



HOLY TRINITY NEWS

JUNE 2023



Shared Thoughts from Ann

From Christmas to Pentecost the readings from scripture focus our attention on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The rest from the year (Trinity Sunday June 4, 2023 – advent Dec. 2024) is the “long green season” or what I call the lab course. Matthew recounts the “great commission” as the sending forth of all the disciples to go to all the world baptizing in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt 28:16-20) and so we are to go forth and live our faith. The particular and specific ways in which each of us seeks to love God and our neighbors (near and far) are highly variant, but I believe God loves diversity. Why else would the speciation we see in nature be so abundant? So there are three things I want you to think and pray about as commissioned disciples. 1) How does the mission and ministry of Jesus in and through the parish and people of Holy Trinity involve you? 2) What influence does the way we worship impact your ability to participate in ministry to your neighbors-world? 3) What “gospel” are we writing for the people living in northwestern Vermont to read?

The authority given to a transition “priest in charge” is not the same as that given to a Rector. I do not have authority over buildings or their use: that belongs to the vestry. I do not review the staff: that belongs to the vestry. I do not disperse funds from the discretionary account: that belongs to the wardens. During the time of transition, it is my joy and privilege to work alongside you to develop mutual ministries, working respectfully with the commissions, vestry, officers, and staff. This is an opportunity to grow, expand, and demonstrate the different ministries within the parish. The one area in which I do have responsibility is in worship and it was part of my agreement with the wardens and vestry to offer a diversity of worship. I have noticed that many parishioners travel widely and probably experience differences when attending an Episcopal/Anglican church in other places. The Standing Liturgical Commission authorized by the General Convention provides four volumes of *Enriching our Worship*. In 1997 General Convention approved these texts for use in Sunday worship, with the approval of the Diocesan Bishop. The Eucharistic Prayers which we will use this summer offer expanded language, images, metaphors. Expanding our vocabulary of prayer and the ways we name the Holy One bear witness to the mystery of God as transcendent-Other. All alternatives have been validated as retaining the Trinitarian and Christological formulations which Anglicans consider normative and the ground of our common prayer. Another resource is *Wonder*,

Love and Praise as a supplement to the 1982 hymnal. We will use some of the hymns and service music from this

source as well. It is my experience that when I hear something in a slightly different way, it might inspire reflection. Several

parishioners have shared how important it is to them that Holy Trinity is an inclusive and welcoming community. I hope these supplemental worship materials will help us become bright lights of God’s unconditional love.

Ann+

TRANSITION

College graduations in May, high school graduations in June – both times of transition. We celebrate the past. We remember how much the new graduate has changed, from the shy kid who cried when left at school on the first day into a confident young adult who faces challenges with determination and excitement. Moms and Dads might be anxious that their “babies” have no clue about “real life,” but they are determined to allow the new graduates to spread their wings. The future is uncertain. Without doubt the young graduates will make some mistakes along the way. There is no way to protect someone we love from the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, as the bard said. Nevertheless, the transition of graduation involves letting go and entrusting our young fledglings to God.

While the analogy is not perfect, there are many similarities between graduation and a parish in the process of transition. Holy Trinity Church began that transition the moment Fr. Rob announced his retirement. You took steps along that path when you hired Ann and Fran as Transition Priests, and when you formed a Transition Team. Even as graduating students have much to learn as they enter the next phase of their lives, so does HTC. We begin by looking back – celebrating successes and reflecting on failures. We then turn our attention to the present – who we are today, what we are doing that we want to continue and where might we want to make changes. Finally, we begin to name our hopes for the future. From this time of reflection, the Transition Team will construct a Parish Profile and define what HTC is looking for in its next rector.

All the work of transition is carried out in a spirit of discipleship. The success of the transition requires reliance on the Holy Spirit and willingness to respond to that same Holy Spirit. The church might act like a business at times, but we must always remember that our first identity is that of our baptism as followers of Jesus Christ. As we continue to live into our baptismal promises to *continue in prayer and fellowship, to persevere in resisting evil, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ, to seek and serve Christ in all persons, and to respect the dignity of every human being* we can be certain that God will be with us.

Ann and I are delighted to aid you as much as we can in this time of transition.

Fran+

Senior Warden's Newsletter Update

In this month's newsletter I thought I would focus on sharing some of the work the Vestry has been doing over this period of transition and some of our upcoming projects.

* Appointed Sandi Kenyon to fill a vacancy on the Vestry. Appointed Natalie Good to fill the vacant Jr. Warden position. Appointed Wally Good chair of Buildings and Grounds. Shout out to Wally who hit the ground running, pulled together his team and have made strides to complete MULTIPLE projects this spring/summer.

