



The Messenger

November 2021 | Volume XII, Number 6

All Saints' Church • 51 Concord Street • Peterborough, NH 03458 • allsaintsnh.org

In this issue...

Betsy's Letter	1
The Messenger Staff	2
All Saints' Vestry	2
Updates, News & Announcements: The Search Committee	3
KEEPING SAFE Part III Continuing our series on SAFE CHURCH, The Episcopal Church's Universal Training Gail Caron	4
VIEW FROM THE BENCH, They Shall Not Grow Old as We Who are Left Grow Old Jeffrey L. Fuller	5
Saints' Days NOVEMBER 2021	6
Alma's Poem	6
BOOK NOTE, Njal's Saja Jeffrey L. Fuller	7
The Messenger December/January Submission Deadline: November 15	8
Cartoon	8

Dear Parishioners,

On the last weekend in September we celebrated and gave thanks for Jamie's ministry. We gathered for a festive celebration on Saturday. Then on Sunday we recognized the ending of a pastoral relationship in a liturgy that was woven through with tears and laughter, as well as prayers and music and the handing over of symbols of our shared ministry. I have been on both sides of this kind of leave-taking and of searches, and I know it is all hard, with lots of mixed feelings. I also know that after a bit of grieving there is the promise of new life. After all, that is the heart of our faith, Resurrection.

That and other images from Scripture can help us think about this time of transition, of wandering in the wilderness and waiting to cross over into the promised land. On the following Sunday, October 3, the first reading from the creation story Genesis reminded us that we are not meant to be in this life alone.

In our last two transitions between rectors, in the first few years of this new century and then again in 2013-2014, the Bishop sent us an Interim Rector for a year or more. This time, because we have very active lay ministries, strong lay leadership and more than a few priests in this parish, and because Bishop Rob anticipates our search process may well be shorter than usual, he has asked us to try a different model of interim ministry. For at least the next few months, five of us who are priest associates of this parish have happily agreed to share the preaching and presiding at services. (Some others are not available because of other ministry commitments or health issues.) The team of five, in alphabetical order, are the Reverends Betsy Fowle, Louise Howlett, Sanford Johnson, Jep Streit, and Cassius Webb.

The Bishop asked me to be the "point person" (or "herder of cats" as one of my colleagues refers to it). As point person, my role is coordinating and scheduling the interim clergy team for liturgical duties and pastoral care. I work with staff and laity involved in ministries on Sundays and during the week.

The first emailed *Saints' Alive* of the interim period highlighted some of the active lay ministries that have been working behind the scenes to prepare for this time of transition. We are coordinating pastoral care with Heidi Graff and other laypersons; Nathaniel Peirce and Greg Naudascher are working on stewardship; and two Search Committee co-chairs, Kathryn Dodge and David Jette have discerned with the vestry to form that committee. Other ministries of music, welcome, hospitality, outreach, communications, and care for our buildings and grounds continue apace.

God's work endures in the parish and wider community, and it is good to be reminded by Scripture that we are not meant to be in this life alone. We are all in this together, this time of transition, and we are called to worship, serve, learn and grow together, with open hearts and minds, giving thanks for abundant resources and trusting that God is with us every step of the way.

~ Betsy Fowle, Priest Associate

The Messenger STAFF

Deb Waldo, *Editor*
(603) 654-7341

Margaret Baker,
Design & Layout

ALL SAINTS' VESTRY

Jack Calhoun,
Senior Warden

Greg Naudascher,
Junior Warden

David Drinkwater,
Treasurer

John Kerrick,
Clerk

Deb DeCicco

David Jette

Petra Longman

Nathaniel Peirce

Nina Pollock

Rick Simpson

Susan Tavernier

Chris Tourgee



From the Vestry

Nathaniel Peirce, Chair, Stewardship Committee

The Vestry has been incredibly busy this past summer and early fall, beginning with the planning for the celebration of Jamie's retirement, planning for the transition and conducting a retreat to prepare for the search for our new Rector. In addition, the Finance Committee has been meeting with the Building and Grounds Committee to establish priorities for the maintenance projects that need to be addressed in the coming months. On behalf of the Vestry, I want to thank everyone who supported the purse for Jamie and everyone who was able to come to the celebration itself. It was an evening full of love and God's grace.

