

October 2014

Dear Friends,

The Holy Spirit is often portrayed as wind – mysterious, powerful and affecting. Jesus even says, "The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:7-8)

This has been a Spirit-filled start to the new church season. The Holy Spirit has been moving through All Saints' in refreshing new ways. The Youth Group Lock-In was a major event that brought together our own youth with many from other parishes. It is never easy to go somewhere with a lot of people you do not know. But that prospect was not a deterrent. I doubt that anyone walking in stopped to think, "The Holy Spirit has brought me here," but it was so.

Twice during the evening, everyone was in church, first for the concert of specifically Christian and more generally spiritual music, and later to share Holy Eucharist. As I sat in the back of the church enjoying the music, I thought how fortunate that the concert came before the Eucharist. If it had been the other way around, there would have been a separation, a feeling conveyed that we needed to do something traditional and acceptable first, and then clear everything away before coming back for the concert. Despite its spiritual message, the music would have seemed unrelated to the worship time, and the church just a random location.

However, with the concert first, it provided a natural lead-in to the Eucharist (even though the service came much later). Both appeared as expressions of our desire to serve God, and both reflected the power of the Holy Spirit moving us to praise and worship in different ways.

As Paul says in First Corinthians 12, "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

May the Holy Spirit ever direct and rule our hearts.

Jane+

All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076 + www.allsaints-spnj.org

WE BLESS ANIMALS OCTOBER 5

The annual blessing of animals honors St. Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets at noon to the front lawn outside the Parish House. (If it rains, we'll be near there!)

WELCOME BACK BRUNCH, OCTOBER 5

Greet friends you may not have seen for a while, and meet others you may not already know. The kids will enjoy the animal blessing after a First Sunday Program about St. Francis of Assisi.

THE GARDEN PROJECT

Thanks to **Liz Trimpin** and **Sherry Woodruff**, tending the gardens around the church is well under way. Photos of sections are on the bulletin board, and parishioners have signed up in teams to "adopt a section and commit to its care." Monetary donations to help defray the cost of materials are most welcome. Look for envelopes marked, "Garden" in the Church and Lea Hall.

SUNDAY MORNING CONVERSATION, 9:00 - 9:40 AM

About articles from *Christian Century* -- available ahead of time. If weekly attendance is hard, come to the Guild Room when an article interests you. For October: "Growing in Prayer," by Rowan Williams (Sept. 28/Oct. 5); "The Bible's Violent God," by John Buchanan (Oct. 12); "One God, One Lord: How Paul Redefines Monotheism," by N.T. Wright (Oct. 19/26).

SCRIPTURE SHARING, OCTOBER 2

On the first Thursday of the month, join in discussing the lessons for the following Sunday. Readings for the October meeting are those assigned for October 5 -- Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Philippians 3:4B-14; Matthew 21:33-46. Discussion is in the Guild Room from 7 – 8 pm.

CROP WALK IS SUNDAY OCTOBER 19 AT 2 PM

Sign up to walk and get sponsors to support you by donating to Church World Service for their anti-hunger programs. One-quarter of the money raised from this Walk comes back to this community. The Walk, of about 2 miles, begins at The Methodist Church on Terrill Road.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 2

Email or bring in by October 23rd the names of loved ones you wish to have memorialized on this day. Please PRINT CAREFULLY, as the names will appear in the bulletin.

HALLOWE'ENAPOOLAZA!!!

Triskelion

In association with All Saints' Church

Presents

Hallowe'enapoolaza!!!

This year it's a PARTY!!!!

Spooky fun for all ages!

- Live DJ
- Face Painting
- Games and Prizes
- Costume Contest! (Yes, wear a costume!)
- Haunted House
- Balloon Animals
- Spooky Theatrics!
- Haunted Fun!
- Frightfully Delicious Refreshments

Come one and all for a frightfully fun evening of HalloweenCelebrations And Spooky Surprises!

Admission:\$12 adults; \$6 kids, seniors, students. \$25 max per family

SATURDAY. OCTOBER 25 -- 7:30-10:00 PM

Don't miss our Freaky FrightFest done with Triskelion Style & Panache!

Tickets available in advance or at the door.

--YOUTH NEWS-

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS OFF TO A GOOD START!

Classes are in the **Charlotte Baker Sunday School** which looks wonderful. **Kelly Robertson**, Sunday School Chair, worked hard to get everything put away and assignments made. **Glen Robertson**, co-Chair, painted bookcases with **Bob Okell** and **Colin Okell**.

