

# THE MESSENGER

September 2014, Volume 5 Number 5

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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...

### *Working for the Lord*

*Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Collect For Labor Day BCP p. 262*

Dear friends in Christ,

The theme for this month's newsletter, "Working for the Lord," gives me an opportunity to share my long-time interest in the connection between our worldly work – the work we celebrate on Labor Day – and the Lord's work: the mission of all Christians. I've been thinking about this for over twenty years, ever since I heard my pastor, the Rev. Hank Junkin, refer to our jobs as "ministries."

The basis for this concept – that our work in the world is our ministry – is found in the Catechism, on page 855 in the Prayer Book:

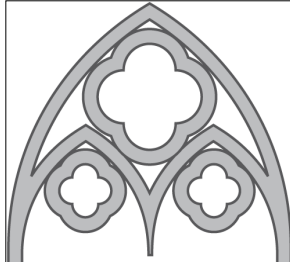
**Q.** *Who are the ministers of the Church?*

**A.** *The ministers of the Church are laypersons, bishops, priests, and deacons.*

**Q.** *What is the ministry of the laity?*

*The ministry of laypersons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of*  
**A.** *reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.*

Our ministry, then, is not only the role we play in the life of the church. Our ministry also includes everything we do that bears witness to Christ, and carries on his work of reconciliation in the world.



## THE MESSENGER

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Often our job title may not indicate a direct connection with ministry, but the opportunities are there nonetheless. For example, in a *Messenger* article last year, Bruce Jacobson, your previous interim priest, described how his job as physical education instructor at Gordon College became a ministry. Of course, teaching others how to be healthy and fit is a godly endeavor to begin with. But Bruce also wrote about hearing the individual stories of his students, and having the opportunity to show them how God was at work in their lives.

I invite you to pray about the work you do, paid or unpaid, and how you bear witness to Christ as you do it, and how you carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world. The following prayer, "*For Vocation in Daily Work*," is a good place to start:

*Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good; for the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. BCP p. 262*

Our daily work is more than the winning of our daily bread. It is effort invested in the common good, not the service of self alone. And as this final prayer from the Prayer Book affirms, our labor has been hallowed by Jesus Christ:

*Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Prayer for Rogation Days, BCP p. 258*

May the Lord who knows your rising up and your setting down bless you in every way.

Celeste+

## Saintly News

### *Congratulations to...*

- ❖ Jody and Rick Simpson on the marriage of their son Jonathan Hill to Abigail Copeland Emerson.
- ❖ Gail and Ed Novotny on the marriage of their daughter Janet to Mark Daly.
- ❖ Dorothy Peterson on the birth of her new great granddaughter, Lydia, as well as grandparents, Kirsten and Andy Peterson. The new parents are Jennifer and Gardiner Holland.



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## Alma's Poem

*Give thanks to the Lord for His love endures forever*  
Psalm 136:1

We've had a wonderful vacation time  
Enjoying the gardens in their prime, and  
Visits from family far and near .  
Our screen porch parties were fun  
No special reason for everyone  
Just being together is celebration  
Leading to laughter and jubilation.  
Counting my blessings as I often do  
I find one thought true :  
In all the ways that I've been blest ,  
A loving family is the best,

## Working for the Lord

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24*

I am very fortunate to have been given a seat on the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, a body of six clergy and six laypersons from across the state who serve the Bishop by interviewing candidates for ordained ministry and advising him as he proceeds with their preparation and training. I count my spot in this group among the greatest spiritual opportunities I've been given as it allows me a front row view of the rich, deep and exciting talent called to this special form of service in our diocese. This opportunity has proven to be even more exciting than I expected in that Bishop Rob has called the Commission to intense levels of self-examination in terms of our call to support the ministry of all the baptized, not just those called to ordained service.

The spirit of the Bishop's call is to examine and celebrate how the work of each of us serves God and also to support each baptized person in deepening his or her faith so that it may inform and, in turn, be fed by a chosen vocation. In other words, how does the teacher, the doctor, the bus driver, the farmer, serve God in his or her work? How is one's faith shaped by work and how is work made meaningful by faith? It's a wonderful question to ponder, and surely one that has informed many of my own work decisions along the way.

