

The Hallowed Word

All Hallows Episcopal Church

December 2013

Reflections:

The Season of Advent is upon us, and like many other folks I find time slips away at warp speed. I still worry about the things I haven't done; the list of what needs to be done seems to grow rather than shrink every day.

Advent is a *Season*—a time when we should be able to ponder what it means to have Christ in our lives. What does it mean to have a God so involved in our personal lives that becoming a human is the best way to reach creation? We know there are a ton of books written to reflect, explain, or hypothesize about the meaning of a God so involved in humanity that God became human. It often is easier to focus on the little baby than the wider theological importance of God becoming “man.”

With all the “busyness” of our lives, we do need to ponder a little bit about what this Season means. It is not just a “warm-up” for Christmas; it is about “God so loved the world...” It is about humanity's cry for comfort, acceptance, equality, peace, and justice. This season is not about giving to the poor so we can justify our need to act. It is not about going to church so we will “feel better,” ---it is not about us! It is about God creating time and space so that we can live closer to what God dreams we can become. It is time to acknowledge the God who is nearby, who has graced us in so many ways, and who has at times “scooped” us away from disasters. And, when disaster does happen, it is God who also seeks to be present with us to comfort us.

By the time you read this, it may already be Christmas! You may have thrown away the paper, ribbon, and boxes—but, please, don't throw out the comfort and joy that God's presence brings. We have the 12 Days of Christmas to really move from anticipation to presence of Christ in our midst.

Christ doesn't expect us to party and be overly joyous about the party part, either. Christmas is the recognition of the coming of the presence of God in human form. That is what we celebrate. So, if you prefer the 12 Days of Christmas as a quiet time, that is fine, too.

Just don't forget what Christmas is all about. It is the day we acknowledge the coming of Our Lord into our lives as a human being. May God's grace fill your heart with peace and joy.

Nanese+

Photos:



Hettie Gordon leading a Cemetery Tour



St. Andrew's day - November 24

We have passed the second Sunday in Advent, well on our way in the countdown to Christmas. Our study on Monday evenings is *Jesus was an Episcopalian – and you can be one too!* Soup and salad at 6 pm and book study/discussion at 6:30 pm.

An Advent message from the Presiding Bishop

Advent is a time of waiting, and for many people it's a time to reflect on what Mary must have experienced as she waited for the birth of this unusual child.

You may never have been pregnant or lived with someone who was, but put yourself in her place for a while. Consider what it would have been like to have a new life growing within you. And reflect on what new is growing within you this season of Advent.

What new concern is growing for the people around you? What new burden is on your heart for the woes of the world? What new possibility do you see emerging in the world around you, and how might you be part of that?

Advent is a quieter time of the year in the church's understanding. It's a time to be still and listen, listen deep within to what is growing, ready to emerge into new life.

And as the season for the birth of the Christ Child arrives, I would encourage you to consider how you yourself will be present in the world in a new way this year. How will you give evidence of love incarnate to the world around you?

I pray that you have a blessed and joyful peace-filled Advent. God be with you.

The Most Rev. Kathryn Jefferts Schori

Sign up for Christmas memorial Poinsettias in the back of church.

Decorating the Church for Christmas will take place on Sunday, December 22 immediately after the service. If you have greenery you can share, please leave it in the Lych-gate (where the bell is) before that time. You might wish to bring hand clippers and floral wire.

All Hallows ECW thanks you for your contributions to our Fall UTO ingathering, which raised \$542. These funds have been forwarded to our Diocesan UTO. In the 2012 Granting Cycle, UTO gave grants to St. Andrews Montessori Preschool in Mt. Vernon for poverty level children and a grant to Agape Family Ministry. More information about UTO is available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto

Musings by Jim

March 3, 1888 – Miss Ella M. Hack has resigned her position as teacher in the primary department of the Snow Hill High School and accepted a position as teacher in the public school at Arlington (?), Baltimore County, MD. Miss Ella has many friends here who will regret to learn of her removal, and her absence will be greatly missed in the social circles of our town, and also by the scholars who were greatly attached to her.

Of note: The Messenger, March 10, 1888 – Crown Princes and Kings like poor mortals must die. The Crown Prince of Germany is reported in a hopeless condition by his physician and it is only a matter of a few months probably before the brave sufferer will depart for that land whence no traveler e'er returns.

The Messenger, May 19, 1888 – Messer's Wm. T. Dickerson and William F. Johnson, Attorneys-at-Law, have formed a partnership for the practice of their profession, and will occupy the office heretofore occupied by Mr. Dickerson.

Some "sidelines" in 1888 – Rev. Algerson Batte of All Hallows – 165th anniversary of the P. E. Church in Rehoboth – Preached the anniversary sermon, October 20, 1888. He later resigned from All Hallows and Holy Cross.

How many people in 1888 paid "flying visits" to areas in Maryland? J. D. Hack – mentioned as Postmaster in the Sept. 15, 1888 edition of the Messenger.

Honorable Geo. M. Upshur will open his campaign at the Court House.

Wm. D. Cordry, Esquire.

