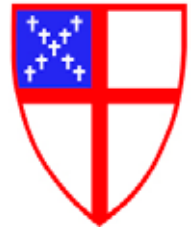


# Good News from Good Samaritan

Love one another and the world as Christ loves us

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



Episcopal

*Volume 5 – January 2012*



## *To Everyone*

### **From The Clergy**

Dear ones -

Happy New Year! I wish that most sincerely to each and every one of you. I know that I have said these words many times over these last couple of weeks, you probably have too. We say them almost automatically to friends and loved ones as well as to complete strangers, which is a good thing. But when I step back and think about it for a moment, I wonder what do we really mean when we say, 'Happy New Year'? What are we actually wishing the recipient of our felicitations? It's certainly not possible or my place to speculate or tell you what you are or should be thinking, I can only speak for myself... But when I say these words am I hoping that, in the words of Mr. Spock from Star Trek, the recipient may 'live long and prosper'? Or is it, like the Chinese proverb, that they enjoy 'long life and happiness'? And this is good too. But, really, is this the limit of my imagination or is there more I could

be saying with these simple words, 'Happy New Year'?

Someone told me just before Christmas that the spiritual journey – really the journey of life – is one from fear to love. Life is a journey from the fear of not having enough, from the fear of not fitting in or having a place, the fear of not knowing who we really are or what our purpose is, the fear of illness, loss, death and many other things... to a place of love. To a place of knowing that even if we feel the world doesn't like or understand us, that we are loved. Of knowing that even if we don't have all the answers and are still struggling with doubts, that we are loved. Of knowing that whatever has happened to us or that we have done or left undone in the past, that we are loved. Of knowing that whatever happens to us in the future, and even through death itself, that we are loved; loved wholly, completely and just as we are by the One who created us out of love and for love. Whatever happens, there is always, always love!

So... may I wish each and every one of you and those whom you love and pray for a truly Happy New Year and ALL that that means!

With my prayers, Simon+

## 2012 Annual General Meeting

The 2012 Annual General meeting of the Church of the Good Samaritan will be on Sunday, January 29th.

There will be ONE service that day, Sung Eucharist, at 9:00 a.m. in the main church. A brunch will follow our worship service with the AGM starting around 11:00 a.m. Election of vestry, Foundation Board and Good Samaritan School board members will take place during this meeting along with other church business.

## Treasurers Report

### SUMMARY through November 2011

	November	November	2011	2011	Annual
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Budget
<b>Income</b>					
Pledge Receipts	28885	28750	319454	319250	348000
All other DPA income	5180	2700	33257	31700	36400
Non-DPA income	1081	1024	9205	11269	12293
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>35146</b>	<b>32474</b>	<b>361916</b>	<b>362219</b>	<b>396693</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Cash and Diocese Expenses	5023	5023	55253	55255	60278
Personnel	20475	20858	233555	238124	261879
Administration - Operations	4767	4194	51412	56789	60984
Property	1960	1767	14464	19433	21200
Vestry Ministries	2738	1192	14645	13108	14300
Other Expenses	44	25	266	275	300
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>35007</b>	<b>33059</b>	<b>369595</b>	<b>382984</b>	<b>418941</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>-585</b>	<b>-7679</b>	<b>-20765</b>	<b>-22248</b>

### Newsletter Narrative

1. Income:
  - a) Year-To-Date pledge receipts and total income are at budget – fantastic.
2. Expenses:
  - a) Expenses for November were \$1948 above budget (e.g. postage, copies, tuning the organ); expenses for 2011 are \$13,389 below budget – great job managing our expenses.
3. November, like October was a net positive, which reduced our Year-to-Date deficit to \$7679, significantly better than budget.
4. Second and third quarter earnings on Foundation funds were \$6005. The funds have been transferred to church restricted accounts for use by the church consistent with donor wishes.

Please direct questions to John Shea, Treasurer, [John.Shea54@gmail.com](mailto:John.Shea54@gmail.com), 541 754-6832.

## Music Notes

“Our next Sundays@3 program will feature pianist Alexandre Dossin in a piano recital at Good Samaritan on Sunday, January 15th, at 3:00 p.m. It will be a program of masterworks by W.A Mozart, Piotr Tchaikovsky, and Franz Liszt. It is your chance to hear a stylistically diverse program, and we hope you all can attend! To find more about the performer, please visit [www.dossin.net](http://www.dossin.net) <<http://www.dossin.net>>

Dossin’s bio is summarized below:

Considered by Martha Argerich an “extraordinary musician” and by the international critic a “phenomenon” and “a master of contrasts,” Alexandre Dossin keeps an active performing, recording and teaching careers.

Born in Porto Alegre, Brazil, where he lived until he was 19, Alexandre spent nine years studying in Moscow, Russia, before establishing residency in the United States. Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure at the University of Oregon School of Music, Alexandre Dossin is a graduate from the University of Texas-Austin and the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Russia. He studied with Boris Romanov (Merzliakovsky Pre-Conservatory School in Moscow) and was assistant of Sergei Dorensky at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory (Moscow, Russia) and William Race and Gregory Allen at the University of Texas at Austin (USA).

A prizewinner in several international piano competitions, Dossin received the First Prize and the Special Prize at the 2003 Martha Argerich International Piano Competition in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Other international awards include the Silver Medal and second Honorable Mention in the Maria Callas Grand Prix (Athens, Greece), and Third Prize and Special Prize in the Mozart International Piano Competition (Salzburg, Austria), in addition to several prizes in Brazil.

Dossin has performed in over twenty countries, including international festivals in Japan, Canada, United States, Brazil and Argentina, in some occasions sharing the stage with Martha Argerich.

He has CDs released by Musicians Showcase Recording (Alexandre Dossin, 2002), Blue Griffin (A Touch of Brazil, 2005), and Naxos (Verdi-Liszt Paraphrases, 2007, Kabalevsky Complete Sonatas,

2009, and Kabalevsky Complete Preludes, 2009) praised in reviews by Diapason, The Financial Times, Fanfare Magazine, American Record Guide, Clavier and other international publications.

As you know, the Sundays@3 program is totally funded through your donations. I encourage you to consider supporting this program in 2012. I personally believe that bringing high class performers to Good Samaritan enriches our Music Ministry and provides a great musical education to our congregation and the entire community. I hope you will show the value of this program through your generous contributions!”

Thank you,

Maria Dossin, Director of Music

## Vestry and Committee Reports

Your Vestry Personnel 2011

Richard Halter

John Wells

Steve Amsberry

Steve Blevans

Robert Moore

Mary Frances Campana

Susan Parks

Dennis Pitts

Cris Rodriguez

Stephanie Wohlwend

Ashley Bonn

Jean Marie Walker

Rectors Warden –  
Youth, and Finance  
People’s Warden –  
Buildings and Grounds  
Communication  
Spiritual Nurture  
Stewardship  
Technology, and  
Personnel  
Foundation, Good Sam  
School Board  
Christian Education  
Newcomers  
Music, and Worship  
Parish Life  
Community Outreach,  
and Social Justice



## Rector's Warden Report

As we approach the celebration of the Birth of Christ, I wish you and your families the love and peace of our Lord and Savior. The 4th Sunday of Advent birth of my first grandson at a wonderful hospital with the love and cheer of so many friends and relatives stands in sharp contrast to that night in a manger when Mary and Joseph were reliant on the simplest of shelters and the benevolence of few. The one thing both babies had in common was that God was there with them and their parents; as God is with us all. It was wonderful to hold my grandson and offer the blessing of "you are God's child, with whom your Creator is well pleased."

First off, I would like to ask that you welcome Ashley Bonn to the Vestry. She filled the position left vacant when Ann Rosser passed on earlier this year. The daughter of Nick and DeeDee Larew, Ashley has been a life-long member of Good Samaritan, active in the church and most recently a Convention Delegate. I know that she will be a wonderful addition to the Vestry.

December has one overriding focus for the Vestry - working on the budget. The Finance Committee, ably led by Chairman Tom Nelson and Treasurer John Shea, have gone through and drawn up a budget based on current program levels and adjusted for the usual increases in insurance and pension expenses. The Vestry spent much of their December meeting discussing it, and over the next month the resources available to the Parish in 2012 will be matched with ministry. I want to thank all who have turned in their pledges and/or are preparing to do so. You are all good stewards; enabling thousands of hours of lay ministry to our church, the community and the world.

