



THE BELLRINGER

Connect Inspire Inform

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Eugene, Oregon

www.saint-marys.org

April 2019

Volume 21, Issue 4

Take your faith deeper

Read about Pam Birrell's exciting book group offering on page 3.

Women of St. Mary's
It's time to register for the

Women's Retreat!

FAQs on page 9.

The Journey Begins Again Holy Week & Easter services

See insert

Let's help ourselves and others

Flourish

Bingham has some ideas.

See the Rector's Closing Thoughts on page 11.

Aging with Courage

A six-week book club

See page 3.

How We Live

Sharon L. Rodgers, Liturgist

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves...

Penitential Order for the Holy Eucharist, page 320, BCP

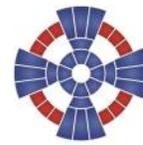
There are people who understand Christianity to be nothing more than following a fixed set of rules distinguishing obvious good from obvious evil, which if done correctly will lead to everlasting life. It has been my observation that people who attempt to live their lives in this manner may well lead lives that are morally uncomplicated, but they certainly aren't easy. They aren't

Life as I've experienced it simply isn't that black and white, but rather, dare I say it, is many, many shades of grey.

easy because time after time such individuals face what appear to me to be impossible choices between following the rules and behaving compassionately. Having grown up in the Northeast, I was very much aware of the Amish.

Indeed, I remember a Sunday afternoon in 1970 when some friends and I drove from near Philadelphia down to "Amish country." It was a lovely trip, the country around Harrisburg is pristine, and the shoo-fly pie was delicious. But the darker side of the picturesque Amish world is that young people who choose to move into the mainstream of modern society rather than live in the 19th century style of their community are shunned. Everyone, including members of their own families, is expected to behave as if they no longer exist. On one level nothing about this is complicated, the rules are clear, but what must this do to people's souls? Life as I've experienced it simply isn't that black and white, but rather, dare I say it, is many, many shades of grey. We Anglicans understand that. We recognize that life situations are unique and need to be treated that way, which is why some of our more fundamentalist sisters and brothers think we practice a rather soft, wishy-washy form of Christianity. They see us struggle, sometimes very publicly, with what the apostles' teachings mean in today's world, hear us acknowledge that what might once have been considered righteous behavior no longer is, and claim that we're just unprincipled do whatever feels good sorts of people. We are not.

As Episcopalians we know that moral choice is a struggle. We recognize that the guiding principles by which we live have to be applied with care, but that doesn't mean we don't have principles. The promises in our baptismal covenant, which we renew at every baptism we attend as well as at other times, call us to affirm our belief in a triune God, and then go on to describe in the form of questions, how we should live with each other. If we're honest with ourselves, we know we don't manage to keep these promises perfectly, but we also know God doesn't shun us when we fail. Rather, the God who loves us more than we can ask for or imagine continues to support us in our lifelong effort to lead principled lives in a morally complex world.



ST. MARY'S
Episcopal Church

1300 Pearl Street Eugene, Oregon 97401
Church Office 541-343-9253

Web Page: www.saint-marys.org

"Like" us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/st.marys.eugene

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OFFICE HOURS

9 AM to 5 PM, Monday - Friday

CLERGY

The Rev. Bingham Powell, Rector
The Rev. Christine Marie, Small Group Ministry Developer
The Rev. Heather Parr, Priest Associate
The Rev. Nancy Crawford, Deacon
The Rev. Tom English, Deacon

MUSIC

Ty Zeller, Assistant Organist
Linnae Eckley, Cherub Choir Director
Jessica Rossi, Psalmist & Intergenerational Choir Director
Carrie Peil Warner, Joyful Noise Choir Director
Tom Trent, Liturgical Choir Director
Christine Zeller-Powell, Spanish Service Pianist

OFFICE

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Tom Beckstrand, Facilities and Grounds Maintenance

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND YOUNG ADULTS

Glenda Jeter, Nursery Coordinator & Care Giver
Taylor Cabrera, Nursery Care Giver
Sue Ann Hinman, Children's Ministries Director
Carolyn Williams, Youth Ministries Director
The Rev. Doug Hale, Campus Chaplain

VESTRY

Chris Spinks, Senior Warden
Phil Barnhart, Junior Warden
Pam Birrell
Lydia Fabian
Peter Ganter
Carolyn Gates
Rosie Hammond
Katharine Hunt
Megan Lintner
Don Loomis
Rose Thomas
Peter Verrey
Tamara Bressi, Clerk
Ron Scharfer, Treasurer

Happenings

Golden Age

Monday, April 1 at Noon

Hurray! The 70 year olds have joined us! So come all for the April meeting. It's April Fool's Day, but our wisdom will prevail. Bring your lunch.

Topic: Your favorite museum, whether one you've been to or one on your bucket list. And of course our usual update of goings on.

St. Mary's Widows' Group

Thursday, April 11 at 1:30 PM
at Phyllis Hamel's home

For information, call Helga Nagygyor at 541-343-0228 or Jean Shirey at 541-520-2285

"If you're always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be." - Maya Angelou

HIBsters - A Skinner Butte Hike

Saturday, April 13

Join us for a hike - approx. 2.5 miles out and back, 275 ft. elevation gain. Meet at the parking lot behind Steelhead Brewery at 6 PM. Bring water, binoculars, camera - the eagles may be coming back to their nest to roost. If you aren't up for a hike, join us at Steelhead at 7:30 PM for a libation, tapas, and chat.

