

ST. DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELLSWORTH

TID BITS FROM THE TABLE ~ NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Dear ones,

Good Friday morning to one and all! Thank you all, so very much, for your prayers for Aaron. After initially struggling a bit with Covid, he continues to improve and is feeling the benefit of everyone's prayers. I took Arthur to the grandparents' house a few days ago (they're away at the moment); Arthur and I continue to test negative. I wanted to give us both every chance of being able to be in church in person this Sunday.

That being said, I received another email today from his school about another positive Covid test in his classroom. We pray for a safe return to health for his classmate and his classmate's family. Now, if he and I test negative for Covid again tomorrow and on Sunday morning, my plan is to come celebrate in person (masked). ***If anyone is uncomfortable with that plan, please do let me know. You can always email/call/text/carrier pigeon. ***

As you'll read in TidBits this week, we've got so much to look forward to in the weeks ahead! Paul has written to all of us, as has Tracy+, and I know we'll all pour over our updates and get excited for the Advent season ahead!

To that end, great news-- for our Advent programming this year, we'll be able to display works of art by artist Anne Mourier, from a show she created called 'Taking Care.' As a gesture of love to us and the church, she's lending us the works for Advent. Here's a link so you can get a sense of the vision behind this particular series: <https://parsonagegallery.org/exhibitions/event-four-ftnxc>
And here's her artist website: <https://www.annemourier.com/>.

For the first Sunday of Advent, our church will be open after the service on 27 November 11-12 (it's a Morning Prayer Sunday, but I wanted to come and lead the event that day as it's the first Sunday in Advent and that's important to me). Everyone, including members of the public, is invited to come and spend time in quiet, prayerful contemplation of the art on--
Sunday 27 November, 11am-12pm. 11:00-11:15 prayerful, quiet

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contemplation of art, and from 11:15-12:00 we'll have Lectio Divina (a wonderful practice of engaging with Scripture) around passages I'll 'curate' for us around the theme of Taking Care.

**Additional dates and events:

--Sunday 4 December: church will be open 11:00-12pm; 11:00-11:15 will be prayerful contemplation of the works; 11:15-12:00 Lectio Divina (fresh passages from Scripture)

--Thursday 8 December: church open for all 6:30pm-7:30pm. 6:30-7:00 viewing of work and public discussion (guided by yours truly); Compline by candlelight in church 7:00-7:20.

--Sunday 11 December: 11:00-12:00 a special event (also open to the public) in which the artist will speak about her works, have a conversation with me about art and religion, and have a Q and A.

My hope is that by making all our Advent opportunities open to the public, we will help open up a deeper conversation about 'taking care' of each other and ourselves here at St Dunstan's, AND among the wider community in an interesting and fruitful way. These will be advertised in the Ellsworth American. My primary hope is that by building our Advent programming around an art exhibition, we'll be able to pray, grow spiritually and stretch beyond what we might be able to do with scripture study or prayer alone!

And finally...this Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, **as well as a special dedication for our Bicentennial Celebration! ** At the start of the Eucharist, we'll consecrate the paten and chalice specially commissioned for each Diocesan parish, for the occasion. If you look at this week's service bulletin, you'll see that included (you can practice your responses to the versicles!). Ahhhh, how we love a good feast day...

Have a beautiful, blessed Friday.

With love,
Carolyn+

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the Greater Glory of God by Bill Thomas in loving memory of Florence J. Thomas.

OFFERTORY!

"Ascribe to the Lord the honor due His name; bring offerings and come into his courts." Psalm 96:8

Now that we are in church, your pledges or offerings need not be sent in. You have been so wonderful in sending them in and can continue to do so if it best for you. At this time we do not feel that passing the offertory plate would be wise. We have placed an offertory plate on the back table for your convenience to place your offering, requests for prayers and flower envelopes. Thank you for your support.

"Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord."

Affirmation Prayer

God Calls me out of darkness to live in light,
God calls me out of falsehood to live in truth,
God calls me out of despair to live in hope,
God calls me out of fear to live in trust,
God calls me out of hate to live in love,
God calls out of war to live in peace,
I am called by God to fill my heart, my world,
my universe, with peace, peace, peace. Amen.



Be in the Know – Enroll in *The Dio Log* Today!

- *From Deacon Tracy*

Please remember that the bi-monthly electronic newsletter of our Episcopal Diocese of Maine, *The Dio Log*, can be as close as your email in box! To enroll, go to the diocesan website, <https://episcopalmaine.org>, select “Connect” on the top of the site and then

“Newsletter” in the drop down. The enrollment area is directly below. Here is the link to take you to the newsletter section directly so you can enroll even faster:

<https://episcopalmaine.org/newsletter/>.

