Dear ones,

Why do we do what we do? Why is there a Church of the Good Samaritan in Corvallis, Oregon? I posed these questions to the members of our staff team to ponder during the warm summer days of August. Although this is a really fundamental question it’s not one that’s often asked; when was the last time you wondered why you are a part of this church community? What does it mean or signify?

An important clue to help answer this question can be found at the beginning of Mark’s Gospel. The very first words spoken by Jesus at the start of his public ministry were, “The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe the Gospel.” (Mark 1:15) Reading these words it seems to me that Jesus came not to proclaim himself, to start a ‘Jesus movement,’ or to found a church but rather to let people know that the Kingdom of God, the Reign of God had entered the world and that everyone could be a part of it. And that being a part of God’s Reign was to repent.

A word of caution, however: The word ‘repent’ is a somewhat misleading translation. When we think of repenting we naturally assume that it has to do with being sorry, forgiving, making amends. Actually the Greek word that is used in the Bible here is metanoia, which means to turn around or to change one’s orientation. So what Jesus more accurately said was, ‘the Kingdom of God is at hand, change your orientation/your minds/the direction of your life and believe in the Gospel.’

Our society, the system of our world is built on power, money, status, prestige, success, winners and losers, friends and enemies, domination and often violence. The Kingdom of God, the Reign of God is completely opposite to such values. The Kingdom of God is free, it respects the equal dignity of every person, it has no place for power over or domination, violence or enemy. The Kingdom of God is not something that we have to build or make or be worthy of, the Kingdom of God is something that is given to us, that we simply receive and enter. The Kingdom of God is not a place or a territory but a state of mind, a way of being and living.

So… what does this have to do with who we are or what we think we’re doing at Good Samaritan? Everything! Dear ones, we are not building a church or preserving an institution but simply entering the Kingdom together. And our worship, our outreach, our social times, our education, everything witnesses to this radically alternative way of living – without status, without power, without seeking success or wealth or domination, where there are no enemies or violence, where we recognize that we are all children of God and equally deserving of respect and dignity and love.

As we prepare to ‘get back to normal’ following our summer quiet days I invite you to really think about this. Why do we do what we do? Why is there a Church of the Good Samaritan? How are we receiving the Kingdom of God? How are we entering and making visible the love of God in who we are?

Simon+

Staff News

The good news is that our two new members of staff will be joining us in August. Dr. Nancy Dunn, our new organist, will have her first Sunday with us on August 16th. She is moving from Colorado Springs and has a wealth of experience as both a musician and an educator. The Rev. Abigail Buckley and her husband Christopher will be moving from Chattanooga, Tennessee later in the month, where she has been the Episcopal/Lutheran chaplain at the University of Tennessee. Her first Sunday with us will be August 30th. I know that you will be keeping
Nancy, Abigail and Christopher in your prayers as they make their respective moves to Corvallis. After what seems like a long time of transition our staff team will finally be complete!

Campus Ministry News

We are also busily getting ready to restart the Episcopal Campus Ministry in September. Obviously Abigail will play a key role in this, however, it is our vision that campus ministry be a full part of all that we do and are at Good Samaritan, so your ideas and participation would be very much welcomed.

Facilities News

As our preschool will not be returning this fall I am working with the vestry on creative ways in which we might use the vacated space in the education wing. Again, your ideas and thoughts would be helpful as together we discern what the Lord has in mind for the use of this space.

Worship News

We will be joining our ecumenical partners for the annual downtown worship service in Central Park on Sunday, September 6 at 10:00 a.m. This is the first time in many years that we have joined the other main congregations in Corvallis, and I am pleased that we will do so once again. That Sunday there will be only the 8:00 a.m. Eucharist here at Good Samaritan. Please don’t see this as a convenient day off from church 😊.

Our regular Sunday schedule will resume on Sunday, September 13.

Forward dates for your calendars

- Regular Sunday schedule resumes – Sunday, September 13
- ECW Sale – September 18 and 19
- Fr. Peter Fritsch workshop – September 25 and 26
- Harvest Festival – Sunday, September 27

New Staff Biographies

The Rev. Abigail J. Buckley

Originally from the Northeast, Mother Abigail J. Buckley grew up in the Episcopal Church, living mostly in Maryland and Pennsylvania (if you ask her where she’s from, be prepared to spend some time!) She did her undergraduate work at Arcadia University in Glenside, PA, studied abroad three times, and graduated with a Bachelor’s in Conservation Biology. She then went on to earn her Masters of Divinity at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, CA. She’s worked on a chainsaw and trail crew in Nevada, as a grocery clerk in Pennsylvania, and studied shorebirds in Massachusetts. Most recently, she worked as the priest of Project Canterbury, heading up the joint Lutheran-Episcopal campus ministry at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga.

