



# OCTOBER TIDINGS

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October 2022

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## A Reflection from your Priest-In Charge

*Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts. (Colossians 3:16)*

As I have been thinking about this new program year, I have kept returning to a story written by Nikos Kazantzakis, called "The Butterfly":

*I remembered one morning when I discovered a cocoon in the bark of a tree, just as the butterfly was making a hole in the case and preparing to come out. I waited a while, but it was too long appearing and I was impatient. I bent over it and breathed on it to warm it. I warmed it as fast as I could and the miracle began to happen before my eyes, faster than life. The case opened, the butterfly started slowly crawling out and I shall never forget my horror when I saw how its wings were folded back and crumpled; the wretched butterfly tried with its whole trembling body to unfold them. Bending over it, I tried to help with my breath. In vain. It needed to be hatched out patiently and the unfolding of the wings should be a gradual process in the sun. Now it was too late. My breath had forced the butterfly to appear, all crumpled, before its time. It struggled desperately, and, a few seconds later, died in the palm of my hand.*

*That little body is, I do believe, the greatest weight I have on my conscience. For I realize today that it is a mortal sin to violate the great laws of nature.*

*We should not hurry, we should not be impatient, but we should confidently obey the eternal rhythm. I sat on a rock to absorb this New Year's thought. Ah, if only that little butterfly could always flutter before me to show me the way.*

Kazantzakis' caution is timely as we begin a new program year, our Stewardship campaign, and prepare for the next stage of your transition to new ministry. It is right to move slowly, to recognize that we are part of a larger cycle of living and dying, to trust that we will know the time and the place when we and the people we love are ready for God's purpose. We know enough. We can do enough. Our gifts are enough.

This is gratitude, I think. Seeing around us signs that God's purpose will unfold in its own time, as delicate and resilient as a butterfly's wings.

*Mother Judith+*



## Mission Plate for September & October

The Mission Plate funds for the months of September and October will go to Episcopal Relief & Development. Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is the compassionate response of the Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world. ERD has been around for more than 75 years and today reaches three million people worldwide annually. ERD works in the United States and with partners worldwide to alleviate hunger, create economic opportunities, respond to disasters, promote health and strengthen communities. It has three key program priorities: women, children, and climate.

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

### Save the Date!

**Sunday December 11th at 2 pm**

**Community Concert**

**Holy Trinity is hosting The Blue Shades Clarinets**

**Free Will Offering for a local organization that addresses food insecurity**

**Invite your family & friends!**

## Winter Coat Closet

### October Birthdays

- 3—Peg Nelson
- 4 – Will Pieczynski
- 7 – Chris Briere
- 18—Anita Bullard
- 18—Eric Bullard
- 19—Jean Frost
- 24—Marilyn Theodoss
- 30 —Lorraine Brumskine
- 31 – Joseph Ballou



Autumn is here and the cold weather is on the way. Our efforts over the past years, combined with many other brothers and sisters in Christ, have assisted hundreds of people in our community to stay warm. We will continue this ecumenical mission with your help.

The Winter Coat Closet will open on Saturday, October 29 and continue every Saturday morning through Saturday, December 17, providing FREE COATS to anyone in need. The hours this year will be 9:30 – 11:30 AM and all are welcome to come browse through our racks at Holy Trinity Church.

Donations of gently used, clean winter weight coats for men, women and children are gratefully accepted. They can be dropped off at the church on Tuesday or Thursday from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM or brought to the Coat Closet directly on Saturdays when we are open. Volunteers are also welcome to sort donations and help clients. Please contact Chris McTigue (508-248-4726) or the church (508-765-9559)





**The United Thank Offering...  
not just another fundraiser, but an opportunity to practice Gratitude.**

The United Thank Offering (UTO) started in 1889. It is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church to nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God and offering coins in a "Blue Box." Tangible offerings are then shared with people all over the world in the form of grants for grass-roots, self-identified, need.

Drop a coin...every penny counts...in the little Blue Box with a prayer of gratitude. Research has shown that thankful people live happier and healthier lives!

Don't have a "Blue Box"? They are available at the back of the church. **Give it a try and bring your offering to our Holy Trinity UTO Ingathering on October 23rd during the 9:30 a.m. service (count the coins and put a bill or check in an envelope).** Our parish offering will be sent to the diocese and combined with offerings from other churches in the diocese to be granted in 2023.....every penny is granted!

