



THE MESSENGER

July-August 2018, Volume IX, Number 4

All Saints' Church 51 Concord Street, Peterborough, NH 03458

Parish Office: (603) 924-3202 Office Hours M-Th 9 AM-2 PM

Web: allsaintsnh.org Office Email: admin@allsaintsnh.org

Jamie Hamilton, Rector Email: revjamie@allsaintsnh.org

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.

Dear Parishioners,

In this issue...

From the Rector1-2

Sandi's Column2

Camp Brantwood.....3

July Saints' Days.....3

Which Power?4

Temple Monastery.....5

Landing at ASC.....6

A Favorite Hymn.....6

Saintly News.....7

Book Note8

August Saints' Days ..9

Alma's Poem9

Cartoon.....9

July 8 at TFM.....10

Hungry Students...11

Editor's Note.....12

Summer and fall are my favorite seasons; it's always easier for me to equate the warmth of the sun with the glory of God's grace and the spectacular colors of October with the surprise of God's imagination. Not fair, I know, as I should be equally in love with winter and spring, and I try, but I fail. I take comfort knowing that some of you look forward to the winter's light and the spring's promise. I'm thankful that I can lean on you, helping me with my winter irritability and my spring impatience. It reminds me, (especially on dark days when I struggle with my faith, usually over the cruelty and the injustices of the world,) that we pray every Sunday the Nicene Creed, by starting with the phrase, "We believe." Together we rest in God's everlasting arms of believing, and on some particular mornings when I am a weak member of the team, you carry me with our "We." And for that I am very thankful.

One of my favorite poems, Jalaluddin Rumi's *The Guest House* also helps, and I am grateful for Rumi's wisdom:

This being human is a guest house

Every morning a new arrival.

A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes
as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!
Even if they are a crowd of sorrows,
who violently sweep your house
empty of its furniture,
still, treat each guest honorably.

He may be clearing you out
for some new delight.

The dark thought, the shame, the malice.
Meet them at the door laughing and invite them in.

Be grateful for whatever comes.
Because each has been sent
as a guide from beyond.

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Our faith, this church community, our blessings, and our commitment to make a difference for each other and in the lives of our neighbors and beyond help us to welcome and entertain all guests who arrive at our door. I struggle most when—in the midst of good health, good friends, daughters who are thriving, meaningful work, and a safe neighborhood—friends and strangers are suffering with addiction, war, lack of clean water, poverty, and systemic racism. Babies are being torn away from their mothers' breasts at borders around the world; I feel helpless and I am sure you do, too. It's all so unfair, and yet we are called to believe that God is with us all, and not only understands, but stands under us as we welcome all the ways we are called to be a beacon of hope. We can't do this alone, and I am eternally thankful to be a part of a community that helps me to welcome all that comes our way, and to still hope in the light of God's grace in the midst of madness. And that somehow in the mystery of suffering and beauty, we can lean on each other arms, and be the arms of God's everlasting love.

Blessings,
Jamie+

THE MESSENGER

Sue Ernst, *Publisher*
207-716-2151

Christine Howe *Editor*,
759-5626

Brad Taylor *Assistant
Editor* 924-6595

Production

Sue Ernst
Janet Fiedler
Steve Fowle
Bev Kemp
Alma Ruth
Charlie Ruth
Bob Weathers

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Sandi's Column

Sighs too Deep for Words

Sometimes I just don't have adequate words, especially when there seems to be so much I want to take to God. This lovely poem by Mary Oliver is a good reminder to simply surrender and listen...no elaborate words necessary.

Praying by Mary Oliver

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch

a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway

into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

Amen.

Sandi

Brantwood Camp to Honor Nathaniel Peirce

On Saturday, July 21 at noon, the Board of Trustees of Brantwood Camp will honor parishioner Nathaniel Peirce with the rededication of the Peirce House.

All Saints' Church and Brantwood Camp have long shared a mutual major benefactor – Mary Cheney Schofield. Her son William was a student at an Episcopal boarding school, St. Mark's in Southborough, Massachusetts. He was killed in WW1. Mary worked with St. Mark's to create a summer service opportunity for its students who for decades volunteered and later staffed the camp. Students from St. Mark's continue to volunteer during summers at Brantwood.

