

# St. John's Journal

Bandon-by-the-Sea, Oregon

February 2025



## Annual Meeting Highlights

St. John's Annual Meeting took place after a worship service followed by a taco bar lunch hosted by the BAC on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

### ELECTION RESULTS

#### Delegates to Convocation and Convention:

Mary Garrett and Sally Glunt

#### Alternate Delegates:

Chris and Patti Wood

#### Bishop's Advisory Committee: (2-Year Term)

Lori Holton

Maggie Lowery

### TIME AND TALENT PLEDGES

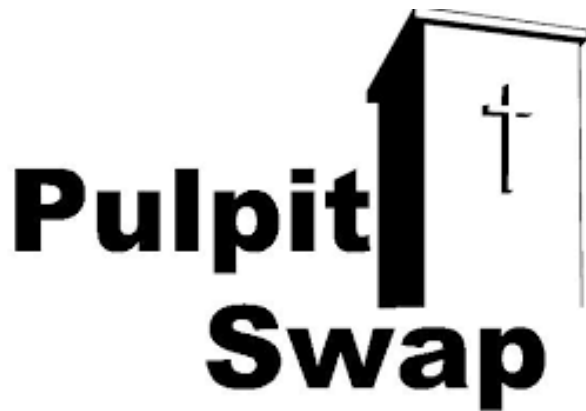
Fifteen people submitted pledges to serve in various capacities around the church, but there are many more opportunities to serve.

### BUDGET

Treasurer Denise Skillman reported that despite anticipating a loss of \$19,634, the church ended 2024 with a \$14,773 surplus due to generous donations and careful spending. The 2025 Operating Budget, with projected \$100,230 in resources and \$98,640 in expenses, was approved. It includes a compensation increase for the Vicar, the first in 5 years, supported by late 2024 donations.

Additionally, \$10,000 will be transferred from the checking account to a Money Market savings account for future needs.

(At a brief BAC meeting following the annual meeting, **Kathy Webb** was elected Junior Warden and **Jennifer Mello** was elected Clerk.)



## Coming February 23rd

The Reverend Sister Patti Hale, OPA will preach and celebrate Holy Eucharist at St. John while Fr. Doug does the same at Emmanuel, Coos Bay.

Rev. Patti is Rector of Emmanuel, Fr. Doug's spouse, and the current Master of the Anglican Order of Preachers, more commonly known as "Dominicans."

### So, Noted!

**Finance Report** - At the end of this past year and just in this calendar year St. John received two generous donations, some ear-marked and the rest open. This has allowed us to have a carry-over on the budget. We can now, finally increase Father's compensation and direct monies to Savings and Investment. Fund-raising as of this year can happen if needed, but won't be necessary to cover expenses. The BAC has decided to increase funds to cover the cost of the replacement of the rotting kitchen door and to remove the tile at the entry to the Narthex and have them recovered in cement. The BAC has ok'd a budget for 2025 to be presented at the Annual Meeting. Healthy finances...it's a good thing.

**Senior Warden Report** - Per a request from out-going Jr. Warden, I have ordered and will install new filters for the refrigerator in January. We could set up a "passive" book sale somewhere in the Theresa Hall area to display left-over books from the Rainy Day Book Sale. This may allow some of "us" readers to keep raising a little income throughout the year. A member of our congregation came forward and asked me whether St. John could do a Vacation Bible School again. I brought that forward to the BAC. Stay tuned for the progress. It's looks quite promising! Finally, the BAC will provide a TACO BAR Lunch at our Annual Meeting.

**Junior Warden Report** - The BAC has signed a contract with MD Concrete to have the front steps of church refaced. The tiles will be removed and concrete will recover the actual steps and entrance. This will be done quite soon, so you may need to keep your eyes open as to where to enter church from. The replacement kitchen door will be ordered and installed by Tom Glunt and Don Bolduc. This may be a few weeks out due to waiting for the door to arrive. Upon completion, the new door will be re-keyed to fit our current keys. Also, Sally Glunt donated a remarkable rendering of Jesus on the Cross. It is displayed in the library.

