

# CONNECTIONS

## All Saints Episcopal Church Monthly Newsletter



### THANK YOU REV. GAYLE FOR SIXTEEN YEARS OF MINISTRY AT ALL SAINTS

We said the first part of our goodbye to Rev. Gayle on Sunday January 30, her final Sunday serving All Saints as our priest-in-charge. Karen Olson, ECMN Canon for Ministry spoke on behalf of Bishop Loya, giving thanks for her years of service to All Saints and to ECMN. Special prayers, readings, hymns, words of gratitude, 16 yellow roses at the altar and even a hymn written to honor Rev. Gayle helped to mark the occasion, with many in attendance both in-person and online, given the COVID situation. See more on Page 2 and 3.

We will be celebrating Gayle's retirement with a wonderful party when we can all be together in-person later in the spring! Stay tuned for details!

## TRANSITIONS

### Welcome Father Peter Stebinger!

We will greet Father Peter on Sunday, February 13 as he begins his term with All Saints as our Interim Priest. Father Peter is looking forward to getting to know the community and helping to provide spiritual nourishment and stability as we undergo our search process for a permanent priest.

Church is open!  
We will record attendance  
and enjoy singing.  
We ask everyone to mask as extra care  
for our youth. Service will continue to be  
available at 10:30am at  
[allsaintsnorthfield.org](http://allsaintsnorthfield.org)  
**CONTACTS &  
OFFICE HOURS**  
419 Washington Street  
PO Box 663  
Northfield, MN 55057  
Office - 507-645-7417  
Email:  
[office@allsaintsnorthfield.org](mailto:office@allsaintsnorthfield.org)

Website:  
[www.allsaintsnorthfield.org](http://www.allsaintsnorthfield.org)

In Case of Emergency  
Sr. Warden Mark Heiman  
can be reached at  
612-423-6556

The Church office is closed until further  
notice. Emails, voicemails, mail and  
finance are being monitored and  
addressed.

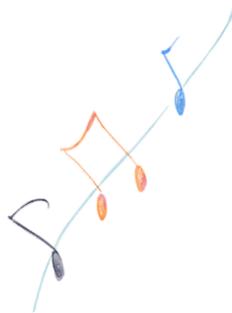
All Saints Episcopal Church is a parish in  
the Episcopal Church of Minnesota  
ECMN Offices :  
1101 W Broadway Avenue Minneapolis,  
MN 55411  
Website: [www.episcopalmn.org](http://www.episcopalmn.org)  
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## A Hymn for Gayle

Witten by Richard Collman

This priest-in-charge came here to serve  
 A short time that grew long.  
 She spoke quite tenderly for sure,  
 She led us well in song.  
 "We do not have much time" whilst here  
 In sixteen years grown strong.

Our priest walked gently here with us,  
 At age nineteen a nurse.  
 Building renewal raised our pride,  
 And even All Saints' purse.  
 Church went from live to be online,  
 Since COVID caused this curse.

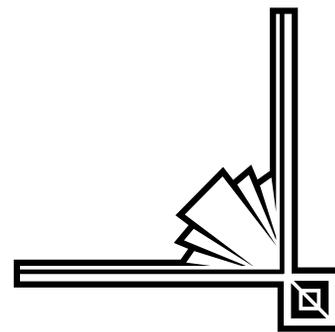
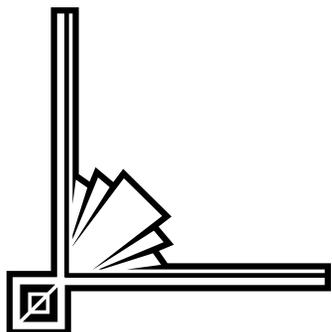


"Think deeply" dear Gayle often said,  
 In spite of worries here.  
 We pushed the walls out from their sides  
 Though some look on in fear.  
 On history stand, for future build,  
 The Spirit moved quite near.

"Pray faithfully" from altar, pew,  
 For great and for the least.  
 "God's love has been poured in our hearts"  
 Reminded by our priest.  
 Now time has come to say good-bye  
 To Gayle, THANKS for this feast!



January 30, 2022



# Fun times with Rev. Gayle on her final day!

Printing her sermon from her phone!  
Gayle loves the new printer!



