

The Hallowed Word
All Hallows Episcopal Church
September 2017

... a strong faith ... a caring community ... an active ministry ...

Planning for a New Rector

As you will read elsewhere in the Newsletter, the Search Committee is in final stages of its search for a new rector for All Hallows. They have spent uncounted hours to accomplish all the actions that are required to perform the search and are planning to make a recommendation to the Vestry on September 19.



Many activities are happening, and many more will happen in the near future to smooth the transition of the new rector and his or her family into the All Hallows family. Major modifications will soon begin to renovate and update the rectory to provide a more modern and comfortable residence. The exterior woodwork of the church and the parish house has been painted, providing a more attractive appearance to enhance the rector's efforts to attract new people to the congregation. A Transition Committee will shortly begin planning a variety of actions and purchases to stock the rectory with some of the basic fittings and supplies. They will also recommend a number of different meetings and affairs to allow the rector to become more familiar and comfortable with all members of the congregation.

Also, all parishioners might consider adding to and enhancing the team of lay persons who assist the rector before, during and after worship services. We are especially in need of additional Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes and Altar Guild members to supplement those already performing these functions. And while we have a somewhat larger team of Lectors and Greeters, additional persons to perform these functions will always be welcome.

Father Ken+

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Marray

Dear Diocese of Easton,

I have been watching the weather events of Hurricane Harvey unfold in Texas with great concern for our brothers and sisters. It is in times of suffering and loss when we can most clearly become aware of God's presence.

We here on the Eastern Shore of Maryland understand what it means to live in an area that is close to the waters and susceptible to floods. Because of this we understand the fear that happens when large hurricanes come up the Atlantic Ocean. We can also remember times, not that long ago, when other hurricanes and tropical storms devastated our part of the world. We understand this disaster because we have lived this disaster before.

In living through previous disasters, we can attest to God's presence. We have experienced the love that comes through the touch of another person's hand, or through the smile on another human's face, or the love expressed in another soul's eyes. We know these things because we have lived these things, in both giving and the receiving. And through it all, we know that God is with us. We give thanks for God's loving presence.

We also give thanks for the work of the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), who worked so tirelessly on behalf of the town of Crisfield, in our own diocese, after Super Storm Sandy in 2012. We should not forget that when we needed help, the Episcopal Church was there for us. Now it is our turn to offer that help to others who also need it. Now we can be that beacon of God's love to a broken community that is truly under the dark clouds of a massive storm. I invite you to help by making donations to the ERD in one of three ways. The first is by visiting the ERD website: <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/> and clicking on the 'donate now' button that pops up. The second way would be to write a check for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund with a note in the memo line stating 'Hurricane Relief' and send it to me here at Bray House, 314 North Street, Easton, MD 21601. I will forward monies that I receive to the bishops in the impacted area so that they can reach out to specific needs that they are aware of. And lastly, please take a special collection on Sunday at your parish and forward the money to ERD.

Above all, I ask for your prayers for the people who have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey. Remember them and pray for them, for they will be cleaning up from this storm for many years to come.

+San

Holy Cross Sunday

September 17th was the Feast of the Holy Cross, and as such, we celebrated it in Stockton at our Holy Cross Chapel. As you can see from the photo below, the previously peeling walls are looking great, having been lovingly repaired and painted by Pat and Barb Dittrich



Search Committee Update

by Stephanie Clayville

As you are aware, over the past year, All Hallows Parish has been in the process of searching for a new Rector. This search has not been without its twists and turns. Although we have had some interesting developments, the Search Committee has stood unified in its mission to find our next Rector.

The Search Committee has worked tirelessly to find the next Rector for our parish and is getting close to our decision. As part of our selection process and as our All Hallows Parish discernment, we voted and agreed that we are looking for a rector that can provide: 1) growth for our parish, 2) pastoral care and 3) the ability to preach from the heart and apply Scripture to our day to day lives.

During the past year, the Search Committee met a total of 19+ times to prepare for and complete this process. During our meetings, the following items were accomplished:

- Kick Off meeting with Vestry and Search
- Creation of a Parish Profile
- Updating of the Website
- Two Congregational Meetings
- Development of position profile
- Submission of profile for posting
- Meeting with the Bishop to discuss Shared Ministry with Holy Spirit
- Receipt of 4 Candidates from Diocese
- Preparation for Skype interviews – 1 candidate eliminated
- Skype interviews for 3 Candidates
- Discussion on final candidates for face to face interviews – 1 candidate eliminated
- Preparation for Face to Face interviews (2 Candidates chosen)
- Conduct 2 day interview Candidate 1
- Meeting to discuss and discern results. Prepared for Candidate 2 visit
- Conduct 2 day interview Candidate 2
- Meeting to discuss and discern results on Candidate 2 and final selection
- Preparation for presentation to Vestry
- Presentation of Candidate to the Vestry

