



## HOLY TRINITY NEWS

September 2025



Chosen by the One who does the choosing

- From the Rector

So, it's been a year or near enough. Three quarters of my family moved to Vermont on September 25, 2024 (Jonathan followed a couple months later), my first day in the office was September 3, my first Sunday with you was September 8. AND we just had our Celebration of Ministry – truly a glorious evening.

The title of this month's musing from me is a statement that I've heard several times and has always been powerful for me. It is God who does the choosing. We are allowed to say no...or "I don't think so." But if it is truly a call from God it is nearly impossible to walk away from such a choosing. This echoes, I believe, a good bit of what our guest preacher, Rev. Flo Ledyard (wasn't she spectacular?), said to all of us at the Celebration of Ministry. In particular she gave us six things to consider and remember. Here they are (in compact form):

1. If a call is divinely initiated than God is in control...not us.
2. God's call requires us to be open to God's word AND requires us to speak God's word and to work for God's justice
3. God's call will likely send us beyond our comfort. But that's okay – because God doesn't call the equipped, God equips the called. We will have all we need.
4. God rejects our rejections – because God is in charge. Trust in God is at the heart of any call. Having awareness and trust in God's presence and promises drives out any anxiety.
5. We are to have Biblical forbearance with one another. That is – have grace, humility, and tenacious love which will weave a parish together. Be a community that reminds each other of God's presence.
6. Rejoice because God is with us! Joy is incomplete if not shared.

She also encouraged us to imagine what we can be and do together. It has been a wonderful year. It was a powerful service on August 21. The One who does the choosing chose us to work and walk together. I am excited for what lays ahead of us.

Kathleen+

Also – if you want to listen to the sermon again – here is a link to just that portion of the service:

<https://youtu.be/9Bn6D2XAKas?si=NmZiYeyhJiWcIrBt>



### **Please Help Us with Our Annual Celebration**

**Do you know someone that is an educator or heading off to school as a preschooler or college student? We want to honor all individuals as we do our Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, September 7thth .**

**We would like to honor these individuals even if they are not able to attend our service on the 7th by providing them with a special backpack chain blessed in honor of them as they begin a new yearly adventure.**

**Parents, Grandparents and Friends, you are invited to forward names to Mary Wood to make sure they are included in the blessing on this special day. Or PM me on the HTC FacebookPage. [golfwoodmd@comcast.com](mailto:golfwoodmd@comcast.com)**

### **Season of Creation**

During the Sundays from September 7 – October 5 you may notice that some of our language will change a bit. The collects of the day will not sound like ones you know. The sermons may (we'll see what the Holy Spirit guides the writing) focus more on creation and our role in being stewards of ALL that God has given us. It is the "Season of Creation, a time when we join with Christians around the world to celebrate in prayer and action our Gospel calling to protect the Earth that God entrusted to our care." (From the Season of Creation for Episcopal Parishes, P. 4.) Work has been done for several years by members of the Episcopal Church to curate information and resources. Enjoy this time – particularly as our seasons change and shift!

### **Changes are a-comin'!!!**

But don't worry – they won't be too extreme! Beginning in October we'll have one Sunday a month with an 8am spoken service. Know that if you attend that service it will be more relaxed and Rev. Kathleen may tap you to do a reading or assist with the chalice. In addition, there will be one Sunday a month where we will have either an intergenerational or adult forum as a part of coffee hour. AND one Sunday a month any kids present will be invited to join Rev. Kathleen at the altar. So changes, yes. But not too many or too dramatic! Everything will be scheduled and advertised.

## **WELCOME HOME**

Our Welcome Home contribution this season will be First Aid kits and sponge mops. Any size first aid kit for different situations - small for a back pack; small, medium, large for new apartments/home situations for families moving into a home for the first time with nothing. We will be collecting **Sept 14-28**. THANK YOU AHEAD OF TIME for your generosity.



