



JULY TIDINGS

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Pastor Dan Purtell— Priest in
Charge
Lynn Garland—Sr. Warden

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A Reflection from your Priest-in-Charge

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

What a joy it was to again gather together for worship at the end of June. There was A LOT going on that Sunday, with Bluegrass worship, a joint choir, the confirmation of the four youth from Bethlehem, and a very lively coffee hour! Admittedly, the room was filled with such joyful noise, that I had at times had a hard time hearing what people were saying! A good problem to have to be sure. It was good to see folks from both congregations enjoying themselves in the midst of such a joy filled day.

As I was looking ahead at the readings for the fourth Sunday and in the context of our recent worship service, I was reminded of this verse that comes from Galatians chapter 6.

² Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³

I have been thankful for the energy that comes with these combined worship services, but I'm also reminded that we as part of the body of Christ are called to move beyond Sunday worship and get out into the world. The world is heavy right now, there is a lot that's weighing it down. Our own personal lives may be heavy, there may be things the we are carrying that others may not see. The joy of being together in community in sharing such beautiful worship is part of being community together, but one of the other parts is that we are called to bear one another's burden, to walk with one another when we are suffering, and to allow the spirit to work through us and others during those hard moments.

I hope you continue to find joy in this midst of this summer season, but if you find yourself suffering, remember who your belong to and where you can turn so that your burdens aren't carried alone.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Dan



Food Panty for July



Our July donations will go to the Bridge Fridge of Southbridge. The focus will be non-perishable foods and snacks.

**Thank you
for your generosity!**



Summer Accommodations For Those Serving On The Altar

This is a reminder that as the heat of summer has begun, we will see again see a change in in the vestments worn by those serving on the altar. We will continue the practice which Pastor Dan initiated last summer. During the summer months those serving on the altar will have the option of wearing “business casual” attire rather than the usual vestments. Pastor Dan will wear his clerical collar and a stole. This is being done because the temperature up on the altar gets uncomfortably hot during the summer, much hotter than the main sanctuary. While it remains an option for anyone serving on the altar to wear vestments if that person prefers, it will be acceptable to wear “business casual” clothing. Pastor Dan will wear his clerical collar and a stole.

Lynn Garland
Senior Warden



Vestry Highlights

Bethlehem agreed with having the monthly shared service occur on the last Sunday of the month starting in the Fall. Shared services coming up are on Aug 31 at HTC and Oct 5 to celebrate the 40th birthday of BLC. In November the monthly shared services will begin on November 30 at HTC. Other shared services and locations will be the 4 pm service on Christmas Eve at BLC, the late service on Christmas Eve at HTC, the Sunday after Christmas service of Lessons and Carols at HTC.

Certification of Committee Members. The Endowment Committee will need another person to be on the Committee. A motion was made, seconded and carried to certify the following 2025 Standing Committees:

- 1. Building and Grounds Committee:** Jean Frost, -Chair; David Monroe; Nate Lowery; Tamsin Lucey.
- 2. Communications:** Susan Howland (website); John Grant (technology: virtual communication & meetings); Tamsin Lucey (Facebook administrator); Cat Reith-Lowery (special emails/Mailchimps/evites); Parish Administrative Assistant (Tidings, weekly e- news, collection of information).
- 3. Endowment Committee:** Susan Howland, Chair; Robin Yates, - secretary; 3rd member TBD; Pastor and Treasurer ex-officio members
- 4. Faith formation Steering Committee:** Eileen DeMings (co-chair); Cat Reith-Lowery (co-chair); Heather Bousquet; Rose Reith; Robin Yates; Dave Monroe.
- 5. Finance Committee:** Susan Howland, chair; Nancy Waugh, Treasurer; Josh Spooner; Lana Pieczynski; Pledge Secretary: John Grant – ex-officio member.
- 6. Hospitality Committee:** Lynn Garland (Chair); Sue Grant.
- 7. Mission and Outreach Committee:** Sue Grant, Chair; Suzanne Sharp; Rose Reith; Anne Bouvier-Monroe; the Daughters of the King (currently Robin Yates, Traci Stuart, Laura Gervais).
- 8. Parrettie Committee:** Lynn Garland, Sr. Warden; Susan Howland, Jr. Warden; Lana Pieczynski; Barbara Kalber; Tamsin Lucey; Priest and Treasurer, ex officio.
- 9. Pastoral Relations Committee:** Pastor Dan, chair; Lynn Garland; Susan Howland; Tamsin Lucey; Robin Yates.
- 10. Stewardship Committee:** Nancy Waugh; Lynn Garland.



