



For All the Saints

June 2013

Dear Friends,

We had a wonderful time at Diocesan Convention on May 4th where the twelfth Bishop of New Jersey was elected. It might seem that giving up a spring Saturday and getting on the road at 7:30 am would result in a somber and subdued gathering filled with disgruntled folks. But that was not the case. Charlie Beakes, John Burk (designated driver), Mary O'Connor and I had a jolly ride down to Trenton, and as soon as we entered Trinity Cathedral, we were caught up in the very spirit-filled gathering that was our Diocese.

Bishop Cancell offered a stimulating homily at the Service of Holy Eucharist that began the day. There was plenty of hymn-singing and story-telling to pass the time between ballots as we waited for the votes to be tallied. It took five ballots for Chip Stokes to get a majority of both clergy and lay votes, so there was plenty of time for other activities – including eating. What was most impressive about the day, and most memorable, was the feeling of exhilaration that pervaded the Cathedral. There was a general sense of being there to fulfill an important assignment, and everyone wanted to do it well.

This uplifting atmosphere -- these feelings of concern and hope -- run counter to some of the reports circulating about the current state of the church, or “organized religion” (an unappealing term). We have heard the statistics about the steady increase in the number of people who claim no church affiliation whatsoever. This reality has had adverse effects throughout the religious world. But the very positive, uplifting gathering at Diocesan Convention indicates a large number of people – both lay and clergy – who are ready to help keep the Episcopal Church a vital force going into the future.

The Episcopal Church's Ad Project has a poster that shows a very threatening picture of what is meant to be the world – a fierce-looking globe hanging in the midst of nothing – with a caption that reads, “Without God, it's a vicious circle.” It takes a community to explore this.

Jane+

– All Saints' News –

CELEBRATE THE END OF SUNDAY SCHOOL, JUNE 9

Sunday School will soon be over for the 2012-2013 school-year. Thanks to Kelly and Glen Robertson, Directors, it has been a very good year with a new curriculum – Spark – and many interesting projects. On June 9, **Glen Robertson** will preach at the 10 o'clock Service. We will pay tribute to the teachers. And **Brenda Jackson** will award the Curtis Jackson Memorial Scholarship to **Colin Okell**, who is about to graduate from Scotch Plains Fanwood High School and head off to Drew University in the fall. Share in the festivities!

PARISH PICNIC, JUNE 9

Another good reason not to miss church on June 9 is the annual Parish Picnic. Rain or shine, the picnic will go on. (If there is bad weather – or too many cicadas outside – we can still grill outdoors and enjoy lunch from the comfort of Lea Hall.) **Kevin Walsh** is coordinating the picnic, so speak to him if you would like to help barbecue. We supply the hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and condiments, and there is a sign-up sheet in Lea Hall that asks for side dishes and desserts. Please sign up if you can bring something. But come anyway – right after the 10 o'clock Service.

COLIN OKELL, AN EAGLE SCOUT

A long-time member of our Boy Scout Troop 104, Colin Okell has worked hard and completed all the requirements. Now he has officially attained the highest rank the Boy Scouts offer. He is an Eagle Scout. His Eagle Court of Honor will be at All Saints' on Saturday, June 15.

ALTAR GUILD LUNCHEON

Debbie Clavin, Director of the All Saints' Altar Guild, has set the annual end-of-season luncheon for Saturday June 29, at the Stage House, at noon. Although there is never a break for Altar Guild members, who prepare every worship service throughout the year and constantly care for the linens and other items used at services, the annual luncheon is a nice time for fellowship, and to recognize another year of this special ministry.

CONFIRMATION IS JUNE 1

All Saints' will join other parishes in the Watchung Convocation for a special Service of Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation on Saturday, June 1st at Church of the Holy Spirit in Lebanon. The five young people – **Anthony Dada, Daniel Dawson, Nathaniel Harris, Aubrey Johnson, and William Loop** -- who have been in Confirmation Class all year with **Jennifer Dawson and Glen Robertson**, and in classes with the Rector, will be Confirmed. Two adults from Episcopal Basics – **Brian and Claudine Doyle** – will be Received. The Celebrant and Preacher at the Service will be The Right Rev. GERALYN WOLF, formerly Bishop of Rhode Island.

CONFIRMATION PARTY, JUNE 2

The Parish will have a chance to celebrate the events of June 1st with a special party during Coffee Hour on June 2nd. When you are Confirmed or Received, you become an Episcopalian, so all the new Episcopalians will be with us to celebrate and take part in the 10 o'clock Service. We will also celebrate this year's three college graduates – **Deborah Albert, Gillian (Gigi) Jawahir and Liz Peach, and our Law School graduate, Thurston Hamlette.**

FATHERS DAY IS PIE SUNDAY, JUNE 16

We learned long ago that fathers like pie, and if that's the case, they shall have it. Pie will be the main food group at Coffee Hour on Fathers Day. If you can supply a pie, please sign up and indicate what kind. (It's always fun.)

