

# *St. John's Journal*

*June 2021*



## **JUNE CELEBRATIONS**

### **Birthdays**

**9: Stephen Mohorko**

**9: Harmony Harrison**

**15: Joan Markey**

**25: Lorilyn Holton**

### **Anniversaries**

**26: Kay & Bill Marino**

**30: Karen & Joe Sinko**

**30: Nancy & Michael Mascio**



## Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

*For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;  
only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence,  
but through love become slaves to one another.  
For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment,  
'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'*  
Galatians 5:13-14

This passage from Paul's letter to the Galatians ended a recent letter from Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar, the ELCA Bishop of the Synod of Oregon, to her clergy. She wrote after the CDC released the information about how effective the vaccines are and saying that it would be safe to go without a mask in many situations. Rev. Tim Carraher shared the letter with me with the invitation, "Though you would like to read this."

When the CDC announcement hit our ears, the common reaction was a sense of being set free. We would be free to return to normal in the life of our church. We could gather together without masks, give each other hugs, sing our hearts out and receive communion in both kinds. It felt like we had been "called to freedom."

I felt like a weight had been lifted from my shoulders. But that did not last very long. I began to wonder about other concerns. I began to wonder about other people. I began to wonder what loving my neighbor required of me.

Bishop Caesar offered up some people that need our love:

Children under 12 who cannot be vaccinated yet

Youth 12-15 who just started receiving the vaccine on May 10

Immunocompromised people who may not be protected as well by the vaccines

Adults who cannot get vaccinated for medical reasons.

We cannot be free if they are not also free.



So how do we proceed in light of this good news about the vaccines while being concerned about our sisters and brothers of St. John and the people of our community? I have sought ideas from a number of people before deciding what our next step is.

On Sunday June 6, we will move our in-person worship back into the sanctuary. (We will continue to broadcast our service on YouTube and Facebook.) We have been away for over a year. It will be great to be back!

But we need to follow State guidelines. In light of the CDC announcement, the State has indicated that it is OK to gather without masks and distancing as long as everyone has been fully vaccinated. But in order to do that, we would have to require everyone to show proof of their vaccination. Those who have no proof, who have not received the vaccines would have to keep their masks on or not be allowed to enter. None of us likes the idea of being the vaccine police. So for the time being we will be asking everyone to continue to wear mask for their and each other's safety and an expression of our commitment that St. John welcomes everyone. We will also continue to maintain 6ft distancing. Places where people can sit are marked by blue tape on the pews. Because it would be difficult to maintain 6ft of distance with people coming forward for communion, (continued on page 3)

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

**Fr. Doug's Iconic Column (continued)**

I will be bringing communion out to everyone in the pews. For the time being, I will continue to offer just the bread.

As cases of COVID continue to decline in the state and Coos County, we hope to relax more of the restrictions. Return to "normal" will most likely be in stages.

In all that we do, may we find freedom, not in self-indulgence but in loving our neighbors. As we love our neighbors, we discover whom God truly meant us to be. Then we are free indeed!

Fr. Doug

**Bishop's Advisory Committee Notes – May 2021**

Here's what took place and was discussed at the May BAC meeting:

- Income and expenditures were reviewed.
- The Medical Loan Closet will give \$600 to the church as a "facility use" fee.
- The handicapped parking sign has been replaced as has an exterior light fixture.
- Internet provider, Douglas Fast Net has adjusted our wiring and connectivity.
- An adjustable piano bench will be purchased for Cynthia's use in Theresa Hall.
- Fr. Doug has been appointed Dean of the Southwest Convocation.
- Bishop Diana will begin scheduling church visitations.
- We're considering a food selling fundraiser during the Coos Kennel Club's dog show which takes place at the high school July 15-18.
- RHR Heating will be doing routine maintenance on our HVAC units.
- The Bandon Ministerial Association (BMA) is meeting again via Zoom. St. John's may assist First Baptist's Vacation Bible School either financially or with meal preparation.
- Sunday attendance has been good with a high of 27 folks and a low of 17.
- Fr. Doug continues to review data and gather information from the Diocese about how to celebrate Eucharist while observing COVID protocols.
- We budgeted \$500 to support Ocean Crest Elementary's reading program but will await the arrival of the new principal before offering this donation.

