

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2017

RECTOR'S LETTER — THE FINAL REPORT ON THE BUILDING COMMITTEE REGARDING THE CHURCH ADDITION

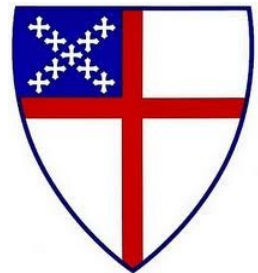
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If you remember back a year and then some, the Building Committee, Vestry and parishioners of All Saints' have all been responding to God's call to us to consider enlarging our church sanctuary as well as add offices. It has been a long haul getting to this point but we are now finished with the process of discerning what we would like the addition to All Saints' Church to look like, should we continue on with the project. We are now entering the stage in which a draftsman and an engineer will take our design and bring it to a point in which we have drawings which will allow for an accurate estimate as to what this would cost should we proceed. As you know, there were still a few things that were up in the air and over the last months, the Building Committee, Vestry, and those who attended the last meeting we had, made their decisions as to what should be forwarded off to those who will complete the drawings.

To begin, the interior of the nave was still in question with several people suggesting a very thoughtful idea that the center of the sanctuary should extend beyond the transepts. This would create a traditional "cruciform" design which would give the space behind the altar some additional depth. A complicating factor in this is our septic system. The design as it stands requires us to take out two laterals in our drain field (we currently have five, each of which are 100 feet long) and so extending this portion of the sanctuary would impinge upon a third lateral. The problem with all of this is that Flathead County has changed their standards and actually mandate more drain field than was required when we built. And so we knew we could go no further to the west. And, as a matter of fact, as it is, we actually have to add an additional 45 feet on a lateral to meet the capacity of 160 in the church. That left the possibility of drawing part of the west walls of windows of the two transepts back in, as it were, to create the cruciform shape. After considerable deliberation, the Building Committee and Vestry decided to keep the design as it is, believing we can incorporate some decoration inside to give the altar area a greater sense of focus. It basically came down to keeping the space we have enabling more room for a choir or worshippers.

A second major issue involved the covered outside entrance to the church. The Building Committee and Vestry have decided to have that enclosed to serve as a much larger gathering space for the church. We will then extend a roof over the approach to this new enclosed entrance so that there will still be a covered and protected handicap accessible entry way. People gathering in this larger area will allow the sanctuary to be more of a quiet space prior to services.

A third major challenge involved the selection of a flooring material. Because of advances in technology, there now is an option of a stained concrete product that requires the same thickness of wood planking. Because of the various designs that can be incorporated into such a floor, and the similarity in price, the Building



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RECTOR'S LETTER (cont'd)

Committee and Vestry selected artistically designed concrete. If you are not familiar with this product, you may want to look at the floor in the main hallway at North Valley Hospital. Such a floor will be much cleaner than carpeting and will lend to the brighter acoustics.. It is always fairly easy to dampen lively acoustics should that become a need.

The final decision we needed to make involved looking at the color scheme of the interior. We've elected to make it light, not distracting from the view of the trees through the windows, and then have the wood in the beams, pews, and chairs providing contrast. A minor adjustment was also approved and that involves the possibility of putting small air vents in the roof in the sanctuary. Older churches have employed these devices for centuries which simply allows the hot air out and, in the process, this "chimney effect" draws the cool air in through opened windows and screened doors. Basically these items are simply little dormers in the roof with a vent hatch employing a counter weight controlled by a cord.

As well, there was expressed interest in employing some solar energy panels on the roof. No action was taken on this other than to gather information. St. Stephen's Church, in West Valley, Utah, a suburb of Salt Lake City, as well as the Church of the Resurrection in Centerville, Utah, did this and given grants, rebates and the like, they nearly did it for free. Because the electricity generated, especially during the times when the place is not in use, can be "sold" back to the utility, often their electric meters actually go backwards.

Again, now everything heads to draft people and engineering. Until such a company is selected and they finish their work, we won't know the cost. Once that is known, and we evaluate our capacity for a capital funds drive, then we will have another parish meeting to decide if we want to see the project through to fruition. While it seems to always go a bit slowly, we have been carefully deliberating all this time and as such, it has been a fascinating and fruitful journey. We are fortunate that we have a problem of seating all our worshipers at once. In July we've had in excess of a hundred people on one Sunday and in the 80's or approaching that number on other Sundays. Our capacity currently is limited to 55 - 65 worshipers making this certainly a worthy discussion to have.

So stay tuned and as soon as we can, we hope to have some numbers to help us make some final decisions. Having said all the above, and thinking of the work so many have put into this discussion, I must say, it is a cheerful thing to be compelled by the Holy Spirit to always be moving forward.

I hope you enjoy the last third of Summer. Make sure you do that which you will wish you did as the snow flies in four short months. And thank you to everyone who has been a part of this process of discernment.

Faithfully yours,

Bradley S. Wirth, Rector

CANYON DINNER UPDATE AND REQUEST

By Peggy Sebrowsky

Our idea to do two canyon dinners a month during summer months has been a huge success. Thanks to all for your support and, again, please feel free to join this mission and help serve. **We are in need of a dish washer in August as Carl Sobczak is busy with Boy Scouts. The dates for the August dinners are the 17th and the 31st.**



ALL SAINTS' DAY CAMP

All Saints' Day Camp starts Monday, July 31st. Cynthia is still in need of some help, if you have the time and ability. Here is what she said when I asked her what she could use help with:

"We need drivers to take the kids to a Whitefish Lake beach from the church and back on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons each week. We also need drivers to help with our food drive on Wednesday and Friday mornings (Week I - Columbia Falls; Week II - Whitefish). Vans and vehicles that can transport 6+ passengers are great, and we can also use people driving 5-passenger cars as well. The camp rents two 7-passenger vans, and the staff uses a couple of 7- passenger vehicles, but we always need more drivers and passenger space.

Finally, if you are able to provide healthy snacks and/or water throughout the two weeks, it would be much appreciated. The kids bring their lunches, but the parish provides a (healthy) morning and afternoon snack. Snacks can be things such as apples, cheese sticks, or pre-packaged crackers and cheese. Bottled water is also needed for our road trips.

You can email me at cgraine@montanasky.us if you are able to help or need more information."

Cynthia sends her thanks to Vera and Don Smith and Judi and Jerry Williams for providing lodging for the counselors and to all of those who volunteered to provide them with evening meals while they are here.



BACK PACKS AND SHOES!

By Amy Peterson

It's time once again for All Saints' annual "Back to School" back pack and supplies drive.

Last year we provided not only back packs and school supplies, but also certificates to be used for PE shoes.

This year we continue our tradition of helping our local school children and would like to focus our emphasis on providing even more certificates for PE shoes.

You can bring your donations any time now through Sunday, August 13th. Anyone wishing to donate money instead of supplies can simply write "school supplies" on the memo line of your check and we will make sure the supplies are purchased.

Thank you once again for your overwhelming generosity to the valley's children.





THANK YOU!

My how time flies! It has been over a year since we were married and celebrated at one of our favorite places—our very own All Saints!

We wanted to extend a *huge* **THANK YOU** to everyone who celebrated with us and supported us with gifts and love of many kinds. We feel so blessed to be a part of such an amazing faith community and look forward to many more years of celebration and fellowship!

Love and gratitude,

Lily and Jess

AUGUST 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Day Camp	2 Day Camp	3 Day Camp	4 Day Camp	5
6 Services at 9 and 11 am	7 Day Camp	8 Day Camp	9 Day Camp 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	10 Day Camp Noon service at AS	11 Day Camp	12
13 Services at 9 and 11 am	14	15	16 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	17 10 am Garden Party Noon service AS Canyon Community Dinner	18	19
20 Services at 9 and 11 am Vestry 12:30	21	22	23 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	24 10 am Garden Party Noon service at AS	25	26
27 Services at 9 and 11 am	28	29	30 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	31 10 am Garden Party Noon service at AS Canyon Community Dinner		

2017 DRAGON BOAT RACES

By Vera Smith

It's getting close to that time of year again when the dragon boats appear on Flathead Lake! This year we will return to Volunteer Park in Lakeside on Saturday, September 9th and Sunday, September 10th.

And it's the time of year again when we are recruiting breast cancer survivors to paddle on the good ship, GOT MAMM? If you are a breast cancer survivor or know a survivor, please call Vera (471-9157) for more information and arm twisting!

We are also recruiting paddlers for the team representing the Cancer Support Community in Kalispell. If you are a male or female caregiver for a cancer patient, know of someone who has or has been touched by cancer, we have a spot for you on their team! To learn more about the Cancer Support Community House, please call Vera at 471-9157 and she'll fill you in!

Do something far out of your comfort zone and get yourself in a Dragon Boat! Paddles Up!

BARBARA AND GENE GROVE

Not a dry eye in the house...or the pulpit...as All Saints' said good-bye on July 16th to Barbara and Gene Grove. They have been an integral part of our parish for a number of years. Barbara served as Senior Warden twice and was always heavily involved with the Vestry in other ways, All Saints' Women and serving in the Altar Guild and as chalice bearer at services. Barbara also started out as co-chair of the Diocese Convention when it was held in Kalispell a few years ago before family issues forced her to step down. Gene could always be counted on to pick up food for the Chili Open, and to pitch in to help Barbara with all the things with which she was involved. They are both such bright lights at our church and are going to be missed. But now we all have someone to visit in Maine!



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

Church location:
2048 Conn Road
Columbia Falls, MT

Church mailing address:
PO Box 1923
Whitefish, MT 59937

Phone: 406-862-2863
Parish Office Administrator: Shawn Sloan
E-mail: allsaintsmt@gmail.com

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:

Rector: Reverend Canon Bradley Wirth
Senior Warden: Heidi Sobczak
Junior Warden: Judi Williams
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Cynthia Benkelman
Ben Bushnell
Jan Rayford
Shawn Sloan

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