



September 2024

From the Desk of The Rev. Joe Pierjok



*They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. - Jeremiah 17:8*

The most important words to say in Church are “thank you.” Say it often, and mean it, and today I say it to you. Thank you for the many gifts that you share with our community.

You have heard the familiar expression “can’t see the forest for the trees” before. We most often use it to describe that occasion in which we lose sight of the big picture while focusing on the details. From my position, I often experience the blessing of being able to see the big picture of our congregation – the ministry we bring to our neighbors, the impact we have on our community, the ways that week after week we come together to celebrate our faith and praise God. This is the forest.

And I get to wander amongst the trees. From the small shoot reaching out from its seed and finding the sunlight, to the mightiest tree, standing tall, showing strength, offering sheltering love to those who need it. You are those trees, each drawing strength from our meal and showering the world with the love and grace you have come to know here. I am blessed in that here in our congregation, I can see both the forest and the trees!

When I walk through a forest, I am aware of the tangle of roots, how one tree is connected to another. Trees use these networks, secretly talking to each other through their roots, passing information along. Adult trees share their sugars with young saplings, a dying tree can send its remaining resources back out to help the community. These networks, these roots of abundance, keep trees in place just as much as they free them to grow and share.

The theme of our annual pledge campaign this year is *Rooted in Abundance*, and we are reminded that we are a mighty forest comprised of ancient trunks and sprightly saplings, each of us contributing our gifts to a world that needs us. As you hear the messages and stories of abundance this year, take note of how generosity spreads and widens our root structures of faith and action.

In gratitude,  
Fr. Joe Pierjok+

**SPIRIT of GRACE**

GRACE CHURCH, 820 Howard St, PO Box 596,  
Carthage MO 64836

**COFFEE  
HOSTS**  
SEPT.  
Mark  
Jones &  
Zelma  
Watts



**SEPTEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Kate Lasley, George Laytham
- 4 Sharon McClellan, Michael Goolsby, Brad White, Carter Thompson, Chase Thompson
- 5 Marsha Delaney, Ruth Hartman, Brayden Waggoner
- 6 Caleb Stiles 10 Antony Cordova
- 11 Stacey Chapman
- 12 Ida Ruth Locarni
- 13 Mandy Marney, Mike Thompson, Beth McDaniel, Gabriel Speck
- 14 Erick Alvarado
- 15 Lida McCulloch, Heriberto Alvarado, Tyler Harwell
- 16 Carole Pryor, Sally Stuart
- 17 Anita Flanigan, Finley Cook
- 18 Karen Riley, Larry Hartman
- 19 Robin Blair, Paige Rhymer, Owen Sawyer 20 Terry Chilton
- 21 Paul Matteo, Debbie Putnam
- 22 Genesis Alvarado
- 23 Sean Weber, Melissa Stremke
- 25 Chester White, Melinda Simmons
- 26 Kirsten Saiz
- 27 Gaye Dally, Chuck Edds, Allie Rhymer
- 28 Glenda Erwin, Ashley Rouse
- 29 Van Ellis, Dr Paul Toma

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Larry & Marcia McGuire, Jason & Ceri Otero
- 5 Clif & Emily Kester
- 8 John & Pam (White) Schaffer
- 10 Max & Cheryl Hill
- 12 Steve & Sherry Erwin
- 15 Bill & Libby Wilson
- 21 Gary & Pam Borland
- 29 Justin & Alexis Slates
- 30 Michael & Heather Anderson

**VESTRY**

The Vestry met on Tuesday, August 20th at 5:30pm. Fr. Joe opened with prayer. The Vestry listened to a presentation on stewardship given by Beth Kang and Fr. Joe. Reports were given by all clergy and officers. Jeanie Slates, Senior Warden, reported that the Love Lunches Feeding program was a success. The committee is still in the process of collecting the data and reviewing for next steps. A full report should be available in September. The Vestry discussed the need to get bids on updating our security cameras. A discussion was held about the roof of the church. The Vestry is having several roofers to come for an inspection to give an unbiased opinion on the state of the roof. The Vestry just wants to know without doubt of the shape that it is in. After 8 months of prayer and discussion a motion was made to allocate \$150,000 over the next three year (50k per year) period for the addition of a Parish Administrator to the staff.

