

St. John's Journal

October 2020



NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ST. JOHN!

The only email account for St. John is now the following:

Stjohns.bandon@gmail.com

The old account @comspan was hacked and was no longer reliable, which prompted this change. Please correct your email address books to reflect the new, correct, and **ONLY** email address for St. John.

ST. FRANCIS DAY BLESSING OF THE PETS

Bring your pets to the deck at the church at 11 a.m. on Sunday, October 1.

Fr. Doug did say something about "pets with fur or feathers," so we do not know what that says about our beloved companions with fangs, fins, scales, or more than four legs. And what if your pet walks upright on two legs and has those opposable thumbs? And wears clothing?

Yikes! Is this a violation of Constitutional rights??

Please, will somebody bring a donkey? A sheep? A large python?? A lovely, velvety tarantula? Golly whiz, Fr. Doug! These are God's creation too.

Pleeeeeeze?

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrew 10:24-25

Of all the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic, not "meeting together" is one of the most difficult to face. We human beings have relied on distance communication for a very long time. We have used letters, smoke signals, telegraphs, signal flags, telephones, radios, television, email, Facebook, Zoom and other new applications of the internet. As advanced as we have become, there is still something missing in our communication when we can't be in the same room, within a few feet of each other and able to see the whole person.

We clearly do not want to "neglect" meeting together nor do we want not meeting together to become a "habit." As we settled into this current arrangement of having our worship and coffee hour online, we began to experiment with small in-person gatherings. The BAC has been meeting in-person since mid-summer. The worship was first created just by me and then later with Cynthia at the piano and a Eucharistic Minister. Then we added a Lector and an Intercessor bringing our worship gathering up to 5 people. In the past month or so, we have started to have in-person gatherings at the church on some Sunday mornings at 11am, which has included up to 20 people who gather for fellowship and receiving Communion Under Special Circumstances. Even more recently we have started an in-person Bible Study of the Psalms at 1pm on Thursdays in Theresa Hall and we are now including up to 5 additional people in our worship gatherings.

As you can see, we are not neglecting meeting together. In fact, we seem to be constantly looking for new ways to include more people in our in-person meetings. While we keep looking, we are also thinking about at how we keep each other safe. We are following the State guidelines and require the use of masks and keeping 6 ft distancing at all gatherings. At this time we are limiting the number of people gathered in the Sanctuary to 10 because the air circulation is not good. Theresa Hall is better, so we are allowing up to 24 to gather there.

Please consider how you might participate in the in-person opportunities that we have. We realize that there are personal reasons that also play into the decision whether or not to meet together.

Here are the Sunday morning gatherings at 11am for the next month:

October 4, St. Francis Day pet blessing (bring your pet or a photo)

October 18, food drive for the Good Neighbor Pantry

November 1, All Saints/All Souls commemoration of our loved ones who have died.

We would love to have more people come to our worship services, which are recorded at 3pm on Saturday afternoons. People need to sign up for this, so contact me and I will get you on the schedule.

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

Please join our Bible Study group on Thursdays from 10:30 to Noon. We will not meet on Oct. 8 because I have a Diocesan meeting that day. We will resume on Oct 13th.

We all long for the day when we will be able to meet together as we once did. Pray for that day. In the meantime, if one of these ways will work for you, please come and meet with others at St. John.

Fr. Doug

541-654-1020

buckdeaver55@gmail.com



OCTOBER 18TH FOOD DRIVE

Sabra is excited to hear that we are holding a food drive for the Good Neighbor Pantry. While we are always receiving items for the Pantry, we would like to make a special effort to support people in need in our community. Here is some guidance for what you might want to donate. Sabra indicated that what would be especially helpful to receive: canned vegetables, canned prepared meals (stews, ravioli, chili, etc.), and condiments (mayo, mustard, ketchup, salad dressing, etc.). On the other hand, she indicated that they do not need rice and canned beans. You can bring these by the church any time before the 18th, but if you can, come by on Sunday the 18th at 11am and be a part of the fun ingathering of food.

COMMEMORATION OF ALL SOULS

As part of the All Saints worship service we will record on October 31st, we will be reading the names of family and friends who have died. Please submit those names to Ginger in the office no later than October 27th. You might want to do that sooner than later so that you do not risk forgetting to do it. You can get that information to her by sending a note to the church in the mail, using the new church email address: (st.johns.bandon@gmail.com), call the church (especially on Tuesdays) or stopping by on Tuesdays to give the info in person — or if you have a key to the church leaving a note in the office.

On Sunday November 1st at 11am, we will have an in-person gathering that will include an opportunity for individuals or families to go into the Sanctuary and light a candle and pray for loved ones.

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

IMAGINE!

