

Contents



+ Introduction | Mission Statement | Search Prayer | page 3

+ Who We Are | page 4

- + Our Parish
- + Our History
- + Our Buildings

+ Where We Live | page 9

- + Our Town
- + The Diocese of New Hampshire
& Wider Church

+ What We Do | page 14

- + Worship
- + Stewardship & Finances
- + Formation
- + Communications
- + Service & Outreach
- + Parish Life
- + Pastoral Care



+ An Open Letter To Our Next Rector | page 23

+ Parish Leadership & Clergy | page 25

+ Useful Links | page 26

Introduction

SEARCH PRAYER

Almighty and ever-loving God, giver of wisdom and truth,
bless us, the people of All Saints' Church
as we search for our next rector.

Guide us in our mission to honor Jesus Christ
through prayer, acts of love and unconditional kindness
and by extending radical hospitality to all.

Guide the members of our Ministry Discernment Committee
that, with humility, patience, curiosity and joy
they may each hear the voice of your Holy Spirit
speaking to and through them as they do their work.

Guide those priests who are also in discernment,
that our Discernment Committee and Vestry
may recognize the one you are calling to join us
in serving this parish, our diocese, the world.

These things we humbly pray in the name of your Son,
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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This Parish Profile describes the parish of All Saints' Church - our worship, our communal life, our mission, our surrounding community and our hopes for the future. It is a collaborative effort by members of our current and past discernment committees. With an honest portrayal of our relationship with God and his ministry, we hope to clearly present ourselves. By doing so, we will call the right pastor to our midst, who is ready to lead us in God's glory.

Since April 2015, our committed group has met weekly to gather and collate information to update and generate this informative profile. In addition, input from members of the parish was surveyed. This document presents the strengths of All Saints', and provides a sense of where we are today.

In this profile, we have tried to represent the will of the parish, to portray our life together truthfully and realistically, and to respect each other's points of view. The process, while not always easy, has been enlightening. We pray for God's guidance and wisdom and hope that this profile does justice to the committed members of All Saints' and the path they have forged in the past and will continue to walk on in the many years to come.

The mission of All Saints' Episcopal Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ by practicing our Christian Faith through prayer and acts of love and unconditional kindness.



Who We Are

Our Parish | Our History | Our Buildings



Who We Are | OUR PARISH

We are a friendly, enthusiastic parish where all are truly welcome. Our 2014 Parochial Report indicates that we have 241 baptized members with average Sunday attendance of 72 (8:00am & 10:00am services.)

All Saints' membership remained stable for many years and enjoyed some modest growth during our previous rector's tenure. In the past year we have warmly welcomed a handful of new members, however, within the last 18 months we have lost approximately fifteen parishioners to illness, death or relocation. The parish has a healthy blend of those who were raised in the Episcopal Church and those who transitioned from other denominations. Many parishioners are from Littleton but an equal number travel from surrounding towns, and Vermont, to attend All Saints'



The majority of our parishioners are 60 or older, many with lifelong connections to All Saints', however, we do have a nice complement of under 60's who are very active in the parish. At this time we have just a couple of families with children but their presence in church always brings a joyous energy to the proceedings and they are encouraged to fully participate. Youth and young adult attendance is minimal and sporadic but we are eager to explore opportunities to embrace young people where they are. We look forward to working on creative ways to engage this demographic outside of our church walls.

We look forward to working on creative ways to engage youth and young adults outside of our church walls.

Our congregation is a vibrant and passionate one who genuinely cares for one another, the broader community and the wider world. Parishioners of All Saints' are actively involved in many community wide endeavors as volunteers. That involvement includes support for many intergenerational programs that contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of the community. A partial list of such voluntary activities includes Meals on Wheels, the Burch House (a women's shelter), the Bancroft House (a homeless shelter), Volunteers in Police Service, Littleton Regional Hospital, Boys & Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, environmental organizations, animal shelters as well as civic groups, and local politics. Volunteers also provide support to seniors on shopping trips, paraprofessional support at local schools, coaching and refereeing for local school sporting events.

Our Millennium Development Goal recipients help to keep us connected to the wider world through Friends of Meisori School, Mali Health, and the Lwala Clinic. Recently, after an engaging sermon by our interim rector the following was overheard in the greeting line "All Saints' should adopt a Syrian family.... how do we go



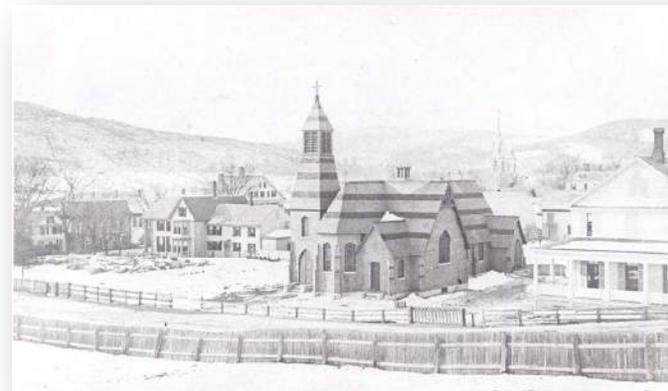
Deacon Paul & Sheelagh Higginson with our sponsored student Mike and his mother.

