



# HOLY TRINITY NEWS



SEPTEMBER 2023

## Transition Priest Report

Thank you for the great turnout on Aug. 20 and 27 as we discussed Baptism and Baptismal Ministry. I hope that everyone felt a bit stretched or came away with a bit of new perspective on the ministry of all the baptized. I believe the conversations will support the work of the Transition Committee as they build the parish profile.

The Parish Profile, as it exists today, differs a bit from that for previous rector searches. There are two major portions, the website and Twelve Questions, which together serve to describe the position of rector at HTC. Using these, the Canon for Transitions, Linda Greutz, shares HTC's opening and search with the Canons for Transitions in Province 1 (dioceses of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island) and to a lesser extent with the rest of the Episcopal Church.

The next meeting of the Province 1 transition canons takes place in mid-September. Although the Transition Team has worked throughout the summer, accomplishing a complete reworking of the website, it has not yet completed the Twelve Questions portion of the Parish Profile. We will give Canon Linda what information we have regarding the opening at Holy Trinity so that she has it in hand to share at that meeting. In addition, Ann and I will have a conversation with Canon Linda before that meeting so that she has up-to-date information to share with her colleagues.

Transition is a process that should not be rushed. If you skip steps or leap ahead to meet external deadlines, you will not do the work that needs to be done before you can welcome a new rector. Rushed decisions are rarely good decisions, but neither do we want to delay the process unnecessarily. Rest assured the Transition Team is working maintained a balance between the two.

Transition is a threshold experience. You stand between two places, two eras, two rectors. During this time, you look back at what has been and forward to what might be. God's work among us can often be seen most clearly during such threshold times. Look back, look forward, and rest as long as you need to on the threshold before taking the next step.

Fran, Transition Priest

## Season of Creation

The first Sunday of September thru the first Sunday of October are designed a "Season of Creation." The elements of the service are taken from an extensive resource, "Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes" as authorized by Bishop Shannon. The theme for 2023 is *Let Justice and Peace Flow.*" ("But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5:24). The symbol for 2023 is a mighty river.

The General Convention in 2022 recognized climate change as "an all encompassing social crisis and moral emergency that impacts and interconnects every aspect of pastoral concern including health, poverty, employment, racism, social justice, and family life and that can only be addressed by a great Work involving every sector of society, including the church".

I struggle to understand and act in ways that is consistent with stewardship of creation, and simultaneously live in a house that uses natural gas, drive a car that runs on gasoline, etc. I wish clean energy could replace fossil fuels right now, but alas, it will take time for that transition to occur. In the meantime, participating in reforestation projects by local groups such as Trout Unlimited, seem small in proportion to the overall challenge but is what I can do now and here.

I believe that for too long, the church has focused almost exclusively on human beings as the object of God's love and overlooked the whole of creation which God declared GOOD. If the dire predictions of climate scientists bear the mark of prophesy, they also call us to awaken to the trust God places in human beings to care for creation. To learn more please visit the Creation Care ministries of the Anglican Communion, the Episcopal Church and your specific Diocese. Resources can be found at: [acen.anglicancommunion.org](http://acen.anglicancommunion.org) (The Anglican Communion Environmental network); [www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/creation-care](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/creation-care) (The Episcopal Church ministry of Creation Care) and the 2023 guide to Season of Creation at [newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation](http://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation).

We may all be challenged by the new language of these liturgies, selected readings, and prayers. I ask you to be open to the movement of God in and among us, inspiring us to understanding, compassion, and ministry.

Ann+



Students, Teachers & School Staff Members  
 You are invited to the blessing of the backpacks at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, September 10th at 10:00. Please bring your backpack, planner or special calendar to be placed at the altar and blessed for the upcoming school year.



**Grief Luncheon**

**Sat, Sept 16, noon In the Parish Hall**  
**everyone is welcome to attend, enjoy a light lunch, & engage in conversation about how death of loved one(s) have impacted our faith journey, and our lives**  
 RSVP, just so we have a sense of how many tables to set up & how much soup to make  
 Kiley (868-7185) or Natalie (782-6819)

*You Are Invited to Join Us For a  
 Community Tea  
 At Holy Trinity Church  
 Come join us for tea, scones, mini sandwiches, and desserts. Help us come together to celebrate the wonderful things that make our community great!*



Sept 27, 2023 · 2:00-4:00 · Holy Trinity Parish Hall

38 Grand Avenue Swanton, VT

Feel Free to Bring a Friend

RSVP by Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Call or Leave a Message with Kiley @ 802-868-7185 or Mary @ 802-524-5446

**Music at Grace, Sheldon**

Friday, Sept 1: Jocelyn Pettit and Ellen Gira

Friday, September 15: Frevo!

