

St. John's Journal

June 2024

WELCOME BISHOP ON JUNE 9TH

An official biennial visitation by the Rt. Rev. Diana Akiyama will take place at St. John's on Sunday, June 9th.

Bishop Diana will conduct the Eucharistic service, assisted by Deacon Allan Miles of Ashland. During the service, Bishop Diana will Receive into the Communion of the Episcopal Church Michelle and Rick Felkins and Ann Montgomery.

St. John's Chapel Choir is preparing an anthem to celebrate Bishop Diana's visit with us.



A light luncheon will follow the service, so plan to stay and visit with our Bishop and Rector.

A special offering will be taken up for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund to help seminary students complete their theological education. Envelopes will be provided.

If you choose to donate by check, please make the check out to "St. John Episcopal Church" and write "Bishop's Fund" in the memo field.



Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

“If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted, toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be.... Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’” (Deuteronomy 15:7-8,10-11)

Helping those in need seems to be a theme running through recent events and conversations.

After the long COVID hiatus, the **Bandon Ministerial Association** has started to meet again driven by the need to address homelessness. Our latest meeting focused upon the need for food more than the housing itself. We talked about supporting the work of the Good Neighbors Food Bank and the Restoration Worship Center Food Pantry. We considered other ways that we might take food and other support to where the homeless are camping. We also shared how our congregations individually provide support for those in need. (By the way, I was appointed President of the BMA at the last meeting.)

We support the work that the **Good Neighbors Food Bank** provides by collecting non-perishable food and items that cannot be purchased with food stamps (such as dog and cat food, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, safety razors, soap (bath and laundry), and women's sanitary products. Please consider making regular donations to the Food Bank. You can drop off food items in the basket in the Narthex. There are several ways to make financial contributions that provide food for people in need in our community. Speak with Ginny, Denise, or myself about this.

St. John has been generous with its space, providing a place for helping organizations to gather. We host numerous support groups. We host three **Alcoholics Anonymous** groups each week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We also host a weekly **Adult Children of Alcoholics** support group on Monday evenings.

We have recently been approached by **ADAPT**, a one-time user of our facility (prior to COVID), to host a monthly collaborative event with Coos Health and Wellness, Bay Area First Step, Youth Era, HIV Alliance, Advanced Health, and DHS Self Sufficiency. This gathering will happen on the first Tuesday of each month, from 9-12, starting June 4th, which coincides with the time that the Good Neighbors Food Bank is open. (Good Neighbors has agreed to distribute flyers about the services ADAPT offers and to refer clients to the monthly events at St. John's. On first Tuesdays, ADAPT will set up a couple tables and hand out sack lunches, hygiene amenities, and “some harm-reduction supplies.” In addition, they will help individuals sign up for medical services and apply for SNAP benefits and OHP. When possible, a nurse from Coos Health and Wellness will be in a van onsite to conduct infectious disease testing and access treatment, and to provide immunizations. Providing a site for ADAPT's new monthly program will be another step in fulfilling St. John's mission of healing, teaching, and reaching out to our neighbors.

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We have also been approached about being a possible location for a **Little Food Pantry**. There was a conversation a few years ago about possibly setting one of these up on our property. It never came to fruition. We have now been approached by a member of the Bandon Community to host the Pantry that she would install and keep filled. Stay tuned for further developments on this idea.

We have multiple opportunities to give financial support for those in need through special offerings that happen throughout the year. Among those is the Thanksgiving Offering (Nov. 24th) that supports programs for the poor and homeless throughout the Diocese. Then there are the two special offerings (July 28th and October 6th) for the Vicar's Discretionary Account that is used to help those in need in our community.

Of course, our biggest effort to support those in need is the **Medical Loan Closet**. This amazing and unique service helps people facing all sorts of physical and medical challenges. This program uses a significant portion of the space of our building. But most importantly, it happens because of the members of our congregations who are willing to volunteer a lot of time to make a difference in the lives of people in our community, not only in Bandon but well beyond.

There are numerous ways that we can individually and together help those in need. There are various programs, beyond those mentioned here that we can support, and many of us do. We can volunteer our time or make in-kind or financial donations. What is most important is that whatever we give that it be done "liberally and ungrudgingly" ever mindful of what God has given to us.

We like to be known as a congregation that welcomes everyone. It would also be good to be known as a congregation that truly serves those in need.

