



For All the Saints

July-August 2014

Dear Friends,

The Confirmation Service on June 21st was lovely and actually low-key. We were among five parishes taking part – eleven young people and adults. From All Saints', William Robertson and Jovi Williams were Confirmed and Stuart Solsky made Reaffirmation of Faith. All three came with supportive family members and we had a chance to celebrate as a parish the following day.

For his sermon, Bishop Chip Stokes spoke about the Baptismal Covenant – part of the *Prayer Book* service of Holy Baptism, and said as well for Confirmation. It consists of the Apostles' Creed set in a question-and-answer format, with five more questions added, relating to how well we plan to live the faith we've just professed in the Creed.

The Bishop focused on the question, "Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?" He said he believes that people crave two things: God and community, and church offers both. It can be a lonely, limiting existence without a sense of God, and how we think and talk about God is meant to evolve over time. Bishop Chip admitted that his ideas today are not the same as they were ten years ago, and he predicted that ten years from now, they will have changed some more. Church as community brings people together to think about and explore questions not usually addressed elsewhere.

The congregation that came together for the Confirmation Service was a new community formed for the afternoon and bound forever by the special event we were privileged to witness. We may not all have known one another, but we were instantly one in Christ. Many of the faces may not have been familiar, but the words were, and the Lord's Table provided a comforting welcome that we all knew quite well.

In these upcoming summer months, please join with us "in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers." Your community awaits.

Happy summer!

Jane+

– All Saints’ News –

RESTAURANT ADVENTURE, JULY 13

Have a Sunday night out, joining with others from the parish at Netherwood on South Avenue in Plainfield. This new incarnation of an old favorite (Café Vivace) has been recommended by a number of parishioners. The menu is varied and pub-style. All Saints’ has a reservation for 6 pm. Please sign up and come along.

SET UP THE SUNDAY SCHOOL, JULY 12

Kelly and Glen Robertson are inviting the teachers – and interested parents – to help set up the newly renovated Sunday School classrooms on the lower level of the Parish House. Classrooms will be assigned and furnishings arranged. The plan is to gather at 10 am. (This should not take all that long.)

An invitation to anyone interested in teaching next fall – help is needed. The SPARK curriculum is user-friendly, and schedules will be accommodated. If you’re interested, speak to Kelly or Glen Robertson.

“PORK” OF NY & NJ FESTIVAL, JULY 31

Yes, PORK! Seamen’s Church Institute in Newark, which serves the ports of NY and NJ, is hosting a special evening at their facility – 118 Export Street in Port Newark. **John Burk**, a regular volunteer at SCI, brings us information about this event. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. The Festival runs from 4 – 8 pm, and includes all kinds of barbecue (beef, chicken & veggie, besides pork), live music and outdoor games. For more information, speak to John.

NEW CHAIRS IN LEA HALL

Many thanks to Boy Scout Troop 104 for donating 56 new folding chairs to the church. Thanks to **Bob Okell** for organizing the whole project and for the generosity of Troop families. Not only that, the scouts have spent a number of hours stenciling the chairs with the All Saints’ name – hopefully to help keep them on the premises.

And after last month’s plea about bringing back borrowed chairs, some did return!

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS JULY 6

Sunday July 6 – Sunday August 31, Worship at 9 am

We continue the tradition of one Sunday Service in July and August, combining the 8 & 10 am services of Holy Eucharist into one service at 9 am, with organ music. An Activity Room will provide diversions for young people during the service and Coffee Hour will follow.

The Wednesday 9 am Service will continue unless noted.

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE ACTIVITY ROOM?

Our official Nursery Monitor, **Sam Loop**, has done a terrific job this past year, spelled on occasion by **Melissa Harris, Aubrey Johnson** and **Jovi Williams**.

Since there is no Sunday School during the summer, we still provide a place of diversion for youngsters during the 9 o'clock Service. They are invited to the Activity Room, where there are stories to read and talk about, videos to watch, arts & crafts to do and enjoy. **Mary O'Connor** is coordinating volunteers to staff the Activity Room for the Sundays of July and August. Please sign up, and speak with her for more information.

SUMMER COFFEE HOURS

Coffee Hour is still an important part of the Sunday experience, even when it's an hour earlier than usual. Please sign up to do a Coffee Hour. Keep it simple. Maybe even have it outdoors if the weather permits.

WE'VE GOT WEEDS!

Another plea for help, this time to get rid of the overabundance of weeds, especially bordering the parking lot. If you have some time, bring your implements (and gloves) and go to it. We can supply plastic bags and we'll make sure they get taken away.

