

# *The Beacon*

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JUNE 2018



## *From the Rector's Desk*

Tucked between the church and the Sunday School rooms is one of the jewels of St. Thomas: the Memorial Garden courtyard in which the Columbarium resides. The creation of the Memorial Garden was approved by the Vestry in 2012, and work began the following spring. Consisting of a Columbarium with 49 wall niches for urns, an Ossuary, and plantings, the Memorial Garden was completed in 2013 and dedicated in October of that year on the occasion of Bishop Michael Hanley's annual parish visitation. The Garden came into being as the result of considerable efforts by a number of committed parishioners. The original Memorial Garden Committee members were Bill Duhaime, Donna Hall, Bob Loomis, Lindy Moore, and Burt Schwarz, along with the Rev. Court Williams, St. Thomas' rector at the time.

Members of the Committee researched extensively the concept of a Memorial Garden and conducted on-site visits of Memorial Gardens at other churches, including the outdoor Columbarium at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on River Road. They drove to Portland to view designs, monuments, and stone materials at Oregon Memorials, the company St. Thomas hired to construct our Garden. Generous parishioners gave more than \$60,000 to create and maintain the Garden along with the beautiful stained glass windows that enclose it.

In addition to the Committee members, parishioner Jim Hall did a great deal of work, including preparing the site before construction began. Jim also designed, created, and installed the stunning wooden cross on the Garden's western wall.

Donna and Jim do the seasonal plantings and keep the shrubbery pruned and mulched and the vases watered. Burt Schwarz is the principal overseer of the Garden--cleaning up as needed and chasing the birds away! Even more importantly, he is essentially the "keeper of the keys," as it were; whenever there is an inurnment, Burt is present to open and close the niche with a special tool.

In their 2012 Annual Report, the Memorial Garden Committee wrote what essentially is the mission statement for the Garden:

"The Memorial Garden will be a place for meditation and private prayer. When a person agrees to have his or her ashes inurned in the churchyard, that person leaves his or her name as well, and that name lives on as a witness. Burial in church grounds makes a statement that a person was a believer, in recognition of the belief in the community of saints, living and dead, and a witness to the faith. Persons inurned in the Columbarium or placed in the Ossuary remain a part of the parish and a part of the community that the parish represents."

Currently, the ashes of six parishioners are inurned in the Columbarium, and other parishioners have reserved niches for the future. There are, however, more than 30 niches still available. If you would like to remain part of the parish after you have died by having your ashes inurned at St. Thomas, you may contact Donna Hall for information about purchasing a niche.

Peace and many blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Donna', followed by a plus sign (+).



John 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

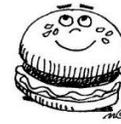


*Some views of our beautiful Memorial Garden. Our dear friend, Becky Lamont, was inurned here on May 19, 2018.*



Join us for a Father's Day picnic brunch  
 . Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup> .  
 after the 10:00 service.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and more!  
 Signups are in the church lobby. We will  
 also be drawing for the \$1,000 gift  
 certificate to Jerry's Home Improvement!



## Church



*The Parish Hall is filling up  
 quickly with items for our  
 upcoming sale!*

*Mark your calendars for Friday  
 August 24<sup>th</sup> and  
 Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>!*

*It will be a rummage, craft, raffle  
 and bake sale event.*

# Thank You

FOR YOUR HELP

The Interfaith Shelter Committee would like to extend a heartfelt and sincere thank you to all of you hardy volunteers who assisted in our Shelter week this year.

