

# THE MESSENGER

October 2014, Volume 5 Number 6

All Saints' Church ❖ 51 Concord Street, Peterborough, NH 03458

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Celeste Hemingson, *Interim Rector*

## Our Mission (What we do)

*Our mission is to help people grow in their faith and trust in God by helping them recognize their God-given talents and to use them to serve God and their neighbor.*

## Our Vision (Where we are going)

*Our vision is to be a community in which God's love is experienced and shared.*

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## A Message from Celeste...

### *Reaping the Rewards of Faith*

On Sunday, September 7, I had the privilege of listening in while Bishop Rob met with those about to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church to talk with them about the commitment they were about to make. His message was clear and true for both the children in the group and also the adults.

He reminded them of all of the dangers facing our world today – wars, genocides, disease and environmental degradation. Then he pointed out that the message of Jesus Christ – a message of responsibility to one another and responsibility for one another; a message of putting the needs of others ahead of our own desires, of being stewards of the earth that God created – it is not widely heard in the world these days.

Bishop Rob told the confirmands that in committing themselves to the service of Christ, they were becoming parts of the Body of Christ who would carry on His work by keeping that message alive.

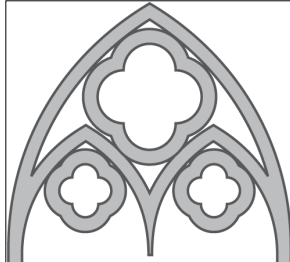
This, to me is the reward of faith: by keeping faith with Christ's mission, we make sure that His message is heard. We do this through the Church, not only through preaching and teaching, but also by supporting future preachers and teachers and by demonstrating the good news in the work we do for others, both far and near.

My ministry as an interim priest is to help congregations recognize how vital they are to the future of the whole world, and then to act on that mission. It has been a pleasure and an honor to have joined with you in a growing awareness of the value of All Saints' Church.

May God bless you as you continue to live into your mission with your new rector.

Your sister in Christ,

*Celeste+*



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## Christian Education

### *Tending the Vine*

#### Outreach with the Youth Group

If asked, I do not think I could provide an exhaustive list of what I would consider my “rewards of faith” – it would be too long. Truly, I feel that every good thing in my life has come to me directly from God and that almost every challenge, hardship, obstacle I have faced, God has been right in the thick of those as well. I have to admit, I became a little teary-eyed watching six of my young Saints being confirmed at Homecoming. I think it was the joy I felt in knowing how many good things were in store for those candidates. When we walk consciously with God, dimensions of meaning are opened up for us that are missed otherwise. It is not as though the world itself is as any different: we are different, and our orientation to the world is forever changed through our relationship with God. At least, this has been the case for me.

I have written many times about how rewarding, how spiritually nourishing, I find my work to be with the children and young adults of this parish. They are a spirited bunch, and are forever showing me the activity God is doing in the world. During a recent conversation with Bishop Rob, he spent a few minutes opening up the rich metaphor found in John 15: “You are the vine; I am the vine-tender.” He spoke about how a vine seeks out life, it pushes forward into new territory and finds the light. It responds actively to its environment and works around obstacles.

As a member of the Outreach Committee, I value the determination of a vine, the nimble ability to interact with others, all the while recognizing that God is tending, shaping, pruning and guiding us along as we reach ever further into the world, seeking light and life. Our trips to Boston to do outreach to the homeless offers the youth group and myself the opportunity to work alongside God, as fellow “vine-keepers,” providing a trellis, a support to fragile vines who have faced perhaps more than their fair share of trials and obstacles. The people we meet in Boston are desperate for guidance to once again find the light, to grow into the healthy, vital and vibrant vines that God intends for each of us to become.

One thing is for certain – we are indeed one vine, one living body of Christ and the illusion of separateness is just that – a trick of the mind. That much has been made clear to me on every journey to Boston.

