

# *St. John's Journal*

## *January 2022*



### **Fr. Doug's Iconic Column**

As we launch a new year it seems like I have all sorts of things to talk about, so rather than having an article with one focus, I am touching on a number of topics and events.

### **SPECIAL OFFERING**

Throughout the year there are several Special Offerings taken in the Diocese of Oregon. On Sunday January 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will be taking a special offering for Theological Education. The BAC will be designating which one of the Episcopal Churches seminaries will receive our offering. The closest seminary to us is Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley CA. When I was in seminary, I took several courses there. More recently it has branched into limited residential courses. This has allowed people like Fr. Ryan Baker-Fones, the recently ordained Curate at St. Mary Eugene, to complete his seminary education without having to move his family to do so. There are other schools, like Seabury Western where I took several classes when I returned to seminary. If you wish to donate to this offering on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, designate your gift to "Theological Education." Any undesignated gifts received on the 23<sup>rd</sup> will go to this offering. If you wish your offering to go to our General Fund, your pledge or some other specific use, please designate your gift before putting it into the offering plate.

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

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### ANNUAL MEETING

The BAC has set the date for our Annual Meeting as January 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held in Theresa Hall after worship that morning. We will be handing out the Annual Reports and receiving a few verbal reports. Written annual reports are due to the office January 9<sup>th</sup>. The significant business will be voting on some By-law changes (see separate article) and electing two people to the BAC, two delegates to Diocesan Convention and two alternate delegates. If you would be willing to serve, or would like to nominate someone to serve, on the BAC or as a delegate to Diocesan Convention, please let me know.

### THE PRESIDING BISHOP VISITS THE DIOCESE OF OREGON

The Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, will be visiting the Diocese of Oregon on the last weekend in January. The hope was that he would come to the south coast as part of his visit, but the shortness of his visit and the traveling distances made that impossible. The main worship service that will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Cathedral in Portland. That service will be available online.

### PRAYERS

Efforts are underway to reinvigorate the prayer chain. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please contact Denise Skillman. We are also working on reshaping the Prayers of the People on Sunday mornings so that we have a better idea of what we are praying for when we pray for those whose names are offered up to God. Those changes will begin to happen sometime in January.

### TIME AND TALENT FORMS/EPISCOPALIANISM CLASS

The response we got back from many of you expressed interest in my offering classes. The subject with the most interest was Episcopalianism. So, the first class that I will be offering will be a second attempt at "Not All Things Episcopalian." I started this class back in March of 2020, but only held 2 of the 6 classes before COVID shut us down. We will now make another attempt at it. The class will cover the history of the Episcopal Church, worship as shaped by the Book of Common Prayer, worship as shaped by the Scriptures, the Sacraments, Episcopal Theology and the mission and ministry of the church. The classes will begin on Sunday February 6 and the following five Sundays and will be held in Theresa Hall following worship.



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

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

### **BISHOP DIANA VISITS ST. JOHN**

Bishop Diana will be visiting St. John on March 27<sup>th</sup>. In part, this will be a Celebration of New Ministry, when the limited 3-year commitment between myself and St. John will become a permanent commitment and I will be named Vicar of St. John by the Bishop. It will also be an opportunity for those, who have not confirmed their commitment to the Episcopal Church, to be confirmed by the Bishop. If you are interested in being confirmed, please speak to me about that. For those who wish to be confirmed, it will be important to participate in the Episcopalianism class.

### **COVID**

Finally, we continue to be impacted by the COVID epidemic and are wondering how the Omicron variant will impact us. We are also experiencing COVID fatigue. We tire of wearing masks, of keeping physical distance from one another and long to sing in worship. It is important to realize that this Christmas we were able to gather for in-person worship, while last year we missed out all together. We have the vaccines on board that give us some protection when we did not last year. I am committed to finding ways of doing things that we can sustain through the ups and downs of this epidemic. Having said that, there are unknowns about the future. The Omicron variant is more contagious, and the vaccines do not fully protect us from it. But on another hopeful note, human testing has begun on a general coronavirus vaccine that could protect us from future variants. So, in the face of this uncertainty, let us continue to gather when we can and support one another. Let us...