The initial phase of the efforts to develop a program for the long-term financial stability of the Parish have ended with much being accomplished. Led by Reverend Peter Fritsch, the current working group is now in the process of moving forward into a smaller committee of approximately 4-5 people who are tasked with determining (as Peter+ stated to us) "suggestions for policy change, marketing, education and promotion of planned giving at Good Samaritan." If any of you feel called (or know of someone that may be similarly motivated) to help with this next step, let myself or Simon+ know.

To end, in so many ways this has been a wonderful year for Good Samaritan - many reasons for celebration, growth in ministry, worship in love and praise to Christ through our fellowship in groups large and small. This is not to downplay the challenges that have been there, (and many friends have left us for other places earthly or for Heaven and we miss them dearly), but to keep foremost within us that our faith in God and each other kept us together this year, and keeps us together forever.

A Wondrous And Joyful Christmas To You All,  
—Rich

## People's Warden Report

I joined the Vestry three years ago on the heels of some difficult economic news, just following a difficult change in our church's staff, and facing some financial challenges. I have found this time spent with you all to be one of the singularly most positive and rewarding experiences of my life. All of the folks who served on the Vestry with me during this time are splendid people with whom I share a love for our God and our Lord Jesus. That fact has helped us overcome our differences and succeed in putting our parish on a solid ground. I am not blind to the fact that we continue to face serious challenges, but confident of our ability to meet each challenge. I want to thank especially Fr. Justice who is a mentor and leader and whom I truly admire, John Shea (and Robin) whose work is appreciated as much as I possibly can, the members of the buildings and grounds committee and especially Dick Christensen who works tirelessly to maintain our facility, Ann Rosser whom I remember as a gentle soul, Tom Nelson who when serving as Senior Warden continued kind deliberation of difficult issues, and Jack Nickerson for whom I have enormous respect taking on the job he did and helping our school to thrive. Each of you deserves credit for the time you give and my hope for the New Year is that who ever winds up replacing me will have as good a time as have I. As Jr. Warden it took me the better part of the year to find where the bathrooms are and I offer myself as a mentor to whoever is next in this role. In closing I thank God and all of you for this opportunity to serve.

—Respectfully John Wells

## **Tough Times at St. Anselm**

The local Episcopal ministry to higher education, St. Anselm, is undergoing a critical financial crisis. We have cut expenses to the bone and the chaplain, Fr. Jon Goman, has cut his time to 75%. Still we aren't making ends meet and our reserves will be exhausted in about a year. Unless something changes the chaplain will be forced to leave at the end of 2012 and the ministry's activities will be greatly curtailed.

However, there is good news. We had a facilitated board retreat on December 17 which helped us see the value of our ministry and what it could be if it was thriving. The board came out of the retreat more convinced than ever of the value of our ministry and committed to doing a lot of hard work to keep it going. Steps are already being taken to improve fund-raising. I am convinced that if we can get the word out there are many who would want to join us as we integrate the spiritual and the intellectual sides of our lives. St. Anselm is a new type of campus ministry where people of all ages come together to learn. All you need is an inquiring mind and an open heart.

For further information, please read our winter newsletter, which, as a member of Good Samaritan you have already received or will shortly. We have a web site at <http://www.saintanselmoregon.org/>. If you still have questions, please call St. Anselm at (541) 752-3734 or call me (541) 753-4170. And please keep us in your prayers.

—Jean Marie Walker, Board Chair

## **An Outreach Thank you**

Thank you all for your very generous responses to the Families in Transition program and Vina Moses Giving Tree. You have helped bring joy to some children and families who are facing difficult times.

—Outreach & Social Justice Committee

## **Homeless Women's Shelter**

A **huge thank you** to those who volunteered to help staff the Homeless Women's Shelter at Life Community Church in early December. The women appreciated that there was a warm, dry place to

sleep, food for an evening meal and showers available. Volunteers included: Bobbie Beck, Peggy Bernhard, Bob Bernhard, Mary Frances Campana, Mary Christensen, Joan Dunlap, Angela Garcia, Troy Garner, Gina Halter, Richard Halter, John Potter, Sandy Potter, Claudia Raleigh, Dave Raleigh, Gail Stein, Marolyn Tarrant and Paul Vecchi,

Westside Community Church has opened their facility for the Homeless Men's Shelter this winter. Other churches are helping by supplying volunteers for a week at a time to supervise the shelters each night. The Church of the Good Samaritan will staff the Men's Shelter from February 26 to March 3, 2012.

