The MESSENGER

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

"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice! Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say rejoice!"

I'm not sure if youth groups in the Episcopal Church used to sing this song "back in the day" (in my case the '70s, when I was coming of age). My Lutheran youth group sang this song with great gusto: we even had matching "rejoice" hand movements!

The lyrics of this song come from Philippians 4:4, which continues, in verse 6, "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving** make your requests be known to God." I use the next verse to begin blessings: "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

It's traditional to count blessings and to focus on gratitude and thankfulness during the month of November. There are many things to be grateful for, and I'm going to try to remember to count at least a few of them



every day. Here's a start. I thank God for:

<u>The days I've been given</u>. My sister and I wrote letters back and forth in a notebook back in 2001. I recently found that notebook, so I wrote her a new letter. In it, I calculated that it had been more than 4,000 days since the last entry. Wow. Four thousand days! Even one day is a gift. That simple realization helps me count my blessings – literally, by counting just some of the days that God has given me.

<u>My relationships</u>. Starting with my husband, Magi, who is an incredible source of support, good ideas, nurturing love, and almost non-stop good humor, I'm grateful for all the people in my life: sisters, parents, children, friends, grandchild, church members, the really nice butcher at the store I shop at most frequently . . . it's good to stop for a moment each day and think about *why* I'm grateful for particular people, especially those who are "pushing my buttons" today, because if I look, I know I'll find many reasons to thank God for their presence in my life.

Music, good literature (including scripture!), art, trees, Skype, babies, coffee, cherry pie, Saturday Dinners, firefighters and police and much more.

During the month of November, let's all spend a few minutes each day considering our blessings. At allsaintsnorristown.org, we'll have a *Counting Our* Blessings section; you can subscribe to a daily "moment of gratitude." Not only can you subscribe, but you can contribute! Write an e-mail or a card, or even give us a call at the office, and let us know what you're grateful for. We'd like to include your name, but you can be anonymous if you prefer. Why are you grateful?: Cape May . . . chocolate . . . toenail clippers . . . (anything goes!)

And have a beautiful Thanksgiving.

With gratitude and many blessings, Mother Sandra+



Holiday Giving

"Whatever you do for the least of these, you do for me."

Food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, a hearty welcome for the stranger, a visit for the sick and in prison . . . Jesus encouraged us to offer such gifts to those in need, and such generosity is one way we respond to the many blessings God has given us. I'm grateful to the members of this community who have so generously opened their hearts and wallets to help meet the needs of others.

If you can give to the Rector's Annual Holiday Giving Appeal, that money will go to families who could use some help for Thanksgiving or Christmas. Such gift-giving warms our own hearts and fills a genuine need for others – what could be better?

Your generosity has aided many families, either members of or associated with All Saints'; on behalf of our community and those people, I thank you for your gifts, which will bless you and others. Checks should be made payable to *All Saints' Discretionary Fund*; please remember to include your name and giving envelope number. 🍅 🎜 🍃 💿 🍅 🎜 🍃 💿

Birthdays (November)

- 2 Hal Ely Stephanie Flood
- 4 Adrian Griffin Eryn Griffin
- 6 Ryan Kratz Taylor Dean
- 7 Cornelia Hoffman Logan Shilling
- 10 Quinton McGrane
- 11 Nancy Ritter
- 12 Kiera Griffin
- 13 Jane Fitzroy
- 14 Mother Sandra
- 15 Marge Kinsey Billie McGrane
- 18 Brian Harrity
- 22 John Cervino
- 27 Paul Young
- 28 Bev Kratz Sara Nelson
- 29 Kay Ely
- 30 Jay Petel

Anniversaries (November)

- 1 Lisa & Jim Atkins
- 4 Doris & Ralph Hockridge
- 5 Adele & Buddy Henning
- 9 Andrea & J. D. Kerr
- 20 Cindy & Larry Baldassano Darlene & Joe Roscoe
- 21 Susan & Dick Dean



Keep in touch...

