

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2021

A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

“As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.” *Psalm 103:13-14*

Much of the Episcopal burial service, as well as the core of the liturgy for Ash Wednesday, focuses on the principle that we’re made of the dust of the earth, and that we’ll return to that dust when we die. And while there’s nothing the rubrics of the Ash Wednesday service requiring that we impose ashes on our foreheads, we still carried out that ritual a few weeks back, albeit at an arms-length with single-use makeup brushes... Ah, the indignities of Corona-tide are many!

But perhaps because of the times we are living in, it is even more important for us to remember how this simple act outlines the gospel and describes God’s true nature. When that black soot is smeared across our foreheads, we remember 1. God is always merciful and gracious; 2. God removes my transgressions “as far as the east is from the west”; 3. God has compassion for me in my limitations; and 4. God’s not surprised by any of my sins or weaknesses. Because God remembers that I’m just... dust. Sure, “fearfully and wonderfully made” dust (Psalm 139), but dust nevertheless!

As we take time this Lent to remember who we are and whose we are, I’ll hope you’ll join me in praying for this kind of humility as a follower of Jesus. I hope that it will help us admit our sin and failure more quickly, and get us out of the paralyzing mire of guilt and shame.

God remembers that we’re dust. But can we? Lord, have mercy.

Yours in Christ,
Charlie+



Innovator that he is, during this time of COVID-19 Charlie used a make-up brush to keep some social distance from the imposer and the “imposees”



Happy  
St. Patrick's Day

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ALL SAINTS' YOUTH

In years past we have had a special Ash Wednesday service for children and youth right after school. This year, of course, was different, and we were not able to have that service in person. However, we did send out materials to help families celebrate Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) and Ash Wednesday the next day. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, which is the time that we start preparing for the great mystery of Easter.

As reported above, the All Saints' Youth did everything they said they were going to...and here's the proof!



IN MEMORIAM

We have some sad news to report, as another of our number has joined the Communion of Saints in light, Kay Lorenz, who died on February 12.

On the last Sunday of Epiphany, February 14, where it is a tradition to read the Transfiguration accounts from the gospels, some churches switch to white vestments and paraments for the occasion, but we used our red set to remember Kay, a pillar of All Saints!. These paraments were dedicated in honor of Kay's retirement from the altar guild after 43+ years of service!



Funeral services are pending until the family is able to safely travel, but condolence cards can be sent to her son.

Richard Lorenz, M.D.
1420 Northcliff Trace
Roswell, GA 30076



LENTEN COMMUNITY OFFERING**All Saints' Lenten
Community Offering
2021**

This Lent, as has been our tradition over the years, members of All Saints' Church are invited to celebrate and support our connection with an agency clearly doing the work of God in our Community.

Last year we began a relationship with a new organization in the Flathead which provides a warm safe place to sleep, for those needing shelter during the coldest months of the year, the Flathead Warming Center. Tonya Horn, CoFounder and Executive Director of the Warming Center, visited us last year to introduce us to their work and to share their dream of having a home of their own. The Warming Center is now in its second year of serving the local homeless population. For their first winter of ministry, they operated out of the basement of Christ Church in Kalispell. They began this winter at a temporary location, Faith Free Lutheran Church. But they are now thrilled that they have realized the first step in their dream of creating a permanent home of their own. They recently purchased a former auto repair shop on North Meridian in Kalispell. They moved into this space in December and after serving the housing insecure for this winter season, they will undertake a major renovation of the building. The Warming Center is open nightly from 7 pm - 7 am throughout the winter season usually from October - April.

From their website: "The Flathead Warming Center is founded on Christian principles. 'We love because He first loved us.' ~ 1 John 4:19. It really is that simple. We are called to love and care for those in need. It is in faith that we take each next step, without knowing where the funding will come from. We believe the Flathead Warming Center is the right thing to do and we understand it will take many in our community to make it happen."

We are excited to continue this relationship with another seriously needed homeless shelter for our lost, least, and lonely population.

LENTEN ERD OFFERING

2021 ERD LENTEN BLESSINGS "COUPONS"

For the past 10 years it has been the tradition at All Saints' to "count your blessings" during the season of Lent using coupon booklets compiled by the Lake Missoula Clericus and produced in partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Utah. This year's "coupons" are an adaptation made especially for this year and are available in a daily list or as a weekly calendar. Every Monday through Saturday during Lent, count your blessings and share out of that abundance with the poor, victims of natural disasters, and people distressed by war. Your participation will help Episcopal Relief and Development respond to global needs. Using these coupons is not only fun, but for forty days you will be reminded of simple blessing which shower down upon us all that might otherwise go unnoticed.

