

# The Messenger

September/October 2021 | Volume XII, Number 5

All Saints' Church • 51 Concord Street • Peterborough, NH 03458 • [allsaintsnh.org](http://allsaintsnh.org)

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Dear Parishioners,

I am sitting on my porch with my laptop clicking, the sun shining, and hummingbirds feeding, and I am realizing that this will be my last letter for *The Messenger* to you as your Rector. I feel both blessed and bereaved. I also feel held by your love which has been a constant experience these last seven years. As I move into my next calling, I will carry your gift of trusting in me and the depth of your faith... always. As I have shared before, I have been formed by your prayers and your ministries to be a better priest, friend, sister, and mother. For your presence in the sinews of my life, I will be forever grateful.

All Saints' Church is an amazing community, with passionate leaders, committed members, an incredible staff, and a shared joy that is natural and inviting. I am keeping your next Rector in my prayers, as s/he will be joining a church that understands mission beyond her walls, yet takes care of every member as family. I think it is rare to be able to extend your faith beyond yourselves and commit to friends you have not yet met, while supporting all who walk through your doors. What a witness! You will have strong applicants, and I look forward to hearing whom you will call next. All Saints' future is filled with promise.

What will I miss? So many things. First of all, I will really miss preaching to you. Your openness to receiving my reflections/questions/challenges has inspired me to take risks and to be creative. Good sermons are a two-way street. The preacher needs a responsive congregation to inspire insights and you have been that for me. I love the way you lean forward in your chair, or nod your head, or ask a question in the receiving line.

I will miss hearing your stories, your prayer requests, and your hopes, especially as you discern where God is calling you in your faith. I will miss members of the Altar Guild helping me dress for the service; as they hand me my stole, I kiss it, and they place it securely on my neck. I will miss singing and serving with you.

I will miss the spontaneous tears on my cheeks from a sung anthem. I will miss lifting the priest's host and breaking it at the altar. I will miss watching you walk up to receive communion. I will miss Jeff's preludes and postludes. I will miss Vestry meetings, committee meetings, and staff meetings. I will miss the light reflecting from the stained-glass windows. So many things I will miss, but mostly I will miss being at home with you.

What will I not miss? Hmmm. Probably anything to do with Covid protocols, computers, and crises (like flash floods, boilers exploding, or drainage backup), yet even in the midst of these difficult times, we found resiliency, humor, and a spirit of "fixing things." Never overwhelmed, you believe in God's dream for you. And you live by the urgings of the Holy Spirit, with grace, and so much beauty.

With love always,

*Jamie+*

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David Jette

Petra Longman

Nathaniel Peirce

Nina Pollock

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Susan Tavernier

Chris Tourgee

## I UPDATES, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Juarez Students

*Patty Wheeler, Parishioner*

On the weekend of July 16, **Max Scheinblum** (my grandson) and I flew to Juarez, Mexico, to be with and support our wonderful students in Mexico. We were glad that we went right before the Delta Covid cases began to rise considerably, especially in Texas, where we land, rent a car and drive across the border. We were pleasantly surprised that our students have all received at least one dose of the Pfizer vaccine and Mexico is doing an excellent job in getting Mexicans vaccinated. We want our students safe! We had our adventures, Max and I, including a flat tire in our rental car, just across the border in Juarez. We also waited in very, very long lines getting back into the US, assuring us that the border was not closed. However, our visit was wonderful and so needed by the students and by us. This past year has been difficult for them. They took all of their classes on line (which works well for some students but not for others — both there and in the United States). They also lacked our presence, keeping them set on their goals to get a good education. The reconnections were important and I am glad that I did not put off my trip, even though I was tempted, due to Covid.

**Lesly** is our oldest student and has only a year and a half left before graduation from the University of Texas. Her major is International Business. She is determined and we are all proud of her. Our youngest, **Jair**, struggled the most with online learning. Next year will be a hybrid year for him, some online and some in person. We are hiring a tutor for him to keep him on track. He is studying in a university in Juarez and seeking a Systems Analysis degree.