An Evening at St. Mary's presents
A Cinco de Mayo celebration in April!
Tuesday, April 30

- 5:30 PM Adults have nibbles and conversation in the Guild Room. Bring a (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) beverage to share. (Kids will be in Berktold Hall with the piñata!)
- 6:00 PM Everyone gathers in Berktold Hall for dinner (vegan/gluten-free options provided).
- 6:30 PM Dancing by Ballet Folklorico begins.
- Bring a friend to this all-ages event!**

TWO UPCOMING BOOK GROUPS

The Universal Christ: How a forgotten reality can change everything we see, hope for, and believe

Wednesdays May 1, 8, 15, & 22 from 7 to 8:30 PM

This radical and life changing book has just been published. The author, Franciscan priest Richard Rohr, presents an expansive view of Christ:

But you and I can reopen that ancient door of faith with a key, and that key is the proper understanding of a word that many of us use often, but often too glibly. That word is Christ. What if Christ is a name for the transcendent within of every "thing" in the universe?

What if Christ is a name for the immense spaciousness of all true Love?

What if Christ refers to an infinite horizon that pulls us from within and pulls us forward too? What if Christ is another name for everything—in its fullness?

Join Pam Birrell for a reading and discussion of this marvelous book. Pam will also present what she's learning at the Living School studying with Rohr, Cynthia Bourgeault, and James Finley.

So order your book! If you can't afford one OR if you can provide one to someone else, please email pbirrell@gmail.com

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### Aging with Courage: A six-week book club

(May 7 through June 11 from 7 to 8 PM)

The book club's first session is a lecture by the author, Professor Anne Maggs, describing her year-long research project resulting in the novel, *I Never Died Before; A survival guide to aging and beyond*.

Based on the belief that aging is a natural process and not a medical emergency, this fictional work follows two elderly women striving to remain in their beloved home by writing advice columns on how to age with courage. The story is accompanied by journal exercises which offer tips and tools to help oldsters make pro-active housing decisions, weigh the risks and benefits of proposed medical treatments, fill out advance directives, write final letters to loved ones, and funeral planning.

Each week will focus on one of the chapters and its accompanying journal exercise. Participants will be asked to volunteer as readers for salient sections and contributors on lessons they learned from the weekly exercise.

Books may be purchased through Amazon or Barnes & Noble, or at one of the sessions (25% will be donated to St. Mary's Library).

### Five easy ways to support St. Mary's!

You can donate without taking time out of your day, or going out of your way! Choose the fundraising method that works best. Are you an online shopper, smart phone user – or do you shop at Fred Meyers or Market of Choice? Pick your preference and we will get you started!

### **Market of Choice and eScrip**

Sign-up with eScrip and shop at Market of Choice. St. Mary's then earns a generous percentage of your purchases at no cost to you. Plus, no special card or coupon is needed. St. Mary's earns around \$2,000 annually from this program.

### **Fred Meyer**

You can earn donations for St. Mary's by shopping at Fred Meyer and using your Fred Meyer Rewards Card. The more shoppers that link St. Mary's to a Rewards Card the more donations St. Mary's will receive - at no extra cost to you.

### **Smile.amazon.com**

- Sign in to smile.amazon.com.
- Select St. Mary's as the nonprofit you want to support
- Then when you shop at Amazon go to smile.amazon.com first. St. Mary's will earn a .5% of your Amazon purchase.

### **Benefit Mobile**

Purchase merchandise using your smart phone through gift card purchases. Starbucks, Amazon, and *many* other retailers. You can even use Benefit Mobile to “double dip” with smile.amazon.com and iGive!

### **iGive**

St. Mary's is new to this program, but iGive has donated to organizations for over 20 years. Online merchants contribute a portion of your purchase to St. Mary's.

If you have any questions, contact Kate Beckstrand at ktbecks@comcast.net or 541-359-9502 to learn more. I am *happy* to help get you started!

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## Staff News

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We are sad to announce that Maria Dossin has informed us that she needs to step down from her role as our Music Director and Organist. We are so grateful for the past three years of ministry with her as she helped us worship God with beautiful music. Fortunately, this is not goodbye, as she and her family will continue to worship at St. Mary's! The Personnel Committee is working on putting together a search for a new Music Director and Organist.

*The Rev. Christine Marie,  
Small Group Ministry Developer*



*Photo credit: Christine Marie*

### **Confidentiality: A Practice of Love**

Confidentiality is mostly used as a legal term, and means keeping something secret or private. But there is a very rich, deeper meaning, when it is practiced in spiritual community. It is based on the word *confident*, which means “having full trust.” Being confident means being able to be certain of something.

Practicing confidentiality in a spiritual community means being able to be certain that someone else will hold what you tell them in sacred trust. It's not just keeping it secret or private, it's holding it prayerfully and lovingly in your heart, in partnership with God. It's standing as witness to another person's unfolding in their life journey.

Confidentiality is one of the essential building blocks of small groups ministry, along with taking turns and listening deeply. Confidentiality builds safety over time. The more we can share our deepest stories, and know they will be held as sacred, the more confident we become, both in God, and in each other.

Confidentiality is not easy. That's why it has to be practiced. We don't usually look at keeping someone else's confidence as a spiritual practice, but I consider it to be a very important practice of Love. Many of us speak with God with full confidence that we will be loved and heard. Some of us speak with our animal friends with the same confidence, looking for that unconditional love and acceptance.

We need the same thing from other human beings. We need another intelligence to look out at us, understand and accept us for who we are, with all our gifts and struggles, and to truly accompany us. In this way, we step into partnership with God, and in the process, we become more human ourselves.

