



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

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Deacon: (Retired)	The Reverend Mary K. Hicks Home: (508) 434-2701
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Organist/Choirmaster:	Ray Gustafson :Home: (508) 765-4973
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TIDINGS FROM THE RECTOR

It is worthless to know a goal if you have no idea of the path towards it, and if you do not know the path, knowing the goal is just the icing on the cake. It is the path that matters, and the way one places one's footsteps along it. Anonymous

It has been said that life is not a performance but a series of trials and errors called practices. The normal routines and habits we have adopted over the years sometimes freeze us into inaction, and we stare into the future with fears and uncertainties. Taking new, bold steps will require courage, a willingness to assume risks, and an enduring faith in God's steady presence and love. With Measured Steps, 3

Both of these quotes come from material that was placed in my hands at the recent CREDO (Clergy Reflection Education Discernment Opportunity) that I attended at Chapel Rock Episcopal Camp and Conference Center in Prescott, Arizona (September 17-24). This time away has certainly set my feet on a new path which will lead Ray and I on a new road to God's promised and preferred future for us. Our conference leader, Rev. Renee Miller gifted me with an "angel of curiosity" as well as a dashboard Jesus to guide and accompany us on our new way.

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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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These quotes should remind us of the importance of the path and the importance of relationship. A congregation is really a bunch of pilgrims on a path to discover and bring to reality the Kingdom of God. The amazing numbers of people who have come to join the Holy Trinity pilgrims come looking for an authentic relationship with God in the company of a compassionate community.

Authentic Christianity is the process of staying engaged in relationship to God, to other people, to the world around us, and to ourselves. Spirituality is the process of staying engaged in these relationships, the intention we bring to them, and how willing we are to evolve as the relationship affect us.

The Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) process has, only by God's grace, opened a way forward – a promised and preferred future. Now, in your time of transition, I pray that you will place careful attention to the place of relationships as together as pilgrims you move, guided by God's Spirit.

~Pastor Mary

Thanksgiving Pies

Advance Notice



We will be offering homemade pies for sale in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The selection will be the same as last year – Traditional Apple and Dutch Apple Pies, Apple Crisp, Pumpkin and Pecan Pies. Please look for the order forms in the Sunday service bulletins and place your orders early. Don't forget to invite neighbors, friends, family, and co-workers to place an order as well! We will be cooking in the kitchen at church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in October and November. Anyone interested in helping to make pies should contact Tamsin for exact dates and times. Donations of ingredients and to help offset the costs are always welcome.

Tamsin Lucey - (508)347-1414 or abritabroad@charter.net

"MEAL-IN-A-BAG" MINISTRY FOR THE ST. MARY'S FOOD PANTRY



6 "Meals in a bag" were delivered to St Mary's Food Pantry at the beginning of September. Thank you for continuing to bring in food for this ministry: Each month, we come **together** each with a "loaf or fish", and collectively we **provide** meals for families in need. This ministry only exists because of the support from parishioners. The labels for ingredients for the winter recipes are now on the board at the back of the church. Please take a label or two from the board and bring the food to church for the 4th Sunday, October 28th.

*With Love, Peace and Joy, in our hearts and Service & Ministry on our minds.
Pat Bair, Marlene Duke, JoAnne Markey, Josh Spooner, and Tamsin Lucey.*

Holy Trinity Vestry News

The Vestry met on September 9, 2012

- We accepted a letter of resignation from Ray Gustafson with regret.
- We certified a Lay Eucharistic Minister license for Joe DiSalvatore.
- We accepted the resignation of Mary Hicks from the Parrettie Committee and the committee will be discerning two new committee members.
- Family Church will start on September 23rd. The Parish Hall has been redesigned with the ability to divide up the space using curtains that are easily pushed back when not needed. Lana and Cat went for training on the Family Church curriculum.
- Zumba classes are a great success and will continue for another 6-week session. Check the new website for details on this and other news: holytrinitysouthbridge.org
- We purchased about 2600 gallons of oil at \$3.35 a gallon; this should get us into January.
- We received a letter from a new Latino Church in Southbridge who wants to know if our building might be available to rent for worship. Pastor Mary will follow up with their Pastor.
- There was preliminary discussion regarding the Rectory once the Gustafsons have left on October 14th. No decisions were made.
- The wardens gave us preliminary information on the Transition Timeline and information about the direction from the diocese. This process is moving along very well, but no firm details are available. The all Parish Discernment and Listening meetings will continue in smaller geographical groups.
- There is a goodbye party scheduled for Pastor Mary and Ray's last day, Sunday, October 14th. Everyone is invited to a luncheon after the 10:15 service.