Birthdays

- 1—Sam Pieczynski
- 2—Peter Lucey
- 15—Paul Aloia
- 25—Brian Canty
- 29—Norma Kennedy
- 29—Ryan Bousquet

July Mission Plate



Cradles to Crayons provides children from birth through age 12, living in homeless or low-income situations, with the essential items they need to thrive – at home, at school and at play. Cradles to Crayons supply these items free of charge by engaging and connecting communities.

In the United States, 2 in 5 children live at or below 200% of the federal poverty, a level that ranges from deep poverty (50%) to low income (200%). These families struggle to pay for rent and groceries and often can't afford anything else. Basic items for their children: clothes that fit, shoes, a coat for cold weather, are simply not possible.

Please give generously to our mission plate at Holy Trinity Church, especially as back-to-school items will be needed by many families very soon.

Cradle to Crayons is located in Newtonville, MA and provides to children across the state.

<http://www.cradlestocrayons.org/boston/>



Music Notes from our Director

I am praying that everyone has a wonderful July and can enjoy the summer weather. Worship continues throughout the summer and we encourage everyone to attend as you are able.

Sunday, July 6 is Family Sunday and the music will be based on favorite family friendly hymns such as "Jesus loves the little children".

Sunday, July 13, we will have clarinet and harp music for the worship service while Anne is away for a family wedding in Wisconsin.

Sunday, July 20, the music will be led by Lynn Garland, vocalist, Jean Frost and John Grant on guitar. The music will be well known hymns by our congregation.

Sunday, July 27, we will have music led by Anne with music enjoyed by all.

God Moments

My God moment was the combined Bluegrass Service on June 29, 2025. I don't know why I am always surprised at our attendance. To me it seems each combined service feels more like we are one parish honoring the traditions of two denominations. The music was wonderful and to hear so many voices for the offertory hymn was just beautiful. The fellowship after the service makes me think this partnership has a bright future.

God Moment by Nancy Waugh

In case you were wondering how our United Thank Offering money was used this year, the report below was just sent out by the Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs.

Lynn Garland

United Thank Offering: Over \$1M awarded for projects focused on water access, sanitation, education

The Episcopal Church Executive Council recently approved more than \$1 million in United Thank Offering grants supporting 27 innovative mission and ministry projects focused on water-related issues around the world.

Projects range from a reverse osmosis filtration system to combat lead-contaminated drinking water in Western Louisiana to indoor plumbing at a South Dakota congregation to water-saving agricultural projects in Tanzania and California's Central Valley.

The funds come from the United Thank Offering's yearly Ingathering, which includes monies collected in "blue boxes" at Episcopal churches, designated as thank offerings.





CAMPFIRE FELLOWSHIP WITH BLC AND HTC

Fellowship, Friends, and Fire!
What could be better!

JUNE 7TH 6:30PM
JULY 26TH 6:30PM
AUGUST 9TH 6:30PM
SEPTEMBER 20TH 6:30PM

**Chance of S'mores?
100%!!!!**



***Pub Office
Hours***

Join Pastor Dan at Rapsalion Pub
on Monday, August 4th at 6PM
Rapsalion Pub is located at
3 Arnold Road Sturbridge, MA

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
446 Hamilton Street
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**The Episcopal Diocese of Western
Massachusetts**

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

Sunday Service
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Website



Facebook



Tithely-Giving