



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

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*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 Annual Meeting was a community building exercise, in allowing open discussion and choosing leadership to guide our life together in this new year. We also discussed a temporary renovation in the sanctuary, to bring the altar closer to the people. This underscores our belief that the living Christ is the center of all we do together, and "making eucharist" is the work of all the faithful. This liturgical action is a source of grace and creates wholeness in our spiritual life, as we make our very selves available to God. Would you like to help? Please come prepared on Sunday, February 15th, and we will make the adjustments after the service!

Our formation opportunities continue with the on-going bible study group which meets monthly on a Wednesday. February 25th at 7:00 PM at the home of Lynn Garland is our next meeting; please contact Fr. Richard if you would like additional information.

Lent will soon be upon us!! Ash Wednesday services will be Feb. 18th at Noon and at 7:00 P.M. This is an important opening to a season of finding God's hope in our own circumstances.

Lenten book study!!!

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (HTEC), for the five weeks of Lent, starting February 24th: The book used for discussion will be "Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and

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Mohammed Cross the Road?" (by Brian D. McLaren). The book will focus our minds on the issues involved in living in a pluralistic society; and will include the changes in our culture and the difficulties of mainline churches to find a voice in this volatile mix. Our group will be joined by three members of Bethlehem Lutheran church to add additional dimensions to our discussion. Some copies of the book are available through the parish office, and it can be ordered on-line. We recommend reading early and often, we will discuss a section/part each time we meet.

These items are complimented by times to be together, all contribute to an increase in the Spirit!!! He appeared to the Three Kings, and He makes God known, where ever we look!!

*Faithfully yours in Christ,
(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore*

Senior Warden Speaking

"The senior Warden's report given at the Annual Meeting on January 18th 2015

"I'm not going to read the report found in the Annual meeting booklet because you can read that for yourself. Fr. Richard asked me to share the following with you now."

This time last year I stood here as your senior warden-in-charge because we had no permanent priest. Fr Richard Signore was here then, as our supply priest. Fr Richard is here now as our priest-in-charge and I stand here now as his - as your senior warden.

This time last year we had no seated organist, now Anne Bouvier-Munroe has filled that position, so together with our secretary Chris Bolte, who has been with us for 7 years as of Jan 2nd and our sexton Hector Chapa we have, for the first time in over 2 years, a full complement of staff. We look forward to a 2nd consecutive year with a full complement of vestry members, two of whom are new to vestry. I feel a sense of stability and rejuvenation, I hope you do too.

This year will, like every New Year be different from last year. My senior warden role has changed – I am NO LONGER in charge – I am just senior warden. I don't have to worry about making sure we have a priest for Sunday services! I don't have to open all the mail and sort it out! Fr. Richard is offering Christian formation opportunities, empowering lay leaders and engaging us all in new worship experiences. We look forward to our first mutual ministry review with the whole parish and Fr Richard, the outcome of which will determine whether or not Fr Richard becomes our half time Rector. That is to say our half time, permanent, Rector. The position description that the vestry drew up last year, was shared via Tidings and is posted on the HTC notice board, based on half time clergy and the parish goals and objectives, it spreads the "duties" of the work of Holy Trinity church into three categories, clergy, lay leaders and congregation. It is this document that will be re-viewed in the mutual ministry review. Starting mid-year the parish will, together, look over and see how well we are following our own goals and objectives! We will, together, identify the areas that we excel in and those that need some work. We will, together, determine what should be modified and changed to keep our goals and objectives current. The mutual ministry process will be repeated yearly to ensure that we are continually refining ourselves. Through-out the forthcoming year the vestry will be referencing a diocesan recommended guideline for parish vitality to make sure we are on track. Over the last 2 years the vestry has embraced some major issues. To make sure that Holy Trinity remains viable and sustainable one issue we will embrace this year is our building. We have caught up with the "it needs to be done now" work, but we cannot get complacent - now is the time to get ahead of the game and pay attention to what we will need to do in the not too distant future and what is coming down the pike later. To be good stewards of our building, our time, our talent and our treasure we need to be proactive and intentional. A focus this year will also be to engage lay leaders and anyone else who is interested in "visioning" even "envisioning" long term plans, goals, and objectives for the

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Senior Warden Speaking continued from page 2.....
building, our ministry, our mission, and our outreach. So, as you can see, as senior warden, I am not entirely off the hook.

