



For All the Saints

September 2013

Dear Friends,

Much as I love the summer and hate to see it end, this time of year is exhilarating. There is a great sense of potential, as we enter the parish's new program year.

Several planning meetings held at the end of August and the beginning of September dealt with our education programs for both children and adults. The meetings were noteworthy for their wealth of new ideas and genuine enthusiasm. It was also heartening to look around and see a mix of long-time parishioners and newer arrivals -- working together, mulling over one another's suggestions, and forging friendships.

This is an example of taking to heart what the Gospel for September 1st was about. In Luke, chapter 14, Jesus talks about welcoming people. He starts out mildly enough, advising against rushing to claim a place of honor at a dinner party, because some more noteworthy person might be placed there. Then he cautions against inviting people with some ulterior motive -- such as getting something from them in return. But the crux of his message has to do with making sure that the door is wide open and the invitation is genuine and broad. These days, that is called issuing a "radical welcome." It is what Jesus promises Peter the fisherman when he calls him to put down his nets and follow him. Jesus promises that Peter will be "fishing for people."

This is part of the legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, the anniversary of whose "I Have a Dream" speech we celebrated on the first Sunday in September. Part of his dream from August 28, 1963 has to do with inclusion -- all people being welcomed, respected, and perceived as brothers and sisters in Christ. That is part of our stated mission as a parish, to be "a growing Christian community that welcomes, nurtures and nourishes people of varied cultures, backgrounds and ages." Join us -- the door is open!

Jane+

– All Saints' News –

ADULT EDUCATION – NEW IDEAS

At a recent meeting, we came up with new ideas for Adult Education this year. Working with the Rector, are **Todd Bouverot, John Burk, Anne Goetz, Don Kern and Kevin Walsh.**

Faith Study, Sunday mornings from 8:45-9:30 am

A variety of topics to explore and discuss – sometimes the Bible, sometimes other things.

Faith Study begins September 15 to study the New Testament Letter of James. After this, the next topic will be a book by Gary Wills, *What Paul Meant*. (Copies are being ordered.)

Faith Study is weekly, except for the first Sunday of the month.

What do you think the Gospel Says? -- one Thursday a month, 7-8 pm

Most Sundays, we hear sermons relating to the Gospel lesson that's been assigned by our Lectionary. Let's gather one Thursday a month to consider the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday. We'll talk, maybe eat a little, and come away with new insights -- to bring to church. (Committee members will facilitate.)

Thursday, October 3 – Gospel to be discussed is Luke 17:5-10
(This is the Gospel for the first Sunday in October.)

Bagels & Bishops, October 20

This is a Coffee Hour program (with bagels) to look at what is occupying a lot of our attention this fall – bishops. George Councill officially leaves office on November 2 when Chip Stokes is consecrated and becomes Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey. But George Councill does not stop being a bishop – ever. Why do we have bishops? Where does this come from? What will happen to Chip Stokes? Why should we care? All that and more.

Faith Questions

Provocative Coffee Hour discussions during the year
Stay tuned!

REGULAR SCHEDULE RESUMES

As of September 8, we go back to the regular Sunday worship schedule:
Holy Eucharist at 8 & 10 am

There is Nursery every week during the 10 o'clock Service, and Sunday School starts on September 22. As always, Coffee Hour – a truly wonderful fellowship time – follows.

It was a lovely summer of 9 o'clock services. Thanks to **Mary O'Connor** for coordinating the Activity Room for kids. And thanks to **Jenine Williams** for coordinating Coffee Hour.

Sadly, we will lose **Andrew Kilkenny** after September 8 as he goes to be Organist and Choirmaster in a larger venue. We wish him well.

WELCOME BACK BRUNCH, SEPTEMBER 29

Always a popular event, the Brunch brings us back together – and it's late enough to insure that most people's summer activities have ended. Of course, we invite you to bring a dish, but if that doesn't work out, come anyway. We look forward to a good time and a chance to catch up on what's been going on. Please sign up in Lea Hall.

