



# 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.*

### Supply Priest:

Rev. Judith Freeman Clark  
judithclark49@gmail.com

### Secretary:

Chris Bolte  
Office: (508) 765-9559  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
E-mail:  
holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com  
Web site: holytrinitysouthbridge.org

**Organist/Choirmaster:** In Transition

### Sexton:

Kenneth Bisson

### Senior Warden:

Tamsin Lucey  
Home: (508) 347-1414

### Junior Warden:

Nancy Waugh  
Home: (413) 245-3307

## A MESSAGE FROM THE REV. JUDITH FREEMAN CLARK

Dear friends of Holy Trinity Church,

In the children's book "Snowflake Bentley" the main character is a Vermont man named Wilson Bentley, who took photographs of snowflakes and showed the world that no two snowflakes are ever alike. A theme of the story is that the beauty of snowflakes rests partly in their differences.

Paul's Letter to the early Church at Rome speaks about the varieties of faith experiences — in other words, about the differences among us. His letter suggests that quarrelling over opinions different from our own is a faithless exercise. All of us may be on a journey of faith, but each of us is on a journey that differs from other people's journeys. In Romans 14, Paul says, "why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written: 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God."

First-century Christians struggled with the early Church's 'growing pains.' Laws and rituals established in Moses' time described what many understood to be the authentic, or 'correct,' way to live as a follower of Jesus. For others, many Mosaic-law-based teachings and practices conflicted with who Jesus was and what he represented. Many of his followers believed that spreading the Good News meant moving beyond the boundaries of

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Judaism. One of these followers was Peter. He had a transformative vision, described in Acts 11: 1-18, of which he said, "The Spirit told me ... not to make a distinction between them and us."

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The Episcopal Church in the twenty-first century embraces a range of opinions, worship styles, and faith understandings. Peter promoted his vision of a world in which there is no distinction among faithful followers of Jesus. The early Church at Rome benefited from Paul's encouragement not to judge the different viewpoints of other Christians. It helps us to recall that in the two Great Commandments, Jesus calls us — simply — to love God and to love each other.

In the rural New England of my childhood in the early 1950s, Sunday was a church- and family-centered day. No going to work. No going shopping. No games like softball or tag. No riding my bicycle! For adults, there were no checkers or card-games, and there was no television. After attending church, where my grandmother was the organist, we came home, ate dinner and I spent the rest of the day reading, playing the piano, or visiting with my elderly Aunt Maude. By the time I was nine years old, I knew how to behave on Sunday.

Then, my mother re-married. We moved to a new home in a new community. There, I confronted a religious differences I never knew existed. I had Roman Catholic friends who went to Mass on Saturday night, Baptist friends who attended mid-week prayer meetings, and Methodist friends who went to Bible study on Tuesdays and Sundays. I had Episcopalian friends who assured me they were *Protestant*. But since they had Communion every Sunday, like the Roman Catholics did, I was confused. My Congregational Church perspective allowed for Communion only once a month! As a child, I could see only what we didn't share. I saw everyone around me in terms of how we were different. I had not yet studied Paul's words, "Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?" The truth that I and all my friends were followers of Jesus didn't matter. I just knew that my new friends were misguided and wrong.

It can take time to develop a new understanding of what differences mean. But like the snowflakes described in the children's book, our individual qualities are attributes that can strengthen the Church, not divide it.

Let us pray that we keep in mind what Snowflake Bentley pointed out: there is beauty and value in differences.

Let us pray that we continue to live together faithfully, as members of Christ's Body the Church.

Let us pray that we who make our spiritual home in the Episcopal Church are ever guided by God's Holy Spirit to seek justice and peace for all people, and that we respect the dignity of every human being.

Your sister in Christ... Judith +

### "THE ROLE OF THE ACOLYTE"

~Chris Briere

Acolytes are parish members who assist the priest by serving at the altar.

The third line of the "Meditation of the Acolyte", found in the back of the church, reads "I bear the Light of the World" Matt 5:16. The Torch bearer reflects the willingness to bring the light of Christ into the world.

Mat 5:16 reads <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

An Acolyte, as a "Torch bearer", reflects the "Good News of the Gospel" and "good works" that glorify God above. They bless others with a guiding light.

### SERVING ON SUNDAY MORNING

If you are interested in becoming an acolyte here at Holy Trinity Church, to serve at either the 8:00 a.m. or the 10:15 a.m. service, please speak with Judith+ our supply priest about training for this ministry.

