

# *St. John's Journal*

## *July 2022*



### *America*

Our father's God to, Thee,  
Author of liberty,  
To Thee we sing.  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by Thy might,  
Great God, our King!

## *Fr. Doug's Iconic Column*

The repeal of Roe v. Wade by the Supreme Court has stoked the fire of the abortion debate in our country. I cannot address the legal theory aspects of the longstanding decision, but it seems to me that the Roe v. Wade decision tried to find some middle ground between two divergent views.

Unfortunately, the issue of abortion does not present us with a simple choice between two views. We humans like to have easy ethical choices. We easily reduce the debate to “Pro-Abortion” or “Pro-Choice.” It is either about protecting the life of the unborn or protecting a woman’s sovereignty over her own body.

I saw a photo of a young woman at an anti-abortion protest holding a sign that stated that she was alive and thriving as the result of rape and incest and then being adopted. The sign seemed to be a dismissal of the idea of allowing abortion when the pregnancy was caused by rape. Such children must be protected no matter how they were conceived. While recognizing the value of her life, there was no expression of awareness of what her birth mother went through, other than that she was raped. There was no recognition about whether she had family support in a family where incest occurred. Was she emotionally supported or was she ridiculed? Was she financially supported or forced to fend for herself? Did the birth mother honorably choose to give life to this young woman, or was she given no choice?

And then there are the signs that are held up that support the woman’s right to choose, to have control of her own bodies. These slogans do not even touch on the question of the value of the fetus within her. Is this fetus a human being? When does human life really begin? When does this life become important enough that it must be protected? Is it conception? Viability? Birth?

Then there is something unique about this ethical dilemma. Two lives are inextricably tied together for nine months. Their breaths are one. How can we make simple pronouncements about something so unusual?

Also, two living beings are required to begin this new life. Making the woman solely responsible for the choice of an abortion or the bearing of the child is also simplistic. Most of the slogans for or against tend not to take into consideration the man and his responsibilities.

In this country, we pledge our allegiance to “one nation...with liberty and justice for all.” It is easy in our debates to focus on one or the other. We tend to take the easy way and want our liberty, our freedoms, and then demand justice from others. But we pledge to support liberty AND justice, not just one or the other, and we pledge it FOR ALL, not just some. Holding these two values together at the same time makes the abortion debate anything but simple.

This last Sunday, our New Testament text came from Paul’s Letter to the Galatians. He wrote,

“For freedom Christ has set us free.... 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.” (Gal. 5:1,13-14)

(Continued on page 3)

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

Christ has set us free, not just from something but also for something. Ironically, God frees us so that we can become servants to others. This is the way of love. While this can be stated simply, it is not simple to apply it. How do we love our neighbors, pregnant women, men who have "spread their seed" with love or with violence, unborn or born children, people protesting, our enemies? It is not easy. It is not simple. But by the grace of God and the wisdom of God, we may be able to move in that direction.

I do not have all, or even most, of the answers to this issue. But I do know that I have appreciated a few members of our fellowship offering to me some of their thinking. They have enriched my thinking. I invite you to join in the conversation, not in defense of your position but in hopes that we will all grow in wisdom.

Seeking the Wisdom of God,

Fr. Doug

**SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

We are continuing to receive special offerings for relief work in **Ukraine**. You can contribute to this by placing money in the Ukraine Offering Box at the back of the sanctuary or by making contributions designated with "for Ukraine." The need for financial assistance for those whose lives have been disrupted by the war in Ukraine will continue for a long time.

On Sunday July 17<sup>th</sup> we will be having another special offering to support the **Priest's Discretionary Fund**. These funds are used to help people in our community who have financial needs of one kind or another. All non-designated funds placed in the offering plate that day will go into the fund. You can only designate contributions specifically to "Priest's Discretionary Fund."

***Feeding Bandon's Hungry***

On Sundays, you will find the food pantry collection basket in the church narthex. Your gifts will go to the ecumenical Bandon Food Pantry at the barn in the park on 11th Street. Please do not forget those in the community who are hungry as you donate unopened, non-perishable food.

In addition to non-perishable food, there is also need for items that cannot be purchased with food stamps: detergent, bath soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, sanitary products for women, dog food, and similar items.

## 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=eGlTMethTnUyQWk3TW9hNmszemRsQT09> 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.

## RUMMAGE SALE!!!!

Thank you to everyone for their help with the Rummage Sale!!! So many helping hands made this sale successful! I especially want to thank the team : Lani, Sally, Kathy, Laurea, and Mary. These ladies were amazing! They brought experience, organization, and a Let's get it done attitude. We don't have everything sold yet. Some items are on Craig's list. We may be looking at \$4200!! This was beyond our expectations. We are thrilled!!!!

## BAC

**Senior Warden:** Judy Jackson

**Junior Warden:** Sally Glunt

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

**Treasurer:** Denise Skillman

**Clerk:** Beth Wilmot

**Bankers:** Kathy Webb

**Convention Delegates:** Judy Jackson & Sally Glunt

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

**9: Tom Glunt**

### Anniversaries

**2: Laurea & Roy Arnoldt**

**31: Myra & Jim Lawson**



## Staff

**Vicar:**

The Rev. Doug Hale

**Music Director:**

Cynthia Mohorko

**Church Administrator:**

Virginia MacCallum

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

## **Bishop's Advisory Committee Notes – June 2022**

Here's what took place at the June BAC meeting

### **We Reviewed**

The April and May financial reports.

### **We Discussed**

Whether the Flower Guild needs more vessels to hold altar flowers.

The results of the rummage sale: proceeds of \$3,963.75, a future sale to be held at Lani's home in the fall, the remaining items still to be sold via online sites, and the limited success of the raffle.

Pruning of the rhododendron outside of the west Theresa Hall windows.

The need for window coverings of Theresa Hall's west windows.

A potential parking lot expansion project.

Fr. Doug's involvement with the hospital chaplaincy at Bay Area Hospital and a potential program at Southern Coos Hospital in Bandon.

### **We Approved**

The purchase of one inclusive Book of Common Prayer/Hymnal for use by the LEMs.

Lani's plan to update the hallway closet curtains, beautify the hallway bulletin board, and the repair of the worn sofa arms in Theresa Hall.

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Our Vicar, Fr. Doug, is generally in his church office Tuesday and Thursday from about noon until about 4:00 p.m.

## **Can you help on Sundays?**

If you would like to help during worship services by signing up to read a Lesson (Lectors) or lead the Prayers of the People (Intercessors) or help with greeting and guiding us to the altar rail for communion (Ushers), please let Ginger, our Parish Administrator know. If you're not sure what these tasks entail, ask and we'll explain. We also need volunteer Coffee Hour Hosts to prepare coffee and bring treats to be served after the service.





## **How We Serve One Another**

At St. John's we aim to Love God, love our neighbor and serve one another. As a church community we run outreach programs like the Medical Loan Closet. But individuals in our congregation also get out in our community to serve on their own. This is the third in a series featuring individuals who give of their time and talent beyond St. John's. This month we focus on Jennifer Mello.

Here is what Jennifer has to say about volunteering.

I was invited by Roy Arnoldt to volunteer at E.A.T. This stands for Everyone At the Table. It is a free meal for anyone and is offered every Tuesday night. Fifteen to thirty people will show up for a home-cooked meal. Donations are accepted.

This organization provides a hot meal for anyone, but especially people who may not always have enough to eat. Coming out for a meal is a chance for people to socialize. The atmosphere is joyful at EAT.

Roy trained me for dishwasher and I work one Tuesday a month, but often fill in on other Tuesdays. Volunteers are always in need. Positions include cooks, servers, dishwashers, and janitorial. I am definitely not a cook, so being a dishwasher makes me happy.

I enjoy the opportunity to participate in the community. It is a fun environment in the kitchen - everyone wants to be there. We give a little time, but hopefully make a big difference for others.



# July 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 4th Sun of Pentecost	4 7:30 AA	5 8 AA	6 7 Eve. Prayer 8 AA	7	8	9
10 5th Sun of Pentecost	11 7:30 AA	12 1 BAC 8 AA	13 7 Eve. Prayer 8 AA	14	15	16
17 6th Sun of Pentecost	18 7:30 AA	19 8 AA	20 7 Eve. Prayer 8 AA	21	22	23
24 7th Sun of Pentecost	25 7:30 AA	26 8 AA	27 7 Eve. Prayer 8 AA	28	29	30
31 8th Sun of Pentecost						

### Link for Lectors

Most of us like to see our readings in advance to avoid traps in pronunciation and wording. Here at St. John, we use Track 2 of the Revised Common Lectionary. This track integrates the lessons and psalm into a related whole, unlike the pattern of Track 1. Here is the link to the Track 2 lectionary: <https://www.lectionarypage.net/>

For pronunciation of some of the names, good old Google works. Simply ask Google how to pronounce whatever it is. In addition, I can recommend a dictionary site that is reliable and does not require that you be a subscriber: <https://www.dictionary.com/>. Simply enter the word or name in the search box, and voila! There it is with an option to hear the pronunciation.

From your own computer, you may easily access the set of lessons and Gospel for the date you will serve. If you encounter any difficulties, just contact the church for assistance or to obtain a copy of the lessons for your Sunday.



*Celebrating Juanita's Birthday!*

*FUN  
FUN  
FUN  
  
WORK  
WORK  
WORK*

*LOVE!*



*Rummage Sale Bankers, Movers, & Shakers*

## St. John 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.