



THE CLOAK

A publication of

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

November 2017

Notes from the Rector

November is a month of Remembrance. A time when we remember **All the Saints** who have gone before us, and our Veterans. **Our Patron Saint Martin was Bishop of Tours**, whose shrine in France became a famous stopping place for pilgrims on the road to Santiago De Compostela in Spain. He is known for his compassion to the poor. He is best known for the account of his using his military sword to cut his cloak in two, to give half to a beggar wearing only rags in the middle of winter (as pictured on our newsletter). Saint Martin, drafted as a soldier into the Roman army, found the duty incompatible with the Christian faith he had adopted and became an early conscientious objector.

In the Church, November begins with the **Feast of All Saints Day** on the 1st and those we love and see no longer are remembered on All Souls Day the 2nd of November. This year we are celebrating All Saints day and All Souls day on Sunday with prayers and reading of the names of those we love and see no longer during our Eucharistic service. During our intercessory prayers the names will be read out as we light a candle to represent the lives of all those we remember in our congregation. The Special part about this, is we believe that they are praying for us too. They are the cloud of witnesses we read about. When we go to the altar they stand with us. We are supported by their prayers. We are reminded by the Celtic community to see the saints, not as people to imitate, but to look at them as ways to see and learn about God through their lives.

There are thousands of named saints that gave themselves wholly to the task of loving. We reflect on how we are to love our neighbor here and now in Lebanon, Oregon. What can we learn about God through the saints? How can we celebrate the risen living Christ in our own lives?

November 11 is a day we remember **Veterans**. It was declared a national holiday in 1938 to celebrate all military veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces. It was called Armistice Day dedicated to the cause of World Peace, because at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the eleventh month of 1918 the armistice was signed ending World War 1. The U.S. holiday was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 not to be confused with Memorial Day that honors those who died while in military service.

At St. Martin's we also remember our patron Saint when the Diocesan Bishop makes his annual visitation on the 12th of November this year. The Congregation will share in a coffee hour with Bishop Michael and the vestry will meet over lunch to discuss our mission and presence as the Episcopal Church in Lebanon, Oregon.

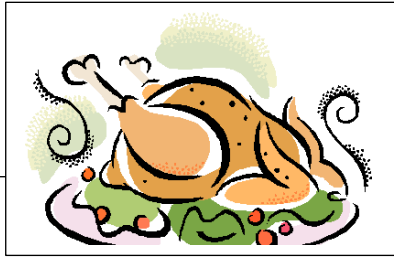
How are we to love our neighbors in the year ahead?

For those of you who are reading this newsletter and are considering attending St. Martin's: Please know that you are always welcome to join us in worship each Sunday at 10:00 and 9:30 on Wednesday Mornings. Questions are a part of our Christian walk. As Episcopalians we rely on the three-legged stool of Scripture, tradition and reason. We would like to meet you and have an opportunity to answer any questions you may have about the church or personal faith. If you wish to have a conversation with the Rector, call the office at 541-451-1159 and leave a message.

Holy Lord, take us and make us holy, make us yours and make us obedient, make us faithful, make us joyful and make us to be numbered with your saints, in that glory which is everlasting through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Love and peace in Christ, Rev Melodie+



Bishop Hanley will visit

on Sunday November 12

in honor of **the feast day of St. Martin** of Tours,
Patron Saint of Soldiers (hence Veteran's Day)

Although he was already with us for Rev. Melodie's installation, **Bishop Hanley** is coming this time as an official pastoral visit. Canon law requires every diocesan bishop to visit every congregation in his or her diocese at least once every three years. The canonical purposes of a visitation are for the bishop to examine the condition of the congregation, oversee the clergy, preach, confirm, preside at the Eucharist, and examine parochial records. The bishop's visitation is often an occasion for baptism, and the bishop would preside.