At St. Mary's, we want to offer the opportunity for each person who wants one to be in a small group that meets regularly. A small group can offer you opportunity to practice love of yourself and others in growing confidence. A small group could be a place where you find and get closer to other parishioners who share some of your spiritual interests and goals.

Questions? Contact me at christine@saint-marys.org.

## Monthly Vestry Report

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The weekend before Snowpocalypse 2019 hit Eugene, members of St. Mary's Vestry had a retreat near Vida. On our last morning of the retreat, Sunday February 24th, we awoke to a blanket of white covering the grounds of our rustic riverside cabins. With the peacefulness of the snow falling outside as our backdrop, we celebrated Eucharist that morning and conducted our first meeting of the new Vestry year. It was a fitting end to a weekend of bonding around meals, games, and the shared task of Vestry service. The Eucharist, of course, reminded the twelve of us sitting around a glowing fireplace that "we are one body because we all share in one bread." And the meeting was a tangible reminder, as well, that the Vestry is part of a larger body back home in Eugene known as St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Many if not most of you will be quite familiar with the work and role of the Vestry. But some of you may be asking, What is a Vestry? In short, the Vestry is the governing board of the church. It's like a board of directors. It consists of the rector and twelve lay members who serve three-year terms with a third of the members rolling off and four new members joining every year. They are parish leaders who help set vision and support the church's mission. They are also legal representatives of the parish. [Trivia Time! Did you know the name Vestry comes from the practice of these lay leaders meeting in the room where the clergy vested?] In addition to the leadership of the rector on the Vestry, the group also has a Senior and Junior Warden. They assume some leadership and legal roles during their year or two of service. That's where I come in. Last year I was the Junior Warden. This year I am the Senior Warden. Phil Barnhart will be serving as Junior Warden.

Of the many things we did at our Vestry retreat, we set for ourselves a few directives and goals. This *Bellringer* article is the result of one of those goals. We as a Vestry want to be more intentional about reporting our work to the parish at large. So in addition to the always-open invitation to stop any of us at a Saturday night or Sunday morning service (look for those purple name tags!), we will provide a report of our work in each month's *Bellringer*. Some months there may be more to report than others, but you can expect to see another entry from your Senior Warden next month.

We also committed to focus on and practice gratitude for the year. Of course, gratitude is something that we should

practice all the time, not just for one year, but the Vestry this year will be more intentional in that practice. Each monthly meeting will include prayer and sharing with a focus on gratitude. And you may find us promoting gratitude in other ways throughout the year.

I'd like to demonstrate some gratitude on behalf of the whole Vestry right now. We very much appreciate the helpful feedback we received from some of you at the Vestry Fair on March 9-10. Each year at the retreat, the Vestry as a whole chooses two goals or projects to work on. The members then divide into two sub-committees and map out a plan to tackle these projects. A few years ago one of the projects for the Vestry was developing five-year goals for St. Mary's. In the years since those goals were created, the Vestry has tried to select two aspects of those goals to drive their projects for the year. To use an analogy, they have selected two trees to inspect in the larger forest of St. Mary's five-year goals. This year we decided to take a look at a tree AND the forest itself. One sub-committee will be looking into volunteer recruitment, management, training, and retention—one of the trees in the forest. The other sub-committee will be assessing, reviewing, and communicating the five-year goals—the forest! It seemed like a good time to step back and take a look at the overarching goals now that we are over halfway through their creation. And so, to those of you who gave feedback on these projects at the Vestry Fair, thank you.

I'd like to end this first Vestry Report with a couple more acknowledgments of gratitude. St. Mary's could not do its many ministries (and there are a lot; we are an active body!) without the dedication, heart, and hard work of amazing volunteers and staff. During this season the Vestry would especially like to express our gratitude to Holly Cabell, site coordinator for Egan Warming Center, and the volunteers who helped St. Mary's and several other sites across Eugene extend hospitality to people without shelter during the cold nights of this winter. We would also like to thank Maria Dossin, who is stepping down as our organist and music director. Her three years of service has been a blessing to our musicians, choirs, and the parish as a whole.

And thus ends the first Vestry Report.