We are at a crossroads as a parish, as we welcome a new leader and begin to establish a new identity, a new era for All Saints’ Church. It is my great hope that we come to see Outreach as a primary factor in that identity. It is my desire that we hold close in our hearts and minds the knowledge of ourselves as one vine, held and encouraged, cared for and tended by a loving God who wants only that we should have life and have it abundantly.

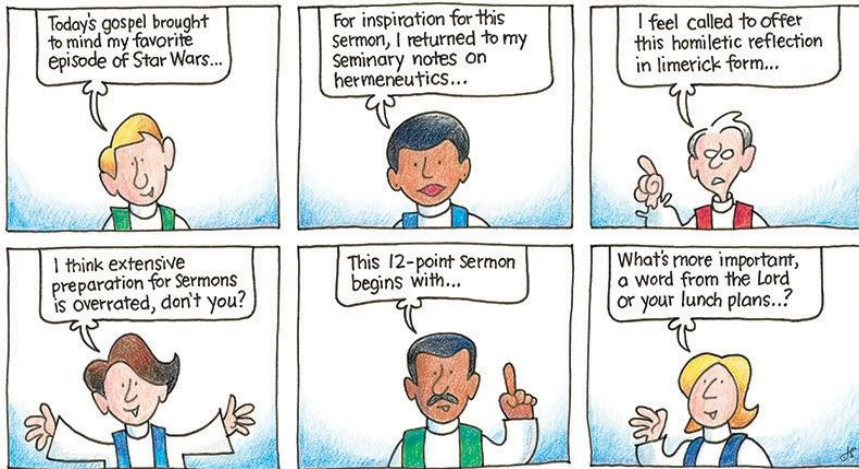
*Becky Goodwin, Director of Christian Education*



## All Good Things

All good things you've given  
 Will live on in our heart  
 Undimmed and undiminished  
 By time and space apart

*Andy Peterson*



OPENING LINES OF SERMONS WE DIDN'T STAY AROUND TO HEAR.

## Book Note

Sometimes it takes a bishop to call your attention to what's right in front of you. When our Bishop made his visitation to All Saints' on September 7, he began his sermon with a reference to *The Stained Glass of All Saints'*, the 2001 parish publication with photographs by William H. Gnade and text by Joan Jessop Brewster, which the Bishop came across years ago in the Common Room at the SSJE monastery in Cambridge.

What photographs! What text! I have had a copy for a while, and have leafed through it with appreciation, but the Bishop's remark impelled me to do something I have thought of doing but never done: going into the Church with book in hand (and binoculars, especially for the tower windows) and simply looking at each window, reading the description, and looking at it again. I commend the practice; have the lights off if you can, the better to appreciate the masterful use of color which was Charles Connick's specialty. The colors bathe you, drench the walls and floor with glory, and bring alive those still figures and emblems as a living tradition. With those remarkable photographs and Joan Brewster's fluent, beguiling, carefully researched writing, you are drawn into a world of sacrifice, courage, humor (the green little demon reluctantly exorcised from a boy in one of the baptistery windows), and especially clarity. Though the style is medieval, the content stretches from the Biblical to Christmas trees to St. Therese of Lisieux.

When you just look at one of the All Saints' windows, from your accustomed seat, perhaps, you probably realize that some details are passing you by and others are just puzzling. The wealth of narrative and allusion in these works of art is immense: the text in the book gives you some, and invites you to think further. An hour spent in front of one of these could be a very fruitful meditation.

What I was unprepared for, however, was the depth of tradition and history relating specifically to All Saints', Peterborough, that this book contains. The remarkable Mary Lyon Cheney Schofield is given her own short biography, along with Ralph Adams Cram and Charles Jay Connick. We are introduced to Cram's intentions as architect, his relationship to Connick, and how Mrs. Schofield managed them both (very ably). The overall scheme of the windows is described. And in the descriptions of each window, we are given details of the donor, the honoree, and their connections to the parish and the community. The cumulative effect of these is immense: the love, grief, sacrifice, and purposefulness of generations of parishioners and others is a part of this story, too. Institutional memory is very fragile, and we are blessed to have this record of so much that was precious and still lives.