Things that Mother Abigail loves: Dark chocolate, ducks, the great outdoors, biking, running, “procrastibaking,” gaming, and playing with her dogs, Ruadhán (pronounced Rowan) and Declán.

She is married to Br. Christopher, who like Mother AJ is a monastic of Anamchara Fellowship, native Oregonian and professional musician. Mother AJ is thankful for all the people at Good Samaritan and OSU who have already reached out to her and looks forward to getting to know everyone better as she begins her ministry with us!

Dr. Nancy Dunn

Nancy is a native of the Chicago area. She began piano at age seven and playing the organ in church at age ten.

She received a Bachelor Degree in Music in organ, and a Masters Degree in Sacred Music (organ, choral conducting, liturgical studies) from Northwestern University.

Following these initial studies, Nancy served on the faculty of Georgetown University in Washington DC for eleven years as Director of Liturgical Music and University Organist, and for two years as Director of Choral Activities. In these roles she directed several choirs both auditioned and open membership, directed the Organ and Cantor Scholars Program, taught organ and voice, organized concert series and choir tours, as well as provided liturgical music for weekly Sunday Worship services.

While on the faculty at Georgetown University, Nancy continued musical studies and earned a Doc-
torate of Musical Arts in Organ Performance from Catholic University.

After a Spring Break trip to the Amazon rain forest in Peru, Nancy, following another childhood passion in ecology, decided to resign from Georgetown to return to Peru to teach a semester of English as a Second Language to Peruvian naturalist rain forest guides.

Returning to the U.S. she joined the faculty of Chatham Hall, an Episcopalian boarding school for girls, grades 8-12 in Chatham, VA. There she taught music history, music theory, voice, piano, and directed the Chatham Hall Choir.

In 1998 Nancy decided to return to Peru to establish an educational non-profit on the banks of the Amazon River for rainforest communities. Living with indigenous and mestizo peoples, and with the help of local people and contributors from abroad, Nancy created and directed El Centro de Conocimiento Compartido (Center for Shared Knowledge), a community library and after-school/ continuing education center. The Center offers daily reading classes, and workshops in music, sewing, health, carpentry, computer skills, ecology. The Center is still operating under new direction and can be supported thru CONAPAC.org.

Nancy returned to the U.S. in July of 2011 and has been living in Colorado Springs. There she is active as a teacher at Pikes Peak Community College and as a church musician.

Nancy would like you all to know that she is grateful for the opportunity to serve the Good Samaritan Church as organist and looks forward to sharing music with you.

Music Notes

Hi Gang,

The middle of summer is an exciting time in preparation for all that will commence in the fall. I’m beginning to look at repertoire for the choir for Sundays, as well as for Christmas and Easter. We’ll be starting rehearsals again in September.

The last few Sundays have been Combined (Traditional service and Contemporary service), with the Contemporary Ensemble leading music for communion and post-communion. I think this is very effective, and adds a nice flavor to the service (especially during communion).

The month of August is the People’s Choice: I hope we’ve all been submitting our favorite hymns to be sung in the service. We’ll be using your suggestions as much as we can during our final month of summer.

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

moursundjames@gmail.com

I can direct you to whichever kind of music in which you have interest. Notably, I hope you check out our Adult Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, and Hand-bell Choir.

Music Lesson: George Frideric Handel wrote forty-two operas between 1705 and 1741. If you’re interested in getting an idea of Handel’s sound as a composer, you might consider listening to selections from a few of these.

Best,

James Moursund, Director of Music

Vestry and Committee Reports

Your Vestry Personnel 2015

Paul VanDevelde Finance
John Wooley Buildings and Grounds
Bob Bernhard Outreach, Social Justice
Carol Scharfer Youth, School Board
Bill Smoker Newcomers
Keith Gelbrich Spiritual Nurture
Ruth Burns Parish Life
Harry Burridge Worship, Music
Robert Lovelady At Large
Pat Boyce At Large
Beverly Durham At Large
George Constantine At Large

Outreach

Designated offering for August:

Meals on Wheels

The Designated Offering for August goes to Meals on Wheels, which provides a hot lunch and
a sandwich for the evening meal to seniors in their homes. Volunteers deliver the meals. In Oregon, more than 48,000 seniors are served. There is some Federal funding for Meals on Wheels, but it covers only 49% of the program’s cost; the rest depends on voluntary contributions. Please use the Designated Offering envelope in the pews to make a contribution; Make the check out to the church, and write “Designated Offering” on the memo line. Thank you for your help!

--Kathy Coleman, Outreach

**Habitat for Humanity Dinner**

On July 13, Church of the Good Samaritan hosted a dinner for 13 Habitat for Humanity volunteers. This delightful bunch of workers came from all over the US to build decent, affordable shelter alongside members of our local community. They are each giving a week of their time constructing a home in Philomath. It was a lovely evening of good company and good food. Thank you to the following church members who provided set up, food, clean up, and/or hospitality: Harry Burridge, Mary Christensen, Rex and Cindy Cole, Rosemary Magee, Phyllis Mix, Marilyn Moore, Sandy Potter, Sue Rohloff, and Pat Wickman.

If you are interested in learning how you can participate in building adventures with Habitat for Humanity throughout the United States or abroad, visit the Global Village Program at [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).

--Cindy Cole, Outreach

**Happenings**

Sunday, August 9 – in the Lounge following the 10:30 a.m. services

**Charlotte Headrick** will offer a preview of OSU’s 2015 Bard in the Quad production – *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Dr. Headrick, a professor of Theatre Arts at OSU since 1982, will also provide historical background to Shakespeare performance at OSU. This summer’s production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* recalls the first production of the play at OSU—also outdoors and with live music—in the 1920s. Everyone is welcome to attend this informative talk, even if you aren’t planning to attend the actual play.

**A Midsummer Night’s Dream**

Friday, August 14, 7:30 p.m.
OSU Memorial Union Quad

Purchase tickets before Saturday August 1 for a 20% discount! [http://oregonstate.edu/bardinthequad/](http://oregonstate.edu/bardinthequad/)

Join other Church of the Good Samaritan friends and any others you want to bring along for the Friday, August 14 production of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* outdoors in the Memorial Union Quad at OSU.

A romantic comedy, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* is one of Shakespeare’s most accessible and popular plays. Quoting from the play’s website, “Shakespeare’s lush and vivid fantasy comes to life...with comedy and romance featuring dance accompanied by OSU Chamber Winds performing Felix Mendelssohn’s classic *Midsummer Night’s Dream Suite.*”

Make the most of this summer evening and bring a picnic dinner! Assure your comfort by bringing warm clothing, chairs, and blankets. (No seating is provided.) Allow time to park and carry your chair, blanket and dinner or snacks to the quad; pick up your ticket at will call (if you opt for that), and find a spot on the grassy lawn.

**Parking** is free on OSU’s campus after 5:00 p.m. The quad is just north of the Memorial Union. **Seating begins at 6:30 p.m.** for the **7:30 p.m. performance.**

Also, why not plan to attend Dr. Charlotte Headrick’s preview of the performance the preceding Sunday morning? See separate article for details.

Contact Rosemary Magee with any questions.

**Other Activities**

**View From The Village**

This summer seems to be rolling along fast, at least for me. I am not a fan of the hot weather and always welcome those mornings when I can ride my three-wheeler and not feel I am living in the tropics!

Something to keep in mind in your planning: Samaritan Village will soon turn 50 years old. Some of you might still remember when it was built when
Father Neville was the rector at Good Samaritan.
We are planning to have an Open House in January to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. Hopefully the Open House will be on a Saturday afternoon and will be a reception-style function. You may come and go as you choose. It will be nice to hear from those of you who remember 50 years ago here at Good Samaritan Church. More information about the Open House will be forthcoming.

The Open House will also informally celebrate the ending of our nearly year-long renovation project here at the Village. We are looking forward to peaceful encounters in our space. The noise of jackhammers and other power tools will fade into the distance. To be fair the workers here have been tidy and courteous. They have taken great care to clean up after themselves and leave each apartment in move-in ready condition for returning residents. That is a blessing especially for those who don’t get around so well.

Come visit our back garden, some time. For awhile recently we had a lone Wyandott hen in the back and on the Jackson side pecking her way across the property. We think she was an escapee from a nearby henhouse. Samaritan Village is not a boring place!

See you at the Village!
Marian Ely, Samaritan Village

EGGS – Sunny Side Up

Brother Sun has been much in evidence this year, yes? The burning heat makes me think of a recent piece by Fr. Simon in the parish’s weekly e-mail, in which he expressed some ambiguity about the story of “Moses and the Burning Bush.”

We all know and love the story, in which Moses hears the voice of God saying, “Take off your shoes, Moses, for the ground on which you stand is Holy.” I share Fr. Simon’s ambiguity, as I also love the story but am concerned that we may lose sight of the idea that all the ground on which we ever stand, all of Creation, is Holy. People, places, things . . . all are holy manifestations of God’s work . . “and it was good.”

Consider the following, from J. Philip Newell’s Sounds of the Eternal:

That in the elements of earth, sea and sky
I may see your beauty,
that in wild winds, birdsong and silence
I may hear your beauty,
that in the body of another and the intermingling of relationship
I may touch your beauty,
that in the moisture of earth and its flowering and fruiting
I may smell your beauty,
that in the flowing waters of springs and streams
I may taste your beauty,
these things I look for this day, O God, these things I look for.

May we all fully awaken to the Glory that surrounds us. And may the Lord bless us and keep us through these summer months and throughout the year.

--Bill Becker

Library Listings – August, 2015

Our special feature this month is a listing of some of the books that Fr. Peter left for our library. They will be on display on the shelf to the right as you enter the library. He was downsizing and gifted us with books that he had more than one copy of from his personal library. He also gave us a list of some other titles he recommended which we will add to our collection at a later date. Be alert!!!

PRAYER, STRESS, AND OUR INNER WOUNDS by Flora Slosson Wuellner - In this book, the author “reminds the reader that the passion to heal was central in Jesus. ‘God’s love longs to touch and heal our inner wounds. God’s transforming power can do it!’ We are all wounded in some way. Only as we become aware of our own pain and our own need for inner healing can we hope to heal others – and finally heal the world. ‘The first step for transforming the world’s pain is to look with honesty at our own pain and to begin to open the door to God’s love.’”

ENCOUNTER WITH GOD by Morton Kelsey - “In a solidly packed book of about 300 pages the Rev. Morton Kelsey sets forth his thesis that there is a spiritual reality which impinges on man’s consciousness, and the consequences of an appreciation of this reality for the life of the church and the
individual Christian, today.”

**LIVING FAITH** by Jimmy Carter - “This is a book about the values and experiences that have shaped my life, and how the religious beliefs I inherited have been transformed into a living faith. I have waited a long time to write these words, because religion is a private matter – and my own faith has been the subject of much public speculation. Yet I think that my close relationship with God is something I share with many Americans of different traditions.”

**SEALED ORDERS** – by Agnes Sanford – her autobiography – “hardly a conventional spiritual memoir, SEALED ORDERS is a fitting self-portrayal of Agnes Sanford, a vibrant and effective woman who hardly fits any ‘traditional’ Christian mold. As rich as it is factual, here is a testimony that proves God’s grace can accomplish much in one’s life.”

and several other volumes new to our collection that might be of interest --

**THE SHACK** – by William Paul Young -- “Mackenzie Allen Philips’s youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later, in the midst of the Great Sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend....”

**EYES REMADE FOR WONDER, a Lawrence Kushner Reader** - introduction by Thomas Moore -- “A treasury of insight from one of the most creative spiritual thinkers in America. Whether you are new to Kushner or a devoted fan, this is the place to begin....”

**BIBLE WOMEN – ALL THEIR WORDS AND WHY THEY MATTER** - by Lindsay Hardin Freeman -- “Women of the Bible have been trapped in dry and dusty literary caskets for centuries. While a few women, such as Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Mary Magdalene, are familiar, many of the women who speak in the Bible have long been ignored. Yet their words are part of God’s Word, the Bible for a reason. Through these women, God spoke, intervened, changed, illustrated, and proclaimed the story of redemption and love....”

**WHAT IS TRAUMA, MOMMA?? – by Ruth P. Arent, M.A., M.S.W** -- A book for parents of young children – “A lot of things happen which are scary or make people sad. Good things happen, too, and cool kids recite their poems to help others feel that they can handle ups and downs.”

--Other titles will be on display also – BROWSE – BORROW – BRING BACK!!!

Edie Orner librarian for the Adult Library

**Travel Plans**

I have been in many places, but I’ve never been in Kahoots. Apparently, you can’t go alone.

You have to be in Kahoots with someone.

I’ve also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don’t have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my children, friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I’m not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I’ve been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I’m in Capable, and I go there more often as I’m getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

I may have been in Continent, but I don’t remember what country I was in. It’s an age thing.

They tell me it is very wet and damp there.

Would someone like to set up an itinerary and get a cost for the above places then maybe we could set up a church group and visit some or all of these places.
Treasurers Report  
Summary Through June 2015

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**Narrative**

1. Income:
   a) Low for the month and on budget for the year.

2. Expenses:
   a) Total expenses for the year are below budget.

3. Summary: Through June our income is at budget and our expenses are below budget. The annual budget still looks reasonable.

Please direct questions to John Shea, Treasurer, [John.Shea54@gmail.com](mailto:John.Shea54@gmail.com), 541 754-6832
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. Abigail Buckley
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 Woolley
Clerk of the Vestry: Andrew Moursund
Treasurer: John Shea
Assistant Treasurer: Robert Bernhard

The Parish Staff

Director of Music: James Moursund
Organist: Dr. Nancy Dunn
Contemporary Music: Trudy Jones
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