As always, I thank you for your continued support, financial and spiritual. So many of you ask me about the students and tell me that you keep us in your prayers. I am so very grateful for that. It is a strange path down which God leads us — I am grateful for company on the way.

*~ Patty*

# An Anniversary Reflection

*Eric Masterson, Parishioner*

**H**ello All Saints! On the one year anniversary of my accident, I want to let you all know of my progress. On August 9, 2020, I went hang gliding in Deering, New Hampshire. A few seconds after launch, I lay close to death on the side of Hedgehog Mountain, with polytrauma severe enough that, in the words of one of my doctors, “I didn’t think you were going to make it.” On August 8th of this year, I climbed to the launch site with my wife Tricia. We wanted to mark the moment — my *Alive Day* as Tricia calls it. Physically, I feel close to recovered. Though the C2 vertebra in my neck is still cracked, my surgeon is optimistic and cautions patience. I am scheduled for an x-ray in October, and as long as I am careful not to fall, I don’t have to wear a neck brace. Other than that, the only legacy from the accident is some stiffness and a few modest medical bills.

Mentally, I am still processing. I am grateful to be alive, walking, and in the lingo of Spaulding Rehab Hospital, “cognitively intact.” Though my legs carried me to the top of Hedgehog Mountain, it took a village to get me to the point that I could climb. Thank you to Sam and Jessica, my hang gliding buddies who helped the first responders save my life. Thank you to my doctors, neighbors, friends, and the community of people who came to my aid and continued to do so for months. Thank you to the Harris Center for the incredible support I received during what would become a protracted absence. And thank you to my extended All Saints’ family for the prayers and support that sustained both Tricia and me through a year of recovery. Tricia lived this trauma too. Anyone would be lucky to have such devotion by their side.



*Tricia and Eric safely atop Hedgehog Mountain, August 2021*

I finally went back to work full time at the beginning of July. My flying days in this life are over and I hope not to be on CaringBridge ever again. As a friend remarked, having a CaringBridge account is like seeing Anderson Cooper in your driveway during hurricane season. It is a sign that things are pretty serious. With God’s grace, we survived the storm. Thank you all for helping make it so.

Signing off,

~ *Eric*

Continuing our series on

# SAFE CHURCH

## The Episcopal Church's Universal Training

Gail Caron, Ministries Coordinator

In the last article, we covered the definition of Safe Church and how it impacts All Saints'. This article explores how we are doing and what we can do to improve how we respond to our call to the attentive practice of ministry. If the Church is called to embody and advance God's mission, then Ministry is the vocation of the whole community.

### What have we done well?

We are nearly 100% in compliance with participating in the online modules and Zoom conference calls for all clergy, staff, wardens, vestry, pastoral care volunteers and ALL who work with children and youth. New vestry members are in the process of completing their Safe Church requirements. Our next step is to initiate criminal background checks for those who need them.

In reviewing the records, it is clear that a majority of our members attending service and joining in the life of the parish, have participated in some form of Safe Church over the past fifteen years. While the method of delivering the message has changed as technology has become available, the message remains the same: *We are a community of Christians walking the way of love, keeping everyone in the community safe, knowing they are loved, accepted and that they belong.*

### How can we improve our practices to ensure that everyone in the community is safe?

The **new model policies** passed at the General Convention in 2018 and adopted by the Diocese of New Hampshire effective January 1, 2019, **require more people to complete Safe Church training and to have background checks.** Becoming compliant is a process that we together can work to achieve.

The Policies define the process of screening; educating and training all leaders; meeting behavioral standards for adults in ministry with children and youth; and providing helpful, practical guidelines for the monitoring and supervision of all programs in order to create safe spaces for children and youth. Additionally, the policies provide a set of guidelines for reporting suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of children, youth and elders.