**Vicar Report** - The BAC has chosen to make CDSP (Church Divinity School of the Pacific) our recipient for Theological Special Offering. The Bandon Ministerial Association will be meeting at St. John on the 21st for their monthly meeting. Please consider how you can bless yourself and the church by stepping up and helping with the myriad of "things to do" at church this year. Maybe you might want to set-up the church for service, sing in the choir, create the newsletter, and read in church.

Submitted gratefully by,

Laurea Arnoldt, Bishops Warden

## *Fr. Doug's Iconic Column*

I have been in conversation with several of you about the singing of hymns during communion. There has been concern that when we return to our pews after receiving communion it has been difficult and frustrating to find where we are in the hymns. So, after some discussion at the BAC meeting, it was decided to step back from that practice.

It was decided that what we thought would be most important is to encourage times of personal prayer and reflection. We saw this as not just for the time during communion. We want the time during the prelude and the postlude to also be opportunities for personal time with God.

In the past we have encouraged people to gather in the sanctuary before worship and to be as quiet as possible so that people may prepare themselves for worship with prayer and reflection. We have not always been successful at that. It is quite a temptation to greet and begin a conversation when we first see each other. So, this is an on-going challenge for us to continue to work on. One thing we are going to do that may help a bit is to go back to closing the door between the sanctuary and the hallway. That way the conversations going on in the sacristy and hallway will not carry into the sanctuary.

Similarly, the time during communion can be a time of silent preparation before receiving and a time of prayer and reflection after receiving. It can also be a time of praying for one another as we see each other approaching the altar.

Finally, during the postlude, while Cynthia is playing, we can again have a time of silent prayer and reflection upon the whole service. Here the temptation is to view Cynthia's piano playing as a performance. But we need to make this time as an important part of our worship when we continue to keep our focus upon our life with God. Stay through the postlude, if you wish to have some time for prayer, or feel free to get up and move toward Theresa Hall for a time of fellowship.

There are a few aides to these times of reflection and prayer to be found in the Prayer Book. On pages 833-834 there are several prayers that could be read during these quiet times. #64 is a prayer "Before Worship." #66 is a prayer to be used "Before Communion" as we are preparing to receive. #67 is a prayer that can be used "After Communion" upon returning to our pews. And #68 is a prayer to be used "After Worship." There is an additional prayer that is part of the Rite 1 Eucharist service that can be used prior to receiving communion. It is found at the bottom of page 337 and is often referred to as the Prayer of Humble Access. Some people find this prayer to be very important and wish it was part of Rite 2, which we use most of the time.

All of this is to say that our time of worship is something that we do together, but there can also be times of silence and personal worship. Take advantage of these time and guard those times for others that we all might draw closer to God.

Fr. Doug



Musings from Denise

## The Cross: An Often Misunderstood Symbol

In Christian iconography, the cross represents the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and the redemption of humanity through His death and resurrection. It is a reminder of the transformative power of Christ's love for us and the call to follow Him in humility and service.

Crosses come in many forms, and some have particular meanings and associations with certain followers of Jesus. Mounted on the wall between the stained-glass windows in our nave is a series of wooden crosses crafted by a Sunday School class decades ago. They include the familiar "t-shaped" Latin Cross; the Jerusalem Cross (also known as the Crusader Cross, which is a large Greek Cross with arms of equal length and a smaller Greek cross in each of the quadrants); a Mariner's Cross shaped like an anchor that symbolizes hope; and several other crosses.



One cross in this series – an upside-down Latin Cross (also known as an inverted cross) -- disturbs some modern viewers because they associate it with either a political statement (like hanging the American flag upside down as a distress signal) or more commonly, as a satanic symbol (which is a very recent interpretation that is neither rooted in Scripture nor Christian tradition). This cross has been part of Christian symbolism for nearly 2,000 years.