Without the help of the overnights, the cooks, the cleanup crew, the activities managers, the food providers, the administrators, the mentors, the ministries and our saintly comrades in arms, St. George and St. Matthew, we could not have achieved such a successful week. God bless you all! . *Janet Calvert, Sue Colvin and Lindy Moore*



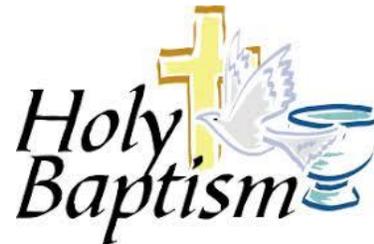
## June

- 2 Lyn West
- 6 Shirley Collard
- 7 Peggy Heltman
- 8 Beverly Jackson
- 16 Eloise Bushnell
- 17 Janet Calvert
- 19 Anne VanDerveer



## June

- 6 Sandra & Duncan Murray  
and  
Judy and Tom McQuiston



On Sunday, June 3, 2018

Emily Josephine Hente

THE LORD BLESS YOU  
AND KEEP YOU  
THE LORD MAKE HIS  
FACE TO SHINE  
UPON YOU  
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU  
THE LORD  
LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE  
UPON YOU  
AND GIVE YOU PEACE



There will be another church-wide garden/grounds cleanup day.

**Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 12:00**

All are welcome and appreciated!

## From your Senior Warden

Fellow Members of St. Thomas,

As most of you may be aware, in order to achieve a balanced budget for this year we used several one-time resources that, unfortunately, won't be available next year.

As a result, and as we explained at the Annual Meeting in January, we will be over \$30,000 short of a balanced budget for 2019. In order to address and meet this challenge, your Vestry has appointed a Financial Planning Subcommittee which will design and recommend to the Vestry a plan for both eliminating this shortfall and maintaining fiscal stability for the near term future. Joining me on this team are Laurinda Andrist, Erika Hente, Bev Jackson, Duncan Murray, Tom Whitehead, and Rev. Ann Gaillard.

All of us are counting on each member of the St. Thomas family to fully, faithfully and prayerfully participate in our efforts to balance the budget. In view of the financial challenge we face, throughout this year and next, we will be conducting several fund-raising events. We have already scheduled the Jerry's raffle, rummage sale, and a Murder Mystery Night.

We will keep you informed as we create additional activities to help us reach our goal of a balanced budget. We would, of course, very much appreciate any ideas you could contribute to this campaign.

I ask that you keep both the Subcommittee and Vestry in your prayers as they work to eliminate this shortfall and place St. Thomas on a firm financial footing.

Working together, with God's help we can all look forward to a bright future for St. Thomas.

Yours in Christ, Paul Colvin



## GrassRoot Garden Happenings!



Thanks to everyone who participated in the **Bees and Butterflies: Tiny but Powerful** children's event June 2, with special thanks to Sara Van Dyke who was the inspiration for the event. Her kind and excellent organizing skills made everything happen, as did assistance from Jim Rundall, Lynn Negus, Ruby Colette and Jamie Levitan.

A **Bean Festival** will be the next new event at GrassRoots Garden on Friday, June 16, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will celebrate the many virtues of growing high protein, tasty beans for drying and storage. Fences will be set up and we will plant a wide variety of beans, with information signs, to help everyone make choices about what to grow in a home garden. We will also discuss how to harvest, shell and store beans. Samples of yummy bean dishes will be featured and there also will be a silent auction and raffle. Join us for this fun morning and learn all about beans!

Thanks to a mild winter, the Herb Garden is lush and growing this spring. We will be harvesting oregano, sage and marjoram soon for use in the Garden Kitchen and to send to the kitchens at Food for Lane County. But the most fun in the Herb Garden comes from sharing the sights and smells of herbs with school children and garden participants, where sampling and learning happens every day. We also planted basil, chervil and epazote in pots, an easy way to grow herbs in small spaces and to try new ones. Please join us for an Herb Walk the first Saturday of the month at 10:30 am, through September.

The next GRG MG Committee Meeting will be July 19 at 2:00 pm in the St. Thomas Library.

**Garden Hours** are Tuesday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. GrassRoots Garden is located at 1465 Coburg Rd., across from Safeway and behind St. Thomas Episcopal Church. For more information please contact Merry Bradley at 541-484-7144 or merrybradley@yahoo.com. Thanks for your caring and support!



If you want to submit an article for the *Beacon*, you must get the information to me before the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month for it to go in the following month. Thank you,  
Lindy Moore, Editor.  
Lindy Moore 13@gmail.com