

NORTH PARISH OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

**THRU THE HANDS OF GOD -
ONE HAND HELPING ANOTHER
(North Parish's Mission Statement)**



From Fr. Tim's Desk

"Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Mark 10:9

When I sit down with couples for pre-marital preparation I give them the sobering statistics; 50% of new marriages fail, 67% of second marriages fail, and 75% of third marriages fail. This is not what God intended and it is the reason that most denominations require their clergy to do some sort of pre-marital counseling. We want to see marriages succeed, not fail. When I share those statistics with spouses-to-be it is not to scare them or change their minds but rather to emphasize how frail human relationships can be, where all too often couples struggle with the limits of human love prematurely. A major reason why marriages fail is a lack of trust in each other or the inability of couples to grow in trust with each other. This is not what God intended.

In Mark's gospel the Pharisees ask Jesus "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" They already know that according to Mosaic law it was allowable, and I am sure they were not amused when Jesus made the point that the only reason that Moses wrote the law was not because God intended divorce to be an option but rather because of the hardness of the human heart; that the human remedy for a relationship gone bad is to fill out a piece of paper and end it. Jesus goes on to quote from the Book of Genesis what God does intend ". . . a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder." In the paradise of Eden God created them both, male and female, in His own image, to be partners, to be equals, knowing and trusting each other so intimately that they become one body, one heart, and one mind. In the Garden it is their creator that provides all of their needs. In the Garden in their nakedness and innocence it is their creator they trust completely. This was the way God intended things to be, the joining together of man and woman signifying the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church, the union between God and his people.

We know how our story goes after that. Sin and evil enter the Garden and innocence is lost, doubt and second guessing clouds their judgment and the man and the woman begin to wonder maybe I can do things my way, maybe I don't need to rely on him as much, maybe I don't need to rely on my spouse as much. Just maybe the grass is greener on the other side of the hill. Maybe.

And if ours were strictly a human story the man and the woman might do the human thing and give their two week notice on a piece of paper and end the relationship. But our story is not just a human story. Ours is a story of a God who loves his creation and loves his creatures so dearly that time and time again he calls us back to him, even when we turn away time and time again. Ours is a story of a God whose love has no limits. Ours is the story of a God whose relationship with us never ends. Ours is the story of a God who entered his creation in flesh and blood, who suffered our human frailty, so that we would be saved, not condemned. Ours is the story of a God who conquered sin and death on a cross so that we might return to him. Ours is the story of a God who by the blood of his son Jesus Christ offers us forgiveness. Ours is the story of a God who wants us to succeed, not fail. Ours is the story of a God who offers eternal life and Paradise to those who trust in him, COMPLETELY. This is what God intends. TRUST ME.

Fr. Tim+



OCTOBER MEMORIALS



WINE & WAFERS: In loving memory of Alfred and Dolly Roberts
by Bob and Kay Ann Kalbach.
In loving memory of Kenneth Heffner by Roy Amour.

BULLETINS: In loving memory of Harry Strobel by Roy Amour.

**SANCTUARY
CANDLES:** In loving memory of Irene and Stephen J. Rasimowicz Sr. by
Janis and Barry Idell.
In loving memory of Timothy Strunk by the Ulceski and
Strunk families.
In loving memory of Betty Noble by Steve, Bonnie, Jaime
and Ben Hynoski.

The November Bulletins are available for sponsorship. If you are interested
in sponsoring the bulletins please call the church office at 570-429-7107.
Bulletins are \$10.00

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All articles for the November Newsletter should be submitted to our
Parish Administrator, Shannon no later than October 8th. If you
would like to sponsor the newsletter (\$10) call the church office by the
newsletter deadline. Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, October
22nd at 1:30 p.m. at Holy Apostles, St. Clair to help fold the newsletter.



Congratulations to Jessica Marie Rhein and
Benjamin Stephen Hynoski who were united in
marriage at St. John's on September 20, 2014.
May their home be a haven of blessing and
peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*



Sharing Thoughts from the Senior Warden

This month we will be conducting the North Parish Annual Meeting. As always, I hope all of our parishioners will attend this important meeting. After the meeting, there will be a luncheon as well as fellowship.

