

The Elizabethan



The Newsletter of St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church Burien, Washington

December 2016

From Fr. John:

If you are reading this issue of the Elizabethan, you belong to St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church. Some of you come every Sunday and more of you come most Sundays. Several of you come when you can and all that is just fine! We trust that God is at work in your lives in whatever ways God knows best. You may not have been to church with us for some time. You may not have been here for years. Perhaps you have never set foot inside the church, but you belong nonetheless. What that means is that you are, of course, always welcome. And we are happy that you want to stay in touch with us.

What it also means is that you are part of the ministry that St. Elizabeth seeks to provide to the community of Burien and the Greater Seattle area as our part of God's work in bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to the entire world. We may have a small part to play in that, but if we don't give our gifts, then there's a part of the world where certain gifts are lacking. We are just completing our pledge season, which is when we ask all of those who support St. Elizabeth's many ministries to prayerfully consider what they want to return to God through their support of the church. We'd like to offer you the same opportunity.

For the past two years, we have been working out some long overdue problems with the physical plant that were threatening St. Elizabeth's ability to be a place where people can gather for healing, for worship, for community and to give of their time, talent and treasure. Most of those problems have been addressed—some at considerable expense. And we are still tight financially. We recently had to evict a tenant who had become too great a safety risk to continue allowing them to rent space from us. That cost us considerably.

Even so, we are turning our attention to the needs outside the walls of the church as well as those inside the building. In the coming year, we will be focusing everything we have on various forms of ministry and we'd like for you to join us. If you can send a monthly donation, please consider doing so. If you can send a one-time gift, please consider doing that. Planned giving can be added to your will.

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Your financial contributions, large and small, will all help keep St. Elizabeth viable for future generations as a house of prayer and a school for the Lord's service. God's servants are often faced with work that can seem daunting, if not impossible. And yet, as we move through this Advent season toward the light of Christmas, we trust that every effort, however mundane or intimidating, can be spiritually fruitful. The lives of Mary, Joseph and Jesus are evidence that what we do in humility for the love of God will bear fruit. Won't you please join us?

Thanks to Don Purrington for having the parish hall entry wall, north wall of parish hall and the upstairs hall ceiling painted. A beautiful example of stewardship! The painters that he hired are professional and perfectionists!

Linda Knutson

Rain or shine, sleet or snow, the Money Counters can always be counted on!
Thank you Sue Tierney, Patty McGowan, Chris Schofield, and Donna Abell for your stewardship. Our financial processes wouldn't work without your diligence.

Linda Knutson

Christmas Eve and Christmas

Day: We will celebrate an evening Mass on the Eve of the Nativity, December 24th at 8:00 p.m. Christmas Day, Sunday the 25th, we will celebrate the Christ Mass at 10:00.

Greening the Church: If you would like to help prepare the sanctuary for Christmas after the Mass next Sunday (December 18th), please contact Jena Scott or Patti McGowan. We would appreciate some donated greens!



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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.

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Sunday Morning Coffee Hospitality

Coffee Hospitality has been offered by many creative people through late summer and fall. Worshippers in our congregation are reconnecting during coffee hour and hearing the announcements after morning services. Most important are the visitors and new comers seeing who we are and making new friends. For lovers of coffee itself new methods are being tried. With Ryan Davis's creativity possibilities are ahead. You can be a part of this going forward. Talk with him about that to support these initiatives.

Since our dear Kacey has been having some health issues and not able to clean up after coffee hour - please consider signing up and helping with this important ministry.



From our webmaster:

Do you have any digital photographs or videos featuring the people and happenings of St. Elizabeth that you are willing to share? If you do, please send them to Meg MacDonald for posting on the web site, with a brief explanation of when and where they were taken.

Newcomers often check the online photo gallery when they're looking for a church. With your help, we can keep it updated with pictures of some of our fun activities.

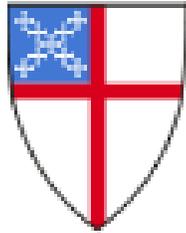
The easiest way to get your photos to Meg is by emailing megmmac@comcast.net. Thank you!

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St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Just a reminder... HIGHLINE FOOD BANK CHANGE COLLECTION

Sunday school will be once again collecting change from anyone's pocket from which we hear coins jingling.

Typically, we will be collecting change on the first Sunday of each month. So, please empty those loose change vessels and help our neighbors in need.

