doctor appointments and church. During major holidays, he was always invited to parishioners' homes to join families in festive celebration and fellowship. Volunteers continued to help him with his transportation needs while he was living in the assisted living facility. These volunteers came to be known as "Charlie's Angels." Similar care was extended to other elderly parishioners. Also during this period at Christmas, All Saints' provided ditty bags filled with small gifts to bring cheer and remembrance to the residents of Morris View Nursing Home.

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Others Who May be Marginalized (poor, homeless, food insecure, abused, ill, and incarcerated)

Between 1929-1941 All Saints' donated clothing to the Church Mission of Help in Newark for neighborhood relief work. Between 1962-1966, All Saints' gave financial support to the Rev. Robert Castle at St John's Jersey City for summer camps and urban work. All Saints' also financed summer camp scholarships for the children of Grace Church, Van Vorst and House of Prayer in 1980. All Saints' continued to provide camp scholarships for the children of the House of Prayer until 1987. A letter of thanks to All Saints' from the Senior Warden at House of Prayer pointed out just how much All Saints' had given: over a five year period from 1973-1978, All Saints' had provided camp scholarships for 52 children from House of Prayer, Newark.[90]

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew was a group for men of the Episcopal Church to work and pray together, established in 1960 at All Saints'. Several members of this group volunteered at prisons throughout the state, visiting and counseling incarcerated men and their families, participating in chapel services every Sunday and helping with Christmas parties and distributing gifts. The Rev. George E. Rath held the first Protestant Communion at The Morris County jail.[91]

In June 1970, All Saints' was asked to help tutor students and rehabilitate adults at House of Prayer in Newark. Four months later, an Outreach dinner was held in Newark to create enthusiasm for this outreach program for which there had been poor attendance. Volunteers pointed out disadvantages of the program which included the requirement for travel by train because of lack of parking

facilities. After returning home, some volunteers said they felt "silent and shaken, having been in the heart of Newark." [92]

Between 1994 and 2003, All Saints' collected and shipped outdated but still usable medical equipment to Dneiproppetrovsk, Ukraine. In 2001, half of the proceeds from All Saints' Annual Rummage Sale was donated for World Trade Center Relief. Grateful recipients of the medical equipment sent to Ukraine offered prayers and help to All Saints' after the tragedy of 9/11.[93]

Over the years, All Saints' has supported charities which help the following groups: newborns and their mothers, troubled young people, families in crisis, the hungry and homeless, addicted, incarcerated and their families.

All Saints' together with other area churches has worked with the Interfaith Hospitality Network, now called Family Promise, and continues to participate. This program provides shelter, food and transport for homeless families who are most often mothers accompanied by their children. Evening and night accommodation with bathrooms and private sleeping areas for individuals and family units are provided at sites with adequate facilities. In non-pandemic time, volunteers have shared meals they have provided and visited with the families.

In partnership with other community churches and Long Hill Township Community Resources, All Saints' participates in the Twelve Baskets Food Pantry program which serves Long Hill Township and the Watchung Hills school district. This pantry currently serves about 40 households-parents and children, single adults, and seniors.

Until 2020, All Saints' donated hand knitted and crocheted hats and scarves to the Seamen's Church Institute to be given to international sailors who spend many months away from their homes and families.

### Summary

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At this point, January, 2023, I have researched as thoroughly as time limits and information availability have allowed with the goal of portraying an honest reflection of the racial history of All Saints'. The ugliness of the use of minstrelsy for fundraising at All Saints' in the 1950s stands out starkly against the strong response of the parish against racial injustice during the civil rights struggle and riots of the 1960s. Were the people at All Saints' in the 1950's unaware that having a minstrel show would be offensive, hurtful, and wrong, or was this not a consideration since there were few BIPOC people in the community to be

offended? Of note, the Terry family discussed earlier in this manuscript was living in nearby Basking Ridge during that time and would likely have known about the Minstrel shows presented at All Saints'. With the exception of this incident, All Saints' has been a beacon of faith, comfort and kindness in its generous support for all people in all kinds of circumstances and needs. All Saints' concern for others has been expressed not only through financial support but also through personal involvement. All Saints' continues to do so.

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In areas where there is no response to incidents of racial injustice, it is difficult to determine if the lack of response is due to the low numbers of BIPOC people living in the area and as parishioners at All Saints' or because there is information yet to be revealed. As the saying goes, absence of evidence is not evidence of absence.

As a person of color, I am included in the BIPOC population. My family is light skinned and mixed race. From the time we first stepped into All Saints' 37 years ago, I have never felt other than warmly welcomed. By nature, I am gentle and quiet and pose a threat to no one. Now retired, I worked over 30 years as a research biochemist at a major pharmaceutical company and then 7 more years as a senior medical writer at a communications company. Was I welcomed at All Saints' because there was uncertainty about which category to place me in? Would my experience at All Saints' have been less welcoming had I been of darker hue, less educated, and with a different personality? I believe that a warm welcome would have been present here regardless of race, education level, or culture because I have personally witnessed All Saints' extend this warmth to a variety of people who might be perceived as 'other'.

Sadly, we all know that systemic racism is still very much alive and well in this country. It is present all around us and has been especially evident in the last several years. As Christians in our churches and communities, we are not always welcoming to those different from ourselves but instead may see them as 'other', (unacceptable/unworthy/inferior). That a minstrel show was presented at a church like All Saints' is an indication of the need for constant vigilance to guard against racist words and actions. We all still have much work to learn and connect with each other across our differences to become closer to being the Church where all of God's people are beloved and welcome.

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### **Acknowledgements**

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I gratefully acknowledge support, encouragement, valuable input and suggestions from the Rev. Victoria McGrath. I give thanks to parishioner Dr. Janet Gibbs for her contagious enthusiasm and willingness to go "mining" with me among numerous bins of stored documents in the basements of the Rath House and Church, to parishioners Carol Prasa and Jean Kimak for sharing information and their experiences of personally knowing the Bonnie Brae boys and Dr. Robert Goldsboro at All Saints', and to former parishioner, Jane Allen for her vivid remembrance of Mrs. Estelle Terry's attendance at All Saints'.

# Addendum to Racial History of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Millington, New Jersey

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## More of the Terry Story: Racial Harassment in the Nearby Community

The plaque, monument, and congressional medals that were presented to honor pilots Robert and Estelle Terry in 2022, were a culmination of proposals put forward as early as 1995 by Terry's son, Dr. Qaaim Saalik. His proposals included (1) production of a documentary film, "What are We Going to Tell the Children", that included the Tuskegee Airmen as well as the support team at the base, and (2) a photographic exhibition to be displayed at the Aviation Hall of Fame at Teterboro Airport, Teterboro, New Jersey, during Black History Month in 1997. In preparation for these projects, Dr. Saalik interviewed and collected first hand accounts and gathered photographs of men and women who were part of the Tuskegee Air Force operation. Saalik believed these Tuskegee men and women were living legends and "goal models" for young people; they had triumphed over their adversities and persevered in spite of extreme racism and bigotry while not carrying any malice or bitterness because of their harsh treatment.

Dr. Saalik, his mother and two Tuskegee Airmen, (Eugene Richardson of Philadelphia, PA and George Bolden of Cherry Hill, NJ), met local pilot Joe DuPont at Thermoplastics, Inc. in Stirling, N.J. to compare notes of their experiences at Tuskegee. They related their stories to a handful of students and their social studies supervisor, Stephen Zucky, from Watchung Hills Regional High School in Warren. Mr. DuPont persuaded the principal of Central School in Stirling to use the Tuskegee Airmen film in their Black History curriculum.

In 1986/1987, at All Saints' Millington, Mrs. Terry appears to have felt accepted and welcomed, otherwise, it is unlikely she would have participated in the welcoming committee there. However, nearby in Basking Ridge, in the 1980's/1990's, racist-based harassment made life difficult for the Terry family. Dr. Saalik's young daughters were repeatedly sworn at, called the "N" word and

ordered off their school bus by fellow students. Similar hateful words were thrown at their grandmother, Mrs. Terry, by her thirteen year old neighbor.

Dr. Saalik, his mother, and others met with Bernards Township Administrator, Stephen Wood, Mayor Sandra Harris, and later Police Chief, Robert Moore, to address these racist acts and to encourage the creation of a human rights/advisory council to address such issues. The mayor promised to raise this consideration at the next committee work session. When asked, Dr Saalik categorized the mayor's response as "tactful and sincere", but stated that the township's sensitivity to racial harmony had in the past been "tone deaf".

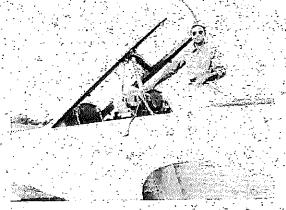
In the 1990's, the Terry home, while vacant, was totally vandalized. Sadly, all of the family's war time memorabilia was lost.

June Kennedy, on her retirement as township historian, invited Chris MacManemin to continue the work she had started to collect documents to honor Robert and Estelle Terry. Mr. MacManemin had to reconstruct through phone calls, e-mails, and research at military libraries, the information and memorabilia lost through the vandalism of the Terry home.

At this point, I have not yet learned any more about Mrs. Terry's experience at All Saints' Millington or her reason for leaving the parish. Was something done, said or inferred at All Saints' that caused Mrs. Terry to leave? Was her leaving related to the racial harassment she and her family experienced in nearby Basking Ridge, or was it due to some other totally unrelated personal reason?



Capt. Robert Terry in the Copit of twin enigine military transport.



Capt. Robert Terry in copit of T-33 at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.



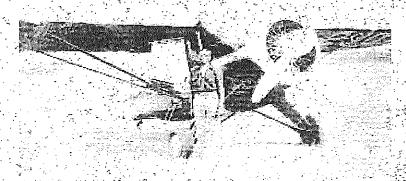
Some of Lt. Terry students at Tuskegee Army Airforce base in Alabama



Capt. Robert Terry in the Copit of T-33



Lt. Robert Terry flight Instructor Tuskegee Army Airforce in Alabama.



Capt. Robert Terry, Chief Pilot and flight instructor, at Sommerset Hills Airport, Basking Ridge, N.J.

Additional Photos of Captain Robert Terry and his Tuskegee Airmen Students from the Robert Terry folder at the Bernards Township Library

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