

# ST. AIDAN'S

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



# TORCH

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
GRESHAM OREGON  
NEWSLETTER:  
NOVEMBER 1, 2009

## Advent Year C Begins November 29, 2009

Our Church Year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which falls on November 29 this year. Using the Gospel according to Luke as our primary guide, we will journey through the heights and depths of the liturgical year. We begin in Advent by preparing for a coming that has already come and will come again. The explosive joy of Christmas sends us out into the seven weeks of Epiphany to show the world the Good News we are receiving.

Lent calls us back into an interior journey, in which we and our faith community prepare for the incredible gift of Easter – a gift we celebrate for 50 days, culminating in Pentecost, also known as the Birthday of the Church, when once again we notice the Holy Spirit empowering us to do the work we are given to do. The rest of the year (6 months) we will balance digging into stories of Jesus' ministry 2000 years ago with discovering how to be Jesus' ministers in the 21st Century.

**A River Of Blessing:** I had become a regular user of my blue box as parish UTO coordinator. With each parish ingathering the arduous task of counting and rolling coins became a cause for celebration, rejoicing in the coins representing the daily prayers and thanksgivings of the people of God! The idea of being the next conduit for the journey of this "river of blessing" was exciting to contemplate.

Small parish ingatherings flowing together into larger diocesan ingatherings from all over the US to be granted to worthy causes all over the world – what a great mission!

Counting the funds from the first diocesan ingathering that year and writing the generous check representing devotions of the diocese of Texas was awe inspiring.



Sharing stories and prayers with all the wonderful women who help their own parishes enrich their devotional lives with daily thanksgiving through the use of this small box was to me a blessing beyond measure. It redefined stewardship and faithfulness for me. I finished my term personally enriched by the lives of the women with whom I was privileged to work.

My little blue box is tattered from years of use but is still a part of my daily devotions, thanksgivings large and small, knowing they will go into the "river" to merge with others and become a flood enabling good things all over the world in Jesus Christ's name!

*Laura Mergens served as Diocesan UTO Coordinator for Texas from 1993 to 1996.*

## St. Aidan's United Thank Offering Ingathering will be November 22

*Gracious God, source of all creation, all love,  
all true joy; accept, we pray, these outward*

*signs of our profound  
and continuing thankful-  
ness for all of life. Keep  
each of us ever thankful  
for all the blessings of  
joy and challenge that  
come our way. Bless  
those who will benefit*

*from these gifts through the outreach of the  
United Thank Offering. This we ask through  
Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of  
all, Jesus Christ. Amen.*



## This Thanksgiving Day, Give for the Poor and Homeless

In 2007, The Diocese of Oregon passed a resolution on Canonical Offerings. It calls for the diocesan-wide Thanksgiving Offering to go specifically to the Fund for the Poor and Homeless. This offering, in practice, has generally been allocated to the Fund for the Poor and Homeless. St. Aidan's Offering for the Poor and Homeless will be the weekend of Thanksgiving Day (Sunday, November 29, 2009).



# THE CHURCH MOUSE

November 2009



My goodness, Thanksgiving is coming up! Our church yard is looking like winter is upon us, with most of the garden cleaned up, and the leaves falling. Our attention will be turned more to inside stuff; there's enough to keep us all busy. The first thing up—actually may be over by the time you read this. The **WALKABOUT for BISHOP NOMI-**

**NEES** will be over. The parish was honored to host the last of these “meet the nominees” sessions. Fr. Scott was scheduled as one of the shepherds for these sessions.

**Byron McKinlay** and **Janice Erickson** were busy as beavers getting meeting rooms spiffed up to host small group sessions.

Another thing that is over is the **Altar Guild Brunch**, held Oct. 17. Our altar guild hosted altar guilds from around the Diocese. I've heard it was very successful. I know **Julie Kyer** and crew worked hard to make this a truly motivational event for all. Also a big thanks to **Bonnie Buckmann** and crew for another successful **rummage sale**. I see new stuff already gathering in the rummage room in preparation for the sale next spring. Some things go on and on.

One of the things of real concern in our parish is **finances**. Our stewardship team has done their best to encourage us to give generously, we are nowhere near meeting our prospective budget, and all spare funds have been used. The small economies that can be easily achieved are of course being done, things are going to be pretty constricted in the next few years. Many have retired and are on fixed incomes, but that doesn't help pay the gas bill etc. for the parish. I was inspired by Fr. **Patrick Tomter's** illustration on October 11 of God providing the exact amount he needed for a necessary trip. I pray for more faith for us. I am reminded that we each need to carry as much of the load of our mutual venture as we possibly can. Our **Stewardship Campaign** is drawing to a close and we're going to have big belt-tightening changes. To make matters worse, our talented and energetic treasurer, **Janice Erickson** is leaving us after the first of the year to be with her daughter in Florida. The Vestry is working hard on a transition plan. I know that **Lorraine Crawford** is going to stay heavily involved, but she works full time in jobs involving fiscal control, so her time and energy are somewhat limited, and we are still awaiting resolution on how it will all transpire. Prayers are needed in this matter.

The next big thing is **WINTERGARDEN**, (November 14 from 10 - 3, and November 15 after church). Several families have been working hard to make this a success. **Father Scott** and **June Day** have done quite a few pickles and apple butter, etc. – always a highlight. Several outside skilled crafters will add to the variety of our craft offerings. **Julie Kyer** and crew will have pans of lasagna and noodle kugel available—at least by pre-order for emergency meals. We are hoping that lots of people will make cookies and yummy things from their oven to share over coffee, both at the church and at home later. It's an interesting

thing that the *Oregonian* now charges big-time for listings in its bazaar calendar, and consequently several of the private bazaars are not happening this year. We still need to support this event as a parish family, as we are the ones who like us best. Plan to come for lunch at the **Sleigh Bell Café**, and find a gift or two for your family.

**Mandy Crawford** has consented to bring her camera set-up for the Santa pictures – she said to remind her so she would remember to bring the right lens. Now that's a REAL photographer! – and thanks again to **Mike Vidito** who will pose in Santa garb with your children—or your pet on Saturday. We are thinking that pets should be early or late, so as not to interfere with lunch. Mrs. Santa will be around (**Tammy Sartwell**, and elf **Donovan**) to add to the ambiance. It should be a fun day!

**Sharon Barney** and crew will be holding their children's store event, where our young folk are able to shop for gifts for their family at a reasonable cost—but we have to bring things for them to buy at these reduced prices. Also needed is a crew to do gift wrapping for the kids. Talk to Sharon after choir to see how you can help.

On a personal note, we are all saddened by the death of long-time parishioner **Darlene Bay**, who died in the early afternoon on October 21. The people who had been visiting her said that she was definitely ready to move on. She could hardly wait to be with Floyd and her loved ones who had gone before. I will miss seeing her in her usual place on the right-hand side of the sanctuary next to **Nancy Knoles**, but that is part of the circle of life. By the way, **Nancy** called me to say that she just checked her volunteer hours at Portland Adventist Medical Center, where she started volunteering in 1989 after her husband's death. She has worked over 10,200 hours! What an achievement! Our prayers are with **Fr. Murdock** who had a small stroke at the end of October, then surgery on his carotid artery to prevent further such events. We pray for his healing. There are other folks on our prayer list that need our united entreaties to God for healing. Thanks to **Barbara Lambert** for keeping this list up-to-date.

Some of our folk have returned from travels to far-away places: **Fr. Scott** went to Asheville, North Carolina for an invitational growth retreat—CREDO, he says it involved some hard work. (We got to hear **The Rev. Canon Fr. Coulter** and **Fr. Patrick Tomter** in his stead); **Sharon** and **Art Weese** were on a tour of Russia during October; **John** and **Marion Treviso** took a cruise north to Alaska, and returned home safely; and **Hal** and **Doris Fisher** visited the Caribbean—the Panama Canal, Colombia, and Costa Rica and were glad to return home to our cooler weather—except the day they came home we had gale-type winds.

