

St. John's Journal

Bandon-by-the-Sea, Oregon

May 2026

Fr. Doug's Iconic Column

Recently I have been reflecting upon some experiences I have had with people in our community. Our congregation is fairly good at being a welcoming congregation. If we have visitors on Sunday morning, it is very likely that one or more of us will engage them in conversation at the end of the service and invite them into coffee hour. I know that at times if the visitors seem unfamiliar with the Prayer Book, one of our number might offer them some helpful hints. We are not perfect at this by any means, but we do better than some congregations I know.

These visitors can also bring special challenges with them. People may be without a church because they have had a falling out with another congregation. They may have been a part of a church community and then been confronted by that community for believing something that is unacceptable to them. The hurt from that confrontation can create a fear of ever being involved in a congregation again. Such people may approach us with little willingness to get involved because of their fear of being hurt again. We may know some people in the community like that, who have not stepped through the door of a church for a long time, but might be people who really could benefit

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The **Day of Pentecost** (May 24th this year) is the Birthday of the Church

Remember to wear RED.



Wearing red on Pentecost Sunday symbolizes the "tongues of fire" of the Holy Spirit descending upon the Apostles, representing passion, zeal, and the birth of the Church. It is a liturgical tradition symbolizing the inward transformation of faith and acts as a visual representation of the church community's unity in the Holy Spirit.

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from being a part of our spiritual life together. For people such as these, we need to be able to communicate that the door is always open to them, while not pressing them hard to join up.

There are also visitors who may not fit in well with other people because of who they are. They can be people whose appearance or behavior puts people off. Or they can be people who being around a fair number of people can be uncomfortable. Approaching someone like this may be difficult for us.

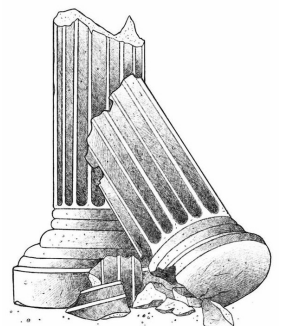
Someone like this being approached by us might be difficult for them. So, it requires openness on our part, a willingness to set aside our discomforts to be with them, a willingness to listen, to get to know what is unique about them and how we best can include them. It requires that we intentionally keep the door open for them so that they can freely come or go as they wish, knowing that there are people inside the door who are willing to listen.

I am reminded of the biblical story of the woman who suffered with hemorrhages for twelve years. She was considered unclean, to be kept away at arm's length, if not more. She had heard of Jesus healing people. So, in a crowd around Jesus, she snuck up to him and reached out and touched his garment with the faith that just that touch would heal her. And then she tried to sink back into anonymity in the crowd. Jesus sought her out, not to accuse her, but to praise her for her faith in God's power to heal her. She became an example of great faith in God. But she did not have that faith as the result of being healed and accepted back into the community, but before when she was considered unapproachable or unacceptable. She had the courage and faith, to enter the door. But then she tried to sneak out the door and Jesus came and found her outside to let her know that she was always welcome to come in.

We live in a time when it is not easy to leave the doors open to other people. We have our own fears, our own discomforts, our own apprehensions. And we think that they are all legitimate and we would be foolish to let our guard down. But we are called to follow Jesus, the one who opened the door for us and invited us in, the one who allowed himself to be surrounded by crowds of unknown individuals, the one who was willing to touch lepers to heal them. The road Jesus walked was not easy, but he got to be a part of people's lives being transformed. Jesus invites us to take a few steps, to risk a little, to come alongside other people and invite them through the door into life with him that we have experienced.

When we do we will find that Jesus is there holding the door open for us.

Fr. Doug



So, Noted!

At the April 12 BAC meeting, Minutes of March 8 were approved and the following items were discussed:

Finance:

- (1) The Medical Loan Closet sent a \$45 donation to St. Timothy's in thanks for help getting equipment returned from Brookings.
- (2) The Church Pension Fund demanded an unusually large payment (\$2,892.65) in April, which we learned (after the meeting) included not only an adjustment for the Vicar's stipend increase this year but back payments for the past year or two when similar adjustments were not made.

Building and Grounds:

- (1) The Parking Lot Project has received two bids and is awaiting a third. The range is \$148,000 to \$218,000, which is considerably more than we expected.
- (2) Furnace filters have been changed.
- (3) A request to raise the temperature in the sanctuary was discussed. The Vicar promised to adjust the thermostat a little.

Vicar announced:

- (1) A Safe Church Training will be held at Emmanuel on May 9th.
- (2) He will attend a Clergy Conference at Oregon Gardens (Silverton) April 19 (after church) through April 22, and will not be in the office that Tuesday.
- (3) He will be gone again April 30 through May 3 for a Cursillo Weekend. He will not be in the office Thursday, and Sunday May 3 will be Morning Prayer, led by Denise Skillman.
- (4) May 10 was the next scheduled BAC meeting, however it was moved to May 17th.
- (5) May 24 is Pentecost Sunday. A Special Offering will be collected for a use to be determined by the Diocesan Council.
- (6) May 31 is Trinity Sunday.

"Use your smile to change the world;
 don't let the world change your smile."

—Unknown

MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Fr. Doug at Cursillo thru 5/3	2
3 Morning Prayer Easter V	4 7:30 AA	5 7:30 AA	6 7:30 AA	7 6:30 Choir	8	9 Safe Church at Emmanuel
10 Eucharist Easter VI	11 7:30 AA	12 7:30 AA	13 7:30 AA	14 Ascension Day 6:30 Choir	15	16
17 Eucharist BAC	18 7:30 AA	19 SEA 10-12 7:30 AA	20 7:30 AA	21 6:30 Choir	22 Newsletter Deadline	23
24 Eucharist PENTECOST & HEALING	25 MEMORIAL DAY 7:30 AA	26 7:30 AA	27 7:30 AA	28 6:30 Choir	29	30
31 Eucharist TRINITY						

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- May 5 Sharon & Doug Moy
- May 12 Bobbi & George Neason
- May 23 Juanita Limon
- May 25 Pat Ghaly
- May 26 Marilyn Pratt
- May 29 Doug Moy



Lily of the Valley

If your anniversary or birthday is missing from this list, please inform the office so we can celebrate the occasion with you.

A Celebration of Life for Caroline McKemy



Sunday May 24th at 1 p.m.

The Dogwood Ranch

90600 HWY 42S, Coquille, OR 97423

Musings from Denise

How to be a Good Christian

During the past month, I have been preparing a homily for delivery on May 3rd. It focuses on a man who lived a short but exemplary life. He was an early deacon of the church, charged with looking after the needs of widows, orphans and the poor. He knew the scriptures well and could interpret them wisely.

He would have approved of our motto, which is to **“Love God, Love our Neighbor, and Serve One Another.”** In that respect, we could all be deacons, even though we are not all ordained and we may not all have the gift of influencing others through our words. Actions speak louder than words, so they say.

Unfortunately, this man’s words got him into some trouble with Jewish authorities and he suffered a terrible death just a couple years after Christ’s crucifixion.

To learn more about him, join me Sunday, May 3rd at Morning Prayer.

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Bandon-Oregon-
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Medical Loan Closet
(Open by Appointment Only)

Phone:

541-590-2443



WHO WE ARE

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.

“ Love God, love our neighbor, and serve one another.”

CHURCH STAFF

Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale

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

Office: Denise Skillman, Laurea Arnoldt & Maggie Lowery

Music Director: Cynthia Mohorko

Choral Conductor: Stephen Mohorko

Choir: Debbie Griffith, Sheila Lloyd, Cynthia Mohorko, Bobbi Neason, Marilyn Pratt, Dylan Levrets, Gail Pray, Patti Wood, and Fr. Doug Hale

Altar Guild: Mary Garrett, Sally Glunt, Laurea Arnoldt, & Jennifer Mello

Flower Guild: Judy Jackson

BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

Generally meets 2nd Sundays after Coffee Hour.

Officers:

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

Members at Large:

Lori Holton, Maggie Lowery, Patti Wood

Convention Delegates:

Laurea Arnoldt & Kay Marino

Alternate: Mary Garrett