



**This month
at
St. Dunstan's**

St. Agnes Guild

**Sunday School
Season of the Spirit**

**Youth Group
First and Third Sundays**

**Adult Discussion
God in Real Life**

No-Host breakfast

Prayer of the Lamb

**Holy Eucharist
Sundays**

Rite I 8:00 am

Rite II 9:30 am

**Wednesdays
Rite II 10:00 am**

St. Dunstan's

Highlights

Rooted and Grounded in Love Ephesians 3:17

Growing in Shoreline for 60 years.

February 2010

Annual Meeting

On January 24 the annual meeting of St. Dunstan's Parish Church was held in the sanctuary. Three new vestry members were elected to fill the expiring terms of Mike Servais, Dawn Friend and Tom Keefer. We thank them for their faithful service during this time of transition in our parish. Dawn Friend has served as our Clerk for the last three years and her accurate minutes have been a great asset.

We welcome Tom Paulson, Harvey Lazelle and Harley Wahl to the vestry for the next three years. Mary E. Pacher who has been serving as our Senior Warden was also elected to a three year term.

Mike Servais, Peter Esselman, Dawn Miller and Joan Baker were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention to be held on October 29th and 30th. Dixie Buol and Mary O. Pacher will serve as alternates.

Don Riccardo, Treasurer, presented the budget for 2010. The decision had been made by the vestry not to create a budget until the stewardship campaign was over and all the figures had been compiled. The good news is that we were able to eliminate almost all of last year's deficit and that we know exactly where we stand financially.

For the first time in a number of years we have a balanced budget but we were only able to accomplish this by eliminating our Choral Section leaders and Sunday School staff after May 31st. Expenses need to be reduced. We will not replace our sexton, Dick Germain, who has retired. Instead, we will hire a part-time cleaning service and depend on the help of parishioners to fill this need.

The treasurer's position has been filled by a volunteer, thus eliminating that salary and replacing it with that of a part time bookkeeper. Liz Twiss, our very excellent office manager has instituted many cost cutting measures.

One of our major expenses is printing costs which were \$10,000 last year. Our goal is to reduce that figure to \$7,000. Your printed and mailed copy of the Highlights is a significant part of this expense. We will move to E-mailing the "Highlights."

In spite of all this, or maybe because of it, I sense a new spirit of optimism in our parish and a new willingness to work together to solve our problems and to plan together for the future of our parish.

Highlights by e-mail

This edition of the Highlights is being delivered to you electronically in keeping with our efforts to reduce printing costs. The printing and mailing of the Highlights is a major expense each month. In addition, printing, folding and preparing your newsletter for mailing is labor intensive requiring about 10 man (usually woman) hours each month.

We had hoped to delay the changeover, but our final budget numbers dictate otherwise. Please give this method of delivery a fair try. You will be assured of prompt delivery to your electronic mail box.

Joan Baker

A Word from the Rector

Dear Friends,

Is This Good News?

So, we have a balanced budget but we can't keep all our staff beyond May 31st. We are \$16,000 short of a budget that includes choral section leaders and Christian Education staff for the entire year. The budget we presented includes \$5000 in fundraising and we have no reserves left in our checking or savings.

Could this be good news? I believe so. This is an opportunity. This is a great time to ask ourselves what God is calling us to be as a congregation. What is God doing with St. Dunstan's Church? What is being transformed, redeemed and renewed through our prayer, worship, work and fellowship?

What do we have to offer to a family with young children? What do we have to offer to a retired couple or a widow? What do we have to offer to a young couple considering marriage or a young, single graduate student? These are the kinds of questions we need to ask. The answers will emerge as we work together, pray together and worship together.

The issue here isn't simply that we are \$16,000 short in our budget. A healthy church is always growing. We will need to challenge ourselves to grow in our faith, in our service to a broken world, and in our commitment to bringing the love of God to more and more people.

We overcame a huge budget deficit last year. Our attendance is up 7%. Our pledged income is up over 10%. We reversed a three-year decline in all of these measures. We are building a new Sunday School program. We have a new Weekly Message and a new web site. These are hopeful signs that we are on the right path.