Also coming in November is Consecration Sunday. On this Sunday, I will be visiting St. John's and Holy Apostles to speak to you about our current financial situation and the need for stewardship. Over the past months, I have written my articles each month and at times mentioned our fundraisers and the many folks who volunteer their precious time and efforts to make these events so successful. As their efforts and the funds that are raised are very important and appreciated, we still need your offerings each Sunday. It is these weekly offerings that are the basis to pay our bills and expenses throughout the year.

Your continued generosity is extremely appreciated and I feel truly blessed to be your Senior Warden and to have the opportunity to meet with you. Over the coming weeks there will be articles included in the Sunday bulletins regarding stewardship. Please take time to read them and on Consecration Sunday we will be collecting the 2015 pledge cards. I look forward to your continued support to keep this wonderful parish functioning in 2015 and many years to come.

May God bless you and your families.
Barry Idell



Vestry Highlights – August 17, 2014

- Senior Warden, Barry Idell to meet with our Bishop to discuss the sale of Christ Church.
- Organ repairs at St. John's to begin after September 20th.
- Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, October 19th at Holy Apostles after the 11:00 a.m. Eucharist Service. Luncheon to follow after the meeting.
- Next meeting September 14, 2014 at St. John's.

Thank you to everyone who helped with and supported Pioneer Day and the Peach Festival. We had a profit of \$356.00 dollars for Pioneer Day and \$828.00 from the Peach Festival. Both fundraisers went towards our general operating expenses.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Ray Umlauf, Kevin Serrentino, Connie Schrader, Joe Brennan, David Gerlott, Walter Machos, Pat Hefner, Tamme Kehres, Molly Fry, Spencer Dougherty, Daniel Jenkins Sr., Matthew Foerster, Tania Miller, Ray Moyer, Deb Anderson, Fawn Eisenhart, Kyle & Karl Schu, Laura Kennedy, Bill Goodrich, William Moore, Lori Kahler, Mary Moyer, Linda Regal, Christopher Albright, Jason Noble, Alma Davis, Martha Semar, Sherese Gavenport, Howard Hauk, Jessica Rhein, Mabel, Arlene Davis, Mckenzie Rose, Rafael Ramos, Shirley Moyer, Kevin Rhein, Stephen Rasimowicz, Jr., John Hauk, Todd Leshar, Mary Price, Virginia M. Bushyager, Theresa Price, Jackie Jones-Allison, Theresa Robbins, Suzanne Glick Connor, Charlotte Smith, Thelma Morgan, Jim Spieles, Jr., June Leshar, Steven Leshar, Russell Leshar, Kristin Lecher, Suzette Pogash, Mary Catherine Glick, Kay Fertig, Charles J. Wylam, Mary Faith Goodman

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS SERVING HERE AND ABROAD.

PRAYER LIST POLICY: To request a person to be placed on the prayer list, please call the church office (570-429-7107) with the person's full name; also the person who is making the request must leave their name and phone number. There will be no time limit to how long a person can stay on the prayer list, however, please call the office when your prayer request has been met so the list will stay updated. Thank you.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS: You may have noticed that during Sunday services our priests have designated a spot in the service for birthday and anniversary blessings. If you would like a birthday or anniversary blessing, please let our priests know during the announcements that it is your special day.



SPECIAL INTENTION: Your prayers are asked for Robert E. Jones who entered eternal life on September 11, 2014. May God grant Robert eternal rest and give comfort to all who knew and loved him. Bob attended St. John's, Ashland.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4 – Angela Bowers
5 – The Rev. Timothy Albright
7 – Shannon Correll
 Jeffery Hoffman
9 – Michelle Jacobs
11 – Claudia Rae Larsen
15 – William Neary
17 – Betty Haverty
 Carol Jones

19 – Linda Gerlott
20 – Jacqueline Demcher
26 – Ethan Correll
 Elaine Scheuren
28 – John Menuchak, Jr.
 William Umbenhaur
29 – Heidi Ann Higgins
31 – Robert Jones, Jr.