### **Harvest Pot Luck and Trivia Night Thursday, September 18th at 5:30 PM**

The Fellowship Team is sponsoring a Harvest Pot Luck dinner followed by Trivial Pursuit games. Gardens are full of zucchini, summer squash, tomatoes, pumpkins, berries, green and yellow beans that can be made into casseroles, salads, pies, stews, etc. The October potluck will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Open Door Dinners**

**Memorial Methodist Church**  
**Fridays Sept 26, Oct 24, Nov 21**  
**Nativity/St. Louis**  
**Thursdays Jan 22, Feb 19, Mar 12**  
**Holy Trinity**  
**Thursdays Apr 23, May 28, Jun 25**

### **Crafts & Tea**

Starting the first Tuesday of October, the 7th at 2 pm the Fellowship Team will host 'Crafts and Tea' in the Parish Hall. If you don't have a portable craft, come for the tea and cookies. Jig Saw puzzles will be available as well for group work.



A big thank you to our parish family for the cards, notes, phone calls, food and visits and prayers that have journeyed with me as I got back on my feet from a fall and fractures. Summer has been a healing time and I am ever so grateful. Blessings to you. Linda

Thanks for the donations of fresh veggies for Martha's Kitchen in August. Much appreciated!!

## **September Calendar**

Mon 9/1- Office Closed for Labor Day  
Thurs 9/4- Salsa Canning Workshop, parish hall, 6-8pm  
Sun 9/7- Blessing of backpacks  
Mon 9/8- Outreach meeting, 9:00am  
Vestry meeting, 5:00pm  
Tues 9/9- Choir rehearsal, 7pm  
Sun 9/14- Pastoral Care mtg, 9:15am  
Tues 9/16- Choir rehearsal, 7pm  
Thurs 9/18- Fellowship Potluck, 5:30pm  
Thurs 9/25- Applesauce Canning Workshop, parish hall, 6-8pm  
Tues 9/30- Choir rehearsal, 7pm

### **Vestry meeting, Aug 11th Highlights**

- 1.Exploring new church management system - We have been exploring and will be implementing a new church management system which will allow for better tracking of members, online giving, and the ability to update our website. The plan will be to implement this very early in 2026
- 2.Audit committee has been named - every year we have to have our financial books looked at to ensure that they are clean and procedurally correct. A committee was named to undertake this task for the 2024 financial year.
- 3.Gearing up for stewardship - stewardship season will be upon us quickly. Be on the lookout for reminders in September and for the campaign to begin in October. Begin to consider how you are called to give to Holy Trinity



Holy Trinity was proud to sponsor Kenny Celeste in the recent Warriors and Golf Classic held at the Ralph Myher Golf Course. This was a fundraiser to support the mission to assist in the healing and reintegration of our wounded heroes through Support, Outreach, Assistance and Recovery. Many of our members might recognize Kenny as Maia, Elanie, and Norahlee's Dad. Kenny also plays as part of the Louisville Slugger Warriors Team. Attached is a picture of Kenny near the hole we sponsored in the Warriors Soar Golf Classic.

## Holy Trinity Youth Education

Starting Date: Sept. 14th

9:45 start time

Calling all children who want to help us piece together our love for God and Community! This year we will explore many stories of the bible and connect them to the way we celebrate our daily lives. As we piece together these stories, we will create a quilt to represent our understanding and messages learned. Each child will have a completed quilt to take home at the end of our Sunday School year in May.

- ☐ Sept: In the Beginning, God Created Heavens Earth
- ☐ October: Story of St. Francis Day
- ☐ Nov: God Drove Adam & Eve from the Garden
- ☐ December: Christmas Story
- ☐ Jan: Noah's Ark & the Waters Receded from the Earth
- ☐ February: God Is Love
- ☐ March: Easter "He is Risen"
- ☐ Apr: And Moses Came Down The Mountain to the People
- ☐ May: Then Jonah Prayed to the Lord

Our youth education program is open to all ages. Our weekly lessons will include stories, reflections, art activity, and singing along with snacks and a beverage.

Our religious education program will begin on Sunday, September 14th . Classes begin at 9:45 and last about 45 minutes each week. Children return to our regular church service at the beginning of the communion service.

We will also be offering nursery coverage for younger children ages birth-3years old.

