

St. John's Journal

November 2022



DON'T FORGET!

At 2 a.m. on November 6, set your clocks back one hour as we return to standard time. (We recommend you do this before you go to bed Saturday night.

It's easier.)



Coming Soon All Saints Day

We will observe All Saints Day and All Souls Day on Sunday, November 6. We will also honor our departed in prayer.

If you have not already filled out the form in the bulletins in October, please let the church office know of your additions to the names of the departed **by November 4.**

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

It is hard to believe we are heading into November. October has been a busy month for me with moving into a new home (settling is stilling the works), and lots of various meetings, including Diocesan Convention. November promises to be busy in a different way.

Even before we slip into November, we will be holding our Halloween Event (Oct. 31) in Theresa Hall. There seems to be a fair amount of energy for this event of trick or treating, which includes treats of the candy kind and the sock kind for young and old.

On Sunday Nov. 6th, we will be celebrating All Saints Day and All Souls Day (moved from Nov. 1 & 2). We will be remembering important people in our lives who have died in the last year. There is still time to submit names for inclusion in the prayers. By the way, this is also the end of Daylight Savings Time, so remember to turn your clocks back or you will show up early and be required to get the coffe started. Because Election Day is only two days later, we will also offer a special prayer for our nation.

On Sunday Nov. 20th, we will be celebrating Christ the King Sunday, the conclusion of the Church year. We will also be celebrating the formal ending of our stewardship campaign with the Dedication of our Pledges to God's work through St. John.

Nov. 24th is Thanksgiving. We will not be having any special event for that, but the Zoom Evening Prayer the night before will have a Thanksgiving Theme.

On Sunday Nov. 27th, we will be celebrating the First Sunday in Advent. Oh my, Christmas is getting close. Because we are not having a special Thanksgiving worship service, we will be receiving the special Thanksgiving Offering. This offering is sent to the Diocese, where the Commission on Poverty and Homelessness then gives grants to local congregations or ministries that are address community needs related to poverty and homelessness.

November promises to be a time of special celebrations and opportunities to give thanks both in praise to God and actions that touch other people's lives. I hope you will join with us as much as you can.

Fr. Doug



Bishop's Advisory Committee Notes – October 2022

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

We Reviewed

The September and year-to-date financial reports.

The draft budget for 2023.

We Learned

A combined Book of Common Prayer/Hymnal has been purchased for the LEMs to use during services.

An Oreck vacuum cleaner was purchased to replace one that was broken.

The YTD total donations from AmazonSmile is \$45.31 which is \$40 below budgeted amount.

The 3rd quarter pass-through funds will be sent to Bandon Feeds the Hungry (\$377), and to the Episcopal Relief & Development program for Ukraine Relief (\$129.40).

Pledge payments received to date are \$2300 below budget.

We Discussed

The fall stewardship campaign kick off event on Sunday, October 16th.

The idea of placing a columbarium in the front courtyard.

BAC membership for next year.

How to replace or repair the deteriorating outdoor reader board.

Halloween and the hosting of treat-or-treaters.

We Decided

To spend 2022's budgeted outreach funds by donating \$1000 each to the Episcopal Relief & Development's responses to the Ukraine and Hurricane Ian disasters.

To research how to spend 2023 outreach funds to support our Bandon community.

To replace the fraying Love Your Neighbor banner.

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?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5042346656?pwd=eGlTMethTnUyQWk3TW9hNmszemRsQT09)

[pwd=eGlTMethTnUyQWk3TW9hNmszemRsQT09](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.

Musings from Denise

THANKSGIVING

Every Fall, as we gather to give thanks for our many blessings and consider what we can offer the Church as our pledge of support for the coming year, two memories come to the fore.

When I was in sixth grade, I attended a Sunday School which offered weekly Bible lessons and a short prayer service at which a collection was taken. We were told to put a coin in the plate for something we were thankful for in the past week. This was taken to an usher in the sanctuary downstairs, so it could be added to the adults' pledges and other offerings.

In theory, this was an effective way to instruct children not only to be thankful for daily blessings, but to support the church with offerings that might one day turn into pledges. Occasionally, the teacher would ask us to declare what we were thankful for as the plate passed by us. I'm sure she was only trying to expand our sense of gratitude by hearing from others, but I found this very intrusive and embarrassing. To me, what I put in the plate – and why – was between God and me. (Still is.)