* Meeting with Canon Linda Grenz (transition consultant). Established an understanding on what the Vestry is tasking our Transition team to do. Thank you to Helen and Kay our co-chairs of the Transition Team (see more from Helen in this newsletter).

* Clarified the working roles of our Senior and Junior Warden and developed an administrative team to meet monthly with the transition priest in advance of each Vestry meeting.

* Re-organized HTC Commissions to more clearly outline their purpose and streamline the number of commissions. We have asked each commission chair to have an in person/ hybrid meeting to ensure we are engaging all members. This will also allow us to make sure our transition priests are able to meet with the commissions in looking at planning for the upcoming year. We have asked each commission chair to report to their Vestry rep monthly, without a full time Rector it is important that all pieces of the puzzle are working together. Any commission item that may need Vestry approval should be highlighted in the report to the Vestry rep.

* Approved Buildings and Grounds projects including lot line clearing between 40 Grand and the Sheldon House, front planters and required maintenance on the parish hall.

* 40 Grand second floor apartment lease update. Announcement coming soon!

* Reviewed clergy compensation documents from the diocese in preparation for a new Rector.

Upcoming items:

- The Vestry will be looking at updating job descriptions of our paid staff and developing a yearly performance appraisal process that will involve more than just the Rector.

- Discussing the future of St. John's. Currently waiting to hear back on a large grant that HTC has applied for that could impact St. Johns. Thank you to Betsy for her work on this grant.
- Discussing the future of the Sheldon House. Thank you to Sheri for her work on this project.
- Vestry will begin looking at budgeting for next year soon



Holy Trinity's Transition Team

Members:

Helen Short, Chair

Wally Good

Kay Benedict

LouAnne Wood

Joe Cava

Eagan Murphy

Rev Fran Stanford, Consultant

Shelley Robtoy

Evan Anderson

Linda Bruyette

Christie Bruyette

Barb Trushaw

Madeline Martin

Our first meeting was held on May 21st, 2023.

Sarah Nielsen, Senior Warden, explained the transition process has changed due to the shortage of priests. Our consultant for the transition process is Canon Linda Grenz. We meet with her via Zoom or talk with her on the phone. She will be attending meetings in September of 2023 and March 2024 where candidates seeking parishes and parishes looking for priests are matched by areas of skills and interests for the application process.

Before HTC is ready to seek applications, a written profile must be developed by gathering information from our members focusing on our past, present, and future. Our website will need to be updated. Potential applicants will use our website and profile in considering whether to apply to be HTC's rector.

Candidates who feel that HTC is the kind of parish they seek will apply. The Transition Team will review applications. Interviews will be conducted remotely, and references checked. If the candidate looks like they have the skill set HTC seeks, they will be invited for a two-to-three-day onsite visit to meet with the Vestry and Transition Team members.

If you have any questions about this process or if you know a priest whom you feel would like to be considered for HTC, please let a member of our team know.

Helen Short, Chair

Parish Wide Memorial Project
To Honor Marianne Marshall
Rock Point Bench Dedication

Dear Holy Trinity Members and Friends,

Holy Trinity Outreach Committee invites you to join us in a special project to honor our dear friend Marianne Marshall. Prior to Marianne's death, we were working on a proposal to present to Marianne to organize a fundraiser to purchase a bench and place it at Rock Point. As many of you know the whole Marshall Family has had a strong connection to Rock Point and it's programs over the last 50 plus years. Marianne spent several years working with the 5-6 grade camps and two of the Marshall Children were married at Rock Point.

Our team felt it was very appropriate to proceed with this project. It is our hope that our fundraiser will last through the month of June with a dedication day scheduled during the third week in July when all the Marshall Family is scheduled to be in Vermont.

If you would like to make a donation to this project to honor Marianne, please make donations made out to Holy Trinity Church with Marshall Bench Donation in the memo line and mail your donation to Holy Trinity Outreach 38 Grand Avenue, Swanton, VT 05488. We will have envelopes at the church for donations that can be added to the collection plate at church.

We will let you know when a date has been confirmed for the dedication presentation to allow you to attend. If you have additional questions, please contact: Mary Wood at Golfwoodmd@comcast.net



Special thanks to Deanna Edwards, Shelley Robtoy, Amy Giroux and all our volunteers. Sheri Moore, Linda Wirts, Barb and Steve Trushaw, Steve Marshall, Mary Wood, Judy Cheney, James McDonald, Helen and Frank Short, Joe Cava, Dr. Ann Boyd, Kiley Boutah, and George Plante all worked to serve about 110 meals to our community!

