



Weekly news & updates for St. Paul's

Week of February 9, 2021 | Volume 5

Upcoming Events for the week

- Feb. 10 - Wed Noon Day Prayer - Zoom
- Feb. 14 Forum 8:30 a.m. Zoom
- Feb. 14 - St. Paul's Zoom Worship 10a.m.
- Feb. 14 - Zoom Vestry Meeting following Worship Service
- Feb. 14 - 2:30 p.m. Sally Carpenter and Wendy Wilson Wedding
- Feb. 17 - Noon Ash Wednesday Zoom Service ...People need to provide their own ashes

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.



The neighbor team continues to share love and hope in the neighborhood surrounding the church.

Annual Zoom Meeting following church

February 21, 2021

Wendy Wilson and Sally Carpenter Wedding

February 14, 2021
2:30 p.m. By Facebook Livestream



Tap on Link to join Wedding Ceremony



Signs of Love

If you take a drive by the church, you will see plenty of Valentine's cheer. We've installed a new banner and several yard signs to share love with our neighbors as they walk and drive by our building. Valentine's Day may be a secular holiday, but love is always in season at St. Paul's.

Want to join in the fun? Grab an old yard sale or campaign sign and give it a coat of paint. Then add your Valentine message of choice. You are welcome to add to the collection outside St. Paul's. Or, better yet, place your creation in your own yard and share a bit of cheer with your neighbors.

The Neighborhood Team

Vaccine information from Dr. Chuck Miller



Questions were raised during "coffee hour" on Feb 7, so let me try to bring some clarity to the vaccination process...

It is worth noting that as of Feb 6, Oregon had received 734,000 vaccine doses and has administered 554,000 (more than 75%).

Washington has received more than 1,160,000 doses and has administered about 60%. Washington is now vaccinating group 1b which includes everyone over 65 and everyone over 50 living in a multi-generational household.

Oregon has elected to start vaccinating its 100,000 teachers as of last week, one week prior to starting to vaccinate seniors. Oregon senior vaccinations will begin this week with 80+ year olds; next week with 75+; then 70+ the following week; and so on.

A question was posed during the coffee hour on why Goldendale residents received vaccinations sooner than people in The Dalles. Goldendale has a public hospital with 225 employees mandated to assist in delivering public health to a local city population of 3500.

The Dalles has a non-profit hospital with 1889 employees which is not necessarily mandated to assist the public health department and which is not directly supported by local taxes as is KVH Hospital in Goldendale. The local public health department serves Wasco and Sherman Counties including The Dalles (population ~ 15,500, which is 4 times G'dales population). Goldendale has no nursing homes or assisted living facilities. The Dalles has 4, not including OVH, which have high priority populations to vaccinate.

The roll out of vaccine priorities after getting health care workers and nursing home patients immunized, may be debated, but in larger communities, by lumping everyone 65 and above together, those most vulnerable - 80+ - may well be pushed back by healthier 65 year olds. The stepwise weekly "head start" for each 5 year grouping improves the timely vaccination of those most vulnerable by age.

The attachment which I am forwarding to you is from the Oregon Medical Association and contains some helpful links. It also gives a public vaccination help-line phone number which will be answered with assistance from the National Guard. That phone number is **2-1-1**.

Pax,
Chuck Miller

Vaccination for Seniors Begins Monday

Starting Feb. 8, people age 80 and older can begin receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Even with expanded eligibility, there will still be more people who want to get a vaccine than there will be vaccines available to them.

Everyone 65 and older will be eligible for vaccine by the end of February. Here are dates in which each group becomes eligible for the vaccine:

- February 8: 80 and older
- February 15: 75 and older
- February 22: 70 and older
- March 1: 65 and older

Seniors living independently with questions can also call **2-1-1** for information. To help ensure the phone lines are running smoothly, 30 additional National Guard members will be deployed to help staff the call center.

Vaccination Status in Oregon

As of today, Feb. 5, 2021, Oregon has now administered a cumulative total of 509,578 first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccines.

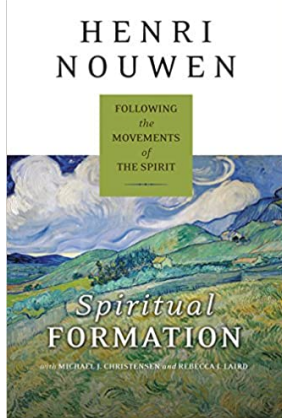
OHA's dashboard provides regular updates on vaccination data. Cumulative daily totals can take several days to finalize due to the 72-hour reporting guideline, as well as technical challenges impeding reporting. OHA has been providing technical support to vaccination sites to improve the timeliness of data entry.