Cassius Webb

## Alma's Poem

As children look forward to a treat  
 We're eagerly waiting to meet  
 The one our search committee has decided

Will see that we are provided  
 With the spiritual guidance we need  
 As on prayer and scripture we feed.

Meanwhile, our beloved interim priest  
Has kept us enthralled, to say the least  
By sermons packed with wisdom and mirth

As befits one ordained at birth  
With a heart of Heavenly love aflame  
Hence the celestial name.

*Alma Ruth*

## October Saints' Days

10/1	Gladys Buglar Ted McLaughlin Otto McLaughlin	10/10	Fern Corwin Kaleigh Row	10/19	Stanley Szydlo Roxanne Weddle
10/2	Bruce Larsen Berkley Bates	10/12	Connie Oliver	10/20	JoAnn Munro
10/3	Bobbie Coffin	10/14	Alma Ruth	10/22	Matthew Guinard
10/4	Avery Krug	10/15	William Ricaurte	10/26	Katherine Foecking
10/5	Julie Crocker	10/17	Joe Hale	10/28	Tricia Burt Masterson
10/6	Judy Vance	10/18	Nathaniel Pierce Linda Walsh	10/29	Sally Larsen Kaleb Guinn
10/8	Will Brown Courtney Brown		Heidi Graff Dhanesh Airi	10/30	Jean Ellston Liam Armstrong
		10/19	Augusta Law	10/31	Emily Twitchell

## "I have called you friends..." John 15:15

When I made my timid and tentative re-entry to the Episcopal Church, I remembered everything I needed to know about how to genuflect and when to cross myself, but I knew nothing about how churches worked, nor about the pastoral role of the priest. (I had left the church when I was 17.) After I had shown up at worship a couple of times, the priest paid us a pastoral call. As he prepared to leave, he said, "Well today I've come as your neighbor," (the rectory was across the street from our house.) "But next time I'll visit as your priest." I gulped, and said, "But can't you come as my friend?"

Today, 25 years later, I understand a lot more about the fuzzy line between friendship and priesthood. As I prepare to leave my position as your interim priest, it's important that I share that understanding with you.

In *Living on the Border of the Holy*, a wonderful book about the priesthood of all believers, L. William Countryman writes that a priest is someone who accompanies you at the mysterious and frightening "border of the Holy" - those times of great joy, or sadness, or uncertainty when we come close to the God for whom human words are inadequate. Countryman maintains that all of us - lay and ordained are priests to others, especially our friends, at one time or another.

But here is the critical point: people expect those who are ordained to this priesthood to carry out that ministry at all times. In other words, for ordained clergy, even our friends see us as priests. When clergy become friends with members of the churches we serve, (and we do form such friendships), the possibility for a dual and confusing relationship always exists.

When we leave a congregation and a new priest is called to that church, the unavoidably dual nature of our friendships diminishes the effectiveness of the new pastor's ministry. In order to prevent that, Bishop Rob has set out this guideline in our standards of conduct:

*When it comes time to leave a parish, it is expected that clergy will bring resolution to relationships with all parishioners in a manner that is healthy for the cleric, the cleric's family, as well as the parish. ...It is expected that once a cleric's service at a parish ends, he or she will no longer perform any clergy functions for any members of that parish. ...In addition, it is expected that the cleric will not communicate with former parishioners about matters involving the parish, and will not meet with any members of the parish for any reason during the interim period and until new ordained leadership is fully integrated into the life of the parish. (Safe Church policy, p. 15)*

Here is how I have come to understand this rule: God is like a coach in a ball game. He may call one player off the field, and send another to replace the player. It is important that all who play on God's team understand what anyone who has participated in a team sport has learned – play your position, and don't try to play someone else's position.

I have called you friends, and we will always be friends. I will pray for you, and look forward to news about you. In this small diocese, I know we will see each other again from time to time. But God has sent Jamie onto the field at All Saints' Church, and I will honor my Coach by not playing her position.

