mills+

Sanctuary Eternal Light

Burns to the glory of God *In Memory of:*
Jack Nicolson Nov 19th

Burns to the glory of God *In Honor of:*
Colbi Auman Nov 5th
Tyler Handy Nov 12th



Altar Flowers



Given to the glory of God...
In Memory of all the Faithful De-
parted

Lion Klima Nov 5th
David Lewis Nov 12th
Shirley King Nov 19th

In Honor of:

Men's Fellowship Group

The next meeting of the Men's Fellowship Group will be held Sat. Dec 2 at 10:30am in the church parlor. Please contact Pastor Mills with any questions.

Trinity Window Articles

Trinity Window articles for the next issue are due by the 15th of every month. It is important that you get your articles in on time and think ahead for the next month. Please email articles to:

Office@TrinityLutheranNH.org.

Articles **must** be submitted in WORD or PDF format.

PLEASE DO NOT EMBED THE TEXT OF YOUR ARTICLE IN AN EMAIL.

Oremus

"Let us pray"

This month we prayed for the following members and friends of Trinity who were sick and/or hospitalized:

Karen Johnson, Annie Wright, John Chaffin, Donald Langlois Jr., Christine Thomforde, Margaret Hawkins, Thaddeus Gensicki, Pat Panza, Jake Swanson, Don Johnston, Sandy Langlois, Debbie Boychuck, Joseph Aceto Jr., Michael Pingle, Richard Werner, Mindy Durham, Dan Zawack, Rosie Weaver, Amanda Rice-Johnston, William Douglas, Julia Kanozo, Rita Roman, Mike & Lucy Nieves, Nancy Kops, Yoly Ortiz, Rachel Thompson, Katheryn Patrick, Wendy Lynn, Allison Empringham, Mimi Thompson, Mary Ellen Schoonmaker, Philip Cerrone, Sandy Noonan, Maria Roman, Elizabeth Leone, Pamela Simone, Vincent Villano, Frank Wright, Esther Goffinet, Nicole Donzello, Cindy Quinn, David Lewis, Glenn Pelc, Joe Marinelli, Suzanne Pallanti, Florence Flynn, Carol Lee Robinson, Melanie Thayer, Mary Wade Home and all assisted living facilities, Christian Community Action, and all who serve in the armed forces, especially: Daniel Burk, Christopher Bushy, Justin Coonrod, Jonathan Outlaw, and Ben de-Laubell.



Upcoming Events

Here is a preliminary listing for the events we have for this month. Please mark your calendars in advance so you can save the dates.

December

Dec 2 nd	10:30 am	Men's Fellowship
Dec 3 rd	After Worship	Church Decorating
Dec 4 th	5:00 pm	Confirmation Class
Dec 10 th	After Worship	Blood Pressure Screen
Dec 10 th	After Worship	Handel's Messiah at Battel Chapel
Dec 17 th	Intergenerational	Nativity
Dec 18 th	5:00 pm	Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class will be held at Christ the Good Shepherd in Hamden

Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child
(to the tune of Jesus loves me")

Jesus loves all girls and boys,
So we bring them socks and toys
Underwear and other treats,
Box them up, now ain't that sweet!

REFRAIN:
Yes Jesus loves them!
Yes Jesus loves them!
Yes Jesus loves them-
The Bible tells us WE SHOULD TOO.!

Jesus lives in each poor child,
Jesus with his mercy mild,
Jesus urges us to share,
So all people know we care. REFRAIN

These shoe boxes travel far,
From the backseat of our car,
Holding prayers for all to see -
Jesus' love holds them and ma! REFRAIN
(Words by W. P. Gollenberg)

Thank you ALL! so very much for your support of
this wonderful ministry here at Trinity. You are all a
Blessing.

As I am writing this article we are smack dab in the
middle of collection week. So exciting to see see
churches, groups and individuals flock to Trinity
with their boxes of love and gifts for needy children
across the globe.

I will have much more to share in January's win-
dow but for now Merry Christmas Happy New Year
and God Bless.

Joy to the world
Barbara Mourer OCC Chairperson/ Drop-off Coor-
dinator

Santa Road Race Alert

On Sunday, December 3rd is the annual
Christopher Martins Santa Road Race.
Please try to get to church early, as we
know the Police Department closes many
of the streets to get to Trinity.

Mary Wade Service

Join us in our outreach to The Mary Wade Home,
118 Clinton Avenue, New Haven. Come help sing,
assist in worship and/or visit with the residents! The
time and date for the next service will be announced
in church, so stay tuned for further details.

