

Good News from Good Samaritan

Love one another and the world as Christ loves us

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Volume 8 – April 2015

From The Clergy



Things we've been working on:

Campus Ministry:

The Diocesan Trustees approved our request for money to cover the expenses to renovate the upstairs of the campus house in preparation for student renters and the start of ministry this fall.

I appointed an interim board of trustees that will serve until an elected board can take over at our next Annual General Meeting in January, 2016, they are: Paul and Charlene Vecchi, Linda Gelbrich and Judy Burrridge. All have extensive experience with campus ministry. Together we are currently working on the following:

1. Submitting a grant application to the Diocesan Council for regular funding for campus ministry.
2. Continuing to work with Paul VanDevelder and our Buildings and Grounds Committee in the renovation of the campus house.
3. Working with the Diocese in creating a covenant of agreement for a new campus chaplain.
4. Discerning some ideas for this new ministry.

There is still a lot of work to do in a short amount of time, so please keep our interim trustees and this ministry in your prayers!

Our Pre-School:

We are in the process of registering new students for the 2015 – 16 academic year. Our pre-school trustees have been working hard on advertising and publicity to support this. We are also in the process

of becoming licensed under the Department of Health and Human Services so that we could potentially accept low-income families on financial support into our pre-school. We will have a clearer idea by May as to whether we have a sufficient number of registrations to continue in the fall.

Calling a new Assistant Rector:

We have a working group in place that is shepherding our discernment into the possibility of calling a new Assistant Rector this summer, they are: Craig Massie, Cammie Bella and Linda Gelbrich. As you remember this all hinges on whether we will have enough money to pay for a new priest.

We held two parish-wide meetings on March 8th at which we outlined the vision and need for a new priest and the money needed to make this happen. The Diocese is willing to partner with us and cover ¼ of the cost in return for this person being the Episcopal Campus Chaplain. That said we need approximately \$35,000 in increased revenue to cover the full cost. Some parishioners have already submitted new pledge cards – we will wait and see...

Our team is also working on alternatives if our congregation is unable to raise enough money.

Generating income from our church facilities:

I have called together a small team to look into the possibility of using our church facilities to raise income for our general fund. They will need to consider the legal implications as well as coming up with ideas. I hope that they will be in a position to make a report to vestry in April/May.

A new Parish Life Committee:

We have long needed a small group to plan and shepherd our parish life activities – fun things that we can do together. My wife, Michele, has agreed

to call together a team to facilitate this ministry. Her idea is for the parish life committee to plan 8-10 events each year and then to recruit leaders for each activity. I will report back on their progress next month.

The Capital Campaign:

You might have noticed a new poster on one of the boards in the hallway outside Simpson Hall – it's an organ pipe graphic representing money that has already been gifted and money that we still have to raise.

Our Sacred Spaces Committee is working with the Buildings and Grounds Committee to come up with some plans/ideas for the remodel of Simpson Hall. When they have completed their preliminary work they will present their ideas to the whole congregation for comments and feedback.

Also Harry Burrige and a small group of volunteers are taking the lead in helping us decide what we want to do with our church organ. Again, the team will present their ideas and suggestions to all of us when they are ready to do so.

With prayer,
Simon+

Music Notes



Hi Gang,

March 14, we had a choir retreat to work on the Easter Music. We had twenty voices, including extra choral scholars ("Easter Bunnies"). WOW! What a sound. We're doing a lot of music by Franz J. Haydn from a variety of his

major works (*Heiligmesse*, *Creation*, and the *Lord Nelson Mass*). I'm very excited for Easter Sunday, and for the service's liturgy and music.

If you are interested in participating in music at Good Samaritan, you can email me:

moursundjames@gmail.com I can then direct

you to the program of your preference (be it adult choir, contemporary worship, Taize, handbells, and so forth). FYI, the adult choir rehearses Thursday nights at 7:15 p.m., and meets Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. We'd love for you to sing with us!

Music Lesson: J. S. Bach wrote a church cantata every week for about three years, and more for special occasions, and over 200 cantatas are attributed to him. His cantatas could be anywhere from ten to forty minutes long.

James Moursund, Director of Music

Treasurer's Report

Summary through February 2015

Narrative

1. Revised 2015 budget
 - a) The 2015 budget was revised to reflect our current projections, primarily personnel expenses.
 - b) The revised budget includes an Assistant Rector with health benefits for 2 people – $\frac{3}{4}$ paid by the church and $\frac{1}{4}$ by campus ministry.
2. Income:
 - a) Pledge donations were well above budget for the month with the caveat that, by the year's end, actual donations will likely equal pledges.
3. Expenses:
 - a) Total expenses for February were slightly below budget.
4. Capital improvements to the boiler cost \$4138. This expense was charged to the Physical Plant Reserve restricted account.
5. Summary: Through February our income is \$7000 above budget and our expenses are \$4300 below budget.

