

The Messenger

March/April 2024 | Volume XV, Number 2

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

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ON REMEMBERING AND HOPE

Dear Friends,

ince January, we have walked together in gratitude and sorrow through six funerals. Each person we commended to the eternal care of the Lord was unique and gifted and precious. As a pastor, I have been blessed with the stories of family and friends about their loved one. Such holy times. Such stories! After these conversations I always feel a twinge of regret.

It would have been great to know them when ... I wish I could have asked them about ... I wish I could see them again ... I wish we had more time ...

Isn't it marvelous that we can feel love for someone, even someone we have never met? Isn't it strange that we can feel the loss of them, too? Loving someone, of course, is complicated. None of us feels only love for another person. We also feel annoyed with them. Sometimes we want something from our loved ones — affirmation, respect, affection, forgiveness — that they do not or cannot give us. Love is not the only thing we feel or the only thing we have with someone. So, grief is complicated, too, sometimes.

And yet, at the end, it is glorious to dwell for a while in the love, to indulge the fond memories for a time. Let the light settle on them. "Even at the grave, we make our song, 'Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.'" We sing for them, we sing because of them, we sing through them.

Naomi Shahib Nye's poem "Everyday as a wide field, every page" is a meditation on the power of words to reach across time and space, across generations and differences.

She writes, riffing a bit on Emily Dickinson's poem "Hope is the thing with feathers":

When your hope shrinks you might feel the hope of someone far away lifting you up. *Hope is the thing...*Hope was always the thing!

Our goodbyes have been loving, sorrowful, and hopeful. Did we know that saying goodbye could also lift us up? Though it is Lent, even at the grave, we make our song, "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

With gratitude,

Jennifer

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ALL SAINTS' VESTRY

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Molly Badrawy

Justin Charles

Ann Conway

Joan Cunningham

Stephen DiCicco

Laurie Lewis

Chris O'Leary

Nathaniel Peirce

UPDATES, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Women Composers Sunday

In celebration of the 113th International Women's Day (March 8th) and in recognition of the achievements of women and their contributions to music for the church

All Saints' Church, Peterborough joins with the American Guild of Organists and the Royal College of Organists

in observance of

WOMEN COMPOSERS SUNDAY Sunday, March 10, 2024

Organ music by Christa Rakich

Choral music by Sarah MacDonald, Libby Larsen, and Lisa Neufeld Thomas

Hymns by Annabel Morgan Buchanan and Rae E. Whitney



All Saints' 2023 Annual Meeting, January 21, 2024. Left to right: Our rector, the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Walters; retiring senior warden Jack Calhoun and new senior warden David Jette.

Opportunities to Enrich Your Lenten Journey

Weekly Prayer and Worship

Community Supper

Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Enjoy food and fellowship with fellow travelers in Reynolds Hall.

Thursdays at 6 p.m. Prayer with psalms and silence in the Church

ART and SPIRIT Lenten Series

Saturday, March 9th • Storytelling Workshop. (9 a.m. to noon in the Old Parish House Parlor)

The practice of telling stories creates spaces of deep listening and careful attention. It cultivates connections between people and between God and us. Every one of us has a story to tell. Parishioner and professional storyteller and story coach, Tricia Rose Burt, will lead a small group of us in the process. Space is limited to eight adults. **Register by writing to admin@allsaintsnh.org.**

Saturday, March 23rd • Lenten Writing Mini-Retreat (9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Reynolds Hall) This mini-retreat will be facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Walters. What to expect: We will take brief amounts of time to respond to a prompt — and then write whatever comes. When the time for writing is up (usually 10 to 15 minutes), the group will come back together. You will be invited to share this freshly written work aloud. The group will listen and respond with affirmative feedback. (Then we'll do it again!) Be assured that what you have written is confidential and will not be discussed beyond the retreat. Space is limited to 12 teens and adults; meeting place to be determined. Lunch is included. Register by writing to admin@allsaintsnh.org.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Many Thanks For Your Generosity!

any thanks for your most generous response to our 2024 Stewardship campaign. Through your initial pledges plus additional pledges made towards our goal, your pledges totaled \$288,000.

