



THE CLOAK

A publication of

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

FALL 2018

Reflections of Summer

Dear Neighbors,

Returning on the plane from my brief trip to England, I was reviewing photos to share with you when I arrived back in Oregon. Some are of friends at their homes and others were of points of interest I have included in the CLOAK such as York Minster, Lincoln Cathedral and Chapel Allerton Festival with Hymns in the Street. It was a reunion of sorts as I met with many friends I have worked with over the years and listened to their updates of careers and personal lives. I was greeted with much interest in Sowerby by a number of St. Oswald's parishioners who had gathered to meet me at an informal party, and I met with others at an organized coffee hour the next day. What always seems to come out of any trip is how much alike we are rather than the differences. We all want our churches to grow and are learning new ways of being Church to those we serve. These are our neighbors even though they are thousands of miles away from us.

I watched the most recent films on the flight over and went to see *Mama Mia* (here we go again), with a clergy friend who claims we saw the original film together a few years back! I have no reason to doubt her on this. It was fun to see Lincoln and the Cathedral there again too. On the return flight as I reflected on the historical majesty of all that I had seen, I landed upon the documentary of Mr. Fred Rogers in a film called: *Won't you be my neighbor?*

It brought me back to a time in my life when I was beginning to form my own opinions of who my neighbors were. I was in school at the time and the television program continued when my children were in school. It reminded me of the treasures we have here in the United States and the wonderful people who have inspired us over the years to become who we are today. The message Mr. Rogers spread was with children, teaching them that each child is special and that we all are neighbors and should respect each other. I did not know before that he was a Presbyterian minister, but I was not surprised, because he did demonstrate Christian ethos and values. His program tackled all sorts of difficult issues as they came up over the 30 years on the air such as war, death, divorce, racism and the importance of inclusion.

Now at St. Martin's we are in the process of upgrading our Mission Statement language to be more inclusive, and we are registering as a church through the organization Integrity so that St. Martin's will be on the national register as a Believe Outloud Episcopal Congregation. We agreed at our Vestry retreat this year that we would act on what makes us special in Lebanon and that is our inclusiveness. This is something to be proud of and to work on, making sure that all of our neighbors know they are welcome here.

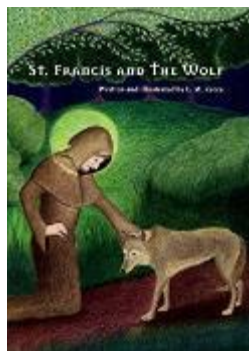
Our St. Martin's Mission Statement says: Come and join St. Martin's family, where everyone has a place at God's table, and we strive to serve all with the Bread of life. St. Martin's strongly believes that we are all God's children, and that in our loving environment you will feel accepted. St. Martin's is inclusive of all races, ethnicities, ages, genders, gender expressions/identities and sexual orientations. Everyone is welcome to receive all the sacraments of the Episcopal Church.

On Tuesdays, I am focusing on meeting up with members of our parish and getting to know our neighbors. If you would like me to visit, please let me know by calling the church office 541 451 1159.

Love and prayers, Rev. Melodie+



These vacation photos show York Minster, Lincoln Cathedral, St. Oswald's Sowerby, lunch in Otley and Hymns in the Street Chapel Allerton.



Join us for the
annual
**Blessing of the
Animals service
Sunday October
7 at 10 a.m**

Bring your furry and feathered friends on a leash or in a container. Offering donations go to Safe Haven Humane Society.

ECW BRIEF NOTES

Ladies Fall Fun Lunch will be Monday October 15 location TBA. Jeanne James is coordinating.

Next Meeting: on Sat Nov 17 at 10 am to plan Advent / Christmas / Greening etc.

Great job on our TRUNK SALE
We raised over \$700!
Thanks for all the hard work!



Join us in Worship

Sundays for
Holy Communion
10 a.m.

Children's Sunday School at 10 am

Wednesdays
Holy Communion and Healing
10 a.m.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN DISASTER STRIKES?

With summer's wildfires still vivid in our memories, with the knowledge that the "Big One" earthquake may come in the future, and the terrible hurricanes and flooding on the East Coast, the Diocese of Oregon has a Disaster Preparedness Program. This program is coordinated by Sheryl Gerety (sheryl.gerety@gmail.com), who provides a monthly, seasonally appropriate checklist page to help us prepare for a disaster in manageable steps <https://www.diocese-oregon.org/?s=preparedness>. We post these checklists on the bulletin board for you. Vestry member Patty Linn is interested in providing us with a specialized on-site training. Watch for details.

August 2018 Preparedness Checklist: Wildfire Smoke

August 2, 2018 / 10:00 AM PST



Smoke and flames in a forest of trees, rocks and grass.

From our Disaster Preparedness Program coordinated by Sheryl Gerety.
sheryl.gerety@gmail.com or monthly, seasonally appropriate checklist page to help us



Talk with Rev. Melodie about the ways you are being called to serve Christ at St. Martin's

A is for Altar Guild
B is for Building and Grounds
C is for Children & Sunday School
You get the idea!

Would answering phones let you share St. Martin's with the community?
Are you called to make our church more beautiful?



Parishioner Profile – Getting to Know Lorna!

If you have noticed someone tending the flowers around St. Martin's, or wondered who organizes the lovely flowers for the altar, you might have seen Lorna Myrtue. Originally from Minnesota, Lorna says the Oregon climate is much easier for growing flowers and enjoys her garden at home. In the nearly 50 years she has been a member of St. Martin's (she and husband Don joined in the early 1970's), Lorna has shared her talents with our church. Drawing on her Home Economics degree at Iowa State University and teaching in high schools in Iowa and Oregon, Lorna has coordinated the ECW Tea for about 10 years. Lorna also works with ECW members to facilitate receptions following memorial services, something families so appreciate. Her cooking skills are enjoyed by all of us for Parish Potlucks and Coffee Hours. When she isn't at St. Martin's, Lorna enjoys her growing family and grandchildren, plus keeps up with education, through Lebanon's Study Club and the local chapter of P.E.O., which helps women with scholarships. Asked what she likes best about St. Martin's, Lorna says *"the people are the best. I treasure the long established relationships. Parishioners are devoted to religion and God's work in an amazing way. This church is loving and encompassing and welcoming. We can think about God in our own way and have intellectual opportunities."*

On August 6, the Vestry voted to join **Integrity USA** and the **Believe Outloud** project



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"One Buck Seminary",

our lively monthly discussion group led by Bishop John Thornton, started this season with Women Mystics. **Next session is Saturday October 13** on women theologians. Watch for reading packet.

Family Fun Nights are a Success!

Friday Sept 21, 6-8 pm was BINGO with Prizes and Baked Potato Bar!



Thanks to Amy, Garrod, and Sam for their hard work all summer with these fun activities.

In October, the Annual **Lebanonicon Board Gaming Convention** fund raiser is coming Fri-Sat-Sun October 26-27-28. Watch for details. Thanks Roger Munk!

Fun Nights return on January 25, 2019!

And what about a St. Martin's Night at the Movies? We could get a group together - and stay in or head out!

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Personal Care Kits Ministry

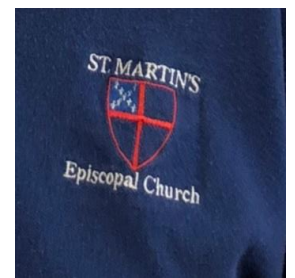
Thanks so much to everyone for generous donations for our ministry at the Soup Kitchen, with Care Kits and Knapsacks full of school supplies for the kids. Please pray for students and teachers. Our next visit is Friday, October 26.

Many thanks to the Diocesan Commission on Poverty & Homelessness for their generous grant of \$500 to provide for this Ministry.

We will again make a basket to raffle at Convention to help raise funds for the CPH grants. Here's the 2017 basket. This year's theme is **"Sweet & Spicy."** Please bring items by October 21.



St. Martin's Shirts – It's time to order more custom St. Martin's shirts. Watch for details.



St. Martin's Episcopal Church

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