

The Outlook



Saint Asaph's Episcopal Church
www.saintasaphs.org



2022 Fall Edition



A Letter from Fr. Andrew Kellner

Reconnect – Rebuild – Renew

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

Isaiah 43:19

As summer begins to wind down and we soon turn towards autumn, we find ourselves in a time, which requires much from us. We are still in a time of needing to guard each other's health and in a time when much of the world around us is reopening. We have each perhaps taken time to sift through all the things we used to do and found what was most meaningful to us. We have spent time longing for a return of these things, all while adapting to new ways of living them out. It has been a time that has required much from us, and it is my hope that we each have found our faith to be a significant source of support and encouragement.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God speaks to a people in exile the powerful words of hope: "I am about to do a new thing." These words had a specific time and place, but they are true throughout time and space. They are spoken to us today, and we should ask ourselves whether we do perceive it or not.

Something new is meant to denote a moment of hope, a core tenant of faith in the Christian tradition. Christian hope however is not tied to a specific outcome, but a trust that the new thing will move us forward toward the heavenly way of being and reality. We know that life will not go back to the way that it was, but that something new is coming about and inviting us more deeply into the kinship of God.

The Church of Saint Asaph is in a time of transition and transformation. Through the events of the last years, and the opportunity to call new leadership the words of God are being spoken here: "I am about to do a new thing..." and it is up to us to move with God into this new thing.

(Continued on next page)

As I reflect on God's new things throughout scripture and in my own life, I find that they are so often connected with the deepening of understanding of what has happened and is happening within and around. I invite us as individuals and as community, to explore this new thing that God has begun here through the following themes: Reconnect; Rebuild; Renew.

Reconnection invites us to come back together. It is an invitation to experience and practice community here at church and in our own lives. It is an invitation for us to return to some of our time-honored practices of community and to add new ones. It is an invitation for us to strengthen the ties that bind us together as a parish community and to invite others in as well. Reconnection is also about ourselves as individuals. The past years have been challenging and we may find ourselves in need of reconnecting with the core of who we are and with God present all around us. Taking times of personal and communal retreat, prayer, worship and study will be important in this work.

Rebuilding invites us to begin to put back what was, but always with an eye for how it can be made new. We have some real tangible needs for rebuilding and have been active in the process. We have seen a new sidewalk making our entrance more welcoming, work in the rectory making it a place of hospitality and comfort, and restarting the restoration of the basement level using diocesan grant money, to name just a few. As a community we will need to come together to not just make these projects come to fruition, but to think about how the spaces we care for are put into action in service of the world around us. This is rebuilding a deep connection between our campus, its uses, and our mission in the world.

Renewal is perhaps an all-encompassing theme, but one that invites us to recognize that the new thing God is doing will touch on our whole way of being. I invite us to pay special attention to renewing our commitment to our mission and vision as a parish:

The Church of Saint Asaph is called to be a progressive Christian Community:

We welcome everyone to God's table;

We stand with those in need and advocate for the poor, the sick, the friendless and the marginalized;

We make children central to our life as a community:

We celebrate the presence of God with joyful, engaging and inviting worship.

Exploring individually and communally how we understand this our call to ministry and mission in the world is transforming. It helps us to see that this mission is not something that can be achieved in a year, a decade or even further. Our mission is dynamic and evolves as God does new things in our midst. This renewal is an awareness of the presence of God and God's actions amongst and through us.

So my friends, may we perceive God's new thing coming about in our midst and may we do our part in bringing it about.

A Prayer of Transition

Loving God,

You created us in your image and bound us together with invisible threads known only to you. Be with the people of St Asaph during this time of transition and strengthen the ties that bind us together. Draw us closer to one another and to you. Give us comfort in knowing that our new Rector is also part of the body of Christ, tied to our congregation with invisible threads known only to you. Help our vestry in the difficult task of discerning our way forward. Help our new priest discern the way forward. In the fullness of time, in your time, draw these invisible threads together and join the people of St Asaph with a rector who has heard your call to lead us. Until that day, grant us patience, wisdom, and courage. We ask this in your name. Amen.

Meet Our New Priest-In-Charge The Rev. Andrew Kellner & Family

(Submitted by Lynda Staton)

It's always hard coming into a new place, where your well-loved predecessor has gone to answer another call, and many emotions are left scattered around. This situation is not the first time St. Asaph's has undergone such a change, but it's not nevertheless any easier. It was Jonathan Lockwood Huie that said, "Celebrate endings—for they precede new beginnings." I am happy to be a part of a congregation that rallies in support of each other in the ways needed. The love and sense of community here are most welcoming.