All of life entails work – relationships, marriages, parenting, friendships, careers and even being part of a church. However, when we consider what Paul writes in Colossians, we can remember more clearly why we work and more specifically, whom we are really serving. To truly care for each other in committed relationships requires work, but it reminds each of us that we are cared for by a loving Creator and are indeed worthy of that love. The endless work of parenting can be exhausting, but when we remember we are our children's first experience of the unconditional love of God, we find renewed strength to fulfill that promise to them. While we are bound to hurt and disappoint by even our closest friends, our willingness to keep trying and to be there for each other when we most need it allows us to experience first-hand our very own "communion of saints." We find new strength to face challenges and increased joy as we celebrate in the companionship of good friends. Careers are the ways in which we become God's hands and feet – whether we are building a bridge, driving a truck, cooking a meal or cleaning up after children – if we perform our work with mindfulness of our service to God, we are helping to build the Kingdom.

Finally, being part of a church can involve hard work as well. I would be highly surprised if there was a single one among us who had not been asked to volunteer in one way or another (or ten!) during our time at All Saints'. But here, more than anywhere else, we are given the opportunity to embrace our work for the Lord in a way that will leave a legacy for future Christians. In addition, the rewards are rich, as Paul describes. In the end, most of us discover, we receive far more than we give away. As another church year begins, let us all give enthusiastically of ourselves – because it helps secure a future for the church, because it feels good and because it is, after all, what God asks of us.



## Color

*If you see the world in black and white, you miss the rainbow in the middle.*

As well as running my landscaping business, I am also an instructor at the Boston Architectural College. “Color Theory in Practice” is one of my favorite courses to teach. I work with students in the Residential Interiors program to develop a foundation for understanding and working successfully with color.

Understanding color is a tricky thing. Once you think you have it pinned down and understand the rules, it will wriggle away and contradict them all. Scientists still don’t know exactly how we perceive color, and as far as the psychological impact of color – it turns out to be fairly personal and not universal at all. Stay in a pink room for a short while and your blood pressure will go up; stay longer and your body temperature will drop.

Still there are concepts to understand in order to achieve color harmony. Metaphorically speaking, I think we could use the idea of color to understand how a harmonious church community works.

First there are “warm” hues and “cool” hues. You might consider all those yellows, oranges and reds as being those warm people who greet newcomers with such ease. They can be cheerful, expressive and sometimes downright fiery. The cool blues may be those reserved people who like to take their time analyzing a situation. They don’t believe in hasty decisions or rash actions.

Then we come to the greens of the church community (no, not the political party.) The color green falls right in the middle of the visible spectrum. Because of its balance, not too cool and not too warm, it is the most relaxing to the eye. Just think of how we feel surrounded by green nature in the summertime. I think of the “green” people of our parish as those who make things easy. They are the life-affirming ones with friendly smiles and supportive ways. They encourage us to grow. Green also can harmonize with any color. Just look at the flowers and their foliage.

The next concept is “value,” which means the lightness or darkness of a color. Think of the clear bright colors of the young people in our church and the deep wise shades of those who have lived and seen so much.

Bright accent colors are meant to stand out, and more neutral foundation colors are meant to support. No good designer ever makes things too “matchy-matchy.” (That is a professional term.) They understand that for a room to have life it needs variety, even a bit of dissonance. If two colors clash and you can’t replace them, add intervals of other colors to blend and soften the effect.

On the first day of color class, I lay out my collection of Color-aid papers, all 314 of them. Then I ask students to select their most disliked color. This part is always fun. Popular candidates are chartreuse, certain muddy browns, and an occasional pink or periwinkle. Often another student will exclaim, “Oh no! That’s my favorite color!” Our dislikes are very personal.

The next part of the exercise is difficult. The student must give this “hated” color to another student. Acting as the decorator, he or she attempts to incorporate the “hated” color into a scheme in a way that is pleasing. When the students show their selections for the schemes, it’s surprising how well the “hated” colors work, especially when used judiciously. Often it takes just a little touch of the color. I will remove the “hated” color from the collection, and students almost always agree that the scheme is not nearly so compelling in its absence.