Peace,  
Chris Spinks  
Sr. Warden

# St. Mary's Even

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | W                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Key:</b><br/>           CH = Church<br/>           CR = Conference Room<br/>           GR = Guild Room<br/>           LB = Library<br/>           BH = Berkold Hall<br/> <b>Rooms with Biblical location names are classrooms and are located in the Sunday School wing.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>1<br/>           9:15 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)<br/><br/>           Noon Golden Years meeting (GR)<br/><br/>           4-5 pm Communion class for children (CH/Judea)</p>                                            | <p>2<br/><br/>           1:15-3:15 pm Knifty Knitters (Damascus)<br/><br/>           4:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Damascus)<br/><br/>           7 pm Order of St. Luke (GR)</p>                                                                                                                                                    | <p>3<br/>           9-5 Quilting Guild (Gui<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist wi<br/><br/>           4:30 pm Evening Prayer<br/><br/>           7:00 pm Liturgical Choir</p>                                                                                                                     |
| <p>7<br/>           8:00 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           10:15 am Sunday School classes for pre-K-9th grades<br/>           10:15 am Confirmation Class for CAP/10-12 grades (CR)<br/>           11-12N Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal (Damascus)<br/>           11:00 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           1:30 pm Santa Eucaristía<br/>           3 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)<br/>           4-5 pm Intergeren Choir rehearsal (CH)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>8<br/>           9:15 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)<br/><br/>           4-5 pm Communion class for children (CH/Judea)</p>                                                                                               | <p>9<br/>           12 N Brown Bag Bible Study (Damascus)<br/>           1:15-3:15 pm Knifty Knitters (Damascus)<br/>           2:30-4:30 pm Personnel Committee meeting (GR)<br/><br/>           4:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Damascus)<br/><br/>           7:00 pm Vestry meeting (CR)</p>                                       | <p>10<br/>           9-5 Quilting Guild (Gui<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist wi<br/><br/>           1:30-3 pm Writing the Sac<br/>           group) (Damascus)<br/><br/>           4:30 pm Evening Prayer<br/>           5:30-8:00 pm Men's Clu<br/><br/>           7:00 pm Liturgical Cho</p> |
| <p><b>14 Palm Sunday</b><br/>           8 am Holy Eucharist, Blessing of Palms, &amp; Passion Gospel<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Blessing of Palms, &amp; Passion Gospel<br/>           10:15 am Paschal Candle making in Berkold Hall<br/>           11 am Holy Eucharist, Blessing of Palms, &amp; Passion Gospel<br/>           1:30 pm Santa Eucaristía<br/>           3 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)<br/>           4-5 pm Intergeren Choir rehearsal (CH)<br/>           4-6 pm Small Group Leaders meeting (GR)<br/>           5 pm Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal (CH)<br/>           5-7 pm Journey Fellowship: Novruz (@ Carolyn Williams' home)</p> | <p><b>15 MAY BELLRINGER DEADLINE</b><br/>           9:15 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)<br/><br/>           4-5 pm Communion class for children (CH/Judea)<br/><br/>           6-8 pm Women's Retreat planning team (CR)</p> | <p><b>16 Stations of the Cross</b><br/><br/>           1:15-3:15 pm Knifty Knitters (Damascus)<br/><br/>           4:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Damascus)<br/><br/>           6:00 pm Dinner before Stations of the Cross (BH)<br/>           7:00 pm Stations of the Cross (CH)<br/>           7:00 pm Order of St. Luke (GR)</p> | <p>17<br/>           9-5 Quilting Guild (Gui<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist wi<br/><br/>           11 am Clergy renewal o<br/>           12N Clergy Luncheon (C<br/><br/>           4:30 pm Evening Prayer<br/><br/>           7:00 pm Liturgical Cho</p>                                     |
| <p><b>21 Easter</b><br/>           8:00 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           10:15 am Childen's Easter Egg Hunt (BH)<br/>           11:00 am Solemn High Eucharist<br/>           11-12N Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal (Damascus)<br/>           1:30 pm Santa Eucaristía<br/>           3 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>22<br/>           9:15 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)</p>                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>23<br/>           12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (Damascus)<br/>           1:15-3:15 pm Knifty Knitters (Damascus)<br/>           1:30 pm Personnel Committee (GR)<br/><br/>           4:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Damascus)</p>                                                                                               | <p>24<br/>           9-5 Quilting Guild (Gui<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist wi<br/><br/>           4:30 pm Evening Prayer<br/><br/>           7:00 pm Liturgical Cho</p>                                                                                                                      |
| <p>28 Women's Retreat ends<br/>           8:00 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           9:30 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           10:15 am Sunday School classes for pre-K-9th grades<br/>           10:15 am CAP/10th-12th grades - Sermon Sunday<br/>           11-12N Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal (Damascus)<br/>           11:00 am Holy Eucharist<br/>           1:30 pm Santa Eucaristía<br/>           3:00 pm ECW Movie <i>The Crown</i> (Damascus)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>29 Night Shelter dinners all week - off-site<br/>           9:15 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)</p>                                                                                                                       | <p><b>30 Evening at SM/Cinco de Mayo</b><br/>           12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (Damascus)<br/>           1:15-3:15 pm Knifty Knitters (Damascus)<br/> <del>4:30-6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Damascus)</del><br/><br/>           5:30-7 pm Evening@St. Mary's: Cinco de Mayo</p>                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

