



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,

October is host to a variety of special events!

The "Blessing of the Animals" will take place on Sunday, October 4th during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. All pets welcome! This day is the actual festival celebration for St. Francis of Assisi, and invites our joy in the beauty of all the created ones. They are signs of God's larger love and joy in all God has made for us!

A Bible Study, offered jointly with our Lutheran neighbors in Sturbridge, will be using a curriculum which encourages daily study and prayer between sessions, to ground our study in personal spiritual formation. The material will survey the major themes of the New Testament over 8 sessions. It is planned to convene every first and third Wednesday beginning October 7th.

Confirmation/Being Episcopalian Group will convene in preparation for a visit next Spring from Bishop Fisher. The group will meet beginning October 14 @ 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall, using the evenings of the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. We will keep an open format allowing questions and a wide discussion. This group is ideal for those considering confirmation and for those with questions about the Episcopal faith. All folks are welcome to share, so plan to come often!!!

I remain,

Your friend and Pastor, Richard S. Signore+

Senior Warden Speaking

There is, as you will read later in this issue of Tidings, never a dull moment at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church! Besides the details, you will soon read about, of things happening in the building right now and things happening in 2016, there are also conversations happening about the Winter Coat Closet: Look for more information about that mission and outreach opportunity in the Sunday Service Bulletins; want the inside scoop, talk with Fr. Richard!

Vestry members are discussing the following topics: a logo for HTEC - something new and completely different; our 150th anniversary year - celebrations and how as good stewards we can pass forward to future generations the legacy that we inherited - our building; Advent and the Christmas story that the Family Worship Players will be producing; upcoming stewardship activities; conversations that look forward to 2016, and open vestry seats, to name but a few.

The Vestry and the Finance Committee have both identified the need for a building committee - a small group of people interested in the building - people who care about passing it forward to future generations. Susan Howland and I are committed to the work of maintaining the building that we call our church: if you are at all interested about its upkeep and the pending long term maintenance projects, please get in touch with either of us.

Never a dull moment and all the time looking forward with gratitude and blessings.

Please pray, never ceasing,
for Fr. Richard, Nina and family and the leadership team here at HTEC.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please know that I am but a phone call ([774 200 4279](tel:7742004279)) or email (abritinusa@gmail.com) away.

Tamsin Lucey

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

Thank you for your generous donations of food for the St. John Paul food pantry. Each month we come together with a 'loaf or a fish' and miracles happen - through your generosity, food is made available for families in our community to share a meal together. On Sunday, October 4, you will find the brown paper shopping bags with a suggested shopping list on the music stand at the back of the church - please take a bag and or shopping list and return your contribution by Sunday, October 25, when Fr Richard will bless the food before it is delivered to the food pantry. On behalf of those who look for nourishment., Thank you!



"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,
Tamsin Lucey*

Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall

October 11 & 25

When families come together to worship with kids in mind.

RICE O RAMA

Thank you one and thank you all for your contributions of water, lemon juice, water, time, and effort. This year we were organized and ready and wouldn't you know it - the weather was cooler and attendance was lower. result = lots of leftovers! Any one interested in large quantities of frozen apple crisp, whipped cream or 1 pt bottles of water should contact Tamsin Lucey. Funds raised are just over \$500, FUN raised, extending hospitality, and sharing Gods love, IMMEASURABLE. Thanks for making the effort - it really does count.

The Rice O Rama Team

MASONRY WORK AND GUTTERS

We are very happy to let you know that the masonry work - the re-pointing of brick work at the front of the church - has been completed. The need for this long overdue work, made significantly worse with the deluge of water from excessive amounts of melting ice and heavy spring rainfall this year, will now ensure that water does not wash away the mortar between the bricks and will not allow water to seep into the internal walls. Additionally, there is no longer any danger of bricks falling out of place! The guttering that was compromised by snow and ice has also been repaired. The outside of the building is once again ready to stand battle against the elements! Thanks be to God!



