



HOLY TRINITY NEWS

August 2017



Father Rob's Reflections September 2017

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Uh, no, it cannot be September already! But alas, it is. And with September comes the beginning of school. For us at church this means our "**Blessing of the Backpacks**" is here. On **September 10th** at the **10 am service** we will bless children's backpacks and adults briefcases/anything you use to carry your "stuff". As you enter church, take your case and place it around the altar. At a designated time in the service the bags and the people will be blessed. This is for young people and adult educators so please invite your friends.

Also, on the **10th of September** we will host our **Holy Trinity Ministry Fair after the 8am service and after the 10am**. Each table will be hosted by one of our commissions or groups. Choir will have one, altar guild I trust, Acolytes perhaps, Christian formation, and the list goes on. Folks from those ministries will be there to encourage your questions about their commission or group and how to join if you like. Have you perhaps thought you might have a calling to pastoral care, or Christian Formation, to sing on the choir, help at the altar, assist with youth, or help with St. John's? Let someone know. And each person with that group and its members should work on their table and presentation. Amanda Shand and others will be setting things up. This is a great time to get kids involved too. Are there ideas you have to share with a group that you'd be willing to help? Do you have an idea for a ministry that Outreach might consider and are willing to take a lead? Is there a bigger opportunity for Holy Trinity to meet in our community that you'd be able to join an appropriate commission and run with it? The possibilities are endless as all of us follow that

still small voice beckoning us to connect with the group for ministry and share our thoughts, prayers and ideas. INVITE all your educator friends and children for the blessing of the backpacks and for ministry fair. It will be fun! Hoping to see some clever decorating of ministry tables too!!!

As always, "Everyone is welcome, no Exceptions!"

Much love in Christ,

Father Rob+



Upcoming Dates

September 5th---2 p.m. Homestead Eucharist

September 6th---6:30 p.m. VESTRY

September 9th—Alleluia Open Golf Tournament—Vergennes

September 10th ---MINISTRY FAIR
- Blessing the Backpacks

September 11th—Fr Rob's 61st birthday

September 13th—4:40 p.m. Food Shelf Board Meeting—Holy Trinity

September 22nd—Native American Day—

September 23rd---10 to 3---Disaster Preparedness training for Diocese, St. Paul's, White River Junction

September 25th—10 a.m. Warden's Meeting

Ministry Fair

Sunday, Sept 10
After both services
Come into the Parish hall
& go around and visit all the tables
Chat with the chairpersons & sign up



Food Shelf

Food shelf needs are canned pasta, tuna fish, peanut butter and soup. Please put the items in the treasure chest in the Narthex. Thank you.



September Wish List for Martha's Kitchen

Facial tissues
Toilet paper
Disinfecting wipes
Napkins

There will be a separate bag for these items in the donation box in the narthex. Thank you.



Needed: Team Leader for
Martha's Kitchen Souper Bowl-a-Thon
Saturday, Sept 30, 10 am-noon
At Spare Time in Colchester (Exit 16)
215 Lower Mountain View Dr.
Prizes, Raffles, Food & Fun

Dress your team – Movies of the 80s
Every team of 4-5 must raise \$500
Everyone must register: marthaskitchen802.org
Prizes for highest & lowest scores, adult score,
youth score, best costume, the more money
you raise the more chances to win prizes
Do you love to bowl?
Have you never bowled before?
Come join the fun!!



Vestry Update

In an effort to keep the parish informed the Vestry will provide a monthly update. This will include highlights from the most recent meeting. Please feel free to see any Vestry member if you have any questions or feel free to attend a meeting.

August Vestry Highlights

- thank you to all who participated in the 150th celebration
- Repairs done to address some water damage that occurred in the parish hall.
- Casey has returned from maternity leave. Thank you to all who filled in while she was away and welcome back Casey!
- yearly audit of financial practices completed thank you to all who worked on the audit.
- building manager position is open and we are looking to fill with a qualified individual.
- Vestry members reported on each parish committee. HTC remains busy in the summer!



6th Annual Alleluia! Open Golf Tournament
The Right Reverend Thomas C. Ely cordially invites members and friends of the Episcopal Church in Vermont to participate in the Sixth Annual Alleluia! Open Golf Tournament. The event, which benefits the Alleluiafund.

