

The Elizabethan



The Newsletter of St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church Burien, Washington

June 2015

Issue 2015-6

From Fr. John: The Anglican Communion is still heavily influenced in its liturgy by the earliest church practices. Roman artisans and traders brought Christian thought and stories into Britain in the 1st century C.E. Some of the earliest Christian communities took root in the north of Ireland and Scotland, where a particular form of Celtic monasticism emerged. Familial communities of married monks and nuns, with and without children, focused on scriptural study, especially stories of power, and on ascetic spiritual practices, some of which were quite extreme. These influences worked their way southward until the church in Britain was sufficiently organized to send representatives to the Council of Arles in 314 C.E.

In 595 C.E., Gregory, the Bishop of Rome, sent a Benedictine monk named Augustine to Canterbury in England as a moderating corrective to the heavy ascetic focus of Celtic and Pictish Christians. The Benedictine emphasis on daily prayer, care for the environment, and the virtues of patient listening (obedience), stability and continually turning to Christ seeped into and transformed parish life and practices. Benedictine love of art and music, especially chant, found increasing expression in the chapels and parish churches that the monks served; part of the monastic spirituality that has never really left the Anglican Communion.

Nearly 1,000 years later, as Henry VIII separated the Church of England (still a Catholic church) from Rome, he dissolved hundreds of monasteries, but Thomas Cranmer kept the monastic practice of daily prayer alive in the Book of Common Prayer. The Benedictine ethos and the Celtic heart were never fully driven out, but were fiercely criticized by the Puritans. Mary, the daughter of Henry and Catharine of Aragon, took the crown in 1553, executing so many Protestants that she earned the nickname "Bloody Mary." She also reconciled the church to Rome for five years until her death.

Another of Henry's daughters by second wife Anne Boleyn took the throne upon Mary's death. Elizabeth I was a brilliant ruler who had forty years to maintain the foundation of the "via media," the inclusive middle way between divergent religious positions in English Christianity. The settlement retained and restored a great deal of ancient Catholic faith and practice, but without submission to papal authority. But her settlement also created a great deal of latitude for individual conscience, requiring only uniformity of worship, with Benedictine rhythms and Celtic spirituality still at the heart. Today, faithful Christians with differing theological convictions, opposing political sensibilities and a wide variety of aesthetic preferences can find a parish home at the altar of our sweet St. Elizabeth!

Kidz Korner

June 2015

Our Sunday school is coming to a close for the summer. We have had a wonderful time growing in the Lord, and becoming closer to one another. The learning, caring, sharing, and lifting each other in prayer has been a growing experience for all of us.

Our last series of lessons was based on various miracles of Jesus. During his earthly ministry Jesus touched and transformed countless lives. The four Gospels record 37 miracles of Jesus, only a small portion of the multitudes of people who were made whole by our Savior.

The closing verse of John's Gospel says, "Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written." (John 21:25, NIV)

The miracles on which we focused were as follows:

Jesus turns water in to wine,

Jesus heals a paralytic

The first miraculous catch of fish

Jesus raises Jairus' daughter to life

Jesus walks on water

Jesus feeds 5,000

Jesus heals a blind man

These supernatural acts of love and power drew people to Jesus, revealed his divine nature, opened hearts to the message of salvation, and caused many to glorify God. Jesus taught with hands-on lessons and illustrations. Our Sunday school lessons are taught with the same experience-based learning to communicate God's Word in an active, understandable way. With much fun, our lessons have been packed with memorable activities and experiences, to invite kids to understand God's Word more clearly.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ARI-April 19th and Yel-May 22!! Each of these birthdays was celebrated with cupcakes and lots of fun! We love you Ari and Yel and know that God holds you in the palm of his hand. Thank you for all that you add to our Sunday school. We are blessed by your presence.

(Continued on page 5)



Tony Hettler, Pat Lofstedt and Fr. John

Tony is a John L Scott real estate broker in Des Moines and a dedicated parishioner at St. Elizabeth. Tony recently donated a significant percentage of his commission for the sale of a home based on the lead given to him by St. Elizabeth parishioner Pat Lofstedt. This is just one of many creative ways that people have found to help the parish with our currently tight finances. Tony has generously offered to donate a part of any commission resulting from a lead brought to him by a St Elizabeth parishioner. He also happens to be quite good at his job, so everybody wins! You can pass leads or requests to Tony at (206) 650-6730. Let us know if you have a creative approach to building up our finances as we continue to grow and serve a larger community.

Fr. John

The Women of St. E have elected new officers for 2015:

Sandy Stonhouse - President

Patti McGowan - Vice President

Danielle Butz - Secretary

Ethel Philpot - Treasurer

Mary Katherine Nicholson will be in charge of the November bazaar again this year.

The Elizabethan

The Elizabethan is published monthly by St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church. The deadline for articles is the fourth Friday of each month.

Articles, calendar items and ideas may be mailed or emailed to the addresses below or left in *The Elizabethan* box in the Parish Office.

St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church

Street 1005 SW 152nd Street

Address: Burien, WA 98166

Mailing PO Box 66579

Address: Burien, WA 98166

Phone: (206) 243-6844

Email: info@stelizburien.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.stelizabethburien.org



Rector: Father John Forman

Sr. Warden: Gabriel Grant

Jr. Warden: Gwynne Taylor

Treasurer: Linda Knutson

Office Administrator: Christine Ramirez

Elizabethan Editor: Christine Ramirez

Changes Coming to *The Elizabethan*

You may have noticed changes in *The Elizabethan* over the past few years. You may even have noticed that it arrived with a first class stamp on it this month! Well, there is one more change coming to the newsletter. Beginning with July 2015, it will be available mostly online.

This change has come about for a number of reasons, including the fact that the number of subscribers does not justify purchasing a bulk mail permit from the Post Office. An online newsletter will also be more “green” and ecologically friendly, in keeping with our interest in ecological stewardship. Plus, there are new ways to keep in touch with events at St. Elizabeth, including Facebook and the web site.

The newsletter is already available on the St. Elizabeth web site and it will continue to be posted there. And in the future, just like it is now, a print copy of *The Elizabethan* can be picked up at the church itself.

Action Required

If you don't want to stop receiving a printed copy of *The Elizabethan* in the mail, you still can. To continue getting a mailed copy, you can call or email Christine Ramirez in the St. Elizabeth office to be put on a list of newsletter mail subscribers. Christine's email is Christine@stelizburien.comcastbiz.net; her phone number is: 206-243-6844.

Thank you for your patience with this transition.

Summary

- The Elizabethan is going online in July 2015:
<http://stelizabethburien.org/newsletter/>
- Copies will be available for pickup at St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church, Burien
- Call or email the office before June 19 to continue getting a copy in the mail:
206-243-6844

(Continued from page 2)

We have welcomed many new children to our Sunday school this year, and with great anticipation, know that God will bless us with many more next year.

Sunday school will resume again in the fall. Stay tuned for our September kick-off party. With great excitement, we will look forward to seeing kids and parents at Saint Elizabeth's in September!

Our prayers will go with each family that they may have a safe summer, filled with fun, family time, and lots of love.

Children's Ministry,

Gwynne Taylor, Sandy Stonhouse, Linda Knutson, Ayak Yel

Celebration of ministry

Our Celebration of Mutual Ministry on June 3rd was a sweeping success! I am so very grateful for the leadership of our Junior Warden, Gwynne Taylor, and the tireless work of our the Altar guild (especially Barbara Zimmer and Patti McGowan), and our rather amazing volunteer building and maintenance crew, the JJJs, as well as the incredible efforts of so many. Our guests were especially complimentary of the house and gardens, which truly looked stunning, and the spread of food was spectacular.

Bishop Greg blessed the font that we hope to be using with increasing frequency and preached as we celebrated the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Bishop Rickel's visit made my installation as your new rector official, but the focus of the evening was on the ministry of the parish as a whole. For that reason, I think we can be especially proud of the fact that 66 people attended the evening and donated enough money to buy 60 chairs for the South Sudan Fellowship Church in Nakuru. The need for chairs was brought to my attention by our fellow parishioner, Joseph Deng, who has just recently returned from Africa. The Spirit is truly at work through the people of St. Elizabeth! God bless and keep you all.

With deepest gratitude,

Fr. John Forman +

Rector | St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church | Burien, WA

The Elizabethan

St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church

PO Box 66579

Burien, Washington 98166-0579



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Save the Date:

St. Elizabeth is having another Town Hall meeting on September 13th after the 10am service. This year we will combine it with our annual Parish picnic. Please come and join us for fun and fellowship!!

There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board when the event gets closer.

Be cheerful! Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

Many little people in many small places undertaking many modest actions can transform the world.

African Proverb