Who We Are | OUR HISTORY

The area's first Episcopalians held services in other churches until 1874 when the "Ladies of the All Saints' Episcopal Society" held a fair, for two days and nights, to raise money "for the sole purpose to build an Episcopal church in Littleton." Land was donated and their dream was realized. As a symbolic representation of the church's involvement in the Littleton community, the bell, installed in the bell tower during construction of the church in 1875, came from the Saranac Glove Factory, long a source of employment and income for local people.

Over the years, improvements and modifications were made including the purchase of a Victorian home on the north side of the property that served as the rectory and parish house. All Saints' grew from tiny mission to full parish status over 50 years ago, and in this time has undergone two major renovations. The first in 1972 was a modern complementary addition with new entryway that allowed the undercroft to be re-imagined as the choir dressing room. More recently, in 2003, with the blessing and support of Bishop Theuner, and the solid commitment of this parish, the vision for a new facility connected to the church materialized. The dismantling of the old parish house was bittersweet, but some of the sense of loss was eased thanks to parishioner Carl Hilgenberg, who searched for and found a new owner for the building frame. The new parish center was officially dedicated in early 2004. Access to the sanctuary is now through a connecting entryway that beautifully blends and binds old and new together.

This building project was a huge undertaking for a small parish and was only accomplished because of the enthusiastic commitment and generous support of our parishioners. Just a couple of years after the new building was dedicated the mortgage was paid off in full.



Who We Are | OUR HISTORY

+ The Clergy who helped us shape All Saints' Parish to be what it is today.

+ The Rev. Carleton Schaller 1962-1989

In 1962, Carl Schaller borrowed a car from the Diocesan office in Concord and drove through Franconia Notch on a freezing winter day. He was headed for his interview at the mission church in Littleton for the position of Vicar. Thankfully, he was hired and remained Vicar/Rector for 27 years. He guided the congregation to be a thriving parish until he retired in 1989. Carl was an exceptional man of humbleness, integrity, faith, & inner resolve.

At his retirement Bishop Theuner described Carl Schaller as one of the most respected men in the state of New Hampshire.

He was honored as one of few clergy ever to be elected to the Diocesan Board of Trustees.

+ The Rev. Barbara Thrall 1990-2007

Barbara was called in 1990. She was our first woman Rector. Barbara added tremendously to the life and vigor of the parish for 16 years. During her tenure, we bravely committed to the most extensive improvement since the building of the church itself. Barbara's inspiration and guidance gave us the confidence to replace the existing parish house that we had outgrown with a modern facility at a cost hovering just under one million dollars.

Barbara shares: *"It was a wonderful time for me and our family. Ed and I had a great time in the North Country, taking in the natural beauty and slower pace of the rural setting. We especially came to appreciate the people and the wonderful givers and sharers we found at All Saints'. The Diocese was healthy and generous, holding All Saints' in high regard.*

+ The Rev. Kurt C. Wiesner 2008-2015

Kurt, our youngest Rector, accepted the call to All Saints' as his first priest in charge position. We responded to his vitality and appreciated his ability to blend old traditions with new. Kurt continued the development of his preaching style and taught adult formation classes and Holy Moly with the children. He embraced technology and created a blog in which he posted his sermons and commentary on issues relating to current events, gender issues, and popular culture.



50+ years of ministry at All Saints'

L – R: The Rev. Paul Higginson, Deacon, The Rev. Kurt C. Wiesner, The Rev. Barbara Thrall, The Rev. Carleton Schaller

Who We Are | OUR BUILDINGS

The church sits on a small lot in the center of town, and is just steps from a thriving and busy downtown.

The church proper, built in 1875, is of brick. A small bell tower dominates the east end. The Food Cupboard now occupies the former entrance lobby at the lower west end of the church. The intimate sanctuary has white stucco walls punctuated with stained glass windows.

The new parish center provides a fully handicapped-accessible entrance to the church, and houses the parish hall with a state-of-the-art media system, full food service quality kitchen, and the capacity to seat 117 people for dining, or 250 auditorium style. There are also offices for the rector and parish administrator, a classroom, conference room, choir room, fellowship room for mid-sized gatherings, and a "parlor" or common room for small-group activities.

We love this extended version of our church and the limitless possibilities it affords. A number of town organizations currently make use of this space on a regular basis including, Dinner Bell, Tai Chi and



NAMI. Additionally we have a modest number of other rentals throughout the calendar year. It is fair to say that we have struggled to take full advantage of facility rental opportunities but look forward to creatively working on this challenge as we move forward together.

We do not have a dedicated parking lot, and in the past parking infractions have been at the root of a strained relationship with our Community Center neighbors. However, over the past six years we have worked hard to resolve these issues with our neighbors, and are happy to report that we now enjoy a much more amicable relationship with them.



It is fair to say that we have struggled to take full advantage of facility rental opportunities but look forward to creatively working on this challenge as we move forward together.



I  NH



Where We Live

Our Town | Diocese of NH & Wider Church Involvement



Where We Live | OUR TOWN

Be Glad! Littleton New Hampshire

"One of the last classic Main Streets in New England, downtown Littleton is a vibrant center of commerce in a town nestled along the banks of the mighty Ammonoosuc River, close by the picturesque White Mountains of northern New Hampshire." Golittleton.com

Littleton is a uniquely charming, and quaint, yet always engaging and friendly small town. It became incorporated as a town in 1798, the same year New Hampshire became a state. The town's first industries were located along the river and included the Littleton Grist Mill. Located approximately 155 miles from Boston and 110 miles from Portland, ME, Littleton quickly



became a favorite recreation destination. Railroads brought visitors to the many grand hotels in the area as well as the Thayer's Inn on Littleton's Main Street.

Today, Littleton is a shopping and business hub. Determined to protect the unique shops along Main Street, Littleton's select board restricted "big box" stores to an area on the west side of town. Nearby, the Littleton Industrial Park continues to develop as a center for light industry. Littleton's award winning Main Street boasts restaurants and cafes, one of a kind shops, and the world's longest candy counter! The public library is home to our "Be Glad" Pollyanna statue, and a small art collection. Littleton has won several awards and recognitions for its Main Street and businesses.

Littleton is the largest town in Northern Grafton County. According to the 2010 US Census, it has just under 6,000 people living in the town and the household median income is \$44,769. In Littleton, 7.9% of children under 18 and 10% of adults 65 and over live in poverty.

Recreation

Littleton is located just north and west of the White Mountain National Forest and Franconia Notch State Park. These parks offer the best hiking and skiing in the east. The area is crossed by miles of snowmobile and cross-country ski trails and beautiful lakes for swimming, fishing, and boating. Outdoor enthusiasts travel from around the world to hike to Mt. Washington's 6,289 foot summit and to kayak whitewater rivers and paddle secluded lakes in search of elusive moose. The Town of Littleton has several recreation fields, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. The popular summer recreation program offers children a variety of activities including swimming lessons. North of town, Moore Dam creates a beautiful lake in the Connecticut River, with several beaches and boat launches. The Ammonoosuc Rail Trail is an 18-mile trail from Littleton to Woodsville, NH and is open to hike, bike, snowmobile, horseback ride, ATVs, snowshoe and Nordic ski.

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Where We Live | OUR TOWN

Social Scene

Littleton is experiencing a kind of cultural revival. The newly designated "River District" incorporates art studios, shops, restaurants, and music spaces. You can sit at a table on the deck overlooking the river and enjoy a wood-fired pizza and a craft beer at Schilling or a delicious sandwich at The Miller's Fare. You can sign up for an art or jewelry making class at the Littleton Studio School and peruse the offerings at Bad Art or take in a concert of local musicians at the Loading Dock. A Riverwalk stroll takes you across the covered bridge and back across a suspension bridge further down river. On Sundays, after church, you can cross the covered bridge and sample local products at the Farmer's Market. The Uptown Players, a local amateur theater group produce several musicals each year at the Littleton Opera House. The Opera House hosts events as diverse as Professional Wrestling, beauty pageants, craft fairs, and speeches by presidential hopefuls. A walk along Main Street provides opportunities for window-shopping or order a coffee and pastry at The French Sisters or M-ZO and spend a few minutes watching the world go by. Many restaurants offer live music most evenings in the summer and on weekends in the winter.



The nearby towns of Bethlehem and Franconia NH and St. Johnsbury, VT also offer a wide variety of other social and cultural events.

We seek a rector who;

- + Will embrace the blessings of Northern New Hampshire living
- + Is willing to be a presence in the greater community
- + Is willing to guide us in helping others who are dealing with social challenges

[Click here to read a recent Yankee Magazine article about Littleton](#)

Where We Live | DIOCESE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

All Saints' has a long history of service to the Diocese and the Bishops of New Hampshire. We hold this relationship in high regard, knowing that our time, talent and treasure are truly valued by the Bishop and staff at 63 Green Street, and we have backed this participation by always contributing our Diocesan Fair Share.

The Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire is part of Province I of the Episcopal Church in the United States. The Right Reverend A. Robert Hirschfeld became the 10th Bishop of New Hampshire in January 2013. There are 46 Episcopal congregations and seven seasonal chapels in the diocese; three of these chapels are located within 15 miles of Littleton. We especially value our close relationship with St. Matthew's Chapel in Sugar Hill.

All Saints' is one of seven churches that comprise the Northern Convocation. Four elected members plus clergy represent both Convocation membership and double as voting delegates at Diocesan Convention. In the recent past delegates from this group have served as members of both the Bishop's Search Committee as well as, most recently, on the Bishop's Election and Transition team. All Saints' was blessed with a visit from the Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, in 2008.

On a Diocesan level the elected members to Convention have been faithful in their attendance and responsibilities. Our clergy in the past have been active in many positions serving on a variety of committees; Standing, Youth and Young People, Clergy Compensation, Election and Transition, and Imagining as well as the Diocesan Board of Trustees. Our previous rector, The Rev. Kurt C. Wiesner, served on the CREDO faculty team. The lay people of All Saints' have served, or currently serve, as representatives to General Convention, Bishop's Committee on Clergy Compensation and Benefits, Commission on Ministry, Episcopal Relief and Development, Stewardship and Evangelism, Liturgy, Music and the Arts, and Diocesan Council. In early 2015 three members of All Saints' were trained for a Regional Discernment Committee for those exploring a call to ministry.

In 1970 All Saints' member, Carol M. Nichols, was the first woman from New Hampshire to be seated as a convention deputy.

Where We Live | ECUMENICAL INVOLVEMENT

Generally speaking, our ecumenical involvement arises from goals that we happen to share with the members of other churches, rather than from a concerted effort to be together.

We share the responsibility of hosting and managing the local Food Cupboard, working with members of other churches to help those faced with emergency food needs. We work with other churches, schools and community service organizations to serve dinners at the weekly Dinner Bell held at All Saints'. Feeding programs are always popular at All Saints'. This summer, for the first time, we joined with two other area churches to provide snacks for 80 children participating in the summer-long Littleton Parks and Rec program.

The parish is invited to, and participates in, a town-wide Thanksgiving service and a Good Friday service. To usher in the New Year, we invite the community to our traditional New Year's Eve service held outdoors at Remich Park. Each Memorial Day we join with the other area churches to ring our church bells for 10 minutes starting at 11:00am. The town Memorial Day parade ends at the Veteran's Memorial Bridge with a ceremony to remember local service men and women who have died serving their country. Many parishioners attend and participate in the day's events.

Local clergy gathering on a regular basis has proved sporadic depending on the personalities represented from the various denominations. Bishop Hirschfeld recently commented that "the Episcopal clergy of the Diocese are a close-knit and supportive group" and numerous formal and informal opportunities are provided throughout the year for clergy to gather together for retreats and workshops.



2015 Ecumenical Good Friday service at All Saints' Episcopal Church



What We Do

Worship | Stewardship & Finances | Formation |



What We Do | WORSHIP

All Saints' celebrates Holy Eucharist on Sunday with two services; a reflective service at 8:00 a.m. and a choral Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer or an alternative service from Enriching our Worship are typically used.

The people of All Saints' participate in services as choir members, altar guild, lay Eucharistic ministers, acolytes, ushers, lectors and intercessors. A dedicated choir and a fine organist provide music with enthusiastic help from the congregation. In early 2015 a small group of parishioners were trained to lead Morning Prayer services.

Holy Week and Easter observances begin with Palm Sunday, but we are not tied to a particular tradition for Holy Week. In recent years services have included a Tenebrae service, a Liberation Feast, and a potluck meal followed by a traditional Maundy Thursday service with foot washing. A midday service is offered on Good Friday as well as an ecumenical service in the evening with clergy from many local churches participating. A reflective Easter morning service is held at 8:00am with a festive choral Eucharist at 10:00am. Our tradition of ringing small bells every time the word 'Alleluia' is spoken or sung delights young and old alike. Following the service the children and young people are invited to help with the ringing of the church bells, and encouraged to join the Easter egg hunt.

We seek a rector who will:

- + Relate Scripture to our everyday lives
- + Bring both vibrancy and humor to our worship
- + Respect the traditional liturgy but be willing to explore alternatives
- + Encourage children's participation in worship

On Christmas Eve we have a family service at 4:00pm, a joyous choral Eucharist at 10:00pm and one service on Christmas morning.

Less formal services have included a Eucharist at Relay for Life, an annual Pet Blessing in the fall, and an outdoor New Year's Eve Eucharist service in a local park. Ashes to Go, on Main Street in Littleton, have been offered for the past few years and are appreciated by those who participate. Private Eucharist is available to those unable to attend services.

At All Saints' we have enjoyed a tradition of excellent preaching by our rector, deacons, interims and supply clergy. Sermons that relate Scripture to our everyday lives, are intellectually and spiritually

challenging, and include a little humor are well received by the congregation. We enjoy the occasional interactive sermon and have become quite comfortable with them in recent years.