If you would like your name added to the birthday list or if your birthday is listed incorrectly please call the church office at 570-429-7107.



ORGAN REPAIR FUND



St. John's and Holy Apostles Churches each have very old antique, pipe organs. If anything major were to render these beautiful organs inoperative we would not have the finances to replace them. To maintain them in working order the replacement parts and specialized labor is very expensive. That being said, you will find donation envelopes with your Sunday bulletins. These envelopes are for donations to specifically set aside funds for organ repairs for both St. John's and Holy Apostles organs. You may also specify as to which church your donation is to be applied. If you do not have access to these donation envelopes, please mail your donations to our parish office and again specify which church to apply your donation.

Thank you for your donations. As of September 2nd we received \$1141.00

FOOD BANK MINISTRY



During the month of October we will be collecting any type of boxed food items for the local food banks. As always, any kind of non-perishable food item is appreciated! Thank you to everyone who donated products in September. If you are in need of food assistance, please call the church office at 570-429-7107 and we will direct you to a local food pantry.



NORTH PARISH'S ANNUAL MEETING October 19, 2014

The annual meeting for North Parish will be held at Holy Apostles, St. Clair on Sunday, October 19th. The combined worship service will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by the meeting of all parishioners and a luncheon. All members of North Parish are asked to be in attendance.

AUGUST 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

North Parish Receipts

General Account		
	Aug.-14	\$ 5,700.02
Year to Date Gen. Receipts		\$ 50,656.37
Transfer in from M&I		-
Transfer M&I Year to Date		\$ 14,000.00

M&I Account		
	Aug.-14	\$ 182.55
Year to date		\$ 10,916.42

Memorial Account		
	Aug-14	\$ 611.63
Year to date		\$ 1,425.73

Balances		
General Account		\$ 8,170.65
M&I Account		\$ 18,229.24
Memorial Fund		\$ 15,741.68
Temp. Restricted Fund		

North Parish Disbursements

General Account		
	Aug.-14	\$ 5,860.43
Year to Date Exp.		\$ 61,717.96

M&I Account		
	Aug. -14	-
Year to date		\$ 14,035.00

Memorial Account		
	Aug. 14	\$ 60.00
Year to date		\$ 60.00



Please call the church office if:

- your address changes
- if a loved one has been admitted to the hospital
- if you have a prayer concern
- if there is any way we can assist you

Church Office Phone: 570-429-7107 - PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW PHONE NUMBER!

Church Office Address: North Parish, P.O. Box 487, Frackville, PA 17931

Church Office Email Address: nparish@ptd.net

**Church Office Hours: Wednesdays & Thursdays: 1:30-5:15 p.m.; Fridays: 1:30-4:30 p.m.
PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIMES!**

Website: www.northparish.com

Clergy – The Reverend Timothy Albright; The Reverend James C. Smith

Senior Warden – Barry Idell – (570) 385-7978; cell – (732) 690-5862

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Northparishepiscopalchurch>

Please note: No items shall be removed from Christ Church worship areas and the undercroft without the permission of the Vestry.



HAUNTED HOUSE

Saturday, October 25, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Holy Apostles', St. Clair
Hosted by the Sunday school.

Admission is a donation of a personal care item or non-perishable item for our soldiers for Operation We Care. Suggested items: AA batteries, beef jerky, chapstick, chewing gum, combs, cookies, crackers, cups and noodles, dental floss, deodorant, foot powder, greeting cards, hand warmers, hair conditioner, hand sanitizer, lotion, mouthwash, shampoo, soap, tissues, toothpaste, wet wipes, baby wipes, body wash, cotton swabs, maxi pads, mini pads, nail clippers, nail files, nail polish, pens, playing cards, powder, puzzle books, razors, rice krispie treats, shaving gel, socks, tablets/calendars, toothbrushes, hot chocolate, and wool caps.

