



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

September 2016

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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,

The heat and humidity are with us for a bit longer, but it is time to focus again on the activities of faith. We are surrounded by shrill voices. If we paid attention, our sense of purpose and our faith in "the God of Resurrected Outcomes" could waiver. How much more do we need the quiet time of prayer to punctuate our days through the week, and animate our Sunday gathering in celebration of the hope which God sustains in us.

The Psalmist opined: "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord. Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.'" (Ps 122:1-2). We are transported by quiet, contemplative prayer; to the "refreshing still waters," (Ps 23) that restore and invigorate our souls. We are gladdened by the voice of praise, and sent back into the world in the strength of God. In worship, we become the Body of Christ; and are filled for the journey. We find unity. It is the unity we have in the life of God.

I choose to turn down the news and the political programming. My delight is elsewhere. God alone is our deepest joy!!!! I remain,

Your friend and Rector,

(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore



SING FOR PEACE ON SEPTEMBER 25 SAVE THE DATE - HTEC HYMN SING

(Look for more information in the weekly bulletin)

On Sunday, September 25, 2016, we will remember the forgotten victims of America's gun violence epidemic with The Concert Across America, a series of live music events of all sizes from coast to coast to raise the volume on the national effort to save lives from gun violence.

THANKSGIVINGS FROM THE SR. WARDEN

I am so thankful for our dedicated and energetic family worship team for another successful Vacation Bible School. It was obvious on Sunday, August 14th that they shared their love of Jesus with children in our community. Many of the children and their families came to the VBS Sunday service to sing the songs they learned and share what they learned during Cave Quest. Thank you Fr. Richard for engaging the children during the sermon. Thank you to all the parishioners who contributed to a scholarship, donated food for the lunches and to those that gave so generously of their time.

Joining together for worship with Elm Street Congregational Church at Westville Dam on August 7th provided a wonderful ecumenical opportunity. Sharing both traditions reminds us that we all share the love of Jesus and can come together to pray for our needs and the needs of others.

Thank you to Rose Reith for organizing the yard sale. It was a very hot day. The yard sale brought the community through our doors and offered many treasures to the shoppers. Thank you to John Grant for selling hot dogs. Also thank you Lynn Garland, Suzy Sharp, Cat and Nate Lowery and Susan Grant for engaging the customers.

Sunday, September 11, 2016, we will be at the Spencer Fair Grounds for Rice-A-Rama. Annually, Holy Trinity sells coffee, water, lemonade and apple crisp as a fund raiser. We sure could use your help – please consider signing up to volunteer for a shift at Spencer Fair Grounds.

I am so thankful for all the dedicated members of the parish who use their gifts in many of our ministries. Do you have a gift for one of our ministries? We invite you to volunteer your gifts. I would be happy to introduce you to the chairperson of any ministry you might interest you.

I am so blessed to part of such a generous community.

Nancy Waugh



Join us for Family Worship
in Blakely Hall
September 11 & 25
When families come together to
worship with kids in mind.



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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4—Bart Krug
27—Frances Thompson

13—Barbara Galli
27 – Noni Linton

27—Rose Reith
28—Bobbie Helbig

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!

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

Thank you for your donations of food during August. Even though fall is in the air, the days are still warm and donations of salad dressings, tuna and canned chicken are still very much appreciated. Please know that every donation of any food is a blessing to those in need and eagerly accepted by the St. John Paul Food Pantry. On Sunday Sept 4, 2016, 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, Sept 25, will be blessed before going to the pantry that week. Thank you for your continued donations to the Loaves and Fishes ministry. As we are blessed may we be a blessing.



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me".

Tamsin Lucey & Bill Nelson



Holy Trinity Church Financial Report July 2016

Income

- We paid the large fire alarm system bills and we are moving forward with the brick and roof work. So far income is holding steady. The pledge arrearage is within budget after correcting for the pre-paid pledges.
- The 2nd Q trust distribution just came in and continues to be more than budgeted. The Wells fund excess was put into the organ fund.

Expense

- VBS will go over budget, but there is a reserve from prior years.
- The secretary's salary is \$300 under budget because Chris reduced her hours for the summer.
- The equipment fund was restored to \$500 after purchasing a laptop computer for Fr. Richard's use.
- Line 5302 - Church, Capital Improvement holds the fire alarm system payments, so that line is way over budget, but the funds came from: the YMCA, some YMCA rent, the building fund reserve and other reserve funds.
- Electric is about 40% over budget, which is giving us a good idea of the YMCA expense for electric.
- Water/Sewer is holding steady, but that may change when we have a full year's bills.
- Under budget oil and insurance are set aside for the large payments.
- The largest under budget line is Clergy reimbursables.

Thank you,
Susan Howland, Treasurer

THE MISSION PLATE

I have been watching the news about the floods in Louisiana, and have never seen anything like it! We are so fortunate here in New England. We have had our hurricanes and tornadoes, but nothing like the fires in the west and flooding in Louisiana. I would like the mission plate to go to Episcopal Relief and Development to aid victims of these floods. Whatever we can contribute may be a "drop in the bucket," but when combined with other donations will help families get back on their feet.

Thank you for your continuing support of the mission plate.

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

Welcome Fall and Music at Holy Trinity Church

During September, anyone interested in leading the congregation in singing the hymns may come to a short Sunday morning rehearsal. Please come to the church at 9:00 a.m. and I will go over what we are singing during worship that morning. We will start this program on September 11th. All are welcome. If you enjoy singing hymns but do not have the time for the choir, this is your time. Come and pray through singing.

