



MAY 2018

Father Rob's Reflections May 2018

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

Years ago we heard often about Sunday School. Usually it took place, sometimes between services, for about an hour in order for all ages, birth to death, to learn about God, the Bible, and our story. Ideally we grew, as we often hear, in the love and knowledge of God and our neighbor. Over the years it moved to weekdays for some. Others moved it to Sunday afternoon. And still others, it kind of disappeared as the hectic schedules of modern life prevented it. Sunday school is now absorbed into what is called Christian Formation. Sunday and School weren't, many thought, the best attractor for the young---more school and another commitment on Sunday?—a day that used to be held as sacrosanct but no longer is. So it has become the wider encompassing term of "Christian Formation". Yes, it still includes Sunday school, but much, much more.

As informed by the Resolution passed at the 2009 General Convention of the Episcopal Church, U.S.A., "***Christian formation is the lifelong process of growing in relationship with God, self, others and all creation. In this process, we are transformed into the people God wants us to be.***"

Thus, our New Path Bible Study definitely fills the bill. To some extent the addition, after my arrival, of a 0 to 4 year old nursery works into it as well. Any teaching, study, activity for Christ, fits the bill. Whether that be direct learning and study or service for God that helps us grow in faith, this is Christian Formation. Of course it still, and most critically, includes SUNDAY SCHOOL. On that topic we have some very dedicated folks leading this charge, but we do not, as any of us would attest, have enough. And

there is a desperate need. Many younger families have come to Holy Trinity because we have Christian Formation. I think we'd all agree that this is not the job of one or two people who take the pressure off the rest of us from serving. No, since it may not always take place formally in classrooms, we all have a duty and call to help "form" others in our community. At this point, we need others to step up and hear the call to teach the "littlest" in our midst--do it in teams; trade off months; whatever works best. I know we all value our youth, and we can recall times when, in the past youth, we were overflowing here. This is an all too common story across denominations, and the "whys" we can cover in another article. But the key is that it can be again. However to do it, we must fill the need of formation. There are other things to help of which I have some thoughts and tentative plans, but one person cannot make it happen. Together, our loving HT family can.

In Christ's love,

Fr. Rob+

Upcoming Events

Tues, May 1, 5:30 pm VESTRY

Thurs, May 10, Ascension Day

Sun, May 13, bring items after church for Silver to Sawdust

Wed., May 16, 9 to 2pm bring items for Silver to Sawdust

Sat, May 19, 8am-2pm SILVER TO SAWDUST SALE

Sun, May 20, PENTECOST

Fri, May 25, 5:30 pm Open Door Dinner

Sun, May 27, TRINITY SUNDAY

Swanton Food Shelf

Needs: Canned pasta, spaghetti, canned chicken/canned meats, tuna fish, soup.
Place items in treasure chest in the Narthex.
Thank you.



Open Door Dinners

5:30 pm Fridays at Holy Trinity
May 25 & Jun 29

April Vestry Highlights

- *Safe Church Training discussed
- *Jr Warden reported on basement floors, electrical work at 40 Grand, Zoeller cover in basement
- *\$1500. Approved for Zoeller cover replacement
- *downstairs tenant at 40 Grand leaving end of June. Work to be done in bathroom & rental fees discussed
- *Christian Formation planning
- * Audit committee forming
- *Open Door Dinner, Silver to Sawdust plans
- *Bishop's visit – Brunch & gift



+Silver to Sawdust Sale @ Holy Trinity+ *Time for Spring Cleaning!!!!*

Start saving garage sale items for the Silver to Sawdust sale, all proceeds go to HTC Outreach. May 13th can bring items to donate after church and/or May 16th from 9 to 2pm
Sale Date: May 19th 8am-2pm



Coffee Hour Hosts

Time to fill up the roster for Coffee Hour. It does not have to be fancy. Cheese & crackers. Fruit. Just a little something for people to nosh on while they chat with one another. You can even get a partner & two of you do it together. Sign up on the bulletin

Vermont Interfaith Power and Light

A faith-based response to global climate change

May 6th Holy Trinity Rogation Sun. Emphasis

Fast Facts About Climate Change

The Greenhouse Effect.

The purpose of a greenhouse is to trap the sun's heat

Human Impacts.

Atmospheric temperature and sea level track CO2 concentrations

For the past 400,000 years, atmospheric CO2 been less than 300 ppm

In the past 50 years, atmospheric CO2 has increased to 400 ppm

Temperatures and sea level are as high as they have ever been

Implication: it is reasonable to expect rapid warming and sea level rise

How is climate change already affecting the earth?

16 of the 17 hottest years ever have occurred since 2000.

it's primarily human-induced

Extreme weather is becoming more severe and frequent

Food and water supplies are at risk.

Oceans are at risk. .

Together we can protect the climate and our future.

What You Can Do

Job 1: Push for a rapid and just transition to renewable energy in cities and states.

Job 2: Stop new fossil-fuel projects, especially infrastructure such as pipelines.

Job 3: Cut off the flow of money to the fossil-fuel industry.

Together we can protect the climate and our future.

Educate

Role Model

Speak out

One personal action can make a huge difference.

