

Good News from Good Samaritan

Love one another and the world as Christ loves us

333 NW 35th St. Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 757-6647 fax: (541)757-1537
e-mail: officegs@goodsamchurch-episcopal.org
web site; <http://www.goodsamchurch-episcopal.org>



Volume 4 – December 2011



Worship for Advent and Christmas

Saturday, December 3rd

Advent Quiet Day. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The Rev. Peter Fritsch presents thoughts on the Afterlife. Registration is \$20, which includes lunch.

Saturday December 10th

St. Nicholas Celebration. 5:00 p.m. Simpson Hall. Join us for a pot-luck supper, a visit by St. Nicholas and Christmas caroling in local retirement homes.

Sunday, December 11th

Christmas Lessons and Carols. 3:00 p.m. in the Church. Hear again the miracle of the Christmas story, listen to holy anthems and sing your favorite Christmas carols at this world famous service based on the original from King's College, Cambridge.

Friday, December 16th – Saturday, December 17th

Youth Group overnight at church. Begins at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 17th

Christmas cleaning and greening. Help to prepare the church for our Christmas services. A soup lunch is provided.

Saturday, December 24th – Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. **Children's Christmas Pageant.** Join us as the children help to retell the most famous story of all.

10:30 p.m. **Special music for Christmas** presented by the Good Samaritan Choir and string ensemble.

11:00 p.m. **Midnight Mass.** Traditional, beautiful, iconic.

Sunday, December 25th

10:00 a.m. **Sung Eucharist** with Christmas carols in the Chapel

Sunday, January 1st

10:00 a.m. **Sung Eucharist** in the main church (*this will be the only service that day*).

From The Clergy

Dear ones,



I have a Christmas tree in my office, you may have seen it. Perhaps this isn't so extraordinary, given the time of year. What is more peculiar, however, is that I have this tree in my office not just at Christmas time but *all year round*. Now, this is not just the result of

procrastination or eccentricity but a conscious decision on my part. I keep the Christmas tree on display all year round to remind me of a simple truth:

That the spirit of Christmas can be celebrated every day of the year!

By the spirit of Christmas I don't mean the tinsel and trappings, the decorations and baubles, jolly thought they are. By the spirit of Christmas I mean the love of God: The love that brought forth the Creation at the beginning of time; the love which has sustained us all through our lives; the love that became flesh and blood in the person of Jesus Christ our Lord; the love which is ours every day, every moment of our lives, if we want it.

My hope is that however you celebrate Christmas that this holy and tender season might be a time of blessing for you. I know that Christmas is not easy for everyone, we remember loved ones who are



no longer with us, it can make material or financial hardship feel a heavier burden, it can be a time of renewed family stress, but our God long to come to us in the midst of all of this, speaking to us of love. That's what Christmas means. That God is with us, deeply, intimately, personally; that our struggles and pains are not forgotten; that our dreams and hopes are not in vain; that our lives have meaning and purpose and dignity.

May the spirit of Christmas be God's special gift to you and those you love this year. And not just on December 25th but each and every day that is to come.

Wishing you a blessed and holy Christmas,

Simon+



A short story: my mom owns a tiny little sauce pan that is dented and misshapen. She never uses it but she keeps it around and it never fails that some time each year around the holidays it gets pulled out of the cupboard to tell the story of how, as a child, I would choose that pan to mercilessly bang and hit

in celebration of a very noisy and happy New Year! I always wondered why she kept that pan after all these years instead of replacing it with a shiny, undented version. But for my Mom it seems even more special because it is dented and as a reminder of our fun family holiday experiences. On December 6th, I will undergo surgery related to my Crohn's Disease. I will be home recovering for approximately 4 weeks. My doctors, my family and I have spoken of a plan for me to undergo a series of surgeries in the coming year intended to correct years of damage just related to a life lived with Crohn's. There are times I feel just like my mom's dented pan and wonder whether it wouldn't be better to have a replace-

ment model from God. However, I have come to realize that the years I have lived with this disease are intimately tied to so many experiences that are central to who I understand myself to be. I believe in the goodness of God's creation and that I am a part of that creation. Because of this, I can't help but value and lovingly accept even the hardships that come from this disease. Many people offer to pray. It's what we do for each other. It's what we should do. Sometimes, it is all we can do. It's important to pray when we or someone we care for hurts or experiences the difficulties in life. But I don't pray for God to put me or anyone else on a different path but rather to walk with us on this path and help us to walk it as best I/we can. For those who would pray with me and all other members of our church family who are going through their own trials, please pray that we all would come to see our hardships as the pathways to peace and wholeness and not merely obstacles to be overcome and tossed away. God help us to value every dent and scratch of our lives and understand them to be those things which draw us closer to God's loving presence. Thank you to all who have offered your loving support.