Advent Decorating

The first Sunday in Advent is December 3rd, after
worship we will decorate Trinity. Any and all volun-
teers are needed to string garland, hang wreaths, and
put the Christmas tree up.

CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Scott Prud'homme -
scott.prudhomme@outlook.com
Vice President - Ruth Setaro - ruthsetaro@snet.net
Secretary - Louise Bahner -
lbahner4117@gmail.com
Heidi Edgerton - Heidi.edgerton@gmail.com
Drew Gensicki - drew.gensicki@gmail.com
Nancy Lamont - nlamont359@gmail.com
Deborah Nicolson - debnicolson@optimum.net
Linda Thompson - linthompson125@yahoo.com
Pastor Mills - pastor@trinitylutherannh.org

Monthly B.P. Screening



Deb Nicolson, Parish Nurse, has scheduled the next Blood Pressure Screenings for **Sunday, Dec 10th** Deb will do the screenings in Pastor's office after worship. A quick cleaning of equipment will be done

between each person.

DON'T FORGET YOUR FLU SHOT and the UPDATED COVID VACCINE ! if it is recommended by your doctor. Also, anyone over age 60 should consider getting the RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) vaccine.

Are You Interested in Serving?

Are you interested in serving on the Altar Guild, being a lector, or usher? Please email or call the office to let us know how you would like to assist in worship at Trinity. The office phone number is 203-787-6521 or email

Office@TrinityLutheranNH.org

INSPIRATION

*“You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.
Mahatma Gandhi*

Where Are You ?

As you might imagine the church has quite a collection of phone numbers, home and email addresses. We are hoping to “clean-up” our files and get rid of any outdated information. We're asking that you please fill out one of the forms provided and return it to the church office.

PARKING AT TRINITY

Everyone is aware that there is limited off-street parking available at Trinity. There are spaces in the driveway and behind Emerson. We are happy to make these spaces available when possible. There are deliveries, and contractors who also need access to these spaces. **If you would like to use these spaces you MUST contact the church office for approval before you park. Do Not just park and assume that it's okay.**

Weather Related Church Closings

Winter is here and we never know what it can bring! Please note that any weather related delays, cancelations or closing of Trinity will be broadcast on WTNH 8, WFSB 3, NBC 30 and Fox 61. This information is also available on their websites at www.wtnh.com, www.fox61.com, www.wfsb.com and www.nbcconnecticut.com

Annual Reports

It's that time of year again! Annual Reports are due in the church office from committee chairs and organizations by Wednesday, January 10, 2023. The reports need to be submitted in either WORD or PDF format. Copies of the report need to be available for members before the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

Seafarers International House

Dear Friends of Seafarers -

It happens every year, doesn't it? All of a sudden ZING and Christmas is upon us. And for me, it hopefully, means being buried in Christmas-at-Sea satchels. I know I have mentioned in the past worrying whether or not I will have enough satchels to serve the ships that come into New Haven and New London at Christmas.

All of a sudden, I am getting emails and calls that satchels will be delivered or that they are ready to be picked up. Some are calls that more satchels are needed. I am getting knit hats from knitters at a church in Hanover, NH and just had a request from a group of quilters in PA. My mind is at ease as satchels will soon fill up my living room. Last year I had a record number of 400 satchels and yes, that takes a lot of room. I am very thankful.



Over the years I have delivered satchels to ships where we had to sneak them on board and hide them as the captain was not Christian. On other ships they have been secured on board so that the crew can celebrate when out in the middle of the ocean on Dec.25.



Sometimes they have been opened right away with such excitement, like little children that just couldn't wait. Items are passed around until everyone is happy with sizes and colors. It is so much fun to watch. These gifts bring such joy to seafarers far away from their homes and families at Christmas. It means that they are remembered and honored for the work they do. How often do you think about the things that are delivered to our ports each and every day by these unseen seafarers who are often not even allowed to step on our soil. Thank you to everyone who has filled a satchel and warmed a heart and head this year.

Wishing you all the joys of Christmas and a wonderful New Year 2024.

Ruth Setaro, Chaplain

Time for a Laugh

One day during our children's sermon, I was telling the kids about how the angel came to Mary to tell her about how she would help bring Jesus into the world. One little girl seemed puzzled about this whole scene. Then another child asked what I thought the first thing Mary would have asked for after the angel left her. Instantly this little girl chimed in with "I'll bet she asked for a little help from Joseph!"



Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers

30 Gillies Road,
Hamden, CT 06517
203-230-8994; www.carenewhaven.org

38 YEARS AS THE GOOD NEIGHBOR

Are you looking for a new volunteer opportunity? Can you drive an elderly person to a doctor's appointment? Visit with an elder from time to time? Please consider joining our team and discover how your small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in the life of an elder in our community. Since 1983, Interfaith Volunteer Care Givers (IVCG) has assisted seniors in the Greater New Haven area by fostering independent living and reducing isolation. We train and insure volunteers from area faith communities and civic organizations to offer free neighborly services with compassion and love.

To find out more, please check out our website: www.carenewhaven.org

Volunteer Orientation & Training At The Connecticut Hospice, Inc.

The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. (inpatient and home-care). is sponsoring volunteer orientation and training this fall. If you or someone you know is looking for an opportunity to serve others in your community, we would like to hear from you. Our patients and families are in need of your care and support. As a volunteer, you can fill your hours (weekdays/evenings or weekends) by assisting in a clerical capacity or offering direct patient/family contact as a friendly visitor, provide pastoral care or bereavement services, help in arts, massage therapy, pet therapy, hairdresser/barber or provide transportation. For more information, please contact Joan Cullen at 203-315-7510 or jcullen@hospice.com



DECEMBER

CELEBRATIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES



BIRTHDAYS

Dec 4 th	Kent Golden
Dec 5 th	Logan Setaro
Dec 6 th	Erik Sundermann
Dec 7 th	Emmalayne Brophy
Dec 8 th	Tina Kearns
Dec 10 th	Imaim Doward
Dec 12 th	Helen Mills
Dec 15 th	Bethany Hayes
Dec 16 th	Devon Hart
Dec 16 th	Walter Brodka
Dec 17 th	Pat Brodka
Dec 19 th	Ethan Hayes
Dec 19 th	Ted Warsawski
Dec 20 th	Ryan Langlois
Dec 22 nd	Kiera Brophy
Dec 22 nd	Keili Brophy
Dec 25 th	Beth Lubenow
Dec 26 th	Ella Setaro
Dec 26 th	Michael Hayes
Dec 31 st	Anthony Ching



BAPTISMAL

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 14 th	Jonathan Auman
Dec 23 rd	Abigail Ching
Dec 24 th	Jalisa Davis-Mims
Dec 25 th	Karen Johnson



WEDDING

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 16 th	Zhouya & Vern Beaudoin
Dec 16 th	Lorrie & Joseph Aceto
Dec 17 th	Sandra & Daniel Kops
Dec 19 th	Annie & Frank Wright

CPR Certification



Nov. 4, 2023

Thanksgiving Stuffing Challenge



**We Collected 226 boxes !
Thank You for your Generosity !**

Reformation Luncheon



Oct 29, 2023

Claire Prud'homme in "Frozen"



**Amity Middle School (Bethany)
Nov. 10-11, 2023**



Christmas 2023 Donations to End Hunger

Donations may be made to the **ELCA World Hunger Fund** or to support **Local Food Banks**. You can note your designation on this form, or on the Memo line of you check.

Amount **In Honor or** **ELCA /**
In Memory of Name: _____ **Given by:** **Local Food Bank**