What: The Sixth Annual Alleluia! Open Golf Tournament
When: September 9, 2017
Where: The Basin Harbor Club, Vergennes

**HURRICANE HARVEY 2017:
WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?
Rescue, Relief and Recovery**

Phase 1 - Rescue

The Rescue phase is focused on saving lives and securing property, and is most acute in those parts of a region that are directly flooded. Police, fire departments and other government agencies are best able to do this work. They have equipment that can clear roads and debris and find people. The Rescue phase can take one to two weeks, sometimes longer. Please pray for those who are suffering as a result of this tragedy and for the professionals who are risking their lives to save others.

Phase 2 - Relief

The next is the Relief phase. We and our partners began preparing for this phase as soon as it was clear how massive Harvey was going to be. During this phase, the local church will be one of the first places people go to seek assistance and shelter. Because they are prepared and experienced in disaster response, we know that our partners in Texas and elsewhere will be active in the Relief phase. This is where Episcopal Relief & Development is focusing its resources right now.

Phase 3 - Recovery

Eventually, we get to the third and final phase: Recovery. During this period, the emphasis shifts to restoring services, repairing houses and buildings, returning individuals to self-sufficiency and rebuilding communities. The challenge of the Recovery phase is that most of the television cameras have moved on, but the human suffering has grown. However, it is the phase that **the Church excels in**, because we are part of the communities that have been impacted and can best identify needs and work with the community to address them efficiently.

Financial Support

Now is the time to offer financial support.

Contributing to Episcopal Relief & Development will ensure that we have enough resources to support the work of our church partners as they serve the most vulnerable in their communities.

Volunteering

The best approach is to wait until those affected have indicated what kind of support is most needed and whether they are **ready to house and utilize volunteers**.

Donating

My firm recommendation is **DON'T DO IT**. I can't tell

Friends and family (and friends who ARE family),

I know that a lot of people across the country and wanting to know how to help the Houston area. The area that's flooded is like traveling from Swanton down to Burlington and making a complete circle with that distance as the radius. It's bad.

The area around the school I used to teach at and where Craig currently teaches was one of the most devastated areas - Sagemont & Pasadena. If you saw national news on Sunday, you probably saw water rescues from that area. Many of my former students, and many current teachers waded through waist or chest deep water for hours over the past 2 days. The stories I've heard from my kids & friends break my heart. And the rain isn't letting up until Wednesday.

If you would like to help, donating to some of the local charities would be best. Shelters are becoming overloaded with donated supplies, and many shelters are closing and they're moving people to more permanent shelters. The Episcopal relief fund is a good one, and a few Houston celebrities have started campaigns (JJ Watt's fund is a great one). If I hear of a Fund that I know will help Sagemont & Pasadena, I will let you know. Until then, pray.

If anyone wants to donate straight to the kids I've taught and Craig is teaching: The PasadenaISD Education Foundation is accepting donations to help the children & schools of PISD affected by Harvey. Please donate now @ www.pasadenaisd.org

-Cindy Marshall Wilems

**HOLY TRINITY WILL HAVE A
COLLECTION ON SUN, SEPT
10 FOR HARVEY RELIEF**

Upcoming Events

October 3rd---2 p.m. Homestead Eucharist, St. Albans
October 4th---6:30 p.m. VESTRY
October 7th- 1-5:30 pm, Rock Point Partners & Friends Gathering
October 10th—Clergy Day, 10 to 3--Dismantling Racism
October 23rd—Warden's Meeting 10 a.m.
November 1st—**All Saints Day**
November 1---6:30 p.m. VESTRY
November 3-4th—Diocesan Convention—Ludlow Vermont
November 5th—Daylight savings ends/All Saints Sunday
November 14th—Homestead Eucharist 2 p.m. St. Albans
November 23rd—Thanksgiving Day
November 27th—10 a.m. Wardens' Meeting
December 5th—2 p.m. Homestead Eucharist, St. Albans
December 6th---6:30 p.m. VESTRY
December 12th---25th anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood
December 24th—**Sunday Christmas Eve**
December 25th—Monday
December 31st—Lessons and Carols—9am

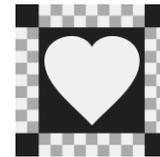


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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Adam Fournier**
- 6 Beverly Kenyon, Wally Good**
- 8 Father Rob Spainhour**
- 14 Allen Monahan**
- 17 Carter Burnor**
- 20 Pam Lavee**
- 28 Mary Wood**



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Barbara & Warren Hamm**



In New Life

- August 10 Russell S. Walters III**
- August 12 Pamela Erno Smith**

*May the souls of the righteous rest in peace
And may light perpetual shine upon them*