

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

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JUNE 2019

A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

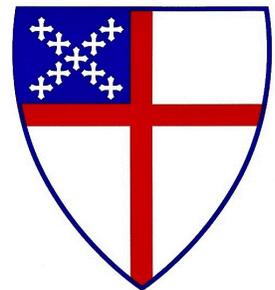
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On June 9th we celebrate a day that within the life of the church is as important as Christmas and Easter, that being Pentecost. (Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentekost*, which simply means "50th day".) The disciples of Jesus were in Jerusalem for the spring harvest festival which falls on the 50th day after the second day of Passover. And while they were all gathered there, probably expecting to have a good time, something happened that was unexpected to say the least. The Holy Spirit of God lit upon each apostle in a way, which Luke records in the Acts of the Apostles, as a "tongue of fire". As well, this Spirit which rested upon them was accompanied by a great sound of a wind. And from that moment on, nothing would ever be the same.

Some refer to this as the birth of the Church. Others see it as the Confirmation of the Church. Whatever the case, it marked a moment when the followers of Jesus undoubtedly recognized themselves as something other than just disciples. They were now the church acting as the very Body of Christ in the world at that moment. And to that end, we see ourselves as the same today.

One would think that from this day on, everything would go fairly smoothly. After all, the Holy Spirit seemed to be pretty much in charge. But that is not always the way things worked out back then. The apostles, filled with courage and different ways of looking at the world, had discussions that sometimes turned to arguments. They faced persecution. Their thoughts concerning missionary activities were not always of one accord. There were changes in local leadership. In fact, the first council of the church, the Council of Jerusalem, assembled because of an argument around the question of how one came to belong to the church. Basically they, back then, look a lot like us in the wider church today.

Because the church marches through the rough and tumble world we all reside in, there will always be a collective approach to the faith which, at the same time, is permeated with people seeing things differently, just as people spoke different languages on the Day of Pentecost. For example, we speak of there being at least six types of people in Episcopal Churches. They are Charismatics, Evangelicals, Social Activists, Traditionalists, Anglo-Catholics and Rationalists. Thank God for that because all those folks bespeak the gospel in ways that touch more than just one type of person in search for Jesus. But it also means that we have different lenses through which we look at the world and how the Church needs to address what ails the communities in which we find ourselves. We all have different gifts and so even when we are in agreement as to what should be done, we minister in very different ways. Sometimes those ways can seem odd and even, if we didn't get enough sleep the night before, irritating. But this is precisely the way those first apostles were in the early days of the church...different.



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LETTER FROM THE RECTOR (cont'd)

In other words, as I will say in my sermon on Pentecost, the church is hardly a tidy enterprise. But then again, that's what makes our life in Christ exciting. Never do we have the dullness of just one way of viewing our venue for ministry or proclaiming the Good News. So, as we begin construction shortly on the worship space and offices, and continue the process of searching for a new rector, delight in the multiplicity of ways Jesus will be walking through our lives in the persons of the good people of All Saints' Church. It is simple Pentecost 2.0 making itself known.

Faithfully yours,

Bradley

SEARCH COMMITTEE-PARISH SURVEY

The Search Committee for the next rector of All Saints' had its first meeting on May 4 with the Canon to the Ordinary from the Diocese of Montana. Before we can advertise for a rector, we need to develop a Ministry Portfolio. We are seeking input from the entire worshipping community in describing our current and desired ministries. A survey has been designed by members of the Search Committee. Your participation in completing the survey is much desired as we engage in discerning the best fit for our new spiritual leader.

The All Saints' Parish Survey can be completed online or on paper. The Search Committee asks that everyone complete this vital part of the discernment process by June 17.

Completing the survey

Go online to our website, www.allsaintsmt.org, and click the link which will take you to the online survey. There is also an option for a link to a PDF version which you can print, fill out, and drop in the survey box in Memorial Hall, or mail to the parish office. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the church.

For any questions concerning the survey, please contact Kathleen Martin at 314-249-3968 or email her at kathleenmartin88@gmail.com. Please do not contact the church.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

The members of the Search Committee for the new rector had their first meeting on May 4 with Rev. Chris Roberts, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Montana. He provided an overview of the clergy search process and will serve as a consultant to the Search Committee. He encouraged the committee and the Vestry to listen to the Holy Spirit, follow the Canons of the Episcopal Church, and listen to the people of our church in the process of selecting a new rector. This is a spiritual process, not a hiring process. We seek God's will for the congregation. We are not hiring an employee, but calling a priest, pastor, and spiritual leader.

Search Process

The Chair of the Search Committee is Sam Baldrige. The Search Committee developed a proposed timeline and shared it with the Vestry. The Vestry is responsible for providing for worship during the interim period. It is their plan to continue with Eucharistic worship by engaging supply priests.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT (Cont'd)

	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
<i>Complete Ministry Portfolio</i>							
<i>Advertise for Candidates</i>							
<i>Candidate Selection</i>							
<i>Call Issued by Vestry</i>							

Ministry Portfolio

The Ministry Portfolio provides prospective candidates with information about All Saints'. The Search Committee decided it was important to engage in a self-study to faithfully discern the present character, ministry, and future goals and visions of our congregation. Members are asked to complete a survey to help inform the search process. Results of the survey will be shared with the community and there may be follow-up discussions in the form of cottage meetings.