May God inspire us to be generous people.

Fr. Doug



Thank you!

For contributing to the Diocese's

PENTECOST OFFERING

St. John's raised **\$275** on May 19th for the Diocese to grant to other churches for either new mission work or brick-and-mortar projects.

So, Noted

St. John's Bishop's Advisory Committee (BAC) met May 12th after Coffee Hour. Attending were: The Reverend Douglas Hale (Vicar), Laurea Arnoldt (Sr. Warden), Sally Glunt (Jr. Warden), Ginny Hall (Clerk), Denise Skillman (Treasurer), and Members at Large Michelle Felkins, Gail Pray, and Kathy Webb. Jennifer Mello (Member at Large) was unable to attend.

Finance Highlights

- The Pass-Through Gift Fund distributed \$1,718.81 to five recipients in the first quarter.
- Recent Capital Fund expenses included a \$385 deposit for the repair of an exterior narthex window; a \$31,441 deposit to purchase materials for the upcoming roof replacement project; and \$161.98 for a new microphone setup in the sanctuary.
- We received a \$48,000 grant from the Diocesan Board of Trustees for the roof project.
- An anonymous gift of \$5,000 will cover the cost of replacing the sump pump and the early payoff of two Local Improvement District (LID) loans at the City of Bandon. The BAC authorized the final payment to be made this September.

Sr. Warden Laurea Arnoldt reported on the Convocation meeting held at St. John yesterday. A full report follows this summary of BAC actions.

Jr Warden Sally Glunt

- Roof project: A start date has not been set yet by the contractor (Rich Rayburn Roofing).
- Sump Pump: Tri-County Plumbing technicians were tentatively scheduled for a site visit on May 17 to provide an estimate for replacing the sump pump.
- Narthex Window: Clear Choice Glass & Window will install a new protective pane of glass for one of the stained glass panels in the narthex as soon as possible.

Vicar Report -Father Doug

- Memorial Garden: The planning committee held an information-gathering meeting with Amy Marino, and now needs to narrow its focus in order to make the preliminary plan more realistic and specific.
- New Microphone Setup: A new microphone set up has been installed in the Sanctuary. Thank you Tom Glunt for helping Father Doug with this installation! The purpose of this new setup was to hard wire the microphone and eliminate the need for continually replacing the microphone batteries.
- Upcoming June and July Events:
 - June 1:** Diocesan Renewal event at St. Paul in Salem from 9:00am-4:00pm.
 - June 9:** The Bishop's Visitation at St. John! There will be a Special Offering for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund which is designated for Theological Education. A special luncheon is being planned for after the worship service.
 - June 16:** BAC meeting after the worship service. This is also Father's Day.
 - July 4:** St. Christopher's in Port Orford is selling hot dogs during their Parade as a fundraiser. All Convocation churches are invited to attend and support their fundraiser.
 - July 6:** Social Justice event is scheduled in Coos Bay. This is a graveside memorial service commemorating the 100th anniversary of "Frank" Pettis' murder.
 - July 7:** Baptism of Sally and Tom Glunt's granddaughter!

SOUTH COAST CONVOCATION MEETING

A hybrid meeting of the South Coast Convocation of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Oregon was hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church in Bandon on Saturday, May 11, 2024. Ten were present in person and two via Zoom. (Between Florence and Brookings there are eight Episcopal Churches; six were represented at this meeting.)

Diocesan Council Reorganization

The Convocation delegates were asked to comment on a proposed reduction in the number of people serving on the Diocesan Council from 26 to 14. This would eliminate twelve "at large members" and retain two representatives from each of seven convocations (one clergy and one lay).

Potential advantages: Improve efficiency of the Council with fewer members; make it easier to fill a quorum; give each Convocation equal standing. *Disadvantages:* Limiting Diocesan Council membership to Convocation Delegates is restrictive at a time when getting volunteers to participate at any level is a challenge. *Required Changes:* If the Diocesan Council is to be reorganized as proposed, there will need to be a canonical change regarding membership and length of terms, which must be adopted at the Annual Meeting/Convention. It was suggested that all delegate be provided with a copy of the Convocation's Bylaws.)

