

ST. AIDAN'S TORCH



*St. Aidan's Mission:
Spread the promise of Jesus Christ in and beyond our
community through worship, education, and outreach*

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GRESHAM OREGON
NEWSLETTER: JUNE 29, 2006

Rector's Reflections

By Scott Dolph

Have a Great Summer!

It's Summertime! Can't you feel the pace of life change? Certainly the rhythm has changed here at St. Aidan's as we make way for the different activities of Summer and vacation season. For example:

Our choir is taking a much-needed break. While the members of St. Aidan's choir are not gathering in the Sanctuary nor vesting, they will still be offering leadership from the pews, where they can sit with family and friends and where they can get a different perspective on what happens at sermon time or at the altar. As is customary, several choir members will make a musical offering on a given Sunday. (Mark Jones invites all who have musical talent to talk with him about making just such an offering over the Summer.) At any rate, I am sure our musical folk will enjoy not having the burden of leading our singing week by week for these few weeks. Of course, that lets the rest of us learn just how much we depend on our choir each Sunday!

The Church School is also changing its pattern over the Summer to give the teachers a much needed break. Older youngsters are encouraged to stay in church and listen; younger children may want to find the soft bags with coloring projects and games; and small children may still be taken to child care, as always. Adults who are not used to hearing children will also have a chance to experience the church schoolers presence more apparently.

In other changes of pace, some of our children are looking forward to attending the Classic Camp at Triangle Lake. We are proud to have provided the equivalent of nearly four Camperships. (Thanks to an anonymous donor!) Besides that, we started the Summer with a picnic to celebrate the end of the church school year and to thank the teachers for a wonderful job, and we will finish up with our Mass on the Grass and picnic in August.

The Forum also enjoys a hiatus for the Summer, giving adult students a rest, and time to be especially intentional about enjoying fellowship on Sunday mornings. It's so easy to fall into the pattern of doing our business on Sundays, because our busy schedules dictate it. It's also easy to want to talk only with our regular circle of friends,

rather than to branch out. One of the helpful aspects of changing gears for Summer is that we can break those habits that have become so second nature that we cannot imagine doing anything different. Instead, we can use this Summertime to reach out and introduce ourselves to this new person just visiting or that quiet person whom we do not know.

We are proud of our home grown deacon, Diana Starr-Salnavé, and we will celebrate her ministry as she recognizes that she needs to pull back some from her activities here. What more fitting time to do it than Summertime?

Summer is also a time for all of us to get outdoors more. So there is another change of pace. Camping and sports and gardening all put us right up close to our natural environment. The smell of grass or a rose remind us of God's creation. The taste of one of our own fresh home-grown tomatoes or green beans remind us that vegetables come from the good earth and not the grocery store shelf. And the warmth of the sun on our shoulder can hardly fail to make our heart glad. So, as we take advantage of the seasonal warmth and the dry days, we prepare for our new fountain and keep the garden beautiful, welcoming and fruitful. From this new perspective, we know we are part of something much bigger than ourselves. That awareness is certainly valuable in itself as part of our spiritual discipline.

Above all, let's remember what holiday means. It means time set apart; it means holy time. Our leisure can change us: It can recharge our batteries while offering an opportunity to know and to be known by God in unexpected and unpredictable ways. Whether it's reading that novel we have had waiting for us all year, cleaning out the garage, traveling to a new place or to see family, cultivating our vegetables or simply sitting on the beach and staring into the waves, God works through these times when those all-too-familiar stresses are not so present. Let's be open to God's presence!

Many of us will be taking a holiday this Summer, and I pray that all remain safe to return well refreshed. Just a thought: Why not visit other parishes while on vacation to bring back ideas? Perhaps it's a bulletin or a program or a way of welcoming visitors that appeals to you, and perhaps that idea could be helpful here, too.