If you have done something noteworthy, remember the mouse is always ready to hear about your adventures. There are some little yellow note papers in the narthex for you to put in the offering bag—or let the office know. That's all for this month. - CM



Intercessions	Lectionary Readings
<b>November 1, 2009</b> <b>All Saints Day</b>	
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Church in Ughelli - (Province of Bendel, Nigeria). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in <i>Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda</i> . In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Stephen, Portland; Trinity Cathedral, Portland; St. Paul, Powers; and the staff and clients of William Temple House, Portland. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Lay Eucharistic Visitors.	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44
<b>November 8, 2009</b> <b>The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost—Proper 27 B</b>	
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Church in Uyo - (Province of the Niger Delta, Nigeria). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in <i>Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe</i> . In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: Good Shepherd, Prospect; Ascension, Riddle; St. George, Roseburg; and Prince of Peace, Salem. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Ushers.	1 Kings 17:8-16 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44
<b>November 15, 2009</b> <b>The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost—Proper 28 B</b>	
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Church in Virginia - (Province III, USA). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in <i>Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea</i> . In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Paul, Salem (pray for guidance in their search process); St. Timothy, Salem; Calvary, Seaside; and St. Martin, Shady Cove. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Greeters.	Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25 Mark 13:1-8
<b>November 22, 2009</b> <b>The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)—Proper 29 B</b>	
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Church in Wau - (Sudan). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in <i>Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger</i> . In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Edward, Silverton (pray for guidance in their search process); St. John the Divine, Springfield; Christ Church, St. Helens; and Christ the King on the Santiam, Stayton. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Music Ministry Team.	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 93 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37
<b>November 29, 2009</b> <b>The First Sunday of Advent—Proper 1 C</b>	
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Church in West Texas - (Province VII, USA). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in <i>Liberia and Sierra Leone</i> . In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: Holy Spirit, Sutherlin; St. Francis, Sweet Home; St. James, Tigard; St. Alban, Tillamook (pray for guidance in their search process). In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Healing Team.	Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-9 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

**Pick up the new  
Forward Day By Day**



Do you see ways to draw deeper connections between your faith and daily life? *Forward Day by Day* is a pocket-sized collection of meditations written by people from every walk of life that remind us that we are a sign of God's work in the world. Each issue contains three months of meditations on the daily lectionary—a couple of paragraphs for each day to remind us that we are deeply connected to God and to one another. The November and December meditations were written by two Episcopal priests; January's author completed a four-year assignment as an Episcopal missionary in Sudan last May and is now serving as a missionary in Haiti. Pick up a copy of the newest issue from the Tract Rack in the Narthex, and accept the invitation into a deeper relationship with God. In addition to the pocket-size edition, there are large print copies available. The November–January edition is available now. Get yours soon.

## SAINT AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL Church

### Weather-related Church Policy

Generally, on weekdays when the Portland Public Schools are closed, our office will be closed, staff will not report, and services will not be held.

We will make every effort to conduct the regularly scheduled celebrations of the Eucharist (on Sundays and Wednesdays) during weather emergencies (though some events may be scaled back or cancelled).

We will try to update the church voicemail announcement as soon as we can. We will send out email announcements (which of course only go to those who have given their email addresses to the office). Further, we will update the home page of our website.

In some instances, extreme weather conditions may cause a delay in attending to these duties.

Please use care and discretion in problematic travel conditions. God wants you healthy and happy and so do we!

—Resolution passed by St. Aidan's Vestry,  
June 15, 2009

## Let's give NetsforLife!



You are invited to participate in the Diocese of Oregon's 2009 convention outreach project **Netsfor-**



**Episcopal  
Relief & Development**  
Healing a hurting world

**Life**, which provides anti-malaria mosquito nets for families in Africa.

Last year, faithful and generous people in our diocese contributed over \$54,920. This year's **NetsforLife** project continues our support of preventing malaria, a disease that kills more than 1 million people each year, 75% of whom are children under the age of 5. St. Aidan's will hold a congregational ingathering of contributions as part of our All Saints' Day celebration on Sunday, November 1, 2009. St. Aidan's contributions will be sent to convention with our clergy and delegates. The contributions will be blessed as part of the offering at Thursday night's opening Eucharist.



## Diocesan Convention November 19 through 21

St. Aidan's will be represented at the **Convention of the Diocese of Oregon** by our Fr. Dolph and our Lay Delegates, Bill Pratt, Rob Stoltz, Mike Vidito, and alternates Shirley Bush, Byron and LindaCarol McKinlay. Because of convention, **the office will be closed on November 19.** In the case of a Pastoral Emergency, leave a message for Fr. Dolph at his home phone number which will be checked once daily.—Rob Stoltz, Parish Administrator



### TEAtime:

### A Cup of Friendship

Dear Ladies,

November's TEAtime will be held on Wednesday, November 11, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the kitchen of Murdock Hall. This is a time to just get together and chat,

drink tea (or coffee) and enjoy each other's company. I'll bring some treats and the tea; feel free to bring a treat to share.



How about a Thanksgiving/ Harvest-themed white elephant gift exchange? If you want to participate, just bring along a white elephant gift. We always have a good time with this. **WE ESPECIALLY WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ANY NEWCOMERS TO ST. AIDAN'S TO JOIN US.** Once again, thanks to all who have made this part of Parish Life a success! Any questions, please call Angie Groce at 503-665-8242.

**Happy Birthday** — Age is opportunity no less,  
 Than youth itself, though in another dress,  
 And as the evening twilight fades away,  
 The sky is filled with stars, invisible by day.  
 ~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Morituri Salutamus

## Holy Examples

*A message for All Saints' Day, The Most Rev'd Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop and Primate.*

What saints will you remember this year on their feast? It's an occasion to remember all the faithful, whether we know their names or not. The Good Shepherd knows them by name, even if we don't. This year I'd invite you to celebrate the ones whose names you know and the ones whose names you haven't yet learned.



In your neighbourhood, who is the saint who picks up trash? Who looks out for school children on their way to and from school? Who looks after an elderly or frail neighbour, running errands or checking to be sure that person has what is needed? In your community, what saints labour on behalf of the voiceless?

The saints are followers of Jesus, and fellow travellers on the journey toward the City of God. They come in all shapes, ages, colours, and theological stripes. Some of them, like Jerome and Jeremiah, can be difficult to live with. The children of the churches of the Convocation in Europe recently compiled a book of saints, complete with short accounts of their lives and illustrations by the children. Their list had some familiar names, like Joan of Arc and Hildegard, and some unexpected ones, like Anne Frank and Edith Cavell. Some, like Miss Edith, would not be known beyond the local congregation, but have had even more influence on their young charges' lives than any saint of an earlier age.

As you gather to celebrate on the feast of All Saints, take with you the name of a saint whose example you have seen in action, and one whose name you don't know, and give thanks. The appropriate companion prayer to one of thanks for the witness of other saints is that we, too, might be holy examples to those whom we meet.

5	Maggie Bradney
6	Sharon Barney
8	Nikki Elsensohn
9	Betsy Berninghausen
10	Stephen Haldors
11	LindaCarol McKinlay Jenny Szyperski
12	Marilyn Pierik
15	Pat Ashby Leslie Hirsch
16	Ana Inmon Mark Jones
18	Peggy Brewer
22	Samantha Hoyo
23	Noriko Sutton
27	Christopher Hoyo
28	Jamie Groce



### Diocese of Oregon E-Board Is Available On-Line

With the many transitions in the staffing of the Diocesan Offices, the *Diocesan E-Board* has changed formats again. We will no longer be able to print it out and post it in Murdock Hall. Subscribe today the email version, and keep abreast of the activities of our Diocese: much more gets notice here than is possible to include in the *Church News*. To subscribe on-line, go to [www.diocese-oregon.org](http://www.diocese-oregon.org)

## Flowers for the Altar and Flower Memorials in the Sunday Bulletin

Donations for flowers are appropriate as memorials to loved ones or as thanksgivings marking significant life events, such as birthdays, baptism, wedding anniversaries, etc. The Flower Fund is the only source of funding for flowers used in the church on Sundays, reminding us of God's handiwork in creation.



Please notify June Day or Byron McKinlay at least one week in advance of a flower memorial. Information needed is whether for a male or female, flower and color preference. You can see June or Byron at church or call them at home. It is critical that they know far enough in advance, so that accommodation can be made for your preferences.

Flower Memorials should be turned in to the Church Office Thursday, ten days prior to the Sunday you have signed up for, and must be on hand no later than Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. five days prior. You may place your Flower Memorials in the office mailbox (by the kitchen in Murdock Hall), or email the office at [staidans@pacifier.com](mailto:staidans@pacifier.com) or call the office at 503-252-6128.



## THE "DASH"

One thing that keeps coming to our minds is the truism that no matter what year we were born, or what year we die, it is ultimately the "dash" that we lived in between, that counts. We pray that each of us remember to try to speak with kindness, listen with patience and understanding, feel with compassion of the heart, touch with tenderness, and always try to "see the rose on the table. . . rather than the dust." Our prayer is that we all truly learn to give more than we take, and in the end, may we be remembered for the "dash"—that was full of love.

## Annual Meeting for the year 2009

The Annual Meeting, wherein we review our works for 2009, has been scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2010. A Vestry Nominating Committee has been formulated, consisting of vestry members who will be concluding their ministry: Angie Groce, Betsy Berninghausen, and Marlene Lucas. If you would be interested in serving on the vestry or if you are aware of someone you would like to see on the vestry, please contact one of these three people. As is our custom, on Annual Meeting Day, we will have one service at 9 o'clock, followed by a brunch and meeting. Please set aside the date so you can participate in this **vital** part of our community life. For point of reference, the Super Bowl (when we hold our Souper Bowl) is the next Sunday, February 7,



## Children's Store Coming Soon

**The Children's Store** will be open December 6 after the 10 o'clock Eucharist. This is a Ministry of our Church School, and provides an opportunity for children to make affordable purchase of items suitable for gift giving at Christmastide. You can help this ministry. Needed items are: gift



bags, and children's and men's presents. Any one interested in helping with the store can contact Sharon Barney in person at church, by phone or email at [treschic6@comcast.net](mailto:treschic6@comcast.net)



## **ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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### Office Hours

Tuesday — Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM,  
or by appointment

### Treasurer's Office Hours

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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



***Return Service Requested***

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## **The Leadership of St. Aidan's**

### **Clergy**

The Right Reverend Sanford "Sandy" Hampton  
Assisting Bishop of Oregon  
The Reverend Scott M. Dolph, Rector  
The Reverend Tom Murdock, Associate Priest

### **Vestry**

#### ***Vestry Liaisons to the Ministry Teams***

Senior Warden, Angie Groce, *Parish Life* (2010)  
Junior Warden, Byron McKinlay, *Facilities* (2012)  
Betsy Berninghausen, *Worship* (2010)  
Marlene Lucas, *Administration & Finance* (2010)  
Judie Cox, *Outreach* (2012)  
Jeanne Pinkerton, *Parish Life* (2011)  
George DeWitz, *Outreach* (2012)  
Bruce Richardson, *Administration & Finance* (2011)  
Mary Hamilton, *Facilities* (2011)  
Gloria Trunk, *Facilities* (2010)  
Patrick Hoye, *Christian Discipleship* (2012)  
Bonnie Buckmann, *Outreach* (2011)  
Rob Stoltz, *Clerk of the Vestry*

#### **Other Lay Leaders and Staff:**

Parish Office Administrator: Rob Stoltz  
Treasurer: Janice Erickson  
Organist and Choirmaster: Mark Jones  
Sexton: Stan Rickerd  
Altar Guild Chair: Julie Kyer  
Sunday School Director: Shirley Vidito  
Youth Group Leader: Lori McCoy  
Childcare Provider: Nicole Epperly & Logan Larsen  
Media Coordinator: Pat Rose  
Master Gardener, Grounds: Gloria Trunk  
Offering Counter Coordinator: Shirley Bush  
Web-master: Marilyn Grendele  
Newsletter Co-Editors: Shirley Bush & Marilyn Grendele  
Proofreader: Pat Rose