

# THE MESSENGER

## June Saints' Days

6/1	6/5	Charlie Burk	6/10	Fria Masterson
	6/8	Libby Fuller		Jonathan Miner
Jarvis		Andrew Graff	6/20	Igor Bella
Coffin		John Lewtas	6/22	Virginia Peterson
6/2	6/9	Heather Tourgee		Joy Boothby
	6/12	Jean Peters	6/24	David Levesque
James	6/13	Patricia Szydlo	6/26	Isabella Rose Messa
Sarles	6/15	Meghann Wuorinen	6/28	Christina Gatto
6/3	Bob 6/16	Shelley Hulbert	6/30	Benjamin Frehner
Kipka	6/16	Laura Phillips		Jonah Goodwin
	Ian 6/17	Dodie Finlayson		
Sistare	6/19	Sharon MacCartney		

*If your name is missing from our Saints' Days lists, PLEASE let us know so you can be remembered! Just call or email the Church office: 924-3202 or [diane@allsaintsnh.org](mailto:diane@allsaintsnh.org)*

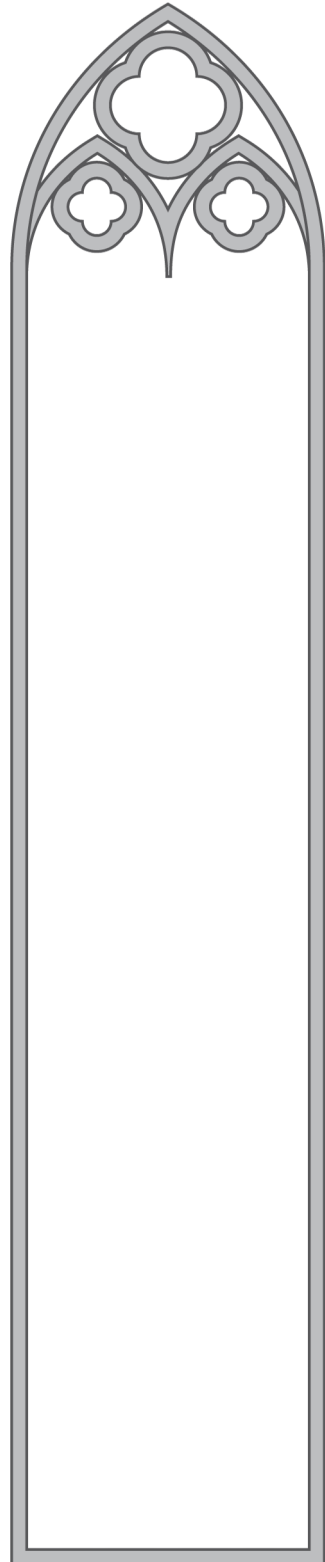
## Saintly News

### *Congratulations to...*

- ❖ Olivia Krommes for her recent graduation from Clark University, receiving her master's degree in finance
- ❖ Paul Kaufman for his recent graduation from Virginia Wesleyan College and for being the recipient of the Hine Award, dedicating his time and energy to the Theatre and for helping to feed the homeless in Virginia
- ❖ Rod Falby and Arthur Eldredge for their return to the All Saints' Choir
- ❖ The following Honor Roll students from ConVal High School: Kai Cooper, Megan McClintock, Haley Spitzfaden, Andres Tourgee, Michelle Tourgee, Carl Wagner Jr.

*Gloria Schultz*

*If you would like to share a "special news" item or a happy occasion with the Parish, please email Gloria Schultz at [glojoemointheglen@gmail.com](mailto:glojoemointheglen@gmail.com) or call 924-9489*



## The Person My Heart Wants Me To Be

The person my heart wants me to be  
 I learned from you, more than from me  
 Wisdom sought inside myself  
 I found at last...in someone else  
 Grasping too tightly to all held dear  
 We can't see how...to live not in fear  
 For in all that's been given, through all we can give  
 We'll have not just a living – but life worth living – to live!  
 So listen to your heart, let it free your mind  
 Find joy in one another and leave your fears behind...  
 For the person my heart wants me to be  
 I learned from you, more than from me

*Andy Peterson*

### Book Note

I write this from Washington, D.C., where character, in David Brooks' terms, is much needed but not universally admired. Brooks is familiar to many as a commentator on NPR and PBS, often in tandem with Mark Shields or E. J. Dionne. A thoughtful-appearing conservative (though he describes himself as inclined to shallowness), he seems distressed by mindless obstruction on the Right as well as the Left.

