

St. John's Journal

November 2021



Set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 6! We return to Pacific Standard Time at 2 a.m. on November 7.

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

5: Sue Pearce

10: Debbie Griffith

30: Tim Pearce



Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

Writing again about the COVID pandemic and how we plan to respond to it feels redundant and wearisome. But my hope is that we are moving into a different time of response. We have been living with this for nearly two years and it appears that it will be with us in some way or another for quite some time. So, I am committed to finding a way for us to be a gathered (in-person) community in a way that is sustainable, rather than reactive to each new development.

Our Bishop's Advisory Committee discussed this at our October meeting and began to develop a hopeful plan while giving us some additional time to see how things are developing and to consider additional details. We will be discussing this further at our November meeting on the 9th. We were taking into account the hope that the numbers of positive cases would continue to decline and that we would also have the chance to have a vaccine booster. (I received my booster this week.)

The overall idea is that we will begin with a special in-person All Saints worship service on Nov. 1 at 5pm. This will be held in the sanctuary where there will be prayers offered for All the Faithful Departed. People are invited to submit names of those for whom they want remembered in prayer. We will light candles to mark their impact on our lives. We will also have the opportunity to receive Communion at the service.

Then the hope is that we will be able to return to regular in-person Holy Eucharist on Nov. 21st, which is Christ the King Sunday and Dedication Sunday for our stewardship campaign. It will be a time to truly celebrate our life together as followers of Christ. We will then be gathering through the season of Advent to Christmas and hopefully beyond.

One of the big questions is whether we will worship in the sanctuary or return to using Theresa Hall. Two of the big issues is how to provide adequate air circulation and sufficient physical distancing. Theresa Hall has more windows and is a larger space, but we also long to worship in the sanctuary. One idea I had was to have two services on Sunday morning so that there would be fewer people in the sanctuary, but that would require that we have more people willing to help with leading worship and we would miss some of the folks who attend the other service. (continued on page 3)

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

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

Whatever way we decide to go, what is clear is that everyone will need to wear a mask and keep socially distanced. Everyone will be encouraged to wear warm clothing (because of the open windows) and to be vaccinated.

Whatever we do, we are seeking a sustainable approach to our life together that cares for one another and celebrates one another while turning our attention toward God's love for us. Please pray that wisdom and care for one another will prevail in our thinking as we seek to devote ourselves to God.

Fr. Doug
541-654-1020

**Service News!!****Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Fr. Doug has started to offer Evening Prayer at 7pm on Wednesdays using the Zoom platform. The link to the gathering can be found in his weekly Saturday evening emails. The same link can be used each week. Come and be blessed by this time of prayer and interaction with other folks from St. John.

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 illness. The administrator is working alone in the office and is maintaining necessary social distancing through this pandemic.

*Musings from Denise***WHEN YOU CARE ENOUGH TO SEND THE VERY BEST**

A well-known greeting card company's humble beginnings occurred in 1910, when an 18-year-old entrepreneur stepped off a train in Kansas City, Missouri and found lodgings at the YMCA. He had invested his entire savings into two shoeboxes full of picture postcards to sell. Within five years, a brother joined the business and they noticed that postcard sales had begun to decline. Then a fire destroyed their office and their entire inventory. Undaunted, they set up shop again, this time \$17,000 in debt. They bought their own printing press and began producing high-quality greeting cards to be mailed in envelopes that allowed customers to send more private communications. Over the next century, the company successfully expanded its product line to include gift wraps, ornaments, and even crayons. Not interested in simply making a profit, the family-owned company broadened its enterprise by sponsoring award-winning dramatic arts, engaging in urban renewal, and striving to reduce its carbon footprint – putting forth its best effort to make a difference for its staff, the community, and the planet. It wasn't until 1944 that the Hall Brothers adopted the familiar slogan "When You Care Enough to Send the Very Best," and it was another ten years before the company officially came to be known as "Hallmark."

As you know by now, St. John's annual stewardship campaign is well underway. Our theme is **"CARE – Cherish each other. Act together. Respond to need. Embrace our mission."** Caring in these ways has been difficult during the past two years, but not impossible, and we hope that soon we will be able to cherish, act, respond and embrace in person.