It was as a result of Mary being an All Saints parishioner that she stipulated that the campers come down the hill on Sundays and sing in the church choir. In fact, there is a "Brantwood Fund" at All Saints' which was originally used to defray the expense of having the campers come down on Sundays.

The Peirce House was first dedicated on August 22, 1970 to honor Nathaniel's father, James Peirce – a counselor, assistant director and then trustee. As a trustee, James spearheaded major physical plant improvements, including the Peirce House - a house for the Director with rooms for visitors. James also was one of the trustees instrumental in securing the property that Brantwood now owns on Silver Lake in Nelson.

It was through his father that Nathaniel began his own relationship with Brantwood in 1968 as a counselor. He worked his way through several senior staff positions before becoming Camp Director in 1977.

Brantwood serves 387 youth, the majority of whom come from the New England states as well as New Jersey and New York. The camp offers three 16-day terms on two single gender campuses. The program and structure of the camp is rooted in the 5 Brantwood ideals: Honesty, Loyalty, Unselfishness, Cooperation and Good Sportsmanship.

Like his father, Nathaniel is committed to creating a stellar physical plant as a way in which to send a message to the campers that they are worthy people. Please join us in this wonderful day to not only honor Nathaniel, but to explore the beauty of this camp which has such strong ties to All Saints'.

Members of the All Saints' community are invited to celebrate this honor with Nathaniel. The ceremony will be held in front of the Peirce House, Boys' Campus, Brantwood Camp, Sand Hill Road, Peterborough.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Kevin Mitrano at 924-3542.

Harriet DiCicco, Parishioner

July Saints' Days

July 2	Ewen Finser	July 12	Barbara Eckert
July 4	The United State of America	July 16	Sam Abbott
July 5	Amédine Bella	July 16	Linn Perkins
July 6	Tracy Wagoner	July 17	Addie Catlin
July 8	Karl Betz	July 17	Lauron Lewis
July 8	Frank Manley	July 18	Tom James
July 10	Nancy Drogny	July 19	Carl Wagner III
July 10	Beth Healy	July 23	Sydney Hutton
July 10	Bob Kiely	July 23	Peter DeVinne
July 10	David Rowell	July 24	Cindy Englehardt
July 10	Bob Weathers	July 28	Lora McClintock
July 11	Eleanor Erickson	July 29	Boo Martin
July 11	Phil Miner	July 30	Sam Scheinblum

If you would like to be included in Saints' Days, please call the church office at 924-3202 or email Gail at admin@allsaintsnh.org

Horse Power or Higher Power?

I have dedicated much of my horse life to sharing the plight of America's wild horses and burros left on the southwestern state's public lands. After finding out the immense need for adoptable homes for both the wild horses and the wild burros, I adopted both a mustang and a burro rounded up in Nevada who had been kept in government holding pens in California for many years.

I adopted the burro a year ago Mother's Day. She had been adopted by another approved home in Central Maine but adopter could not "bond" with the burro so she asked if anyone else would take her in. I didn't "need" a burro but I couldn't let that poor burro not only go through another long haul trip back to California but also back into the impersonal care of the government.

I adopted my wild burro, bonded with her and rehabbed her. I named her Dixie and within a month I had her catchable, hooves trimmed without sedation and fully vetted for all healthcare needs. Through this "gentling" process, Dixie and I became friends. For six months she lived with me and my wild mustang, and then the horse went away for a few months of off-site training.

During that time, through research, I learned that burros/donkeys NEED to be with other donkeys. They get lonely, stop eating and generally die earlier than donkeys who have donkey friends. I found a donkey loving "mom" in Connecticut who was looking for a jenny (girl) donkey for her solo jenny to become friends with and be happy together.

I knew it was going to break my heart, but I felt that I needed to let my donkey go for her own happiness and well-being. As Dixie was loaded onto the transport trailer south, I sobbed. I realized that losing her was like losing a forever friend and the grief was much stronger than I had anticipated.