Though far away, they are close in our hearts. Feel free to drop an email, letter, or card for members or former members:

Correction from last month's edition: Jan Windbiel ohnonot1993@gmail.com



Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Same day, new time. Share the news!

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

Mother Sandra+

Meet the Vestry



Although he keeps a fairly low profile, many of you notice Nelson Schrock week after week in the pews – with his wife, Nina, on the Sundays she doesn't have to work.

Nelson and his sister, Cornelia Hoffman, grew up at Calvary Episcopal Church in Conshohocken. Nelson got married in 1977 and entered the U.S. Army. He was active duty for 15 years, and then in the Reserves for the next seven, finally retiring in 1999. Nelson says, "Cornelia kept on us to go to church. We went on holidays, but in 2004 I started attending regularly." He said that, like many children, he found church sort of boring when he was young, but now he understands the value and appreciates being a part of a spiritual community - the sense of belonging to a group of people who are connected to God and each other, striving to live in the ways Jesus taught us.

Nelson was elected to the vestry in 2009, right after Fr. Bob Coble retired, and his term is up in February. It has been an active, interesting time to be on the vestry.

Nelson has done many other things around the church: the most visible is his ministry as lector (reading scripture at services on Sunday mornings). Nelson said he puts the week's readings on the Evernote program so that he can read them on his computer or on his iPad wherever he is.

Nelson has also been a Lay Eucharistic Minister in the past, and began a new "term" on October 28. He also serves as an usher and presenter.

Nelson gets the greatest satisfaction in serving the church through his interest in and knowledge about computers. He has taught classes at the West-End Computer Lab (including Windows XP and introduction to the Internet), and has remained active with the Lab, focusing on the Computer Zone program for local kids to get academic help during the school year. His emphasis is technical, keeping the computers up, running and in good condition; this isn't an easy job, because the computers are quite outdated at this point and until we get new ones, they need a lot of TLC - Technically- Savvy Love and Care - which Nelson is skilled at and enjoys. Of course, he's also an active part of the newlyformed Technology Committee, which has

recently focused on getting a new web site in place; in that regard he has also helped with office computer systems as well.

Nelson has been working for the U.S. Postal Service for the past several years; in 2017 he looks forward to retiring and plans to put more of his efforts into working with computers. Undoubtedly, All Saints' will be the recipient of some of that time and expertise!

Nelson and Nina (who works at Best Western in King of Prussia) have two children – Jennifer, who is a hairdresser at Francesco & Giovanni Salon and Spa in Trooper, and Nelson, a butcher who currently manages the meat department at a Super Fresh in Philadelphia.

Say hello and get to know Nelson; be sure to thank him for the many ways he serves God and the All Saints' community with his skills, his positive, laid-back personality, and his willingness to step up for positions of leadership as well as for numerous smaller, unseen but crucial tasks.

Thank you, Nelson, from your rector, the staff and vestry: you are a blessing to All Saints'!

Bread of Life Community Café FREE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL



Thanksgiving Day 1:00-3:00 p.m. All Saints' Episcopal Church 535 Haws Ave., Norristown (between Marshall & Airy)

For more information or to volunteer call: 610-279-3990 Walk-ins welcome To-go available for those unable to use stairs only

BRED: Close, Equipped, and Confident

By Mary Beth Mucher

If you listed your top 10 favorite activities, would you include waiting? Me neither. My natural tendency is more toward, "Let's get this show on the road!" But there I was, making my way through <u>Meet the Bible</u>, when I hit Isaiah 40:31, "... those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength..."

I thought, "Really? God can't come up with something more exciting than waiting?" But, OK, that's what it says. So the explanation-lover in me asked God how that works. I mean exercise, or a good night's sleep, or a healthy meal will give you more strength, but what does waiting have to do with it? The other morning I saw a dad and daughter with one of those bicycles that lets you hook the kid's bike to the back of the adult's so it's kind of a tandem. The bike had some sort of problem and they were pulled over while dad worked on it. The girl was adorable, maybe six or seven years old with a pink helmet, white jacket, and pink shoes. She was just hanging out, sometimes watching dad, sometimes looking around at the world, and not the least bit perturbed.

The father finished his repair, hopped on the front, and turned back to watch as the daughter got settled on her seat. He said, "Ready?" She said, "Yes." And they took off at an impressive pace.

It occurred to me that the kid was a really good wait-er. For one thing, she didn't wander off, so as soon as dad was done she was right there and ready to go.

For another thing, she kept all her gear on. Whoever had dressed her that morning probably knew that bare toes can get caught in spokes, chilly air can lead to a runny

Continued on next page.



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

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

Reminder: November 18 - 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.

Close, Equipped, and Confident continued

nose, and the human skull is no match for concrete. The shoes, jacket, and helmet stayed on, and she didn't even ask to take them off. (I hope you won't mind a shout-out here to Mother Sandra's recent sermon on the armor of God from Ephesians 6.)

Then there was the kid's attitude. She was not worried. There was no, "Can you fix it? Are you sure? Why is it taking so long? What if it breaks again?" Nope, dad was on the job and that was good enough for her.

So what I got out of watching this fatherdaughter duo is that good waiting involves three things: stay close, stay equipped, and stay confident. I can see how those would apply to waiting for the Lord, but I still don't really get how waiting ties to renewed strength. When I mentioned to God that I didn't feel like I had a complete answer, it came to me that I would have my hands full getting good at just those first three aspects. For the rest of the answer, I suppose I will need to wait.

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

November's Outreach Project

Episcopal Church Helping Others

We continue to collect food for Interfaith. In addition, over the next two months many stores do promotions involving free or very inexpensive turkeys. If you can donate one or more turkeys to the Bread of Life Café, we could use them for our free Thanksgiving meal and/or our Saturday dinners. PLEASE LET JAY PETEL OR MOTHER SANDRA KNOW if you will be able to donate a turkey, so that we can arrange for storage and cooking.



United Thank Offering Ingathering

By Deb Porcelli, UTO Coordinator

Fall brings cooler temperatures, colored leaves, going back to school, the

smell of spices and the UTO Ingathering. The beauty of this important ministry is the duality of its purpose. First this ministry is designed to provide Episcopalians with a mechanism to say a daily special thank you to God for all the blessings - both big and small - in our lives. As a daily devotional, we should always say a prayer of thanksgiving. At that time you can drop coins of thanksgiving into the "little blue box" or a jelly jar. The number of coins is up to you and the size of your blessings. Whether you are thankful to have escaped a crazed driver on your way home or to have a few extra minutes of quiet time with a loved one, remember to share your gratefulness with Our Father.

The second part of this ministry is take these coins of thanksgiving and disperse them through grants to help spread the word of God's kingdom. The first UTO grant in 1889 purchased an air plane for a minister to go into the isolated parts of Alaska to spread God's word. Today your thankful coins are added to those from all the Episcopal Communion to provide grants throughout the world. Soup kitchens, after school programs, programs for newborn babies in NICU and

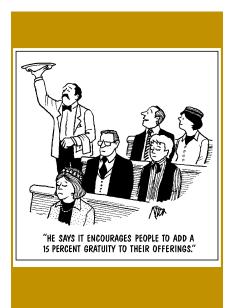
Continued on next page.

United Thank Offering

continued

programs for the children of prisoners are some of the grants that have been given right here in the Philadelphia area. Your coins of thanksgiving become powerful tools to do God's bidding in the world and in the neighborhood.

If you desire a "little blue box" for your daily devotional there are some in the racks in the vestibule at All Saints'. Our All Saints' UTO ingathering is on Sunday, November 25. There will be UTO envelopes in the pews a couple of weeks before the ingathering date. We ask that if you collect the coins of thanksgiving that you convert them to a check or paper cash to fit into the envelope.



