



# For All the Saints

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*May 2015*

*Dear Friends,*

I have been putting off writing this page because I cannot avoid talking about leaving.

It has been such a privilege to be here for the past fifteen years – more than fifteen actually – sharing life with you, the highs and lows, and everything in between. It has been six months since I wrote to Bishop Stokes and to the parish, and this has been a useful period for me to get used to the whole concept of retirement. I like thinking of the history, the story that has continued to be written since the 19<sup>th</sup> century when All Saints' was founded – all the people who have been part of the parish community – and realizing we have just completed another chapter.

Thank you for letting me be part of it all -- the joy of baptisms, weddings, and confirmations, and the sadness of too many funerals. For me as I look back, a whole collection of images flash through my mind. Good times still make me smile, and I hope you have similar memories. At the same time, many of those who now rest in peace also provide me with vivid memories and I am grateful for having known them.

As I leave, this parish could not have stronger leadership than our wardens, Jenine Williams and Richard Johnson – wise, caring, and devoted -- assisted by an excellent Vestry, with further guidance from a well-organized Diocesan staff. All Saints' is a healthy parish. It has grown and evolved over the years – amazingly only one current Vestry member was here before I came. We have welcomed a number of new families and ventured into new program areas. But the core values of this parish remain the same as ever. This is a community of devoted Christians, ready to “gather as the Body of Christ,” according to the Mission Statement, “so that we may grow in Christ and learn to live out our faith each day.” You will go on from here, moving confidently into the future.

All Saints' will always be in my prayers. Please keep me in yours.

With God's Blessings,

Jane+

## *– All Saints' News –*

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### **AFRICAN CRAFTS SHOW & SALE, MAY 3, 10**

This annual event is always popular, coordinated by our Outreach Committee. On display (and for sale) will be carved wooden animals, beautiful jewelry created from unusual stones, colorful fabric items and more. Some years there are toys and musical instruments. Proceeds benefit East African Team Ministries which funds children's food and education programs in Kenya and Uganda. The sale will be in Lea Hall from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm both Sundays. Please speak with Beth Wojcio if you'd like to help.

### **PIZZA BOWL, MAY 24**

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon of bowling while helping the Curtis Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Fund provides scholarships each spring to our graduating high school seniors who are going on to some form of higher education. The scholarships honor Curtis Jackson who was a lifelong educator and an active member of All Saints' for many years. Brenda Jackson will present this year's scholarships on May 17.

The Pizza Bowl will be at Strike & Spare on Route 22 West in Greenbrook. The cost is \$25, which includes two hours of bowling (2-4 pm), shoes, pizza and soda. Please sign up in Lea Hall and make checks payable to All Saints' with "Pizza Bowl" on the memo line. For more information, speak with John Tucker, who coordinates this event.

### **A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WARDENS**

The bad news is: Reverend Jane is retiring at the end of May. The good news is: the Wardens and Vestry members have been working with the Diocese of New Jersey to find an interim rector and already have several prospects. Worship, fellowship and all the wonderful programs, education and events you know and love from All Saints' will continue to thrive and grow through the transition period. During the interim rector's stay, an extensive search for a permanent rector will take place in order to find someone who best reflects the life and parish of All Saints."

Jenine Williams and Richard Johnson

## **MEMORIAL DAY & LEMONADE, MAY 26**

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Memorial Day Parade goes down Park Avenue right past the church, so we're out in front each year, dispensing lemonade. It's fun, especially for the kids, and the marchers appreciate it. The Parade gets going near the band-shell around 11 am, but we claim our space in front of the church long before that – at 9:30 or so – with tables of lemonade and cups, and also chairs. If you're in town that weekend, come and watch the parade with us – and if you like, help with the lemonade. All Saints' is usually well represented in the Parade in scout groups, bands, dancing schools, and among the veterans being honored.

## **A FAREWELL PARTY, SATURDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

Join us in celebrating Rev. Jane's ministry with us for the last 15 years. The party will be in Lea Hall from 5-8 pm. EVITE to follow.

## **TAKING FAITH HOME**

This was part of the theme of The Bishop's Spring Conference on Christian Formation that six of us attended at Trinity Cathedral. Anne Goetz, Chris Harris, Brenda Jackson, Joy Ogunyemi, Beth Wojcio and the rector found the all-day program fruitful in terms of presenting new ideas and things to think about. The conference was shaped by the reality that church fits into people's lives differently than it once did. Speakers addressed various aspects of this, suggesting especially that ways be found to help people bring what we do in church into their homes.

