



Luke's Log

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Planting Seeds



Pentecost is done, now what?

Receive the Holy Spirit, as the Father has sent me, so I send you.

Each Pentecost Sunday we receive the Holy Spirit, along with the fruit of the Spirit. The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. How do we discern the nature of God's continued work in the world through the church guided by the Holy Spirit? That is the challenge of our Christian community in our world, Grants Pass and its environs. For the rest of the church's year, Ordinary Time we explore what our role is in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As the body of Christ at St. Luke's Episcopal church, we have a twofold role. The first is our relationship with God and how that transforms us and the second is how we as Christians transform our communities by loving God's people. Teresa of Avila said, "Christ has no body now on earth but yours, "Christ has no body now but yours." We are to be Christ's hands, feet, eyes and heart in the world. We look out for one another in our St. Luke's community, we do that pretty well. Our struggle comes when we are asked to look out for our larger community – Grants Pass and its environs. The faceless, voiceless people that we don't see or acknowledge as our sisters and brothers in Christ.

How can we practice the love of Christ for the people of Christ? If we're not practicing it or living it, then we don't actually believe it. Practice, practice, practice. There are many stories in the Bible of Jesus restoring the sight of the blind, and most are not just about the physically blind. I believe the healings are also of the spiritually and emotionally blind. God gives us eyes but we don't want to see the suffering of God's people, God gives us hands but we don't want to touch and hold the needy. God gives us feet but we don't choose to visit the places that need us the most. God gives us hearts to love and share but we see only our needs and the needs of those we choose. We live in such an individualistic world that it's a challenge for us to follow the path of Jesus' life and teachings.

How can we as the community of St. Luke's learn to live what we say we believe? How can we put into practice our faith? How can we plant the seeds of the Spirit's fruit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. How can we nourish and feed our souls to truly be a part of the kingdom of God?

(continued)



Special points of interest:

- Sr. Warden's Report
- Jr. Warden's Report

More information Inside!

Planting Seeds (continued)

Christ has no body now but yours
No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which He sees
Yours are the feet with which He walks
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world
Christ has no body now but yours

***Receive the Holy Spirit, as the Father has sent me, so I send you.
We are in the world, but not of the world. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.***

Rev. Ernestein †



Treasurer's Report - by Myrna Rafalovich

As of June 30, 2019

Year to Date 2019 Pledge Budget	\$46,000.00
Year to Date Paid Pledges	<u>\$43,758.00</u>
Shortfall	<\$2,243.00>

Good News: For June we are only short by \$170.00.

Special Dates & Events

- July 4** (Thurs.) Independence Day — Parish Office closed
- July 10** (Wed.) 11:00 a.m. Pastoral Care Committee (2nd Wed. of each month)
- July 11** (Thurs.) 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting
- July 14** (Sun.) 11:30 Potluck Lunch (donations support Ft. Vannoy Elementary School)
- July 20** (Sat.) 1-3:00 p.m. ECW Summer Tea; 5:00 p.m. PEO Bunco
- July 21** (Sun) 9:00 a.m. Summer Class begins (every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.)
- July 22** (Mon.) Saint Mary Magdalene
- July 25** (Thurs.) Saint James the Apostle
- July 28** (Sun.) 11:30 a.m. Worship Committee



Alex Frum	1
Bridget Garvin	11
Mike Anzalone	15
Concetta Buckner	21
Susan Lee Hall	21



The “Never on Sunday” camping group scheduled a campout Wednesday, July 17 through Friday, July 19 at Turtle Rock RV Resort & Campground. It is just south of Gold Beach off Hwy. 101 on Hunter Creek Loop Rd.

Come and join us! There may be fully-equipped cottages with hot tub and gas grill available, but it is necessary to book as soon as possible for a cottage or campsite. Call Turtle Rock directly and ask about availability for those dates: 541-247-9203. Questions, see Judy Anzalone or call her at 541-955-9547.



Gardening Angels News

The Gardening Angels have operated for several years keeping the grounds looking well cared for. As the years have gone by, the “Angels” have grown older, their numbers have dwindled, and they are finding it harder to keep up with all the demands that groundskeeping entails. Help is now needed to keep our church grounds in order. No special gardening experience is required. We would like input from parishioners willing to assist, and what day(s) of the week they would prefer to work for a couple of hours. Or—perhaps one morning a month for three or four hours could be an option. Also, any particular work to be done could be completed by a willing volunteer at their leisure. See Judy Anzalone or call her at 541-955-9547; email: jmvalley@msn.com.



We are coming up to our Annual Rummage Sale. It is generally around October. The revenue is set aside for the Needle & Thread Quilters, Altar Guild, Choir or some other specific program at St. Luke’s. There is one real advantage of the rummage sale besides being able to easily get rid of items we no longer need. Customers get a great deal on clothing, kitchen items, Christmas decorations and other gems, and we do not have to dig deep into our pockets for a church program. That is kind of nice.

As you probably know, it takes a lot of work to have a successful rummage sale. Margaret and I are both willing to work both days once again. But we need help and we would like to know if there are enough of us willing to help with the sale this year. We would need people who will take one, two or even three shifts over Friday and Saturday. To be specific, we need 6 people for the 2.5 hour morning shift on Friday, 6 people on the 2.5 hour afternoon shift on Friday, 4 people on a 5 hour shift in the morning on Saturday (this is the easiest shift) and 6 people on the 3 hour shift on Saturday afternoon.

I posted a sign-up sheet at the kitchen bulletin board. IF we get the help we need, we will be looking at some time in October. Or— it may be that this project has found an end.

Laurel and Margaret

Sr. Warden's Report — by Jim Huber

June 28, 2019

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

At the end of May, Alison and I travelled to my hometown of Cincinnati to see family and attend a niece's high school graduation. Afterwards, we continued to Boston where our daughter lives and works. While in Boston we went to the Pride Parade on June 8th, an event attended by literally hundreds of thousands of people. In spite of the enormous number, what struck me was how peaceful and orderly it was. Plazas and sidewalks were overcrowded and it was hard to walk very far without bumping into someone, but people were polite and kind, yielding the way, saying "Sorry, excuse me," or simply just smiling. The parade finished at City Hall Plaza and being there was like being in the middle of a big, happy party. No one seemed to mind who you were, what you were wearing or what you looked like. In other words, people seemed to accept one another.

Returning home, I read an article beginning on the front page of the May 23, 2019, edition of *The Daily Courier* entitled "Religious group barred from Boatnik parade; street preachers plan presence." Such a contrast to what I had just experienced! It is about a so-called Christian group of people known as the RV Saltshakers who have been making a nuisance of themselves in southern Oregon but, more important than a nuisance, who preach a hateful message of judgment and damnation (all in the name of Christ, of course). Basically, their message is to think and behave like them or you will go to hell. They make no bones about saying that Jews, Catholics, Muslims and members of the LGBTQ community are all headed for eternal damnation.

Wow, that is a lot of people! Out of an estimated world population of 7.7 billion, 1.8 billion are Muslims and 1.2 billion identify as Catholics. Without even counting the other groups they condemn, this means, according to these people who claim to be Christians, that about 39% of the world's population automatically are damned.

I was raised Catholic (bad news for me, according to the Saltshakers!) and one of the fundamental lessons we were taught was not to judge but to love one another. By no means is that message limited solely to Catholicism, but for me at least, it is bedrock material and people who believe in Christ should aspire to it every day, regardless of one's denomination.

Earlier I mentioned a contrast: the peace, happiness and acceptance of those who attended the Pride Parade, which celebrates the LGBTQ community and other issues like social and self-acceptance, legal rights, pride, etc., and the hateful message of the RV Saltshakers who, in the name of Christ, seem to celebrate eternal damnation for those who differ.

So, what are we supposed to do? While easier said than done, the answer is simple: 'do not judge lest you be judged' and 'love thy neighbor as thyself.' That means everybody, particularly those who are different from us and have different beliefs and lifestyles. In thinking about this letter, I had to accept the harsh realization that also includes the RV Saltshakers, regardless of their hateful message. Yes, we have to love them also, as difficult as that may be!

I have found the people of St. Luke's to be a good people who already know these lessons and who try to do the right thing. While we live in challenging times, let us remain steadfast in the good work we do and let us be leaders by banishing intolerance and hatefulness from our hearts.

Sincerely,

Jim Huber, Senior Warden

Jr. Warden's Report — by Dennis James

We are coming to the end of our latest capital improvement campaign at St. Luke's, so what have we accomplished since February 2017?

- The back porch railings have been installed.
- All stained glass windows have been re-covered and windows replaced in sanctuary.
- New carpeting in the Parish Hall and adjoining rooms.
- New doors to the entrance of the church, new alley entrance door, new porch door, removal of bifold doors to the Youth Room.
- Re-secured the railings to the handicapped access.

What still should be done?

- The storage shed for our outdoor equipment is partially paid for but yet to be assembled.
- Replace outer doors to kitchen and Guild Room/Library.
- Sound system upgrade.

What have we spent since February 2017?

- Approximately \$65,533 of which we spent \$12,711 on carpeting replacement. This does not include maintenance costs and replacements such as the chapel heater.

What have we received in terms of financial support?

- The parish has raised over \$4,200 in the campaign to sell squares of carpeting in 2017 and 2018.
- The Diocese of Oregon's Trust Fund has granted the parish \$40,000 which we have used to pay for our improvements.
- St. Luke's has budgeted funds for capital improvement.
- St. Luke's Trust has extended a loan to cover expenses not otherwise covered by our budget, the diocesan grant and fundraiser.

It is the Vestry's desire and my hope to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the parish this Fall.

I hope you will join us.

Dennis D. James

**Saint Luke's
Episcopal Church**

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St. Luke's Episcopal Church publishes Luke's Log monthly. **Submit articles to our email address or to the parish office by the 20th of the month.** For more information, visit our website above.

IDENTITY STATEMENT FOR ST. LUKE'S

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a community of diverse and unique individuals and families, joined together in the Body of Christ. We are a family united by worship, discovering God's purpose in our lives and using our gifts in service to him, to one another, and to the world.

We believe the historic Christian creeds. We carry on the heritage of Christian worship, celebrating the biblical faith with traditional and contemporary forms. We encounter God in word and sacrament, in music and prayer, and in one another.

We offer opportunities for education, spiritual growth, service, fellowship, and the giving and receiving of pastoral care

We seek, through worship and service, to show forth in the world the healing love of Jesus.



**ST. LUKE'S SERVICES
SUNDAY MORNING**

8:00 a.m. Holy
Eucharist, Rite II

10:00 a.m. Holy
Eucharist, Rite II
Nursery available

WEDNESDAY

12:15 p.m. Mid-week
Eucharist

MONDAY—THURSDAY

7:45 a.m. Morning
Prayer

FRIDAY — 7:15 a.m.

**ST. LUKE'S MISSION
STATEMENT**

*Love. Faith. Reason.
Community.*

*We reach out in joy and
in Christ's name to one
another, our community,
and the world.*

**ST. LUKE'S
OFFICE HOURS**

M, T, Th 9 am-1 pm

Wed. 9 am-5 pm

Closed Friday

541-476-2493

THE REV. ERNESTEIN C. FLEMISTER, RECTOR
(614) 599-0098

rectorstlukesgp@gmail.com

ST. LUKE'S OFFICERS & VESTRY

Jim Huber, Sr. Warden (2021)
Dennis James (2020) Jr. Warden
Myrna Rafalovich, Treasurer
Laurel Samson, Clerk of the Vestry
Concetta Buckner (2022)
Bridget Garvin (2021)
Susan Lee Hall (2020)
Juli Mimnaugh (2021)
Michael Riding (2021)
Hana Rubens (2020)
Lee Smith (2022)
Scott Swindells (2020)