## **PIE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The following pies are still available for purchase: Apple Crisp, traditional and Dutch Apple, and Pumpkin. Please see Tamsin Lucey. Take one home after Sunday service!**

### **GATHERING ON HAMILTON STREET**

Ask a friend or family member to join you in the parish hall for soup on Tuesday, May 7th and/or Tuesday, May 21st. Soup will be ready at 5:00 p.m. and is available until 7:00 p.m. As weather permits, consider spending some time tidying up the church yard. If you have a favorite gardening activity, and wants to make sure tools are available, please bring your own. Interested in helping to make soup? No experience necessary, just come and help anytime after 4:00 p.m.

### **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL WILL BE HELD**

**AUGUST 5TH  
through  
AUGUST 9TH.**

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE  
INFORMATION!**

### **MISSION PLATE DONATIONS**

Thank you all for your continued financial support of our Missions plate, located on a small table in front of the first pew on the left hand side of the nave as you face the altar. At this time the vestry is looking for ideas or suggestions as to where we might direct these funds. If you have ideas please write them down and place them in the plate. If you are interested in being involved with Mission and Outreach, please contact Suzy Sharp who is now the coordinator for Mission and Outreach.

508-347-9619 or 774-230-3426-cell  
sharpgiberson@earthlink.net

### **The Rev. Mary Hicks, our retired Deacon, celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 28, 2013.**

To bring cheer and send congratulations you are invited to participate in a “**Card and Memory Party.**” Mary’s family is creating a memory scrapbook filled with stories, letters, poems, memorabilia, cards and pictures gathered from her family and friends, which will be presented to her on her birthday.

Here are three ways to participate; all submissions must be received by May 15th 2013 or sooner:

1. Email memories and pictures to Patty Brown, Mary’s daughter-in-law, at [wildspiritartstudio@gmail.com](mailto:wildspiritartstudio@gmail.com). Patty writes: “*Please put Mary 90 Birthday in subject title. I will then print them out on quality paper and arrange it artfully into the memory scrapbook. Please feel free to submit images and memories as they come to you. You can send memories as often as you want. Please send by May 15th 2013 or sooner so I have time to assemble everything beautifully.*” (If you do not have email, or need digital assistance, you can give your memories and photos to Susan Howland and she will scan and email them for you.)
2. Create your own 8 ½” by 11” memory book page or pages. (**Must be 8 ½” by 11”.**) Mail to Patty Brown at 1870 East Shore Drive, Ithaca NY 14850. Please send by May 15th 2013 or sooner so everything arrives in time to place in the scrapbook.
3. Send cards, letters, pictures and memories directly to Mary at R404 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton MA 01507.

If you need help getting started contact Susan at [howlands@charter.net](mailto:howlands@charter.net) or 248-6112 and we will get you a list of suggestions, prompts, starting points.

### **ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES**

ZUMBA, an energetic dance fitness class held at Holy Trinity Church on Wednesdays @ 6:15pm. Join us for an exhilarating workout! Everyone is welcome. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers, bring water to drink, and a towel to wipe down with! Wendy Boutin, the instructor, makes everyone feel welcome. Scheduled cancellations will be announced in the bulletin and on the website. Come join the fun – 16 and over! See Tamsin or Bridgette if you have any questions.

### **LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY**

Each month, we come **together** each with a “loaf or fish” and collectively we provide food that comprises a meal; protein, veg, starch, fruit, milk and juice. This food is taken to the Blessed John Paul II food pantry. Please look for the labels on the board at the back of the church on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Please take one or two, bring the food and place it in the basket before Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> when Rev Judith will bless the food brought in. At the end of April, we donated 5 complete meals. Thank You for your contribution. This ministry only exists because of the support from parishioners. “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”

### **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

The Ecumenical Fellowship Community invites you to participate in the National Day of Prayer on Thursday May 2 at 7pm on the Sturbridge Common. This year's theme is "Pray for America". Come and pray and sing for our country, our military, our government and families. The service will be at the gazebo so bring your own lawn chair. Event is free and open to ALL. For questions please contact your EFC representative or visit [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org).

### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

12–Gordon Adams  
15–Sally Baum  
17–Norma Hancock  
28–Mary Hicks

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

**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](mailto:HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM) OR 508-765-9559  
TUESDAY OR THURSDAY.**

### **YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Join us for Family Worship on the 2nd & 4th Sunday @ 10:15 am (May 12th & 26th). Look in the Sunday service bulletins or on the web site for other possible Youth Christian Formation activities during May.