Our House Eucharists are one way to do this. Both the Family Eucharist in the DiSarno's home and Peggy Tristram's House Eucharist a week ago brought parishioners of all ages together to live their faith in a more structured way than we usually do outside of church. Both were wonderful and spirit-filled.

The Conference provided bulletin inserts for three upcoming weeks called, "Taking Faith Home." Each insert provides daily Bible readings for that week based on the previous Sunday's lessons. It has a special Bible verse to think on for the week, prayers and blessings, topics for discussion, ideas for outreach, a devotional "game," and a suggested ritual to establish at home. The point of all this is not to replace church, but to make it a fuller experience by moving beyond the one hour spent at worship Sunday morning.

Inserts were provided for three weeks, and you will find them in the bulletins. See how you like them.

## ***--YOUTH NEWS--***

### **First Sunday in May – May 3**

Gather in Lea Hall during Sunday School time and build your very own “Disciple Ship” for “Faithful Fishing with Jesus.” Guaranteed to yield a lot of fish – each with a Bible verse on it and something to do. For example, Ephesians 4:12 (“Try to go the whole day without arguing with anyone.”) There are 40 such fish, but this is a Ship for all seasons. Michelle Smith-Crona and Liz Trimpin invite you to come, have fun, and learn.

### **Sunday School**

Regular classes continue on the second, third and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents have been joining in for that fourth (and sometimes fifth) week. For more information as the school year winds down, speak with **Kelly Robertson**

### **Youth Group**

**Chris Harris** and other parents led a troop into New York City, with stops at the Hayden Planetarium, Metropolitan Museum and the Cathedral of St. John The Divine. Judging from the photos on the bulletin board, it was a great success.

**On Saturday, May 9**, our Youth Group will join other youth groups from the Watchung Convocation to clean up some parks in Plainfield. The Outreach project begins at 9 am. For more information, speak to Chris Harris

**Nathaniel Harris raised nearly \$400 at Coffee Hour on April 12 for Relay for Life**

### **Our Youth Preachers**

There are two high school seniors this year, both preaching. **Scott Rahner** preached an excellent sermon on April 26. **Sam(antha) Loop** will preach on May 17. Both have grown up in this parish, and have helped with many different activities. Both are in Youth Group and serve as acolytes. In addition, Scott has been a junior usher, while Sam has been in Youth Choir and has served as nursery monitor for several years.

### **Youth Choir**

Wayne Dietterick, Organist and Choirmaster, is eager to begin working with the Youth Choir. Watch for announcements.

# *--Parishioner Profile—*

## **JACK OF ALL TRADES**

*By Jack Koch*

When I was six weeks old, I had a shot of whiskey and a surgical scar the length of my abdomen. At age two, I moved into the boys' dormitory at Bloomsburg State Teachers College in Pennsylvania where Dad was Dean of Men and Mom was Dean of Dad.

Home-schooled by seventy big brothers until the age of six, I learned how to give a hot foot, how a match can burn twice, and some phrases in Italian, Russian, Polish, German and Greek. My study of foreign languages ended abruptly when I repeated a few phrases to my parents. (My big brothers thought it was funny.)

The first six years of school were spent training college students to become teachers. I was assisted in this effort by twenty-nine classmates and six "training teachers." Six more years of intensive study (big brothers helped with home work and high school), and I graduated.

After high school, I spent twenty-six months visiting exotic and foreign places: Biloxi, Mississippi; Madison, Wisconsin; Champaign-Urbana, Illinois; Boca Raton, Florida; Riverside, California; Guam; Tinian and Luzon. All travel arranged by and paid for courtesy of the United States Army Air Corps.

Then came four years at Bucknell University, and I graduated with a B.S. (no comments, please), M.S. and Mrs. I was a guidance counselor in Cambridge, Maryland and in New Jersey (Woodstown, Millburn, Oradell and Madison). I retired after 44 years. Other work experience included: hot press monogramming, painter's helper, tomato mold counter, migrant worker's camp afternoon supervisor, YMCA day-camp counselor, ice cream manufacturer, sheet metal mechanic, assistant playground supervisor, electrician's helper, security guard.

Dad was a Methodist. Mom was a Lutheran. So naturally, we attended St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bloomsburg. Dad said it was because Father Heistan was a great preacher. Mom said it was because St. Paul's was the closest church. Church services were at 8:00 and 11:00 am with Sunday School at 9:30 am. Evensong was at 7:00 pm. I sang in the choir at Evensong until my voice changed. After Confirmation, I served as an acolyte. My favorite weekday service was Friday at 9:30 am. (I missed the first period class in school.) Wednesday at 7:30 pm meant I missed sleep. After moving to Fanwood, I started attending All Saints' (in 1975).

