



SAINTS ALIVE

Worshipping in the Anglican Tradition

All Saints Church
5501 Third Street
Verona, PA 15147

www.allsaintspittsburgh.org

NOVEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Wednesday Night Group 6:30 pm	3	4 Diocesan Convention	5 Diocesan Convention
6	7 Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.	8 Leadership Meeting 7 pm	9 Wednesday Night Group 6:30 pm	10	11	12
13 Morning Prayer	14 Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.	15 Newsletter Info.Deadline	16 Wednesday Night Group 6:30 pm	17	18	19
20 Annual Meeting Decorate for Advent with RUMC	21 Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Service 9 a.m.	25	26
27 First Sunday of Advent	28 Choir Practice 7:00 P.M.	29 Adult Night Out 6:30 P.M. Place TBA	30 Wednesday Night Group 6:30 pm			

 If you received your newsletter in the U.S. mail and have an email address, we would like to ask you to please send it to us at jjcdemolay@comcast.net. Next month we will send your newsletter via email. This helps to save on costs for printing and postage and you get the newsletter in pdf format and in color.

Thank you for helping us to reduce our costs.

Our Will verse God's Will

Part IX

Change in the Air

No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins- and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins." Mark 2:21-22

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17
And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Revelation 21:5

At our recent cookout for WNG and 2G I shared a story about Oakmont Country Club. It seems the original plans for Oakmont was for a "links course. This simply means that the land would be "open" without trees and the entire course visible for all who played.

In time however, great trees grew up around the course. The trees provided shade and their own sense of beauty. Most importantly, they were a part of the life of the course and Oakmont; they were part of Oakmont's tradition. Problem was, they weren't intended – Oakmont was intended to be a links course.

A few years back the leadership of Oakmont made a decision to restore the course to its original "purpose." They decided to return Oakmont to its links heritage. They were especially motivated because the U.S. Open was scheduled to return soon. Knowing the removal of literally thousands of trees would cause much division within the club they made the decision to remove the trees secretly and slowly so that no one would notice, at least no one would notice until it was too late. How in the world could they accomplish such an outlandish plan!? They began to remove trees in the middle of the night (I know this sounds unbelievable, but it's true!).

The removal proceeded as planned for quite some time. As you can image however, someone somewhere along-the-line was bound to notice that their own favorite tree was somehow missing. Sure enough, it happened. The club irrupted as they discovered that not only was "Joe's tree" missing, but literally thousands more were gone.

The leadership confessed.

I don't know with certainty what took place internally but it is known that many members were very upset. We also know the plan continued. When the U.S. Open arrived at Oakmont in 2007 they were greeted by a new Oakmont. It's original "purpose" restored. Oakmont was once again a links course (and to RAVE reviews from the PGA and the USGA).

The purpose of telling the story is probably obvious – change is almost always resisted. The lengths the leadership at Oakmont went through to bring about their change speaks to just how difficult the process can be.

But there is another reason to share the story. There is more than the simple story of change at Oakmont that parallels our story at AS. Beneath the surface is a story about "tradition" and it's beginnings; and there is also the story of restoring original purpose.

It turns out that those thousands of trees that became part of the Oakmont tradition, those trees that caused so much debate (and probably real conflict within the club) were not handed down from the beginning of time. The trees were mostly planted in the 1950s – they were someone's interpretation of how the course should look.

It's interesting to look back and witness the decisions of the 1950s becoming an "unmovable" tradition by the turn of this century. It's especially interesting given that these changes of the '50s did not reflect the original intent of the creator of the course.

Maybe tradition is not something handed down from the dawn of time; tradition has its own beginning it seems. Maybe the traditions we claim to be "the only way" are simply someone's else interpretation of how to do things. And maybe that interpretation has little resemblance to original purpose.

(Continued from page 2) Change in the Air

The radical “changes” that Oakmont's leadership initiated were simply to restore the original plan of Oakmont's creator. Sometimes tradition actually separates us from the creator's purpose.

Take a church for example....

Is it appropriate to ever ask whether our traditions are inline with the Creators original purpose for His Church? Do I need to even answer that question?

There is no doubt the original purpose of the Church (generally; not true everywhere of course) has been lost to our ways, our will, our traditions. The “church” that most of us know today is simply not described in the Bible. As the Church experiences tremendous loss of significance in our culture, as Christianity suffer from “church's” that have walked away from basic Biblical truth, perhaps it's time for the Church to reconsider the Creator's purpose.

Indeed.

AS is changing. Seeking Jesus' purpose for His Church is now and will continue to be our quest; fulfilling the Church's original purpose will be our greatest goal. We won't throw anything “over board” simply for the sake of change, but neither will we cling to anything that separates us from what we believe to be Jesus' purpose for the AS.

Stated another way, we are committed, to the best of our ability, to seeking and following God's will for AS and not ours. It is, after all, His Church. We believe the Lord is still active and leading. We believe He has specific purpose for AS. Believing these things, we commit ourselves to His will. And we do so with real anticipation of what may come and a genuine hope for a real and significant future.

As has been shared many times now, we understand God to be renewing us in three areas: worship, mission, and community. Over the next three months I will address the changes that are occurring in each of these three areas. I will share, to the best of my ability, the fullness and excitement of His purpose. Together we will share the joy and excitement of being made new. We will journey and explore together.

Something interesting and unexpected has happened to me over the past several weeks - I have been encouraged by others in our congregation to “move on”; that there is no need for me to keep “separating us from the past” because the congregation is ready to move forward. “We're READY!” and “we're EXCITED!” I've been told.

When I first heard this (and I've heard this from multiple people) I was stunned. Seriously. I was not expecting us to REALLY be ready. Tradition is too hard to break. “I'm going to have to do this carefully and hold a lot of hands” I was thinking to myself. Nope. You've told me - we're ready to go seek our future that God has for us.

The one thing in the Oakmont story that I find most interesting is the radical lengths the leadership went through to initiate their changes. Cutting trees in the middle of the night is a pretty edgy way to bring about change. It's what you do when you want to change but you don't believe the people will follow. You bring the changes about subtly, quietly; hoping no one notices.

We're not going to do that; we're not going to cut trees, secretly, in the middle of the night. We're going to share this journey together and announce it as we go.

We're ready, ready to be set free into God's will. May we all enter into this journey of discovery - God's will for each of us and for AS, His Body.

Blessings

David

All Saints Prayer List

November 2011

Parish Prayers: Matthew Alcorn and family, Kathy Burger, Joanne Calderone, Mimi Tomaino, Kathy McMarlin and family, Barbara Slattery, Hazel Thomas, Dustin Witt, Mary Lou Renner, Karen Rucker, Cindy Strauch, Betty Tendick and family.

For Moses's discernment process, and for Carolyn during Candidacy.

For All Saints, for our being open to God's vision for us, and for our leaders.

For the Second Generation ministry.

For our African students: Margaret Kiconco, Kennedy Gondwe, and Emmanuel Mukeshimana.

Mission in Africa: Gisele Umutoni, Arelene Brown's Ministry

Friends of the Parish: Frank Iusi, Kathy Lockhart, Jack Miller, Linda Specht, Rachael Sensabaugh and child, Connor and Family, Trish, Marion, Bernie and Rose, Canon Mary Hayes.

Armed Services: Pray for the safety of those in the armed services and the peace of mind of their families, especially those known by this congregation: Jason Biehl, Paul Burger, Dustin Churchel, Anthony Iusi, Marcus Levering, Jeff Muir.

Peace: Pray for an end to violence and for peace in our communities.

Friends of the parish will be listed for 1 month. If you would like to add a name, remove a name, or have a name stay on the prayer list longer than 1 month, please contact Pat Serafini at 412-247-0617 or serafinip@yahoo.com

Acolyte News

Many of you are already aware that Martha Nwchukwa graduated from High School this past year and is now off at college leaving us with a vacancy of Head Acolyte. I am please to be able to inform you that Brendan Hamilton has agreed to take on the duties of Head Acolyte. The duties of Head Acolyte are important in the fact that in the absence of the acolyte assigned to the schedule for a given Sunday, Brendan is expected to step up on a moments notice to make sure that our service flows as it should normally. His other duties include assisting my in whatever surprises and special service that the Rector and the Music and Worship Committee feel necessary. I thank Brendan for agreeing to take on this responsibility and I also thank his parents for agreeing to assist him in being at church when needed.

John Colaianne, Acolyte Master

Verger News

You will notice that our first month in our new home has included many configurations of the altar and how we conduct the service. While I sometimes find myself feeling that we are in total chaos that it is not the case at all. We are trying new things and trying to make the best use of our new worship space and time. I welcome your comments and input as we try different. It is sometimes difficult to see things from where I am sitting. I promise to behave myself as best I can while in the service as one lesson I have already learned about our new worship space.

The altar guild and I are working hard to bring us as close as possible to what we expect for our altar in the Anglican form of worship. We have already been blessed with the replacement of our Gospel and Altar Books. The Gospel book was a memorial given by Lee Mackie in memory of her father and I want to thank Lee for this wonder gift. Our new Altar Book was a gift from the congregation of Ascension Church in Oakland and we also want to thank them for such a wonderful gift.

