

A Publication of All Saints' Episcopal Church Norristown, PA September 2012

[Part Three of a Three-Part Message on Church and Change]

Just the other day Liz Parker and I were in Costco buying supplies for the next Bread of Life Community Café dinner – big bags of mozzarella, oversized packages of ground beef, extra-large cans of green beans . . . you get the picture. As we pushed our cart towards the check-stands, we saw large racks stuffed with Halloween costumes tigers, superheroes, princesses, and the rest. But I sighed, and said, "I know this makes me officially old, but I sure miss the days when we put together clever, one-of-a-kind home-made costumes." I reminisced about the year I was a Martian (green face and Styrofoam bucket transformed into a helmet with antennae), and the time I was a bunch of grapes (purple balloons, of course).

It's so tempting to believe that life was better in some other, previous era. As I thought about that comment, though, I also realized that many hard-working parents i_NSTA⁶iL_iT^r and Change

probably appreciate those pre-made princess dresses and pirate "uniforms" -- one less project on the to-do list! (Of course, it's easy to overlook that in those same days we ate pretty much the same food week in and week out because grocery stores didn't have the amazing variety of foods that we have available to us today, and there were no Costcos, BJ's, etc.)

And I try to remember that the "ideal world" of yesteryear most certainly had its own critics, those longing for some previous standards and lifestyles that they had experienced.

It's only fair to acknowledge that in recent decades, change has accumulated and snowballed beyond the comprehension of previous generations. The author of a book I've been reading, The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer (fascinating, but quite long!), says that "[t]he life expectancy of Americans rose from fortyseven to sixty-eight in half a century, a greater leap in longevity than had been achieved over several previous centuries" (22). That's HUGE! but just one among uncountable other changes.

So it's not surprising that we get a little agitated at times; from one day to the next we don't know what kinds of changes we might encounter.

Author C.S. Lewis has an interesting perspective on change in <u>Mere Christianity</u>:

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised.

Continued on next page.



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But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of – throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

As a church, we don't have to simply *imagine* ourselves as a living house; our church *is* part of the Body of Christ, and each of us is a member of that living body. All Saints' Church is a "living house of God," a palace that "God intends to come and live in," as Lewis says.

This congregation has done a magnificent job of embracing change but also maintaining its identity. Recently, I've been happy to see the loving and enthusiastic welcome given to newcomers. ASC has a history of welcoming new people and new leaders into its fold, a history that will serve us well as we receive a new organist into our midst this month.

I see the love of God that "is the same yesterday and today and forever," and hearts open to the ways in which God might "knock the house about" even when it hurts or frightens or doesn't seem to make sense. As we continue to do our best to grow into the church God calls us to be, we'll make mistakes; we'll try things that don't seem to result in a greater connection to God or each other; and, with God's help, we'll find ourselves, not a "decent little cottage," but a castle, one that's grand but also a place of solace and familiarity even while we watch the construction workers tear down and build up.

I hope that as I – and we – consider and approach new ways of doing things, we always understand that change for change's sake is silly; but that our goal is always faithfulness to God's call to us to be a living, breathing and growing church that nourishes each other and reaches out to the world.

I look forward to the fall: as summer comes to a close, we can all return to a place as familiar as our own homes, ready to be together in ways old and new, seeking God's help in all we do, familiar or not: Rite I, II or contemporary worship; Saturday dinners or Sunday breakfasts; Pentecost or Pie Festival!

> Living God, you break into our mortal loneliness by your coming among us.

You clothe the dry bones of our lives with the flesh of your new creation, and from our fearful tombs you call us to come out and live unbound, through the power of Christ's resurrecttion, in whose strong name we give thanks. (by The Rev. Jennifer Phillips, a priest in Albuquerque NM)

See you at the Labor Day picnic, and hope you can make some pies and come help out and have fun at the Pie Festival on September 22!