Last year I called to your attention the Rose window, the stained glass window at the back of the church and how like the individual pieces of glass, we as individuals are nothing special or important, but together - united in our faith, with Christ as our corner stone, we become the light of Christ sharing Gods love with the world both here, in Southbridge and the rest of the world.

This year I call to your attention the Madonna window, the window in front of us, above the altar. A stained glass back light window of a Mother and a child, of Mary and Jesus. So nicely reproduced in our Christmas schedule, flyers and posters, by Ellen Lincourt. It depicts the reason we are here, in church, today. Jesus Christ is at the center of the window – Jesus Christ is the center of our lives. Some of you may know that in correspondence I use the closing “with gratitude and blessings” and that each year I adopt a quote to put after my name. This year I have added Looking forward.... before the “with gratitude and blessings” and the quote for this year is “We can do no great things just small things with great love.” An interpretation of a quote by Mother Theresa. These words came to me in a God Moment at the end of Dec. as I was thinking about what I would say today, now. So my closing statement now reads “Looking forward....” “With gratitude and blessings” “Tamsin Lucey” “We can do no great things just small things with great love.”

Looking forward.... Looking forward to Christ in our lives today and always. Looking forward to exploring new ways to share the love of Christ with the hurting world, in our neighborhood, our community and in the wider world. Looking forward to growing our own faith, to nurturing the faith of others, to introducing Jesus Christ to those who may not even know his name. Looking forward to a year full of promise and hope. Looking forward with Gratitude and Blessings always.

We can do no great things only small things with great love. We might think that what we do each day or each Sunday is something great -something significant but we cannot do great things alone – the Great is reserved for God. It is good for us to remember that as individuals we can do no great things – **but** together and with God, the small things - the little things, done with Gods Great Love are indeed the meaningful things that allow Gods love to shine through us to a hurting world.

When we come together, looking forward, centered in Christ, with Gods Great Love, the small things we do, do make a difference, the seeds that we plant, grow.

Thank you, for all that **you** do in the name of Jesus Christ, **thank you**, for all that **you** do for Holy Trinity Church, and thank you once again for entrusting me as Senior Warden for another year, I pray that I remain your humble servant. Thank you.

Looking Forward....With gratitude and blessings
Tamsin Lucey We can do no great things just small things with great love.



THE MISSION PLATE

Greetings from Green Valley, Arizona. As I write this today, 1/19/2015, I am hopeful that the collection for fuel assistance is going well. You have had some freezing temps, although milder right now.

For February your donations will go to Episcopal Relief and Development for the Ebola Crisis. Although we are not hearing about the crisis as much as a few months ago, the work and the need for help continues. I am in awe of the nurses and doctors who volunteer to help in West Africa. Whatever we can do to help through prayer and donations for the medical teams and the victims will be greatly appreciated by them.

I hope that you all are well, or recovering if you have been ill. My prayers are with you for health and wellness. Dave is struggling with sciatica and not golfing much. I am well and taking several classes.

We send you our best wishes, and wish we could have been with you for the Annual Meeting.

Suzy Sharp ([774-230-3426](tel:774-230-3426)), 276 A Paseo Sarta, Green Valley, AZ 85614



Loaves and Fishes Ministry

The Food Pantry at St John Paul II welcomes everything that we provide. Thank you for your generous donations in January. On February 1 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 February 22 will be blessed before going to the pantry that week. Thank you for your continued participation in the ministry.

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



With Love, Peace and Joy, Bill Nelson, Joshua Spooner and Tamsin Lucey



Sunday Services inclement weather closure plan for Winter 2013/2014

Every Sunday in February, weather permitting, there will be a service of Holy Communion at 9:30 p.m.

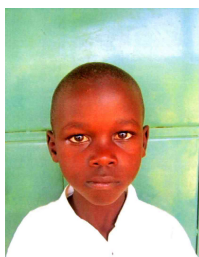
Please know that if, due to inclement weather, it is deemed necessary to cancel the service or hold Morning Prayer instead, and the means to do so is in place, an announcement will be posted on the Holy Trinity Web page, Facebook, and an all parish email sent out.

Please consider the road conditions and parking availability when making your decision to attend the service. If you are in any doubt please contact either the Senior Warden—Tamsin Lucey [508 347 1414](tel:5083471414) or [774 200 4279](tel:7742004279) or Jr. Warden—Nancy Waugh [413 245 3307](tel:4132453307) or [413 883 4491](tel:4138834491).