## ***From our Senior Warden***

You may have heard that the foundation of faith in the Episcopal Church is described as a three-legged stool. The first leg of the stool is Scripture, the second leg is tradition, and the third is reason. Equal weight is given to each leg insuring balance and stability.

Perhaps St. John's is also like a three-legged stool.

Leg 1 – The Physical Building. The walls and roof shelter us and house our churchly possessions.

Leg 2 - The People. We pray together, care for each other, conduct outreach, and perform both the ordinary and the holy business of St. John's.

Leg 3 – The Clergy. Our priest interprets Scripture, steers our spiritual focus, links us to the greater Episcopal church and Anglican traditions.

The BAC believes that Leg 3 – having a priest on board – is critical to keeping St. John's in balance and stable. We functioned well when relying on visiting priests for Sunday services, thanks to Leg 2. But we are stronger when we have our very own clergy among us and in our midst (especially if that person is Father Doug Hale).

It's for this reason that the BAC has set a goal to build up the Clergy Reserve Fund, which is the fund that holds money dedicated to future clergy stipend. We currently pay clerical salary with receipts from the EBOF grant, and from pledges and open offerings. However, when the three year grant concludes in 2022, we'll need to have a reserve from which to take over the grant's portion of funding and to continue to compensate Fr. Doug.

Our simple plan is this: diligently funnel any and all undesignated money into the Clergy Reserve Fund. Fundraising dollars will go there as well as any untargeted gifts and open offerings that exceed the anticipated amount in our 2021 budget.

We'll let this very important goal drive us toward stability and parish strength, and keep us sitting firmly upon our own three legged stool.

Judy Jackson

## **Your Prayer List**

We want to be sure our prayer list is current with names of those for whom you want prayers.

If you are at the church, you may give us that information on the list on a clipboard. It is on the table in the hall under the bulletin board. You may also call the church at 541-347-2152 and leave a message on the answering machine. In addition, you may also email the office at this address: [stjohns.bandon@gmail.com](mailto:stjohns.bandon@gmail.com).

## ***Musings from Denise***

### **IN HONOR OF OUR ANCESTORS**

Around 180 B.C., Joshua ben Sira, a Jewish scribe (teacher of the Law) laid out in writing the wisdom he had imparted orally to his students. His grandson later translated the manuscript from Hebrew into Greek; someone else translated it into Syriac. It never became part of the Palestinian Jewish canon of Scripture, but the Roman Catholic Church considered it inspired and included it in the Apocrypha under the title "Ecclesiasticus" (which means "The Church Book"). It features in our Lectionary in Years A and C, but not the chapter I want to mention today.

One of the memorial windows in our church is drawn from Ecclesiasticus 44, which is a hymn in honor of our ancestors. If your Bible does not include it, you can find it online.

The hymn begins: "Let us now sing the praises of famous men, our ancestors in their generations." (In Hebrew, "famous men" translates better as "men of piety," which is what the donor had in mind when dedicating it to the lay leaders of St. John's – both men and women – who have served on the BAC, as ECW officers, and directors of music and the altar guild.) The hymn lists various occupations, and some were indeed famous rulers, leaders, teachers, poets, musicians, and rich men who "were honored in their generations and were the pride of their times." Because we have a few records and brass commemorative plates, the names of some of our own church ancestors have been preserved that we might think of them from time to time.

"But of others there is no memory; they have perished as though they had never existed . . . ." It is the horror of every historian that some person whose contribution to society has slipped the minds of their beneficiaries. Since I have been gathering information about the many memorial gifts St. John's has received over the years and since we will soon be able to worship within the sanctuary after more than a year, this seems an appropriate time to take a fresh look at our church. When St. John's reopened three years after the 1936 fire, several items were donated that are still in use today:

Our altar was given in memory of Mary J. Gregory; the silver chalice and paten were given in memory of John F. Alten; the silver pyx (bread box) and cruets were given in memory of Samuel D. Trimble; the altar rail and a lectern were donated by the Davenport Fund; the baptismal font was a gift from St. Thomas Church in Warrenton, Oregon. I have not come across any of these individuals in membership records. If you know anything about them, please let me know. They could be relatives of members or relatives of people anywhere in the country who heard of Bandon's plight and wanted to give us a bright new beginning.

