

St. John's Journal

September 2020



The Rev. Dr. Diana Akiyama Elected 11th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon

Following is the text from the announcement on the website of the Diocese of Oregon:

Delegates to the Electing Convention held August 29, 2020 have elected the Rev. Dr. Diana Akiyama as the 11th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon. The vote was confirmed after two ballots, concluding the year-long process of seeking a successor for Bishop Michael Hanley who began his service in the Diocese in 2010 and will retire in January 2021.

Rev. Akiyama currently serves as Vicar at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Kapaau, Hawaii, and is Dean of Waiolaihui'ia School for Formation.

Ordained in 1988 in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon, Akiyama has the historical distinction of being the first (continued)

Election of 11th Bishop of Oregon (Continued)

Japanese-American woman ordained to the Episcopal priesthood. She has extensive experience in Christian formation, teaching, social justice advocacy and mission field, having served ministries in Oregon, California and Hawaii.

The Electing Convention was the first all-online election held within The Episcopal Church. Due to state-imposed COVID-19 restrictions and health concerns the originally scheduled June 2020 election was postponed, tentatively refashioned as a multi-site event, and ultimately conducted remotely via Zoom. The majority of voting delegates reported from their own homes, some from their parish settings, and a head-table was established to oversee the election proceedings at All Saints Episcopal Church in Portland.

"We did not choose the circumstances under which to hold the Episcopal Election. However, with the exceptionally creative and hard work of the Transition Committee, the flexibility of our Candidates and the fervent prayers of the Diocese we feel so blessed to bring this process to a full and joyous conclusion." said the Rev. Dr. Patti Hale, President of the Standing Committee.

"It is with deep gratitude to the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Oregon gathered in convention this day that I rejoice in the election of the 11th bishop of Oregon, the Rev. Akiyama," said Bishop Hanley. "The diocese of Oregon is also grateful to all the candidates who stood for election. In all our work we have continued to pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit in this process and I believe that the Spirit was present in all that we did this day."

See Bishop-elect Akiyama's address to the Electing Convention here — <https://youtu.be/rDbgI74GZNU?t=11342>

More information on Rev. Akiyama can be found at — <https://www.oregonbishopsearch.org/meet-the-finalists/akiyama/>

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

The Season of COVID is turning out to be a longer season than we had hoped. Returning to "normal" is still a way off. It is certainly true that we tire of this and wish it would end. But there are also some new and positive things that are coming out of this time. We are having to be creative about finding new ways to carry on the life of the church. While we will eventually get back to some normalcy, we will also be bringing with us some new ways of doing things that we will not want to stop.

The Diocese just completed the election of a new bishop. The Rev. Diana Akiyama will be consecrated in January. She will certainly bring with her new perspectives to our common life as a diocese. At another level, the election was done in a very new way. Instead of gathering to meet the candidates in various places around the diocese, we gathered around our video screens and watched multiple interviews and question and answer sessions. While very few of us got to meet the candidates in person, we learned a lot more about them from their answers to what seemed like a myriad of questions than we would have learned from short in-person encounters. This may shape bishop searches from here on out throughout the Episcopal Church.

Our weekly worship has been forced to happen online. We miss the in-person experience. The positive side to this is that we have initiated a means by which people can join in our worship, even if they are unable to join us when we resume in-person worship. This will be appreciated by shut-ins and those who are sick as well as those who because of traveling or other demands on their time are unable to join us at the appointed hour. We can now reach more people than just those who find their way into our sanctuary.

This past month we added a lector and intercessor to our online worship. This was done so that people viewing the worship may see more people from the (continued p. 3)

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column (Continued from p. 2)

congregation rather than just myself and a Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM). The additional benefit has been that those who take on these functions get to be in person for worship, which they have highly valued. If you would like to serve as a lector or an intercessor, please contact Ginger in the Office. I would also like to have one or more new LEMs. Let me know if you are interested in being a LEM. We can look at providing some training.