CROP WALK, SEPTEMBER 29

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Ministerium has scheduled it earlier than usual in the hopes of getting a better turnout. The Walk raises funds for the assistance programs of Church World Service. Sign up to walk, and then find sponsors who will contribute money on your behalf. For information, speak with our parish coordinator, **Susan Winkler**.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, SUNDAY OCTOBER 6

This annual event pays tribute to St. Francis of Assisi, who is said to have had a special ability to communicate with all of nature. Bring your portable pets to the church, and we will have the Blessing at noon on the front lawn (inside, if the weather is bad).

CHAMBER OF HORRORS, OCTOBER 25 & 26

Once again, **Rich Johnson** is planning all kinds of ghoulish presentations. Mark your calendars!

--YOUTH NEWS--

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2013-2014

REGISTRATION IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 & 15 DURING COFFEE HOUR

CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 22 AT 10 AM

Kelly and Glen Robertson remain our excellent Sunday School Directors – which is indeed something to be grateful for.

At a recent meeting of teachers (with some parents), everyone had great praise for the **Spark Curriculum** that the Robertsons introduced a year or so ago. It matches the lectionary followed in church, and it is user friendly – good news for the teachers.

Welcome Back our teachers: Carol Albert
Grace Butler
Lauren DiSarno
Joy Ogunyemi
Carol Rahner
Kelly Robertson
Beth Wojcio

Liz Trimpin is coordinating First Sunday programs, as she did so creatively last year. The programs will relate to the Gospel lesson for the day and any seasonal or outreach focus.

October 6 – The Gospel is the Parable of the Mustard Seed, so the First Sunday program will involve seeds and planting.

*Our older young people will help with Sunday School classes and programs.

*The Sunday School will get together to sing, a few Sundays after church – especially to work on the Family Christmas Eve service.

*The Sunday School will have special art projects a few Sundays after church

Work is continuing on the Sunday School renovations on the lower level of the Parish House. At this writing, painting has been done and the ceiling work is nearly finished. More to come...

-- Parishioner Profile --

HOW ALL SAINTS' BECAME MY CHURCH HOME

By Marcene Anderson

When I was asked to write something for the newsletter, my immediate thought was: what can I say? I continued to try to think of a topic and decided to write about my religious journey from childhood to the present. I am not a “cradle Episcopalian.” However, I have been an Episcopalian for over forty years.

Most of my immediate and extended family attend Baptist or Methodist churches. Only my sister and I deviated from family religious tradition. She and I were baptized as children in the Baptist Church in South Carolina. At an early age, my parents moved to Newark, New Jersey where we attended Sunday School at Bethany Baptist Church.

During the 1960s, the Roman Catholic Church began to sponsor numerous activities for young people. Many of my friends became Roman Catholics. I liked the ritual associated with the Catholic worship service and eventually began to attend catechism classes at St. Mary's Church in Newark. The more I learned, the less sure I became that Roman Catholicism was for me. I stopped going to confirmation classes and worshiped at several Baptist churches on a sporadic basis. Something was missing. For me, the liturgy was a big deal. I missed that.

During my late teens, I began to attend Saint Phillip's Episcopal Church in Newark where my sister and I eventually became confirmed as Episcopalians. She remained a parishioner there until her death. My husband, Frank, and I were married in St. Phillip's Church on May 24, 1963. We moved to East Orange, and sometimes attended a nearby Episcopal church in Orange. Saint Phillip's Church was destroyed by fire in the early 1960s, and the parish merged with Trinity Cathedral. Our son and daughter were baptized at Trinity Cathedral. I knew many of the parishioners and felt at home there.

We moved to Scotch Plains in 1970. Traveling to Newark on Sundays with two young children for Sunday School and church services was a hassle. It became apparent that we should try to find a church home closer to where we lived. We also felt that it was important for our children to have roots in their community. Father Nielson visited us and invited us to visit All Saints' Church. We did, and shortly thereafter formally transferred our membership to All Saints'. I remember being welcomed by parishioners such as Olga Yurchuk and Ruth and Henry Brock. We met other families and became involved in church activities. Although I loved All Saints' Church, in my heart, Trinity Cathedral was still my church home.

As our children became older teens and young adults, they stopped attending church on a regular basis. I found myself attending Trinity Cathedral more often with my sister. We had a tradition of attending Palm Sunday service at Trinity Cathedral. When my sister passed away, I stopped attending services at the Cathedral and began to attend All Saints' more regularly. Reverend Jane was a very welcoming presence.