+Beef's carbon footprint is twice that of pork and four times that of chicken. Choose wisely

+ Use meat for flavor rather than making it the whole meal

+ Consider observing "meatless Monday"

+ Reduce food waste by planning ahead and storing food correctly

+ Use smaller plates - you will probably eat less and be healthier too

+ Donate leftover food from events (Call shelters or foodbanks to see who accepts cooked food)

Learn to Quilt

Helen Short will be teaching an Introduction to Quilting Class at HTC in the Upper Room on Monday evenings from **6-8PM** starting **May 7th**. The pattern book used will be Eleanor Burn's Quilt in a Day "Single and Double Irish Chain". Participants will make a lap sized Single Irish Chain quilt. Overachievers may make a larger quilt if they desire. This Single Irish Chain pattern is suitable for 2 colors of fabric, either coordinating solids or a small print with a coordinating solid.

The cost of each 2-hour class for non-church members is \$20 with the money collecting being donated back to HTC Outreach. There is no fee for HTC members. Contact Helen if interested at 892-752-5497 or by email: hshortvt@comcast.net.



Seven years ago, the Diocesan Council realized that the capacity of the Diocesan Budget alone would not be capable of supporting all the ministries that felt vital to our mission as the Episcopal Church in Vermont. We launched an Annual Appeal to fill the gap with individual donations from folks who wanted to give over and above their local giving to important ministries of the Diocese. In 2013, this effort grew into the Alleluiafund, our annual Easter appeal in which we proclaim, "**Christ is Risen in Our Deeds.**"

Every dollar raised goes directly to ministries of the Episcopal Church in Vermont, including local outreach and global ministries. The **2018** appeal will support **Rock Point Summer Camp and the Rock Point Property**, along with other ministries, through grants awarded by the Grants and Loans Committee.

Find a brochure and donation form in the Narthex or donate online at the diocesan website.

Focus on God

A man went to the Pastor of his church and said, "I won't be attending Church anymore." Pastor said, "May I ask why?" He said, "I see people on their cell phones texting and typing during the service, some are gossiping, some just aren't living right, some are sleeping, some are staring at me, they are all just hypocrites."

The Pastor was silent. Then he said, "Can I ask you to do something for me before you make your final decision?"

He said, "Sure, what's that?"

He said, "Take a glass of water and walk around the church two times and don't let any water fall out of the glass."

He said, "Yes I can do that!" He went and got the glass of water and walked around the church two times. He came back and said proudly, "It's done."

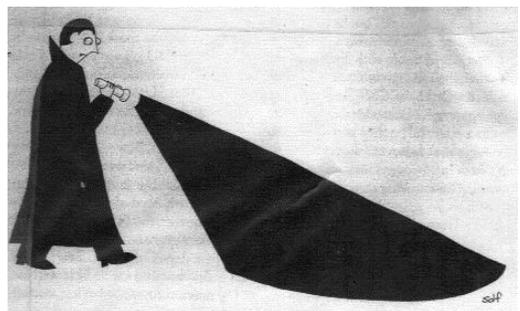
The pastor asked him these questions; "Did you see anybody on their phone?; Did you see anybody gossiping?; Was anybody living wrong?; Did you see anyone sleeping?"

He said, "I didn't see anything because I was so focused on this glass, so the water wouldn't spill out"

He told him, "When you come to church , you should be just that focused on God , so that you don't fall. That's why Jesus said, 'Follow Me', He did not say follow them."

Don't let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate with God. Let it be determined by how focused you are with God. AMEN

Keon Preston, Baton Rouge, LA



Seth Fleishman, The New Yorker



Rock Point Summer Camp

Caring for Creation, Neighbor, Self & Having Fun

SCHEDULE

Leaders in Training	16-17 yo	Jun 24-29
Day Camp I	5-10 yo	Jun 25-29
Sr Hi Camp	14-16 yo	Jul 1-6
Sr Hi Day Camp	14-16 yo	Jul 1-6
Jr Hi Camp	11-14 yo	Jul 8-13
Jr Hi Day Camp	11-14 yo	Jul 8-13
Intermediate Camp	10-12 yo	Jul 15-20
Intermed. Day Camp	10-12 yo	Jul 15-20
Elementary Camp	7-10 yo	Jul 22-27
Elemen. Day Camp	7-10 yo	Jul 22-27
Day Camp II	5-10 yo	Jul 30-Aug 3
Alumni, Family & Friends	All ages	Aug 5-9

Look for brochures in Parish Hall
www.rockpointvt.org/summer_camp
sosborn@dioceseofvermont.org



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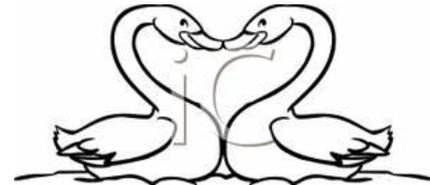
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MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Daniel Wood
- 8 Dick Hersey, Dawn Sparling
- 9 Steve Trushaw
- 10 Wally Sparling, Jessica Dittmar
- 11 Kyle Trushaw
- 14 David Wood, Samson Kenyon
- 15 Shawn Cheney
- 17 Jenna Garrison
- 22 Michael Page
- 26 Duncan Hadd, Alex Wirts
- 28 Bonnie Fournier, Joshua Gagne
- 30 Jon Nielsen



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Peter & Patricia Abui
- 25 Lou Anne & Daniel Wood



IN NEW LIFE

APRIL 5

ERIC BUEL

*May the souls of the faithful rest in
peace*

And may light perpetual shine upon.