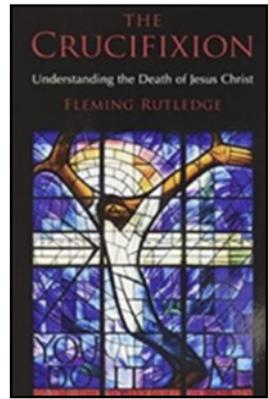


"Coupons" are available in the narthex, in the mailbox in front of Memorial Hall, or Shawn can mail or email you a copy. We are not distributing boxes to collect your "blessings" this year, but can find a container if you need one.

Because of Copyright Laws, please do not put any of these coupons on any social media. Thank you.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who provided input on the best time to host Adult Sunday School. We began our Adult Sunday School on February 28, at 12:30 pm on Zoom. Our Lenten topic is the Crucifixion, inspired by Fleming Rutledge's The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ. Fr. Charlie has been reading this book off-and-on since last Lent, so this will not be a book group/book report! But we are using this book as a foundation and structure for some short lectures on the basics of Christianity. There is no reading (unless you want to buy the book) or homework involved, just Q&A if there is time. You can email Fr. Charlie for the link to the Zoom "class".



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

As of the writing of this eletter, we are anticipating holding all these services in person, as well as live-streaming one service each day. However, be on the lookout, in emails and on our website, for details as Holy Week approaches and we work out any particulars after receiving updated information from the Bishop's Office. For example, as of right now, congregational singing is still not allowed inside the church building, so the plan is to hold the 9 and 11 am Easter Day services outdoors, like we did for Christmas, so we will be able to sing with reckless abandon and proclaim: "Alleluia! Christ is Risen The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia!"

MAUNDY THURSDAY: APRIL 1st - 7 p.m. (also live-streamed) - Maundy Thursday begins the Triduum, the great three days of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection - the journey from the supper table to the cross, and from the cross to Easter morning. Maundy Thursday focuses on two great moments in the life of the church, the first being the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the second being the giving of the new commandment, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34). The service gets its name from the Latin, *mandatum novum*, meaning "new commandment." Many Anglican churches throughout the world (and the Queen of England!) celebrate Maundy Thursday with the distribution of "Maundy money" to the aged and poor.

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY: APRIL 2nd - 12 noon (also live-streamed) & 6 p.m. - Good Friday centers around the Passion as recorded in John's Gospel and our recitation of the Solemn Collects, the church's most ancient form of the prayers of the people. The Eucharist is never celebrated on Good Friday. While the service is as solemn as those collects, it is not grim, and perhaps this is an important mode for us to operate within. Good Friday reminds us of the depth of the love of Christ and how he still lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

GOOD FRIDAY - THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: APRIL 2nd - 5:30 p.m. - The Stations of the Cross is a meditation that mirrors the last hours of Jesus' life, from his being condemned to die on the cross, which took place outside the home of Pilate, to his entombment at a place upon which the Church of the Holy Sepulchre stands in Jerusalem. The stations of the cross most likely began in Jerusalem to help pilgrims remember not just the actual walk of Christ, but also the spiritual reality behind it. At All Saints' we have our own "stations" set along a wooded path on our property. We will gather under the portico and then walk the stations, stopping for brief meditation and prayer at each one. The walk takes about 25 minutes and then we will enter the church for the Good Friday Liturgy and Communion from Reserve Sacrament. The stations are always available for people to walk on their own. There are folders containing the prayers in a box at the beginning of the path and there is also a recording of the stations on our YouTube channel and it will be posted again on our website during Holy Week.

HOLY SATURDAY: APRIL 3rd - 12 noon (also live-streamed) - Under ordinary circumstances, it is the tradition of this parish to celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter at sundown on the Saturday prior to Easter Sunday. The Great Vigil is one of the most ancient services in the Christian Church and is an especially appropriate service for Baptism (the others being the Day of Pentecost, All Saints' Day, and the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord). This year, we will instead gather at noon for the liturgy of Holy Saturday, a uniquely Anglican observance that also happens to be the shortest liturgy in the Prayer Book. This brief service honors the silence and grief of that day after the Crucifixion - in which Jesus was dead, lying in the tomb. Holy Saturday invites us all to reflect on what the world would be like if God was dead and all hope was lost. However, Holy Saturday also commemorates the "Harrowing of Hell", Jesus' triumphant descent into Hell, when he brought salvation to Adam, Eve, and all of the righteous who had died since the beginning of the world. Thanks be to God Holy Saturday is merely the penultimate liturgy of Holy Week!

EASTER SUNDAY: APRIL 4th - 7:30 a.m. & 9 a.m. (also live-streamed) & 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. - At Easter, the tomb stands open for all of us disciples to enter. The worship on this day is familiar to us, because, Jesus was put to death on a cross, and rose again to bring eternal life for each of us. We know that evil and death did not triumph over Jesus and will not triumph over us. Alleluia!