Over the years, the faces and families at All Saints' had changed somewhat and I did not know many of the active parishioners because I mostly attended the 8 o'clock service. I started to attend the 10 o'clock service more often, reconnected with old parishioners and met new ones. When Reverend Jane invited me to become a Lay Reader, I was hesitant at first, but I am glad that I accepted the invitation. I have found that All Saints' is still a welcoming community. I know many more people by name and recognize faces -- when I have a senior moment.

When I enter All Saints' Church now, I truly feel at home.

By Marcene Anderson

LYRA CONCERT, OCTOBER 19

We are very pleased to welcome back the singers of LYRA for a one-time-only concert on Saturday, October 19 at 8 pm. These talented men and women from St. Petersburg in Russia have been with us several times before, and audiences have always enjoyed them. Their programs are a mix of sacred, romantic and folk music – some presented with colorful costumes. The concert will take place in the church itself.

Tickets should be purchased in advance. They will be available at Coffee – or call the church to make reservations. **Regular tickets are \$20. Tickets for seniors and young people age 15 and under are \$15.**

Housing is needed for several of the singers on the night of October 19. If you have room for someone, please contact Chris Harris or call the church. (The singers will be on their way early Sunday morning after breakfast, as they travel to their next engagement.)

AN EARLY NOTE FOR YOUR CALENDAR – THE SECOND ANNUAL GALA DINNER WILL BE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

--The All Saints' Family --

Congratulations to **Charlotte Peach** who has earned her Girl Scout Gold Award. (This is the equivalent of boys becoming Eagle Scouts.) For her Gold Award project, Charlotte taught a seven-week Art Therapy class for seniors at the Chelsea in Fanwood, and she hopes to practice Art Therapy in the future. She is now a senior at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. (A photo from the *Courier News* of Charlotte with her Chelsea class is on our bulletin board.)

Matthew Landale's baseball team, the Mountainside Pride, played in a Cooperstown, NY tournament in August. The town of Mountainside held many fundraisers in order to subsidize this exciting trip for their team.

At their June meeting, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club elected **Cathy Harris** as their new Secretary. She has been active with the club for several years.

Patricia Ludewig had the pleasure of being Mother of the Groom at two weddings this summer. Her son, **Anthony Cunningham** was married to **Michel Poveda** on March 1 (the reception was in Lea Hall), and her son, **Joseph Cunningham**, was married to **Allison Bollwage** on August 25. Congratulations to all.

Matthew Young, who grew up in this parish, is now a Lance Corporal in the US Marines, serving in the Middle East. The Young family moved to Maine some years ago where **Bob and Cindee** pursue a variety of activities including training dogs.

Kathryn Kunz, who was a long-time member of All Saints', passed away in June of 2012 at the age of 99. Her body was given over for medical research, and her daughter **Cheryl** will plan a memorial service this fall when that is finished.

CELEBRATING BISHOP COUNCELL, OCTOBER 13

The Diocese is planning a Celebratory Service of Holy Eucharist for Sunday, October 13 at 3 pm at Trinity Cathedral to recognize George Councill's tenure as our Bishop. A Reception will follow. If you would like to go, please sign up in Lea Hall. We would leave here at 1 pm.

HERE'S HOW TO ACCESS OUR BISHOP-ELECT'S BLOG

<http://chipstokesblog.blogspot.com/>

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers on the altar with 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: September 1 was the only available date (try October!)

Sanctuary Lamp: Same as with the flowers – only September 1

Missionary Outreach

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

September – Baby/Toddler items: disposable diapers, ointments, powder, wipes, nail clippers, shampoo and other related items

October – Laundry supplies (small boxes of detergent, bleach, stain removers)

November – Health & beauty supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes (adults and children), toothpaste, mouthwash, floss, cotton balls)

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*

Andrew Kilkenny, Organist and Choirmaster

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus*

Irene Carlucci, *Secretary*

Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens

Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Charlie Beakes	Todd Bouverot	Lauren DiSarno	Chris Harris
Clark Landale	Patricia Ludewig	Glen Robertson	Michelle Smith-Crona
Sally Robinson	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh	Susan Winkler

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

e-mail: allsaints-spnj@verizon.net ♦

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All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076 ♦ www.allsaints-spnj.org