In the last month we have offered two opportunities to gather outside for fellowship and to receive communion. This has been greatly appreciated by those who have attended. The warm sun will not last much longer and we were nearly blown away by the wind this past Sunday. So we are again having to think creatively about how we can provide safe opportunities for us to gather. We could try moving these gatherings into Theresa Hall and be careful about social distancing while opening a few windows to provide for air movement. I am developing plans for a small group bible study that could happen either in-person or using the Zoom platform online. There has also been a suggestion of a meditation or contemplative prayer small group.

October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis and the traditional time for the blessing of animals. We have begun to talk about how we can do this and keep each other safe. It may be an outdoor event or held in Theresa Hall.

We are also looking ahead at Halloween and All Saints Sunday. We will try to figure out how to hold our usual Halloween event for trick-or-treaters in the neighborhood and how to have a special time of worship where we give thanks for all the saints we have known in our lives.

If you have any suggestions, I would love to hear them. I find that creativity is at its best when multiple minds are involved. So what comes to your mind? What would you like to see happen? What steps would we have to take to keep each other safe? "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them." We need the Spirit of Jesus to guide us on some new paths that will not only get us through this time but also prepare us to have an even more powerful impact on people's lives into the future.

Come, Holy Spirit, lead us in the way of being blessing to each other and our community now and into the future.

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. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-234749653862372>

Musings from Denise

A NEW DAY HAS DAWNED

By the time you read this, the Diocese of Oregon will have called a new Bishop to serve the people of Western Oregon. In 2009, I was a voting delegate when our 10th and current bishop, The Rt. Rev. Michael Hanley, was elected at a convention filled with joy and excitement -- not to mention all the usual pomp and circumstance -- at the Eugene Hilton and Convention Center.

Recently, I tried to explain the selection process to a Jewish friend by likening it to a gubernatorial election with the diocese equivalent to a state made up of regional convocations ("counties"), which are in turn comprised of churches ("cities") full of members ("citizens"), all of whom have a stake in who becomes their next leader. She looked at me in abject horror. I guess rabbis (or more specifically, chief rabbis) aren't chosen that way. Now I'm curious and want to ask next time we meet. Given her reaction, I didn't bother to further complicate the description by explaining that not every "citizen" gets to vote on who the next "governor" will be. Our delegate system allots a number of delegates to each church, based on the size of the congregation.

St. John has two delegates. I have the honor of being one of your voting delegates again this year (Mary Garrett is the other). This year's process has been much more prolonged, the interviews much more focused and in-depth. Although the nominees have been allowed to walk about and see a few bits of our diocese, the interviews have been all online.

As a repeat delegate, I have been impressed by the variety of gifts each of the four nominees have offered our diocese, as well as how they have expressed their visions for our future. I am grateful for the diligence of the Search Committee and the creativity of the Transition Team, who, with the grace of God (and a leg up from modern technology) have been able to present them to us under the most difficult constraints of Covid-19.

Being the old-school pen-and-paper, one-on-one meeting sort, I can't believe I'm writing this, but I think they have discovered a method that should become a standard for future diocesan events. Geographical distance and travel costs dissolve when collaborative work is done online. Furthermore, when sessions are recorded we have the opportunity to go back and listen again to something we may not have heard or understood the first time.

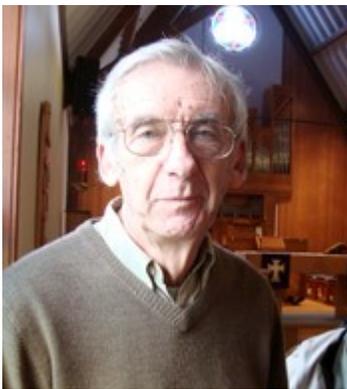
If you have not been a convention delegate before, I urge you to consider it. The experience will deepen your understanding of the Episcopal Church. St. John appoints our delegates at our Annual Meeting (generally January-February). In a normal year, our delegates represent us at quarterly convocation meetings (done in person in the past; this year mostly online), learn what is going on at other churches in our diocese, and vote on resolutions and an annual budget at the Diocesan Convention in the fall.

If you feel you'd prefer to wade in at the shallow end of the pool for the first time, consider serving on St. John's Bishop's Advisory Committee (B.A.C.). It's not a prerequisite for becoming a convention delegate, but it will give you some insights into how decisions are made for the church. My term on the B.A.C. expires at our next annual meeting, and I believe there will be a couple other openings as well. So I encourage you to speak to Fr. Doug about serving on the next B.A.C. or as a delegate. Both are rewarding experiences.