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

The Lenten program for 2015 will be a study of the book: Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? by Brian D. McLaren. The book helps guide our steps as we represent Christian faith in an increasingly pluralistic culture. The book will help us design mission and outreach strategies that increase and strengthen our connections to our neighbors. This discussion group would be very helpful to any interested in our parish family's long-range planning; to say nothing of just plain being a real interesting read!! No reason not to start now!!! This 5 week discussion will be on Tuesdays @ 7pm, beginning on February 24.

~Fr. Richard



CHILDREACH SPONSOR CHILD FOR 2015

The sign-up sheet has been placed on the back table of the church to help support Nicholas Onyango Okondo. Please consider supporting this important ministry by signing up to sponsor Nicholas for a month (or two) in 2015. The sponsorship is \$30.00 per month. A postcard will be mailed to you as a reminder that your donation is due. Thank you!

Please make sure you note "Sponsor Child" on your check.



unTangled "Taking God's Love to New Lengths"

Casting Call!!!!

Similar to un-Frozen, we will be performing a special worship service on March 29, 2015 at 4pm (Palm Sunday). The "play" is loosely based on Disney's "Tangled" about Rapunzel. In this version (which was downloaded for FREE!), Rapunzel sees, with the help of her princess friends at a beauty salon, how sin can get you all "tangled" up, but through Jesus Christ and the Easter miracle, we can all be forgiven.

The cast is as follows: Hairstylist (could be male), Rapunzel, Cinderella, Snow White

Support: readers, costumes, musicians, props, and hospitality

I don't think we're at the point of needing auditions...YET. So if you would like to be a part of unTangled, please contact Eileen DeMings.

Rehearsals are after church AND during the week for 6 weeks. Lines are memorized, readings are not.

First script reading will be Feb. 8, 2015 after church.



Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall

February 8 & 22

When families come together to worship with kids in mind.



FAMILY WORSHIP

We've started a new curriculum to change things up a bit! We are in "God's Love" and will move onto "Friends", "Famous Moms", and "Famous Dads". Each contains a skit, memory verse, a children's message and a game or activity. Let's pray that our families are renewed with worship!

We will host a Valentine's Day Party on February 14 from 4:00-5:30. Please come and enjoy cookies, card making, a photo booth and spending time together. Help would be appreciated as well, mainly set-up and clean-up.

Contact Eileen DeMings.



(Shrove Tuesday)
Pancake Supper

**Tuesday,
February 17**

Food served 5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
in the undercroft (downstairs)
of the church.

Kids crafts available.



Sunday, February 1st

There will be a wide variety of soup
available for purchase in the parish hall
after the service.

Quarts: \$5.00; Pints: \$3.00.

If you have any questions, or if you're
interested in making a pot of soup
for the event, please see
Anita Bullard 508-353-4650 or
Lana Pieczynski 704-458-6204 .



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

Cordially invites you to join us for a

Community Valentine's Day Party

FREE FAMILY FUN!

**February 14th
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Activities to include:

- Decorate Cookies*
- Valentine Cards*
- Crafts*
- Photo Booth*
- Goodie Bag*



*This is a family event.
All children must be accompanied
by an adult.*

2014 Treasurer's Annual Report

Operating Budget

Income: overall income exceeded budget by \$12,694. Budget: \$118,461 Actual: \$ 130,566.00

Why?

- Holy Trinity Parishioners are generous!
- Fundraisers: Yard Sale; Rice-O-Rama: Pies/Bakesale, all the VBS angels. \$2,744 total over budget.
- Rental income exceeded the budgeted amount by \$2,653.
- Trust income was up by \$563, checking interest \$544; Other Plate Offering \$2,938, along with other miscellaneous unbudgeted income.

Expenses: overall expenses were more than budget by \$5,433, but that includes capital improvement expense of \$18,900 paid in 2014 from 2013 reserves. Budget: \$118, 461. Actual: \$123,895.

Why?

- Music was under budget by \$3,075, because we did not have a seated organist.
- Clergy was under budget by \$10,899, because we did not have a settled priest until June.
- Several other lines were under budget, some because the funds were not needed and others because of frugal spending.
- Oil is usually over budget on the report because of bulk buying, but it evens out eventually. Also because the burner booster expense is posted to the oil line. Due to the exceptionally cold 2013-2014 heating season we did need to buy additional oil.
- Other lines were intentionally over budget and were paid with reserve funds.

