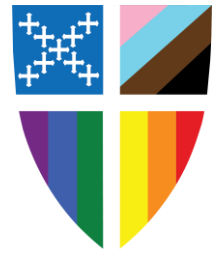




The Beacon

St. Thomas Episcopal Church



Give thanks and praise to God and share God's love.

August 2024

Volume 25 Issue 7

In this Issue:

- Rector's Message
- Endowment
- Book Group
- Apostle's Shield
- Young Musicians
- GrassRoots Garden
- Grace Notes
- Creation Care
- Outreach
- Beacon Quiz
- Reflections

Vestry:

- Cindy Jensen,
Sr. Warden
- Joe Tulacz, Jr. Warden
- Lucy Barnett
- Chris King
- Nancy Osborne
- Adele Rennie
- Mike Richardson
- Holly Spruance
- Linda Whitehead

Rector – Rev. Ann Gaillard

Parish Administrator –
JB Hoover

Parish Treasurer –
Anne VanDerveer

1465 Coburg Road
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Phone: 541-343-5241

Email:
stthomaschurcheugene@gmail.com

Beacon Editor –
Cindy Jensen

Website –
<https://st-thomaseugene.net/>



From the Rector's Desk ~

There has been so much going on in our nation and our world recently that I've neglected to announce a very important event in the life of the Episcopal Church. Our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, is finishing up his nine-year term. At General Convention at the end of June, the Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York, was elected and confirmed the 28th Presiding Bishop and primate of the Episcopal Church for a nine-year term beginning in November. Rowe was chosen from among five nominees on the first ballot.

Rowe, 49, was the youngest Episcopal priest in the U.S. when he was ordained in 2000 at age 24, and he was the youngest member of the House of Bishops when he was ordained and consecrated as bishop at age 32.

Known for his research and work on organizational learning and adaptive performance in the church, Rowe serves as parliamentarian for the House of Bishops and the Episcopal Church Executive Council; chair of the Episcopal Church Building Fund; and as a member of the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, and Constitution and Canons. He also serves on the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2018, he became the first bishop to serve on the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church.

The installation service of Presiding Bishop-elect Rowe will take place on Nov. 2 at the Chapel of Christ the Lord in The Episcopal Church Center in New York City and will be live-streamed. The service will be a simpler, scaled-down event this fall with a view toward reducing carbon footprint and increasing virtual engagement and participation.

I hope you will keep PB-elect Rowe in your prayers. He has a tough job ahead of him for the next nine years!

Peace and many blessings,



Presiding Bishop-elect Sean Rowe

Endowment News

You're Invited...

...to share your ideas for an Endowment Fund grant! The last two grants created The St. Thomas Young Musicians Program. Maybe you have a good new idea.



Your grant idea should be focused on one of the following:

- A new ministry that can't be funded through normal operations;
- A special one time project;
- A capital need (probably not feasible given available funds);
- Outreach;
- A purpose designated by you, the donor, and consistent with the above.

Here are questions to ask yourself about your grant idea:

- Does my grant idea have a clear purpose?
- Does it have a high chance of success?
- How will I know it was successful?

If you do have an idea for an Endowment Fund grant, please share it with any of our Board Members, Rev. Ann or me. We'll give you more details on how to write a successful grant.

Thank you in advance for sharing your ideas on new ministries that could become as successful as our Young Musicians at St. Thomas Program. And **Thank You for your generosity, which is what made this new ministry possible!**

Duncan Murray, Chair



Creation Care

Once again, the parish stepped up to fill a truck load of electronic recyclables, which Gary and Cindy Jensen collected and transported to Next Step on July 16.



The attendant at Next Step was impressed when he learned that our faith community is committed to this annual effort to thoughtfully dispose of outdated and/or broken electronics. These items will be repurposed, upcycled, or disassembled to retrieve valuable metals. Look forward to a repeat of this collection and recycling of old electronic equipment in 2025. If you missed the recycling opportunity, or if your electronic recyclables are taking up space and you cannot wait for our next recycling effort, you can drop your electronic recyclables at Next Step located at 2nd and Jackson Streets in Eugene.