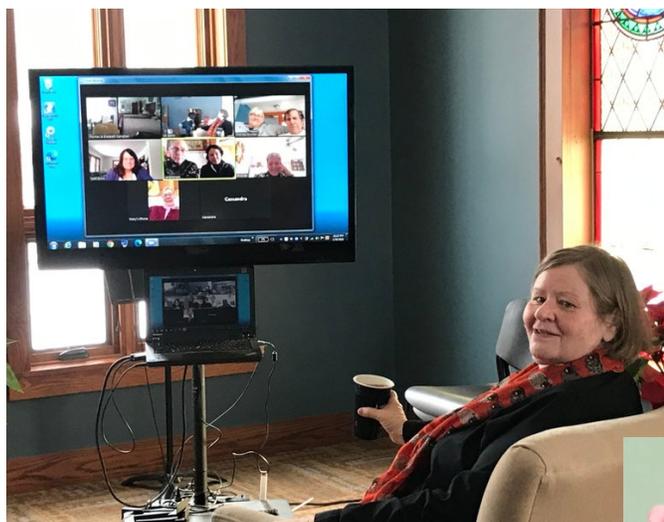
Thank you to Vicki Harper  
for the Arnold Palmer!



Demonstrating the proper way to  
change the taper!



A fun virtual coffee hour!



Robyn and Gayle!



The key is turned in!

Enjoy your retirement, Gayle!



Sr. Warden  
Mark Heiman



It was a great privilege to be able to come together as a community this last week and give Gayle a heartfelt farewell service. We had a good (but not crowded!) number of folks in the church and quite a few more online. I know she appreciated the service and all the kind words, both in person and at our special Virtual Coffee Hour. And we still have a big retirement party to look forward to later this spring! Thanks to everyone who helped put this Sunday together, as well as the Party Committee that continues to plan.

Now that we've passed one milestone, we're already looking ahead to the next. Our most important task over the next several months will be working toward whatever is next for us with regard to clergy leadership. We'll be talking about this a lot, but I want to lay out the general shape so that you can know what to expect, and how you can participate.

At our February 13 Vestry meeting, we will commission our Transition Committee (or whatever they decide to call themselves), a diverse group of parishioners who will guide the next steps in the process. They will have several tasks:

1. Gathering information from the congregation through surveys and conversations, to understand things like: how we see ourselves as a church, our strengths, our weaknesses, the things that make us distinctive; what we like about what we do, and what we might like to change; where we see ourselves in the future; what we expect and hope from our clergy leaders, and what level of support we want (e.g. full-time, part-time, etc.).

2. Assembling all of that information in a report, and making sure that it accurately describes us and what we're imagining for the future.

3. Based on those findings, organizing the process to find the right person to serve with us going forward.

None of that happens in isolation, of course. We have strong support and guidance from the Bishop and his ECMN staff; the Vestry and Wardens will supply resources and help as needed; and the Rev. James Young has offered to provide spiritual guidance for the committee. The Rev. Peter Stebinger, who starts as our Interim Priest on the 13th will help maintain stability of worship and pastoral care while we're in the midst of this process

Ultimately, these are not decisions that a Vestry or Transition Committee makes without input. In order to fully understand All Saints, and find the best person to serve with us, we need to hear from everyone – young and old, new this year or baptized here. Please watch for the opportunities that will be offered to participate – we need your voice. We're also committed to doing this work out in the open as much as possible, with regular reports and updates. If you have questions or concerns at any point, I hope you won't hesitate to reach out.

There's a lot to be done, and it's simultaneously exciting and overwhelming. But we're a strong community that has weathered these last rough years extremely well, and I'm confident that our future is going to be even better. It's great to be doing this work with all of you!

## Jr. Warden

### Pam Middleton

Winter is here but spring is coming! Thank you to the Snow Removal Team as always! The snow is beautiful and looked so beautiful on the wreaths that I decided to keep them up a bit longer than normal. Unfortunately, one of the red front doors has become difficult to open, and it took a while to remove the wreaths (they were past their prime!). Thank you to Mark Heiman for helping me with the doors. Rest assured, there is no fire hazard here, and River City Builders are being contacted to fix the problem.



Speaking of River City Builders, we will be talking to them about the renovation work on the outer walls of the historic church. Generous donations totaling \$55,000 have been made towards this project, and we hope to have it completed this spring. Thank you to Gayle for the reminders of the need for this important work!



