

REVELATIONS

Fall 2021

Newsletter of All Saints' Episcopal Church,
Littleton, NH

The Rector's Ramblings.....

All Saints' Beloved,

Thank you once again for my sabbatical! It was very good and I hope you enjoyed the small report I wrote included in an earlier email with my big long reading list! Thanks to Rev. Kathy, Deacon Paul, the Vestry and you all for carrying on with the life, witness, and mission of the parish. So many good things carried on as revealed in the newsletter below.

One of the things I did when I was in Alaska while visiting my sister was to go to church! Imagine that! There was a little Episcopal



Church in Soldatna that is led by lay people with a priest showing up occasionally. Here is a photo of the worship space/coffee hour space (my sister and nephew in the photo below). At this time of the year when we celebrate All Saints, it reminded me of the faithful in our Anglican Communion around the world who carry on the life of the church in large and small places all over the world. We are indeed part of a great fellowship of love...in some very small spaces!

Though we are back to masked in-person worship on Sundays not everyone is comfortable returning because of the continued spread of COVID. So, we continue to look for ways to stay connected to one

another with various events and safe gatherings. This past year we have done a variety of things: Zoom coffee hour and book studies, Zoom worship, Christmas bonfire and carols, Women's hikes and gatherings, snowshoe hike, Epiphany packages to all homes (remember the chalking of the doors?), Easter packages, weekly mailings to those who are not connected to computers, Advent and Lent daily devotionals, etc. Maybe you've done some creative things in your 'pod' or with friends. Please let us know if you have an idea.

Fr. Curtis +

The Curate's Corner

First--THANK YOU!! Thank you all for making the three months with me at the helm while Father Curtis was away run so smoothly. I so appreciate your participation, your affirmation, and the time you devoted to our various programs, projects, and occasional emergent needs. It was a pleasure and serving you all has deeply affirmed my calling as a priest.

It was, as you all know, a busy and fulfilling few months for outreach.

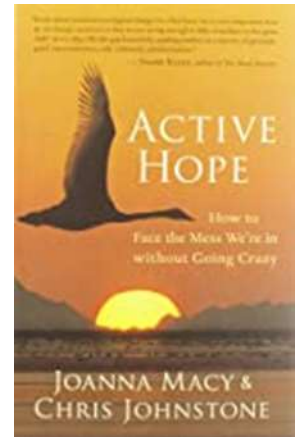
Our **Dinner Bell** program started back up in September and we have been giving out more than 70 meals per week. This week students from WMS helped make the meal and were on hand to pack up the meals. It was fun to have some of my students here at the church--my two worlds in one place!

The **Food Cupboard** is starting to see an uptick in people coming for food, and has installed lovely new shelving. A new freezer is expected soon.

The **Youth and Young Families** Team launched a summer program. It did not have the turnout we had hoped for, but one young lady along with Cynthia L. and Jen C. had a week of poetry and exploration as part of our Creative Writing offering. In addition, we caught the eye of the recreation department and are now doing programming for the Littleton after-school program for grades K-6. We'll be offering Storytime, a Chess Club, and Homework Club. Elaine W. offered the first Storytime this week and had 30 children there!! If you are interested in helping out with any of these offerings, please reach out to me. (photos below)

We've also had lots of opportunities to gather, to learn and to pray. We had a lovely hike out to Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge with the **Women's Group** in July. The views were spectacular! (photos below)

Our **Centering Prayer** group has been meeting every Tuesday. Over the last few months we prayed, and read and discussed, *The Sabbath* by Abraham Heschel, and have started reading *Active Hope* by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone.



Our **Sacred Ground** group wrapped up in September. Over the course of several months and ten sessions we worked our way through the histories of race and racism in America, and explored ways that they intersect with our own lives, the lives of our church and our responsibility as Christians.



A group of us have been sitting in on an online Montreal Diocesan Class entitled **Reading the Bible in the Season of Creation**. It's been a very interesting and compelling look at our Scripture.

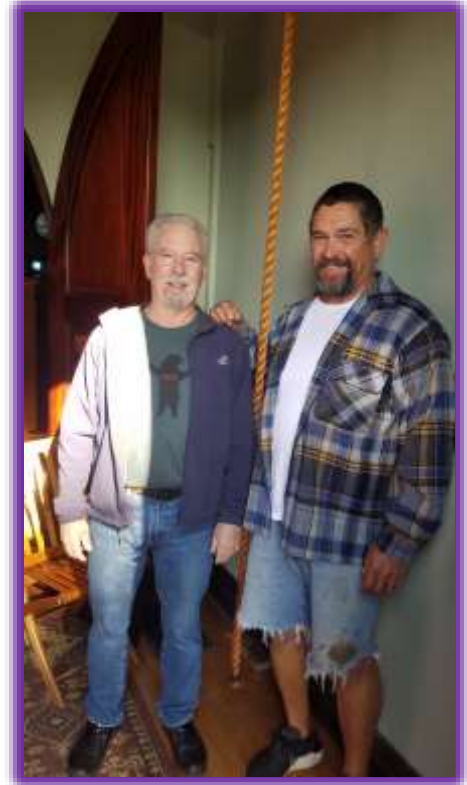
While we've had to make adjustments for the new COVID-19 Delta variant, we have still had the blessing of being together

for services and worship. It has been deeply moving for me to see you all gathered, in prayer, in blessing, in learning, and in communion.