Friday, October 6: Nobby Reed

**Save the Date: Pies for Bonnie Nov 16 & 17**

**Transition Update**

Although the process may seem slow, the Transition Team has been working hard. They've begun the group work on the Twelve Questions that are part of our parish portfolio. Madeline continues to provide short prayers for us all to pray together at each Sunday service. The Rectory group is formulating a plan for getting the rectory ready to host visiting candidates; a few parishioners have already helped with landscaping, or have set aside furniture pieces to lend for the project. Our website update is almost finished. Fran has led two parish-wide teachings and discussions of Baptismal (Mutual) Ministry during coffee hour. (Reminder: If you do NOT want your face or your child's face to appear in any photos on our website or our Facebook page, please sign the opt-out form on the table at the entrance.) And the work goes on; stay tuned...



**Special Thanks to Our Holy Trinity Family**

Your Outreach Team wants to once again, thank our Parish Family for reaching out to others following the recent flooding in our state. Through many generous members of our church, we were able to collect and send about 25 bags and boxes full of cleaning supplies to the communities in Lamoille County. Special thanks to Dr. Fran for facilitating their delivery to the distribution centers. Your Outreach Team also allocated three other grants from our Undesignated Outreach Budget to Brookhaven School for Boys who lost one of their buildings during the flood, Christ Church in Montpelier, and Mission Farms in Killington. All three of these organizations have strong connections to Holy Trinity. We have a long history of supporting Brookhaven School with school supplies for the boys who attend the school. Christ Church in Montpelier was the home of the Rev. Ben Chase and Bobbie Chase following years of being members our Parish Family. Mission Farm's director is, Lisa Ransom, who spent many weeks with our parish doing supply and covering during one of our transition periods.

We continue to work to live out our Baptismal Covenant with the many things we do as part of our outreach work for our community and the wider community of our state. Blessings to all of you!



As students begin a new year in school, it is a blessing that we once again think of the importance of offering a Sunday School Program for the youth of our community. We have wonderful opportunities planned for the new Sunday School Year!

We understand the sacrifice you make each week to make sure your child has the opportunity to learn about God, the life of Jesus, and develop a love for others and appreciate their gifts to the church and community.

Each week, we will take time to gather in a casual setting to hear exciting Bible stories that will help them to grow in character and personal understanding. They will also enjoy making crafts together and develop new friendships with their classmates and Sunday School Teachers.

We offer both a Nursery and a Multi-age program. Nursery is open to children age birth-age 4 and Multi-age is covers ages 5-9 with additional opportunities for older youth to be helpers in the Sunday School Program.

The Bible is a wonderful tool that teaches us about God and teaches us about the character of Jesus and his great love for us. Students will be able to see how scriptures can be related to our everyday lives.

Sunday School will provide a safe and curious opportunity for your child. Please be assured that you are always welcome to share in this experience with your child. Volunteers are encouraged and appreciated.

Our program for the 2023-2024 school year will begin on September 17 from 9:50-11:00. Student will begin class in the Sunday School classroom in the lower level of the parish hall and return to church following the offertory hymn to join their families.

We will kick off our Sunday School year with a Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, September 10 at 10:00. Children and Educators will take active roles in the service and have backpacks & planners blessed. We will close out our celebration with an ice cream sandwich party.

Please come and join in the fun we have as a faithful community here at Holy Trinity!

\*Note: If you would like to help out with nursery or Sunday School, please talk to Mary Wood about Safe Church Training.

