



HOLY TRINITY NEWS

APRIL 2025



Changing Seasons - From the Rector

I love the changing of seasons (yes, even mud season which I know is soon upon us). Watching the trees move from full green, to brilliant autumn colors, to bare branches, to covered with a sugar frosting of snow and finally to new buds of green to start the cycle all over again – well...that is one of my most favorite things..

Life, not unlike seasons, is constantly moving us forward. Often we move into new and wonderful things. Storms come up, winds blow, and we have to navigate those changes. There is however, one thing that never changes – the love and presence of God.

As we are come up on the end of Lent – we will move into Holy Week. A time that for Jesus and the disciples was pretty much one big storm. It was not an easy time full of joy and sunshine and laughter. There was a lot of prayer, confrontations in the temple, a meal together where one of their number was identified as a traitor and another told that he would deny Jesus. There were tears, a pleading to let this cup pass, an arrest, an execution. And fear...so much fear. And then, the season changed and the resurrection happened. Joy and wonder and even a little fear, wove its way through the followers of Jesus. The women who went to the tomb that morning left it in “fear and great joy” when an angel told them Jesus was no longer there (Matthew 28:8). They knew a great change had happened. It was no longer winter (or even mud season) but a new spring; a new chance for growth. They knew then that Jesus was going to be ever with them.

As a church we'll move from the season of Lent, into Holy Week, and then with great joy – into the season of Easter. A time when we remember that God incarnate, Emmanuel, never truly leaves us. What a gift these seasons are in our lives.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 13: 10am Eucharist service

Mon & Tue, April 14 & 15, 6pm, Vespers

Wednesday, April 16, 6pm, Seder Meal

Thursday, April 17, Maundy Thursday

- 6pm: Eucharist and stripping of the altar
- Prayer Vigil in the chapel to follow

Friday, April 18, Good Friday Noon in the Park,
6pm Good Friday service

Easter Sunday, April 20: 10am Eucharist service

HVAC Upgrade in Church Sanctuary

On Sunday, March 9 Vestry and the Building and Grounds committees met together to hear of a proposal to provide an upgrade to the HVAC system in the church sanctuary. On March 10 the vestry heard a second, slightly less expensive alternative and ultimately decided that was the best way to move forward.

The new system will be comprised of four floor-mounted units, three in the nave (where all the pews are) and one in the chancel near the organ and altar; there will also be two heat pumps outside powering these units. The units are electric, reducing the carbon footprint of our church buildings, and will provide heat, air conditioning, and humidity control. All of these are critically important not only for the comfort of the people but also for the maintenance of our building, the organ, and the piano.

The system will allow for a steady temperature which is better for the organ and piano and will prevent the system from having to significantly cool or warm the church on Sundays or other days when it is in use. It will also provide humidity control in the building which is also beneficial to the instruments and the building itself. Finally, the units will allow for heating as well. This will mean that the furnaces in the church (which are nearing 20 years old with one already repaired) will not have to work as hard to heat the space.

While this is not an inexpensive endeavor, the cost is less than \$60,000 by being installed in April and comes out of our capital reserve fund. This is money that is set aside in a separate investment account that allows us to do these kinds of facility upgrades and provides a cushion for additional repairs that become necessary as buildings age. The vestry determined that it made sense to use these funds because it will only be a benefit to the building. Additionally, having a space that is comfortably warmed and cooled will allow us to continue to provide positive welcome to the community and may even lead to additional outreach possibilities.



All Children Invited!

Please join us at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, April 13th for our Annual Palm Sunday Parade and Service followed by a brunch.

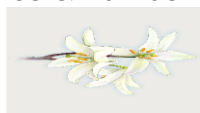
All children are invited to arrive at 9:30 to get suited for costumes and practice songs. Service will begin at 10:00 and children will return to parish hall after parade to hear more about Palm Sunday and decorate cookies before returning to church for communion.

Following the service families and parish members will gather in parish hall for a brunch buffet. Questions: Mary Wood @ 802-238-1818



Seder meal sign up

There is a sign up on the bulletin board for the seder meal on Wed, April 16 at 6 pm. Sign up to bring a food item, do a task (set up, cook, clean up), and to tell food preference & number of diners.



Easter Flowers

Envelops for Easter flowers will be on the sideboard in the narthex. Fill out the envelop indicating your thanksgivings or memorials. Place in the offering plate or hand in to Kiley.



**Franklin County Quilters Guild
25th Anniversary Quilt Show
Sat, Apr 5, 9-4
Sun Apr 6, 10-3
St. Albans City Hall**



Special Note of Appreciation

The following is a note received from our facilitators of the new Diaper/Wipe Ministry. Please note that through their wonderful efforts and organization, many wonderful people have availed themselves to the needs of this ministry. The parish has been a very vital to the success of making this program a reality for our community.

Dear Outreach Members,

Thank you for your support for the Diapers/Wipe Ministry, both spiritual and financial. This program will be an excellent and needed resource. Outreach at Holy Trinity is an important part of the greater community. Mary Hartman and Molly Hartman-Lontine



Holy Trinity Church has volunteered to do drop off for the Spectrum Youth Meal Train on the **fourth Monday of Each Month**. If you are willing to supply a meal by yourself or with a partner, please speak to Helen Short or Mary Wood if you are interested in signing up for a date in the future. You may also wish to join one of the families below to help support their offerings.