My farm was going through a transition as I was bringing my wild mustang horse home from months away for training. Unfortunately, he came home with a very bad cough which was diagnosed as a bad lung infection. So here I was, sad to lose my donkey and now my wild horse was sick by being in the domesticated horses' world. I felt just awful and was very weepy.

I mentioned my pain to a parishioner who quickly reassured me that she would have my horse added to All Saints' prayer list. I am a spiritual but not deeply religious person, but I certainly appreciated her gesture of support.

Ten days went by with only fresh air, lots of tending to and freedom from human. The vet revisited and was amazed at how quickly my mustang had not only recovered without antibiotics but went from a very high blood infection rate to a zero test! I chalked it up to his wild horse immune system and letting nature do what it does best and heal itself.

The next day the parishioner asked me about my horse and I said I couldn't believe how healthy he became without medicine and in such a short period of time. I told her that I thought it was his strong wild horse blood and she said, "No silly, it's because we prayed for him!" I was dumbfounded, and she was correct. Through all my pain with both rehoming my donkey and tending to my horse, it hadn't occurred to me that there are powers greater than my human intervention that was making these two animals live happy and healthy lives!

Gretchen Rae, Project Coordinator



Temple Forest Monastery

Sunday Afternoon Meditation

The Temple Forest Monastery is in Temple on over 200 acres of land on the East Side of Pack Monadnock. There are seven or more monks and several novices in residence at any given time. The novices wear white robes and the monks wear saffron robes. All the monks are American, except for the occasional visiting Brit or Canadian. Guests are welcome for lunch at 11:00. The food is all provided by volunteers and is like a pot luck church supper only better. There are non-vegetarian, vegetarian, Thai, and American dishes. Sometimes there are amazing desserts! If you are interested in talking with other people, this is a good thing to do.

I urge you to seek out a monk and ask a question or start a conversation. I have been amazed by their sense of presence. When you are speaking with them, you are the center of their world. They are present to you and you alone. I can feel it and I wonder if you will too. Ask any question at all. I think you may be surprised at their openness and perhaps by the presence that they project. Remember that they are all Americans and went to American schools just like we did. Why did they choose to become Buddhist Monks? What is unique about the Thai Forest Tradition? What happens when you sit alone in the forest for several days? What does meditation mean to you? What is it like to eat one meal a day? Do you worry about where your next meal will come from? How do you travel with no money, especially when you travel overseas?

The Meditation Workshop starts promptly at 1 PM with a half hour of guided meditation led by a monk or sometimes the abbot. Afterwards, the leader will give a Dharma Talk, usually about teachings intended to give insight into Buddhist philosophy. The talks reflect whatever is on the mind of the monk.

Many people sit on the floor to meditate, but it is not required. There are plenty of chairs set up so feel free to be comfortable. Everyone is welcoming open and friendly.

Most people coming into the meditation room will face the statue of Buddha and bow three times touching their heads to the floor. This is not required so you are free to do as you wish.

A word of explanation: Although you may look on the bowing as worship, it is not. The monks and others there will refer to this as showing respect to Buddha and his teaching. Buddha is not divine and if you ask a monk about belief in God or any greater power you will likely get an ambiguous answer. The Dalai Lama refers to himself as a Non-Theist. Buddha said he had found a path to enlightenment and he taught his disciples the path; he also said many times that this was a path that worked for him, and if you find it does not work for you, by all means follow your own path. Buddhists do not proselytize.

This is the chant said by those who choose to bow before or after meditation. The chanting is done in Pali, a language that predates Sanskrit, but here is a translation:

The Lord, the Perfectly Enlightened and Blessed One
I render homage to the Buddha, the Blessed One (*bow*)
The Teaching so completely explained by him
I bow to the Dhamma (*bow*) (Dhamma refers to the teaching or philosophy)
The Blessed One's Disciples who have practiced well
I bow to the Sangha (*bow*) (Sangha refers to the community)

After the first hour, there will be walking meditation outside. The monk in charge will give guidance on how to do walking meditation. The afternoon closes with a question-and-answer period, ending at 3 PM.