Our next Open Door Dinner will be presented on June 22nd. Helen and Frank Short will take the lead on this dinner. Our menu will be chicken and biscuits, cabbage salad, cranberry sauce and chocolate chip bars. If you would like to help with the June 22nd dinner, please contact Helen or Frank. They will need people to set up, prep, serve and clean up. This project is a wonderful way to make connections with our greater community and celebrate one of the wonderful things we do as outreach.

Holy Trinity Church
Graduate Sunday,
June 18, 2023
10:00



Dear Holy Trinity Family,

On Sunday, June 18th we will gather at Holy Trinity to celebrate the achievement of our youth as they complete another school year. We will give special acknowledgement to our children that have graduated from college, high school, eighth grade, sixth grade and Kindergarten. If you have a child or grandchild that is crossing one of these milestones, please get their names to Mary Wood (golfwoodmd@comcast.net) by June 11th so they can be included in our celebration. Names will also be recognized in our July newsletter.

As part of our celebration on June 18th, we are going to have an ice cream sundae buffet. We will be providing the ice cream and will invite families to bring one of their favorite ice cream toppings.

Once again, please take time to forward names to Mary Wood to make sure that all children can be celebrated!

OPEN MIC TEEN NIGHT

On a balmy Saturday evening on May 20, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (HTC) welcomed 12 effervescent youngsters into its parish hall for its inaugural Open Mic Teen Night from 6 to 8 PM. The pleasant spring aromas just beyond the church's open doors filtered into a night of board games, Shaggy's pizza, popcorn, tangy lemonade, and show tunes.

Between rounds of Monopoly and Yahtzee, this musically gifted group of (mostly) teens took to the mic and keyboard with élan, smiling through renditions of their favorite songs. The sounds of rolling dice and crackling laughter accompanied the soothing classical music playlist between the performances. The event is not without precedent, as HTC's Outreach Committee has previously opened its doors to an array of youth events and dinners. This night, however, belonged specifically to teens.

The hectic school week often affords little time for kicking back with your friends for a couple of hours in a safe, positive space. Spearheaded by Molly Hartman-Lontine, Hannah Laflam, and Jacob Greenia, the HTC Open Mic Teen night aspires to provide such a respite for Franklin County's youth.

The fun-filled evening concluded with a vibrant performance from an ensemble of talented teens, sending their audience off into the warm night air with hearts and minds filled with joy.

Good news! HTC's Youth Commission will be planning future Teen Nights and youth-centered events with varying themes and activities! For additional information or questions contact Jacob Greenia at 802-393-3282 or Jakejmgreenia23@gmail.com

Thank you Pastoral Care and Holy Trinity for your thoughtful and kind cards, phone calls, food and visits when I fell on the ice and broke my arm this winter - the healing is going well and I am now back at work and in the garden - this little manufacturing plant we have built in our bodies does remarkable work. Gratefully - Linda



The congregation is invited to provide a flowering plant for the soon to be renovated planters. You can choose one now and keep it until a planting fellowship activity to be scheduled in late June. Suggestions by consultants include: Lady's Mantle, Pink Astilbe, Perennial Short Daisy, Bright Red Geraniums, Tricolored African Impatiens, or Yellow and Orange Marigolds- all providing a wonderful color variation. Contact Wally Good xc2downhill@gmail.com with questions



Kitchen Sink

There is a note above the kitchen sink at church that reminds people to do their own dishes - there is no one else to do your dishes - there is a sponge, hot water, and dish soap for you to use - please do not leave coffee mugs, plates, pots and pans, utensils for someone else to do your dishes. Thank you, The Management



Toiletries for the Unhoused

There is a box in the narthex to collect toiletries for the unhoused. Brother Bob at Martha's Kitchen suggests:

- Baby wipes Razors
- Toothbrushes Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Small soaps & shampoos from hotels

June Calendar

- Thurs 6/1- Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm
- Mon 6/5- Outreach meeting, 9am
- Mon 6/12- Vestry meeting, 5:30pm
- Sun 6/18 – Graduate Sunday
- Thurs 6/22- Open door dinner, 5:30-6:30pm



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jeff Williams**
- 4 Jeremy Burnor**
- 5 Sarah Robtoy**
- 8 Mary Gladden**
- 11 Ella Hadd, Amanda Shand**
- 15 Logan Burnor**
- 19 Tammy Farr**
- 21 Christie Bruyette**
- 23 Sheri Moore**
- 25 Jason LaFlam , Maggie Short**
- 26 Katy Marshall Baxter**
- 28 Gabrielle Cheney**
- 30 Spencer Short, John Edwards**



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Erin & Joshua Gagne**
- 20 Cindy & Allen Monahan**
- 28 Sarah & Jon Nielsen**
- 29 Emily & Nick Gover**



In New Life

May 12 Alberta "Bobbie" Chase
May she rest in peace
and rise in glory