

St. John's Journal

September 2026



Father Doug's Iconic Column

It was good to have a couple weeks off in August.

My vacation included celebrating Patti's and my anniversary, number 36, and Patti's birthday. It including spending over a week with my eldest brother Jack and his wife Jane in Hartford, Connecticut, along with seeing a couple nephews. We had not been back there since we moved back to Oregon from Massachusetts 15 years ago, though we have seen them when they came out to Oregon a number of times.

That week was a time of visiting historic places, cemeteries and public parks. It also included spending some time doing nothing. That was one of the most important things I did (or didn't do?).

I also go to worship in two different Episcopal Churches. The first Sunday we went with my brother to Trinity Episcopal Church in Hartford. The second Sunday I went to Emmanuel in Coos Bay. I was good to experience worship from a pew like any ordinary human being. It was also good to see how different churches do their worship. I may try to use some things I experienced. There were some things that we do better.

On the other hand, it was not good that I was away from the people of St. John. We belong together. While I was able to let go of responsibility for a couple weeks, my heart and mind were not

far from you. And I must confess that I was not able to completely step away, especially after returning to Oregon.

I got to thinking about my plan for restarting the Conversation Group with a six-week class on the Episcopal Church. I felt moved to do something different. So, the Episcopal Class will be put off for a while. Instead, I invite people to join with me in an exploration of certain passages from Paul's Letters. I have picked out passages where Paul speaks about what our life in Christ should look like. These passages are both challenging and comforting. They will provide an opportunity for us to take an honest look at ourselves to see where we are truly following Christ and where we need some improvement, while also being encouraged by the support we receive from God and each other.

So, after this time we have taken a vacation from the Conversation Group meeting, I would invite those who have been a part of it and those who have yet to give it a try to come and spend time together as we listen to God speak to us through Scripture and through each other.

We will meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30 beginning September 3rd. Come when you can.

Fr. Doug

So, Noted! Bishop's Advisory Council Meeting August 9, 2026

Treasurers Report

Reconciliations – All bank accounts have been reconciled through July 31st, 2026. The Memorial Fund received a \$500 gift in memory of Caroline McKemy with no restrictions.

Investments - Morgan Stanley's Preferred Savings statements have been reconciled through July 31st. Since inception (April 1, 2024) it has gained \$2,014.11 in interest. The recommendation was **made and approved** to transfer the "Clergy Reserve" to the Morgan Stanley account. Both are restricted for future clergy costs. Together, the two funds amount to \$46,176.59. Current clergy costs are around \$61,000 per year including benefits, and rise a minimum of 2% with a step increase, which affects the pension (18% of stipend), plus health insurance.

Income Statements – (formerly "Operating P&L") for July shows expenses exceeded income by \$2,625 in July, but year-to-date income has been over budget by \$14,067.

Restructuring Proposal for Finance Department – In July, the BAC discussed hiring a bookkeeper and purchasing new finance software. More information was needed about

added costs and revised processes. A revision of the Treasurer's Procedure Manual is in progress.

There are four main issues:

Audits: For the past several years, Sally Jaeggli has performed our audits for free. There are two choices going forward: appointing our own audit committee or hiring a CPA (expensive!). The **recommendation has been made** to form a committee to audit the 2026 audit in 2027, rather than hiring a CPA.

Delegation of Treasurer's Duties – Denise's injury from last year made it clear that we need more than one person trained to enter data, pull reports, and manage the accounts. Again, if we hire CPA or bookkeeper, we have to allow outside access to our accounts and banking. We also have to pay someone. The **recommendation was made and approved** that the BAC appoints Kathy Webb as Assistant Treasurer, to be trained along with Denise on the new financial software, and appoint one or two others to replace her as Banker.

Software: In June, the BAC authorized the purchase of the two same modules of Church Windows (an online subscription) that Emmanuel uses to replace QuickBooks. The "Deluxe Tier" which includes training for the modules, "Donations & Accounting", will cost \$1,188/year. We hope to order it in September.

Payroll – The Diocese has dictated that we must process our own payroll using Paragon Payroll/HR. It took over 2 hours on the phone to set up the account. The first paycheck on this new system was supposed to be processed at the end of July. However, on July 22nd the Diocese announced that a mock payroll revealed the process to be more complicated than anticipated. Therefore, the Diocese "will continue to process our payroll until further notice".

COST: When all the glitches are worked out, payroll costs will add approximately \$1,200/year to our Operating expenses for one employee. (The previous program was free to us.)

No Senior Warden Report

Junior Warden Report Parking Lot construction is basically completed. As with all construction, we have finishing work like landscaping and rock work in the dry-riverbed to do.

Vicar Report

1. Gifted crucifix has been hung over the doorway in the nave
2. Doug was on vacation for 2 weeks (August 10-24)
3. BAC will be on the 13th of September
4. Conversations group will be off until September 3rd.
5. Add Maggie to Stewardship Committee in September.

Upcoming Events –

September 6th – Special Offering on Sunday
for Priest Discretionary Fund

September 13th – Healing Service & BAC Mtg

September 19th – Little Free Pantry Party 11-
2pm

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

9/5 – Lucinda Tatman

9/6 – Kay Marino

9/14 – Ann Montgomery

DIDJA KNOW?

The modern month of **September is not mentioned by name in the Bible**, because the biblical calendar used a different Hebrew naming system and the name "September" comes from the ancient Roman calendar. [\[1\]](#)

The Hebrew Calendar Equivalent

- September typically aligns with the Hebrew months of **Elul** and **Tishri**.
- **Elul** is the sixth month of the Hebrew ecclesiastical year and the twelfth month of the civil year, serving as a time of spiritual reflection leading up to the High Holy Days.
- **Tishri** is the seventh month, marking the Jewish New Year (**Rosh Hashanah**) and major festivals like **Yom Kippur** and the **Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)**.

Key Biblical Events in This Season

While the calendar name differs, several important biblical passages and events occur during this early autumn timeframe:

- **Rebuilding the Altar:** In the book of Ezra, the Israelites gathered in Jerusalem during this early autumn period to rebuild the altar of God and resume burnt offerings (Ezra 3:1–6).
- **Feast of Trumpets / Yom Teruah:** Commanded in Leviticus 23:24–25, celebrated on the first day of the seventh month (Tishri). [\[1\]](#)

September in Christian Tradition

- **Month of the Bible:** Many Christian traditions, particularly Catholics and some Protestants, informally or formally designate September as a month to focus on Scripture.
- **St. Jerome's Feast Day:** September 30 marks the feast day of St. Jerome, who translated the Bible into the Latin *Vulgate*.
- **The Bear Bible:** September 26, 1569, marks the completion of the *Biblia del Oso*, the first complete Bible translated into Spanish. [\[1, 2, 3\]](#)

St. John Episcopal Church
795 Franklin Avenue
(PO Box 246)
Bandon, OR 97411

Phone 541-347-2152
Email:
stjohns.bandon@gmail.com

Website:
www.stjohnsbandon.org

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

Medical Loan Closet
Phone: 541-590-2443



A Believe Out Loud
Congregation

Who We Are

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: Kathy Webb

Treasurer: Denise Skillman

Clerk: Jennifer Mello

Members at large: Patti Wood, Lorilyn Colton, & Maggie Lowery

Convention Delegates: Laurea Arnoldt & Kay Marino

Alternates: Mary Garrett

CHURCH STAFF

Vicar: The Rev. Doug Hale

Music Director: Cynthia M0horko

Office: Denise Skillman, Laurea Arnoldt, & Maggie Lowery

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"

September 2026



S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3 Conversations 10:30 am Stewardship Mtg 1:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm	4	5
6 Pentecost Healing Service Spec. Offering Priest Disc. Fund	7 7:30 pm AA	8 7:30 pm AA	9 7:30 pm AA	10 Conversations 10:30 am Choir 6:30 pm	11	12
13 Pentecost BAC Mtg	14 7:30 pm AA	15 S.E.A. Board Mtg 10-12 pm 7:30 pm AA	16 7:30 pm AA	17 Conversations 10:30 am Choir 6:30 pm	18	19 Little Free Pantry Party 11-2pm
20 Pentecost	21 7:30 pm AA	22 7:30 pm AA	23 7:30 pm AA	24 Conversations 10:30 am Choir 6:30 pm	25	26
27 Pentecost	28 7:30 pm AA	29 7:30 pm AA	30 7:30 pm AA			