~Lana Pieczynski

### **Holy Trinity Church 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 Financial Figures through 3-31-13**

Total Receipts: \$33,848. Pledges are a little ahead; some are paid through the end of the year.

Total Income Required for Budget: \$30,965

Total Budgeted Expenses: \$30,364

Total Actual Expenses: \$23,340

Liability of \$3,480 for March oil purchase not yet paid.

Excess funds are being held in reserve for the search committee, building reserve fund and oil.



# COMMUNITY YARD SALE



June 8, 2013

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
446 Hamilton Street, Southbridge

**RAIN OR SHINE!**

Booth space available to the community for \$10 per booth.  
Tables (approximately 9'x9') will be available on a first come,  
first serve basis. Inside and outside space is available.

Contact the parish office (Tuesday or Thursday mornings) to receive an application and reserve a space. (508-765-9559) Parish members are invited to donate yard sale items to the church between May 12th and June 4th. Items will be accepted during office hours or on Sundays before or after worship service. Application deadline is May 31st.

Light refreshments available all day for a free will donation.

## GOD MOMENTS

We all have them – even if we don't realize it. Holy Trinity is unique in Sharing God Moments during church services. To include a wider audience, for those who might be more comfortable with the written word, and those who have many to share, we now invite **you** to **also** share your God Moments via Tidings. If you would like to share a God Moment with fellow parishioners, please get them, either by email or in person, to the Senior Warden who, in the absence of a rector, edits each Tidings. We will include God Moments, edited if necessary and as space allows. We look forward to receiving your God Moments. ~Tamsin Lucey, Senior Warden

## "Let us gather together and share in the Lord's Blessings"

*Save the Date*

### **Ladies Luncheon**

Sunday June 23rd 12pm-2pm @ 11 Allen Road, Sturbridge.

Rides can be arranged. Please speak to Bobbie if you need directions or a ride.

Bring a dish to share. Please let Bobbie know what you will bring.

RSVP BY JUNE 16TH! 508-347-9374 or bjevsh@yahoo.com

## DEACON'S CORNER

Greetings to you all at Holy Trinity,

You seem to be working well together during this interim period, and with much good leadership. I miss you all. I miss worshipping with you. There is hope now that in time I can join you again on Sunday mornings. A first visit, with Dr. Farid of Southbridge Interventional Pain Inc., has supplied this hope. Since I am not a candidate for an operation, we go other ways towards healing. I got a first-of-three gel shot in the left knee on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Two more shots will follow. Besides arthritis, especially in the left knee, I continue to have spinal stenosis and lately a vascular necrosis (you can Google it). Thank you for all your concern and prayers. Please continue. I am also praying for you.

As Paul wrote to the Colossians, "My counsel to you is simple and straight forward. Just go ahead with what you've been given. You've received Christ Jesus, the Master. Now live him... School's out; quit studying the subject and start living it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving".

*Amen to that and blessings to all, Mary Hicks.*

## PARTNERSHIP IN MISSION WITH BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Holy Trinity is following its Missional Challenge to build bridges to our neighborhood, and explore ways to be the Face of Christ the hands and feet of Jesus on Hamilton St. In April, a team from HTC met with a team from Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Sturbridge) BLC. Together we identified some areas where we can come together in mission in Southbridge. We can support the BLC Clothing Sale (held at the Saturday Flea Markets at the old Sacred Heart location) by collecting used clothing, shoes, belts and bags etc. Please see Tamsin if you have things to donate. BLC can help us with the Winter Coat Closet. This spring and fall we are invited to join BLC for some 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade activities. We are exploring ways to help with each other with VBS this summer. This fall we are organizing a joint outdoor event at a park – just too grown in fellowship. Look for details in the Sunday Service Bulletins, on the Web site, Facebook and June Tidings. If any of this interest's you please talk with Nancy Waugh or Tamsin Lucey.

## **UTO Ingathering, Spring 2013**

*A Mantra for Everyday*

*Happy Moments, Praise God. Difficult Moments, Seek God.*

*Quiet Moments, Worship God. Painful moments, Trust God.*

*Every Moment, Thank God.*

*Maria Maniaci*

*Diocese of North Michigan*

Sunday, May 12 will be the Spring United Thank Offering Ingathering at Holy Trinity Church. During the services on that Sunday our individual UTO contributions will be joined with those of other parishioners. Special envelopes for this purpose will be available both in the pews and on the table in the rear of the church. Checks should be payable to Holy Trinity Church with a memo for UTO. (Please do not bring UTO coin boxes to church.) Donations can also be mailed to the church office at anytime.