Please direct questions to John Shea, Treasurer,
John.Shea54@gmail.com, 541 754-6832

	February	February	2015	2015	Annual
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
Income					
Pledge Receipts	31329	23916	60071	53161	334515
All other DPA income	2499	2466	4044	5341	46000
Non-DPA income	269	300	2594	1200	6000
Total Income	34097	26682	66709	59702	386515
Expenses					
Cash and Diocese Expenses	4697	4697	9394	9393	56359
Personnel	18966	18761	37096	37522	264318
Administration - Operations	14132	14960	18475	20004	56378
Property	1593	1852	1949	3703	23470
Vestry Ministries	354	525	436	1050	9285
Outreach from Operations	333	333	666	667	8000
Other Expenses	78	42	120	83	500
Total Expenses	40153	41170	68136	72422	418310
Net	-6056	-14488	-1427	-12720	-31795

Vestry and Committee Reports

Your Vestry Personnel 2015

Paul VanDevelder
 John Wooley
 Bob Bernhard
 Carol Scharfer
 George Constantine
 Bill Smoker
 Keith Gelbrich
 Ruth Burns
 Harry Burrige
 Robert Lovelady
 Patricia Boyce
 Beverly Durham

The Elephant In The Room

Sunday, March 8, we had meetings after both services to explore budget problems associated with our needs for an Assistant Rector. I'm hoping all of us can rise to the occasion. But what I realized also, is that there was an elephant in the room – and I hope many of you began to realize it, too. And that elephant goes by the name of Health Care Costs. We at Good Samaritan have been fortunate that we

have been able recently to ignore that elephant, but that time is probably coming to an end. Health care costs are not going down – they continue to rise at a rate far exceeding other costs of living, and as an employer we cannot continue to be lucky enough to have employees who have other avenues for their health insurance coverage.

Just think how great it would be as an employer to know that we would never again have to worry about figuring in the costs of health care coverage as part of an employment package. Who decided that employers should do that anyway? – but that is another story. Recently Good Samaritan applied to join the coalition which supports Health Care for All Oregon; I just received an email that our application has been received by the HCAO Board and everybody on the Board is excited about it and emailing each other with the good news. You didn't know that the action of our Vestry carried such weight, did you? With our own related issues, now maybe all of us can begin to understand why it is important that we get involved. Health Care for Everyone is a moral and ethical issue and who more than faith communities should be supporting such efforts?

I promise you, opportunities to learn more and to consider your involvement as an individual will

be forthcoming!! To begin with, during the Sundays following Easter, there will be materials available between services on Sundays during the coffee hour and an opportunity to sign an individual Statement of Support especially designed for Faith community members. These statements are shared at appropriate times with our legislators to let them know we're counting on them to do the right thing. And before we lose him, Father Peter+ is considering a special presentation on how messages in the Bible relate to the issue of health care for all.

Let's get that elephant out of here!

—Edie Orner

Outreach

Dear Church of the Good Samaritan:

Thank you for your support of **Community Outreach's 2014 Adopt a Family** gift giving program! With your help and generosity, 354 children from 77 families received presents this past holiday! Your donation for the holiday season has brought smiles to many children in our community.

Thank you again for your generous gift. You have truly made a difference in our community!

Sincerely,

Chris Quaka, Development Director and
Nicole Craigmile, Social Services Assistant

Dear Good Samaritan Congregation,

Thank you for your gift of \$480.00 to **Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers** during the year 2014.

Your support enables Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers to continue its services to the elderly and disabled in our community. Your volunteers continue to give generously of their time and energy in this service, as well.

Again, your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Donna J Wernz, Corresponding Secretary

Dear Members of Good Samaritan Church:

A sincere "thank you" from our Board of Directors to you for your generous covenant gift of

\$2,000 to the **Pastoral Counseling Center** in 2014.

Our counselors work tirelessly to assist those in our community with personal, relational, and mental health issues, and your support make that effort possible.

The Pastoral Counseling Center has been an active non-profit community resource since 1977, and with continued support from you and others, we will continue to be so for each client who comes to our door, no matter what the need, no matter the ability to pay.

Thank you,

Ed Curtain, Development and Administration

Happenings



View from the Village

So far the construction here at the Village is going fairly smoothly. As in all construction projects, this one has had some bugs in it. They are being worked out gradually. By the way, we are also renovating parts of the kitchen later this year, acquiring a new hood over the stove, oven and hot pot areas, and then a walk-in refrigerator will be constructed to make the kitchen even more efficient. Meanwhile our kitchen staff is working diligently to get the residents fed a delicious lunch in the best way possible. We are grateful for Raul and Angie and the rest of the kitchen staff.

Spring brings more gardeners outside, especially in the back garden. Our resident "green thumbs" will soon quickly make their mark as the weather improves. With construction noise all around us, spring still marches in without any glitches.

Meanwhile, watch out for the dust and traffic and buckets of stuff coming out of the apartments under construction!

See you at the Village!

—Marian Ely, Samaritan Village

Other Activities

Casserole Connection

For the month of April, Tania Ross will be our Casserole Connector. She can be contacted at 541 754-4249. Please call her if you know of someone or a family who could use the support of a main dish casserole. An illness, a return from a hospital stay or maybe the happy occasion of a new baby in the family. These give you an idea of our service.

Bobbie Beck

EGGS – Sunny Side Up!

Chilly, clear mornings and beautiful, sunny days – what a benign winter it has been. Of course, it will be spring as you read this; the daffodils have bloomed, as have the flowering trees. It is indeed a time of rebirth – thanks be to God!

And, speaking of sunshine, it is time for the annual report on our solar power system. Recall that we sell the output of our solar system to Pacific Power for 58.5 cents per kilowatt hour (KWH), and the cost of the installation was \$55,770. The estimate made by our contractor was that the system would generate 10,689 KWH per year, for annual revenue of \$6,253. The payback period on our investment, therefore, would be 8.9 years. Recall that the “Feed-in-Tariff” program guarantees us that we can sell the output of our system to Pacific Power for 15 years; beyond that point, the electricity generated would be used to reduce the amount of power that we purchase from Pacific Power.

So, here are the numbers for the three past calendar years:

2012:	12,065 KWH generated	\$7,058 revenue
2013:	11,592 KWH generated	\$6,781 revenue
2014:	12,413 KWH generated	\$7,261 revenue

As you can see, we are exceeding the original estimates every year. Taking the average (\$7,033) of the three years for which we have complete data, the payback period is about 7.9 years. After that it is gravy, to the tune of roughly \$49,000 – our average annual revenues over seven years. And there is more, of course; there is the offset against our purchases after the 15 year period. Let us give thanks to Brother Sun for the opportunity both to reduce

carbon emissions and enhance our finances.

And, again speaking of the sun, you may enjoy this morning prayer from the Syrian Orthodox tradition:

O Sun behind all suns, I give you greeting this new day.

Let all creation praise you; let the daylight and shadows praise you;

Let the fertile earth and swelling sea praise you;

Let the winds and the rain, the lightning and the thunder praise you;

Let all that breathes, both male and female, praise you.

And I shall praise you, O God of all Life. I give you greeting this day. Amen

—Bill Becker

Library Listings

April, 2015

Our collection of books relative to Lent and Easter are on the display shelves to the right as you enter the library, as well as some additional books which I thought might be appropriate for Lenten reading. I hope you considered the addition of some special reading as one of your Lenten disciplines.

In addition our collection of books written by Marcus Borg are also on display on the table outside the library. These are available for check-out – if you are not as familiar with his writings as you would like to be, here is your chance – in preparation for our special program coming soon in commemoration of his passing.

1. Borg, Marcus J., *THE GOD WE NEVER KNEW – Beyond Dogmatic Religion to a More Authentic Contemporary Faith ...* In this book, “Marcus J. Borg leads us from the distant, authoritative God of our childhood to an equally powerful, dynamic adult understanding of God. Tracing his own spiritual journey, he reveals how to embrace a fresh, authentic view of God that is fully compatible with good science, critical thinking, and religious pluralism – a view that promotes a much healthier and more vital life of faith today.”

2. Borg, Marcus J., MEETING JESUS AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME – The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith - “Borg liberates ‘Jesus’ from the rigidity of fundamentalism and the aridity of intellectualism. He also graciously liberates readers from the shackles of what many have thought they were *supposed* to believe about Jesus if they were to remain Christians...What a relief to see Jesus in a totally new light.”

3. Borg, Marcus J., JESUS A NEW VISION – Spirit, Culture and The Life of Discipleship - This book “not only helps us recover how Jesus appeared to his contemporaries – as a God-intoxicated man – but also helps us gain a fresh perspective on understanding Jesus’ significance for our times.”

4. Borg, Marcus J., JESUS IN CONTEMPORARY SCHOLARSHIP - “The historical Jesus, long dismissed as unknowable or irrelevant, has returned to the center of scholarly discussion. As a result, the study of the New Testament is being transformed, with profound implications for everyone who is interested in religion. ... Whatever one’s perspective, here is a good place to begin to understand one of the important transformations of the postmodern period.”

5. Borg, Marcus J. with Tim Scorer, EMBRACING AN ADULT FAITH – Marcus Borg on What It Means to Be Christian – a 5 session study guide with DVD available separately. - this study guide “is an exciting, five-session adult-formation resource for those seeking a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology: *Who was Jesus? Who is God? What is salvation? How do we practice our faith? How do we live in community?* “

—BROWSE—BORROW—BRING BACK—

—Eddie Orner, librarian/adult library

PS – I am still hoping that I might be contacted by the person who left the big stack of books (none of which are stamped with the “Good Samaritan” stamp?) in the library – I did get a note (UN-SIGNED) from someone who suggested they might have come from St. Anselm. HELP! LIBRARY LISTINGS

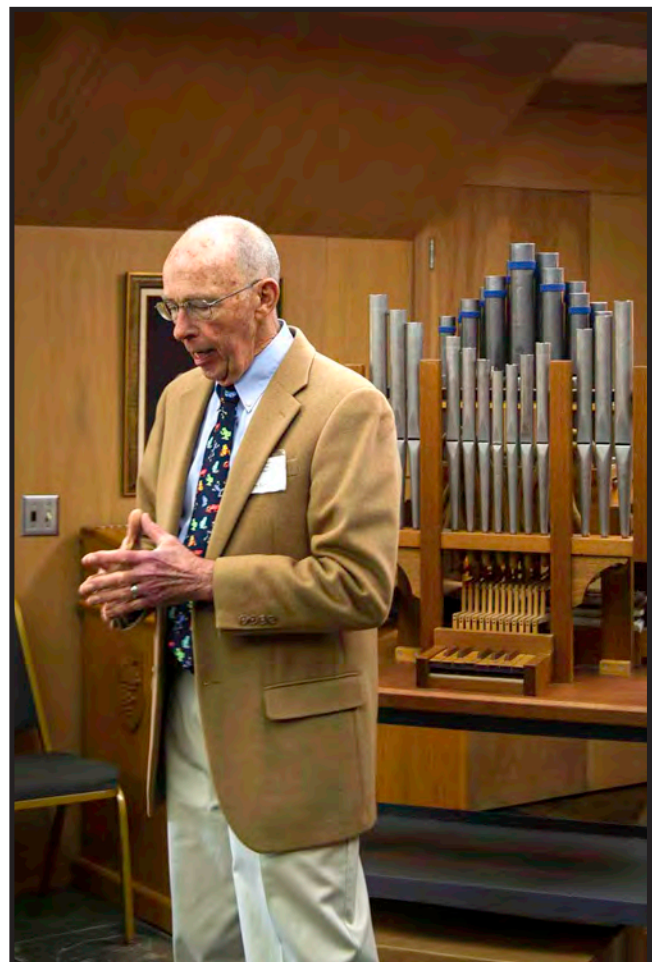
Magical Pipe Organ Crawl

About 50 people gathered together on Sunday morning, March 22nd, after church to hear an explanation of how pipe organs work. Various types of organ pipes were demonstrated and a model tracker organ was displayed and its’ workings explained.

Sarah Massie joined in illustrating how the organ console works. Special memorial additions, including the Charles Neville electronic bass stops and the Zimbelstern (statonstern) given in honor of long time choir member Warren Staton were pointed out. At the conclusion of the crawl, the heartiest and fool-hartiest of the group climbed into the organ case to view first hand the 38 ranks of our Casavant organ.

A trip to Mount Angel Abbey Church to look at the choir organ installation there is planned for a Saturday during the spring. Watch for further details!

—Harry Burrige

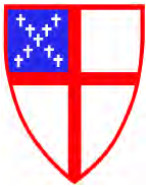




Do you know where this Labyrinth maybe found?

If you do, the first person to tell me on any SUNDAY after this newsletter is sent out may get a free subscription to the newsletter for the remainder of this year, or something special.

Church of the Good Samaritan
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The Bishop of Oregon:

The Right Reverend Michael J. Hanley

The Clergy of the Parish

Rector	The Rev. Simon C. Justice
Assistant Rector	The Rev. Peter Fritsch
Priest Assisting	*The Rev. Alvin P. Lafon
Priest Assisting	*The Rev. Tom Stevenson
Rector Emeritus	*The Rev. William R. McCarthy

The Officers of the Parish

Senior Warden	Paul VanDevelder
Junior Warden	John Wooley
Clerk of the Vestry	Andrew Moursund
Treasurer	John Shea
Assistant Treasurer	Robert Bernhard

The Parish Staff

Director of Music	James Moursund
Organist	TBD
Contemporary Music	Trudy Jaquith
Bell Choir Director	*Stephanie Wohlwend
Office Manager	Laura Pfeifer
Part-time Custodian	Justin Adsit
Youth Minister-Sunday School	The Rev. Simon Justice
Pastoral Care	*Pat Wohlwend
Licensed Lay Preacher	*Cammie Bella
Bookkeeper	Robin Powel
Webmaster	Bob Jarvis
Newsletter Editor	*David Francis

* Indicates Non-paid staff