ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 1

January 2019







A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas! (Yes, the twelve days of Christmas extend until Epiphany, January 6th, so depending on when you are reading this, despite the fact that carols are no longer on the radio, it's still Christmas.) And Happy New Year! (Of course, for us in the Church, that actually started on December 2nd with Advent, but you know what I mean).

Well, dear friends, we did it! I mean, we really did it! We are so close to our goal of \$400,000 for the capital funds campaign that the Vestry easily endorsed our going forward with the building project to enlarge the church and add offices. I must say I will kind of miss the charm of having my desk in the boiler room. That water heater with all its notes and pictures held on it by refrigerator magnets has been fun. This campaign has become an extraordinary testimony to your gumption and willingness to step out in faith for the ministry of All Saints' among one another, in the community, the nation and the world. You are all the best. Of course, much more about this will be discussed at the annual meeting.

Since starting out a new year should stand, to some degree, on reconciliation, it turns out that I misled you concerning Advent III. The "swear on the Bible" truth be told, honest to God fact, is that my misleading was a very honest mistake. I was just flat out wrong. As you know, I mentioned from the last Sunday in Pentecost on last year that we collected just 200 pounds under a ton of dog and cat food and that this year I was hoping we would make that mark. I know I said it at each of the three services leading up to Advent III. Well, it turns out that we collected 1300 pounds of food and when Carl Thomas and I took it to the Flathead Spay & Neuter Task Force,





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LETTER FROM THE RECTOR (cont'd)

they were thrilled beyond belief. I started to mention how we had come up a bit short of last year's offering, but was interrupted prior to getting more than a word or two out, with one of the volunteers saying, "Last year you had 800 pounds and you went to get 200 more so you could have an even half ton. This year you brought in 500 more pounds!". So there you have it. Elsewhere in the letter, you will find more information on what we were able to collect and give away from the Christmas services.

As we enter the season of Epiphany, let us remember that the presence of Christmas and all its glory begins to change the way we live in the world once we hear of the good news. It is one thing to have had the gift of the incarnation and it is another to know about it. Our job and our privilege throughout this season, ending with Ash Wednesday on February 6th, is to make the salvific presence of Jesus manifested in the world through word, deed and prayer. In other words, we are called to simply be who we are, the Body of Christ.

As we enter 2019, may the blessing of God simply overwhelm you. Off to another eventful year!

Faithfully yours,

Bradley

CRECHE OFFERINGS

As in years past, All Saints' continued its tradition of assisting the local food banks; bringing dog and cat food, litter, pillows and blankets to the Flathead Spay and Neuter Task Force; delivering stuffed animals to North Valley Hospital; and bringing warm new clothing to Samaritan House in Kalispell.

This year's numbers: between actual stuffed animals and donations to buy the toy creatures, All Saints' brought in enough to make about 80 children less fearful of the emergency room. The food drive was very successful and made possible immediate relief for a very desperate mom whose child just had the trauma of massive burns to his face (thankfully he is making a full recovery). Over and above that Sunday gift to her, a considerable amount of food also went to the Columbia Falls Food Bank. The pet food came to 1,300 pounds. And Bradley, on Christmas morning, was again able to deliver many sacks of warm clothing including lots of socks, the number one requested things at homeless shelters, to Samaritan House. As always, they were extraordinarily grateful for our support.



Ronnie Budge delivers bears to Alan Satterlee at North Valley Hospital

A CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY

Over the last 14 years, Bradley has read his Christmas story nearly 20 times around the state with most of the occasions being at All Saints'. This year's readings, not unlike in the past, brought in significant donations to the charities named as the beneficiaries for the evening events. At All Saints', \$376 was raised for Rez Q and well over \$600 was raised to help out the Lewis and Clark Humane Society in Helena when Bradley read the story at St. Peter's Cathedral on December 10th. When All Saints' helps lost and abandoned cats and dogs, we are giving aid to "the least of these" for whom Jesus has much love.



2019



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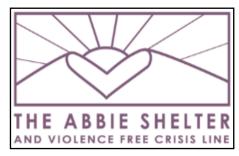
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CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

In addition to the gifts left at the creche on the Sundays of Advent, All Saints' has the tradition and privilege of supporting the work of God through many ministries within the wider community. This year, the following organizations received the result of All Saints' and her guests' generosity presented at the offertories at the 3 Christmas services.







\$1,511.67

\$1,491.67







\$ 991.66

ALL SAINTS' YOUTH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

At the 4 pm service on Christmas Eve, the All Saints' youth performed "A Sleepover at the Stable: A Christmas Musical" (music/lyrics by Christy Long, script by Douglas J. Eboch). Before the performance, there was a short stringed instrument concert of carols by 4 of our talented youth. There was an SRO crowd as usual. Here, and on the last page, are some pictures from the performances.















JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun 6 Services at 9 and	7	1 KappyNewYear	2 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	Noon service at AS Book study following	4	12
Services at 9 and 11 am	7	8	Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	Noon service at AS Book Study following	11	12
Services at 9 and 11 am	14	15	Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	Noon service at AS Book Study following	18	19
20 Services at 9 and 11 am Vestry 12:30	21	22	23 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	24 Noon service at AS Book Study following	25	26
27 Services at 9 and 11 am ANNUAL MEET-ING 12:30	28	39	30 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	31 Noon service at AS Book Study following		

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ADDITIONAL ALL SAINTS' YOUTH PAGEANT PHOTOS











ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

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Bradley's E-mail: canonwirth@gmail.com Cell phone: 406-250-1690

Christian Formation Minister/Children and Youth: Cynthia Benkelman cgraine@montanasky.us 406-261-9636 Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus forever.

Find us here:

Just click on the link!

Facebook link: https:// www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt

YouTube link: http:// www.youtube.com/channel/ UCPZ oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA

Webpage link: http://www.allsaintsmt.org

Vestry members:

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Senior Warden: Ben Pomerantz
Junior Warden: Grace Benkelman
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Cynthia Benkelman
Shawn Sloan
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