

# St. John's Journal

May 2020



## Worship Schedule

*We continue self-isolating to halt the spread of the coronavirus through our state, our nation and the world.*

*If you have internet access by cell phone or computer, please join with Fr. Doug in Sunday services on YouTube and at the coffee hour on Zoom using his email links.*

## May Birthdays

3: Karen Sinko

16: Virginia MacCallum

23: Juanita Limon

26: Marilyn Pratt

## *From Our Priest-in-Charge*

As I write this I am thinking especially of our people who are in treatment for cancer and other serious ailments. I am impressed with their resilience as they remain hopeful. At another level we are all having to do the best we can to be resilient and hopeful in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. There seems to be a lot of adaption and good humor going on.

We have been without the opportunity to gather together for six weeks and yet we have traveled together through Holy Week and into the Easter Season. Our virtual worship has had a wide ranging number of viewers, through the services have tended to have views in the upper 20s. This tells me that somewhere over 30 people are taking advantage of our online worship each week. For some crazy reasons, the second Sunday of this adventure had 85 views. Apparently some of my old friends in Massachusetts caught hold of it and shared it a number of times. The novelty wore off though.

Our Online Coffee Hours using the Zoom app have been less popular, with ten or so gathering each week. This past week we had 11 adults, two cats and lots of granddaughter baby pictures. This gathering is clearly not for everyone and for some there are technological barriers. I am glad that we have had much more success with worship.

As we have entered into the Easter season, we have added Cynthia's musical contributions and Denise and Kay assisting in the leadership. We will continue to make adjustments to what we are doing to improve the quality. If you have any observations or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

At Coffee Hour on Sunday, an idea surfaced of offering an online Bible study. I am beginning to work on how that might work.

We have five Sundays in May, which conclude with Pentecost on May 31. It would be wonderful if we could be back together for that grand celebration, but I am not holding my breath. The week before we will be marking the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven. I am beginning to wonder how we can celebrate both of these. There is more talk about relaxing the stay at home order so that some of our lives can return to normal, but this is happening when we are finally having positive tests for the virus in Coos County. Even if some things are relaxed, I am uncertain how we will go forward at church. Stay tuned.

As has been said numerous times, "We are in this together." Our situation makes clear how our lives are tied together even when we are not physically together. It provides a great opportunity for us to find ways to care for each other and the rest of our communities. May the Spirit of God lift us up and carry us as we seek to follow Jesus in the way of love for those who are hurting.

Fr. Doug Hale

buckdeaver55@gmail.com

### **Attend Church Even While We Cannot Gather!**

Fr. Doug is presenting a beautiful service on YouTube each Sunday. Even if you do not have a computer but have internet connection, use your Smart Phones to log on. Services are reverent and feed our hearts and souls with the familiar rich liturgy and music. Know that while Fr. Doug partakes alone of the bread and wine he consecrates during the Eucharist, we are still part of the communion by our prayers, participation, and presence – even from our homes.

Join Fr. Doug also for Coffee Hour on Sundays, also available through your Smart Phones. You will receive separate email with the link. Follow us on our web pages: [www.stjohnsbandon.org](http://www.stjohnsbandon.org). Find us on Facebook at the site with the church exterior.

**“Love God, love our neighbor, and serve one another.”**

### **Medical Loan Closet**

The volunteers of the Medical Loan Closet consider our outreach to be an essential need and we are therefore still open for business (by appointment). In order to maintain a 6' distance from each other we bring equipment out onto the deck or into the bigger space of Theresa Hall. To stay safe, we wear masks and gloves and offer Sally's homemade masks to any client who needs one. Plus, we're maintaining our usual cleaning and disinfecting protocols knowing that they're even more critical in these crazy pandemic days.

Calls have definitely dropped off as clients are staying home and postponing surgeries. But we're here to help when they need us.

Walk and Roll!

### **Revised Common Lectionary**

#### **May**

#### **3: 4th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

#### **10: 5th Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)**

Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10;  
John 14:1-14

#### **17: 6th Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)**

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66: 7-18; 1 Peter 3:13-22;  
John 14:15-21

#### **21: Ascension Day**

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 or Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23;  
Luke 24:44-53

#### **7th Sunday of Easter (The Sunday after the Ascension)**

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36;  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

#### **31: The Day of Pentecost (Whitsunday)**

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30;  
Psalm 104:25-35, 37; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or  
Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

### **Medical Loan Closet**

**Phone 541-590-2443**



### **Good Neighbors Contributions**

Even though we cannot be together during this virus outbreak, the hungry of Bandon still hope for food from the Good Neighbors food pantry. The basket is now on the kitchen counter, so you are welcome to drop off donations on Tuesday afternoons during office hours. Keep the hungry in your prayers.

### **STAY WELL!**

Stay safe, keep a safe distance from people outside your household, and wash those hands!

We miss each other and our contacts with the outside world, but we can do this! Let's look ahead and think about the celebration it will be when we can worship and be together once more. Meanwhile, we are connected by pray and love for one another.

# May 2020

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	<i>Mother's Day: May 10</i>				<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3 4th Sun, of Easter</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> AA 8 pm	<i>6</i> AA — eve	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10 5th Sun. of Easter</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 1 p.m. BAC AA 8 pm	<i>13</i> AA — eve	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17 6th Sun. of Easter</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> AA 8 pm	<i>20</i> AA — eve	<i>21</i> Ascension Day	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24 7th Sun. of Easter</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> AA 8 pm	<i>27</i> AA — eve	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>31 The Day of Pentecost</i>						

## SEEDS OF HOPE

Just about every sunny day this Spring has found me working outdoors -- mostly clearing brush and rebuilding a footpath. After decades of neglecting the forested half of my property, it has felt good to be out there doing something practical to reduce the fire hazards and make improvements, and trying to identify emerging plants I had never noticed there before.

But what I've really been itching to do is start a vegetable garden. The small plot my mother tended in San Diego fed our family and friends year-round (10 to 12 people in all). Unfortunately I didn't inherit her green thumb, and I have struggled for years to coax a select handful of herbs and vegetables to grow. But hope springs eternal, as they say, and every Spring I get out there to dig, plant, water and weed, hoping this season will be better than the last, and thanking God my life does not depend upon my horticultural success. Not yet, anyway.

Like the Victory Gardens planted during the world wars, my mother's plot was both a financial and nutritional necessity for our family when my father was out of work for an extended period in the 1970's. I've read that victory gardens are making a comeback this year for the same reasons. Therefore, it should have been no surprise to find our local nursery buzzing with activity on a recent drizzly Saturday. But I admit I was stunned to find 10 cars in the parking lot and 16 people wandering around. I've NEVER seen that many people there before.

Apparently, we all got the same urge to start a garden. We were all masked and keeping our distance, but it felt a little creepy to be congregating with so many people anywhere outside a grocery store. Is this what it will feel like when Coronavirus restrictions are finally lifted? Every "ordinary" activity feeling strangely new if other people are around?

I keep hoping we may emerge from this lockdown better educated about what is truly essential in our lives and what can be dismissed as mere static interference. One thing essential in my life is taking the time to see and appreciate the beauty of God's creation.

Each small seed I have planted this Spring has represented hope and gratitude. Each has gone into the ground not only with a petition that its dormant potential to sprout and grow will be realized, but with a prayer of gratitude for those on the front lines whose extraordinary generosity and service are saving lives and keeping us supplied with daily needs.



Rudyard Kipling observed, "Adam was a gardener, and God, who made him, sees that half of all good gardening is done upon the knees."

It is still hard for me to kneel (or rather to get up from kneeling), but it seems like that is where I need to be right now.

A reflection from Denise Skillman

### St. John Prayer List

Myra & Jim; Roy Arnoldt; Juanita; Marilyn Carraher; Kelly; Amy; James; Sue Warren; Bea Bone; Kelly; Michelle; Mike Lane; Daniel Undell; Kathy; Mike Fitzgerald; Melissa Lawson; Brady, Lori & Jay; Sandy Bourne; Kimberly Small-Jonas; Zoe Bloom; Donna & Kevin Bloom; Marilyn Pratt; Bill, Matthew, & Steven; the Gaffney family; Deanna; Sheri; Debbie.

In our Southwest Convocation: St. Timothy, Brookings; Emmanuel, Coos Bay; St. James, Coquille; St. Andrew, Florence; St. Mary, Gardiner/Reedsport; St. Matthew, Gold Beach; St. Christopher, Port Orford; our own congregation of St. John, Bandon.

In the Bandon Ministerial Association (BMA) cycle of congregations: First Presbyterian Church; Holy Trinity Catholic Church; St. John Episcopal Church; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; Lighthouse Church of God.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer: Brookings: St. Timothy; Corvallis: Church of the Good Samaritan, Samaritan Village, OSU Campus Ministry, Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center; Lake Oswego: Christ Church; Lebanon: St. Martin, Samaritan Community Hospital; Portland: St. Michael & All Angels, PSU Becoming a Beloved Community; Silverton: St. Edward; Springfield: St. John the Divine.

Pray also for medical personnel: physicians, nurses, nursing assistants, all who care for the sick and the environs of their care, for caregivers, for first responders, for those who daily provide services for us. Remember the unemployed, the homeless, those who are alone, all God's children and creation.

#### BAC

**Senior Warden** Denise Skillman  
**Junior Warden** Tom Glunt  
**Clerk:** Sally Glunt  
**Treasurer** Kay Marino

**Members at Large:** Laurea Arnoldt, Mary Garrett, Judy Jackson, Caroline McKemy, Lani Reynolds.

**Church Administrator:**  
Virginia MacCallum

**Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-6**

The Rev. Doug Hale, Priest-in-Charge

## St. John's Episcopal Church

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#### W H O W E A R E

St. John Episcopal Church is a community where God leads us in healing, teaching, reaching out, and stewardship.

We are a community that sees Christ in all people and judges none. We believe in inclusion for all people regardless of race, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. We aim to break down barriers that separate us from one another and to provide a home for anyone on their spiritual journey. Our work brings together people of faith who believe in the inherent dignity and worth of all people on their journey.