



# AUGUST TIDINGS

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**Holy Trinity Church**  
446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550  
508-765-9559  
holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com  
www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org  
Rev. Richard Signore—Rector  
(revholytrinity@gmail.com)  
Lynn Garland—Sr. Warden  
(508-801-4638)

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Dear Friends,  
August rolls quietly in on little cat feet, with an eye to restoring the behaviors of living faith. We return to normal program choices in September. If...Covid-19—both Delta and Lambda—remains in check, our intention is to restore public worship, coffee hour, and a welcoming environment for our young families, as we continue to transmit the faith to a new generation.

**FACE MASKS:** We recently made them optional, but I remind

you to bring one to use in the event the number of Covid cases in Massachusetts rises. We would bring back masks, and restore stricter social distancing, as well.

**JULIA DUNCAN CASSELL** from the Sons & Daughters of the King in Liberia will visit and speak about the situation in Liberia on August 15th. She has "toiled in the vineyard" in Liberia (holding various Diocesan positions) and the needs of Parish life.

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** is scheduled for August 22. Place them at the foot of the altar as we hold these young lives before God for continued grace.

We quietly ready ourselves for another year of cultivating a quiet love of God and the desire to serve. With every best wish, I remain,

*Your friend and Rector,  
(The Reverend)  
Richard S. Signore*

### Thank You from Organist

Dave and I want to thank you for all the prayers and well wishes. I am healing slowly, so please keep the prayers coming for myself and for David as he recovers from his surgery. Dave's healing time should be two weeks. His operation was on July 26th. I am planning on playing on August 22nd if everything goes well.  
God bless, Anne

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## Adult Social Studies Group

SOCIAL STUDIES GROUP will reconvene on September 15. We continue our focus on racial justice and are considering using "Sacred Ground." This is a film-based dialogue series of race and faith. It was developed by Katrina Browne, through the Episcopal Church. The website describes this way: "Sacred Ground is a sensitive, prayerful resource that creates space for difficult but respectful and transformative dialogue on race and racism. It invites participants to walk back through history in order to peel away the layers that brought us to today, reflecting on family histories and stories, as well as important narratives that shape the collective American story. Designed for use by Episcopal congregations and other Episcopal entities across the United States."

As I briefly explored the promotional information, it seems that the curriculum broadens the conversation to include black, brown, Asian and indigenous people as well as white immigrants from Europe and other countries who had to give up their cultural identity when they came here.

Please feel free to check out the website and let me know what you think.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/about/>

For any questions about the class, please free to contact  
Lynn Garland, 508-801-4638 [lynn24gar@gmail.com](mailto:lynn24gar@gmail.com)

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## Exciting News from Daughters of the King

Holy Trinity is hosting a foreign visitor! Who, may you ask? She is Julia Duncan-Cassell. Julia is a member of the Episcopal Church in Buchanan, Liberia and is president of her local chapter of the Sons and Daughters of the King (SDOK). She will be giving a presentation during our August 15 service. Julia will be presenting and informing us about the role and mission work of the Episcopal Church and the SDOK in Liberia. Her visit is an important part of our Daughters of the King's (DOK) on-going mission and fellowship in prayer, between our churches and countries. I encourage you to attend, listen and learn about this important mutual Ministry.

## Update on the Liberian Project

Our first shipment of supplies has arrived in Liberia! It generally takes about six weeks for the journey. The families and their children in Buchanan, Liberia are very grateful for all our donations, and they will be put to good use. The Delta variant of Covid 19 is hitting the Liberian people hard; many are very ill and are dying. The vaccines are not fully and widely available to the Liberian people. Due to the surge in recent Covid 19 deaths, we are now requesting that you donate face masks, antiseptic wipes and liquid hand soap, etc, because the need for these items is critical. However, we are still collecting school supplies and all kinds of toiletries as part of our on-going mission. Donated items may be dropped off on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the office between 9:00 am and Noon. We are also seeking contributions toward the cost of shipping these materials to Liberia. You may donate by check or through Tithely. Please donate what you can; every item helps!! Please, continue to keep these families in your prayers.

*Sincerely, Susan L. Grant President of the Mary and Martha Chapter of the Daughters of the King*

## Mission & Outreach

The Mission Plate funds for the months of July and August will be going to St. Luke's Guesthouse. St. Luke's Guesthouse, located in Southbridge center, is the only shelter for the homeless in Southern Worcester County. St. Luke's has been providing short-term sheltering with Christian hospitality to its guests since its inception in 2013. Its mission is to provide essential support to its guests to achieve the tools necessary for self-sufficiency and to secure housing. The Guesthouse has seven bedrooms to accommodate a combination of single and married family guests.

Housing in our local area is expensive!!! Rooms and apartments don't come cheap. Many of our neighbors are struggling to find affordable housing, while supporting and feeding themselves and their families on limited incomes. This is something we can do to help our neighbors literally "right in our own backyard." Please, give what you can. St. Luke's Guesthouse depends on charitable donations for its support. It receives no government funding.

*Sincerely, Susan L. Grant Member of the Outreach and Missions Committee*

## Late Summer Pentecost : The Gift of Bread

All through August we depart from Mark's gospel in the Lectionary and explore the analogy of Bread and Body with John the Evangelist. The more Jesus asserts that he is the Bread of Life, come down from Heaven, the more urgent the opposition to this teaching becomes. Even his disciples begin to question it. "This teaching is difficult," they observe, "who can accept it?" Why is it that the disciples who, just a short while earlier witnessed and accepted a miracle that caused Jesus to bring forward abundance from a few scant loaves of bread, now cannot accept that Jesus compares himself with that heaven-sent miracle? Jesus offers himself to be miraculously created, broken, and shared to the nourishment of the whole world, and this is the teaching that we, his disciples, find "too difficult." The temple authorities and the Pharisees object to this on theological grounds, as they perceive Jesus to be coming too close to blasphemy as he compares himself with the manna that sustained their forebears in the wilderness, but what excuse do we have? We are not concerned with the theological argument of sacrifice and miracle, I believe we are disturbed by a more personal and more complicated truth. If Jesus offers himself to be broken and shared, what does that mean for those who follow him? What is our role in feeding, caring for, saving the world? Deep down we know the answer; that we also must be willing to be blessed, broken, and shared in order to accomplish God's saving work in the world, and this is, in fact, a difficult teaching. When Jesus asks us "Do you also wish to go away?" how will we answer? [TENS.org](http://TENS.org)

### August Birthdays

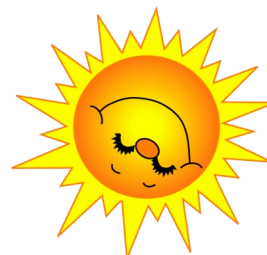
3—Pheobe Reith-Lowery  
 11—Emilynn Bousquet  
 11—Linda Spooner  
 14—Jared Burns  
 17—Suzanne Sharp  
 17—David Monroe  
 20—Colleen DeMings  
 25—Braden Bullard  
 28— Fr. Richard Signore



### Card Donations

We are looking for donation of cards for all occasions: birthday, sympathy and get well, especially. Please leave them in the basket in the Narthex.





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**Office Phone:** (508) 765-9559

**E-mail:** [holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com)

**Web site:** [holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://holytrinitysouthbridge.org)  
(trinity)

#### **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**

**August 15-** DOK Speaker

**August 22-**Blessing of the Backpacks

**September 15-** Return of Social Studies



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving