A Message from The Rev. Doug Scott

We are not alone

Summertime tends to cause a dip in all things church – attendance at worship gets a little smaller as people pursue warm weather opportunities or necessities – last minute trips to the coast or the mountains, lawn and garden maintenance, a rare chance to sleep late. It’s something of a rhythm that has been playing out for decades.

In contrast to the slower pace of warmer months, the church’s calendar is packed with remembrances intended to remind us that we are “surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 12:1). Saints big and small crowd summertime days as if’s to say, “Here! Remember! You’re not alone!”

Biblical heroes and signal events (names and experiences you’ve heard about since Sunday School days) mark the passing of weeks throughout the summer months. Consider these giants of Christian legend: St. Barnabas (6/11), Saints Peter and Paul (6/29), Saint Mary Magdalene (7/22), James the Apostle (7/25), Mary and Martha of Bethany (7/29), The Blessed Virgin Mary (7/15), St. Bartholomew (8/24). Think November and December host notable Biblical events: The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (6/1), the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (6/24) and one of the biggest of all, the Transfiguration (8/6). This last is so significant that we read about it fully three times throughout the church’s year!

Of course, the calendar is also filled with those we refer to as “lesser” saints, not because they are not as important as the others, but simply because they lived outside the company of the apostles. Women and men from times ancient and modern, familiar and obscure, martyrs and missionaries, monastics and sages. The celebrated (Clare of Assisi, 8/11), the little known (Enmegahbowh 6/12), the giants (Johann Sebastian Bach 7/28) and the humble (Joanna, Mary and Salome, the women who supplied myrrh for Jesus’ burial 8/3).

But this is no “I want to be one, too” missive. Rather, it is a reminder that all of these were folks like you and me. They got hungry, they worried, they cried and laughed, they endured the same aches and pains that we endure, they fell in love, endured broken hearts and sometimes felt like giving up. They were often ridiculed and criticized and at times abandoned by their friends and families. Just like you, just like me.

For me, they constitute a band of relatives who have seen and felt what I’ve seen and felt and more. They are company on the journey and the stories of their lives fill me with a sense of desire to be more than I have been.

And yes, you can read all about them. There is, of course, the church’s big book of saints called Holy Men, Holy Women: Celebrating the Saints, but you can get fuller biographies from Wikipedia. In a summer where the headlines are filled with rogues and thieves, it’s incredibly refreshing to dip into stories of those who lived for the highest and best.
Message from Doug  (continued from page 1)

Encouragement from the Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, has begun recording reflections and encouragements for getting through the COVID crisis. The series, called Habits of Grace can be found on YouTube on the Episcopal Church’s website, www.episcopalchurch.org/habits-of-grace. Seek them out and enjoy the words of this extraordinary individual.

Teens or Preteens in Your House

Parents of our teen members have received two emails recently inviting them to direct their young people to a FlipGrid website where I am attempting to engage them in dialogue about current events. Admittedly, we don’t have email addresses for everyone with kids, but I’ve included everyone that we have. If you have teens or preteens in your home and would like them to engage, please let me know so that I can send you the link.

Doug

Join Us for Sunday Worship, Tuesday Chat with Doug and Wednesday Worship and Adult Hour via Zoom

For standing weekly meetings, Zoom allows the use of the same Meeting ID from week to week.

For Sunday Morning Prayer at 10:00 am, the Meeting ID is 172-724-872.

For Tuesday Chat with Doug at 10:00 am, the meeting ID is 769-459-338.

For Wednesday Evening Prayer at 6:30 pm followed by Adult Hour, White Fragility the meeting ID is 769-459-338.

The Evening Prayer service will flow into Adult Hour. For those who wish to remain for Adult Hour, it is considered one meeting for Zoom, a second meeting ID is not needed for the Adult Hour.

When you open the Zoom app, you’ll be asked for the meeting ID number, so keep it at hand. Log in 10-15 minutes in advance of the start time to greet others who are joining the online community!

