

The Beacon

The Newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Florence, Oregon

October, 2009

FROM DEACON BOB...

IT'S OCTOBER – Is Stewardship on Your Mind Yet?

Well, summer is past and the beautiful days of fall are upon us. Children are back in school, including those of our Montessori partners. Traveling is either finished or is about to commence. Flower-planting time is here. Speaking of planting, last month I brought up the subject of Stewardship as we move into our fall program. In Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, he talks about church growth in a similar fashion. "I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the growth." (1 Cor. 3:6)

This is kind of the way it works when we give our money and our time to the church. We either do the planting or watering of regular financial giving or attendance at worship, or we participate in the carrying out of the church's ministries. With gardens, growth is slow and disease, predators and weather can decimate our crop. This happens with our giving to the church, too. Fundamentally, the church is a volunteer organization run by fallible human beings. Resources can get squandered or mis-prioritized, and we get angry. God, however, is the one Who causes growth to happen, sometimes in spite of us, and guides us into forgiveness and reconciliation. And the results can be bountiful!

Years ago the Episcopal Church adopted the tithe (10%) of income as the standard of financial giving. Although this is common in other denominations, too, only a small percentage of people have achieved this standard. If, however, we begin to think in terms of proportional, or percentage giving, we are on our way towards a tithe. I commend to you those who give regularly, intentionally and generously as examples of God's workers in the field. What will budget developed by the BAC look like for 2010? What is each one's part of giving to the whole – our own share of planting and watering? I urge you to consider prayerfully how you, as a part of the Body of Christ, will support the St. Andrew's branch, both monetarily and personally.

...Deacon Bob

FROM DEACON STEVE...

By request, I offer 10 essential beliefs and behaviors mentioned in a recent sermon, "...so that His life may be manifested in our mortal flesh."

1. Loving and trusting God and fellow human beings.
2. Placing all others before oneself.
3. Extending compassion to all others, especially the broken.
4. Forgiving and accepting forgiveness from God and neighbor.
5. Participating in the worship, doctrine, and action of a Jesus community.
6. Submitting to the Cross and believing in the Resurrection.
7. Spreading the good news about Jesus Christ as Son of God.
8. Anticipating Christ's return.
9. Acknowledging that heaven is life with God, and hell is death without God.
10. Leaving judgment to God.

The second half of October contains three red-letter days to commemorate four early saints of the Church: Saint Luke the Evangelist, on the 19th; Saint James of Jerusalem, the 23rd; and Saints Simon and Jude, the 28th. Here is a brief summary of Luke. According to tradition, Luke was the author of the third Gospel and Acts. Several facts of his life can be gathered from Paul's epistles and from Acts, if the "we sections" (Acts 16. 10-17; 20. 5-21. 18; 27. 1-28. 16) are parts of his travel journal. According to Colossians 4. 14 he was a physician, and it has been inferred from Col. 4. 11 that he was a Gentile.

Luke accompanied St. Paul on his second missionary journey from Troas to Philippi and on the third from Philippi to Jerusalem, and he went with him to Rome, where he stayed during his captivity. If a variant in Codex Bezae at Acts 11.28 is correct, he would have been one of the first members of the Christian community at Antioch, a hypothesis made plausible by his interest in and detailed information about the early Antiochene Christians and supported by statements in Eusebius, St. Jerome, and others.

According to a tradition recorded in the anti-Marcionite Prologues, St. Luke was unmarried, wrote his Gospel in Greece, and died at the age of 84.

BAC Minutes August 20, 2009

Members present: Deacon Bob Totten; Sr. Warden, Judy Cook; Jr. Warden, Willie Leach; Treasurer, Steve Skidmore; Jo M'Gonigle; John Evanow; David Owens; Barbara Wilbanks

Judy Cook called the meeting to order at 5:30 with a prayer by Bob Totten.

The minutes for the July meeting were approved as written.

Steve Skidmore presented the treasurer's report and the outreach fund report prepared by Charlie Pennington was reviewed.

It was moved, seconded and approved to add Bob Totten as a signatory for the financial accounts. The four signatories will now be Judy Cook, John M'Gonigle, Steve Skidmore and Bob Totten.

A bill was submitted from Fr. Frazer Crocker for services in 2008 and 2009. This will be paid.

Deacon Bob Totten: A Letter of Support to the Diocese of Eastern Oregon was given to the BAC for their signature.

The Ecumenical Rally is scheduled for Sept. 6 at the Middle School stadium at 10:30 a.m., ushers and greeters are still needed. There will be no 10:00 service at St. Andrews that day.

Bob would like to form a Stewardship Committee in September with 4 to 5 members to make plans for our stewardship campaign in the fall. On Sept. 19 there will be a workshop on stewardship presented by the Diocesan Stewardship Committee at St. Paul's Church in Salem from 9 to 4, Bob and Judy will attend.

Bob suggested the idea of a Building Security Committee that would take turns checking the doors and windows of the church each evening to make sure they are closed and locked. The committee would report to the Jr. Warden.

Information will be placed in the Beacon concerning meetings open to the public to discuss a resolution for same sex blessings. One meeting will be in the evening on Sept. 11 in Gold Beach and the other will be a morning meeting in Coos Bay on Sept. 12.

Senior Warden: Judy Cook thanked all who helped with

Pete Peterson's memorial service.

A gift certificate to Amazon has been sent to Rev. John Waide to thank him for the sermons he gave in 2008 and 2009.

Our new audio system has been installed and a meeting will be held on Tuesday the 25th at 1:00 for anyone interested in learning how to operate it. The old system has been sold for a nominal fee.

Junior Warden: Willie Leach discussed the costs of replacing five windows, a door and 80 feet of siding on the east side of the church. The cost will vary depending on labor costs.

Old Business: Jo M'Gonigle reported that the Adopt-a-highway project has been dropped. She also reported on a grant program from the diocese that would help with energy saving measures such as our new windows. New plants, hoses and a hose rack have been purchased. The church grounds are looking great thanks to Bud Cook's hard work!

David Owens reported that the church picnic is all set for Sunday, the 23rd at 2:00.

New Business: Judy Cook reported that a catered celebration will be held at the church on Dec. 5 in honor of Bob Totten's ordination as a priest! Judy read a thank you note from Eleanor Sullivan on behalf of Habitat for Humanity.

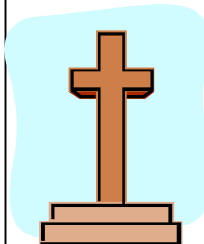
Next meeting: September 24 at 5:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Wilbanks
Secretary Pro Tem

The BAC meeting minutes will always be posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board shortly after the meeting itself, so that there isn't a two month lag time pub in the Beacon. Questions and concerns received by any BAC member.

Be a Good Steward



Everything comes from God and belongs to God; we give, not in tribute to God's power, but in gratitude for what we have been given.



**LIGHTHOUSE CHAPTER
THE ORDER OF THE
DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Meeting: **Sat. October 31 10:30**

church library

Business: Plans for remainder of year; looking ahead
Taize service for Nov. 22.

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October Opulence

Other words for Opulence: affluence, wealth, profusion, plenty. Another "O" word for October: Opalescent—reflecting an iridescent light. (The Opal is October's birthstone gem.) The puzzle for this month's Beacon has the title 'Creating Joy'. Let's wander down a word path and tie these together.

Certainly, the month of October brings to mind the wealth of harvest time, the profusion of autumn colors. There is a focus on plenty, as one works in the midst of harvest or rests in Autumn's bountiful beauty. The peak of Autumn is the epitome of affluence that our Creator lavishes upon his creation. If one thinks of the Earth as a canvas, the Master Artist has painted the richest colors for Autumn: deep purple, bright red, glowing orange, golden yellows. When one looks at these colors, the feelings associated with them are warmth, abundance, fullness, joy; many of these are the colors in opals. Your writer loves a granddaughter who calls the opal her birthstone. Her presence in life brings great joy to all who know her.

A favorite inclusion in Songs and Hymns of Fellowship is one entitled "In Thy presence"; In Thy presence there's fullness of joy...At Thy right hand are pleasures for ever, pleasures for evermore. I keep the Lord before me, I shall not be moved. My heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; I shall dwell in safety. This is based on Psalm 16:8, 9, 11. The waltzing melody is to be sung joyfully!

We are formed in the image of our Creator (the first chapter of Genesis); infused within us is the desire to create. The presence of joy in our lives is a treasure worthy of the opulence of October. Joy is created for us when we set the Lord first in our lives; then it is possible to bask in his Light and to reflect that Light to those around us.

From the abundance of (our) riches, we are to share with those whose lives need enriching. And in so doing, there is joy for all of God's Creatures.

"The joy of my salvation is the joy of knowing You.
Your sweet presence near to me is the strength that holds
me true.

When You're near I see Your hand in so many little things,
And each moment that I share with you
Helps my faith grow bigger wings.

-R. Hawkins



**To my St. Andrew's church family
members,**

Here is an important question for you; why let only a few people have all the fun doing coffee hour on Sunday? Come, join in, even if you have never done it before. Plan with a friend; you will have such a good time serving with someone else, the more the merrier! If you are not able to serve, you can always donate some items to keep in the pantry that will help someone else when their time to host has arrived. Any items you buy are tax deductible at the end of the year with your receipts.

Instructions and suggestion pkt. for how to put on a coffee hour are on the table by the back door for those of you who haven't taken this opportunity before. They are also posted on the wall beside the pantry in the kitchen. Take a coffee hour pkt. home to read through and you will see that hosting coffee hour really isn't that hard to do.

You don't need to be a baker to do this. You can bring whatever you would like to buy or make. Cookies, fruit, crackers, cheese, meat or vegetable trays are some suggestions for what to bring. Finger foods are easy to serve and make clean-up a breeze, but you can be as simple or elaborate as you would like. Everyone will love it that you took the time to set out a table of food to share with them no matter what it is. Episcopalians love to eat!

Maybe those of you who have been hosts and hostesses in the past could ask someone who has never done it before to help. That way new people can see how rewarding it is to share smiles, laughter and conversation with their church family as they serve treats after the service.

A final note here is to let you know that men can participate as well as women; this isn't just a woman thing, it's a Christian thing.

We can all share in Christ's love as a family by "baking and breaking bread together."

Please give me a call with any questions at 997-3751. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kathy Scott



From the Senior Warden...

The days are getting crisper and summer is waning. This is a beautiful time of year, although I feel that way about each season. It is good to have change occasionally. Change happens – We get into ruts sometimes and it even happens at St. A's. We become acclimated to certain things and don't want any change, but that isn't healthy. We need to be patient and work through our feelings through discussion, prayer and with God's help. As I've said before, St. A's family is the greatest.

Bob and I are attending a stewardship meeting in Eugene and there will be more about that later. Fall is also the time to think about stewardship and how we can help our church and community. There is always more that we can do.

School is in session, and the little folks are back at St. A's. This year there are 17 children, from 3 to 6. Montessori parents have made some nice "cubbys" for the kids as well as a coat rack in the hallway. They have also installed a gate on the south side that looks very nice. We are happy to have them here.

I think Bob and Kay are settling in, and we are certainly glad to have them here!

Blessings,

Judy Cook



We had a good discussion morning on *The Shack*, but nothing can be said about what was said. That would spoil the read. We all agreed you can't tell someone about the book other than to say, "I think you should read it" or "Read it" as all responses are individual and so personal. Next we'll be looking at Thich Nhat Hanh's book *Living Buddha, Living Christ* in which he writes of the central teachings of both these men who lived 500 years apart and how to then live like them. While we wait for those ordered books, we'll talk about the Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament, always fresh for today. Join us? Every Monday morning, 10 AM - noon. Watch for details in the Sunday bulletin.



FLORENCE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SEEKS FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEER

Florence Habitat for Humanity, which has been building affordable housing and providing hope for local families since 1999, is seeking fundraising volunteers to assist in both existing signature events as well as planning and implementing new programs and events. While previous fundraising experience is helpful, any motivated individual who possesses good oral and written communication skills is encouraged to apply.

For more information, please contact George Myers at 541-977-6471 or by email: giverny@presys.com. To learn more about Florence Habitat for Humanity, please visit our website at www.florencehabitat.org.

THE BEACON is the monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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Sue Holt, Clerk

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The Revs. Steve Avery, Bob Totten, Deacons
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Food For Thought

Did You Know?

People in the U.S. make up 5% of the world's population but use 25% of the world's resources and generate 30% of its garbage.

A child born in the U.S. will put a stress on the world's resources 35 times more than a child born in India.

Paper

Making paper from recycled fiber generates 75% less air pollution.

One U.S. citizen uses and discards 2 pine trees in paper products per year. Every time you recycle a 40-inch stack of newspapers you save the equivalent of one southern pine tree.

The average office employee in the U.S. discards 1.5 pounds of recyclable paper each day, or about 360 pounds per year.

Old corrugated containers account for nearly 50% of the total paper that is recycled.

Glass

The energy saved from recycling a glass bottle will light a 100-watt bulb for 4 hours.

Plastics

The amount of plastic waste generated has been increasing by about 10% per year for the past 20 years.

If just 1/4 of U.S. households used 10 fewer plastic bags per month, 2.5 billion fewer bags would go to landfills each year.

Aluminum

Aluminum made from recycled cans uses 95% less energy than if made from virgin (bauxite) ore.

The average aluminum beverage can in the U.S. contains about 51% post consumer recycled aluminum.

Steel/Tin Cans

The single largest domestic source of tin is from recycling.

The amount of tin ore left in the world will last only 31 years if use grows at projected rates.

to be continued... **From Lane County Recycler's Handbook**

CREATING JOY

The following and future puzzles are shared from Chicken Soup for the Soul! Enjoy!!

Search horizontally, vertically, or diagonally for these words associated with creating joy. The remaining letters will spell out a positive outcome of spreading joy.

CARE	KINDRED
CHARITY	LAUGHTER
CHEERFUL	LOVE
CHERISH	NEIGHBOR
COMPANION	NOURISHMENT
COMPASSION	OPTIMISM
EMPATHY	REASSURE
FAMILY	RESPONSIBLE
FORGIVENESS	SAMARITAN
FRIENDLY	STRANGER
FUNNY	SWEET
GIFT	SYMPATHY
HELPING	WARM
HOPE	





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Kathy Scott

OCTOBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 4 PENTECOST 18 Proper 22

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

October 11 PENTECOST 19 Proper 23

Amos 5:6-7; 10-15

Psalm 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 18 PENTECOST 20 Proper 24

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalm 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

October 25 PENTECOST 21 Proper 25

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm 126

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

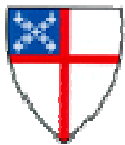


Do you have a Son, Daughter, Grandson, Granddaughter, Niece, Nephew, Neighbor, or a Friend who is in the military? Let put a picture of him or her on our Honoring Our Heroes bulletin board in the Social Hall so we can put a face with the Prayers of the People. Contact Rosemary Rebello with your soldier's name, rank, where station, a little about them, your relationship, and photograph. A short commentary and photo will be posted.

Your original photo will be returned to you.

You can reach Rosemary at

997-6167 or tonyrosemmary@charter.net



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