

Rector's Report Sunday September 15, 2019

Since our last vestry meeting in August, there has been a plethora of projects, saunters, road trips, visits, forums, sacraments, and so much more. Here are just some of the highlights:

- During the month of the August, we held three Sacred Saunters on the feast days of St. Clare of Assisi (August 10), St. Martin de Porres (August 24) and St. Aidan of Lindisfarne (August 31). With about 30 – 35 people attending each of these gatherings, Sacred Saunter is now our second most well attended worship service.
- From August 19 – 22, Ashley and I travelled to Ashland and stayed at the Oregon Extension (OE), an off-campus program for students in the Christian College consortium, which I attended in the Fall of 2003, a program that popped me out of my Evangelical bubble and inadvertently put me on the path toward the Episcopal Church. We ate breakfast with the current OE faculty. Ashley and I also drove around and enjoyed the beauty of Crater Lake. I made a brief video for Christ Church Eureka parishioners at Crater Lake, which you can see here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3dSlcm2Ffo>. For more information on the OE, see <https://www.oregonextension.org/>
- While travelling, I visited St Paul's Crescent City CA, Trinity Ashland OR, St. Timothy's Brookings OR, St. Mary the Virgin Gardiner OR, and St. John's Bandon OR. While in Ashland, on August 21, Ashley and I attended the plays Alice in Wonderland and Macbeth at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.
- On September 2 (Labor Day), we installed the beautiful new steeple cross, thanks to the work of many people, but especially thanks to our Junior Warden, Royal McCarthy, who donated the cross to the church in honor of his mother Eris McCarthy and made arrangements for its installation.
- In late August and early September, we also repainted our chapel prayer labyrinth (!), thanks to Royal and Kathleen and Paul and other volunteers (the Bonds, Christina, Ashley, Merry, Suzie, John, etc.)
- After installing the cross on September 2, I was asked to bless the house of newcomer Joanne Loureiro, who lives across 15th street from the church, which I did that afternoon. I was also asked to bless the house of newcomers Daniel Hafer and Steven Preston on Friday October 11th at 2 PM. All are invited. They live on 2622 G Street.
- With the help of Marita Musante, Emily Buck, and Peg Gardner, I arranged the donation of several buckets of sports equipment from the Musantes to Camp Living Waters.
- On September 7, I drove down to St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Woodland where I met with Bishop Megan, the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee for an important meeting regarding changes in the discernment/ordination process in the

diocese. A couple days before the meeting, Bishop Megan asked me to chair the Academic Committee. I agreed as long as I could *co-chair* the Academic Committee with the Rev. Matt Warren, vicar of Christ the King in Quincy.

- On the way down to the meeting in Woodland, I received a call from Senior Warden Jackie Moore who informed me of the fire that scorched the red front doors on H street. We are compiling the amount of expenses (including John Hammond's hours) that are being put into repairing the damage. We are also planning to invite Eddy Vainuku and Steve Sanches to attend our joint 9:30 AM service on Sunday October 6 so that we can publicly thank them for extinguishing the flames that could have done much more damage.
- I was asked by Dr. Heather Madar, the Chair of the Art Department at HSU, to write a letter endorsing tenure for Dr. Vincent Biondo, the Chair of the HSU Religious Studies Department. I submitted my letter on September 12th.
- I invited Mother Lesley to return to Christ Church Eureka as Associate Priest and I will be meeting with her this Tuesday morning at Ramone's to discuss details.
- I have no regrets about the wonderful Bounce House last Sunday (Sept 8), but I'm disappointed about the small number of kids who showed up, since we advertised it heavily during Music and Arts Camp. I have been in conversation with my clergy coach the Rev Mark Anschutz about ways we can start to slowly build up our youth program, which is necessary for the future of the church.
- I have been invited to preach at the installation of my clergy colleague and friend the Rev. Christian Lehrer at St. Paul's in Brandywine MD on September 29th. On September 28th, I will attend the installation of another clergy colleague the Rev. Rob Fisher who will be installed at St. John's Episcopal Church in Lafayette Square. St. John's Lafayette Square is one of the most famous Episcopal churches in the nation, partly because every sitting president has attended the church at least once since it was built in 1816, starting with James Madison. I will be away Sept. 26 – Oct 2.
- The Very Rev. Dr. Don Brown and his wife Carol Anne Brown stayed at Transfiguration House on Sept 13 and 14, where they enjoyed Ashley's delicious home cooking. Don Brown gave a presentation on the Holy Cross and Atonement on Sept 13 at 3 PM, which was fairly well attended. He guest preached on Sunday Sept 15.