As chair of the Stewardship Committee, I want to thank all who have made a pledge for 2022. Your commitment to the mission of All Saints' is greatly appreciated. Your gift will enable us to support the ministries that have a deep impact on our church community, as well as the community at large.

When I think about stewardship, I believe it means taking care of something you love. Our collective gifts enable all of us at All Saints' to do God's work in our community and beyond. I am very grateful to be part of a community that is feeding children, providing support to teenagers at Avenue A, providing knitted shawls for those who need comfort and offering weekly prayers for families and friends of our parishioners. All of this happens because at All Saints', we care for each other and our community. It is what God wants us to do; we do it happily and with love.

If you have not already done so, please join me in making a pledge in support of All Saints' and our ministries. We are here for God, here for all and here for good.

~ Nathaniel

The Search Committee

On October 17, All Saints' commissioned the Search Committee charged with, in conjunction with the Diocese, selecting our next rector. Serving as co-chairpersons of the committee are **Kathryn Dodge** and **David Jette**. In addition to the co-chairs, seven people will serve.

Their brief bios are included here for your information.

Kathryn Dodge, Co-Chair I have been a member of All Saints' Church for nearly 20 years. I sing in the choir, and am in Year 4 of the Education for Ministry program. I run my own consulting firm that provides advising to senior leaders in higher education and I serve on national oversight boards focused on quality assurance. I look forward to serving as co-chair of the Search Committee.

David Jette, Co-Chair I have been a member of All Saints' for five years following my retirement from Trinity Church on Wall Street and my subsequent move to Peterborough. I now serve as the coordinator for all our lectors, as an usher, and as a delegate to Diocesan Convention. I have been on the Vestry for three years and I just concluded the four-year course as a member of our chapter of Education for Ministry. I am honored to serve as co-chair of the Search Committee and look forward to helping guide the process of selecting a new rector for our wonderful parish.

Stephen G. DiCicco My wife Harriet and I have owned a home in Hancock for over three decades. We moved here full time nearly five years ago upon my retirement as a head of school and educational consultant. We love volunteering in the community and see All Saints' as the "glue" that holds everything important together.

Heidi Graff I have been attending All Saints' Church with my husband, Andrew, and our three daughters, Ellie (21), Anna (21) and Megan (18) since 2003. Over the years, I've been involved with both the Outreach and Pastoral Care ministries. I also served on the Vestry from 2018-2020.

Nina Pollack A member of All Saints' for nine years, I have been involved in Education for Ministry (EfM), the prayer ministry, and the Pastoral Care Committee. While living in Ohio, I served as chair for our church's search committee. Now living in Hancock, I usually attend the 10:00am service but I enjoyed the Rite Now Zoom service amidst Covid. Professionally I am a Homecare Hospice RN.

Brian Ricaurte I have attended All Saints' on and off for ten years. My two amazing kids, Will and Izzy, were baptized here. I have been involved with the ministry in Juarez, traveling there in 2016 and subsequently hosting Pastor Joel and some of the young people who traveled with him on a visit to New Hampshire. Behind the scenes I provide technical support for the Juarez ministry website. Professionally I work in IT for NS1 in New York City.

Susan Sarles I have been attending All Saints for about 18 years. My daughter and son were part of multiple teen service trips to Juarez, Mexico. My life's work has been in the area of education and I taught Sunday School for many years. Currently I serve as an usher and am a member of the Finance Committee. I enjoy and value both the traditional and Rite Now services. Professionally I am the Principal of Jaffrey Elementary School.

Deborah Waldo I have been a member of All Saints' for fifteen years; for the past several years I have attended the Rite Now service and supported its Altar Guild and music ministry. Following my retirement from teaching and literacy coaching in the public schools, I became the Editor of *The Messenger*.