As of July 1st, we officially welcomed The Rev. Andrew Kellner (formerly the Chaplain and Religious Studies Teacher at St. James School) as our Priest-in-Charge. Joining Fr. Kellner is his husband David Kasievich, the Head of St. James School, and their son Kayden. They will be moving into the newly painted Rectory by August 31st.

Some of you may have met Fr. Andrew previously through volunteering in our projects with St. James School. I only recently had the pleasure of meeting him upon his arrival at St. Asaph's early in June. For those of you who may not have met him in person yet, allow me to tell you a bit about him. I cannot speak for everyone, so this is my impression of him. Fr. Kellner is friendly and makes you feel comfortable. You can pull up a chair and have a conversation with him and know that he's listening, trying to get a clear understanding of your needs, and interested in getting to know you personally. I always think this is an essential characteristic that a priest needs. You have to feel comfortable talking to your priest, and more importantly, you want to know that they are genuinely interested in learning how to help and can assist you in finding the best solution. You want someone interested in finding ways to bring back, in person, a congregation that, like many others due to COVID, has experienced a decline in participation. You want someone willing to make the necessary changes to strengthen the church in all aspects – not just community building. Fr. Andrew has ideas that can lead us into the future to be a more vital church, to withstand the challenges churches face every day. You want someone willing to go all in, doing the homework, which includes meeting with members and staff, seeing what's been done in the past, and developing a plan. Someone who will start with St. Asaph's mission and take it a step further to meet the demands of our world today. Someone needed to bridge the gaps, fill any holes to keep our foundation strong in faith and always in support of each other.

Out of concern, many have often asked how I'm doing during this time of transition. Wondering how well I'm handling having to start over building a new relationship with a different priest, in such a short time span and missing his predecessor. Initially, I would just smile and say "I'm fine" no matter what. But in the short time I've had chance to be around Fr. Kellner and have discussions with him, I feel much better, and more optimistic as we go along. Do I think Fr. Kellner can take us through this journey? Yes, I think we are off to a good start! Some of the changes he's made so far, and the ideas he has going forward, I think are great. I feel confident that he is up for the challenge and ready for the assignment. I believe he will support staff as best he can and seems willing to listen to members and offer support and faith-based guidance where needed as we transition towards calling our next Rector. So please make yourself known to him, as his door is always open.

Worship and Services

We Welcomed The Rev. Canon H. Gregory Smith

Presiding over us during the month of August, we welcomed The Rev. Canon H. Gregory Smith, more affectionately referred to as Fr. Greg, is a retired priest in the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Fr. Greg grew up in Chicago and attended St. Gregory's Choir School where he developed his love for choral music and singing. Fr. Greg is a graduate of Bradley University and served at the White House in the office of first lady Betty Ford. He is a graduate of Nashotah House and has served parishes in Chicago, Rochester, Denver, Atlanta and Philadelphia. In his free time Greg continues to foster his love of choral music and his dog Luca. It was so lovely to have him with us!



Fall Worship Schedule

Regular schedule of worship at 8:00 am and 10:00 am begins on Sunday, September 18th. The 10:00 am liturgy will be in person and can also be streamed on Facebook to watch at your convenience. Before the liturgy begins, we will have an Organ Blessing & Dedication. Following the 10 am liturgy, we're planning a special "Welcome Back" coffee hour with festive food.

Compline - Night Prayer

Tuesdays and Thursdays (Weekly) at 9pm

The offering of prayer late in the evening, by laity, religious orders or clergy, often called Compline, has sometimes been described as the 'goodnight prayer of the Church'. It rounds off the day and prepares us for a quiet night. As the psalmist wrote:

"I lie down in peace and take my rest, for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid."

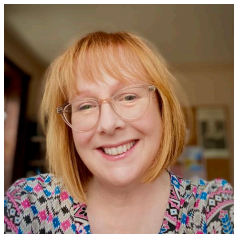


Night Prayer derives its content from the wisdom of the centuries in Scripture and above all in the psalms, but also from contemporary Christian experience of God. It celebrates the awareness that each of us who tries to pray is a part of the human whole. So we are taken over the threshold from daytime, not in a mood of self-centered spirituality, but as representatives of humanity, acknowledging our creaturehood before God. Know all are welcome.

Bible Study

Tuesday noon Bible Study is open to all via Zoom. Participants reflect together about how they connect with a reading for the upcoming liturgy on Sunday. This is an excellent way of preparing to hear the Word on Sunday, as well as expanding your appreciation for the Gospel and its relevance for your life in today's world. **Sessions begin at noon** and end promptly at 1:00.

Children, Youth & Family Ministry Update: Children's Worship and Acolyting News



Making children, youth and family a central part of the life of our community is a touch point to our mission. As Episcopalians we hold the celebration of the Holy Eucharist as the principal act of worship on Sundays (BCP 13). It is our hope that children, youth and family will be able to enter into our celebration in ways that meet them where they are.

To facilitate this, we will be offering **Children's Worship** on Sunday's at 9:45 AM, for children up to 8 years. Children's worship will begin much the same way we begin liturgy at the 10 AM, with the lighting of candles, the opening rites and prayers. Fr. Kellner will be present to begin this portion of the liturgy and then the worship time will continue with the Liturgy of the Word using elements from Godly Play. Kath Hubbard and Fr. Kellner will work together to recruit and train storytellers to facilitate this engagement with scripture in a manner that explores the mystery of God's presence in our lives. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in our lives, so it is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance.

Godly Play is an amazing way for adults and children to experience God's presence, love, and grace.

- Godly Play values process, openness, discovery, community and relationships.
- Godly Play models the worship life, stories, symbols and rituals of Christian congregations.
- Godly Play allows practitioners to discover relevant and personal theological meaning.
- Godly Play nurtures participants to develop larger dimensions of belief and faith through wondering and play.

Whether you are teaching it or are a class member, you get to:

- Engage your innate spirituality.
- Deepen your understanding of religious language.
- Make meaning of the Biblical stories.
- Discover more about yourself in relationship with God and others in community.

Here at St. Asaph's we are deepening the Godly Play experience by making our own story-telling materials and integrating some of the materials we already have. Sometimes this means creating new story-material to go with the lessons appointed for the day. Parents are welcome to attend with their children, but are not required to do so. Please email the Church Office at office@saintasaphs.org if you would like learn more about assisting with Children's Worship.



Acolyting is a great way for individuals of all ages to participate in the liturgy. For many pre-teens and teens, it is a way of finding their space within a parish community. We are excited to welcome anyone over the age of 8 to participate as an acolyte. Acolytes assist the community in its celebration of the Holy Eucharist by leading processions, assisting at the altar and leading the community in the ritual actions of the liturgy. If you or your child are interested in learning more about becoming an acolyte, please reach out to Fr. Kellner.



A View from the past...

Acolytes with The Rev. Edgar Adams and Carolyn Langfitt (Approx. time early 70's possibly?)

Confirmation

The Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania is held Diocesan Wide Confirmation Service on September 19th, 2021, at The Church of Good Shepherd in Bryn Mawr, PA.

We celebrate our Confirmands, Simon, Oliver, Kylah, Max and Yasmin.

(pictured from left to right)



The Guisinger-Nickerson Family



The Morgan Family



The Malik-Schmieder Family



Fr. Barry Harte with our Confirmands at St. Asaph's

Property News

Property Updates

Submitted by Steve Sheeran



We've recently have started work on replacing the side walk, along the side of the East entrance where the slate was severely damaged. Repainting of the rectory is complete and it looks fabulous!

We've received many compliments about the improvement of the garth and graveyard areas. On the campus grounds, a clearing was made of the pathway to the Celtic Cross. Numerous plantings have been placed in the graveyard by Steve Sheeran, Wade Rogers, and Stephen Morris. Wade has also done tons of weeding and cleaning of some of the grave stones.

St. Asaph's Garth has a new look. Many thanks to Stephen Morris who has done so much beautiful work in weeding, cleaning up and adding new plants to the Garth area (as shown in the photo right).



With the new church arrangement we've brought back the previous altar that was dedicated in 1991 by the Nelsen family in loving memory of Isabel Umstead LaRoche.

St. Asaph's former altar that The Rev. Edgar Adams used during his tenure, has come back to St. Asaph's, through the generous donation by his grand-daughter, Bethany Adams. Over the years the table has passed from her grandmother-Jeanne Adams, to her uncle- Edgar Adams Jr. and then to Bethany. She felt such a historical piece would be happier in its original home with us in Bala Cynwyd, PA.



Fr. Kellner has chosen to use a smaller office, allowing for the relocation of the Godly Play room from the Fleming Room to the Rector's old office.

We thank Susan Christie for her continuing work, staining and restoring woodwork around the church. Most recently, she has been working on the repair and restoration of the diamond pane window, from the Bala House Art Room, which looks like the original glass!



Pictured: The path leading to the Celtic Cross



Pictured: The repairing of the sidewalk



Pictured: The window restoration project



Pictured: The painting of the rectory

Music & Fine Arts



Music Events

Submitted by: Roy Harker, Director of Music and the Arts

AGO Noon Series at the Church of Saint Asaph

The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists has held a regular series of organ recitals featuring member organists from around the greater Philadelphia area. This year marks the 50th anniversary of these programs. As part of the Church of Saint Asaph's dedication of our new Johannus/Austin hybrid organ, we are hosting the Guild for the month of October. I've assembled notable organists for these programs, all of whom are excited to be part of this series introducing the Guild – and the public – to the new organ.

The lineup of organists for Tuesdays in October are as follows:

Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 12:00 noon
TBD

Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 12:00 noon
Andrew Kotylo
Director of Music, St. Paul's Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA.

Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 12:00 noon
Mary (Mib) Campbell
Director of Music, Church of the Epiphany, Royersford, PA.

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 12:00 noon
Roy Harker, Director of Music and the Arts, Church of Saint Asaph, Bala Cynwyd, PA.

Choir News

I'm glad to announce the addition of two new members of our extended choir family at St. Asaph's.

As you know, Shellie Camp officially retired last June – although I expect she will still be making appearances in the future! **Julia Natoli** has agreed to be our new soprano soloist/section leader beginning in September. Julia Natoli is a Rochester, NY native and a graduate of Penn State University's Master of Music in Voice Performance and Pedagogy program. She is a busy teacher and performer in the Philadelphia area since moving to the area last year.

And... Peter Webb has decided to step down in his role as tenor soloist/section leader, given the growing needs of his family and career. **Sam Van Fossen** has agreed to fill the tenor role beginning in September. Sam is a graduate of Gettysburg College and comes to us following his tenure as soloist/section leader at Doylestown Presbyterian Church.

You may remember both of these people from our Easter service, and both have substituted after the Easter season as well. You will have a chance to welcome both of these new members – and welcome back the full choir – at our Homecoming Service on **Sunday, September 18**. That day we will also be dedicating the new organ at St. Asaph's! Mark your calendars!

St. Asaph's Gallery Presents Carolyn Harper

I Remember You: Portraits of Hope

Hand Embroidered Batik

September 16 to October 9, 2022

Opening Reception:

Date: Friday, September 16, 2022

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Carolyn Harper, a member of St. Asaph's, was educated at Kenyon College and the University of Pennsylvania. Carolyn is an educator and artist who has taught art at all levels and who exhibits nationally, while also partnering with various non-profit organizations to create exhibitions that are specific to their community.



Carolyn's work has a strong social justice component to it, as she creates images of people or groups who have been marginalized, discriminated against, or abused. The works provide faces to those who are faceless, nameless and powerless, and bear witness to those who are suffering. through images that call attention to those forgotten by society. Carolyn writes:

My experience in working with portraiture and the homeless is that the portraits serve to empower those people depicted. They are able to see themselves through the portraits as not just homeless, or jobless, but as singular individuals with an important story and history. Portraiture is an extremely powerful tool of self-discovery. There is something reached, something confronting, something born or remembered when an individual and an artist can coalesce into an honest creative space and energy.

Upcoming Art Openings - Save The Dates

Artist: Kit Burns

October 21 to November 13, 2022

Opening Reception:

Friday, October 21, 2022, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Artist: TBD

November 18 to December 11, 2022

Opening Reception:

Friday, November 18, 2022, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Artist: TBD

December 16, 2022 to January 15, 2023

Opening Reception:

Friday, December 16, 2022, 6:00pm to 7:30pm



- Kit Burns

Members & Friends News From

Fond Memories and Best Wishes

(Submitted by Lynda S.)

The Harte-McCormick Family

With fond memories we remember the many years of service, friendship and leadership of our former Rector, The Very Rev. Barry Harte, and continue to wish him, Mark, Kevin and Kate the best as they each continue to follow their journey.

Relying back to Huie's words, "Celebrate endings—for they precede new beginnings." I believe that God has a plan for us all and a path set to follow. It's not always an easy choice to take that leap of faith. I'm sure that Fr. Barry will be a true asset during his tenure at the Bethlehem Cathedral and will lead his congregation with love, compassion and pastoral guidance as only he can deliver. So on that note, although sad to see them go, we can be happy for the opportunities that will hopefully bring them the joy that they deserve.



The Rev. Barbara Briggs

On Sunday, May 8th, Mother Barbara, filled the shoes of new Rector at St. Margaret's in Belfast, Maine. The church's mission statement mentions, "...To share God's love through inclusive worship, compassionate outreach and spiritual growth." I think we can all agree that is the perfect fit for Mother Barbara. Although we miss her, we are happy that she was able to answer her calling to the position of Rector.



The Rev. Steven Lindsay Ordained

Steve Lindsay was ordained on March 12, 2022 to the Sacred Order of Priests, at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension. The ordination was presided over by The Rt. Rev. Daniel G.P. Gutierrez XVI Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Steve's current assignment as of March 26th, is as Priest-In-Charge at The Church of the Ascension in Parkesburg, PA. We are so happy for Steve and all that he's accomplished, although he is truly missed!



Retreat at Transfiguration Monastery

Submitted by Diana Post

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord." Psalm 122



Talk about confirmation that I was in the right place. This was the first psalm, sung in plainsong, at the midday prayer shortly after I arrived at Transfiguration Monastery in Windsor, New York. Father Kellner recommended the monastery for a retreat, when I was feeling a need to step aside from the usual busyness, slow down, and simply pay attention. I wanted a place with nothing to do, nowhere to go, just be present to the Presence that is all around us, preferably in a beautiful natural environment.

Transfiguration Monastery was started in 1979 by three Benedictine nuns. The monastery is located in the Upper Susquehanna River Valley, a place of extraordinary beauty. Historically, this area was called "Onaquaga," home to the native Tuscarora people, as well as Joseph Brandt, a well-known Mohawk chief. Onaquaga Mountain, just north of Windsor, was a meeting place for the chiefs of the Iroquois Confederacy and one of three sacred Native American mountains in New York State.

The sisters bought 131 acres of wooded land on the slopes of Mt Tabor, just outside Binghamton, and about three miles north of the Pennsylvania border. Their inspiration began with one of Thomas Merton's last talks, in which he exhorted his monastic contemporaries to partake of the vitality of the living stream of monastic life, while incorporating the best that contemporary life had to offer. This included allowing monasteries to be more open, so that they could respond to the widespread interest in monastic wisdom, reach out to monastics of other religious traditions and honor the increasing number of requests for oblate membership.

The Benedictine way consists of devotion to God, obedience and humility. In practice, that means Ora et Labora – pray and work. They found a willing banker who gave them a mortgage and set about trying to pay it off. One of the sisters was an accomplished French chef, so they started a catering business, which ran for seven years. When the chef aged out of that business, they started a winery, which operated for another seven years, enough time to pay off the mortgage. One thing I've learned over the years is never to mess with nuns – or librarians! They get things done.

Three sisters are there now, after two of the founders have passed on. Sister Sheila is the prioress and lead singer. She handles most of the operational work. Sister Donald is the scholar, focusing on ecumenical work and educating their oblates. These two are involved in inter-religious monastic dialogue and exchanges. Sister Miriam is the third, and I had no interaction with her outside of the daily office. Sisters Sheila and Donald are both warm, fun and strong exemplars of the fruits of a devotional life.

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Their main work (and source of income) is now hospitality, the reception of guests. The guest house has six beds, and there is also a one-room hermitage for a single person. They are pet-friendly, so I brought my dog with me. You can cook your own food in the kitchenettes, or they will stock your kitchen with enough for two meals a day and bring you one hot meal at lunch or dinner. That option worked best for me, as I wanted to maximize my time in reflection and prayer. There is a nature preserve just five minutes down the road, where my dog and I could explore the trails and admire the high vistas.

Guests are welcome to participate in the daily office, with prayers in the morning, at noon and at vespers. If you don't want to participate, that's fine too, but I wanted to feel the rhythm of prayer while I was there. The chapel is simple and lovely, and much of the service is sung antiphonally in plainsong. Who could ask for more?

The sisters are evidence of faithfulness to the workings of spirit. For me, it was a rare opportunity to join them, not to get away from the world but to seek new ways to engage with and renew our wounded world. Benedictine spirituality serves as a guide for communal living of the Gospel in a socially responsible way and as a pathway for personal spiritual development. The simplicity of life at the monastery provides sacred space where seekers can come to encounter the Absolute. I look forward to going back there.

www.Transfigurationmonastery.org

Ally Cohen

Ally Cohen performed Rachmaninoff as a substitute with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Her teacher, Concertmaster David Kim, facilitated this! She performed in each of three concerts - January 20th, 21st and 22nd.



