

The Navigator

April 2024



St. Brendan's Episcopal Church
Juneau, Alaska

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Hello Everyone,

Food Truck Update!!!

I first reported to St. Brendan's the Food Truck idea in the October (2023) Navigator. Since then the project is beyond the planning and will be rolling soon. There will be a trial run on Saturday, April 20 with the first distribution of a meal on Tuesday, April 30.

The official name of the ministry is the "Caring Canteen".

Carla has agreed to be the "Congregational Coordinator" and will work with the program facilitator (Gail Fenumiai) to schedule weeks and budget for food. Carla will be supported by Carol, Ingrid and anyone else that has let them know that they will help prepare a meal. The meal will be distributed from the Salvation Army food truck about once every eight weeks. Dave is a volunteer driver as well as myself.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Below is an outline of the program...

The Caring Canteen

Goals:

-Create community between the 12 congregations on Loop Road in the Valley

-Provide a hot meal and opportunity for connection with the community around Chinook Apartments

-Train and familiarize more volunteers to help with the Canteen

-Familiarize the community with the Canteen



What does a typical Tuesday night of serving look like?

- 4:30ish-5:30ish prepare food in commercial kitchen
- 5:30 Food truck arrives at commercial kitchen to pick up food and serving volunteers meet truck at Aldersgate parking lot by 5:45
- 6-7 pm Serve meals or serve your 50 meals (2 are needed for this)

Funding

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) world hunger grant (\$30,000 @ \$10,000 for three years) will reimburse congregations \$150 per week for food costs for the first eight months.

Scheduling

Gail Fenumiai will coordinate and schedule drivers and congregation meal prep.

Menus

Menus may include easy to prepare and serve foods:

Chicken tenders and carrot sticks

Pulled pork, tater tots and peas

Tacos and toppings

Chicken Adobo and rice

Meatloaf and mashed potatoes...

Congregations are free to develop whatever they want, but it will be served in compostable, to-go, three sectioned containers from COSTCO.

Needed

Drivers...congregations do not need to provide a driver. At this time there are 4 to 5 drivers that have volunteered and will be scheduled throughout the summer. Drivers will need to be trained (approx. 45-60 minutes).

This is not a shared ministry and congregations are not in a contract or communion with other congregations. This is an opportunity to serve our neighbors and get to know each other a little better.



St. Brendan's will continue to house a family of three, father Max, sons Bradley 11 and Chase 9 until May 5. As a reminder, the family arrives in the evening at 6 p.m., eats dinner, spends the night and leaves at 7 a.m.

Other groups and congregations will support St. Brendan's by providing dinner, and an overnight person. Carla has provided a few of the meals. Let Dan or Carla know if you have any questions about Family Promise or how you can help.

This from last month...I have heard from a couple of people about ushering. I hope to organize ushers this month. Let me know if you might be interested.

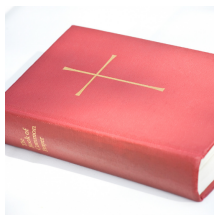
I would like bring back a modified “usher” duty...

- ✓ Make sure everyone gets a bulletin, greet new comers, and wait in the narthex until after the opening hymn
- ✓ Help anyone needing assistance with the doors between the narthex and church
- ✓ During the doxology bring forward the offering plate with item from food bank and place on Credence Table
- ✓ During the Lord’s Prayer let Godly Play know it is time for communion
- ✓ Get a count of all in church and those that take communion including Godly Play and report to the Worship Leader
- ✓ Block the doors to the narthex open during the singing of closing hymn



All of the above has been happening every Sunday, but falls to a couple of people. Just thinking about getting a few others involved. Talk to Dan if interested.

Before Worship



For some, like myself, the time before the service is a time for quiet contemplation and to listen to the music. It is a time when I try not to think about whether or not the tech equipment is going to work properly or if I got the bulletin right. So while waiting for the service to begin I often turn to page 833 in the Book of Common Prayer. If you are like me, and like that quiet time before the service I offer this prayer to you.

O Almighty God, who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that the steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

All the best,
Dan

DATES TO REMEMBER

April – Asian American Heritage Month

April 18 – Vestry meeting in the nave of the church

April 19-28 – Faith Climate Action Week

April 22 – Passover Begins

April 27 - Navigator submissions due

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP LATTIME



“[As] he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.” **Mark 1:10-13**

Wait. Something is wrong. This is an Easter message and that is clearly *not* an Easter Gospel. Quite the contrary. Mark 1:10-13 is part of the reading that was assigned for the First Sunday in Lent. It is the story that started us off on our wilderness journey through Lent to Good Friday, into the silence of the tomb on Holy Saturday before we came to greet with joy this Easter Day.