Choir and vestry members are currently visioning the future of our music program. Declining choir membership

... there is a strong passion for music at All Saints' and we are determined to nurture our music program even if we don't know exactly how it will turn out!

due to illness, death or relocation has resulted in diminished participation. However, there is a strong passion for music at All Saints' and we are determined to nurture our music program even if we don't know exactly how it will turn out!

What We Do | STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship at All Saints' reflects our strong relationships with each other, our community, and God, as well as a commitment to financial stability. Generally speaking our pledging numbers mirror current trends in the diocese. Pledging history and attendance during an interim period shows a slight decline, but we are confident the All Saints' spirit will provide solid support for the next rector.

In 2014 after five years of dedicated and deliberate work the T3 Committee (Time, Talent, Treasure) took a risk by launching a non-traditional stewardship program which was inspired by the book *Making the Annual Pledge Drive Obsolete: How Churches Can Get Out Of This Business Once and For All* by Timothy Dombek & Michael Durall. In hindsight this was a little premature and we lacked a focused and intentional follow-up. During this interim period we have returned to a more traditional Stewardship program based around a Harvest theme that will include a ministry fair, simultaneous suppers, special newsletters and ministry minute Sundays. Ministry minutes give parishioners an opportunity to tell their stories of why they attend All Saints' and support its programs with their time, talents, and treasure.

We seek a rector who will;

- + Help guide the vestry, finance and T3 (Time, Talent & Treasure) committees in their goals to eliminate the deficit
- + Help people discern their gifts for ministry

What We Do | FINANCES

All Saints' Church is a fiscally conservative parish. Over the years we have benefitted greatly from the generosity of our members and the guidance of the finance committee members. In 2003, the congregation raised \$840,000 to build a new parish hall and paid off the mortgage by 2007.

Nine years ago, the Finance Committee was wrestling with balancing the budget. We estimated at that time we had enough principal in our unrestricted endowment to balance our future deficits up to 2014. In 2010, Frances Heald, a lifelong centenarian member of our parish, generously left \$576,000 to All Saints' Church. These restricted funds continue to help reduce the deficit, but more work is needed as will be seen in the figures below.

The parish continues to run at a deficit due to higher wages and benefits, higher fuel costs, and a static income. At one annual meeting, Irene Lynde, a senior member of our congregation, said she would give \$1,000 toward the operating deficit if others would meet her challenge. The challenge was met and the deficit eliminated that year.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Membership Statistics				
- Baptized members	232	238	246	241
- Average Sunday attendance	77	76	78	72
Finances				
- Total pledges, contributions, fundraising	139,630	132,547	138,143	140,557
- Endowment Draw (5%)	57,344	52,607	52,112	48,259
- Total Revenue	196,974	185,154	190,255	188,816
- Total Expense	194,476	189,730	200,986	207,881
- Surplus (deficit) **	\$2,498	(\$4,576)	(\$10,731)	(\$19,065)
Endowment Balance	956,375	979,958	1,125,477	1,098,519
Pledge Units	72	63	67	75
Total Pledge Dollars	107,331	111,981	108,879	116,500

What We Do | FORMATION

In the last six years our rector ignited a passion for adult education, and the classes offered were all very well attended. We have explored our faith through the DVD based Via Media program and, more recently, challenged ourselves with the DVD and workbook sessions of *Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy* by Richard Rohr.

In the 2014-2015 season, four separate bible or book study sessions were active. Adult formation has focused on the study of the Gospels. Mark is the foundational first year of the series, followed by a year (or two) of Gospel Parallels. So great was the interest that the group moved on to study Paul with the book *The First Paul* by Borg and Crossan. The summer of 2015 began a study of the Acts of the Apostles.

Book groups have also been popular. Eboo Patel's book *Sacred Ground* and Rob Bell's *Love Wins* and Phyllis Tickle's *The Great Emergence*, are the most recent books studied. A series entitled Ethics in Popular Music Videos, *The Hunger Games* and *Glee* as well as a Theology in Film series (*Chocolat*, *The Matrix*, *Wings of Desire*, *Groundhog Day* and *The Incredibles*) have also been part of adult formation, and provoked great intergenerational discussion. These classes have typically been clergy led but there are lay people who, with a little encouragement and training, would be fine group facilitators.

We seek a rector who will;

- + Challenge and help us to grow spiritually
- + Provide continuous opportunities for us to grow
- + Facilitate spiritual growth opportunities for youth and teens
- + Consider cross-generational community building



Formation & Education of Children:

All Saints' has explored multiple avenues to engage children in our church family. From Godly Play children's services to a family-oriented media study through Holy Mo!y videos, rectors and church leaders have met varying levels of success in drawing families into our community.

Currently, ASKids is All Saints' Church's Sunday school program. It follows the 10:00 a.m. service on a regular basis determined collaboratively with the families involved. The Holy Mo!y curriculum provides engaging opportunities for both young and old.