Yours in Christ's Love,
Rev. Kathy +

Bell Ringing for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

Barbara and Kevin Buckley were joined by Rebecca Hill-Larsen and Anthony Rodriguez as they rang the bell in memorial to those lost on 9/11 – the 20th anniversary. It was beautiful to hear. Here are a few pictures from that day.



Stewardship: *Together for Joy!*

The stewardship campaign has been launched for 2022! The T3 committee (time, talent, treasure) came up with a great package for all parishioners and a wonderful theme: Together for Joy. Our financial goal is \$150,000 in pledges. We will be tracking financial pledges with the aid of stalks of wheat and lavender for the 'treasure' pledges, and painted stones for the 'time and talent' pledges, as below in this photo of the display just inside the foyer. The wheat represents God's bounty to us, and the stones represent the solid foundation of our faith. Our final Sunday for this year's campaign is November 21st, and we will have a special coffee hour to celebrate!

This year's stewardship prayer:

Great One, for you the floods clap, for you the hills sing. You now my situation better than anyone. Take my credits and debits, ins and outs, pluses and minuses, surpluses and tasks, and show me how to use them to join the great chorus of Creation. Amen.

May you be filled with joy as you fill in your pledge card!



Roof Update from Ross Veilleux

Progress on the roof is doing well. Here is the latest:



1. There was a delivery of steel ---5000 lbs. The photo to the left shows the delivery truck conforming the steel roll into metal roofing sheets to specific dimensions.

2. The photo to the left below shows the fabricated sheets being moved to the staging area.



3. The photo to the right shows the detail of how

the roof is looking. The roof was raised approximately 2" and extended some 2". The perforated metal sheet covers this detail and allows air to flow up the roof. Before a metal panel is laid holes are drilled between the

slats to allow air

to escape from

the existing attic. The Red Circle shows new drip

edge; Green Circle on the left shows cedar shake

which extends roof 2 inches; Orange Circle shows

slats that create a venting system.



The complete date is now scheduled for November. They will be working 6 days a week to complete the job, weather permitting.

Regards, Ross



Fall Picnic/Coffee Hour at The Rectory

As a welcome back from sabbatical, Fr. Curtis and Doug welcomed a brave group of people out at the rectory on a chilly fall day for an extended coffee hour/picnic after church on October 10th.



Pondicherry Women's Hike

The overcast weather and threat of rain didn't dampen the spirits of those participating in the women's group hike to Cherry Pond in early August. No matter the weather the scenery is always stunning at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in Jefferson, NH.



From left to right: Gail Kimball, Norma St. John, Sheelagh Higginson, Terri Fillion, Rev. Kathy, Karen Ernsberger, Mary Sturtevant.





Women's Night Out Tour of Camille Wharey's Haunted Home

Tuesday, October 26th

Every year Camille decorates her home with a huge collection of Halloween paraphernalia she has collected over many years, and opens her home to the public and uses it as a way to support a local food pantry – each person attending is encouraged to bring some canned goods. On Tuesday, October 26th a group of six parishioners (Deb Davison, Karen Ernsberger, Terri Fillion, Mel Harding, Bonnie Wyvill and Sheelagh Higginson) from the Women's Group thoroughly enjoyed their impromptu visit to Camille's Halloween House in Bath. It's definitely worth the drive to see all of the amazing, and sometimes curious, decorations (see the All Saints' [Facebook page](#) for photos of just some of Camille's extensive collection of Halloween items).



Bishop Rob's Visit/Inquirer's Class

On November 14th we will have Bishop Rob with us for a regular visit. Fr. Curtis has been holding an Inquirer's Class for those interested in being confirmed or received into the church. We should have a nice handful of folks.....if we haven't scared them away! An extra Centering Prayer time has been added at 8:30 Saturday mornings before the Inquirer's Class, which may continue after the class depending on whether a group forms at this time.



Diocesan Convention

Diocesan Convention is right around the corner and will be a virtual event again this year. All are welcome to watch the virtual 219th Annual Diocesan Convention on November 5 and 6, via the [Episcopal Church of NH's YouTube channel](#). On Friday night the Bishop will lead Evening Prayer with guest preacher the Rev. Katie Nakamura Rengers, a member of the Presiding Bishop's staff responsible for church planting.



