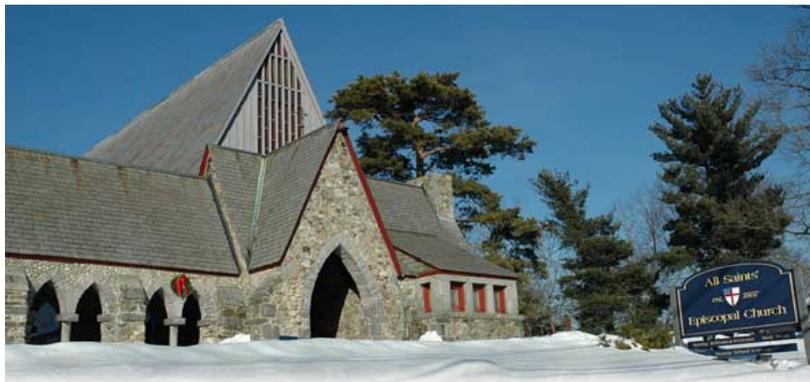


All Saints' Episcopal Church

Chelmsford, MA



2013 Annual Report

February 9, 2014

**ALL SAINTS' PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
February 9, 2014**

AGENDA

Gathering and Signing In

Call to Order Priest in Charge

Opening Prayer Priest in Charge

Approval of Minutes from 2013

Senior Warden: Dave Kuzara

Junior Warden: Erik Forsberg

Ministry Reports:

 Treasurer's Report: Melanie Hickcox

 Endowment: Scott San Jurjo

 Worship Commission: Maggie

 Stewardship

 Church School Council: Laura Marshall

 Thanks to Staff and other ministries: Bill

Motion to accept reports as written and placed on file.

Nominating Committee Report: Harry Taplin

Election

Thanks to retiring vestry: Priest in Charge and Senior Warden

Announcements:

1. Lynne Grillo regarding seminarian Christen Mills
2. Laura Marshall (for David Shochat) regarding New Website

Closing Prayer Dave Kuzara

Adjournment

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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, January 27, 2013

Present: The Members of All Saints' Church

The meeting was preceded by a light lunch of soup and sandwiches. The meeting was opened at 12 noon with a prayer by the Rev. Bill Bradbury (BB), who chaired the meeting.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the previous annual meeting, held January 29, 2012. It was moved, second, and unanimously passed to accept the minutes.

Review of the following reports, with questions and comments as noted, was the next order of business (note that not all reports in the printed annual report were spoken to):

- 1) Priest in Charge Report -- BB highlighted the last word in his report, "enjoyable."
- 2) Senior Warden's Report -- Dave Kuzara (DK) reported it has been a good year -- the clergy transition was smooth, membership is up, there is a sense of interest and excitement in the parish; the overall picture is very good. That said, there are some needs: a revitalized Finance Committee to be managing the long-term view, a rental coordinator to assist our Parish Administrator and to extend the scope of this effort, and accounting help.
- 3) Junior Warden's Report -- Erik Forsberg (EF) sees the Holy Spirit at work as evidenced by exciting growth in Christian Education for adults and children, and a successful Stewardship Drive. He reported that in this past year the Vestry has focused on leadership development and spiritual growth. EF sees a vibrant parish welcoming newcomers to join us in sharing the love of Christ.
- 4) Reports from Ministries:
 - a. Finance Commission / Treasurer -- Melanie Hickcox (MH) gave an extensive report of All Saints' Financial Trends, 2007-2012, sub-titled "how we survived the downturn." In summary, this is how we are doing:
 - programs intact
 - staff intact
 - giving generous and growing
 - rentals recovering
 - endowment healthy
 - operating cash low due to accumulated shortages

After the financial presentation, the floor was open for questions and comments:

- The question was raised as to whether All Saints' is participating in the Diocesan Together Now capital campaign; BB responded that after Easter we will be participating in a multi-week Sunday morning program entitled In-Pew Campaign -- BB and the wardens will be

meeting soon with the diocesan facilitator for this program.

- Rebecca Haberl clarified that under-budget Christian Education expenses are partly due to a generous gift direct to Christian Ed a year or two ago.

b. Endowment Committee -- Connie Pawelczak (CP) reported the endowment was established in 1997 with the intent of enabling growth in the parish; the endowment has experienced steady growth. This past year, approximately \$20,000 was earned, and half of that is available to the 2013 budget.

- 5)** Worship Commission -- Maggie Marshall (MM) reported that on Thursday evenings there are approximately 50 people here for choir and hand bell rehearsals. There are countless others involved in our worship, and MM thanks all who do so. MM invited anyone interested in serving at the altar or reading lessons to speak with her.
- 6)** Parish Life Committee -- Liz Landers (LL) reported that this committee was initiated as a result of the 2011 Vestry retreat. She hopes people have enjoyed the events put on so far, and ideas for other programs are welcome.
- 7)** Stewardship Committee -- Steve Grillo (SG) gave a big thank you to the parish. The cottage meetings helped people to get to know one another better in addition to helping BB get to know us. At the cottage meeting held at All Saints', even the young people participated in the conversation. Results: 50 families increased their pledge, and there were 23 new pledges.
- 8)** Other Programs -- BB acknowledged and thanked the Thrift Shop, Feeding Programs, Buildings and Grounds, and the Nominating Committee for their outstanding efforts.
- 9)** Nominating Committee -- The members of the Nominating Committee are: Linda Cahill, Joan DeChane, Laura Geary, Barbara Lindberg, Pamela Meinhardt, Edith Parekh, Steve Sullivan, and Harry Taplin (HT), the chair.

HT reported the slate for Officers, Convention, Deanery, Endowment Committee, Vestry, and Nominating Committee. Bob Andrews moved and Clem Cole seconded that the slate be accepted; the motion passed unanimously. The newly elected members were called forward by BB and received a round of applause. HT noted the one open Deanery Alternate position and encouraged anyone interested in this position to contact the Vestry.

BB gave thanks to the All Saints' staff -- Darlene Gossement, Bob Wilson, Rebecca Haberl, and Maggie Marshall -- for their on-going support to him and to the parish. He also thanked and acknowledged the four out-going Vestry members: Joan DeChane, Laura Geary, Barbara Lindberg, and Edith Parekh, presenting each of them with a gift.

BB then acknowledged the "sweat equity" that keeps our Buildings and Grounds going -- Mike Thompson, Frank Ouellette, and Norman Douglas, and BB apologized if he left anyone out of his thanks.

CP gave thanks to Barbara Lindberg, who is retiring from the Endowment Committee, for her years of dedication to that program.

Additional business: The question was raised as to responsibility for the final budget (the Vestry) and what to do if there are questions about the 2013 Budget (please see the Treasurer.) In addition, if an individual wants to come to a Vestry meeting to discuss a budget issue, they are welcome -- just let BB know so that he can add the visit to the agenda.

There being no further business, Bob Andrews moved and Paige Flick seconded that the meeting be adjourned. DK gave a closing prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 12:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cina Barker, Clerk of the Vestry

PRIEST IN CHARGE'S REPORT

To the People of All Saints':

It's hard to believe that I'm coming to the end of my second year as Priest in Charge. I continue to enjoy sharing ministry with you as we seek to be faithful disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I deeply enjoy working with our newcomers. When they attend worship and fill out a card I send an email, thanking them for worshiping with us. I also give them the text of my favorite prayer by Thomas Merton. Finally, I offer to meet for coffee, usually at the Java Room, though sometimes at their home. Most accept this invitation which tells me they had a good experience at worship and that they are hungry for connection with an active community that follows Christ. Many decide to attend regularly and to attend the Connect Course I lead in January-February. This year we have 16 in Connect, with 12 being new to All Saints in the past year or so.

