



HOLY TRINITY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2026



Season of Creation - From the Rector

As I sit writing this, I am facing the large front window in the rectory living room while the rain falls and the sun shines at the same time. Out this window I watch the town go by on foot, on bikes, and in cars. Often there is a squirrel climbing on our suet feeder, a woodpecker on the bird feeder, and occasionally, a hummingbird. Living here in Swanton I find myself surrounded by creation in a way very different than most places I have lived. These pieces of creation feed my soul and remind me always of the presence of God in everything and everyone.

Through the month of September (from Sunday, August 30 – Sunday, October 4) we'll be celebrating the "Season of Creation" at our Sunday services. This is 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. Our music, our prayers, threads in the sermons will focus, at least to some extent, on the beauty and wonder present in God's creation.

This world has been given into our hands to steward and love and maintain. God has entrusted us with this great gift and we have to care for it. While the Season of Creation is primarily about the physical world around us, we have to consider the truth that creation takes many forms. Planting flowers and trimming shrubs is creation. Writing is creation. Caring for our youngest ones is creation. Painting, knitting....all these and anything else you can think of is creation.

God is the great creator – we are made in the image and likeness of God – so go, enjoy the physical creation around us and...be a creator! This fall, plant some bulbs that you'll see come up in the spring or summer. Get a paint by number kit. Start knitting a sweater, well – maybe start with a scarf! Take out your phone (or even a real camera) and capture images of the beauty of this fabulous creation in which we get to live. There are so many ways to create – so many ways to live in and love creation.

Kathleen+

Backpack Blessing

Are you a student (at any level) or a teacher (at any level)? Bring your backpack or messenger bag or whatever it is you use to carry stuff from home to school or work so that we can bless it and you for the upcoming school year!

Sunday School and Youth Commission

The start of Sunday School is being postponed for a bit while we reimagine what it will look like to have the most consistency and reach the most kids. Rev. Kathleen will be reaching out shortly to schedule a meeting with parents and others interested in the formation of our younger members. We often speak of children as the future of our church. There is truth in that – and they are also members now and we want them to feel connected to and a part of our community. If you are interested in being a part of this formation, speak to Rev. Kathleen.

Some questions and concerns to consider:

- *Creating a program at a time that will enable the most children to attend.

- *Creating a program where kids can fully participate in the Eucharist service

- *Can we, should we, partner with St. Luke's and the few kids they have? What would that look like?

- *How can we best connect with our children in Grades 6 and up?

- *Recruiting new teachers



Renewal of Vows/Blessing Ceremony
for Ada & Tim Lyman

Saturday, September 19, 10 am

We will be having a Eucharist and a small reception afterward. All church members are invited to join us. No gifts needed, just your presence as we celebrate and recommit before God and those we love

Ministry Fair

September 20 during Coffee Hour we will be hosting our “Ministry Fair”. This is a time when folks can chose to join a commission or a ministry which are the heartbeat of Holy Trinity and help keep us running.

The commissions plan events, make decisions about buildings and grounds or financial issues, and work with our outreach efforts. Ministries are most often those things that help with the running of the church services: lectors, oblations, crucifer, choir; audio visual. There is room for everyone – even the kiddos. I am always happy to have our younger parishioners serve as lectors, acolytes, oblation bearers, crucifers, and can even train them to be chalice bearers and servers when they are older! Kids from the age of 6 and up can be included in worship in a variety of ways.

So – below is a list of options. Most of the committees have meetings as needed with a few regularly scheduled ones. Think and pray about this for the next few days. Ask questions if you have them. We want and need you to be involved!

Commissions

Worship
Finance
Youth
Outreach
Fellowship Commission
Buildings & Grounds
St. John's, Highgate
Commission
Pastoral Care
Adult and Youth
Christian Formation

Ministries

Altar Guild
Greeters
Oblations
Music/Choir
Acolytes
Columbarium
Lectors/Prayers of the
People
Chalice Bearer
Crucifer/Server
Audio/Visual

St John's, Highgate

Thank you Kathleen for leading 48 voices in the most beautiful choral gathering of Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee on Sunday August 16 with prayerful Evensong. St. John's was filled with rays of sunshine and voices that filled the church and outside. We have been told that St. John's has wonderful acoustics and it is true. It lifted the roof.