The Pugliese Family

Greetings from the Pugliese family! We began attending church services in June. If the family nook suddenly seems louder we're likely the culprit! Our names are Rob, Julia, Elliana (Ellie), Coralyn (Cora), Ottavia (Tavi). We recently went to Cape May and had a great trip. Enclosed is a picture from our trip.



Steve Chawaga - Episcopal Legal Aid Fundraiser - Save The Date!

ELA'S 3rd ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION AND FUNDRAISER
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6 FROM 5-7 PM.

Episcopal Legal Aid brings free civil legal aid services to communities around the Diocese that lack equal access to justice. Partnering with churches, schools and other institutions that provide free meals or food boxes, Episcopal Legal Aid creates a pop-up office while the distribution is being made. This enables clients who would have difficulty traveling to a legal aid office, or who are not comfortable sharing their problems, a safe space where they can get help.

Steve continues to run Episcopal Legal Aid, which is about to celebrate its 3rd anniversary providing legal assistance to economically marginalized residents of Philadelphia and the suburbs. Despite the pandemic, Steve's organization has held over 80 clinics and served over 400 clients. For more information, contact Steve Chawaga, Executive Director, Episcopal Legal Aid, via telephone at (610) 709-6665 or email to schawaga@episcopallegalaid.org



To support Episcopal Legal Aid, you can go to www.episcopallegalaid.org. Your financial support is vital to our success. Other than online donations, you can send a check payable to "Episcopal Legal Aid" to P.O. Box 434. Haverford. PA 19041.

The Chawaga-Novo Family



Here is what Laurie and Steve and their family have been up to in the past year —

Laurie finished a year as the Interim Assistant Principal of the Upper School at Friends' Central and is returning full-time to the classroom to teach English. She will also be the dean of the 11th Grade.



Steve continues to run Episcopal Legal Aid, which is about to celebrate its 3rd anniversary providing legal assistance to economically marginalized residents of Philadelphia and the suburbs. Despite the pandemic, Steve's organization has held over 80 clinics and served over 400 clients.

Tim married his wife Carrie in a beautiful ceremony on the beach in Narragansett, Rhode Island, last September. The weather that day turned out to be perfect for a late afternoon ceremony. As a bonus, the wind was blowing out, which meant the fire marshals allowed a clambake right on the beach. They live in a co-op in Brooklyn with their dog Vito, where Tim works for a tech company and is writing a work of speculative fiction.



Mary got engaged to her fiancé, Pat, and they have bought a house in Roxborough that they are renovating this summer. Mary does internal communications for a non-profit.



Peter and his wife Jessilyn welcomed their second child, Violet, in April. She joined big sister Lily in their home outside of Lexington, Kentucky. Peter continues to be the managing editor of a website that covers the bitcoin industry.

We all enjoyed a lovely reunion in Cape May the week of July 4.



Bill Severson and Joanne Behm

Joanne Behm and Bill Severson have both retired, Joanne in September from her work at St. James School and Bill in January with the closing of his business, Wren Fellini Framing.

Our big adventure in May-June was our 2900-mile drive across the USA from Philadelphia to Utah, where our niece Katherine and her family of seven reside on a promontory overlooking the Great Salt Lake, with awe inspiring peaks of the Wasatch mountain range forming the backdrop to their home. Here we are, at Promontory Point:



On the way to Utah, we:

- Toured Southern Ohio's astonishing Serpent Mound site, the largest earthwork effigy in the world, built in 1070 A.D. by the Fort Ancient peoples, ancestors of the Shawnee.
- Visited the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati.
- Enjoyed Chicago's architectural treasures, blustery wind, lakeside walking, restaurants, and Second City improv.
- Shared a reunion dinner in Love's Park, Illinois with St. Asaph's former Associate Priest, JoAnna Patterson, her husband, Chris Patterson, and their son, Michael. JoAnna is now the Lead Pastor at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Beloit, Illinois, just 1.8 miles from the southern Wisconsin border. Chris is a high school athletic coach and Michael has just completed 2nd Grade.
- Explored Frank Lloyd Wright's home, Taliesin, and the gorgeous Wisconsin River 'Dells'.
- Drove for miles and miles through Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wyoming, stopping to appreciate national parks (Badlands), monuments (Crazy Horse + Pipestone), scenic wonders (Custer State Park).



There are places in the US that are astonishingly beautiful.
We're ready to go on our next adventure (at least, Joanne is...).



Upcoming Meetings & Outreach

Book Groups

Next Book Group meeting will meet on **Monday, September 12th** (the 1st Monday is Labor Day) at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Please join us to discuss the book, "Deacon King Kong" by James McBride.