Their presence says God is continuing to call people to Christ through All Saints'. It also tells me that we must work hard not only to welcome them at the door on Sunday mornings, but also to invite them to share in our ministry. They are looking for a meaningful way to belong, so it is up to us to be open to them and involve them in our life together. I hope each committee and guild will make a concerted effort to invite new members into their work.

Throughout my ordained ministry my deepest calling has been to engage with adults, primarily through preaching and teaching, in ways that deepen their faith. Therefore, I have been working with Chris Mills to create programs for adults that will ask them to have some "skin in the game," that is to be committed to the group meetings and to doing the assigned reading.

We are currently recruiting a small leadership team to plan a program for May.

I also work with Matt Hickcox to design forums on Sundays that are opportunities for exploring one's relationship to God and one another.

As this third year begins, we enter a period of discernment to determine if I will become rector or end my time at All Saints in 2015. This will be done through a deliberate process the Senior Warden will be telling you about shortly.

The key question is not, do we like each other, but rather do we believe God is calling us in the same direction. We will look at such questions as "Do we have similar goals and dreams for All Saints' Church?" "Do my gifts match the gifts needed by the parish to continue your rich history of faithfulness?"

In short, we will seek to discern God's will for All Saints' Church. Every member will have a part to play in the discernment process.

I must tell you how gratifying it has been to work with our staff: Maggie Marshall, Darlene Gossement, and Bob Wilson. I have also loved my work with all the leaders who are the heart and soul of our ministry. All Saints' is blessed with talented leaders who are energetic and creative.

I have worked closely this past year with Laura Marshall, head of the All Children and Youth Commission, soon to become the Church School Council, which stepped up to cover the loss of our DRE, Rebecca Haberl. We added Andrea Bray as the Transitional Assistant and worked to make sure all kids and teachers feel cared for and supported. Going forward, Laura and the Council will chart the course so the church school continues to nurture our children in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Without this work, our kids will be formed by the world's story which cannot give Life.

I meet every other month with the Pastoral Care Committee, a faithful group of women who take communion to our members who can no longer attend church. I also take communion to shut-ins and celebrate communion at Palm Manor and Chelmsford Crossing, rotating with other Protestant clergy. When I am notified of a member being in the hospital, I visit them to offer prayer and support.

Of course our excellent leadership team of Dave Kuzara, Erik Forsberg, and Melanie Hickcox, along with Cina Barker, Clerk, and the entire vestry has worked hard to deal with the physical plant and the spiritual health of our parish.

All of us, priest and people, are stewards of what God is doing at All Saints' now. As we enter this third year, I pray we will continue to follow God's call and continue to obey Christ, who is with us and for us.

*Grace and Peace,
Bill Bradbury
Priest in Charge*

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

2013 has been a year of steady growth and change for All Saints'. This was the second year of Rev. Bill Bradbury's tenure as priest-in-charge, and the parish has grown spiritually under his leadership. Bill's influence and direction have been felt in all aspects of parish life, particularly in our worship. For example, we now have a new, larger Sunday bulletin which makes it easier to follow the service. He has been teaching CONNECT classes which allow both new and long-time parishioners to explore their life as part of a Eucharistic Community. Bill also sponsored the formation of the new All Children & Youth (ACY) Commission to coordinate and support our youth programs. These changes, and others like them, are helping individuals grow in faith and supporting the parish in its mission.

All Saints' continues to be a healthy and dynamic congregation as evidenced by the number of new (or reinvigorated) efforts that happened this past year. We participated in the "Together Now" diocesan Capital Campaign. Our parish met its target and contributed to the diocese, exceeding its fundraising goal of \$20 million. Part of this money is set aside to provide grants to parishes and All Saints' took advantage of this. We were awarded a diocesan Green Grant which helped offset the cost of our environmental field trip to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park. We had an energy audit performed on our facilities which the Environmental Stewardship Committee is using to produce an Environmental Action Plan for the parish. 2013 also saw the unveiling of our new parish web site at www.allsaintschelmsford.org. This site has a more modern look and has been designed to let many authors easily contribute content. We also raised funds to improve the acoustics in the parish hall which resulted in sound-absorbing panels being installed on sections of the ceiling. The Finance Committee, which had been defunct, has been re-started to provide help to the treasurer and oversight of financial policy. We also began catching up on our financial audits, completing audits for 2010 and 2011 and starting the audit for 2012. In addition to these new areas, we continued to support a large number of ongoing ministries such as our many Outreach programs, which include Church School, Thrift Shop, Choir(s), Altar Guild, and Parish Life.

There was another very unusual (and fun!) event that happened at All Saints in 2013. A production company filmed parts of an independent film in our cloister and chapel. The film was “The American Templars,” based on a book by David S. Brody, a local author. Several of us were on hand for the filming which was a great experience. The movie was the basis of our film premiere-themed fall gala titled “One Sparkling Knight.” The gala started with a showing of the film in the sanctuary. People were encouraged to dress up and we even had a red carpet and photographer. Later, we moved to the parish hall for a catered dinner, a dessert auction, and entertainment by the Gentlemen Songsters. The author and two of the actors in the film joined us to make the evening even more special.

There were also some endings that happened in 2013. Rebecca Haberl stepped down as Director of Religious Education (DRE) to devote more time to her expanding role as a mother. She continues to serve All Saints’ as a committed volunteer in several areas. Our thanks go to Rebecca for her years of service as DRE. In December, we had our eighth and final Gingerbread Village fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. The hope is that other Habitat covenant churches in Chelmsford will take this on going forward. Thanks to Laura Marshall and her crew of dedicated volunteers for putting on this beloved event for so many years. We also said goodbye to the furnace that heats the Thrift Shop and the chapel when it broke and could not be fixed. The furnace was replaced but not before the Thrift Shop endured several weeks of very cold conditions. (The furnace problem in the chapel has also made us look more closely at our 50+ year old main sanctuary furnace. We are investigating replacing that furnace in the next year or two so we don’t end up with a more major crisis on our hands.) This type of change, while not always pleasant, is normal and expected in a vibrant faith community like All Saints’.

The upcoming year looks to be very exciting and will be an important one in the life of the parish. It will be Bill’s third year with us and is called our “discernment year” in the priest-in-charge process. During 2014, the parish will decide if it wants to extend a call to Bill to be our permanent rector. At the same time, Bill will be discerning if he feels called to become our rector. If the parish does not extend a call to Bill, then we will enter a traditional search process to look for a new rector. This is a brand new experience for All Saints’ - one we have never been through before – and it will present new challenges. Relying on the Lord, I know we will meet these challenges, and continue to be a healthy and thriving congregation in the years to come.

*Yours in Christ,
Dave Kuzara
Senior Warden*

JUNIOR WARDEN’S REPORT

I write these words in continuing gratitude for the parish of All Saints’ Chelmsford. As most of you know, Deb and I came to All Saints’ at Christmas in 2008 after worshiping for eleven years at another parish in the area. We were warmly welcomed when we entered All Saints’ for the first time; we were encouraged as we re-engaged in ministries that we had previously been active in, we were lovingly lifted up by our All Saints’ community when our family went through a traumatic period three years ago, and we continue to feel Jesus’ presence every time we walk through these doors. For all of these blessings, I am profoundly grateful.

By every measure, All Saints’ grew and thrived during the year just ended. Our parish has grown steadily as new members come through our front door to check us out and stay to worship with us when they feel welcomed by our warm and loving congregation. We just ended a strong stewardship campaign that leaves us well positioned to strengthen and grow our ministries in 2014. And we have seen significant increases in parishioners’ donations of their time and talents as they discover new ministries through which they can serve

Christ.