Besides Kelly and Glen, we are grateful to our other teachers: Carol Albert, Lauren DiSarno, Robin Sampson, and Beth Wojcio. Sam Loop continues as Nursery Monitor.

A plea to Parents: The 4th Sunday each month is a teaching opportunity for you! The curriculum, SPARK, is user-friendly. Please speak to Kelly Robertson and sign up!

Liz Trimpin and Michelle Smith-Crona are doing First Sunday Programs. October 5 will be about St. Francis of Assisi (We're blessing animals in his honor.)

MaryRose Clark resumes the Youth Choir on Sunday, October 12. Rehearsals are fun, and the parish enjoys hearing the Choir. Please, if you like to sing come during Coffee Hour.

Thanks to **Chris Harris** for organizing the Lock-In, working with the Diocese. Read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter. Here are the All Saints' youth who took part: **Anthony Dada**, **Nathaniel Harris, Aubrey Johnson, Victor Johnson, Matthew Landale, William Loop, Scott Rahner, William Robertson, Victoria Solsky, Jovi Williams.**

Chris Harris has called a Youth Group Meeting for Sunday October 19 – with pizza.

ALL SAINTS' ON CAMPUS

Each fall, we salute our parishioners on college campuses, and look forward to their visits!

Sharon Burk – American University
Jonathon Dawson – Rutgers University, Mason Gross School
Melissa Harris – Oberlin College
Elizabeth Leeper – Rhode Island School of Design (graduate studies)
Kathleen Leeper – Hampshire College
Alexandra (Alex) Loop – Alfred University
Erin O'Connor – Rutgers University
Colin Okell – Drew University
Charlotte Peach – Stockton College

--Parishioner Profile—

THE ANTI-HUNGER CONVOCATION-WIDE YOUTH MINISTRY LOCK-IN

By Chris Harris

So you might ask yourself, "Why on God's green earth would 47 teenagers and 15 adults from nine parishes in the Watchung Convocation want to be locked into All Saints' Church and facilities through the night, as they were on Friday September 19? As you will see in the comments from some of our Youth Group members who participated, they know better than I, but let me venture some answers.

The evening began well before the actual evening. It took a lot of planning, not only by parents and other adults, but also by our Youth Group members. Extending back to the spring, there were three meetings attended by our teens, by Jane, and by me; and – who am I to kid you? – some of it was stultifying. Yet they stuck with it, engaged totally, contributed greatly, and followed through in multiple ways – e.g. fundraising through a bake sale, coming up with ice-breaking minute-to-minute games, and playing host in the best spirit of hospitality. I'll posit that they also learned a bit about "what it takes."

The actual evening kicked off with a concert in the church, music from Tommy Lepano "and friends." I cannot express to you how grateful I am to Tommy for his generosity. But let me mention a few ways in which it was manifested. He worked hard to put together a set of music that was fun, exciting, passionate, and thematically on-the-mark. Like nothing the four walls of that church had ever heard, his set was comprised of both Christian and more generally spiritual music by U2 (of U2charist fame), Jars of Clay, Jon Bon Jovi and Billy Joel. Tommy served as both musical director and frontman, and – although I risk being called a "fuddy-duddy" for saying it – well, it rocked. Also, a reflection on Tommy was the extraordinary open-heartedness of his friends -- four fellow musicians and about eight choir members from the Shiloh Baptist Church who came all the way from Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn to sing on the final three selections, the last of which was an incredibly rousing performance of U2's "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For." To quote Emeril Legasse, with a Gospel Choir in the mix, that really "kicked it up a notch."

As great as the music was, what came next was the evening's centerpiece, the "raison d'etre" for the event – the assembling of 10,000 meals for people in need. Before the concert began, a truck from **Stop Hunger Now** pulled into our parking lot, and the kids unloaded the food staples and packing supplies later to be assembled in a stunning display of efficiency. After the concert, Mark, the young man who'd driven the truck, eloquently explained what this was all about, from

those who stood to benefit, to the service being rendered, to the logistics before us. Then we got to work, with hairnets on our heads. (My needs in that area were more modest.) With music in the background, chosen to get us both moving and singing along, we happily performed our carefully choreographed tasks at three different stations, culminating in nutritious meals in heatsealed bags packed in cardboard boxes placed back on the truck for delivery. Doing good was never so much fun.