# nts - April 2019

|                                                                                                                                                 | Thu                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Fri                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Sat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>ld Room)</p> <p>th healing and anointing</p> <p>(Chapel)</p> <p>rehearsal (CH)</p>                                                           | <p>4</p> <p>7:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (Damascus)</p> <p>8:00 am Centering Prayer (GR)</p> <p>9:30-11 am Itty Bitty Bible Study (Nursery)</p> <p>9:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)</p> <p>12:30 pm Needle Arts Guild (GR)</p><br><p>7:8:15 pm Adult Ed.-Passion Narratives (Damascus)</p>                                                                                                                                                   | <p>5</p> <p>10:30 am Lectionary Group (GR)</p><br><p>4:30 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>6</p> <p>9:45 am Altar Guild meeting (GR)</p><br><p>5:00 pm Circle Service (GR)</p>                                                                                                                                                |
| <p>ld Room)</p> <p>th healing and anointing</p> <p>red Journey (an on-going</p> <p>(Chapel)</p> <p>ub (Kitchen/GR)</p> <p>ir rehearsal (CH)</p> | <p>11</p> <p>7:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (Damascus)</p> <p>8:00 am Centering Prayer (GR)</p> <p>9:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)</p> <p>9:30-11 am Itty Bitty Bible Study (Nursery)</p><br><p>12:30 pm Needle Arts Guild (GR)</p> <p>1:30 pm Widows' Group - off-site, see Helga</p><br><p>6:30 pm Spirited Women (GR)</p> <p>7:8:15 pm Adult Ed.-Passion Narratives (Damascus)</p>                                                         | <p>12</p> <p>10:30 am Lectionary Group (GR)</p> <p>10:30 am Earth Stewards (Damascus)</p><br><p>4:30 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)</p>                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>13</p> <p>9:30 am Saturday Breakfast (BH)</p><br><p>5:00 pm Circle Service (GR)</p><br><p>6:00 pm HIBsters Hike (meet at parking lot behind Steelhead Brewery)</p> <p>7:30 pm HIBsters post-hike gathering (Steelhead Brewery)</p> |
| <p>ld Room)</p> <p>th healing and anointing</p> <p>f vows (CH)</p> <p>BH)</p> <p>(Chapel)</p> <p>ir rehearsal (CH)</p>                          | <p>18 <b>Maundy Thursday</b></p> <p>7:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (Damascus)</p> <p>8:00 am Centering Prayer (GR)</p> <p>9:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (GR)</p> <p>9:30-11 am Itty Bitty Bible Study (Nursery)</p> <p>12:30 pm Needle Arts Guild (GR)</p><br><p>5:30 pm Maundy Thursday Children's Service with Supper following (CH &amp; BH)</p><br><p>7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service (CH)</p> <p>8:30 pm to Noon Friday Altar of Repose</p> | <p>19 <b>Good Friday - Office closes at noon</b></p> <p>Altar of Repose continues until noon</p><br><p>10:30 am Lectionary Group (Guild Room)</p> <p>12N Mass of the Pre-sanctified Eucharist (CH)</p><br><p>4:30 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)</p><br><p>7:00 pm Viernes Santo/Good Friday Service</p> | <p>20 <b>Easter Vigil</b></p><br><p>1:30 pm Contemplative Prayer (GR)</p><br><p>4-9 pm CAP Retreat</p> <p>5:00 pm Circle Service (GR)</p><br><p><b>8:00 pm Easter Vigil (CH)</b></p>                                                  |
| <p>ld Room)</p> <p>th healing and anointing</p> <p>(Chapel)</p> <p>ir rehearsal (CH)</p>                                                        | <p>25</p> <p>7:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (Damascus)</p> <p>8:00 am Centering Prayer (GR)</p> <p>9:30-11 am Itty Bitty Bible Study (Nursery)</p> <p>9:30 am PrayerBreath Yoga (Guild Room)</p> <p>12:30 pm Needle Arts Guild (GR)</p> <p>12:30 pm Pastoral Care Team (Damascus)</p>                                                                                                                                                        | <p>26 <b>WOMEN'S RETREAT</b></p> <p>10:30 am Lectionary Group (Guild Room)</p><br><p>4:30 pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)</p>                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>27</p> <p>9:30 am Saturday Breakfast (BH)</p><br><p>5:00 pm Circle Service (GR)</p>                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

# Children, Youth, and Families News

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## Children's Communion Classes

Mondays April 1, 8, and 15 from 4 to 5 PM

Whether your children are already receiving Eucharist and would like to deepen their understanding, or they are waiting to know more before receiving, they are welcome to this 3-week course that explores the foundations of the Eucharist. This class is designed for children ages 5 and up. We encourage parents to join us if they are able. The classes build on each other, so we hope your child can attend all three sessions. Questions? Contact Bingham+ at 541-343-9253 or Bingham@Saint-Marys.org.

## Vacation Bible Camp

August 19 - 23 from 8:45 AM to 12 Noon

This year we will be using the Spark curriculum, which focuses on a different Bible story about WATER each day. Capture the moment of wonder and amazement when your children experience the Bible brought to life through music, crafts, story telling, and games. Mark your calendar and join us for another wonderful St. Mary's camp.

Middle and high school youth - We would love your help during the week. This is a wonderful volunteer activity to put on job and college applications!

**Easter Egg Angels Needed!** We are handing out plastic Easter eggs for you to fill to support our Easter Day egg hunts. Please see Sue Ann or Carolyn if you can help. All filled eggs will need to be returned to church by Wednesday, April 17 so the BUNNY'S ANGELS can get them hidden!

## Palm Sunday - April 14

Paschal Candle Making

Palm Sunday is a wonderful time for families to involve their children in church worship. Read more about this service in our Holy Week & Easter schedule insert.

## Easter Sunday - April 21

Easter Egg Hunts

In place of Sunday School, Children's Easter Egg Hunts will follow the service. Bring a basket for your children to fill with eggs! See the sign up table outside the Guild Room for a sign up to help us have an idea of numbers. Read more about this in our Holy Week & Easter schedule insert.

## Maundy Thursday Children's Service and Supper

Thursday, April 18 5:30 to 7 PM

Read more about this service in our Holy Week & Easter schedule insert.

## Combined Sunday School Sunday, April 28

Pre K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

To allow several of our Sunday school teachers to attend the women's retreat we will have a combined Sunday school class for children age Pre - K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders will stay in the church service with their families.

**Confirmation Retreat:** CAP students (10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders), join Bingham and Ryan on Holy Saturday for a special Confirmation Retreat! We will spend time together working on two important topics for Confirmation - worship and the Bible. These topics come together in a special way at the Easter Vigil service. We will meet, have dinner, and attend the Easter Vigil together. Saturday April 20, 4-9 PM, at St. Mary's.

## CAP Schedule (for 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders):

April 7 Confirmation Class, done at 11:15.

April 14 Brunch lesson until 12.

April 21 Easter Sunday - no lesson, but we would love help hiding Easter eggs for the little kids!

April 28 Sermon Sunday

## Journey Fellowship - St. Mary's Youth Group

NOVRUZ Rescheduled! April 14, 5-7 PM. Have you heard of Novruz? When Carolyn (and her husband, Jesse) was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Azerbaijan, she learned about this fun holiday. It is basically Azerbaijani New Year and celebration of earth, wind, water, and especially fire, and if you join us April 14, you'll learn all about it! There are things that will be familiar to you and our springtime holidays - dyed eggs (but not an egg hunt), fire (not just for burning palm branches), and rebirth! We will have an Azerbaijani meal, and do some fun Azerbaijani and Novruz games and activities at Carolyn's house! As always, bring friends! RSVP to Carolyn at carolyn@saint-marys.org.

**June Journey Fellowship:** Carolyn wants to do an **Escape Room** with St. Mary's youth on June 2, 5-7 PM! Please email Carolyn if you're interested in this as I would need to have a firm list of attendees to reserve the room. carolyn@saint-marys.org

**Pilgrimage News:** Lodging is booked - a combination of hostels and AirBnB! We'll start in London, then head to Canterbury, Oxford, and on to Paris! Learn more about our 14 pilgrims and their pilgrimage by attending the Sponsor-a-Pilgrim Tea on May 19, 3 PM.

# Episcopal Church Women (ECW) News

*Ministry for the women of St. Mary's, by the women of St. Mary's. No membership required.*



## FAQs about our Women's Retreat

Friday to Sunday, April 26-28  
with a Saturday-Only Option  
Camp Lutherwood, Cheshire  
just 45 minutes from St. Mary's

### Who Can Attend the Retreat?

All women of St. Mary's are invited. You are welcome to invite a friend to come along with you. We will make her feel welcome!

### What is the Age Range for this Retreat?

Last year we spanned 9 decades and this year, so far, we will span 7 decades. Nursing babies are welcome, but no children, please. This retreat is for you.

### I'm new to St. Mary's. Will I fit in?

This is a great opportunity to become a part of the St. Mary's community. Women new to the parish are already registered - you will fit in perfectly. Last year's newbies will be there to welcome you.

### What about my pet? I hate to leave Feather at home.

We are sorry, but the camp policy is that pets are not allowed at the camp unless they are certified service animals for disabled persons. Please respect this policy and leave Feather at home.

### Is this a Quiet Retreat?

This Easter season retreat will have time for quiet reflection and enriching worship. We also will have music, laughter, conversation, and time to kick up our heels. For those who need rest, feel free to go to bed early or sleep in.

### What are the sleeping arrangements?

The cabins are ground level with adjacent bathrooms on the same level or in the cabin. You need to bring your own bedding for the bunk bed (lower bunks for everyone!)

### What is the cost?

Cost for the weekend is \$90. Saturday only \$35. Partial scholarships from ECW are available. Pay what you are able to pay.

### What about food and drink?

The camp is cooking for us and can accommodate vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free meals. Bring snacks to share and your favorite beverage (beer, wine, and spirits okay) for pre-dinner Social Time.

### I'm ready to register. How does that happen?

Go online and visit [www.saint-marys.org/fellowship](http://www.saint-marys.org/fellowship) or find a registration form outside the Guild Room. You will learn so much more about this great retreat! **Our APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> deadline** is coming up, so please hurry. We want you on retreat with us!



ECW Presents

## SPRING MOVIE MATINEE

### *The Crown* *Season 2*

Join us as *The Crown* continues this Spring with the story of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II and the personal struggles of the royal family in a changing world.

Damascus Classroom  
Sunday, April 28th.

3 PM to 5 PM

Come a little early and enjoy scones and tea and a recap of previous episodes.

All Are Welcome!

Contact: Deacon Nancy Crawford

Church Women United  
World Day of Prayer Celebration



New Date and Place  
(Due to that pesky March snow)

Friday, April 5th  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
1090 Berntzen Road  
9:00 AM - 11:15 AM  
9 to 9:30 Continental Breakfast

Our World Day of Prayer program was written by the women of Slovenia and will be performed by 5 CWU members. We are delighted to have as our speaker, Alice Gentry. Alice formerly was homeless and now resides in Emerald Village. She has an interesting story to tell us about what happens when a middle-class single woman retires and just can't afford the high cost of renting in this area.

Further information contact St. Mary's Episcopal CWU Representative Katharine Hunt  
[keehhunt@gmail.com](mailto:keehhunt@gmail.com) or phone 541-607-0106.

**St. Mary's Outreach Ministry Council** met on March 7. Those in attendance voted to allocate \$1,200 to the White Bird ID program to help people who have lost their identification documents obtain new ID. Council members also agreed to meet with the St. Mary's Girl Scout Troop to discuss the outreach ministries that occur through the parish. Next meeting: May 23 at 4 PM.

**That's My Farmer** presents **Eugene's 2<sup>nd</sup> CSA Share Fair** Saturday, **April 13** – First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street – **11 AM – 2 PM**

This event is put on by faith communities and local farmers. Find out about local farms and their CSA Harvest Shares. There will be children activities such as face painting, fishing for prizes, a magician and craft projects. You will be able to visit with local farms, discuss their CSA Food Share program, and try out tasty in-season snacks.

The farmers are supplying produce and products for door prizes. There will be a \$200 gift certificate drawn which can be used towards a CSA Food Share of the winner's choice.

Donations made at the door will raise funds for the That's My Farmer Low Income Fund creating access to great food for all families! Questions? Contact Katharine Hunt, 541-607-0106.