THE PIZZA BOWL IS JUNE 23RD

Thanks to **John Tucker**, this has become an annual fun way to raise money for the Curtis Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund, enabling All Saints' to give scholarships to our graduating high school seniors who are going on to higher education. Join members of the parish family at Strike & Spare on Route 22, West in Greenbrook, from 2-4 pm. The cost is \$20, which includes the two hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and soda. Please sign up.

HELP TORNADO VICTIMS

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is raising money specifically to help the many whose lives were shattered by the recent tornadoes in the Mid-West. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to All Saints' and put "ERD" on the memo line. We will have the fundraiser for ERD through June 9.

--YOUTH NEWS--

Sunday School ends June 9

Glen Robertson will preach at the 10 o'clock Service. The Parish Picnic will follow

Come!

Summer Activity Room

Beginning on June 23, there will be an Activity Room for kids in the space usually occupied by the Nursery and Pre-K/K classes. **Mary O'Connor** is coordinating the volunteers, so speak with her for more information, and please sign up in Lea Hall. There are arts and crafts, Bible stories, and videos available to help make the time interesting.

First Sundays

Thanks to **Liz Trimpin** for an exciting array of First Sunday programs, including several theatrical efforts!

Memorial Day

We gave out lots of lemonade to marchers (and riders) in the Parade. Our younger parishioners carried tray after tray of cups out into Park Avenue. Many thanks to **Isabella and Arianna Blake, Gabriella Crona, Victor Johnson, Yasmine Jenkins, and Miranda Walsh – and to Kevin Hurley** for helping clean the trash from Park Avenue!

Graduations (that we know about)

Arianna Blake – from Kindergarten at the Wonder Years, to School One

Victor Johnson – from McGinn School

Miranda Walsh – from McGinn School

Tyler Ventura – from Evergreen School to Park Middle School

Nathaniel Harris – from Park Middle School to SPF High School

Colin Okell – from SPF High School to Drew University

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-- Parishioner Profile --

PACKING LIGHT THIS SUMMER

By Glen Robertson

As I sat down at my computer to write this for the newsletter and began to consider what I wanted to title this message, I was struck once again by the fact that it is already summer. As a public school teacher, the summertime often seems to be contradictory in nature. Summer seems to take a very long time to arrive at times, and then it is here, suddenly. Maybe this is a mystery that can only be understood by people who are chronically overscheduled.

This year marks another milestone for my family that seems to have crept up on us as well. My wife and I were talking on a Saturday morning recently, and we realized that this year marks our tenth year as members of the All Saints' family. William was a toddler and Aidan had just been born when we first started coming. Although it was ten years ago, I remember the day that I carried a sleeping Aidan into the church during the week and had a lovely conversation with Jane about what All Saints' was like. There is a clarity to this memory that I find increasingly rare as I grow older. I have often wondered what made me pull the car over as I passed the church that day, but I never regret having made the decision.

All Saints' has presented my family with an opportunity that I never realized I was looking for. When we first came to the church, I thought that being a part of a worship community would be good for my children. I wasn't really sure what my expectations for my own growth were. For those long-term members of All Saints', I am sure the rest of my story will sound familiar. We sat in back at first (after all, this is an Episcopal Church). Everyone was very friendly without being at all threatening. Then the phone call came.

Chris Harris was a warden at the time, and I remember being surprised by his name on my caller ID. I answered the phone in between cleaning up from dinner and getting ready to make lunches for the next day. Chris said hello and asked me whether or not I would be interested in attending the upcoming Men's Dinner. Under different circumstances, I am certain that I would have examined my schedule and responded with regret. Again, I often wonder about the conditions that caused me to pick up that phone call since caller ID has provided us with the chance to delay communication until it is more convenient. When Chris posed his question, it caught me so off-guard that I responded that I would love to attend the dinner. I didn't have a single excuse ready. Believe me when I tell you, I am not often caught without at least one plausible excuse at the ready.