The few young families that our church draws are active participants in our worship services as trained acolytes or usher assistants. Families with cooing little ones are welcomed by both the young and aging members of our congregation. Children bring a welcome innocence and

bright smiles on the Sundays they attend. During seasons that draw more families with children, our past rector welcomed the children to the altar as he prepared communion.

We look forward to collaborating with our next rector on the possibilities of our children's program and the development of a teen program. It is important to our membership that opportunities for spiritual growth abound for all ages.

What We Do | COMMUNICATION | PARISH LIFE

The leadership of All Saints' believes that frequent and clear communication is an essential element of our life together. In addition to announcements during services we also use a number of other communication tools. We take full advantage of technology even as we struggle with the knowledge that some of our parishioners are not tech savvy and are, therefore, missing out on certain news and events. A recent initiative to bridge that gap has helped at least one parishioner get connected via Facebook.

Our quarterly newsletter, *Revelations*, keeps everyone up-to-date on the news of the parish. It features a message from both the rector and senior warden and includes, information about church activities, wider church events, birthdays and anniversaries, and a calendar of events. The newsletter is sent electronically, is available on our website, with hard copies being available in the Fellowship Room and by mail for our homebound parishioners.

An e-Newsletter is sent out once or twice a month and highlights upcoming events, special notices, requests for volunteers and other miscellaneous information.

Our [website](#) has recently undergone a complete overhaul, and while we are still in the process of adding new content and making final tweaks we are very excited about our re-launch.

We have a Facebook page at [All Saints' Episcopal Littleton New Hampshire](#) (will be hyperlinked in profile) and are edging towards 400 likes. It is a great way for our followers to stay informed and to share information on church activities. Our

website and Facebook page are great tools for our 'connected' homebound parishioners. Our snowbirds, who spend the winter months in warmer climes, also appreciate staying connected electronically.

We send press releases out to local news organizations and radio stations to promote events as well as posting fliers around town, and on our bulletin board. We try to minimize the number of bulletin inserts we produce but sometimes it is the most effective tool.

Parish Life: All Saints' parishioners demonstrate welcoming fellowship in a variety of structured and spontaneous activities.

Coffee hour after the 10:00 a.m. service provides a weekly opportunity to connect with friends, get to know newcomers and visitors, and speak with the rector in an informal setting. There is a monthly Men's Breakfast and a somewhat spontaneous Women's Night Out social. Many of the events take place in the parish (think -- Pot Luck meals of incredible deliciousness), while others may be at a restaurant or private home. With no exceptions, ALL are invited.



In addition to inclusive social events, a variety of seasonal activities comprise annual fund-raising efforts such as the Pie Festival, celebrating 25 years in 2015, which coincides with the Littleton Art Festival in the early fall, and the shared preparation efforts for our annual Wreath Project in November. All of these activities demonstrate the participative nature of All Saints' members. When there is a need someone always jumps in.

What We Do | PARISH LIFE | PASTORAL CARE

The All Saints' music ministry is a gift at weekly services, but it extends as a community-based gift. The small but dedicated choir, led and encouraged by Joyce Roy, participates in Sunday services, and also sings with the multi-church ecumenical choir performance that is offered to the public each February. Joyce organizes a Lenten Music Series, which takes place each Thursday during Lent. These reflective noontime performances with offerings by local musicians and singers is a gift to the community.

Many sponsored programs are among the social opportunities, such as a recently formed group of senior ladies and shut-ins; coffee hour conversations often inspire social events outside parish life. Frequently, connections made at church initiate ongoing friendships and shared interests. When it comes to priorities, at least 50% of the parish responded to an open survey asking "What is most important to you at All Saints'?" and "What do we do well?" --

overwhelmingly the

responses were:

1. Fellowship & Community
2. Welcoming
3. Worship



Pastoral Care: As with formal and informal social events, participation is the underlying strength of All Saints' pastoral care. The range of pastoral care includes card ministry, receptions after celebration of life / memorial services, pastoral calls, and meal preparation and delivery for emergencies, illness and anything in-between.

Parishioners involved in card ministry send out birthday, anniversary, condolence, thinking of you and congratulations cards. Receptions following celebration of life/memorial services are also expertly implemented, sometimes with little advance notice. Individual parishioners who just want to be a friend often initiate pastoral calls. Food

is a very big focus at All Saints' and so there are many who anticipate when someone might need a helping cook's hand due to life's uncertainties. Members are united in their care of one another -- and their generosity also extends to the larger community.



What We Do | SERVICE & OUTREACH

Along with other programs previously mentioned, All Saints' kicks into overdrive during the holiday season by participating in a number of projects that serve our local communities and beyond. The Thanksgiving Basket Project is a community-wide initiative that provides dinner fixings to 350 local families and individuals. The younger members of our parish enjoy shopping at a local toy store for the diocesan ChiPs program (Children of Incarcerated Parents.) The gifts, purchased with monetary donations from parishioners, are collected during Diocesan Convention and then distributed to prisons throughout New Hampshire. This program allows incarcerated parents the chance to choose an appropriate gift to give to their child for the holidays.