### **Providing dinners for homeless families (Family Night Shelter)**

There has been a major change to Family Night Shelter (FNS). Families no longer have to move from church to church because there is a permanent place for them to stay, First Place Annex. All FNS services are offered on-site.

This change is wonderful for the families, but does affect how the faith communities participate. Rob Bressi has been helping us make this transition to the new model. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Rob has had to step back from this ministry. With our weeks coming up so soon, we need to adjust what we can accomplish this session of FNS. We have been consulting with FNS about how best to move forward, knowing that we intend to participate fully in the fall.

For our upcoming weeks (April 29 & May 6), we will provide meals on as many nights as possible for approximately 20 families/60 people. There are 14 days for groups to minister to the families. Sign up outside the Guild Room. You can cook in their kitchen or cook off-site and bring it in. The on-site kitchen is not as large as ours, so groups using their space should be limited to 5 people to be most efficient. The St. Mary's kitchen is available sometimes as an alternative. We cannot do food acquisition this time, so your group will need to provide your own food this round. We hope to bring back food acquisition in the fall. You may serve and clean up, but

providing meals is the most important thing. Consider gathering your St. Mary's ministry group or a group of friends.

Questions? Please contact Judy Alison, [judy@saint-marys.org](mailto:judy@saint-marys.org) or 541-343-9253.

### **Sock donations for Saturday Breakfast**

Socks, socks, socks. Members and friends of St. Mary's have donated several hundred pairs of socks that we have given to guests of Saturday Breakfast since November. We have also gifted hats, gloves and toiletries donated to the breakfast. We are thankful to be able to pass your donations along to our guests. During Lent we especially would like sock donations. New socks. Gently used socks. Clean socks.

**Plastic Recycling** - Many thanks to all who brought their plastic to be recycled. We will deliver it to the Glenwood facility on Saturday, April 6.

**Faith Community Fund** - This fund was established by the Earth Stewards committee here at St. Mary's in collaboration with McKenzie River Trust and the Long Tom Watershed Council. Its purpose is to help address the amount of carbon each of us creates—our carbon footprint. What is really interesting is that Corvallis is using our fund as a model for a similar fund they are creating for the whole city of Corvallis. We often never know what a difference each of our actions, however small, makes, but here is an example of a far reaching one. You can find more information in the brochures on the information table in the narthex.

### **Water, Water, Everywhere**

"Water, Water, everywhere and not a drop to drink!" Well, not exactly. Here in the Willamette Valley we are blessed with some of the finest water in the world to drink. However, it seems some people choose to drink water from a plastic bottle, sometimes with a lovely, scenic picture suggesting some unknown source. That water doesn't necessarily come from the best source we could choose. This is, of course, an appropriate supply for emergencies, but not for daily use.

Plastic water bottles are co-mingled or downcycled, possibly for reuse, or sent somewhere else—"out of sight, out of mind"—where toxins from plastics continue to leach into the soil.

Why not consider choosing an attractive, reusable water bottle? Consider it as part of your ensemble. When you walk out the door with the usual keys and wallet, add to your mental checklist "what's one more item that saves you money and protects the planet?" Or choose another alternative—a thermos which could be your water bottle, or could be refilled at your favorite coffee/tea shop. And enjoy the wonderful McKenzie River water.

## Roof Update

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As many have noticed, we have had a few leaks occur since the roof was completed back in late September. While we always wish for a trouble-free completion of any roofing project, call backs for leaks on a roof as complex as St Mary's are not uncommon. Our architect identified over 30 different roofing conditions that had to be specifically detailed - most of which were flashing related. We worked closely with the roofer during installation to make sure these details were followed.

Once the recent leaks were detected, a phone call to our roofer brought his crew out promptly. (We are of course under warranty until next September.) In all instances, they found specific things that needed additional attention and made the repairs.

Along with our roofer, we are committed to providing a long term, reliable roof structure for St Mary's.

Submitted by Brian McMurray  
St. Mary's project manager for the re-roofing project

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## Thank You

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Thank you to Holly Cabell, the Egan volunteers, and the parish for making it possible for St. Mary's to be an Egan Warming site. We prevented deaths and frostbite by providing warmth, shelter over night, 100s of dry socks, warm clothes, and warm breakfasts before guests left in the morning.

Holly Cabell passed along the following related thank yous:

- To Judy Alison, Building Manager. Judy responded to many calls outside work hours so that St. Mary's could host homeless persons during the snowy and cold weather.

- To Tom Beckstrand, Facilities and Grounds Maintenance. Tom quickly installed extra smoke alarms at the request of the Fire Marshall. He also dealt with other Egan-related building issues quickly and with good humor.

Additional Thank yous:

To Men's Club, our children and youth staff, and all the volunteers who made our annual Pancake Supper a success!

To St. Vincent de Paul for plowing our parking lot after the snow storm.

To Lynda Christiansen for ongoing landscaping work.

To the multiple volunteers who stepped up to help with the Ash Wednesday children's service dinner, extra special thanks to Dorothy Powell, Nancy Crawford, and Linnae Eckley for taking on very last minute shopping and cooking tasks, and to the families who helped clean up.

## Rector's Closing Thoughts

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As I wrote about last month, Lent is a time when people often adopt special practices to help grow in their faith. Traditionally, these practices reflect Jesus' time out in the wilderness, focused on fasting from something or praying more. Lenten practices are a powerful way to deepen one's faith. You still have a few weeks left in Lent to engage in some kind of Lenten practice if you haven't already started.