What if the sky (nay, the universe) was the limit to our dreams? What if all conflicts between factions and countries ceased and people everywhere consciously strove to get along peacefully, to care for one another, to look after the planet and all its creatures? Wait, God already had that dream. Out of original chaos, the Bible tells us, God created an orderly world and placed humans there as its stewards. Over the millennia since, humankind has selfishly mucked things up. I wonder if we are doing so at a faster rate than ever before, or modern media has simply made it possible to hear about it sooner and in gorier detail.

Confronted with so many needs in our community, our state, our nation and our world, is there anything that we as individuals can do to make a positive impact? Of course. Every gum wrapper picked up off the ground makes the world a *little* cleaner. But to be really effective cleaning up the planet, it helps when *everyone* commits to doing that and more.

Now that I am on a fixed income, I sometimes feel I'm not able to contribute as much as I would like to all the causes that have always been important to me. That's until I take stock of how blessed I truly am, and remember that a portion of what I contribute to St. John's goes beyond our church's operating needs to local charities and Episcopal ministries at the diocesan and national level. So, through my pledge I am supporting organizations that address environmental concerns and social justice issues (like poverty, hunger, homelessness, racial reconciliation, and migration ministries); enrichment programs for children and youth; ecumenical partnerships; service programs and much more. I am grateful so much can be done when my dollars are combined with yours.

Of course, there are many time-honored ways to support the work of the Church – like offering our time and talent as volunteers during the liturgy and in various activities that support both our mission and our community; in addition to offering our treasure through annual pledges of support for the operation of the church as well as special fundraising causes. Here's an example of one fundraiser that succeeded because of a chance meeting at another fundraiser 63 years earlier.

A couple months ago, the BBC reported that a church collection box was auctioned off to raise funds for the church's continued operations. The simple wooden box had iron corner plates and a lockable iron clasp with a slot for coins and seemed fashioned to appear older than it actually was. It had been handmade by a parishioner in 1929, to accept donations for altar flowers. I remember walking through English and European churches and seeing similar wood (or black metal) boxes designated for the poor or for candles or roof repairs.



St. John also has a wooden box, built by our own Terrell "Terry" James (1926-2007), to collect birthday and anniversary offerings we donate to *Bandon Feeds the Hungry*. (Our custom is to drop in a dollar for each year we have attained, if possible.)

What made this particular collection box news worthy was the selling price and the reason it was considered so valuable. St. Peter's (Liverpool) hoped that because at an ordinary fundraiser in 1957, two young men who later became famous met and sang there together for the first time. One, John, was a member of the church, and led a small band known then as "The Quarrymen." The other, Paul, was a 15-year-old schoolboy introduced by a mutual friend. The church thought the box might fetch as much as £500. Imagine their surprise when it brought in £1,700 (over \$2,163)!

*You may say I'm a dreamer/ But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us/ And the world will be as one
--John Lennon (1971)*

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day is November 1, which falls on a Sunday this year. It has long been our tradition to remember our departed family and friends on this day by having their names listed in their bulletin for the Sunday closest before All Saints, and their names are read aloud during the service.

This year, all is different because of the pandemic, but we will still recognize those no longer with us. How? Well, you may email the church with those names:

stjohns.bandon@gmail.com. You may also call the church and leave a message on the answering machine: **541-347-2152**. In addition, there will be a sign-up sheet on the counter in Theresa Hall. It would be helpful if you spell out names with unexpected spelling.

Please submit your names by October 27, 2020, so we do not leave out anyone in the reading of names during recording of the All Saints Eucharist on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Fr. Doug is also planning a way you can celebrate and honor your departed ones during the scheduled in-person gathering in Theresa Hall on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 11 a.m.



OUR PRAYER LIST

We ask God's healing gifts on Sharyn; Elliot; all victims of the fires; Jesse; Karen; Doris; Gisela; Karen & Joe; Gail; Myra & Jim; Roy; Juanita; Mike; Daniel; Kathy; Mike; Melissa; Sandy; Kimberly.

We rejoice and praise God for Gary's healing.

We ask God to comfort the families of Lisa and of Cathy, who have departed this life.

UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST

It is time again to update the listings on our prayer list.

We do this every three months, and there is a new list on the clipboard on the counter in the office.

You may also email or call the church to make your additions or corrections to the listings.

OFFICE HOURS NOTE!

Office hours during the week of October 11-17 ONLY:

Monday, 2-6 p.m.

No other weeks are changed this month.

OCTOBER

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

15: Cynthia Mohorko

27: Mary Garrett

Anniversaries

22: Wailani & Mike Reep

28: Leanne & Patrick Salandro

BAC

Senior Warden Denise Skillman

Junior Warden: Tom Glunt

Members at Large: Laurea 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.

Lay Ministry Schedule

October 2020

Note: All services are recorded at 3 p.m.

on the Saturday before the Sunday date.