DON'T BE ALONE THIS THANKSGIVING



You are invited to a:
Free Thanksgiving Day Dinner
November 27, 2014, 1:00 P.M.
Holy Apostles' Episcopal Parish Hall
307 E. Hancock St., St. Clair, PA



Please RSVP by November 20th
Call Bonnie Baker at (570) 429-2272; Church Office at (570) 429-7107

Eat In – Take Out – Delivery available
Delivery beginning 11:00 A.M.
Take Outs – 12noon
Eat –In – 1:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to cook, run deliveries and serve meals. **WE WILL NEED A LOT OF VOLUNTEERS ON WEDNESDAY, THE DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING** beginning at 9:00 a.m. and into the evening hours as well and also Thanksgiving Day beginning at 6:00 am.

We also need donations of: turkeys, potatoes, green beans, corn, cranberries, bread for filling, celery, onions, milk, eggs, and pumpkin pies. Monetary donations will also be accepted to help with the dinner. Please make checks out to: Good Shepherd's Guild. If you can donate any of these items or help with preparations, please, contact Bonnie Baker at (570) 429-2272 by November 16th so we can plan accordingly.



Dear Members of North Parish,

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him (Colossians 2:6).

I'm delighted that North Parish is your spiritual home. We are blessed by your presence at worship and your continued faithfulness in our shared journey with Christ and with one another.

Over the course of the next six weeks, we will journey together in exploring how the practice of intentional giving deepens our walk with Christ and supports life-giving ministries to our community and beyond. Day by day, week by week, people in and around North Parish experience their life of faith in new and deeper ways through your commitment. Your generosity generates mission and changes lives.

Beginning on Sunday, October 5 and continuing through Sunday, November 9, you will find reflections written by Episcopal stewardship leaders across the country, covering stewardship and faithful giving in connection with the Gospel reading of the day in your worship bulletin.

On November 9th, we will celebrate Commitment Sunday, the culmination of the journey, when pledges will be completed and offered as an act of worship.

Discerning what we give back to God out of all that He has blessed us with is essential in going further along in our journey of faith. God loves us where we are, but does not want us to stay put on the path! This year, I invite you to consider moving one or two percent closer to the tithe. The practice of tithing ten percent of your income to your faith community is a concrete and meaningful way that we put God first in our lives. Tithing tells the world that we put our ultimate trust in God.

The life of faith is a journey we make together, not a solo expedition. The annual giving campaign is a time set aside to reflect on how this community has nurtured you and your family in the walk of faith. The annual giving campaign is a time set aside to reflect on how the practice of intentional giving deepens your walk with Christ. We are a pilgrim people, meaning together we strive and support one another in taking on the mind of Christ. Jesus called himself "the Way." A popular refrain that is said on the pilgrims' journey is "the Way is made by walking." Transformation comes through practice.

I invite you to pray these words — *the way is made by walking* — over the next six weeks and see how the Holy Spirit calls you to follow the Way of Jesus through intentional proportional giving.

We are all on a faith journey, I give thanks to have travelling companions in you as we walk the Way of Jesus.

Barry Idell
Senior Warden

NEWS FROM MARION C. PRICE TRUST FUND

I devise my residence at 2208 Mahantongo St, Pottsville, PA and my real property adjoining the dwelling to the Trinity Episcopal Church of Pottsville, PA, shall be used for the purpose of maintaining, purchasing, constructing and or renovating a facility in Schuylkill County to be used as a home for elder members of the Episcopal faith residing in Schuylkill County, PA.

These were words of the late Marion C. Price in her last will and testament. This past December was the 35th anniversary of her death.

She was a very devoted member of Trinity, and donated generously over the years. Even in her death gifting the majority of her estate to Trinity.

In 1980 the Trinity Episcopal Church created the Marion C. Price Fund Council. By-laws of the Marion C. Price Fund Council was established.

