



# Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

## November 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,

Advent brings with it a season of new beginnings. It is a time to enter again into the quiet approach to God, and in prayer and scripture reading, to draw close to God. Deeper into the mystery of God drawing close to us – until God is one with us.

One traditional way to draw near to this mystery of Christ's birth is the use an Advent wreath at home, typically before the night meal. Visually one sees the light progressively brighten, and reads the prophetic scriptures which explain the shape of this mystery of the birth.

Holy Trinity will offer 2 opportunities to share Advent Traditions and make your own Advent Wreath, or take a "boxed" ready-to-go one! Sunday, November 30 following the 9:30 AM service; and again on Monday, between 5:00 to 7:00 PM as an informal "open house" event. Families and individuals are encouraged to come as they are able. We need to prepare materials, so there will be sign-up sheets on the table at the back of the church and in the parish hall. (You may also phone into the parish office). We will have candles, wreaths, greens, and decorations. During December/Advent there will be much hype and activity, but for all of us, in this simple way; Advent can become a holy time of active waiting...watching....finding!!

May God bless you richly!!!!!!

I remain,

Yours in Christ,

(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore



## YOGA TIME!!

Wednesday evening yoga's new session begins October 29<sup>th</sup>.

**New time: 7:00– 8:15 pm.**

Practice hatha yoga for mind, body, spirit.

7 week session is \$70 or \$12 per class drop-in fee.

The session runs **October 29<sup>th</sup> – December 17<sup>th</sup>**, no class November 26<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Eve. For more info, contact instructor Linda Davis 508-615-3568.

## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED!

Andrew Kosiba, the music director at Sturbridge Federated Church, is in search of some members of our congregation that would be interested in joining his choir to make a special Ecumenical Choir for our combined Thanksgiving Eve Service. **PLEASE JOIN!** There will be 1-2 rehearsals, as needed. The first rehearsal will be the Tuesday before the service, November 18 at 7 p.m. If additional time is needed we will rehearse the following Sunday afternoon, November 23. Any questions, please contact Andrew at [kosiba001@gmail.com](mailto:kosiba001@gmail.com).

## Family Worship News

Family Worship has been doing a mini unit on "CREATION CARE". The bishop called for parishes to adopt this season (until Advent) to study God's creation. So far we have learned the story of Genesis, made a useful bible themed snack, and made our CREATION COMANDMENTS.

## November Happenings:

NOV 2- Wear your Halloween Costume to church- Don't scare Father Richard!  
NOV 9- FW Sunday Creation Care wrap up lesson.  
NOV 23- FW Sunday Materials will be given out for ADVENT.  
Nov 30- Advent Traditions and Wreath Making AFTER Church.  
DEC 1- Advent Traditions and Wreath Making from 5-9 for those that could not attend Sunday.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2—Mary Demers  
3—Victor Hill  
4—Katelyn Anderstrom  
6—Barbara Kalber  
8 – Paige Spooner  
8—Carolyn Anderstrom  
17—Hope Wilson  
23—Lana Pieczynski  
23 – Josh Spooner  
25 - Eileen DeMings

## PRAYER FOR DAY'S START

Dear God, please enter my mind, my body, and my soul and walk with me through this day. Rid me of the bondage of self-centeredness, selfishness, resentments and self-pity. Rid me of fear and strengthen my faith. Give me a knowledge of your will for me and the power to carry it out. Take my will and my life dear God. Let me live this day the way you would want me to live. Let me think the way you would want me to think. Let me act the way you would want me to act. Let me be an instrument of your love, your peace, and your grace.

AMEN.

## Sharing Success and Thanks

The Community Harvest Supper was a great success - over 45 people came out to enjoy the fruits of the harvest.

The net proceeds will be evenly distributed to the 2 food pantries in Southbridge. Thank you for joining us, sharing fellowship, food, talents and gifts.



Fr. Richard invites all children of any age to wear their Halloween costumes to church on Sunday, November 2 for **All Saint's Sunday.**

Helping Hands



Loving Hearts

### HELPING HANDS needs a Helping Hand!

*If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one. ~Mother Teresa*

From time to time there is a need for parishioners to give each other a helping hand. We do this in several ways - prayer is one, another is very practical - meals for our parishioners! Meals are provided as support when overstretched, as with VBS or a new baby, sometimes to let friends know that we care about them and are thinking of them as they struggle with the challenges life, illness, bereavement or stressful situations. I can tell you that I was the recipient of meals a year ago. I was overwhelmed when meals arrived, and became aware of the love and concern from the parish. Although a good cook, it made Jerry's life easier to go to the freezer or fridge or front door and have dinner all set for us.