VESTRY INFORMATION

By Shawn Sloan

The first official meeting of the new All Saints' Vestry took place on Zoom on Sunday, February 21st. At that meeting the remaining 3 officers were elected by the vestry. Officers do not have to be members of the vestry, they can be anyone in the congregation who is a member of record of All Saints'. The All Saints' Vestry has 4 officers: Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Treasurer, and Clerk.

The role of the Sr. and Jr. Wardens can vary greatly from parish to parish and the canons say very little about wardens other than their responsibility to keep worship services going in the absence of a rector and of their responsibility to notify the Bishop when a rector leaves or a new rector is called to a congregation.

At All Saints', the Sr. Warden (also known as the "Rector's Warden") is appointed by the Rector (or in the absence of a Rector is elected by the congregation as happened at the 2020 Annual meeting when Leif Peterson was elected prior to Charlie's calling and then arrival in April). The Sr. Warden presides over vestry meetings if the rector is absent.

The Jr. Warden (also known as the "People's Warden") has traditionally been responsible for the building and grounds of a parish. At All Saints' the Jr. Warden is the "go-between" for the congregation to the vestry. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns you'd like the vestry to know about, the Jr. Warden is the one to talk to. Of course you are also welcome to speak with any member of the Vestry.

Each of the wardens serves a 1 year term, and may serve 2 back to back terms, but then must take a one year break before serving again. The remaining 2 officers, the treasurer and clerk may serve an unlimited number of back to back terms. This especially makes sense for the treasurer who has a pretty steep learning curve.

At their meeting, the vestry elected Carl Thomas as Jr. Warden, Cynthia Benkelman as Treasurer, and Kathy Thomas as Clerk. Carl "retired" as treasurer after over 22 years of serving in that role at St. Matthews and then All Saints'. Cynthia brings a wealth of knowledge to her new role as treasurer with an MBA, running the non-profit Flathead Rapids Soccer organization, and her years of involvement with the Episocpal church at the parish, diocesan, and general convention level. Kathy continues her role as clerk having served for over 18 years in this role at St. Matthews, All Saints', as well as other organizations.

Thank you to the newly elected officers as well as all the other vestry members serving All Saints' this year.

WE HAVE RETURNED TO IN PERSON WORSHIP

Welcome!

For the love of your neighbors, please:

- STAY HOME IF YOU'RE SICK.
- WEAR A MASK WHILE INDOORS.
- REMAIN 6-10 FEET APART.
- AVOID TOUCHING SURFACES.
- WASH YOUR HANDS!

Thank You!

- PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE OR CALL THE OFFICE TO CONFIRM IF SERVICES ARE BEING HELD.
- ALL SAINTS' WILL CONTINUE TO BOTH LIVE-STREAM A SERVICE AT 9 A.M. AND DISTRIBUTE COMMUNION FROM 10 - 11:00 A.M. IN THE PARKING LOT EVERY SUNDAY.
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND FLEXIBILITY DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. REMEMBER WE DO THIS OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION TO PROTECT OUR ELDERLY, LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS, AND SUPPORT OUR MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

HERE'S WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE SERVICES

- MASKS REQUIRED AT ALL SERVICES
- NO MUSIC AT THE 7:30 AM & 7 PM SERVICES
- MUSIC & HYMNS AT THE 9 & 11 AM SERVICES
- MAINTAIN A 6 - 10 FT DISTANCE BETWEEN FAMILIES
- COMMUNION (IN BOTH KINDS) WILL BE BROUGHT TO YOU



THE HUNT IS ON!

All Saints' IS planning an Easter Egg Hunt for children this year! There will be some changes to accommodate social distancing and safe food handling requirements, so the details are still being worked out. We are anticipating ONE Easter Egg Hunt after the 11 am service at approximately 12:15. So keep your eyes "peeled" for more information.

Photos of previous hunts.



LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES FINALLY COMES TO YouTube!

By Shawn Sloan

You're probably getting tired of hearing from me about live streamed services, but we have made another step forward with live streaming. All Saints' recently purchased a Mevo Start and a MacBook Air which allows us to live stream simultaneously from one camera to both Facebook and YouTube (as well as other services). Our first successful broadcast was February 28. This allowed me to go from running 4 cameras at the same time to only running 3 cameras (and a laptop). Yay! While I am not yet ready to give up having a "back-up" camera in case of emergency, it is nonetheless a major step in the right direction (especially when I also have to run the CD player for Jenanne's pre-recorded music when she's not there to play live). The sound quality of the Mevo seems to be pretty good, but I'm looking into additional options for sound. We are still waiting on the sound engineer to come and reconnect the sound system and give us suggestions for improvements, including new wireless mics, feedback suppressors, and speakers.