Should you wish to make a contribution for lunch or for any other reason you will find this is not expected or perhaps not even easy. There is a box for donations and the last time I looked for it, it was hidden behind some books on a bookcase. There is a foundation that handles the expenses of the monastery and online donations can be made by clicking on forestmonastery.org and go to the contribute link. The monks take a vow never to handle money which presents some interesting issues when they travel. They are also forbidden to ask for anything. They will accept gifts of food or clothing freely given, but never money. They take some pains never to make it look like they are begging or asking.

Frank Manley

Taking a Leap of Faith and Landing at All Saints

After 29 happy years in the lovely and vibrant community of Katonah, New York, moving to a new town, in a new state was a big step. But Lauron and I were ready for a change and encouraged by the opportunity to live closer to one of our three grown children. A major point of sadness for us was leaving our church family. We had been active and involved members at our Lutheran church for our years in Westchester and it was hard to say good-bye to that faith community.

We “landed” in Peterborough in late May 2017, and after a week or two of unpacking boxes, decided to start “church shopping” in our new hometown. We planned to spend summer Sundays worshipping at local churches in hopes of finding a new church home that felt right for us. We prioritized what we were seeking in a church:

- ❖ Open and affirming worship and community
- ❖ Thoughtful preaching
- ❖ Service and outreach locally and beyond.
- ❖ Liturgical tradition, and
- ❖ A commitment to meaningful (and hopefully good) music.

Luckily for us, All Saints’ was our first Sunday selection—and from Jamie’s first “Good Morning All Saints!” we realized that we were blessed to have found such a vibrant, welcoming and committed Christian community. From the active engagement of worshippers to the meaningful sermon message to the clear evidence of the church’s service in the community, we felt renewed and strengthened that first Sunday. That good feeling was topped only by the warm and friendly post-worship gathering for “lemonade and cookies” on the lawn.

Since that initial Sunday, Lauron and I have been blessed to feel that we are valued members of this faith community, especially through our participation in the All Saints’ choir. Thanks to Jeff Fuller’s talent, commitment and good humor, we look forward to weekly choir duties. The immediate warm welcome from our choir cohort has grown into always-uplifting conviviality and deeper friendships. And contributing to All Saints’ worship each Sunday strengthens our own faith as we “sing with the spirit and also with the understanding,” sharing meaningful music with this wider church family.

Hymns have always been an important part of my faith practice, and when I think of our experience at All Saints, the line of one song comes to mind:

“And they’ll know we are Christians by our love...”

Being present at All Saints’—in worship on Sunday morning, at a Saturday Rite Now or Lenten Morning Prayer, at coffee hour, book study, or even committee meetings—brings a feeling of being wrapped in love and supported in faith by fellow journeyers. We are so thankful for this unexpected gift in our new hometown. We took that leap and landed safely “in the arms of God.” We look forward to continuing to grow with this community of believers that is All Saints.

With thanksgiving,

Laurie H. Lewis



And while we're talking hymns...

At my first All Saints' choir rehearsal, Amédine Bella and I discovered our shared experience with the Lutheran tradition, including some hymns that are not part of the Episcopal hymnal. She and I have talked about one hymn in particular that we love—"Borning Cry." It speaks to the theme of this month's Messenger: "Resting in the Arms of God." We wanted to share the words with our All Saints' family:

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time, and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Text © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

Happy Singing Everyone!

Laurie Lewis and Amédine Bella

Saintly News

Congratulations to...

Our recent College Graduate

❖ **Megan McClintock**, Manchester Community College (Associate Degree in Cyber Security)
Megan also received the Excellence in Leadership Award.

Our High School Graduate

❖ **Andres Tourgee**, Conval High School
Andres will be traveling to Seattle this July to play on the Special Olympics Basketball team.

And also...

- ❖ **Gail and Dick Wilson** on their new adventure and move to Boise, Idaho
- ❖ **Kathy Boss** on her new position as the Executive Director of the Peterborough Food Pantry.

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.

