

St. John's Journal

May 2024 — 2nd Ed.

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

Thursday Morning Discussion Group

Some time ago, one of our members mentioned to me that she hoped that when I restart my Thursday morning discussion group it would deal with how we can find hope in these days we are in. That comment has stuck with me and shaped a lot of my thinking lately. So, I have decided to fulfill that hope and have us enter into a discussion and Bible study around the hope Jesus offers us. We face many things that discourage us, whether it be our health, our finances, our relationships, the political world, and even the natural world. The state of these different aspects of our lives can be very discouraging. And yet, the Son of God offers to us another perspective that can lighten our hearts and give us hope even in the midst of the difficulties we face. I invite you to join us on **Thursday mornings at 10:30 starting May 9th** as we seek the wisdom Jesus offers us.

Pentecost Sunday

On **Sunday May 19th**, we will be celebrating Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. We are working to have this be a wonderful celebration. It will include the Service of Healing and Forgiveness. We pray that the Spirit will be moving among us that day.

Blessing of a Marriage

Michelle and Rick Felkins were legally married eight years ago. On **Tuesday May 21 at 11:30** they will receive the blessing of their marriage in church. You are all invited to come to this joyous occasion which they have longed for. Following the brief service, there will be luncheon which the two of them will prepare. Come and join in the celebration!

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Fr. Doug's Iconic Column (continued from page 1)

The Bishop is Coming!

Our Bishop, Diana Akiyama, will be visiting us on **June 9th**. This will be a special time for her to get to know us better and for us to have an in person time with her. She will be leading our worship. She will invite us all to renew our baptismal vows in her presence. It is also an opportunity for specific renewals. A few of our number will be officially Received into the Episcopal Church, coming to us from other denominations. It is also an opportunity for anyone who is moved to do so to Reaffirm their Baptismal Vows. Sometimes we come to times in our lives when we are beginning a new or renewed commitment to follow Christ and we need to step forward and make a public commitment of ourselves. If you are so moved to present yourself before the Bishop to receive her blessing, please speak with me soon.

The Spirit of God is indeed moving among us and showering gifts upon us. I hope you are able to join in as much as possible.

Fr. Doug



Musings by Denise

OLD AND NEW COVENANTS COME TOGETHER AT PENTECOST May 19, 2024

On Easter evening, the Risen Lord told his followers to remain in Jerusalem to receive a gift from God. That gift arrived fifty days later, on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost. (*Yes, Pentecost is a feast day on both the Jewish and Christian calendars.*)

The Jewish Pentecost, also known as the Feast of Weeks or Shavuot (pronounced "sha-VOO-ot"), began as a spring harvest festival on the 50th day after Passover. First fruits were offered to God by the people, in thanksgiving for a good harvest. The feast evolved into a remembrance of the day God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Christian Pentecost is the 50th day after Easter and celebrates God's gift to the people: the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Many consider the Christian Pentecost to be the birthday of the church, because it celebrates the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples like tongues of fire and enabled them to speak in languages that they did not know so that people of all nations could receive the Gospel of Christ. Three thousand new members were received that day through baptism.

In the United Kingdom, the day is known as "Whitsunday" (White Sunday), referring to the white garments traditionally worn by the newly baptized as a sign they have died to sin and have been raised with Christ to new life. Another color associated with the Day of Pentecost is red, representing the Holy Spirit's "tongues of fire." Many people wear red that day.

When we say, "Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us" during the Eucharist, we acknowledge that the death of Jesus on the cross and his resurrection from the dead redeemed us from sin and death. That phrase deliberately recalls the Jewish Passover – the night God "passed over" Israelite houses marked with lamb's blood and spared them when all Egyptian first-born children and animals were slain. This was the plague described in Exodus that finally convinced Pharaoh to emancipate the Israelites and order them to leave Egypt. When the Israelites arrived at Sinai, Moses received from God the tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments, a moral code and covenant between God and the Israelites.

