



# 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.*

### Secretary:

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**Organist/Choirmaster:** In Transition

### Sexton:

Hector Chapa

### Senior Warden:

Tamsin Lucey  
Cell: (774) 200-4279

### Junior Warden:

Nancy Waugh  
Home: (413)245-3307

## A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD SIGNORE

Dear friends,

This is a strange season to say the least. All the world outside is to be repeatedly blanketed with snow, frost, freezing temperatures- or worse; but our focus in the teaching of the Church year is on the "greening" of the person of Jesus Christ.

Epiphany season is the showing of the full divinity of Jesus. We trace again those events that are signs of who He is, and why He is. Start with the Magi's visit in Bethlehem; through Christ the 12-year-old lost in the temple, His changing water to wine, and the raising of Lazarus. God is making known the reaches of divine love; Jesus the human face that translates the intent of the Creator. We become bringers of this same divine face in our regard for all God's children. The hungry folk, or the one whose family or supports have suddenly dissolved, or who struggle from lack to lack; often need more than physical sustenance. It is our making common cause with them that restores esteem and wholeness. One might say, "relationship heals." And on both sides of the give and take are we made whole. And suddenly our lives are kind of like Jesus, filled with that "love from heaven come down."

So if the season is all about Christ's appearing, you may not have to look any further than the bedroom mirror! May God bless you richly this Epiphany season!

*Fr. Richard*

## SENIOR WARDEN SPEAKING

January brings the New Year, 2014 and God has much in store for us!

Christmas is not over until Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>! Please join us for the Feast of Epiphany Celebration our Epiphany Agape Service – information elsewhere in this Tidings and on the Web site!

Holy Trinity's Annual meeting will be held on Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> details elsewhere in this Tidings, and on the Web page. Please attend if you are able – you will be uplifted, enlightened, blessed and be a blessing to us all. As the vestry looks forward to a new year – new members will be joining us and new lay leaders will be taking on various positions, all of which will be shared at the annual meeting and afterwards in the February Tidings.

Father Richard will be preacher and celebrant each Sunday in January and February – if you have not had the opportunity to meet him yet – please connect with him during hospitality hour one Sunday after worship.

Snow – yes snow that white stuff may or may not be on the ground when you read this – please know that there is an inclement weather plan in place for this winter, details of which are outlined in this Tidings and on the Holy Trinity Web page.

The goals of the parish that were shared at the end of 2013 are now actions – elsewhere in this Tidings you will find details and a chart. Your responses and willingness to be involved will help the vestry make decisions throughout the coming year.

Knowing; that we are guided by the Holy Spirit, that we are moving towards God's Promised and Preferred Future for us as the Hands and Feet of Jesus on Hamilton Street, Southbridge. We look forward to another exciting year 2014 at Holy Trinity Church! Won't you join us!

Please check out the Holy Trinity Web page and Like us on Face Book – sharing our posts with your friends will spread the word of God! If you have comments, concerns or questions please know that I am always available via email [abritinusa@gmail.com](mailto:abritinusa@gmail.com) or cell phone [774 200 4279](tel:7742004279).

*Tamsin Lucey*

*You can not do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do.*

**Stewardship is a way of *being* in the world.**

### LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY

Thank you for your most generous donations in support of the Food Pantry housed at Blessed John Paul II. At the end of December 8 brown paper bags full of groceries were delivered, we are blessed to give so generously.

On the first Sunday of January brown paper bags with suggestions for donations will be placed at the back of the church. Separate lists will also be available. Please take a bag and give as you are able. Please return the bag your donation before the last Sunday in November when bags will be blessed.

“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, Service & Ministry,  
Tamsin Lucey.*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**—Please sign up for altar flowers on the sheet in the back of the church. There is a new sheet for 2014. You may provide your own flowers or make a donation to help offset our cost. No donation is too small. Either way your donation can be anonymous.

**STAY CONNECTED - LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SOUTHBRIDGE**



#### Youth Christian Formation

Join us for Family Worship  
in Blakely Hall  
January 12 & 26 @ 9:30 am.

#### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3—Harry Theodoss  
4—Roy Baum, Jr.  
19 - Pam Graham  
28 - Jonathan Khattar

If we are missing anyone or have the wrong date for this month's list, please contact the office.

**IN JANUARY THERE WILL BE  
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT  
9:30 a.m.**

**VESTRY MEETING MINUTES AND  
FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE  
BY REQUEST. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A  
COPY, PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BOLTE,  
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR, DURING  
OFFICE HOURS OR BY EMAIL.  
HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM  
OR 508-765-9559  
TUESDAY OR THURSDAY.**

**ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED TO  
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014  
(snow date January 26)**

**8:45 AM-9:15 AM**  
**Presentation of the 2014 budget, in the Parish Hall**  
**9:30 AM**  
**Eucharist Service incorporating the Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)**  
**11:00 AM**  
**Conversation & coffee in the Parish Hall**

*\*Annual meeting reports available for all attending or by request*



**PLEASE JOIN US!**



**EPIPHANY POTLUCK AGAPE MEAL**  
**Including Family Eucharist, in the Parish Hall**  
**JANUARY 6, 2014**

**Friends and Families share supper, hymns, readings, and  
communion 'round the same table.**

**6:00 p.m.—Gathering Music**

**6:15 p.m.—Service**

**6:40 p.m.—Potluck Supper**

**Please bring a side or dessert to share.**  
**Beverages and meat-dishes provided.**

**This service and potluck supper celebrates the Eucharist in an  
informal, early Christian format. This invitation is open to  
parishioners, their friend and family, and the community.**  
**Please join us at whatever time works for your schedule.**

**RSVP by January 5 (helpful but not necessary)**  
**to Tamsin Lucey or Nancy Waugh**

## **Financial Report**

Finishing up the last of 2013 we are in good financial shape; the financial reports will speak for themselves.