Grace Notes



Due to the many events scheduled in the Parish Hall and the well-attended coffee hours following Sunday services, our parish kitchen gets a lot of use. And while our users do a reasonably good job of cleaning up after themselves, a regular deep clean of the kitchen is necessary and essential for good health practices. A team of devoted parishioners – dubbed *the kitchen princesses* by Rev. Ann – stepped up to address this daunting task. By the look of them, they tackled the job with an abundance of grace and good cheer. Our most sincere thanks must go to Brea Jones, Adeline Hoover, Linda Whitehead and Janny Paulson. And might we add that there is always room for a prince or two in that effort.



St. Thomas Book Group



For those who enjoy reading, there is nothing like a good book to while away the hours, especially during these hot late summer days. Add a glass of lemonade, a comfortable spot in the shade and a cool breeze, and the avid reader is set for some well-consumed time. The ladies of the St. Thomas book group must surely be making the most of their summer reading. The selection for August is Tom Lake by Ann Patchett. The group will meet on Thursday, August 22 at 1:30 pm in the Parish Library to engage in a thoughtful book discussion along with some other enlightening conversation. Interested readers are always welcome.

Young Musicians Program

On Sunday, July 14 Tessa Douangaphaivong was the young musician delighting an appreciative congregation at St. Thomas. Tessa is a Thurston HS graduate. She studied at Western Oregon University and will continue her education at UO this fall to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting along with a minor in dance. She hopes to continue performing in some capacity for the rest of her life. You may have seen her on stage in shows such as *Nunsense*, *Damn Yankees!* and *The Music Man*.



Tessa is very honored and grateful to have been chosen as a recipient of the Young Musician's Scholarship at St. Thomas.

Outreach

During the month of August school-aged youth are determined to savor every last day of summer. It is also the time when they are anticipating a new grade level and possibly a new school. Parents are



challenged with purchasing new school clothes and all the essential supplies to support a successful school experience for their children. Sadly, too many do not have the resources to fund the back-to-school needs of their children. For several years now Project Hope has been assisting with this effort and members of St. Thomas have enthusiastically participated in the effort by filling backpacks and sorting donated shoes of all sizes.

This fun and collaborative operation is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 20** at Willamette Christian Center, 2500 W 18th Avenue from **9:00 to 11:30 am**. Our assigned task will be to sort shoes. Look forward to joining a team of your fellow parishioners for an experience that will surely lift your spirits.

Apostle's Shield



Philip of Bethsaida has the honor of being the second Christian missionary. This is how it was:

The next day [after the calling of Peter and Andrew] Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanel said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." (John 1:43-46)

Although Philip was not a prominent disciple, it is believed that he had a very practical and important office among them. As Judas was the treasurer and took care of their financial matters, Philip was the one who was responsible for seeing to it that they always had food. This idea is based on the story of the feeding of the five thousand in John's gospel, when Jesus asked Philip where they were to find bread to feed all the people there.

Philip is said to have preached in Scythia and Parthia, where he was crucified. His symbol is a tall slender cross and two sheafs of wheat to show his death and to recall his remark at the feeding of the 5,000: "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."

GrassRoots Garden



We are now in the dog days of summer; everything is growing like crazy, and we are scrambling to keep up! We were lucky that everything survived the heat wave in early July. The most damage was sunburn on the leaves of the kiwi vines and some sunburned apples in the orchard. Otherwise, most things weathered the heat ok. We're working hard to get our fall and winter crops in the ground, maintain our long season crops, and keep up with harvesting. We're enjoying a bumper crop of Shiro plums, lots

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

of cucumbers, and just getting into tomato and pepper harvests in earnest. What a bountiful time of year!

As we finish up with harvesting our spring plantings and get those beds turned around for winter plantings, we want to take the opportunity to talk about cabbage side shoots – a secondary cabbage crop that we are really enjoying!

We planted many beds of cabbage this spring, and after harvesting the heads off them, we still had a while before we needed to turn the bed around for the next planting. So, we left the stump of a stalk plus the outer large leaves in place for a few weeks. The remaining plant grows several side shoots, all intent on forming heads of cabbage. The result is essentially giant brussels sprouts! You can thin these out to two to three side shoots for bigger heads or leave them smaller. We didn't thin ours this year and ended up with many tennis ball sized side shoots that have been a big hit when Jamie roasts them up and serves them with a Dijon mustard sauce. It's been a nice way to get a secondary crop off the cabbage plants before we take them out.