The upside-down cross is a symbol of the Apostle Peter, first Bishop of the Church in Rome, who was martyred there in 64 A.D. during the reign of the Emperor Nero. Although his death was not described in Scripture, it was recorded by early Church Fathers and the historian Eusebius in the 1st and 2nd centuries.

Legend has it that Peter was crucified upside-down at his own request because he did not feel worthy to be crucified in the same manner as his Lord. Less well-known is the fact that two other apostles (Philip and Bartholomew) were later crucified the same way in the Greek city of Hierapolis in Phrygia (although Bartholomew was released from his cross before he died). To this day, an inverted cross appears in many church and genealogical records next to names of Christians who have died.

Symbols can evolve and take on new meanings over time, so it is important to approach them with an understanding of their historical and cultural context. For example, the Swastika comes from a Sanskrit word meaning "conducive to well-being," and has been widely respected by Buddhists, Hindus and Jains for thousands of years. After Adolph Hitler appropriated the Swastika as an emblem of his Nazi party, it became associated with hatred and evil.



*Martyrdom of Peter, Unknown artist*

As a satanic symbol, the upside-down cross did not come into use until the mid-19th century. By the end of the 20th century it had been portrayed that way in horror films and embraced by certain counter cultural groups seeking to invert Christian iconography and to symbolize opposition to the traditional values associated with Christianity.

Despite its controversial interpretation in modern times, the upside-down cross within a Christian context serves as a profound reminder of St. Peter's faith, humility and sacrifice. As we pass by this ancient symbol on our way to our pews, we are invited to reflect on the strength of our own faith and devotion.

## **2025 VOLUNTEERS**



*(These are names of those who volunteered at the annual meeting. Additional volunteers are very welcome and needed – just contact the office at [stjohns.bandon@gmail.com](mailto:stjohns.bandon@gmail.com).)*

**ALTAR GUILD:** Laurea Arnoldt, Mary Garrett, Sally Glunt, Judy Jackson (Flowers)

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP:** Eucharistic Minister: Ginny Hall, Kay Marino, Denise Skillman; Lector: Laurea Arnoldt, Ginny Hall, Maggie Lowery, Denise Skillman; Intercessor: Laurea Arnoldt, Ginny Hall, Judy Jackson, Maggie Lowery, Denise Skillman; Greeter/Usher: Laurea Arnoldt, Mary Garrett, Judy Jackson, Kathy Webb; *(No volunteers yet for Music)*

**HOSPITALITY AT COFFEE HOUR:** Laurea Arnoldt, Sally Glunt, Maggie Lowery, Kay Marino, Sharon Moy, Patti Wood

**CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER:** Greeting Card Ministry: Ginny Hall; Prayer Chain: Laurea Arnoldt, Andrea Burke, Jeff Clark, Ginny Hall, Maggie Lowery, Gail Pray, Denise Skillman; Table Décor: Lani Reynolds

**CARE FOR OTHERS :** Food & Faith: Andrea Burke, Laurea Arnoldt, Judy Jackson, Kay Marino; Good Neighbors: Ginny Hall (Treasurer), Kathy Webb (transporting donations); Halloween Event: Maggie Lowery, Sharon Moy, Lani Reynolds; Medical Loan Closet: Andrea Burke, Sally Glunt, Judy Jackson, Lani Reynolds

**CARE OF BUILDING & GROUNDS:** Junior Warden Kathy Webb (oversees all); Garden Care: Judy Jackson, Large Projects Laurea Arnoldt, Judy Jackson, Kathy Webb; Memorial Scatter Garden Committee: Laurea Arnoldt, Denise Skillman; *No volunteers yet for: Minor Repairs, Lawn Care.*

**CREATION CARE:** Green Energy Committee: Mary Garrett, Denise Skillman; Recycling of Bottles & Cans, Paper & Cardboard: Sally Glunt; Trash: Kathy Webb

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE** (Plan and organize fundraising events as needed): Maggie Lowery (McKay's Receipts), Sharon Moy (Book Sale), Patti Wood

**OFFICE AND PUBLICITY:** Banker: Kathy Webb & Ginny Hall; Bulletins and Prayers of the People: Laurea Arnoldt, Maggie Lowery; Facebook: Sharon Moy; Help with Files, Mail/Email: Maggie Lowery, Denise Skillman; Lay Ministry Scheduler: Jennifer Mello; Newsletter: Denise Skillman; Purchasing: Kathy Webb; Website: Judy Jackson.

# FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Presentation of Lord <b>Eucharist 9:30a</b> 2p Dances of Universal Peace	<b>3</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>4</b> 7:30p AA	<b>5</b> 7:30p AA	<b>6</b> 10:30a: Conversation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 5th Sun after Epiphany <b>Eucharist 9:30a</b> <b>BAC</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>11</b> 7:30p AA	<b>12</b> 7:30p AA	<b>13</b> 10:30a: Conversation	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 6th Sun after Epiphany <b>Eucharist 9:30a</b> <b>Healing Service</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>18</b> 10 am S.E.A. 7:30p AA	<b>19</b> 7:30p AA	<b>20</b> 10:30a: Conversation	<b>21</b> <i>News Deadline For March</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 7th Sun after Epiphany <b>Eucharist 9:30a</b> <b>Pulpit Swap</b> <i>(See Page 2)</i>	<b>24</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>25</b> 7:30p AA	<b>26</b> 7:30p AA	<b>27</b> 10:30a: Conversation	<b>28</b>	

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2/1 Leland Pestana  
 2/6 Maggie Lowery  
 2/13 Helen & Eddie Miller  
 2/15 Lara & Dave Mickle



2/19 Ivy Wagner  
 2/20 Ann Sandstrom  
 2/22 Braydon Wagner  
 2/26 Denise Skillman

*If your name should be on this list, please contact the office so we can update our records and honor your day when it comes around again.*

### St. John By-the-Sea

#### Episcopal Church

795 Franklin Avenue  
 (PO Box 246)  
 Bandon, OR 97411

Phone: 541-347-2152

Email: [stjohns.bandon@gmail.com](mailto:stjohns.bandon@gmail.com)

Website:

[www.stjohnsbandon.org](http://www.stjohnsbandon.org)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Episcopal-Church-in-Bandon-Oregon-234749653862372>

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### Medical Loan Closet

(Open by Appointment Only)

Phone: 541-590-2443

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### A Believe Out Loud

#### Congregation



## W H O W E A R E

St. John Episcopal Church is 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.

### CHURCH STAFF

Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale

(Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Music Director: Cynthia Mohorko

### BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

(Generally meets 2nd Sundays after Coffee Hour)

Bishop's Warden: Laurea Arnoldt; Junior Warden: Kathy Webb

Clerk: Jennifer Mello; Treasurer: Denise Skillman

#### Members at Large:

Lori Holton, Maggie Lowery, Gail Pray

#### Convention Delegates:

Mary Garrett, Sally Glunt

(Alternates: Patti & Chris Wood)

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

There are still volunteer positions to fill for 2025. If you did not have an opportunity to submit a “Time and Talent Pledge Form” at the Annual Meeting and would like to offer your services to God, the people of St. John and our community, you can fill out the form below and turn it in on a Sunday or mail it to the church (PO Box 246, Bandon, OR 97411)



**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

*(Training is provided)*

Eucharistic Minister

Greeter/Usher

Lector

Music

Intercessor

**CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER**

Prayer Chain

**CARE FOR OTHERS**

Food & Faith

Halloween Event

Good Neighbors

Medical Loan Closet

**CARE OF BUILDING & GROUNDS**

Minor Repairs

Scatter Garden Committee

Garden Care

Large Projects

Lawn Care

**CREATION CARE**

Green Energy Committee

Paper/Cardboard Recycle

Bottle/Can Recycling

Trash

**OFFICE**

File set-up (labeling folders, organizing files)

Archive consolidation per Retention Schedule

**PUBLICITY**

Newsletter (Editor needed for May issue)

**OTHER WAYS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE:**