Light Bulb Project



Another thing that happened over the summer is that we had all (65) of our lightbulbs replaced with LED bulbs to save on electricity – for us projected at 1,264 Kwh annually! This is actually part of a diocesan grant program with a team centered in All Saints', Wolfeboro, who comes out and does the work. Thanks to Ross Veilleux for a thorough inventory to help them along.

Summer Enrichment for Kids

Jen Carbonneau and Cynthia Lanchester ran a lovely writing workshop for our enrichment program. Check out these photos; and, if you are in the Fellowship Hall, take note of the lovely poetry flags outside the church office.



Youth Engagement Program This Fall

Work with kids continues this fall. We're offering Storytime, a Chess Club, and Homework Club. Elaine Winters offered the first Storytime and had 30 children there!! In addition, we'll be bringing in special guests to present to the kids. Elaine invited Dr. Doug Arion, Astronomy and Physics Professor to come talk to the kids about astronomy. It was a big hit!!



Pie Festival



Pie Festival was Saturday September 25th from 11 am until 2pm in the parking lot at All Saints Church. It was a huge success. We raised over \$2,000 the day of the Festival (the most ever raised on the day of the sale) and more came in on Sunday.

Big thanks to all of the volunteers who came out to help and an extra special shout out to our fearless leader, Hilary Veilleux, who pulled off an amazing event despite the limitations of COVID. Here are some pictures from the event.



Food Cupboard Renovation

Rebecca Hill-Larsen, Food Cupboard Coordinator, and various volunteers worked on renovating the Food Cupboard this summer. A major part of this effort was to get new shelving on wheels to make better use of the space. Thanks to everyone involved in this!



White Mountain School: Comparative Religion Class Visit



On Saturday, October 16th, we had a visit from a class at the White Mountain School that was doing field trips to various houses of worship to learn about different religious traditions. Rev. Kathy (their chaplain, of course) and Fr. Curtis hosted them and had a good hour-long visit telling them much about our faith and traditions.

Prayers of the People Workshop

Fr. Curtis and Deacon Paul will be giving a workshop on writing Prayers of the People for the Sunday service on Saturday, Nov. 27th at 10am for one hour. The idea of the workshop is to teach about writing good prayers based on the Prayer Book guideline---like some we have experienced in worship recently. We also practice writing some prayers for Sunday worship!



red letter
DAYS

What are Red-letter Days?

Major feasts of the church year, including the principal feasts, feasts of our Lord, feasts of all apostles, evangelists, and other major saints' days and festivals. The term reflects the early practice of printing Prayer Book calendars in red. These major feasts were included in the Prayer Book calendar and printed with red letters. The term is applied to those feasts for which the Book of Common Prayer provides full propers (the 'proper' lessons and prayers for the day), including collect, OT lesson, psalm, NT epistle, and gospel. Red-letter days are distinguished from the lesser feasts of the calendar of the church year, which are also known as black-letter days and printed with black letters. In Prayer Books with single-color printing, major feasts are printed in bold type, and lesser feasts are printed in lightface type. [Click here](#) for the Calendar of the Church year and look for dates in red print. *Fr. Curtis and Rev. Kathy are offering a Eucharist on these days generally at noon. Watch for email announcements or check your church calendar for the red letter days.*



Join us to explore, or deepen, the practice of Centering Prayer

Tuesday mornings @ 11:00am in the sanctuary

This is a half hour practice followed by conversation.

Led by Fr. Curtis.

Saturday mornings @ 8:30am in the sanctuary

This is a half hour practice led by Fr. Curtis.

No experience necessary – come and give it a try and deepen your spiritual practice.

For more information click on the Centering Prayer [click here](#).

Nativity Display

On Sunday, December 19th, we invite everyone to bring your nativity set to church and set it up in the Parish Hall and then have a viewing after services/during coffee hour. Write up an explanation of where the set came from and/or what it means to you.



Kudos!



Thanks to:

- Hilary Veilleux and team for another successful Pie Fest.
- Time, Treasure, and Talent Committee for a wonderful theme for our Stewardship Campaign and all the work put into that to make it happen.
- Ross Veilleux and Anthony Rodrigues for monitoring the roof project.
- Verna for tireless troubleshooting with our water use and toilets issue.
- Rebecca Hill-Larsen and team for renovation of the Food Cupboard space.
- Don Perlee for his ongoing monthly Food Cupboard newsletters
- The Card Ministry Team for their gracious, quiet, constant work---we hear regularly from parishioners who feel so blessed to receive these cards and notes!
- Elaine Winters and The Youth and Young Families Team for facilitating a new All Saints' YES! partnership with the Littleton Recreation Department and telling stories, teaching chess, and helping kids with homework!

Mission

*The mission of All Saints' is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ
by practicing our Christian Faith through prayer
and acts of love and unconditional kindness.*