



THE CLOAK

A monthly publication of

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

January 2018

New Year Greetings and Thoughts on Hospitality from The Rector,

Dear Friends, we have spent our second Christmas together with glorious song and worship. We all have enjoyed the lovely decorations in the church, and we thank all those who prepared the church, along with the music leader and choir for all they did to make it a special Christmas. Our coffee hours were superb over the holidays. By the time you read this we will have celebrated The Epiphany. This is when the wise men found the baby Jesus and honored him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We commemorated the day with an all church gathering, officially ending the Christmas season. We now are celebrating bringing in of the New Year.

While enjoying the holidays and hospitality of family and friends, the homeless and the stranger were never far from my thoughts. Hospitality was a primary focus, and still is, as we celebrate the Baptism of Christ this week in Church. Celtic Daily Prayer has some good insights on the meaning of hospitality. I share a few of them with you as you make your New Year's resolutions, in the hope they will bring you inspiration for the year ahead.

“Hospitality- when we say YES to the practice of Hospitality, do we immediately think of inviting our friends around for a meal with a good bottle of wine? Does hospitality for us mean a pleasant social setting, food and drink shared with people we like, in places where we are comfortable? Our understanding and lifestyle may have become quite limited, for hospitality has far broader possibilities than these! We are encouraged into far more radical ways of opening ourselves to others. In reading the Gospels we find that Christ did indeed share plenty of meals and some wine too with people, but in a way that was out of keeping with the polite practices of the day, that even disturbed polite society. And his practice of hospitality extended beyond the meal table and the home and out onto the roads and waysides, where he journeyed in anticipation of the personal encounter with individuals and with crowds, always with an attitude of openness and welcome, available, always vulnerable. These words invite us to re-think our understanding of hospitality, to become braver, let down our barriers, let go of prejudices, walk headlong into true availability and vulnerability by extending a hospitality of heart”. *CDP11*

“Hospitality is lived out in the day-to-day, through becoming available and vulnerable to the stranger to people who are different from us, through the unwanted interruption, in the ordinary places of everyday living, where pain is experienced and presence is needed. Hospitality is not ‘cozy and comforting; but risky and world-rattling’, but it is about encounters full of God’s grace where kindness and respect are practiced. It is hospitality modelled on the one who went among the crowds, touched, and was touched by the unlovely and undeserving’, gave bread and fish to the hungry and water to the parched, lost His good reputation because of the company He kept, but who, through His acts of radical hospitality, enabled people to have sacred encounters with the God who transforms lives”. *Marg Hardcastle CDP11* I welcome your thoughts.

Wishing you all a blessed, healthy and happy New Year,

Rev. Melodie+

Annual Meeting – Sunday January 28, 2018

Every year, St. Martin's parish holds its Annual Meeting. This is a time for all members to gather, celebrate what has been accomplished in the past year (including fixing the leaky roof!), thank our hard-working members for all they do, and make decisions for how St. Martin's would like to go forward.



We will hear about our community outreach projects, for children and adults. This includes Learning Perch reading program for second grade students at Sand Ridge Charter School, now in its 25th year!

In 2017, St. Martin's has been reaching out to our community through Personal Care Kits ministry and donations to the Lebanon Soup Kitchen, minds, through our Little Free Library and Bishop Thornton's "One Buck Seminary" discussion group, which is open to all.

We will also vote on the budget for 2018. We will also work on leadership, hearing reports from our Vestry and Stewardship / Finance groups, and choose leaders for the coming year, including **voting for three open** positions on the vestry, and **electing delegates** to the annual Diocesan Convention. Please consider whether you are called to add your talents and time to serve our church family in one of these positions. The eight Vestry meetings for 2018 are Wednesdays on March 7, April 18, May 30, July 11, August 22, October 3, November 14, and December 19.

Be sure to join us after the service on Sunday January 28 for a delicious brunch to help us plan 2018 for St. Martins.

Join us in Worship

Sundays at 10 a.m.

Wednesdays for Celtic Prayers and Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.,

- ✦ **Sun Jan 7**
 - **Celebration of the Epiphany**
- ✦ **Sun Jan 14**
 - **Second Sunday after the Epiphany**
- ✦ **Sun Jan 21**
 - **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**
- ✦ **Sun Jan 28**
 - **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Join us in Fellowship

SOUP SUPPER POTLUCK

~All are Welcome~

If you can bring a soup, side, or dessert, sign up and/or please let the host / coordinator know.

If not, that's OK too.

Come, eat, and join the fellowship.



Soup Suppers are generally on the 4th Wednesday of the Month, but sometimes early in the following month.

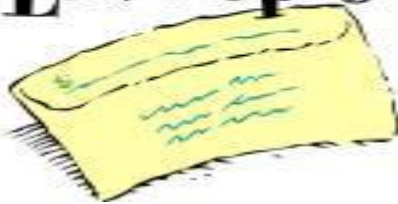
Watch the Calendar to Save the Date

Stewardship

Pledge cards are still available from the Office if you did not get one recently. We need everyone to submit so that the Vestry can make a proper budget for 2018. This is a great opportunity for participating in the family of St. Martin's by sharing your time, talents, and treasure. Pick up your offering envelopes soon so we can track your donations.

The 2017 donation list for taxes will be ready for you soon.

Offering Envelopes



Ready soon

Start the New Year with Bishop Thornton's "One Buck Seminary" discussion group. First meeting is --

Saturday January 13, 2018 at 8-9:30 in the Parish Hall
Reading packets are ready to pick up

Join in the discussion.
Coffee and refreshments!

St. Martin's Men - ALL Men are Welcome!

Monthly Breakfast at Korner Kitchen is Jan 27. ~ ~ ~
~ Think about the annual **Pancake Supper and Pancake Races** coming soon on Shrove Tuesday, Feb 13!

Thank Yous are in order for the many helping hands that made the church so beautiful for Christmas!



And thanks to all who made the Christmas worship so beautiful, including the music from Ray and the singers.

ECW Episcopal Church Women
ALL WOMEN ARE MEMBERS!

Our first 2018 **Fun Lunch** is Monday Jan 22. Place TBA.

Our **next meeting is Friday Jan 26, 2018**, at 10 am in the Parish Hall to

- ✚ elect officers for 2018,
- ✚ start planning our annual HIGH TEA,
- ✚ discuss a simple mission statement.

St. Martin's is here for you....Let us know how we can help through dark days

DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE: Please call the church office or email the church when:

- * You are ill or a member of your family is in the hospital.
- * You learn of a death in the church family.

KEEP US POSTED: Please call the church office or email the church

- * Your address, phone number or email address is changed.
- * You learn of someone who may be interested in church membership.
- * A group wants to use the Parish Hall

Office phone Tues-Fri 9-noon: 541-451-1159; Email checked daily stmartinslebanon@gmail.com)

Personal Care Kits Ministry

Our 13 year ministry continues in 2018 with our visits six times a year taking personal hygiene items and other extras to the needy in our community at the Lebanon Soup Kitchen.

Thanks for everyone's contributions to our Dec 29 visit! Many blankets, hats, scarves and toiletry items were so appreciated, and the extra help with driving and distributing was great.

Our 2018 visits are:

Friday Feb 23
Friday April 27
Friday June 29
Friday August 31
Friday October 26
Friday December 28

THANK YOU

for your prayers and support!

Updated Parish Address List is posted on the bulletin board. Take a copy.

SAVE THE DATES

If you get the CLOAK by email, you can find the monthly event calendar on the webpage. Those who get a paper copy, find the monthly event calendar on the back of your address page.

If you have ideas for an item for THE CLOAK, please email the church office or CLOAK editor, Sara Jameson.

Episcopal Cursillo of Oregon and SW Washington invites one and all to a Grand Ultreya Gathering on Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 2pm – 3:30pm at Church of the Good Shepherd, 805 SE Ellsworth Road, Vancouver, WA 98664. Bring a friend, and a finger food to share.

The goal of the Cursillo movement is to raise up witnessing apostolic leaders who will bring the world to Jesus Christ by transforming the environments in which they live. The role of the Ultreya meeting is to encourage, support, and foster the unity of purpose of the local communities of these witnessing apostles.

The word, “**Ultreya**,” is an ancient Spanish word meaning “onward” that was used by pilgrims as a salutation and encouragement as they greeted one another along the road. It is the regular gathering of Cursillistas for the purpose of encouraging and developing the witnessing

Find and join us on Facebook under Oregon Episcopal Cursillo, and www.oregon-cursillo.org and <http://episcopalcursilloministry.org/Ultreya309.pdf>

The next Cursillo Weekend will be held Thursday evening, May 31 – Sunday, June 3, 2018, at the Oregon Christian Convention Center in Turner, outside Salem.

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

257 E Milton Street, Lebanon, OR 97355
541-451-1159; Office open Tues-Fri 9-12.

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