An important **new requirement** that was discovered in the Model Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth (MPPCY) and the Model Policy for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults (MPPVA) and was adopted by the Vestry is that **all persons who have keys or access to the buildings need to participate in the Universal Training.** This includes Program leaders or supervisors. Limiting the accessibility of isolated or unsupervised space is a goal All Saints' will be working to achieve. Leaders who have been through the training are also coached in how to protect themselves from unfounded accusations. Hence, we have a win-win situation for both participants and leaders of all programs.

The purpose of the MPPCY is to create a safe and welcoming space for all children and youth in our communities and to set standards for those engaged in ministry with children to prevent sexual abuse. The purpose of the MPPVA is to set behavioral standards to ensure that vulnerable adults and all who engage in ministry with them are treated with dignity and respect in all settings.

If you receive a request from the Safe Church Committee, please respond in a timely manner. **IT DOES MATTER!**

Electronic copies of both the Model Policies are available by contacting the Office at (603) 924-3202.



## Slogging Through the Bog: Back THEN – Rite NOW

**I**t has happened. We have arrived at that in-between place — again. We are looking back at where we have been; we are taking stock of where we are; we are discerning where we might go next.

In-between is unsettling, tumultuous, even dangerous for a church community — manifest in disaffection, strong opinions, even hostile actions. Moving from what we have come to know and count on into the vagaries of our future is difficult. Nowhere is that difficulty more fraught than in our liturgical life.

All Saints' is a Eucharist-centered parish, and our hallmark is our commitment to offering Eucharistic liturgy in a range of forms and styles. Can we sustain that distinctiveness while we are in-between, given that after more than a decade of having two priests on staff, we will depend largely on supply clergy for some months to come?

We have a loyal cadre of parishioners who treasure the 8am Rite One Eucharist each Sunday, an equally loyal cadre who love the informality, intimacy, and nimbleness of Rite NOW, and the largest contingent of parishioners who are most at home in the 10am Rite Two Eucharist. Maintaining our typical weekly service schedule would be impractical, if not impossible, through this transition time and would risk miring us in a bog of trying to be all things to all people. So, what to do?

Embrace the bog, because it represents what it means to be “in-between.” It is an opportunity to grow together based on values we share, while simultaneously affirming our respect for those whose preferences, experiences, and beliefs diverge from our own.

What will remain steady through the fall is that Rite NOW will continue on Zoom at 9am each Sunday (at least until completion of the Reynolds Hall renovation enables in-person worship again). On the other hand there will be changes to our 8am and 10am Sunday services. Our principal Sunday service will remain a 10am Eucharist;

we will suspend our 8am Rite One Eucharist for now, BUT a Rite One liturgy will replace Rite Two at 10am on the first Sunday of each month.

At its most basic, this schedule is manageable with supply clergy and it enables any All Saints' parishioner to experience any or all of the forms of Eucharist that we offer. It also provides two special opportunities. First, for as long as anyone can remember, All Saints' 8:00am Rite One Eucharist has been spoken, celebrated without sung Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus or Agnus Dei, while Rite Two and Rite NOW have always included sung settings. This fall we will learn Healey Willan's music for Rite One (some will remember it from the 1928 BCP/Hymnal 1940 days). Second, since Rite NOW will continue on Zoom for now (and could be on Zoom on any Sunday), we are assured of access to a Sunday service from All Saints' should COVID protocols or inclement winter weather dictate.

Where does that leave us? For now, we are definitely in a bit of a bog — nothing is what it was, nor is it what it will be. Author Ransom Riggs offered insight — “bog wisdom” — in one of my favorite novels of recent years, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* (slightly paraphrased):

... as doors to the future go, a bog ain't a bad choice. It's not quite water and it's not quite land — it's an in-between place.