When we become aware that a meal or two would be appreciated, I am notified. I contact the recipient, verify information such as food allergies, number in the household, and best time for delivery, then I contact those involved with the Helping Hands Ministry. Over a period of one or two weeks, we strive to provide three meals, each sufficient with possible leftovers. Each meal consists of an entrée, veggies/salad, and dessert. It is possible to work in "teams" to provide a meal. Meals may be left at Church for collection by recipient or delivery by another parishioner, or to be frozen and used when needed. There are several ways in which to be involved!

There is a small core group who provide on a regular basis but we cannot expect them to do so each time the need arises. It would nice to change that! I would love to hear from people willing to join this ministry to provide the occasional meal. After prayerful consideration of how you may answer this call, please speak with me after a service or contact me via phone or email.

Everyone gets busy at times and I totally respect, "No I can't provide at the moment" or "I'm just too busy"; I REALLY do - I get that way myself! One of the reasons for increasing the pool of providers is so when that happens, there are other people to ask. What would be nice is that you remain open to being asked another time - when there might be a possibility that you are able to say yes.

This ministry is a "behind-the-scenes" ministry and does not have a "public face" in the same way that Ushers or Readers do but, just as with other ministry's, those who serve do so with Love and Joy. If circumstances change and serving is no longer possible, just let me know.

*I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do. ~Edward Everett Hale*



Bobbie Helbig, 508-347-9374 or [bjvsh@yahoo.com](mailto:bjvsh@yahoo.com)



### BIG THANKS TO OUR LAWN CARE GUYS!!!!

If you have walked up to church this summer and said, "WOW, the church yard looks great!", you can thank our LAWN CARE GUYS! The LAWN CARE GUYS of HTC have been working hard this summer to keep the lawn cut and fed! We offer a great "pat on the back" to each of these guys for doing a great job, and a job now done for the season! Thanks to each of you from all of us at HTC!



The Lawn Care Guys: John Grant, Ben Normandin, Jerry Helbig, Paul Aloia, Bill Pieczynski, Josh Spooner, and Bill Nelson.

~Bart Krug

## Senior Warden Speaking

November is the time of year when we Give Thanks: This year what will you Give Thanks for?

I pray that it will include Fr Richard our Priest in Charge, Chris Bolte our secretary, Hector Chapa our Sexton, Anne Bouvier-Monroe our music director, all our vestry members, lay leaders and those who serve in ministries that not only ensure that services flow smoothly, but also reach us at home. That you will Give Thanks for; each other - yes each other - the community that we are a part of Holy Trinity Church, the building we use and the neighborhood that it is in. And that's without your own list of things to be Thankful for!

As you may or may not know, November brings to a close the Church year, but with that comes new beginnings and the vestry is, as it should, looking forward to 2015. Every year, in January, new members join the vestry to serve as lay leaders who will guide us forward and make decisions on behalf of the congregation. In October, vestry members, whose term is coming to a close, began prayerfully considering whether to fill another term or to step down allowing others to serve. In November, we make a point of inviting people to come to the November vestry meeting (Monday, Nov. 10 @ 7:00 p.m.) to experience for themselves what vestry meetings are all about. Please prayerfully consider if you are called to serve on our vestry. Do not be surprised if Fr Richard or I engage you in a conversation about "joining us on November 10". We pray that you are open to listen to the Holy Spirit and be guided by your heart.

This time last year work was being done on the Portico - this year I am excited to report that the last project on the 2012, "needs to be done immediately" repairs and maintenance list - the window in the ladies bathroom downstairs - will be completed before the end of November. For that we Give Thanks. We have accepted the reality that in a building of this age there will be on-going repairs and maintenance and in 2015 the vestry, being proactive, will review the next batch of repairs and maintenance projects that, one way or another, have made themselves apparent to us.

November will see just as much activity emerging from Holy Trinity as in recent months. We, as a community, are in Mutual Ministry and it is heartening to see the congregation so engaged. We have much to be thankful for. In this issue of Tidings, the Sunday service bulletins, on the website and Facebook, you will find details of all the events. To whet your appetite, a brief run down includes the Fall Pies, Baked Goods and Homemade Soup Sale, baptisms on two Sundays, wearing Halloween costumes to a Sunday service, decorating the sanctuary to celebrate our Bountiful Harvest, a brunch and sharing of the draft 2015 budget, a bible study with Bethlehem Lutheran Church, distribution of advent materials, and a workshop on Advent traditions and wreath-making.