Now that is an interesting thought. What if those annoying people who so often rub you or me the wrong way, are what makes our parish alive, compelling, and interesting? Now THAT is something to ponder while doing God’s work.

*Laura Campbell*

## September Saints’ Days

9/3 Kathleen Bassett  
9/7 Brad Wuorinen  
9/10 Shirley Wamser

9/11 Lillian Carter  
9/12 Donald Scott  
9/14 Carol LaChance

9/15 Lynn Betz  
9/16 Nathaniel Manns  
9/17 Marilyn Weir

**9/19** Carter Judkins  
**9/25** Elizabeth Tong

**9/28** Patty Wheeler  
**9/28** Audrey White

**9/29** Ann Fitzgerald  
**9/30** Addison Brezinski

## Four for the Gospel Makers

### *Our theme for stewardship*

This year, when we prepare to answer God's command to be stewards of his gifts to us, we will be focusing on four foundational values that we uphold when we make a pledge to support the ministry of All Saints' Church:

- Worship
- Outreach
- Family
- Formation

We're calling this "Four for the Gospel Makers," because the Gospel is the underlying foundation of all that we do here. But "four for the Gospel makers" may be an unfamiliar phrase to many of you, especially those of you who never went to summer camp. It's a line from an old English folk song called *Green Grow the Rushes Ho*.

*Green Grow the Rushes Ho* is one of those counting backwards songs, like *Old MacDonald had a Farm* and *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. You have to repeat all the previous verses with each successive verse. The song begins with a reference to the one God:

I'll sing you one, Ho  
Green grow the rushes, Ho  
What is your one, Ho?  
One is one and all alone  
And evermore shall be so.

The succeeding verses include many Christian subjects, including the four Gospel makers, the Ten Commandments, and the twelve Apostles. But other verses may go back even to pre-Christian England, making the entire song very mysterious. But here are all the verses:

I'll sing you twelve, Ho  
Green grow the rushes, Ho  
What are your twelve, Ho?  
Twelve for the twelve apostles.  
Eleven for the eleven that went to heaven.  
Ten for the Ten Commandments.  
Nine for the nine bright shiners.  
Eight for the April rainers.  
Seven for the seven stars in the sky.  
Six of the six proud walkers.  
Five for the symbols at your door.  
Four for the gospel makers.  
Three, three, the rivals.  
Two, two, the lily white boys clothéd all in green-o.  
One is one and all alone  
And evermore shall be so.

For an explanation of all twelve of the verses, visit this website:

<http://wonderfuloldthings.wordpress.com/2013/09/16/green-grow-the-rushes-ho-an-english-folksong/> You will also find there a link where you can hear the song being sung. And with any luck, may hear it sung in church on of these days!

Celeste+

## **Homecoming Sunday**

*September 7*

One service at **9:30 AM**

Richard Rob will be with us!



## The Teams of Juarez

Once again the Lord has blessed us with another trip to Juarez, Mexico. Those of us who travel there come together, now from places other than the Monadnock area, of vastly varying ages, backgrounds and personalities. We do not easily fall together, as we need to coordinate our time and money and personal lives in order to meld. But we have one bond: the children of Centro Victoria. We become a team.

We are not the only team. We arrive and blend with other teams who again come with their differences. There is Roger Hungerford from New York, who this year brought three others who hope to also serve the children. We live and work with a team from the U.S. Midwest, who facilitate our visit, and we live and work with a team of Mexicans who come from different parts of Mexico, also working for the good of children living in poverty.

Then, there is Pastor Joel's team. His team also has grown and consists of different people who come together for the good of the children. But the final team is the children. There are 74 children ranging in ages from one through 19 and they are the most amazing team of all. To them falls the responsibility of accepting and responding to the help and opportunity that is offered them. And they do rise up to it, against all odds: their impoverished beginnings, their emotional bruises, their lack of education and nutrition. They respond to the care and love given them by Pastor Joel and all the teams that gather there, in a most wonderful way.

