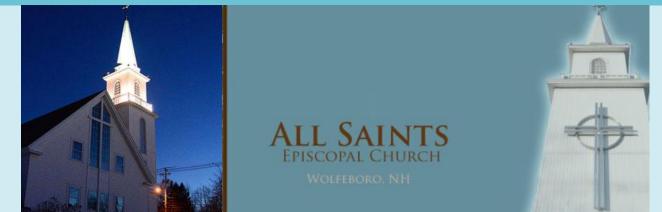
Weekly E-news and Updates





December 16, 2022 | Volume 16, Issue 50 Fourth Sunday of Advent / Year A

Ministry Assignments

Click link for Month of December Schedule

Serving Sunday December 18 Eucharistic Ministers

8 am Jay Wyman 10 am Steve Cloutier Susan Fuller Lector 8 am Jay Wyman 10 am Sarah Day Altar Guild Candice Tordonato Carolyn Sundquist Usher Hancock Flower Guild Linda Siracusa **Flower Deliverv** Sandi Johnson Arlene Salzgeber Greeter Volunteer

Birthdays this week

12/18 Madison Pelletier12/21 Penny Meyer12/23 Lucy Hancock12/24 Fredric Gurney12/24 Anna Brown

Anniversaries this week

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

> Hope is definitely not the same thing as optimism. It is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense, regardless of how it turns out. - Vaclav @[avel

When the world around us does not make sense, only God can unravel the tangled threads. How has your trust in God helped you to find hope?

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

The question in the image above "How has your trust in God helped you to find hope?" may be an easy one, or unanswerable for you. Our hopefulness varies day by day. But we often get stuck thinking we are responsible for hope in our lives. We can't manufacture hope ourselves, either through our actions or through our will. Hope comes from spending time with the divine. So how do you connect with God?

Quick Links

Link to <u>All Saints' Website</u>. Link to <u>Episcopal Church of NH</u>. Link to <u>The Episcopal Church</u>. Link to <u>Contact Us</u>.

Links to All Saints' Facebook and YouTube Channel Click on Buttons Below



Worship Links for Sunday Link to Live Stream at 10:00 am Link to Worship Links Link to Bulletin





The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Links to the Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16 - The sign of Immanuel Romans 1:1-7 - Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved Matthew 1:18-25 - Paul's greeting to the church at Rome

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 - A God near at hand

The Collect

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* Since the time of Jesus when hope came from encountering Emmanuel—God with us, followers of The Way of Love have engaged in spiritual practices to deepen their relationship with God. Spiritual practices are tangible ways of living out our faith. They include the obvious things like prayer, worship, and reading scripture, and ancient practices like fasting, silence and solitude. These practices guide our walk of faith and help us prioritize our time, encouraging us to make choices that better connect us to God.

Spiritual practices focus us on God's presence so God can transform and connect with us. Not every practice works for everyone, so part of one's faith journey is exploring how you best connect with God. Some practices follow that can help you find hope:

• **Slow down.** Be intentional about having time for God. Be curious about where God might lead you--it could be a conversation with someone, or being in the right place at the right time to make a difference for someone.

• **Be present.** Be intentional about noticing people around you. Gift them by being present and truly listen to what is said and also what is left unsaid. Authentically affirm, encourage, and bless others when opportunities present.

• **Notice.** Be attentive to what God has done for you and others, naming where you've seen God at work in your life. Share with others when you notice the times and places where God has shown up for them.

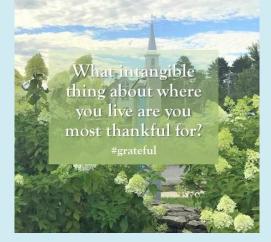
• **Pray.** Lift your requests to God offering prayers for yourself and others. Pray for those you love and especially for those you don't. Ask God to help you see the world through the frame of faith and love.

• **Be generous.** Practice gratitude for what you have been blessed with and share the gifts God has given you to help meet the needs with others around you through the church and service organizations.

• **Reclaiming our hope.** The hope we receive from God is not just for our own benefit, but for all of creation. God loves us and encourages us to share that love with our broken, hurting and desperate world.

Sunday I mentioned a few examples of God's love in action. My spiritual practices are varied, but walking The Way of Love includes prayer, serving others, and responding to the movement of the Holy Spirit (all the people and places God puts in front of me) gives and sustains hope for me. Intentional time and contemplation are also practices and I invite you Thursday evening anytime between 6:00 and 8:00 pm to experience a time of quiet and centering by walking the labyrinth in the parish hall.

My hope for you is that this Advent helps you



remember God's nearness to you, and that you receive the gift of hope through the incarnation of Jesus who is the hope for a weary world.

Advent Blessings and Hope,

Bill+

P.S. Some of you have asked me for the Robert Farrar Capon quote about our expectations of a "Superman" Messiah from Sunday's sermon. It can be found at: <u>https://youtu.be/o-</u> <u>EM4wWSiug</u>

Hunting the Divine Fox: *images and mystery in Christian faith* [p. 90-91]

... almost nobody resists the temptation to jazz up the humanity of Christ. The true paradigm of the ordinary American view of Jesus is Superman: "Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. It's Superman! Strange visitor from another planet, who came to earth with powers and abilities far beyond those of mortal men, and who, disguised as Clark Kent, mild-mannered reporter for a great metropolitan newspaper, fights a never-ending battle for truth, justice and the American Way."

.... Jesus – gentle, meek and mild, but with secret, souped-up, more-than-human insides – bumbles around for thirty-three years, nearly gets himself done in for good by the Kryptonite Kross, but at the last minute, struggles into the phone booth of the Empty Tomb, changes into his Easter suit and, with a single bound, leaps back up to the planet Heaven. It's got it all – including, just so you shouldn't miss the lesson, kiddies: He never once touches Lois Lane.

You think that's funny? Don't laugh. The human race is, was and probably always will be deeply unwilling to accept a human messiah. We don't want to be saved in our humanity; we want to be fished out of it. We crucified Jesus, not because he was God, but because he blasphemed: He claimed to be God and then failed to come up to our standards for assessing the claim. It's not that we weren't looking for the Messiah; it's just that he wasn't what we were looking for. Our kind of Messiah would come down from a cross. He would carry a folding phone booth in his back pocket. He wouldn't do a stupid thing like rising from the dead. He would do a smart thing like never dying.



This week we pray for:

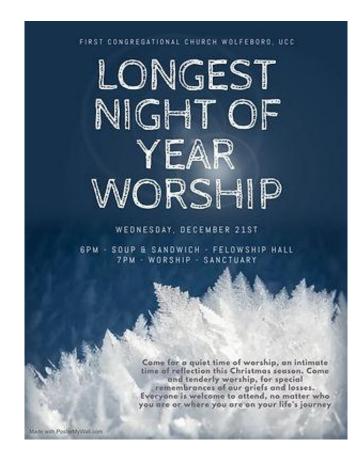
For our Parish

Howard Blaney, Ann Champagne, Prue Fitts, Felicity Freund, Judy Hess, Zell Kellogg, Bhupendra & Judy Khetani, Jacqueline McLaughlin, Penny Meyer, Carol Pearson, Danielle Pierpont, Bree Schuette, Lee White.

For our Family & Friends

Michael Dowd, Anne Fish, Stephanie Fullam, Ruth Gray, Susan Belt Hartson, Faye Juul, Tom Southern, Debe Tetherly, Peggy Young.

Longest Night: Blue Christmas Evening Prayer



While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas time. A Longest Night/Blue Christmas service may provide a time and place of solace during the often frenetic days surrounding the celebration of Christmas. We come together seeking healing and room to share grief, sadness, loneliness, or confusion when these emotions often feel out of place during the holidays.

In the Northern Hemisphere, December 21 is the longest night, the winter solstice. It marks the shortest day of the year, the official start of winter. Tradition says that nature and all her creatures stop and hold their breath to see if the sun will turn back from its wanderings, if the days will lengthen and the earth will once again feel the sun's warmth. On this darkest day of the year, we come with our honest yearnings seeking the return of light and hope.



With 2022 winding down, and Christmastide upon us, <u>CLICK HERE</u> for resources to help plan your giving



A gentle reminder

As individuals and families, we have been experiencing significantly higher costs for many things, food and home heating in particular. The same is true for our parish.

Your parish finance committee met recently and will meet again next week to review the developing All Saints budget for next year. Our hope is to reduce a significant gap between fixed or expected expenses and anticipated income prior to the end of this year.

To that end, we ask all parishioners to review your 2022 pledge and, if possible, to bring it up to date by the end of the year. In a similar vein, if you have been unable to send in your 2023 pledge commitment until now, we hope you will submit a best guess of what your pledge will be. As we know, pledges may need to be changed at any time, as circumstances may require, with a note to the parish treasurer.

Your response to these two items will lift the heart of your parish treasurer and help him and the finance committee to prepare a responsible budget, responsive to the needs of the parish and based on the projected giving by members of the congregation.

With many thanks for your thoughtful attention, Cate McMahon, member, All Saints Finance Committee

From The Music Corner...

