



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Founded in 1742

106 W. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701

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www.allsaintsmd.org

To the people of All Saints' Parish, Frederick, Maryland

December 15, 2009

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day; their old, familiar carols play
and wild and sweet the word repeat, of peace on earth...*

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Grace to you and peace from our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, who is coming, as God's child and our Savior, very soon.

As many of you know, our Assistant Director of Music and the director of our Great Hall choir, Lynn Staininger, will leave All Saints' at the end of the year for a new opportunity: to be Music Director of the Urbana congregation of Evangelical Lutheran Church, our neighbors down Church Street. Because of the hospitality I received from them when I arrived in Frederick, I have no doubt our Lutheran sisters and brothers will welcome Lynn with open arms. Our loss is indeed their gain. We pray for her and for them, as we seek to love and serve God together in Frederick County.

This Sunday, December 20, 2009, there will be a special celebration of the ministry Lynn Staininger has shared with All Saints' for nearly six years. During our usual time of fellowship after the 10:30 services, we will gather in the Parish Hall to wish her Godspeed. A purse filled with our contributions will be given to Lynn before her departure. Feel free to make a check payable to All Saints' Parish, indicating "Lynn Staininger purse" on the memo line. (If you are unable to attend this Sunday, you may mail your check to the church. We will make certain Lynn receives your thank offering.)

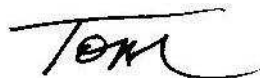
Beginning January 1, 2010, we will experience a few changes in worship . . .

- There will be no changes in our Sunday morning schedule, although there will likely be a monthly joint Eucharistic celebration of both Great Hall and Historic Church congregations at 10:30 am. These joint services will alternate between Great Hall and Historic Church settings.
- Carroll Howe, our devoted part-time music director for nearly twenty-five years, will now become a full-time staff member and assume additional responsibility for the Great Hall choir, until a new assistant music director can be found.
- A search committee will be formed early in the new year to seek out the best candidate for the position of assistant music director. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Carroll or me.
- Members of the Great Hall choir will also exercise some additional leadership, as they have done so faithfully in the past. We will encourage new musical participation and leadership from within that congregation.
- All other All Saints' choirs will continue to be directed by Carroll, rehearsing with her and offering their gifts under her direction.

This past Sunday I announced that **on Thursday evening, December 17, 2009, at 7pm, another in our series of "town hall" meetings will be held in the Great Hall.** We will listen, learn and talk a bit more about these changes. There will be other such meetings throughout the New Year, so if you do not receive this mailing in time or cannot attend, please be assured that there will be other opportunities to meet and talk. Of course, Carroll and I are available to make an appointment and meet with any of you.

Whether you normally worship with us on Saturday evening or at one of our Sunday morning services, I ask you to keep Lynn, Carroll, the Great Hall choir and all the people of All Saints' Parish in your prayers. Let us continue to prepare in expectant hope for the birth of our Savior, who brings us the peace we truly need. A blessed Advent and Christmas to you and yours!

In hope for the coming Christ,



The Rev. Thomas A. Momberg
Rector