His much-heralded *The Road to Character* (Random House, 2015) may be dismissed as another isn't-everything-terrible-since-liberal-secular-humanists-took-over broadside. That would be a mistake. Through accounts of various historical figures, from Augustine of Hippo to George Eliot to Dwight Eisenhower to Dorothy Day, Brooks teases out the threads in their lives and circumstances that brought them from chaos or darkness or inner demons or outer poverty to places of maturity, strength and usefulness.

The road is not the same for everyone. For many it is a religious quest, but not for all. But no one is born with it. And it is always a product of struggle.

It therefore stands in contrast to the idea of self-fulfillment, or of "trusting your gut."

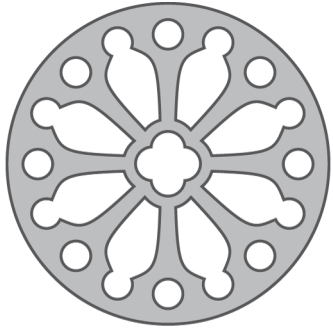
This is where Brooks' conservatism comes in, and

where it seems more like Edmund Burke than like the Tea Party. For all of the exemplars he discusses would regard the gut as useful for digestion, perhaps, but not for moral advice. There is an assumption that we are not inherently flawless, and that we must work to master ourselves for the sake of the welfare of society.

The author's own writing style is very much like his speaking: unpretentious, nuanced, sometimes repetitive. But he graces it with powerful quotations from others. He cites, for example, James Davison Hunter's observation that character "does require a conviction of a truth made sacred, abiding as an authoritative presence within consciousness and life, reinforced by habits institutionalized within a moral community. Character, therefore, resists expedience; it defies hasty acquisition."

This book, though it can perhaps be hastily acquired, bears savoring. There is much reinforcement here, but also many surprises, in the complex lives of those who have achieved some measure of strength and courage to enrich their fellows – and, in some cases consciously, to delight God.

*Cassius Webb*



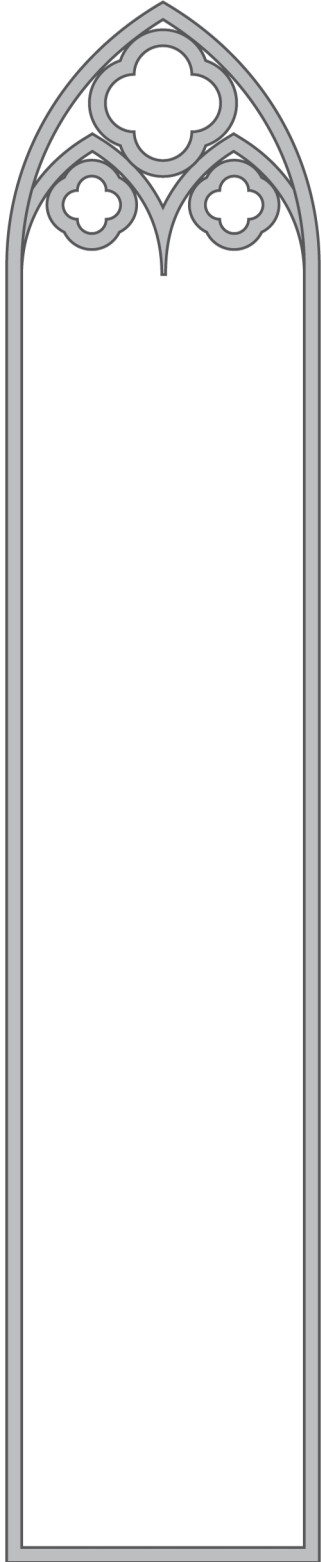
# THE MESSENGER

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## The Unfolding and Emerging Church

### *General Convention 2015*

Two years ago I received a call from a friend in Littleton, the Rev. Kurt Weisner. He asked if I would agree to be nominated to attend General Convention in 2015 in Salt Lake City as a deputy of the lay order from the Diocese of New Hampshire. I was flattered, but frankly had no idea what this meant, other than I could possibly get a chance to fly across the country (for free!) to represent our diocese. So I thought, "Sure!" and filled out the necessary application materials. Lo and behold! at the next Diocesan Convention, I managed to not quite make the cut as one of the four deputies, but was elected as first alternate, which meant I would be included in the group traveling to Salt Lake City and my way would be paid. What an honor! However, in the midst of it all, I felt and continue to feel a bit like Dorothy headed off to Emerald City, overwhelmed and feeling like I'm just not sure how this whole adventure will unfold – but I am excited!