The Messenger, October 20, 1888 –Mr. J. J. Collins and Dr. E. S. Dashiell have improved the sidewalks on Federal Street leading from Mr. Collins' home to the residence of Dr. Dashiell, which is now nearing

completion and is regarded as one of the nicest and prettiest homes in town.

The Messenger, November 10, 1888 – The Vestry of All Hallows P. E. Church of this town has extended a call to a Rev. Mr. Higgins of Wilmington, Del., to succeed Rev. Mr. Batte who has recently resigned. The fact that the Vestry has resolved to increase the salary of their next Rector indicates a spirit of progress and new energy among the church people. Mr. Higgins has not yet accepted the call.

The Messenger, November 24, 1888 – The Rev. Jesse Higgins of Wilmington, Del., who was called to the rectorship of All Hallows Church in this town, as announced in The Messenger a few weeks ago, has accepted the call and will preach in the church on Sunday, the 2nd of December. Mr. Higgins will not move his family here until January next.

Another “Sideline” – Harry Covington (son of Hon. Geo. W. Covington) was a student at Princeton in February, 1889. Dr. E. S. Dashiell’s office was located on S. Bank Street adjoining the Franklin House.

The Messenger, March 30, 1889 – The Vestry of All Hallows P. E. Church have purchased a horse and buggy for the use of the Rev. Jesse Higgins. This act is very much appreciated by Mr. Higgins, whose work is somewhat scattered and for which a horse and buggy is indispensable.

The Messenger, June 29, 1889—The many friends of Rev. A. Batte, formerly pastor of All Hallows Parish of this place, will be glad to know that he has received a call to a much better place and advanced salary and will leave Shrewsbury parish where he went from here. His new call is from Church Hill, Queen Anne’s County, where he will have a beautiful church, a wealthy congregation and a salary of \$1,100 per annum.

Sometime between 1889 and 1892, Rev. Jesse Higgins moved from Snow Hill to Baltimore. Was he followed by Robert Scott?

The Messenger, January 9, 1892—Robert Scott – Rector of All Hallows. Dr. Dashiell has moved into the residence opposite Mr. George W. Purnell's and will have his office at home in the future. Patrons desiring work done will please call at his home.

The Messenger, February 2, 1892 – Rev. Joseph J. Deverease (?), who has been very sick for several weeks, is now much improved.

The Messenger, Sept. 17, 1892 – Governor Brown has appointed Hon. George M. Upshur a member of the Maryland School Tax Commission. Mr. Upshur's commission (for two years) was received by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Worcester County on Wednesday.

The Messenger, October 1, 1892 – The ladies of All Hallows Parish propose giving a Martha Washington Tea at the Franklin House, Thursday evening, October 6th from six to ten, the proceeds to be devoted to purchasing heaters for the church. The public is invited and will be cordially welcomed by the General and Lady Washington. (I wonder who played the part of General and Lady Washington?)

The Messenger, Oct. 15, 1892 – Mr. George M. Upshur will sell certain household and kitchen furniture at public auction at his residence in this town at 2 o'clock this afternoon, including a 7 octave Knabe square piano, a solid walnut buffet, a first-class refrigerator, a beautiful chandelier, a cook stove in perfect order, and many other things too numerous to mention.

The Messenger, Oct. 22, 1892 – Oliver D. Collins, Esq., returned home on Tuesday from a visit to New York where he went on professional business. Hon. Geo. M. Upshur and family moved to Baltimore on Monday, as did also Mrs. H. H. Dougherty. We wish them all, good health and prosperity.

Note: The Oct. 29, 1892 edition of the paper states that: For Sale – a Knabe square piano (7 octave). Apply to George M. Upshur, 17 North Street, Baltimore, or Rodney D. Jones, Snow Hill, Md. Also, Mr. A. D. Irwin has moved into the Geo M. Upshur's house recently vacated by him. Mr. Irwin has a nice home, well located and with beautiful surroundings.

The Messenger, Nov. 19, 1892 – Dr. E. S. Dashiell has moved into the house on Market Street recently vacated by Mr. Harry Dougherty. His office is in the Franklin House. Also, Messers Boehm and Wilson, our popular artists, left on Monday last for Cape Charles City, Va., where they have received a contract.

The Messenger, December 24, 1892 – Mr. L. Edward Boehm, who has been doing some artist's painting and frescoing at Cape Charles, Va., has completed his contract and returned home on Wednesday to spend Christmas with his family. (L. Edward Boehm, January 1843-June 1907, Grave #923 and Louisa A. Hack Boehm, Nov. 11, 1842-May 7, 1917, Grave #922.)

Photos from Nanese's Installation in October:





The Installation was followed by All Hallows' sumptuous and legendary "Nothing that needs a fork" reception buffet in the Parish Hall



“Stressed” is “Desserts” spelled backwards.

A favorite Christmas flower in the United States is the poinsettia, with its beautiful, red, star-shape. It is called the “Flame Leaf” in Central America or “Flower of the Holy Night” and was brought here over a hundred years ago by Dr. Joel Poinsett, our first ambassador to Mexico. Most of the poinsettias used now come from California.