That is all for now, but I have noticed mulch and wheelbarrows replacing snow shovels and snow blowers at the hardware store, reminding us to get ready to play in the dirt again!

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## From our Treasurer, Larry Archbold

I am happy to report that our financial position is strong as we begin 2022. Donations have been significant to not only our pledge drive for on-going expenses of our program but gifts to support the long-term health of our parish, especially as seen in the declining principal of our loan. We have broken through the \$200,000 level and are now around \$186,000! The sooner we are not required to pay out what amounts to about \$2,000 a month on costs related to the loan the sooner we will be in an even stronger position to support—and expand—our programs.

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## Good News From the Green Team!

Beginning in March 2022, All Saints Church will be officially certified as a Climate Justice Congregation by the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota in conjunction with Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light. Having successfully completed our three part Climate Action Plan for the year 2021, we will be able to employ the official 'Climate Justice Congregation' logo in and on our building and communications. We will also be provided with a press release template to share with local media outlets, announcing our new status as the latest of only twenty such congregations in Minnesota. Of course this is merely a beginning to our congregation's long term commitment to participate in the Episcopal Church's 5th Mark of Mission: Care of Creation. The All Saints Green Team looks hopefully forward to resuming face-to-face meetings sometime this year and recruiting all interested congregants to help in shaping future efforts in this important task.

Submitted by Chris Ennis, for the All Saints Green Team

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Dear Friends,

For reasons that I think are timely, I am submitting this article as an expansion of an Episco-Speak piece that I wrote some time ago.

James Young

## Deacon

To find out the biblical basis of the ministry of deacons read Acts 6.1-6. The word deacon comes from the Greek diakonos, which means “one who serves at tables.” It is not to be confused with slave (doulos). For many centuries in the church deacons were the sacred order (the other orders are bishops & priests) that had two main functions. In the liturgy they proclaimed the Gospel, and prepared the Table for Eucharist and assisted in serving the sacrament. In the wider community they served those who had no voice – widows & orphans, those in prison, and the sick and the dying. During the Reformation the order largely disappeared, and the term came to mean an appointed or elected elder of a congregation. In the western world, only the Catholic and Anglican/Episcopal churches recognize three distinct orders of ministers that include the deacons. Today vocational deacons, like our own Cassandra Cook-Quarry, represent the needs of the world to church and stand as icons of the service to which we all are called as baptized persons. They may also perform other ministries such as preaching, at the discretion of the bishop and supervising priest, but that is another subject entirely.

To muddy the waters just a bit, there is in our faith tradition an order known as the transitional diaconate. The transitional deacon is on the path to priesthood and is ordained a deacon for a finite time, roughly a year before ordination to the priesthood. During this transition period, this deacon will do some of the unique marks of a vocational deacon, but is also usually mentored by a priest to continue their learning firsthand about the ministry of a priest. Thus, they will also take on some limited priestly (non-sacramental, I hasten to add) functions. Confusing, I know!

I add this “bonus” piece because I want to forestall any confusion about Cassandra’s role during this time of transition for All Saints. As a vocational deacon, her role is clear. She is serving here at the discretion of Bishop Loya and will continue to do so in the ways that I described above. Now that our interim priest, the Rev. Peter Stebinger, has been called to All Saints he will fulfill the administrative, pastoral and liturgical duties of a priest. I have witnessed situations in which vocational deacons were placed in unfair and uncomfortable positions arising from misunderstandings of the role of a vocational deacon. Mainly, they were seen as a stand-in for a priest, which is an unfair expectation to be placed upon them.

This comes, in part, from my own personal experience. You may not know that I was ordained a vocational deacon in 1984. I served in a variety of settings before discerning and responding to a call to the priesthood, being ordained in 1994. As such I have a rather unique perspective on these two sacred orders of ministry - deacon and priest - and I feel a sense of responsibility to speak clearly on behalf of the integrity and historic identity of the sacred order of deacons.

