

Weekly news & updates for St. Paul's

Week of February 22, 2021 | Volume 8

Upcoming Events for the week

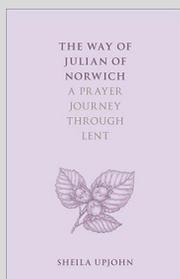
- Feb. 24 - Wednesday Noon Zoom service
- Feb. 24 - 6:30
- Feb. 28 - Sunday Forum 8:30 a.m.
- Feb. 28 - Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE: Feb. 28



The Right

Reverend Bishop Pat will be joining St. Paul's for Zoom Church on February 28, 2021. So put the date on your calendar. It will be wonderful to have Patrick join us both in word and virtual presence.



St. Paul's Sunday forum is reading the book, "The Way of Julian of Norwich: A prayer journey through Lent. Below is a quote from *Revelations of Divine Love*, chapter 5 from the first revelation.

"At the same time, our Lord showed me, in a spiritual manner, how intimately he loves us. I saw that he is everything that is good and supports us. He clothes us in his love, envelops us and embraces us. He wraps us round in his tender love and he will never abandon us. As I understand it, he is everything that is good. He also showed me a tiny thing in the palm of my hand, the size of a hazelnut. I looked at this with the eye of

Spring is coming ...



Crocus blooming in my backyard

I enjoy noticing the signs of growth and change during this time of year. Yesterday on our drive to Portland, I was delighted by the golden yellow of new growth on the willows at Memaloose and the red halo of new growth on some of the other trees in the gorge. In the right light there is the greenish tinted halo of new growth on many of the deciduous trees and bushes.

What signs of growth and change are you seeing these days?

Shared from Hilltop Neighbors Facebook Page - Photo & thoughts from Diane Adams

Morning

When you wake in the morning, don't open your internet, or read the papers, until you

my soul and thought: 'What is this?' And this is the answer that came to me: 'It is all that is made.'

Gretchen Kimsey has placed a basket of hazelnuts for us to pick one up as a symbol during our Lenten season. You will find them on the table in the foyer at St. Paul's.

have first said good morning to God. Have a prayer, or a psalm that you say first thing, to greet God, to reaffirm who you are, and why you are. Rediscover joy first thing in the morning: think on what is true, and lovely, and honorable and pure, before you face the world – and Facebook.

-Br. Geoffrey Tristram
Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Submitted by Gretchen Kimsey



NEVER FORGET GARDEN

Let's hope that this same picture of the Never Forget Garden plaque won't be possible now for several months. Last week the roses were thinking of budding when the recent snow setback hit them again. This week is different and budding will happen! It is time for planting and two more rose bushes have arrived.

Desmond Tutu Sunbelt: A wonderfully disease-resistant, vibrantly bright red rose, this instant classic pays fitting tribute to the beloved South African Bishop. Desmond Tutu is a part of the Sunbelt Collection, so you know it's one vigorous rose. Easy to grow, these blooms emerge in abundance continuously throughout the season. And you don't have to worry about these roses standing up to the heat and humidity of the South, because they were bred to withstand it. These bright red roses will grace your garden with tons of color and fragrance for a long season.

Pope John Paul II: Bred by renowned hybridizer Keith Zary, Pope John Paul II was proudly introduced by Jackson & Perkins in 2008, and it quickly became a favorite among rose lovers and continues to be to this day. Pope John Paul II has been awarded top honors for fragrance, vigorous growth, perfect bloom form, and good disease resistance. It's no wonder it is a showpiece of the Vatican private garden.

Anyone wishing to provide either a hybrid tea rose or the cash for one in recognition of one of our nations peacekeepers - contact the church office or Jerry Frazier and we will make it happen! Our goal in 2021 is to fill out the current garden plot with 21 roses - we have 15 spaces filled now only needing 6 more.

Submitted by Jerry Frazier

Public Service Announcement from North Central Public Health District Feb. 23, 2021

Wasco County Drops to Lower Risk Category effective Friday, Feb. 26

Due to a sharp decrease in COVID-19 cases, Wasco County will drop this week from the "extreme risk" category down three levels to the "lower risk" category, only the second county to drop three categories at once since the four-category risk framework was introduced last November.

It means the county has gone from having widespread COVID cases to minimal spread. Wasco County recorded just 27 cases in the 14-day period from Feb. 7 to Feb. 20. At the height of the December surge, the county recorded more than that in a single day several times. As a medium-sized county (with population between 15,000 and 30,000) Wasco County was assigned a risk category based on its case count over a 14-day period. Having less than 30 cases in a 14-day period qualifies for the lower risk category.

The extreme risk category, which Wasco County was in since the risk framework began, is assigned to counties with 60 or more cases over 14 days. At one point, Wasco County had over 175 cases during a two-week period, nearly triple the threshold level.

The state does the 14-day lookbacks weekly, but only implements category changes every other week.

The category change, which will be announced today by Gov. Kate Brown, will take effect Friday, Feb. 26. At that point, in-person dining at restaurants and bars can resume, at 50 percent capacity, with a closing time of midnight.

Churches can operate at 75 percent capacity indoors. Under the extreme risk category, they were limited to 25 percent capacity. Theaters, museums and gyms can operate at 50 percent capacity. The previous limit was six people total in buildings with more than 500 square feet of capacity. Long term care facilities can have inside visitation. Only outside visitation was allowed under the extreme category.

Offices can have limited in-person work, (compared to required remote work if possible under the extreme category) and retail stores can operate at 75 percent capacity, up from the 50 percent under the extreme category.