RUMMAGE SALE

Old stuff? Not wanted anymore? Start saving all your goodies to donate to the St. John Episcopal Church's Biennial Spring Rummage Sale and Raffle. We can sell clothing, furniture, fishing gear, sport items, tools, household décor, kitchen things, etc..!! Any Artists or Crafters out there? We could use your contributions for a Raffle or an arts table! For more information, contact Mary, Judy, Lauea, Sally, or Jennifer.



The Reverend Tom Murphy - Tom served for 35 years in active ministry as Rector or Vicar at nine congregations in three dioceses. In 14 years of retirement, he has served as priest-in-charge, interim priest, and supply priest in the Dioceses of Spokane (WA), Oregon, and Northern California. Tom currently serves as assisting priest at Trinity Church Ashland and St. Marks in Medford. Fr. Murphy was ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1966. He served as a Baptist minister

from 1961 to 1965. (d. Aug. 19, 2020)



September Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Helen Slack-Miller
Michael Mascio |
| 6 | Kay Marino |
| 22 | Bob Graville |
| 27 | Nancy Mascio |

CHANGES TO THE PRAYER LIST

You will notice on the prayer list that we have deleted last names from the list. This is in recognition of personal privacy of those on the list and the very public forum of YouTube. Our weekly services now and for the foreseeable future will be through this medium, and use of last names during the Prayers of the People would violate precious privacy.

Just for You

We have lectionary packets, *Forward Day by Day* (regular and large -print), copies of the *Book of Common Prayer*, and copies of Holy Eucharist available for you to take home and keep as your own.

These are on the marble-top table in the hall, so pick yours up any time you are at the church or Tuesdays between 2 and 6 during office hours. We do ask that you sign for them and let us know which items you took, but we will not take them away from you! If you need to have something delivered, call and let us know.

BAC

Senior Warden Denise Skillman

Junior Warden: Tom Glunt

Members at Large: Lauea Arnoldt, Mary Garrett, Judy Jackson, Lani Reynolds

Treasurer: Kay Marino

Clerk: Sally Glunt

Music Director: Cynthia Mohorko

Church Administrator:

Virginia MacCallum

Priest-in-Charge:

The Rev. Doug Hale

Office Hours:

Tuesdays, 2-6 p.m.

September 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		<i>1</i> 6:30 ACOA 8 AA	<i>2</i> 8 AA	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> 14th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 1 BAC 6:30 ACOA 8 AA	<i>9</i> 8 AA	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> 15th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>14</i> 5:00 Good Earth	<i>15</i> 6:30 ACOA 8 AA	<i>16</i> 8 AA	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 16th Sun. after Pentecost	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 6:30 ACOA 8 AA	<i>23</i> 8 AA	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 15th Sun. After Pentecost	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 6:30 ACOA 8 AA	<i>30</i> 8 AA			

St. John Prayer List

We ask God's healing gifts on Edna; Jesse; Karen; Nancy; Doris; Gisela; Karen & Joe; Gail; Myra & Jim; Roy; Juanita; Gary; Kelly; James; Sue; Bea; Michelle; Mike; Daniel; Kathy; Mike; Melissa; Brady, Lori & Jay; Sandy; Kimberly; Zoe; Donna & Kevin; Marilyn; Bill, Matthew, & Steven; our special adopted family; Deanna; Sheri; and Debbie; and the family of our former supply priest, Rev. Tom Murphy, who entered the larger life on August 19, 2020; the congregation of Trinity Church, Ashland, where Fr. Tom served.

Grant to the Rev, Tom Murphy eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Grant to Bruce eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

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: Lighthouse Church of Christ; Pacific Community Church; Restoration Worship Center; Seabird Chapel Church of God.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer: Eugene: Church of the Resurrection; St. Mary; St. Matthew; Newburg: St. Michael/San Miguel; Newport: St. Stephen; Portland: Oregon Episcopal School; William Temple House; Port Orford: St. Christopher; Tillamook: St. Alban; Toledo: St. John; Waldport: St. Luke by the Sea.

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.

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

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.