~ Jeff

# Saints' Days

## SEPTEMBER 2021

Barbara Johnson .....	09/02	Carrie Requa .....	09/20
Paul Achterhof .....	09/04	Kathy Boss .....	09/21
Bradley Wuorinen .....	09/07	Wendy Pierrepont White .....	09/23
Shirley Wamser .....	09/10	Nora Ramey .....	09/23
Lillian Carter .....	09/11	Gary Longman .....	09/25
Susan Tavernier .....	09/11	Elizabeth Tong .....	09/25
Gardner Mundy .....	09/13	Gordon Estabrook Jr. ....	09/26
Jamie Hamilton .....	09/13	Nina Pollock .....	09/27
Michelle Tourgee .....	09/14	Paul Finch .....	09/28
Isabel Badrawy .....	09/15	Patricia Wheeler .....	09/28
Lynne Betz .....	09/15	Audrey White .....	09/28
Nathaniel Manns .....	09/16	Ann Fitzgerald .....	09/29
Marilyn Weir .....	09/17	Asher White .....	09/29
		Seth Coon .....	09/30

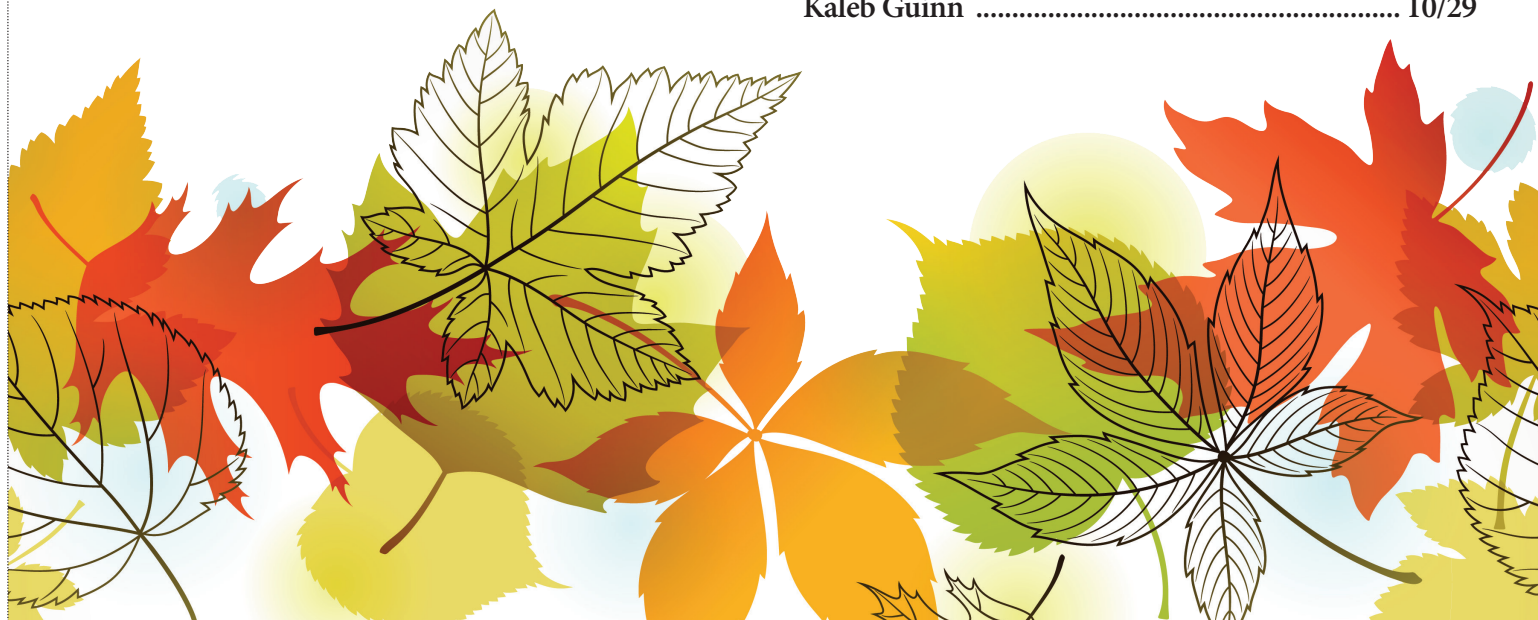


# OCTOBER 2021

Ted McLaughlin .....	10/01
Otto McLaughlin .....	10/01
Berkley Bates .....	10/02
Mimi Bryk .....	10/02
Barbara Coffin .....	10/03
Daniel Scheerer .....	10/05
Judy Vance .....	10/06
Max McCarroll .....	10/09
Kaileigh Row .....	10/10
Fern Corwin .....	10/10
Connie Oliver .....	10/12
Alma Ruth .....	10/14
Ann Conway .....	10/14
Carmen Hogan .....	10/14
William Ricaurte .....	10/15
Gail Novotny .....	10/16
Brandon Requa .....	10/16

If you don't see your name listed,  