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

Fr. Doug

### **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.

## REPORTS PRESENTED AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

There are almost 40 working groups and ministries in the Diocese of Oregon, led by over a hundred clergy and lay volunteers. Several support the clergy throughout their ministries. Some are administrative (the Board of Trustees, Diocesan Council, Finance, Investments, Personnel, Property, and the Standing Committee). Some focus on education and formation; others guide diocesan outreach. Here are highlights of a few of their annual reports presented in writing at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Diocesan Convention held November 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.

**ACADEMY FOR FORMATION AND MISSION** (22 members) expanded long-distance theological education and formation for priests, deacons, and lay leaders. Goals in 2022 include offering training and ministry development for small congregations in remoter areas, and expanding opportunities for licensure in preaching, pastoral care, catechist, and worship leader.

**TASK FORCE FOR PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS** provided educational "Zoominars," printed resources within the diocese, and lobbied politicians to strive for justice and peace among all people of Palestine. In 2022, they plan to partner with Christian, Jewish, and Islamic groups, expand lobbying efforts toward the United States government and continue Education Zoominars within the Diocese of Oregon.

**CAMPING & OUTDOOR MINISTRY** held four successful camps at Suttle Lake in mid- to late July (one for Elementary ages and one for Middle-High School ages) with no transmission of Covid-19. Scholarships totaling \$7,000 were made available to campers. In 2022 training will be provided to new and returning staff, chaplains and camp nurses, and a Latino Youth Camp is being planned for the summer at Suttle Lake.

**CAMPUS MINISTRY** is operated by two separate work groups, one at Oregon State University in Corvallis and one at the University of Oregon in Eugene:

Canterbury House Episcopal Campus Ministry, Oregon State University served Monday night dinners and weekly open houses during lunch to build community; built and started a hygiene supply shed on the lawn for neighbors in need; held a "Fall Welcome Day" to distribute mugs, candy, and program literature to 300 students; offered a weekly "Front Lawn Ministry" that provided snacks and conversation to students on the way to class; engaged special speakers on comparative religions and community engagement training (e.g., a speaker on Homelessness in Corvallis and volunteerism with the unhoused community).

Episcopal Campus Ministry in Eugene installed a new chaplain October 7, 2021, and continued weekly gatherings via Zoom for check-in, pastoral care, worship and prayer. They maintained a student residence and managed a Student Food Pantry that fed around 100 students each week. In 2022 they plan to make more in-person connections and opportunities for worship, prayer, and faith formation, including retreats and potential travel.

Access to all 40 written reports is at <https://convention.diocese-oregon.org/business/> (scroll to the bottom of the page).

## ECW ADOPTED A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS



At a special meeting on November 23, 2021, St. John's ECW decided to adopt a family for Christmas. While the group usually adopts a local family, this year a family in Washington was chosen with ties to our church's janitor. They are a mother with four children, ages 7, 9, 12 and 18 who have been struggling to get back on their feet after a few setbacks and a period of homelessness. By consensus, the ECW provided \$300 to purchase gifts.

## PLENARY MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BANDON, OREGON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

**PRESENT:** Denise Skillman, Mary Garrett, Ginger MacCallum, Myra Lawson, Judy Jackson, Ginny Hall, Kathy Webb, Rosemary Dunster, Lani Reynolds, Cynthia Mohorko, Jeanne Culp, Beth Wilmot, Sally Glunt, Laurea Arnoldt.

Laurea, ECW president, called a brief meeting after the service. She explained that Denise has been reviewing church bylaws and will propose updates to the BAC. ECW bylaws do not currently reflect our inactive status for ECW. We have not paid diocesan dues and have not met for over two years.