The Book Club meets the 1st Monday of each month. All are welcome.

Here's a list of the upcoming books for this Fall:

Monday, October 3rd "The Other End of the Sea" by Alison Glick

Monday, November 7th "A Sea of Poppies" by Amitov Ghosh

Monday, December 5th TBD



Feast Incarnate Dinner

The Feast Incarnate, dinner, held at University Lutheran Church, is a year-round food outreach and hospitality ministry for the food insecure, including those affected by HIV/AIDS. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Details to follow soon. **Upcoming date:** *Date TBD in October 2022.*

Food Pantry Donations for Eldernet & St. James School in West Allegheny

We always welcome food pantry donations of protein (tuna, peanut butter) and other non-perishable food items. Please be sure and check the expiration date on any items you donate. The collection of breakfast bars and snacks for Philadelphia Public Schools helps hungry kids to learn. Thanks!



Hospitality

Coffee hour is an enjoyable time to catch up with friends and to meet potential new members. Please help out by picking a Sunday when you can bring refreshments and stay to clean up. It's easy to team up with someone else and share the shopping. You don't have to have everything homemade, but it is good to have sweet and savory, and some iced tea or juices. The sign-up sheet

Stewardship

Stewardship

Submitted by Mary Allen (for the Stewardship Committee)



Greetings from Mary Allen:

Each Sunday we pray together the Prayer for a Time of Transition, saying, “Strengthen the ties that bind us together.”

It’s wonderful to be able to come into church again, to hear the music and join in the prayers, and most of all to see friends I have been missing for so long! The pandemic has been hard on everyone, but we’ve been very fortunate to be able to connect through Zoom, especially on Sunday mornings.

As summer draws to an end, my thoughts turn to our annual Stewardship season, which is about more than simply the pledge drive. Stewardship is the responsibility of us all for our community here at St. Asaph’s. Stewardship is the call to us all to model Christian life as a Beloved Community, starting with our church community and then bringing it out to renew the world.

I’m looking forward to our “Homecoming Weekend,” which will be filled with events to bring us together. I hope to see all of you as often as possible, at the Art Opening, the Organ Recital, and above all the Sunday Eucharist. Your physical presence fills me with joy and gratitude.

Please come and share in the celebration of our renewed parish life as we undertake the search for a new rector!

--

Peace, Mary

Mary Allen
marydallen@gmail.com
215-473-0665

“Words for Life”
- by Spencer W. Kimball

Enter Church

As if the floor

Within were gold,

And every wall

Of Jewels

All of wealth untold;

As if a choir

in robes of fire

were singing here.

Nor shout, nor rush,

but hush...

for God is here.

Event News from DIOPA of Pennsylvania

Fall Kick-off Event: Choral Evensong and Dinner at the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral

Sunday, September 11, 2022

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The Philadelphia, Episcopal Cathedral

19 S. 38th street

Philadelphia, PA 19104



Join LGBTQIA+ Episcopalians and their Allies from across the Diocese of Pennsylvania for an inclusive Choral Evensong service, followed by a dinner sponsored by the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral. Audience: Open to everyone. This event is free, and registration is not required. However, to help us prepare for the dinner, please RSVP to lgbtqia@diopa.org.

Evaluating Your Church's Security

Tue, September 13, 2022

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM EDT

African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas

6361 Lancaster Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19151

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evaluating-your-churchs-security-tickets-387237908007>

How do churches welcome everyone yet at the same time act to safeguard worshippers, volunteers and staff? Detective Joseph Rovnan of the Philadelphia Police Department will cover basic considerations that can make your church more secure, including how best to respond to disruptive and violent individuals. Detective Rovnan is a 33-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department. He is nationally recognized as a subject matter expert in Active Shooter strategies, programs and response and currently serves in the PPD's Homeland Security/ Counter Terrorism Operations Bureau.

Racism and Identity

Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission Workshop

Saturday, September 24, 2022

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

This webinar explores the ways in which systemic racism informs our personal identity, behaviors and outcomes. We will develop a sociological understanding of these concepts: colorblindness, colorism, cultural appropriation, unconscious bias, micro-aggressions, white fragility, and white privilege.





LGBTQIA+ Youth & Ally Event
Sunday, September 25, 2022,
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

LGBTQIA+ youth in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania as well as friends and Allies - come join us for a youth meetup group! We'll learn about the history of LGBTQIA+ activism in the Episcopal Church and create some art together about our own experiences. Join us for games, discussion, art-making and ice cream, and a chance to make new, supportive friends.