May all who have come before us be remembered and honored for both their spiritual and material contributions to St. John's by-the-Sea.

## **BAC**

**Senior Warden:** Judy Jackson

**Junior Warden:** Sally Glunt

**Members at Large:** Mary Garrett, Lani Reynolds, Maggie Lowery

**Treasurer:** Kay Marino

**Clerk:** Denise Skillman

**Bankers:** Mary Garrett & Judy Jackson

## **Convention Delegates**

**Delegates:** Kay Marino & Denise Skillman

**Alternates:** Laurea Arnoldt & Sally Glunt

## **Staff**

**Priest-in-Charge:**

The Rev. Doug Hale

**Music Director:**

Cynthia Mohorko

**Church Administrator:**

Virginia MacCallum

**Office Hours:**

**The office is not presently open for visitors to reduce the chances of spreading illnesses. The administrator is working alone in the office and is maintaining necessary social distancing through this pandemic.**

## **Feeding Bandon's Hungry**

### **Feeding God's Sheep**

Your generosity in donating to the Neighborhood Food Pantry continues to help feed the hungry here. We are also grateful for Denise's hard work transporting your gifts to the food pantry.

For now, the collection basket will remain on the kitchen counter.

# June 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<i>1</i> <b>10:30</b> <b>Rumm.Sale</b> <b>Comm.</b> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>2</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> <b>2nd</b> <b>Sun. after</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	<i>7</i> <b>7:30 AA</b>	<i>8</i> <b>1 BAC</b> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>9</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> <b>3rd</b> <b>Sun. after</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	<i>14</i> <b>7:30 AA</b>	<i>15</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>16</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> <b>4th</b> <b>Sun. after</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	<i>21</i> <b>7:30 AA</b>	<i>22</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>23</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>24</i> <b>4-6 SEA</b>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> <b>5th</b> <b>Sun. after</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	<i>28</i> <b>7:30 AA</b>	<i>29</i> <b>8 AA</b>	<i>30</i> <b>8 AA</b>			



## Our Prayer List

Michael R., Cece & family, Maggie, David, Mary, Lori & Jay, Ken, Rod, Caroline, Charlie, Amy, Bill, Rick, Tim, Greg, Matthew, Tom, Marty, Judy, Jon & Linda, Alberta, Ken & Nikki, Mike & Sandy, Mary, Sabra, Doris, Gisela, Karen & Joe, Myra & Jim, Roy, Juanita, Kelly, James, Sue, Bea, Michelle, Mike, Kathy, Mike, Melissa, Brady, Sandy, Kimberly, Zoe, Donna & Kevin, Marilyn, Bill & Steve, the Gaffney family, Deanna, Sheri, Debbie, Bill.

*Loving God, hope of the poor and source of all health: Look with compassion upon your creatures who suffer under the weight of this pandemic. Fill us with love toward our neighbor; deliver us from partisan motives as we strive for the common good; and strengthen those who labor for our health. We ask this through the healer of your creation, Jesus Christ, our health and our salvation. Amen.*

## St. John Episcopal Church Rummage Sale!!

Start saving your gently used items you don't need anymore and donate them to our church rummage sale. We can sell kitchen items, sports items, tools, furniture, decor, clothes, etc. All items need to be in good shape, please. Larger items can be stored in the church library after July 1st. Please contact someone from the committee to arrange that.

Tell everyone you can about our rummage sale so we can make this a big fundraiser for St. John's. Sale dates are **Friday, Aug. 20, 8:30-4, and Saturday, Aug. 21, 8:30-2:00.**

Committee members: Jennifer, Lani, Mary, Sally, & Laurea

### St. John's Episcopal Church

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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.