In 1986 the focus was changed so the funds could be used to help elderly Episcopalians live as independently as possible either in their homes or assisted living facilities. And the by-laws were amended to achieve the goals of the council. The Rector of Trinity is to serve as President and the Council will include three lay members of Trinity and one lay member from each Episcopal Parish in Schuylkill County, as it remains to this day.

In 1987 the trust was valued at slightly over one million dollars. \$542,000 in the principal account and \$536,000 in the income portfolio.

Since its inception the Marion Price Trust Fund has allocated approximately ½ million dollars in grants for hearing aids to personal care, eyeglasses to chair glides, prescriptions to roof repairs. All measures to improve the quality of life of elderly Episcopalians.

I am required to give monthly reports: number of telephone calls, home visits, hospital visits, etc. But inspired by something Father Jim Rinehart said in one of his sermons I started including a report entitled "more than just numbers". These are the real picture of how the MPTF has impacted individuals.

After 18 years as your Parish Nurse I hope that Marion Price would be happy to hear that her vision has evolved but continues to maintain the dignity of elderly Episcopalians as they face different life crises. Here is just a sample:

- Like taking a parishioner to his doctor and then the emergency room because his family lives in New Jersey
- taking a slice of pizza once a month to have lunch with a woman who recently lost her husband
- taking a parishioner to see her dying friend
- getting medic alert information for people living alone so if they fall they won't have to lay there for hours until help finally arrives
- helping a parishioner with poor eyesight do her pacemaker check
- sitting with a parishioner when her friend of 30 years is being buried

- sitting with a parishioner while she meets with the funeral director to prepay for and arrange her own funeral
- completing a pace or rent rebate application then getting a call from a delighted parishioner that saved \$80 on a prescription because the pace application we just submitted for him was accepted
- loading a woman with abdominal pain into my car and getting her to the ER, or
- helping a lady apply for and get settled into a hi rise when she suddenly found herself needing to find an apartment

While the MPTF is currently facing a financial crisis, serving our elderly remains our prime focus as we look to review and refine avenues to continue this vital ministry to the elderly Episcopalians of Schuylkill County.

Senior Adventures will be traveling to La Dolce Casa in Tamaqua on Thursday, October 16. It is never too late to join us. Please call Kathy Burda at 570-621-3220 for more information.

Operation We Care next mailing will be held in November. If you know of any local serviceman or women stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan please notify Kathy Burda so we can include them in our next mailing.

Medicare open enrollment is fast approaching. Fall open enrollment occurs from October 15 to December 7th. In most cases, fall open enrollment is the only time you can pick a new Medicare Advantage or Medicare Part D plan. Even if you are satisfied with your Medicare Advantage or Medicare Part D plan, you should check to see if there is another plan in your area that will offer you better health and/or drug coverage at a more affordable price. Research shows that people with Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D) could lower their costs by shopping among plans each year. For example, another Part D plan may cover the drugs you take with fewer prescriptions and charge you less.

Topics ???? If there is any topic you would like to have more information on and have printed in the newsletter please call me at 570-621-3220 or email me at mptf@verizon.net.

Kathy Burda



FALL 2014 UTO Offering

The Fall UTO offering will be held on Sunday, October 26, 2014. Envelopes will be provided in the church bulletin that day. This is a special opportunity for Episcopalians to deepen their faith in God through prayer and thankful giving. Thank you for your generosity. The Spring UTO offering was \$25.00.

The United Thank Offering Prayer

GRACIOUS GOD, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept, we pray, these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenges that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. Amen.

NORTH PARISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH SERVICES

OCTOBER 2014

October 5	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	Donald Clamser, Sr. The Rev. James C. Smith
October 12	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright The Rev. Timothy Albright
October 19	Holy Eucharist (Combined Service of North Parish – Annual meeting & lunch following the service.)	11:00 a.m.	Holy Apostles	The Rev. Timothy Albright
October 26	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. John's Holy Apostles	The Rev. James C. Smith The Rev. James C. Smith
			(Baptism at Holy Apostles)	

	Notes:	Color:
October 5	The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 12	The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 19	The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 26	The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Green