or if you see your name in error,  
please contact Gail Caron  
at (603) 924-3202 or  
[admin@allsaintsnh.org](mailto:admin@allsaintsnh.org).

Joseph Hale .....	10/17
Heidi Graff .....	10/18
Linda Walsh .....	10/18
Dann Lewis .....	10/18
Dhanesh Airi .....	10/18
Nathaniel Peirce .....	10/18
Oscar Dunn .....	10/19
Augusta Law .....	10/19
Stanley Szydlo .....	10/19
Sonny Tavernier .....	10/20
Jaydon Belliveau-Ryan .....	10/22
Katherine Foecking .....	10/26
Tricia Burt Masterson .....	10/28
Kaleb Guinn .....	10/29





# The Messenger

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## Alma's Poem

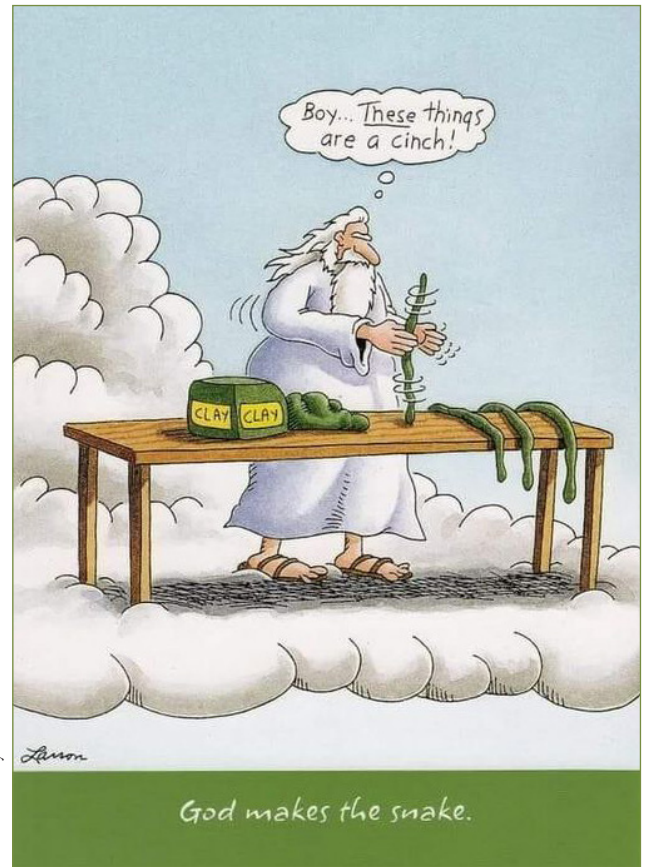
*"God saw everything that he had made and said that it was good."*

~ GENESIS 1, VERSE 31

Looking at the yard today,  
I think that I shall say,  
"Yes Lord, it is really good.  
The flowers, trees, this neighborhood."  
Lovely to behold.  
God is wonderful, if I may be bold.

~ Alma Ruth

*We* invite you to send articles, letters, poems, reflections,  
or printable artwork, to [deborahwaldo18@gmail.com](mailto:deborahwaldo18@gmail.com).  
The submission deadline for the NOVEMBER 2021 issue  
is Monday, October 11.



cartoon © Gary Larson



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

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