Another favorite holiday project is the Senior Giving Tree, which is coordinated by the local Catholic Charities office. Local seniors provide their wish lists, which, in turn, parishioners shop for. Gifts can be as simple as a calendar or box of candy or as elaborate as an electric blanket. These gifts certainly help to brighten the holiday season for our local seniors.

Ten-percent (10%) of all fundraising income is donated to a local non-profit organization selected by the vestry.



What We Do | ALL SAINTS' CHURCH & THE WHITE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

The history of the relationship between All Saints' and The White Mountain School is long and rich. Founded as an Episcopal School by the bishop of New Hampshire in 1886 in Concord, St. Mary's School for Girls, moved to its present location in Bethlehem 1935 and became St Mary's-in-the-Mountains. In 1971, St Mary's-in-the-Mountains became a co-education school and changed its name to The White Mountain School. The White Mountain School belongs to the National Association of Episcopal Schools.

Today, All Saints' Permanent Deacon, Paul Higginson, is the school's popular volunteer chaplain. Thursday mornings at Morning Meeting, Paul addresses the students and faculty, reflecting on current events, issues facing teenagers, and issues of spiritual importance.

The WMS student body is a diverse group with students from across the United States and around the world. They represent a wide range of social, cultural, and religious groups. In past years, students have attended Sunday services, however, because of their tight schedules or lack of desire, most of the students are not motivated to go to services.



We seek a rector who will

- + Enjoy working with teenagers
- + Be willing to grow the relationship between WMS and All Saints' Church



There are opportunities for strengthening the relationship between WMS and All Saints' Church, especially in the area of service projects. Currently WMS students prepare and serve three Dinner Bell meals

each year at All Saints'. Recently the Vestry and MDC had a meeting with Bishop Rob and Tim Breen, Head of School at WMS, concerning the possibilities of future joint activities. An All Saints' team and Tim Breen will continue to look for opportunities to coordinate joint fellowship.

Four principal points of contact between WMS and the Episcopal Church:

- Both institutions embrace and celebrate diversity.
- Both institutions embrace and act on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.
- Both institutions practice community service locally and abroad.
- The Bishop of New Hampshire is the nominal President of the Board of Trustees and has been active in Board affairs.



AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR NEXT RECTOR

We have grown in our faith and developed traditions that have special meaning for many. We have a strong focus on outreach and are dedicated to our effort to serve our community addressing current needs. At the same time we are open to developing more fully into disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, enhancing our worship practice and expanding our ministry to the community, the diocese and the world. As we prayerfully discern what gifts we bring to our All Saints' community, we are engaged in thoughtful and prayerful discernment as to the characteristics and talents needed in our next Rector to guide us forward toward our goals.

Within the past year we crafted this Vision Statement for our future:

All Saints' strives to be welcoming, organized, and inspirational for the young families, seniors, and people in the middle who find, and will find, All Saints' their home of worship and its members their community of faith. We build our vibrant church family by:

- Accepting, unconditionally, all who come seeking a place to grow in God.
- Providing rich worshiping and learning opportunities for our children, teens, and adults of all ages.
- Valuing individual voices and contributions to our church community.
- Supporting all members in their worship through our fellowship, music, personal interaction, and assistance.
- Providing warmth, compassion, and service to those who need our support, both locally and in the greater world.
- Establishing a strong media and virtual presence in our community at large through the use of newspapers, radio stations, websites, social media, and podcasts.
- Sharing our space with other community organizations.

In concert with creating our Vision for All Saints' Church, we crafted four goals for our work.

- **Create formal opportunities for spiritual growth that leads to active membership at All Saints' by January 2017.**
 - From All Saints' Episcopal Church bylaws Article III Membership – 3.1 Membership of the congregation: “Every baptized person whose name and baptism are recorded in the Parish Register is a member of the congregation. A member sixteen (16) years of age or older is an adult member of the congregation.” *ECUSA 1.17.1(b)*
 - Consider what the Canon's offer as well as our own thoughts around fulfilling membership as part of the All Saints' community.
 - Investigate and articulate what is the promise to be found in active membership.
- **Create and implement as system of stewardship that invites intentional open giving by January 2017.**
 - Move from or expand stewardship pledge drive to include provisions for seasonal giving; thanks offering for events of good fortune; online system to receive contributions in support of mission efforts as well as annual giving.

