Dear Parishioners,

A few days ago, Judy Collier donated to All Saints’ Church, Charles Connick’s beautiful book, *Adventure in Light and Color: An Introduction to the Stained Glass Craft.* If you’ve never turned these 428 pages, please come by the office and I’ll show you the magnum opus of books on the subject of stained glass. Published in 1937, there are stunning color plates of Connick’s work and detailed black and white drawings and illustrations within the text. It’s a masterpiece.

As I opened up the gift of this wondrous book, out dropped copies of letters written by Mary Lyon Cheney Schofield in the 1930’s and by her daughter Ruth Cheney Streeter in 1943 right after Mary’s death. What a wonderful surprise! Mary’s letters were about raising money for the beautiful stained glass windows­–I loved her tenacity. Ruth’s letter was a thank you note to Mr. and Mrs. Connick for all the pleasure that the windows had given her mother in “the little church.” I loved her gratitude for her mother, for a life well lived.

We are so blessed to have these stories as part of our history, and now, 100 years after the setting of the cornerstone of All Saints’, we are making our own history for the next 100 years with our Capital Campaign. Through our efforts in this campaign, we are coming together to sustain and extend our church as a vibrant place of worship and Christian community for all souls, both living today and for the generations to come.

As you read this letter, over $400,000 has been pledged, and we are well on our way to meet our goal of $570,000, with hopes of reaching our challenge goal of $620,000 by September. Alleluia! The spirit of generosity is overwhelming. Our parishioners, who have volunteered to come to our homes to hear our stories of faith and to ask for our participation in the campaign, are inspired by our thankfulness for our church home and our desire to give. Your moving stories of why All Saints’ matters to you run deep like an everlasting stream. If you haven’t received a call, you will, and we thank you in advance for your hospitality in receiving your fellow parishioner.

What’s so inspiring about our efforts is that every gift of every size is essential. We can’t do this without you. Your participation is vital because, as you well know, every penny counts. Every promise of participation, no matter the size, reflects that we are saints, all of us, who believe that we can be the warmth of God’s wide embrace. What a blessing it is to be a part of All Saints’ during this time in her history, and to be given this opportunity to make a difference in our world, all in the name of Christ, who is our true and everlasting cornerstone.

With the gift of joy and wonder in all the ways God graces us, and in all the ways we return that grace to each other,

*Jamie+*

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**Our Mission (What we do)**

*Our mission is to help people grow in their faith and trust in God by helping them recognize their God-given talents and to use them to serve God and their neighbor*.

**Our Vision (Where we are going)**

*Our vision is to be a community in which God’s love is experienced and shared.*

**June 2018, Volume IX, Number 3**

**Sandi’s Column**

*Stewarding Relationships*

Relationships are tricky things, messy and complicated. Perhaps that’s why we get so much advice about them in our scriptures. Jesus gives us the Great Commandment to love God and one another as we love ourselves. Paul is a bit of an unlikely family therapist, but nearly all of what he writes about has to do with how we should live together as the Body of Christ. Relationship is at the center of our lives, the center of the entire created universe.

The core of stewardship is found in the ways we relate to others, bringing with us our God-given resources, using them as deep expressions of God’s love. It is that love that is the currency of God’s Kin-dom. We are *Imago Dei,* made in the image of our loving God, and in that identity we have been made for relationship. True and authentic relationship is modeled for us in the Trinity; and in that full expression of Being in the three distinct, yet interrelated persons – Creator, Son and Spirit – we are shown that we cannot be fully human, *Imago Dei,* in isolation.

It has been an interesting meditation for me to observe my thoughts as I ponder the names of people that I might call upon to talk with them about our capital campaign. In each and every case, my thoughts have been not so much about the campaign per se, as about the ways the relationships I have, or hope to have with each person, enrich my own experience of BE-ing the Body of Christ with them here at All Saints’ Parish.

During the Easter season we have read some of the most beautiful language of love in the First Letter of John. One verse I find to be a most true guiding light for us here in our “little church in Peterborough” is from that letter*. “*Ultimately, loving others is born out of God’s love for us…..if we love one another, God abides in us and God’s love is made perfect in us.*”* (Paraphrased 1John 4: 7, 12)

And in the words of a prayer, which exemplifies stewardship of relationship so very well, let us pray,

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it's in dying that we are born to eternal life

Amen

*Sandi*

**The Messenger**

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Christine Howe *Editor*, 759-5626

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**Book Note**

*The Essex Serpent* is Sarah Perry’s second novel, but the first to be published in the US (in 2016). It is a fine evocation of English life at the end of the Nineteenth Century, but it is far more than that. It is based upon a real historical phenomenon, a number of purported sightings of a sea serpent, or perhaps a dragon, off the coast of Essex, northeast of London, in the seventeenth century. In Perry’s tale, the sightings are revived two hundred years later, causing apprehension, dread, and apocalyptic prophecies in small villages near the Blackwater estuary.

Into this fraught situation walks a woman recently widowed from an abusive marriage to a prominent London politician, trailing her unusual (we would say autism-spectrum) son, her friend and companion who had started as the son’s nursemaid, and several friends including a brilliant surgeon who is in love with the widow. She has an abiding fascination with paleontology and hopes that the Serpent will turn out to be a survival of an ancient species.

In a small village, she encounters the local vicar, whom the widow tries to dismiss as superstitious and uneducated. He is neither; though an Anglican of evangelical leanings, he regards reason as a divine gift and is distressed by his parishioners’ gullibility.

The encounter erupts into a passionate friendship, with all the ferocious disagreements and lengthy correspondence either could wish for. The story develops from there, with the Serpent winding its physical or metaphorical coils around everyone in startling and upsetting ways. What seems at first like a deeply traditional way of life is revealed to be under threat from various forces abroad in the world, from Darwin to Marx to feminism.

In the course of this elegantly written tale, the strengths of two Victorian women, the widow and her companion, emerge to defy convention in astute and courageous ways. The language is not pastiche, but certainly evokes nineteenth-century writers in an effortless way, and with a compelling drive that makes you reluctant to put the book down. Science, reason, faith, superstition, all are spoken for in illuminating and sympathetic detail in this short but rich *tour de force.*

*Cassius Webb*



**Saintly News**

*Congratulations to our recent College Graduates…*

* Ryan Betz, University of Connecticut
* Larkin DeVinne, Connecticut College
* Marguerite Krommes, Kent State University
* Beth Krommes, Fashion Institute of Technology (One year Associates Degree)
* Montana Schultz, Adelphi University

*And congratulations to our recent High School Graduates…*

* Ellie & Anna Graff, Conant High School

*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* *or call 924-9489.*

**Alma’s Poem**

*1 John vs. 12  “If we love one another God lives in us and his love is perfected in us.”*

If your love of God you want to show
Don’t be afraid to share what you know
In the world of problems today
Many are eager to hear you say
Despite  problems you’ve found the way
To live a calm and happy life
Ignoring all the noise and strife
Our constant message from above
Share our God given love

Love, *Alma*

**May Saints’ Days**

Ed.Note: Sincere apologies to all May celebrants whose special days were omitted from the May *Messenger* due to human error, mine. CAH

Judy Collier 5/02

Ellen Avery 5/04

Mary Gregory 5/04

Pat Row 5/06

David Dodge 5/08

Jonathan Juarez 5/09

Anna Guinard 5/14

Lincoln David Jarest 5/14

Priscilla Bourgoine 5/16

Anne Webb 5/19

John Kerrick 5/20

Natalie Deschenes 5/25

Ramon Branch 5/26

Montana Schultz 5/26

Michael Scott 5/26

Clifford Jarest 5/27

Anne Pierce 5/27

Lucy Beyer 5/28

Arthur Stevenson 5/28

Lorraine Bishop 5/31

**Vestry News**

There have been numerous inquiries about the parking lot. Here is an update:

**Why do we need the lot?** All Saints has 27 parking spaces behind Reynolds Hall. We have used the parking lot next door for years, but that property was for sale. We may or may not have been able to continue parking in the lot next door. We needed to purchase the land to assure adequate parking – and to get as many cars off the street as possible because of safety concerns.

**What steps were necessary to create adequate parking for our parishioners?**

First, we had to receive approval from the town to remove the existing structures.

Next, we had to separate the lot with the small structure and sell that property.

Finally, we combined the new lot with the Reynolds Hall lot.