Cassius Webb I am a retired priest of this Diocese living in Jaffrey, and a regular attender at All Saints', except in the summer months, when my wife and I are the priests-in-charge of St. Francis' Chapel in Marlborough. Most of my ministry has been in this Diocese, in which I chaired the Commission on Liturgy and Music during the period of adoption of the present *Book of Common Prayer* and *Hymnal*. I also write the *Book Notes* for *The Messenger*.

Continuing our series on

SAFE CHURCH

The Episcopal Church's Universal Training

Gail Caron, Ministries Coordinator

Why do we need Safe Church?

It would be easy to cop out and say, "Because it is required," or "Because there has been so much abuse of children by people whom they trusted." But that is only partially true. We need Safe Church training to remind us that as members of God's Church, we have an obligation to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being (from *Model Policies for Children, Youth and Elders*).

What is in the Modules?

The Safe Church modules were designed with the special needs of churches in mind. They provide an opportunity to open our minds to not only how exploitation occurs, but more importantly, how we can recognize it and prevent it.

In *Meet Sam*, molesters tell you how they get away with it, and how they manipulate coworkers, parents and children — all to meet their own needs. You also learn how to spot interactions between adults and children that may indicate danger.

In *It Happened to Me*, children and adults describe the devastating effects that abuse has had on their lives. You learn about the prevalence of abuse and the specific characteristics that may put some children at higher risk.

Keeping Your Church Safe shows five specific ways your actions can keep children safe, the importance of keeping a watchful eye and how to respond to inappropriate behavior.

Safeguarding God's People: Preventing Sexual Exploitation in Communities of Faith — for Congregations provides definitions of sexual exploitation, and explains how it can happen in pastoral relationships, and how to prevent and respond to exploitation.

Recognizing Abuse and Exploitation in Elder-Serving Programs is invaluable for our volunteers who work in elder-serving capacities. It teaches how to recognize and prevent mistreatment of elderly people.

Social Media Safety introduces guidelines for online safety — protecting the youths in your care when using social media and electronic communication.

Can anyone view the Modules?

Yes! Contact the church office at admin@allsaintsnh.org.

They Shall Not Grow Old as We Who are Left Grow Old

It has been two long years since our last Choral Evensong at All Saints'. COVID happened.

On November 14, 2021, at 5:00pm, the Choir of All Saints' Church will sing Choral Evensong again. That day is known as Remembrance Sunday, the Sunday nearest Veterans' Day, in this country the occasion at which we typically honor and remember those who gave their lives in service to their country in World War II and other armed conflicts.

Our Choral Evensong this fall will focus on remembrance in a different vein: we will honor COVID workers; all the skilled, dedicated first responders and medical personnel in our community; and we will remember all those who lost their lives as victims of COVID-19, their names mostly unknown to us.

Choral Evensong will begin with Charles Callahan's quodlibet for organ, "Evensong," which incorporates the tunes *Tallis' Canon* ("All praise to thee, my God, this night") and *Ard hyr y nos* ("Sleep, my child, let peace attend thee all through the night"), both well-known evening hymns that evoke the sense of peace and calm as the light wanes and evening falls. Charles Callahan (b. 1951) is a prolific composer and frequent recitalist; for many years he was the Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's Church, Washington, DC (the Church of the Presidents).

The choral introit, "Be Thou My Vision" is a luscious setting by Ned Tipton (b. 1957). Tipton's inclusion of a verse not familiar to most of us: "Be thou my vision, my sword for the fight," reminds us of the courage mustered by those who were on the front line of the pandemic, while the final verse, "Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise," underscores their compassion and selflessness. Tipton served as Organist and Canon for Music at the American Cathedral

in Paris from 1989-2010, after which he returned to the US as the Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's Cathedral, Los Angeles.

The invitatory canticle, *Phos hilaron* or "O Gracious Light" is the most ancient of Christian hymns, the oldest non-biblical canticle still in use in the present day. The well-known setting is by McNeil Robinson (1943-2015), who chaired the organ department at the Manhattan School of Music, and who served several years as Organist and Choirmaster at St. Mary the Virgin, NYC, and later at Park Avenue Christian Church, NYC.