MAY 14 2016. THE BIG PARADE

Yes your read correctly - May 14, 2016 is the date for the Southbridge Bicentennial Parade through History. HTEC is on the parade route. If you are interested in taking part in the parade and representing HTEC then please contact Fr. Richard or Tamsin before October 10 - the dead line for submitting an application to take part in the parade! As we are on the parade route, we will have an ideal opportunity to open our doors to the public for refreshments and bathroom use! Anyone interested in facilitating that please get in touch with me!

Tamsin Lucey

YOGA TIME!

Practice hatha yoga for mind, body, spirit. Monday evening yoga: Class runs from 6:00 – 7:15 pm.

\$56 or \$10 per class drop-in fee.

Current session ends **October 19.**

Next session will be October 26-December 14

For more info, contact instructor

Linda Davis.

508-615-3568

karayogi@yahoo.com

www.yogatimecharlton.com



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.



FREE COMMUNITY YOGA
OCTOBER 17, 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Class open to all ages!
Children welcome!

Financial News

Income

- Adjusting for the prepaid pledges the pledges are doing better with only \$777 over the budgeted arrearage.
- Most of the lines are within normal limits.
- The oil is over budget, but there is enough for the next year.
- The insurance is under budget, but it is in reserve.
- We transferred \$9,000 from the general reserve into the building reserve to pay for the stone/brick work done this summer.

Expenses

Expenses are within normal limits except for building capital repair expense.

Here are the three really pressing issues:

1. The ceiling above the dropped ceiling in the undercroft has failed. We have filed an insurance claim, but it is likely age not an "event" that caused this; quotes and time lines are being put in place now.
2. The parish hall roof, while not leaking now, could at any time and we are concerned about going through another winter. Estimate \$6,000 to fix.
3. There will be updated information on the Burner Booster, but we have plenty of oil at a good price.

The finance committee met and discussed a draft budget for 2016. It is a conservative budget that is fairly similar to last year. Any increase will be used for the mission and ministry ideas put forward and to be discussed this fall.

Thanks for everyone's support as we address the building needs.

Susan Howland, Treasurer

Calling All Youth!

(and parents and anyone else who would like to join us)

We have been invited by Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sturbridge to join them in fellowship at the Lutheran Home in Worcester on **October 18th @ 2:30**. The Lutheran Home is a nursing care facility and BLC visits with them once a quarter. The children usually decorate cookies or bring other snacks to share and sing some songs. This is a fantastic way to partner with BLC families and to spread God's love to all. The residents at the Lutheran Home love to have visitors and especially CHILDREN! Please join us if you can. Call or text Lana Pieczynski ([704.458.6204](tel:704.458.6204)) or email at lane.pieczynski@gmail.com if you are interested. Adults are welcome too! More details to follow!



BIBLE AND WINE: A BIBLE BOOK STUDY

Jesus turned Water to Wine. We expect He will show up here.

Study Book: **Invitation to the New Testament**

By David A. deSilva & Emerson B. Powery

Bible & Study Book required – available through Fr. Richard

Wednesday, October 7, 7-9PM, Session I, Pages 13-22

Wednesday, October 21, 7-9PM, Session II, Pages 23-32

Location details: contact Fr. Richard

We are all invited to join this journey, exploring the Bible, reading the Word, hearing from the authors, getting the skinny on "back then", and finding your story in God's story.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3—Peg Nelson
 2 - Kurt Frisch
 4 - Will Pieczynski
 7 - Chris Briere
 8—Jerry Helbig
 10—Beverly Kollios
 14—Cathy Theodoss
 14—Dorothy Frisch
 17 - Nina Signore
 18—Anita Bullard
 18—Eric Bullard
 19—Jean Frost
 24—Marilyn Theodoss
 31 - Joseph Ballou

If you have a birthday this month and are not listed but would like your name to be included in our monthly Tidings for birthdays, please contact the office. Thank you!

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

EXIT

SANCTUARY EXIT SIGN

With the safety of worshipers in mind, a fire exit sign, with emergency lights, has been installed above the sacristy door.



