

Weekly news & updates for St. Paul's

Week of April 26, 2021 | Volume 17

Upcoming Events for the week

- April 28 - Noon Day Eucharist at Chapel 601 Union St. - In person - Masks required
- May 2 - 8:30 a.m. Sunday Zoom Forum
- May 2 - 10 a.m. Sunday Zoom Worship Service



Photo submitted by Karen Coats

Meet Emery Gwendolyn Alley

Born Friday April 23 - 4lbs. 14 oz.



Sweet Emery Alley



Ian, Sarah and Emery



Emery Alley

Sarah Alley shared with me Ian's grandmother, Elaine May, died on April 25, 2021. Please pray with me:

Let us pray that God will grant comfort and strength to all who mourn the death of Elaine.

God our loving Father, draw near to Ian and Sarah and their family who mourn today. Make your love known to them, that they may turn to you and receive comfort and strength.

Help them
to put their trust in you,
and their hope in your grace and compassion. Amen.

New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 832

Vestry makes decision not to open for worship in May

St. Paul's Vestry recently made the decision not to open for worship in May. Due to the recent increase in Covid virus cases and a new risk factor rating of 'High Risk' for Wasco County, the Vestry will wait for the risk factor to drop to a 'Low Risk' status before opening the doors of the church.

Wednesday noon Eucharist will continue to offer a service, and all people are welcome. Masks are required, and social distancing will be practiced as we worship.

Please pray with me: *O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and in confidence will be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. BCP, P. 832*

Peace be with us,

Marilyn



Julie Reynolds



Jerry Frazier



Amy McIlvenna

Update on Profile for St. Paul's from Julie Reynolds:

To the Senior Wardens,

The 2021 Parish Survey Report is attached to this email, and is ready for presentation to the congregation by whatever method you choose. By early next week, a printed copy of the Tabulation and Analysis document will be available in the church office, so anyone interested can look at the way the data were analyzed. The results of the survey will be used in the Parish Profile, now being written. We will email a copy of the Survey Report to Canon Neysa Ellgren Shipley, who has offered to come to The Dalles to see St. Paul's and advise us on writing the Parish Profile.

Julie Reynolds
Jerry Frazier
Amy McIlvenna

Parish Profile Committee

Please think about the unvaccinated:

*"If we are fully vaccinated, why should we be concerned if we get **covid-19**? It seems ludicrous all the data has suggested if you get it, ... you will not get a serious case or be hospitalized. So it seems like it doesn't really matter once you are vaccinated if you get it, no?" —James in Massachusetts*

Yes, any of the vaccines will significantly reduce your chances of contracting covid-19, and if you happen to get it, then it is more likely to be akin to a cold rather than a severe respiratory illness that could put you in the hospital. ... Here's the problem, though. We still have a lot of people in the United States (and the world) who have not yet received the vaccine [for a variety of reasons]. As long as there's still a significant number of unvaccinated among us, our "vaccinated" choices will affect them. You might decide that you'll take the small risk of cold-like symptoms (or a symptomless infection), but if you do get it you can spread it to others. ...Because **with viruses, it's never just about us**. We need all the healthy folks to get shots, so the people who can't will still be **protected by the "herd"** of immune people around them. ... Until then, we should take the standard precautions like wearing masks and social distancing.
(From the *Washington Post* Coronavirus Updates email newsletter 4/21/2021)

And from the CDC: "A growing body of evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people are ... potentially less likely to transmit SARS-CoV-2 to others. However, further investigation is ongoing....Vaccinated people could potentially still get COVID-19 and spread it to others."

Submitted and edited by Julie Reynolds

What did Jesus mean when he said, "I know my own and my own know me?"



The line startles me because I'm not convinced that the life of faith is so straightforward, so certain. I'm remembering times in my life when I have *not* known for sure who God is or what God desires of me. When I've feared that I am *not* Jesus's own. If Jesus is so certain of my identity, so sure that I'm capable of discerning his voice, I wonder what keeps me hanging in doubt and fear.

I think of the barriers that lie between Jesus' assurance and my faith. There are barriers of doctrine. (Do I believe all the right things about God? Do I have my creeds in order? Is there some nuance of theology I'm missing?) There are barriers of guilt. (How can I really be forgiven when I mess up so often? If I belong to the shepherd, why is it so easy to wander away? Surely there must be a catch somewhere.) And there are barriers of pain. (I've cried out for my shepherd's voice many times, and experienced silence. Or if Jesus *has* spoken, I have not recognized him.)

If the metaphor isn't perfect, or if it leaves much to mystery, can I still find the courage to lean into it? Maybe the "barriers" I've named are of my own making. Maybe what Jesus is saying in this passage is more

straightforward and more radical: You belong. Yes, you do. Yes, you do. I know you. You are mine. Period.

Written by Debie Thomas and shared at Sunday's forum on 04 25 21.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES ...

May Birthdays:

- 2 Pam Miller
- 2 Scott Lipinski
- 8 Sue Foster
- 8 Dick Scherzinger
- 9 Mary Stocks
- 10 Phil Swartz
- 11 Gavin McIlvenna
- 12 Betty Hartmann
- 13 Matthew Kirby
- 16 Ross Hucke
- 20 Peggy Davis
- 29 Dan Durow
- 31 Dewanda Clark



Please pray ...

For your prayers: Peggy Davis, Skip & Carol Fisher, Bobbi Green, Ross Hucke, Don and Alice, Dale Newton, Ginger Crowley, Ruth Welle (Carol Yakish's sister), Sarah, Barbara Portwood, John Davis, Carol healing from lung cancer, Lorrie (friend of Alan Alford), Lee Keifer, Andrew Larive, Melanie from Ascension, Mary who is suffering from ALS (a friend of Amy McIlvenna), Pete Speight (Georgia Giacobbe's husband), Geri (Carolyn Thomas' sister), the Jeff Krier family as they grieve his death, the Carolyn Thomas family as they grieve the loss of Griff Thomas, Sam Woolsey's family as they grieve the loss of Bill Martin and Doug Woolsey, Kathy Scarborough's family as they grieve the death of her cousin, and relief from the Covid-19 virus spread throughout the community and country, and our Nation. 4/26/21

To submit articles or pictures for the weekly newsletter, please submit them by Friday. Some articles may be held over for the following issue due to immediacy and space. Your articles keep us smiling and feeling like a community. Thank you, Marilyn