Two volunteers are needed for the evening shift and one volunteer is needed for the overnight shift (may sleep!) to work with the paid staff member.

Snacks are appreciated, especially on days when Stone Soup does not serve an evening meal. A sign up sheet for staffing and snacks will be available in the front hall, with guidelines for appropriate snacks. Training will be provided. Please give serious and prayerful consideration to volunteering to help provide a warm and dry place each night for the homeless of our community.

Questions? Sandy Potter (753-2709) or Paul Vecchi (753-0711).

— Outreach & Social Justice Committee

## **We Care**

We Care provides emergency financial help for people of Benton County. Good Samaritan is one of twenty religious organizations that have joined together to form We Care, to finance this emergency help. Rent, utilities and move-in costs are the three highest needs. Plans are being made to observe the 30th Anniversary of We Care in March, 2012. More information about this will be coming soon!

— Outreach & Social Justice Committee

## **The Wintry Willamette**

### **Special Olympics, Special Lunch**

The Outreach and Social Justice Ministry Committee has approved fund-raising for Good Samaritan's Polar Plunge team headed by Michelle Millar.

The proceeds from this brief frigid adventure into the Willamette River go to support the Special Olympics.

On Sunday, February 5, after the 10:00 a.m. services, there will be a luncheon at Good Samaritan where you can learn all about this amazing event. The luncheon is free, but a free will offering will be asked to raise money for Michelle's Polar Plunge group. Don't worry about a Super Bowl conflict. Kickoff isn't until 3:30 p.m.

The Polar Plunge event is the following Saturday, February 11, at the Crystal Lake boat ramp. It starts at 10:30 a.m. with a costume contest and then at 11:00 a.m. the teams start plunging. All are welcome to come and cheer our team on.

—Jean Marie Walker

### **Attention Artistic Parishioners**

The Sacred Spaces Committee invites you to show your artwork in the Lobby for one month. All manner of artwork is encouraged including oil, water color, fiber art, pen and ink, quilts, etc. This is your opportunity to show your skill to your fellow church members. You can apply for your month by filling out an application found in the Sacred Spaces mail slot in the office in a blue file folder. Along with the application is the policy for hanging artwork. Please take the policy with you. You can request the nearest open month or another month during the year. Artists will show strictly according to their application date. A calendar will be displayed on the opposite wall to show which artist will display during the month.

Buildings and Grounds Committee attached tracks for hanging pictures without damaging the brick wall. You are responsible for hanging your own work, but if you need assistance or consultation, please call Dee Yarnell, phone 541-754-6156 or email [deeyarnell@hotmail.com](mailto:deeyarnell@hotmail.com) Dee is the artist responsible for the management of the space.

Artists should prepare an "artist's statement" to hang near their work. It should give your name and other information you might want to share. Prices cannot be displayed, but if you want to sell any of your work, you can tell interested people to check the Sacred Spaces mail slot for your price list.

Artists are responsible for their own insurance, usually covered by homeowner's insurance. The church cannot be responsible for damaged or stolen art work.

The number of pieces on display will depend on the size of the art work. Someone might want to hang only one piece while another might show a number of smaller paintings.

No artwork that might be considered objectionable can be displayed.

Direct any questions to Dee Yarnell.

Signed, The Sacred Spaces Committee

## **Happenings**

### **Spiritual Nurture Practices Series #2**

#### **Meditation**

Silent meditation, "sitting still, doing nothing," is a spiritual practice widely used by those seeking union with the Transcendent. At the least, meditation has been employed by Buddhists, Jews and Christians to still what is commonly called the "Monkey Mind." That, of course, is the tendency of our minds to swing from thought to thought, as a monkey does from branch to branch. Another metaphor that is used to describe our minds is a screen, on which a film is constantly being projected.

Why still the mind? Why not just enjoy the movie? Why not constantly re-live the past or anticipate the future? Because God (or Ultimate Reality, or whatever one chooses to call IT) does not inhabit your past or your future. God inhabits what the great German mystic, Meister Eckhardt, called the "Eternal Now." By being mindful, at first simply following our breath as we sit silently, we can come to live in the very same Eternal Now.