We also responded effectively to some unusual challenges. Last summer we held a very productive work day in which we replaced many rotted pieces of siding on the east side of our sanctuary and installed covers on our basement window wells that have alleviated our chronic flooding problems. During the fall, we collected funds to allow us to finally remedy the poor acoustics of our parish hall. And a little over a month ago, we put together the necessary funds to replace the furnace that heats our chapel and thrift shop. That we were able to do all of these things speaks eloquently to the generosity of our parish with its time, talents, and treasure.

But perhaps the most encouraging and gratifying trend I observed at All Saints' during 2013 is the spiritual growth and development of our parish. At our Vestry retreat almost two years ago, we asked ourselves what our parish might look like if we succeeded in fostering spiritual growth at All Saints'. Our answers included growth of our parish and more people talking about Jesus. They included more people seeing God at work in their lives and people feeling more comfortable sharing their hurts and hopes with each other. And they included people viewing All Saints' as a place to come together and receive the spiritual nourishment they need in their lives.

Thanks to everyone at All Saints', this is what I see every time I come to church here. And for this too, I am profoundly grateful.

*In Faith,
Erik Forsberg*

FINANCE COMMISSION

In 2013 the FinCom completed the outstanding audits of ASC finances for the years 2010 and 2011. Many parishioners stepped forward to help complete these two audits, but special mention must be made of the efforts of Betsy Hirst and Chris Baron, who worked diligently with Darlene for many weeks. For 2014, the FinCom will be led by Clem Cole.

*Respectfully submitted,
Derick Gates*

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee provides support to the parish in the following ways:

Giving: Why might someone want to donate money to the Endowment Fund-perhaps you were invited to an event that said "no gifts please" but you want to do something-or someone you know has lost a loved one and you want to remember that person.

Information: We provide information to the Vestry as to how the investments are performing; should we change investment strategies or perhaps look for additional investment options.

Financial: In 2013-we submitted to the Vestry a revision to the Endowment Bylaws that allows the annual allotment to encompass all ministries provided at All Saints'. The prior bylaws were for building maintenance only. We also requested they be amended to change the allotment from ½ of the previous year's investment growth to a 4% of the prior 3 year average. By requesting this change, the parish is able to receive support from the Endowment on an Annual Basis.

Thank-you Notes: Any donation received to the Endowment Fund is acknowledged by a member of the Endowment Committee. In 2013 we received over \$2,000 in gifts to the fund.

Support: In 2013, the allotment from the fund to the parish was over \$10,000 and with that maintenance on the elevator, fire alarms, and building repairs were paid for.

On behalf of the Endowment Committee, I would like to acknowledge and thank the following members whose terms have ended in 2013. Paul Krenitsky, Erik Forsberg, Derick Gates, Connie Pawelczak, and Jean McCaffery. Jean has been a member of the Endowment Committee since 2002.

Committee members remaining in 2014 are Scott Bempkins and Benton Burgess.

*Faithfully,
Scott San Jurjo*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Church School at All Saints meets on Sundays during the program year (Sept-June). Children from pre-k to 5th grade meet from 9:45- 10:45 and the young adults in grades 6-9 meet after the service until noon. Young adults in grades 10-12 meet monthly after church. Some of our young adults also serve as Sunday School teachers. We at All Saints' are committed to *"do all in our power to support these persons in their life in Christ."* Our Church School Ministry is one of the ways we do that.

Some of the special programs that have run in this time include the Strawberry Festival, Summer Mystery Club, Fall Flower Planting, Advent Wreath Making and the Christmas Pageant.

The church school (pre-k- J2A) has 54 registered students and 11 unregistered students who have all attended in the last year. We have 14 volunteers teaching our children.

Program Reports

Colors of Christ

Teachers: Emily Andrews, Emma Seyffert, Abby Warren

Musicians: Adrienne Spear, Matt Hickcox, Colin Haberl

Colors of Christ is the newest section of the religious education program. It is focused on basic Bible stories and the colors of the liturgical calendar for 3-6 year olds. Every week we decorate a shape that corresponds with the color of the calendar and put it on the tree. Leaves for growing period, snowflakes for Christmas, flowers for Lent, raindrops and bluebirds for Advent. In addition to adding to our tree, we learn about Bible stories using our brand new Beulah land curriculum! We are currently focused on Noah's ark but will be moving on to the story of Creation and the story of Easter. We supplement the felt board with puzzles, coloring pages, and toy sets. The kids favorite thing by far is ball play. This is when they take large bouncy balls into the parish hall (avoiding chairs, tables, and coffee of course) and run around and play catch with each other and the teachers. This is a fantastic way for them to get rid of excess energy so they can sit still in church. Last, we use a felt board that Abby and I made that associates symbols with the Lord's Prayer. The kids adore helping us put the pieces on and have done it so many times that they do it entirely on their own and say the words with us. We also end up doing it more than once, per enthusiastic request of the kids. They are such a blessing and pleasure to teach and we are so proud of their progress.

*Sincerely,
Emily Andrews*

Godly Play

Storytellers: Debbie Collins, Lissie Bates-Haus, Jennifer Dowd, Ameena Langford

Godly Play is a Christian program that allows young children to explore the stories of God and the Bible. Storytellers tell a new story each week using props to play out the story as the children sit in a circle looking on and listening. The story ends with an opportunity for the children to “wonder.” From there they are able to choose to either do art or engage in a story that they choose. Godly Play concludes with a feast encouraging the children to say a short prayer or bring up something they are grateful for. The program is in its third year (2013 – 2014).

*Respectfully,
Jennifer Dowd*

Weavers

The Weavers is taught by Deb Forsberg with Paige Flick and Erika Forsberg as co-teachers.

We are in the second year of The Weavers. The Weavers is a three year Episcopal church school curriculum which begins in year one with “Weaving God’s Promises” and continues in year two with “Weaving the Family of God,” concluding in year three with “Weaving the Community.” We have four boxes which we use to guide the instruction each week. The first box is entitled “The Message” and refers us to scripture that is central to the day’s lesson. The second box, “The Weaving” points us to scripture which reflects upon how our life and experiences and observations might be woven or connected to the Message. The third box, “The Thread,” ties The Message and Weavings to Episcopal themes and traditions. In these unscripted sessions The Weavers connect Bible verses and wisdom with their own life experiences and spirituality. Each Sunday is unique and most Sunday’s capture precious and deep insights. The Weavers alternate between interactive experiences like visiting the chapel, craft projects, and activities which involve movement and interpretation to help enrich their church school experience. The fourth, and perhaps favorite box is “The TakeAway.” Each week the children are invited to bring something from the TakeAway box home with them in remembrance of the day’s lesson. I think they said it best today when they said coming to All Saints and to church school helps them know that they are Children of God, how to Love one another, and how to love God back.

*In gratitude,
Deb Forsberg*

Rite 13

This is the first year of a program called Rite 13. Young teens in the 6th and 7th grade enter this portion of the program for two years before moving along to the next step (J2A).

The two years of Rite 13 are fun - games are played, they laugh a lot, and they learn a lot. Matters are treated in a light-hearted way, but that does not mean that serious matters are avoided. Much time is devoted to the great stories of “Holy Scripture and their validity in our day.” Such scripture includes: Lord, you have searched me out and known me (Psalm 139); Human beings created equal and co-creators with God (Genesis 1:26-31); the boy Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:42-52); and the parables of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30).

Among other things, the class deals with prayer, with the ways they see and encounter God, with possessions and their importance in our lives, with trust in God in a faith journey together. Every effort is made to keep the process experiential, with a hands-on and “hearts-on” focus. Perhaps more than anything else, all activities are geared to build community among Rite 13 participants, to establish trust and safety, to remind young people again and again that this is their church, and that they are safe and welcome within it.

