



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

October 2016 In This Issue

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Secretary: Chris Bolte
 Office: (508) 765-9559
 Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon
 Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon
 E-mail: holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com
 Web site: holytrinitysouthbridge.org

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Richard Signore
 richard.signore@verizon.net

Organist: Anne Bouvier-Monroe

Sexton: Hector Chapa

Senior Warden: Nancy Waugh
 Home: (413) 245-3307

Junior Warden: John Grant
 Home: (860)923-9691

Holy Trinity is called to recognize, communicate and celebrate God's presence within, among and around us.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD

Dear friends,

Our life in community is a slow, low term experiment, in sharing the Peace of God. Discerning the reality of the words, "there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female," as all are one in Christ. Learning how to extend the hand that supports the fallen; learning to welcome the hand that supports our troubled times. We cluster around the mystery of Love so divine.

Recently we have observed a concert for Peace, and the end of Violence. We have sung with joy to announce our faith that God has a triumphant future in store. Quickly following after, October begins with St. Francis' Sunday (Oct 2nd) and the Blessing of the animals. St. Francis is a sign of the interior peace that stills the ferocious instincts of the wild beasts. And we have made slight modifications to the Lady Chapel to make a haven for quiet prayer and contemplation. This space has meditations on praying with icons, Anglican prayer beads, Orthodox beads for the "Jesus Prayer," and Rosaries! These are to stay in the chapel, but we can help you obtain any personal items to sustain your prayers! If you are new to meditative prayer, I am more than happy to advise on method and the coordination of slow breathing. The first few times you might find yourself absorbed in the mechanics, but will soon discover a new language to speak with God!!

The community of Christ travels on its heart. (Sorry, Napoleon!). Come and drink deeply from the well that is Christ, our living God! I remain,
 Your friend and Rector,
 Richard +

COMMUNITY YARD SALE THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who helped set up, clean up, and rent booth space for our annual Community Yard Sale.
 Thank you to Rose Reith for volunteering to coordinate this event and to John Grant for grilling!

THANKSGIVINGS FROM THE SR. WARDEN

Thank you, John Grant, for organizing the annual Rice-A-Rama fundraiser at the Spencer Fair Grounds on Sunday, September 11, 2016. This takes a dedicated community to accomplish. Thanks to all who donated water, sugar, and lemon juice. Thank you for the countless volunteer hours: making simple syrup—Tamsin Lucey and Joe DiSalvatore; hours the day before of setup—Pieczynskis, John Grant and Tamsin. The important face of Holy Trinity, all the volunteers, who gave of their time serving lemonade, water, coffee, and apple crisp. Lana, Bill, Will, Joe, Sam Pieczynski and friend Hunter, John and Susan Grant, Dave Monroe, Suzy Sharp, Lynn Garland, Fr. Richard and Nina - thank you. Please know in this hectic busy world we live in, the gift of time is priceless.

Thank you to Susan Howland and the Finance Committee for getting a head start on the budget for 2017. In addition, thank you to the Building Committee who have been busy getting the necessary plans for improving the kitchen in order to renew our certification from the Southbridge Board of Health. Thank you to Cat Reith-Lowry for the architectural plans she drew up for the inspection.

Thank you to Fr. Richard and the Holy Trinity musicians for presenting the “Sing for Peace” hymn sing on Sunday afternoon, September 25, 2016. *The Concerts Across America* is a series of live music events of all sizes from coast to coast to raise the volume on the national effort to save lives from gun violence.

Gratitude for all these blessings and thanksgivings for the time, talents, and treasure that Holy Trinity receives abundantly.

Nancy Waugh

Join us for Family Worship

in Blakely Hall

October 9 and 23

When families come together to
worship with kids in mind.