Following Evensong 3 very fine organists; Erik Kenyon, Karl Fandrich and Kay Benedict shared with us individual recital compositions and story lines to help the congregation understand what was selected.

Thank you to Adam Fournier for pumping the organ and to all those who brought snacks following the prayer and musical afternoon. Blessings, The St John's Committee

September Calendar

Tues 9/1- Crafts & Tea, 1-3, Choir rehearsal, 7pm
Wed 9/2- Diapers & Wipes, 10-1, Bible Study, 5p
Sun 9/6- 8am spoken eucharist
Mon 9/7- Office Closed
Outreach mtg, 9a, Diapers & Wipes, 10a-1p
Tues 9/8- Choir rehearsal, 7pm
Wed 9/9- Diapers & Wipes, 10-1, Bible Study, 5
Sun 9/13- Blessing of Backpacks
Mon 9/14- Diapers & Wipes 10-1, Vestry mtg, 5:30
Tues 9/15- Crafts & Tea, 1-3, Choir rehearsal, 7
Wed 9/16- Diapers & Wipes, 10-1, Bible Study, 5
Thurs 9/17 – Parish Potluck, 5 pm
Sun 9/20- Ministry Fair during coffee hour
Mon 9/21- Diapers & Wipes, 10a-1p
Wed 9/23- Diapers & Wipes, 10-1, Bible Study, 5
Thurs 9/24- Apple Jelly canning, 6pm
Mon 9/28- Diapers & Wipes, 10a-1p
Tues 9/29- Crafts & Tea, 1-3, Choir rehearsal, 7
Wed 9/30- Diapers & Wipes, 10-1, Bible Study, 5



Diaper/Wipe Ministry

The Diaper/Wipe Ministry has been very successful this year of 2026. This is a wonderful outreach. Monetary donations are always welcome. If folks wish to give actual material donations, it is helpful to our team if you check with us to see exactly what is needed. All help is always appreciated. Bless you!

July, 2026

32 visits -
52 wipes packages, 43 diaper packs
72 Personal care products

August 2026

32 visits -
86 wipes packages, 42 diaper packs
82 Personal care products

FELLOWSHIP

I used to work with a nurse who referred to September as the beginning of the new year. It is true that in September many things start again. Holy Trinity is no exception, the summer hiatus has come to an end.

FELLOWSHIP POTLUCKS will be starting again. The first one is on Sept 17th. People can start gathering at 5 and we'll plan to eat at 6. The other Fellowship Potlucks dates are Oct 22nd and Nov 19th.

CRAFTS, TEA, AND COOKIES will start Sept 1st from 1-3. We'll meet every 2 weeks through Dec 22nd and then start up again in January. We may use the Chapel for some of the gatherings so SASH can use the Parish Hall. - Helen

Art Wall

Our featured artist is Mary Strohe Spenser (1888-1984). Mary studied oil painting with Emil Gruppe and other well-known teachers. She exhibited in Boston & throughout Vermont and had a one-woman show at the Fleming Museum. A bronze memorial tablet that she designed for Gov Mead is on display at the VT State House. The paintings hanging here are from several private collections including the St. Albans Museum.

Our PARISH RETREAT will be held at Rock Point. If you want to stay overnight in a cabin, they are available the nights of October 15th and 16th. You may come for daytime Fellowship on Friday the 16th and Saturday the 17th. Ada and Tim Lyman are the activity planners and coordinators. You may contact Ada at (802) 559-3053 or Tim at 802-559-3052.

Holy Trinity Canning Projects

Thur, Sept 24th, 6:00-7:30

contact Kiley Boutah at 802-868-7185 or email Kiley office@holytrinityswanton.org

Halloween in the Park 2026

Have you even wanted to go off and join the Circus? Well now's your chance. This year, for Halloween in the Park, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Memorial United Methodist, and Nativity BVM-St. Louis Parish, invite you to be part of our annual ecumenical event.

