From The Clergy

Dear ones,

“And the one who was seated on the throne said,
“See, I am making all things new.”
(Revelation 21:5)

Happy New Year!
Yes, 2017, are you ready? Well if you’re like me, who knows, but I guess we’ll all find out!

I apologize if that sounds a little ominous, it’s not meant to be, it’s just that none of us has a crystal ball and can see into the future. We prepare and plan as best as we are able and then the rest is decided by forces beyond our control, or as the Prayer Book puts it, “the changes and chances of this life.”

While it is a truism, as one famous general put it that, “few battle plans survive contact with the enemy,” one of the things we actually can control is what we decide to carry with us into the New Year. I understand that the New Year is just a human, artificial construct – January 1st is not really that much different from December 31st – however, the New Year does present us (at least in our minds) with an opportunity to begin afresh, to wipe the slate clean, to have a new beginning. Now if that is what we really want – a new start - how much easier it is to have this if we leave our grudges, prejudices, fears and disagreements buried in pages of the old year.

As the Scriptures remind us God is in the business of making all things new. This is implicit at the very beginning through the act of Creation, as well as in God’s on-going creation through the cycle
of birth, life and death and in the process of evolution. Remember that spring will be here before we know it! In the beginning God didn’t make a prefect Creation, but what God did do was to implant the possibility for complete self-knowledge and love within the Creation. In other words, the reason life is the way it is (sometimes broken, messy, painful even) is because God isn’t finished with creating yet. We haven’t messed up, we haven’t fallen short, we are not born into perpetual sin, we are simply not complete – yet…

Someone once said that the only tool nature has is/are mistakes. That may be true. God has love and grace. As we begin this New Year maybe it’s a good moment to think about the things – qualities, memories and experiences - that we want to take with us, and also to consider the things – qualities, memories and experiences – that we should/want to leave behind. God is waiting to bless us this New Year and for us to be a blessing in this world.

Happy New Year!
Simon+

Special Events in January

- **New Year’s Day** – Sunday, January 1st. 8:00 a.m. Said Eucharist, Rite I, 10:30 a.m. Combined Sung Eucharist. Coffee Hour following both liturgies with special mimosas! and First Sunday of the month Soup Lunch
- **Fr. Peter Fritsch - Healing the Soul & Body Workshop**: January 10, 11, 12.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** – Monday, January 16th: The church office will be closed in honor of the day.
- **Pope Francis’ Encyclical on Climate Change Workshop** – Dr. Sheldon Greaves and Dr. Dave Bella will lead a class on Wednesday, January 18th & January 25th beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- **Radical Kindness Workshop** – Saturday, January 28th from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Vicki Hannah Lein to lead.
- **Annual General Meeting** – Sunday, January 29th: 8:00 a.m. Said, Rite I Eucharist and 10:30 a.m. Combined Choral Eucharist followed by a potluck lunch and our Annual General Meeting. Please E-mail your report to Laura at officegs@goodsamchurch-episcopal.org no later than Tuesday, January 10th.

Music Notes

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you have all enjoyed your holidays! Of course, I write you before the actual holidays begin, but I too am looking forward to a “long winter’s nap” after all of the services are over. Perhaps that’s a beautiful aspect of this season: the long preparation, the sprint, and then the armchair waiting by the fire when it’s all over.

2016 has been an excellent year for our music program and I am so thankful to you parishioners for your support and kind words. I am really looking forward to Easter this year – the choir and I are scheming to do movements of Bach’s Easter Cantata *Christ lag in Todesbanden*. I’m sure you’ll love this dramatic work!

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

moursundjames@gmail.com

Music Lesson: The Church has debated for centuries what kinds of music are appropriate for worship. In fact, it wasn’t until around the 15th century that instruments were permitted at all (the pipe organ was the primary first one). In the Roman Church, the saxophone is still off-limits.

Best,
—James Moursund, Director of Music

Treasurers Report

**Summary through November 2016**

Narrative

1. Income:
   a) Pledge income for the year is somewhat below budget.

2. Expenses:
   a) Nothing out of the ordinary.

3. Summary: The current projection for 2016 is a deficit that is somewhat larger than budgeted.

Please direct questions to John Shea, Treasurer, John.Shea54@gmail.com, 541 754-6832
## Vestry and Committee Reports

### Your Vestry Personnel 2016

Paul VanDevelde  
Bill Smoker  

- Senior Warden  
- Outreach  
- Committee Chair  
- Rex Cole

### Women’s Cold Weather Shelter.

Each winter night 6-12 homeless women escape the cold inclement weather by staying in the women’s shelter (Room at the Inn) at the First United Methodist Church. Good Samaritan is helping keep the shelter open by providing volunteers to support paid staff for one week, February 5-11. Two volunteers work 6:15 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. to check in guests, visit, and supervise. One volunteer sleeps overnight at the shelter (11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.). Others bring snacks for evening and breakfast. Your help is needed. If you would like to volunteer please sign-up in the Parish Hall, or contact Rex or Cindy Cole (541)753-6713.

Thanks, Rex

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### January Designated Offering

Jackson Street Youth Services is the recipient of our January Designated Offering. JSYS was founded in 1999 to fill a gap in local support services for homeless youths. Now JSYS has expanded services to work to promote safety, well-being and stability for youth by building positive relationships and skills to help them become self-sufficient. JSYS provides mentoring, family mediation, education and a safe place to live as well as workshops for transitional and independent living skills. Please give thoughtful consideration to a donation in January to Jackson Street Youth Services.

— Sandy Potter, Outreach and Social Justice Committee

### Vina Moses Thanks!

Another big thank you to those who took a tag from the Giving Tree or made a donation to Vina Moses. Parents selected gifts for their children and received a Christmas food basket—all much appreciated.

— Sandy Potter, Outreach and Social Justice Committee
Food Baskets

A huge “Thank You” for all of your donations to the Food Baskets. These items are taken to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank at St. Mary’s twice a month. The volunteers there are very grateful for these donations as they now are providing food help to more than 200 families each month. Keep up the good work!

— Sandy Potter, Outreach and Social Justice Committee

Keith Gelbrich
Spiritual Nurture Committee Chair,
Cammie Bella

Introducing the Guerrilla Scholars

By Sheldon Greaves, Ph.D.
Scholar-in-Residence

For the past couple of years my spouse, Dr. Denise Greaves, and I have been Scholars-in-Residence at Good Samaritan. Much of our activity involves conducting seminars on topics related to the Bible and the ancient world. Our topics have ranged from the Old Testament to the Intertestamental Period and, most recently, a look at the Dead Sea Scrolls.

One thing we would like to do is to find ways for other parishes and congregations to replicate what we do at Good Samaritan. We have also discovered that there is an untapped reservoir of knowledge and experience at Good Samaritan that only needs a little encouragement to emerge. Getting to know the hidden treasures in this parish has been fun and interesting, and it has led us to create a new organization: Guerrilla Scholars.

Our model is the medieval communities of scholars that came together in some of the great cities of Europe with the blessing of the church. Scholars and students from all over came to learn, study, and teach in a relatively unstructured, but intellectually robust environment. It was out of these guilds of scholars and students that the first European universities were born.

While we don’t anticipate that our efforts will result in a university (although one never knows…), we do hope to create a community space for exploring the Big Questions, along with any other topic that interests our participants. We also encourage learning and scholarship that touches on contemporary, local issues and problems. The name “Guerrilla Scholar” is a moniker that I adopted back in the nineties to describe a style of scholarship conducted outside of traditional academia. It was both a matter of necessity for an impoverished graduate student who had to take a couple of financial leaves of absence, but also a recognition that the University, for all its marvelous resources, also has certain drawbacks.

We have several great programs scheduled for 2017, including Craig Massie on the rise of Christianity, Al Stetz on the nature of consciousness, Peter Fritsch on healing the body/spirit split in Christianity, Dave Bella and myself on the Papal Encyclical on climate change, and Bill Gazeley on emergence, purpose, and evolution. And that’s just between now and Lent!

If you want to see a full listing of upcoming events, visit our website at http://guerrillascholars.org, or drop me an email at drshel02816@gmail.com to sign up for our newsletter.

Healing the Soul & Body Workshop
January 10, 11, & 12th
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m

Presented by Fr. Peter Fritsch

Good news! Fr. Peter will be with us again in January and will present a 3 part series on Healing the Soul and Body. His program will focus on healing the split between soul and body in Western culture, by integrating them through consciousness and bodywork. He will cover why this split occurred and how it has affected all of us influenced by Western Christianity. He will show how the first century Christian communities, especially the Gnostic Christian communities, did not have this split.

A very healthy spirituality developed in these churches, only to be suppressed by Rome in the third and fourth centuries.

Using the Gospel stories of Mark and John, Fr. Peter will show how the incarnation in Jesus, which dwells within us, allows us to heal any aspect of split we may be experiencing. After each session, Fr. Peter invited people to attend a 15 to 20 minute talk to learn the story of his own bodily healing that...
has occurred since his move to Hungary. The main
teaching will conclude at 8:00 p.m.

The cost is $40 payable at the door. There is a
sign-up sheet in the office for anyone interested in
attending the workshop. Questions: Contact Fr.
Peter at plfritsch@hotmail.com

Radical Kindness Tools Workshop
Coming Jan. 28th
Save This Date!

Vicki Hannah Lein, International speaker,
singer/songwriter, humorist, and author, will offer
her workshop, “Radical Kindness Warrior Training”
right here at Good Samaritan on Saturday, January
28th, (9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.). Sign-in begins at
9:00 a.m. She will be using a variety of methods to
engage with us, including sharing, singing, and even
some dancing!

If you’re like me, you’ve been in situations
where someone does or says something cruel or
abusive. Vicki says, “When we do nothing, we’re re-
ally doing something very powerful: we are condon-
ing the behavior and giving ourselves a “cowardice
hangover” that might last a lifetime”. Vicki will be
sharing tools to use when you don’t know what to
do but know you should do something because hear-
ing or seeing abuse is never “cool”. Her approaches
are non-confrontational and are intended to make
the situation better, not worse.

There is no registration fee to attend but dona-
tions will be accepted. We will not be serving lunch,
so please use the lunch time, 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.,
to go home or out for lunch or bring a brown bag
lunch. We will have beverages and a few snacks.

There will be a sign-up list in the church office
beginning in January. Please stop by or call the of-
fice sign-up. 541-757-6647.

If you’d like to read more about Vicki and her
work, you can visit her website: www.radicalkind-
nesswarrior.com Her use of the word “warrior”
is based on a Cleveland Amory quote, “What this
world needs is a new kind of army – the army of the
kind”. Her book on this topic is titled, The Radical
Kindness Warrior Handbook. It’s available on Ama-
zon.com and she’ll also have some at the workshop
for sale.

—Cammie Bella, Spiritual Nurture Committee

Ruth Burns          Parish Life
Harry Burridge      Committee Chair,
Robert Lovelady     Michele Justice
Ric Bergey          Buildings and Grounds
Mike Propst         Committee Chair,
Stephanie Wohlwend  John Magee
Beverley Beckley    At Large
Michelle Millar     Finance Committee Chair,
Pat Boyce           John Shea
                      Worship Committee Chair,
                      Simon Justice
                      Music Committee Chair,
                      James Moursund
                      Environmental Ministries
                      Committee Chair,
                      Bill Becker
                      Campus Ministry Committee Chair,
                      Linda Gelbrich
                      Judy Burridge
                      Stewardship Committee Chair,
                      Judy Burridge
                      Children and Family Committee Chair,
                      Mo. Abigail

Happenings

EGGS – Hard Boiled

It’s freezing rain, with snow on the way, as I
write this. You’ve got to be pretty hard-boiled to
deal with our weather at this transitional time of
year. Speaking of transitions, an interesting and
easily accessible area from which to view season-
al transitions is the Jackson-Frazier Boardwalk. The
Boardwalk winds its way through a wetland, a very
wet land indeed at this time of year. Directions:
Going east on NE Conifer, before you reach Chel-
delin Middle School, take a left (north) on to NE
Lancaster and drive to the parking spaces at the end
of that street. The trail is only 2/3 of a mile or so;
much of the wetland is a pond at this time, and the
wood ducks appear to be quite pleased. Walk the
trail again at other times of the year; the changes are
remarkable.

And then there is the great symbolic transition:
January, named after Janus, he of the two faces, one looking back and one forwards. January is a time for taking stock of our selves, and making resolutions about the year to come. If you have not already done so, could you resolve to join Pacific Power’s “Blue Sky” program, encouraging renewable energy sourcing? If you are not a member, could you perhaps join a local chapter of an environmental group, such as Audubon or Sierra Club? Or perhaps support a local organization, such as the Greenbelt Land Trust? And could you remember, as your mother told you, always to turn off the lights when you leave a room?

Be sure to recycle all those cardboard boxes that came in the mail, or that contained the items that you purchased at those stores. All that Christmas gift wrap can be recycled, other than the glossy, metallic finishes. I hope that you remembered to put all the food scraps and inedible leftovers from your festive meals into the organic recycling container. And if you had some pizza, you put the greasy pizza box into the organic recycling as well, yes? Final recycling tip of the month: Do you have strands of mini Christmas lights that have died? If so, do not put them in the garbage; you can recycle them at the Corvallis Disposal site on Bellevue, just off Circle Blvd, a block beyond highway 99. I was just there yesterday; they seem to have quite an accumulation.

May I offer a wish for all of us for the New Year. This wish has been expressed in many ways, by many religious traditions, in many periods of human history. My wish is that we all become more mindful, more aware, more awake to the Holiness with which we are surrounded. By living in the moment, may we all become truly present to the Holy, that in which we live and move and have our being. Blessings to all God’s Creation.

—Bill Becker

View From The Village

Happy New Year! This is our chance to have a fresh start, make some resolutions, look at resetting priorities in our lives.

Well – maybe so or maybe not. How much improvement can there be when we are older and hopefully wiser than we were some years ago? I can’t answer that – even for myself much of the time.

Here at the Village we often take each day as it comes, grateful to be waking up to a new morning and heading for the shower and the coffee pot. The priorities and resolutions we may have set in the past have led us to where we are now, and for many of us that is a good thing. We are making each day count the best we can, and we enjoy our neighbors and friends who look in on us and care. This is something to be proud of, I would say.

So – Happy New Year! We can enjoy our successes, forget the down times and rejoice that we are still putting one foot in front of the other each morning.

Our garden in the back is showing life. Plenty of hard work went in to the garden before winter set in and it will certainly show more and more as the spring approaches. We have such lovely views of the gardens from our apartments. We appreciate the hard work put in by our garden “greenies” as well as the manual labor from a fraternity, our maintenance man Pete, and Joe Heaney, the chair of the SV Board.

See you at the Village!

—Marian Ely, Samaritan Village

Other Activities

Crossroads Conversation

“Crossroads Conversation has begun its 2016-17 year and laughter can be heard once again ringing down the halls of the Church of the Good Samaritan, where we have met for the past 30 years. We are especially grateful to the church for providing us this space, where English is practiced and friendships are made.”

Submitted to the Crossroads International Fall 2016 Newsletter

—Sandy Riverman, Conversation School Director.

Annual General Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2017, which means that it is time to begin writing your report. Please E-mail your report to me at officegs@goodsamchurch-episcopal.org no later than Tuesday, January 10th. Early turn ins are always appreciated! Thank you.

—Laura Pfeifer
Pictures from the Past Month

Jim Harper celebrates his 100th birthday with family

Stirrup Sunday Celebrations and Saint Nicholas visit

Volunteer Lunch

Choir at the Lessons and Carols Service
The Bishop of Oregon:  
The Right Reverend Michael J. Hanley

The Clergy of the Parish
Assistant Rector  The Rev. Alvin P. Lafon  
Priest Assisting  *The Rev. Tom Stevenson  
Priest Assisting  *The Rev. Tom Stevenson  
Rector Emeritus  

The Officers of the Parish
Senior Warden  Paul VanDevelder  
Junior Warden  Harry Burridge  
Clerk of the Vestry  Andrew Moursund  
Treasurer  John Shea  
Assistant Treasurer  Ric Bergey

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  Jenna Hart  
Youth Minister-Sunday School  *Pat Wohlwend  
The Rev. Abigail Buckley  
Sunday School Leader  *Cammie Bella  
Pastoral Care  Dr. Denise Greaves  
Licensed Lay Preacher  Dr. Sheldon Greaves  
Scholars in Residence  Robin Powel  
Bookkeeper  Bob Jarvis  
Webmaster  *David Francis  
Newsletter Editor  
* Indicates Non-paid staff