Your responsible stewardship is our collective effort, both spiritually and materially, to enact God's love for everyone. Your pledges make it possible for All Saints' to have excellent music, opportunities for children to thrive and great preaching. It makes it possible for us to care for fellow parishioners in need and to serve our neighbors. We partner with organizations such as the *Peterborough Food Pantry*, the *Eastern Monadnock Housing Security Coalition* and *Avenue A Teen+Community Center*, becoming part of work larger than we can achieve on our own.

Indeed, as Saint Paul reminds us, we are enriched in every way by our generosity. Your pledge is like a prayer because both praying and pledging help us trust in God's future for us. And your pledge is a spiritual practice — a tangible and outward sign of our gratitude to God for all the blessings in our lives.

On behalf of the Vestry and Clergy, we deeply appreciate your continued generosity, saying "Yes" to God's work — in our church and the wider community.

Wishing you all the blessings of this new year,

~ Beth Healy, Chair, Stewardship Committee

Spring Activities

Helping Our Partners in Ministry at Avenue A

We have opportunities to help Jacqueline Roland and the leadership team at Avenue A to offer the following *activities for teens* this spring:

Fishing Group

The spring and summer fishing group is looking for volunteers who can help on a weekly or biweekly basis. The group goes shore fishing at spots in the ConVal area for 2 hours on a weeknight. Volunteers help supervise the group, help teens with tangled lines, broken lures, etc.

The teens are pretty independent with their fishing, but sometimes need help getting fish off of hooks, etc. Usually they catch and release. Sometimes they take fish home. Most of the teens spinfish. We choose handicap accessible fishing spots because we have a teen in the fishing group who uses a wheelchair.

Road Biking

Avenue A teens are interested in starting a teen road bicycling group in May and June. Teens would meet in Antrim, and from there bike on back roads for about 2 hours.

If you can help with either of these spring activities, please contact:

Jacqueline Roland Avenue A Teen & Community Center Director of Teen Programs (603) 762-5000





Healing Prayer on Sunday Mornings

e are back! After a four-year hiatus primarily due to COVID, Jennifer has asked us to offer the **healing prayer ministry during communion at the 10 a.m. service during Lent**. We will use the same format as in the past but will wear masks if that is anyone's preference.

Four members of our team of prayer ministers are available to serve during Lent. We would welcome others to join this ministry, so that it can continue on a regular basis and perhaps expand to other services. The Rev. Betsy Fowle will offer a time of inquiry and training later in the spring for anyone who is interested. A person new to this ministry is always paired with someone who has served in the past. We have had requests for this ministry to begin again and are grateful for your support.

So, what is healing prayer at All Saints? It is simply an opportunity for someone to join us in the Lady Chapel during communion to request prayers for themselves, other persons or concerns. The prayer ministers then pray quietly for and with them, as the Spirit moves us. We keep all that is shared confidential and do not follow up in person unless requested to do so.

How is this different from the intercessory prayer ministry that meets on Tuesdays?

That group meets weekly to pray for requests submitted on cards dropped in the "alms box" at the back of the church, and the parish prayer list that is shared in the bulletin and on *Saints' Alive*. We welcome you to join us in the parlor on any Tuesday at 1p.m. or to request prayers for yourselves or on behalf of others.

If you have questions or would like to join this ministry, please contact Nina at nina.pollock@gmail.com.

~ Nina Pollock, Member of the Prayer Ministry

Welcoming Ministry Help Needed

Il Saints' is a welcoming community. All are welcome: parishioners, newcomers and visitors. We are committed to welcoming everyone, whatever they are thinking and wherever they may be on their spiritual journeys.

Each one of us is called to be welcoming, to acknowledge and greet newcomers and visitors warmly, to introduce ourselves and invite them to feel a part of our community. Welcoming honors the many gifts we have each received — and makes our welcoming part of our spiritual growth. In 2023 we welcomed 16 new individuals and families!

