



THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

We strive to know Christ more deeply and to bring others to his redeeming love and grace.

Vol. 32—Issue 1

"Garden of Grace" Farewell Gives Thanks to the Ministry of Marlene+ and Family

On the lawn by St. Bede's Good News Garden, parishioners bid a heartfelt farewell to Rector Marlene, Sunday, August 30, as she begins her new position as a hospice program chaplain.

Following a bountiful luncheon, her eight years at the parish were commemorated with a variety of gifts, from a hand-made pillow quilt, a memory book of photos and thank you notes, to gift bags of favorite items selected with care.

At the end of the party, Rector Marlene handed over the keys of the church to Senior Warden Tom Potter, who will guide the parish while a new priest is selected. Then all stood and held hands while Rector Marlene closed the farewell celebration with prayer.

Below, Potter explains the selection process.

With the resignation of Marlene+, St. Bede's has begun the process of finding a replacement clergy. In initial discussions with Rev. Chris Craun, Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese Support Center, we thought there was a possibility of using a process of a Priest-In-Charge. This would be a priest who would come in and act as the rector while St. Bede's determined the qualifications we were looking for in a new priest. The Priest-in-Charge would also be eligible to be called as the new rector. However, the person under consideration is no longer available.

So that leaves us in a position we have experienced before: searching initially for an interim as well as beginning the search process for a new rector. I have arranged for Rev. Ken Dorsch to provide Sunday supply for the months of September and October. Rev. Jane Besse has committed to covering the Wednesday morning service for the next 12 months.

Hopefully in that time we will find a priest to act as the interim. At the same time, we will begin the review of the previous search documents and establish a search committee. I have asked for assistance from the diocese to assign a search consultant to help us with the development of a profile and the search process in general.

So, what can you do? Include this process in your prayers. Include the



Rector Marlene takes the hand of Sr. Warden Tom Potter in leading the congregation in a closing farewell prayer, Sunday, August 30.

vestry in your prayers as we work through the coming months. If you are asked to participate on the search committee or the profile committee, please take a moment and consider the possibilities.

Also remember what we have accomplished in the time we had with Marlene+. St. Bede's is now a parish after spending 65 years as a mission. We are self-supporting and are spreading God's love through the many outreach programs: school supplies for students, food collected for Taste & See, the Good News Garden. We have much to be thankful for.

It is through the combined efforts of the congregation that St. Bede's has survived for 60+ years, and we will continue to survive and thrive with your support, both in prayers and financially as we get ready to start the stewardship program for 2026.

Thank you for your prayers, and gifts of time and talent.

--Tom Potter, Sr. Warden

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NEXT NEWSLETTER

October 1

Articles are due by noon

September 25

Send articles and photos to:

goodnewsletter@outlook.com

Co-editors: April & Monty Heying

See page 12 in the Christian Formation Section for more photos of Marlene's Farewell.



FROM the Sermon of the Tenth Sunday After Pentecost, August 2, 2026.

GENESIS 32:22-31
PSALM 17 1-7. 16
ROMANS 9:1-5
MATTHEW 14:13-21

Beloved Bedians,

On Thursday at Bede's at the Beach, I showed up for the bird walk without a hat and had to borrow one. Not only was I loaned a hat, but I also was loaned a pair of binoculars in the bargain. Sometimes I feel like Mr. Magoo walking blindly at about 1,000 feet in the air along steel construction girders, trusting that the next place to stand will be given to me just when I need it. We are given so much grace in little and small ways. Yet in the eyes of God there are no small miracles. I'm curious

how you have experienced God's provision? It could be recently or other times in your life.

God's provision shows up in our readings today also. Even challenges can be providential as God guides us on our way. In the Bible we read that God challenged Jacob with a wrestling match. God even provides a way to know our inner selves according to the Psalm. The Psalmist calls the lord to "weigh my heart, summon me by night, melt me down." Metallurgists know that different metals turn to liquid at different temperatures. This is how they know what kind of metal they have, by melting it down. It is in those times of trial and testing that we come to know who we really are and what we really believe. The sense of trials continues with the gist of our Romans passage. God also provided a way for Paul to become a friend of Jesus though he was an enemy of Christ, who persecuted Christians and now felt strongly that his fellow Jews might come to know Christ. God also provides a way when we are stuck with problems. There is a problem in our Gospel lesson. People don't have enough to eat. Jesus uses this problem as a way to show the blessing of God's mercy. It results in Divine providence that is be-



yond gracious, beyond merciful, and beyond extravagance.

It is remarkable that this feeding miracle, other than the resurrection, is the only one repeated in all four gospels. Considering that fact, scripturally it is on the same level as Christ's resurrection. What makes it important? Could it be that there is something essential about relying on the providence of God that gives us a path away from anxious overperformance. The Disciples seem anxious about how to get food for everyone. They want to send everyone off on their own, and yet Jesus has another idea. What is it? Basically, he tells the disciples to give the crowd something to eat. When they protest about having only 5 loaves of bread and two fish. He says, "bring them to me."

It might feel a little bit like what is happening as St. Bede's. The church is going through a transition in leadership, and maybe the people are feeling like the disciples in this story; things are looking doubtful.

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Maybe there are some feelings of scarcity that St. Bede's might not have the resources to carry on. Like the disciples we may be coming up with solutions to the problem of not having enough that create division, like the disciples who wanted to send the people away to get their own food. And like the disciples who had just a few loaves of bread and some fish, we might consider only St. Bede's limitations as a small group of people gathering to learn how to love God and their neighbors. (As if that were a small thing.)

I wonder what would happen if St. Bede's were to follow the model of the feeding of the 5,000 as expressed in Matthew?

What do you suppose Jesus would say to the people of St. Bede's in line with what he told the disciples from this reading? Jesus told the disciples, "Bring them here to me." Bring the loaves and fishes to me. What if we were to hear Jesus calling us to, "Offer St. Bede's to me. Offer this small group of people to me." And what if we did that? What if we were to offer the church to Jesus? What if we were to hand over the body of Christ to God? What would that look like? Then what might we do if we were to continue following the story? What does Jesus do next? Jesus doesn't say, "Don't just sit there do something."

It's more like he said don't just do something, sit there.

And so, if we were to follow this story, we might follow directions and sit down in the grass. We wouldn't get anxious and try to fix the situation. We wouldn't go off on our own to get what we need, but we would trust the

one who offers us rest. Maybe we might be more likely to pray than to react. Then what might happen to the church? We are told that the loaves and fish are taken, blessed, broken, and given. When we offer up the church we acknowledge that it is God's possession for the work of Christ and not our own. We hold it with open hearts allowing its transformation, because if we do what will happen next is that it will be blessed and transformed. What had seemed like not enough will become more than plenty, an embarrassment of riches.

But what was the next thing after being taken?

Being broken. That was the key to the cruciform life to be broken for the world. It is most certainly the path that Jesus himself takes. This is where we might really struggle. "Sure," we might say, "awesome, bless the church; transform us into food for the world, but don't break us." Breaking is scary and we might never be the same. That is the nature of food though. There is no using it without breaking it into bits, even though there is much left over, even though it could feed 5,000 and so we need to be willing to be broken too.

We are right by the way if we believe that being broken is scary and will change us forever.

That is the truth; St. Bede's, the church we knew will not be the same. It will go through change and transformation and be broken to make something new, food for the world. This is the only way it can then be given for the life of the world. It is not for the life of fellowship groups, or the internal friend groups. St. Bede's is

meant to be broken for a world in anguish, so hungry for truth and righteousness, and for human kindness, that it is starving.

God provides for us and will provide for St. Bede's.

Living that way as a people taken, blessed, broken, and given St. Bede's cannot help but be the very body of Christ. This matters more than being a parish, more than a water-proof roof, and more than having a full-time priest, though all of these things are important. As a people taken, blessed, broken, and given we need not worry that the absence of any of these things would destroy the church. Our job is to offer the church to God then mostly sit down in the grass without overperforming or anxiety. Allow St. Bede's to be transformed. Offer it to then be taken up by Christ, Broken, Blessed, and given away for the life of the world.



Blessings, Marlene+

Marlene +



Dr. Jeannine Jordan, Minister of Music and Organist

Our Organ: A Legacy of Generosity, Worship, and Joy

St. Bede's organ continues to enrich our worship—and thanks to generous gifts, it is now safer to play, more beautiful, and even more joyful to hear. Before sharing the latest additions, here is how this remarkable instrument came to serve our congregation: in the fall of 2019, an organ committee began exploring how to replace or enhance the church's deteriorating organ and provide a stronger instrument to lead the music of our worship.

Skip ahead six months to February 2020. We were in a COVID lockdown, worshipping on Zoom with Jeannine and David leading the music from their home organ studio.

During those lockdown months, my student Walter Borden and his partner, Laurence Coleman, approached me with an extraordinary offer: they would fund the purchase of a digital organ to replace St. Bede's aging, unreliable instrument. Their vision was an organ that could interface with the existing pipework—one worthy of leading our traditional Episcopal worship and versatile enough to help students discover the joy of organ playing. Above all, they wanted St. Bede's to have an excellent instrument for the present and for generations to come.

St. Bede's gratefully accepted their offer, and David Jordan secured a nearly new digital instrument from a church in Nashville, Tennessee. Walter and Laurence's gift covered not only the organ itself, but also its transportation and its installation and integration with St. Bede's existing pipework. Their generosity spared the congregation a years-long fundraising campaign and the need to spend budget dollars on temporary repairs to a failing instrument.

Within a few months, while the church building remained closed because of COVID-19, David Jordan and several church volunteers worked alongside the installers to complete the new instrument.



St. Bede's combination digital and pipe organ was donated by Walter Borden and Laurence Coleman in 2020, including transportation and its ongoing maintenance.

An Instrument for Worship

Since our return to in-person worship after the COVID-19 lockdown, the organ has served the congregation exceptionally well. Its rich palette of digital and pipe sounds makes it both versatile and expressive. With the introduction of our Choir of the Congregation, it has become an indispensable voice in our worship life.

Walter and Laurence's generosity did not end with the gift that made the organ's purchase, transportation, and installation possible. Since 2022, their continued contributions have steadily built a dedicated organ fund supporting restoration, preservation, and maintenance; the purchase of organ music; organ-related educational programming; and concerts and other musical programs open to the public. Their ongoing commitment is an extraordinary gift to St. Bede's.



Thanks to Borden and Coleman's continued contributions, St. Bede's can offer programs to the public.

New Additions, Lasting Joy

Before concluding, I want to share three additions made possible during the past year by our dedicated organ fund and outside gifts.

The first is the bright new rank of slender, uniform tin pipes that now grace the top of the organ. This row of pipes produces a 2-foot flute sound and replaces older pipes that had begun to collapse and no longer spoke consistently.

The second addition, to my delight and that of the congregation, is a Zymbelstern, or “Star of Bells.” Positioned above the pipes on the right side of the organ, this charming set of bells sounds at the touch of a button, adding sparkle to Christmas carols and joyful “Alleluia” moments. It was given to St. Bede’s by another of my students, Paul Richter, who wanted to bring an added measure of joy to our worship.



Uniform tin pipes and Zymbelstern “Star of Bells,” donated by Paul Richter, add bright and joyful sound at a touch.



A safe backrest purchased with organ funds was assembled by Bruce Countryman and installed by Scott Richards.

The third addition is a backrest for the organ bench, purchased through the organ fund. During the Easter Vigil, I experienced a frightening moment of dizziness and felt I might fall backward from the bench. After I mentioned the incident to my husband, the need for a backrest quickly became a matter of safety. David arranged the purchase, Bruce Countryman assembled and stained it, and Bruce and Scott Richards installed it. I can now play with greater security and rest more comfortably during the service.

A Legacy of Generosity

St. Bede’s is blessed by all who give their time, talents, and resources to maintain and enhance this excellent instrument. We are especially grateful to Walter Borden and Laurence Coleman, who recognized a need and responded with extraordinary generosity—first through the gift that made the organ possible and then through their continuing support. As Lynne Chapman recently wrote to Walter, “Your and Laurence’s generosity will ensure that we continue to have this wonderful instrument in good condition to enrich our worship for as long as there is a St. Bede’s Episcopal Church.”

With deep gratitude, I have the privilege of leading our congregation in worship and song. How richly blessed we are.

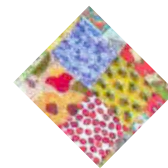
-Jeannine



St. Bede's Quilt and Prayer Shawl Ministry

Affectionately Known as "Stitchery"

May God bless the work of our hands, fill our projects



Next meeting: September 5, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



After a summer break, we will resume our regular meetings on the first Saturday of the month from 9:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m. on September 5th.

We always start off with "show and tell," so it will be fun to see the lap quilts and prayer shawls that were created on those hot summer days.

There will be three meetings (September, October and November) before all our creations will be blessed and the lap quilts gifted to a local care center.

Come join us. We welcome new people to this ministry. No experience necessary. Questions? Contact Bonnie Shumaker, shumaker2b@yahoo.com or 503-324-7825.

-Bonnie Shumaker



Marquis Care Center staff presented St. Bede quilts and handmade greeting cards in December, 2025.

STEWARDSHIP

Starting to Think About 2027 Stewardship Campaign Drive AND A QUIZ!

**Stewardship:
A Response to
Love**



John C. Rettew

It is several weeks before the beginning of our 2027 stewardship campaign, but time passes quickly, so your stewardship committee is starting to share information with you now to help you prayerfully consider your pledge. See the article in this newsletter about our dedicated office administrator Ariane Kimlinger and the important part she plays in our church. And all of that in 19 hours a week!

Also, we have a trivia question for you: What percentage of the money to run St. Bede's comes from paid pledges: a) 54%; b) 73%; c) 86%; d) 92%.

-Lynne Chapman, Your Stewardship Committee

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SEE CALENDAR PAGE FOR QUIZ ANSWER

STEWARDSHIP

Office Administrator Means Good Stewardship

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the stewardship committee, we want to express our appreciation for Ariane Kimlinger and the important work she does as our church office administrator. We also want to share this as part of our stewardship of the financial resources entrusted to us by the congregation. Supporting this ministry is one meaningful way those gifts are used to help parish life remain orderly, welcoming, and well cared for.

Ariane's responsibilities include answering calls, emails, and walk-ins; greeting visitors; handling mail, filing, copying, ordering supplies, and other office tasks; and helping keep the office running smoothly. She also supports many of the systems that help our church function well, including preparing Sunday bulletins, announcements, and newsletters; maintaining membership, attendance, and contact records; assisting with bookkeeping and donation records; coordinating the church calendar and room bookings; and helping with payroll and social media.

She also carries special responsibility for people seeking aid, which requires care, patience, and sensitivity, especially when language barriers make communication more difficult. In addition, she prepares E-Notes and manages the annual church directory. When the Bishop presides over services, Ariane's role becomes even more essential, requiring accuracy, good judgment, and confidentiality in

special preparations and documentation.

A strong office administrator helps the whole church feel more coordinated and dependable. By keeping work organized, timely, and clear, Ariane reduces confusion, saves the pastor and volunteers valuable time, and helps ensure that people receive the infor-



Office Administrator Ariane Kimlinger in St. Bede's Memory Garden.

mation they need quickly. Without this role, much of the behind-the-scenes coordination would fall on clergy or volunteers, creating extra strain and pulling attention away from ministry and pastoral care.

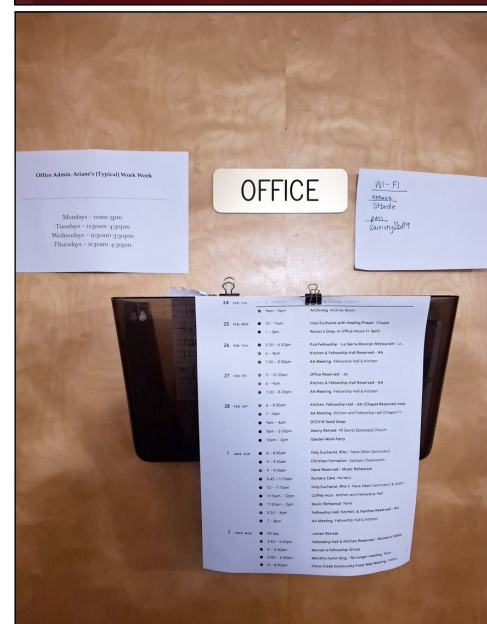
Ariane's role has grown significantly since she started, and in many ways, she has had to learn through baptism by fire. Even so, she continues to meet the demands of the position with dedication and grace. Her work may not always be visible, but it is deeply valuable to the life and mission of St. Bede.

For 2026, we have budgeted \$21,578 for this position (proposed and budgeted amounts are available in the Vestry

Reports posted in the Parish Hall), and we give thanks to God for the ability to have an administrator who serves the church in such a faithful and important way. Ariane serves St. Bede with diligence, humility, and heart.

Thank you for recognizing and supporting her ministry among us.

-Sue Tippett, Stewardship Ministry Member



August Vestry Summary

All nine Vestry members attended the August meeting: Tom Potter (Sr. Warden), Scott Richards (Jr. Warden), Jan O'Shanecy (Clerk of the Vestry), Megan Havens, Linda Haddon, Laurie Baker, Colleen Cornish, Jean Knight, and Rebecca Gladstone.

At the meeting, we briefly talked about our goals for 2026.

Alter the physical plant to meet current and future needs of the congregation. Tom Potter is the Vestry point person for this goal. The committee hasn't met this summer so there was no update.

Complete all legal requirements to move from being a mission to a parish, including but not limited to all contracts, IRS filings, and the Rector's Covenant of Ministry. Megan Havens is the Vestry point person for this goal. Megan met with Marlene+ and Ariane and will work on updating contracts.

Promote Year-Round Stewardship. Scott Richards is the Vestry point person for this goal. The Stewardship Committee meets on a regular basis and will lead the pledge campaign in September. As we call a new priest, your generous offering is especially important.

We talked about Safe Church Training at length. Linda Haddon is the Vestry point person for Safe Church. She will contact members who need the training. We talked about an alternative way to take the training as well and will continue this discussion when we have more information.

Tom Potter spoke briefly about our transition/search process when Marlene+ leaves on August 30. We had been looking at a Priest-in-Charge for the first year, but this didn't work out. Tom will explain more after he has spoken with the Diocese. [Editor's Note; see Front Page story for these details.]

Remember, this is a brief summary of the monthly Vestry meeting. The official minutes from each meeting are approved and posted on the Vestry bulletin board in the parish hall one month after the meeting.

-Jan O'Shanecy

Bedians Support a Cool Ministry Fundraiser



The Ice Cream Sundae Social on July 12 raised funds for the Hospitality Committee to replenish kitchen supplies needed for Sunday coffee hour, holiday and special occasion celebrations. Enjoying the variety of ice cream flavors and toppings are: from left to right, Marie-Helen Rake, Josh Jeffries, Rosemary Sackett, Tom Carlson (group photo), Rosemary Sackett and Ben Sackett.

Outreach Committee Funds Cornelius Elementary Projects, Field Trip

This summer the Outreach Committee voted to support four teachers working in the Summer School program for Forest Grove School District. As part of the mini-grant program, we gave each teacher \$250 to spend on special projects and a final field trip. One of the teachers dropped off a thank you note and a picture including all the kids in the program who were willing to have their picture taken.

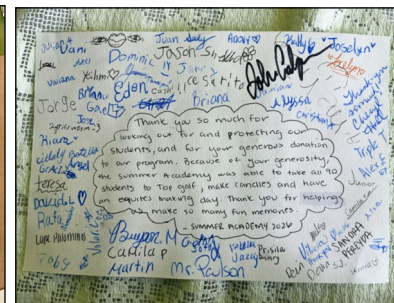
Katie Countryman will be leading the annual Back-to-School supply drive for Cornelius Elementary School. Megan Havens and Bev Frawley met with the principal of Cornelius Elementary School, Angella Graves, last week. We discussed the long-term relationship the school has had with St. Bede's and how important our support is for the teachers and students of the school.

Every year we deliver supplies for the office, provide mini grants to teachers, and do clothing and toiletry drives for the Family Resource Center. What we do is important to the school and they appreciate us!

--Megan Havens



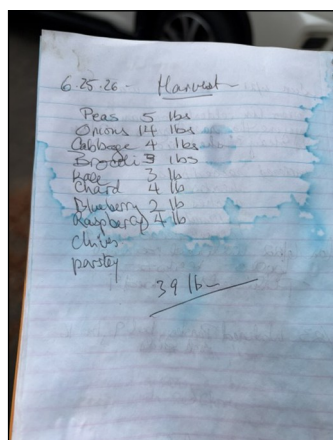
Cornelius Elementary teachers and students thank St. Bede's for its Summer Academy made possible with the Outreach Committee mini-grant from the Diocese.



GOOD NEWS PANTRY GARDEN: A Monday Garden Log Report



Marie-Helene's daily log sheet (below) for the work progress log box (above).



After watering the garden Monday, a man called me out and came to me with two big tomato cages. He asked if we could use them in the garden since he had no use for them. I told him that our tomatoes were supported by the arches and we could not use them. I asked if he could grow tomatoes himself and said he had no plants. I offered two plants Leslie Bruckner had left for someone in need (instead of pulling out our plant!). He was surprised and very happy at the suggestion. He left with his cages and two tomato plants to put them to use. He said he was looking forward to having tomatoes and that he would bring me some!

Last week, a couple came while I was harvesting raspberries. They introduced themselves as neighbors and politely inquired if they could pick some. I told them they could come anytime and pick. The raspberry plants are generous and if not picked, they drop and are wasted.

While I was picking raspberries today, which need to be picked several times a week in this season, I was wondering who would enjoy them. A thought came to me about how the pastoral team could possibly bring a little offering from the garden to the people they visit. Who could refuse a basket of fresh and juicy raspberries?

This is the garden outreach, quietly present, offering peace, goods and a way to meet people we would not otherwise get to meet, a way for them to also share what they have and help the community.



Fresh produce ready to be donated to the community.

--Marie-Hélène Rake

Good News Pantry Garden Harvest Update



The gardening year is coming to its last stage, the harvest! We are picking vegetables twice a week now. The abundance is real. From freshly tilled soil to the finished product, each stage brings such joy. The community being built around the garden is growing. We are reaching out to neighbors and friends and finding new resources for sharing this joy of gardening, the work and the food!

We recently had the Pearl Church of Portland's youth group come help with a garden area clean up! Six young adults, including our Ben Sackett, came and raked, dug and pruned, making the garden area look great. They worked for three hours and said they want to make it an annual event. We are blessed! Thank you to Kylie Marble, the youth leader and to Megan Havens for suggesting the garden as a service project! If you know of any other groups that need a project, please let me or any of the garden committee know.

We have another project being assisted by the young. Evan James is an Eagle Scout and will be helping with our final grant project, the gravel pathway leading from the patio to the shed. This will allow a level ADA path to the garden area. Each of these projects, the irrigation and the pathway,

were planned to help improve the garden infrastructure, but also increase the ease for community to be built around the garden.

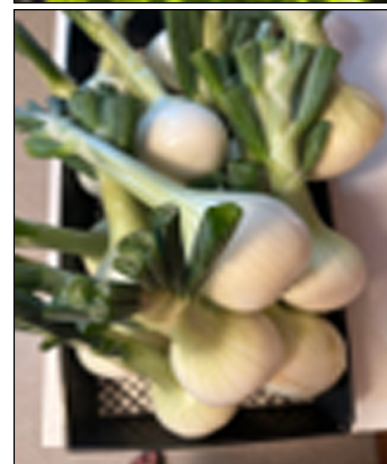
A recent donation of a bench in memory of Richard Kidd by Theresa Floyd and a picnic table from The Hillsboro Methodist Church garden have increased the comfort and created a place to meet and sit in the shade.

This year we have donated just under 800 pounds of food to the Senior Community Center food bank and the Boxer Share. This includes about 250 pounds from the West Wind Nursery experimental garden. Most of this food so far has been greens. We are just now getting beans, tomatoes, beets, and peppers. More lettuce, peas, cabbage and broccoli will be ripening soon.

As always, you are welcome to come and harvest for you or the pantry! We harvest at 5:30 Wednesday evening, delivering to the pantry Thursday morning.

--The Garden Committee: Leslie Bruckner, Margaret Musgung, Marie-Helene Rake, Charlie Rhyne

Above left-Pearl Church of Portland youth and St. Bede's Ben Sackett volunteers. Right-produce harvesting. Below-Richard Kidd memorial bench donated by Theresa Floyd.





Mass on the Grass/Chorus in the Forest Treat Bedians to a Woodland Service

"All the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord" (Psalm 96:12)

Based on the psalm above, St. Bedians were invited to "Join the Forest Chorus" at our woodland property in the hills west of Banks on July 19. We even experienced the trees joyful singing when a noticeable wind gust came during the service. Seventy people attended. I want to thank everyone who helped before, during and after the service to make this a wonderful spiritual and fun day.

"Mass on the Grass" or "Chorus in the Forest" was celebrated by Rector Marlene Mutchler and featured guest musician Lasane Kanneh. Mr. and Mrs. Kanneh led the congregation in hymns and traditional Zulu rhythms and song. A special goodwill offering was collected for Mr. Kanneh and his ministry.



On a guided walk through the Shumakers' woods, Bedians pause by the lake. In the center are Mr. and Mrs. Lasane Kanneh, guest musicians.

A potluck lunch and a guided walk through the wooded trails followed the 10:00 a.m. service (neither the 8 a.m. nor 10 a.m. services were held at the church).

-Bonnie Shumaker

Christian Formation Committee Plans Activities, Classes to Start October

The Christian Formation Committee is working on several activities and classes to begin in October. By waiting until October, we will have time to meet with our interim priest and find out what he is interested in and can support.

Current plans include a Sunday morning Bible study at 9 a.m. in the Chapel. Bible Study will be led by Josh Jeffrey.

Megan Havens and Frances King will lead L-inktober. Inktober is a month-long activity where people draw ink drawings in response to prompts. For more information about Inktober go to: <https://inktober.com>. L-inktober will provide prompts tied to the lectionary. Participants can draw an ink drawing every day, or they can come in on Sunday and draw a response to a Sunday prompt. People willing to share their drawings will have them hung in a public place in the church for everyone to enjoy.

We are planning a celebration of St. Francis and a Blessing of the Animals on October 4. There will be other events throughout the month. Stay tuned for more announcements as plans are confirmed. We hope to have a special Sunday oriented towards children once a month and have lots of creative ideas about what that might look like!

--Megan Havens

Discernment Is for Everyone Retreat Offered September 5

Derek Moyer, Canon for Lifelong Formation of Western Oregon Diocese, reached out to clergy to encourage our parishioners to take this opportunity in early September. Here is the link to sign up for this event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/discernment-is-for-everyone-tickets-1992027483828>

As we return from the scattered reaches of summer, I am writing to invite you to invite your people to our upcoming Discernment Is for Everyone! retreat on Saturday, September 5, at St. Barnabas in SW Portland. This event is a good fit for folks at any point in their journey, and is focused on discernment as a whole-church practice. Folks who are curious about discernment for ordained ministry will also find the day helpful, but the main thread of the day is about discernment as a regular practice of listening to God's call in our collective life, and about 'everyday' discernment.

-In peace, Derek Moyer, www.ecwo.org, dmoyer@ecwo.org, (971) 204-4124 (office)

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Farewell Garden Party, continued



Highlights: Mutchler family (above R); Handing off parish key to Sr. Warden Tom Potter (below R); Memory Book of photos, church directory and thank you cards (above center); Master of Ceremonies, Kerry VanderZanden (below center); Marlene+ opens gifts (bottom L).



MEET & GREET: Colleen Cornish, Liturgical Ministries, Vestry



Colleen in her happy place—
illustrating and writing.

In January when I became a member of the vestry, I had no idea that our landlord would decide to sell the house we'd come to love living in. But he has. We now have a very short period of time to purge, pack, find a new rental, and move, all while showing the house for him as he has relocated out of state. On top of that, we are a three-generation family of five with a longed for baby due at the beginning of December. On top of that, another of my daughters is expecting at the end of October.

Those girls grew up at St. Bede's. I remember toddler Katie crawling under pews to sit next to Jason on the organ bench. I remember little Maggie pushing a vacuum around the fellowship hall. I remember Lizzie running through the halls in angel wings and a halo before the Christmas pageant.

So almost 20 years later, after Bruce's sudden and unexpected death, I came back to St. Bede's. I came back to the liturgy. I came back to the prayers. Here I re-entered life without burning up in the atmosphere. Old friends have been kind and allowed me the time to find my feet. New friends didn't expect me to be anyone but who I am now.

As life returned, I volunteered in the memorial garden, in the pantry garden, in the office, setting the altar, and on the vestry. I like to help and I had some experience to share. I had come to Forest Grove after a career in television to study writing at Pacific. I worked at the local paper, then *The Oregonian*, the chamber of commerce and Montinore Vineyards before part-timing and freelancing.

I've been trying to remember how I first came to St. Bede's. When Theresa Floyd and I worked together at the chamber of commerce, we often talked about Meaningful Things while stuffing envelopes. And I had, in 1983, visited Durham Cathedral and St. Bede's tomb. I guess it was logical. But what is it that makes a woman who works all week get out of bed on Sunday morning, feed and dress a three-year-old (while dad snoozes), put her in the car and go to a church mostly peopled with strangers? I can't say. An impulse? A longing? A need? The Holy Spirit? Feeling welcome?

When things settle down, I will be back, but now I need the time to move and prepare for those babies. I have stepped away from the vestry and from the pantry garden. But I want you to know how St. Bede's saved me. Being able to come here and become part of this spiritual community again has helped me so much. I am grateful that St. Bede's was here to come back to. Thank you for carrying on. Thank you for being here.

"Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for her herself,
where she may have her young—
a place near your altar,
O Lord Almighty, my King and my God."
from Psalm 84



St. Bede cantor Kai Chapman's departure for Oregon Episcopal School is celebrated with cake and presents in the Parish Hall, August 9. Kai will be boarding at the school during the week and joining St. Bede's to sing at Sunday service. He will enroll as a junior at the college preparatory independent school in Portland.

Men's June Beach Retreat Serves A Time of Forest, Sea and Homemade Treats

*E*leven men camped at Beachcombers Haven for a men's retreat June 11 - 14 with the gastronomical highlight being an amazing dinner by Ken Floyd's dear wife Theresa, who sent with Ken a large beef stew-like dish that knocked our socks off to the last savory bite.

Friday morning we sped south to Beverly Beach to hike a lush rainforest trail around the campgrounds ripe with skunk cabbage, hanging moss and old growth trees. Friday afternoon we hung out reading, walking the beach or being served a New York drink Bruce Bessie delighted in serving one-and all. We watched the US match with Paraguay that evening.

Saturday saw six guys leave early due to unexpected conflicts. Later that afternoon, Nader and the remaining gang, hopped in Burt (Stewart's van) and explored Yaquina Bay National Park with Nader as our guide. We spent hours spying seals sunbathing and frolicking in the water, numerous species of birds nesting on the rocks and entertaining us with their aerobatics skimming over the waves.

Sunday morning Nader treated us to Turkish coffee. A special treat to begin the early morning hours. Another beach walk before heading home.

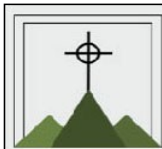


Brown pelicans glide above the seafoam (top) and forage the surf (above left). The group at Beachcombers Haven Gift Shop (above right).



Resting on a bridge during a "boot camp" crawl (left). Nader serves Turkish coffee Sunday morning (right).

-Stewart Nestor



Meals Requested for Long-Time Member: Sister Marcia Hobart



St. Bede's has helped our long-time member Marcia Hobart with meals for a number of years as she isn't able to join in community meals at her retirement home for medical reasons. Nine people take turns on Tuesdays, each person once every two months. Right now we are short one person (2nd Tuesday of odd months). I thought someone might be considering filling that slot (or two people could share it) and would like more information on how it works. You could also just try it out one time before committing.

Everyone works out their own routine. Some take the food to her room and others leave it at the office. Some cook food and some buy food. Some fix the same thing every time and some go for variety. Some bring one thing for the week and some bring several. She is happy to eat the same thing all week or get variety from things she has frozen. Sister Marcia likes just about everything that is easy to chew and digest. Most of us email her for suggestions or to check that what we're planning will work OK. She is very appreciative of the help.

Gluten free is the only rule.

To date the following items have been provided: yogurt, cheese, soup, bananas, cottage cheese, fruit, deli salad, pre-cooked rice packets, twice baked potatoes, crustless quiche, chicken chili, canned chicken, peanut butter, snacks, muffins, pasta and sweets. Some items are from Costco and others made fresh, including fresh eggs direct from the back yard.

There are lots of ways to do this. Please contact me if you would be willing to give this a try. I expect there is someone among us who is getting a nudge from God. There is a fund at church that can pay for ingredients if that would be helpful.

--In community, Lynne Chapman



Brotherhood Fellowship at St. Bede's

First Saturdays of the month we gather in the Parish Hall at 8 am and begin with prayer, followed by good-natured conversations, compelling topics and camaraderie over coffee, donuts and bacon. Besides annual retreats and field trips to interesting venues, it's a good place to make friends. All men are invited.

Regular meetings begin September 5. Our agenda includes discussing October and future meetings. Hope you can make it.

—Regards, Grant Davis

Women's Fellowship Group at St. Bede's

The women's fellowship group meeting will start up again on Monday, October 5, at 4 pm in the Parish Hall. All women are welcome to join!

Come and enjoy refreshments, opening and closing prayers, and guided study of a variety of Biblical and spiritual topics. Group leaders provide creative activities and musical accompaniment. Last year's discussions were inspired by the stories of women in the Bible.

-Kathy Nelsen



A REFLECTION ON: Unexpected Awarenesses During Summer Recess



I appreciate this opportunity given to express changes in my spiritual practice, even as I live into what must be the late stages of my journey. I write this with a lightness of joy, recognizing that most of the changes today are quite beyond my own volition, but are brought to my consciousness by the Holy Spirit who lends a protective covering and influence over this stage of my journeying.

Perhaps the most surprising for me this summer was an opportunity through my membership with the Anglican/Episcopal Organization, Sabeel, located in Palestine, West Bank, Jerusalem. For the last six weeks I have been sent a link just ten minutes before the Zoom program begins. A Bible Study from Christian leaders located on the West Bank. For the last 82 years I have listened to absolutely thousands of Sunday morning sermons, in a multitude of differing churches.

All of them I now realize have entailed middle class clergy, preaching Middle Class sermons to a middle-class audience. I had not realized before this that there could be a difference. Example: The Sermon on the Mount. I have always heard this preached from the standpoint of disciples wondering how they could muster enough food to ever feed so many people and Jesus always says, "Gather together what you can find and bring what you have to me and I'll see what I can do." Then Jesus prays and the miracle happens. Sometimes those that have

food and haven't shared begin to feel guilty and open up what they had been unwilling to share, and the miracle happens in the act of sharing what one has with one's neighbor.

But in Palestine this Summer no-one has any food for themselves let alone share what they have with neighbors. They pray to God and watch their children and old people die. They pray the gates be opened and the refrigerator trucks (containing food for them) be allowed through. Sometimes when youths and family members race behind the trucks to get a place in line they are gunned down by soldiers. Their question in discussion, "Why are we consistently being denied food by Israel. The rest of the world know much of the food in the trucks never reaches us and rots, while leaders of the free world say nothing. Again, when Jesus asked, "Who do you say that I am?"

The question was asked to the Zoom participants, "How do you recognize a Messiah?" The Palestinian answer is consistent. 'The Messiah will be poor and humble. His power is His trust in God alone and he has no personal possessions and may not even be wearing shoes.'

At least I do now know what it feels like to leave one's home and give away possessions and try to live in Community. Wow, I am so very grateful to my family/community at St. Bede's. Blessings as we begin another Church year together.

--With love, Valerie Ivey, retired deacon.

A REFLECTION ON: Summer Reading

Deacon Theresa read and recommended I read a new book published, "Liturgies For Resisting Empire" by Kat Armas. Out of the blue it seemed, the Forest Grove UCC chose to read this very book for their Summer Weekly Discussion Group. It is difficult for me to understand the reasoning behind the Early Father's decision to call a Council at Nicea less than three hundred years after Jesus has been put to death, legally according to Rome Law. Then to invite the Roman Emperor to attend. Constantine was Caesar. Then to appoint Caesar Constantine as head of the Christian Church. I plan to take more time to read it through again, now I know better what to expect and where the author's logical conclusions want to lead me.

On a Thursday evening at Pub Fellowship, I found myself sitting with April Heying, new editor of this newsletter. She described a book recently read and enjoyed and wondered what my opinion of it might be since it had

been reviewed by a Bedian in *The Good News Letter*. *Theo of Golden* is not what I would call a fast read, but I was able to relax into it. I even copied down memorable lines about friendship, loving relationships and a life well lived. Some people, including Oprah, want to describe it as a religious book. I do not see that as being the author's intention and does not have to be.

Theo of Golden is a beautifully crafted novel about the power of creative generosity, the importance of wonder to a purposeful life and the invisible threads of kindness that bind us one to another. A few people I have spoken with say that for them there is too much repetition when more stories are told. If that is so for you, then you have my permission to read the book and to skim through some of the individual stories to get you closer to the surprising ending and closing.

-Good reading. Have a good September.
Valerie Ivey, retired deacon

Historical Bede's: St Bede's New Church Building, 1609 Elm Street

In May of 1982 St. Bede's was the first recipient of the Diocesan Pentecost offering, a portion of which is often related to the birthday of the church and hence is dedicated to "bricks and mortar." Given St. Bede's need for a new church building, that offering, which amounted to approximately \$17,000, equaled ten percent of the cost of the new addition.

On October 2, 1982, a groundbreaking ceremony was held, and the new sanctuary was completed on March 23, 1983. On the Eve of Pentecost, May 21, 1983, Bishop Matthew Bigliardi once again made his way to Forest Grove to dedicate and consecrate the new narthex, nave, and sanctuary. He returned again on August 14 to dedicate the altar and appointments which included the altar cross, the lectern, the baptismal font, and the pews. The Cedar Street church narthex table was also blessed and till this day serves as the altar in the chapel.

In addition, many items were gifted by St. Bede's parishioners and members of other parishes to help furnish and complete the church complex. The cross on the roof, atop the sanctuary, is the work of Forest Grove metal artist, Eric Cannon, as is the gate into the Memorial Garden. The three-piece hand-woven cross that hangs behind the altar in the chapel was crafted by Becky Bernard (Evans). Calligraphy by Dcn. Theresa Floyd graces the narthex and the Stations of the Cross at the back of the nave were created by Carolyn Gates. These are but a few of the hundreds of gifts from our own parishioners and other individuals and parishes that speak to the love that emanates from St. Bede's.

With the completion of the new church building, a very important milestone was reached. St. Bede's congregation was now firmly established as a growing religious body with a building of its own and a friendly and loyal congregation embodying the life of the Spirit.

-Laurie Baker, Archivist



On October 2, 1982, a groundbreaking was held for the new church building. Fr. Neff Powell is on the far right.



The cross on the roof, atop the sanctuary, was fabricated by Forest Grove metal artist, Eric Cannon. It was installed on January 19, 1983.



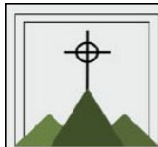
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A REFLECTION: "Be"

From Brother Jack Crowley of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE), here are words of encouragement.

"In moments of powerlessness, we focus so much on what we should do, that we often forget about what we should be. What if every time you asked God what you should do, you also asked God how you should be? What if instead of focusing on actions in times of powerlessness, you focused on states of being, like being patient, being charitable, being forgiving, or even being joyful?"

-Bonnie Shumaker



1 September, Tuesday
GOODNEWSLETTER PUBLISHED

2 September, Wednesday
3pm Stewardship Meeting
5:30pm GNPG Harvest

3 September, Thursday
5:30pm Pub Fellowship @ Zesti Carts

4 September, Friday

5 September, Saturday
8am Brotherhood @ St. Bede's
9:30am Stitchery: Quilt & Prayer
Shawl Ministry

6 September, Sunday
11:15am Coffee Hour

7 September, Monday
6-8:30pm Dairy Creek Community
Food Web

8 September, Tuesday

9 September, Wednesday
11am Finance Meeting
5:30pm GNPG Harvest

10 September, Thursday
5:30pm Pub Fellowship @ Zesti Carts

11 September, Friday

12 September, Saturday

13 September, Sunday
11:15am Coffee Hour

14 September, Monday
FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS
11am Good News Pantry Committee
5:30pm Benedict & Bede Spirituality
Group

15 September, Tuesday

16 September, Wednesday
5:30pm GNPG Harvest
6:30pm Vestry Meeting

17 September, Thursday
10am Pastoral Care Committee
5:30pm Pub Fellowship @ Zesti Carts

18 September, Friday

19 September, Saturday

20 September, Sunday
RALLY SUNDAY
11:15am Coffee Hour

21 September, Monday

22 September, Tuesday

23 September, Wednesday
5:30pm GNPG Harvest

24 September, Thursday
5:30pm Pub Fellowship @ Zesti Carts

25 September, Friday
GOODNEWSLETTER DEADLINE

RECURRING EVENTS

AA Meeting: Sa 7am, Th 7:30pm, Fr
7:30pm, Su 7pm
Pub Fellowship, Zesti Food Carts FG: Th
5:30pm
Holy Eucharist, Rte I: Sun 8am
Holy Eucharist, Rte II: Sun 10am
Holy Eucharist w/ Healing Prayer: Wed
10am

Paid Pledges Answer: 92%

26 September, Saturday

27 September, Sunday
11:15am Coffee Hour
11:30am Outreach Committee

28 September, Monday
5:30pm Benedict & Bede Spirituality
Group

29 September, Tuesday

30 September, Wednesday
5:30pm GNPG Wed. Night Harvest

1 October, Thursday
5:30pm Pub Fellowship @ Zesti Carts



IF YOU'RE JOINING US ON...



If you are joining via computer,
open Zoom on your device.
If you are joining via phone,
call 1-801-715-8592.
Meeting ID: 766 590 661
Password: 1609

Brotherhood at St. Bede's
Please contact Grant Davis at 503.357.5983
or Jim Nelsen at 503.347.7008

Women's Group meets First Mondays at 4
pm in the parish hall. Contact Kathy Nelsen
at j_k_nelsen@msn.com or Jean Knight at
jeanknight@icloud.com.

MAILING PAGE OVER