Sunday School Schedule

First Sunday: Intergenerational Forums designed for all ages. See below.*

Second Sunday: Regular Sunday School; Adult Forum: Eclipsing Empire series, led by Dennis Clemson, 2nd Sunday of every month

Third Sunday: No forums unless announced otherwise

Fourth Sunday: Regular Sunday School; Adult forums: topics to be announced

*Our new intergenerational program is from the Growing Together curriculum, based on various sacred and secular holidays. On November 4, we'll be focusing on the "communion of saints" for All Saints' Day.

Help Youth Fill the Pantry Shelves

Your help is needed for All Saints' Annual Senior Youth Group Interfaith Food Shopping on Sunday, November 18. Please either bring in canned goods, or donate to our collection, by using the specially marked envelopes located in the pew rack or the back of the church. We hope to reach our goal of \$1,000 to help supply food for the Interfaith Food Pantry during the holidays.

-The Senior Youth Group



Daylight Savings Time begins

Sunday, November 4

Remember to turn your clocks back an hour Saturday night and enjoy the extra hour of rest!

Just for Laughs: Read how others start out their day...

Somebody has said 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 in the morning and say, "Good Lord, its morning."

[Thanks to Betsy Gottshall]

Young Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away.

Read on to see what happens next...

Just for Laughs continued

"Johnny, wait until we say our prayer!" his father said.

"I don't have to," the boy replied.

"Of course you do," his father insisted. "We say a prayer before eating at our house."

"That's at our house," Johnny explained, "But this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook."

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

ATTENTION Senior Youth Group

.

We will be having our annual Interfaith Food Shopping trip on Sunday, November 18, following 10:30 a.m. worship. We will have a pizza lunch (provided for you) and then head to WalMart for our shopping adventure. We should return to the church around 2ish.

Please let us know if you will be able to join us.

Mr. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Harrity Senior Youth Group Advisors



Flower Memorial Fund

As the Christmas season quickly approaches the Altar Guild is already planning the decorating of our beautiful altar with poinsettias and greens. Please consider making a donation to the Christmas Flower Memorial Fund by December 2. Not only do we count on your contributions in order to continue this lovely Christmas tradition at All Saints' but it is a wonderful way to memorialize your loved ones. Contribution amounts are solely at your discretion.

Thank you, The All Saints' Altar Guild

Give unto the Lord and Others

To help and assist you in keeping track of your generous contributions to God and His church at All



Saints', 2013 offering envelopes

will be available in early December. These professionally-printed boxed envelopes help you, and they also ease All Saints' dedicated volunteers and staff's efforts in keeping the church's banking, accounting, and financial records accurate and orderly. For everyone's convenience these envelopes are purchased annually to use weekly, monthly, or on special occasions through out the year. If you did not receive a box last year and would like to receive a box for 2013, please contact Donna at:

610-279-3990 allsaints535@yahoo.com



Haws Avenue Soup Kitchen Sunday, November 11

Donations and helpers All welcome!

> Contact: Laurie Sawyer 484-802-0572



Your contributions (financial and nonfinancial) throughout the year bless God, All Saints' (guests, parish, staff, ministries), and our neighbors locally and abroad.

Take a walk around the facility any day of the week and check out how your contributions are planting seeds and playing a role in blessing what goes on in front and behind the scenes.

Ask anyone that you run into, to hear what great things they see happening!

The Bible in 50 Words



God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split

Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, bush talked, Moses balked Pharaoh plagued

people walked, sea divided, tablets guided, promise landed,

Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets warned, Jesus born,

God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died

Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.



Advent Bulletin Covers

Guests and parish members of All Saints' are invited to partake in sponsoring Advent season bulletin covers to be in use as of Sunday, December 2. To contribute and memorialize a special loved one during Advent, contact Donna by Sunday, November 25.