The evening canticles, *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis*, are set by Russell Schulz-Widmar (b. 1944), a professor of liturgy and organist at the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest before his retirement. He also chaired the Hymn Music Committee for *The Hymnal*, 1982. This setting of the canticles employs meter changes and unusual time signatures to render the Rite II texts more lyrical, while the organ accompaniment adds an ethereal quality to the music.

The evensong anthem is a setting of a portion of a poem by Laurence Binyon (1869-1943), "For the Fallen," traditionally recited annually at Remembrance Day services. The choir will sing a setting by British composer Ian Higginson (b. 1959) as we remember the victims of the pandemic.

*They will not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them. We will remember them.*

**Please join us for Choral Evensong on Sunday,
November 14, 2021, at 5:00pm.**

Saints' Days

NOVEMBER 2021

Robert Scheerer 11/02
Anna E. Ritchie 11/03
Hugh Beyer 11/04
Kathy Miner 11/08
Marguerite Krommes 11/09
George King 11/12
David Jette 11/15
Jacob Michael Levesque 11/15
Isaac Dylan Sistare 11/15
Katy Barnes 11/16
Isaac Ramey 11/17
Daniel Keaveny 11/18
Kai Cooper 11/19
Jack McLaughlin 11/19

Caroline Manns 11/20
John Vance 11/23
Frances Beyer 11/24
Mary Lou Weathers 11/27
Paige Spaulding..... 11/29

Alma's Poem

There seems so much to fear
But be at peace; God is always near.
It seems the worst we've ever had
Trusting God will make us glad
Rest and trust in what he says
And look forward to better days.

~ Alma Ruth



Njal's Saga

Translated by Magnus Magnusson and Hermann Pálsson (1960)

If you read any medieval literature, and then turn to one of the Old Norse or Icelandic sagas, you are likely to experience some culture shock. Compared to Chaucer or Malory, or for that matter the *Song of Roland* or any of the mystics, the sagas of Icelanders sound remarkably modern. Their prose is straightforward, one event leading to another, and then suddenly a new character, in a new locale, is introduced, often with some genealogical or historical background. They are not exactly history, but they are based on historical people and events known from other sources, and the best of them pull the reader on from one event to the next, with a strong sense of narrative flow and just enough detail to pique one's curiosity. The world of which they tell is certainly foreign to us; the personalities, decidedly not.

Some of these stories are the length of modern short stories; but even those of greater scale are not overwhelming. By general acclaim the masterpiece among them all is *Njal's Saga*, which I recently reread in the Penguin Classics edition translated by Magnus Magnusson and Hermann Pálsson (1960), a modest paperback of 387 pages, including a substantial introduction.

This story, though apparently written about 1280, tells of events in Iceland and Norway between roughly 930 and 1015; it therefore includes the events surrounding Iceland's becoming a Christian nation. The central figures, including Njal Thorgeirsson and his family, play important roles in this singular transition, accomplished by vote at the Althing, the annual general meeting of all interested Icelanders, in the tidy year 1000.

But this is not the central theme of the saga. There are kings and counts in Scandinavia, but not in Iceland, which had only been settled in the late ninth century and had established a republican government around 930. It was therefore a society of farmers, with some fishing families and some traders, scattered around the perimeter of the island. Some became wealthy, men and women "of standing;" others did not, and they were dependent on the powerful by claims of kinship or sworn loyalty.

There was violence and criminality, of course, and one recurring theme is the conflict between legal and personal approaches to justice. Clearly, the Icelanders were fascinated by law and legal forms, and also by legal and political maneuvering, all of which were seen as alternatives to physical combat, which is frequent in this story, and told in detail and with relish. The strict codes surrounding this mayhem and slaughter occasionally produce comical effects, at least to a modern reader — as in the high moral indignation when Vikings heading out on a raiding expedition are confronted by, well, *pirates* who propose to rob *them*!