If you are not a Facebook user, watching on YouTube live is now an option. The direct link to each service changes from week to week, but you can find the link on our website, in the weekly newsletter "For All the Saints" from Charlie, by going to our YouTube channel, or you can have it emailed to you if you have subscribed to our YouTube channel and have notifications turned on. To subscribe to our YouTube channel log in to your google account, which could be a gmail account if you have one, go to YouTube and search for All Saints' Montana. When you find it, click on the red subscribe button, which then turns to grey.

I'm still learning the ins and outs of the Mevo (such as zooming in and out), but have discovered a bunch of cool features such as presetting scenes, cutaways, and slow transitions from one angle to another. I still have lots to learn, but it is an exciting endeavor made so much more enjoyable now that we have high speed fiber optics internet.

BUILDING UPDATES

February (& a little bit of March) building project highlights



New floor electrical boxes



Microphone cables will connect thru boxes



New heat registers for the chancel area



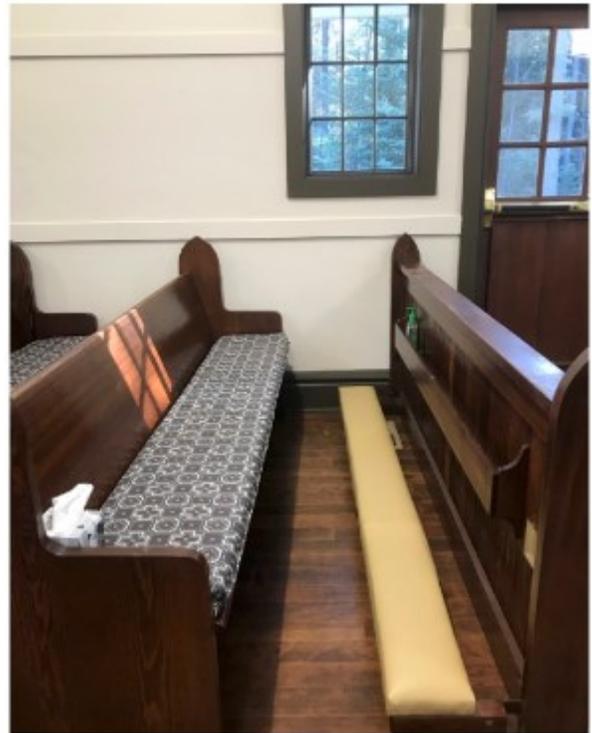
Pew cushions get recovered



Organ returns to the church - live music YAY!



Altar rail will get new kneeler cushions



"Re-covered" pew cushions and kneelers

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	2 Office Hours 5:00pm-6:00pm	3 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon Lent Madness 6:00 pm	4 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	5	6
7 Service Hours: See page 8 Adult Sunday School 12:30	8 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	9 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	10 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon Lent Madness 6:00 pm	11 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	12	13
14 Service Hours: See page 8 Adult Sunday School 12:30 DST STARTS	15 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm Vestry via Zoom 6:30 pm	16 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	17 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon Lent Madness 6:00 pm 	18 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	19	20
21 Service Hours: See page 8 Adult Sunday School 12:30	22 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	23 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	24 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon Lent Madness 6:00 pm	25 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	26	27
28 Service Hours: See page 8 PALM SUNDAY Adult Sunday School 12:30	29 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	30 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	31 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon			

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

7:30 am - service only, no music

9:00 am - service with hymns



9:00 am service is also streamed live on Facebook & YouTube

10:00-11:00 am - Drive through communion



11:00 am - service with hymns

7:00 pm – service only, no music

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

Email scams are fairly common these days, and have been on the rise again with emails going to many parishioners around the diocese purportedly coming from their Rectors. Fr. Charlie was surprised the other day to get an email message from himself asking for a “favor”! Please do not engage with vague emails that seem suspect.



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

Church location:

2048 Conn Road
Columbia Falls, MT
Phone: 406-862-2863

Church mailing address:

PO Box 1923
Whitefish, MT 59937

Rector: Reverend Charlie Knuth
Email: cknuth@allsaintsmt.org
Cell: 801-635-5162

Parish Administrator: Shawn Sloan
Email: allsaintsmt@gmail.com
Cell: 406-291-3613

Christian Formation Minister/Children and Youth: Cynthia Benkelman
Email: cynthia@allsaintsmt.org
Cell: 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, and ever.

Find us here:

Just click on the link!

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

YouTube link: http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAl6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA

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

Vestry Members

Rector: Reverend Charlie Knuth
Senior Warden: Suzanne DeVore
Junior Warden: Carl Thomas
Treasurer: Cynthia Benkelman
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Betsy Paugh
Margaret Anne Payne
Jan Rayford
Jenanne Solberg
Hank Stamm

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