Our 10-person group from New Hampshire, the "deputation," to use the official terminology, (there is a lot of official General Convention!) is a diverse and wonderful group of people, lay and ordained. We are led by the Rev. Bill Exner from St. Matthew's Church in Goffstown. Some of our delegates have attended many times before, but I am not the only "freshman" in the group, which is encouraging. We have gathered several times, and once with all the deputations from Province 1 (the seven dioceses of New England) on a retreat in April known as "Provincial Synod." This is all to prepare us for the 13-day experience of General Convention, the triennial gathering of the national Episcopal Church from June 23 to July. We will have daily prayer, and then we move into committee hearings and voting on key legislation that people across the country have faithfully prepared over the past three years. The governance for our national church is quite similar to our secular government: legislation is handled through a committee process, with over a dozen committees, each with an appointed sub-topic, who receive, discuss and amend legislative items. There is a great range of topics, and I will provide a sneak peak on some of the big ticket items.

First, the Diocese of New Hampshire has sponsored two

bills. The first relates to gun violence calling for a united, cohesive stand on the part of the Episcopal Church as a whole to support sensible gun ownership laws that reflect our Christian values.

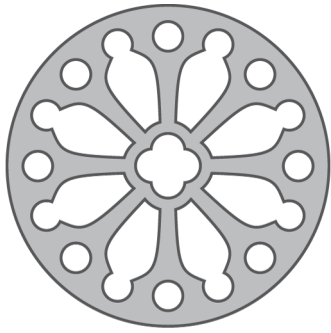
The second calls for priests, deacons, bishops and lay people throughout the church to prayerfully unite behind the abolition of the death penalty, bearing in mind the lack of Gospel support for the taking of a life in any context.

Other legislative items getting a lot of attention include a plan for divestment of funds from fossil fuel companies and reinvestment in green energies; divestment from corporations and agencies related to the occupation in Palestine; a call to amend the questions during our Baptism on page 304-305 of the *Book of Common Prayer* to add a promise to value and protect the earth as God's creation; the election of a new Presiding Bishop; and finally, beginning the discussion as to whether or not it is time to revise our prayer book.

There are many, many other issues at hand – too many to cover in a single *Messenger* article, but all will be faithfully held, discussed, prayed over and ultimately put to a vote. I welcome questions and feedback from anyone who would like to know more about all of this, and will work to connect people with access to updates from General Convention.

In order to achieve this goal, I will create a new page of our website exclusively for updates as we prepare and eventually depart for Salt Lake City. All Saints' is one of only a handful of churches from New Hampshire with a parishioner who will be present for the action as it unfolds. I look forward to sharing this unique perspective on the evolving church with all of you. We will be blogging, tweeting, using Facebook and I will try to have something submitted to whoever takes over the *Saints Alive* e-newsletter in my absence for those who may not use social media. I ask your prayers and positive thoughts as I participate in what I can only imagine will be an eye-opening and deeply formational experience.

*Becky Goodwin*, Director of Christian Education



# THE MESSENGER

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the Saints of All Saints', for your bountiful acts of kindness during my recent illness. Thank you for your prayers, cards, rides, flowers, and all you did to help me through a difficult time. I am deeply grateful and I thank you.

*Doris Covey*

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## **The River Center and All Saints' Church Form Partnership**

*You Shall Love Your Neighbor As Yourself, Mark 12:31*

Our neighbors, The River Center, expressed a need for food for their Spelling Bee fundraiser and