Rite 13 is structured to build a foundation of principles and memories. Memories are important in structuring a community. The Christian faith, like any other religious tradition, is rooted in a heritage of shared memories. Rite 13 provides a balance between physical activities and a slow and steady exploration of the development of personality and faith.

*Thanks,
Sean Seyffert*

J2A

J2A is a two-year program in which our young people embark on a journey of faith and self-discovery. Being a teenager is difficult! Our hopes as their leaders are that through this program and journey we give them the foundation to know who they are, be comfortable in that place, and to know that God knows and loves them. Our aim is to affirm their worth and their place in our church community and beyond.

September 2013 started the first year of the two year program. The leaders of the Rite 13 class followed the Rite 13 kids into the J2A class. We did this because the previous J2A teachers wanted to move down to take on the new Rite 13 group that was coming in for their first year. The J2A kids have been together now for 2-1/2 years and know each other pretty well and stick up and watch out for each other. We have two new kids, boys, who joined this year and they have melded in pretty well. We have an almost equal number of boys and girls.

We moved from the Cranberry Room to the former nursery. Therefore, we had to buy some furniture and remove some existing furniture. This gave us the opportunity for the kids to design the space the way they wanted. We took three weeks of class time to paint the room. The kids have received many compliments from the adults which is a good thing. We don't fit in this room as well as we would like, but are making do. So far the J2A group has participated in an Overnight/Lock-In to kick-off the program where Rev. Bill took the kids through a brief Eucharist service using his "traveling altar," helped with the Parish Life Council breakfast to join the 8:00a.m. and 10:00a.m. service attendees, and took part in the Christmas pageant in 2013. A lot of our girls belong to the choir. We haven't done much since it is only January. We do plan two other Overnight/Lock-Ins before the end of this program year. The overnight is a great way for the kids to connect and to build community and usually every single one of them attends!

J2A has an enrolled membership of approximately 13 boys and girls, with an average Sunday attendance of 7-8. This group came from the Rite 13 group. Hopefully their next stop will be the YACK group. The Leaders are Mike Thompson and Joan Thomas, and we rotate leading the class every week. We also have part time help from Nikki (Dechane) Kehoe who participates when she is able. We meet every Sunday from 11:15AM – 12:00PM, leaving the service after receiving Communion. You may have noticed we sit together in the front right pews as a class during the service, which is important to the cohesiveness of our group. Our classes vary and cover a wide range of topics and we try to make it fun while slipping in God's love for them and everyone they encounter. We always provide snacks. If you feed them, they will come!

These kids are the future leaders of this church. It was so successful with the last Rite 13 group that they wanted to move on together as a group with the same leaders into J2A. That is a pretty good testimonial in our opinion.

Moving forward in 2014, we have five months remaining this year and we start up again in September for the start of this two-year program. We are in the process of planning two more Overnight/Lock-ins this spring, hopefully one outreach event, and our classes continue to meet weekly, covering the J2A curriculum. At the end of the 2015 school year, we have to plan and attend a retreat to end the J2A classes.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan Thomas

Mike Thompson

Nikki Kehoe

J2A Leaders

CANDIDATE'S REPORT

Wow, 2013 just flew by! I began the year by applying and interviewing with the Diocese for Candidacy, the next step in the process towards priesthood. While I was waiting to hear back, I returned to Virginia Theological Seminary for the spring semester of my Middler year. I took classes in Homiletics (preaching), Ethics, and Theology and continued learning ministry skills at my field-ed parish, St. Columba's, in D.C.

Over the summer I completed my Clinical Pastoral Education at Beverly Hospital in Beverly, MA where I took classes in pastoral care and worked 20 hours a week as a hospital chaplain at Addison Gilbert Hospital and at the Grace Center, a drop-in center for homeless men and women in Gloucester, MA. It was a lot of work but was a very important experience for me. I learned a lot about myself, pastoral care, and hospital chaplaincy during the 10 weeks of the program.

After CPE ended, I returned to Virginia to begin my senior year. This past fall I took classes in Mission, Liturgy, Scripture, and Singing. I am also serving as the president of the VTS Missionary Society. This means that I plan and chair the monthly Missionary Society meetings and help to support missionary initiatives around the world and help to promote these initiatives on campus.

2014 will be a year of major change and transition for me. I have an upcoming graduation, ordination and move to look forward to and in the meantime, I am pulling together all the materials for my ordination application and applying for jobs!

Thank you all for your financial, spiritual, and emotional support throughout this whole process. All Saints' has been such a blessing in my life and your support means so much to me!

Peace in Christ,

Christen H. Mills

ACY COMMITTEE

The All Children and Youth Committee was formed last April to address three crucial areas of need:

1. To support the work of the Director of Religious Education
2. To help plan special events for the children and youth at All Saints
3. To have a big picture view of how we support all the children and youth at All Saints in their life in Christ.

We had a retreat in April, where we set our priorities and articulated our goals. We worked to gather information from existing leaders on how programs are working and what challenges they are facing. Leaders surveyed included all of the Sunday School volunteers as well as the Acolyte Leader and the Choir Director.

The ACY committee, working with Bill and the Vestry, transformed the old rector's office into a Library/Snuggery for parish use. The lighting in the Snuggery was a memorial gift in honor of the life of Nalin Parekh. We painted an accent wall in the foyer red and added shadow boxes to celebrate children's art. We want to

thank all of the youth who made such a beautiful welcoming banner!

Early in the fall it became clear that our role would have to change. The DRE stepped down and the committee was happy to help keep the church school staff supported and make sure that the programs were not adversely affected during this time of transition. We also were granted funds by the vestry to pay a Transition Administrator to handle the records keeping, communications, and volunteer scheduling and coordinating.

This was an unexpected challenge and changed the focus of our committee, as we now worked to make sure that everything that the outgoing DRE had identified as necessary tasks all got done. We hosted the first of two All Hands Meetings for the Church School teachers. We also spent time discussing the options for calling another DRE, as well as running an Advent Wreath Making Sunday and supporting the Christmas Pageant with a weekly lunch for the kids.

In terms of leadership for the Church School going forward, the ACY committee in conversation with the Priest in Charge and the Wardens and Treasurer, agreed to form the Church School Council, and to hire a Church School Administrator. **The Church School Council will be forming in February and at that time the ACY committee will cease.** Details on the scope and parameters of the Church School Council will be forthcoming.

I would like to thank all of the people who served for various times on the ACY. Joy Chadwick, Shelli Turocy, Jesenia Tejada, Beth Moore, Cathy Dahlstrom and for the more long standing members, Laurie Mills, Denise Seyffert, Joan Thomas, and Darren Collins.

*Respectfully,
Laura Marshall
ACY Chair*

WORSHIP COMMISSION

The Worship Commission is a behind the scenes group of dedicated individuals who meet quarterly to talk about all aspects of worship. Our current members are myself, Bill Bradbury, Bob Andrews, Cina Barker, David Shochat, and Sally Warren. Also serving on this commission in 2013 were Christy Brodeur, Ann Gilbert, and Rebecca Haberl, and we are thankful for their time with us. We continue to work on ways to enhance/improve our worship. A small but mighty task was the redesign of our Sunday bulletin, and we hope that you are enjoying this change. If you are interested in liturgy or how we design our weekly services, we would love to have you join us.

*Respectfully submitted
Maggie Marshall, maggie@ccc.com*

ACOLYTE REPORT

Goals:

Provide support to the celebrants during different services throughout the year, and help to lead the congregation during those services. We serve the parish on Sundays at the 8 and 10 AM services, as well as at other events such as Evensong, the recent service of *Lessons and Carols*, Epiphany, and all of the Christmas and Holy Week services.

