



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

July 2014

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

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A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD

Dear friends!!

It is often said the heat of the summer slows us down, and engenders an introspective new view: It comes from a hammock, a tall drink, and a chance to day-dream!!! Rest is a kin to "re-creation;" seeing in a deeper way where God calls us into something new!

And so, it is a great pleasure, and a privilege, to begin in earnest serving as your priest-in-charge. In trying to respond to your needs and concerns, I plan to be available in the Parish Office each Monday from 10:00 AM. Save for a wedding in California (July 21st) and a conference (August 25th); I expect to be here each Monday. On other days, apart from scheduled meetings, I will be out and about to visit in home or hospital, and be around to help develop or support new ideas for service to the community (Parish and beyond!!). I am also available by phone, or call or speak to me on Sunday to make arrangements to sit face to face. Our schedule is to be "part-time," and while this presents some limitations, keep in mind that can also be read as "having flexibility!!!"

So spend some time this summer "dreaming dreams and seeking vision." And keep your Parish Directory close at hand - my information is on the next to last page!!! It will be my delight to journey with you!!!

*Faithfully yours in Christ,
Richard +*

Senior Warden Speaking

The vestry do not get the summer off! We will be busy with various things. In June, the vestry and Fr. Richard were able to articulate the basis of what it means to us, to have a half time clergy person. Now we are creating a "living" Position Description. This document will be revisited and reviewed on a regular basis to make sure it fits with our mission statement, goals, gifts and the direction God is calling us to take, in the parish, the community and the world at large. The July vestry meeting will be a "walking the neighborhood meeting". Bishop Fisher has challenged every parish to "Walk" their neighborhood – to see what our neighbors see, to experience it as our neighbors experience it, to become aware of how we, the church, the building and the people fit into the lives of those immediately around us. Fr. Richard and I have worked out 1.5 mile routes for 5 groups of walkers to take, each group will have a list of questions to answer about what they see and experience. Parishioners who live in Southbridge have been invited to join the groups. If you would like to come as well, please be at church by 6:55 p.m. on Monday July 14th wearing clothing and shoes suitable for a nice evening walk. Afterwards we will share impressions, experiences, observations and partake of refreshments! Routes and the questions will be posted on the Holy Trinity notice board at the beginning of July.

We are working with the Town of Southbridge Health Department to obtain a Food Service permit for the building. I am attending a Servsafe training, gaining valuable information about how to safely store, prepare and serve food. Stay posted for information on necessary updates to kitchen areas and how we serve food, and clean dishes!

Please join us for the July 3rd Community Cook Out! Parishioners are invited to bring Baked Beans, help with set up and clean up, and "man" the grills.

Work on the Cricket - the small area of roof between the Bell Tower and church roof are complete, look for photos to be posted on the Holy Trinity notice board and website.

Please continue to pray for Fr. Richard, Nina, and the vestry as we move forward continually guided by the Holy Spirit. We are moving towards God's Promised and Preferred Future for us as the Hands & Feet of Jesus on Hamilton St., Southbridge.

If you have comments, concerns or questions, please know that I am always available via email abrit-inusa@gmail.com or cell phone 774 200 4279.

Tamsin Lucey

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

THE MISSION PLATE

Thank you so much for your donations in June that will support South Sudan. I do not have the final amount as I write this, but every little bit will help. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the needs in the world and wonder where to send our next donation.

In July we will be focusing closer to home: using our donations for scholarships to send kids to Camp Foskett in August. Imagine the fun and excitement one or two children will be able to experience because of your generosity.

Also, please contact me if you have suggestions for future Mission Plate donations.

Suzu Sharp 774- 230-3426 (cell phone)

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

Box Tops for Education

West Street School, like many other schools, collects Box Tops for Education. These can be found on a large variety of food products that you may already be buying. Please bring Box Tops for Education and place them in the collection boxes in the Narthex.

Family Worship "To Go" Kit

We are SO pleased to announce the creation of a Family Worship "To Go" kit that will include a canopy, appropriately sized tables for crafts and activities, chairs and other equipment and supplies that will help us to better facilitate this exciting craft outreach to children.

Below see a list of specific items that we need to assemble the "To Go" kit. If you are able to contribute an item (gently used) or make a monetary donation, that would be a tremendous help. Please contact Cat Reith-Lowery (creithlowery@gmail.com or 508-764-3173) or Tamsin Lucey (abritinusa@gmail.com or 774-200-4279) before contributing an item to avoid duplication. All monetary donations will be used to purchase the items that haven't been donated.

Please make your intentions known by July 13 as these items are needed for VBS and any items not donated need to be purchased before August 1.

"TO GO" KIT SUPPLY LIST

10'x10' Easy Up Canopy	Adjustable height poly-resin table
*Side Panels	2-6' poly-resin folding tables
*weights	2 folding camp-style chairs
2 Bungee Cords	One CD player - battery AND electric
Cart (HTC Purchase)	

If you haven't had the opportunity to see this ministry in action, I would encourage you to volunteer for one of the upcoming events. It is pretty exciting to have so many children and parents come up to our table to see what we are offering.... when we say Free Crafts For Kids it is like a magnet! So Fun! So, remember as a parish during the PMC process, were looking for a way to sincerely reach out to our community kids and let them know that HTC is place they would always be welcomed! This is a fantastic way to spread that message among our community.