I thank God for the privilege of serving you,

*Celeste*

## Life After Adrian

Early last summer when Adrian told us he was leaving, we were not only shocked, but devastated. We thought life as we knew it at All Saints' was over. As it turned out, life as we knew it at All Saints' was over, and we had about eight weeks to get used to it.

At first we were heart-broken and sad, and then we got angry. We didn't want our church life turned upside down. Visions of another three-year search for a new rector came to mind. Then in August when the moving van pulled away from the curb, we thought, "Well, it's done! It's time to stop whining and move on to the next chapter." We knew we had wonderful retired clergy in our church, and we'd be just fine while we waited to see who walked in the door as our interim rector. Little did we know then the gift that our Bishop and Canon Hannah Anderson were going to give us.

Enter the Reverend Celeste Hemingson very early one September Sunday morning – tall, erect, purposeful and smiling, and as we learned later that week, a "professional" interim rector. Soon we knew that we were going to be just fine during this interim period.

And we have been.

An interim rector's job is to shake us up, turn over our "apple carts" and otherwise force us out of our comfort zones. Rattle our cages so to speak – all to prepare us for who will come next. Mission accomplished. We don't think we could have been given a better interim rector.

Our Bishop sent us a strong, confident and gifted priest. Celeste has challenged us to become better Christians, to grow in our faith and spirituality. A warm and compassionate person, she did not think twice about getting on a bus to Boston in order to take communion to a parishioner who was hospitalized there. She brought weekday Bible Study and communion to our parish residents (and others) at RiverMead, Summerhill and beyond – even during the summer when some activities are discontinued at church.

Celeste has given us so much. Her knowledge of church history and the Bible are remarkable. She makes reading the Bible fun and interesting (for us anyway.) We especially enjoyed her talks about our Anglican heritage.

It is sad to notice that some in our congregation have left us since Adrian departed, and there are some who have not left us, but have made themselves more absent than present. Our interim rector has had so much to give and teach us. Her sermons have been meaningful, enriching and sometimes animated with her wonderful sense of humor. It is too bad that some have missed these gifts.

One of the great pleasures of serving on the altar guild is the close relationship we share with our rector. The interdependence, confidence and trust we develop is a wonderful bond, and not taken lightly by any of us who serve in this ministry.

Now our interim period is coming to an end. We know that Adrian is alive and happy doing God's work in Wellesley. And we happen to know that he is loved and well looked after by his new altar guild, some of whom have become our friends and comrades over this past year.

We look forward with great joy and anticipation to welcoming the Reverend Jamie Hamilton to All Saints' as our next rector. This is truly a joyous time for all of us. It will, however, be with both great sadness and deep appreciation that on September 28 we say good-bye to the Reverend Celeste Hemingson, a woman of substance.

## Sowing That We May Reap

As we enter into autumn and look forward to welcoming our new rector the Rev. Jamie Hamilton to our church community, we also look forward to the time of year when we pledge to support All Saints' Church.

In last month's *Messenger* Celeste talked about "Four for the Gospel Makers" – Worship, Outreach, Family, and Formation – the four foundational values of All Saints' Church, which are the reasons we love our church community and support our worship home. This is the theme for stewardship this year.

On four Sundays beginning Oct. 12, members of our congregation will share their personal stories related to each of these four values of Worship, Outreach, Family, and Formation. They will visit each of the three services and tell us why they give their support to All Saints' Church.

In order to reap we must sow and when we give to All Saints', we are supporting each other that we all can reap the harvest and grow in our relationship with Christ.

*Marilyn Weir, Vestry*

## View from the Bench

*Praise God in his sanctuary:  
...with the sound of the trumpet!  
...with stringed instruments and organs!*

You may have noticed that we don't have a concert series at All Saints'. I've frequently been asked by parishioners and even community members who are familiar with our music program and resources why that is so. Our setting is extraordinary for the presentation of sacred music, organ music, and performances by small instrumental ensembles.