In 2023, we welcomed
16 new
individuals
and families!

Do you like speaking with new people? Would you like to help All Saints' be even more welcoming?

We would like this year to add one or two welcomers to the Rite I, Rite II, and Rite Now services. You would keep an eye out for newcomers, invite them with you to breakfast or coffee hour, introduce them to others, and then let Lynn Griffith (mlynngriffith50@gmail.com) or me (bhealyee@gmail.com) know so we can follow up with them.

If you would like to join us or want to learn more, let Lynn or me know. Together we can be a fully welcoming community — with each other and with newcomers.

~ Beth Healy, Member of the Welcoming Ministry

The Silent Ministry

he oldest ministry at All Saints' Church is The Altar Guild. Many parishioners do not know what this ministry does! Our Altar Guild members would like to introduce you to our very special ministry.

Please join us for our Open House on April 21st. We will meet with Jennifer in the sanctuary around the altar rail immediately following the 10 a.m. Eucharist.

The Altar Guild sets The Lord's Table before every service, including weddings and funerals. We keep the linens pressed, the candles ready for each service, clean the silver and check the wine and wafers. Every Sunday the flowers are fresh on the Altar, thanks to the Altar Guild. At Easter and Christmas our church looks beautiful and again it is thanks to the Altar Guild.

We would like parishioners to think about joining us. The commitment is not huge, but the rewards are very special. Next Sunday, look up at the altar and consider whether you would like to join us in this creative service.

Please contact Carol Walsh (carolwalsh39@aol.com), Sally Steere (sally@muzzyhill.com), or Holly Breeden (hpbreeden@gmail.com) if you would like more information about The Altar Guild ministry.

~ Sally Steere, Member, The Altar Guild

Remembering Alma

Deborah Waldo, The Messenger Editor

For at least 20 years, in every issue of *The Messenger*, Alma Ruth shared a poem expressing her unequivocal faith — and inviting us to join her in that faith-based approach to life.

At Alma's memorial service, her granddaughter commented that her grandmother wrote a poem for every occasion — "even, it turns out, for this occasion!" Alma wrote this poem in 2012:

Alma's Farewell Poem

I'm sorry but I've got to run.

Not that Earth hasn't been fun,

I think a better home awaits me

And people that I want to see.

My mom, my sisters, and a friend

Are gathering around the bend

Singing God's praises in a song without end.

Joy, maybe some laughter,

That's where I'll be forever after.

~ Alma Ruth, American poet (1928-2024)

Rest in peace, Alma. We will miss your wisdom and your poems.

Arthur Eldridge grew up in All Saints' Church. He served faithfully for decades as choir member, acolyte, and ringer of the bells calling us to worship. We all think of Arthur when we hear the bells on Sunday mornings.

Requiem for Arthur

Andrew Reed Peterson

As silence is the canvas

For music the choir swells

So too it weaves its magic...

Into the cantor and his bells

A faithful soul and spirit

With us here so long

Graced us and this Parish...

With an angel and a song

Heard through midwinter's whispers...

In our quiet village streets

The joyous peal of bells

Played in melodies like sweets.

But now it is left to others,

To carry on his tune

With such commitment, joy and passion...

As we may never again see, too soon.

Saints' Days

March 2024	Alexandra Catlin	04/06
Gloria Schultz03/04	Christine Tourgee	04/07
Wayne Thomas03/04	Caitriona Row	04/07
Paul Mancini03/05	David Clinkenbeard	04/09
Rod Falby03/08	Samuel Hulbert	04/09
Susan Ernst03/09	William Gill	04/09
Susan Szydlo03/09	William Finlayson	04/12
Madelyn Morris03/11	Betsy Fowle	
Ed Bernard03/12	Jana Kiely	
William Bryk03/12	Polly Freese	
Ava VanHorn03/14	Anna Graff	
Dorothy Wagner03/19	Elizabeth Graff	
Albert LaChance03/28	Steven McCall	
Marc Smith03/28	Mary Lynn Griffith	
Amy Miner03/31	Vance Finch	
Ann Falby03/31	Steve Smillie	
Phyllis Traver03/31		
1 12024	Gregory Naudascher	
April 2024	Jeffrey Fuller	04/28
Carol Walsh04/02	Lisa Koziell-Betz	04/29
Sylvia De Vinne04/02	Myron Steere	04/29
Nicholas Morris04/03	Joseph Schultz	04/30
Candace Gebhart04/04	Grace Phillips	04/30
John Catlin04/06	Matt White	04/30