English Hospitality

The Reverend Dr. Caroline Litzenberger, Associate Priest

I often think about how important hospitality is and how much of a difference it can make in how a person experiences something new. Think about your first visit to St. Aidan's. You might have been nervous, wary, anxious, unsure of what to expect, and hopefully you were welcomed and put at ease by those around you from the parish. I was reading a parish newsletter the other day, and noticed an emphasis on opportunities for hospitality during the summer in churches. People check out church then for myriad reasons. Some may be traveling and seek out a place to worship; others are visiting parishioners and come with them; still others may have been thinking about going to church, but only in the summertime can they find the time or psychic space to explore options for worship.

When I was in England in April, hospitality was a frequent source of light and love that sustained me when I was otherwise feeling lonely, isolated or exhausted. I arrived in England at mid-day on April 4 after a typical night of fitful sleep on the plane, and immediately took the coach to Oxford, where I would give a paper at a conference. While I waited for the coach, a total stranger kept me company, keeping me awake by chatting with me about how unusually cold it had been in England lately. When I arrived at Oxford, I was greeted by a former grad student (now studying there) who had arranged a room for me in her college, and with whom I shared a meal that evening. I had similar experiences when I traveled to Devon to visit a friend and colleague, and then to visit my Ph.D. advisor and his wife. They all fed me well and drove me around the countryside to show me beautiful churches with beautifully preserved medieval decorations, and my former advisor took me walking on Dartmoor. We climbed an ancient tor – unmistakable for its stacked stones at the top – and looked down the other side to view the imprint of a medieval village. On Palm Sunday I went to church with him and his wife at their parish church in Shaldon, where I was warmly welcomed by everyone present: they all included me in their conversations, asked questions of me, and generally made me feel most welcome.

Then, as most of you know, I was in York for Easter, and once again I was buoyed up by generous hospitality. I sat next to the local Methodist minister and his wife. We had all arrived quite early and so we chatted quietly as that great Minster filled with worshipers. Then we joined in worship, singing together, passing the peace to one another, and going up to communion together. After the service, they wished me a happy Easter and expressed the hope that I would enjoy the rest of the day. The next day, being Easter Monday, was a holiday in England, and I could not get into the archives to work. A colleague who is on the faculty at the University of York, knowing that I would be at "loose ends" that day, arranged for an outing. Two York graduate students, she, and I traveled quite literally "over hill and dale" to explore two more beautiful churches with beautifully preserved medieval decorations

and to share a delicious pub lunch (outdoors in the howling wind on top of one of those hills).

All over England, I was greeted warmly and cared for. I developed a relationship with each person who offered me such hospitality. I felt the love of God expressed in those actions and embodied in the people who reached out to me with such generosity. In each case, the person was attuned to my presence and anxious to enhance my stay in some way. In each case, the person was paying attention to the little things: anticipating my needs, checking out my interests, and offering companionship.

Let's pay attention to the new faces we see at St. Aidan's this summer. Let's attend to their needs: care for them, include them. This may take us out of our comfort zone but that's a good thing. Remember! They're out of their comfort zone too. And we are called to be Christ to them: to reach out in love, to share our joy as members of the Body of Christ in this place. You never know whom you might encounter; you never know how you might change someone's life. Go for it! It's worth the risk!

Getting Ready for this year's WINTERGARDEN November 11, 2006

Just a few reminders of what can be done in the summer so we have a good event in November.

If you plan to bring canned fruit, jam or pickles:

- Remember that food prepared at your home can only be sold to parishioners (after church on November 12), BUT if you make it in our health-department approved kitchen at the church, it may be sold to the general public on both days. (Clear your work-date with the office, please)
- We are going to have a different floor arrangement this year, and will need about a dozen sturdy card tables. If you have one to give/loan or see one at a yard sale this summer, let Marilyn Pierik or Julie Kyer know.
- We are going to need a good variety of *hand-made items* for the craft sale. Also, if you have something wonderful for the door prizes, that would be most welcome!

We are CONSIDERING having a PREVIEW PARTY on Friday evening, November 10. As we see it now, it would be a festive event, serving wine and hors d'oeuvres or wine and dessert, with music—and a chance to preview (not buy) items for sale the next day.