Advertise for Candidates

The position will be posted through the Office of Transition Ministries in the Episcopal Church's computer system to search for potential candidates. We also welcome names of candidates from our members.

Candidate Selection

The candidate selection process will consist of interviews, reference checking, background checks and visits. The Ecclesiastical Authority (Bishop of Montana, or in the absence of a bishop, the Standing Committee) is involved in this process along with the Search Committee and Vestry. During this period, all names of potential nominees are held in the highest confidence.

Call Issued by Vestry

The selected nominee is called by the Vestry to be the new rector of All Saints'.

How You Can Help

Pray

Prayer cards are available at the church (BCP, p. 818, #13). Pray daily for discernment by the candidates and all those involved in the selection process.

Help With the Self-Study

Provide your candid input on the survey and complete it by June 17. Participate in any post-survey discussion opportunities.

Help Recruit

Give names of potential candidates to the Search Committee.



BRADLEY'S RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS CAREER

On Wednesday evening, June 19, Bradley will share some reflections regarding his time in the church from when he entered seminary in 1976 to today. As well, he will also recall some of the more memorable moments in the 14 years he has been with us at All Saints'. Of course those present will also be invited to chime in with their impressions. A simple meal will begin at 5:30 and the conversation will commence at 6:00 in Memorial Hall. A lot has happened in these decades, and we've flourished our way through it all.

Please join us for what promises to be an enjoyable evening.



Then

From

to



Now

ALL SAINTS' DAY CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Day Camp Session I: August 5-9, 2019

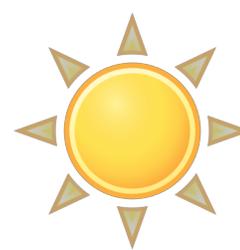
Day Camp Session II: August 12-16, 2019

Registration for this summer's free day camp for first-sixth graders is open. This year, our day camp theme is "Faith Moves Mountains!" During day camp, we explore and experience God's good gifts through stories, music, outdoor play, arts and crafts, worship, and by serving others.

At day camp, campers may participate in the following activities: hiking, field games, songs, drumming, arts and crafts, skits and in other games that cultivate creative expression.

Campers will join in one day of service during the week together. There is no cost to participate.

Register online: <http://campmarshalldaycamps.campbrainregistration.com>



JUNE 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Services at 9 and 11 am	3	4	5 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	6 Noon Service at AS	7	8
9 Services at 9 and 11 am PENTECOST (WEAR RED!)	10	11	12 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	13 Noon service at AS	14	15
16 Services at 9 and 11 am HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!	17	18	19 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs An Evening with Bradley 5:30 pm	20 Noon service at AS	21	22
23 Services at 9 and 11 am	24	25	26 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	27 Noon service at AS	28	29
30 Services at 9 and 11 am						

MONTANA CREDIT UNION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR...AND OURS!!

Congratulations to our own Carl Thomas, who was named Volunteer of the Year at the Montana's Credit Unions Annual Conference. The Montana's Credit Unions represents 49 different credit unions across the state. Carl was cited for 22 years of experience as a credit union volunteer and for chairing Park Side Credit Union through multiple mergers, incorporating a new board culture, expanding the supervisory committee and building a board succession plan that looks to recruit new who reflect the demographic diversity of Parkside's membership.

In addition, he was also recognized for his involvement with All Saints' and the Episcopal Diocese of Montana, his 20 years of military service, for being the president of AFSCME representing Montana Department of Transportation employees, and for being a Flathead County Sheriff's Department reserve officer and Columbia Falls Police reserve officer.

Needless to say, we are very proud to have Carl as our church treasurer and mostly, we are very proud to call him our friend.

The photo below shows the CEO of Parkside Credit Union, Jeremy Presta, presenting Carl with his award.



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

Church location:
2048 Conn Road
Columbia Falls, MT

Church mailing address:
PO Box 1923
Whitefish, MT 59937

Phone: 406-862-2863
Parish Office Administrator: Shawn Sloan
E-mail: allsaintsmt@gmail.com

Bradley's E-mail: canonwirth@gmail.com
Cell phone: 406-250-1690

Christian Formation Minister/Children and Youth: Cynthia Benkelman
cgraine@montanasky.us
406-261-9636

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus forever.

Find us here:

Just click on the link!

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt>

YouTube link: http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA

Webpage link: <http://www.allsaintsmt.org>

Vestry members:

Rector: Reverend Canon Bradley Wirth
Senior Warden: Ben Pomerantz
Junior Warden: Grace Benkelman
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Cynthia Benkelman
Betsy Paugh
Shawn Sloan
Heidi Sobczak

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