Reserve your Fall Pies!! Order Forms will be in the bulletins in October or place your order via the church office or Tamsin Lucey as soon as possible!

CHOIR REHEARSAL

The Holy Trinity Choir will begin Sunday, October 4th at 9:00 AM. We will go over the hymns for the morning. We will start having rehearsal after church on October 18th to prepare an anthem to be sung on the first Sunday in November. At the October 18th rehearsal, we will discuss when is the best time for rehearsals.

Let us make music to the Glory of God this year and may we be blessed with the power of the Holy Spirit as we worship together.

Collecting Change for Change the Babies

Helping the Mampong Children and Babies home in Kumasi Ghana



The water bottle, located on Sunday mornings on the Narthex Table, has some change in it! Please continue to bring in your loose change or empty your pockets at church! The money collected goes directly to help support the mission - pays for electric, food and medicines - of the Mampong Children's and Babies Home in Kumasi Ghana.

THE MISSION PLATE

During the month of October, we will continue to raise funds to respond to the Syrian Crisis. Episcopal Relief and Development coordinates with various agencies inside and outside of Syria. Millions are displaced within Syria because of the war and they are in need of shelter, food, and medical aid. Millions more have fled to Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, Hungary and countries in Europe. Every dollar that we donate will contribute to provide aid in this humanitarian crisis that is now entering its fifth year. Please keep the refugees in your prayers and in your giving as you pass the mission plate on your way to receiving the Eucharist. May the LORD bless and keep us all wherever we may be.

Suzy Sharp ([774-241-3426](tel:774-241-3426))

UNDERCROFT CEILING NEWS

As some of you will know - it became apparent in early September that the original horsehair and plaster ceiling in the undercroft is compromised in several areas. Currently the undercroft is out of bounds and not useable. After close inspection by the contractor - we were advised that the horsehair and plaster ceiling could "let go" at any time and that immediate extensive work is required. The plan is to remove the suspended ceiling, (with the aim or reusing as many tiles as possible) remove the light fixtures, the compromised areas of horsehair and plaster, leave everything in good order, then replace the light fixtures and suspended ceiling, the work is expected to take about 4 weeks.

As this edition of Tidings goes to print - we are waiting for a quote and start date for the work. As the leadership team receive updated information - it will be shared during Sunday worship service announcements. Please keep the leadership team in your prayers as we work with contractors to address the situation and we plan how to cover the expense of this unexpected but very necessary demolition and repair. If you have any questions please contact either Fr. Richard, Susan Howland, or myself.

*Looking forward.....with gratitude and blessings,
Tamsin Lucey*

"Only Saints Can Win Our Culture For Christ"

Dr. Peter Kreeft, Christian writer, philosopher, and apologist, will address this topic. As followers of Jesus Christ, we live in challenging times, and having an effective Christian leader speak into the issues which we are all dealing with in our daily lives and ministries, can be extremely helpful, encouraging us to be courageous with our faith.

Thursday, October 22, 7-8:30pm

Faith Baptist Church, 22 Faith Ave, Auburn, MA

Cost: \$10.00. Dessert and beverage provided.

Register online at NewEnglandChristianStudyCenter.com

Thanksgiving Pies

Advance Notice

We will once again be offering homemade pies for sale in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The selection will be at least the same as last year – Traditional Apple and Dutch Apple Pies, Apple Crisp, Pumpkin and Pecan Pies. Please look for order forms in the Narthex in the beginning of October and place your orders



early. Don't forget to invite neighbors, friends, family, and co-workers to place an order as well! Baking dates and times have yet to be confirmed. If interested in joining the pie baking team, please speak with Joe DiSalvatore, John Grant, Cat Reith-Lowery or Tamsin Lucey. Donations of ingredients to help offset the costs are always welcome. We are looking for the following ingredients: flour, butter, lard, dark brown sugar, eggs, apples, pecans and evaporated milk. Gift cards to local grocery stores are always welcome.