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IS
COLLECTING CANS AND BOTTLES FOR
MISSION & OUTREACH. DONATIONS GO
IN THE LARGE SILVER BOX IN THE
PARISH HALL.**

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2-Kurt Frisch 3-Peg Nelson 4-Will Pieczynski 7-Chris Briere 8-Jerry Helbig
10-Beverly Kollios 14-Cathy Theodoss 14-Dorothy Frisch 17-Nina Signore 18-Anita Bullard
18-Eric Bullard 19-Jean Frost 24-Marilyn Theodoss 31-Joseph Ballou

If you have a birthday this month and are not listed but would like your name to be included in our monthly Tidings for birthdays, please contact the office. Thank you!

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

Thank you for your donations of food during September. Even though fall is in the air, the days are still warm and donations of salad dressings, tuna and canned chicken are still very much appreciated. Please know that every donation of any food is a blessing to those in need and eagerly accepted by the St. John Paul Food Pantry. On Sunday, October 2, brown paper bags and a suggested shopping list will be on a music stand by the Narthex Doors.

Please take a bag and shop from the list as you are able. Food returned by Sunday, October 30, will be blessed before going to the pantry that week. Thank you for your continued donations to the Loaves and Fishes ministry. As we are blessed may we be a blessing.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”.

Tamsin Lucey & Bill Nelson.



Holy Trinity Church Financial Report August 2016

August 2016 Financial Report

Income

We have \$4,500 in prepaid pledges; subtract that from the pledge line to see where we are to date. Pledges are behind and we will definitely have a shortfall this year.

Expense

- The church capital improvement line has the fire alarm system and some other major repairs, so it will look over budget, but subtracting out the fire alarm system we are close to budget. The funds for the over budget expenses came from the designated YMCA gift for the fire alarm system, some YMCA rent and reserve funds.
- We did not budget the YMCA rent so it could be in reserve for emergencies. It is available to use if we need it, but our hope is to use it primarily for capital improvements. Since we are not renting the building other than to the YMCA, we could certainly use some of that un-budgeted money, and we did for the fire alarm system. The news at present is the YMCA will be with us through August 2017.
- We don't budget for flowers, but the income and expense lines should balance out by the end of the year.
- VBS had a reserve from prior years so they intentionally went over budget this year, which helped to cushion the volunteer staff time and energy. We also had more kids, some who could not pay the registration fee, and we had fewer donations of snack and lunch items, although that was offset with cash donations.
- There are many under-budget lines. Some may be spent before the end of the year.
 - Fr. Richard's reimbursables
 - Clergy supply; Fr. Richard has not taken his vacation or Continuing Ed yet.
 - The insurance and oil budgeted amounts are put in reserve monthly until they are needed

Other

- The boilers were cleaned in August and should be ready for the fall startup. We may add another 1,000 gallons of oil to the tank if the price is right.
- The undercroft entrance drain was repaired, and we will pay that \$900 bill in September.
- The brick work at the back of the church is finished, but we don't have the bill yet. The roof will be done in September.
- Kitchen: we have an estimate request out to Cole Contracting for a fire suppression stove hood, something the fire inspector said we may need in the future especially if we wish to rent the kitchen. There are other kitchen code-related improvements that we will need to make if we intend to rent the kitchen, and to maintain our licensed kitchen.
- The Finance Committee will be meeting in September with the goal of a draft budget to the vestry in October.

Susan Howland, Treasurer

THE MISSION PLATE

Thanks to all of you who brought in supplies in August for West Street School. Our monetary donations were \$203.37! That will help a lot! They were very grateful.

We will continue to collect during October for relief for Louisiana flood victims. I wish we could help all the victims of fires, floods and earthquakes, but we will do our small part with love and keep them in our prayers.

Suzy Sharp ([774-241-3426](tel:774-241-3426))

Celebrating 150 Years on Hamilton Street

In 2019 Holy Trinity Church will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the construction of the building we call our church home.

