

# *St. John's Journal*

Bandon-by-the-Sea, Oregon

September 2025



ECW FALL PROGRAM AND  
ANNUAL MEETING

## "EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ACTION"

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

ST ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ALBANY, OR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  
THE REV. MARIANNE  
ALLISON

REGISTRATION 9:30 AM

REGISTRATION:

[HTTPS://2025ECW-FALL-PROGRAM.EVENTBRITE/COM](https://2025ecw-fall-program.eventbrite.com)

MORE INFORMATION:

[ECW.DIOOREGON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ECW.DIOOREGON@GMAIL.COM)

St. John Episcopal Church, 795 Franklin Avenue (PO Box 246) Bandon, OR 97411 \* 541-347-2152



## BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No BAC meeting was held in September. A summary of the last meeting (held July 13) appeared in the September edition of St. John's Journal.

The next BAC meeting will be held September 14, 2025

All women of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western Oregon are members of the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women (DECW), even when there is no active chapter at their church, and are eligible to attend the organization's annual meeting. The next diocesan event is September 13th:

### ***"Empowering Women in Action"***

A Day of Worship, Learning, and Community  
St Alban's Episcopal Church, Albany – 9:30 AM

Registration includes lunch: <https://2025ECW-Fall-Program.eventbrite.com>

More Information: [ecw.diooregon@gmail.com](mailto:ecw.diooregon@gmail.com)

This special gathering promises to be a day dedicated to worship, inspiration, education, and meaningful fellowship for all who attend.

#### Event Highlights

Worship & Reflection – Begin the day with uplifting worship, centering hearts and minds as we gather in community.

Keynote Address by the Rev. Marianne Allison – Be inspired by Rev. Allison's wisdom and vision as she shares insights on empowerment, faith, and action in today's world.

Learning & Fellowship – Engage in thoughtful discussion and connect with others who share a passion for meaningful service and spiritual growth.

Annual Business Meeting – Participate in a brief session to hear the work of the Episcopal Church Women, celebrate our achievements, and look ahead to new opportunities.

Election and Installation – Join us in welcoming our newly elected officers and the installation of our incoming board as we chart a course for the year ahead.

Lunch Included – Enjoy a delicious meal together as we continue conversations and strengthen our bonds of friendship.

"We sincerely hope you will be able to attend this day of connection, celebration, and empowerment. Whether you are new to our community or have been a part of the Episcopal Church Women for many years, your presence enriches our gathering.

Come as you are, bring a friend, and prepare to be inspired as we unite in faith and action. We look forward to welcoming you!"

## *Fr. Doug's Iconic Column*

I was on vacation for three weeks in August. Patti and I had a well-planned itinerary. We were to fly out of Eugene to Seattle and then to Calgary, Alberta. We were to spend five days in Calgary for Patti's Anglican Dominican Order Chapter Meeting, and I was to be free to participate some and poke around in Calgary as well. We were then flying back to Seattle to board a cruise ship for an Alaska cruise. Upon returning to Seattle, we would fly to Eugene and then drive home. We would then have a relatively quiet week at home. The vacation would culminate with a large Hale family reunion at Willamette Mission Park north of Salem.

WELL...

Things did not quite go as planned.

Our flight from Eugene was delayed so we missed our flight from Seattle to Calgary. The Airline put us up in a motel in Seattle and put us on a new flight to Calgary the next morning. We should have realized that this portended future events. Things went as planned in Calgary until we were packing up to fly to Seattle and discovered that Patti's passport was missing. We tried to board the plane to Seattle on Saturday without it, but the airline would not let us. The US Consulate wouldn't open until Monday, so there was no way we could get to our cruise, so we cancelled that. On Monday, the Consulate informed us that it would take several days to get a new passport and then we would have to book new flights at some unknown date to get home. It was then explained to us that we could drive across the border without the passport. We investigated renting a car, but we could not get a one-way rental. We rented the one thing that is designed for one way travel, a moving van. So, for several days we were on a U-Haul Cruise, seeing the scenery of Calgary, Montana, Idaho, and Eastern and Central Oregon. In addition, we got to spend some time with friends in Salmon, Idaho and Eugene. We returned home for our week of rest, but the next day I got sick and found myself taking numerous naps for several days, not quite the rest I had anticipated. We had our family gathering, but it was outdoors in the afternoon when the temperature in the Salem area was 100 degrees. Our vacation time did not go quite as planned, but it was an adventure, and we got to see beautiful parts of God's creation we had never seen before, we got to visit with friends and family, and we celebrated a 35th anniversary in a way that will not soon be forgotten.



My journey in ministry is also something that did not go according to plan. It has led me to live in a variety of places: California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Idaho, Eastern Oregon, Eugene, Roseburg, Tillamook, and Coos County. I have served as a United Methodist Pastor, an Episcopal Priest, and filling in at Lutheran and Presbyterian churches. I have been a local pastor, a hospice chaplain, and a campus

*Continues on Page 5*

*Musings from Denise*

## DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Our Conversation Group will start meeting again on Thursdays this month. We often laugh at ourselves for falling down a rabbit hole whenever we stray from the main topic. Sometimes we learn a lot from those detours, and they can be quite entertaining.

During grad school at the UofO, I researched a series of 14<sup>th</sup> Century murals in an Italian chapel. This required learning a little about Bonifacio Lupi, the donor of the paintings, and the culture of his time. After spending months analyzing the art and architecture of the chapel, it was diverting to study the people. At the library, I found a chronicle of the ruling family of that period that included several mentions of Bonifacio as a military leader and ambassador. Reading was slow since it was in Latin and a Veneto dialect, both unfamiliar to me. But what I could glean from it was intriguing – and far more interesting than what I was supposed to be writing about.

While it did provide some historical background I needed, it led me down fascinating paths that had nothing to do with the chapel, the paintings, or the donor. I began day-dreaming about writing a historical novel, and promised myself that after I graduated, I'd return to the library to read that chronicle and try my hand at some fiction writing. More than forty years have passed, and I have not returned. That carrot still hangs just out of reach. I realize I'm running low on "somedays," but maybe, just maybe, I can nibble on that carrot someday soon.

That whole research, writing, and wandering process comes back to me every time I have an opportunity to write a homily – as I did twice last month while our Vicar was away. I'm sure my study method is nothing like a seminary-trained clergyperson's. We both begin with the assigned lectionary, of course. But they have already completed the background study necessary to understand the passages and their context, while I need to catch up by researching terminology, finding parallel passages, and reading commentaries from biblical scholars before I can put pen to paper.

Inevitably, I find myself falling down a rabbit hole and losing my way for a while. It used to frustrate me, but now I accept it as part of the process. Nesting in some of those rabbit holes are fascinating tidbits I'd love to share, but they seldom fit the homily. Maybe they will become fodder for a future "Musing."



## “Conversations” resume September 4th

The Thursday morning study group will resume meeting in the Library from 10:30 to Noon on September 4th. Each week the group focuses on two Holy Women and Holy Men the church commemorates. Handouts are available on the marble table in the hallway that provide background information and the assigned readings. All are welcome to participate. It will be helpful to come on September 4th prepared to discuss the first two people: David Pendleton Oakerhater and Katharina Zell.

### Special Offering Supports Vicar's Discretionary Fund

The Vicar's Discretionary Fund grants charitable aid to persons in financial distress. Some need gas money to get to a doctor's appointment. They may need a hot meal, a safe place to stay for a night, or some other reason. Please consider donating to replenish this fund on the 28th.

### Vicar's Vacation, *continued from page 3*

minister. Some of those changes came from well thought through decisions, some came from rather difficult circumstances, and some just happened. If you had told me when I first started in the ministry that this was what my ministry would be made up of, I would have laughed at your joke. And yet, this ministry cruise has been worth it. It has been an adventure and a gift to be in so many different places, in circumstances, with so many different people.



All our lives are adventures. We try to have plans. We set goals for ourselves. And then life gets in the way. Life gets creative. Sometimes it is the result of incredibly wonderful surprises. Sometimes it is the result of very painful or disappointing circumstances. Especially in those difficult times in our lives, we need to look for gifts of life that come our way. Sometimes we don't recognize them until later. Sometimes they come later because of the pain we have gone through. While I am not one to say that God makes everything happen in our lives, I do believe that God is with us through everything to support us and to provide those gifts we had not anticipated or planned.

My first day back at work at St. John was a day of adventure. I had a list of things that I knew that I needed to accomplish. And then life happened. I visited with quite a few of you in person or by phone, checking in about how your adventures are unfolding. I took some time with an “interesting” fellow traveling by foot down Hwy 101 who wanted a little help to wash some of his clothes. And then there were tasks I had not anticipated. In the afternoon, things quieted down some. I went into our sanctuary and stood before the altar. As I stood there in the quiet, looking upon the images of Jesus, I sensed that God was saying to me, “St. John is where you need to be.” The adventure continues. Wherever you are in your adventure in life, keep your eyes and your heart open for the gifts God has for you.

Fr. Doug





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> LABOR DAY	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Conversations (10:30-12)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 13th after Pentecost Eucharist 9:30a	<b>8</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>9</b> 7:30p AA	<b>10</b> 7:30p AA	<b>11</b> PATRIOTS DAY Conversations (10:30-12) 6:30p Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> DECW, 9:30a in Albany (See pp 1-2)
<b>14</b> 14th after Pentecost Eucharist & Healing BAC Meeting	<b>15</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>16</b> 10-12 S.E.A. 7:30p AA	<b>17</b> 7:30p AA	<b>18</b> Conversations (10:30-12) 6:30p Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 15th after Pentecost Eucharist 9:30a	<b>22</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>23</b> 7:30p AA	<b>24</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 7:30p AA	<b>25</b> Conversations (10:30-12) 6:30p Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 16th after Pentecost Eucharist 9:30a <b>SPECIAL OFFERING</b>	<b>29</b> 5:30p ACOA 7:30p AA	<b>30</b> 7:30p AA	<b>September Commemorations</b> 9/1 Labor Day honors achievements of American Workers 9/11 Patriot Day recalls victims of terrorist attacks (2001) 9/26 Bandon Fire remembrance (1936)			

*On September 28, a special offering to support the Vicar's Discretionary Fund will be requested.*



## September Birthdays

**9/1 Helen Slack-Miller**

**9/6 Kay Marino**

**9/14 Ann Montgomery**

**9/22 Bob Graville**

*If your name should be on this list for a birthday or anniversary, please contact the office so that we can update our records and honor your day when it comes around again. We have no anniversaries on our calendar for September.)*

## SHADES OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION



During the challenging 1930's, most Americans were just trying to get by, and few had the luxury of coming home from the grocery store with extra items. For many of us, the 2020's are much the same.

It wasn't just the amount of cash in one's wallet but the weight of the groceries in their hand-held basket that limited purchases until an Oklahoma grocer invented the first grocery cart shoppers could push. In 1937, he added wheels to the legs of a folding chair and placed a basket on the seat and a platform between the legs to hold a second basket. Voilà, it became a two-tiered cart.

People were slow to accept this new convenience until the grocer hired store greeters to hand shoppers a cart. He even paid actors to walk around shopping with them. Slowly, the idea caught on, and carts of all shapes and sizes are now commonplace.

Have you noticed, though, that many of us are reverting to the smaller baskets and carts? The dollar doesn't stretch as well in 2025 as it did in 2020, and that's probably why:

## LITTLE FREE PANTRY IS GROWING IN POPULARITY

There has been a steady stream of non-perishable food donations from parishioners and community members to the Little Free Pantry on the south lawn of our church, and it is serving the immediate needs of a growing number of "food insecure" people in Bandon.

Thank you for continuing to spread the word and for stopping by regularly to replenish the shelves.



**St. John By-the-Sea  
Episcopal Church**

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234749653862372](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**



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

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale**

Office Hours Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Music Director: Cynthia Mohorko**

**BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)**

*(Generally meets 2nd Sundays after Coffee Hour.*

*No meeting is scheduled for September.)*

Officers:

Laurea Arnoldt, Bishop's Warden; Kathy Webb, Junior Warden; Jennifer Mello, Clerk; Denise Skillman, Treasurer

Members at Large:

Lori Holton, Maggie Lowery, Gail Pray

Convention Delegates:

Mary Garrett, Sally Glunt

(Alternates: Patti & Chris Wood)

**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.