There are approximately 1.75 million Episcopalians. If every Episcopalian put one penny in their UTO box daily the amount for granting would be over 6 million dollars a year!

More UTO information here: <https://unitedthankoffering.com/>

In Gratitude,  
Susan Howland, UTO parish coordinator  
howlands@charter.net or 508.612.3198.

*Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service*

*at Holy Trinity Church*

*Tuesday November 22nd 2022                      7 pm*

*Please let Anne know if you would like to participate in the Ecumenical Choir*



## Adult Spiritual Formation

*Faith Formation Steering Committee:* Eileen DeMings (Chair), Heather Bousquet, Lorraine Brumskine, John Grant, Susan Grant, Cat Reith-Lowery, Rose Reith, and Robin Yates



### 1. Practicing our Faith: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices: October 6th & 13th 7-8:30pm

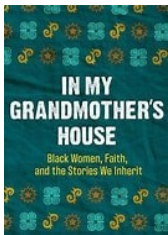
The curriculum can be downloaded for free from [www.forwardmovement.org](http://www.forwardmovement.org). An accompanying book is recommended but not required: *Walk in Love*, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. It is available on Amazon and other booksellers. Copies of the Book of Common Prayer are available for participants. Topics this month are *The Daily Office & Daily Prayer*, and *The Burial Office*.

### 2. Bible Study: Creation Care Bible Challenge: October 5<sup>th</sup> & 19th @ Bethlehem Lutheran

We join with Bethlehem Lutheran for this Bible Study to coincide with our observance of Creation Season. We are following the readings and reflection in *Creation Care Bible Challenge* (Forward Movement, 2021). Copies of the book are available to borrow in the parish hall.

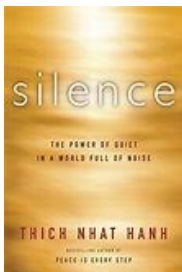
### 3. HTC Reading Group: Discussion on Thursday October 27th @ 4:30 at the church

**October – In My Grandmother's House, by Yolanda Pierce. [Broadleaf Books, 2021] Available at Amazon and local libraries; an audio version is available.**



The church mothers who raised Yolanda Pierce, dean of Howard University School of Divinity, were focused on her survival. Born on a former cotton plantation, Pierce's grandmother raised her in the faith inherited from those who were enslaved. In her memoir, Pierce reckons with that tradition, building an everyday womanist theology rooted in liberating scriptures, experiences in the Black church, and truths from Black women's lives. Pierce tells stories that center the experiences of those living on the underside of history, teasing out the tensions of race, spirituality, trauma, freedom, resistance, and memory. A grandmother's theology carries wisdom strong enough for future generations. The Divine has been showing up at the kitchen tables of Black women for a long time. It's time to get to know that God.

**November – Silence: The Power of Quiet in a Noisy World by Thich Nhat Hanh [Harper, 2015] audiobook available**



The Zen master and one of the world's most beloved teachers writes a concise, practical guide to understanding and developing our most powerful inner resource—silence—to help us find happiness, purpose, and peace. Thich Nhat Hanh guides us on a path to cultivate calm even in the most chaotic places. Through careful breathing and mindfulness techniques he teaches us how to become truly present in the moment, to recognize the beauty surrounding us, and to find harmony. With mindfulness comes stillness—and the silence we need to come back to ourselves and discover who we are.

## Spiritual Formation: Children and Youth

**First Sunday: October 2nd**

**9:30 Family Worship**

**10:45-11:30** Teens will meet in the Undercroft for a snack, hot chocolate & cider, to talk about plans for the year.

**Third Sunday: October 16th**

**9:15 Children's Chapel** in the Chapel

**9:30-10** Discussion downstairs: 2 groups: ages 4-9 & 10-12

We are using the Sermons4Kids curriculum this year



**October 9, 23, & 30th** Packets will be available at the church and emailed to families on the prior Thursday

**Confirmation: May 14, 2022**

We will begin talking about Confirmation in the fall. Preparation for those who choose to be confirmed will begin in January, with flexible schedules. It will include a retreat at the church on Friday evening and Saturday morning, May 12 & 13. Please see Mother Judith for more details.



