

All Saints' Episcopal Church Chelmsford, MA



*Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.*

St. Paul's letter to the Philippians

2017 Annual Report ALL SAINTS' PARISH ANNUAL MEETING February 11, 2018



Agenda

Gathering and Signing In

Call to Order Rector

Opening Prayer Rector

Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes 2017 Rector

Rector's Report

Senior Warden's Report

Junior Warden's Report

Ministry Reports:

Treasurer's Report	Chris Mills
Living Stones Financial Report:	Diane Olbert
Living Stones Implementation:	Matt Hickcox
Endowment Report	Jocelyn Bishop
Worship Commission:	Maggie Marshall
Church School Council:	Laura Marshall
Other?	

Thanks to Staff and other ministries: Rector

Motion to accept reports/place on file

Nominating Committee Report: Paige Flick

Election Rector

Thanks to retiring vestry: Rector and Senior Warden
+Tom Richert, Dan Wilson, Laura Barry, Norm Douglas--RIP

Announcements: Choir Festival this afternoon in Gloucester

Closing Prayer Chris Mills

Adjournment

Table of Reports

All Saints' Church Annual Meeting Minutes, February 19, 2017	5
Rector's Annual Report.....	7
Deacon's Annual Report	8
Senior Warden Report.....	9
Report from Ministries:	11
All Saints' Endowment Committee.....	11
Living Stones Implementation Team Annual Report	12
Christian Education.....	13
Church School Report	13
Colors of Christ:	13
Godly Play:	14
The Weavers:	14
The Upper School:	14
The Youth Group:	14
Mystery Club:.....	15
Archive Project	15
Worship Commission.....	15
Acolyte Report.....	16
Greeters Program	16
Altar Guild	17
Music at All Saints'	18
Mission / Outreach	19
All Saints' Thrift Shop.....	19
Angel Tree.....	19
B-SAFE Summer Lunch Feeding Program	19
Parish Life Committee.....	20
Chelmsford Community Exchange Food Pantry	20
Homespun Holiday Fair.....	20
Habitat for Humanity	21
Food For Friends Program	21
West Virginia Workcamp	22
Penny Basket	23
Nominating Committee Report	24

All Saints' Church Annual Meeting Minutes, February 19, 2017

Present: The members of All Saints' Church

The members of the parish gathered in the Parish Hall for lunch after the service on February 19, 2017, with the Annual Meeting to be held following the meal. Reverend Bill Bradbury (BB) called the meeting to order after lunch, and opened with a passage from the 1850 prayer book, "A Prayer to be Used at Meetings and Conventions."

A motion to approve the minutes of last year's meeting was moved by Bob Andrews (BA), seconded by Sally Warren (SW), and passed unanimously.

Rector's Report:

- BB thanked those parishioners on the Living Stones Commission for their work as that commission concludes its work.
- Additional thanks to Frank Oullette (FO) and Norm Douglas (ND) for all of their extra work in the parish, and how it has enriched the life of the church.
- BB spoke about all the good works going on at ASC and thanked the many parishioners who give their time & talents to ASC in multiple ministries and service as the parish enters into its 150th anniversary year.

Senior Warden Report (Chris Mills, CM):

CM referred everyone to the written report; he then highlighted several items: while not in his report, he thanked BB for his ministry at ASC; in regards to the Budget for 2017, it will be vital for parishioners to give what they have pledged, and not fall behind; and in compiling this report, CM's aim is to present an honest and useful document to ASC, as the parish continues to move into the future. The report was accepted as written.

Junior Warden Report (CM for Frank Oullette, FO)

CM presented the Junior Warden's report, as FO was not able to attend Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Madeline Anderson-Balmer, MAB):

Prior to discussion, CM apologized for the lateness of the report, noting that new processes were in place for generating the report, but there were some difficulties with execution that impacted the timing of its publication. MAB thanked the parish for all the help she received in 'getting it all done!' Discussion of the 2017 budget ensued, including the following items: the Outreach Commission was not allocated any funds, but requests for funds will be considered on a case by case basis; special projects and rental income continue to be needed; & the importance of parishioners giving what they have pledged for the coming year. The parishioners thanked MAB for all her work as Treasurer.

Ministry Reports:

Living Stones Implementation Committee (Matt Hickox, MH):

MH encouraged everyone to read the Implementation Committee's report, & noted changes that have been made in regards to fixed emergency/safety issues that need to be addressed. In regards to funds that have already been spent, MH noted how it is more cost efficient to spend money now on particular items, as opposed to postponing that expense and then having to pay more later. The committee is laying out plans and a timeline for all the LS projects, organizing & prioritizing the thoughtful use of the funds for: Buildings & Grounds projects; interior remodeling projects; Parish Hall, PH kitchen, & the kitchenette; and Tech/Lighting projects, including indoor and outdoor lighting plans. MH again encouraged all to read the report, and welcomed all input.

Endowment Committee (Richard Coles, RC, for Jocelyn Bishop, JB):

RC spoke for the Endowment Committee, as JB, its chair, was unable to attend Annual Meeting. He encouraged everyone to read the report, and noted that the Committee was reviving the Legacy Society for those parishioners who wish to do planned giving to ASC.

Blue Ribbon Committee (BAM):

The Blue Ribbon Committee has developed bylaws for ASC and updated guidelines for the Endowment Committee, which will be presented to the Vestry, following which they will be presented to the congregation, and finally the Diocese. The BR Committee hopes to be done by late April.

Gentleness

Worship Commission (Maggie Marshall, MM):

MM remarked that the Worship Commission, which meets three to five times a year, is always looking at how to continue to make a meaningful, worshipped-filled Sunday morning experience for ASC. The 150th Celebration year will be filled with special events, including visits by past rectors of the church.

Church School Council (Laura Marshall, LM for Deb Forsberg, DF):

LM presented the Church School Council report. She noted that the Council's work and mission is intimately connected to the Baptismal Covenant, and that as of January 2017, 75 children are enrolled in church school.

A motion was then made by Cina Barker (CB) to accept all the written and oral reports of the committees and commissions. This was seconded by Lois Freeman (LF), and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Nominating Committee (LM):

LM presented the Nominating Committee's report, noting the following changes to the slate as written for the Annual Report 2017: MAB will be stepping down, and Cynthia Bennett will take her place. The slate is as follows:

Senior Warden: Chris Mills
Junior Warden Sally Warren
Clerk: Mary Cooney
Treasurer: Cynthia Bennett
Vestry Members for 3-year terms:
Eric Johnson
Nico Charbonnier
Tracey Blanchet
Vestry Member for 1-yr term:
Norm Douglas
Diocesan Convention Delegates, 1-yr term:
Chris Mills
Edith Parekh

Deanery Delegate, 1-yr term:
Joan Thomas

Convention Alternates:
Lynne McSheehy
Laura Marshall

Next year's Nominating Committee:
Darren Collins
Lynne McSheehy
Laura Marshall

The motion to accept the Slate as presented was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Those retiring from the Vestry this year are:
Madeline Anderson-Balmer, Treasurer
Linda Cahill
Erik Forsberg, Clerk
Camille O'Brien
Diane Olbert
Frank Oullette, Junior Warden

BB expressed his thanks to the retiring vestry members for their service to ASC. CM led the parishioners in a closing prayer, and BB adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Ludlow
Acting Clerk

Rector's Annual Report

What a year 2017 has been! As a good Anglican it makes me think in threes. First, we celebrated “150 years of following Christ”. We invited back four of our former rectors—Walter Sobol, Dave Ferner, Paul Twelves, and Tom Barrington—to preach at both services and to share in the fellowship at coffee hour. We produced a book of reflections, special meals, banners, logos, outreach opportunities, and much more. We capped off the year of celebration on All Saints’ weekend with Evensong and a festive gala followed by a day with Bishop Gayle Harris. If I were to list all those who were involved I’d have to reprint the church directory, but I do want to give great thanks to the 150th celebration planning team who met for over a year to create our special program: Esther Davenport, Maggie Marshall, Laura Marshall, Edith Parekh, Sharon West, Harry Taplin, Brian Hunter, Cynthia Bennett, and Melanie Hickcox. Each of these members made a significant contribution to our celebration.

Second, as we celebrated our past we made significant strides in preparing for our future by paving and lighting the parking lot, and renovating the narthex wall, bathrooms, and kitchenette. Great thanks go to the on-going leadership of Matt Hickcox and the Implementation Committee that is bringing to life the vision of the Living Stones Campaign. This work was also made possible by the almost daily work of Diane Olbert who is our Living Stones financial administrator.

Lastly, we stabilized our parish administration by finally getting our new By-Laws and Endowment Fund Guidelines. This work took years and could not have happened without the persistent faithfulness of Beth Anderson-Balmer and her Blue-Ribbon committee and the superb leadership of Senior Warden Chris Mills, who produced countless drafts of these documents to keep us on task. Great thanks also go to Jocelyn Bishop who led the Endowment Committee through this lengthy process with grace and peace.

I am deeply grateful to our altar guild, acolytes, greeters, litanists, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, and ushers, and their leaders, for making Sunday morning worship possible. Thanks to Maggie Marshall, our Minister of Music, along with Connie Pawelczak and Debbie Psilopoulos, as our choirs assisted us in praising Triune God with our minds, and hearts, and voices. Darlene ran the office, kept the books, and produced wonderful bulletins for worship. Laura Marshall our Director of Religious Education guided the Church School Council under the leadership of Katie LaRochelle and Laura Barry. Bob Wilson, our sexton, retired near the end of the year after nearly two decades of dedicated service. Also, I want to thank our nursery staff person, Ali Waszak, for being so welcoming to our children. Lastly, we owe great thanks to our Parish Life Committee and Melissa Thompson, for bringing us together for fun, food, and fellowship.

We have also been blessed this year to have our own part-time Deacon, Bruce Nickerson, who shared his passion for those in prison and helped us develop new ministries for prisoners, through the leadership of Janet Caesar, in addition to our on-going Angel Tree Ministry led by Darren and Debbie Collins and family and the many angels who bought, wrapped, and delivered presents to grateful families who have a loved one in prison.

Of course, our many successful ministries were generously supported by the steady faithfulness of our treasurer Cynthia Bennett who had to endure months of sleepless nights figuring out ways to steward our finances during some very dry times.

We continued to reach out through the Food for Friends Program (formerly the Feeding Program) that provides a meal every month for around 130 homeless and hungry friends at Eliot Presbyterian in Lowell. Also, All Saints’ is supporting a Habitat build in Westford thanks to Laura Marshall and Sharon West. The Thrift Shop continues its faithful work throughout the year.

On a personal note, I continued to teach the Catholic Bible Study every third Thursday at the prison in Concord and celebrated an Episcopal Mass in the prison chapel once a month, ably supported by Deacon Bruce. I also continued to coordinate the Chelmsford clergy group which is now meeting twice a month.

Finally, I am grateful for our vestry that has been instrumental in making 2017 a significant year. I am also grateful to our Junior Warden, Sally Warren, who brought her faithful leadership and good humor to so many of our projects and meeting, while continuing to co-lead the altar guild with Liz Landers.



Prayer

None of the above would have been possible without our Senior Warden, Chris Mills who worked so hard and gave so much of himself in leading us on this journey. I cannot begin to thank him enough for his faithfulness, maturity, vision, persistence, and his constant support of me and this parish. He has richly blessed us all!

Without doubt I have not thanked all who should be thanked, so I hope you will make every effort to say thank you to those who have contributed to our life together. We are the Body of Christ and as St. Paul teaches, each part of the Body is crucial for the life and health of the whole. Now as we move into 2018 let us continue to follow Christ in loving God and neighbor with all our mind, heart, body, time, and money. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, we are called to use our spiritual gifts for the building up of Christ's Body and serving the world he loves.

Bill Bradbury, Rector

Deacon's Annual Report

I was hungry, you fed me; thirsty, you gave me drink; a stranger, you welcomed me; naked, you clothed me; sick, you ministered to me; incarcerated, you visited me.

After a year of attempting retirement, I felt the need to have an active liturgical connection with a parish.

Archdeacon Michael Hamilton and I talked a bit at the Riverview Restaurant and after some conversations with Fr. Bill, All Saints' graciously accepted me as your non-stipendiary part time deacon with a twice monthly liturgical presence. Thank you.

Last June I began serving as All Saints' deacon. Although technically retired, I continue my ministry at Mass. Correctional Institute Concord (MCI Concord) convening a weekly faith oriented 12 step recovery group where we discuss the relationship between our recovery and our faith journeys. The group has about a dozen "regulars" of whom perhaps five attend each meeting. We talk very openly, in a freestyle manner, about how God, through Jesus, helps us in our recovery from our addictions, our experiences in dysfunctional families, crimes, and the many hurts we have received and given others. During some of our more emotional discussions, one of the men may spontaneously lead the others in prayer. We end our meetings holding hands and praying the Lord's Prayer. Most importantly, we come to know that God loves us all. All of us.

At MCI, I work closely with Deacon Tom Anthony, the Roman Catholic chaplain, and at his suggestion we have begun a twice monthly "Episcopal Mass" with Fr. Bill alternating with Rev. Judy Krumme, retired priest from Concord, as celebrants. Fr. Bill and Rev. Judy also lead Bible study groups. In Addition, Bp. Gayle Harris has officiated at two Eucharists, and Rev. Chris Wendell, priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bedford has visited us.

Last Advent season I participated in a day long retreat for inmates structured around meditations on the meanings of the Advent Candles.

I am also a member of the Concord Prison Outreach (CPO) Advisory Council. Last December I played Santa Claus during a family visiting day (see All Saints' E-bulletin January 14, 2018) in an annual CPO sponsored activity.

In a few weeks I will begin facilitating a short eight week course in "Fool Proofing Your Life," organized by Dn. Tom.

All Saints' recognition of, and participation in, this jail ministry has been a joy to me. The Sunday School's work (which included kids, teachers, and some adults at coffee hour) produced 138 handmade Christmas cards and 50 pounds of toiletries, and was much appreciated by CPO and inmates. All of us at MCI thank you.

*Thank you,
Deacon Bruce Nickerson*

Thanksgiving

Senior Warden Report

As a young man serving on the vestry, I questioned the proposition that vestry members are spiritual leaders. I thought that such an idea distracted from the true purpose of the vestry, of attending to the temporal affairs of the parish. But after serving as Senior Warden for three years, I have come to understand the truth of this proposition. I have learned that the business of the vestry is inextricably bound up with discerning God's will for All Saints', through discussion, yes, but also through worship, prayer, and the study of Scripture. The fact that sometimes we succeed in our work and sometimes we fail, or that sometimes we feel like we are in control and at other times events threaten to overwhelm us, does not contradict that we are guided in our work by the Holy Spirit. We can sense God's presence among us in the moment, through faith. We can see, we can point to, God's presence among us through our shared experience.

Our shared experience during the past year makes this abundantly clear. Most of our ministries are strong. Those needing reinvigorating are emerging as such. Ways forward to meet the challenges we face are becoming clearer. We continue to be blessed with a steady influx of new members to continue where good work is being done, and to take up new work where it is needed. Our new members bring us fresh voices and fresh perspectives. Without them All Saints' is lost. With them, and with God's help, we cannot be lost.

Between the Living Stones capital campaign and our challenging budget issues, as a community we are recently spending a lot of time talking about money. This is not a bad thing. The Episcopal polity to which we are committed gives the basic shapes to our structural revenues and expenses, and these are increasingly more challenging to sustain in our evolving society. We can examine this commitment without fear of its falling apart in our hands. It has withstood the test of time. And by frankly examining how we get and spend the parish's money, we will grow more deliberate, and stronger. A new, year-round stewardship program is in its nascent stage at All Saints'. With God's help, this program will promulgate a new way of thinking about money, and a new way of giving. This must be, if we are to continue to flourish in the future.

To flourish, All Saints' must have not just our money, but our time, talents, and energy also. It is enigmatic, to say the least, that recruiting for new work is difficult here, while everywhere we look in the parish we see so many people doing so much in so many ways. We need to explore this enigma and see what steps will augment our already strong spirit of volunteerism. One possible approach is to more rigorously bound the time one person fulfills a specific role, rather than wait for burnout to force a change. Another is to document the expectations and resources of each traditional role, then to ensure that those resources are provided. Some of this descriptive work has recently begun. The vestry can have an outsized effect on our future by ensuring that it continues.

The leadership team has been discussing a new definition of the Junior Warden's role at All Saints', as overseer of our buildings and grounds at an executive level. This encompasses traditional "B&G", plus rental policies and practice, managing custodial activities in coordination with the rector, managing tradespeople, and representing to the vestry the budgets for all these areas. This rethinking of the Junior Warden's role will resolve not only the need for such a position in the parish, but also the perennial question about what the Junior Warden's role actually is. We have been blessed with outstanding junior wardens who have done marvelous work for us, but they each had to discover for themselves what their roles would be.

During the last year we have seen the most visible evidence yet of our Living Stones dollars at work. The basement restrooms and kitchenette are rehabilitated, the parking lot is repaved, and the new exterior lighting system is coming on line. These capital improvements directly support our ability to do Christ's ministry. Having been included in their email trains, I can report that the Implementation Committee has blessed us with phenomenal skill, creativity, enthusiasm, and time. They are a small team. All among us who feel a call to contribute to their continuing work should reach out to them or to the wardens.

~ * ~



This concludes my third year as Senior Warden. It would be in vain to attempt thanking everyone by name to whom I am indebted for their support, but a few I cannot omit.

Sally Warren is a treasure. In addition to her gifts of time and skill in the choir and on the altar guild, she has been for us a loyal, creative, and effervescent Junior Warden. Working with her has been a joy. Her style is nonassuming; her contributions as Junior Warden have not been public, but they were thoughtful and constructive. Thank you, and bless you, Sally.

Rev. Bill teaches both by word and by example. A signal blessing that comes with being Senior Warden at All Saints' is the extended opportunity to learn from the latter. Our Rector's faithfulness, professionalism, and many gifts have enabled and sustained my lay work, and improved me personally. I can't think of a greater reward for working closely with someone than that. And Rev. Bill was all these things, while absorbing his Senior Warden's idiosyncrasies. Thank you, Bill.

Being Senior Warden impacts one's family. It is just as well that my Laurie eschews public attention, or else where would I begin?

~ * ~

If I only had the skill to do it, this would not be a Senior Warden's report, but a love poem to All Saints', the community I cherish, and which is my family's spiritual home. The love and labor for Christ I have witnessed here, and the love and support I have received here leaves me, for once, speechless.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Mills*



*"I know nothing in the world that has as much power as a word."
— Emily Dickinson*

Report from Ministries: All Saints' Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee is very pleased to provide members of the All Saints' community with this update, particularly because we are able to share good news regarding our accomplishments and the health of the Endowment over the past year.

The Endowment Committee team for 2017 consisted of Jocelyn Bishop, Benton Burgess, Bud Chagnon, Richard Coles, Laura Geary, and Connie Pawelczak. After years serving on the Committee, Bud resigned due to his move to Newburyport. We thank him for his hard work, moral support, and humor. The Endowment Committee is in the process of recruiting two new members. If you're interested and have a background in finance, financials, or just want to work with an awesome group, this is the Committee for you! Please contact Jocelyn or any of the other current Committee members for further information.

The Endowment Committee has been operating for several years following the template Episcopal Endowment Policies and Procedures, but with no formally approved document in place. The initiative to formalize such document took place over many years, and such efforts paid off in 2017 with the Vestry's approval of Endowment Committee Policies and Procedures. The Endowment Committee owes a debt of gratitude to many in achieving this milestone, including Rev. Bill, Chris Mills and all of the Vestry, and all individuals who have previously served on the Endowment Committee, including Chris Baron, Scott Bempkins, Carol Cannistraro, Bud Chagnon, Derick Gates, Paul Krenitsky, Jean McCaffery, and Scott SanJurjo. Thank you for your guidance and long-time support!

Special recognition must also be given to Connie Pawelczak, who has been working hard over the past year to re-ignite the Endowment Committee's Parish awareness efforts around the Endowment's Legacy Society. The Legacy Society consists of individuals who have included All Saints' Church in their will to receive a bequest. Such efforts included weekly bulletin updates via the "ASC Cornerstone," distribution of information pamphlets, and the Endowment Committee hosting a coffee hour. We are continuing initiatives around expansion of the Legacy Society in 2018. If you would like to learn more or be included as a Legacy Society member, please contact Connie or any other current Committee member.

The Endowment Committee has been meeting almost monthly throughout the calendar year to monitor the allocation of Endowment Fund investments in the Diocesan Investment Trust, the performance of such investments, the receipt of new contributions to the Endowment, and other related affairs. In 2018, our additional initiatives are further strengthening Endowment Committee governance, communication including Parish awareness and education, and investment tracking.

The Endowment Fund provided \$10,500 to the 2017 budget with a recommendation to the Vestry that this amount be used for those expenses that are consistent with the Endowment Policies and Procedures (as follows):

The purpose of the Fund is to enable the Parish to fulfill its mission more completely by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds. Distributions from the Fund therefore shall be limited to: (i) capital improvements of the Parish; (ii) outreach ministries and grants; (iii) seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects; and (iv) such other purposes as are specifically designated by donors to the Parish whose gifts are included in the Fund.

We are pleased to conclude in reporting that the Endowment Fund investment returns were up for 2017, increasing in value by 13% (excluding withdrawals and contributions). The balance of the Endowment Fund as of 12/31/17 was \$302,278. Because of the positive investment returns and the need recognized by the Church for 2018, we have proposed a 4.5% payout from the Endowment Fund of \$12,150 for the 2018 budget.

*In Faith and Respectfully Submitted,
Jocelyn Bishop, All Saints' Endowment Committee Chair*



Living Stones Implementation Team Annual Report

Though many projects were accomplished during 2016, not many were readily visible. This past year was different as we paved the driveway and parking lot for the first time in maybe 40 years, and installed bright lighting to make parking and walking easier and safer, re-built the two bathrooms under the church, applying much needed waterproofing to the outside bathroom walls, added a utility closet next to the new bathrooms, replaced the kitchenette in the lower meeting room while adding a storage closet, replaced the glass wall in the Narthex that looks out over the memorial garden, and contributed half of the cost of a new sign with granite posts in the front of the church to replace the aging sign that broke into several pieces.

We have added a Living Stones Implementation Team project status document to the church's web site that shares details about each project, including how much each cost. We aim to update the document several times a year, so do check in from time to time.

Next steps for the Implementation Team are to identify and price out all projects and expenditures that are remaining to be tackled, and then establish priorities with the Vestry as remaining funds will allow. Speaking of funds, here are the numbers as of the end of January 2018:

- Total amount pledged = \$528K
- Pledges received to date = \$328K
- Total amount spent = \$229K
- Cash on hand = \$102K
- Money remaining to spend, should all pledge amounts be met = \$300K

This year was not without a major setback. The loss of our team member, Norm Douglas, is and will continue to be felt by the Living Stones Implementation Team for years to come. Like the mortar Norm used to keep our church's stones in place and our foundation firm, he held us together and made us strong in ways that will be felt for a long time. Norm, you are alive in our hearts and add the "living" to the stones.

Respectfully Submitted,
Frank Ouellette, Tom Richert, Bob Camacho, Steve Grillo, Matt Hickcox



"All words are pegs to hang ideas on."
— Henry Ward Beecher

Christian Education

Church School Report

The big picture for the Church School is that this year has been a continuation of the growth of our program and the fantastic energy and love that happens each Sunday in our classrooms. We feel truly blessed to have such a vibrant community!

We want to thank Debbie Collins for her tremendous work as our Church School Administrator. Our Church School Council, made up of teachers and volunteers and lead by Katie LaRochelle and Laura Barry, decided to shift the goal of the position from administrative to a Director of Religious Education. The DRE will still be responsible for administrative tasks, but will also work to enact the vision of the council to build our Christian Formation program, to support families, teachers, and engage the congregation, as well as to meet each child where they are. I was excited to apply for this job, so happy to get it, and can honestly report that it is a joy to do this work.

If you are familiar with our programs, you might not read the details below- but I ask you to note the names of the volunteers who teach our youngest members. Their worship each Sunday often entails missing some of the liturgy in the sanctuary to serve the children and youth in their life in Christ. It is holy work, and I am deeply grateful for their time. I ask you to share your thanks as well.

Here are some take-away facts: we have 46 families registered in the various programs of the church school, with a total of 82 children and youth. We run special programs during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, which engage the children in the liturgical seasons, Outreach projects that bring their faith into the world, as well as social programs that are just for fun! We foster leadership in our young adults with our youth-led pageant, our teen teachers and Youth Group. We put out a monthly newsletter, and keep the parish abreast of our activities through bulletin boards, announcements, e-bulletins, Facebook and the website. We look for opportunities to partner with groups at All Saints', like our wonderful Halloween party with the Parish Life Committee, or the Cards for Inmates outreach project. We love working with others to integrate the church school into the rich life of All Saints' parishioners, and vice versa. It has truly been a year of abundance and blessings.

The Details:

Colors of Christ:

A classroom for 3yr- K which focus on telling the stories of our faith through colorful felt storyboards and the use of art and play to build a loving, safe community. There are 22 registered students in this class.

The Colors of Christ Team:

The teen teachers:

Skyla G.

Grace M.

Sakhi P.

The adult volunteers:

Christy McCusker

Emily Ward

Andie Bray



Godly Play:

This classroom serves children from 1st-3rd grade. The Godly Play class shares the stories of our faith with hands-on sensory- driven materials that invite children to wonder about God. The teachers in this class receive training on their own time to become Godly Play Storytellers. Volunteers begin paired with an experienced teacher and they work together to provide the children with an engaging curriculum designed to deepen their understanding of our faith. There are 19 students registered for Godly Play.

The Godly Play Team:

Katie LaRochelle
Debbie Collins
Laura Barry
Vicki Albright
Jen Dowd
Katelyn Conklin
Larisa Ducharme

The Weavers:

This classroom serves children from grades 4-6. This is an important shift for our youth, as they begin to examine the stories of our faith within the context of their own world, and to wonder about how they fit into it. This is an amazing program lead with the vision of Debra Forsberg and shared by the dedicated teachers in this ministry. Deb bases her lessons on the Weavers program, and augments it with service projects and hands-on bible study. There are 20 students registered for this class, but they also have regular visitors as students are welcome to bring their friends to the Weavers.

The Weavers Team:

Paige Flick
Joan Thomas
Dan Wilson
Deb Forsberg

The Upper School:

The Upper School has a new curriculum and structure, based on a semester system and centered on learning the three pillars of the Episcopal Church: Scripture, Tradition and Reason. There are 16 students registered in the Upper School in grades 7-10. The Upper School Director is Debbie Psilopolous, and she works with teams of teachers each semester to share our understanding of our faith and wonder about it together with our young adults. She also hosts the Friendly 15, our social gathering each Sunday for youth, and leads our Lenten Study. Our other Instructors for the 2017/2018 year are:

Upper School Team:

Debbie Psilopolous, Maggie Marshall, Scott Bempkins, Erik Forsberg , Dave Kuzara, Bill Bradbury, Paige Flick, Laura Marshall, Elizabeth Danieli, Deb Forsberg, Anne Ludlow, and Brian Hunter

The Youth Group:

The Youth Group is open to all youth grades 7-12, and serves at least 5 youth who are no longer in the school program (grades 11-12). It is an exciting new year for the Youth Group, as they are starting out! They have been meeting once a month, and they will be hosting this year's Pancake Supper (hooray!) with more plans to come!!The Youth group is lead by Denise Seyffert and Karen Garrigan.



Beloved

Mystery Club:

This summer was a busy one for the Mystery Clubbers. We were left clues that led us through discoveries about the 150 years of All Saints'. Each week we solved the word puzzles to reveal a parishioner's name, who would give us a key to unlock the mystery box- but surprisingly, there always seemed to be another box! With teamwork and deductive reasoning, the Mystery Clubbers solved the clues and uncovered beautiful new mosaics of three iconic images of All Saints' through the years. The mosaics are the creation of photo/artist Steve Grillo, and were made up of pictures of parishioners at All Saints'. The mosaics now hang in the Parish Hall.

This was a banner year for mystery- not only did we have the good fortune to have a ton of kids join the club, but we had the added help of a Acme Detective (played with skill by Skyla Garrigan!). We were also treated to a special Epiphany Mystery from one of our lead game makers- Brian and Amy Hunter- that was tremendous fun for all ages at the Epiphany Potluck.

*Submitted without mystery, but with much fun,
Laura and Steve Marshall
Amy and Brian Hunter
Steve and Lynne Grillo*



Archive Project

Last winter I made a proposal to the vestry to reorganize the parish archives, which are housed in a closet near the downstairs meeting room and classrooms. The vestry accepted the proposal and provided funding, including anonymous donations (thank you!).

The proposal and progress:

1. General clean up and reorganization - Done
2. New shelving - Done
3. New storage containers (archive boxes, document sleeves, etc.) - Done
4. Supporting the 150th Anniversary - Done with Amy and Lynne Grillo's support
5. Digitizing the oldest and key documents - In process with Amy's assistance
6. Creating an index of all historical items in the archives and elsewhere. - Not started
7. Help develop practices to maintain organization - Not started, but I have asked to be included in annual file rotation

I am dedicated to completing the full list! I also plan to do a collection of historical write-ups to expand upon the index.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Hunter*

Worship Commission

Do you ever wonder about how a Sunday service gets put together? How the lessons and hymns are chosen, how litanist, lectors, chalice bearers, acolytes, and ushers are scheduled? How the altar guild knows what color to assign to which liturgical season? Well, the good news is that some of this is prescribed. We follow the Revised Common Lectionary, which is a 3 year cycle of lessons used by many mainline Protestant churches in the US and Canada. This yearly cycle is ABC, and beginning with Advent 1, 2017, we are in year B. Bill bases his sermon on some aspect of each week's readings. As Minister of Music, I also use the lessons and several liturgical planning tools upon which to base all of the music. The liturgical calendar has colors for each season, so the Altar Guild follows a schedule, also. Our Eucharistic prayers and prayers of the people change seasonally, and come from the Book of Common Prayer and other sources approved by the Episcopal Church.

The Worship Commission is a highly collaborative group that meets throughout the year to discuss ways to enhance our weekly worship. We not only review, by season, to think about what went well and what could be improved, but we also brainstorm to try to keep our weekly worship as fresh and meaningful as possible. The men and women "behind the curtain," in addition to Bill and myself, are Laura Marshall, Director of Religious Education, Katie LaRochelle, Greeters and Church School Council, Bob Andrews, Acolyte Master, Steve Sullivan, Ushers, Mike Brodeur, Liturgists, Sally Warren and Liz Landers, Altar Guild, and Cina Barker, person from the pews. Please speak to any of these people if you would like to become involved in any aspect of our weekly worship, and new members are always welcome on the Worship Commission, also.

*In Christ,
Maggie Marshall*

Acolyte Report

Goals:

Acolytes provide support to the celebrants and lay Eucharistic ministers during services throughout the year, and help lead the congregation during those services. We serve on Sundays at the 8 and 10 AM services, as well as at other events such as Evensong, Lessons and Carols, Epiphany, and all of the Christmas and Holy Week services, along with the occasional wedding and funeral.

Activities:

We continue to have a great participation by our young people in all grades, and this year we have 14 regular youth members, 2 adult members, and 2 “members emeritus”, and that includes 2 first year acolytes. We graduated one senior in 2017, and we will have three seniors graduate in 2018. This continues the trend of graduating, or losing, more members that join as new acolytes, for the past several years. We still need help identifying new members to take their places. We also have some acolytes that serve on a seasonal basis, due to sports and other extracurricular activities. We also have a shortage of 8 AM acolytes, and Doug Hausler continues to serve at the 8 AM service two Sunday per month. Please remember that we can always use more help, and new members are very welcome; 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, Ms. Marshall or Rev. Bill.

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 are in need of a new cotta this year. We send our thanks to Laura Geary and Denise Seyffert for cleaning, mending, and ironing the robes we have. I continue to need the acolytes to help each other (especially the taller/older members) 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 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 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*



Greeters Program

The Greeting Team's mission is to welcome parishioners, old and new, as they enter church prior to the 10am service. 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. We also have a separate handout 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 Bruce Bray, Linda Cahill, Midge Wilson, Margie Lane, Peggy West, Lynne McSheehy, and Adrienne Spear. We welcomed new greeters Steve and Lynne Grillo and Virginia Jengo, and we said goodbye to Andrew Orndorff and Tracey and Craig Blanchet, to whom we extend heartfelt thanks for their service. Harry Taplin, Tracey Blanchet, Pam Meinhardt, Sharon West, Larisa Ducharme and Linda Masiello served as alternate greeters when our regularly scheduled greeters were unable to be at church. Because we have such a large and faithful team, we rarely have a Sunday that isn't covered. I am so grateful to work with such a dedicated group!

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. Members of the Vestry wear blue tags, identifying themselves as part of our parish leadership. I hope to extend this ministry until every parishioner wears a tag every Sunday.

I hope that greeters will provide newcomers with a connection to All Saints' that makes them want to keep coming back. I feel blessed to be part of this ministry, and I welcome anyone who is curious about serving to talk to me or one of the other greeters.

*Respectfully submitted,
Katie LaRochelle
Greeters Program Coordinator*

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild has the privilege of taking care of the sacred objects we use in our worship. It is a quiet, peaceful, behind the scenes way of serving our community. It is altar guild's responsibility to tend to the preparation and the completion of every service held in the church and chapel. This includes all Sunday morning, Wednesday noon, and any evening services, baptisms, weddings and funerals, and any other special services such as during Holy Week.

We appreciate and personally thank all those who have participated in this ministry this past year: Valerie Anderson, Linda Coles, Carol Douglas, Beth Anne Economou, Bob and Kate Friesner, Melanie Hickcox, Karen Kowalski, Diane Olbert, Adrienne Spear, Emerson Warren and our bread bakers Valerie Anderson, Clem Cole, Deb Forsberg and Matt Hickcox.

As we head into 2018, we have lost some of our members and are especially interested in appealing to the community for more volunteers. In other words, we are quite low in numbers and are very much in need of new members. If you think you might be interested in giving us a try (no commitment needed until after you have tried it a few times), we would be thrilled to add you to an existing group for training and experience and to see if it is a ministry you would be interested in joining. We currently have 4 teams and would love to see our numbers increase to 6 or 8 teams.

Our tasks include caring for the sacred vessels and linens, securing the necessary articles to be used at any service, and cleaning the altar areas. Each Altar Guild team has responsibility for a two-week rotation, a few times each year. The preparations are done reverently and prayerfully so that all services may proceed in reverence and beauty to the glory of God. We all gather as a group to help prepare for Advent 1, Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter. We also have fun and enjoy gathering for these group efforts.

This year we would like to extend a thank you for the generous donations we have received for a handful of items which have gone a long way to help create a more worshipful environment for us all.

If you are seeking a quiet way to serve our community, please consider at least observing a team so that you can decide whether you are called to this ministry. You may find it as rewarding and enriching as we do. We are grateful to all former and current members and offer a warm invitation to any future members. We offer heartfelt thanks to the current members for another year of dedicated service.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sally Warren and Liz Landers*



*"Gentle words bring life and health; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit."
Proverbs 15:4*

Music at All Saints'

I have been happy to serve as your Minister of Music since 1985. Music has always been an important part of our corporate worship at All Saints', and many faithful volunteers in our Parish, Disco Penguin, B#, and Handbell choirs rehearse weekly to help to glorify God through song. With me since 1985 (and before) are Betsy Eisenmann, Lynne McSheehy, and Linda Webb. Katie LaRochelle and Sharon West were with me as Junior Choir members (either they're really young or I'm really old) and reincarnated themselves as Parish Choir members. We continue to have 3 generations represented with the trifecta of Lynne McSheehy, Katie LaRochelle, and Abby LaRochelle. In the fall, we welcomed our first "real" tenor – David Kercher, and are enjoying our interlude with him before his joining the armed forces.

Our two youth choirs are in a re-building stage, after losing Lily Marshall, Maggie Mescall, and Emerson Warren to college. One of our coping mechanisms has been more collaboration between the two choirs. Each year, we participate in the annual Treble Choir Festival, and were in Andover in May. This is a good opportunity for our choristers to sing in a larger group, experience worship in another church, and be exposed to music that we might not normally do on our own.

Throughout 2017, our focus was on observing our 150th anniversary. One way of paying homage to this milestone was to try to include at least one piece of music from that time period during our weekly worship services. The culmination of our anniversary occurred with an evensong on November 4 and an All Saints' Day celebration which included a visit by Bishop Gayle Harris and special music with a brass quartet. Preparing for these two back-to-back events kept the Parish Choir on their toes for the fall, and evensong was a chance for them to do something out of the box. As many of you know, I am an anomaly, since I grew up in this church and have been an active member for 50 years – a full third of the church's existence. Another high point of our 150th celebration was seeing four of our previous rectors return to preach and be part of the community that they had helped to build.

My annual AAM (Association of Anglican Musicians) conference was in Winchester, England and that was a wonderful liturgical shot in the arm and a chance to be with many colleagues. I also attended the annual mini-convention of the Merrimack Valley American Guild of Organists, as well as several of their regular workshops.

One adjunct to being your Minister of Music is my serving as the chapel musician for the Esperanza Academy in Lawrence. This opportunity to be a part of a community that is building strong young women is very rewarding. www.esperanzaacademy.org/

My job is made easier by Connie Pawelczak, who accompanies both youth choirs, Debbie Psilopoulos, who handles all aspects of the handbell choir, and Steve Grillo, who directs the choir when I am playing the organ; I am deeply grateful. My thanks, also, to the parents of youth choir members, for their supportive roles in getting their children to rehearsals and Sunday worship.

*In Christ,
Maggie Marshall*

Commendable

*"Without knowing the force of words, it is impossible to know more."
— Confucius*

Mission / Outreach

All Saints' Thrift Shop

It was business as usual for the little Thrift Shop that could. It was our first full year in our renovated space, and we enjoyed the healthier, more attractive environment. Thanks to extensive pointing and repointing by Norm Douglas and Frank Ouellette, combined with outside drainage work, we seem to be on to a permanent fix. Our newly repaved parking lot is an external enhancement that helps our clientele, too.

We continue to welcome all of your gently used, in-season clothes. As a consignment shop, we share 50% of all sales with our consignors. Donating, rather than consigning, is always an option, which results in 100% of all sales going to the church.

In addition to our faithful corps of volunteers, extra shouts of appreciation go to our bookkeeper, Amy Hunter, caller, Carol Gilchrist, and to Joan Clement and Carol Douglas, our pricers.

This volunteer opportunity is open to all. We are open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10-3, and closed for the summer. Please contact me or any board member if you are interested in knowing more.

*Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Marshall, Thrift Shop Chair*



2017 Thrift Shop Board: Theresa Camacho, Carol Cannistraro, Carol Douglas, Margie Lane, Becky Malone, Laura Marshall, Maggie Marshall, Diane Olbert. Bookkeeper: Amy Hunter

Angel Tree

As part of the outreach ministry, All Saints' continued its participation in the National Angel Tree Program (affiliated with Prison Fellowships). Beginning in August, incarcerated mothers and fathers, with support from their prison chaplains, applied to have their children receive Christmas gifts. In October, All Saints' list of assigned children was received and all caregivers were contacted to confirm their willingness to participate in the program and for gift suggestions for the children. While the prisoner provides suggested gift ideas, many times the caregiver has a better idea of what is most appropriate or needed.

All Saints' requested (28) children, an increase from the (25) requested in in past years, with the plan for three gifts to be purchased for each child. We were provided with (23) children based upon the participants within our requested area. The children's ages varied from 7 months to 16 years and all families except one agreed to participate. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, a total of 77 gifts were provided and 36 grocery store gift cards (totaling nearly \$900) were divided among the families. All families also received an invitation to join us in worship at any time and some age-appropriate Gospel booklets for the Children and the caregiver.

Sincere thanks to all who purchased gifts and a special thank you to those parishioners who made phone calls to the care givers and provided extra help in gift preparation and delivery. As always, we appreciate the logistical support and guidance from Parish Administrator, Darlene Gossement, and our Pastor, Reverend Bill Bradbury.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Collins Family, Angel Tree Coordinators*

B-SAFE Summer Lunch Feeding Program

As in years past, this past July All Saints' Church was a partner in the annual Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment, aka B-SAFE, program in Boston. Partner parishes support B-SAFE by providing lunch for the students over the course of the five week program; on Thursday, July 6th, several parishioners prepared, transported, and/or served a hot lunch of macaroni & cheese with beef hot dog bits, carrots & celery sticks, Hoodsie ice cream cups, water, and Goldfish snack crackers to the 180 students at the Epiphany School in Dorchester. Many, many thanks to all of you who supported this program, by shopping for ingredients, cooking mac and cheese, donating Hoodsie cups, prepping vegetables, and coming to the Epiphany School and serving the meal. Many hands make light work, and we had many, many hands. A special shout out to Maggie Marshall, who was essential in an advisory capacity in getting everything organized. All Saints' will be participating again in the program this summer; more info to come as the year progresses.

*In Christ,
Anne Ludlow*

Parish Life Committee

Our mission is to plan and organize a variety of fun events that enable the members of the Parish community to come together to get to know one another better. In 2017, the Parish Life Committee continued to plan and host several get-togethers. We started off 2017 with our 5th Annual Breakfast Between Services in February, with a football themed twist, as the Patriots were in the Super Bowl. We made sure there was an Atlanta Falcons themed table especially for Reverend Bill! The end of April we held a Happy Birthday Coffee Hour that encouraged people to sit at the marked table of their birthday month. What a great chance to meet someone new and discover that they may share the same birthday. To kick off the summer season, there was an outdoor hike at Great Brook Farm held at the end of June. We provided a map of the area, cold water and bug spray and the homemade ice cream shop was open for anyone wanting a treat. September provided us with a special Welcome Back "Picnic" to celebrate All Saints Church's 150 Anniversary. We thought it would be fun to gear the lunch toward foods that may have been eaten way back when. What a fun way to celebrate with a nod to those that came before us. The end of October we hosted a Halloween Themed Coffee Hour with members of The Church School Council. Both groups worked together to organize a costume parade, games and delicious and creative ghoulish snacks. We wrapped up our year by once again creating a variety of goods to be sold at our "Elfin Entertaining" shop the Christmas Fair.

Our members include Linda Cahill, Carol Cannistraro, Linda Coles, Liz Landers, Laurie Mills, Adrienne Spear, Melissa Thompson, and Linda Ouellette. We have been having a great time and are always open to new ideas and suggestions. Feel free to share with any member of the committee. If you haven't had an opportunity to participate, please keep an eye out for announcements. We love to see new faces!

*Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Thompson*

Chelmsford Community Exchange Food Pantry

All Saints' Church has been a contributor to the Chelmsford Community Exchange Food Pantry for a very long time. The members of the parish make weekly donations of food and money to support this very worthy cause. The Weavers class and their families continued to support the ministry this year. They provided Blessing Bags, earmarked especially for the children of the families that utilized the pantry. The children and youth in the parish play a role in carrying the food to the altar with the bread, wine and offerings just before communion. The food collected is delivery every Thursday evening is always appreciated. The food pantry will mark its 25th year on March 25th, 2017. Many thanks to the members of All Saints that continue to support this very important ministry.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Thompson*

Homespun Holiday Fair

Many churches and congregations in the town of Chelmsford hold their annual Christmas holiday fairs the first weekend in December. 2017 marked the third year that All Saints' Church participated. The fair took place on Saturday, December 2nd, from 9 AM to 2 PM. The many ministries within our church provided the items for sale. There were knitted/crocheted/quilted items, food gifts, raffle baskets, gently used Christmas decorations, jewelry and cookies, cookies, cookies! We had a cafe selling breakfast and light lunch fare. People selflessly donated their time and talents to, once again, make this a successful event. Which resulted in us making a little over \$3,500.00. This is one of our major fundraisers and we are always open to any new ideas and suggestions. Please share! Planning committee members were Linda Cahill, Paige Flick and Linda Ouellette.

*Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Thompson*

Worthy of Praise

Habitat for Humanity

This was a wonderful year for Habitat work. With a combination of fundraisers, donations from individual parishioners, and the support of the entire parish through the vestry and the general fund, All Saints' was able to donate \$7,000.00 to the Habitat Interfaith Build, as a full partner in building, along with the following congregations:

- Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Chelmsford
- First Parish Church United, Westford
- Islamic Society of Greater Lowell, Chelmsford
- St. Catherine's Church, Westford
- Trinity Lutheran Church, Chelmsford
- United Methodist Church, Westford



We had a great visit from Brenda Gould in October, where we celebrated this tremendous achievement. We would like to thank everyone for their generous support. The church school classes also spent the day discussing the mission of Habitat, and the social justice issue of safe, affordable housing.

The Interfaith House is being built in Westford. We had hoped to put together building teams for this fall, but due to the freezing cold temperatures and lack of heat, we are still waiting to get that part of the work started. Habitat had hoped to have heat in the house by mid-January but a problem between the developer and National Grid has put a snag in our timeline. Now that it appears the sub-zero temperatures may be behind us, they are looking to get a temporary generator on site so that they can continue to build inside. Once that happens (hopefully within the next two weeks), they will be in touch to schedule the next Interfaith build days.

*Respectfully submitted,
Laura Marshall and Sharon West*

Food For Friends Program

The Food for Friends program (supporting St. Paul's Soup Kitchen in Lowell) continues to be a vital ministry, with the number of people being fed by our team members averaging over 110 each month. The four teams – lead by talented and devoted team leaders - Melanie Hickcox, Maggie Marshall, Edith Parekh, and co-leaders Karen Kowalski & Diane Olbert - continue to do an outstanding job of creatively stretching the funds to provide nutritional, delicious meals on a very limited budget.

We are extremely thankful for all the amazingly dedicated team leaders and members who faithfully serve, some of them having done so for many years. This year, we give special thanks for the long-time service of Carol and Ron Cannistraro, who stepped down as team leaders, and for Maggie Marshall, who cheerfully and enthusiastically volunteered to take over that team. We were blessed to have a few new members join our ranks this year as well, and for that we are also grateful. Blessings to long-time team member and co-group leader Deb Dutton can always be counted on to fill in where needed.

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

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Masiello and Deb Dutton*



West Virginia Workcamp



2,179 miles of driving in a week? Must have been a week in West Virginia!

It's a lot of driving. It's a lot of work in the hot sun. It's a tremendously rewarding week with new and old friends fixing the homes of people in need.

This year, Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, All Saints' Episcopal Church in Chelmsford, and Mont Vernon Congregational Church joined up again to head to the Cabell Lincoln Workcamp in Salt Rock West Virginia. We spend months raising funds through a talent show, car wash, noisy change offerings, donations from friends, and this year through online gifts from friends, co-workers, and family.

And then we're off. We spend a day driving to Maryland and then half a day driving the rest of the way to camp. Along the way we received very disturbing news – the root beer float machine at Frostop is broken. If you haven't been on the trip you can't imagine how sad that is to hear (it was fixed in time for later visits). We do indeed have fun in addition to the work.

During the week we divide into work crews of about 6 adults and youth to head into the hills and hollers. There was an all adult crew that worked at the homeless shelter in Huntington. The manager of the shelter had a list of projects to repair apartments, but the folks in the crew finished that list early and sought more work.

Received

Most of us head out to the homes of families. My job was only half an hour from camp. Our homeowners were an older couple that lived in a trailer. The trailer had particle board floors which had several holes and weak spots in them. We replaced sections of the floor in the dining room, living room, hallway and bathroom. We also built a small porch and steps outside their back door. Our crew was hardworking and very resourceful which came in handy when we hit the inevitable surprises. For example, we had to replace a rotted-out beam where the porch connected to the trailer and also had to repair a broken floor joist. In the end, everything got done and the homeowners were pleased and grateful for our efforts.

Alas, the week ends and we drive home to church services in Chelmsford and then to catch up on lost sleep.

This is a rewarding week I encourage anyone in our churches to join. There is work for all ages from high school to well, older folks. I encourage you to talk to one of the people in the picture above about their experience. It's hard to capture in words, but it's something that brings us back year after year.

The 2017 workcampers were:

Genevieve Steenhoek
Caroline Steenhoek
Jessica Holmes
Rachel March
Andrew Baker
Bruce Bray
Dave Kuzara
Pastor Rich Knight.

Kelsey Hartigan
Luke March
Nicole Barrett
Amanda March
Kyle Chagnon
Mindy Dean
Bryan Norman
Geoff Herrick

Grace Mescall
Aaron Velez
Emily Norman
Anna Obendorf
Katie St. Onge
Joe March
Geoff Bryant
Molly Obendorf

It is an honor to serve the people of West Virginia in this mission and to see our group succeed in mission another year.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Kuzara

Penny Basket

Many thanks to all who have contributed pennies and change to the support of the Feeding Program.

The White Penny Basket is located in the Narthex on the shelf of the wall cabinet. In 2017 we collected \$72.00.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Bilisbury



"A person's words can be life-giving water; words of true wisdom are as refreshing as a bubbling brook."
Proverbs 18:4

Nominating Committee Report

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer

Laura Barry
Dave Kuzara
Mary Cooney
Cynthia Bennett

Vestry Member 3 year term
Vestry Member 3 year term
Vestry Member 3 year term
Vestry Member 1 year term

Bob Friesner
Linda Coles
Liz Landers
Linda Ouellette

Convention Delegate
Convention Delegate
Convention Alternate

Chris Mills
Lynne McSheehy
Laura Marshall

Deanery Representatives

Joan Thomas
Deb Forsberg
Dan Wilson

Nominating Committee 2019:

1. Bob Camacho
2. Karen Kowalski
3. Linda Ouellette

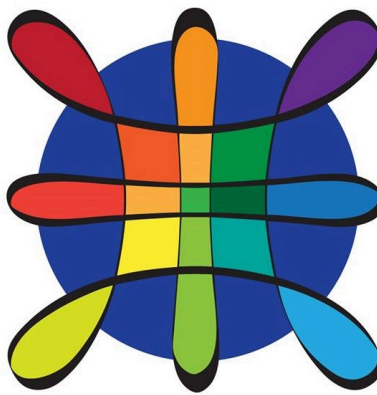
Plus three to be appointed by the rector

4. Tom Richert
5. Dan Wilson
6. Connie Pawelczak

*Nominating Committee 2018: Chris Mills, Sally Warren, Lynne McSheehy,
Tom Richert, Dan Wilson, Paige Flick, Darren Collins, Bill Bradbury*



*"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."
Matthew 24:35*



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

- Philippians 4: 4-9