There is nobility and treachery aplenty in *Njal's Saga* among both men and women, who emerge as full characters in their own right. These are not static people, either, although moral development is never described as such, but only recorded in word and deed. There is pathos and love of the land, as well. But above all, this is a gripping tale of human endeavor that carries the reader along to the end, where you suddenly realize that you have become invested in these people and their attempt to lead lives of purpose in that remote outpost of Europe.

~ Cassius



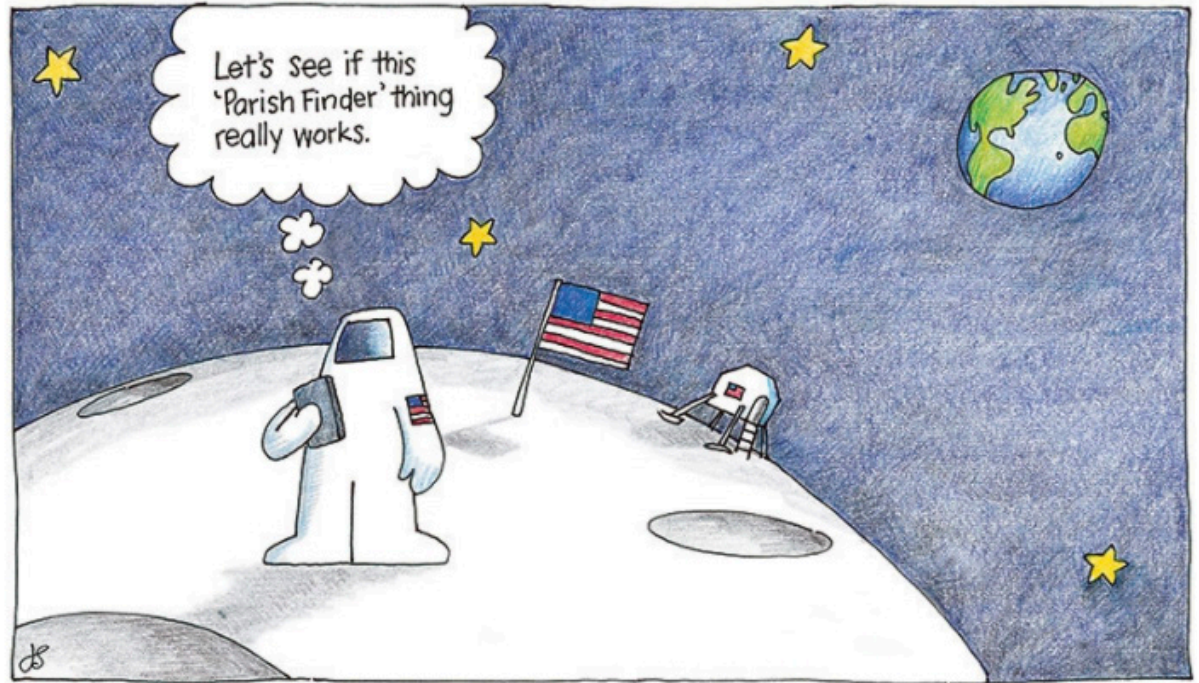
The Messenger

November 2021 | Volume XII, Number 6

cartoon © The Church Pension Fund

We invite you to send articles, letters, poems, reflections, or printable artwork, to deborahwaldo18@gmail.com.

The submission deadline for the DECEMBER/JANUARY issue is Monday, November 15, 2021.



All Saints' Church
51 Concord Street
Peterborough, NH 03458

Our Mission (What we do)

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

Parish office: (603) 924-3202

Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9am to 2pm

Office email: admin@allsaintsnh.org

Website: allsaintsnh.org

Priest Associate: Rev. Elizabeth Fowle, Revbets@aol.org

Organist & Choirmaster: Jeff Fuller, jeff@allsaintsnh.org

Ministries Coordinator: Gail Caron, admin@allsaintsnh.org

Projects Coordinator: Gretchen Rae, gretchen@allsaintsnh.org