In point of fact, a number of groups and organizations have taken advantage of the setting and scheduled performances at All Saints' over the years: we've hosted visiting cathedral choirs, a string quartet from Apple Hill Chamber Music Center, Primal Polyphony, the Peterborough Chamber Choir, internationally renowned organists, Blue Heron and other choral and instrumental ensembles under the auspices of the Monadnock Music Festival, and performers from the Walden School.

So rich are the musical resources in the Monadnock region and the greater Boston area that, serendipitously, we are frequently presented with opportunities to host wonderful music at All Saints'. A concert series of sorts has taken shape. We just never know what's coming next!

One of those serendipitous occasions is coming up on Sunday, October 19 at 4 PM, when Friends of Music at All Saints' will present internationally renowned German trumpet-organ duo, Frank DÜppenbecker and Klaus Eldert Müller. DÜppenbecker and Müller will present a program of music from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classic and Romantic periods. Trumpeter Frank DÜppenbecker has performed in the opera houses of Frankfurt, Dusseldorf and Duisburg, as well as on numerous radio and television broadcasts. He is the producer of Music Sacra, a series of organ and trumpet concerts throughout Europe, and is a founding member of the Samuel Scheidt Brass Quintet. Organist Klaus Eldert Müller is cantor and organist of St. Reinoldi Church in Dortmund, Germany.

The October 19 program will include well-known staples of the repertoire by Purcell, Stanley, and Bach as well as less familiar works. A highlight of the concert program will be the newly written "Sonata for Trumpet, Flugelhorn, Piano and Percussion" by acclaimed composer Christopher Morris, who resides in Harrisville. Morris, who will be present at the concert, has worked with both artists previously, and it is through his efforts that this opportunity comes to us. The recital is open to the public without charge.

*Jeffrey L. Fuller, Organist and Choirmaster*

**Mark your calendar:**  
**Choral Evensong for All Souls Day**  
**with Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**  
November 2  
5 PM  
*Reception will follow in Reynolds Hall*

**Saintly News**

*Congratulations to...*

- ❖ Veronica Boyle, Lora McClintock, Jude Roberts, Madelyn Morris, Andres Tourgee, Max Scheinblum, Kyle Nelson and Evan Wagner on their recent confirmation.
- ❖ Ivy Vann on her recent success in the N.H. Primary as State Representative .

*Gloria Schultz*



## Parish Profiles

All Saints' has an exciting new initiative, "Parish Profiles" which will help introduce us better to each other. This is thanks to our new website intern, Haley Spitzfaden, a youth group member, choir member and frequent participant in many activities here at the church. With ambitions to become a journalist, Haley has begun putting together interviews and photos which will be shared in our newsletter, on the website and through the *Messenger*. Below is an excerpt from her first submission. Please enjoy and go to <http://www.allsaints-nh.org> for the full story and accompanying pictures.

### **The Tourgee Family:** *Two Countries, One Family, One Church*

There is no doubt that All Saints' Parish is a special church. Whether you love the community, worship services, or even just the beauty of the stone building, there is something for everybody. The Tourgee family has been a part of the church for sixteen years. The family consists of Chris and Brian Tourgee, mother and father of three children: Heather, Michelle, and Andres. Heather is starting her second year at Middlebury, and Michelle and Andres both go to ConVal, a junior and a freshman respectively.

The Tourgees have been active in helping the church. Brian can list multiple groups they have been a part of off the top of his head. "We were both on the Vestry," he said, "Chris has been on the Search Committee, I was with Christian Ed, and I went to Juarez twice as a chaperone." Chris goes on to add, "I've been involved with Christian Ed, still am a little bit, more with the high school kids. We're still involved with Juarez...we just do whatever they ask. If someone needs help setting up tents for the bishop's visit, we say 'yes!'" Chris is also supportive of the church's contribution to the community, such as the Tuesday night suppers, the food pantry, Serendipity Shop, and the other ministries. While you hear about the challenges faced by various church communities, the Tourgees don't see a lot of

conflict at All Saints. Chris said, "It can be difficult to make decisions with so many people participating. The only thing I would change is figuring out the services, finding out a way to meet the needs of the three separate worship times, but, at the same time, keeping one parish. I liked it when we had the two services simultaneously and we were able to have coffee hour together. We only have one priest right now, so we're going to have to figure out that little bit." Michelle adds, "I think instead of being worried about things going on inside the church, we should be using our money to do things outside of our community, like more city reach trips."