Everyone is invited to come and cheer on the young children and their families as they gather in the park on Saturday, October 24th from 5-7. Each church will be collecting donations of individually wrapped candy and snacks. Please see the donation location in each parish. To go along with the theme, you might also consider items like small bags of popcorn, pretzels, animal crackers, popcorn balls, and of course, any of your favorite candy choices.

If you would like to volunteer to participate in setting up our booth or handing out candy, please let Mary Wood, Jen Ploof or Tammy Tuttle know. We have selection of costumes for people to wear to make this a festive event for children and adults.

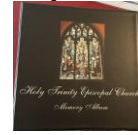
Music at Grace, Sheldon
all 7 pm

Fri Sept4: [Andrew Wells-Oberegger](#)

Fri, Sept18: Sara Grey & Mark Greenberg

Fri, Oct2: Uncle John's Band

Holy Trinity Church Memory Book



The Vestry just wants to remind everyone about an exciting project being implemented this year. We want to reach as many families and individuals who have been or are members of Holy Trinity to create a page in our Holy Trinity Memory Album.

Each page will be designed individually with your approval. There are just a few things that are needed to get started.

1. Submit three or more photos
2. Provide dates connected to Holy Trinity
3. Provide a one or two paragraph bio of your history with HTC.
4. Mail this information to Mary Wood at golfwoodmd@comcast.net

After the draft is created, Mary will send you a copy for approval. **Please note: If you would like to work with Mary to create your page in person with her, please let her know.**

We continue to collect donations for the AV Fundraiser. Donations can now be made directly in the drop down menu of our QR code published weekly on the church bulletin.

Vestry Update

*Elevator repairs: We have examined our service contract with Otis and are canceling that contract and establishing a new one with a company named Alpha Elevator. We do not yet have the date sent for the repair by Alpha but stay tuned

*Finance team will be meeting soon to begin work on the budget for 2027

*There is an audit team put together to look at the 2025 accounts. There is a report that has to be generated for the diocese. That work will begin soon.

*Two events coming up at St. John's Highgate: Sun Aug16 we have an Evensong at 3pm followed by an organ recital. Then on Aug 29 from 3 - 5pm there will be "Play Music on the Porch" an open mic event & an instrument petting zoo. It will be rain or shine.

*Canning workshops are happening again this year! Join us on Thurs, Aug27 for salsa and on Thurs, Sept24 for apple jelly. Please contact Kiley at the office if you want to be put on the list - each class is limited to 20 people.

My Guardian Angel Corner for September
from Linda B. Straight from the Heart

1- Good vibes are headed your way
2- You make ordinary moments special
with your angels
3- Trust the timing of your life
4- Your smile is always a super power
5 – Everything doesn't have to be perfect
to be wonderful
6 – You have grace even under pressure
7 – With our Guardian Angel there is
something to look forward to today
I will sing the steadfast love forever. With
my mouth I will sing louder. The Lord and
the angels are always with me
If ever you feel too short to reach the
heavens, fear not for there is an angel
reaching out to meet you halfway
To live as the angels do, give more than
you receive, and love more than you are
loved
Angels are the unseen hands that applaud
you and the heavenly voices that cheer you
on. All you have to do is listen & look with
your heart
Word before world fully loved free fully.
This is who you are in the Lord's world
Today is a good day to have a good day.
I praise the Lord for the security, safety,
and reassurance of your presence. Thank
you for choosing me and my angels.
I pray thee, O God, that I may be beautiful
within. My angels help me do this
Praise Him sun & moon
Praise Him all you shining stars
Praise Him to the highest heaven
The Lord commanded & they were created
our angels
The Spirit of the Lord is on me because
God has anointed me to preach good news
to the poor
Draw close to the Lord & I draw close to
you
Love your neighbors and they will love you
Angels live forever; they are wonderful



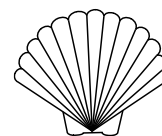
AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

18 Molly & Josh Lontine



BAPTISM

August 9

Emily Joan Hill



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