VOLUNTEER AT GRACE'S KITCHEN

Volunteers are sometimes away during the summer, and more help is needed – actually, that's true all through the year. Grace's Kitchen is open the last week of each month, and All Saints' is assigned to assist on **Thursday, July 31 and Thursday, August 28**. The time is from about 10:30 am until 1 pm or so – helping prepare, set up and serve lunch. For more information, speak with **Charlie Beakes**.

--YOUTH NEWS--

The Preach-a-thon on June 1 went very well, as we heard from the three young parishioners who are heading off to college: **Jonathon Dawson, Melissa Harris and Charlotte Peach**. Then on June 8, **Brenda Jackson** presented each one with a \$500 scholarship from the parish's **Curtis M. Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund**.

Congratulations to all our young graduates...

Jonathon Dawson, from Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS to Rutgers Univ. (Mason Gross School)

Melissa Harris, from Union County Magnet School to Oberlin College

Charlotte Peach, from Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS to Stockton College

Aubrey Johnson, from Park Middle School to Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS

William Loop, from Terrill Middle School to Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS

Gabriella Crona, from Coles School to Terrill Middle School

Natalie Green, from Brunner School to Park Middle School

Gisele Herb, from Evergreen School to Park Middle School

Aidan Robertson, from Brunner School to Park Middle School

Danielle Chuy, from Kindergarten to First Grade at Goddard School

Gabriel Lepano, from Kindergarten at PS 30, Staten Island, to McGinn School

****The Charlotte Baker Sunday School will be ready for classes in the fall.**

****Sunday School Registration is September 7, and it will take place in the Sunday School.**

****Sunday School begins September 14 at 9:55.**

Chris Harris and the Youth Group continue to work on preparations for the Lock-In scheduled to take place in Lea Hall overnight on Friday, September 19. A number of Youth Groups from our Watchung Convocation will take part. The anti-hunger project, "Stop Hunger Now," is a focal point. It will take several hours to complete, and a variety of other activities – and food for participants -- will fill the time between 8 pm Friday and 7 am Saturday morning when the Lock-In ends. Speak to Chris to learn more!

--- Parishioner Profile ---

CURTAIN UP!

By Richard Johnson

Many years ago when I was just coming of age (in fact I was probably about my daughter's age which is 14), I was at a friend's home and saw a copy of the playwright Moss Hart's famous autobiography and theatre memoir, *Act One*. I started reading it there and then and found I simply could not put it down. It was a tremendous influence on me. I was just then becoming interested in the stage and beginning my life-long love affair with that most intriguing and daunting of Mistresses: Theatre. I'll admit that (outside of my children) she is my first and only true love.

So it was that I had a magical experience in New York City on Father's Day with my daughter, Aubrey. On a picture perfect June afternoon in the City, we slipped out of the bright sunshine, out of the swirl of the city, out of the present time, out of ourselves, and into The Theatre... to see the wonderful production of "Act One" at Lincoln Center. The play, "Act One," is, of course, a dramatization of the playwright Moss Hart's autobiography.

I think everyone who has ever been in the theatre has at some time in their life read *Act One*, and for many it may have been the reason they chose to go into the theatre in the first place. The book is an American theatre treasure, and to my mind, so is this production. It is a valentine to a bygone era, an era when it was really possible to have eleven Broadway openings... all on the same night! I think we've lost something and that's a shame. But we do still have much wonderful theatre, and this production was definitely in the top tier.

We caught the closing performance, but fortunately, and rightly so, they taped the performance we saw for PBS. I can't wait to see it. Yes, it has all the hallmarks of an American Masters type of PBS Drama (the play is a comedy of course) and that ain't a bad thing at all! "Act One" was funny, moving, inspiring. A wonderful ensemble cast, featuring Tony Shalhoub and Andrea Martin and Santino Fontana, was excellent – the entire ensemble was excellent! Shalhoub and Martin being triple cast was genius, and the writing and direction by James Lapine, who spoke before the show, were outstanding.

My daughter and I probably had different reasons for wanting to see this production. She is a HUGE Tony Shalhoub fan, from watching the TV show "Monk," of course, and was dying to see him in person on stage. I wanted to see Moss Hart's book brought to life, and I also wanted to see Shalhoub on stage again as he had been so brilliant in "Golden Boy" last season. Neither of us was disappointed. I think it was a defining moment for both my daughter and me, as we two like to dabble in theater as well...

For me, I was laughing and tearing up at the same time in an oddly emotional way that only a great play can produce. It happens all too rarely. Watching the play and seeing the young Moss

Hart's transformation, I readily identified with his struggle, realizing as he did that no matter what others have thought, the assumptions they have made about me; they don't know me, what I do or am capable of... No, what really matters is proving something to myself. I hope my daughter got that too -- I think she did.