Congregational development is slow, steady work. We will listen for God's calling. We will put our trust in Jesus. We will break bread together, pray together, and go into the world with

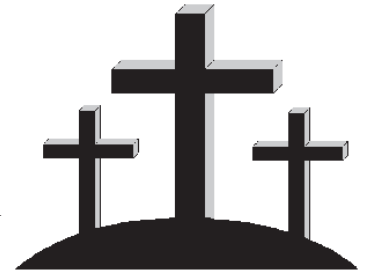
gladness and unity of heart, to love and serve the Lord. God has given us the gifts we need to do the work we are called to do.

Your brother in Christ,

The Rev. David Marshall

RESPOND TO GOD WITH ART

The congregation of St. Dunstan's has a wonderful opportunity to do something new, and do it together with fellowship, prayer, and of course, some fun. We are going to build the Stations of the Cross together as a congregation. Fourteen teams will be formed (one for each station.) Each team will receive a biblical text and then build an icon based on that text that represents a station of the cross.



The stations will be built using a 12"x14" piece of plywood and any materials that the team chooses. Your icon can be as plain or as fancy as you want. In other churches, the stations have included paintings, poems, collages, and even three-dimensional sculptures that seem to emerge from the wall. The only restriction is that the plywood has to be able to hang on the wall when you finish. This is a unique opportunity to engage with the story of scripture creatively and communally.

When the icons are finished, they will be turned in and we will have a wonderful time of sharing as we enjoy each other's work. The icons will be displayed in the Narthex and Guild Room and on Good Friday, we will have a special "Stations of the Cross" service in which the congregation will visit each station and reflect on the scripture and the teams' artistic response.

This is a time for us to work together and do it to the glory of God. Teams may be made up of any combination of people, but we would love to have multi-generational teams and teams that combine people from different groups in the church. We will form the teams by February 14th and the teams will start work on their station on February 21st.

For more information or to join a team contact Joan Baker (425) 776-9059 or news@sdchp.org or Mary E. Pacher ((425) 374-8846 or seniorwarden@sdchp.org

St. Dunstan's Church & the Henry Memorial Chapel

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A note from the editor:

The day is cold and dark and dreary, the rain seems never ending. My front walk is so dark, I have left some of my Christmas lights up to brighten the path. My garden looks more like a swamp than a garden, but I still find some veggies growing bravely in the mire. Kale, chard, cabbages, beets and leeks winter over nicely and add a memory of last summer or a hint of the next. Added to some good beef stock and with the addition of a carrot or two and embellished with some kielbasa I will have a very nice borscht, warm and comforting in this kind of weather.

In spite of everything, there is a promise of better things to come. My tulips are poking their noses up through the soil and there are two primroses blooming bravely on the bank in the back yard. The days are growing obviously longer reminding me that spring is not far away and it is time to make plans for next year's garden. The seed catalogues have arrived. As I turn the pages it seems that anything is possible.

I know that later on there will be problems. Late frost or snow may cover the ground, the rain which seems neverending will dessert us. The robins will fatten on my blueberries and cherries. Raccoons and possums will take large bites out of my tomatoes and slugs and snails will feast on my cabbages. But, in the end in spite of everything, the harvest will be satisfying, and isn't that why we keep trying?

Spring is a time of promise, a time of renewal in our lives as well. I feel a swell of energy as the days lengthen. There is an impatience to get on with things. To throw out the old and to start fresh. This is the time to clean closets and drawers and maybe even the garage to make way for new things and new ways of doing things. I think I will start by throwing out those old drapes that do nothing but gather dust. I don't need any more dust in my life.

And I don't need dust in my thinking either. I don't have to do things the same old way. I can rethink and reorder some of those stale routines and make room for some new experiences. Like the garden there will be problems, but in the end, with God's help, the reward will be great.

Joan Baker

A report from the Senior Warden

Dear Friends in Christ,

I would like to speak with you about the word "commitment." Webster's Dictionary defines commitment as, "an agreement or pledge to do something in the future," and, "an engagement to assume financial obligation at a future date," and "something pledged."