Some kids had momentous things to be thankful for, like getting a new puppy or a new baby in the family, or a trip to Disneyland. They laughed at my more trivial thanksgivings, like seeing a horny toad on my way to school, getting a good grade on a test, or getting a postcard from my globetrotting grandmother. Once when I had no money at all, I wanted to skip Sunday School to avoid being singled out for putting nothing into the collection, but a friend urged me to come. As we walked to church, I found a penny on the sidewalk. So, I not only had something to be thankful for, but a coin to celebrate it. God had provided and giving back to God was pure joy.

Years later, while at school in Italy, I returned heirloom jewelry from a dear family friend to her relatives in Rome. I was nervous about this side trip I couldn't really afford but felt duty-bound to honor the friend. Her relatives were surprisingly ungrateful. They grabbed the box and slammed the door in my face. Since I had missed the return train, I needed a place to stay. Long story short, I was promised a cot in a convent's linen closet, which would take every bit of money I had with me. Since I couldn't check in until after 4 p.m., I wandered around a nearby garden and miraculously found a 2,000 lire banknote on the ground (about \$2.50), which was enough for a panini and coffee. I split the panini between dinner that night and breakfast the next morning and was very grateful I didn't have to fast until I got back to school the next afternoon. Once again, God had provided.

I shared my story with an American nun who was also a guest of the convent and leaving the same morning. She emptied her wallet of Italian currency that she said she could not take back to the States and gave it to me. Although I had never mentioned how much money the trip had cost, she gave me exactly the amount I had spent on the train ticket, the meal, and the night in that closet. She apologized for not having more to give. I cried because her gift was more than I could have ever dreamed possible. I've been trying to pay it forward for over 40 years, and even though I don't recall her name, I say a special prayer for that nun every Thanksgiving

November 2022

Thanksgiv-
ing Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 8:00 AA	2 7:30 Even- ing Prayer 8:00 AA	3	4	5
6 All Saints Day HE II	7 7:30 AA	8 1 BAC 8:00 AA	9 7:30 Even- ing Prayer 8:00 AA	10	11	12
13 3d Sun. after Pente- cost HE II	14 7:30 AA	15 8:00 AA	16 7:30 Even- ing Prayer 8:00 AA	17	18	19
20 Christ the King HE II	21 7:30 AA	22 8:00 AA	23 7:30 Even- ing Prayer 8:00 AA	24 Thanks- giving Day	25	26
27 1st Sun. of Advent HE II	28 7:30 AA	29 8:00 AA	30 7:30 Even- ing Prayer 8:00 AA			

For it is in Giving that We Receive

Thanks to our culinary contributors, our 2023 Stewardship Campaign kicked off with a delightful brunch on October 16. We briefly discussed our goal to pledge a minimum of \$54,000 in 2023, which is about 23% more than was pledged for this year (more about that below). Two types of pledge forms were passed out (and later mailed to those who could not attend). Extra copies are also available in the office if you misplaced yours or didn't get one. Please fill out both forms, being sure your name is on them, and return them as soon as possible. They can be placed in the collection plate on Sundays or mailed to the church at P.O. Box 246, Bandon, OR 97411. The church should receive them **no later than Sunday, November 20, 2022**, when we'll gather once more to celebrate all the ways we have found to give and be thankful for what we have received.

TIME AND TALENT. One form lists all the volunteer positions available during worship and while looking after our fellow members, taking care of the church and our community. This is your opportunity to let us know if you want to continue one of the listed ministries or try something new in 2023. Active participation in the work of the church not only helps others but enriches our own spiritual lives.

PLEDGE. The other form declares your intention to contribute financially to our day-to-day operations. Pledges are our primary source of income and drive the operating budget. For the past three years, the Episcopal Bishop of Oregon (EBOF) grant has helped us cover clergy costs, but in 2023 we will be fully funding all operating costs on our own. This means that not only must we ask everyone who has been pledging to pledge a little more in 2023, but also everyone else who hasn't pledged this year but considers St. John their church home to consider making a pledge at this time. The amount you choose is between you and God (and the Treasurer, who is sworn to secrecy).

HOW PLEDGES ARE SPENT. For every dollar that you pledge, \$0.54 covers clergy costs (stipend and benefits); \$0.13 maintains the building and grounds; \$0.11 funds administrative costs; \$0.10 funds worship supplies and music ministry; \$0.10 goes to the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon; and \$0.02 is dedicated to "Mission" which includes advertising, evangelism, Christian education, and some of St. John's outreach efforts.

PROGRESS REPORT. Our stewardship campaign got off to a great start during the first week, bringing in over \$18,000. In Theresa Hall, you'll find a chart with cups to be filled each week as more pledges come in – may each cup overflow!

Stewardship Sunday -- November 20th



REVIEW: WORLDINPRAYER.ORG

Influential Swiss Calvinist theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968) is renowned for many things, not least among them the fact that he was a leader of the Confessing Church movement that defiantly opposed the Nazis before and during WWII. He was the chief drafter of their definitive document, the Barmen Declaration, which insisted that Jesus Christ is alone Head of the Church, and that no mere human can usurp that position. (Dietrich Bonhoeffer's signature to that Declaration contributed to his murder by the Third Reich.)

But every Reformed church seminarian (and I suspect nearly all other contemporary seminarians) remembers Barth most for a pithy exhortation quoted repeatedly to us in homiletics (preaching) courses: "*Preach with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.*" He, of course, intended to encourage pastors to preach the Gospel with relevance.

I have found it extremely challenging to my personal equilibrium in recent years even to read or watch "the news" as it is being presented by most media sources. And yet I am uneasy knowing that it is only my personal privilege as a white, retired, financially comfortable small-town American that enables me to avoid the grim realities of much of the world's population. I would like to share with you an online resource I was blessed to stumble upon that enables me to **pray** "with the Bible in one hand and the news in the other."

At worldinprayer.org, one can read a weekly prayer that lifts up current events around the world, both challenging and encouraging, and helps us include them in our own prayers. It also often confesses doubts and reiterates that God (not us!) is in charge of God's world, a reminder and reassurance that I for one regularly need!

You can simply go to their website to read the current week's prayer (and others), or if you find them helpful, you can sign up to have it emailed directly to you. The prayers are inclusive but vary in content, style, form, and length, and are not attributed to a particular individual. Certainly, some "hit the spot" (for me) more than others, but I suspect those "others" suit different readers better.

Rev. Bobbi Neason

UPDATES NEEDED

Please let the office know the dates of your birthdays and anniversaries so we can update the list. No, you DO NOT need to confess the year either occurred!

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 31: Halloween Event 5-8 p.m.

**Nov. 6: Daylight Savings Ends
Celebration of All Saints & All Souls
Days**

**Nov. 20: Christ the King Sunday
& Stewardship Dedication**

Nov. 27: Advent begins

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

10: Debbie Griffith

30: Tim Pearce



Support St. John's While Shopping on AmazonSmile

St. John's is an approved AmazonSmile charitable organization and each time you shop at smile.amazon.com you earn money for our church. It's the same as shopping on Amazon, but with added benefit as they give back to us 0.5% of each of your purchases.

To get started:

Go to smile.amazon.com. Click on the *Get Started* button

Choose: **St. John's Episcopal Church, Bandon, OR** as your designated charity.

(Note: if you don't see St. John's as a choice, make sure that you typed it exactly as above.)

To change your already existing AmazonSmile designated charity:

Go to smile.amazon.com

Click on *Accounts & Lists* on the Amazon toolbar.

From the drop down, click on *AmazonSmile*.

Click the *Change Charity* button.

Under *Or pick your own charitable organization* type in:

St. John's Episcopal Church, Bandon, OR
and hit *Search*.

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

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
Banker: Kathy Webb

Convention Delegates: Judy Jackson & Sally Glunt

Staff

Vicar:
 The Rev. Doug Hale

Music Director:
 Cynthia Mohorko

Church Administrator:
 Virginia MacCallum

OFFICE HOURS

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

PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE HUNGRY!

Contributions in September have been very sparse, but people are still hungry. Thank you for your support or our outreach to feed the hungry of Bandon. This is an ecumenical outreach in which we participate with other churches in our communities.

If you wonder what is most needed, consider these: **FOOD:** unopened non-perishable food, food in pull-top cans, canned fruit, canned meat, chili, ravioli, stew, soup, peanut butter, jelly/jam, mayonnaise, ketchup, cocoa mix, cereal. **PERSONAL CARE:** shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs, deodorant, cotton swabs, feminine hygiene products, ladies' panties (new & gently used and clean). **CLOTHING/SHELTER:** socks, gloves, belts, knit caps, backpacks, hand-warmers, tarps. **PET CARE:** small bags of cat food and dog food, collars, leashes. **THINGS FOOD STAMPS/SNAP WON'T BUY:**

**S t . J o h n E p i s c o p a l
 C h u r c h**

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 Email: stjohns.bandon@gmail.com
 Website: www.stjohnsbandon.org
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-234749653862372>

**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.