Activities:

We continue to have a solid participation by our young people in all grades, and this year we have 21 members of the team with 1 first year acolyte. Please remember that we can always use more help; we are in need of all age groups, but of grades 4-6 in particular. If your child is not part of this wonderful service and would like to

be or would like to learn more, please see Mr. Andrews.

Dreams, Desires and Thoughts toward Next Year:

We offer our yearly appeal for the help with our wardrobe. The cassocks and cottas are quite expensive. We purchased two new cassocks and three new cottas this year. We continue to send our thanks to Laura Geary, our dedicated 8 o'clock person that helps to clean, mend, and iron the robes we do have, and we also send our thanks to Denise Seyffert who is also helping with this chore. Denise has also labeled each cotta and cassock, so each Acolyte can remember their cassock/cotta combination. I continue to need the acolytes to help each other by remembering to hang the robes back up neatly after the service and not toss them to the bottom of the cabinet.

We offer a silver cross to our 3rd year Acolytes that was funded last year anonymously, and we give our first year Acolytes a wooden cross. We appreciate when our Acolytes remember to wear their crosses when they serve!

I would like to thank all of the Acolytes and their families for their continued commitment in giving us their time and talents, since their service to us all so greatly enhances our parish life.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Robert G. Andrews, Jr.
Acolyte Master*

MUSIC AT ALL SAINTS'

As I write this 28th annual report as your Minister of Music, I am spending time reflecting on our life and times with Wayne Ashford, my former Co-Minister of Music, who passed away ten years ago, on 2/29/04. This time of reflection has caused me to look back even further to the many positive musical influences I have had throughout my years at All Saints', so I thought I would share some of them with you.

My first memory of music at All Saints' was of my mother as the Choir Director in the chapel, before our main sanctuary was built. I remember sitting in the first pew in the chapel, most likely with an admonishment to behave, and watching her direct the choir on Sunday mornings; this would have been in the 1959-1960 time frame.

My second musical memory is of Vacation Bible School during the time of Paul Twelves. I remember being in the fourth grade, and his letting me play "I sing a song of the saints of God" on the organ in the chapel. About this time, I also joined the Junior Choir, Joy Chadwick was my first choir director, and she was pregnant with Trina (Teele) at the time. That was my first introduction to singing and being in a choir, and was a very positive experience.

I took piano lessons for many years with a friend of my mom's – Peg Sprague. My mother played 4 hand piano with her, and Peg had two pianos and an organ in her home. Playing the organ was a reward for me when I got to a certain level of playing. Her rule of thumb was that one had to be able to play a Bach *Three Part Invention* in order to play the organ, since organ playing involves keeping three things going (right hand, left hand, feet) rather than just the right and left hand of the piano.

I did not major in music in college, since my master plan involved getting an undergraduate degree in English and a Masters Degree in Library Science. I knew that music could be a rewarding avocation rather than a poorly paid vocation. I had intended to take piano lessons in college, but there was a huge amount of competition for the available piano slots, and no competition for the organ slots, so I decided to make the switch. I took organ lessons through college and grad school, and also did some singing in college.

Like every other 20-something, I swore that I would never return to my hometown. I ate those words, since my first library job was in Pelham, New Hampshire. In 1976, I joined the choir at All Saints' and began taking organ lessons from Peter Stapleton, and later Albert Williams, the Organist/Choir Directors at the time. I have always found taking music lessons/playing to be therapeutic, and it was easy for me to keep this in my life.

Wayne Ashford came to All Saints' in the early 80's. Liz Dickinson, a former parishioner, worked with Wayne in Lowell, and recommended our church, so he joined the choir. He and I started our music making together at that time by playing four hand piano. Albert Williams left All Saints' in 1985, and after a brief interim organist, I took over. Wayne was not attending All Saints' at that time, but we remained in touch. At this point, I was the library director in Merrimack, New Hampshire, and it was becoming harder to do both my library and church job well. We were in an interim rector situation at All Saints', so I soldiered on by myself until 1989, when David Ferner came.

I had asked Wayne if he would ever consider splitting the position with me, and I will never forget his words: "Do you think that you could keep your mouth shut?" He was alluding to the fact that at this time, my organ playing abilities were stronger than his, and he would be providing me with much needed support, but I would be relinquishing some control. To his very honest question, I replied, "I don't know."

A week after David Ferner joined us, I had a meeting with him. The long interim period had worn me out, and I had increased library responsibilities that were also making doing my church job difficult. I said to David, in my own *sweet* way, that I was going to need to make a change, and that either he needed to let me split the position with Wayne, or I would quit. Of course, he barely knew me and had never met Wayne. Obviously, David made the right choice, and Wayne was hired on a trial basis.

For the most part, Wayne played piano and organ, and I conducted the choirs. Wayne was a CPA who was teaching at a community college, so music was also an avocation for him, and he took lessons with Robin Dinda and Peter Sykes. Wayne was a lifelong Methodist, who fell hard for the Episcopal church and its liturgy. One of my best memories of Wayne at All Saints' is his being confirmed as an adult.

As many of you know, Wayne did not limit his involvement to music at All Saints'. He was active in the ongoing life of the church in many ways, and was treasurer for many years. His biggest legacy to us is his having led the search for and installation of our current organs in both the sanctuary and the chapel. Both of these organs were procured through The Organ Clearing House, which matches up used organs with prospective buyers. We received both organs for a fraction of the cost of new organs.

In order to afford our current organ, we took the responsibility of preparing the site, which involved removal of the fixed pews in the choir loft, and building a larger shelf upon which the pipes sit; this steel reinforced shelf needed to hold the 17,000 pounds of organ! This was a huge logistical task, led by Craig Somers and Wayne, and involved many hands and a lot of sweat, and commenced in July 1998. The organ was playable for Christmas 1998, but was finished after that, and dedicated on February 14, 1999 at the 10a.m. service. Wally Gober was our Interim Rector, and former rector, Paul Twelves, returned to give the sermon and celebrate this special day. My organ teacher, Mark Engelhardt, gave a dedicatory organ recital that afternoon.

Wayne and I continued as Co-Ministers of Music until he became ill in 1993. All of the choirs grew in size and scope, and it was an enjoyable and challenging partnership. We were not only co-workers, but also best friends, and he was an important part of my family and also Leah's godfather. His death created a void on many levels, not only for me, but also for the parish. Since I felt that Wayne was irreplaceable as a Co-Minister of Music, I chose to resume the position by myself. I was no longer doing full time library work since I was choosing to stay home with my children, so had the time to devote to the position.

I have been blessed to have support from Connie Pawelczak, Debbie Psilopoulos, and Kathryn Chamberlain. Their continued volunteerism helps us to provide you with the quality music you hear week after week. I have continued to challenge myself to grow musically and to keep things fresh. After a thirteen year stint of taking organ lessons from Mark Engelhardt, I decided to take a break from lessons. As many of you know, my most recent big challenge is to do my first ever solo organ recital as a tribute to Wayne. For many years, I struggled with performance anxiety, so avoided extra playing.

I continue to be very active in both the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists as well as serving as secretary on the national board of the Association of Anglican Musicians. Although I no longer have the in-house musical support of Wayne, I am blessed with a lot of collegial support.

My thanks to all of you for being such a singing, supportive congregation. It is a privilege to lead you in weekly worship. All of our choirs are always open to new members. I am grateful for the continued faithfulness of our choir members and choir parents, and for the support of Bill Bradbury.

*In faith,
Maggie Marshall*

MISSION/OUTREACH TEAM

Outreach is the name given to parish's mission to reach out to the surrounding community. Our members are active in many programs, and we give financial contributions to several organizations.