OHA Vaccine Resources

- Vaccine Sequencing
 - Phase 1a Plan
 - Phase 1a Plan Update
- Frequently Asked Questions:
 - COVID-19 Vaccine in Oregon
 - Phase 1a Vaccine Sequencing Plan
- General Questions Email: COVID19.vaccine@dhsoha.state.or.us

LENTEN BOOK STUDY FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 27 6:30 P.M. ZOOM

Please join us each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. for Zoom Lenten book study. We will be reading Henri Nouwen's "***Spiritual Formation***" book, and books can be picked up at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Free books are located on the table in the Foyer, marked Lenten Study.



Peace be with you,

Marilyn

St. Mary's Academy students share gifts with 'Everyone has a Birthday'

As a newer board member at St Vincent DePauls, I continue to marvel and learn about the services we provide and the passion of the organizations which support us.

Board members Brenda Trapp, Ed Elliot, myself and board spouse Terry Trapp, received an impressive contribution from the students at St Mary's Academy in The Dalles.



A few years ago the students came up with a special way to support low income families. The theme they chose was "Everyone has a birthday." They then began assembling "birthday party in a bag" gift bags. Each bag was filled with birthday cake mix, frosting, candles, party plates, sprinkles and the like. Everything required to celebrate that most personal of holidays. Each year these bags were placed in the St Vincent's Food Bank and staff would ask visitors if there were any birthdays in their families that month. If they responded yes, the appropriate number of birthday party gift bags were added to the items they received that month.

Today we were pleasantly surprised to learn that St Mary's student's produced 415 of these bags for this year. They also mentioned a goal of 1000 for next year. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the quantity and the care with which they had prepared these items kits. It's obvious to me the joy that their gift will bring to financially challenged households.

Submitted by Alan Alford, Board Member of St. Vincent DePaul's

Photo Information: *Vincent DePaul Board Member, Ed Elliot, stacking & transporting gift bags from St Mary's students to shelves in our food bank.*

A historical note on Ash Wednesday and imposition of ashes in a time of pandemic from Sewanee

First, it is probably important to note that the Prayer Book rubric reads, *If ashes are to be imposed* (265). Although the present Prayer Book is the first to set forth a rite that includes the imposition of ashes, the practice was not unknown in The Episcopal Church previously. A variety of rites and practices were in circulation, some with semi-official status from diocesan bishops, while

others were local adaptations of the rites of other traditions, normally the Roman. In any event, the imposition of ashes remains an optional dimension of the Ash Wednesday rite. That said, the profoundly tactile nature of the rite has become a significant ritual moment for many of our people so simply eliminating it without an appropriate ritual substitute, particularly in this time of pandemic, will surely have pastoral consequences.

The imposition of ashes is generally understood to be rooted in the enrollment of penitents on the first day of Lent. That practice was later expanded to all of the laity as a sign of their own repentance and of their commitment to walking the way of Lent together with those who were to be baptized at Easter or, in the case of the penitents, restored to the faith. For example, in Rome, in the fifth century, there is clear evidence of the enrollment of penitents at the beginning of Lent, but there is no evidence of the use of ashes in any manner. This is particularly notable because by the time that Matthew 6 became the gospel for the first day of Lent, there is still no evidence of the use of ashes in the rite at that time.

The first recorded use of ashes is in the tenth century in Germany. In that case, the penitents were sprinkled with ashes, extricated from the assembly to the accompaniment of Genesis 3:19-20 (the exclusion of Adam and Eve from the garden), from which the formula for the imposition of ashes in later centuries was derived.

It was in England, in the eleventh century, that we have evidence of the sprinkling of ashes on all of the faithful, noted there in the writings of the Aelfric, the Abbot of Eynsham. By the end of that century, Pope Urban II will make the practice of sprinkling ashes on all of the faithful the practice of the western church.

In like manner, it is abundantly clear that the church's first ritualization of our mortality was not the imposition of ashes on the forehead, however beautifully that may resonate with chrismation at baptism, but the sprinkling of ashes upon the heads of the faithful while Genesis 3 (*remember that you are dust*) and Jonah 3 (*sackcloth and ashes*) echoed through the assembly. That action is powerfully reminiscent of the dirt that is cast upon our mortal remains at the time of our burial.

Those participating remotely by way of some digital platform may want to prepare ashes for their personal use during the rite and to share with family and others close by.

+J. Neil Alexander

University of the South, Sewanee

Article edited for length

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES ...

February Birthdays:

Jan Newson - 14

Janeal Booren - 20

Ann Marie Woolsey - 27

Amy McIlvenna - 27



Please pray ...

Peggy Davis, Skip & Carol Fisher, Bobbi Green, Ross & Deb Hucke, Don and Alice, Dale Newton, Jeff Krier, Ginger Crowley, Oscar Martinez, Ruth Welle (sister of Carol Yakish), Sarah, Barbara Portwood, John Davis, Carol healing from lung cancer, Judith (sister of Sandy Kice), Lorrie (friend of Alan Alford), Beverly Sherrill (daughter of Kerrs), Lee Keifer, Rule Beasley and family, Melanie from Ascension, and relief from the Covid-19 virus spread throughout the community and country, and Our Nation. 2/8/2021

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

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