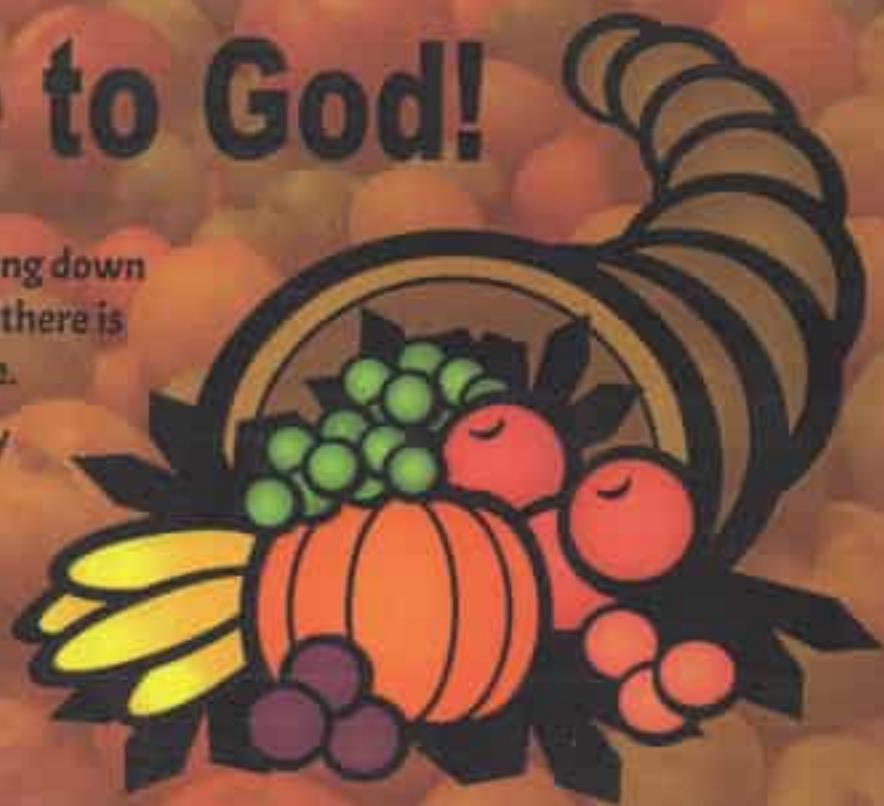
Yearly Stewardship Emphasis

Thanks Be to God!

Every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of his creatures.

(James 1:17-18 ESV)



www.sola.com
www.sola.com

SOLA

Our Yearly Stewardship Emphasis:
Household Giving Plan Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

For the coming year, I/we plan to give as an offering:
\$ _____ per week.

- this amount is based on a percentage of income.
- this amount represents an increase from last year.

A Giving Plan is an estimate of household's giving for the coming year, meant to assist in healthy financial planning by individuals as well as the congregation. All individual financial information provided here is confidential, and never published or listed to the public.

PLEASE TURN IN THIS PORTION OF THE CARD IN CHURCH

Yearly Stewardship Emphasis

**Household Giving Plan
Reminder Card**

For the coming year, I/we plan
to give as an offering:
\$ _____ per week.

Signed: _____

Date: _____



**PLEASE KEEP THIS PORTION OF THE CARD
AS A REMINDER OF YOUR PLAN**



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ACTION
HELP · HOUSING · HOPE

November 15, 2023

Rev. Ryan Mills
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
292 Orange St.
New Haven, CT 06510-1716

Dear Rev. Mills and Faithful Friends of Bethesda,

We are most grateful for your donation of \$500.00 to Christian Community Action on 10/23/2023.

Through this act of generosity, you are part of a warm and faith-filled community of caring and conscientious people who have chosen to share their abundance with families in need. This donation will make a significant difference in the lives of those who are experiencing homelessness, seeking emergency assistance for basic needs, and coping with the challenges of poverty in New Haven. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness.

Your support helps us achieve our mission of providing "Help, Housing, and Hope" to families in our community. Achieving this mission includes supporting our programs: the Hillside Family Shelter, New HOPE (Higher Opportunities, Purpose and Expectations) Housing Program, ARISE Center, Neighborhood Assistance, and Advocacy and Education Project.

Thanks again for supporting CCA's mission and vision. I hope you will feel most welcome to be in touch with me directly at any time. Please visit our website at www.ccahelping.org, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Sincerely,

Rev. Bonita Grubbs
Executive Director



A Program of The Episcopal Church of
St. Paul and St. James

November 14, 2023

Dear Trinity Evangelical -

Thanks for your generous support
of our food pantry. The line of folks
waiting for us to open stretches down
the block - even on a chilly - or rainy -
days. People are hungry. We do our
best to ease some of that hunger.

Thanks for your help
Sally Fleming

11/14 \$250.00

For IRS purposes, this letter acknowledges that you received no goods or services in return for your contribution.

Loaves & Fishes is a non-profit organization with tax-exempt status.

Our tax identification number is **060653177**.



A Special Message from Rev. Bonita Grubbs



"Deep gratitude with introspection" are the first words that came to mind as I reflected on my ministry as CCA's Executive Director. Having been honored - and humbled - to assume this position on December 1, 1988, my intention was to be here for no more than five years. In a phone call recently, a former staff member reminded me of my "pronouncement."

Where did the time go?


Perhaps it flew by because CCA's staff and Board members had a dream and an agenda. Our commitment then was to make a difference in the lives of the individuals and families we serve. This included, and still does involve, offering emergency assistance, and seeking funding for and implementing supportive, strengthening programming such as:

- o Neighborhood Assistance – offering emergency food, energy assistance, information and referral services, short-term motel assistance, and other areas of urgent, basic needs;
- o Emergency Housing – giving 17 families that were homeless the chance to receive support services and an apartment for 60-90 days, or until they could move to permanent housing;
- o Grassroots advocacy and civil engagement/educational initiatives that were designed to influence public policy and, in the words of our initial mission statement, "to change systems that perpetuate poverty and injustice."

What have we done lately?