That first Passover has been celebrated annually by Jews everywhere, with a special meal (seder), songs and storytelling, so that each generation will come to understand the Israelites' role as God's chosen people. It was this Jewish Passover that drew thousands of Jews from many nations to the holy city of Jerusalem the week of Jesus' crucifixion. The Last Supper he shared with his disciples was no doubt a Passover seder which Jesus imbued with new meaning as he blessed the bread and wine and proclaimed a "New Covenant" that promised to internalize the law by inscribing it upon the hearts of all who turn to God, regardless of their ethnicity.

For both religions, Pentecost follows seven weeks of anticipation. On the Day of Pentecost, it is traditional for Jews to go to temple to hear the Ten Commandments, and for Christians to attend church to renew their Baptismal Covenant.

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 3: Karen Sinko**
- 16: Virginia MacCallum**
- 23: Juanita Limon**
- 24: 26: Marilyn Pratt**

Anniversaries

- 5: Sharon & Doug Moy**
- 12: Bobbi & George Neason**
- 21: Michelle & Rick Felkins**



FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN

Thank you to Jeff Clark for mowing the lawn and the field. They look great!

Thak you to the anonymous donor for the vicar's new office chair! Such an improvement!

PENTECOST OFFERING

The Feast of Pentecost is on May 19th this year. Not only does it commemorate the birthday of the Church, but it provides an opportunity to support the work of the church within our Diocese of Oregon. The loose and designated offerings from Pentecost Sunday will be sent to the Diocese as our Pentecost Offering.

Each year, the Diocesan Council designates the Pentecost Offering for grants that support a wide variety of ministries. Typically, around half of the grants are designated for "brick and mortar" projects and the remainder is awarded to programs and ministries. (We received a grant for the Medical Loan Closet a few years ago, so this is our chance to pay it forward.)



Memorial Garden Design Charrette

Architectural designer, Amy Marino (Kay & Bill's daughter), has graciously offered to lead St. John's first-ever design charrette. A charrette is a creative, hands-on workshop that brings members of a community together to discuss and explore design options for a particular area. In our charrette we will be exploring options for our front-of-church memorial garden.

The goal is to brainstorm in order to capture the values and ideas of the people of St. John's. What is our vision, not only for the scattering of loved ones' ashes, but also for how the garden looks and is used by our community?

The charrette will take place on two Saturdays. The first of these sessions takes place at St. John's on Saturday, May 4th at 3 pm. The second Saturday meeting will be announced. All who have an interest are invited to come.

Happy
7th birthday to the
St. John's
Medical Loan Closet,



proudly serving
our community since
May 2017.
Our volunteers are the berries,
our clients take the cake!
Walk and roll.



May 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 7:30 AA	2 6:30 Choir Practice	3	4 3:00 Design Mtg Memory Garden
5 6th Sun of Easter HE II	6 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	7 7:30 AA (Every Tuesday)	8 7:30 AA	9 10:30 Discussion Group w/Fr. Doug 6:30 Choir	10	11
12 7th Sun of Easter/ Mother's Day HE II	13 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	14 9-2 SEA Tng 7:30 AA	15 7:30 AA	16 10:30 Discussion Group w/Fr. Doug/6:30 Choir	17	18
19 Pentecost/ Healing Svc HE II	20 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	21 11:30 Blessing of Felkins Marriage/ Luncheon	22 7:30 AA	23 10:30 Discussion Group w/Fr. Doug/6:30 Choir	24	25
26 Trinity Sunday HE II	27 5:30 ACOA 7:30 AA	28 7:30 AA	29 7:30 AA	30 10:30 Discussion Group w/Fr. Doug/6:30 Choir	31	

St. John Episcopal Church

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Facebook:

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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: Gail Pray, Kathy Webb,

Jennifer Mello, & Michelle Felkins

Convention Delegates: Laurea Arnoldt & Jeffrey Clark

Alternates: Kay Marino & Denise Skillman

CHURCH STAFF

Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale

Music Director: Cynthia M0horko

Administrator: Virginia MacCallum

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

FEED MY SHEEP

So Jesus asked us to do. We can respond by our donations to the Ecumenical Food Pantry, which assists those who are hungry and in need.

A basket in the narthex is there for your donations. In addition to food, things like tooth paste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, and shaving needs are welcome.

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