If you would like to help with this exciting community outreach ministry (Cops and Kids, Rice O Rama, VBS, HTC cookouts), please see Lana Pieczynski, Cat Reith-Lowery, or Eileen DeMings.



-Lana Pieczynski, For the Family Worship Team

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1—Lily Nordman
1 - Sam Pieczynski
2—Peter Lucey
15 - Paul Aloia
21—Ernest Nordman
29—Norma Kennedy
29 - Ryan Bousquet

**VESTRY MEETING
MINUTES AND
FINANCIAL
DOCUMENTS ARE
AVAILABLE
BY REQUEST.**

Youth Christian Formation

Join us for
Family Worship
in Blakely Hall

July 13 & 27.



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

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

The Loaves and Fishes ministry is totally supported by your generosity. It is a real and tangible showing of your thankfulness to God: And we are thankful in deed, at least 5 full bags of groceries were delivered to Blessed John Paul II food pantry at the end of July. The need is just as great in the summer months as in the winter, please continue to contribute food as you are able. Brown paper bags and shopping list suggestions are always available at the back of the church –they will be by the font on Sunday July 6 – food returned by Sunday July 27th will be blessed before going to the pantry that week.

“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*



May Financial Report

On the income side

The pledge line includes a large pre-paid pledge so the actual pledge income is down \$3,052 over the budgeted shortfall. Overall the income is slightly above budget.

On the expense side

Fr. Richard is now on salary and our monthly requirements will go up to the budgeted amount. We are still waiting on the cricket repairs with those funds reserved. We had the \$500 gutter repair that has not been billed.

Now that the 2013-2014 heating season is over, we are happy to report that the burner booster saved us a significant amount of oil. We burned 162.5 gallons over last year, or 4.25 % and with the degree days coming in at about 20% over average we saved at least 15% .

The other good news is that the vestry approved writing a congregational development grant this year to help with the purchase of the burner booster for the oil furnaces. One of the categories for congregational development grants was for greening initiatives and repurposing of buildings. The burner boosters fell within this criteria as the technology not only reduces fuel usage, but the research shows that the oil burns nearly as clean as natural gas. Additionally Holy Trinity's cost for oil is reduced making it more affordable to use the building for purposes outside of Sunday Worship and parish functions.

The grant was approved for \$3,000 and that money will be used to help pay off the cost of the burner boosters, allowing us to put the budgeted funds to another mission initiative.

Update on a few other budgeted and un-budgeted items

- The yard sale net was \$415.48. Thanks to all who made this day happen!
- The special collection for Episcopal Relief and Development designated for South Sudan was \$235.00.
- This year through May 31st the Parrettie committee approved \$2,742.52, which was sent to help people in immediate financial need.

Susan Howland, Treasurer



Family Worship (FW) News



It take a village, that's what they say right? The Family Worship Team knows this is true and so does the Holy Trinity Parish! With the help and support of Father Richard, Susan Howland, Tamsin and others, we were able to have a small but effective Pentecost Celebration complete with banners and a specially prepared symbolic snack! We made flags with materials we had on hand and served Pentecost Sunday Sundaes- all with a backdrop of parishioners wearing RED. The kids (and I) got quite a kick out of seeing all the RED and our servers- Anna Burns and Colleen DeMings were very proud of their sundae bar. If you missed the explanation of the symbolism here it is:

RED strawberry sauce to represent the color of the season
HOT cinnamon candies to represent the tongues of FIRE
Dove chocolates for the Holy Spirit
Vanilla Ice cream because it's yummy:)

Family Worship continues to seek leaders for the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month and strives to find ways to incorporate the kids and families into everyday life of Holy Trinity! A note to leaders- please sign up for a Sunday to lead so the summer can be filled with stories, crafts and prayers!

Eileen DeMings

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be here before you know it. This year's theme is **Weird Animals** and will be held August 4-8 from 9-11:45. We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:



Station Leaders
Crew Leaders
Assistant Leaders
Set Decorators
Lunch Prep



Fundraising will be held during the month of July- look for details in your bulletin. Each year we have been blessed with the support of all of you!!! Let's have another great VBS to give children the experience of Jesus' love!

If you volunteered last year and would like to again, would you please get in touch with me? Call, text, email or yell loudly during coffee hour....

Eileen DeMings, 617-429-1798, eksullivan99@dpcv.org



Sponsor a child for \$15.00. Please note "VBS Sponsor" in memo of check.



VBS FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

UNO's DoughRaiser Tuesday July 15!!!

Let's show our support for VBS and leave the cooking to UNO's! A portion of your meal check goes directly to our VBS. All you have to do is present your server at UNO's in Sturbridge with our coupon (paper copies will be available in the Narthex and electronic copies via email) and you're done! Lunch and dinner are included so ask some friends and come on out!!!