St.. Nicholas Celebration

December 10 at 5:00 p.m. – Please bring a dish to share for a potluck meal and help us encourage St. Nicholas to stop by for a visit. Ol' St. Nick might very well be carrying some special treats for all the children (and adults too!). After enjoying our treats we will treat retirement/care facility and merrily fill the halls with sounds of Christmas carols. This is a wonderful family experience. Please join us!

Sunday School Happenings

Throughout December our Sunday school children will be preparing for our annual Christmas Eve Pageant. Help is needed during the education hour (11:15 - 12:15) to support our children during the rehearsals. It is so much fun to be part of something worthwhile as teaching our kids about how to proclaim the Good News of God with us!



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for being present to support our children and youth and teaching them directly about Christian love and commitment. We now have openings for those who want to be teachers for our upcoming Sunday School rotations. Sign ups are located on the Education Wing bulletin boards. Each rotation is a 3 week experience that is as valuable for the teacher as it is for the children. Please join in on this important ministry opportunity!

Youth Group Happenings

Youth Group is open to all Middle School and High School Students. Weekly gatherings are from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Sundays and include a meal provided by different members of our church community.

December 16 – 17, Youth Overnight Lock-in – 8:00 p.m. to noon. Always fun!

January 1 – Movie day – Group to meet at a local theater to catch what’s new on the big screen! Time and movie to be announced later.

<>< Lance >>

Wonder Women of Good Samaritan

The ladies of our Episcopal Church Women group at Good Samaritan were honored at our annual Diocesan Convention last month. The Diocesan ECW Board recognized the women of our church at their annual luncheon on Friday, November 11th for their outstanding and exemplary service to the church and community. Citing their work in providing hospitality to families and friends following funerals, helping parishioners clear their houses through estate sales, lunches, bake-sales, education and a myriad of other ministries of service our ladies were given this special honor by all of the other ECW groups across Western Oregon. We are all proud of their achievement and honored by their presence here at Good Samaritan. As the Rev. Alcina Boozer, the guest speaker at the luncheon said, “you go girls!”

Simon

Environmental Achievement Award

Good Samaritan Church was presented with the Diocesan Environmental Achievement Award at our annual Diocesan Convention in mid-November. This is an annual award, presented to an Episcopal congregation that has done something exceptional in their environmental ministry in the last year. Our award was given in recognition that Good Samaritan is the first church in the Diocese of Oregon to install a solar panel array. This project was the dream of Bill Gazeley, Bill Becker and Brian Gifford, who worked for over three years to see this project come to fruition. It goes a long way to help us live out our mission statement, “to love one another and the world as Christ loves us.” Congratulations!

Simon

Music Notes

Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 11th is a Festival of Lessons and



Carols, and you are all invited to come and enjoy traditional Christmas carols with a new twist performed by our Adult Choir, Bell Choir and strings. The service is at 3:00 p.m. and is a part of the Sundays@3 concert series and will be followed by a reception. Your support of our Sundays@3 program is very

much appreciated and we hope to see you all at this next event on December 11th!

Youth Choir rehearsal is on Sundays 8:30-9:15 a.m. Children ages 8-13 are encouraged to attend! We are learning elements of music theory, notation, vocal techniques, as well as part singing. It is never too late to join. Please call Maria Dossin at 541-359-9643 or e-mail at maria.dossin@gmail.com if you have questions about the program.

— Maria Dossin, Director of Music



Treasurers Report

Summary Through October 2011

	October	October	2011	2011	Annual
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Budget
Income					
Pledge Receipts	27997	28750	290569	290500	348000
All other DPA income	1716	2700	28077	29000	36400
Non-DPA income	1015	1024	8124	10244	12293
Total Income	30728	32474	326770	329744	396693
Expenses					
Cash and Diocese Expenses	5023	5023	50230	50232	60278
Personnel	19606	20858	213080	217267	261879
Administration - Operations	2628	4194	46645	52595	60984
Property	1791	1767	12504	17667	21200
Vestry Ministries	587	1192	11907	11917	14300
Other Expenses	21	25	222	250	300
Total Expenses	29656	33059	334588	349928	418941
Net	1072	-585	-7818	-20184	-22248

Newsletter Narrative

1. Income:
 - a) Year-To-Date pledge receipts and total income continue within 1% of budget – fantastic.
2. Expenses:
 - a) Expenses for October were \$3403 below budget; expenses for 2011 are \$15,340 below budget – great job managing our expenses.
3. For the month we were \$1072 positive, which reduced our Year-to-Date deficit to \$7818.
4. Funding for Vestry approved projects:
 - a) The replacement of the kitchen cabinets will be funded by \$15,000 from ECW and \$5000 from earnings on church investments.
 - b) Earnings on Foundation funds that have been transferred to the church will fund new bell choir robes, estimated cost \$1367.
 - c) \$3375 from unrestricted donations previously made to the church for Rev. Peter Fritsch to assist the parish in growing its endowments.

Please direct questions to John Shea, Treasurer, John.Shea54@gmail.com, 541 754-6832.



Vestry and Committee Reports

Your Vestry Personnel 2011

Richard Halter	Rectors Warden – Youth, and Finance
John Wells	People’s Warden – Buildings and Grounds
Steve Amsberry	Communication
Steve Blevans	Spiritual Nurture
Robert Moore	Stewardship
Mary Frances Campana	Technology, and Personnel
Susan Parks	Foundation, Good Sam School Board
Dennis Pitts	Christian Education
Cris Rodriguez	Newcomers
Stephanie Wohlwend	Music, and Worship
TBD	Parish Life
Jean Marie Walker	Community Outreach, and Social Justice



2012 Church Annual General Meeting

The 2012 Annual General meeting of the Church of the Good Samaritan will be on Sunday, January 19th, following the 9:00 a.m. service. Please note that there will only be ONE service that day, Sung Eucharist, at 9:00 a.m. in the main church. A brunch will follow our worship with the AGM beginning around 11:00 a.m. Election of vestry, Foundation Board and Good Samaritan School board members will take place on this day. Please contact John

Wells, a member of our Nominating Committee, if you would like to nominate yourself or another parishioner for one of the elected church leadership positions. Job descriptions for these positions will be posted and are available in the church office.

Prayer

The following prayer was found in *an All Saints’, Portland, leaflet* and printed in the December 1943 issue of the Oregon Churchman. It is, I believe, as true today as it was 68 years ago when found on the leaflet.

A Prayer Seldom Heard

Almighty God, as I sit here by the fire this lovely Sunday morning, surrounded by the Sunday paper and half listening to one of the big preachers over the radio, it has just come to me that I have lied to Thee and to myself.

I said I did not feel well enough to go to Church. That was not true. I was not ambitious enough. I would have gone to my office had it been Monday morning. I would have played golf had it been Wednesday afternoon in the summer. I would have attended my luncheon club had it met this noon. I would have been able to go to a picture show if it had been Friday night.

But it is Sunday morning and Sunday illness covers a multitude of sins. God have mercy on me! I have lied to Thee and to myself. I was not ill – *I am lazy and indifferent. Amen.*

November Senior Warden’s Report

The Season of Advent is fast upon us, and with that comes discussion of budgets, prioritizing for the next year and preparation for the Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee is working on the 2012 budget, and the Stewardship campaign is in full swing. The Stewardship dinner was a wonderful experience; Father Peter Fritsch was our dynamic guest speaker, and the staff at Samaritan Village prepared and served an excellent meal.



The goal for 2012 annual giving is \$420,000, and I invite all of your prayers for success in funding the ministries at Good Samaritan. The mission budget concept has been well received and now the Vestry must work to make the line-item decisions that will give our parish the ability to serve our church, community and the world as we are best able. The latest statistics from the Diocese shows Good Samaritan ranked as one of the top 4 in membership and resources. It is my prayer that we can expand our reach out to our community and the world at large with the tens of thousands of hours of lay and ordained ministry that our congregation are involved in annually.

Rev. Fritsch has been retained by the Vestry as a consultant to work with members of the Clergy, Vestry, Foundation and Congregation help Good Samaritan develop long-term fiscal security, and I expect to be able to report details on that process over the next several months.

Good Samaritan was well recognized at the Diocesan Convention. I want to congratulate our Episcopal Church Women's organization for receiving an award in recognition for all the outstanding work that they have been doing at Good Samaritan. Also, our church received the Diocese Environmental Impact award, as we are the first church in the Diocese to install a solar panel array. Thanks go out to the members of EGGS, The Environmental Group at Good Samaritan, for conceiving and working for several years to bring that project to fruition.

I encourage all of you to assist the members of our Vestry and Diocesan Delegate candidate search committee in calling people to serve the parish. If you feel called, or know of people who you feel may be interested, please tell a member of the committee.

It was my pleasure earlier this month to co-sign on a check for over \$1650 that was donated by our congregation during the visit of Bishop Katharine to assist in the rebuilding of the cathedral of the Diocese of Haiti. Over \$33,000 was donated by

the churches in the Diocese for this cause, and our church alone accounted for over 5% of that total. God has blessed us with the capacity and the willingness to serve those in this church and this world, and I want to thank everyone who made such a wonderful gift to our Haitian brethren possible.

Blessings,

—Rich

Designated Offering for December:

Corvallis Homeless Shelter Coalition & Homeless School Children

The Corvallis Homeless Shelter Coalition was established to alleviate the problem of homelessness in Corvallis. Many men were sleeping in doorways in the downtown area or in city parks, many without food or access to showers. Through the intervention of the Coalition, some of this problem was alleviated. Currently, West Side Community Church provides shelter for these men. The church can accommodate 40 men each night, providing a warm place to stay, beds, and showers. Nutritious food is available for the men to eat. The shelter is available for homeless men beginning in November and ending in March.

Churches in the Corvallis community participate in the homeless shelter program by taking turns, according to a schedule they all agree upon, lining up volunteers from their congregations to provide supervision and food for the shelter. Good Samaritan has participated in this program for several years now. We could use more volunteers to help with the men's homeless shelter. Good Samaritan is scheduled to provide volunteers and food for the shelter in February. If you can help, or if you would like more information, please contact Sandy Potter, 541-753-2709, or Paul Vecchi, 541-753-0711.

A women's homeless shelter just started last year. Life Community Church (formerly Church of the Nazarene) on Highway 99 has offered to provide space for 10 women to spend the nights during November-March. Good Samaritan also participates



in the women's shelter program, and volunteers are always needed.

The program for Homeless School Children is coordinated by Carolyn Hinds. She works to keep the children of homeless families in the same school. In the past, because their families moved around so much, the children would go from one school to another. Keeping them in the same school provides consistency of teachers, school friends, and learning environments for these children. A major project Carolyn is working on is to find rental housing for homeless families. All children need the stability of a place to call home.

If you can help with a contribution, or if you can volunteer to help in any way with the important effort of assisting the homeless in our community, please do whatever you can. There are homeless individuals and families here in Corvallis who need our help.

—Paul Vecchi

Haiti Cathedral

After an early autumn appeal from Bishop Kathy and local efforts to raise money in support of the reconstruction of the Episcopal Cathedral in Haiti, delegates to the recent Diocesan Convention in Salem took donations of approximately \$ 1,500 from parishioners of Good Samaritan. The Outreach Committee thanks you for your contributions and will see that any additional donations are forwarded!

Sign-Ups For Assisting At Corvallis Shelters For The Homeless

This winter our church has been asked to provide supervision for the men's and women's shelters for the homeless. This is an assignment shared by many of the local churches. Our responsibility for the women's shelter is in late November and early December, and for the men's shelter in late February. Currently, we have a sign-up sheet near the

church office for help at the women's shelter located at "the dome", the former Church of the Nazarene on Hwy 99W north of Corvallis and near Lewisburg. The effort is indeed a certain sacrifice of time and effort, but the good you will be doing to help less fortunate people is very much appreciated! Help is also needed in providing nourishing food and snacks. Sign up today!

