



The All Saints MESSENGER September 2020

All Saint's Church
1250 Spear Street
So Burlington, VT 05403
Telephone 862-9750
allsaints16@gmail.com
website www.allsaintsvt05403.org

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
9 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Child Care & Christian Education
for Children and Teens.

The Rev. Canon David Hamilton, Rector
The Rev. Peggy Mathauer, Deacon
Vestry:

Glenn Sproul Senior Warden
Whye Yap Junior Warden
Josh Cheney
Charles Conn
Hilla Damm
Susan Hartman
Marian Halloran
Cheryl Hooper
Katrina McGibney

Vestry Clerk: Julie B. Pierson

Special Warden for Property: Julie Bonanno

Treasurer: Marcia Corey
Assistant Treasurer: Iris Darling

Pledge Secretary: Don Crofut
Assistant Pledge Secretary: Iris Darling

Church Secretary/Administrator:
Margaret MacLean

Young Children's Ministry:
Katrina McGibney

Middle School & Teen Ministry:
Don Crofut

Adult Education Leaders:
Josh Cheney/Whye Yap

Dear Parish Family,

Patience! Patience!

In our culture of instant gratification, perhaps nothing challenges us more than a situation for which there is no quick fix. The pandemic has certainly tried our patience! As a congregation we long for being in the familiar and comforting surroundings of All Saints' building. We long for the camaraderie of physically being with one another and the richness of conversations. We miss the tactile sense of belonging to and with one another, within an arm's reach. Greeting each other during "The Peace" is only a warm memory during this time of shut-down. Even back when the flu season last came around, and we could only bump elbows, there was a jovial warmth connecting us to each other. All of this is not to mention being fed. Communion and coffee hour, two of the deeply nurturing experiences of our parish life! How we miss them!

In the shock before full recognition of the magnitude of this pandemic hit, many had hoped that it would be of short duration. Some early projections of its duration were, wistfully, as short as three or four months. Soon the dire realities of the scope and persistence of "the spread," with almost unthinkable hundreds of thousands of deaths, shook us into a mind-set of being reconciled to being in this for a long haul.

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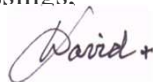
In this relatively short but intense time, the patience of many of us has already been worn quite thread-bare. But patience is needed if we are to stem the spread of this virus and follow the relatively simple mandates of wearing masks, physical distancing, and limiting social gatherings.

In some ways this is also a test of belief, of faith. If our behavior reflects concern for neighbor, as well as self, each act of discipline, such as mask wearing, is an act of love. My mask protects the other person from my breath and its droplets - a simple act of love.

We may sometimes wonder if God is acting in the midst of this world-wide health crisis, and our minds may go to something global or cosmic. Maybe the search to develop a vaccine is in this global category, as scientists are inspired to greater wisdom and invention.

However, with the exercise of continued patience, no matter how impatient I might feel, I can wear a mask, no matter how tiresome, inconvenient and uncomfortable. Maybe wearing a mask has dimensions of a sacrament. You remember, “An outward and visible sign of an inner and spiritual grace.” Nothing can be much more visible than your mask, and maybe nothing much more caring, or even sacramental.

Blessings.



When can we get back in the church??

Dear fellow All Saints-in-training,

In case you have been wondering when and how we would be able to resume services in our beloved building, here is a brief update from my perspective:

On June 18, as you may recall, Bishop Shannon and the diocesan Restart Team published a set of guidelines for reopening parish buildings and grounds. It gave details of what uses would be permitted, and how they would have to be conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, in a five-phase plan. All parishes were to start in Phase 1, which closed church buildings to all uses and suspended all in-person worship. Parishes would be permitted to apply to the Restart Team for permission to enter the next higher phase, one phase at a time.

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On June 23, with the approval of the Vestry, All Saints submitted its application to enter Phase 2, which allows for Clergy, Staff and Wardens to enter the building for necessary tasks, but does not allow for any worship services or church meetings in the building or on the grounds. (Some parishes may choose to film worship in the building in Phase 2, but we are not doing that.) On August 6 we received notice that our application to enter Phase 2 was approved; the delay was, I think, due largely to the heavy backlog of applications the Restart Team had to consider.

On August 11 the Vestry held a special meeting (via Zoom) to consider an application for Phase 3 which our All Saints Reopening Team (consisting of David Hamilton, Julie Bonanno, Marga Sproul and myself) had prepared. The Vestry approved the application unanimously, and I submitted it that night. When our application is approved, as we expect it will be in a month or so, we will have permission to hold small gatherings (25 people or fewer) for worship and meetings outside on the grounds of the church, but not in the building. People in any gatherings will have to be masked and socially distanced for safety; no singing or serving of Communion will be permitted in Phase 3. (All of these restrictions apply in Phase 4, except that in Phase 4 worship may take place in the church building. But we are not there yet!)

This year of the pandemic is testing all people in the world sorely, with over 180,000 deaths in the United States alone attributed to COVID-19 so far, and with no clear end in sight. We are fortunate to live in Vermont at this time, where a small population and strong leadership seem to have spared us from the worst ravages of the pandemic. But we are not out of danger yet, and it may be many months before we have an effective and widely available vaccine so that it will be safe for us to gather in person once more. David and Peggy and the rest of us on the Vestry are firmly committed to keeping our beloved community **together but safe**, and that, dear friends, almost certainly means we are looking at many more months of online worship. We can do it. It's hard to be patient, but together we can do it.

Love and Peace,

Glenn

Glenn Sproul, Senior Warden

P.S. A gentle reminder...

Most of our expenses continue unchanged despite the building's being closed. Please continue to do your part to keep All Saints viable financially as well as spiritually by keeping current with your pledge payments. Thank you so much, dear friends.

Sincerely, *Glenn*

Adult Forum Returns!

Adult forum is back with a new six-week series, The God We Can Know. We will meet via Zoom at 9 am beginning on Sunday, September 13th, for approximately forty-five minutes before the morning prayer service. Each week we will watch a short video and then explore the following topics:

Introduction: “Knowing the Great I Am”

Session 1: “I Am the Bread of Life”

Session 2: “I Am the Light of the World”

Session 3: “I Am the Good Shepherd”

Session 4: “I Am the True Vine”

Session 5: “I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life”

Session 6: “I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

The series, presented by Rob Fuquay, senior pastor of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, IN, is sure to be thought-provoking and spark some great conversation.

To register for the series, ask a question, or get Zoom assistance, please call/ text Joshua Cheney at 802-343-7425.

A Note From Don Crofut

I want to express my heartfelt and sincere thanks for all the cards, memos, letters, food, and phone calls. They are all certainly appreciated. Your thoughts, concerns, and wishes are very gratifying.

I have had three treatments and will soon be evaluated to determine future treatment. Some of the “markers” are positives, but the hip pain is very persistent, and I am still essentially bedridden.

Please keep me in your prayers, and I wish the best to all of you.

Don

Prayers and Condolences

We were sad to learn of the death of **Akua Frimpong’s** grandmother, Lucille Lewis. Our thoughts and prayers go to her and the family during this difficult time.

The Annual “Run – or Walk – for JUMP” Goes Virtual in 2020!

We are excited to announce that the
September 26, 2020, “Run – or Walk – for JUMP”
will be *virtual* – giving all who support JUMP's mission the opportunity.



The Annual “Run – or Walk – for JUMP” Goes Virtual in 2020!

An e-learning opportunity to reconnect with family, and friends.

Learn about the new “JUMP Flex” model of delivering services.

September 26th, Virtual Run or Walk anywhere at anytime for JUMP.

The “Run – or Walk – for JUMP” is up and ready for registrations. Just go to our website: jumpvt.org - and follow the directions for event information and registration. The website will list our many, extraordinary sponsors and will include updates about JUMP and invitations in preparation for the event.

Wanda Hines

Director

Joint Urban Ministry Project

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“ My Faith is My Walk and My Walk is My Purpose”

-- Whispers of Wisdom and Hope

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Peter Huffman
3 Madison Premsagar
Katrina McGibney
Jerry Martin
6 Nick Dattilio
Kirtani Mathauer
Peter MacLean
8 Robert Park
10 Marion Dooley
11 Ryan Corey
Stephanie Miraglia
Asa Hoover
Judith Phillips
13 Sheila Stanton
16 Anna Possidente
18 Edward Hockenbury
24 Bob Meyers
25 Freda Nieters
Dick Phillips
27 Betsy Bahrenburg
28 Birdie Wyman
29 Julie McGibney

ANNIVERARIES

9 Michael & Med Huffman
10 Bruce & Kathy Bosley
12 David & Sheila Stanton
22 Matthew & Katrina McGibney
24 Matthew & Alyson Vile

IN MEMORIAM

7 Bob Schultz
10 Chet Cook
12 Louise McGibney
14 Tom Menson
19 Alice Hobart
21 Hugh Douglas
28 Mary Lou Sutherland



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1250 Spear Street
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“Find your roots in the rituals and traditions of a people with a history.”