In addition, over the past few weeks, you may have seen some “strangers” around. Not to worry though...these were more than likely the final two candidates which were chosen. During their visits the candidates were asked to be anonymous to the congregation. While here, they were interviewed and observed for the following gifts, as well as on their interactions, participation and communication with the team. Below is a list of a few of the important qualities which we would like to see in our new Rector:

• Listener	• Good communicator
• Empathic	• Flexible
• Warm	• Organized
• Friendly	• Good with children
• Approachable	• Technically capable

• Funny	• Team Player
• Creative	• Good Preacher
• Compassionate	• Sense of Humor

During the on-site visits, the Search Committee conducted a 1 ½ hour face to face interview to provide more detailed information. Surveys were filled out by the Vestry to provide feedback on their experience with the candidate and overall impressions. The two-day interview also provided the Search Committee, Members of the Vestry and the Bishop the opportunity to learn about/get to know the candidates interested in becoming our next Rector.

Currently, the Search Committee is working on developing our final conclusions to present to the Vestry. These will be based on 1) the results of our notes from both the Skype and face to face interviews, 2) references conducted by the search committee, 3) feedback from the Vestry, and 4) our own discernment on gifts that each candidate would bring.

Based on our findings and discernment, The Search Committee was asked to vote on the fitness of each candidate to be our next Rector. After this vote, a consensus decided that 1 candidate would be a fit for All Hallows. Although this is VERY exciting news, there are still a lot of details that need to be worked out before we can bring someone on board and provide them with a smooth transition.

Please continue to keep the Committee, the Vestry and the parish in your prayers during this time of transition. We will keep you all posted as soon as we have some plans in place. Prayers for the Parish can be found in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 817, 818:

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace and blessings,
Steph Clayville and the Search Committee

Chamber Music by the Sea



As part of our outreach into the community, All Hallows hosted a Chamber Music group on September 3rd. 5 talented musicians played to a full house estimated to be 140 people. All proceeds went toward the Worcester Education Foundation, providing grants for the county teachers and students. (Thanks to Frank West for moving 2 pews to accommodate the grand piano)



United Thank Offering

Dear People of God in the Episcopal Church:

I love a good party, so I'm glad to have an excuse to throw one on September 24 when the Episcopal Church celebrates the 165th birthday of Julia Chester Emery, the founder of the United Thank Offering.

Miss Julia, as she was called, is one of my favorite Episcopal saints. She led the Women's Auxiliary of the Board of Missions for forty years—that is a very long time to hold a job—and she was unstinting in her devotion to the church's mission. In 1889, she founded the United Thank Offering, and today we still fill blue boxes with coins to mark our gratitude for God's gifts. Miss Julia was so devoted to her work that, when a priest proposed marriage to her, she refused because she knew that she would be expected to give up her work. Among the things for which I am most grateful is that women in today's church are not forced to choose between ministry and family.

In its first year, the United Thank Offering raised \$2,188.64, which was used to build a church in Anvik, Alaska and to send a female missionary to Japan. Last year, the UTO made 32 grants totaling \$1,161,314.62 to congregations, missions and ministries across the Episcopal Church. On September 24, I hope you'll join me in celebrating Miss Julia's extraordinary legacy to all of us in the Episcopal Church and in expressing your gratitude by giving to the United Thank Offering.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings

President, House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church

At All Hallows we receive offerings for the United Thank Offering in May and October.

Episcopal Relief and Development Fund

Healing a hurting world...

Just a gentle reminder that the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund can use our assistance.

In light of the hurricanes in Texas and South Florida, we are all reminded of our great blessings and the devastation the families are facing. Funds raised are used to assist those facing disaster, famine and illness. Please take a moment to find information in the back of the church and remember their strong mission that serves the world. <http://www.episcopalrelief.org>

For more information or questions, see Stephanie Clayville.

Flowers and Aumbry Candle

There are plenty of opportunities to sign up for Altar Flower Donations or the Aumbry Candle. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church on the bulletin Board. Take a moment to remember the ones you love or to celebrate someone who makes a difference in your life.

Something Funny:



Customer Reviews

A Daily Devotional from *The Living Church*

Based on 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Paul writes, “You yourselves are our letters of recommendation, written on your hearts, to be read and known by all men.” I wonder what kind of letter of recommendation is written on my heart. In an age when direct sales have taken over my social media stream and YouTube videos espouse advice for every beauty item, do-it-yourself project, and diet craze, I feel overwhelmed by the recommendations of others. Yet I realize I am part of the problem; I can hardly buy a sweater online or pick a restaurant without first scouring reviews.

It is easy to allow the opinions of others to shape the words on our hearts. When I read enough opinions, those opinions eventually become my opinions. And if I hear enough times that I am not pretty enough, or talented enough, or thin enough, it is easy for me to find those words buried in my heart.

Praise God, then, whose opinion is the only one that matters! He has written on our hearts the gospel message: we were lost, but now are saved. May these words be read and known by all men. May they be the only words written on our hearts.

Upcoming Fall Calendar

Bishop Marray will be with us on Sunday, November 5.