Ministries

All Saints' outreach ministries include, but are not limited to:

- [Habitat for Humanity](#)
- Chelmsford Community Exchange/Food Pantry
- West VA Workcamp
- Maine Mission Trip
- [All Saint's Thrift Shop](#)
- [Feeding Program](#)
- [Penny Basket for the Feeding Program](#)
- Merrimack Valley Housing Project
- B Safe Program
- [Angel Tree Program](#)

Committee Work

- The Outreach Committee found that monthly meetings were no longer serving the needs of the parish. Many of the committee's members joined the Environmental Stewardship Committee. The Outreach Committee met in December to allocate funds to specific outreach programs that asked for assistance.
- Many activities, like the Feeding Program or the Angel Tree Program, will have their own reports. Please look for them and read their entries.

Financially, the Outreach Commission was budgeted \$2000 by the Vestry to spend in support of Outreach work at All Saints. We are very grateful for these gifts and made the following contributions:

- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell \$400
- B-Safe Program 2013 \$400
- All Saints Environmental Stewardship Fund for 2013 \$860
- Chelmsford Community Exchange \$170
- Feeding Program \$170

In the coming year, we hope to host a general meeting for all project leaders to share calendar events, look for cross-connections and offer support to the work of all those engaged in Outreach at All Saints.

Respectfully submitted,

The Outreach/Mission Team

Laura Marshall, David Shochat,

Lois Freeman, Edie Parekh, Dave Kuzara

WEST VIRGINIA WORKCAMP

2013 was a very exciting year for the West Virginia workcamp mission for the “Chelmsford” workcampers. For many years this has been a joint mission of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford and All Saints Episcopal Church. This year the “Chelmsford” group also included Mont Vernon Congregational Church and Pilgrim Congregational Church. This combined group had a record 30 workcampers signed up, though due to illness 29 workcampers went to West Virginia.

For this mission we joined up with other workcampers from West Virginia, Florida, Pembroke MA, Natick MA, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio, and other places for the week of June 16 at the Cabell Lincoln Workcamp. At workcamp we made the homes of needy people warm, safe, and dry. There were about 180 people working in 26 crews at a number of homes and one “super crew” at a homeless shelter. We built 5 handicap ramps, fixed numerous roofs, replaced doors and windows, repaired floors and bathrooms, underpinned 3 trailers, painted, insulated, sided, repaired plumbing, drywalled, and did many other tasks on people’s homes. We also had a number of pickup jobs which are handled by crews that finish their jobs early. We drove 5 minivans to camp and covered over 10,000 miles. In the evenings we enjoyed worship and fellowship. And of course, we built relationships with our homeowners who give so much back to us.

The Chelmsford group had 12 adults, 7 college students, and 10 high school youth. We had 2 workcampers with 10 or more prior years, 9 going for 5 or more years, and 11 first timers.

Making this possible were a number of fundraising events and very generous donations from our congregations, families, and friends. Your generosity makes this remarkable experience possible.

The 2013 workcampers were:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Becca Dean | Ashley Clark | Olivia Pare |
| Michael Holmes | David Holmes | Jessica Holmes |
| Nicole Barrett | Emily Norman | Joe Bray |
| Mindy Dean | Bob Bailey | Shannon Lutig |
| Erika Forsberg | Gary St.Onge | Laurie Montgomery-College |
| Andrew Baker | Merideth Kuzara | Molly Obendorf |
| Kyle Chagnon | Nicholas March | Joe March |

Katie St.Onge
Dominic Schade
Derek White

Sarah Baker
Bryan Norman
Geoff Bryant

Ali Kuzara
Dave Kuzara

It is an honor to serve the people of West Virginia in this mission and to see our group grow with new churches and workcampers.

Finally, it is with great sadness that we note the passing of Rev. Beth Bondurant who along with her husband Rev. Bob Bondurant founded the workcamp some 45 years ago and worked tirelessly to make it a success every year since. Beth worked hard for this year's workcamp despite her cancer. She leaves a remarkable legacy in the hills and hollers of West Virginia. She will truly be missed and fondly remembered.

Again, thank you to all who make this possible.

*Respectfully submitted,
Geoff Bryant & Dave Kuzara*

THE 8TH ANNUAL GINGERBREAD DISPLAY FOR HABITAT

This year's display was once again a beautiful and festive occasion! The theme for the display was Snowmen and we decorated the hall to look like the North Pole. A huge thank you to all of the builders for the incredible donation of their houses- there were so many creative and delicious looking entries! The event raised approximately \$1500 for Habitat and the same for All Saints. This is less than our usual take, in part due to the odd timing of the event this year and the bad weather. In the end, all that was raised was so gratefully received by Habitat for Humanity; they wanted me to share their profound appreciation for all that the members of All Saints have done to support their work in the community.

Along with a HUGE thank you to all of the builders, I would like to add particular thanks to the decorating committee: Elizabeth Meinhardt, Sarah Meinhardt, Pam Meinhardt and William Meinhardt, Skyla Garrigan, Karen Garrigan and Cole and Miranda, Barb and Ali Brodeur, Laura Geary, Becky Malone, Paul Malone, Sam Malone, Frank and Linda Oullette and Steve Marshall. Thank you to Midge Wilson, Lynne Grillo and a Huge Thank you to the Kitchen Crew, Deb Forsberg, Margie Lane, Esther Davenport- under the wonderful leadership of Lois Freeman- all eight years! To Karen Kowalski and Diane, Adolf, Sean, and Matt Olbert at the Holiday Table! And to Carol Douglas and Midge Wilson selling cookies! And to Linda Oullette, and her fabulous Snowman Cookie making crew, including Lily Marshall. To the TONS of wonderful people who came to help clean up: The Brays, the Andrews, Matt Cole, Andrew Berry, Mike Thompson, Steve and Ethan Marshall, Darren Collins, and more (I am really tired at that point and it is somewhat of a blur- so if I missed your name, I am really very sorry). And to the Danieli family and their cell phones to call winners!

I want to make a special thank you to Marilyn Livingston, who built a beautiful display in loving memory of Joyce Youngberg, who was at the heart of our artistic displays and whose amazing life we give thanks for.

I want to thank Frank and Linda Oullette. I am often the public face of the Gingerbread Event – I make announcements and welcome the guests, but the Oullettes are the heart of the event. Linda and Frank work hard and long each year to bring this event to fruition. I am so grateful to have worked with them.

Finally, I want to thank all of the parishioners for the 8 years of wonderful fun the first weekend of December.

*Best,
Laura Marshall*

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

All Saints' Shawl Ministry team is a group of faithful crafters who apply their gifts of knitting, crocheting, and prayer to create beautiful shawls, scarves, and blankets on behalf of the congregation. Each creation is prayed over while it is being woven, prayed over by the Shawl Ministry team, and then blessed by the entire All Saints congregation during one of our morning services. Each shawl, scarf, and blanket is unique, patiently woven together with loving intentions, and offered as a gift to some not yet known recipient. We trust in our hearts that each will find their intended recipient when the time is right. We have begun a tradition of giving newly baptized children a blanket as a symbol of our welcome celebration.

In 2013 fourteen prayer shawls and six baptismal blankets were given out. We have two shawls, two scarves, six baptismal blankets, four children's shawls, and seven warm fuzzies (small balls made of yarn) in our current blessed inventory. In our to-be-blessed inventory we have six shawls and six baby blankets waiting to be prayed over in an upcoming service.

These creations are a tangible expression of our faith and Christ's healing love binding us together like strands of yarn, connecting us to each other and to those in need, and reminding us all that God is ever with us.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is chaired by Deb Forsberg and co-chaired by Michele Chilton Casey.