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR NEXT RECTOR

Continued from previous page /

- **Expand membership by 15% through efforts of programs (like Come & See) and evangelism of All Saints' members by January 2018.**
 - Target those who engage with our community for events or program to help bring them to identify All Saints' as their spiritual home.
 - Target those who engage with events where we bring All Saints' community outside the walls and into the community-at-large (ex. Ashes To Go; Relay for Life, etc).
- **Create and implement Christian Education around living into our Christian faith, focusing on looking inward to discover personal understandings, motivations, and barriers to functioning as a contributing individual by January 2017.**
 - What's broken in your life, discover options to help address those things.
 - Using personal, meaningful and clear terms to talk about our Christian faith and the Episcopal Church.
 - Lots of ways to engage in discussion: interactive sermons; programs; blogs; whiteboards; etc.

This is a parish that works hard and enjoys celebrating our accomplishments. We devote time working together, laughing together, and worshipping together to maintain and grow our faith. Hopefully this rural yet vibrant setting resonates with you. If so, I invite you to apply to be our next Rector, to inspire and guide us as *we honor our Lord Jesus Christ by practicing our Christian faith through prayer and acts of love and unconditional kindness.*

Ellen Rowe
Senior Warden



PARISH LEADERSHIP & CLERGY

Ministry Discernment Committee

Laurie Buxton
Rebecca Hill-Larsen, Vestry Liaison
Laura Mulkigian, Secretary
Henry Petersen, Co-Chair
Bob Rochelle, Chaplin
Anthony Rodrigues, Co-chair
Norma St John, Vestry Liaison
Barbara Serafini

Diocesan Search Team

The Rev. Canon Hannah Anderson

Vestry

Ellen Rowe, Senior Warden
Kevin Buckley, Junior Warden
Alice Clafin, Treasurer
Rebecca Hill-Larsen, Clerk
Jack Avery
Jennifer Carbonneau
Sheelagh Higginson
Paul Lister
Norma St John
Bill Stride

Delegates to Convention / Convocation

Fred Chisolm
Joan LeBaron
Norma St. John
Barbara Serafini, Alternate
Elaine Winters

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. A Robert Hirschfeld

Clergy

The Rev. Susan Garrity, Interim Rector
Rev. Paul Higginson, Deacon



Commissioning of the Ministry Discernment Committee (April 10, 2015)

Cover images: Our church and All Saints' Wordle – January 2015
~ Photos of Life At All Saints' – Hemmie Gilmore
Click below for additional photos of Life At All Saints
[2015](#) & [2014](#)



USEFUL LINKS

■ Art & Culture

[Catamount Arts](#)

[Colonial Theatre](#)

[Jax Jr. Cinema](#)

[North Country Chamber Players](#)

[Silver Center for the Arts](#)

[The Flying Monkey](#)

[Weathervane Theatre](#)

■ Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire

■ Education

[Bethlehem / Easton / Franconia / Sugar Hill / Lisbon / Lyman & Landaff Schools](#)

[Littleton Schools](#)

[The White Mountain School](#)

[Granite State College](#)

[White Mountain Community College](#)

[Lyndon State College](#)

[Plymouth State University](#)

■ Government & Chambers of Commerce

[NH.Gov](#)

[Town of Bethlehem](#)

[Town of Franconia](#)

[Town of Lancaster](#)

[Town of Littleton](#)

[Town of Lisbon](#)

[Town of Sugar Hill](#)

[Town of Whitefield](#)

[Town of St. Johnsbury, VT](#)

Chambers of Commerce

[Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Franconia Notch Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Littleton Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Whitefield Chamber of Commerce](#)

[St. Johnsbury, VT Chamber of Commerce](#)

■ Hospitals

[Dartmouth Hitchcock](#)

[Littleton Regional Hospital](#)

[Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital](#)

■ Real Estate & Rentals

[Century 21 Winn & Associates](#)

[Coldwell Banker](#)

[Lahout's Property Development \(rentals\)](#)

[Peabody Smith](#)

[Reinhold & Associates](#)

■ Sport & Recreation

[Appalachian Mountain Club](#)

[Burke Mountain](#)

[Bretton Woods Cannon Mountain](#)

[Evergreen Sports Center](#)

[Fitness Authority](#)

[Kingdom Trails](#)

[Loon Mountain](#)

[NH Golf](#)

[NH Hunting / Fishing Information](#)

[NH Parks & Recreation](#)

[NH Snowmobile Assoc](#)

[Ski Hearth Farm](#)

[Hike NH](#)

■ Tourism

[Go Littleton](#)

[NH.Com](#)

[Visit NH](#)

[Visit the White Mountains](#)

■ Weather

[Mt. Washington Observatory](#)

[Current weather](#)

[Weather by month](#)

(you definitely want to check this out!)

How far?

Boston, MA -153 miles

Burlington, VT - 100 miles

Concord, NH - 85 miles

Manchester, NH - 103 miles

Portland, ME – 110 miles

Canada:

Montreal - 170 miles

Quebec City - 245 miles

Major Airports: Boston, Burlington, Manchester, Montreal





All Saints' Episcopal Church

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The Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire

63 Green Street, Concord, NH 03301
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EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF NH