

ST. AIDAN'S

*St. Aidan's Mission:
Spread the promise of Jesus Christ in and beyond our
community through worship, education, and outreach.*



TORCH

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GRESHAM OREGON
NEWSLETTER:
JANUARY 1, 2009

From the Rector's Desk

Introduction to 'The Traveling Icon' Project

In a few weeks, we will begin the relay race that will lead us up to our 50th anniversary celebration. A number of events are being planned, such as a special visit in July from the **Rt. Rev. Sandy Hampton**, our assistant bishop, a celebration also in July of the Holy Communion much as it might have been celebrated in the late 1950s and early 1960s, our Mass on the Grass and Parish Picnic in August and a Festive Reception and Banquet in September. Much more information will be published about those events as the time gets closer and details get filled in.

I mentioned a relay race. The way the baton is passed in a relay race is much like the way the Traveling Icon will make its way around the parish family before it comes back to stay in its home, for good. Each participant who volunteers will be commissioned on Sunday morning to take the Icon home for the week and return it for the next participant to take it for the next leg of its trek. This will help us count down the weeks that lead up to our 50th Anniversary.

The Traveling Icon Project is a way for all of St. Aidan's households to support the parish prayerfully and intentionally as we mark our 50th Anniversary. The goal of this project is to allow as many households of the parish as possible to participate, rich and poor, young and old, solitary or married with or without children present at home.

At the commissioning, each participating family or person will be given a prayer pamphlet. This pamphlet is only one suggested plan for adding yours and your family's prayerful intentions and wishes to those which have come before and those which will follow. When the project is complete, the Icon will have gathered up the intentions and prayers for the parish from the entire parish family. Then, it will return them into our midst in our common household. Simply having the Icon in a place of honor in your home is prayerful, in itself.

Thanks to **Byron McKinlay** for crafting a scaled replica of our high cross in the church. The replica sits on a stand. That design should make it easier for any of us to place it in our home for the week we participate. You may schedule yourself and household to participate in this relay by signing up in the register in the parish hall.

I encourage you to consider taking part in this prayerful support of our parish as it continues to fulfill its mission to 'Spread the promise of Jesus Christ in and beyond our community through worship, education, fellowship and outreach.'

A Prayer for Traveling Icon Participants:

Accept, we pray, the thoughtful prayers of *[this person, family, or household]*, who, following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, of our patron, Aidan, and of countless others of your saints who have called to you in hope, thankfulness and praise, as they go forth from this place bearing an image and reminder of your grace and power: Grant that their prayers and those of all your servants in this congregation may strengthen our witness to the community and honor your glory to the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, now and forever. Amen.



Annual Meeting 2009

The Annual Meeting, wherein we review our works for 2008, has been scheduled for **Sunday, January 25, 2009**. As is our custom, we will have one service at 9 o'clock, followed by a brunch and meeting. Please set aside the date so you can participate in this **vital** part of our community life. For point of reference, the Super Bowl (when we hold our Souper Bowl) is the next Sunday, February 1, 2009.—*Rob Stoltz, Clerk of the Vestry*



50th Anniversary Update

A database is being constructed in preparation for our 50th Anniversary Celebration. We would greatly appreciate any help you can give in finding addresses and contact information for old members who no longer attend St. Aidan's. Have they moved or are they still around? Have they remarried and changed names? Are they deceased? There will be notebooks in the narthex with the names we currently have from old directories and other documents. Please take a look at them and if you have any information on the people listed please leave it with the notebooks or you can put it in the box for **The Torch** (or my vestry box until the annual meeting occurs when my service on vestry will be ending). After my vestry service ends the only box available for me will be the one for The Torch. Thank you for your help.

Shirley Bush

CHURCH MOUSE JANUARY 2009



What a storm we had! And as I write this, it's not over yet. Advent Sunday III was greeted by a sprinkle of snow in the early morning, followed by lots more—depending on where you live. Sandy folk were pretty snowed in by the time church was over, and east Gresham people were shut down by noon—and it's been hanging around

for the rest of the week; (Update) Advent IV 8 and 10 am services were cancelled as well as Lessons and Carols and The Wiggler's Mass. – Another activity frozen in the ice box was the planned trip to the Grotto on the sixteenth. Sorry about that, **Barbara Lambert**. Be that as it may, it is time for us to begin the new year with great expectations. Happy New Year!