This event is free, but registration is suggested.

Register: <https://www.christchurchridleypark.org/blog/lgbtqia-youth-ally-event/>

2022 Pre-Convention Meeting

Wednesday, September 28th 2022

6:30pm - 8:00 pm

St. Paul's Church, Doylestown

84 E. Oakland Avenue

Doylestown, Pa. 18901



Diocesan History Committee 2022 Fall Forum:
Racism and Discrimination in the Episcopal Church:
Personal and Parish Histories

Saturday, October 1st, 2022

9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Online, register to receive link

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/racism-and-discrimination-in-the-episcopal-churchpersonal-parish-history-tickets-385679556937>

The 2022 forum will explore this topic by drawing on

- (1) the oral history collections of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania and the African American Oral History Project of the Virginia Theological Seminary
- (2) the oral history of two linked parishes, Holy Apostles and the Mediator (HAM), West Philadelphia and its sister parish, the Church of the Holy Apostles, Penn Wynne.

Speakers to include: Diocese of Pennsylvania oral historians Clarke Groome and William Cutler, Collection Growth Specialist for the African American Episcopal Historical Collection at Virginia Theological Seminary Riley Temple, the Rev. James Stambaugh, and HAM parishioner Marcia Hinton.

AmazonSmile Purchases Donates to St. A's

Church of Saint Asaph is set up to receive 0.5% of purchases made through AmazonSmile. What a great and easy way to make a donation to Saint Asaph's if you're already making those online Christmas purchases! So just a refresher on how it works.



What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as at Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. Once you sign in using your usual email and Amazon password the next screen will allow you to select "Church of St Asaph" as your organization to receive the donated percentage of your purchase.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. The site will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, they may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details. **Remember, only purchases made at smile.amazon.com, (not www.amazon.com or the mobile app,) generate AmazonSmile donations.**

Remembrances



Birthdays In September

Margaret Nelsen, Addilyn Dawkins, Spense Dawkins, Kristen Stewart, Ellie Compton, Alexandra Graves, Linda Sterthous, Lila Mackintosh, Uju Akaniru, Jack Moore, Jr., Catherine Wiley, Kelly Dougherty, Doris Weimar, Marisa Peterson, Tresh Moore and Roy Harker.



Those Who Need Our Prayers

Andy Andres, Lois Arias, Barbara Barrett, John Barrett, Marti Barrett, Carolyn Harper Blacker, Kenny Davis, Josh Delclos, George Graves, Jane Cosby Hand, Diane Kessler, Maureen O'Connell, Roy Pfeil, George Post, and Bessie Smith.

We pray for all victims of war throughout the world, for those civilians who have died whose names we do not know, for our enemies, and especially for our service men and women who have died.

Worship Helpers

Dear Friends,

If you would like to assist in some way, during our Sunday liturgy, we are always grateful to have new volunteers. Please email or call the Church Office to be added to the schedule, or if you are already on the list but wish to retire, please advise.

Thank you,

Lynda Staton, Parish Administrator
office@saintasaphs.org



If you are new to our community and would like to be added to this contact list to receive updates on our programming events, etc., please email to office@saintasaphs.org your contact information or call (610) 664-0966.

Come Worship With Us

Sunday Liturgy Schedule

8 am Contemplative Service

10 am, Parish Eucharist (*Live and streamed on Facebook*)

Prefer to receive a paper copy of *The Outlook*? Email the church office at office@saintasaphs.org

Parish Staff

The Rev. Andrew Kellner, Priest-In-Charge
rector@saintasaphs.org

Lynda Staton, Parish Administrator
office@saintasaphs.org
Hours: Mon-Fri, 9a-3p
610-664-0966

Roy Harker, Director of Music & the Arts
music@saintasaphs.org

Steve Sheeran, Youth Formation
youth@saintasaphs.org

Wade Rogers, Sexton

[https://www.facebook.com/
SaintAsaphsBalaCynwyd](https://www.facebook.com/SaintAsaphsBalaCynwyd)



Vision & Mission

The Church of St Asaph is called to be a progressive Christian community.

- We welcome everyone to God's table.
- We stand with those in need and advocate for the poor, the sick, the friendless and the marginalized.
- We make children central to our life as a community.
- We celebrate the presence of God with joyful, engaging and inviting worship.

CHURCH OF SAINT ASAPH

A Parish of The Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

27 Conshohocken State Rd, Bala Cynwyd, Pa 19004

www.saintasaphs.org

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TO: