

# St. John's Journal

July 2020



*In prayer with you all for  
our nation:*

May we invite God's love  
into our hearts, and our  
actions, and our policies.

*From Jeanne Culp*

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday

9th: Tom Glunt

Anniversaries

2nd: Laurea & Roy Arnoldt

14th: Juanita Limon & Bob Graville

16th: Harmony & Russell Harrison

31st: Myra & Jim Lawson

## *Father Doug's Iconic Column*

Over a week ago, I was participating in the Bishop's weekly Office Hour, with some of the clergy of the Diocese. The primary discussion was about racial issues. One of the priests challenged us that all the levels of the church, denomination, diocese and congregation, need to be addressing these issues. That got me to thinking about my awareness, or lack thereof, of the place of racial groups, other than white Europeans, in Bandon and Coos County.

As some who easily thinks about history, I got to thinking about the history that I had been exposed to since coming here. I realized that Native Americans are largely invisible in what I have seen. Histories tend to start with the arrival of Euro-Americans. One of the few things I have seen that involved Native Americans is the story of Battle Rock. But that is told from the Euro-American perspective. I don't recall reading anything that explained why the Native Americans reacted the way they did. This especially stands out considering other very brief accounts of Native Americans being welcoming and helpful to Euro-Americans. Histories tend to begin with the white settlers.

We need to be honest with ourselves that histories are products of the people writing them. They are written from their perspectives, including things that are most important to them. We also tend to read things that are of interest to us. For instance, Patti and I are currently watching a lecture series on the Black Plague of the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century in Europe. I know, you must think we are morbid and crazy to be exposing ourselves to even more information about a pandemic. What got me thinking is how much the lecturer talks about religious reactions and adaptations to the plague. So I went to our numerous history books about the medieval period and the church. Not one of them mentioned the plague. Given how disruptive and destructive it was to European society, with effects that lasted centuries, I was amazed that none of the histories thought it was worth mentioning.

The recent racial protests are a call for us to examine our priorities. What is it that we think is important enough to pay attention to? How do we need to change our priorities? Where it is leading me is to try to find out more about the Native American communities of our area, both in the past and in the present.

God has created and populated this planet with a variety of people, and a huge variety of other kinds of creatures. We need to cherish them all and desire to come to know them better, for we are all here for each other as a gift from God to each of us. Our congregation is a mix of some quite different individuals. Each one brings his or her own history and perspective on the world. It is a challenge for us to learn to appreciate what each brings to our community. It is even more true about the wider community in which we live. We can retreat into our own areas of comfort, or we can choose to extend ourselves out to those whom we are not naturally drawn to see what gift from God that they may be to us. This is true within the church and without.

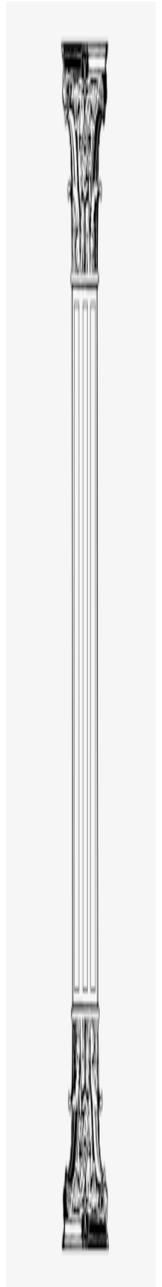
I invite you to join with me in the search for people that we do not easily see, or we easily overlook. God may have some wonderful surprises for us.

Fr. Doug

### **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 <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-234749653862372>

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



### IS THIS YOURS?

This lovely earring for pierced ear was on the floor in the church in the fourth pew from the front on the left side of the nave as you face the altar. It appears to be sterling silver and measures about 2 cm by 2 cm or approximately 9/16" by 9/16".

We would love to reunite the earring with its mate and its owner. If you know anything about the earring, please let us know in the church office either by phone at 541-347-2152 or by email: stjohns@mycomspan.com.




---

### Walkabout Schedule

Meet the candidates for the 11th Bishop of Oregon!

All Presentations (except Lincoln City) will be available for viewing via a live feed! We hope you will "join" in for one or all eight of the Candidate Presentations!

Monday, August 10th-West Metro Portland(3 presentations): 9:30am-11:45am; 12:45pm-3:00pm;& 4:00pm-6:15pm

Tuesday, August 11th-East Metro Portland(2 presentations): 1:45pm-4:00pm\* & 4:45pm-7:00pm\*

Wednesday, August 12th- Salem: 9:15am-11:30am

Wednesday, August 12th-Lincoln City (no live feed): 4:30pm-6:30pm

Thursday, August 13th-Eugene: 11:30am-1:45pm

Thursday, August 13th-Grants Pass: 6:30pm-8:45pm

Due to State/County limitations on gathering sizes/social distancing requirements and in order to maximize the health and safety of the Candidates ONLY voting delegates and clergy will be invited to attend the presentations in person.

**(Our delegates are Mary Garrett and Denise Skillman.)**

### Be Well! Stay Well!

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as of June 30, 2020, about 126,700 people in the United States have died from the corona virus. In addition, over 2,581,000 people have been infected with Covid 19, an increase of about 35,600 since June 29, 2020. These data tell us that the virus is not abating, that warmer weather is bringing an end to the epidemic.

Please continue to observe social distancing, the wearing of face masks when we are out in public, careful hygienic practices of washing our hands with hot soapy water as we sing our familiar "Happy Birthday" song at least twice. Avoid touching our faces, noses, mouths, and eyes with our hands, as those locations on our bodies give entry to microbes and the bad stuff that makes us ill. A poster I recently found has this message: **Wash your hands like you have been chopping jalapenos and have to take out your contact lenses.**

Please do not relax your caution. We do not know what "normal" will look like in the future. Indeed, it may never again look anything like what we have known before. But we will face it, and we will deal with it, with God's help.

Please, please call on us at St. John if you are sad, scared, lonely, hungry, out of supplies at home. Let us know. We are family, and we love and care for each of you — no exceptions! This is what family does. This is what family is.

*More Musings from Denise*

## Dance of the Red Dragonfly

It's hard to believe the year 2020 is only half over. Between the disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and world-wide protests for racial justice following the death of George Floyd and others, it feels like we've all been running a months-long marathon. Listening to the daily reports of one tragic death after another, whether from illness or ill-treatment, can be overwhelming. I, for one, am out of breath and out of words to pray.

Clearly, the time has come for change in many aspects of our lives and in every corner of the world. For me it is sometimes more productive to turn my attention away from something that truly concerns me, and the easiest way is to take a walk on the beach or a stroll through the garden. Eventually, communing with God in these places brings me back to the concerns of the day with a clearer mind.

*(Continued on page 5)*

### Save the Date!

On Sunday, July 19, at Emmanuel in Coos Bay, there will be a celebration of Bishop Michael Hanley's ministry. This event will take place from 2-4 p.m.

If you would like to attend the event, contact Terri Hoffmann at this email address:  
thoffmann@web-ster.com.

You may also contact Hoffmann by telephone at 503-982-4825 to reserve your spot at the Emmanuel celebration. You must give the one-hour time slot you prefer as well as the location and date.

Attendance will be limited to 25-40 people, depending on space and distancing restrictions. Reservations will be accepted in the order in which received. **If you wish to attend, make your reservation now, as the Emmanuel celebration is the only one in the Southwest Convocation.** You will receive confirmation by return email, and your name will be on the guest list at the entrance to the party.

If you would like to make a gift to Bishop Hanley in thanksgiving for his ministry, you may do so through your congregation or at the party.

Other celebrations will be Aug. 22 in Eugene, Sep. 6 in Wilsonville, Sep; 13 in Medford, and Sep 17 at the Bishop's Close in Portland.

## Dance of the Red Dragonfly (continued)

A naturalist I am not, but I am a curious observer of nature and awestruck by both the diversity and interconnectedness of every living plant and creature. When I'm not careful, I can lose hours surfing the internet for both facts and fantasies about them.

I crossed paths recently with a milky white banana slug with large black spots that seemed more elegant and graceful than its brown cousins. There's a squirrel that perches on a branch above my front porch as it eats, leaving a neat pile of stripped fir cone scales on the broad handrail. (Just three inches to the north, they would fall unnoticed into the flower bed, but this critter seems to take mischievous delight in leaving me something to clean up every day.) I've seen quite a few long, needle-thin black flying insects with iridescent blue spots at the head and tail, known as "Devil's Darning Needles." European folktales warn that they will sew up the mouths of "scolding women, saucy children and profane men." They dart around looking for aphids, so they are a very welcome sight in my garden.

Less welcome, but still fascinating to watch, was the construction of two hornet nests under my covered patio. The first was placed exactly where one was started and abandoned last year. The other was right next to it. Two hornets seemed to be competing to build the bigger, better nest the fastest; but in the end they combined forces to finish the second nest. It never got larger than a plum, but as I learned later, it was roomy enough to contain a 70-cell honeycomb.

The most spectacular find so far was a dragonfly almost four inches long (like the one in this photo) that landed beside me while I was clipping a bush. I had never seen a red dragonfly before (apparently they are rare). I felt blessed by this visit, and more so the next morning when I saw that the hornet nests had both been ravaged by a ferocious predator I presume to be this dragonfly (since they are known to feast on bees as well as mosquitos.) Perhaps it was protecting me from the swarm that was due to emerge soon. Dance on, Dragonfly!



Cultures all over the world have seen dragonflies as either good or bad omens, but generally associate them with transformation. Some call them harbingers of death. In both Celtic culture and Buddhist teachings, the dragonfly is connected with the power to see truth and gain wisdom. The Japanese consider red dragonflies sacred symbols of courage, strength and happiness, but I'm most attracted to the Native American belief that they can "bring a time of rejuvenation after a long period of trials and hardship." We could certainly use that now.

### July 2020 Lectionary

**July 5: 5 Pentecost:** Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-15; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

**July 12: 6 Pentecost:** Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:1-14; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

**July 19: 7 Pentecost:** Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

**July 26: 8 Pentecost:** 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119: 129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

# July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>AA—Evening</i>	2	3	4
5 5th Sunday after Pentecost	6	7 <i>ACOA 6:30</i> <i>AA 8:00</i>	8 <i>AA—Evening</i>	9	10	11
12 6th Sunday after Pentecost	13 <i>Good Earth 5:00</i>	14 <i>ACOA 6:30</i> <i>AA 8:00</i>	15 <i>AA—Evening</i>	16	17	18
19 7th Sunday after Pentecost	20	21 <i>ACOA 6:30</i> <i>AA 8:00</i>	22 <i>AA—Evening</i>	23	24	25
26 8th Sunday after Pentecost	27	28 <i>ACOA 6:30</i> <i>AA 8:00</i>	29 <i>AA—Evening</i>	30	31	

### St. John Prayer List

Myra & Jim; Roy Arnoldt; Juanita; Marilyn Carraher; Gary Walderman; 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: Pacific Community Church; Restoration Worship Center; Seabird Chapel Church of God; Seventh Day Adventist Church.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer: Eugene: St. Thomas; U or O Campus Ministry; St. Andrew; Forest Grove: St. Bede; Oregon City: St. Paul; Portland: All Saints; Ascension; Riddle: Church of the Ascension; Roseburg: St. George; Wilsonville: St. Francis of Assisi; Woodburn: St. Mary,

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 in our own country and around the world who suffer because of racism, hatred, and oppression. Pray for all God's children and His 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, Lani Reynolds.

**Church Administrator:**  
Virginia MacCallum

**Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-6**

The Rev. Doug Hale, Priest-in-Charge

## St. John's Episcopal Church

795 Franklin Avenue  
P.O. Box 246  
Bandon, OR 97411

Phone: 541-347-2152  
Email: [stjohns@mycomspan.com](mailto:stjohns@mycomspan.com)  
Website: [www.stjohnsbandon.org](http://www.stjohnsbandon.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-234749653862372>



### WHO WE ARE

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.