Budget Timeline

There are twenty-one steps from early Spring to the Diocesan Convention. Key Dates include **August 5** (Diocesan Council approves Preliminary Budget); **August 10-September 13** (Convocations review budget and provide feedback—by September 16); **October 5** (Budget and Narrative are posted on Diocesan website); **October 26** (Diocesan Convention – Budget is presented and approved).

Convocation Calendar — Save the Dates!

July 4th (Thursday) St. Christopher's, Port Orford will be selling hot dogs as a fundraiser during the holiday festivities. (Parade at 11 a.m.) This is an opportunity to support St. Christopher's and socialize with other church members.

July 6th (Saturday) **SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT.** A graveside memorial service will be held on the 100th anniversary of the murder of Timothy S. "Frank" Pettis, a young Black man last seen being chased by the Marshfield (Coos Bay) police in 1924. His body was found floating in the bay five days later and no suspects were ever identified. (Service time 1 or 1:30 p.m., details to come.) Pamela A. Filbert and the Oregon Black Pioneers are providing part of the program. (Details will appear in the July Newsletter.)

August 24th (Saturday) **Convocation meeting** at St. Christopher's, Port Orford. (Elect representatives to the Diocesan Council and review the proposed budget.)

October 5th (Saturday) **Convocation meeting** at St. James, Coquille (Final meeting before the convention.)

2030 Deadline CREATION CARE PROJECT. Rev. Dawn Reynolds (St. Andrew's, Florence) asked each church to examine what they have done and what they can do to meet the 2030 deadline to achieve a "carbon neutral footprint". She noted there are grants available for solar panels, for instance.

Musings from Denise

Batter Up!

On Saturday afternoons during the late 1930's (so I've been told) my mother lounged on a blanket in the backyard, listening to baseball games on the radio. By the 1950's, when games started being televised, she avidly watched the World Series while Dad and I found other amusements. I don't know if Mom ever attended a game in person like I did (dragged there by a boyfriend). I did not share their enthusiasm for baseball. To me, it was like paying for the privilege of watching paint dry in the hot San Diego sun. I might have been more interested if I, like many others sitting in the stands, held a small transistor radio to my ear so I could understand what was going on. Mom spoke admiringly of sportscasters such as Red Barber and Vin Scully whose play-by-play accounts were embellished with trivia about teams and individual players, and sometimes about how the game is a microcosm of society. I admit baseball has its moments. Two incidents came to mind recently.

The first was a 1974 World Series game Mom insisted that I watch. (She had a sixth sense about events that would become historic.) The Atlanta Braves were pitted against her favorite team, the L.A. Dodgers. All eyes were on Henry "Hank" Aaron (Braves), who was one run away from breaking Yankee Babe Ruth's all-time record for career home runs. During the prior off-season, Aaron had received tons of mail – including a lot of hate mail from fans who did not want an African American to break that record, but I don't recall if that was widely known at the time.

The Braves' own radio announcer gave a standard play-by-play as Aaron hit the ball out of the park for his 715th career home run. Vin Scully, the Dodgers' broadcaster, saw this milestone differently, and let the background sounds of fireworks and a roaring crowd of more than 53,000 fill the air for three or four minutes before he observed:

“What a marvelous moment for baseball; what a marvelous moment for Atlanta and the state of Georgia; what a marvelous moment for the country and the world. A Black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking a record of an all-time baseball idol. And it is a great moment for all of us, and particularly for Henry Aaron.”

A couple excited (White) fans joined him as he ran around the bases (which must have been scary for him, given the place, the times, and all that hate mail), and his parents and whole team joined him at home plate. His mother later said she hugged him long and hard so no one would shoot him for his accomplishment.

The second incident was described at a fundraising dinner for a school that serves children with learning disabilities. (*I've had it in a file for several years and offer it here in a shortened version. Unfortunately, I don't recall the source.*)

After extolling the school and its dedicated staff, the father of a boy with both mental and physical challenges, spoke about how his son, Shay, was treated one memorable day and how it impacted the rest of his life.

As father and son walked past a park where some boys Shay knew were playing baseball, Shay asked, 'Do you think they'll let me play?' The father thought it was highly unlikely but asked on his son's behalf. One boy responded, 'We're losing by six runs and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team, and we'll try to put him in to bat in the ninth inning.' Shay struggled over to the team's bench and, with a broad smile, put on a team shirt.