Blessing our Students and educators as they begin a new year

Students

- Muluchy Abui Grade 12
- Methdrew Abui Grade 8
- Majuch Abui Grade 4
- Ayen Abui Grade 2
- Ayden Burnor Grade 12
- Carter Burnor Grade 4
- Logan Burnor Grade 11
- Gabby Cheney Gr 12 (TC)
- Hunter Cheney Grade 10
- Emmett Dittmar K
- Madison Dittmar Grade 3
- Theo Dittmar Pre school
- Leah Fitzgerald Grade 12
- Olivia Fitzgerald College
- Jackson Gagne Grade 10
- Libby Gagne Grade 4
- Maggie Gagne Grade 3
- Oliver Gagne Grade 8
- Asa Gates Grade 8
- Addie Gates Grade 4
- Nora Gates Grade 10
- Ella Hadd Grade 11
- Duncan Hadd Grade 7
- Amelia Hubbard Grade 7
- Owen Hubbard Gr 4
- Ethan Hubbard Gr 8
- Sam Kenyon Grade 6
- Henry Kenyon College

- Ryan LaFlam Grade 9
- Marguerite LaFlam 3
- Madison Lampman College
- Adam Longe Grade 9
- Alex Longe Grade 8
- Asher Nester 12/College
- Connor Nielsen College
- Eagon Murphy College
- Zachary Ries College
- Odin Saunders Pre-K
- Tobias Saunders Grade 2
- Maggie Short Grade 10
- Liam Smith K
- Owen Smith Grade 2
- Drew Wood Grade 10
- Stella Wood Grade 8

Educators

- Caylin Bessette Educator
- Erin Gagne Educator
- Erica Greenia NCSS Supp
- Molly Hartman After Sch
- Ellen Lamos After School
- George Murphy Educator
- Cameron Nielsen Educator
- Jon Nielsen Educator
- Amanda Shand PreK Ed.



### Fall Sewing Group

Several members have mentioned to me that they would like to learn to sew or improve their skills. I'm available to do group instruction in the Parish Hall. The limit for the class is 6 people and I will not charge. Students will furnish their own fabric and supplies. If you are interested, please email me by September 10th at: [hshortvt49@gmail.com](mailto:hshortvt49@gmail.com) and let me know which evening of the week is best for you.

- Helen Short

### Calendar

Mon 9/4- Office Closed- Labor Day  
Tues 9/5- Outreach meeting, 9am (rescheduled for Tues due to Labor Day)  
Sun 9/10- Blessing of Backpacks, 10am  
Mon 9/11- Vestry meeting, 5:30pm  
Sat 9/16- Grief Luncheon w/ Ann in parish hall, Noon  
Wed 9/27- Community Tea, 2pm-4pm, Parish Hall

**OPEN DOOR DINNERS**  
Swanton Memorial Methodist  
5:30-6:30  
Dine in only!!  
Friday, Sept 22 – Goulash  
Friday, Oct 20  
Friday, Nov 17



**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**  
38 Grand Ave, Swanton, VT 05488  
Office 868-7185  
Website: [holytrinityswanton.org](http://holytrinityswanton.org)  
The Rev Ann Boyd 301-471-1862  
[boyda@hood.edu](mailto:boyda@hood.edu)  
[aboyd@holytrinityswanton.org](mailto:aboyd@holytrinityswanton.org)  
The Rev Fran Stanford 240-285-7097  
[vfstanford@comcast.net](mailto:vfstanford@comcast.net)  
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Admin Asst: Kiley Boutah,  
[office@holytrinityswanton.org](mailto:office@holytrinityswanton.org)  
Sr Warden: Sarah Nielsen  
[srwarden@holytrinityswanton.org](mailto:srwarden@holytrinityswanton.org)  
Bookkeeper: Lisa Way  
[bookkeeper@holytrinityswanton.org](mailto:bookkeeper@holytrinityswanton.org)  
Facilities Manager: George Plante  
868-7185  
Sexton: James McDonald  
802 582-5596  
Cleaning Services: Darlene Fournier  
AV/Tech: Lincoln Buczkowski



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Adam Fournier  
6 Wally Good, Beverly Kenyon  
7 Diane Chaffee  
12 Chaunce Benedict  
14 Allen Monahan  
17 Carter Burnor  
28 Mary Wood



## JUST BORN

Aug 22 Luca David Lontine

Proud Parents: Molly & Joshua Lontine  
Proud Grandmother: Mary Hartman  
Proud Great-Grandmother: Judy Ayers

### Vestry

Jacob Greenia - 2023  
Mary Hartman - 2023 (Clerk)  
Sandi Kenyon - 2023  
Kay Benedict - 2024  
Sarah Nielsen - 2024 (Sr Warden)  
Steve Trushaw - 2024  
Natalie Good - 2025 (Jr Warden)  
Betsy Liley - 2025 (Treasurer)  
Mary Wood - 2025