Book Note

Once again, I find myself commending a book that many have read already, and perhaps discussed in book clubs, and that others had brought to their attention and already decided not to read. The book is *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles (Viking, 2016), forced upon me by kind neighbors in Washington when I was laid low with a cold.

This is, I suppose, an historical novel, set in Moscow from 1922 to 1954, during the early and middle years of the Soviet Union. The premise is that a young Russian aristocrat, who has returned to Moscow from Paris, is discovered living in the Hotel Metropol, a grand hotel in the middle of Moscow. What to do? Ordinarily, he, “Count Alexander Ilyich Rostov, recipient of the Order of St. Andrew, member of the Jockey Club, Master of the Hunt”, would be sentenced to death and summarily shot. But before the Revolution, he had published a poem that had been praised by revolutionaries, and thus is allowed to go on living at the Metropol for the rest of his life. The catch? If he ever steps outside the hotel, he will be shot.

So his is to be a life confined to a very small community with strangers passing in and out. It is a posh form of internal exile, to which troublemakers in Russia have been sentenced for centuries (but usually in Siberia). The hotel has several restaurants, a barbershop, large meeting and assembly rooms, and a staff that mostly stays in place. Grand balls give way to union committee meetings, the *fin de siècle* customs give way to formally socialist manners—not as much as one might expect—there are news and rumors of the outside world, and Count Rostov remains, interested, sardonic, realistic, generally loving, by some beloved, and always “a gentleman.”

Rostov is not a pious man. His generation, seeking something to rebel against, found the Church ideal for its purposes. But his heritage, his love for his country, and his way of befriending those who need it most, betray him as a good man. He is a reader and an educator, happy to share what he has learned with small children and high Communist Party officials alike. There may not be much Faith, but there is profound faithfulness.

There is a wonderful story here that unfolds at its own pace, sometimes placid, sometimes dramatic, often comical. Lives are at stake in the workings of this hotel. New worlds are revealed in the restlessness of a young girl, the plotting of a staff member, the compromises made by an actress and a poet. And the changes of pace are accompanied by wondrous changes in literary style, sometimes reminiscent of the great Russian writers so admired by Rostov.

This may be beach reading, but it contains far more salt than sand.

Cassius Webb

PS. Informed by the editor that I have extra space this month, I thought it might be of interest how I go about this very pleasant task. When I was asked, at the inauguration of *The Messenger*, to write a “book note” each month, I assumed that the books should be in some degree “churchy”. My attitude is now more relaxed; I now write about books that I think may be of interest to churchgoers, as people who share God’s interest in creation, in people, in ideas, understanding them all to be works of the Spirit.

Generally, I try to balance old books with new, Anglican books with non-Anglican, fiction with nonfiction. So far, I have never repeated an author. And I have been introduced to a new spiritual exercise: listening attentively for clues and for direction in what I should direct my attention to next. My book choices come from personal recommendations, from NPR interviews, from browsing shelves, from pursuing lines of thought. For a while they also came from helping to teach candidates for ordination.

I don’t know whether any of these monthly musings have enriched your life; but they certainly have mine! This is a joyful part of my ministry, and (take it as a warning or a promise) I hope to continue.

Cassius

August Saints' Days

August 1 Bev Kemp
 August 2 Olivia Krommes
 August 4 Grantland Richard Jarest
 August 5 Marilyn Hill
 August 6 Jocelyn Coffin
 August 7 Ivy Vann
 August 10 Barbara Clinkenbeard
 August 11 Kathryn Dodge
 August 12 Mary Liz Lewis
 August 13 Lily Juarez-Rivas
 August 13 Jack Lewis
 August 13 Winnie Skeates
 August 14 Linda Lapham
 August 15 Peter Row
 August 16 Alastair George Armstrong
 August 16 Eloise Catlin

August 16 Jay Hale
 August 18 Sunny Badrawy
 August 18 Anthony Gatto
 August 19 Eleonore Bayles
 August 19 Hayley Spitzfaden
 August 20 Ellie Peterson
 August 23 Mark Lapham
 August 23 Dorrie Richmond
 August 23 Dee Thomas
 August 27 Swift Corwin
 August 27 Arthur Eldredge
 August 29 Emily Smith
 August 29 Sally Steere
 August 31 Emily Knarr
 August 31 Hadi Lancaric
 August 31 Evan Wagner