## LANDSCAPE MAKEOVER COMING!

Holy Trinity's landscaping is in serious need of a makeover! Fortunately, we have a volunteer team (Dave Monroe, Susan Grant, Trisha O'Brien-Briere, Chris Briere and Lynn Garland) who feel up to this challenge. We will begin work this fall. We want to share our plans with you and we welcome your feedback. There are four different target areas that are described below.

1. The garden inside the ramp: We will remove the old, sparsely leaved bushes and the two yews (the tall one in the corner of the ramp and the short one by the sidewalk), cut back and shape other bushes, pull out all the weeds and current perennials. In the spring we will add new plants and create a small winding path in the middle to allow access for weeding and maintenance of the area.

2. The prayer garden: The large yews will be removed. We will dig up and split the daylilies and irises, spreading them into the areas vacated by yews. We may also remove the large rhododendron.

3. The planting under the sign: This will be expanded to be a four-season perennial garden.

4. All the yews planted along the foundation of the sanctuary and parish hall and along the right side of the building will be removed. They are at the end of their 30-year life cycle and are too overgrown to be cut back. We are not sure yet what will be planted in their place. This fall we will pull them out, rake and mulch the area.

As you can see, this is quite a large undertaking and will be done in several stages, beginning this fall with clearing the areas and finishing next spring/summer. Saturday, October 15th, will be our first work day, starting at 9:00 and going until 12:00. Anyone who feels called to join us for any length of time would be most welcome!

On behalf of the Landscape Design Committee,  
Lynn Garland





## MORE THAN ENOUGH

*And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.*

Luke 9:16-17, NRSV

Our campaign theme is *More Than Enough*, and it comes from the end of Luke's version of the feeding of the five-thousand. Responding to Jesus' call, the gathered crowd turns their pockets inside out, shakes out their blankets,

rummages through their parcels to find enough to take care of the needs of the community. And what do they realize? That by the miracle of faith and the action of Love, there was more than enough, an abundance of leftovers! When you give what you can there is more than enough to fund our operations and to plan for the future.

During the month of October we will have stewardship witnesses each Sunday. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to give their witness of faith in giving to Holy Trinity. The pledge cards will be mailed in mid-October. An in-gathering of pledge cards and a stewardship breakfast are planned for Sunday November 6, 2022.



## Vestry Highlights: September 14, 2022

### Resolved:

- ✓ Approved Employment Agreement with Greg Nikolla & Sexton's Duties
- ✓ Appointed Lana Pieczinski to the Finance Committee
- ✓ Approved plan to prepare the Lady Chapel for Children's Chapel
- ✓ Approved a concert by Blue Shades Quartet on December 11<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm
- ✓ Confirmed a plan for closing the building after worship & meetings

### Discussion

- ✓ Agreed to services on Christmas Eve(4 pm) & Christmas Day services (9:30 am)
- ✓ Agreed to plans for the Stewardship Campaign during October, with Ingathering on November 6<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Confirmed Daughters of the King Re-dedication on All Saints Sunday (November 6<sup>th</sup>)
- ✓ *What have we done well?* Baby Shower for Robert and Meliisa; handling the question of asbestos in the classroom wing

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(trinity)

### The Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

### Sunday Services

**9:30 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist**

### Priest-in-Charge

**The Dr. Rev. Judith Lee**

### Sundays in October

#### October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Stewardship Season: Reflection by Lana Pieczynski  
Family Worship with Prayers for our Pets.&  
Blessing the animals  
Teens meeting after the service.

#### October 9<sup>th</sup>

Prayers for indigenous Peoples  
Stewardship Reflection by Jean Frost.

#### October 16<sup>th</sup>

Stewardship Reflection by John Grant  
Children's Chapel @ 9:15  
9:30-10—Church School downstairs

#### October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Stewardship Reflection by Susan Howland  
UTO Ingathering

#### October 30<sup>th</sup>

Stewardship Reflection by Lorraine Brumskine  
Everyone is invited to wear Halloween costumes.

#### November 6<sup>th</sup>

All Saints Sunday. Family Worship  
Stewardship Ingathering with Parish Breakfast  
Rededication of Daughters of the King



Website



Facebook



Tithely