Indoor social gatherings can now have up to 10 people (up from six in the extreme category) with a recommended limit from up to four households, compared to two in the extreme category.

Vaccination is the key to ending the pandemic, and Wasco County has vaccinated nearly 13 percent of its population. That vaccination percentage likely played a role in the drop in cases, as did the end of the holiday surge and the public's continued masking, social distancing and avoidance of gatherings.

(For more information, please visit COVID-19 Vaccine in Oregon or contact North Central Public Health District at (541) 506-2600 or visit us on the web at www.ncphd.org or <https://wascoshermangilliamcovid-19.com/>)

Shellie Campbell, Interim Director

ORIGINAL WASCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE - 1859

ORIGINAL COURTHOUSE REGIONAL HISTORY FORUM SERIES FOR 2021

Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. each Saturday in February.

Pandemic = no gatherings at the 1859 Courthouse this year.

Join programs via Zoom: <http://OWCCZoomLink.info>

Saturday, February 27: Electric Power in Wasco County, Past and Current

Those who read local newspapers or listen to local radio know Rodger Nichols. Our local historian and member of the Courthouse board hopes those who tune in this program "will get a charge out of an enlightening presentation on watts been happening in the 120-year history of electricity in Wasco County. It may have the potential to spark a battery of questions."

Regional History Forum Programs, now in the series' 42nd year, are free. However, donations toward the operation of the Original Courthouse are gladly accepted.

Send to P.O. Box 839, The Dalles.

We hope the 1859 sheriff's office, jail, and courtroom will be able to reopen soon!

Original Courthouse Preservation Corporation invites you to join
Zoom presentations
of the 2021 Regional History Forum
each Saturday in February at 1:30 p.m.

It's the Thought that Counts

I have been a long time member of the Oregon Historical Society and in their most recent mailing was a very short story that illuminates the above proverb like nothing I have ever felt. The story reads in part:

Following an incident of vandalism last October we saw an outpouring of donations and new and renewing memberships- but none affected the OHS staff as much as the gift from our neighbor Oscar. In a note he stated, Hello, I'm homeless so I don't have much to give you. Just some of my bottle collecting money. But I saw your windows got broken and wanted to help. You once gave me a free tour before the pandemic, so this is a thank you.....Occar.

The donation was a one dollar bill.

A gift of true love.

Submitted by David Gross



Thank you ...

Hello Everyone,

We can't wait to be able to toast the goodness of life if for no other reason than to be able to gather together. It's been a long year. We miss you all, and although we are moving-on from our special day, it lingers.

Our wedding in the St Paul's sanctuary with Marilyn officiating on Valentine's Day was lovely. Smooth and exciting, we're glad the situation isolating us did not obstruct us from sharing with you. We appreciate the outpouring of love and support from our church family. We cannot thank you enough.

This celebration was fun to process and delights us to no end. We are pleased with 70-percent of invitees in attendance and nearly 300 views before the counter crashed. You're in our hearts.

Love sincerely,
The Carpenter Wilson's
Sally & Wendy

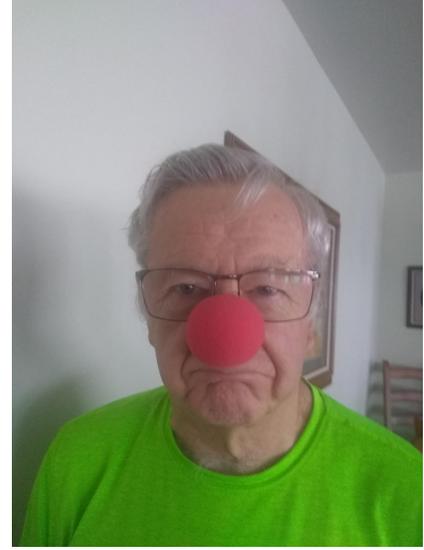
Let's have a laugh with Mike Fowler ... this is what happens when you have way too much time on your hands

Public Health Department Instructions for St Paul's:

1. Bring a blindfold
2. Wear a short sleeve shirt
3. When you arrive you will be taken to a table to sign forms



Then the nurse will stick it to you, it takes forever to empty the syringe, when she is done you remove the blindfold & you can keep the syringe.



Mike's reaction to his Covid-19 Vaccine Shot so glum ... ha, ha, ha.

When they are ready for you they will take you to a nurse who will instruct you to:

1. Put your blindfold on
2. Roll up your sleeve

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES ...



February Birthdays:

Ann Marie Woolsey - 27

Amy McIlvenna - 27

Please pray ...

For your prayers: Peggy Davis, Skip & Carol Fisher, Bobbi Green, Ross & Deb Hucke, Don and Alice, Dale Newton, Jeff Krier, Ginger Crowley, Oscar Martinez, Ruth Welle (Carol Yakish's sister), Sarah, Barbara Portwood, John Davis, Carol healing from lung cancer, Judith (sister of Sandy Kice), Lorrie (friend of Alan Alford), Lee Keifer, Rosemary Ross, Andrew Larive, Melanie from Ascension, Wanda Hilderbrand, Connor (grandson of Jeanine Dirksen), Stuart Foster (Jim Foster's son healing from a ski accident), Kathy Scarborough's cousin who has Covid, Mary who is suffering from ALS (a friend of Amy McIlvenna), relief from the Covid-19 virus spread throughout the community and country, and Our Nation. 2/23/21

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