610-279-3990 Allsaints535@yahoo.com

Preparing the way for the arrival of the special babe in the manger

-Fun-for-all-ages!

My Thanksgiving Top Ten List

Jesus, Parents, Family, Friends, Teachers, Country, Health, Clothes, Food, House

Serving for the Glory of God

Date	November 4	November 11	November 18	November 25
Acolytes	Victoria Batten, Eryn & Emma Griffin, Austin Taylor	Alyssa & Anika Jones, Austin Taylor	9:00 Diane Mullen	Brianna & Carley Harrity, Eryn & Emma Griffin, Austin Taylor
Altar Guild	Susan Cohen, Nicole Gelet, Kelly Griffin	Susan Cohen, Kathryn Gallagher, Susan Dean	Susan Cohen, Diane Mullen	Susan Cohen, Patty Gelet, Mary Jane Daley
Bulletin Assemblers	Marilyn & Jack Clemson (11/2)	Marion Shupe, Phil Gottshall (11/9)	Donna & Bob Penman (11/16)	Mary Jane Daley, Kathryn Gallagher (11/23)
Coffee Service	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Marilyn & Jack Clemson	Karen & Jack Spottiswood	Prisca & Beville Jones
Counters	Deb Heckard, Diane Mullen	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Deb Heckard, Diane Mullen	Betsy & Phil Gottshall
Eucharistic Ministers	Adrian & Eryn Griffin	Phil Gottshall, Austin Taylor	9:00 Diane Mullen 10:30 Bill Koffke, Victoria Batten	Mary Jane Daley, Brianna Harrity
Greeters	Joanne & Bob Heisler	Susan Cohen, Susan Dean	9:00 Ted Baildon 10:30 <i>Please Volunteer</i>	Jackie & Bill Koffke
Intercessor	Diane Mullen	Craig Mucher	9:00 Diane Mullen	Marilyn Manning
Lector	Judy Baca	TBD	9:00 Diane Mullen	TBD
Nursery	Nina & Andrew Ely, Julia Windbiel	Karen & Emily Spottiswood	Lois & Shannon Byrne	Stephanie Flood, John Paul Batten
Presenters	Deb Heckard, Susan Cohen	Nina & Andrew Ely		Prisca & Beville Jones
Server Reader (8 a.m.)	Viviann Harris	Kathryn Gallagher	N/A	Marilyn Manning
Ushers	8:00 Tom Stout 10:00 Nina & Nelson Schrock	8:00 Wayne Kinsey 10:00 Deb Taylor, Cornelia Hoffman	9:00 Betsy Gottshall, Nick Durante 10:30 Judy Baca	8:00 Paul Melosky 10:00 Carol & Brian Harrity

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!

November 2012



Forums

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 Drums Valley Jorge Jighland Band Make any event unique with music with one bagpiper to the entire Highland Band Contact: Jim McHale 510-549-7291 / 215-880-7291 Vfhb.com Affiliated with All Saints' for over 60 years. SPACE AVAILABLE Please call the church office at 610-279-3990 For additional information	2113 W. Main St. JEFFERSONVILLE 610-539-7282 COMPLETE LINE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FREE Delivery to Seniors Blood Pressure Screening • Medicare Billing for diabetic Supplies • Vitamin & Herbal Counseling • All Prescription Plans Accepted • We compound Prescriptions Henny Cole, R.PH. F.A.CA. FAX: 610-539-6430 • HENNYCOLE3@COMCAST.NET Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage Which is better for you? Please call or email JULES HERNADI, LUTCF, CSA 610-623-9241 • JHernadi@aol.com
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

The above are paid advertisements. All Saints' Church does not endorse nor assume any liability for their products and/or services.



535 Haws Avenue Norristown, PA 19401-4542 Phone and Fax 610 279-3990 www.allsaintsnorristown.org *FULLY ACCESSIBLE CHURCH*

INSERT LABEL HERE



All welcome!

NOVEMBER 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.