Fortunately, the storm didn't interfere with the group trip to The Revels, with **LindaCarol** and **Byron McKinlay**. Linda came back happily reporting that Byron, the audience member, was the one picked, apparently at random by the cast to do a little something on stage—impromptu. Way to go! There was a pretty good sized group from St. Aidan's who went, including a newcomer to the parish, **Rebecca Wirkkala**, whom we have been seeing several Sundays since. Another successful undertaking was the **Children's Store**, led by **Sharon Barney** with the help of daughter **Jackie Goodnight**, friend **Sabrina Hansen**, **Lori McCoy**, **Kevin Gibler**, **Shirley Vidito** handed out tickets, and **Mike Vidito** and **Tim McCoy** played gatekeeper. The kids were able to "buy" presents for their immediate families at a price they could afford—like 50c each, and even had them wrapped by the team. It seemed to be very well thought-out and organized. What a great way to make a little money for the Sunday School and do a service for our families at the same time!

It was a real treat to see the **Ferguson** clan in church on the seventh of December. In addition to "birthday girl, **Pat** and husband, **Clyde**, and sis **Marlene Lucas**, son **Greg** and **Renni** and **Jacob** were there, and even **Danielle** and her boyfriend surprised them all. I'll bet it was a great gathering. Have you noticed the lovely dark blue banner for celebrating the season that is out by the entrance? Let's give **Kevin Gibler** a big hand for making that possible.

Several of our people are on the "getting better" wagon. **Maxine Viebrock** had more back surgery to relieve pain, and is now recovering at her care center. **Gloria Trunk** had eye surgery before Christmas, and should be doing well by now. **Gloria Morris** is home, getting better after knee surgery. **Pauline Nolder**, who has been coming back to church pretty regularly after her hip surgery, is now in Colorado visiting her daughter through the beginning of the new year.

It seems that I jumped the gun on reporting on **Bonnie Buckmann** and **June Day's** family coming in November—they are actually scheduled for Christmas. Sorry about that.

Joyce Robinson is getting used to doing without her car and using the lift system. It's quite a change in independence, but vision is important if one is going to drive.

Check out the re-done Ladies' Room? **Betsy Berninghausen** and **Barbara Lambert** worked hard on redecorating, and some professional guys re-did the floor. It's wonderful to see things that were so well worn all updated and spiffed up.

Well, we had to get this done early—so that's about all I know. Happy New Year, everybody. – **CM**



PLEASE INFORM THE PARISH OFFICE WHEN YOU PLAN A MEETING OR FUNCTION

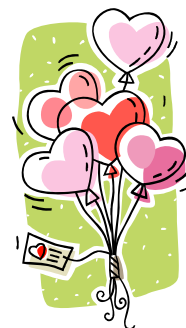
— and, just as important, let the office know when you cancel a meeting or function. It is the Office Manager's responsibility to make sure there are no conflicts for the same space, and to make sure that the heat is turned on when needed, and left off when not needed. It just makes good sense to economize on running the furnaces. Good communication also ensures that your event will appear in the Parish Master Calendar. Any information for the office can be placed in the office mailbox (pigeonholes by the kitchen in Murdock Hall), emailed to the office at staidans@pacifier.com, or phoned in.



January

Happy Birthday — Because time itself is like a spiral, something special happens on your birthday each year: The same energy that God invested in you at birth is present once again.

- 2 Mary Salter
- 5 Mandy Crawford
- 7 Sharon Weese
- 9 Greg Ferguson
- 12 Cebert Bryon
Ron Salter
- 13 Charlene Ferguson
- 15 Clyde Ferguson
- 17 Holly Udd
- 18 Kerri Carter
- 23 Robert Booher
- 28 Lloyd Johnston
Aidan McCoy
Jim Tanner



St. Aidan's Annual Meeting set for January 25, 2009

Each congregation of The Episcopal Church is required by Canon law to hold an annual meeting each year upon a day and hour to be determined by the Vestry. The purpose of the meeting is to hear and act upon reports of the rector, the treasurer, the church school, vestry commissions, guilds and organizations; for the election of members of the vestry and for transaction of such other business as may legally and canonically come before the meeting.