In recognition of this sesquicentennial, and in planning for the future use of the building as our mission outpost in Southbridge, we would like to invite you to participate in a **150th ANNIVERSARY BUILDING FUND.**

The church was built by the *Hamilton Woolen Company* in 1869 and was placed on the *National Historic Register* in 1989. As stewards of this building your vestry and the congregation have made substantial repairs and improvements over the last 4 years: restoration of the portico, the foyer canopy, the cricket, a cracked balcony wall, the undercroft ceiling, repairing windows, window sills, the foyer and church steps, brick pointing, and re-leathering the organ great and swell primaries. Improvements include adding fire emergency signs and lights, and most recently, installation of a state-of-the-art fire alarm system.

We anticipate other necessary and recurring building repairs.

- ♥ Replacing the asphalt roof on the parish hall and painting the cupola.
- ♥ Repointing the brick exterior of the church and parish hall; long-term plan for brick maintenance.
- ♥ Repairing and painting the church trim.
- ♥ Repairing gutters and assessing perimeter drainage.
- ♥ Maintaining slate roof, installing ice guard, and redesigning flat roof.
- ♥ Replacing storm windows.
- ♥ Updating the electrical wiring to 3-prong outlets.
- ♥ Restoring the organ and stained glass windows.
- ♥ Renovating the kitchen to bring it up to code.
- ♥ Adding a hot water heater.
- ♥ Covering asbestos flooring in classroom wing.

Please consider how you might like to contribute in the next 3 years:

- ♥ Pledge Commitments
- ♥ Buy-a-Brick
- ♥ Project-Designated Gifts
- ♥ Legacy Gifts

Holy Trinity Church was placed on the National Historic Register in 1989



BIBLE AND WINE: A BIBLE BOOK STUDY

Jesus turned Water to Wine. We expect He will show up here.

Study Book: **The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Bible**

By James Stuart Bell Jr. and Stan Campbell

Bible & Study Book required

Wednesday, October 5, 7:30-9PM, Session 1a, Why Was Jesus Born?

Wednesday, October 19, 7:30-9PM, Session 1b, Why Was Jesus Born?

Location details: 10/5 – HTEC; 10/19 – TBD – See Fr. Richard

WINTER COAT CLOSET

Winter coats for men, women, youth and children will be available on Saturday mornings from 9-11am, October 22 through December 17. Clean, gently used coats are always in need!

Thanksgiving Pies

Advance Notice

We will once again be offering homemade pies for sale in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The selection will be at least the same as last year – Traditional Apple and Dutch Apple Pies, Pumpkin Pie, Pecan Pie, and Meat Pie. Please look for order forms in the Narthex in the beginning of October and place your orders early. Don't forget to invite neighbors, friends, family, and co-workers to place an order as well! Baking dates and times have yet to be confirmed. If interested in joining the pie baking team, please speak with Joe DiSalvatore or Cat Reith-Lowery. Donations of ingredients to help offset the costs are always welcome. We are looking for the following ingredients: flour, butter, lard, dark brown sugar, eggs, apples, pecans and evaporated milk. Gift cards to local grocery stores are always welcome. Look for ingredient stickers on a board at the back of the church in the beginning of October. Thank you!



SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE BELL RINGERS



That time of year is coming up, in fact it will be with us in about 7 weeks! Please contact Tamsin if you would be interested in volunteering to RING THE BELL for a couple of hours this Giving Season ([774 200 4279](tel:7742004279) or Redkettlesbridge@gmail.com or in person). The proceeds collected in the Sturbridge/Southbridge Red Kettle Drive STAY IN this area - "the Salvation Army doing the most good!"

Welcome Fall and Music at Holy Trinity Church

Choir Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, October 2, at 11:00 a.m. No audition is required to sing in the choir, just the ability to sing with music. We will begin singing in church on Sunday, October 16, with a start time of 8:50 a.m. If you have any questions, see Anne after church or call 508-347-5008.

Blessing of the Animals



Sunday
October 2
@ the
9:30 a.m.
worship service

Adults and children are invited to bring animals, both large (leashed) and small, real or toy, for a special blessing which will take place just before the peace. All are welcome.