Faithfully submitted,
Deb Forsberg

ALL SAINTS' THRIFT SHOP

The All Saints' Thrift Shop is located in the lower level of the Chapel. The Thrift Shop is open 3 days per week: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10 o'clock to 3 o'clock from September until June. We raise money by selling gently used clothing on consignment and from donations. All clothing that is not sold is donated to a local charity on a monthly basis. A volunteer commitment to work in the Thrift Shop is for one two and a half hour shift *once a month*; consider joining our ranks! It's fun and thrifty!

We had a chilly fall at the Thrift Shop when the furnace failed to come on and we all had to accept that there was no fixing it. It was time for a new furnace. While the vestry and various members investigated our options for replacing the furnace, our intrepid volunteers kept the shop open almost the entire time - New Englanders to the last. A huge thank you to all our volunteers!!

The Thrift Shop Board voted to spend money that had been saved for decades to help pay for the new furnace. We now have a warm and welcoming space in which to do our outreach work. The original mission of the Thrift Shop was to support Christian education and youth programs in the parish. While we continue to support the youth of ASC, we have expanded our mission to include community outreach, and capital improvements to the Church property. The Thrift Shop Board looks to the Rector and the Wardens to advise them when and where there are needs, either within the Church or in the community. As members of the board we prayerfully consider all requests for funds. Please contact the Board Co-chairs if you would like to learn more about the giving process. You can email Laura or Becky:

Laura.marshall@comcast.net or malone44@comcast.net

Respectively submitted,
Laura Marshall and Becky Malone, Co-Chairs

Maggie Marshall, Treasurer

2013 Giving for Thrift Shop:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| ASC general fund | \$3,000.00 |
| Rector's discretionary fund | \$ 500.00 |
| ASC feeding program | \$ 750.00 |
| Table of Plenty | \$ 200.00 |
| Nashoba Air (furnace) | \$5,000.00 |
| Chelmsford Community Exchange | \$ 200.00 |

2013 Thrift Shop Board Members

Carol Douglas, Carol Cannistraro, Barbara Willman, Vi Flumerfelt, Margie Lane, Laura Marshall, Becky Malone, Maggie Marshall, Linda Cahill

With Gratitude we thank the long service of Barbara Willman who has stepped off the board and we welcome Diane Olbert who is joining the board. You are in our prayers.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is a group of parishioners who visit and share Communion with those who are unable to attend church. Many visits are on a regular basis and some are on a short term basis as the need arises. We meet bi-monthly with the Priest-in-Charge to discuss the needs and concerns of the members. Fifty-three home Communions were administered this year.

Many thanks to Deb Forsberg and her group for continuing to make the Prayer Shawls which are blessed at a Sunday Service. Due to their endeavor, we and other parishioners have been able to distribute them to many individuals.

Pastoral Care's goals for 2014 are to:

- Continue to take care of those we are visiting regularly
- Take better care of those who may need visits for a short time
- Find out who else needs to be visited
- Continue to work with Prayer Shall Ministry
- Communicate with Laura Marshall about those receiving meals
- Have the Priest-in-Charge visit the people we visit twice a year
- Recruit and train more visitors

Pastoral Care is a small group and we welcome anyone interested to join us. Presently we meet on the first Tuesday of alternating months starting in January at 6:30 pm in the Blue Room. Our meeting dates are included in the e-bulletin. Our group includes Rev. Bill Bradbury, Cina Barker, Lois Freeman, Ann Gilbert, and Ann Kirk.

*Respectfully submitted,
Ann Kirk*

SAINT PAUL'S FEEDING PROGRAM

The Saint Paul's Feeding Program continues to grow in numbers of people being fed. We now have to plan enough food to serve 150 people each time we go. The four teams continue to do an outstanding job of stretching the money to provide nutritional, delicious meals on our limited budget. I give thanks every day for the dedicated people who make this a successful ministry in which All Saints' Parish is involved.

We continue to be supported by the Thrift Shop, the Penny Basket, and the returns from bottles and cans. Many thanks to all who are involved in these ministries.

This will be my last annual report as I am resigning after being chair since the ministry's inception in the year 2000. I will continue to be a team leader as long as I am able. Linda Masiello has graciously agreed to take my place as chair, and I know everyone will give her all of the help and cooperation that she will need.

I give thanks for all of the support I have received over the years and give thanks to all who have been involved for making my job so easy.

*Respectfully submitted,
Esther Davenport*

GREETERS PROGRAM

The Greeting Team's mission is to welcome parishioners, old and new, to All Saints' on Sunday. Beyond just a warm and welcoming smile, greeters provide a *Welcome to All Saints' Church* pamphlet to first-time visitors. The pamphlet gives an overview of the church history, as well as current offerings and logistical information to facilitate newcomers' visits. This year, we have a separate handout to offer visitors that describes the rich programs being offered for our youth from birth through high school. Whenever possible, greeters introduce themselves to new visitors, answering any questions they might have and introducing them to Reverend Bill. Reconnecting with new visitors after the service is greatly encouraged.

Our current team includes veteran greeters Lynne McSheehy, Bruce Bray, Pam Meinhardt, Barbra Lindberg, Kathryn Chamberlain, Carol Cannistraro, Linda Cahill, Midge Wilson, Anne Ludlow, Margie Lane, and me, as well as our three newest greeters, Lissie Bates-Haus, Kristin Everett, and Ricky Puorro. We also have two alternates, Lynne Grillo and Sharon West who help out when our regularly scheduled greeters are unable to be at church. Thank you all for your continued commitment to our greeting team!

As part of the Greeters Program, I create nametags for parishioners to facilitate the learning of each other's names, which will hopefully create a greater feeling of family within the parish. I continue to customize nametags, using a symbol that represents a favorite ministry at All Saints' or a personal hobby. I hope to extend this ministry until every parishioner wears a tag every Sunday.

Please contact me if you'd like to know more about becoming a greeter. I hope that greeters will provide newcomers with a connection to All Saints' that makes them want to keep coming back.

*Respectfully submitted,
Katie LaRochelle
Greeters Program Coordinator*

ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

As part of our outreach ministry, each Christmas season for many years All Saints' has participated in the national Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program. Parishioners purchase and deliver gifts for children in our

area in the name of their incarcerated parent. A prisoner named Steven wrote "...I wanted to say thank you for making Christmas special for my kids! They are very excited to know that they are getting gifts from their daddy this year! Not only did you give them something but you gave me something. You will never know how much this means to me! Thank you for your kindness and your love." We are very grateful to the entire parish for helping us extend God's love to families in difficult circumstances, taking great care in fulfilling gift requests, even those that were belated. All Saints served 11 families with 25 children ranging from infants to teenagers.

Heavy snowstorms did not derail our efforts as parishioners struggled to get their gifts to the church and impromptu helpers graciously stepped forward to assist with the in-gathering operations. Warmest thanks to all who provided extra help in praying for the success of the program, writing letters (in Spanish and English) to caregivers and prisoners, calling families, preparation of request tree tags, handling logistics, sorting, tagging and delivery of gifts, including Jesenia Tejada-Perez, Melissa Flewelling, Mike Thompson, Connie Moreau, Esther Davenport, Margy Lane, Chantelle Somers, Stacy Harris, Ann Gilbert, Kevin Ackert, Hugh Stafford and his Cub Scout Den 9 of Pack 45 Chelmsford, and Darlene Gossement.

*Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Ackert
Angel Tree Coordinator*

BOTTLES AND CANS REPORT

Sometime in the early 90's All Saints started to collect bottles and cans for recycling and redemption. This effort has been on-going since then with records being kept since 1998. Since that date, we have earned \$3,314.80. While not a life changing amount, it has been a consistent income for the Church and now for the feeding program.

This year's income was \$132.40 or 2,648 cans and bottles. In addition to the funds, there are that many bottles and cans that have been recycled rather than ending up in the landfills.