Having worked up an appetite, we then took a break and charged through about 12 pies from Pizza Brothers, leaving behind more cardboard boxes than Wesley has ever witnessed at All Saints'. Happily, there was more food available for the witching hours to follow, when teens and adults alike, descended like locusts on chips, assorted snacks and – as served by Carol Schirm – root beer floats. A real rapport was developing among the kids across the parishes represented.

After this – and trust me, by this time it was getting late – we celebrated the Eucharist back in the church, with Jane officiating and Father Frank Hubbard from St. Mark's in Plainfield stirring up the congregation with a homily that included the shouted Nike-like refrain of, "We did it!" Father Jack Zamboni read beautifully from the Gospel, and Nathaniel Harris was our acolyte. Of course, this all served as a powerful and solemn reminder about why we were all there.

It was then – what? 2:00 am, roughly. For some, it was time to get some sleep, but for most of the All Saints' contingent, this was the opportunity for free-form entertainment and fellowship. We had foosball, Wii, movies, and games galore, and while the teens (and adults) certainly availed themselves of those, all were just as content to laugh and converse in joyful-yet-weary tones. As the remaining hours dwindled, some succumbed to exhaustion and fell asleep in odd postures and locations around the premises. Everyone behaved impeccably, especially those who were asleep!

Somewhere along the line, Deacon Debbi Clarke, head of Youth Ministry for the Diocese, who not only checked people in but stayed all night, got a phone call from Susan Stokes. Debbi had put pictures of the Lock-In on the diocesan FaceBook page, and Bishop Chip and Susan Stokes – in Taiwan for the House of Bishops – had seen them and sent their good wishes.

At about 6:00 am, we were re-energized by the arrival of breakfast and the agreeable aroma of Fanwood Bagels – another All Saints' contribution to the festivities. By 7:00 am, the kids were filing out with rides home, stomachs full, and extended naps on their agendas. Gratefully, a number of parents rolled in to assist with clean-up to spare Wesley the horror he would have faced otherwise that morning. (You can ask him, but honestly, it wasn't that bad.) The Diocese hosts a lock-in at the Cathedral in December. I'm guessing we'll have some takers.

By Chris Harris

Dorothy Jenkins, the wife of our Sexton, **Wesley Jenkins**, passed away on September 22. A number of us from All Saints' attended her funeral at Faith Christian Fellowship in Plainfield where the service included **Wesley and Dorothy's granddaughter, Yasmine,** singing so beautifully, "His Eye is on the Sparrow."

Kingsland "Beau" Oakes passed away on September 1st. He had a long association with All Saints' along with his wife, **Carol**, who has continued to volunteer with us at Grace's Kitchen.

OUR YOUTH COMMENT ON THE LOCK-IN

Nathaniel Harris: The Lock-In was, in summary, a hoot. It began with the concert and an array of great music. The actual event was great. I was loading boxes and it was quite enjoyable because of the energetic mood and sense of community. Overall, the whole night was fantastic.

Victor Johnson: I liked the Lock-In because we helped the hungry by making 10,000 meals and had fun at the same time. I liked hanging out in the nursery with the foosball and the Wii.

Will Loop: The Lock-In was a very fun experience where we did a variety of activities including attending a concert and having a service. The whole thing was a challenging and exciting time.

Scott Rahner: The youth event was very carefully planned and well thought out. The musical entertainment earlier in the night was very enjoyable and entertaining. The food, games and the packaging of the food was set up well and efficiently. The night, overall, was liked by all and should definitely happen again in the near future.

Victoria Solsky: This Lock-In was a great experience. There was endless fun from the board games to the concert, and I never wanted it to end. But the most important part of the night was when we made 10,000 meals for people who do not have enough food. It made me feel really good knowing I made a difference. I look forward to doing it again soon.

Jovi Williams: I feel that the Lock-In was really successful and welcoming and made me feel reassured because I know I was doing a good deed for someone in need.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY LAMP

We invite you to keep flowers on the altar as 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: October – nothing available Sanctuary Lamp: October 12, 19, 26

MISSIONARY OUTREACH

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

October – Laundry Supplies (small detergents, bleach, stain removers) November – Health & Beauty Supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes for children & adults, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, Q-tips, cotton balls) December – Stocking Stuffers

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* MaryRose Clark, *Organist and Choir Director*

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus* Irene Carlucci, *Secretary* Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

Wardens Jenine Williams Richard Johnson

Vestry

Todd Bouverot Chris Harris Michelle Smith-Crona

John Brewer Joanna Hurley Liz Trimpin Lauren DiSarno Bob Okell Kevin Walsh

Anne Goetz Glen Robertson Susan Winkler

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