St. Aidan's Annual Meeting will be January 25, 2009. There will be one offering (only) of the Holy Eucharist at 9:00 a.m. (primarily a Rite II service, but we will, as is our custom, incorporate some elements of Rite I). At this Eucharist, the Rector delivers his report.

Afterwards, we adjourn to Murdock Hall. A brunch will be served in conjunction with the meeting. Please make every effort to attend the Annual Meeting.

The deadline for all materials for the **Annual Report** is Wednesday, January 14, 2009. Reports for committees and organizations should be sent to the church office via email at staidans@pacifier.com. **We are requesting that all reports be turned in electronically via email.** If you do not have word processing, *please type your report in an email* so we can avoid re-typing.

There will be childcare available for the Annual Meeting. We really would like to have all parishioners take part in the Annual Meeting and exercise their privilege to vote on the business matters of the Parish and read the annual reports of the Parish organizations. To vote at the Annual Meeting: one must be:

1. Baptized; regular communicant.
2. Sixteen (16) years of age or over.
3. Parish Member a minimum of 6 months.
4. Regular contributor to Parish.
5. Present at annual meeting. **No proxy voting.**



TEA, ANYONE? "A CUP OF FRIENDSHIP"

A group of St. Aidan's ladies has been holding a teatime on the second Wednesday of each month. This is a time to just get together and chat, drink tea (or coffee) and enjoy each other's company. January's "A Cup of Friendship" TEAtime will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2009, from approximately 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the kitchen of Murdock Hall. **WE ESPECIALLY**

WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ANY NEWCOMERS to St. Aidan's. Tea will be provided; feel free to bring a treat to share. If you don't drink tea, come anyway. You might want to bring along a craft that you're working on. Just for fun, how about a "recycle-a-Christmas-gift" gift exchange? Bring one of those Christmas gifts that you just can't find any use for (or any type of "White Elephant" gift) and you can walk away with someone else's "treasure." If you want to participate, bring a gift. Call Angie Groce, 503-665-8242, with any questions. Please consider attending--we'd love to have you join us.

Thank you, Outreach

Adult Forum Classes

The Adult Forum classes will return on January 11 with the next lesson in the series on the historical Jesus. Each class consists of a DVD segment and discussion and are held in Likowski Hall at 9:00 am on Sundays. The schedule is as follows:

January 11	The Acts of the Apostles
January 18	Paul
January 25	No Class -Annual Meeting
February 1	Pauline Ethics
February 8	Paul's Letters to the Romans
February 15	Paul, Jesus and James
February 22	The Deutero-Pauline Epistles

On the Sundays in March, following Ash Wednesday, we will have a special session focusing on the meaning of Lent. We will resume our classes following Palm Sunday and Easter.

April 19	The Pastoral Epistles
April 26	The Book of Hebrews
May 3	First Peter
May 10	The Book of Revelation
May 17	Do We Have the Original New Testament?

WINTER'S HERE

TIME TO CURL UP WITH A
STEAMING HOT CUP OF
CHOCOLATE AND A GOOD
BOOK



COME TO ST. AIDAN'S
BOOKSTORE FOR BOOKS
OF EVERY KIND AND THE
BEST EQUAL EXCHANGE
COFFEE, TEA OR COCOA.

Intercessions	Lectionary Readings
<p align="center">January 4, 2009 The Second Sunday After Christmas</p>	
<p>In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Diocese of Los Angeles, Province VIII, USA. In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Iran, and Iraq. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Paul, Powers; Good Shepherd, Prospect; Ascension, Riddle; and Prince of Peace, Salem. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the members of our Healing Team.</p>	<p align="center">Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 84 or 84:1-8 Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a Matthew 2:13-15,19-23 or Luke 2:41-52 or Matthew 2:1-12</p>
<p align="center">January 11, 2009 The First Sunday After The Epiphany—The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ</p>	
<p>In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Diocese of Los Angeles, Province VIII, USA. In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Iran, and Iraq. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Paul, Powers; Good Shepherd, Prospect; Ascension, Riddle; and Prince of Peace, Salem. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the members of our Altar Guild.</p>	<p align="center">Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11</p>
<p align="center">January 18, 2009 The Second Sunday After The Epiphany</p>	
<p>In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the churches in Lweru - (Tanzania). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the work of the Churches in Cyprus, Greece and Turkey. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Paul and St. Timothy in Salem; Calvary, Seaside; St. Martin, Shady Cove. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for our Healing Team.</p>	<p align="center">1st Samuel 3:1-10(11-20) Psalm 139:1-5,12-17 1st Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51</p>
<p align="center">January 25, 2009 The Third Sunday After The Epiphany</p>	
<p>In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for the churches in Maine - (Province I, USA). In the Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer, pray for the church's work in Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, pray for the congregations of: St. Edward, Silverton; St John the Divine, Springfield; Christ Church, St. Helens; Christ the King on the Santiam, Stayton. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, pray for the Office Staff and Volunteers.</p>	<p align="center">Jonah 3:1-5,10 Psalm 62:1-14 1st Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 7:29-31</p>



You Welcomed Me

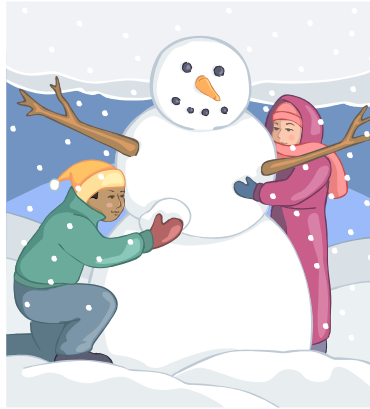
Was it around 1980 that someone, inspired by the “Preppy Handbook”, was selling t-shirts and aprons emblazoned, “Episcopalians: Before Truth, the Right Fork”? I don’t care about forks. But, I do care that we are a community that cares deeply about newcomers and visitors. If we are not here for others, we can never really be here for Jesus. It was he who said, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

People who are unfamiliar with the Episcopal Church or even Christianity seem to be finding a community at prayer and an invitation to join in our prayer—and at our best, this invitation is made with a smile and an open bulletin or Prayer Book.

One of my favorite prayers was regularly used by Episcopalians on Sundays when Morning Prayer and Sermon was the principal Sunday service is a prayer that is called “For All Sorts and Conditions of Men” (Prayer Book, page 814). Just those words “all sorts and conditions” are a sermon. The Church is graciously a place for everyone, the rich and the poor and everyone in between. We sinners by God’s grace and gift have been made God’s children, have been given his Spirit and have been predestined by him for eternal life.

I believe that our lives find their meaning in our response to God’s Spirit that has been given to us, that dwells in us. Unless people obviously commit their lives to evil, in thought, word and deed, I think you and I should presume God is seriously at work in some way in every person we meet. When I do this, it may or may not change anyone else. I think it changes me.

I think you and I can expect opportunities to welcome people who are being led here for the whole range of reasons people walk through our doors. Almost always one of the wonderful benefits of welcoming the stranger is the effect of our welcome, our Church and our spirit upon them. There’s more in here than many ever imagined. There’s a church where God is worshiped and all are welcomed.—adapted from *Fr. Stephen Gerth*, Rector of St. Mary the Virgin, NYC, in *The Angelus*



Family Snow Day at Suttle Lake!

Enjoy a day of tubing, playing in the snow, drinking hot chocolate, spending time with family and friends.

Cost: \$5 per person, including lunch!

**Saturday, February 7, 2009
10 am - 3:30 pm**

**Suttle Lake Camp is located on the eastern side of Mt. Hood,
about ten miles from Sisters, OR**

Advance Registration is Required.