We’ve come a long way since Mark 1:10-13. The wilderness of Lent is behind us. So why revisit it? It is time now for Easter, time to celebrate and move on. Alleluia!

Yes, but...

Sometimes it is important to remember how the story begins to appreciate better how the story ends. Or, if not ends, how the story invites us to become characters, active participants, in the continuing tale.

At Jesus’ baptism in the river Jordan, the heavens were torn apart (top to bottom), the Spirit descended, and Jesus stepped out into the wilderness to face the

temptations of Satan and, one imagines, all the challenges and sufferings that wilderness has to offer. In those sufferings and challenges, Satan sought to separate Jesus from God. Satan was hoping to keep the wilderness to himself, a godforsaken place, where nothing has meaning, importance, or life beyond his selfish desire.

We know how the story goes, right? Jesus would not be tempted. He beat the devil and sent him packing. But what about the wilderness? What about Satan's hope for a godforsaken world? Luke's gospel story of Jesus' temptations ends with the rather ominous words: "[The] devil left him for an opportune time."

An opportune time... So the devil and his godforsaken wilderness may yet have its day—a day perhaps like Good Friday.

On the cross, Jesus suffers and dies—his arms stretched out in love. Notice, however, that while the Gospels are not entirely consistent in the details, the sweep of the story in all cases contains imagery and words that echo Jesus' baptism: the temple curtain is torn apart top to bottom and Jesus yields His spirit.

What marked Jesus' baptism is present at his death: the tearing of open of heaven, of the Temple veil, of the separation between God and humankind; present also the flow of the Spirit unhindered by cloud or curtain; flowing freely between heaven and earth, God and human flesh.

When the end seems to have come, when Jesus breathes his last, the wilderness is there, too, the wilderness of death and the grave. It might even be tempting to think Satan's hope has finally been realized. All is forsaken.

But this isn't the end of the story, is it? The end is not the wilderness, not the grave, not Satan. God's love is not forsaken in the wilderness of death. On the third day Easter dawns, and out of the wilderness of the tomb Jesus walks free, very much alive in the Spirit and in the resurrected glory of His body.

Surprised? Perhaps by the mystery, but not by the victory. Jesus has and always will overcome the wilderness of this life, of this world, even and especially of Satan and his godforsaken graves. This is the message—the point of the story, the Good News: wilderness in any form has no power over Jesus. In fact, His resurrection, His abiding presence in Spirit, His Easter Day transforms wilderness into a garden. Nothing is forsaken through Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

The Lectionary this year offers a choice between two Easter Day Gospel readings, one from Mark the other one from John. Each offers slightly different details in the telling of the story. But common to both is that the disciples, both men and women, are greeted by the message of Easter, and in John's Gospel the resurrected Lord himself, at the empty tomb. Both are stories of individuals hearing and receiving good

news beyond the wildest imagination while surrounded by the wilderness of their grief—the wilderness of the grave.

Imagine the sorrow the women held in their hearts as they made their way in the darkness of the early morning to the wilderness of the tomb—that godforsaken tomb? We know what that wilderness is like. We know sorrow, loss, pain, disappointment, self-doubt, and fear. We know all too well the wilderness of hopelessness, meaninglessness, and loneliness. We know the sharp painful thorny wilderness of the tomb. It feels godforsaken.

But Jesus is risen from the dead. The final wilderness has been destroyed. Jesus not only overcomes death, but he also transforms it. His resurrection sees every form of wilderness, all that separates us from God and creation, changed through his resurrection, his selfless love and ministry. into a garden of life, hope, healing, reconciliation, and justice. Today is witness to His victory over the wilderness—His victory over every form of death. We, who receive in faith the promise of this Easter Day, are assured that this same resurrected Jesus will meet us and be with us in every wilderness this world and this life can put before us. By following him, resting in him, and trusting him, He will show us the way to green pastures and how to grow gardens of life and holy love that triumph over every thorn.

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia

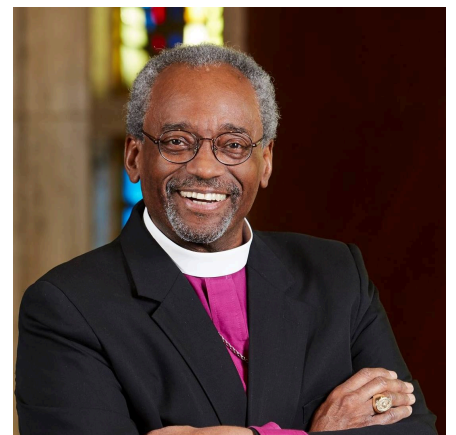


March 31, 2024

The Presiding Bishop's Easter Message

March 31, 2024 ~Easter B

Hello to my beloved family in Christ. I want to take this opportunity, first of all, on behalf of my wife, Sharon, and our family, to thank you. To thank you for your prayers, to thank you for your well wishes, your expressions of support and kindness. We are equally thankful for the blessing of remarkable medical care and pastoral support. As you may know, I've been working a bit from home—at a reduced level, to be sure, but I'm gradually increasing that.