Blessings and love to everybody,

Mother Sandra+

Labor Day Potluck PICNIC September 3, 11 a.m. Food, games, fellowship

Lower Perkiomen Valley Park

The **MESSENGER**

is produced monthly by



All Saints' Episcopal Church 535 Haws Avenue, Norristown, PA 19401 Phone and Fax: 610-279-3990 Email: allsaints535@yahoo.com Web site: www.allsaintsnorristown.org

Submissions are invited and are subject to editing. Submit articles by email (preferred) to <u>allsaints535@yahoo.com</u> with Messenger typed in subject line or by fax: 610-279-3990 or leave in *Messenger* mailbox by church's main entrance.

Publication date: First of month Deadline: 2nd Sunday of month preceding

<u>Milestones</u>

Births, accomplishments, graduations, the passing of loved ones, special joys or memories, etc.: please let us know what's going on with you and your loved ones.

August 2, Flossie Carter passed to life eternal. Funeral service was held at All Saints' on August 7.

All Saints' Bread of Life
Community Café served its
first Saturday dinner on July
28. 60+ people were served!

For your milestones: E-mail allsaints535@yahoo.com with "Milestones" in the subject line, or drop a note in the parish office mail box by the main entrance.



Birthdays (September)

- 8 Linda Kinsey
- 9 Liz Parker
- 12 Mackenzie Baildon Jennie Donovan
- 13 Cindy Baldassano
- 15 Marianne Kohn
- 16 Cheri Plummer
- 22 Lois Byrne
- 26 Judy Dougherty
- 27 Darlene Roscoe
- 30 Brett Byrne Robert Gelet

Anniversaries



- 5 Robin & Chuck Faulkner
- 14 Kelly & Adrian Griffin
- 15 Stacey & Steve Dello Buono
- 16 Mary Beth & Craig Mucher
- 21 Laura & Anthony Nero
- 25 Shirley & Bob Jording
- 26 Cleta & Francis McClay



Autumn begins September 22



SUNDAY MORNINGS

8 a.m. Eucharist

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist Rite II, including music. Child care is available for children 4 and under, 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. (If your older child wants to attend, please <u>ask</u> the volunteer on duty.)

11:15 a.m. Christian Formation (Registration September 23)

 Coffee, tea and hospitality
 Sunday school and youth forums. (For preschool age through 12th grade)
 A dult forums

Adult forums

3rd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH:

9 a.m. Rite II Eucharist with opening & closing hymns

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Eucharist in activity room

Acolyte Training All Ages

invited and encouraged to attend

Sunday, September 9 after 10 a.m. worship (includes lunch and ice cream sundaes).

Reminder: September 16 Third Sunday

Don't forget the schedule for the <u>third-Sunday</u> each month:

• No 8:00 service.

• 9:00 – Rite II service; some music

• 10:30 – Contemporary worship (activity room) – Informal, uplifting alternative worship. The Pie Festival is Coming! The Pie Festival is Coming!

Saturday, September 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Pie Festival is not only All Saints' one fund-raising event of 2012, it is also a Celebration of Christian Outreach and Food Ministries in the West End and the Boro of Norris-town. Our partner in this effort to bring the communities within Norristown together is St. Augustine of Hippo parish.

We have invited the churches of the West End to participate in a Pie Making Contest for the title of Best Pie in the West End. We have invited the churches of the Valley Forge Deanery to participate in a Pie Making Contest for the title of Best Episcopal Pie 2012. Last but not least, we invite all youth in the parishes, neighborhood and Deanery to make a pie for the category of Best Youth Pie 2012.

In addition to the Winning Ribbon Award for the baker of each "Best Pie" in the three categories, the sponsoring church will receive a gift certificate award for their food ministry program. Local grocery stores have generously donated gift certificates.

Not only have we invited contestants but we hope that

their church friends and families will come to cheer them on and enjoy the food, fun and activities offered at All Saints' on that day. We need your presence at the Pie Festival to greet our guests and share with them the welcoming spirit that is All Saints'.

> Fall Pie Festival September 22, 2012 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



A DJ will play great music all day long. There will be a Pie Food Court, a bake sale, a Pie Cookbook, flea market tables, plus crafts and other creative and entertaining activities for children.