Now, as we move out of transition and into settle mutual ministry, please continue to pray for Fr. Richard, Nina, the vestry and lay leaders as we continually move forward, guided by the Holy Spirit, towards God's Promised and Preferred Future for Holy Trinity Church 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 [abritinusa@gmail.com](mailto:abritinusa@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.*



## Loaves and Fishes Ministry

The month of October found Holy Trinity Church supporting the Southbridge Food Pantries – in many meaningful ways – the mission plate collection, the loose plate from the second Sunday that always goes to Food Share, the net proceeds of the Community Harvest Supper and the donations of food brought in each week and faithfully placed in the baskets – THANK YOU. The need for food pantries and thus, the need to keep the shelves stocked, remains ever constant. On November 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, November 30 will be blessed before going to the pantry that week. Thank you for your continued participation in the ministry.



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



**STAY CONNECTED - LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK!**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SOUTHBRIDGE**



### **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.



### United Thank Offering Ingathering and our new United Thank Offering Coordinator

September 26 was the date for the 2nd of our twice-a-year United Thank Offering ingathering. At that time Fr. Richard commissioned Heather Bousquet as our new UTO coordinator! Please take a minute to thank Heather for taking on this wonderful ministry of thanksgiving and don't forget to take a "Blue Box" and practice thankfulness. UTO offerings can be brought or mailed to the church over the next two weeks.

### **Financial Report: end of 3rd Quarter 2014.**

Overall the financial health of the parish is good. We now are back to our usual four employees: Clergy, Secretary, Sexton, and Organist/Music Director. Anne Bouvier-Monroe starts on November 1, 2014.

#### **On the income side**

- Pledge income is down more than anticipated, but other income lines such as fundraising, rent, and other plate are all up to balance out the income.

#### **On the expense side**

- There are a few lines under-spent with Youth Christian Education being the most striking. The over-spent lines were spent intentionally from reserve funds.
- The available bank balance is holding at between \$5,000 to \$6,000 to cover monthly expenses, with the usual reserves transferred; all bills are paid.
- The oil tank has enough anticipated oil for the 2014-15 season, with a major heating system repaired completed and paid for. This repair should help with oil usage.
- The vestry approved moving ahead with the women's bathroom window replacement, and ceiling repair and painting. This will complete a 3-phase building plan started in 2012.
- The parish hall roof is the next area in need of attention; the yard side of the roof needs re-shingling in the very near future.

*Blessings, Susan*

## Thank You

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> sees the start of our new Music Director, Anne Bouvier-Munroe. Sunday, November 2, will be Anne's first Sunday. Please welcome her and introduce yourself after the service. That means Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, is the last Sunday of our "temporary" arrangement. Over the last 2 years, Dorothy Frisch and Lana Pieczynski have worked diligently as co-chairs overseeing, not only the search process for the new Music Director, but also putting in place a guest organist each week for the last 104 or so weeks. We were advised 2 years ago to wait to find a new organist/music director until we had a settled priest. Dorothy and Lana were generous enough not only to accept the challenge of waiting, an unknown length of time, to form a search committee to find a new organist/music director, but also the challenge of finding someone to sit at the organ bench each week, without knowing when that would come to a conclusion. We are truly blessed to have such willing, dedicated, accomplished, energetic, accommodating, and resourceful organists/pianists in our midst. Not only did they ensure there was music each Sunday and for special and extra services, but they made sure that the music was always well played and meaningful. I am sure we will miss seeing them "up at the organ" on Sunday mornings. Please, when YOU next see Dorothy and Lana, make a point to thank them for a "job well done" In the meantime, on behalf of the parish, I would like to thank Dorothy and Lana very much for your example of true servant leadership and a "job well done".

## Gathering of the Great Bounties for the Harvest Service

As life brings us back around each year, we gather for a Harvest Service and the In Gathering of Pledge Cards on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Traditions lead us into the future from our past and with our past great things come true. We would like to celebrate all of our great harvest and bring them to the Lord with great joy, openness of heart, and splendor! We are adorning the Sanctuary with Fall Harvest Bounties on Saturday, November 8 @ 3:30pm. Come One, Come All and bring a little touch of fall with you to help decorate for our service on November 9. Please bring pumpkins, gourds, squash, corn stalks, bales of straw, mums, kale, colored leaves, anything that reminds you of the Great Harvest! With the Lord's Love we will have a great gathering of friends, family, and bounty. Please join us Saturday, November 8 at 3:30pm, we will be finished by 5:00 p.m.



*Bart Krug*



## THE MISSION PLATE

Thank you all for your donations to Health Teams International. We were able to send them \$300.00 for their trip to Cambodia. Gerri told me that he would send me news while they were there, and I will then keep you informed!