But Lent isn't the only time we could adopt practices to deepen our faith. This month, we will also begin the 50-day season of Easter. I have been wondering lately about the idea of taking on a practice for

*What would an*

*Easter practice look like?*

*An Easter practice would reflect*

*new life, helping ourselves and*

*others flourish.*

Easter. What would an Easter practice look

like? If our Lenten

practices reflect

time in the desert

with Jesus, an

Easter practice

would somehow reflect

the resurrection and post-

resurrection life with Jesus. An Easter

practice would reflect new life, helping ourselves and others

flourish. An Easter practice would bring us closer together

to other people, fostering friendship and reconciliation. An

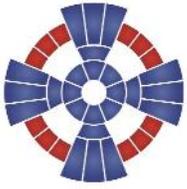
Easter practice would help us live into the baptismal

covenant.

Maybe an Easter practice could be to reach out to a fellow parishioner who you don't know and talking to them over a cup of coffee after church some Sunday. Maybe an Easter practice could be to call up a friend you haven't spoken to in a while and checking in, asking them how they are and listening to their story. Or to plant some trees, bringing new life to God's creation that is aching in pain. What would it look like if you cooked dinner and ate as a family every night for the season? Could that be a practice that helps your family flourish? Would an Easter practice of serving people in need by working at the Saturday Breakfast or becoming an advocate for a refugee or asylum-seeker through our work with the Refugee Resettlement Coalition help you live further into your baptismal covenant? Or maybe an Easter practice could be to intentionally offer some little kindnesses like smiling at people you pass on the street and offering a warm greeting.

The possibilities are endless as you figure out what it is that you need to do to live the Easter life. Remember that Lent is only forty days while Easter is fifty. The fast is quickly eclipsed by the feast.

*Bingham+*



# THE BELLRINGER

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
1300 Pearl Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

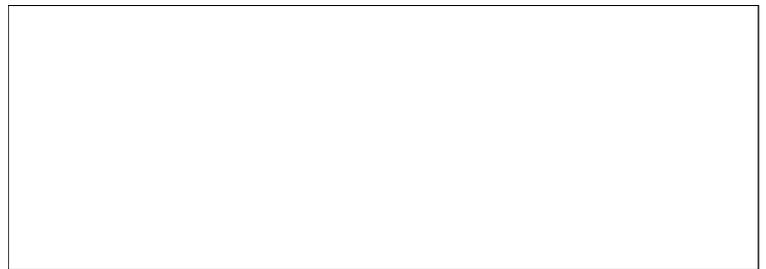
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# April 2019

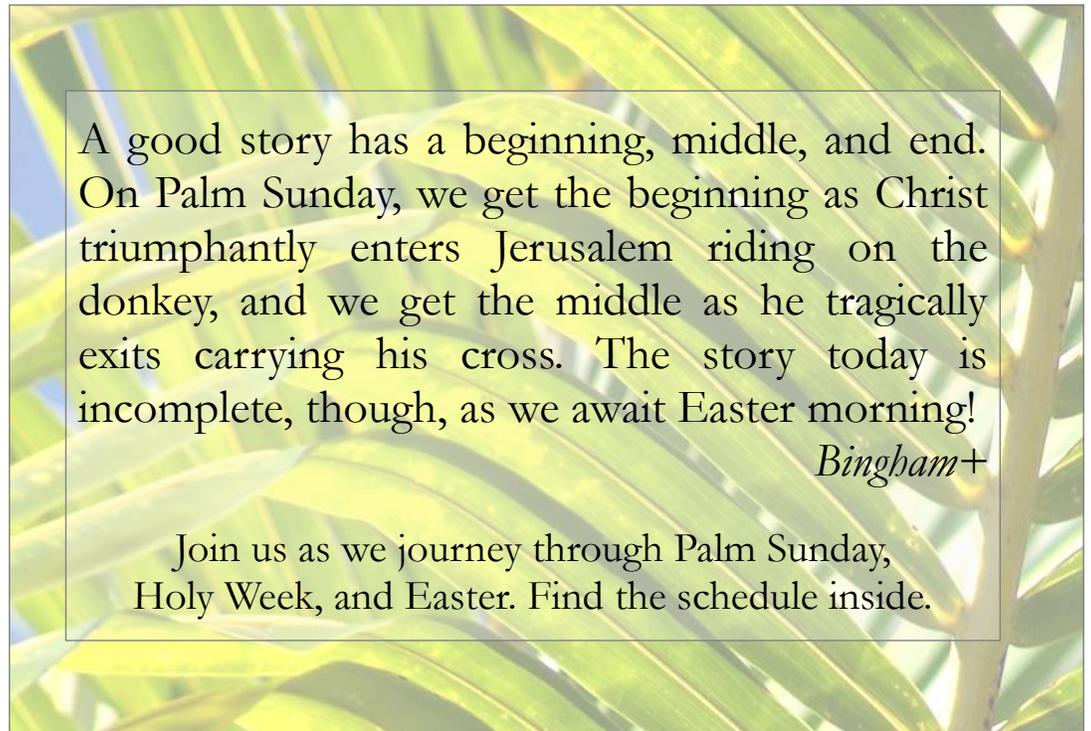


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A good story has a beginning, middle, and end. On Palm Sunday, we get the beginning as Christ triumphantly enters Jerusalem riding on the donkey, and we get the middle as he tragically exits carrying his cross. The story today is incomplete, though, as we await Easter morning!

*Bingham+*

Join us as we journey through Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. Find the schedule inside.

All are welcome at St Mary's, no matter what age, ethnicity or race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or economic and social circumstances.