- The December bank balance will be significantly less with the \$15, 875 portico/column restoration bill paid, and a few end of year expenses.
- Current year pledge was off by -4,463.53.
- Total income to date \$115,004.03 (This does not include restricted income, like the portico.)
- Total expense to date: 90,212.71 (This does not include restricted expenses)

The vestry approved a \$2,500 expense to repair the organ; currently several notes do not "sound." And, we will move ahead with the slate roof, cricket and cross repairs. These expenses will not be incurred until 2014.

*Susan Howland, Treasurer*

## **EFC UPDATE**

Did you know that Eileen DeMings and Lana Pieczynski are your current EFC representatives? Did you know that the EFC meets monthly at area churches to pray, plan services, gather ideas and share church events? Are you aware that Eileen is the Vice President of this organization and that the Winter Coat Closet is our biggest Ecumenical ministry? Well, now you know! Our next event will be our annual Christian Unity Sunday Service on January 19, 2013 right here at HTC. Come at 2pm for a lovely service, and if you are interested in singing in an Ecumenical Choir for the service, please contact Dorothy Frisch .

## **Moving Forward with Goals, 2014**

Dear Reader,

In this edition of Tidings, on the web site and via an all parish email (that will be sent shortly) you will find a chart. This chart outlines the results of the parishes dreams, our goals, the plans for our future. That is to say it outlines what we would like to see ourselves involved with as a church, as a parish, as a congregation in 2014 and the following 4 years. The congregation is made up of "me's" (the reader) and "you's" (your fellow parishioners), not "them" but you and me. If our dreams, goals and plans are to become realities - We (that is me and you), with Gods help - We, the hands and feet of Jesus on Hamilton St. will make them happen, not the "they's", but US. The Holy Spirit is working through us and with us. We know that God has a plan for Holy Trinity Church, that God has a plan for each of us - that we all have gifts and talents that where given to us to share with each other and the world. With Christ at the center of our lives, we are spokes on a wheel, and working together the wheel goes round. The spokes may be writing copy/editing, giving of time, participating, coordinating, translating, or praying, all are part of the wheel, all part of the whole and together the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The pieces you and I provide all fit together, the key is identifying the pieces and putting them together. Please read the chart carefully, prayerfully consider how you will share your gifts, your talents and what you would like to be involved with: The part that you will play in making Gods plan for Holy Trinity church a reality. The vestry will be using the results as part of the map that will guide us in 2014 and beyond. Please complete the chart and return to the church by January 26 2014. If you have any questions at all please speak with Tamsin Lucey or Nancy Waugh.

## CHRISTIAN UNITY SUNDAY

Sunday, January 19 @ 2pm

Holy Trinity Church

No snow date

An Ecumenical Service of Christian Unity.  
Please come and join other Christians in our community as we worship together.

### THE MISSION PLATE

Although I am in Arizona and the temperatures have been in the 70's here, back there in Southbridge it has been very cold and snowy. So for January and possibly February we will be donating your offerings in the mission plate for fuel assistance. I cannot imagine running out of oil for heat, especially with little children or elderly family members. Whatever we can do to help a family stay warm will warm our hearts too. No amount is too small. Thank you for your generosity. Hope Wilson will be keeping you posted about the mission plate. If you have questions, please talk with her. Thank you, Hope, for helping me out until May when I return.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all!

Suzy Sharp, Green Valley, Arizona

### Sunday Services inclement weather closure plan for Winter 2013/2014

*Every Sunday in January, 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 the Jr. Warden Nancy Waugh [413 245 3307](tel:4132453307) or [413 883 4491](tel:4138834491).

### FAMILY WORSHIP NEWS

We have big news! Family Worship has an assistant- Miss Michaela Guy. You have probably seen Michaela at church, helping out with families with young children, both in the sanctuary (what we call "big church") and in the parish hall during Family Worship service. Michaela is a cosmetology student at Bay Path High School and is currently learning how to drive. She was here for us when we needed her and we heard the call from God to hire her at HTC.

Our services have had a makeover, thanks to the Vestry and the outpouring of support from the parish. Now we have parishioners taking turns leading the service and the Altar Guild setting our worship space up as part of their ministry. It has been a very successful period of growth for Family Worship. So far Hope Wilson, Suzy Sharp and Lynn Garland have lead FW. We have more leaders who have felt the call to lead and we are so thankful. Want to be a FW leader? Please contact Eileen DeMings.

Holy Trinity Church, Episcopal  
446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

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446 Hamilton Street  
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**Office Phone:** (508) 765-9559

**E-mail:** holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com

**Web site:** holytrinitysouthbridge.org

### Office Hours:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 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

### Save These Dates

#### **Holy Trinity Church**

Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00 a.m.—Coffee and Conversation

Monday, January 6—6:00 p.m.—Epiphany Agape Celebration

Sunday, January 12—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Monday, January 13—6:45 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Monday, January 20—7:00 p.m.—Stewardship Prayer Group

Sunday, January 26—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

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#### **Class Information**

Mondays @ 1:00 p.m.—Zumba Gold

Mondays @ 2:15 p.m.—Line Dancing

Tuesdays @ 6:15 p.m.—Zumba

Wednesdays @ 9:00 a.m.—Yoga (except 1/1)

Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.—Yoga (except 1/1)

Thursdays @ 3:45 p.m.—ChiKung/TaiChi

Thursdays @ 5:30 p.m.—Yoga

Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi (no class 1/31)