We feel strongly that the new location of the altar brings the service of holy communion closer to the congregation. New items have been purchased and we continue to look for items to replace those which we have to leave behind. You may have noticed that the chalice currently being used looks familiar and it should. It is on loan from the Episcopal Diocese. The second chalice while very small is only temporary. We chose to utilize these chalices because the porcelain chalices were a sanitation issue. The reaction of the alcohol in wine with gold and silver creates a much more sanitary field then that of a porcelain or glass chalice. Second we hope to very shortly have new chalices and to be

Verger Continued on page 5)

Deadline for the December issue is November 15, 2011, please email information to John Colaianne at jjcdemolay@comcast.net.

(Continued from page 4) Verger

able to return this one to the Episcopal Church with our thanks and replace the very small silver one. There are many more items needed and if you would like to donate or create a memorial gift in memory of a loved one, please speak with Carolyn Nunnally the head of our Altar Guild and Memorial Committee. I again encourage your comments to us about the worship service. We hope you are finding the new songs and setting to be part of our new life in a new place. Todd and I also welcome any song suggestions you might have. The choir will begin to meet for practices on Monday evenings. If you are interested in joining the choir, please see Todd or one of the current members of the choir for more details. They will be singing on special occasion and our new Cantor Bill Woods is assisting us in learning and leading new songs.

John Colaianne, Verger

Advent Decorating with RUMC

The Methodist Church prepares for Christmas in much the same way that we do and on Sunday, November 20th following their service they will be preparing the Sanctuary for the season of Advent. Pastor Don has invited us to join them in the decorating. The decorations include an Advent Wreath which we will have been invited to use as we always have during the season of Advent. If you would like to help, please make sure that you are at the church around noontime on the 20th. This will be a great chance for both congregations to work together, to make new friends and meet and greet one another as we prepare for the season of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am sure that we will find ourselves doing this again in preparation for Christmas as well and we will have more details on that date as it approaches. On another note, several of you have already asked about our Christmas Eve Service. Our service it will be at 9:00 p.m. as RUMC will have their service at 7:00 p.m. that evening. There will also be a Sunday Morning Service (Christmas Day) at 9:00 a.m. This will be a quiet service without music and a New Years Day Service at 9:00 a.m.

John Colaianne, Music and Worship Committee

Cantata Service

On December 11th, instead of our usual Lessons and Carols Service, we will be having a joint service between All Saints and Rosedale United Methodist for a musical service. Todd is already busy working with the choir and he welcomes anyone who would like to join in. The choir will now be meeting on Monday evenings at 7:00 at the church to practice for the Cantata as well as working on new songs that we want to sing during our regular worship ser-

vices. As we get closer to the date, there will be a practice with both choirs to prepare for the 11th. On the 11th of December we will have the service at 10:00 a.m. for both congregations to enjoy. We hope that you will want to join us for this special service and the reception that will follow it. If you would like to get involved in the choir even with just learning the new songs, please contact Todd right away.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, November 20th, Christ the King Day. The meeting will take place as part of the service. Coffee and doughnuts will follow in Boyd Hall or the Parish Hall depending on schedules. During the service, there will be election of our new vestry, review of the proposed budget and discussion regarding our future. Father Rucker is currently working on just how the service will flow, but it will conclude with Holy Eucharist. If you would like to be considered for the new vestry, please speak with either Father Rucker, Carolyn Nunnally or John Colaianne prior to the meeting on the 20th. There are at the present time possible vacancies that will need to be filled.

With the formal leaving of the Episcopal Church and our old building, the entire vestry resigned. We are now ready to elect a new vestry. If you should have any questions, please speak with Father Rucker and he can explain in more detail.

In Service to Christ and His People+
John J. Colaianne, Acting Junior Warden



TIME FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL SPONSORSHIPS

It is that time of the year when our project becomes the community children living in poor circumstances. If you remember - and even if you don't - last year we were able to send 340 children to primary school thanks to your generous support. These children would not go to school without your love and gifts. The amount needed is **\$15 USD** per child per year.

That \$15 provides a uniform, exercise books, pens, book bag, flip flops and a jacket. Urukundo Foundation's goal is education for as many children as possible. The need to read and write is a priority. Pre-school & primary school are where the foundation is laid. Investing in education is investing in a better life. Please partner with me so that Urukundo can continue caring for children who deserve a brighter future. This is the best gift to Rwanda's children you can give.

Gifts for education must reach HMR by December 15th to be included in the December wire transfer, and for us to provide the items needed to insure continuing education for the 2012 school year. The school year begins in January. Please consider adding EDUCATION FOR A RWANDAN CHILD to your Christmas gift list.

Arlene Brown
Urukundo, Rwanda

Please make your check to Hope Made Real (which is a 501c3).

Address is:
P.O. Box 3222
Williamsport, Pa. 17701



Dear Friends

Thanks for the support you have given to the youth in Rwanda, its impact is amazing!!

From the update of last time, now I'm going to add on the improvement of the project.