DATE	LEM	LECTOR	INTERCESSOR
Oct. 4: 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Denise	Caroline	Ginger
Oct. 11: 19 th Sunday after Pentecost	Denise	Tom	Laurea
Oct. 18: 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	Mary		
Oct. 25: 21 st Sunday after Pentecost	Mary	Judy	

The Lectionary for October

Oct. 4: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-14; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46.

Oct. 11: Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14.

What is Ministry?

What do you think of when you hear that word? Do you think of or see in your mind the Lay Eucharistic Minister (the LEM)? Or maybe you also think of the person from the congregation who goes to the lectern to read the lessons and lead the congregation in the psalm for that service. Oh, and there is another minister who participates in the service, and this one is called the intercessor, the one who leads the congregation in the Prayers of the People. When we can worship together in the church, the usher/greeter who hands you your bulletin and welcomes you is also a lay minister. He or she will also pass the offering basin at the offertory and then carry it to the altar for blessing. Oh! Did you realize that the people who carry the gifts of the people (the bread and the wine) to the altar for consecration are also lay ministers? Lay ministers are not ordained clergy. They are people in the congregation with which you are worshipping, part of your church family.

When we do not have a priest present to lead our worship, you may recall that we have people who lead us in Morning Prayer. We happen to have three at present who are licensed by our diocesan bishop as lay ministers and/or lay preachers. They are not ordained but have extra training to be licensed.

These lay ministers are visible, but there are others, others who are almost invisible but whose faithful performance of their roles make things work smoothly and whose devotion is certainly known to God. Members of the Altar Guild take care of the linens, the candles, the vestments, the chalices and elements of the communion. They prepare the altar and the church so that the proper liturgical colors vest the lecterns and the communion is prepared for the priest and LEM to use during the service. The person who arranges the flowers for the services also performs ministry in use of special gifts of artistry.

Music! Yes, we have a wonderful director of music, Cynthia Mohorko, whose piano and vocal skills enhance our worship. We also have a choir, singers who lead the hymns and sing the offertory and other

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October 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 10:30 Bible Study: Psalms	2	3
4 St. Francis Day & Blessing of Pets 11 a.m.	5 8 p.m. AA	6 630 ACOA 8 AA	7 8 p.m. AA	8 10:30 Bible Study: Psalms	9	10 10 a.m. Virtual Convocation
11 19th Sun after Pentecost	12 5 p.m Good Earth 8 p.m. AA	13 1 BAC 630 ACOA 8 AA	14 8 p.m. AA	15 10:30 Bible Study: Psalms	16	17
18 20th Sun after Pentecost 11 a.m. canned food-gathering	19 Fr. Doug not in office 8 p.m. AA	20 Fr. Doug not in office 630 ACOA 8:00 AA	21 Fr. Doug not in office 8 p.m. AA	22 10:30 Bible Study: Psalms	23	24
25 21st Sun. after Pentecost	26 8 p.m. AA	27 630 ACOA 8 AA	28 8 p.m. AA	29 10:30 Bible Study: Psalms	30	31

United Thank Offering

United Thank Offering has developed a November Gratitude Challenge that includes suggestions for you to practice at home to grow a more grateful heart. You can participate as much as you want; a booklet has been created to guide you through the month. You may also share your thoughts on line or by contacting others. The booklet, coloring cards, literature and more is located on the website at <https://episcopalchurch.org/united-thank-offering>

At the end of the thirty days, you might consider continuing your practice through Advent; each week changes your focus on Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Lay Ministry (continued)

special music. The choir is all volunteer – lay ministers also. Cynthia's talented husband, Stephen, directs the choir and further expands the richness of this ministry.

Some of our lay ministers are not especially visible. For instance, our wonderful outreach through the Medical Lending Closet is staffed entirely by volunteers, not all of them Episcopalians or members of this congregation. These tireless folks clean and sanitize all the durable medical equipment coming in or going out on loan, and their gift of time and talents extends to all who need what we have available to loan. (Did you know they never ask if a client goes to church or where?)

Another invisible lay minister is the person who sends you a card on your birthday or anniversary or when you are sick or . . . just because! (I am letting you in on a secret now. The gracious, loving person who does this is Robin Hanna, who took the job after Virginia Fitzgerald, her predecessor, died.)

There are others: the people who bring food or treats when we do have meals or coffee hour, the people who prepare the coffee, the legions of faithful who clean up and empty the trash, the person who keeps track of the budget and expenditures, the silent muscles who take the garbage cans out for collection and then haul them back to the rear of the church, the people like the Junior Warden who replaces light bulbs and batteries and keeps the building and grounds in good repair.

The list is endless! So what does it mean? Well, my big take is that we are **all** ministers. Every person who shows the love of God by helping others is doing ministry. Do you want to get involved in any of the ministry areas mentioned? Do you have ideas about something different and not mentioned? If you do, please tell Fr. Doug or Denise Skillman or another member of the BAC (Bishop's Advisory Committee).

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

**S t . J o h n ' s
E p i s c o p a l C h u r c h**

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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.