After the show, we did something I have maybe done once before (and that is another story!). We waited at the stage door for the actors to come out. I told her we may get a chance to see them but don't get your hopes up... Well we did see most of them, including Martin and Santino, and got their autographs and they were all so gracious and kind. We were just about to leave when Tony Shalhoub walked out -- and the smile on my daughter's face was worth... well, it was priceless. He signed our programs and I thanked him for doing great theatre. Then he disappeared back into the labyrinth of New York City, just as we did....

By Richard Johnson

THANKS TO THE ALL SAINTS' CHOIR

June 22nd was the last Sunday for the All Saints' Choir until after Labor Day. We paid tribute to our excellent Organist and Choir Director, MaryRose Clark, and to the choristers. We offer thanks to them here: Carol Albert, Charlie Beakes, Karina Bruk, Carol Buttke, Mark Douches, Don Kern, Marlenes Luvins, Mary O'Connor, Lois Schembs, Peggy Tristram, John Tucker, Kevin Walsh. On several occasions this year, Jonathon Dawson and Amelia Echeandia were also among the choristers. We are grateful to all for their dedication.

PLEASE KEEP UP YOUR PLEDGES DURING THE SUMMER

We recognize that summer means vacations and weekends out of town – more so than in the rest of the year even for this well-traveled parish! Please keep up your pledges, as our hard-working treasurer, John Brewer, will be keeping up the bill-paying!

--The All Saints' Family --

Norbert Ludewig passed away, quietly at home, on Sunday June 22nd after a long illness. Norbert and **Patricia (Gallagher)** were married at All Saints' in 2007. On several occasions, Norbert provided wonderful evenings of music, singing and playing the accordion for festive dinner dances in Lea Hall. A Requiem Eucharist for Norbert at the parish on June 25. Our condolences go out to Patricia and the whole family.

Grace and Bill Butler, part of the fabric of All Saints' for more than forty years, have moved to upstate New York. Among other activities, Grace taught Sunday School for 37 years, served on Vestry and Altar Guild, and coordinated the Rummage Sale. Bill was an usher and donned many a chef's hat for pancake suppers and barbecues. We sent them away with many good wishes. Their new address: 131 Ferris Hills, Canandaigua, NY 14424. Cell phone: (908) 591-6051.

Tom Loop will compete in Iron Man Lake Placid on June 27. This multi-sport race begins with a 2.4-mile swim in Mirror Lake, followed by a bike ride of 112 miles that will go past the Olympic Village and Whiteface Mountain, and ending with a Marathon run (just over 26 miles). Some 2,500 men and women will compete in what will take at least ten hours to complete – which means running after dark. Competitors are allowed 17 hours. We wish Tom well.

Scott Rahner is off to Scotland in August with the Governor Livingston High School Marching Band from Berkeley Heights. Their mascot is the Highlander and they wear kilts to perform. They will stay at the University of Edinburgh, perform at Edinburgh Castle and for residents of Ancrum – the home of William Livingston (NJ's first Governor). They will visit St. Giles Cathedral which dates back over 900 years and the Royal Yacht Britannia. Bon Voyage!

Congratulations to our two college graduates! **Guillermo Brewer**, from The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) with a major in philosophy. **Thomas Loop, III**, from the Stevens Institute of Technology – a 5-year program in chemical engineering.

Congratulations to **Charlotte Peach**, winning a Gold Award, the highest award presented by the Girl Scouts and carrying with it a college scholarship. She won the award in recognition of the arts program she created for nursing homes and other senior venues.

THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE

Marlenes Luvins and Tony Texeira request the honor of your presence at their marriage on Friday, August 22 at 1:00 pm, here at the church. Marlenes has sung in the All Saints' Choir for several years and Tony has been a member of the congregation for some time now. They would love the parish to join them in celebrating this happy occasion.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY LAMP

We invite you to keep flowers on the altar as a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. Keep the **Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The lamp is **\$10.00**. **Make checks payable to the Altar Guild** and put in the **memo** line that the check is for flowers or the lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

Available Dates

Altar Flowers: July 6, 13, 20, 27; August 3

Sanctuary Lamp: July 13, 20, 27; August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

MISSIONARY OUTREACH

The second Sunday of each month is Sharing Sunday when we ask for donations to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

July – Non-perishable snacks: juice boxes, raisins, granola bars, crackers, fruit snacks, etc.

August – School Supplies

September – Baby/toddler items: disposable diapers, ointments, powder, wipes, shampoo, etc.

Please keep our Food Basket filled every Sunday with non-perishable items. This is also a way to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*
MaryRose Clark, *Organist and Choir Director*

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus*
Irene Carlucci, *Secretary*
Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens

Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Todd Bouverot	John Brewer	Lauren DiSarno	Anne Goetz
Chris Harris	Joanna Hurley	Bob Okell	Glen Robertson
Michelle Smith-Crona	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh	Susan Winkler

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