



# OCTOBER TIDINGS

Volume 7 Issue 10

October 2025

## A Reflection from your Priest in Charge



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Beloved Siblings in Christ,

At the end of September, I had the opportunity to visit the Barbara G Harris conference center for the first time and what a treat that was. I will say that the drive up to the conference center got a little hairy, especially once I got off 190. As the GPS started leading me down these quiet back roads, I started to wonder, which each turn I took, where I was being led. There were times where I thought I might actually be driving into a horror movie.

Thankfully, I was not.

In any case, I was struck by the beauty of the place almost immediately after I arrived. The weather was overcast and we get some rain the next day but that didn't deter me from taking in all that the retreat center had to offer. Tucked away in Greenfield, NH by the shores of the lake that was the bottom of the hill. Leaves were starting to turn different shades of orange, red, and yellow. It was good to be in the midst of God's creation, even if it was for only twenty-four hours.

The purpose of the visit of course was to spend time with the Fresh Start group, a group of priests and deacons that gather together for monthly visits with the sole purpose of supporting one another as we navigate the joys and challenges of ministry. There was a spirit of openness as folks shared their experiences and stories, there were songs, there was laughter, there was conversation and worship. It was a beautiful and sacred twenty-four hours.

I'm writing about this today because none of us walk this faith journey alone, in fact it feels like it would be pretty impossible to do so. As we walk this journey together, we do as a community, as beloved siblings in Christ who are called to show love to one another, to celebrate joys, to mourn the losses, and to seek forgiveness when needed.

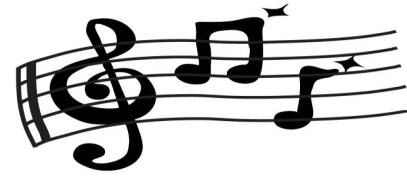
Make sure you have people to walk this road with you, we will all be the better for it.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Dan



## FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

*Anne Bouvier-Monroe*



Anyone interested in singing in the choir is welcome to join us for a brief meeting. We will have a brief organizational meeting after the postlude on Sunday, October 13 to see if the Thursday afternoon rehearsals at 4PM still works for everyone.

Blessings to all.

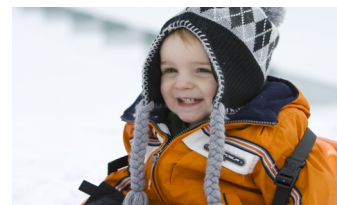


## Food Pantry

Our donations in October will go to the Bridge Fridge in Southbridge.

## October Birthdays

- 4 – Will Pieczynski
- 7 – Chris Briere
- 9 - Connie Thompson
- 14 — Leenah Gossman
- 18—Anita Bullard
- 18—Eric Bullard
- 19—Jean Frost
- 24—Marilyn Theodoss
- 30 —Lorraine Brumskine
- 31 – Joseph Ballou



## Winter Coat Closet

will be opening for the season on

**Saturday November 1st**

**9:30—11:30 AM**

**Open every Saturday thru**

**December 20th**

**Please donate gently used, clean, winter-weight coats, scarves, gloves and mittens.**

**We have men's, women's & children's coats. Help us spread the word to anyone in need of a warm coat.**

**Winter's coming!**

## Mission Plate for October: Navajoland

According to the 2025 schedule the Mission Plate offering for October will be a collection for **Friends of Navajoland**, a volunteer membership association of persons and entities established to support the Mission and Ministry of The Episcopal Church in Navajoland (ECN). Friends of Navajoland cultivates church-wide awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of Navajo Culture, traditions, and spirituality as complementary of Episcopal theology and the mission of ECN. In December 2016 Bishop David Bailey and the ECN Council established Friends as an unincorporated association and ministry of the ECN. The Bishop and Council appointed individuals to serve on the Friends advisory board of directors, with board members and officers to include active Navajo leaders. Each board member is a proven church leader or a participant in a recent mission retreat or pilgrimage to Navajoland and has demonstrated a heart for ECN's work by donating resources or otherwise supporting ECN's ministry. The Friends' board of directors includes local Navajo leaders and other church officials, including bishops, from across the Church. The Friends board and executive committee, appointed by the Bishop, are the planning and decision-making body for Friends' projects and ministry. Friends of Navajoland encourages and promotes cross-cultural understanding and support of the ministry of The Episcopal Church in its Navajoland Area Mission. All financial donors to ECN, its Economic Development Corporation, or its churches are automatic members of Friends. If we have supported Friends of Navajoland in the past then we at Holy Trinity are members of this association.

For more information see the [Friends of Navajoland Website](https://friendsofnavajoland.org/), [<https://friendsofnavajoland.org/>], and the [Friends of Navajoland Booklist page](https://friendsofnavajoland.org/navajoland-booklist/) [<https://friendsofnavajoland.org/navajoland-booklist/>] if you are interested in learning more from Native American writers.





# Tell Out My Soul

## Truth-telling and Creativity

**A**s a visual artist and author, I speak Truth (capital T) and love through creativity. I weave prayer and poetry into every word on the page and color on the canvas. I create to communicate with the One who gives me breath.

In my writing, photography, and painting—I hope to capture the essence of what is holy and complex, inspiring and life-giving.

This hunger for Truth-telling began at my grandmother's kitchen table, where the colors of grief, loss, remembering, and hope spilled across its surface. My painting and writing table was once my Grandmother's kitchen table.

Purple hull peas, green okra, yellow squash, and red tomatoes adorned the table – precious jewels colored by hard work and Louisiana sunshine—a meal prepared with love in the tiny kitchen of their home. The fragrance of summer filled the air, and we held hands and offered thanks. After each meal, the children would find themselves under the kitchen table, planning their next wild adventure. Occasionally, we would get quiet, listen to what the adults were saying, and giggle out loud when we heard something we shouldn't have.

I inherited that old table when my grandmother died. It is no fancy antique; it is an inexpensive furniture store table. But for me, it has become an altar of remembrance and hope. I now paint, write, and pray at my grandmother's table, the same table I once played under as a child. Each brushstroke and written word is infused with memories, carrying on the breeze the whispers of my ancestors and hopeful prayers for the future.

My Grandmother's greatest gift was teaching me to love in the truest sense of the word. And so, with each brushstroke and written word, I tell out my soul, honoring my grandmother's legacy of love, transcending the ordinary to echo the sacred in every creation. [TENS.org](http://TENS.org)



### Questions for Reflection:

What does "Truth-telling" mean to you, and how can you incorporate that into your own artistic or creative practice?



Roger Hutchison is a best-selling author, artist, award-winning nature photographer, and Episcopal lay leader recognized for his work with children and openness about his mental health journey.



## *Congratulations*



***Sunday Shared & Bluegrass Worship Service***  
***Sunday, October 5th, 2025***

***10:00 am***

*40th Anniversary Celebration*  
*after service!*





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(trinity)

**Office Hours: \*unless otherwise noted\***

**Tuesday 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Thursday 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**The Episcopal Diocese of Western  
Massachusetts**

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

**Sunday Services**

**11:00 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist**

**The Rev. Dan Purtell  
Priest-in-Charge**



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