Choir Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, October 2, at 11:00 a.m. No audition is required to sing in the choir, just the ability to sing with music. We will begin singing in church on Sunday, October 16, with a start time of 8:50 a.m. If you have any questions, see Anne after church or call 508-347-5008.

Celebrating 150 Years on Hamilton Street

In 2019 Holy Trinity Church will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the construction of the building we call our church home.

In recognition of this sesquicentennial, and in planning for the future use of the building as our mission outpost in Southbridge, we would like to invite you to participate in a
150th ANNIVERSARY BUILDING FUND.

The church was built by the *Hamilton Woolen Company* in 1869 and was placed on the *National Historic Register* in 1989. As stewards of this building your vestry and the congregation have made substantial repairs and improvements over the last 4 years: restoration of the portico, the foyer canopy, the cricket, a cracked balcony wall, the undercroft ceiling, repairing windows, window sills, the foyer and church steps, brick pointing, and re-leathering the organ great and swell primaries. Improvements include adding fire emergency signs and lights, and most recently, installation of a state-of-the-art fire alarm system.

We anticipate other necessary and recurring building repairs.

- ♥ Replacing the asphalt roof on the parish hall and painting the cupola.
- ♥ Repointing the brick exterior of the church and parish hall; long-term plan for brick maintenance.
- ♥ Repairing and painting the church trim.
- ♥ Repairing gutters and assessing perimeter drainage.
- ♥ Maintaining slate roof, installing ice guard, and redesigning flat roof.
- ♥ Replacing storm windows.
- ♥ Updating the electrical wiring to 3-prong outlets.
- ♥ Restoring the organ and stained glass windows.
- ♥ Renovating the kitchen to bring it up to code.
- ♥ Adding a hot water heater.
- ♥ Covering asbestos flooring in classroom wing.

Please consider how you might like to contribute in the next 3 years:

- ♥ Pledge Commitments ♥ Buy-a-Brick
- ♥ Project-Designated Gifts ♥ Legacy Gifts

Findings of Holy Trinity- September 2016

Holy Trinity Church was placed on the National Historic Register in 1989





Aprons - Holy Trinity Episcopal Church – has Aprons!

The new logo has been printed onto Khaki aprons! These are ideal to wear at events hosted at the church or by the church in the community. Great for letting others know that you attend Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and for "spreading the word". At the same time, they keep your clothes clean and have convenient pockets as well! Great to wear at Rice O Rama, Cops N Kids, cook outs, etc., or even doing dishes at home or at church! You can give them as gifts, or just because, mail them to friends and family! Buy your own and you will be all set to go. Aprons are \$12.00, contact Tamsin Lucey 774 200 4279 to get one of the 4 that are available now!

Rice O Rama

What is Rice – O – Rama? Let me tell you more.

Rice O Rama is a Japanese Motorcycle Swap Meet – the biggest of its sort in New England will be held this year at Spencer Fair grounds on Sunday, Sept 11. For Holy Trinity Episcopal Church it is an opportunity to extend our hospitality – something we seem to be good at! It is also an opportunity to be the face, hands, and feet of Christ, sowing seeds of God's Love, offering prayer opportunities and connecting with individuals that otherwise do not experience a connection with Christ. The Kids Crafts for Christ Table is very often the ONLY activity for children and is usually crowded with eager children keen to engage in an activity.



Rice—O— Rama is also a FUNdraising opportunity for us, in previous years raising over \$1,500! As in previous years we will be selling hot coffee, cocoa and tea, apple crisp (donated by Uno's) and doughnuts, all ably headed up by Susan and John Grant. Tamsin Lucey will head up the cold drinks table – lemonade, water and iced tea—and Eileen DeMings the Kids Crafts for Christ table. In an effort to keep costs to a minimum we make our own lemonade and parishioners can support this effort by contributing gallons of water, bottles of lemon juice, and bags of sugar – labels are available on the board at the back of the church. Contributions should be brought to church by Sept. 4.



Set up for the event will happen on Saturday, Sept 10. If you have availability to help as needed, please contact John Grant or Tamsin Lucey for details.

Help on the day: we are looking for people to serve, take cash, man the Kids Crafts for Christ table and generally help out.



The coffee, doughnut, apple crisp table starts at 6:00 am and finishes at about 3:00 pm.

The cold drinks table will open at 10:00 am and close at 3:00 pm.

Help with clean-up is very much appreciated and starts at about 3:00 pm and is done by 5:00 pm.

Please add your name to a time slot on the sign-up sheet on the Narthex table or see John Grant or Tamsin Lucey

Fr Richard's quote for the day: "A wonderful mission of Holy Trinity, sharing God's love in a very real and meaningful way."

Thanks everyone.



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Southbridge, MA 01550

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Office Hours:

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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, September 11—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Sunday, September 11—6:00 a.m.—Rice O Rama

Wednesday, September 14—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting & Book Study

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

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

Sunday, September 25—3:00 p.m.—HTEC Hymn Sing for Peace

BE THE PEACE: A FREE MEDITATION GROUP TO HELP US COME OUT OF THE PATTERNS OF VIOLENCE:

Mondays: September 12, 19, 26
from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge
Please see Lynn Garland (508-801-4638)
for more information.