Non-operating Budget

The Non-operating Budget contains funds received that are outside of the operating budget and designated or restricted for a particular mission or purpose.

- Contributions of \$348.49 were made for South Sudan and the Ebola Crisis and \$348.49 was sent to *Episcopal Relief and Development* for those causes.
- \$370 was sent to Childreach/PLAN to sponsor Nicholas in Kenya.
- The Good Friday Offering for the church in Jerusalem was \$139.
- The 2014 United Thank Offering was \$815.33.
- A Fitzpatrick Scholarship request was received in 2014; an award of 267.11 was given from Fitzpatrick income.
- We received memorial donations in 2014 of \$2,107; \$1,255 was designated and transferred to the Wells Music Fund.
- The 2nd Sunday loose plate for Food Share was \$368.11
- The mission plate offerings were \$1,815.12, with \$1,815.122 given to various missions (Separate report)
- The Rector's discretionary fund inflow for 2014 was \$2,600, with \$3,043.55 given in alms.

♥Outreach Total \$12,377.27

♥\$ 5,210.56 in Parrettie requests were funded.

- The un-budgeted capital Improvements were taken from reserve 2013 funds for the cricket and major organ repair. Additionally \$1,530 was donated by parishioners to repair the sound system, which cost \$2,798.
- We received a Congregational Development grant of \$3,000 to offset the cost of the burner booster.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Howland, Treasurer January 7, 2015

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please remember that there are no flowers on the altar during Lent. If you would like a flower dedication before Lent, please know that the last Sunday before Lent is
February 15.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2–Tamsin Lucey
5–Nancy Waugh
18–Judith Reich
20 – JoAnne Markey
23–Emily Waugh

Dear Fellow Holy Trinity Parishioners,

I know you do not see us many times anymore. Since my injury, church is too hard for me. The kids are all grown and going different ways. Many people at Holy Trinity watched Aaron grow up. From toddler to young man. He sold popcorn to many when he was a Boy Scout. He served at the altar for ten years. He helped when he could at tag sales and Christmas Fairs. Now he is working towards another dream. An adult dream. To help people as a nurse. Anywhere help is needed.

Aaron is writing to friends and family to help him raise funds for a life changing learning experience please read his letter.

Thank you,
Carolyn Anderstrom

Family and Friends,

Here goes nothing! I am trying to fundraise for a Himalayan Health Exchange to Spiti.

I am looking to fundraise for the Himalayan Health Exchange expedition to Spiti. This medical expedition will take me to the Indo-Tibetan boarder into the far reaches of the Himalayas. While there, we will travel amongst many villages and Buddhist monasteries and provide their residents with care. It will also allow me to gain exposure to global health and develop my skills in various settings, as well as work along side numerous professionals in different scopes of practice to provide aid. This opportunity will help me gain a set of nursing skills that I would never be afforded in the United States. If you know me, then you know my great desire to be outdoors and of my intense desire to become a Nurse. This trip would help to fuel both aspects of my life to help me push my limits and reap the many rewards that I could gain from a learning experience like this.

This is from my page. Please follow the link and let me know what you think. Share the link around to anyone who you think would support my efforts.

gofund.me/aaron-anderstrom

Love, Aaron

****Donations may be made through the website above, or through a check made payable to Aaron Anderstrom and sent to 7 Howlett Drive, Holland, MA 01521.**

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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

Sunday, February 1—11:00 a.m.—Souperbowl of Caring Soup Sale

Sunday, February 8—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Saturday, February 14—10:00 a.m.—Free Yoga Class

Saturday, February 14—4:00-5:30 p.m.—Community Valentine's Party

Sunday, February 15—11:00 a.m.—Move the Altar

Tuesday, February 17—5:30 p.m.—Mardi Gras Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 18—12:00 Noon—Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist
& Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, February 18—7:00 p.m.—Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist &
Imposition of Ashes

Sunday, February 22—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Sunday, February 22—12:30 p.m.—Vestry Retreat—Southbridge Savings
Bank

Monday, February 23—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Retreat—Southbridge Savings
Bank

Tuesday, February 24—7:00 p.m. - Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddah
and Mohammed Cross the Road Lenten Study

Wednesday, February 25—7:00 p.m.—Bible Study at Lynn Garland's
Home

Class Information

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.—Yoga

Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi (no class the last Friday of the month)