If you have not already done so, please review the schedule of times and activities for the Pie Festival. Please plan to donate an hour or two on that day to lend a hand as well as to meet and greet

each guest who blesses us with their presence. We're not asking you for an entire day's commitment, just a couple of hours. If you have children in sporting activities in the morning, how about coming for a couple of hours in the afternoon to help us clean up? Our hope is that many hands will make light work on Saturday the 22nd. And before that, we hope that many hands will bake some pies (or cookies or cakes) for the bake sale (it's hard to believe, but not everyone loves pie)!

Do you have a <u>pop-up</u> <u>canopy</u> and/or a <u>large cooler</u> <u>chest</u> that you might be able to loan for the day? We'll have a sign- up sheet posted for that too! Thank you in advance for your support and for your willingness to open All Saints' to our neighbors and to every potential new member who might be out there looking for a new faith-based home.

Liz Parker and Kathryn Gallagher, Coordinators



NON-HUMBLE PIE



Dear All Saints', Thank you for allowing our summer camp the weekly visit to the computer lab. The children always looked forward to the quiet, entertaining activities.

God's blessing to your parish,

Rachel Yost Children Ministry Director Grace Lutheran Church

BRED: A 20-Minute Temple

By Mary Beth Mucher

I got off to a late start for my morning run, so the sun is up higher than I'm used to. It's hot. Sweat is running down my neck and my earphones are already soggy. I tell God this is hard and I don't like it. No answer.

Finally I get to the tree-lined part of my route. The temperature drops. The glare disappears. I tell God that creating shade was a fantastic idea. My playlist gets to "Majesty." I admire the trees. Yes, they are majestic. So tall, so many, so wonderfully leafy!

Now I hear, "Better is one day in Your house than a thousand elsewhere," part of a song based on Psalm 84. I remember reading that one recently in Meet the Bible. I notice that the tree branches meet over my path like an arch over a church aisle. I am in God's house, His temple. I see one of the regulars running toward me. We exchange "good mornings" and that is temple, too. Next comes a stranger. More greetings, more temple. I feel good now. I enjoy the morning and the people and the movement. I thank God that I am wonderfully made and that my body parts all pretty much work. Can I stay here forever? Brother Lawrence comes to mind. He worked in a monastery kitchen and learned how to live with constant awareness of God's presence. I used to think "one day in God's house" was remarkable because it was so short. Now I am amazed that it is so long. Can I really spend a whole day aware of God? A whole, entire day?

After 20 minutes of shade I emerge back into the sun. The sweat runs freely again. The song changes to "Your Grace is Enough." Is this temple, too? God, will you teach me to spend my whole day aware of You? A cloud passes over the sun. I laugh.

**For Bible-reading resources and suggestions, visit our web site and click on the link Bible Reading Every Day (BRED) link. www.allsaintsnorristown.org There you will find daily reading plans, as well as other information to help you get started. Comments, questions, positive or negative reactions are all welcome. It would be great to hear from you.



Bible Challenge Party

On Sunday, September 16, all participants of this summer's Bible challenge will gather for a celebratory party. Don't miss out on the prizes, ribbons, and cake!



Flowers for the one(s) you love

Ordering, buying, and sending flowers is a kind way of showing someone they are loved, cared for, and thought of.

Don't miss out on this last minute opportunity. Honor and/or memorialize special love one(s) with altar flowers Sunday, September 30.

Contact Mary Jane Daley (610-272-7419).

Second Time Around Shop

The shop will begin our 2012-2013 fiscal year on Wednesday, September 5 with a totally new inventory of sales items.

After closing in June, we gathered all the unsold merchandise and divided it among several local charities. This was a result of the closing of Norristown Interfaith, who had previously received all our unsold clothing. Teen clothing was given to the Police Athletic League (PAL), men's and women's clothing went to The Soldiers Project for homeless veterans, and large-sized clothing was given to the Norristown SAAC Program. All craft items went to Parkhouse Providence Pointe. The jewelry was given to Normandy Farms Estates for the resident's gift shop. The residual clothing and household items went to the Norristown Crossroad Gift and Thrift shop run by the Mennonites, where Clara Mae Panczak is an active volunteer.

Thankfully after cleaning the sales area we were able to restock the entire sales area with the abundance of donated items that had arrived during the summer and the shop was quickly filled for our September reopening. The one item we are in desperate need of is costume jewelry. The Jewelry Table is hosted by Nancy Ritter and is always a favorite spot for the shoppers.

Once again we are grateful to all of you who keep our shelves stocked with your generous donations. Keep in mind that besides good clean clothing we accept small electronic items that are in good working condition, household and kitchen items, towels, curtains, sheets, blankets, purses, shoes, hats, and toys. Holiday items for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter etc. are welcome any time of the year.

Please feel free to help yourself to the fiction and mystery books in the women's choir dressing room and the children's and teen books and puzzles that are shelved in the coat area. You are welcome to borrow or keep any of these items.

Your joyfully committed volunteers,

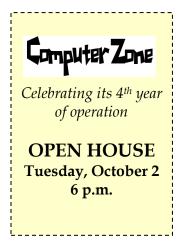
Nancy Ritter, Marcia Carneavale, Jean Dean, Kathryn Gallagher, Betsy Gottshall, Marge Kinsey, Clara Mae Panczak, and Donna Penman





There is a need in the community for people in all age groups to develop computer skills. To serve this need the staff of the WECL would like to grow the programming offered by the Lab. In order to do this, we need a talented team of planners, administrators, and financial leaders to go forward. Anyone with experience in strategic planning, funding, marketing, information technology, legal or community relations and/or an interest in participating on an WECL Advisory Board please contact Len Porcelli at wecl535@yahoo.com or at 610-539-3375. We will also happily accept referrals of family members, friends, coworkers, and acquaintances!

Please keep WECL in your prayers, that God may send and direct the appropriate people to help us in this endeavor.



ECHO Focuses on Neighbors

By Jennie Donovan, ECHO Chair

For September's outreach project, ECHO will focus on helping our church neighbor, Grace Lutheran as they take on leadership of the Interfaith Food Pantry. As of printing, it has been commented that the doors of the pantry are close to opening.

As preparations persist, All Saints' will continue to collect food donations each week to help stock up the pantry's shelves. The

pantry's organizer is thrilled to hear we are thinking of them.



Items below are everyday staples for most households: spaghetti sauce, pasta, tuna fish, jelly, peanut butter, soups, canned meats, and juices. As you go shopping this month, please add an extra item to your cart to add to the basket at church.

Your act of kindness will bless our neighbors-in-need! Thank you!

> Remember our motto: Episcopal Church Helping Others

Dennis Clemson leads 2012-2013 Adult Forum

"Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome, and the Kingdom of God"

Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul's footsteps throughout the Roman Empire. This 12session DVD and web-based study explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today.

Videos are filmed in High-Definition across Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

Dennis Clemson will lead this thought-provoking program; Dennis led a portion of the program a few years ago, but we didn't finish all 12 sessions. He's starting from the beginning, so for those who participated a few years ago, this will be a refresher, followed by the sessions we missed last time. We plan one session on the second Sunday of each month after church, from October 13, 2012, to June 9, 2013; extra session dates will be announced. If you'd like a study guide in advance, please contact Dennis at dennisclemson@yahoo.com.

Haws Avenue Soup Kitchen

All Saints' will be serving lunch to our neighbors I need on Sundays, September 9 and November 11.

Just for Laughs:

Somebody has said that there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord!" and there are those who wake up and say, "Good Lord, it's morning!"

[Thanks to Betsy Gottshall]

If you have any good "church humor" for *The Messenger*, please submit to Donna Longobardi or Mother Sandra.

Have an extra frozen turkey?



We can use it for Saturday community dinners.

Meet the Vestry – Nicole Gelet –



The current Vestry's Warden is Nicole Gelet. We think that the 29-year-old, born and raised in Collegeville, is the youngest Vestry's Warden in All Saints' history, but she enjoys it and is well-suited for the position. Nicole has been a member of All Saints' her entire life (her parents are Patty and Joe Gelet, and her three siblings are Jen, Joe and Rob). She was baptized by Fr. Bob Coble, and her church involvement hasn't slowed down since! Junior and Senior Youth Group, acolyte, Eucharistic minister, altar guild, nursery, secretary to Vestry, lector, lay officiant at Morning Prayer, greeter, presenter there's not much around All Saints' that Nicole hasn't been involved with.

Nicole has an Associates Degree in Communications from Montgomery County Community College, and received her Child Development certificate in November 2011. She's currently enrolled at Manor College, studying Early Childhood Education. She has worked at Play and Learn in Collegeville for 10 years.

Nicole's favorite memories of All Saints' involve her participation in the youth groups when she was growing up, especially the youth group retreats. She recalls one retreat in Ocean City, one year Cape May . . . different places but a tightknit group of kids who had a great time together under the leadership of "Big E" (John Errington; called "Big E" so as not to confuse him with his son John) and Jennie Donovan, both of whom led the Senior Youth Group for many years. She remembers a really connected group, a big group of kids around the same ages, and having lots and lots of fun together.

When other vestry members encouraged her to stand for Vestry's Warden, Nicole says she was interested in trying it out; her background in communications and her personality have made it a good fit, and she's enjoying the challenge. Most recently, she agreed to be this year's Stewardship Chair.

What draws Nicole to ASC the most is its familyoriented kind of ministry. Everyone knows each other, are close and feel like family. For her, she said, it seems like a second home, and she senses that others feel that way, too.

Nicole's dream vacation would be to Cape Cod – she's always wanted to go there, and says she will some day. It seems relaxing, she hears that everything stops and she would feel free from cares; perhaps she should organize a "Senior Youth Group Reunion" with some of her fellow members – at Cape Cod, of course!

If you haven't done so recently, say hello to Nicole; All Saints' is both fortunate and grateful for her leadership, and parishioners should always feel free to talk with her about any aspect of church life.



On the Internet:

A very cute video of dogs saying grace can be found at



www.dogwork.com/prybrme8/



10AM Rite I Ch. School & Forums



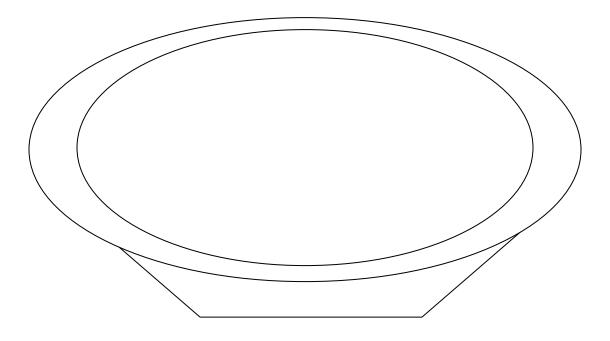
Artwork created and designed by Brianna Harrity

Serving for the Glory of God

Date	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Acolytes	Alyssa Jones, Anika Jones	Brianna & Carley Harrity	9:00 Vivian Harris 10:30 <i>Please Volunteer</i>	Austin Taylor, Emma Griffin	Emily Spottiswood
Altar Guild	Susan Cohen, Mary Jane Daley	Susan Cohen, Susan Dean	Susan Cohen, Deb Porcelli, Kelly Griffin	Susan Cohen, Nicole Gelet	Susan Cohen, Kathryn Gallagher
Bulletin Assemblers	Bev & Dick Kratz (8/31)	Marilyn & Jack Clemson (9/7)	Marion Shupe, Phil Gottshall (9/14)	Donna & Bob Penman (9/21)	Mary Jane Daley, Kathryn Gallagher (9/28)
Coffee Service		Marilyn & Jack Clemson	Details being finalized Come join the Coffee Service Team! <i>Contact Donna (610-279-3990)</i>		
Counters	Deb Heckard, Diane Mullen	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Betsy & Phil Gottshall	Betsy & Phil Gottshall
Eucharistic Ministers	Diane Mullen, Alyssa Jones	Susan Dean, Brianna Harrity	9:00 Vivian Harris 10:30 Donna Penman	Adrian & Eryn Griffin	Phil Gottshall, Victoria Batten
Greeters	Jackie & Bill Koffke	The Gelet family	9:00 Marilyn & Jack Clemson 10:30 Please Volunteer	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Susan Cohen, Susan Dean
Intercessor	Would you like to learn more about this special ministry? <i>Contact Laurie Sawyer</i> 484-802-0572		9:00 Viviann Harris	Please keep the intercessor ministry in your prayers!	
Lector	Nelson Schrock	TBD	9:00 Vivian Harris	TBD	TBD
Nursery	Please contact Mother Sandra (443-797-2360) or Donna (610-279-3990), if you are willing to serve and care for our youngest guests this month.				
Presenters	Marilyn & Jack Clemson	Patty & Nicole Gelet	9:00 Please Volunteer 10:30 Please Volunteer	Leann Magakis, Betty Carson	Joanne Heisler
Server Reader (8 a.m.)	Marilyn Manning	Marilyn Manning	N/A	Joe Raudenbush, Sara Raudenbush	Kathryn Gallagher
Ushers	8:00 Wayne Kinsey 10:00 Susan Dean, Jean Dean	8:00 Nick Durante 10:00 Carol & Brian Harrity	9:00 Please Volunteer 10:30 Judy Baca	8:00 Paul Melosky 10:00 Please Volunteer	8:00 Tom Stout 10:00 <i>Please</i> <i>Volunteer</i>

Are you unable to serve on your scheduled date? Please find a substitute and contact the Parish Administrator (610-279-3990 or <u>allsaints535@yahoo.com</u>) to update our records. Thank you!





Fill your pie crust with your favorite filling.

Drop off your completed pies to be hung around the church building for All Saints' Pie Festival. Color, draw, add stickers, felt, construction paper, whatever ingredients you would like.

> Bring your artistic creations to church by Sunday, September 16 and place them in the Rector's/Parish Office mailbox by the main entrance.

CLERGY

The Rev. Sandra L. Etemad, Rector

VESTRY

(2012) John Errington, Nicole Gelet (Vestry's Warden), Bill Koffke, Nelson Schrock

- (2013) Susan Dean, Beville Jones, Jay Petel (Rector's Warden), Jack Spottiswood
- (2014) Nick Durante, Adrian Griffin, Liz Parker

STAFF

Donna Longobardi, Parish Administrator • Robert Law, Sexton

BAILEY FUNERAL CHAPEL, LTD. Jay P. Bailey, Supervisor815-17 W. Marshall St. Norristown, PA815-17 W. Marshall St. Norristown, PAPre-Need Counseling Cemetery MonumentsMichael Counseling Cemetery MonumentsMichael Kinsey President/OwnerKINSEY LANDSCAPING "We Trim Everything"240 Carey Lane, Norristown, PA 19403 610-539-2229	Bagpipes and Drums2113 W. M. IEFFERSC (510-539)Walley Jorge Highland Band.Contact: Jim McHaleContact: Jim McHaleContact: Jim McHaleContact: IIII Prescription Plans Accepted We compound Prescriptions Henny Cole, R.PH. F.A.CA.Affiliated with All Saints' for over 60 years.Medicare Suppleme Medicare Advanta Which is better for you Please call the church office at 610-279-3990Medicare Suppleme Medicare Advanta Which is better for you Please call or email JULES HERNADI, LU CSA 610-623-9241 • JHernadi@	
Hague's Florist & Greenhouses 201 Roberts Avenue Conshohocken, PA 19428 610-828-0630 Provider of flowers for All Saints' weekly services	SPACE AVAILABLE Please call the church office at 610-279-3990 For additional information	SPACE AVAILABLE Please call the church office at 610-279-3990 For additional information

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SEPTEMBER 2012



All Saints' Mission Statement

Proclaim the Gospel and God's love, provide for Christian worship and fellowship, strengthen community spirit, nurture growth in Christian faith and values, and share our resources to serve others.