

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 7

JULY 2016

Parish Picnic and Meeting



Sponsored by the Vestry



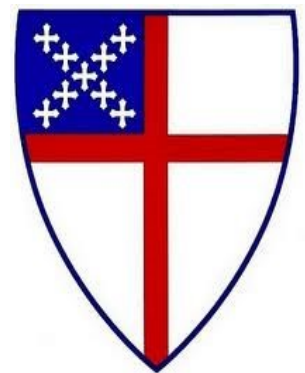
And

The Building Discernment Committee

Our Buildings – Where Do We Go From Here?

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

6:00 pm Picnic - Barbeque with Program to Follow



Over the last several months, the Building Discernment Committee has been meeting to consider the challenges we have with our present sanctuary, mainly steps and lack of room, and the same with our lack of office space. As well, in the near future, we will also be looking at the crowded conditions of Memorial Hall. We now have some preliminary ideas and want to share them with the entire congregation to see if we are on the right track. To that end, we are having a barbeque and then a program in which we will present our findings and actually walk the space the expansion would take on our grounds should we decide to go to actual construction. That step, building something, is still a ways away and much more data will have to be gathered, including most importantly, how the congregation feels about the direction we are suggesting.

So please join us, Wednesday, July 20th at 6:00 pm for hotdogs and burgers (including veggie burgers), salad, chips, dessert, water and soda. All will be provided by the parish so just bring appetites for good food and exciting ideas. So that we might prepare the right amount of food, you are welcome to R.S.V.P. on a sheet in Memorial Hall, or call the office at 862-2863, or email allsaintsmt@gmail.com letting us know your intentions.

It is really critical that as many as possible give their feedback. So come one and all, to a very exciting evening in our parish's life.

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A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

When I was a young boy, on the weekends in the spring and fall, my dad and I would travel from Great Falls to our cabin on the shore of Lindbergh Lake, 90 miles south of Whitefish-Columbia Falls, in the Swan Valley, and work on something. We laid floors, redid windows, wired lights, plumbed new parts of our water system, stained wood, wallpapered, set tile, and worked outside shoring up banks with rock. As a result, I have a personal relationship with nearly every square inch of the place and every once in a while, when I remodel or fix something, and open up a wall, I revisit where my dad and I once traveled a half century ago on a carpenter's journey. Those moments, so many years later, now strike me as nothing short of being sacramental, an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual grace.



On occasion, in these latter days, I've changed some things at this cabin. And it used to feel kind of odd or maybe even a little sacrilegious doing such a thing. "It has always been thus." and "It has never been thus." are two phrases that occasionally get tossed into the mix when we think about change. But as I look at what I've done differently from those days in which Dad and I would hammer away, I've realized that because of the changes I've made in this cabin, things are a lot safer in many cases, easier to use, more sound, able to serve our wider family more efficiently, and are reflective of new times. And as I look at the results of these innovations, I catch myself conversing with my dad (I do that a lot down there...) and I hear him say, "Well done."

A church is a lot like a family cabin. It has history and personal moments permeated in the walls. We have laughed, been awestruck, and we have wept sometimes uncontrollably in the place. We are accustomed to it like a favorite sweater and pair of slippers. We find solace there and it is predictable. "Third pew from the front on the Gospel side...that is where I always sit."

We also know that it has steps that have challenged us, myself included, or currently confound many of us. Surveys looking at how we are frightened say that giving a speech in public produces the most anxiety for the largest percentage of people in our country. Not for me. Going down steps with crutches eleven years ago was utterly terrifying! Trying to figure out where to put a wheel chair or a simple walker rivals understanding quantum physics. And then there is that whole issue of not being able to worship together. When the Bishop was with us for the joint service at 11:00, we had 76 people in attendance and there was not room for another in a pew. Imagine if all of us would have been in town for the event. At the same time, those who were there know how vital we sounded in prayer and hymn. It was fabulous. And 9:00er's and 11:00er's, who most of the time pass like ships in the night, actually got to see one another.

And so we are considering change. In the 1920's, those who began our communities could never have imagined what we would become. For that matter, eight years ago, we could hardly see this far into the future with the degree of clarity we now have. It is very true that we believed we would expand at some point after our move to Conn Road. We just didn't know how that might happen.

We are now at the day when we've taken the advice of the Annual Meeting last January and have come up with some ideas. We will share them on July 20th, at a barbecue at All Saints'.

I hope you will come and be as excited about the prospect as the Vestry and Building Discernment Committee are. It will be a great evening for us, a vibrant expression and presence of a living Body of Christ.

A blessed summer to all.

Faithfully yours, Bradley

THOUGHTS ON ORLANDO FROM MEGGEN WILSON

Following the shooting in Orlando that left 49 innocents dead, and that many and more wounded, Bradley sent the parish's prayers and love to the Wilson family who live in that city. Knowing how devastating the news was to the nation and world at large, we can only imagine what it must be like to have one's home town the venue of such a tragedy. Meggen Wilson sent this message back to Bradley and she was fine with his sharing it with the parish:

I have never seen a community embrace each other with such complete love and affection- at least not since 9/11.

We do not live anywhere near the Pulse Club, but restaurants, retailers, neighbors, suburbs everywhere are flying rainbow flags or hearts. Our neighborhood nursery with tons of volunteers planted dozens and dozens of bright flowers in the medians down our local "Main Street" with rainbow peace signs. You cannot find anywhere in Orlando that is not raising money or trying to help the families.

The Westboro people protested in front of our glorious cathedral, St. Luke's, but a massive army of Orlandoans held hands and completely blocked (them). Brian's secretary and a few others from our staff were there with the wall of supporters. Proud of them.

I feel horrible for my children. They have never known a world without mass shootings.

M.

(The Westboro Baptist Church, located in Topeka, Kansas, is not affiliated with any Baptist organization. It has a reputation for "Hate Speech" and pickets fallen soldiers' funerals, church conventions such as the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, and has picketed Bradley's former church in Salt Lake City because of its stand on being inclusive.)

OUR FIRST SPORTS STORY!

The Intercollegiate Rowing Association Freshmen Eight National Champions, from the University of Washington, throw their coxswain, All Saints' parishioner, Kimmons Wilson, into Lake Mercer (New Jersey) following their victory June 5th. We are immensely proud of her and delighted that All Saints' has a national champion in our midst. We look forward to the Wilson's joining us this summer.



ALL SAINTS' YOUTH

By Cynthia Benkelman

Summer is officially here, according to the calendar and (mostly) by the weather! Families are recreating in the Flathead Valley, as well as going out of town to vacation, visit family and friends, explore new places, and in just a few weeks several of them will be taking their college freshmen to college. There are fewer and fewer kids in children's chapel, although some of them will be at Camp Marshall, or even at All Saints' day camps.

Although we are in the middle of our linear calendar year of 2016, the year according to the Church calendar marches on. In our "Godly Play" children's chapel we look at the calendar every Sunday, and remind ourselves that it is a circle, not a line. We go from the three great times, the major feasts of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. Right now we are in the green Sundays between Pentecost and Advent, the longest season of the church year. We go from school ending, to school beginning. The longest day of the year is in the beginning of this season, and as we begin the season of Advent we are almost at the shortest day of the year!

The church gives us a way to step out of our sometimes hectic daily lives, and to live according to the seasons of the Church year, as people have done for hundreds of years. As we enjoy the opportunities for recreation, relaxation, and adventure that summer brings, we can also stay in touch with the eternal and amazing mysteries of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost, by remaining aware of where we are in this never ending and holy cycle.

A "Godly Play" excerpt on the season after Pentecost follows. I will look forward to seeing everyone when they are here, anticipate the joy of meeting travelers who stop in All Saints' while on a journey, and I thank God for the Church seasons which allow us to set our daily lives aside for a moment to appreciate that which is sacred. Please take a moment to look at the large "Circle of the Church Year" calendar in the Christian Education Room if you get a moment.

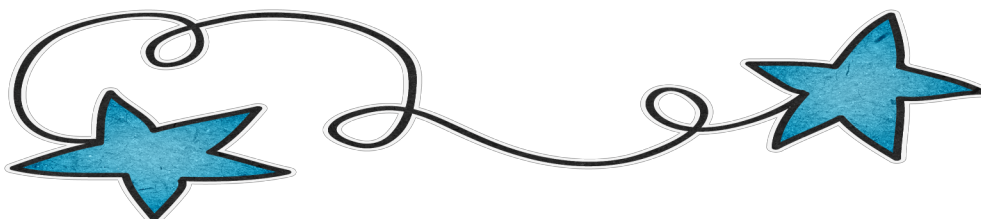
"Here are the rest of the great green growing Sundays. Do you know what the Sundays after Pentecost are called? They are called 'the Sundays after Pentecost.'"

Here is the time when school is out. The summer comes and the days get longer and longer. You can play outside later. People go swimming. Some go to camp. Many go on vacation. The summer comes to an end.

Now you begin to get ready for school. You need new clothes and books. School begins and you often have a new teacher. The days get shorter. School goes on and you get used to all the new things.

Now the days are really short. It gets dark very early. It looks as if the light is just about to go out. Right at that time, when the light seems to be coming to an end, we reach Advent. The year ends, and it begins again. It is time to get ready to enter the mystery of Christmas."

Berryman, Jerome *The Complete Guide to Godly Play: Volume 2* Morehouse Education Resources (August 1, 2012)



ALL SAINTS' SUMMER DAY CAMP

By Cynthia Benkelman

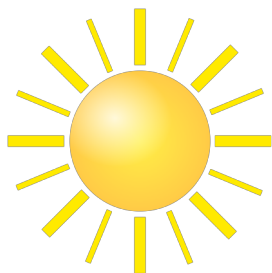
All Saints' Summer Day Camp is coming in August! Week one is **August 1st-5th** and week two is **August 8th-12th**. Both sessions are free.

We are having a great response this year. Both weeks are being booked quickly, but there are still some spots left! Pick up a flyer in the Parish Hall or call Cynthia Benkelman at 261-9636 for information.

Some photos from previous years are below!



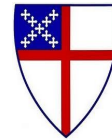
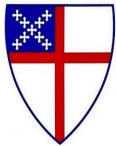
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JULY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Services at 9 and 11 am	4 	5	6 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	7 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	8	9
10 Services at 9 and 11 am Bldg. Commit- tee meeting 12:15 pm	11	12	13 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	14 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	15	16
17 Services at 9 and 11 am Vestry 12:15 pm	18	19	20 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs Church Meeting 6 pm	21 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	22	23
24 Services at 9 and 11 am	25	26	27 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	28 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	29	30
31 Services at 9 and 11 am						

THE BISHOP'S VISIT AND GOOD-BYE TO RON



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*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*

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www.allsaintsmt.org](http://www.allsaintsmt.org)

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Junior Warden: Judi Williams
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
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Cynthia Benkelman
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