The Men's dinner was a major milestone for me. I was able to see that there was so much more to the community that we had become part of than worship alone. Don't get me wrong, I think that Sunday morning services are a vital part of what we do and who we are. But we are much more than that. We are a Sunday School, an outreach organization, a social club, and a place to

get a cup of coffee and a smile. We support scouts, and theatre. We are a family in the truest sense of the word. Gathering with the people of All Saints' outside of the traditional Sunday Morning setting helped me to see this. Being a guest of Chris Harris also allowed me to get first choice on the Lawn Cutting List that summer (thanks Chris). Cutting the lawn got me an invitation to join the Buildings and Grounds committee. Kelly was asked to join the Sunday School. We were quickly being given the gift of discovering our ministries. Within a very short period of time, we were a part of this wonderful family.

Summer rhythms are different. Our routines will change. I will miss the routine that defines our worship and Sunday School service. I will also try to keep hearing the voice that tells me to pull the car over and go inside or pick up the phone even though I am busy. I will also think of my All Saints' family on Sundays when we are out of town and count my blessings.

By Glen Robertson

MEET OUR BISHOP-ELECT

If you have worshipped with us any time since May 4th, you have heard us pray for “Chip, our Bishop-Elect.” He is the Rev. **William Halleck Stokes**, currently the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Delray Beach, Florida. When he was elected on the fifth ballot at the special Convention on May 4th, Bishop Cancell announced that he had accepted, and asked that people please call him, “Chip” – and so we are.

Chip Stokes was born in Manhasset, New York. He graduated from General Theological Seminary in Manhattan, and has served parishes on Long Island and in Florida. Since his election, sitting bishops from throughout the Episcopal Church, along with the Standing Committee of each Diocese (standing committees work with bishops as vestries work with rectors) are being given the chance to approve the election. At least two-thirds of both must approve for the election to go through. This is expected to happen, and Chip Stokes will be consecrated at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton on Saturday, November 2nd.

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS SUNDAY, JULY 7

From July 7 and continuing through Sunday, September 1 (Labor Day weekend), there will be one service at 9 am on Sundays, instead of two. There will still be music, acolytes, lay readers, etc. and Coffee Hour will follow. The Activity Room will occupy youngsters.

(The Wednesday 9 o'clock Service will continue unless otherwise noted.)

--The All Saints' Family --

Congratulations to **Erin and Dan Wasik** on the birth of their second son, **Connor**, May 22nd (8 pounds, 8 ounces). Connor joins big brother, **Owen**.

More congratulations to **Anne Goetz**, whose daughter, **Elena**, was married to **Ryan Davis** on May 25 in North Carolina.

Irene Carlucci returned after two months away for back surgery. She wishes to thank all who sent cards, telephoned, sent food and flowers. We are all grateful to **Marcene Anderson**, who made the Monday "reminder" phone calls, and **Joe Urbancik** who entered the weekly pledge offerings into the computer while Irene was away.

All Saints' was well represented on **Memorial Day** at the community's commemorations. **Jonathon Dawson** was part of a special quartet from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School singing the "Star-Spangled Banner" at Fanwood's wreath-laying ceremony.

John Tucker rode in the Parade as an honored veteran.

Dan Dawson played in the SPF High School Marching Band.

Among dancers: **Natalie Green** & mother, **Liz Trimpin**; **Shannon Ryan** & mother **Carolyn**

Among scouts: **Gisele Herb** & mother, **Sally Pettit**; **Aubrey Johnson** & mother, **Lisa Fenev**;

Jovi Williams

First Grade Baseball: **Alex Crona** & father, "Coach" **Jamie Crona**

YMCA Adventure Guides: **Julia and Victoria Solsky** & father **Stuart** (in head-dress)

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Friends,

I just wanted to thank you for all your prayers, cards, support, cheerfulness and encouragement.

Beautiful people cause beautiful things to happen.

It's been a long haul and I still have a way to go, but with the constant encouragement from family and friends, I'm determined to make a full come-back. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Richardson

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. Keep the **Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The lamp is **\$10.00**. **Make checks payable to the Altar Guild** and put in the **memo** line that the check is for flowers or the lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

Available Dates

Altar Flowers: June 2, 9, 23, 30

Sanctuary Lamp: June 2, 30

Missionary Outreach

The second Sunday of each month is Sharing Sunday when we ask for donations to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

June – Health & Beauty supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, etc.)

July – Non-perishable snacks: Juice boxes, raisins, granola bars, crackers, fruit snacks

August – School Supplies

Please keep our Food Basket filled every Sunday with non-perishable items. This is also a way to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*

Andrew Kilkenny, Organist and Choirmaster

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus*

Irene Carlucci, *Secretary*

Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens

Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Charlie Beakes	Todd Bouverot	Lauren DiSarno	Chris Harris
Clark Landale	Patricia Ludewig	Glen Robertson	Michelle Smith-Crona
Sally Robinson	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh	Susan Winkler

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