You are all welcome to a Music For Life (my studio name) piano/voice recital of 6 precious children and adults on MONDAY, DECEMBER 18th in our sanctuary. Beginning at 4 PM, this short recital will feature music of the season with a few surprises in store. Sweet refreshments will be served afterwards, and you



are invited to bring an offering for the table if you are inclined or able. However, simply your loving presence and listening ears will be most treasured :0)!

A musical treat for me this week was listening again to The Piano Guys (incredible

performers), and their powerful recording 7 years ago of "Angels from the realms of glory" with incredible pageantry..... don't miss this! Or simply "re-listen" this year... <u>https://youtu.be/PrLoWt2tfqg</u>

Lastly, many All-Sainters, including Ralph and I, were totally mesmerized by TAKE 3 trio brought to us by Friends of Music this past Sunday afternoon. Words cannot describe the experience... when they return I will be pressing you to attend! For a sample, google <u>https://www.take3music.com/media</u>

Peace, joy and God's deep Presence and Love to each and all, Holly

Advent Prayer Walk



Advent is a season of hope, expectation and preparation. In Advent, we prepare our hearts and anticipate Jesus' arrival, waiting, watching, and expecting the world to turn toward justice. Join us Thursday evenings anytime between 6:00 and 8:00 pm in December to sit and pray and/or walk the labyrinth in the parish hall. This event follows Dinner Bell Community Meal at 5:00 pm (contact the church office to make a reservation).

The labyrinth is an ancient practice. We walk a winding path, praying and listening as we are guided to the center. In the season of Advent, God has set a path for each of us, lined with discovery and hope.

Socks must be worn while walking on the cloth labyrinth. Finger labyrinths are also available for those with mobility issues or wish to explore other labyrinth types.

Tuba Christmas at All Saints on December 10 th. A record 28 musicians led by Claudia Bissett.



Meals Needed



We have a family of two that is in need of meals on medical treatment days (Tuesdays and Thursdays). Please visit <u>https://mealtrain.com/k0o18v</u> to sign-up and help. Thank you!



Urgent Need for Area Homeless

There is an urgent need for can openers, proteins such as canned meats, beans and peanut butter, and sleeping bags for homeless folks living outside in Ossipee. We are collecting items

the next two Sundays. Can openers can be ordered online at: <u>https://www.amazon.com/Chef-Craft-Can-Opener</u> and may be shipped directly to: White Horse Recovery Center, c/o Vanessa Soper, 70 Route 16B, Center Ossipee, NH, 03814-6825



This is the time to begin planning for new members of the vestry and convocation.

Vestry is in need of a Junior Warden. The term will run from January 2023 to January 2026. The Junior warden would be meeting twice a month either in person or via zoom. Please speak with Joanne Crowe or Doug Smithwood if you are interested in joining the vestry.

Convocation is in need to two new members, delegate and a alternate delegate. The delegates meet via zoom approximately 6 times per year. If you have questions and would consider taking a role as a delegate, please speak with Joanne Crowe or Doug Smithwood.

Our Sunday School Children Need Your Presence



The Episcopal Church is deeply committed to fostering

communities and congregations that are safe spaces for all people, particularly those who may be vulnerable in some way, to worship and minister generously, free of any form of harassment, bullying, abuse, or exploitation. To that end, our policy and practice is to have two adults present. Please sign-up to be a classroom assistant on the bulletin board and speak with Parish and Safe Church Administrator Debra Hoyt or Pastor Bill if you have any questions. Thank you.

Altar Flowers



We are encouraging that Altar Flower Dedications be made early in the year.

Now Easy to reserve your date by Signing Up Online! <u>https://ttsu.me/allsaintswolfe</u>

You can still turn in a dedication slip to the office or Email your request to the Parish Office at allsaints@metrocast.net.

(Please let the office know if you are providing flowers for your dedication and/or any details of dedication you wish to appear in the bulletin)

The chart in the parish hall will be updated as new requests are received.

THE SOONER YOU SIGN UP,

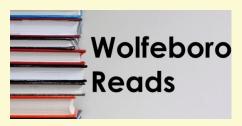
THE BETTER CHANCE YOU HAVE TO RESERVE THE DATE YOU WANT!

Flowers may be provided in lieu of payment. Please let the office know if you wish to provide your own flowers. Please call Sue 569-3183 if you need to discuss arrangements.

The cost of the Altar flowers for a Sunday is \$35.00. Please provide payment to the office before the dedication date.

Following the worship services the flowers are delivered by volunteers to our ill and shut-in members, as well as other appropriate places. In this manner, the flowers continue their silent reminder of God's love. Thank you in advance for providing flowers to the Altar of All Saints.

Questions may be directed to Debra at allsaints@metrocast.net. thank you.