Susan Howland, clerk of the vestry

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES AT HTC

The second session of Zumba is well underway! There are only 2 classes left in this session: Oct. 10th and 17th. The next session will be announced in the Sunday service bulletins and on the Holy Trinity website. Zumba is an energetic, done at your own pace, Latin dance exercise program. Come join the fun – 16 and over! Questions? See Bridgette Bachand or Tamsin Lucey.



GATHERING ON HAMILTON STREET

Soup weather is here! Please join us on Tuesday, October 2nd and 16th for some homemade soup! The church doors will be open at 4:00 p.m. and soup will be ready at 5:00 p.m. The Family Worship service will start at 6:00 p.m. and all are invited to come and participate. Bible study follows at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in helping to make soup is welcome to come anytime after 4:00 p.m.

~Tamsin Lucey

Youth Christian Formation

Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall

2nd / 4th Sundays 10:15 am

1st/3rd Tuesdays 6:00 pm

Our 1st family worship service was held on September 23rd and it was a wonderful experience. We read the Gospel passage for the day, played a game to illustrate the message (The greatest shall be the least, and the least the greatest.) – that was our “sermon” and we sang some past VBS songs with videos! We also read together the children’s version of The Nicene Creed and a confessional prayer. The children came up with prayer requests for our Prayers of the People and we read together the Prayer for the Parish. Yes.... very similar to what took place in our sanctuary worship that day, but all geared so that children could understand.

Are you curious what our “sermon” will be next time? All are welcome to join us and especially our parish children accompanied by any or all family members. The real effectiveness of this program comes with children having the experience of worshipping WITH their family but at a level they understand. Please join us!

*No nursery service is provided on Family Worship Sundays.

** Nursery service IS provided on non-Family Worship Sundays.

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
18–Anita Bullard
18–Eric Bullard
19–Jean Frost
21–David Howland
24–Marilyn Theodoss
29–Sarah Helbig
31–Joseph Ballou

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

HEALING PRAYER GROUP

The next Healing Prayer Group meeting will take place on **Saturday, October 13th, at 2:00 p.m.** at Deacon Mary Hicks’ Home.

HOLY EUCHARIST AT OVERLOOK

Pastor Mary and Ray will be offering the Holy Eucharist in the chapel at the Overlook Communities on **Friday, October 12th**, at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to join us for joy-filled worship!



Holy Trinity Church Financial Figures

AUGUST 2012

Total Monthly Receipts: \$10,816.73
Total Monthly Income Required for Budget: \$13,931.72
Total Monthly Expenditures : \$12,559.64

YEAR TO DATE

JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

Total Year-to-date Receipts: \$114,410.75
Total Year-to-Date Income Required for Budget: \$124,456.70
Total Year-to-Date Expenditures: \$119,200.37

A MOMENT WITH MISSIONS

Our most recent challenge has been to raise \$500 for Farms International, Inc., a Christian mission which assists people in eleven developing countries to start new businesses by granting them interest-free small loans, thus enabling them to support themselves. They are expected to give a tithe to their church from their earnings and to repay the loan as they are able so others may be assisted. (Please look up www.farmsinternational.com.) As of September 9th, \$424.44 had been given.

Our next endeavor is to support the Fall Project of our local Ecumenical Fellowship Community. For many years, the EFC has done the Crop Walk, but Eileen DeMings reports that this year they decided to do something different, namely, raise funds for the Church World Service "Blankets+" program. We will give to this through the Missions Plate and as the Missions Project of our new monthly Family Church. Just \$25 can provide five warm blankets for a family left homeless by an earthquake or other disaster. Prayerfully consider your response. Can you think of any reason why we can't raise enough money for 200 blankets by Christmas (= \$1,000)?!?

The Missions Plate is located at the front of the church. Gifts may be given during Holy Eucharist. The total Missions plate giving to September 9th was \$2,382.44 or \$64.39/wk. for the first 37 weeks of 2012. \$1,958 had been disbursed.

Thanks for your generosity to the Lord's Work!

Respectfully Submitted, John A. Lindsay, Chair

*You Are Cordially Invited
To a Farewell Luncheon*

For Pastor Mary and Ray Gustafson

Sunday, October 14, 2012

11:45 a.m.

Blakeley Hall



Come and bring your fond memories and wish them Godspeed!

UTO Ingathering Fall 2012

*Thou hast given me so much...give me one more thing, a grateful heart.
George Herbert 1595-1633*

To the parishioners of Holy Trinity Church who have continued to fill their **U**nited **T**hank **O**ffering boxes during the past year, Thank you! You continue "to expand the circle of thankful people." Your offerings, when combined with those of others, enable God's work (in the form of grants) to be done both in our country and around the world.