**Contact Beth Dieker, Director of Outdoor Ministries, for more in-
formation.**

**971-204-4124, 800-452-2562, ext. 124,
bethd@diocese-oregon.org**

ERD receives historic \$300,000 pledge from Puerto Rico diocese

December 11, 2008 [Episcopal News Service] The Diocese of Puerto Rico has made a three-year commitment to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to contribute a total of \$300,000 to the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund. "This will be the largest gift ever received from a single diocese in Episcopal Relief and Development's history," an ERD news release said.



**Episcopal
Relief & Development**
Healing a hurting world

In 2007, the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund was launched by ERD, Jubilee Ministries and the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church to stop the spread of malaria in Africa, develop a pilot project in Asia and promote health in Latin America and the Caribbean.

"We are proud to support Episcopal Relief and Development in their work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals," said Bishop David Alvarez of the Diocese of Puerto Rico. "We hope that our gift will inspire other dioceses and Episcopalians to partner with Episcopal Relief and Development in their work towards alleviating poverty and disease."

"This historic gift from the Dioceses of Puerto Rico will significantly help Episcopal Relief and Development in their work towards achieving the Millennium Development goals. This support truly represents Christianity in action," said Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori.

The Diocese of Puerto Rico is part of Province IX and one of 12 Episcopal Church dioceses located outside of the United States. It has about 42,000 baptized members.

"To receive a gift of this magnitude from a former mission diocese in Province Nine is truly astounding. The Diocese of Puerto Rico's stewardship is a testament to their commitment to ending poverty," said Robert Radtke, ERD president. "Because of the Diocese of Puerto Rico's unprecedented generosity we are now within \$500,000 of reaching our goal of raising \$3 million for the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund."

Please help ERD meet its goal of raising \$3 million for the Millennium Development Goals Inspiration Fund when there are offering envelopes provided in the Sunday Bulletin.

Family Snow Day at Suttle Lake Registration

Name: _____

Parish: _____

Phone & Email: _____

Number of People in Group: _____ X \$5.00 = _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Diocese of Oregon

Mail payment and registration form to:

Beth Dieker
Diocese of Oregon
11800 SW Military Lane
Portland, OR 97219

Registration Deadline: February 2, 2009

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Office Hours

Tuesday — Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
or by appointment

Treasurer's Office Hours

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

This newsletter is published monthly by St. Aidan's Episcopal Church at this address.



Return Service Requested

The Leadership of St. Aidan's

Clergy

The Right Reverend Sanford "Sandy" Hampton

Assisting Bishop of Oregon

The Reverend Scott M. Dolph, Rector

The Reverend Tom Murdock, Associate Priest

The Reverend Jean McAfee, Deacon

Vestry

Vestry Liaisons to the Ministry Teams

Senior Warden, Mike Vidito, *Discipleship (2009)*

Junior Warden, Tim McCoy, *Discipleship (2009)*

Betsy Berninghausen, *Worship (2010)*

Marlene Lucas, *Administration (2010)*

Shirley Bush, *Worship (2009)*

Jeanne Pinkerton, *Administration (2011)*

Angie Groce, *Outreach (2010)*

Bruce Richardson, *Parish Life (2011)*

Mary Hamilton, *Facilities (2011)*

Gloria Trunk, *Facilities (2010)*

Barbara Lambert, *Parish Life (2009)*

Vacant, *Outreach (2011)*

Rob Stoltz, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Other Lay Leaders and Staff:

Parish Office Coordinator: Rob Stoltz, *Interim*

Treasurer: Janice Erickson

Organist and Choirmaster: Mark Jones

Sexton: Stan Rickerd

Altar Guild Chair: Julie Kyer

Sunday School Director: Shirley Vidito

Youth Group Leader: Lori McCoy

Childcare Provider: Volunteers in rotation

Media Coordinator: Pat Rose

Master Gardener, Grounds: Gloria Trunk

Offering Counter Coordinator: Shirley Bush

Web-master: Marilyn Grendele

Newsletter Co-Editors: Shirley Bush & Marilyn Grendele

Proofreader: Pat Rose