Click on the picture for your Fall Reading List

Please join Pastor Bill Petersen (ASEC) and Pastor Donna Muise (FCCW) as we gather via Zoom on Tuesdays 4:00-5:15 pm for reflection and discussion. Wolfeboro Reads begins Tuesday September 13.

<u>Dinner Bell</u>

<u>Please call 569-3453</u> or e-mail <u>allsaints@metrocast.net</u> by Tuesday afternoons to reserve your meal(s) for the week.

We will offer two dinner options:

- 1. To-Go Meals as we have done during Covid with meal pick-up 4:00-5:00 pm, and
- 2. Gathering for dinner in the All Saints Parish Hall as we did before Covid at 5:00 pm.

Your help is also welcome to share hospitality with our neighbors, please speak with Carol Simpson or Pastor Bill to volunteer.

December menu

12/1/2022 Chicken noodle soup American chop suey Cookies

12/8/2022 Cheeseburger chowder Turkey stew with biscuit Cookies



12/15/2022 Beef barely soup Baked lasagna Cookies

All are welcome and donations accepted to offset costs. Thank you!

Please consider brewing some coffee when you arrive early for worship on Sunday. All that is needed is to make a couple pots of coffee and put out some coffee cups. Please sign up on the Parish Hall bulletin board.

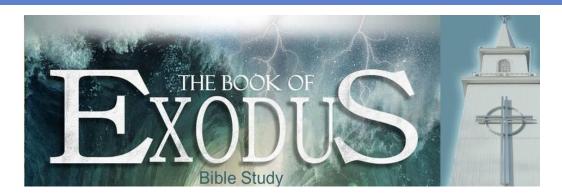




Be a Greeter!

Please consider participating as a **Greeter** at Sunday's Worship. The most important role of a greeter is to make sure all are welcome. Let's make sure visitors feel welcome and know how to get to the service.

Please give your name to the Parish office for rotation.



Thursday Bible Study

We are currently studying the Book of Exodus. If you have not received the Thursday Afternoon Bible Study e-mails before and would like to be added, please share your e-mail with Pastor Bill.

The message of Exodus is of God acting to free a powerless people and bring them into covenant relationship. This event reveals God's faithfulness to Israel and to Egypt and all other nations of the world as well. The exodus is so important that it is even used to describe who God is: "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Exodus 20:2). The people become the Lord's

"treasured possession out of all the people's," "a priestly kingdom," and "a holy nation" (Exodus 19:5-6) and receive the Torah to show them how to live in relationship with this gracious and liberating God through the everyday activities of life.

December Calendar

Click <u>HERE</u> for a pdf copy of the Calendar



There are many ways to connect with one another to see, hear and share God online at All Saints



Sundays 8:00 &10:00 am - Worship in-person and <u>via</u> Facebook Live

Mondays

10:00 am - Office Hours with Pastor Bill via **Zoom** Meeting ID: 296 849 095 Password: 027471 By phone: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 296 849 095

Tuesdays

9:00 am - Women's Worship in person in Beck Library and via <u>Zoom</u> Meeting ID: 998 0107 3469 Password: 003176 By Phone: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 998 0107 3469 **4:00 pm** - Wolfeboro Reads via <u>Zoom</u> Meeting ID: 982 3048 8609 Password: 012281 By Phone: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 982 3048 8609

Thursdays

9:00 am - Men's Bible Study in person in Beck Library



Monday Morning Check-in with Pastor Bill and via Zoom Meeting ID:377 746 725 Password: 008244 By Phone: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 998 0107 3469 **3:00 pm** - Midweek Bible Study via Zoom Meeting ID: 546 551 506 Password: 508697 By phone at: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 546 551 506



E-NEWS UPDATE E-news editing has now moved to the Parish Office. Please have your submission requests to the office by Tuesday of the week you would like it in the e-news. You may email your requests to Debra at <u>allsaints@metrocast.net</u>.

LIFE MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY

HAVING A HARD TIME

GETTING FOOD FOR

YOURSELF OR YOUR FAMILY?

HELP IS AVAILABLE

DRIVE-THROUGH FOOD DISTRIBUTION – FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAYS MONTHLY

10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

4:00PM TO 6:00PM

264 S. MAIN STREET, WOLFEBORO

ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

www.lifeministriesfoodpantry.com

Providing access to food security with dignity and respect

Accessing books in the Beck Library

Catalog is on LibraryThing (<u>https://www.librarything.com/home</u>). User name: AllSaintsWolfeboro Password: +BeckLibrary+ Unsubscribe allsaints@metrocast.net

Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent byallsaints@metrocast.netpowered by



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