The shoe maker group: It is doing very well with new and more products on the market. One of them has left the group to do bicycle transport. He bought his own bicycle from the money he made in making shoes and he is transporting people and goods.

The farmers: they are doing well too in fact they need more money to supply the whole community.

Grace/Hope Cow: now with a calf as the rule says, the beneficiary will give two calves before it becomes his/hers. One bull – cow - calf this November will be given to another young lady who will look after it. The youth has proposed to sell it after some time to get a female for more production.

The photographers: The first to get the camera now has completed his house and he has finished paying back the money to the association. The second camera is going to the second young man who was on training since the beginning and we hope good results from him too.

Sewing machines: The young man who got the first sewing machine now is happy and he has made money to sponsor him in mechanical school, he wants to repair automobile. He is on the training during the day and in the evening he is a tailor. The machine given to the young lady was stolen but the members are helping her to fill the gap.

Thanks once again for your help, there is a lot to be done here in Rwanda but means are still not enough we pray that God will continue to use people like you and those who get help will be able to help others. This is the main goal of this group.

May God continue to be on your side in the new place.

Love and prayer

Rev. Emmanuel



Webpage and Schedules
www.allsaintspittsburgh.org

Have you visited our new website yet? We hope so. Everyday there is more and more reason to visit. Some of the newest additions have been adding the monthly newsletters. Tired of trying to remember where you put your lay reader schedule, your altar schedule, your acolyte schedule, well guess what, they are all available now on the website and are being updated monthly. So take some time and visit the website each day to see what is new and different.

Wanted:

See this empty space
 It needs an article
 It needs someone to
 deliver good news or to ask
 for prayers for something that
 is going on in their life.

It needs a book review, a
 movie review, anything,
 Think about contributing
 something to the next edition
 of your church newsletter.

Thank You.
 John Colaianne
 Editor

WET PANTS

Taken from an email from Lee Mackie, Lee I hope you don't mind, but I thought this was such a wonderful story and example of what it means to care of each other.

Come with me to a third grade classroom..... There is a nine-year-old kid sitting at his desk and all of a sudden, there is a puddle between his feet and the front of his pants are wet. He thinks his heart is going to stop because he cannot possibly imagine how this has happened. It's never happened before, and he knows that when the boys find out he will never hear the end of it. When the girls find out, they'll never speak to him again as long as he lives.

The boy believes his heart is going to stop; he puts his head down and prays this prayer, 'Dear God, this is an emergency! I need help now! Five minutes from now I'm dead meat.'

He looks up from his prayer and here comes the teacher with a look in her eyes that says he has been discovered.

As the teacher is walking toward him, a class mate named Susie is carrying a goldfish bowl that is filled with water. Susie trips in front of the teacher and inexplicably dumps the bowl of water in the boy's lap.

The boy pretends to be angry, but all the while is saying to himself, 'Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord!'

Now all of a sudden, instead of being the object of ridicule, the boy is the object of sympathy. The teacher rushes him downstairs and gives him gym shorts to put on while his pants dry out..... All the other children are on their hands and knees cleaning up around his desk. The sympathy is wonderful. But as life would have it, the ridicule that should have been his has been transferred to someone else - Susie.

Finally, at the end of the day, as they are waiting for the bus, the boy walks over to Susie and whispers, 'You did that on purpose, didn't you?' Susie whispers back, 'I wet my pants once too.'

May God help us see the opportunities that are always around us to do good..

Remember.....Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

Each and every one of us is going through tough times right now, but God is getting ready to bless you in a way that only He can. Keep the faith. Amen.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

NOVEMBER

- 2 Dave Swan
- 4 Christine & Stewart Hamilton
- 5 Roberta Alcorn
- 7 Joshua Miller
- 8 Andy Young
- 13 Christine Hamilton
- 18 Todd Russell
- 30 Justine Miller

DECEMBER

- 2 Bonnie Colaianne
- 4 Jacob Violando
- 5 Brenden Hamilton
- 16 Barbara Harman
- 18 Adam Colaianne
- 19 Brittany Colaianne
- Tom Miller
- 20 Betty Tendick
- 31 Carole Santucci
- 31 Chris Troiano

Are you missing from our list, Please let
Donna Violando know. Thanks



Important Dates

Choir Practice, Monday Evenings, 7:00 pm

**Wednesday Night Group Every Wednesday
6:30pm**

**Nov 8, Leadership Meeting at the Ruckers
7:00 p.m.**

Annual Meeting, Nov, 20 9:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving Service 24th, 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP

SERVICE SUNDAYS

9:00 A.M.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

How to contact

The Rev. David Rucker

(412) 828-1126 Home

(412) 251-8474 Cell

Rucker59@gmail.com

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5501 Third Street

Verona, PA 15147

Address Services Requested



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