Look for ingredient stickers on a board at the back of the church in the beginning of October. All ingredients must be brought to church for baking no later than October 25. Thank you!

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE BELL RINGERS

That time of year is coming up, in fact it will be with us in about 7 weeks! Tamsin Lucey has accepted a paid temporary position with the Salvation Army to coordinate the Red Kettle Bell Ringers in the Sturbridge/Southbridge Area. Red Kettles will be located in 6 different locations starting the week of Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve. Please contact Tamsin if you would be interested in volunteering to RING THE BELL for a couple of hours this Giving Season. This is an ideal opportunity for those looking for community service hours. Caroling and playing of instruments is welcomed. The proceeds collected in the Sturbridge/Southbridge Red Kettle Drive STAY IN this area - "the Salvation Army doing the most good!"



Please contact Tamsin direct at [774 200 4279](tel:7742004279) or Redkettlesbridge@gmail.com or in person.

BUILDING USE

We think you should ALL know that there is a small group working behind the scenes on rental opportunities that have presented themselves to HTEC. In previous Tidings this year you have read about the Club House, a collaborative with Lynne Simonds and an opportunity for area youth to use the undercroft. For a wide variety of reasons this project, as initially presented is not moving forward. However, God has other plans for the HTEC building. The YMCA Day Care Program in Southbridge is looking for a facility to house part of its daycare program for a period of 8 to 12 months, starting fall of 2015, while they have renovations done to their building. The YMCA has approached HTEC! It is in the very early stages yet but we are in discussion about their using all the classrooms downstairs. To facilitate the possible use by the YMCA, we applied for and received lead compliance certification and an updated building inspection. As these discussions move forward information will be posted in the Sunday Service Bulletin and the November Tidings. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Richard, Susan Howland, or Tamsin Lucey.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers for the last several weeks have been on the floor in front of the Altar. The single vase has contained either cut flowers, provided by a florist or purchased from a supermarket and arranged by Nina, or it has contained an arrangement provided by a florist. The sub committee will meet again to deliberate the options. If you have been in church and have comments you wish to share, please talk with, as soon as possible,



Fr. Richard, Peg Nelson, Bobbie Helbig, Nancy Waugh or Tamsin Lucey. We look forward to sharing our decisions with you via the Sunday Service Bulletin, and the November Tidings. Flower dedications are always welcome and the new sign up sheet for flowers is on the table at the back of the church.

Blessing of the Animals



Sunday
October 4
@ the
9:30 a.m.
worship service

Adults and children are invited
to bring animals, both large
(leashed) and small, real or toy, for
a special blessing which will take
place just before the peace.

All are welcome.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

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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. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 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

Sunday, October 4—9:30 a.m.—Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4—11:45 a.m.—Bible Study

Wednesday, October 7—7:00 p.m.—Bible & Wine: A Bible Book Club

Sunday, October 11—9:00 a.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 11—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Sunday, October 11—11:45 a.m.—Bible Study

Monday, October 12—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, October 14—6:00 p.m.—Confirmation/Being Episcopalian Grp

Saturday, October 17—9:30 a.m.—Free Community Yoga

Sunday, October 18—11:00 a.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 18—2:30 p.m.—Children visit Lutheran Home Nursing
Care with BLC children

Wednesday, October 21—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King Meeting

Wednesday, October 21—7:00 p.m.—Bible & Wine: A Bible Book Club

Thursday, October 22—7:00 p.m.—"Only Saints Can Win Our Culture For
Christ" Seminar—Faith Baptist Church, Auburn

Saturday, October 24—4:30 p.m.—Free Community Supper @ Elm Street
Congregational Church—Franks & Beans

Sunday, October 25—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Sunday, October 25—11:00 a.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 28—6:00 p.m.—Confirmation/Being Episcopalian Grp

Class Information

Yoga Time! Monday evening yoga, 6:00 – 7:15 pm., \$10 per class drop-in
fee.