This is the best way to keep up with all of the events and opportunities for engagement and learning being offered beyond our own parish. The staff also offers select Province 1 news and church wide information and opportunities as well through *The Dio Log*.

United Thank Offering – Blessings in Progress

- From Deacon Tracy

May we be blessed as we remember blessings each day via our United Thank Offering boxes as we follow this practice up through intake Sunday, November 27. Having trouble doing this each day? No worries – I sense that our loving God understands. The point is to find some time during this time of year to reflect on God’s presence and provision in our lives. Don’t let this become a burden. Let it be a blessing!

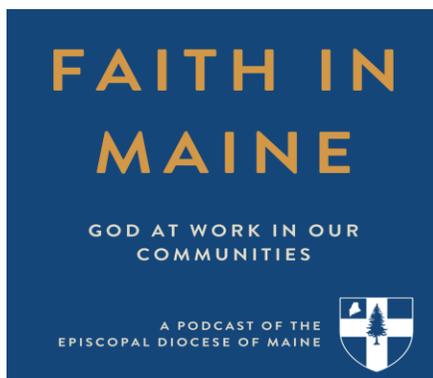
Here is a quick prayer offering from our UTO Book of Prayers 2021-2024, p. 98: “As we go about the remainder of our day, O God, our work be a conscious prayer to you, our actions a witness to the love of Christ, and our hearts mindful that your Spirit is with us, this day and always. Amen”

Let us always remember that we are living on the traditional homelands of the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot peoples and of the Wabanaki confederacy of Maine. We recognize the native peoples throughout this land.

Prayer For Peace

Oh Great Spirit who dwells in the sky,
lead us to the path of peace and understanding,
let all of us live together as brothers and sisters.
Our lives are so short here, walking upon Mother Earth's surface,
let our eyes be opened to all the blessings you have given us.
Please hear our prayers, Oh Great Spirit.

- Native American Prayer



Faith in Maine:

This is a podcast produced by our Episcopal Diocese with various members of the clergy giving their thoughts and prayers. The podcast changes each week. Feel free to call and listen.

You can call 207-223-6402 at any time. They usually last approximately 4-5 minutes.

Happy Birthday to Lorna McCormick! Enjoy!



Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Emmanuel Lutheran Episcopal Church, Augusta. We pray especially for the Commission on Ministry.

We Pray Especially For: Beryl Kirkpatrick, Caiden, Gage, and Briana Chattin, Brend Moldawer, Sheri Harliss, Charles and Fay Joy for healing, strength, and comfort.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or continue a name on the list, please let us know at stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com or leave a message at the church (667-5495). Prayer requests will remain for three weeks.

It is important to us that the list be up-to-date and accurate.
To everyone, please stay well and safe. Blessings to you all.

Almighty and merciful God, we ask in our prayers that the conflict in Ukraine and the others around the world can be resolved peacefully. Bless the people that have been affected by the unrest and grant them peace and justice. We also ask for the people in our own country that have been impacted by the hurricanes, violence and lose of loved ones as they grieve, pick up their lives. Grant them strength, comfort, and healing. All this we ask with the power of your love to all through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ UPCOMING WORSHIP / EVENTS SCHEDULE ~

At this time the Sunday services will be both in church following safe practices and via Zoom. Compline is every Thursday at 7:00p.m via Zoom

The sanctuary is open for quiet reflection and prayer on Mondays 2-4.

**November 20 ~ Holy Eucharist: 9:30, Diocese-wide
Belated Bicentennial Celebration during service**

November 20 ~ Liturgy Meeting, 11:30

November 24 ~ Thanksgiving Service, 9:30 on Zoom

**November 27 ~ Morning Prayer: 9:30 with Mimi &
Dave**

November 27 ~ Beginning of Advent

November 29 ~ Vestry Meeting: 6:00 pm

December 4 ~ Holy Eucharist: 9:30



Happy Anniversary to Jaci and Tom Hancock!

History of Our Beloved Hymns

From time-to-time Herbert Beckwith will write about the history of a hymn that we have sung in our services. Keep your eyes open for this wonderful addition.

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY 594, 595

This hymn, written by Harry Emerson was sung in 1930 at the opening of Riverside Church in New York. It has become one of the most popular hymns of the 20th century in the United States. It entered our hymnal in 1940 with the tune “Mannheim”. While Fosdick himself thought of his hymn being sung to “Regent Square”, which would have been a good tune, the 1940 hymnal editors chose to use the tune “Mannheim”. However, for the 1982 hymnal the tune “Cwm Rhonda” was added by popular demand. This is, to my ear, a much better tune for the hymn. “Cwm Rhonda” was composed in 1903 by John Hughes for a singing festival in Wales. The tune has been set to various words but more often to this hymn text. In our hymnal the tune Mannheim continues to be used for this hymn.

LIGHT’S ABODE CELESTIAL SALEM 621, 622

As it appears in our hymnal this hymn consists of selected stanzas from a 17 stanza Latin text of the 15th century, often attributed without evidence to Thomas a Kempis. It entered our hymnal in 1892.

The tune “Rhuddlan,” which is the tune we have used, is a Welsh tune, probably by William Williams and is known in Wales as “Dowch I’n Frwdy, or “come to battle”. The name of the tune is that of a Welsh coastal town, the site of a castle and of many battles. The second tune” Urbs Beata Jerusalem” is a combination of three separate tunes. It was widely used in Europe and comes to our hymnal from a Sarum antiphonal of ca. 1400. It has been in our hymnal under various names since 1916.

O CHRIST THE WORD INCARNATE 632

This hymn text by William Walsham How has been in our hymnal since 1871 (but I don’t recall singing it, although I recognize the tune). It has been matched with this tune since the Hutchins musical edition of the 1892 hymnal. The text is based on Psalm 119:105. The tune Munich appeared in 1693 while the form used in the 1982 hymnal is from Mendelssohn’s 1847 oratorio Elijah.

Family News

My dear St. Dunstan's family,

I have now completed my radiation treatments and will gain back some of my strength. On to the next step.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the prayers, thoughts, offers to help, and so much more. They have helped so much and reminds me that God is here working through you, doing faith in what Jesus taught us. Love to you all.

Dianne

From the Music Director

It's hard to believe I've been with you for almost four years now! And of those four years, a pandemic has made nearly three of them an 'interesting' time. It's been a challenge for all of us, but through it all this congregation remains a supportive and loving community, and I've been privileged to be a recipient of that support.

But now things are moving toward something like normal, and one of the things that means is the return of choral singing. So... let's plan on getting a choir together for the Christmas season! Stay tuned for announcements regarding specific rehearsal times, but we welcome anyone who has an interest in being a part of a choir. Please let me know if you might want to be a part of it – I can do a better job of choosing music if I know who might be in the choir.

I'd also like to ask your help with something – the choice of hymns that we sing during worship. I try to choose hymns that people know and love, with the occasional 'repertoire stretcher', that is, something that isn't so well known but fits with the scriptures and sermon on a given Sunday. The problem is, I can only guess at what your favorites are. So please let me know what you like. Are there hymns that you like that I've never chosen? Are there some I repeatedly choose that no one can stand?

I welcome your input on the subject of hymns or anything else related to the St. Dunstan's music ministry. So talk to me on Sunday morning, or give me a call at 266-6643, or send me an e-mail at p_dickson@roadrunner.com.

I look forward to a blessed Advent with you!

St. Dunstan's 2022 Emmaus Adopt-a-Family

As in past years St. Dunstan's will participate in the Emmaus Homeless Shelter's Adopt-a-Family Program this Christmas season. This year we have pledged to provide gifts (valued at *\$35 for each child) for **thirty children**.

**[The Elves advise that, since St. D's first participated in this program nearly twenty years ago, the per-child contribution has been \$30; this is the first inflationary adjustment they've requested]*

For everyone's safety and convenience, **the Elves will again be doing all of the shopping for us this year!** All you need to do to participate:

1. Let Elf Whisperer Jaci Hancock know that you wish to participate, and advise of the number of children you want to provide gifts for by:
 - a. email: to jshancock27@gmail.com;
 - b. phone or text to: 207-907-9002; or
 - c. by mail to: 1 West Highland Trail, Dedham, ME 04429-4584.
2. Send payment (\$35 for each adoptee) by check made payable to Jaci Hancock, mailed to: 1 West Highland Trail, Dedham, ME 04429-4584, **please write "2022 Adopt-a-Family" in the memo line.**

To assure that the Elves have plenty of time to shop, please let Jaci know you are participating and make your payment **as soon as you can, but not later than November 30th**.

The Elves thank you for help in assuring that area children have a Happy Christmas morning! Any questions, please reach out to Jaci Hancock.



Priest - Rev. Dr. Carolyn Rosen
Deacon - Rev. Tracy Shaffer
Senior Warden - Dianne Kelley
Deputy Senior Warden - Liz Graves
Junior Warden - Kim Peterson

www.saintdunstansellsworth.org

You can contact us by leaving a message by telephone or email:

Phone: [667-5495](tel:667-5495) Email: stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

Fred Beyer and Muffet Stewart: stdunstanstreasurer@gmail.com

Rain is in the church office Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8 – 9 am