___ I'd like to have a Preview Party with
___ wine and dessert
___ wine and cheese
___ other
___ Don't bother

give to Marilyn or Julie, please

THE CHURCH MOUSE July 2006



It's officially summer. We are changing our habits accordingly, trying to stay cool, doing different things, maybe more outdoor activities, and visiting our friends near and far. We may even read an extra book or two. Church attendance is a little more sporadic, but we pray that as we leave God's house, we may not leave His presence.

Around the parish, the first thing to remark on is the **new parish directory**. It looks great! The main editor for this was Pat Burger, who finished most of the work just before she left the parish. Of course, secretary Sue completed it with help from a couple other office volunteers. We thank them all. If you have trouble getting to church to pick one up, please call the office. Then, our fabulous Chili Feed was a great success, with special thanks to **Shirley Vidito** and **Jessica Jones** who did major labor to put it together. All the food was great, and it was a fun parish event. They made a little over \$400 for our children's playground. Several of our children are going to church camp in July. We have four scholarships split five ways, so no family has too much to pay. We have **Morgan** and **Matthew McCoy**, **Tyler Groce**, **Ricky McMurry-Vidito** and **Annie Gorsek**. Hope they all have a wonderful time! Also, around the grounds, we see and hear wonderful things about how beautiful everything looks, thanks to our team of Gloria Trunk, Mary Hamilton and Byron McKinlay—who is the chief lawn-mower and heavy lifter. I'm sure our care of the grounds is a witness to the world at large. Also, we now have a new child care provider, also from the Ferguson family! The new person is Greg and Rennie's daughter, **Danielle Ferguson**. We thank her for stepping in and relieving our volunteers of the major responsibility!

We welcome our newly baptized (as of Pentecost Sunday): **Branden** and **Jaden Kerr** and **Samantha Hansen**. I hear the Sunday School Picnic was a great success, with about all of our families in attendance. I hear they had good food and a great time! Thanks to **Lori McCoy**, **Shirley** and **Mike Vidito** and Jackie Goodnight for putting this together.

Our world has been diminished by the loss of a few of our friends and family. First, we want to express our sympathy to **Erna Sweeney** on the loss of her daughter, **Teri**. Although Teri lived in Washington, she was often in our prayers because of her poor health. There were many friends and family members in church on Saturday, June 24 to extend their well wishes to Erna. Also, please note that there will be a memorial service for long-time member (and eight o'clocker) **Herb Razor**. His family will be here from the east to honor his memory. Caroline Litzenberger will be leading that service on July 15, as Fr. Scott will be on vacation. It's interesting to see old friends who come to these memorials—Fr. Scott was remarking how pleasant it was to see **Jack and Janet Saling** at the memorial for Fr. Welsh. And I saw several of our mostly home-bound folk at Teri's memorial also, especially **Zina Booher**, who recently suffered a heart attack, and isn't able to get out very often.

Our sick and mending list also includes quite a few parishioners. **Jan Iseli** has been down with an ear infection and what not, but is back to her old cheerful self. **Deacon Diana Starr-Salnavé** has spent some time in the hospital with a bad back. We wish her to be well and back among us

soon. **Fr. Tom Murdock** has been in sick-bay for his upper back and shoulders, I think he said. There has been much pain involved.

We are delighted to see **Shirley Pratt** back in church and at activities after her recent heart attack and surgery. What a relief for us all! **Maxine Viebrock** had recent surgery, but is improving, as is **Chris Gorsek**, who was back in church only a week after his surgery. (he must have strong recuperative powers, but he says, there are new techniques that make this surgery much less invasive than that in previous years).

Also, **Diane Jorge** is back after knee surgery, and **Marlene Lucas** is back on her feet after a brief illness. We were pleased to see **Larry Nolder** in church on Father's Day—which was also his birthday and their wedding anniversary. Congratulations on all those years! **Barbara Kemp** was also in church recently with her son. Then, we must comment on **Shirley Bush's** new "electric chair" – (the good kind). She has been suffering a lot with lower body pains, and her doctor finally said, "It's time." She is looking much more relaxed, and has even "driven" it to church a couple times, while she's waiting for her van to get a proper lift. Mobility is a wonderful gift, no matter how it arrives.

One of the main diversions of the season, of course, is visiting and being visited. I know of several, but I'm sure everyone is going to try to get away at least a little. **Noriko Sutton** wins one of our long-distance travel awards, as she is going to Japan for a family wedding. She even has to rent one of those expensive black wedding kimonos for the event. Choir member and sometime organist, **Janet Cook**, has retired from her teaching job after 34 years, and is moving back to Hawaii in midsummer. We will really miss her, strong alto voice, and excellent music skills. **Henrietta DeWolf** has had a nice visit with son **Alex** and his sister in California. **Charlotte Dennett** is keeping tabs on her daughter, **Terri**, who is awaiting a kidney transplant in Alaska. **Diane Parker/Bruce Richardson** have been traveling quite a bit, visiting friends near and far. Bruce has been our interim treasurer, and is managing to keep things going, even while he's in and out of the area. **Lisa Croft** is still doing a lot of road work for her forest service job. Seems like she's gone about every other week. **Floyd and Toni Gibler** have been entertaining her parents from...South Dakota? during late May and June, which has meant attending church at 8:00 rather than Toni's customary 10 AM service. Also, son **Jason** just got a full-time job at TechFab in Gresham, which I understand is a very nice place to work. I hear **Joe Berninghausen** also got a new job, but you'll have to ask mom, **Betsy**, about where it is. The **Rev. Jackson "Jack" Hazelett** and wife, **Barbara** are back among us after some time off to visit Fr. Hazelett's old parish in Tigard. It's nice to see them again.

We need to congratulate **Byron McKinlay** on his nomination for the Bishop's Distinguished Parochial Service award. I can't think of anyone who deserves it more, because much of what he does is behind the scenes, but when you need him, he's there! Thanks and congratulations, Byron.

Well, gotta run. I'm sure there's more...**Fr. Scott's** on vacation during July, (no Wednesday services), but one can only stand so much chatter at one sitting. See you next month! C.M.

Lectionary Readings

July 2, 2006

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 15: 7-11
Psalms 112
2 Corinthians 8: 1-9,13-15
Mark 5: 22-24,35b-43

July 9, 2006

Pentecost 5 Proper 9
Ezekial 2: 1-7
Psalms 123
2 Corinthians 12: 2-10
Mark 6:1-6

July 16, 2006

Pentecost 6 Proper 10
Amos 7:7-15
Psalms 85
Ephesians 1:1-14
Mark 6:7-13

July 23, 2006

Pentecost 7 Proper 11
Isaiah 57:14b-21
Psalms 22:22-30
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-44

July 30, 2006

Pentecost 8 Proper 12
2 Kings 2:1-15
Psalms 114
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16
Mark 6:45-52

Intercessions

July 2, 2006, Pentecost 4, Proper 08

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the clergy and people of the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion). In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the congregations of: St. Luke, the Physician, Gresham; All Saints, Hillsboro; San Pablo, Hillsboro; Christ Church, Lake Oswego. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Worship Team, especially the Lectors.

July 9, 2006, Pentecost 5, Proper 09

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the clergy and people of The Church of North India (United). In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the congregations of: St. Martin, Lebanon; St. James, Lincoln City; St Catherine, Manzanita; St. Barnabas, McMinnville. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the Worship Team, especially the Ushers.

July 16, 2006, Pentecost 6, Proper 10

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for The Church of Pakistan (United). In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the congregations of: St. Mark, Medford; St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukie; St. Hilda, Monmouth; St. Mark, Myrtle Point. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the Worship Team, especially the Greeters.

July 23, 2006, Pentecost 7, Proper 11

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the Clergy and people of the Anglican Church of Papua, New Guinea. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the congregations of: St. Michael, Newberg; St. Stephen, Newport; St. Paul, Oregon City; St. Christopher, Port Orford. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the Music Ministry Team, especially the Choir.

July 30, 2006, Pentecost 8, Proper 12

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for clergy and people of The Episcopal Church in the Philippines. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the congregations of: All Saints, Portland; Ascension, Portland; Good Samaritan Foundation, Portland; Good Samaritan Hospital, Portland. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we are asked to pray for the Operations Team, especially the Vestry.

Happy Birthday ...Nobody grows old merely

by living a number of years. We grow old by deserting our ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. ~ Samuel Ullman

July 1	Elise Swan	July 26	Violet Battaglia
3	Doris Nelson		RJ Gillespie
15	Luella "Liz" Nysven	29	Charlotte Dennett
20	Jamie Johnston		Jennifer Norrish
22	Kevin Gibler		Shirley Pratt
24	Mark Pinkerton	31	Matthew McCoy
25	Michael Ashby		

Your Endowment at Work

You don't hear much about the endowment committee or the Endowment Fund. The committee consists of Coleen Howard, Julie Kyer, Doug Pfeifer, Lorraine Crawford and Father Scott.

The Endowment Fund can receive funds all year long. It is wonderful to receive monetary gifts from wills, life

insurance benefits or even those special one time gifts from tax planning. Sometimes the monetary gift comes from property or other avenues. This is a fund that can grow all year long. So.....think about how you can help this fund grow during the year. What amounts are available through the year from your budget? Can a portion of the funds you already give be noted for this fund?

The Endowment Fund uses the interest gained during the year. It does not use the principle. Therefore, every dollar placed in this fund will continue to grow.

The monies received from the Endowment Fund are used for our church and special projects that the congregation specifies. For instance, dollars can be used to help our college students with a scholarship, it can help with our families' troop support and those in our congregation who have a special need.

As St. Aidan's continues to grow, as our congregation continues to grow, think about how you can help your Endowment Fund to grow.

JULY 2006 EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 8:00 AM HE—Rite I 10:00 AM HE—Rite II Reception for Den. Diana's Retirement	3	4	5 7:00 PM—8:30 PM Holy Cross Worship Service	6	7	8
9 8:00 AM HE—Rite I 10:00 AM HE—Rite II	10	11	12 7:00 PM—8:30 PM Holy Cross Worship Service	13 NO VESTRY MEETING FOR JULY	14	15 10:30am Service for Herb Rasor
16 8:00 AM HE—Rite I 10:00 AM HE—Rite II	17	18	19 7:00 PM—8:30 PM Holy Cross Worship Service	20	21 Deadline for The Torch	22
23 8:00 AM HE—Rite I 10:00 AM HE—Rite II	24	25	26 7:00 PM—8:30 PM Holy Cross Worship Service	27	38	29
30 8:00 AM HE—Rite I 10:00 AM HE—Rite II Convocation Youth Swimming Party —St. Phillip's	31					

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Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

This newsletter is published monthly
by St. Aidan's Episcopal Church at this address.

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U.S. Postage
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The Leadership of St. Aidan's

Clergy

The Right Reverend Johncy Itty, Bishop of Oregon
The Reverend Scott M. Dolph, Rector
The Reverend Dr. Caroline Litzenberger, Associate Priest
The Reverend Diana Starr-Salnavé, Deacon
The Reverend Jean McAfee, Deacon

Vestry

Senior Warden: R.J. Gillespie, 2007
Junior Warden: Mike Vidito, 2009
Henrietta De Wolf, 2007
Mary Hamilton, 2007
Diane Parker, 2007
Bonnie Buckmann, 2008
vacant, 2008
Jeff Ferguson, 2008
Pat Rose, 2008
Shirley Bush, 2009
Barbara Lambert, 2009
Tim McCoy, 2009

Other Lay Leaders and Staff:

Parish Office Coordinator: Sue Hiscoe
Treasurer: Bruce Richardson, Interim
Organist and Choirmaster: Mark Jones
Assistant Organist: Rob Stoltz
Sexton: Stan Rickerd
Altar Guild Chair: Julie Kyer
Sunday School Director: Lori McCoy
Youth Group Leader: vacant
Childcare Provider: Danielle Ferguson
Media Coordinator: Rob Stoltz
Master Gardener, Grounds: Gloria Trunk
Money Counter Coordinator: Jeanne Pinkerton
Newsletter Co-Editors: Shirley Bush & Marilyn Grendele
Proofreader: Pat Rose