Their beautiful response is what keeps the teams going and coming back and giving more. Our increased giving means their increased response. The more doors we open, the more they are asked to move forward. And they do.

I wish you could personally know these children and how wonderful it is to be a part of their lives; to watch them grow and learn, to see their grateful and wholehearted response to our support of them. The three youth now enrolled in El Paso Community College glow with excitement at their success. They are leading the way for the younger members of their team. Behind them are three more youth eager to accomplish their dreams of becoming a pharmacist, pilot, and doctor. These are dreams that were non-existent only a few years ago for them. For most American children, these are normal goals, but for these children, it is a miracle.

You all are also part of the team. You are part of it because of your prayers, your words of support, your financial backing, and dedication over the past 10 years. It is worth it! The children respond. Thank you.

*Patty Wheeler*

## Book Note

Fathers and mothers often work entirely outside the purview of their offspring. Children of farmers, clergy, perhaps teachers, have some idea of what their parents do for a living; but what about the children of lawyers or actuaries or building inspectors? Or police? How do the careers of FBI agents or Air Force generals in charge of intelligence affect the lives of their pious, intelligent, lively children?

James Carroll is now a well-known figure in the literary, theological, political and journalistic realms. I confess to never having read his novels, but I have absorbed a good deal of his writing on the church (particularly his own Roman Catholic Church) and society. His often-trenchant analysis appears in the *Boston Globe* frequently. And I have just finished his remarkable memoir *An American Requiem: God, My Father, and the War that Came Between Us*, published in 1996 but still available. The intersection of pre-Vatican-II Irish Catholicism and unabashed American patriotism was the place at which this story begins. As

it unfolds, Carroll's father, having left seminary after twelve years, just on the verge of ordination to the diaconate, and then married, eventually winds up in the FBI. He rises quickly, and eventually, when the Defense Department decides it need its own intelligence apparatus, Joseph Carroll, at thirty-seven, becomes an instant brigadier general in the Air Force, having never served in the military or flown a plane.

In the meanwhile, of course, his children are growing up, mostly in Washington and then on Air Force bases. At the height of the Cold War nuclear nightmare, James, the second eldest, decides to become a priest. His years with the Paulist Fathers, an American order, are told with warmth and humor. But Vietnam raises its head, and as seminarian and priest, James Carroll becomes part of the resistance to that war, the conduct of which depends in some part on his father's intelligence work. One of his brothers evades the draft; another joins the FBI and hunts down draft dodgers. And the priest ultimately decides that his true vocation

is to writing, and that he, at least, must choose that to the exclusion of priesthood.

What is delightful, as well as painful, in this story is James Carroll's manifest respect and understanding of his father – and his mother, who suffers the family rifts like so many other mothers. The rifts are real, long

lasting, and in some cases never entirely healed. But they are clearly caused by differences worth having! The passion and honesty the Carroll family displays lead us to laughter and admiration, and to gratitude for a tale so lovingly told.

*Cassius Webb*

## View from the Bench

### WERE YOU THERE?

*Why weren't you there?*

You can't win if you don't play. (Lottery) You can't play if you're not in the game. (Life) You can't sing if you don't open your mouth. (Members of many other churches) You can't keep from singing! (Typical All Saints' parishioner!)

As our new "program" year begins at All Saints', opportunities for singing abound.

First, there's the **All Saints' Choir** – yes, this is for people who really can't keep from singing. Open to those high school age and up, the All Saints' Choir rehearses Thursday evenings, generally from 7:30 PM to 9 PM in Reynolds Hall, and sings at the 10 AM Eucharist each week, preceded by a rehearsal from 9 AM to 9:45 AM in the Church. When you sing anthems and motets from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries week in and week out, you may learn to love music you never thought you would (or you may not). 'Tis true: Singing with the All Saints' Choir is not for the faint of heart. It is a significant time commitment, but one that brings enormous reward. If you're interested in learning more or giving choir a trial run, please speak with the Choirmaster. Our first rehearsal this season is Thursday, September 4.