**What details were involved in each of those three steps?**

The lot is adjacent to the river and to State Highway 202; therefore, we needed to work with three regulatory entities: we needed approval from the town Planning Board; we needed a Shoreline Protection Permit from the *Department of Environmental Services (DES);* and a driveway permit from *Department of Transportation* (DOT).

**What steps were involved in gaining approval from the town Planning Board?**

We held numerous meetings with the Planning Board and with neighbors to get their input.

During this process, storm water management, paving, driveway access and setback requirements were established.

From our discussions with the town and with DOT, it was determined that a single access and exit driveway, away from the crosswalk, would be required for safety. This would allow a handicapped walkway to the crosswalk for parishioners accessing the stone church.

**How does the Shoreline Protection Act affect our plans?**

The Shoreline Protection Act is designed to protect rivers through strict guidelines and regulations. These guidelines control paving, storm water management and plantings.

**What permits have we acquired so far?**

We have acquired the Planning Board approval and the DOT driveway permit. We are in the process of acquiring the Shoreline Protection permit.

**What benefits will All Saints gain from this process?**

55 parking spaces; a wonderful new neighbor; accessible, safe access from the lot to the crosswalk; a new meditation garden along the river (which also meets setback requirements).

*Background Information*

Plans were developed and reviewed by the Vestry, Committees, the town planning staff, and presented to the congregation for feedback and comments.

The regulations, both town and state, require driveway permit, strict setbacks (from river and adjacent lots), water management (cannot allow run off directly from lot into the river) and extensive plantings to satisfy zoning rules and well as to mitigate neighbor concerns.

Permits required review by the State Department of Transportation, the Town Planning Staff and Board, the Town Code Officer and the State Department of Environmental Services (Shoreline Protection Act).

Safety was an important consideration both in the planning process and for the highway permit. The state requested a single entrance and exit for safety and preferably not adjacent to the crosswalk between the church and Reynolds Hall. The decision was to enlarge the entrance and exit adjacent to the River Center it to accommodate two-way traffic. This allowed the closing of the driveway adjacent to Reynolds Hall and to create an accessible landscaped walk from the lower lots to Concord Street and a safer crossing to the church.

*Continued on next page…*

*…continued from previous page*

We applied and were granted a demolition permit to remove the existing River Center building, the “Ice house” located by the river and the remaining structure at the rear of the small house which was sold.

A requirement by the Shoreline Protection act was to remove much of the paving away from the river and to replace this with permeable material and native plants. There is an existing stone wall along the river which will allow a seating area along the river.

The lot will have to be re-graded and re-paved so that all water runoff will be guided to a central “rain garden” swale which will re-charge rain water into the ground within the property. An oil/gas separator catch basin will allow excess water from the lot to exit into the river via an existing drain. Plantings and screening will be added per the permit process. We expect to have an additional 55 parking spaces which will reduce and/or eliminate the parking on Concord Street.

*John Catlin,* For the Vestry

**June Saints’ Days**

James Sarles 6/02

Judy Heddy 6/03

Ian Sistare 6/03

Charlie Ruth 6/05

Libby Fuller 6/08

Andrew Graff 6/08

John Lewtas 6/08

Heather Tourgee 6/09

Brad White 6/11

Jean Peters 6/12

Calvin Marlar 6/13

Henry Marlar 6/13

Miles Marlar 6/13

Patricia Szydlo 6/13

Lorenzo Van Horn 6/13

Laurie Lewis 6/15

Meghann Wuorinen 6/15

Shelley Hulbert 6/16

Laura Phillips 6/16

Dodie Finlayson 6/17

Sharon MacCartney 6/19

Eric Masterson 6/19

Jonathan Miner 6/19

Diana Mundy 6/21

Joy Boothby 6/22

Virginia Peterson 6/22

Evelyn Ritchie 6/22

David Wm. Levesque 6/24

Isabella Rose Messa 6/26

Christina Gatto 6/28

Benjamin Frehner 6/30

Jonah Goodwin 6/30

**A Heartfelt Thank You!**

The Serendipity Shop board and volunteers want to thank All Saints’ parishioners for their generous Easter offering donations.

