



THE CLOAK

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

Summer 2018

Thoughts from the Rector Summer

God's Love for you is Deeper than the Ocean

The days are hot and the nights are warm here in Lebanon. I have taken a day here and there to go see the ocean and feel its cool breeze. I am inspired by the ocean to think of God whenever I am near it. These quotes remind of us God's vast love for each of us. I hope you will find the time for inspiration and rest this Summer. If you are unable to travel, perhaps you will find the perfect book to take you there.

"God's Love is like an ocean; you can see its beginning but not its end." Rick Warren.

Summer is a time to contemplate our lives and take time to hear God's still small voice. It is a time to refresh our faith, our bodies, and our minds. The most fun is that we find it is a time when we have permission to lay about. This is time and good for the soul. Take the time to relax and refresh yourself. Jesus always did this. He went up on a mountain to a quiet place to pray, often in a garden. Those of you who love gardening, I encourage you to keep up the good work. For perhaps this is your prayer. For those who are fighting fires to save our forests and streams, we especially ask God to bless you and keep you safe.

If you are going through a rough patch right now, remember: God's mercy is bigger than any of our mistakes. If you are grieving right now, remember: *"Tears are prayers, too; they travel to God when we can't speak"* (Psalm 56:8). As your priest and pastoral caregiver, I value this time to be able to offer a listening service, and I can offer you grief recovery direction as a grief recovery specialist.

If you would like to speak with me about your loss of any kind, simply call the church office at 541-451-1159 and leave a message to set an appointment on a day and time of your choice. If you wish a pastoral visit or Holy Communion and are unable to make it to services, please call and let us know of your need so we may accommodate you. We want this to be the best summer it can be for you.

We look forward to seeing you again in September. Sunday School starts on September 9th, with blessing of the backpacks on August 26th.

God's blessings and peace be with you and in your travels. See you in September!

Rev. Melodie+

ADULT EDUCATION

“One Buck Seminary” monthly discussion group led by Bishop Thornton, returns in September 16 with a discussion of the writings of Hildegard of Bingen, a 12th century German Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, Christian mystic, visionary, and polymath.

BACK TO SCHOOL! Lebanon Schools start on Wed August 28!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starts on Sept 9th. Adult volunteers, plan to meet after church on Sunday August 26 to plan with Amy and sign up for your Sunday!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday August 26 – Bring your backpacks, and any donated school Supplies or books!

LEARNING PERCH TUTORING

Donations are welcome for the **Learning Perch Book Buying Fund**. The second graders in our program at Sand Ridge Charter School earned many books in 2017, and the stock needs to be replenished. **Volunteer tutors are also needed** to listen to the children read on Tuesday and/or Thursday 2-3 pm. Check with Helen.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SOUP KITCHEN KIDS

We can also use books to hand out at the Soup Kitchen with Personal Care Kits to help needy children keep up their reading skills. Check with Sara.

ECW BRIEF NOTES:

~~ **Trunk Sale:** We met on Aug 4 to plan; the sale is Sept 8 if we have enough. Please call Dena by Aug 12 at 541-619-9894 if you have items to sell. If we don't have enough, we will postpone.

~~ **Ladies Fun Lunch:** Our June 22 Fun Lunch at Carino's restaurant was very pleasant with friendly conversation. Autumn lunch will be Mon October 15. Location TBA. Sara will coordinate this year.

~~ **Monthly Raffle:** Dena will coordinate this year. Thanks to Jeanne for her hard work last year.

~~ **Next ECW meeting will be Saturday November 17.**

Full ECW minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

CONVENTION NEWS

Responding to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's call to "Follow the Way of Jesus," deputies and bishops at the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, meeting July 5-13 in Austin, Texas, acted on a record number of resolutions on key issues such as immigration, prayer book revision, the Israel-Palestine situation, and readmitting the Episcopal Church of Cuba as a diocese. Convention also passed a \$134 million budget that reflects for a further three years the presiding bishop's priorities of evangelism, racial reconciliation and creation care. Read more →.

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2018/07/16/general-convention-wrap-up-following-the-way-of-jesus/>

Please pray for Bishop Michael



Please keep Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry, his wife Sharon, and their family in your prayers as Bishop Curry had surgery for prostate cancer on July 31.

**Our Sunday August 12 service will be
Mid-Valley Ecumenical Eucharist
& Potluck Picnic
Faith & Fellowship in Worship!**

On August 12, we will worship as one big Mid-Valley family in Timber-Linn Park, Albany. St. Martin's joins with Episcopal and Lutheran churches in the mid-valley for our traditional celebration. It's a great time to get to know each other better and strengthen our faith community.

**Bring a chair and food to share
Carpool meets at St. Martin's at 10:15**



Looking forward to this year's Ecumenical Eucharist

VESTRY Highlights from July 22

Vestry - Updates on painting rectory and south wall church; playground progress in renovation and Diocesan Pentecost Offering Grant. Next meeting is August 22. Talk to Rev. Melodie or any vestry member if you have ideas or questions.

A **BIG thank you** to the Garden Party crew in July who trimmed, tidied and beautified our lovely flowers and bushes!



DID YOU KNOW? ... Another in our series of parishioner profiles

You might not always see everything that long-time parishioner and native Lebanite Larry James has done around St. Martin' over the years, but his contributions and achievements have been so valuable. Did you know that Larry and his sons helped roof the parish hall? Or what about all the fencing around the rectory, and back "alley way"? Fencing can seem invisible, but is so important. Larry got started on building and grounds with Kenny Christ and Jim Mechals, and that's been a lot of years ago, and he also helped with the Memorial Garden.

We can also thank Larry and Jeanne for donating the garden shed and riding mower (did you know that the grass has to be mowed weekly in the growing season? That's a LOT of work! It's great that Austin has taken an interest in the mowing now with Roger Clark's help).

In addition to working on the grounds, Larry has a real knack for inspiring growing kids. Back when St. Martin's had a basketball team (did you know that?) Larry coached them, and he also coached middle & grade school kids in football and basketball too. Larry is often seen after coffee hour helping the Sunday school kids bring in the parking lot signs and windsock. They love to help out.

On his wish list? Larry would love to see the parking lot re-paved and an underground sprinkler installed so the landscaping would stay green.

Larry has served on the Vestry three times and has been junior warden in the past as well. Watch for Larry and his faithful helper, Jack, a 14-year Brittany Spaniel, working behind the scenes weekdays getting things done. Thanks for all the hard work!



Personal Care Kits

Our Community Outreach
At Lebanon Soup Kitchen
Next visit August 31



Watch for **SUDSY SUNDAYS** in August, to bring socks, wash cloths, blankets, detergent, shampoo, and more for our August 31 visit.

Thanks for all the help June 29 with help from Loyce & Jim's Family, and 3 generations of Moodys along with our faithful regular helpers (see above).

Jennifer interviewed guests about their special needs and as a result, we are preparing a mini first aid handout in English & Spanish for guests... thanks to Sarah, who starts at Willamette University in the fall.

* When you bring items, please fill out an "in kind" donation form so we can show how the parish supports this outreach ministry. Special thanks to ECW for their grant of \$250 to this project.

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Join us in Worship

Sunday Holy Communion at 10 a.m.
Wednesday Holy Communion and
Healing at 9:30

- ✦ August 5 - Transfiguration
- ✦ August 12 - Mid-Valley Ecumenical Eucharist & Potluck Picnic at 11 am. Timber-Linn Park, Albany. Meet at St. Martin's at 10:15 am to carpool - bring a chair & food to share
- ✦ August 19 - After the service, 12:30 lunch with Rector
- ✦ August 26 - Blessing of Backpacks & meeting of Sunday School volunteers

Family Fun Night -

Be sure to come to the final Family Fun Night this summer, August 24 - 6-8 pm - food, fun, games.



Thanks, Amy and Garrod, for the great idea and all the hard work!

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

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