The first two Sundays in October will be the Fall UTO Ingathering at Holy Trinity Church. During the services on those Sundays our individual 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. The Diocesan Fall Ingathering will be held during the Diocesan Convention the weekend of October 19 and 20. At that time, Holy Trinity's combined donation will be presented by our delegates attending this event.

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 speak with Holy Trinity's UTO Coordinator, Barbara Kalber.

TRANSITION FORUM

Please join us October 21st for a special transition forum led by Ed Farrell!

With the retirement of Pastor Mary and Ray on October 14th, the following Sunday (the 21st) will most certainly be a difficult Sunday for us all. Ed Farrell, who is our transition advisor with the diocese, will be preaching at the 8:00 and 10:15 services on October 21st with the Rev. Mark Hatch as supply celebrant. Ed will also be facilitating a forum from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (between the two services) to answer any questions about the transition process into which we are entering.

We will also have a guest organist, Gordon Adams, for this service. Please help us welcome Ed, Mark & Gordon. We look forward to seeing you on October 21st to be a part of this worship, fellowship and discussion.

We look forward to seeing you on October 21st to welcome Ed and Rev. Hatch and to be a part of this fellowship and discussion.

- Holy Trinity Vestry

DEACON'S CORNER

Another month has rolled around. We regret seeing this one coming especially since it means our Mary and Ray leave us to continue their God-guided lives elsewhere. We choose also to have God-guided lives, as individuals and as a church family.

As Peterson translates Ps. 84, "How blessed all those in whom you live, whose lives become roads you travel. They wind through lonesome valleys, come upon brooks, discover cool springs & pools brimming with rain! God travelled, these roads curve up the mountain, and at the last turn—Zion! God in full view!" God travels with each of us. We have a group of trained leaders joining us on the way. We can continue to pray for the right decisions to be made as a church family and for the person God would have lead us next.

It is time to thank my church family again for your continuing prayers, loving concern, cards, calls, ...it's overwhelming and humbling. You demonstrate God's love for me in ways I can see! Thank you all so much.

2 plants in, maybe more in the future. Meantime, a friend lent me an electric cart so I can more easily get to meals downstairs and other events in-house. A real blessing.

May God bless each of us in the special way we need right now and use us as a blessing to others.

Mary Hicks, Deacon

Community Harvest Supper



Coming together to celebrate the harvest is a time honored tradition.

Please join us:
Saturday October 27th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
in the Parish Hall.

There will be a community Harvest Supper of sausages cooked on the BBQ, peppers and onions, baked potatoes and squash casseroles, with apple desserts, and apple cider. A free will offering will help equip the new toddler room. Parishioners are invited to bring a crock pot squash casserole OR apple dessert to share.

Please see Tamsin Lucey for details, questions, or if you would like to help.

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Holy Trinity Church

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Office Hours:

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

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

unless otherwise noted

The Reverend Dr. Mary Gustafson, Rector
The Reverend Mary Hicks, Retired Deacon

The Episcopal Diocese of Western
Massachusetts
The Rt. Reverend Gordon Scruton

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Rite I Holy Eucharist (said)
10:15 a.m. Rite II Choral Holy Eucharist

Save These Dates

Weekdays through October 11th—9:15 a.m.—Morning Prayer
Tuesday, in October—7:30 p.m.—Bible Study—HTC

Monday, October 1—6:30 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Tuesday, October 2—4:00 p.m.—Gathering on Hamilton Street

6:00 p.m.—Family Church

Wednesday, October 3—7:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 7—2:30 p.m.—Overlook Bible Study

Tuesday, October 9—7:00 p.m.—EFC—HTC

Wednesday, October 10—10:00 a.m.—Packing @ the Rectory

3:45 p.m.—Daughters of the King

6:15 p.m.—Zumba Class

Friday, October 12—9:30 a.m.—Overlook Holy Eucharist

Saturday, October 13—2:00 p.m.—Healing Prayer Group

Sunday, October 14—10:15 a.m.—Family Church

**11:45 a.m.—Farewell party for Pastor Mary
and Ray**

Tuesday, October 16—4:00 p.m.—Gathering on Hamilton Street

6:00 p.m.—Family Church

Wednesday, October 17—6:15 p.m.—Zumba Class

Sunday, October 21—9:00 a.m.—Transition Forum

Saturday, October 27—5:30 p.m.—Community Harvest Supper

Sunday, October 28—10:15 a.m.—Family Church