For the first two weeks in November, donations go toward our local food pantry, to help families in our community. This is one of our ways to share our Thanksgiving blessings.

From November 16 through December 14 our offerings in the mission plate will be for The Giving Tree at St. John Paul II, for Christmas gifts for families that register with them. They will use our donation in the best way possible since they will know the ages, sizes, needs and requests of the families. We will help make a family in our community truly feel the spirit of Christmas and hopefully hear the story of the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

Thank you again for all your offerings and thanks be to GOD for all our blessings.

*Suzy Sharp (774-230-3426)*

## Fall Pies, Baked Goods and Homemade Soup Sale



The time is HERE! The Holy Trinity Bake Sale is upon us!  
**Saturday November 1, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.**



Won't it be great to see everything sold, and best of all to see the place bustling with people.

Everyone has a part to play in making that happen, the success of the Fall Pies, Baked Goods and Homemade Soup Sale. Tell **EVERYONE** you know about the sale, and I mean **everyone you know** near and far! "Share" the Facebook link, put up flyers, give postcards to everyone you meet. Word of mouth recommendation is by far the best sort of advertising.

Unable to contribute in kind (and even if you are ) please plan on stopping by, bringing a friend or arrange to meet them at the church, to make a purchase or two, sit a while enjoy conversation, coffee, cider and a treat,

After a marathon pie baking session this past weekend, all the pies are finished.

***Traditional Apple, Dutch Apple, Apple Crisp, Pumpkin and Pecan.***

This sale is NOT about only about the Pies - its about parishioners bringing delicious Soups, their special Baked Goods and Treats.

Please plan to bring your Baked Goods on Friday afternoon, October 31, anytime from 3:30 to 5pm. If that doesn't work for you "Trick or Treaters", please have your items at the church between 8 and 8:30am on Saturday, November 1, the day of the sale. Those bringing soup: please bring them Saturday morning between 8 and 8:30 a.m.

If neither of these times work, please contact Tamsin at [774-200-4279](tel:774-200-4279) or myself at [617-875-5741](tel:617-875-5741) to make alternate arrangements.

Please let me know if you are available to help at the sale in any way: taking money, potting up soup or serving coffee, all offers of help gratefully received.  
(Previous experience is NOT necessary!)



I look forward to hearing from you!

*Joe DiSalvatore.*

[617 875 5741](tel:6178755741)



### Ingathering of Pledge Cards & Stewardship Brunch.

Sunday, November 9 closes our intentional focus on stewardship. Pledge cards will be gathered in the collection plate and brought to the altar. Pledge cards mailed or left at the office before November 9 will also be placed on the altar. Please know that it is never too late to return a pledge card. Please join us after the service on November 9 for the stewardship brunch in the parish hall when the draft budget for 2015 will be available.

### **Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall November 9 & 23**



The **Winter Coat Closet** opened on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be open on Saturdays from 9am-11am in the Undercroft. Volunteers are needed to help run the Coat Closet on Saturdays. If you are interested, please contact Chris McTigue via email at [cmct@verizon.net](mailto:cmct@verizon.net). Donations of gently used and cleaned coats are always accepted and in need.

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

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Web site: [holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://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

Celebrant and Preacher  
The Rev. Richard Signore

### Save These Dates

#### **Holy Trinity Church**

**Saturday, November 1—9am to Noon**—Fall Pie, baked Goods and  
Homemade Soup Sale

**Saturday, November 1—9am to 11am**—Winter Coat Closet

**Sunday, November 2—9:30 a.m.**—All Saint's Sunday—wear  
Halloween Costumes

**Saturday, November 8—9am to 11am**—Winter Coat Closet

**Saturday, November 8—3:30pm**—Fall Harvest Sanctuary  
Decorating

**Sunday, November 9—9:30 a.m.**—Family Worship

**Sunday, November 9—9:30 a.m.**—Ingathering of Pledge Cards

**Sunday, November 9—10:30 a.m.**—Brunch and 2015 Draft  
Budget

**Monday, November 10—7:00 p.m.**—Vestry Meeting

**Saturday, November 15—9am to 11am**—Winter Coat Closet

**Saturday, November 22—9am to 11am**—Winter Coat Closet

**Tuesday, November 25—7:00 p.m.**—Ecumenical Thanksgiving  
Service @ Sturbridge Federated Church

**Saturday, November 29—9am to 11am**—Winter Coat Closet

**Sunday, November 30—10:30 a.m.**—Advent Wreath Making

**Monday, December 1— 5pm to 7pm**—Advent Wreath Making

#### **Class Information**

Wednesdays @ 9:00 a.m.—Yoga

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.—Yoga

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