Thank you

Thank you for The Church of the Good Samaritan's generous gift of \$900.00 from ERD's Gifts of Life Catalog [this gift was from ECW micro loan donations]. Your support means a great deal to all of us at Episcopal Relief and Development and those we seek to serve

When you purchase a gift from the Gifts of Life Catalog, you create lasting change for those who are most vulnerable...[And] your partnership can help people in need to build stronger, healthier communities. You can help families grow nutritious food, boost their earning power through training and micro-finance and assure that they have access to health care and clean water. You give them hope for a better life.

In partnership, we are healing a hurting world.

Yours faithfully, Robert W. Radtke, President

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETS AT 4:00 p.m. ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH...and welcomes you to join! If you have questions about our mission or have project ideas, please contact Bob Bernhard, 541-745-5816.

Bus Drivers Needed

Every Sunday and on special occasions, a Dial-A-Bus is rented by Good Samaritan, enabling parishioners to attend services that they might otherwise miss. We have our regulars, but also welcome others in Benton County who may occasionally



need this service. Volunteer drivers are needed! If you can help out with this ministry, please contact Bob Bernhard, 541-745-5816. Training is available!

Ushers Needed

Ushers perform a variety of duties to facilitate the work of the church in welcoming parishioners and tending to their needs at regular Sunday services, as well as special occasions when help is needed. To learn more or to volunteer, please contact Bob Bernhard, 541-745-5816. Training is available!

Families In Transition Christmas Gifts

Have you signed up to give a gift to children and families of Community Outreach and who may otherwise have little or nothing under the Christmas tree on Christmas morning? An information table will be in Simpson Hall on December 4 and 11. There you will find out about the specific requests that children and families have made. Monetary donations are welcome, checks payable to Church of the Good Samaritan, with notation made in the memo line "Families in Transition". Gifts should be brought in by December 18, and may be left in the office. Gifts should be wrapped and labeled.

The Giving Tree

In December up to mid-month, look for a Christmas tree in Simpson Hall. It will be decorated with small signs that say, for example, "boy 11" or "girl 7". Take one or more of these signs and return the following week with an appropriate gift for that boy or girl!

Gifts will be taken to Vina Moses where they will be made available to families who look forward to a bright Christmas Day and a celebration of the birth of Baby Jesus!

Spiritual Nurture Committee Update

The SNC is up and running again with the following members: Cammie Bella, Jane Barr, Bill

Becker, Dave Chaney, Gina and Richard Halter, Simon Justice+, Edie Orner, Desiree Senechal, Karen Stevens, Maggie Underwood, and Rebecca Walker. The theme for this year is "Gracious Listening". Our events will all fall under this umbrella - listening within for God, listening to each other, individually and in community. Several events, such as the December 3rd program on the Afterlife and the 4 week class "Be Happy" in January, and a Quiet and Prayer Day during Lent, are already in the works. Members of the SNC will also be contributing a variety of articles on spiritual nurture topics over the next months for the newsletters. If you have ideas, questions, or would like to join us, please contact one of our members. Our next meeting is scheduled for noon, December 18th, in the Lounge.

—Cammie Bella

Happenings

Spiritual Nurture Practices Series #1 Spiritual Companionship/Direction

Spiritual Companionship (formally and traditionally known as Spiritual Direction) is a spiritual practice where a one-on-one or group relationship is formed with a Spiritual Companion (or Director as some are called). The Spiritual Companion accompanies you on your spiritual journey, encouraging you to deepen your relationship with God and "listening for God's actions in your life" with you. Many folks seek out a SD (Spiritual Director) when they feel their spiritual life has gone flat, they are discerning a major change in their lives or a calling to a new direction, or they are experiencing new awakenings. In the midst of our busy lives, it is hard for us to notice God's presence. At our deepest level, all of us yearn for a more conscious awareness of God's actions and presence and love - the "Holy Longing".

Spiritual direction is not really very directive. Instead, it's about exploring your relationship with the Holy and seeking ways to deepen this relation-



ship. Most spiritual companions have graduated from a formal training program to prepare them for this role. Some are clergy but there is a growing number of lay spiritual companions. Sessions are usually one-on-one, for an hour once a month, and take place in a safe confidential environment. SD's may also facilitate spiritual journeys in a group setting. Many SD's request a fee, some receive a free-will donation, others offer their time at no cost.

There are pamphlets in our pamphlets racks titled, "Explore with Spiritual Direction", with more information and a list of some local Spiritual Directors. Most SD's will meet for an "introductory" session at no charge as you explore your questions and desires in SD to see if this SD is a "good fit" for you and vice versa. It's very important for you to find someone you are comfortable with and feel is trustworthy. Soul work is deep work. As a caveat, it is not counseling. While your spiritual life touches all aspects of your life, this relationship provides a companion for your spiritual journey, not a therapist or preacher or teacher. Your Spiritual Companion will walk with you as you discover a more engaged relationship with God.

—Cammie Bella, SD

Health Care as a Human Right

—Progress in Vermont—

On Monday evening, December 12, 6:00 p.m., come to Simpson Hall to hear about the grass roots movement in the state of Vermont which is moving ever closer to Single Payer Universal Health Care for its citizens. They have the legislation and are working on the details of implementation. Sarah Weintraub, a member of the Vermont Workers Center which was a major player in accomplishing this major victory for health care advocates, will share with us some of the ideas and details of their efforts. Their rallying cry was the concept that health care is a human right, not a profit-making commodity. The event is sponsored by Physicians for a National Health Plan, Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates,

and Interfaith Health Care Network of Corvallis.

The event is an honest to goodness old-fashioned potluck supper - bring a dish to share - coffee and juice will be provided. Enjoy some shared home-cooking with others who are concerned about what is happening in health care and find hope in what is happening in Vermont. 6:00 p.m., Simpson Hall, Monday, December 12.

—Edie Orner 541-926-5989

Other Activities

Casserole Connection

In the happy but very busy month of December there still might be someone in the parish who could use our support. Maybe an illness or a person recovering from a hospital stay or the ever happy occasion of a new baby in the family. In these and other similar circumstances please call on us. We will see that a home made main dish is delivered to fit their needs. Contact Joan Dunlap at 541 753-2026.

—Bobbie Beck

EGGS – Over Easy

November 12th — a sunny day in mid-November, surely we are blessed. As we contemplate God's grace, as shown to us in the beautiful fall foliage on a clear November day, let us consider how we can preserve the beauty of the natural world.

Christmas is approaching again, and our culture is caught up in the annual hysteria. Consider the possibility, please, of giving gifts that may help preserve both the beauty of creation and the possibility of continued human existence on this "fragile earth, our island home."

There can be no doubt that the global population explosion is the ultimate threat to any stable human existence. So consider giving a gift membership to Planned Parenthood. We know that educating females and offering them hope is key to reducing the



terrifying birth rate in the underdeveloped world, so consider a gift to Episcopal Relief and Development.

Beyond that, consider gift memberships to organizations that help preserve and protect God's Creation. Locally, there is the Greenbelt Land Trust. To our south, of course, there is the Save the Redwoods League. And, nationally and internationally, The Nature Conservancy for years has been saving natural spaces such as glorious Cascade Head. The National Wildlife Federation now has a number of magazines aimed at children of various ages, appropriate for your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. All the organizations listed above can be found, of course, on the Internet.

While it may be difficult to do, please try to avoid over packaged gifts. And do consider "recycled" gifts. For example, you might check out the Friends of the Library book sale, in the Library meeting room, on Saturday 10 December. And consider local arts and crafts fairs; there are such talented people in our parish!

Yes, you have heard all this before; forgive my nagging, please. And take a minute, during the upcoming hectic days, to wonder at our capacity to enjoy the beauty of God's Creation. As a parishioner friend of mine has said: "It is all just spinning electrons, but we are capable of seeing beauty!"

—Bill Becker

Library Listings

Advent - Christmas - 2011

Our Advent-Christmas collection is a bit sparse but I will put on display on the table outside the library door and on the two "Featured" shelves in the library what we do have available. I bought one new book of Christmas appropriate readings at Convention, so you can look for that. I also bought 3 other new books featured below and we have a couple of new fiction books. If you have books to suggest that

are appropriate for the Advent/Christmas season, please put a note in the library box. I'm pretty sure there is still a bit of money in the library fund for this year.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS - Wisdom from Henri J. M. Nouwen - "Henri J. M. Nouwen is one of the most beloved and well-read spiritual authors of our time. His works are popular among Christians of all denominations. This book of *Advent and Christmas Wisdom* will both challenge you and warm your heart during your annual preparation for the Lord's coming. Through the quotes, Nouwen shares with the reader his own journey of waiting while seeking the Lord."

Other titles in the Advent/Christmas theme: two by Max Lucado - *COSMIC CHRISTMAS* and *A LOVE WORTH GIVING TO YOU at Christmas*; *A FEAST FOR ADVENT* by Delia Smith; *WHAT CHILD IS THIS?* by Samuel H. Miller; *CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS - A FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION* by James C. Dobson et al; *FIRST CHRISTMAS the True and Unfamiliar Story in Words and Pictures* by Paul L. Maier. — These are all small volumes consisting often of daily readings. These and other titles as well will be on display for check-out.

Three new books which I purchased at Convention might also entice you for a bit of Holiday season reading:

THE GRATITUDE FACTOR - Enhancing Your Life through Grateful Living by Charles M. Shelton, PhD

"—The first author to offer a critique of gratitude through an explanation of various types of gratitude, Charles Shelton uses his skills as a clinical psychologist to present insights into the human experience of gratitude based on his own research. The exercises, strategies, and reflection questions threaded throughout the book give it a unique practical dimension that facilitates the reader's growth in gratitude. Shelton's highly original reflection on Jesus as a grateful person lends a valuable spiritual dimension to his work..."



TWELVE STEPS TO A COMPASSIONABLE LIFE by Karen Armstrong”...Karen Armstrong [is] the voice of the new compassion. The former nun’s writings about God and society upset some, but her ideas are becoming increasingly influential... Armstrong’s charisma and sense of humour have helped her step on to the world stage as a benign Henry Kissinger, equipped with the trace outline of a wimple, if not a halo....”

WHEN HELPING HURTS - How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor and Yourself by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert...”Have you ever wondered if what we’re doing is really helping? [This book] reveals the painful truth about poverty. But it does more than tell you what not to do. The book moves from foundational concepts about poverty (Who are the poor?), to principles (Should we do relief, rehabilitation, or development?), to strategies (How can we help the poor domestically? Internationally?).

—And two new fiction —

THEODORA’S DIARY - faith, hope and chocolate by Penny Culliford and a gift from Maryanne Staton - *IN THE COMPANY OF OTHERS* by Jan Karon

A blessed Advent and Christmas to all - and find time for a bit of reading –

—Eddie Orner



SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus’ birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin’s round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.

Church of the Good Samaritan
 333 NW 35th Street
 Corvallis, Oregon 97330-4956
 Episcopal



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Corvallis OR
 Permit No. 202

From The Clergy

Page 1

Music Notes

Page 3

Treasurers Report

Page 4

Vestry and Committee Reports

Page 5

Happenings

Page 8

Other Activities

Page 9

The Bishop of Oregon:

The Right Reverend Michael J. Hanley

The Clergy of the Parish

Rector	The Rev. Simon C. Justice
Assistant Rector	The Rev. Lance V. Peeler
Deacon of the Parish	*The Rev. Margaret M. Bernhard
Chaplain, Samaritan Village	The Rev. B. Shepard Crim
Priest Assisting	*The Rev. Alvin P. Lafon
Priest Assisting	*The Rev. Tom Stevenson
Rector Emeritus	*The Rev. William R. McCarthy

The Officers of the Parish

Senior Warden	Richard Halter
Junior Warden	John Wells
Clerk of the Vestry	Andrew Moursund
Treasurer	John Shea
Assistant Treasurer	Robert Bernhard

The Parish Staff

Director of Music	Maria Dossin
Contemporary Music	*Dawn Jones
Office Manager	Laura Pfeifer
Facilities Manager	DeeDee Larew
Head of School	Jack Nickerson
Pastoral Care	*Pat Wolhwend
Parish Nurse	TBA
Bookkeeper	Robin Powel
Newsletter Editor	*David Francis

* Indicates Non-paid staff



Christmas
 Offering