Two years ago, it was discussed that our local chapter disband and the work that ECW has done in the past be absorbed into the larger congregation. We need to decide whether this is still our intention, and if so, what to do with residual funds of approximately \$700. Funds are held in the main St. John's account but are tracked separately. Brief discussion ensued. It was proposed that if the money was moved to the Churches' Outreach Fund, where that money would be donated could be decided at the upcoming annual meeting (in January).

It was proposed for a vote to 1) dissolve St. John's ECW and 2) move the residual funds to St. John's Outreach Fund. Proposal was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Glunt

**NOTICE TO DONORS:**

*A statement of contributions you made in 2021 to St. John Episcopal Church will be provided to you by January 31, in support of your Federal Income Tax return.*

*Thank you for your generosity!*



**BAC**

**Senior Warden:** Judy Jackson

**Junior Warden:** Sally Glunt

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

**Treasurer:** Denise Skillman

**Clerk:**

**Bankers:** Kathy Webb

**Convention Delegates**

Kay Marino & Denise Skillman

**January Birthday**

**2: Gail Pray**



# January 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|  |               |                  |            |    |    |    |
|--|---------------|------------------|------------|----|----|----|
|  |               |                  |            |    |    | 1  |
| 2 The Feast<br>of St. John                     | 3<br>7:30 AA  | 4<br>8 AA        | 5<br>8 AA  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9 1st Sun<br>after<br>Epiphany                 | 10<br>7:30 AA | 11 1 BAC<br>8 AA | 12<br>8 AA | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 2nd Sun<br>after<br>Epiphany                | 17<br>7:30 AA | 18<br>8 AA       | 19<br>8 AA | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 3rd Sun<br>after<br>Epiphany                | 24<br>7:30 AA | 25<br>8 AA       | 26<br>8 AA | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 4th Sun<br>after<br>Epiphany/<br>Annual Mtg | 31<br>7:30 AA |                  |            |    |    |    |

## **Bishop's Advisory Committee Notes – December 2021**

Here's what took place at the December BAC meeting

### **We Reviewed**

The November Profit and Loss report.

The proposed 2022 budget and voted to present it to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

The results of the returned Time & Talent volunteer forms.

### **We Discussed (A lot!)**

The total number of pledges received to date and the dollar value of these pledges.

The dissolution of the St. John ECW and the proposed transfer of their funds into the Outreach fund.

The routine replacement of our two HVAC filters.

The number of Christmas Eve service attendees and a socially distanced seating plan.

The recruitment of two new BAC members.

The dues usually owed to the Southwest Convocation and Bandon Ministerial Association.

Proposed Bylaw edits as recommended by Bishop Diana.

Canonically designated Special Offerings for 2022: Theological Education fund, Bishop's Discretionary Fund, Pentecost Offering, Thanksgiving Offering and the Priest's Discretionary Fund.

### **We Decided**

To carry over remaining 2021 Outreach funds into the 2022 Outreach fund.

To send the budgeted \$500 to Ocean Crest Elementary to support their Scholastic Book program.

To give Christmas bonuses to our two contractors, Church Administrator Ginger MacCallum and Music Director Cynthia Mohorko.

To hold the Annual Meeting in person after worship on January 30, 2022.

The submission deadline for annual reports from all program leaders will be 1/9/2022.

*You cry and you scream and you stomp your feet and you shout.  
You say, 'You know what? I'm giving up, I don't care.'  
And then you go to bed and you wake up and it's a brand new day,  
and you pick yourself back up again.*

*Nicole Scherzinger – American Singer*

Since the spring of 2020 and through 2021 we've cried, stomped our feet, cursed the pandemic and grieved over the loss of normal.

I'm trying to summon a brand new hope for goodness and health in the brand new year. I pray for faith that all will be well. (Are you listening, God?)