If you haven't been contributing your cans and bottles to the church, please consider it. It's easy, saves you time and is a very worthwhile effort for the church's feeding program.

Carol Douglas

PENNY BASKET REPORT

Did you know the white "Penny Basket" has been in the Narthex since 1990, patiently waiting each week for your coins for the St. Paul's Feeding Program? The coins collected have always supported our members who cook and serve monthly throughout the year for less fortunate people. These pennies help to make our volunteers work a little easier. We give thanks that since 1990, \$3805.50 has been collected to support this program. Excellent work for 23 years. If you cannot join a feeding team, please consider bringing your pennies and coin to the Penny Basket as your support.

This past year, 2013, we are so thankful for \$116.00 in pennies, loose change and even dollars collected throughout this year. As the cost of groceries and supplies increase, even a little bit extra, through our pennies, helps the St. Paul's Feeding Program. Please bring in those pennies collecting at home. We look forward to finding the basket full each week and thank you sincerely for your support. Thank you to Barbara Lindberg for periodically collecting the pennies and to Barbara Waldron for wrapping them all.

*With many thanks,
Barbara Willman*

PRAYER AS FIRST RESORT

Instead of using prayer as a last resort, we turn to prayer as our **FIRST RESORT**. This is the principle behind this small group of All Saints' members who continued to meet (on second Tuesdays at 7:30 pm) during 2013.

Over this year, our faithful group grew in prayer and sharing and our format grew too. We are now using The Order for Evening Prayer as we gather each month. Our prayer is adjusted for the seasons or feast/saint days as they connect to our meeting date. We weave in our learning piece and our petitions and as we pray together. This has given us the opportunity to pray together in a consistent way and to learn a few things about Evening Prayer itself. A few of our topics this past year included the Feast of the Presentation, St. Julian, an exploration around The Prodigal Son, St. Chrysostom, and Agnes Sanford author of The Healing Light.

We value the opportunity to join together regularly to pray with/for each other, for the members, leaders and ministries of All Saints' Church, along with issues and needs of our world.

*Prayerfully,
Lynne Grillo and Deb Dutton*

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Last year was the first full year of the Parish Life Committee and we had fun! Our mission is to provide fun gatherings/events as an opportunity for members of our parish community, both new and "old," to come together and enjoy getting to know each other better. We experimented with several different types of events last year in an attempt to find out what is popular and also to reach out to various demographic groups in the parish. Some of the most popular events we hosted were the parish-wide hot breakfast (between services on a cold January morning), the birthday celebration coffee hour and making May baskets for our shut-ins. Some of the least popular events, or at least less-attended, were the hike in Thanksgiving Forest hosted from the Warrens' back yard (although the few who did attend really enjoyed ourselves) and the family movie night. We will continue to offer fun events in the coming year and welcome any suggestions from our community. If you think of something that you think would be a lot of fun and would like to see happen, please feel free to speak to one of us.

Our current membership includes Adrienne Spear, Barbara Willman, Carol and Ron Cannistraro, Karen Garrigan, Linda Cahill, Linda Ouellette, Liz Landers, Melissa Flewelling and Tricia Mescall. I want to thank everyone on the committee for their tremendous ideas, energy, enthusiasm, and hard work and hope to see you all at some of our events happening in the upcoming year.

*Respectfully submitted,
Liz Landers*

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

This year the stewardship team consisted of Steve Grillo, Erik Forsberg, and Scott Bempkins. We attempted to leverage the positive imagery that was used last year so successfully ("Joy of Sharing God's Gifts"), with a new theme. The theme this year is "God's Abundance", which was intended to focus thoughts on giving, but

more specifically giving from a place of abundance, not scarcity.

To that end, we asked Trina Teele if she'd be willing to offer her artistic talents for an "image" representing this theme, and she came up with this beautiful image



It is wonderful, and it really does allow us to focus on giving out of abundance. Rev. Bill also gave several powerful sermons tying into this theme.

Regarding the pledge drive itself, we specifically intended to keep it rather low key and as efficient as possible. It appears that was a success, thanks to the continued generous giving by so many parishioners.

Although this report doesn't include all of the details, a few things do pop out:

- 13 new families began pledging financially for 2014
- Over 40 of the approximately 130 pledging families increased their pledge for 2014

So in summary, we would like to thank everyone for their continuing gifts to the All Saints' family! We are truly blessed to have such ABUNDANCE!

SAINTSALIVE!

Saintsalive has been the parish newsletter for about 20 years. This newsletter has carried announcements from the parish's many missions and served to help us connect with one another. Church news from the diocese and beyond has often featured in its pages.

In 2013, *Saintsalive* began with a review of the Beatitudes and the stark contradictions presented in chapters six and seven of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew, and how things were changing in churches in Rome, Egypt and elsewhere. Changes are everywhere, it seems.

In April, the Boston Marathon bombing led to a May issue with a focus on running. June included a note about Bernard Mizeki and a more complete Mizeki memorial issue was prepared during the July-August period for use by the Summer Mystery Club. While this issue was not formally printed for either the Mystery Club or the parish at large, it served as the perfect tool for conveying information about the martyr to a former classmate of mine, and the ensuing e-mail correspondence with Tawanda Mdawarima, now in Bloemfontein, revealed that he had married into the ruling family from the village of Mangwende, where Mizeki had served. Soon after the summer break, in October 2013, *Saintsalive* prepared its final issue in its print format. The issue included a "farewell" note outlining the past ten years of the newsletter, with glimpses back to previous editors and forward to the new on-line e-newsletter publication. Thanks must be conveyed to Maggie Marshall who as copy-editor added an attribution for one of my more adventurous, but anonymously included, creative writing

articles, to Darlene, who added important final touches to every issue, and to Margie Lane, who helped with the enormous monthly print-fold-mail exercise.

Being first to read some of the announcements has been my privilege for many years: the Penny Basket and the Bottle and Can Collection missions will now be sending out their reminders through Darlene to the new e-bulletin. I will miss their periodic tugs on my conscience.

It's time for a brave new paper-free networked world! Changes are everywhere, it seems.

Patrick Blumeris, editor

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Voted into office in 2013

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Senior Warden | David Kuzara |
| Junior Warden | Erik Forsberg |
| Clerk | Cina Barker |
| Treasurer | Melanie Hickcox |
| Convention Delegate | Chris Mills |
| Convention Delegate | Edith Parekh |
| Convention Alternate | Beth Anne Economou |
| Convention Alternate | Melanie Hickcox |
| Two alternates are permitted | |
| Deanery Representative | Paul Krenitsky |
| Deanery Representative | Dee Miller |
| Deanery Alternate | Deb Dutton |
| Two alternates are permitted | |
| Endowment Committee | Scott Bempkins |
| Endowment Committee | Benton Burgess |
| Vestry | Linda Cahill – one year |
| | Melissa Flewelling – three years |
| | Mary Woodward – three years |
| | Paige Flick – three years |

2014 Nominees

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Senior Warden: | Dave Kuzara |
| Junior Warden: | Erik Forsberg |
| Clerk: | Cina Barker |

Treasurer: Melanie Hickcox

Vestry:

Linda Cahill

Camille O'Brien

Diane Olbert

Endowment
Committee:

Laura Geary: Three year term

Chris Baron: Three year term

Jocelyn Bishop: Three year term

Scott San Jurjo: One year to complete a three term

Bud Chagnon: Two year to fill vacancy left by Paul Krenitsky, currently being filled by Erik Forsberg

Convention

Delegates:

Christopher Mills, Edith Parekh

Deanery

Representatives:

Dee Miller, Deb Dutton

Nominating

Committee:

Connie Pawelczak, Linda Coles, Allen Thomas