Roasted cabbage shoots with honey Dijon glaze

Ingredients:

- 6 baseball size cabbage shoots (quartered)
- 1 tsp salt
- ¼ tsp pepper
- 1 Tbsp onion powder
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 Tbsp honey
- 3 Tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 Tbsp vegan mayonnaise



Method:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Add oil and all the seasonings to the bowl and toss together, making sure to coat the cabbage shoot quarters evenly. Place your quarters on a sheet tray lined with parchment paper and place them in the preheated oven on the top rack. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 minutes, or until the cabbages start to brown and crisp up on the tips.

Mix together your glaze and drizzle on top just before serving.

Optional toppings include:

- Parmesan cheese (or other hard cheese)
- Dried cranberries
- Pumpkin seeds or sunflower seeds
- Toasted chopped walnuts

A HUGE Thank you!



The daffodil bed that borders Coburg Rd. and the entry to St. Thomas is a golden ribbon every spring and a visual signature for our faith community. But daffodils only last so long leaving a bed of ragged and spent blooms. **With much gratitude we acknowledge Larry and Judy Wilson** for their hard work and generous gift of their time and physical energy to weed and clean the daffodil bed. And they accomplished this task in hot weather! The clean bed is now ready for next year's blooms and our golden ribbon of daffodils.

Beacon Quiz

The April quiz question was in recognition of Earth Day in April: **What are the three phases of Creation Care actions implemented to date at St. Thomas?** Phase 1 – Paper recycling; Phase 2 – Bottles and Cans recycling; Phase 3 – Electronics recycling. The correct answer was once again quickly provided by Lucy Barnett.

The May/June and July Beacon editions did not include a Beacon Quiz question, but due to a request for a return of this feature, the following question is being offered. **What are the two cultural words that when spoken are like the breath of God?**

Reflections



Renewal – This photo – sent to me by Tom and Linda Whitehead, who have so lovingly tended this corner of our St. Thomas grounds – inspired my musings about renewal. That, and my ever-attentive gardening efforts where the reliable perennials provide their own examples of renewal. So, back to the picture of the Easter Lilies planted from the bulbs of lilies funded by St. Thomas parishioners to grace the altar on past Easter Sundays. Such a lovely example of renewal and a reminder of our own opportunity for renewal.

Several years ago, I planted a mix of wildflower seeds that included seeds from the red poppies of Flander’s Field. In the years since that initial sprinkling, we are graced with an array of colorful blooms of all size and variety that rotate their appearance throughout the summer season. The profusion varies from year to year, but in this summer of intense heat the wild bouquet has been challenged. And yet, the fragile plants struggle on, determined to complete their cycle of renewal.

Renewal is not always easy, but as faithful followers of Christ, it is necessary. And thankfully, God provides the grace to sustain us, to enable us to recommit to our baptismal vows in word and deed. On the occasions when Rev. Ann leads us through the liturgy of baptismal renewal, we joyfully receive that splash of holy water. It is a simple act of renewal and a charge to go forth from the service to truly be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

As you enjoy the blooms of the summer season, may you be reminded of your own opportunity for renewal and embrace the grace of God that inspires your efforts.



August Birthdays

14	Len Calvert
16	Judy Wilson
19	Dan Paulson
23	Katrina Jensen

Schedule for August 2024

Tues. August 6 – Buildings & Grounds, 11:00 am

Thurs. August 8 – Finance Committee, 10:00 am

Tuesday, August 20 – Project Hope Outreach Activity, Willamette Christian Ctr., 9:00 am

Sat. August 24 – Vestry Retreat, 10:00 am

Sunday Morning Worship:

10:00 am In-person Worship and Eucharist
Or access the live streamed service at
<https://www.facebook.com/st.thomas.eugene/>.

See the attached calendar for a complete schedule of activities, meetings, and events.



Committee reports and articles for the Beacon are welcome. Please submit to Cindy Jensen at LAJotKDK@aol.com by the 25th of the month.