*Libby Collins,* for The Dip

**View from the Bench**

‘Sing’chronizing: The Effects of Singing *In Sync* with Others

I often tell young choristers that singing in a choir is like playing on a soccer team. Both require that you have some basic skills, that you be inclined to work as part of a team, and that you have strength and stamina – a 90-minute choir rehearsal can be as physically demanding as a soccer practice. Singing in choir really is good exercise!

Daniel H. Pink writes in his recently released book, **When: The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing,** that exercise is one of the few activities in life that is indisputably good for us, and that choral singing may be ***the*** new exercise. Pink cites numerous research studies that choral singing calms the heart, boosts endorphin levels, improves lung function, increases pain thresholds and reduces the need for pain medication. He also notes that research confirms that choral singing boosts mood and self-esteem while alleviating feelings of stress and depression.

He goes on to point out that these are not simply effects of singing (those who sing in a group report a far higher sense of well-being than those who sing solo), but rather the result of synchronizing with others. That synchronizing fosters a sense of belonging; social psychologists hypothesize that because the need to belong is a prime human motivation, much of what humans do is in pursuit and in service of that sense of belonging.

Pink notes that one’s sense of belonging shapes one’s outlook: “its absence leads to ill effects, its presence to health and satisfaction.” Singing with others involves being in perfect time with your voice and your heart, and the voices and hearts of others.

Members of the All Saints’ Choir understand synchronizing (‘sing’chronizing). Most of them currently sing or, in the recent past, have sung with multiple choral groups simultaneously. They do so because choral singing brings them great happiness. Choral music simply drives their collective soul and inspires their sense of belonging to and serving something greater than themselves.

As the 2017-2018 choir season draws to a close with Choral Evensong at 5:00pm on June 10, a celebration of the gift of music to the church and in the lives of its musicians, I want to take a moment to recognize the musicians who have sung with the All Saints’ Choir during the past year – they got some really good exercise for sure but, as a result, they radiate joy and happiness each and every week.

Gail Anthony

Amédine Bella

Eric Buteyn

Jeff Caisse

Laura Campbell

Kathryn Dodge

Arthur Eldredge

Alan Everson

Pam Everson

Rod Falby

Paul Freeman

Colin Fuller

Emma Hamlin

Christine Howe

Barbara Kaufmann

Marcia Lehman

Jacob Lewis

Johanna Lewis

Kyle Lewis

Laurie Lewis

Lauron Lewis

Kathy Maclaurin

Dave MacMillin

Mary MacMillin

Megan McClintock

Diana Mundy

Gail Novotny

Meg Rogers

Charles Ruth

Jody Simpson

Rick Simpson

Winnie Skeates

Steve Smillie

Brad Taylor

Walter Ulrich

Marilyn Weir

*Jeffrey L. Fuller,* Organist and Choirmaster

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**Editor’s Note**

Jeff writes about the joys and benefits of choral singing in “View from the Bench” this month, and I want to mention the joys and benefits of having Jeff as All Saints’ Choirmaster and Organist. Jeff’s astonishing musical knowledge and talent is outmatched only by his good humor and gentle guidance. Besides learning music and singing together, at choir rehearsals choristers are sometimes obstreperous or doltish (I speak only for myself, of course) but Jeff doesn’t ever show annoyance or impatience. Instead, we laugh and practice. There are moments during rehearsals and services when the Holy Spirit creates an energizing, exciting electricity among us that zaps us into harmony. Jeff channels that Spirit. Singing with the All Saints’ Choir is one of the profound joys of life.

As always, this *Messenger* is filled with details about the life of our parish. From Gloria, we learn the names of our graduates, so we can celebrate with them. Alma reminds us that we have the knowledge of God’s love to strengthen us always. Jamie rejoices in the All Saints’ community and looks forward to our next hundred years, and Sandi writes of the stewardship of relationships.

Cassius introduces us to a compelling novel of faith and mystery, Libby thanks the congregation for its support of The Dip, and John gives us details of The Parking Lot, answering all the 2questions we’ve been asking about this important project.

The deadline for the July-August *Messenger* will be June 16. The theme will be “Resting in the Arms of God.” Send your contributions, comments and suggestions to me at chow6569@gmail.com.

With profound gratitude and great joy,3-=

*Christine*