Pledge forms have been mailed out and can be returned to the church by mail (Post Office Box 246) or by hand no later than Sunday, **November 21st**, when we will gather to celebrate all the pledges we have made to support St. John's ministries in 2022.

I was amused to find my own pledge forms arrived in the mail on the same day as my property tax bill – instantly calling to mind Jesus' admonition to "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17). *Note to self:* all that I have comes from God, even the wherewithal to pay my taxes.

My property taxes help pay for school, library, city, county, port, airport, and hospital districts that provide services to our community. Similarly, my pledge to St. John helps support our clergy and other staff, helps care for church property, provides for worship supplies, and contributes to St. John's work in the community, the diocese and beyond.

Both my taxes and my pledge provide services that benefit me as well as others, but the motivation to pay is quite different. As a property owner I am obliged to pay taxes, and the government tells me exactly how much. The Church, on the other hand, invites me to contribute any amount of time, talent and treasure that will make me truly feel the joy of giving. I see this as a blessed opportunity to freely express my gratitude for God's love in a way that will help spread that love all around – by caring enough to send (and do) the very best I can for St. John's.

Bishop's Advisory Committee Notes – October 2021

Here's what took place at the October BAC meeting:

We Reviewed

The current the Profit and Loss report and balance sheet

We Discussed

The stewardship campaign communications plan

Sanctuary lighting improvements

Emergency egress lights in Theresa Hall

Smoke detectors in the building

Restriping the lines in the parking lot

How to continue to connect with folks: newsletters, website, Zoom, Facebook, & parking lot services

Moving toward in-person worship, hopefully by Advent

Upcoming Events: All Saints Day gathering on Nov. 1st, Christ the King/Dedication Sunday on Nov. 21st

We Decided

To not host trick or treaters this Halloween

To donate the socks we gathered in the past to the Devereaux Center

To start collecting a new collection of socks, hats, gloves, & scarves to pass out next Halloween

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

Kay Marino & Denise Skillman

Alternates: Laurea Arnoldt & Sally Glunt

Our Gratitude Keeps Growing!

50,000		Thank you to all who have promptly turned in your pledges of support for St. John's ministries in 2022! At press time, we have received \$17,734 in pledges.
45,000		We are aiming to have all pledges turned in by November 21, 2021.
		<u>Pledge forms are still available online and by mail</u>
40,000		If you have not received a stewardship letter or pledge card and would like to contribute, forms are available on our website: stjohnsbandon.org .
35,000		The direct link to our stewardship page is:
30,000		<u>https://stjohnsbandon.org/annual-stewardship/</u>
		If you prefer to have the forms mailed to you, please leave a message at the church office (541-347-2152) and be sure to leave a call-back number in case we need to verify your mailing address.
25,000		
20,000		
		<u>Advanced Payments</u>
17,734		Anyone wishing to pay all or a portion of your 2022 pledge in advance is welcome to do so, but <u>please note</u> that all donations will be recorded in the year they are received. Therefore, if you want your prepayment to be credited as a charitable contribution for the 2022 tax year, please send it in <u>after</u> January 1, 2022.
15,000		
10,000		
		<u>Automatic Pledge Payments</u>
5,000		If you utilize online banking, you can arrange for your bank to send your pledge payments on a regular basis using its "Bill Pay" or "Payment Center" feature. See <u>https://stjohnsbandon.org/contribute/</u> for details.
0		

Our Prayer List

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

St. John's Medical Loan Closet

Working with Medical Loan Closet clients can be a joy and we volunteers (usually) love serving our neighbors through this vital outreach program.

Our mission is to loan equipment that will help clients stay mobile in spite of painful joints, back problems, broken bones and such. We check out the tools to allow them to more easily complete bathroom business.

We listen as they talk about their hopes for getting back to normal. And sometimes they tell us stories of how they got to this point of disability. Like when a client shared that she's having surgery to repair an old injury suffered when she fell into a Las Vegas elevator shaft.

We are moved when even though we insist, "the loan is free - no payment is needed!", they still give us donations. As one client said, "I don't have much, but I want to give you this anyway" as he handed me \$50. I guess it's a tangible way to express their gratitude.