LIVING GENEROUSLY

On Sunday, October 2, we will kick off our annual giving campaign: “Living Generously.” In the weeks following, we will explore together how we can live more generously as individuals and as a community of faith. Living Generously is more than what we do with our financial resources — though that is important. To live generously, we are also called to be open to new ideas, to welcome the stranger, to volunteer often, and to forgive those who have offended us.

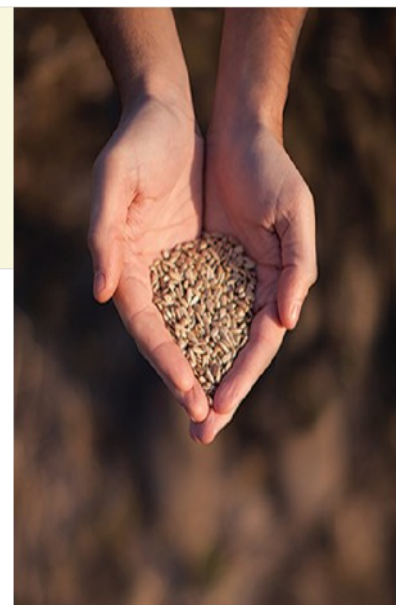
Your generosity, in response to the abundance in your life, will fund the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity.

- Beginning on Sunday, October 2, and continuing throughout the stewardship season, our Sunday bulletin will include reflections written by Episcopal leaders from across the country. These reflections will cover stewardship and faithful giving in connection with the Gospel reading of the day, and we will use them for prayer.
- Each Sunday, we will hear stories of personal transformation through the practice of intentional giving from your fellow parishioners.
- On November 20, we will celebrate Commitment Sunday, the culmination of our exploration, when pledges will be completed and offered as an act of worship and in response to all that God has provided.

Fr. Richard and the vestry have set a goal of receiving 100% of pledge commitments from our worshipping community. We will be in intentional prayer that each of us will remain open to letting the Holy Spirit lead and guide us in a faithful response to being called to Live Generously.

Thank you for joining me as we consider how we can live more fully into a generous life.

Nancy Waugh
Stewardship Chair



They rise in the darkness
as a light for the upright;
they are gracious,
merciful, and righteous.
It is well with those who
deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs
with justice.
For the righteous will
never be moved;
they will be remembered
forever.

PSALM 112:4-6 (NRSV)



The United Thank Offering...

is not just another fundraiser, it is an opportunity to practice Thankfulness. Drop a coin...every penny counts... in the little Blue Box with a prayer of gratitude. Research has shown that thankful people live happier and healthier lives!

The United Thank Offering started in 1889 and is now one of the largest outreach missions of the Episcopal Church. Grants go to every diocese and Anglican Communion province around the world all because people shared their thankfulness with others. Give it a try and bring your offering to our **Holy Trinity Ingathering on October 23rd during the 9:30 service**. Blue Boxes are available in the narthex along with other information. Our offering will be brought to the diocesan convention Eucharist on October 28th and combined with offerings from other churches in the diocese.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

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Office Phone: (508) 765-9559

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Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

unless otherwise noted

The Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Rite II Choral Holy Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher

The Rev. Richard Signore

Save These Dates

Holy Trinity Church

Sundays in October—11:00 a.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 2—9:30 a.m.—Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, October 5—7:30 p.m.—Bible and Wine—HTEC

Sunday, October 9—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Wednesday, October 12—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting & Book Study

Saturday, October 15—10:30 a.m.—First Communion Class

Saturday, October 16—2:30 p.m.—Community Harvest Supper

Wednesday, October 19—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King

Wednesday, October 19—7:30 p.m.—Bible and Wine—location TBD

Saturday, October 22—9:00 a.m.—Winter Coat Closet

Saturday, October 22—10:30 a.m.—First Communion Class

Sunday, October 23—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Saturday, October 29—9:00 a.m.—Winter Coat Closet

Saturday, October 29—10:30 a.m.—First Communion Class