If you would like to be included in Saints' Days, please call the church office at 924-3202 or email Gail at admin@allsaintsnh.or

In God's Arms

Come to me all you who are weary
 And carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest.
 Matthew 12: 28

Everyone has a few dark days
 When things look bleak
 Despite the sun's rays
 Even the strongest are sometimes weak
 Remember our God who watches and cares
 Rest easy in His arms
 Thank Him in your prayers
 You're safe from all alarms

Love,
 Alma



Visiting Temple Forest Monastery on July 8

Ordinarily, Temple Forest Monastery is a quiet place. It comprises 250 acres of forest, fields, old farm buildings, and small cabins in the woods. Every day, rain or shine, there's a communal pot-luck lunch at 11 am, to which everyone is invited — including All Saints' parishioners. After the meal, a monk is available for informal conversation with visitors. On most Sunday afternoons (except for three winter months) all are welcome to the meditation workshop from 1 to 3 PM

But the monastery will not be so quiet on Sunday, July 8, when it will be hosting an event that is likely to attract close to 200 people. The occasion will mark three things: the arrival of a donated life-size statue of the Buddha that was cast in Thailand and is housed in a beautiful, locally-constructed pavilion; the visit of a venerable Thai monk who leads the international monastic community to which Temple Forest Monastery belongs; and the intention of a group of Thai-American friends of the monastery to offer support in a traditional way (referred to as Pa Bah).

Temple Forest Monastery is part of a Western, English speaking branch of the Thai Forest Tradition. Originating in Thailand, this Buddhist monastic lineage encourages monks to follow the simple lifestyle that the Buddha favored. Monks at Temple Forest Monastery will be living in small, individual cabins in the forest of North Pack Monadnock.

This Western branch of the Thai Forest Tradition includes monasteries in Europe, Australia, Canada, and the USA. The monks' rules forbid proselytizing, so these are not the product of missionary activity. These communities developed in part because of local lay support from natives of these countries who became interested in meditation and/or Buddhism, and in part from Thai immigrant families in the various countries. Thus, Temple Forest Monastery is a place where Thai and American cultural traditions mix. While those without Buddhist roots usually come mainly for meditation, Asian-American Buddhists often additionally come to follow the religious traditions of their homeland, which can be more ceremonial than meditative. Much of the appeal among Westerners originates from the current interest in "mindfulness," which developed in part from the meditation teachings of the Thai Forest Tradition.

The event on July 8 promises to bring together all these aspects of Buddhist practice and community life. The schedule will probably follow this pattern:

- At about 10:15 AM, everyone assembled will make a traditional offering of food to the monks. After that, everyone will share the pot-luck buffet.
- At about 12:30 PM, people will gather near the new Buddha statue for a short dedication and blessing.
- Following that, people will assemble in a large tent for a traditional offering from the lay sponsors of the event.
- Finally, Luang Por Liem, the visiting monk, will give a Buddhist teaching in Thai, and it will be translated into English.
- The event will probably end at about 3 PM.

On July 8, most people will arrive either for the 10:30 am meal offering (bringing a dish to share is optional) or for the 12:30 pm dedication. Keep in mind that this is a forest monastery, so casual clothes for walking on grass is recommended. See the monastery website <www.forestmonastery.org> for directions (note that the monastery is **not** the one on Temple Mountain that you can see on Route 101). And check the website for possible changes in the schedule.

The activities on July 8 will be festive, traditional, and perhaps crowded. At other times, there are fewer people, and it's more serene. Temple Forest Monastery invites visitors to come on any day of the week for the 11 AM meal and, following the meal, an informal visit with one of the resident monks. Sundays are particularly popular because of the afternoon meditation workshop from 1 to 3 PM. The monastery welcomes visitors and tries to provide a place of peace and reflection in a busy world.