A special UTO Liturgy will be said during the service on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Following the service Susan Howland, UTO Diocesan Coordinator, will share a Power Point presentation on UTO grants which have been awarded in recent years. Plan to attend Susan's slideshow and see how your contributions, combined with those from parishes across the country, have funded God's work, both at home and around world.

If you do not have a UTO box but would like to join the many others who say daily prayers of thanksgiving, give offerings and show an appreciation of God's abundance in our life, please take a blue UTO box from the table at the back of the church or speak with Holy Trinity's UTO Coordinator, Barbara Kalber.



### HOLY TRINITY FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

We invite you to visit the Holy Trinity website, [www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org), and to “like” us on our Facebook page, Holy Trinity Southbridge. Also, please stay tuned to these pages to get updates and reminders and to learn how Holy Trinity is working toward its mission.

On occasion, during services and social events at Holy Trinity, photos and videos may be taken.

Our Social Media policy requires that:

- Only photos of adults may be posted;
- Permission must be obtained to include adult names with photos;
- Permission must be obtained to post video clips of adult;
- Permission must be obtained to post adult names with video clips;
- Parental permission is required to post any photos, videos and names of children;

If you have any questions, please speak with the Senior Warden, Tamsin Lucey.

### SENIOR WARDEN SPEAKING

Spring is here, after a long winter the grass is finally greening up and trees bursting forth with blossom. Just as seasons in the year happen, seasons happen in the church calendar as well. We will soon leave Eastertide and begin Pentecost, that long season that leads us to Advent! These seasons are changes, changes we expect. Change is part of life and vital for the continuation and growth of any organization. Changes are happening at Holy Trinity: Some, especially during a time of transition, can be expected and others can surprise us. You will have noticed some changes already – the Sunday Service bulletins, changes in the services, notices on the sign outside the church, new fire exit and emergency signs in the parish hall, foyer, narthex and undercroft. Some familiar faces will be absent from our midst whilst new ones will emerge to become more familiar. We wish Gods Love, Peace and Joy to those who choose to move on with their journey of faith to worship elsewhere. At the same time we welcome new folks who are choosing to worship, continue, or even start a faith journey at Holy Trinity Church. I am sure more changes will follow, some can be expected and some will surprise you! Please contact me if you have any questions, suggestions or comments. I am always available via email [abritinusa@gmail.com](mailto:abritinusa@gmail.com) or cell phone 774 200 4279.

Please join me in welcoming Suzie Sharp to the vestry, taking a two year term, and thank her for becoming Mission coordinator.

*With gratitude and blessings, Tamsin Lucey*

### HOLY TRINITY YARD CLEAN-UP AND PLANTING



Please join us on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. We will be trimming the shrubs, removing some shrubs and maybe replacing some, raking, weeding and planting. Please bring any rakes, shovels, trimmers, clippers and anything else that might make this job easier! If you would like to donate perennials that you have divided up, please let either Bart or Tamsin know a.s.a.p. and bring them with you on May 18<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to make a donation towards perennials or shrubs please place in an envelope and put it in the collection plate, any Sunday before May 18<sup>th</sup> – checks should be made out to HTC and have “perennials” in the memo. We will be working in the yard until 3pm unless we get it done quicker! See you on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Bart Krug.*

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

## Holy Trinity Church

446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

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\*

Supply Priest — Rev. Judith Freeman Clark

The Episcopal Diocese of Western  
Massachusetts

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

## Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist (said)

10:15 a.m. Rite II Choral Holy Eucharist

### Save These Dates

**Tuesday, in May—7:30 p.m.**—Bible Study

**Wednesday, in May—9:00 a.m.**—Yoga Class (except 5/15)

**Wednesday, in May— 6:15 p.m.**—Zumba Class (except 5/1)

**Thursday, May 2—7:00 p.m.**—National Day of Prayer—Sturbridge  
Common

**Sunday, May 5—1:00 p.m.**—Blessing of Bicycles at Bethlehem  
Lutheran Church

**Tuesday, May 7—5:00 p.m.**—Gathering on Hamilton Street

**Sunday, May 12—10:15 a.m.**—Family Worship and UTO Ingathering  
with Powerpoint Presentation

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

**Friday, May 15—3:45 p.m.**—Daughters of the King—HTC

**Saturday, May 18—10:00 a.m.**—HTC Yard Cleanup and Planting

**Tuesday, May 21—5:00 p.m.**—Gathering on Hamilton Street

**Sunday, May 26—10:15 a.m.**—Family Worship