Sponsor-a-child for VBS!!!!

We are getting WEIRD this summer and gearing up for another fabulous week of VBS!!! YOU can make it possible for Holy Trinity to give a week full of fun, faith and WEIRD ANIMALS to the children of our community. VBS at HTC is a ministry for the neighborhood- a safe, nurturing and affordable way to keep kids engaged this summer, while learning how much they are cherish by Jesus!

Sponsorship of one "Weird Animal" will allow us to give:

Take home, bible based science gadgets, A set of FIVE Bible Buddy dog tags with a chain, a theme-based healthy snack, lunch, keep-sake T-Shirt, and will plant the seed for future Christian worship!!!

Please consider sponsoring a camper this year! Sponsorship is \$15.00. Forms available at the back of the church.

Can't sponsor but would like to contribute a food item? Please see Susan Howland- Snack Coordinator Extraordinaire!

Would like to contribute your time? Please see Eileen DeMings, Weird Director.

Your support, your prayers, your help is deeply appreciated.

Peace, Eileen



COMFORTABLE DINING CHAIRS NEEDED!

The Foyer/Narthex transformation is nearly complete! We are looking for a donation of 2 or 4 upholstered dining chairs for the foyer to allow people to sit awhile; before or after a service, to change their shoes in the winter or for an exercise program in the parish hall. If you have something we could use, please speak to Tamsin Lucey.



COFFEE CANS, OR SIMILAR SIZED CANS, NEEDED FOR FLOWERS

Once our Sunday service has ended, our weekly altar flowers are delivered to shut-ins or those that can use cheer and comfort. The coffee cans are used for the flower delivery. The cans get wrapped in foil to make them look pretty, then the flower arrangement from the altar is placed in the can for easy delivery. A card letting the recipient know that they have come from the altar of HTC is added and then they are delivered.

GOD MOMENTS

A God Moment is literally a moment - the split second when you become overwhelming sure that **God is present** at that point in time, or the split second when you realize/recognize the presence of **God working** in your life, those of others, in the community or in the world. Being good stewards of time, but not limiting the Holy Spirit within us, it is preferred that those wishing to share a God Moment keep their witness to three minutes. God Moments that require a longer explanation may be shared in the Tidings by submitting a paragraph to the church secretary.

God Moment - Thank you

Barbara Wilson recently shared her definition of a God Moment. I would like to share that with you now. Is it only one moment in time, when the influence of a positive force is so profound that it could only be explained as God Intervention – or – could it also be a continuous force moving known objectives to their completion?

I have shared before at church but this is the first time in Tidings that God puts us where and when we need to be if only we would listen. This week we needed to make sure we had Temperature Test Strips for the dishwashers and God had to make sure 2 Restaurant Supply stores in Worcester did NOT have them so we would go to Gillette a restaurant supply store in North Brookfield, that we had been told about last Sunday, but I did not pay attention, because that is the store that had the product and the information and willingness to help us with what we need to move forward with our Food Service Permit from the Southbridge Dept. of Health.

Read on and decide for yourself where the God Moment starts and ends. I listen to The Q90.1, (thanks you Ellen Lincourt. You might like to try it too!) I wake up to it and listen all the time I am driving. 1 of the lines I hear at least once a day is “Build a fire in my soul, fan the flames and make it grow”. Well, God and the Holy Spirit seem to be fanning the flames and making things grow at HTC. This week has been a busy week, Holy Trinity Church is truly blessed and thank yous are in order.

Paul Aloia: thank you for dealing with the weeds growing in the cracks of the sidewalk in front of the church, for sweeping the sidewalk, and for offering to re-paint the railings to the church and the foyer. Thank you to Peg Nelson and Bobbie Helbig for helping to clean the Small Kitchen upstairs. Thank you to Susan Grant and others, as of yet, unknown (well at least when this was written, but I have faith) for cleaning the Kitchen Annex in the Undercroft. Thank you to Hector for taking on extra hours this week to clean the Undercroft Kitchen and to Barbara Wilson for cleaning the coffee hour area. Thank you to YOU for all the prayers for parishioners and those they love that have needed special prayers. Thank you to Bobbie for regrouping the Helping Hands Ministry and to all those that have joined that group. Thank you to Fr. Richard for meeting with two ministry groups, Daughters of the King and the Lay Visitors/Visiting Lay Eucharistic Ministries, to Fan the Flames and help them grow: Thank you to those that attended those meetings. Thank you to Bart Krug for setting up a rota for mowing the grass at HTC, and thank you to all those that are on that rota.

*All truly, God Moments.
Tamsin Lucey*

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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

Celebrant and Preacher
The Rev. Richard Signore

Save These Dates

Holy Trinity Church

Thursday, July 3—5:00 p.m.—Community Cookout @ HTC

Sunday, July 13—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Monday, July 14—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, July 15—VBS UNOs Fundraiser

Sunday, July 27—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Class Information

Wednesdays @ 9:00 a.m.—Yoga

Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.—Yoga

Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi