

This week at St. Luke By-the-Sea:

Monday, July 16, 2018

- o **NO OFFICE HOURS FOR JUDITH** as she will be on vacation this week.
- o 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – **Marcia's office hours**

Tuesday, July 17

- o **NO OFFICE HOURS FOR JUDITH** as she will be on vacation this week.
- o 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm – **Marcia's office hours**
- o **NO Grist for the Mill**
- o **NO Holy Eucharist**
- o 1:30 pm – Tuesday Writers Group

Wednesday, July 18

- o 10:30 am – **Adult Study group** – this will be the 2nd week of study on the **Desert Fathers and Mothers**, led by Brent Burford, meets at St. Stephen's
- o 2:00 pm – **Centering Prayer group**

Thursday, July 18

- o 10:00 am – **Enneagram Study Group**

Saturday, July 21

- o 9:00 am – **Community Breakfast** at Waldport Presbyterian Church. Join us!

Sunday, July 22 – The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

o 9:00 am – **Morning Prayer**

§ Ministries of the day:

- Presiding – **Marcia Newberry**
- Usher – **Curt**
- Lectors –
 - o Lessons – **Jackie**
 - o Psalm & Prayers – **Ray**
- Counters – **Ray & Curt**
- Coffee Hour – **Carol & Bunny**

o 2:30-4:00 pm – **Convocation Meeting** at Good Samaritan in Corvallis—the Diocesan budget will be the agenda topic

Please also note:

o **Judith+ will be on vacation July 16–29.** She will be backpacking in wilderness areas, so it will be difficult or impossible to reach her for most of that time. For pastoral emergencies during her absence, please contact either Senitila or, if a priest is needed, Gavin+. Have a great vacation, Judith+ & Brian!

o The BAC is bringing the following **Conestoga Hut Proposal** to the congregation for consideration as one of our primary outreach ministries. Please read the proposal over carefully. The BAC encourages you to ask them, members of the Outreach Committee, and/or Judith+ any & all questions that arise, & to discuss the proposal among yourselves over the next few weeks. **The congregation will vote on this important proposal on Sunday, August 5th.**

Conestoga Hut Proposal

The BAC, the Outreach Committee, and Judith+ invite the congregation to consider approving the placement of two Conestoga huts on St. Luke's grounds.

What is a Conestoga hut? It is an enclosed, insulated, locked structure that is small enough to fit within a single parking space and can be used as transitional living quarters for an individual or a couple. Typically each Conestoga hut contains a bed and storage space. The huts would have lighting and would be heated with a small electric heater.

Where would the huts be located? On the grassy space at the end of the parking lot.

How would we pay for the huts? One hut has already been built and donated to the church, with the understanding that if the congregation votes against this proposal the hut will be returned to the donor. In addition, St. Luke's has been awarded a \$2000 grant by Church Divinity School of the Pacific to build a second hut. The grant would also cover the cost of installing an outdoor electrical outlet. One idea that has been floated is to have youth from Job Corps or students from the high school help build the second hut.

What would residents do for bathroom facilities? In the short term, the Outreach Committee has proposed installing a Port-a-Potty in a discreet location near the huts and paying for rental and regular cleaning through Outreach funds. In the long term, the BAC and Judith+ propose that the parish apply for a grant from the Diocese to build an outdoor, locked restroom (with a shower) that would also serve as the restroom for the Outdoor Worship space. The grant application for the restroom would include a request for funding to connect with city sewer, thus addressing the critical need of replacing our very old septic system.

Who would stay in the huts? The huts would be used as housing for women transitioning back into the community after serving time in the county jail. The Outreach Committee would select two residents from a list of candidates proposed by Joan Barry-Gertz, a retired professor and counselor who works with women in the jail. The selection process would include a background check, and residents would agree to abide by a community covenant similar to the one that Church of the Resurrection in Eugene uses.

How long would the residents stay? Residents would be approved for an initial residency period of up to a year, with the possibility of renewing the agreement as necessary. Because the current waiting period for low-income housing is two years and vacancy rates for any kind of housing in our area are very low, it is unrealistic to expect residents to find permanent housing quickly.

Who would provide supervision? Joan Barry-Gertz has offered to work with the women, connect them with social services, visit regularly with them to provide counseling and accountability, and be available for emergencies. Joan lives just a few blocks from the church. These would be women that

she already knows from her volunteer work, so she would be building on existing relationships. Judith+ would also check in regularly with the women, work on developing a personal relationship with them, and be available as a pastoral presence.

What about insurance? The church's insurance covers this kind of ministry because it is viewed as directly related to the mission of the church.

What role would the congregation have in this ministry? The members of the congregation would be invited to get acquainted with the residents, be friendly and welcoming to them, pray for them, and treat them with the courtesy and respect that we offer to any member of our community. Residents would be introduced to the congregation when they first move in and would be invited to attend church services and church events, but would be free to attend or not as they choose.

Have other churches tried anything like this? They have. Among others, the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Eugene and the Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine in Springfield have successfully housed people in Conestoga huts on their property. When a group from St. Luke's visited Resurrection and St. John's, The Rev. Nancy Gallagher and the Rev. Brent Was spoke enthusiastically with us about their experiences with the huts and the benefits that the congregation had received from their relationships with the residents. Both Nancy+ and Brent+ offered themselves as experienced advisers if we move forward with this idea.

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Has this proposal been approved by the City of Waldport? Not yet. It would be premature to bring the proposal before the city before we have the congregation's approval and support.

Please keep in prayer:

§ **Ray Winward**, who had knee surgery on July 9th. He is home now and is recovering.

§ **Barbara Smith-Huggins** was back in the hospital again when Jackie last contacted her so please be sure to keep her in your prayers this week. If you'd like to send a card, her local address is PO Box 1381, Waldport OR 97394.

§ **Kristin Bigler**, who broke her right arm. Let's give her & her family all the support we can, especially since her mom, Karin, is struggling to keep up because of her own physical limitations.

§ **Peg LeClair**, friend of Karin & Julie, who is facing only about 6 months to live due to an inoperable heart condition.

§ **Dutch, Sherri, & Madyson Fortmeyer**: for the passing of Dutch's father, Charles "Lobo" Fortmeyer.

§ **Judith's mother, Joyce**: for ongoing health issues, please keep her medical & care providers, and all her family in your prayers.

Love, prayers, & peace from Wyoming,

Marcia Casey

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