

December
2013

St. Luke's-by-the-Sea



ST. LUKE'S BY-THE-SEA

VICAR

SUSAN
CHURCH

DEACON

SENITILA
MCKINLEY

BISHOP

MICHAEL
HANLEY

PRESIDING BISHOP

KATHARINE
JEFFERTS-
SCHORI

MINISTERS

ALL THE
PEOPLE OF
ST. LUKE'S

Vicar's Letter

Advent is here! Or should I say "Advent is coming" (the word Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus" which means coming). It is a time of preparation and a time of remembering: preparation for the second coming of Jesus, and a time for remembering the first one.

When I think of preparation I think of preparing for someone coming to my house. I get busy vacuuming up all of the dog and cat hair, cooking, setting the table, arranging flowers, etc. In other words, I get very busy.

Advent is not about this kind of preparation. It is more about reorientation. It is about making space for God in our busy lives. What would happen if, during Advent, you replaced a TV show, or time spent on social media, or _____ with 15 or 20 or 30 minutes of prayer and meditation? Where to start?

Here are a few suggestions on how you might do this:

Daily Prayer resources:

<http://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/morning-prayer/>

(Daily Office North Umbria)

<http://www.missionstclare.com/english/index.html>

(Daily Office Book of Common Prayer)

<http://benofsky.com/compcast/> (St. Mark's Compline)

Advent calendar devotions:

http://www.ecfvp.org/files/uploads/2013_Advent_Calendar.pdf

A daily Meditation by Barbara Crafton:

<http://episcopalcredo.org/publications/credo-reflection-series/advent-2013/>

Meditate on this:

(Week 1 use Hope; Week 2, Peace; Week 3, Joy; Week 4, Love.)

You, Lord, are in this place

Your presence fills it.

Your presence is hope/peace/joy/love

You, Lord, are in my heart

Your presence fills it.

Your presence is hope/peace/joy/love

You, Lord, are in my mind

Your presence fills it.

Your presence is hope/peace/joy/love.

You, Lord, are in my life

Your presence fills it.

Your presence is hope/peace/joy/love.

(adapted from You, Lord, are in this place by Keith Duke)

Blessings,

Susan

St. Luke's

2013
Bishop's
Advisory
CommitteeDutch
FortmeyerLarry
HanksFawn
HewittBarbara
Smith-
HugginsElizabeth
Walters-
BrownCurt
Werner

News from the Pews

Diane Grover has been in touch with St. Luke's to say that she, her husband, and her youngest son are now living in Albany: 1887 21st Ave. SE, Apt. 45, Albany 97322. Home: 541-248-3369; cell: 541-991-6967. While she misses St. Luke's, she's busy looking for work, volunteering for community activities, and becoming involved in a new church.

Elizabeth Walters-Brown is back in Ohio (brrrrrr) visiting with her mother and siblings, the first time many of them have seen each other in a good number of years.

While **Anne Smith** has been coming to church most Sundays, she's awaiting word on the dates for two upcoming medical procedures on her back. She'd appreciate our prayers.

Fawn & Kempton are back from Thanksgiving with family in Edmonds—just in time to help with the Christmas Bazaar, and final touches on this month's newsletter.

Long-Awaited Wedding



Kae Bates & Jeanne St. John were married on Nov. 26 in Carmel, CA after a 31-year engagement! A small family gathering in the courtyard of their son's restaurant provided a beautiful setting. The sacred items included on the table included two of **Senitila's** paintings and two beautiful silk scarves created by **Ruth Werner**.



Their old friend, Dr. Paul Lee, officiated and said in his homily:

"It took me a long time in performing wedding ceremonies to realize this—the eternal dimension of marriage as expressed in the vow. It is the only time we make such an utterance unless we take vows to enter a holy order. Vows are different from oaths, where we agree to tell the truth. Vows are unique and unique to marriage. Avowal. It is a beautiful word. It is where we transcend ourselves."

"You risk your truth and trust. And in that moment, when the words are uttered, the heart of the vow, you go out of yourselves. It is a moment of venturesome daring in the face of eternity. You don't know what you are saying and so it is a moment of ecstatic self-transcendence, a somersault of the spirit; it happens in the twinkling of an eye. Out you go...and you come back-- married! Glory be to God who sanctifies this union."

November BAC Meeting

Sabbatical Review

Susan+ expressed eternal gratitude to the Liturgy and Stewardship committees, the Deacons, the Senior Warden, the BAC, the Columbarium committee, and all the Church members for their ministry of works during her sabbatical. She learned that we need to be working on deepening our relationship/faith with God and Jesus through education, retreats, making meals together, etc.

Sherri Fortmeyer is the coordinator of our Christmas Bazaar to be held from 10 to 3 on Saturday, December 7, with a luncheon tea coordinated by **Vicky Prince** from 11 to 2. There will be special opportunities for children to shop for small gifts in a gingerbread house made of balloons!

Treasurer Vicky Prince reported that the current bank balance would not pay the month's bills, but was hopeful that additional funds and the Christmas Bazaar would avoid any further transfers from the savings account.

Columbarium- The proposal was sent in to the Diocesan/Board of Trustees for approval. They will meet on the 21st of November and hopefully we will have an approval soon after! Going forward, the committee is currently working on rules, regulations and policies.

Stewardship- Ruth gave an update that at two weeks into the campaign we are at 85% of our goal at a total of \$42,320. Ruth also mentioned that she would like to be the chair of the Stewardship campaign again next year. (Woo Hoo!)

Fundraising- The card shop is a great fundraising tool, so **Fawn** and **Liz** will speak with **Jeanne** and **Kae** about a card making party. Any other ideas for fundraisers are welcome.

Dec. 15 Columbarium Update

Please join us after Eucharist on Sunday, December 15, when the Columbarium Committee will give an update on the plans they've been working on for a columbarium for St. Luke's. They're excited to share drawings and descriptions of the plan which has been approved by the BAC and by the Board of Trustees of the Diocese of Oregon.

Girl Scouts at St. Luke's

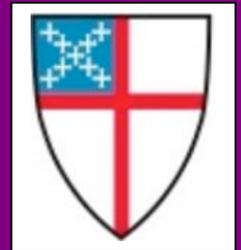
As mentioned in last month's newsletter, a Girl Scout troop has been meeting at St. Luke's on Wednesday nights. No surprise that Tiffany Minor is behind this new ministry for our little church. She and Sherri shared a few photos to "show and tell" some of their activities.



Working on an art project



Two of our favorite Girl Scouts, Kimber & Madyson with their projects



Sunshine Committee

Please call the members listed below about any needs for cards.

Birthdays
Barbara Smith-Huggins
563-2878

Get Well
Karin Bigler
563-7642

Hospitalization
Allie Moran
563-5591

Moving
Kempton Hewitt
563-6649

Thinking of You
Fawn Hewitt
563-6649

Special Occasions
Bunny Wright
528-3271

Deaths & Memorial Gifts
Julie Pearce
563-4881

What's Happening at St. Luke's in December

December Celebrations

Birthdays

- 3 Phil Olson
- 10 Patrick Wright
- 13 Djohariah Toor
Viliani Kilduff
- 14 Lauren Wright
- 23 Ruby Auburn
- 24 Betty Richard
- 25 Ray Winward
- 28 Morgan Kilduff
- 31 Vic Wagner

Anniveraries

- 19 Senitila's
Ordination
- 30 Lois & Patrick
Berg

12/7	10 AM	St. Luke's Christmas Bazaar & Tea St. Stephen's Chowder Luncheon
12/15	10 AM	Columbarium Update
12/18	7 PM	Advent Taize at St. Stephen's
12/21	1 PM	Homeless Memorial Service at Don Davis Park in Newport
	10 PM	Deadline for January Newsletter
12/24	6:15 PM	Community Dinner
	7:30 PM	Christmas Eve Service at St. Luke's
	10:30 PM	Christmas Eve Service at St. Stephen's
12/25	10 AM	Christmas Day Service at St. Luke's
12/29	9 AM	Christmas Lessons, Poetry & Carols

Coffee Hour Hosts

- 1 Stewardship Stew Thank You!**
- 8 Fawn Hewitt & Elizabeth Brown**
- 15 Kae Bates & Jeanne St. John**
- 22 Sherri Fortmeyer & Tiffany Minor**
- 29 Jackie Wolfe-Winward & Joanne Mounce**



Regular Weekly Schedule

Sunday	9 AM	Holy Communion Sunday School
Tuesday	1: 30 PM 5:30 PM	Tuesday Writers Holy Communion
Thursday	7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM	Holy Communion God Talk at Green Salmon Book Study & Discussion
Friday	6:00 PM	AA Women's Meeting

Brian's Musings

I am glad to have **Susan+** back with a new supply of energy, passion, and poetry and, if you will forgive this blunt segue into the topic of our recent Stewardship Campaign, well worth all the money we give her.

The fact that the Campaign was so successful came as no great surprise, since it was chaired by **Ruth Werner** (co-chair was **Liz Walters-Brown**). Ruth is not only significantly well-organized, but is a miracle of tact and encouragement.

I know that I wasn't the only one who was a bit nervous about the degree of condensed self-revelation a stewardship minute (as opposed to, say, half-an-hour) actually calls for. **Tiff Miner**, for instance, packed the pew with friends and family for moral support, but quickly became her usual irrepressible self as she talked, with a fair bit of arm waving, about her love of her children and, it seemed, everyone else's, and how this love and that of significant other mothers around St Luke's has significantly lowered the average age of the congregation, and increased the likelihood of a future.

Eric Simpson, normally urbane and whimsical, got a bit choked-up when he talked about the loneliness of being separated from his partner when he first arrived here, but how eventually he found us, a community that would love him unconditionally. Hardly an arduous task to my way of thinking.

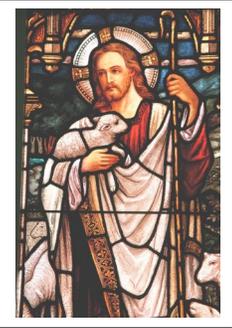
Jeanne St. John talked of coming to St Luke's 23 years ago with her partner, (now wife) **Kae Bates**, and how they were embraced by "a priest in Birkenstocks and a barefoot Deacon" and by "the little old ladies of the congregation." After years of indefatigable marching on reluctant ankles for a myriad of social justice causes, like gays' right to marry or to live without fear of bullying, Kae and Jeanne now proudly claim to have in fact themselves "become the little old ladies of St Luke's who will continue to welcome new generations to this branch of God's funny family."

Dutch Fortmeyer went last and told how he and **Sherri** had (like myself, incidentally) seen instantly that St Luke's was for them. It has been wonderful to watch **Madyson** and her parents all grow up in our midst, to see how expressive they have become. What a splendid warden Dutch has been...one of the best.

I'll leave the last word to **Ruth** who used her minute to say that "the act of giving back is a joy and a cause for celebration." Her verdict on the campaign: "I was really moved at the depth of peoples' feelings for what this place means to them." Amen to that.



Brian Hanna



St. Luke's Christmas Cards

\$2 or 3 for \$5

ORDER NOW!!



Ministry Corner

Fawn Hewitt

The Lawn and Yard Guys Snake Oil Landscaping: Herk Martens and Glenn Wagner



As—we hope!—the mowing, trimming, clearing season draws to a close, we want to pay special tribute to those who have worked hard to keep our grounds such good shape. The proprietors of this Snake Oil business (they're holding their business card in the photo) claim they do churches only, and only when no one is around! However they do it, we're grateful.

Herk and Glenn are long-time Oregonians, have done military service, are in recovery from addiction, and came to St. Luke's through their partners. Herk is a Newport High School grad who went on to do biological warfare research with the Army (he's quite a pro in World War II aircraft recognition), followed by logging and working the land back here on Alsea Bay. For many years, he's served as a CNA, doing elderly home care. A "terrifying" capsized experience about five years ago—when he promised God he'd go to St. Luke's if all could survive—clinched his participation with us (and he still kayaks!). Out of gratitude he not only mows for us, but can be counted on to do dishes at our community dinners and fund-raisers.

Glenn's history with us goes back about 30 years, when he recalls planting some of the hedges on our property and hauling wood for Father Trueman. Although he worked in electronics in the Navy and has a business degree, he's now retired from industrial construction. He still does construction, but it's small scale (1/2" = 1') replication of 19th century Western architecture—quite stunning to behold. While Glenn lived elsewhere for various periods (attending Episcopal churches), 12 years ago he came back to Waldport. His intent in working on our property is to honor God through the Great Spirit God, as he finds great spirituality in the earth. Glenn's ministries also have included being a scoutmaster and serving as a sponsor for those seeking to live lives free of substance abuse.

Herk and Glenn are quick to say that Junior Warden Curt Werner is the fulcrum of our outdoor operation, and we know Bunny Wright's endeavors beautify our garden areas. Ministers all, serving God in their labors!



St. Catherine of Siena pictures the spiritual life as a large tree:

- The trunk of the tree is LOVE.
- The core of the tree, that middle part that must be alive for the rest of the tree to be alive, is PATIENCE.
- The roots of the tree are SELF-KNOWLEDGE.
- The many branches reaching out into the air are DISCERNMENT.

In other words, says Catherine, LOVE does not happen without PATIENCE, SELF-KNOWLEDGE, and DISCERNMENT.

Today we have little encouragement toward honest self-knowledge or training in spiritual discernment from many of our churches. By nature, most of us are not very patient. All of which means that love is not going to be very common. We need St. Catherine's tree again.

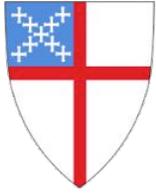
May we find that kind of love in our Christmas Trees!

You're Welcome!

St. Luke's expects guests—people of all faiths, all races nationalities, urban, suburban, rich, poor, gay and straight, families and singles; young, old, & in-between. Hospitality is an important part of our ministry, and we hope you will feel welcomed here.

Newsletter Team

Fawn Hewitt
Jeanne St. John
Ray Winward



St. Luke's Church
PO Box 422
1353 Hwy 101 So.
Waldport, OR 97394

Phone:
541-563-4812

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

St. Luke's Church
Stluke@peak.org

Newsletter:
jstjohn1@charter.net

Website:
<http://centralcoastepiscopal.org/StLukes.htm>

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH
PO Box 422
Waldport, OR 97394

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Want to Make a Difference?

- ❖ Help with Literacy Center Breakfasts on 1st Saturdays at the Presbyterian Church—Sign up for one Saturday a year.
- ❖ Join the Highway Clean-Up Crew—only once a quarter!
- ❖ Join the team of rotating Sunday School teachers
- ❖ Help with Community Dinners or Family Services
- ❖ Bring food and personal need items for the Food Pantry
- ❖ Join the Interfaith Community for Peace & Justice Team

***To volunteer, call and leave a message
on the church phone 541-563-4812***



St. Luke's-by-the-Sea
Christ is the center of this community
which welcomes all
to worship, to serve, and to share.