Second, suppose singing in the choir is not for you. (Perhaps that's hard to imagine, but just suppose). If so, then early this season there is an opportunity for you – the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual All Saints' Hymn Sing** on Sunday, September 14. I don't believe anyone who has ever attended our annual hymn sing failed to have fun or to enjoy the opportunity to lift their voices with a throng of friends and neighbors in singing some of the great hymns of the church.

Our hymn sing, of course, is also an opportunity to raise funds for the "Friends of Music at All Saints," which helps support the costs of concerts and recitals, extra instrumentalists at festival services, and more. To raise those funds, we offer you an opportunity to vote (as often as you wish) for the hymn(s) you want to sing. At \$2/vote, your enthusiasm can add up to some significant support. We'll sing the top ten or so vote-getters. But knowing that some of us don't share the musical tastes of our friends and neighbors, we also offer an opportunity to sponsor a hymn of your choice for \$25. You sponsor it and we sing it – even if you're the only one who wants to.

There is some fine print – if you're voting, you must vote for hymns on the official 2014 ballot available at the back of the church or in the office. If you're sponsoring a hymn, it must be found in our official hymnal, *The Hymnal 1982*. Otherwise, your sponsorship dollars have to go to photocopying your selection so that others can sing along and to paying fines that will be imposed on me for violation of federal copyright law.

Each year the hymn sing has a theme to determine which hymns get on the ballot (otherwise, with 710 hymns in our hymnal, two votes for any one hymn would be a landslide). There was an obvious theme this year since the church observes the Feast of the Holy Cross on September 14; every hymn on the ballot makes reference to *cross*, *crucify*, *Calvary*, or *tree* somewhere in its text. Hymn sponsors, once again, are not constrained by ballot choices. They can sponsor any hymn in the hymnal.

Whether or not you choose to vote or sponsor, you are absolutely welcome and encouraged to join the singing and gather in the church at 5 PM on September 14. Seated collegiate-style, i.e., with the chairs on each side of the nave turned to face those on the other side, we'll sing across the aisle rather than to the backs of heads of those in front of us. Do join us. When someone asks, "Were you there?" you certainly want to say truthfully, "Absolutely. I wouldn't have missed it for anything."

*Jeffrey Fuller, Organist and Choirmaster*



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## Editor's Note

My Finnish grandmother said, "Work is good. People need to work. People want to work," and we were taught that to be a worker is honorable, that doing a good job is a great satisfaction. I am so grateful to my Mummu for instilling that strong work ethic in every member of our family.

Years ago when I had just graduated from college and was living in South Carolina, the S.C. Humanities Council sponsored a statewide essay contest on "The Work Ethic: Who Wants It, Who Needs It?" Since I was used to responding to assignments immediately, I entered the contest. Using my grandmother's basic belief that work is good and necessary, adding a dash of my dad's Vermont attitudes towards the nobility of work and including my own beliefs about the Body of Christ, I wrote a few thousand words about the importance of work. I won the contest and spent the prize money on books. It was a treat to buy the art books and novels and biographies that our budget hadn't afforded! A job richly rewarded!

I love that Celeste has invited us to bring symbols of our work to be blessed at the altar. For how we spend our time and use our talents is our gift to

Becky focuses on how our work blesses our lives in her column. Laura uses the knowledge and skills from her work as a designer and teacher to help us look at our church community in a new way. Patty brings us up to date on the important work we at All Saints' do as part of the Centro Victoria team in Juarez. Cassius reviews a book this month in which a parent's work has a profound impact on his son.

And there are invitations, also, in this month's newsletter. Jeff invites us to make music together in a couple of ways - come to choir rehearsal on September 4 at 7:30 PM and see if you want to become a regular chorister! Or come to the 8th Annual Hymn Sing and lift your voice in song while helping to support music at All Saints'.

We have another charming poem from Alma (of course), the Saints' Days to remind us of celebrations in our midst, and of course Gloria's lively "Saintly News" to keep us up to date.

The deadline for the October *Messenger* is September 17. The theme will be "Reaping the Rewards of Faith." Please send your contributions to me at [chow6569@gmail.com](mailto:chow6569@gmail.com).