

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

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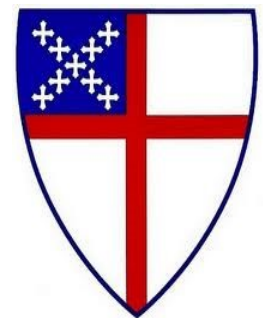
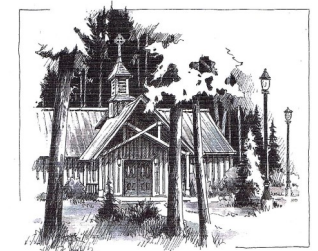
RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's nearly fall. In fact, on Friday, September 22nd, at 2:01 in the afternoon our time, summer gives way to autumn. There is always a part of me that is sad when that happens. I can't help but think that my list of summer things to do went somewhat unmet. And then, twelve seconds later, I realize that it was not fulfilled because all that I wanted to do was crowded out by the fabulous events given me by God, these last three months, that I could not have asked for or imagined. A granddaughter made a couple of evenings' sailing on Flathead Lake or days playing golf fall by the wayside. I'll take that trade any day! (I find that I'm wearing this grandfatherhood pretty well.) As I look back, it would have been fun to maybe spend a couple more days sitting on the deck reading a John Grisham novel, but instead, one of my favorite people in the entire church, the Chancellor of the Diocese of Fort Worth, showed up for a fun visit. Again, a far better deal than what I planned on having. And this month, I'll watch the DAWGS play the GRIZ in Seattle and then a week later climb to the top of a mountain, Lindy Peak, in the Missions, with our daughter Jennifer and her partner Marc, something I've dreamed of doing for the last fifty-four years. Not too sadly, that displaces my cleaning out the garage. In short, this is the way life seems to work. We are given an abundance of blessings every day that exceeds our most expansive expectations, and our ability to enjoy them fully, just because there are so many.

Of course, this summer has brought challenges to our lives. Many in the parish have had sickness and deaths in their families and some of our summer folks come from Houston and have had to deal directly with property and life threatening floods. Very few of our year-round parishioners do not know a member of the family or a person who has been severely affected by those floods along the gulf or the fires burning here. Yet even in these cases, the love of family and the support of the people within the Body of Christ climbs through the curtains of tragedy and embraces those who have been made weary by tribulation. As I mentioned a month ago in my sermon revolving around the story of Peter trying to walk on water, we are always, always, always grabbed by the arm or scruff of the neck and pulled to safety by Christ working through others. This is the way it is. Blessings show through. (I also want to remind folks that going to the web sites of the Red Cross or any television network or that of Episcopal Relief and Development will give you an opportunity to donate to flood relief.)

And this summer, I've been exposed to a myriad of unselfish lives of people surrounding me. When Christine and Derrick brought Emily into the world, I was again amazed by the unfathomable care nurses give day in and day out. When the fires erupted around Seeley Lake, I stood on our dock at Lindbergh Lake and watched pilots bringing planes down to the surface of the lake to skim it for water and return to drop it on or near the fire fifteen miles away. When it comes to forest fires, between those folks and firefighters on the ground, "we are surrounded by a



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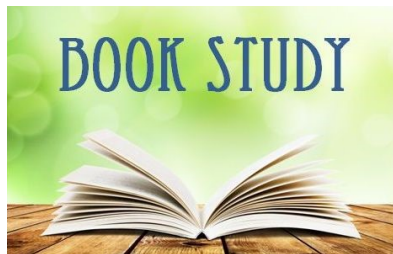
LETTER FROM THE RECTOR (Cont'd)

“great cloud of witnesses” to service, to borrow a phrase from All Saints Day. Just these two examples from the daily-ness of life remind us of extraordinary people crossing our paths. All this is to say, dear friends, notice the glory of God’s grace in your midst. Embrace and relish it. And having said all the above, if you still can get the sticks out of the garage and drive some golf balls into the trees and ponds, by all means, do so. There always is time...even after it snows...as the Eleventh Annual Chili Open is only seven months away!

Faithfully yours,
Bradley

EMILY RAE KIMMET

From the entire Wirth and Kimmet extended family: We are deeply grateful for all of the prayers and best wishes that came our way with the birth to Christine and Derrick of Emily Rae Kimmet. Baby, parents, dogs, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, and great grandparents are all doing splendidly. Emily will be baptized at All Saints’ on All Saints Sunday, November 5th. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**BOOK STUDY RESUMING**

On Thursdays, following the celebration at noon of the Holy Eucharist, we have a book study in which we read aloud and discuss books concerning the faith. We have not picked a book for this season, and so for those who would like to be a part of the study, come with suggestions to the noon Eucharist and hopefully we can begin reading on **September 21st**.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMING

On Wednesday morning, September 6th, at 9:15, we will resume our Bible Study at The Springs senior living facility. We will continue where we left off a few months ago with the 13th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. The type of Bible Study we use is called Community Based Bible Study, and no preparation for these lively sessions is necessary. So come and join us.



PET BLESSING

This year, the Blessing of the Pets will take place on **Saturday, September 30th, at 10:00 in the morning.** (This is a change in time because Bradley has to be at a meeting of the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons in Salt Lake City that afternoon and has to leave on a 12:30 flight, the latest out of Kalispell on a Saturday for SLC.)

This is always such an extraordinary event in the life of our parish. These companion animals are icons of God's unlimited and unconditional love. Without them our lives, as well as theirs, would be significantly less joyful.

For all of the animals' protection, without exception, all pets have to be on a leash or in a carrying cage. As well, some dogs have a difficult time in these kinds of surroundings and if that is the case with your pet, Bradley is happy to come to your home to celebrate the service with your pet and you in quieter surroundings. We also take the occasion to remember those companion animals who have entered everlasting life. People often bring pictures, a collar, a toy, or even the ashes of a pet to tie in with that part of the service. So please pass the word around and come and join in the festivities. As has been the case for the last several years, doggie ice cream will be served for the pets, and goodies including regular ice cream will be plentiful for the pets' companion humans following the service.



Photos from previous Pet Blessings



INQUIRER CLASSES

On November 19th, Bishop Brookhart will be joining us for his visitation which will include confirming and receiving people as well as celebrating the reaffirming the baptismal vows for those who would like to do so. So prior to that event, we will have an Inquirers' Class to help people investigate further, the Episcopal Church. This year, we are hoping inquirers will find Sunday afternoons, following the coffee hour, a more convenient time for meeting, rather than having it on a Wednesday night. Sometimes, as the sun begins to set earlier, it is difficult for people to drive home in the dark. So to that end, we plan to have our first class, **Sunday, October 15th, beginning at 12:30**, and continue meeting each Sunday through November 12th. To augment our discussions, we will be using the booklet, *A People Called Episcopalians*, by John Westerhoff and Sharon Pearson. If you are interested in coming to these classes, please let us know by calling the office, 862-2863, dropping us an email at allsaintsmt@gmail.org or by signing up in Memorial Hall. This will help us order enough booklets.

ALL SAINTS' DAY CAMP

Our annual two weeks of day camp was a great success once again. Four of our absolutely fantastic Camp Marshall staff people ran a day camp each of the first two weeks in August. They worked tirelessly to provide a real camp experience and were on duty daily from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm to provide a safe and fun environment for kids from first through sixth grade.

This was the biggest camp ever with up to 34 children in one day and a waiting list to attend. We were disappointed that we could not accommodate everyone in our current facilities.

Many thanks to all of the All Saints' people who donated snacks, hosted the counselors for dinner, opened their homes to the staff as "home away from home" lodging while they worked the camp, donated funds and for just being your friendly and welcoming selves whenever you were around our counselors. Thanks once again goes out to the Solberg family for providing their beach to our campers for swimming and water fun.

As always, All Saints' warm hospitality was noticed, appreciated and commented upon.

We were thrilled to once again donate a lot of food to our local food banks and to welcome children from our communities of Whitefish, Columbia Falls and the surrounding Flathead Valley area to our church campus for a great two weeks. .



Romping on the church grounds



4 of the amazing counselors



Swimming at the Solberg beach

DIOCESE OF MONTANA HISTORY PRESENTATION

On Sunday afternoon, October 8th, immediately following the 11:00 Service, Bradley's brother, Craig Wirth, the Director of Communications for the Diocese of Utah, will present a program covering the early history of the Diocese of Montana which, a century and a half ago, was 340,000 square miles of territory covering Montana, Idaho and Utah. He will also show a video he produced highlighting its pioneer clergy, Bishop Daniel Tuttle and Tuttle's companions, the Reverends Mr. Foote and Mr. Goddard. As well, he is bringing some of Tuttle's possessions with him so it will be a fascinating hour. Craig is a Emmy Award winning journalist whose work has been on all the network morning shows. As well, he is a professor of communications at the University of Utah.



SEPTEMBER 2017

| 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 10 am Garden Party | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Services at 9 and 11 am | 11 | 12 | 13 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs | 14 Noon service at AS 10 am Garden Party | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Services at 9 and 11 am Vestry 12:30 | 18 | 19 | 20 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs | 21 Noon service at AS Followed by book study 10 am Garden Party | 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 Followed by book study 10 am Garden Party | 29 | 30 10 am Pet Blessing |

THE REV. CANON WREN BLESSING and CAMP MARSHALL

By Jan Rayford

It was with the greatest joy that the congregation welcomed the Rev. Canon Wren Blessing who conducted our services on the Sunday before our two-week day camp began. A number of the young adults working with her at Camp Marshall this summer joined us as well.

For those of you not familiar with Camp Marshall, its purpose is to invite kids and their families to join into a group that is very serious in sharing their daily lives in a way Jesus would.

One of the most wonderful things that Camp Marshall does is to invite campers into a safe and encouraging environment where they are given the chance to explore what it means to know and love God and all of the beautiful world He has created.

During each of the sessions during the summer, both campers and staff are given the opportunity to think about things such as their own gifts, the gifts of those around them and the gifts that are ever present in the world around them. They can explore their curiosity and wonder of the natural world. In addition it gives them the opportunity to practice hospitality, sacramental worship, service, prayer and reconciliation.

One of their most important camp sessions is Grace Camp, a camp specifically for children with a parent in prison. At Grace Camp, time is spent swimming, worshiping, singing, fishing, painting, stargazing and mixing that all with a lot of laughter. Each of these children receive a quilt hand made by one of the many women in the diocese who make them just for this purpose.

As your editor, as well as a member of All Saints and the Diocese of Montana, I do believe Camp Marshall, and Grace Camp in particular, is one of the most wonderful parts of the outreach of our church.



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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.*

Find us here:

Just click on the link!

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www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt)

YouTube link: [http://
www.youtube.com/channel/
UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA)

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Junior Warden: Judi Williams
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Cynthia Benkelman
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