As for bringing in new people to the church, Chris says, "It's the best looking church in town! Plus, we are an open, welcoming church." Brian also observes, "There are a lot of different points of views in the church, it's extremely diverse. No matter what your thoughts are, there is probably somebody there who agrees with you." Most of all, the Tourgees love the activities we put on, and the help of the church both in the town and congregation communities.

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## Bishop Rob Hirschfeld Attends All Saints' Vestry Meeting

Bishop Rob Hirschfeld joined the Vestry for their meeting on September 16. He began by saying that he feels a "buoyancy" in this congregation. Bishop Rob thanked Celeste for her expert leadership and steadfast devotion during this interim period. We all agreed! He stated that he's delighted with our choice of Jamie Hamilton as our new rector.

The Bishop encouraged us to focus on these five marks of the work of the church:

Show up for God, tell the stories, splash water around, share food, and expect God's surprises. He assured us that if we do these five things, everything else will fall in place.

Cindy Naudascher reported that the outreach ministry is beginning to redefine their work by moving out into the community as a fulfillment of who we are. Bishop Rob reminded us that it's not so much that the church or the outreach ministry has a mission but that God's mission exists everywhere and this campus is part of that. The question then is, how can we align our energy and resources with God's mission. Celeste asked the vestry to think about and determine if we will have a fundraising event in the upcoming year as this information needs to be part of the budget planning. Treasurer Christy Meinke gave the finance report. She is developing the preliminary budget and asked

everyone to send their budget needs as soon as possible.

Deb DeCicco thanked the entire vestry for their work as the Stewardship Committee this year. Each vestry member has taken up part of the work involved.

Bishop Rob suggested that the goal of Stewardship be 100% participation in pledging.

Bishop Rob reported that the question, "What does it mean to be a church in the 21st<sup>st</sup> century" is being asked on every level in the church. There's a need to recover the sense of the church as a movement, not an institution.

*Deb DeCicco, Junior Warden*



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## Editor's Note

In her opening message, Celeste says that the reward of faith is making sure Christ's message is heard through our words and actions. She says her ministry is to "help congregations recognize how vital they are to the future of the whole world." Now, that is something to think about, isn't it? We are not just important to our family, friends and community. Each of us has a key role, each of us has a mission. Our church nourishes us so we can fulfill our earthly mission.

The theme for this month's *Messenger* is "reaping the rewards of faith," and for me one of the major rewards is the knowledge, the assurance, that I am not alone as I try to make sense of my place here on earth. Through membership at All Saints', our Christian community, I am given – you are given – all the support, encouragement and guidance we need.

Becky writes in a similar vein when she talks about "Tending the Vine" in her Christian Ed column. She writes that one reward of faith is that "when we walk consciously with God, dimensions of meaning are opened up for us that are missed otherwise."

If you are like me, after you read Cassius's "Book Note" this month, you will be scheduling some time to spend alone in the church, appreciating even more its beauty and history.

Carol and Sally have written a lively and account of their views on the past year in the life of All Saints'. Many of us will identify with the feelings they express!

Jeff keeps us up to date with the All Saints' music world, and Gloria makes sure we can celebrate with them as members of our Parish go through some important life events.

New this month is Haley's first "Parish Profile." If you go online to <http://www.allsaints-nh.org/>, you'll get to see the fabulous photos that illustrate her article. And finally, Deb shares details about Bishop Rob's visit with the All Saints' Vestry.

The deadline for the November *Messenger* is October 15. The theme will be "Giving Thanks." Please send your contributions to me at [chow6569@gmail.com](mailto:chow6569@gmail.com).

With much gratitude and great joy,

*Christine*