Just two weeks ago, my medical team approved me to drive locally and to resume short domestic flights. I can't tell you how much your prayers have sustained me and my family through this medical journey. Prayer matters. We don't always know how. We don't always know or understand the outcome.

But prayer matters, and it makes a difference. Over the last several months, I have not known how this would all work out. But I've been very aware, and in some particular moments, consciously aware of being upheld in prayer by you. Without consciously deciding to do it, I actually found myself praying some words from Psalm 31, which says, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit."

Before surgeries and treatments, through some long nights, difficult days, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." These words are part of a prayer that is Psalm 31 in the Hebrew scriptures. The late night service of Compline uses that psalm as a prayer before going to sleep at night.

Luke's Gospel records Jesus praying these very words, that psalm, on the cross, when he had a sense of what lay before him, but could not know the outcome. He didn't know with any certainty if and how God would act. He didn't know, as the old preachers used to say, Good Friday's always happened, but Sunday's always coming. He didn't know with any certainty that resurrection would become real and not a mere metaphor.

But as he died into the unknown, he did one thing: He threw himself completely into the hands of God. "Father, into thy hands, I commend my spirit."

And in that moment, after saying that, Luke's Gospel says, he breathed his last. And though he died, death did not have the last word, though he did die. He died into the hands of God and slipped out of the grip of death.

And as we now know, on the third day he rose again, and he lives. As William Cowper said in a poem that later became a hymn, "God moves in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform, he plants his footstep in the sea and rides upon the storm."

So God love you. God bless you. May the God who rides upon our storms and raised Jesus of Nazareth from the dead hold us all, the entire human family and all of God's grand and glorious creation in those almighty hands of love. Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church

PRAYER FOR EASTER SEASON



O God, who for our redemption gave your only begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

FOOD DRIVE NEWS!

We will continue collecting non-perishable food for the Southeast Alaska Food Bank on an ongoing basis in 2023. St. Brendan's has been a member agency in partnership with the Food Bank for many years, and are proud of the contributions we continue to make to their agency.

Food can be dropped off at St. Brendan's on any Sunday. We have "milk crates" set up in the Nursery where food is collected. (Please ask for help bringing items inside if you need assistance). You can also call me and I can come pick up your donations.



Donations can also be made via check and put in the offering plate. Please be sure to make the notation "food pantry" or "food bank" on the memo line.

In March alone St. Brendan's donated more than 400 pounds of food to the Southeast Alaska Food Bank, a huge help in feeding those in need in our community.

Thank you for continuing to support this Outreach!

Carla

OUTREACH ~ "Reaching Out with Joyful Hearts"

Have you ever been told you have a kind heart? If so, do you remember what they were referring too? How did it make you feel? Did it make you smile or lift your spirit? Make your day go better?

You can't truly do Outreach and reach out to others without kind hearts. St. Brendan's is blessed with a church family full of kindness and love. A family that can empathize with others, tries to lift up the spirits of others, listen and not judge, ask how we can help, or offer to put them on our prayer list.



April's project will be white crew socks for Glory Hall. This was a side project a couple months back. It's been a cold and wet winter and a new pair of white crew socks for men and women will be greatly appreciated by their patrons. Socks can go in the basket in back of the sanctuary.



March outreach was Easter bags for JYC girls and a reminder for our ongoing projects. Some of you signed up for certain snack items and candy, others made cookies, and a few helped fill the bags. This year we made up 9 bags as they were to get two more girls. Imagine the smiles on their faces, especially the new girls. When you think of their smiles, doesn't



it make you smile too?

Some of you brought items for our ongoing projects: Bartlett House, AWARE, and Southeast Food Bank. Others shopped when extra items were needed or made deliveries. Carla mentions more on the happenings of our ongoing projects in her article below. Outreach thanks you for all your support and donations this month and every month. Working together makes it happen.

Next time you do something for Outreach, through church or on your own, I hope it makes you smile, lifts your spirit, or relieves some stress from your day. That will literally give your "HEART" a better day.

"Life is short;
And we haven't much time to gladden the hearts of those that travel the way
with us.
So...be swift to love,
And make haste to be kind."
~Henri-Frederic Amiel

Blessings,
Penny

CREATION CARE

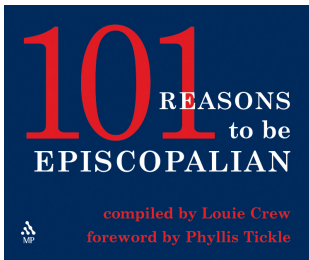


Good news!

We received an estimate for installing heat pumps in St. Brendan's. It will be evaluated by the Vestry and the Green Committee before we decide what action to take. Updates will be forthcoming.

REASONS TO BE EPISCOPALIAN

Excerpts from "101 Reasons to be Episcopalian"



#20 – “Where the road to Easter is never a short cut, but you always get there.” –The Rev. Barbara T. Cheney, Diocese of Connecticut

#24 – “We belong before we believe.” – Joanna Wragg, Diocese of

Southeast Florida

HOME COMMUNION

St. Brendan's Worship Leaders were trained by Bishop Lattime on his visitation March 9-10 to take or extend the Holy Communion to members of the congregation "...who for reasonable cause cannot be present at a public celebration of the Eucharist...for extended periods." (BCP p. 396)



The Home Communion will be an extension of the 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service. You can find this service outlined on pages 396-399 in the Book of Common Prayer, "Communion under Special Circumstances".

Please let me know if you are one or know someone who for reasonable cause cannot be present and would like to have Holy Communion at home.

Dan Hall

sbrendans1985@gmail.com

702 374-7475

Notes from the Office

The next Vestry Meeting will be April 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m. in the nave of the church. Contact any vestry member (see page 16) if you have any questions or concerns for the Vestry

Think about it...

I am still looking for someone that might be interested in learning:

- ✓ how to produce the weekly service bulletin
- ✓ record and live stream the service
(Tonya Muldoon has volunteered, but it is nice to have backup)
- ✓ about the office, i.e. scheduling, checking the phone, sorting mail
- ✓ update Facebook

Loose Offering

- 1st Sunday of the month:
Rector's Discretionary Fund
- 2nd Sunday of the month:
Glory Hall
- 3rd Sunday of the month:
General Fund
- 4th Sunday of the month:
Vestry Discretionary Fund
- 5th Sunday of the month:
Meals on Wheels

The 2024 Directory ready

Let Dan know if you want one sent by email or you want a hard copy.

Email Dan at:

sbrendans1985@gmail.com

for approved minutes and financials from any vestry meeting

Lori posts the financials on the bulletin board in the entry after each Vestry Meeting

Dan Hall
Office/Building Manager
Cell # 702 374-7475

If you are unable to do the assigned below, please find someone to exchange or substitute and make changes on schedule in narthex. I will check the schedule each week before printing the bulletin.

April 7 ~ May 5 ~ 2024 Schedule

Service	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28	May 5
Altar	Daisy/Dan	Lori	Brita & Sherry	Dianna	Daisy/Dan
1st Reading	Jo	Stephanie	Rob	Barbara	Stephanie
Psalm	Brita	Jackie	Jo	Brita	Rob
2nd Reading	Rob	Brita	Barbara	Jo	Dave
Gospel	Barbara	Jo	Dave	Jackie	Michael
Prayers of the People	Dave	Rob	Stephanie	Dave	Jo
Chalice Bearer	Rob & Jo	Barbara & Dave	Jo & Rob	Barbara & Dave	Jo & Rob
Worship Leader	Barbara	Jo	Dave	Jackie	Michael
Godly Play	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya	Michael, Tamara, Tonya
Coffee Hour	Ingrid	Carla	Carol/Tamira	Ingrid	Carla

April Building Use 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight	6
7 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	8	9	10	11	12 Pentecostal <u>7 pm-Midnight</u> Girl Scouts 6-7pm	13 Pentecostal 10-Noon
14 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	15	16	17	18 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm	19 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight	20
21 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm Family	22	23	24	25	26 Pentecostal 7 pm-Midnight	27
28 Pentecostal 2 – 5 pm	29	30				

**St. Brendan's Episcopal Church
4207 Mendenhall Loop Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801**

**Office/Building Manager: Dan Hall
Cell: 702 374-7475**

Church Contact Information:

Phone: 907 789-5152

Email: sbrendans1985@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stbrendansjuneau.org>

Vestry ~ 2024

(leadership positions are held until the Annual Meeting in 2024)

Senior Warden: Dave Muldoon (2024-2026)

Junior Warden: Jeff Fujioka (2022-2024)

Vestry Clerk: Michael Rowcroft (2023-2025)

Jo Schoeppe (2023-2025)

Jackie Schulz (2022-2024)

Rob Smith (2024-2026)

Treasurer: Lori Seymour (Ex-officio)