At our Annual Meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> we'll acknowledge all that we've accomplished in 2021.

We'll see that we have indeed picked ourselves back up, that we care deeply, and that we've adapted to the new normal. St. John's is stable, we have a wonderful priest in Fr. Doug and our building houses the physical and spiritual sanctuary that we all crave.

Looking forward! 2022 will bring some new and positive things to St. John's.

We'll continue to devise safe ways to be together, to worship, to be community.

Fr. Doug will lead a new class.

We hope to have 2 new BAC members and a new clerk to take minutes at our meetings.

A new prayer chain ministry will be created.

We will meet new folks and make new friends.

Bishop Diana will visit us in March.

May we all be healthy, optimistic and content in the new year and may we know that all will be well.

Cheers to us all!

Judy Jackson

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF ST. JOHN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### ARTICLE IV - OF CHURCH MEETINGS

**Section 5.** All Communicants of the church 18 16 years of age and over, who have been enrolled on the Church Register for six months immediately preceding the Annual Meeting and have communicated in the Church during the year preceding; and all baptized members of like age who are and have been contributors in their own names, to the support of the Church for not less than six months preceding, shall be legal voters of the Church. Voting shall be limited to those present at the Annual Meeting and voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

### ARTICLE V - BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND CHURCH OFFICERS

**Section 1.** The Bishop's Advisory Committee (BAC) shall consist of the Vicar (or the Bishop if there be no Vicar) and two (2) wardens who shall serve a two-year term and no less than three (3) nor more than ten (10) other members who shall also serve a two-year term. *[Amended 2.7.2021]*

### ARTICLE VI - OF THE DUTIES OF OFFICERS

**Section 9.** Two Delegates to the Diocesan Convention and two Alternate Delegates shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for one year terms. These persons may or may not be members of the BAC. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be lay persons qualified to vote under Article III, Section 5. The Delegates and Alternate Delegates may attend Diocesan Convention a maximum of two consecutive years. Delegates are expected to attend quarterly meetings of the Convocation. The BAC shall have the power to fill any uncompleted terms.

### ARTICLE IX - OF MISSION FINANCES

#### Separate Funds Designated Funds

**Section 4.** Money collected and disbursed by Saint John's Chapter of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), is kept and recorded by its treasurers. Reports to the congregation are made in January at the Annual Meeting. St. John's General Fund (Checking Account) shall include the Operating Fund and certain other Designated Funds. These Designated Funds may be created or terminated by the Bishop's Advisory Committee (BAC). Each of these Designated Funds is used for a specified purpose to cover specific programming and/or items not included in the annual Operating Fund Budget. Each of these designated funds shall be a part of the monthly Reconciliation of Funds Report and the Annual Financial Report

## Wednesday Evening Prayer

Fr. Doug is leading Evening Prayer at 7pm on Wednesdays using the Zoom platform at this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5042346656?pwd=eG1TMEThtnUyQWk3TW9hNmszemRsQT09> The same link can be used each week. The link to the gathering can also be found in his weekly Saturday evening emails. The same link can be used each week. Join and be blessed by this time of prayer and interaction with other folks from St. John.

## Our Prayer List

Mike Fitzgerald, Kinta, Keali'i, Bea Bone, Rick, Judy Mohorko, Chris Cummings, The Miller family, Robin Haruna, Grant, Cece & family, David, Lori & Jay, Charlie, Amy, Bill, Jesse, Rick, Tom, Marty, Judy, Jon & Linda, Alberta, Mary, 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, Deanna, Sheri.

## *"Feed my sheep"*

These words Jesus said to Peter remind us that we, too, as followers of Jesus, are enjoined to feed His sheep. Although Covid-19 has altered the world and our social interactions, many are suffering from hunger. If you can, if you are able, please bring your donation of unopened non-perishable food to the church so it can be taken to the ecumenical Neighborhood Food Pantry. The basket is on the kitchen counter.

### 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.