According to biographies of **St. Martin**, he was "A conscientious objector who wanted to be a monk; a monk who was maneuvered into being a bishop; a bishop who fought paganism as well as pleaded for mercy to heretics—such as Martin of Tours, one of the most popular of saints and one of the first not to be a martyr.

"Born of pagan parents in what is now Hungary and raised in Italy, this son of a veteran was forced at the age of 15 to serve in the army. He became a Christian catechumen and was baptized at 18. It was said that he lived more like a monk than a soldier.

"The story of his cloak (for which our newsletter is named) goes like this: While Martin was a soldier in the Roman army and stationed in Gaul (modern-day France), he experienced a vision, which became the most-repeated story about his life. One day as he was approaching the gates of the city of Amiens, he met a scantily clad beggar. He impulsively cut his military cloak in half to share with the man. That night, Martin dreamed of Jesus wearing the half-cloak he had given away. He heard Jesus say to the angels: "Martin, who is still but a catechumen, clothed me with this robe."

"At 23, he refused a war bonus and told his commander: "I have served you as a soldier; now let me serve Christ. Give the bounty to those who are going to fight. But I am a soldier of Christ and it is not lawful for me to fight." After great difficulties, he was discharged and went to be a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers.

"The people of Tours (France) demanded that he become their bishop. He was drawn to that city by a ruse—the need of a sick person—and was brought to the church, where he reluctantly allowed himself to be consecrated bishop. Some of the consecrating bishops thought his rumpled appearance and unkempt hair indicated that he was not dignified enough for the office..."

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-martin-of-tours/> and
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_of_Tours

Celebrating Thanksgiving!

Although we don't have a service at St. Martin's this year, nor is Our Saviour's Lutheran having their Ecumenical Service, we can still serve Christ by serving at the Community Dinner, as we have done in the past.

St. Martin's members will again be volunteering at the Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Dinner held at United Methodist Church, Airport Road & 2nd Street.

See the Sign-Up Board for a list of **food** items needed.

There is also a "**Help Wanted**" list of times and tasks for volunteers. Please phone Joyce Barber 541-258-7819 or 541-409-3823 or email barber3953@comcast.net for a time to work.

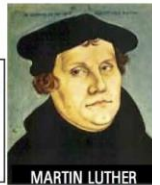
October 31, 2017 is 500 years of Reformation since
Martin Luther's 95 Theses

The Reformation

Martin Luther, a monk from Wittenberg in Germany began to criticize the power and corruption of the Catholic church in 1517. Luther demanded reform of the church.

Some of Luther's criticisms of the church:

- ♦ **Indulgences - paying for forgiveness**
Pardons, with permission from the Pope, travelled all across Europe selling **Indulgences**. They said all you had to do was buy one and you could pay for forgiveness - even for someone who had already died. You could buy a ticket to heaven!



MARTIN LUTHER

- ♦ **The Bible - only in Latin**
Luther said it was unfair of the Pope to stop translations of the bible. Ordinary people couldn't read Latin. Luther said it was unfair because they had to rely on what their priest told them - they couldn't read it themselves!



Luther's supporters became known as **Protestants**. This was because they **protested** against the Church.

At first Henry VIII disagreed with Luther. He was worried that if people were prepared to attack the church, they might be prepared to attack the monarchy. However, when the Pope refused to grant Henry's divorce from Catherine of Aragon, Henry changed his mind.



In 1534, Henry made himself head of the Church in England. Henry was now hostile to people who remained loyal to the Pope. He demanded everyone was loyal to one person - **HIM** - not someone far away in Rome!

In 1535, Henry began arresting monks for high treason. Some monks were publicly tortured and beheaded, and several nuns were executed. In 1536, Henry granted permission for an English translation of the bible to be published, ordering that a copy should be placed in every church in England.

The Protestant Reformation

The Reformation spread throughout Europe and began in England when Henry VIII made himself head of the Church in 1534. The struggle between Protestants and Catholics over religious beliefs would not be easily solved in England or abroad.

By Mr Field. www.SchoolHistory.co.uk

Happy Trails to BSA 404 Pack, Troop, & VENTURING Crew

St. Martin's is sad to bid Goodbye to our Scout Troop & Crew which we have been proud to sponsor since 2013. We are proud of their commitment to inclusion and excellence, and the way they work to live out the Scout promises to be kind to everyone. Now, as the members have dwindled, there is such a small group of kids and adults who are spread too thin, so the Unit has decided not to re-charter at the end of this year, but instead to disband. Youth are moving to larger active troops which have more members to work with. We wish them all the best and have really enjoyed supporting their journeys toward leadership and service.



ECW BRIEF NOTES:

There will be a brief ECW meeting on November 19 after church to start creating our own St. Martin's Episcopal Church Women Bylaws.

"One Buck Seminary",
our lively monthly discussion group led by Bishop John Thornton, will meet Saturday January 13, 2018, at 8-9:30 am at the Parish Hall
All are Welcome. Watch for the new reading packet.



Wed Dec 20 @ 6:30

Brief Vestry notes from Retreat on October 21

Agenda included commitments to

- work on both in-reach and outreach:
- provide extra care for parishioners in various forms of ministry to limit the potential for burnout,
- give more attention to reaching out to the greater Lebanon community to let people know we're here.

Vestry reviewed the comments received from the Listening Day reflection and discussed how these can help with future vision.

Vestry discussed elections coming in January at the Annual Meeting to replace three members whose terms end.

Stewardship talks will be given on Sundays Nov 12 and 19 with pledge intake on Nov 26 and Dec 2.

Full Vestry minutes are posted on the bulletin board

129th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon, Salem: October 26-27-28

Convention highlights were presented during church on October 29, including references to some changes to canon law and votes taken on social justice issues. For more specifics see the delegates. The full convention agenda is online on the diocesan website.

Thanks to Rev. Melodie+ and delegates Doug Young, Sr. and Sam Blankenship, with Patty Linn as alternate, for representing St. Martin's



God is great
and God is Good,
And we thank God
for our food;
By God's hand
we must be fed,
Give us, Lord,
our daily bread.

Helping the Needy – Personal Care Kits



St. Martin's wonderful convention basket – one of 67, this year - helped raise over \$4,000 in funds for the Diocesan Commission on Poverty and Homelessness which helps fund our Personal Care Kits Ministry. On Oct 27 we had 130 guests come through our line at the Lebanon Soup Kitchen.

Thanks again for wonderful donations including Jennifer's Apple Treats raffle items which raised \$155 for our project in October and for in-kind donations of gloves from Knitty Gritty Yarn Shop, blankets from Et Cetera Thrift Shop, and dog food from Faithful Friends Animal Clinic to distribute to our guests.

Remember to call the church office if you or a loved one are ill or being hospitalized or have any special needs. The answer machine is checked daily. 541-451-1159. You can also email to:
stmatinslebanon@gmail.com.

Directory Updates: As we get new names and changes of address, the directory is updated. Ask us for a new copy. Some are posted on the bulletin board, and we can also email to you. STAY in touch and UP TO DATE!

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ADVENT is Coming!

Get Ready to Sign up for our
Christmas Eve Music Program

Singing! Readings!

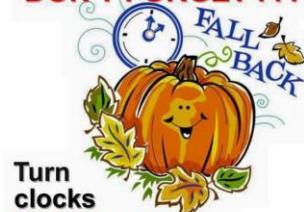
Talk to Ray Hendricks



Watch for date for Greening of the
Church and lend a hand with the holly



DON'T FORGET ...



Turn
clocks

BACK 1 HOUR

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1ST



REMEMBER
Change your
Smoke Detector
BATTERIES

Join us in Worship
Sundays for
Holy Communion
10 a.m.

Wednesdays
Celtic Prayer & Holy Communion
9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School at 10 am.

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