We cannot summarize the thousands of books that have been written on meditation. But the first step is simple: Find a quiet space, sit in a chair or on a pillow, quite upright but relaxed, and try to focus on your breath. Some say it helps to count breaths, up to ten, then starting again. It is so hard, so hard to get to "ten," without Monkey Mind again imposing itself. Don't try to banish or push aside the poor creature, just be aware of it and let it depart as you go back to the breath. You might start by sitting for

five minutes, and gradually increasing – as feels appropriate to you

Yes, it may get more complicated, depending on the particular type of meditation, perhaps adding a Buddhist “mantra” or a Christian “Jesus Prayer.” Perhaps deciding whether to keep our eyes closed or just downcast and unfocused. But this will suffice for starters.

### **Correction**

The Spiritual nurture committee’s theme for the year is “Creating Grace-filled Listening” not as reported in last months newsletter “Gracious Listening”

—Bill Becker, Spiritual Nurture Committee

### **Arts Center Invitation for Good Samaritan Church**

The Corvallis City Arts Center has invited members of the Good Samaritan Church to a private reception following the 10:00 a.m. services on Sunday March 4, 2012. The Center, normally closed on Sundays, will be open to the church members in honor of the Church’s 50th anniversary and the Arts Center’s 50th anniversary in 2013. Brief presentations will be given by Keith Dunlap, whose relatives gave the land on which the original church was built, Hester Coucke, Arts Center Curator, who will describe the architecture, and David Huff, Arts Center Director, who will discuss the Arts Center’s role in the community. The Arts Center will provide coffee and tea. The men’s breakfast fellowship will provide light refreshments. Sign-up sheet for this event is in the church office

### **“Be Happy” Class Coming in January**

Has anyone seen the documentary “Happy”? It was shown at the Darkside Cinema for over a month this summer. I saw it and am working my way through the plethora of books on the subject in preparation for a 4 week, once-a-week class in January. Neuroscience and experiential research has shown that some of us are by nature “happier” and more resilient than others. Apparently we are born with a “set point” of happiness and return to that despite temporary “highs” and “lows”. Some of our happiness is, of course, due to external cir-

cumstances. There is a growing body of literature, however, that attributes quite a large percentage (up to 40%!) of our happiness to “intentional choices”. The class will provide some foundational information on our “equation” for happiness but I intend to focus most on the intentional choices we make to boost our happiness. We will have some fun “homework” to try some of these things and report back whether they make a difference or not.

One disclaimer - “happiness” in this class is not defined as the “ha-ha” feeling of optimism, but rather a sense of deep peace and contentment, despite external circumstances. This is truly one’s spiritual journey and we will be tapping into the Source of All, Our Trinitarian God, as we explore tools to find ourselves in a “peaceful stance” more and more of the time.

Classes are set for every Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., beginning January 6th and continuing for 4 weeks. There will be no book to buy, nor cost for the course. I will invite the community to attend along with us. Closer to the time, I’ll be putting out flyers and more information and ask that folks pre-register (so I have enough hand-outs, etc.).

—Cammie Bella, Spiritual Nurture Committee

### **Other Activities**

#### **Thank You**

Dear Church of the Good Samaritan,

Thank you so much for your continued support of the “That’s My Farmer” SNAP Incentive program. Your church does such spectacular work! It is a great joy to work with you.

Wishing you happiness in a world of peace.

Many thanks and happy holidays,  
Ten Rivers Food Web (Administering the “That’s My Farmer” program)

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



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From The Clergy  
 Page 1

Treasurers Report  
 Page 2

Music Notes  
 Page 3

Vestry and Committee Reports  
 Page 3

Happenings  
 Page 6

Other Activities  
 Page 7

### Diocese of Oregon Award

The 2011 Environmental Award was won by Church of the Good Samaritan, Corvallis Good Samaritan installed the first solar array in the Diocese of Oregon, taking advantage of the Feed-In-Tariff program established by the Oregon legislature in 2009. Parishioners borrowed money from themselves, installed the solar panels, and are now enjoying a nearly 8% return on their investment. For the full story, please visit: <http://www.episcopaldiocese-oregon.org/node/323>

### 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 Wohlwend
Parish Nurse	TBA
Bookkeeper	Robin Powel
Newsletter Editor	*David Francis

\* Indicates Non-paid staff