Date	Name
January 27th	Mary Hartman and Madeline Martin
February 24th	Kathleen and Margaret Schotto
March 24th	Mary and David Wood
April 28th	Natalie and Wally Good
May 19th	Sarah and Eric Hadd Family
June 23rd	Laura and John Simon
July 28th	Deanna and John Edwards
August 25th	Laura and John Simon
September 22nd	Mary and Dave Wood
October 27th	Shelley and Shawn Robtoy
November 24th	Martha Casavant Ries
December 22nd	Crystal Lampman Family

223 Lake St
St Albans VT 05478
Deliver 4:45-5PM
15 Kids
The youth also enjoy pizza delivery!



ART WALL

A BIG thank you to DiAnne Crane for her beautiful paintings of her horses and the countryside around Sheldon and Grace Church. It was a delight to have Diane and Andy here to help set up and take down. Blessings and thank you. For the month of April and May, El Towle, from Alburgh, will be ON THE WALL. We have invited the Bishop to bring her icon paintings to the Wall in August when we celebrate both our new ministry together with Kathleen and the bishop's artwork. We will see how that unfolds.



Community Meal

Holy Trinity Church Open Door Dinners
Holy Trinity Outreach Team is once again planning to offer three open door dinners over the Summer. Various members of the Outreach Team have stepped forward to take leadership in planning these events. Please know that these activities could not happen without support of parish members and volunteers from the greater community.

During April, May and June the following group leaders, will be reaching out to you to help with one or more of these dinners. Please know that whatever time you can dedicate is always appreciated.

April 24 : Deanna Edwards and Shelley Robtoy

May 22 : Laura Simons and Mary Wood

June 26 : Natalie Good and Helen Short



FELLOWSHIP

Thank you for the song, dance, cake, and gifts at the Fellowship celebration. Fellowship is scanning the horizon for new leadership and it is unfolding.

April Calendar

Tues 4/1- Choir Rehearsal, 7pm
 Wed 4/2- Silent prayer in the church, 5-6pm
 Thurs 4/3- Lenten Book Study, 5:30-8pm
 Mon 4/7- Outreach meeting, 9am
 Tues 4/8- Choir Rehearsal, 7pm
 Wed 4/9- Silent prayer in the church, 5-6pm
 Thurs 4/10- Lenten Book Study, 5:30-8pm
 Sun 4/13- Palm Sunday
 Mon 4/14- Vespers, 6pm
 Tues 4/15- Vespers, 6pm
 Wed 4/16- Seder meal, 6pm
 Thurs 4/17- Maundy Thurs eucharist & stripping of the altar, 6pm
 Fri 4/18- Good Friday service, noon & 6pm
 Sun 4/20- Easter Sunday
 Tues 4/22- Choir, 7pm
 Thurs 4/24- Open Door dinner, 5:30pm
 Tues 4/29- Choir, 7pm

Vestry bullet points from March meeting:

HVAC project in the church

Palm Sunday brunch

August 21st 6pm celebration of new ministry

Bids for lawn mowing & plowing

Sanctuary diocese



Martha's Kitchen needs for April:

heads of lettuce

cucumbers

tomatoes

HOMELESS

Those who have been homeless this winter have been housed in motels in Vermont. As of April 1st that program is over and no longer available. Some folks will need to find shelter outside which means a need for sleeping bags, tents, tarps, warm blankets - if you have any of these items at home not being used, please bring to the church and we will see they are delivered to CVOEO.

For People Facing Uncertainty

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to us all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. Amen. New Zealand Prayer Book

Linda B's April Angels Corner from the Heart

Day 1 You have so much going for you

Day 2 With your angel there is always something to feel positive about

Day 3 Let Hope lead the way

Day 4 None of your troubles are permanent

Day 5 No one is more deserving of life's joy than you are

Day 6 You have the power to make your dream come true. Your angel knows the truth

Day 7 Stop worrying and start living

When Our Lord is close at heart all things are possible

My Guardian Angel says Jesus invited you to take my hand & stand beside me today. Keep my steps firm & keep me from falling

Grow in grace with your angel. Our journey in life is rarely linear, but God lovingly guides along the twists and turns.

Thank you Father, for our guardian angel has plans for us. Help me to deal with temporary troubles and move on with a lighter more grateful heart

My special angel says you are undeniably important. You are without a doubt special. You are happy.

Do not ever change; you are wonderful.

Angels are incorporeal, lacking material substance, and invisible.

Though angels are invisible, they can appear to humans. Angels are localized and have to engage in spatial travel to go from one place to another. Angels are immortal. They do not die.

Grow in grace with your special angel. Call to mind three ways God has been faithful. In your life look forward in faith, knowing God will carry you through whatever you face.

Angel of God my guardian dear;

To whom His love commits me here;

Ever this day be at my side

To light & guard, to rule & guide.

Stand out for the good in everyone. Your special angel knows why.

Be kind to one another it always works.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2	Rob Giroux
6	Erin Gagne
9	Barb Trushaw
10	Dorothy Wootton, Annie Hartman
12	Shawn Robtoy
14	Stella Wood
15	Bellamy Greenia
19	Joe Cava
20	Linda Wirts, Oliver Gagne
21	Connor Nielsen
24	Sarah Hadd

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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bookkeeper@holytrinityswanton.org

Organist: Kay Benedict

Facilities Mgr: George Plante 868-7185

Sexton: James McDonald 582-5596

Cleaning Services: Jill Walsh

AV/Tech: Lincoln Buczkowski

Rector's Office Hours

Tues: 2 - 7pm Weds: 2 - 4:30pm

Thursdays: 8:30 - Noon; 2 - 4pm

Friday is a Sabbath day away from work, including emails. If there is a pastoral emergency please call my cell phone 301 848-6069