The legend of the poinsettia comes from Mexico. It tells of a girl named Maria and her little brother Pablo. They were very poor but always looked forward to the Christmas festival. Each year a large manger scene was set up in the village church, and the days before Christmas were filled with parades and parties. The two children loved Christmas but were always saddened because they had no money to buy presents. They especially wished that they could give something to the church for the Baby Jesus. But they had nothing.

One Christmas Eve, Maria and Pablo set out for church to attend the service. On their way they picked some weeds growing along the

roadside and decided to take them as their gift to the Baby Jesus in the manger scene. Of course, other children teased them when they arrived with their gift, but they said nothing, for they knew they had given what they could. Maria and Pablo began placing the green plants around the manger, and miraculously, the green top leaves turned into bright red petals, and soon the manger was surrounded by beautiful star-like flowers, and so we see them today.

The ECW looking back in 2013

As 2013 nears the end of a year, it is a time to reflect on the All Hallows family support for all the ministry work of this parish. The Episcopal Church Women (ECW), where every woman in the Episcopal Church is an automatic member, whether you attend meetings or not, has a strong outreach ministry program. If you want more information to be part of these ministries (male or female), you will be more than welcomed. There are yearly outreach projects in the community that are included in the ECW's budget.

The following committees are chaired by volunteers who work without wanting any recognition but are called to witness and to serve the Lord. For many years, Chi Rho was sponsored until its disbanding this year. The other ministries are: FISH; UTO; Greeting Cards; Food Pantry ; Flower/Candle Fund; Refreshments at Holy Cross and Special Receptions; Magazines (passed on to nursing home); Bakeless Bake Sale; Episcopal Relief and Development; Nursing Home Birthday Party in July; Christmas Party for Seniors; Altar Guild; pancake supper, and CPC.

Several ministries are ongoing such as the food pantry, collecting items for our military (Operation We Care), and books/magazines for the nursing home. There are items for sale at the ECW Bazaar Corner. These drop off points are located in the Parish House.

During the year, there may be a special project that the ECW votes to assist. This year it was collecting school supplies for the Snow Hill Elementary School.

The biggest fund drive to meet these financial obligations is the Pancake Supper. So mark your calendar for March 4, 2014; to volunteer contact the Chairman Dorothy Garrett.

A special recognition shout out goes to Harry Deitch for all the photographs submitted to the newsletter and to Kemp Wills for his computer savvy for the input of these photos into the newsletter.

A blessed Christmas to all from the newsletter staff.

A pastor once stated, “I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children’s hymn ‘Jesus Loves Me’ (for the children, of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best.”

Senior version of JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He’ll be there to lead the way.

(CHORUS)

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song..
Telling me in words so clear,
“Have no fear, for I am near.”

(CHORUS)

When my work on earth is done,
And life’s victories have been won,
He will take me home above,
Then I’ll understand His love.

(CHORUS)

I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.
CHORUS)

God Bless Us All!! (Thank you to Katherine Gordon for finding and sharing her discoveries.)

A lesson that should be taught in all schools . . and colleges
(Discovered and passed on by Cate Easmunt)

Back in September, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies teacher at Bobcaygeon (north of Peterborough, Ontario) public school, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom.

When the first period kids entered the room, they discovered that there were no desks.

‘Ms. Cothren, where’re our desks?’

She replied, ‘You can’t have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.’

They thought, ‘Well, maybe it’s our grades.’

‘No,’ she said.

‘Maybe it’s our behavior.’

She told them, ‘No. It’s not even your behavior.’

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

By early afternoon, television news crews had started gathering in Ms. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came, and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the deskless classroom, Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it.

Twenty-seven (27) War Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place, those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

(By the way, this is a true story.)

A few dates to remember:

December 16, 6:00 Book study (Jesus was an Episcopalian) with supper
21, 2:00 pm. Memorial Service for John Gallagher
22, 9:30 am, Holy Eucharist followed by Decorating the Church
23, 6:00 Book study with supper
24, 5 pm and 11 pm, Christmas Eve Services
29, 9:30 am, 1 Christmas: Lessons and Carols

January 5, 9:30 am, 2 Christmas, Holy Eucharist
6, 6:00 pm, Book study and supper
12, 9:30 am, Epiphany Pageant with Sunday School (in lieu of sermon)
Celebration of New Ministry at St. Peter's, Salisbury, Time TBA
13, 7:00 pm, ECW Business Meeting
15, 5:30 pm, Vestry
19, 9:30 am, 2 Epiphany, Holy Eucharist
26, 9:30 am, 3 Epiphany, Holy Eucharist

Found in My Mother's Bible

The Bible sets forth two things—The Cross and the Throne.

The Old Testament points toward the Cross.

The Gospels tell the story of the Cross.

The Epistles point toward the Throne.

The Revelation tells the story of the Throne.

The Old Testament tells us what sin leads to, and ends with the words,

“Lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.” Malachi 4:6

The New Testament shows us the way out of sin and ends thus: “The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.” Revelation 22:21.