The monies allocated for the funding of this additional staff position comes from a bequest to Grace. It is the hope of the Vestry to build this into the future budget of the parish. The Parish Administrator will be responsible for all digital platforms and communications of the parish and daily administer the regular functions of the parish. It is Fr. Joes', and the Vestry, belief that this position will allow for both clergy to have a significant increase in ability to focus on pastoral care, formation and the liturgical life of the parish. They believe that the benefits will be felt and seen immediately. The next Vestry meeting is set for Tuesday, Sept. 10th @ 5:30pm.

## The PARISH PRAYER LIST

*St Luke's:* Louise Barton, Ann Carter, Tom Huntley

*Oak Pointe:* Richard Goolsby, Lida McCulloch

*Wildwood:* Helen Moss

*Moberly:* Eric Adams      *OKC:* Kay Graham

*Lockwood:* Edith Walters

*College View:* Roger & Sherrie Stinnett

*Parishioners:* Marilyn Kelley, Frank Lane, Connie Moss, Karen Rouse, Steve Wampler, Vincent Wilkowski, Bill Wilson, Hans Ytell

*Current:* Lisa Bannerman, Micky Boyer, Jim Bracht, Rilann Burnett, Stacie (Barkley) Cox, Carla Day, Jennifer Jeffries, Robert Johnson, Dennis Lane, Tiffany Leigh, Hillary Louise, Angie Miller, Jane Mitchell, Ginia Oehlschlager, Mannie & Connie Orr, Greg Pierjok, J D Sample, Jeff Sawyer, Greg Turner, Kevin Watts, Lori Wackwitz, Dixie Wolf

Seminarian, Jory Mertens

### OFFICES CLOSED

SEPT 3

### SIGN-UP SHEET

Trip to Branson, MO

Sight & Sound

Queen Esther

Sat, Sept 14, 3:30 pm

Carpool sign-up is in the Parish House

### September Dates to Remember

**4** Wednesday Night Youth Starts

**8** Sunday School Resumes

10 5:30pm Vestry

**11** St. Martha's 11 @ Taste of Italy

**13** Encore Lunch @ Noon

**14** 6:30am-10am CFLC Flower Sale in parking lot; Esther Show in Branson

**16 6pm-8pm Bishop nominee's visit**

**22** Stewardship Breakfast @ 9:15am

### SAVE the DATE

**TEA & THEE LADIES**

**FELLOWSHIP**

**Every Wed, 10 am**

**BIBLE STUDY**

**Every Thurs, 11 am**

In-person or via Zoom

**QUILTERS**

**Every Thurs, noon**

**FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP**

**Every Thurs, 3 pm**

Pull up a chair and make new friends!

**MEN of GRACE FELLOWSHIP**

**1st & 3rd Sat, 9 am**

Men of the parish are invited to join in the fellowship and activities.

**KNITTERS**

**Second Tues, Aug 13, 6 pm**

**CAREGIVERS**

**Third Tues, Aug 20, 2 pm**

**VESTRY**

**Second Tues, Sept 10, 5:30 pm**

## Septiembre mes de la Herencia Hispana

En lugar de comenzar a principios de septiembre, el Mes de la Herencia Hispana se celebra durante 30 días a partir del día 15, un guiño a los aniversarios de la independencia nacional de varios países latinoamericanos: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua reconocen el 15 de septiembre como la fecha de su independencia, mientras que la independencia de México se celebra el 16 de septiembre y la de Chile el 18 de septiembre.

La historia del Mes de la Herencia Hispana se remonta a 1968, cuando la celebración duraba solo una semana. El presidente Lyndon B. Johnson firmó una ley que designaba la semana del 15 de septiembre como “Semana Nacional de la Herencia Hispana”, según la Oficina del Historiador y la Oficina de Arte y Archivos de la Cámara de Representantes de Estados Unidos.

En la declaración inaugural, escribió sobre la “gran contribución a nuestra herencia nacional hecha por nuestra gente de ascendencia hispana, no solo en los campos de la cultura, los negocios y la ciencia, sino también a través de su valor en la batalla”.

Algunos de los empresarios hispanos más exitosos de Estados Unidos

“Ese fue un período en el que, sin duda, los chicanos del suroeste, los mexicanoestadounidenses y los latinos de todo el país exigían una mayor inclusión y representación política, cultural, social, económica... de todo”, dijo Geraldo Cadava, profesor de historia y de estudios latinos en la Universidad de Northwestern y autor de “The Hispanic Republican”.

“Era una demanda de mayor inclusión y representación y el reconocimiento de que los latinos juegan un papel importante en Estados Unidos”, afirmó.

No fue sino hasta casi 20 años después que la Semana de la Herencia Hispana se alargó a un mes entero bajo el mandato del presidente Ronald Reagan.

El congresista Esteban Torres, de California, presentó un proyecto de ley para ampliarla, diciendo en sus comentarios de entonces: “Queremos que el público sepa que compartimos un legado con el resto del país, un legado que incluye artistas, escritores, campeones olímpicos y líderes en los negocios, el gobierno, el cine y la ciencia”.

El proyecto de ley de Torres se detuvo en la comisión, pero el senador Paul Simon, de Illinois, presentó un proyecto de ley similar que Reagan convirtió en ley.

Las contribuciones de los hispanos y latinos a Estados Unidos son amplias y llenas de historia: Key señaló que la primera colonia conocida en EE.UU. no fue Jamestown, sino la colonia española de San Agustín en Florida.

“Los hispanos o latinos... han luchado en todas las guerras desde la Revolución Estadounidense”, comentó. “Son dueños de negocios y veteranos y maestros y servidores públicos”.

Y añadió: “Los latinos son estadounidenses y forman parte de este tejido”.

# MEET YOUR BISHOP CANDIDATES!!!

The Rev. Jimmy Abbott serves as the rector of historic Trinity Episcopal Church in Galveston, Texas. As rector, Jimmy is also the Chair of the Board for Trinity Episcopal School and the Executive Chair of the William Temple Foundation, a ministry for students of the University of Texas Medical Branch.



The Very Reverend Amy Dafler Meaux has served as the Dean and Rector of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Little Rock, AR, since her appointment as the first female Dean in August 2020.

My name is Bradley Pace, and I am deeply honored to be a part of the Diocese of West Missouri's discernment to find your next Bishop. Since 2013, I have served as the Rector of St. John's in Lafayette, Indiana. Before that, I served churches in Youngstown, Ohio and in Wheaton, Illinois. I studied philosophy at Berea College in Kentucky, the University of Arkansas, and the University of Illinois where I received a Ph.D. in 2006.



I serve as the rector of Trinity Church, in Watertown, New York and the Diocese of Central New York. I'm also our diocesan board vice-president, working with several parishes on congregational vitality and orienting new clergy to the diocese through a twelve-session cohort. A lifelong Episcopalian, I lead by building relationships that are undergirded and inspired by prayer.

You can RSVP to meet and hear from each of these candidates on Monday, September 16th by going to [www.diowestmo.org](http://www.diowestmo.org). Scroll down the home page just a little and there is a link to RSVP. An RSVP helps us with a food count, everyone is welcome to come even if they do not RSVP ahead of time.

## MINISTERS of WORSHIP: SEPTEMBER

### **XV PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept 1: 8 am**

*Reader/Chalice/Server:* Bill Putnam

*Prayers:* Shirley Gollhofer

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

### **XV PENTECOST 10:30 am**

*OT:* Barbara Mountjoy

*NT/Chalice:* Elaine Wurst

*Prayers/Chalice:* Austin Rhymer

*Mentor:* Tracy Wilkowski

*Server:* Connor Wilkowski

*Cross:* Sam Hess

*Torches:* Allie Rhymer & Owen Hess

*Sacristan:* Pam White

*AV:*

*Ushers: Flower Delivery:* Gloria Gubser

&

Peggy Ralston

### **Wed, Sept 4: 6 pm**

*Reader:* AJ Rhymer

*Chalice:* Austin Rhymer

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

### **Fri, Sept 6: 10 am**

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely

*Server:* Mark Jones

### **Sat, Sept. 7: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Cathy Thompson

**5 pm**

*Reader:* Leigh Salyer

*Sacristan:* Beth Simmons

### **XVI PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept. 8: 8 am**

*Reader:* Ashley Rouse

*Chalice/Server:* Chuck Edds

### **XVI PENTECOST**

**Sept 8: 10:30 am**

*OT:* Michelle Theerman

*NT:* AJ Rhymer

*Chalice:* Jennifer Rhymer

*Prayers/Chalice:* Michael Goolsby

*Mentor:* Kirby Newport

*Cross:* Allie Rhymer

*Server:* Brooklyn Rhymer

*Torches:* Peyton Lynch &

Carson Stremke

*Sacristan:* Pam White

*AV:*

*Ushers:* Max Hill &

Steve Erwin

*Flower Delivery:* Zelma Watts &

Julie Anderson

### **Wed, Sept 11: 6 pm**

*Reader:* Regina Newport

*Chalice:* Jory Mertens

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

### **Fri, Sept 13: 10 am**

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely

*Server:* Mark Jones

### **Sat, Sept 14: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Cathy Thompson

**5 pm**

*Reader/Chalice:* Bill Putnam

*Sacristan:* Beth Simmons

### **XVII PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept 15: 8 am**

*Reader/Chalice/Server:* Bill Putnam

*Prayers:* Shirley Gollhofer

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

**XVII PENTECOST**

**Sept 15: 10:30 am**

*OT/Chalice:* Ruth Hartman

*NT:* Regina Newport

*Prayers/Chalice:* Larry Hartman

*Mentor:* Elisa White

*Servers:* Alana Harris

*Cross:* Sam Hess

*Torches:* Barrett & Lincoln Cook

*Ushers:* Chris Orr & Zach Hess

*Sacristan:* Beth Simmons

*AV:* Jim Wakefield & Allie Rhymer

*Flower Delivery:* Diann Ferguson &

Cathy Thompson

**Wed, Sept 18: 6 pm**

*Reader/Chalice:* Jon Haffner

*Sacristan:* Beth Simmons

**Fri, Sept 20: 10 am**

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely

*Server:* Mark Jones

**Sat, Sept 21: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Cathy Thompson

**5 pm**

*Reader/Chalice:* Michale Goolsby

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

**XVIII PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept 22: 8 am**

*Reader/Chalice/Server:* Chuck Edds

*Prayers:* Mark Sponaugle

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

**XIV PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept 22: 10:30am**

*OT:* Leigh Salyer

*NT:* Nic Smith

*Chalice:* Elaine Wurst

*Prayers/Chalice:* Andy Lynch

*Mentor:* Elaine Wurst

*Server:* Trenton Lynch

**Sun, Sept 22: 10:30am**

*Cross:* Walker Lasley

*Torches:* Peyton Lynch &

Carson Stremke

*Ushers:* Jim Wakefield &

Allie Rhymer

*Sacristan:* Becky Edds

*AV:* Mike Robertson &

Brooklyn Rhymer

*Flower Delivery:*

**Wed, Sept 25: 6 pm**

*Reader/Chalice:* Jory Mertens

*Sacristan:* Zelma Watts

**Fri, Sept 27: 10 am**

*Sacristan:* Sue Neely

*Server:* Mark Jones

**Sat, Sept 28: 9 am**

*Sacristan:* Cathy Thompson

**5 pm**

*Reader:* Bill Putnam

*Chalice:* Bill Putnam

*Sacristan:* Pam White

**XIX PENTECOST**

**Sun, Sept 29: 8 am**

*Chalice:* Mark Sponaugle

*Reader:* Shirley Gollhofer

*Prayers:* Ashley Rouse

*Sacristan:* Shirley Gollhofer

**XIX PENTECOST 10:30 am**

*OT:* Nic Smith

*NT:* Michelle Theerman

*Chalice:* Ruth Hartman

*Prayers/Chalice:* Larry Hartman

*Server:* AJ Rhymer

*Cross:* Larry Hartman

*Torches:* Ruth Hartman & Elaine

Wurst

*Sacristan:* Pam White

*AV:*

*Ushers: Flower Delivery:*

## DAILY READINGS in SEPTEMBER 2024

**XV PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 1:** *II Samuel 11:26—12:13a, Ephesians 4:1-16, John 6:24-35*

Mon, Sept 2: *Job 12:1-6,13-25; Acts 11:19-30; John 8:21-32*

Tues, Sept 3: *Job 12:1,13:3-17,21-27; Acts 12:1-17; John 8:33-47*

Wed, Sept 4: *Job 12:1,14:1-22; Acts 12:18-25; John 8:47-59*

Thurs, Sept 5: *Job 16:16-22,17:1,13-16; Acts 13:1-12; John 9:1-17*

Fri, Sept 6: *Job 19:1-7,14-27; Acts 13:13-25; John 9:18-41*

Sat, Sept 7: *Job 22:1-4,21-23:7; Acts 13:26-43; John 10:1-18*

**XVI PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 8:** *Job 25:1-6,27:1-6; Rev. 14:1-7,13; Matt. 5:13-20*

Mon, Sept 9: *Job 32:1-10,19-33:1,19-28; Acts 13:44-52; John 10:19-30*

Tues, Sept 10: *Job 29:1-20; Acts 14:1-18; John 10:31-42*

Wed, Sept 11: *Job 29:1,30:1-2,16-31; Acts 14:19-28; John 11:1-16*

Thurs, Sept 12: *Job 29:1,31:1-23; Acts 15:1-11; John 11:17-29*

Fri, Sept 13: *Job 29:1,31:24-40; Acts 15:12-21; John 11:30-44*

Sat, Sept 14: *Job 38:1-17; Acts 15:22-35; John 11:45-54*

**XVII PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 15:** *Job 38:1,18-41; Rev. 18:1-8; Matt. 5:21-26*

Mon, Sept 16: *Job 40:1-24; Acts 15:36-16:5; John 11:55-12:8*

Tues, Sept 17: *Job 40:1,41:1-11; Acts 16:6-15; John 12:9-19*

Wed, Sept 18: *Job 42:1-17; Acts 16:16-24; John 12:20-26*

Thurs, Sept 19: *Job 28:1-28; Acts 16:25-40; John 12:27-36a*

Fri, Sept 20: *Esther 1:1-4,10-19 or Judith 4:1-15; Acts 17:1-15; John 12:36b-43*

Sat, Sept 21: *Judith 5:1-21; Acts 17:16-34; John 12:44-50*

**XIV PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 22:** *Judith 5:22-6:4, 10-21; James 1:19-27; Matt. 6:1-6,16-18*

Mon, Sept 23: *Judith 7:1-7, 19-32; Acts 18:1-11; Luke (1:1-4),3:1-14*

Tues, Sept 24: *Judith 8:9-17, 9:1, 9:7-10; Acts 18:12-28; Luke 3:15-22*

Wed, Sept 25: *Judith 10:1-23; Acts 19:1-10; Luke 4:1-13*

Thurs, Sept 26: *Judith 12:1-20; Acts 19:11-20; Luke 4:14-30*

Fri, Sept 27: *Judith 13:1-20; Acts 19:21-41; Luke 4:31-37*

Sat, Sept 28: *Hosea 1:1-2:1; Acts 20:1-16; Luke 4:38-44*

**XIV PENTECOST, Sun, Sept 29:** *Hosea 2:2-14; James 3:1-13; Matt. 13:44-52*

Mon, Sept 30: *Hosea 2:14-23; Acts 20:17-38; Luke 5:1-11*