Dorothea Bowen, Friend of Temple Forest Monastery

School's Out--Snacks Are Still In

What a fabulous school year it has been for the Peterborough Food Pantry Hungry Students Program sponsored by All Saints'. As you may recall, we merged with the Peterborough Food Pantry in October 2016. In both our commitment as partners and also in our Outreach Ministry to the pantry, we agreed to sponsor their Hungry Students Program which operates throughout the school year in 11 schools in the Conval School District. With your steadfast, consistent, and generous donations each week we have been able to provide 43 large boxes of snacks, doubling the number provided previously. The school personnel were shy and hesitant to ask for resupplies at first but your contributions allowed us to meet the need with God's abundance and their subsequent overwhelming gratitude. I asked Vicki Mellon, the nurse at Antrim Elementary, for permission to quote her directly:

"The snack program has been such a wonderful and welcome addition these past few years for our children. We have very hungry children who often take two snacks, one we ensure is either applesauce or a fruit cup. Their bellies are satisfied but not stuffed and they are so excited when they leave with something in each hand. On the days after we receive a delivery and baskets are full to the brim they look in awe at the goodies and pick with care. We keep a stash in the Health Office and the rest is shared with the classrooms. We tell them these snacks are from people who care and love them. THANK YOU so much for your thoughtfulness, time and beautiful snacks, our children are hungry and it takes a village to feed them and I am so very grateful that you are part of our village. The boxes we have received have been so amazing at AES & BES, the selections have been great and varied. The only things that I requested we do not receive are juice boxes because I have them drink water. Again, thank you so much for your generosity and time. On behalf of the children at AES and BES, Vicki" In a separate email Vickie states, *"The extra food/snacks are so welcomed. I just had a little boy who had a terrible bellyache visit. After determining he wasn't "sick" but hungry, I gave him a snack. Back to class he went with a smile!"*

Our snack supply will also provide two extra boxes this summer for Conval High School and Great Brook Middle School sponsoring summer school sessions.

Since Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation, you may also recall our snack debut last summer; it's how it all began! With your continued participation we will again provide snacks through the food pantry in brown paper lunch bags to each child of the families served on a weekly basis in July and August. This ministry was such a success last summer for families with already stressed food budgets who depend on the school meal programs during the school year. Your gifts are a double blessing for both the receivers and the givers! Thank you for continuing to support our kids this summer by bringing your Healthy Snacks to worship.

Madelyn Morris



Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation



All Saints' Church
51 Concord Street
Peterborough NH 03458

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Editor's Note

The theme of this issue of *The Messenger* is "Resting in the Arms of God." Jamie leads off with perfectly lovely thoughts about ways our community sustains each of us. We live in a complicated world and we have each other to lean on. Sandi echoes those thoughts, sharing a poem by Mary Oliver.

We have two articles in this issue about the Temple Forest Monastery, one by Frank, a parishioner who often visits there and the other by Dorothea, a friend of the monastery. Written from their different perspectives, each paints a picture for us of a lovely community where we all would be most welcome.

Speaking of being welcomed, Laurie tells us of how she and Lauron came to call All Saints' their church home. In a companion article, Laurie and Amédine share a favorite hymn that is in the Lutheran hymnal but not ours.

Madelyn keeps us up-to-date with the Hungry Students Program that All Saints' sponsors and urges us to remember that *hunger doesn't take a vacation!*

Cassius writes about *A Gentleman in Moscow*, certainly one of the finest novels I've ever read: I join him in urging you to read it this summer.

Gloria gives us this month's Saintly News, and Harriet has written about our own Nathaniel, to be honored later in July by Camp Brantwood.

Gretchen's story of her rescue horse and donkey and of the power of prayer is beautiful and inspiring. Please, like Gretchen, submit your own stories of faith for our newsletter.

Remember this is the one summer issue of *The Messenger*. July and August are combined and the next issue will be published in September.

The deadline for the September *Messenger* will be August 15. The theme will be "Working for the Lord." Send your contributions, comments and suggestions to me at chow6569@gmail.com.

With profound gratitude and great joy.

Christine