However, the last time I was on duty I wasn't feeling much joy or love.

In that one week three clients had simply left their equipment on the deck rather than making return appointments. A woman whose equipment was well past due couldn't be reached despite multiple attempts and we had to accept that the equipment was lost. And toward the end of the week as I was sitting on the deck waiting for a client who was already 30 minutes late, I was feeling frustrated, tired and put upon. When I have weeks like this I - and I suspect other volunteers - wonder if this is still a job for me.

Then in the following Sunday's sermon, as if he sensed that one of his flock was grumpy, Fr. Doug spoke about being a servant of others. He said:

As I said before, we may quite readily affirm the way of being a servant of others, but how far are we willing to go with that?

We are willing to help others, but how much are we willing to let go of our own comfort to that end?

Are we willing to be inconvenienced a little bit, but don't ask us to give up too much?

May we be people who do not simply count the cost of our service but count the joy that will come of it in the lives of people we serve. That is the way of Jesus, the way of love.

These are wise and timely words and God willing, I'll soon feel that joy again.

Judy Jackson

November 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

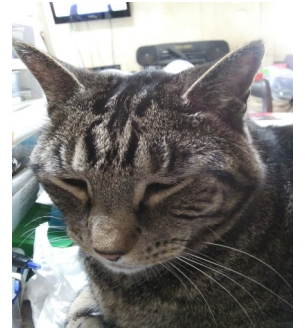
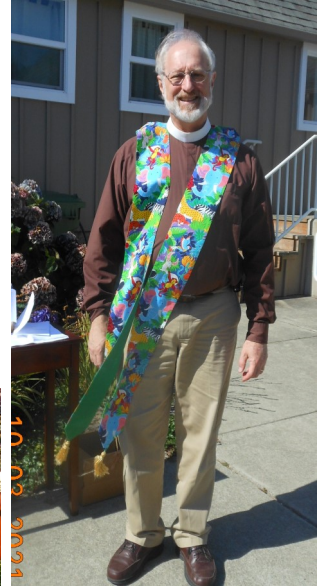
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 <i>All Saints Day</i> 7:30 AA	2 <i>All Souls Day</i> 8 AA	3 7 pm <i>Evening Prayer Zoom</i> 8 AA	4	5	6
7 <i>24th Sun of Pentecost HE</i>	8 7:30 AA	9 <i>1 BAC</i> 8 AA	10 7 pm <i>Evening Prayer Zoom</i> 8 AA	11	12	13
14 <i>25th Sun of Pentecost HE</i>	15 7:30 AA	16 8 AA	17 7 pm <i>Evening Prayer Zoom</i> 8 AA	18	19	20
21 <i>Christ the King HE</i>	22	23 8 AA	24 7 pm <i>Evening Prayer Zoom</i> 8 AA	25	26	27
28 <i>1st Sun of Advent HE</i>	29 7:30 AA	30 8 AA				

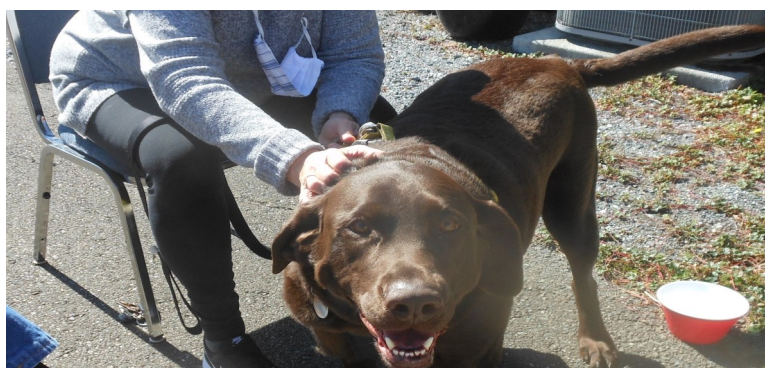


**Starting your
holiday shopping?**

**Don't forget to designate
St. John's Episcopal Church, Bandon, OR
as your AmazonSmile charity .**

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0914670>





St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Phone: 541-347-2152
Email: stjohns.bandon@gmail.com
Website: 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.