Naveeda will also send out weekly meeting announcements, including the bulletin for the Sunday Morning Prayer service. Check the announcements to make sure that the meeting ID hasn’t changed!
Sr. Warden News

The use of live streaming (Zoom & YouTube) for worship has been very successful. Especially in reaching folks who have not been able for one reason or another to attend church in person. The good news is that live streaming will continue in tandem with in person worship when in person worship is approved. A portion of the grant St. John’s received from the Episcopal Bishop of Oregon Foundation (EBOF) is being used to improve live streaming.

There is a Re-Opening the Church committee (Lucy Gowan, Phil Lemons, Molly and John Carmichael, Jim Reardon, and Mary Dettmann) that has been working on what re-opening might look like taking into consideration the safety issues of group gatherings. Their work is expected to be ongoing for quite some time. I’ll keep you all updated.

The Vestry is in the preliminary stages of preparing a Church Profile for the calling of our next priest. The first step is to hear from you the members of St. John’s. We the Vestry will be calling on you and asking a series of questions which will help define your hopes for St. John’s and what you want in our next priest.

I am thankful for:
- The members of the Questionnaire Committee; Bruce Fontaine, Jamie Berry, and Angela Forsyth.
- The members of the Re-opening Committee; Lucy Gowan, Phil Lemons, Molly and John Carmichael, Jim Reardon, and Mary Dettmann
- Live Streaming and the persons who make it possible: Rob Fogleman, Brian Neubauer, Stephen Denny, and Ross Lehmann. I hope I haven’t missed anyone
- Our Parish Administrator; Naveeda Benjamin-Daniel.
- Doug our Interim Rector. Frankly, without his skills which are enabling us as a congregation to heal and move forward both in the search for a new priest and as a parish are remarkable.
- Zoom. Yes, I’m thankful for Zoom; without it at this time meeting for worship and other reasons would be very difficult. I like the intimacy that Zoom offers, seeing each of the participants faces is a gift.
- I am thankful that Linda Kidd agreed to fill the Vestry vacancy created when Jim Reardon resigned.
- I am thankful for Jim Reardon; his questioning, his helpfulness, his ushering and Eucharistic Ministry, his passionate support of Pastoral Care.
- I am thankful that I am your Sr. Warden this year. I started out with a list of things I wanted to see happen and have adjusted it several times as new events surfaced (COVID-19). The Vestry that is in place this year are excellent partners.
- I am thankful for the Vestry members. They are participative and truth tellers.
- I am thankful for the gifts that each and every one of you have big or small. All gifts are valuable and I hope that you will step-up to meet needs that you can perform.

I hope and pray that your July is filled with beautiful flower and vegetable gardens, long walks in a park, good health and peace.

Peace,
Mary Dettmann
**Jr. Warden Report**

Thank you to everyone who continues the work of maintaining our church home - even in these weeks and months when we aren’t able to enjoy the comforts of that home!

This month a small group of dedicated parishioners gathered, with facial coverings, to wash the inside windows of the Parish Hall and West Wing Entry. Vestry member Phil Lemmons joined Larry Behm and John Carmichael to scrub the windows. Thanks to each of you!

Meanwhile, Bud Lane and Bruce Fontaine hooked up the power washer and cleaned the steps, ramp and sidewalks around our church, while Phil Wallace once again cleaned the oven. The results look fantastic!

Add to those tasks Larry Behm’s continued care of our bushes, shrubs and green space (and the restarting of our sprinkler system with the arrival of spring) and St. John's physical space is in good care! Thanks to everyone!

Additionally, there is exciting news from Sunshine Early Learning Center as Jennifer Fogelsong and SELC were pre-approved for a grant that will allow air-conditioning to be installed in the Parish Hall! While work is in the very initial stages, we are happy to see improvements made to the Parish Hall that will greatly benefit not only the students of Sunshine Early Learning Center, but our entire Parish family! Congratulations, Jennifer! And thank-you for all your work!

Sincerely,
Ben Egbers
Jr. Warden
Photos from Stephen Denny

The Celebration and Blessing of Marriage of Philip and Melissa Lenox. Melissa is the daughter of Risa and Mark Northway, and granddaughter of Janie Long.

Congratulations!
Be still and know that I am
God
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know
Be still
Psalm 46: 10

Heroes
by Barbara Bullard

Each month we will highlight the heroes who walk among us and do not ask for credit or glory for the work they do on behalf of all of us. We invite all of you to nominate someone who meets this goal. In the meantime, the heroes will be chosen in no particular order but as the muse suggests.

THE POWER OF THREE

Remember January 6th when we welcomed the Three Kings? There were the three Andrews Sisters. In the old days Manny, Joe & Jack sold auto supplies. Three Stooges (well, maybe not). And there were The Three Amigos! Our heroes are our esteemed Three Tech Wranglers.

How could we have learned Zoom, filled the Sanctuary with cable and mics and monitors and cameras if it were not for our Tech Team? The words “thank you” “you are great” and showering them with flowers (if we could actually be in a room with them to do so) or just a pat on the back is the best we can do. Except this month Brian Neubauer, Rob Foglesong and Deacon Steve Denny are OUR three amigos, three Tech Wranglers, our Three Heroes! We might have been still struggling in the tech darkness, but zoom, here they came to the rescue. Rob, Brian, Steve: in case you didn’t notice, we watched in wonder, astonishment and admiration for all of your effort. We all know this is duty WAY above what you signed up for. We offer to each of you, our love, our thanks, and the knowledge we could never have done this without you! Blessings on each of you from the entire congregation of St. Johns.
St. John’s Office Closed to Visitors
Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, St. John’s Office is closed to visitors until further notice. For information, please call 503-653-5880, ext 1. We will return your call as soon as possible. Everyone entering the Building must maintain social distancing of at least six feet between individuals at all times.

We regret to announce the passing of Marilyn Wright on Monday, June 15. Please hold her family in your prayers. May her soul and the souls of all the departed rest in peace.

SCAM ALERT!!!
On Monday, June 22, several of us received emails said to be from Doug with the heading PEACE BE WITH YOU which asked for a favor. Even without the punctuation errors, the google address is the tell-tale clue – it’s a scam. This is yet another in the many scam emails that St. John’s and other clergy have dealt with over the past few years. If you receive a suspicious email or text, do not open it or reply!

July Adult Hour following the Wednesday Evening Prayer Service
Beginning July 1, Doug will be leading a book study on the book “White Fragility” by Robin DiAngelo at 7:00 pm following the 6:30 pm Wednesday Evening Prayer service. The book study will go through July. A limited number of books are available for purchase for $10 or you can download the book through Amazon to your Kindle at a reduced cost. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Naveeda at the office at 503-653-5880, ext 1 and also let her know if you wish to order a book. Checks can be made to St. John’s with Study Book in the memo line. If you cannot afford to purchase but still want a paper copy, just let Doug know.

Centering Prayer on Sunday Mornings After Church Service
We can always have a little more time together for prayer! A message from Mike Burch: Every Sunday morning at 11:30 am, our group has been connecting via Zoom for Centering Prayer. A little bit of time is spent checking in with one another, usually followed by a Scripture reading before 20 minutes of Centering Prayer. If you are unfamiliar with the format for Centering Prayer, we can help you with that. You can go directly to the Zoom app, or zoom.us/meetings. The meeting ID # is 963 9629 5608, and the passcode is 287005. If you’re connecting via phone, the number to call is 1 253 215 8782, then enter the ID and passcode. For more information/questions, please contact Mike Burch, burchfam1234@yahoo.com. Blessings!

Banners, We Have Banners!
Next time you drive by St. John’s, be sure and take a look at the banners on the front and 21st Street sides of the building. It’s a way to let our neighbors know we are still active despite the pandemic and offering virtual worship services on Sunday. Thanks for Phil Wallace and Caden Monaco for hanging the banners! The smaller banner in the front of the building is white; the larger one on the 21st Street side is red. You can’t miss it!

June 8 Update: Bishop of Oregon Candidate Walkabouts and Electing Convention
Due to the continued threat of COVID-19, the Transition Committee has created Walkabout and Electing Convention plans to abide by distancing, including limiting the number of individuals gathered in one place. Walkabout week is now scheduled for August 9-15 at nine sessions in six different locations throughout the diocese. In-person attendance will be limited to voting delegates (or alternate) and clergy ONLY. The events will be live streamed. Questions for the candidates may be submitted until June 30 on the Bishop Search and Transition Website. The Electing Convention will be dispersed at 17 “polling sites” throughout the Diocese. To submit a question or for additional information, check the website at www.oregonbishopsearch.org.

Forward Day by Day Available by Mail
The Forward Day by Day for May through July arrived at St. John’s after the office closed to visitors due to COVID-19. If you would like a copy of Forward Day by Day mailed to you, please call Naveeda at 503-653-5880, ext 1 and we’ll get a copy in the mail.
The Front of St. John’s is Papered with Hearts!
To honor and support our health care workers, first responders and essential personnel, the front of St. John’s has been papered with hearts! The front entrances to the West and East wings look amazing and we’ve expanded the hearts into the office and parish hall windows! There’s always room for more! Thanks to all who have contributed.

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When you open the Zoom app, you’ll be asked for the meeting ID number, so keep it at hand. Log in 10-15 minutes in advance of the start time to greet others who are joining the online community!

Milwaukee Farmers Market is Open!
The Milwaukee Farmers Market opened May 3 and is planning on being open every Sunday until October. The Farmers Market will be in the parking lot where it has been for the past several years. It will be different. There will be no music or eating food on site. Prepared food will be available and some vendors will be online. Go to the Farmers Market web site at https://milwauckiefarmersmarket.com/ for more information including COVID-19 limitations.
The banners are up at St. John's! And hearts on the windows and doors! Thank you to all who contributed with the hanging on the exteriors, and the papering of hearts!
Online Donation Page on the Website

Donation and pledge payments by credit card and electronic fund transfer (EFT) can be made online through St. John's secure page link on the website: www.stjte.org.

During this time when we are unable to gather for in-person Sunday worship, the donation page is a safe way to stay current on your pledge. Several parishioners have already taken advantage of this option.

If you need assistance setting up an online donation, please contact Jan at 503-653-5880, ext. 3 or finance@stjte.org.

Checks can, of course, still be mailed to the office!

Help St. John's Earn Donations Just by Shopping with Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card!

Sign up for the Community Reward program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to St. John's Episcopal Church, non-profit # RE384, at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex with step-by-step instructions.

Participating in this program does not reduce your personal rewards points or fuel points — it's just free money for St. John's!!!
July 2020 Parish Calendar
Please check www.stjte.org for the scheduled events. The calendar on the website automatically updates as events are added, so it’s always current. Click on the “Parish Info” header and then choose “calendar”. Please note that all weekly in-person meetings shown on the calendar are cancelled until Governor Brown’s “Stay Home, Save Lives” Executive Order is terminated by the Governor.

Parish Directory Updates during June 2020

Brian Neubauer Add phone number: 503-781-5666.

We regret to report the passing of
Marilyn Wright on June 15

Feed the Hungry Update

Feed The Hungry is continuing to serve an average of 80 meals each Sunday with To Go boxes.

We need help: Please share with friends and family to fill these positions.
Looking for volunteers to pick up bread either on Saturday or on Sunday, once or twice a month.

The Sunday coordinator position is open; it is a 4 hour a week paid position.

If you have any questions about either of these needs, please email ftthmilwaukie@gmail.com or call me at 503-528-4010

Thank you to the many from the parish that have supported FTH in so many ways!
Connie Ross

Save the date: Saturday, November 7, 2020
Auction, games, dinner and wine tasting!
St. John's Newsletter Distribution

The newsletter is sent by email the first of every month.

To add your name to the email list or if you don't have email access or wish a copy mailed to you, contact the Parish Office at office@stjte.org or 503-653-5880, ext. 1.