CCA staff and Board members made a programmatic shift to seek more permanent family and transformative solutions such as our Stepping Stone Transitional Housing Program. It opened in 1998, to serve 18 families that were homeless or at risk of homelessness, and needed employment, family support and stable housing. A total of 250 families were able to secure permanent and stable housing over a 20-year period through this Program.





What have we done lately? (continued)

In 2022, due to a kind and most generous donor, and in partnership with the Housing Authority of New Haven/Elm City Communities, CCA launched the New HOPE (Higher Opportunities, Purpose and Expectations) Housing Program - a Moving-to-Work pilot program.

Today, this Program offers needed support to, and the opportunity for, families to be in residence for up to three years. The objective is that heads of household can and will secure employment, increase their income, and improve the quality of life for their children.

This year, one of CCA's recent partnerships was with Where Angels Play, to design and install the Kathy Carroll Playground, to promote and encourage family time and exercise.

One of our most celebrated moments was envisioning and implementing the ARISE (Accessing Resources for Independence, Skill-building and Employment) Center - which was established in 2015. This Center offers person-centered support to heads of household in the areas of employment and child and family services.

This also includes advancing the work of CCA's Advocacy and Education Project, which is designed to change systems that perpetuate poverty and injustice. This focuses attention on the issues that people confront, such as the lack of affordable housing, jobs that do not pay a living wage, and discrimination based on racial background.

What do we hope to do in the future?

Our vision is to expand and enhance CCA's existing programs to serve even more people, to make a lasting difference, by ensuring all positions are staffed and all programs can be fully funded going into 2024, to ease the path to independence for people receiving services.

Thank you for the ways that you have supported us in the past. You can help us continue to make a lasting, personal and transformative difference of offering HELP, HOUSING AND HOPE - that is our mission - to people and families in need in New Haven.





Our Community. Our Food Bank

October 31, 2023

Pat Sundermann
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
292 Orange St
New Haven, CT 06510-1768

Dear Pat,

Thank you so much for your gift of \$350.00 on 10/24/2023 to Connecticut Foodshare. Your generosity supports our neighbors facing food insecurity with the nutritious foods they need to thrive. We are grateful for your partnership.

With consumer prices at a 40 year high, too many families across Connecticut face challenges putting food on the table. Your generosity allows us to serve our most vulnerable neighbors, including seniors and children. Your support enables us to:

- Conduct more than 100 bi-weekly mobile food distributions across the state with a focus on providing fresh produce to individuals, families, and seniors
- Support more than 500 partner agencies, including food pantries, community kitchens, and backpack programs who are meeting their communities' unique needs
- Address root causes of hunger to increase economic stability and build long-term food security.

On behalf of all of us at Connecticut Foodshare, we are very thankful for your partnership. Stay safe and well!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason", written in a cursive style.

Jason Jakubowski, President and CEO

This letter certifies that no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution of \$350.00 on 10/24/2023

Downtown Evening SOUP KITCHEN

P.O. Box 1478, New Haven, Conn. 06510 - (203) 624-6426 - info@deskct.org - www.deskct.org

October 26, 2023

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
292 Orange Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Friends at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$350.00 received on 10/26/2023. By supporting our work, you are taking an active role in our community by creating an authentic sense of equity in Greater New Haven and empowering DESK to fulfill its mission!

Our clients come to us for basic needs — food, bathrooms, clothing, toiletries, coats — but once they are in our doors, we have an opportunity and an **obligation** to connect them with additional resources.

Your support allows DESK to continue to be the front door to the network of services needed so people can move beyond homelessness toward recovery and stability.

With you, our work is possible. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ma Thank you!". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luis Olmo-Rivera
Development Director

P.S. Interested in seeing our programs in action? Email me at lomorivera@deskct.org or call us (203) 624-6426, to schedule your tour now!

This letter serves as your acknowledgment for tax purposes.
Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Tax ID#: 22-2985448.



May the peace, love, and comforts
of the season be with you and
yours throughout the holidays ...
and into the new year.

With heartfelt gratitude for all you've done to
help nourish our community. Your generosity is
creating a thriving community free of hunger.

Thank you for being part of our
Connecticut Foodshare family.

Thank You and Happy Holidays,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John".

President & CEO



10/20/25

Deen Fisher Mills,

Thank you for the important work you and your staff do. You are definitely one of the pieces to Bep's jigsaw puzzle: Evidence abounds!

Enclosed is a contribution to ^{your} church.

Bbs

P.S. I meant a ^{Catholic} (Lionel). Initially, I attended both Episcopal & Catholic services but as our children come along I thought it would be better if we attend one church as a family. So... although I maintain I'm a "Simple Christian" - never joined the Catholic Church - I've been attending Catholic services weekly for years.