Margaret Brooking had flown to Bloomsburg from her home in California to see her parents and attend our 30<sup>th</sup> high school reunion. I traveled to Bloomsburg from North Plainfield. Margaret and I first met in seventh grade, but in six years of going to the same school, we never had one class together. When the reunion came, we hadn't seen each other in thirty years. While

“catching up,” we learned that each of us had been divorced some years earlier. Six of my married friends were going out for breakfast after reunion and they asked me to go along. Not wanting to be a thirteenth wheel(!) I asked Margaret to join the group, and she came along.

After two years of letters, phone calls, and cross-country flights, I proposed and Margaret said yes. I’ll never know how I was able to get her to give up an apartment across the street from the beach in Alameda for life in New Jersey. Perhaps her parents being much closer helped.

Through thirty-four years of marriage, we enjoyed attending All Saints’ and participating in the activities. The warmth of the All Saints’ family was a joy to both of us, until Margaret’s passing in 2008. Today, I still enjoy attending All Saints’ and the great feeling of family.

*By Jack Koch*



## OUTREACH REPORT

Thanks to our generous parish, two fundraising efforts did very well:

**Nathaniel Harris** collected almost \$400 for “**Relay for Life,**” which takes place on the running track at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. Funds go for cancer research.

The parish-wide drive for **Grace’s Kitchen** in Plainfield resulted in \$960 sent to Plainfield Community Outreach.

All Saints’ continues to send volunteers to the Soup Kitchen, which is open the last five days of every month, excluding Sundays. Our day is Thursday (which is usually, but not always, part of the last five days). Speak to **Charlie Beakes** about volunteering.

## THE GARDEN

‘Tis the season, and many Garden volunteers have been at work. **Carol Schirm** and **Brenda Jackson** planted some of the beautiful plants from Easter in Claire’s Garden, and **Joy Ogunyemi** has arranged for part of the garden to be mulched.. The large Garden poster is on the bulletin board so gardeners can check on their teams and/or set up new ones – and start figuring out what needs to be done when. **If you have questions or want to help, speak with Sherry Woodruff.**

## *--The All Saints' Family --*

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**Betty Lafayette**, a long-time member of All Saints', passed away earlier this month at the home in Maryland she shared with her daughter for some years. A service was held there, and Betty's ashes will be interred in the columbarium here, alongside her husband John, and her daughter Jeanne Caruso.

Three young people made First Communion on Easter: **Christian and Jayden Johnson** (twins) and their younger brother, **Brandon**. They are the sons of **Tamika James** and **Cory Johnson**. They regularly attend Sunday School and they did the First Communion Workshop. Congratulations to all for this milestone.

Two parishioners will finish college this May. **Sharon Burk** graduates from American University in Washington, and **Kathleen Leeper** graduates from Hampshire College in Massachusetts.

Two parishioners will finish high school. **Samantha Loop** graduates from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and **Scott Rahner** graduates from Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights. Congratulations!

Continuing her activity in local theater, **Mary O'Connor** has just completed a run in Neil Simon's "Jake's Women," in Parlin, NJ. This comedy was on Broadway several years ago.

**Leff LaHuta** shared his book of poetry, "Rascally Rhymes" with an eager group of children (and parents and grandparents) at Coffee Hour. After reading some of the poems aloud, he signed many books and gave them out. (A copy is in our Sunday School library.)

**The International Food Festival** was a big success, with many interesting dishes from far-away places, including some items not immediately identifiable – but delicious. It provided a picture of the diversity in our parish, since most of the foods represented parishioners' backgrounds. It was the first Sunday for our new Organist and Choirmaster, **Wayne Dieterick** – an enjoyable welcome. We are fortunate to have a good Coffee Hour every Sunday, although not usually quite like that!

## 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:** May 17, 24

**Sanctuary Lamp:** May 17, 24

## MISSIONARY OUTREACH

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

**May** – Laundry supplies (small containers of detergent, bleach, stain removers)

**June** – Health & beauty supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes & toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, cotton balls, etc.)

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

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The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*  
Wayne Dietterick, *Organist and Choirmaster*

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	Robin Sampson
Michelle Smith-Crona	Stuart Solsky	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh

**Phone:** 908-322-8047 ♦ **Fax:** 908-322-8006

**e-mail:** church@allsaints-spnj.org ♦

facebook.com/allsaintsspnj

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All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076 ♦ [www.allsaints-spnj.org](http://www.allsaints-spnj.org)