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By the bottom of the eighth inning, Shay's team had scored a few runs but was still behind by three. At the top of the ninth inning, Shay put on a glove and played in right field. Even though no hits came his way, he was obviously ecstatic just to be in the game and on the field. In the bottom of the ninth inning, Shay's team scored again. Now, with two outs and the bases loaded, the potential winning run was on base, and Shay was scheduled to be next at bat – but he didn't even know how to hold a bat or hit the ball. Here's where the game got interesting.

As Shay stepped up to the plate, the pitcher recognized that the other team was putting winning aside for this moment in Shay's life and moved in a few steps to lob the ball in softly so Shay would have a better chance of hitting it. Shay swung clumsily and missed the first pitch. The pitcher again stepped forward and tossed the ball softly towards Shay, who hit a slow ground ball right back to the pitcher, who could have easily thrown the ball to the first baseman. Shay would have been out and that would have been the end of the game. Instead, the pitcher threw the ball right over the first baseman's head, out of reach of all teammates. Everyone from the stands and *both* teams started yelling, 'Shay, run to first! Run to first!' Never in his life had Shay ever run that far, but he made it to first base. He scampered down the baseline, wide-eyed and startled. Everyone yelled, 'Run to second, run to second!' Catching his breath, Shay awkwardly ran towards second, gleaming and struggling to make it to the base.

By the time Shay rounded towards second base, the right fielder had the ball. He could have thrown it to the second baseman for the tag, but he understood the pitcher's intentions so he, too, intentionally threw the ball high and far over the third baseman's head.

Shay ran toward third base deliriously as the runners ahead of him circled the bases toward home. All were screaming, 'Shay, Shay, Shay, all the Way Shay!' Shay reached third base because the opposing shortstop ran to help him by turning him in the direction of third base, and shouted, 'Run to third! Shay, run to third!'

As Shay rounded third, the boys from both teams, and the spectators, were on their feet screaming, 'Shay, run home! Run home!' Shay ran to home base, stepped on the plate, and was cheered as the hero who hit the grand slam and won the game for his team. His father observed that on that day, 'the boys from both teams helped bring a piece of true love and humanity into this world'.

Shay didn't make it to another summer. He died that winter, having never forgotten being the hero and making his parents so happy.

If only baseball were, in fact, a microcosm of society, where every player would have a chance to make their mark and an individual's success could be celebrated by all. That would be a sport worth cheering about.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2: George Neason

9: Stephen Mohorko

15: Joan Markey

24: Lorilyn Holton

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> Diocesan Renewal (St. Paul's, Salem, 9-4)
<i>2</i> 2nd Sun. after Pentecost HE II	<i>3</i> 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	<i>4</i> 9-12 ADAPT 7:30 AA	<i>5</i> 7:30 AA	<i>6</i> 10:30 Con- versations 6:30 Choir	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 3rd Sun. after Pentecost HE II Bishop's	<i>10</i> 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	<i>11</i> 7:30 AA	<i>12</i> 7:30 AA	<i>13</i> 10:30 Con- versations 6:30 Choir	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 4th Sun. after Pentecost HE II 11:00 BAC	<i>17</i> 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	<i>18</i> 7:30 AA	<i>19</i> 7:30 AA	<i>20</i> 10:30 Con- versations 6:30 Choir	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 5th Sun. after Pentecost HE II	<i>24</i> 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	<i>25</i> 7:30 AA	<i>26</i> 7:30 AA	<i>27</i> 10:30 Con- versations 6:30 Choir	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 6th Sun. after Pentecost HE II & Healing Svc.						

St. John Episcopal Church

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https://

**www.facebook.com/St-John-
Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-
234749653862372**

Medical Loan Closet

Phone: 541-590-2443

A Believe Out Loud

Congregation



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.

BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

Bishop's Warden: Laurea Arnoldt

Junior Warden: Sally Glunt

Treasurer: Denise Skillman

Clerk: Ginny Hall

Members at large: Michelle Felkins, Jennifer Mello,

Gail Pray & Kathy Webb

Convention Delegates: Laurea Arnoldt & Denise Skillman

Alternate: Kay Marino

CHURCH STAFF

Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale

Music Director: Cynthia Mohorko

Administrator: Virginia MacCallum

OFFICE HOURS

Our Vicar, Fr. Doug, is generally in his church office Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until about 4:00 p.m.

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