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**Episco-Speak**  
**A Guide to the Language of Episcopalians**

Submitted by James Young

**You say you don't know your ciborium from your paten? Well, don't despair! Help is here. Each month I will attempt to dazzle you with my command of the vocabulary of Anglicans and Episcopalians. If there is some term or concept about which you want to learn more, I will also take requests. Please contact me!!**

**This month: catechumen**

**The Greek word katechein means "to teach." It is the root word for many related words that have to do with the church. The word that immediately comes to mind is catechism which is a manual of instruction on the faith and traditions of the church. As an aside, the catechism of the Episcopal Church is found in your Book of Common Prayer, pages 845 - 862. It is a valuable reference resource for learning about the teachings of the Episcopal Church.**

**The reason that I brought up the word catechumen has to do with the season of Lent which begins in March. A catechumen was a person who, in the early church, had undergone a rigorous period of instruction preparing for his/her baptism. The culmination of that instruction was the season of Lent with particular focus on prayer, meditation, fasting and self-denial. The climactic end to it was the baptism at the Easter Vigil.**

**My prayer is that each of us will take advantage of the opportunities for renewal and healing this Lenten season. Think of it as our catechumenate - our season of rigorous self-examination and preparation for new life!**

**Next Month: Just how long is Lent?  
Stay tuned for another thrilling installment of Episco-Speak!**





## SUNDAY SCHOOL, CONFIRMATION AND YOUTH GROUP

Unfortunately, Sunday School and Youth Group are on hold for yet another month. We are monitoring the Covid situation, but we are also in the process of finding another leader. With spring on the way, we anticipate that our faith formation programs for our youngest will begin again, including our confirmation class. Please stay tuned, and speak with Pam or Rhonda if you have questions.

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### ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## The CAC Food Shelf could use your help!

All Saints has long supported the CAC with financial support as well as by donating food and other items. When Thursdays Table was in operation pre-Covid, All Saints volunteered 4-5 times a year with the weekly free meal service. This past fall we partnered with the CAC with their inaugural Farm to Family Program, and we have pledged to a 5 year financial commitment to the Hillcrest Housing project.

There are many ways that All Saints members have volunteered and continue to volunteer at the Food Shelf through the years. Rhonda and Bob Rowe, two of the CAC's favorite volunteers, are wonderful in keeping us informed when new needs arise- thank you, Rhonda and Bob! Here is the latest request:

The food shelf is working with the Covid restrictions by allowing only one or two people in to shop at a time. Masks for everyone is a MUST. They have also reduced some of their hours. If you are comfortable with volunteering now, they could really use your help as a stocker or shopping greeter. Please visit their website at [https://cac-northfield.ivolunteer.com/foodshelf\\_team](https://cac-northfield.ivolunteer.com/foodshelf_team) to sign up.

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### All Saints Vestry and Committee Chairs

SR. WARDEN	Mark Heiman
JR. WARDEN	Pam Middleton
TREASURER	Larry Archbold
CLERK	Rhonda Rowe
AT LARGE	Bonnie Sherman
AT LARGE	Laura Kay Allen
AT LARGE	Vicki Harper
AT LARGE	Richard Collman
AT LARGE	Robb Campbell
INTERIM PRIEST	The Rev. Peter Stebinger
DEACON	The Rev. Cassandra Cook-Quarry
ECMN DELEGATES	Elizabeth Campbell
	Mark Heiman
ORGANIST-CHOIR DIR.	Katie Gunn
SEXTON	Dave McGuire
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Pam Middleton
YOUTH GROUP	Pam Middleton
CONFIRMATION	Rhonda Rowe
	Bob Rowe
ALTAR GUILD	Bonnie Sherman
CANTERBURY	Mark Heiman
CONNECTIONS TEAM	Pam Middleton
	Mary Jones
HOSPITALITY	Pam Middleton
KITCHEN	Open
OUTREACH	Mary Jones
WEBSITE DESIGN	Mark Heiman

6	Isaiah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11 Psalm 138	<b>February Readings</b>
13	Jeremiah 17:5-10 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26 Psalm 1	
20	Genesis 45:3-11,15 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50 Luke 6:27-38 Psalm 37:1-12,41-42	
27	Exodus 34:29-35 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36 Psalm 99	

### BIRTHDAYS

February	2	Lizzy Larson
	17	Ella Rae Berkebile
	18	Kalie Ford
	19	Erika Campbell
	21	Melody Ford
	23	Zeke Vanderwood



### ANNIVERSARIES

February	1	Marshall and Carla Hansen
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THE  
*Episcopal*  
CHURCH