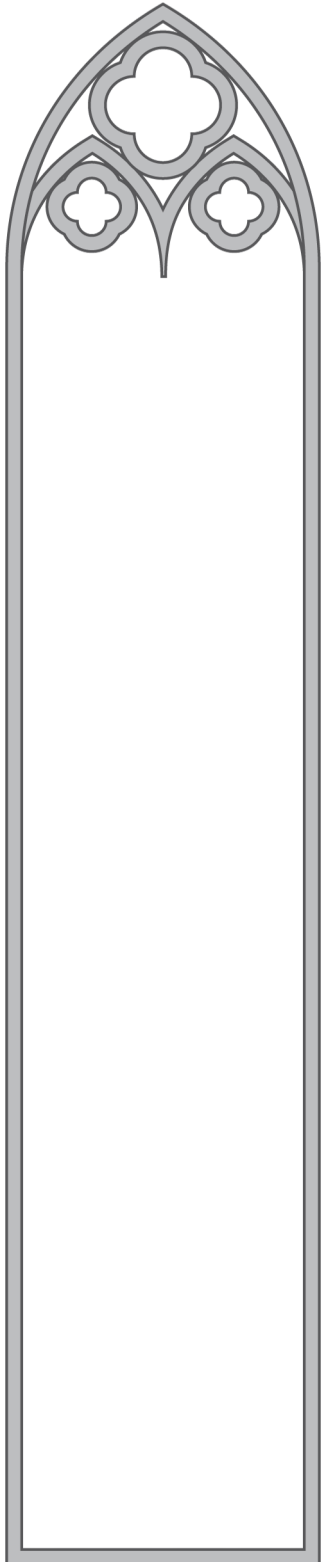
All Saints' provided. Parishioners who participated say they are very grateful and happy to have been able to help.

This has begun a partnership of mutual support that we intend to nurture and grow. By helping out with refreshments for the Spelling Bee, we have expressed our gratitude for the continued use of the River Center parking lot. We have encouraged the River Center to think of us whenever they see a need that we might fill. You'll be seeing River Center brochures in Reynolds Hall and outside the Food Pantry and they will post volunteer opportunities in Saints' Alive.

How can you be involved? If you know anyone who works or volunteers at the River Center or uses their many services, be sure to tell them of this partnership and encourage them to call on us. Pick up a brochure and make yourself aware of all that the Center does. If you have ideas for ways we can join together, give Jamie a call in the office. Let's love our neighbors!

Thanks again to everyone who helped out at the Spelling Bee!

*Deb DeCicco, Junior Warden*



## Vacation Bible School & More...

I want to let everyone know about a program in the works for this summer. As some of you may remember, All Saints' has offered Vacation Bible School in years past. We are hoping to resurrect this tradition, planning to start small hoping that a simple program will appeal to parents and children alike.

As of right now, our plan is to offer an "Aslan on the Move," a 3-day VBS experience for children ages five-10. The program will use the deep (yet child-friendly) spirituality of C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and will employ movie clips, art projects, theater and small group work along with lots of play!

We are looking at Wednesday, August 5, to Friday, August 7, from 9 AM to 1 or 2 PM, culminating in a small "fair" on Saturday, August 8. The Outreach Committee (of which I am a member) has decided that our Summer Fundraising Event (previously the English Summer Fair) will look different this year. (More to come on that later!)

We know how much the children enjoy the bouncy house, the lawn games and the prizes so we will have those events available on Saturday, August 8. The Silent Auction, which historically has been the major moneymaker, will be a separate event.

I am hoping you will let me know if your child(ren) would like to participate on those dates or if you would like to volunteer your time as a camp assistant.

I hope everyone is having a beautiful and blessed spring!

*Becky Goodwin, Director of Christian Education*

## What is EfM?

EfM is Education for Ministry, but that does not really explain what it is.

Is it a small group? That is one reason we joined two years ago when we were new to the parish. We thought it would be a good way to get to know a group of people at All Saints' and we have made some significant friendships.

Is it Bible Study? Well, the first-year members read the Old Testament and the second years read the New Testament.

Is it a prayer group? We open and close every meeting with worship and pray for each other through the week.

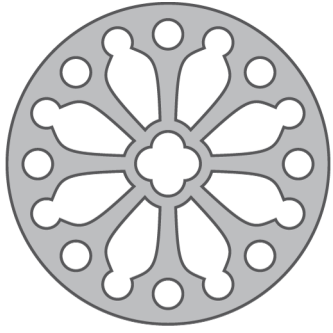
Is it a study group? The third years read Church history and the fourth years read some theology.

The fact is we are a group that meets every Monday for two hours throughout the school year and share our thoughts about the course readings we have completed during the week, and ask questions all with the hope that our faith will deepen and grow.

We hope some of you will join us for 2015-2016.

If you have any questions, please ask our indomitable leader, Marilyn Weir [photos4u@galaxy.net](mailto:photos4u@galaxy.net) or 620-2840 or any of us who are currently in the group.

*Harry and Nina Pollock*



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