Note: As a special resource this year, we will be using the quilt created by Kay Benedict as a resource and example for our Sunday School Curriculum art project. Please make sure to check the art wall in the parish hall for the historical background for the quilt Kay has displayed. Thank you Kay!

### ART WALL

On the Art Wall this month is a display about the story quilts of Harriet Powers (1837-1910). Powers was an African American woman who was born into slavery in the state of Georgia. She is remembered for her two quilts, The Bible Quilt (1885, in the collection of the Smithsonian), and The Pictorial Quilt (1897, owned by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston). Both quilts depict stories from the Bible, and one of them also illustrates several 19th-century astronomical events, including two meteor showers. (Photos of both quilts are posted in the Parish Hall.)

The quilt hanging on the Art Wall was inspired by Harriet Powers and her story quilts, and designed by Jan Patek. The quilt, made in 2017, is in a primitive folk-art style that depicts Bible stories from the Creation through Jesus's resurrection.



## Diaper Ministry Update

### June, 2025

Hygiene products distributed: 88

17 visitors

17 wipes 24 diaper packs

### July, 2025

Hygiene products distributed: 178

26 visitors

41 wipes 53 diaper packs

### August, 2025

Hygiene products distributed: 51

17 Visitors

20 wipes 29 diaper packs

### Outreach Team Celebration

On Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Outreach Team met for a wonderful celebration of the work they have achieved over the last several months. Each member brought a dish to share and members were able to catch up on summer trips and shared family stories.

As part of our celebration, we celebrated the many years that one of our members has donated to the Swanton Enhancement Beautification Committee. In thanksgiving for her years of planning, planting, weeding and watering Swanton's Flower Gardens, we presented a \$500 grant to honor Linda Wirts.

The Beautification Committee is dedicated to enhancing the natural beauty of our beloved Swanton town and village. These efforts create welcoming spaces for residents and visitors alike, fostering a sense of pride and community. Every dollar raised helps to sustain and expand these initiatives, ensuring that our shared spaces remain a source of joy and inspiration throughout the season. In addition to floral displays, the committee is committed to planting ten new trees each year, contributing to a healthier environment and a greener future.

Thank you, Linda Wirts, for your years of service!



September Angels by Linda B.  
Straight from the Heart

Days with our Angel

1. You are wonderful in more ways than one
2. Dream big, doubt small
3. You deserve every happiness
4. A smile, a hug, a kind word; with hem you can change someone's world
5. Our Angel with us, we make good decisions
6. The compliments you give others are true for you too

7. Be yourself; there is no one better  
Angel, keep me as the apple of your eye & hide me in your wings

May the Lord make our angels' love increase,  
just as our lord & angels increase our love for you

My guardian angel keeps us safe & loves us always

Angels are personal beings with all the attributes and will

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

Some (possibly even all) angels have wings

Angels are holy (they are set apart from sin & set apart to God)

Angels are immortal; they do not die

Angels live forever, once created, they never cease to exist. Indeed scripture clearly states that angels are not subject to death

Angel of God, my guardian dear;

To whom His love commits me here;

Even this day be by my side,

To light & guard, to rule & guide

If you pray truly you will feel within yourself a great assurance and the angels will be your companions

With your angels fix your thoughts on what is true & honorable & right & pure & lovely & admirable. Think about things that are excellent & worthy of praise for you & your angel  
Had to put this little prayer in because everyone will know it

Now I lay me down to sleep

I pray thee Lord thy child to keep

Thy love go with me all the night

And wake me with the morning light

Be kind to someone & someone will call you an angel



**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Adam Fournier  
6 Wally Good, Beverly Kenyon  
7 Diane Chaffee  
12 Chaunce Benedict  
14 Allen Monahan  
16 Margaret Schotto  
28 Mary Wood



**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 18 Molly & Josh Lontine



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**JUST BORN**

**AUGUST 2 EASTON MICHAEL NIELSEN**

**Proud Parents:: Caylin & Cameron Nielsen**

**Grandparents: Sarah & Jon Nielsen**

**Great Grandparents: Mary & David Wood**

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**

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