VIEW FROM THE BENCH Jeffrey L. Fuller, Organist & Choirmaster

Tintinnabulation

"Bells call others, but themselves enter not into the church." ~ George Herbert

o hear a single bell pealing from the steeple of a church as it calls members of a community to services is iconic in New England. Hearing 13 bells sounding from the blunt tower of a medieval-looking church is not. But that's what we hear every Sunday at All Saints'.

We often refer to our tower bells as the *carillon* but, to a campanologist (a bell scholar), that is not technically correct: at All Saints' we have a *chime* of bells. Both a carillon and a chime are tuned percussion instruments consisting of a set of bells *suspended in a fixed position* from an iron or steel frame in a tower designed specifically to contain the bells. While a carillon has at least 23 bells, a set with fewer tower bells is referred to as a chime. A chime typically plays straight-line melodies — a single voice. With its larger number of bells, a carillon provides the capacity for playing melody and harmony.

A carillon or chime is typically played from a key desk located in a room below the bells in the bell tower. The key desk is most often a set of large handles, arranged to mimic an oversized piano keyboard; each handle is connected by a cable to the clapper of a specific bell, striking the stationary bell when the handle is depressed. Because the bell tower is directly above the crossing at All Saints', mechanically connecting the key desk to the bells is not possible. Our tower bells are played from a small keyboard located in the passage between the chancel and the sacristy. Through an array of electronic relays, depressing a key on the key desk causes the clapper of the bell to which it is linked to strike.

During the past several months, a small group of parishioners has shared the responsibility of ringing the tower bells each Sunday morning, generally the hymns we will sing on that Sunday.

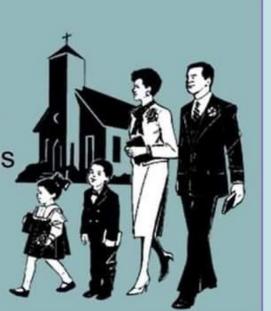
Russ Gebhart, Susan Sarles, Cassius Webb, and Celeste Whiting have affectionately dubbed themselves the Carillon Corps. (Admit it: it has a much better *ring* to it than the Chime Corps!) Parishioners who have an interest in learning about what is required to be part of the Carillon Corps should speak with one of its members or with the Choirmaster.

Whichever service you attend, listen to the variety of bells that grace the liturgies of All Saints': to the tower bells playing the day's hymns before the organ prelude at the 10a.m. Holy Eucharist; to the Sacristy bell that announces the 8a.m. Eucharist; to the Sanctus bell that is rung by custom during the prayer of consecration at 8 a.m.; to the three-octave set of handbells employed several times a year as accompaniment to anthems, chants and other service music; and finally, to the mellow sound of the 24 tubular chimes played from the organ console. These sounds help us to "stretch" our ears; perhaps it is even a way to pray with our ears!

~ Jeff



Tim Hawkins





Be sure to check the All Saints' website at allsaintsnh.org and our Facebook page for more news and information.

e invite you to send articles, letters, poems, reflections, or printable artwork, to deborahwaldo18@gmail.com. Submissions for the May/June issue of

We look forward to your submissions!

The Messenger are due on Monday, April 15.



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, 9a.m. to 2p.m.

Office email: admin@allsaintsnh.org

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Organist & Choirmaster: Jeff Fuller, jeff@allsaintsnh.org
Office Manager: Gail Caron, admin@allsaintsnh.org
Caretaker, Buildings & Grounds: Ryan Courtenay

Cleaner: Erica Flewelling