Commitment comes in many different forms. This month I celebrate the commitment of fifty-two years of marriage to my husband. As parents, we make a commitment to give our children the best possible life that we can provide for them. We as a congregation celebrate the commitment to ourselves, each other, our church, and to God. We are all living proof that when we put our minds together to do something, we get it done.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your support, commitment, and love of our church, St. Dunstan's. You have made it possible for us to stand on more solid ground financially. We have had a successful fund raising campaign and are continuing our pledge campaign. By the time you read this, there will be plans in the works for fund raisers that will help sustain us in the future. Your Vestry continues to work diligently to secure the future of this congregation and this church.

We celebrate the one year anniversary of Fr. David being our rector this month. He too is committed. Committed to each one of us and our church, and committed to God.

We have so much to be thankful for as we begin a New Year together. Spring is just around the corner and with it comes new growth, and new life. Let us all strive to work together to do God's work, and to find new and exciting growth and life in our relationships with each other and with God.

I will end this letter with a lovely quote from Louisa May Alcott, "Make each day useful and cheerful, and prove that you know the worth of time by employing it well. Then youth will be happy, old age without regret, and life a beautiful success."

Blessings to all of you,

Mary E. Pacher, Senior warden

Meet your Vestry

Vestry Hosted Wine & Cheese Reception,

Sunday, February 28, 4:00 pm.

St. Dunstan's Vestry cordially invites members of the congregation to attend this reception. We are looking forward to meeting and greeting you and answering your questions, listening to your suggestions and thanking you for the privilege of serving you here at St. Dunstan's. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Rall at 206-660-9156

Dessert with the Marshalls

In February, we will be starting a wonderful new activity entitled "Dessert with the Marshalls." Parishioners will have the opportunity to host Fr. David and his wife Alice, in their homes and invite members of the congregation to join them for an evening of fellowship. More information will be coming.

Blessings,

Mary E. Pacher

St. Agnes Guild

We held our Christmas party on December 4 and enjoyed a game and a potluck and dessert served by Ann-Patrice Ricardo and Elizabeth Ann Hutson. In January, after our business meeting, Father David took us into the sanctuary and invited us to come up close to the altar and then he told us the names and the uses of all the objects used to celebrate the Eucharist. We then joined in our yearly corporate communion. Afterward, we enjoyed another potluck and dessert served by Dixie Buol our hostess.

Our next meeting will be on February 7th. Liz Twiss will talk to us about her duties as an office manager. The Guild's one hour business meeting starts at 10:00 am and at approximately 11:00 am the program is presented. For more information call Lu Gardiner (206) 362-6024 barryluii@msn.com or Joan Baker (425) 776-9059 joanruth3@verizon.net.

New Women's Group!

Gal's Needlework Night Out meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 PM, in the Narthex. We had our first meeting on Tuesday, December 15, with five women attending, including a church visitor who happened to see our poster in the Narthex. The group is working on knitted or crocheted watch caps for the homeless and knitted squares for blanket making. The group is also interested in quilt making and sewing. Women of all ages are invited to share our knowledge, show-off our talent and encourage and support needlework arts here at St. Dunstan's.

Matthew House

Volunteers needed to deliver clothing donations to Matthew House, Monroe, Washington.

This ministry provides clothing for the families of prisoners at the Monroe Correctional Center. The prison has a strict dress code and often visiting family members need appropriate clothing in order to visit their loved one. The frequency of deliveries depends upon the amount of clothing donated, but usually happens about once every 4-6 weeks. Please contact Diana Rall at 206-660-9156 for more details.

The prayer of the Lamb

The group meets the second Sunday of every month in the sanctuary. We join together under the direction of the Rev. Beverly Hoseas in intercessory prayer, meditation, reflection, gospel study and the Lord's Prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us around the altar. Bring a Bible.



Our next meeting is Sunday, February 14th, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Our March meeting is March 14th.

Rica O'Connor

Money Matters

Among the many changes that are taking place in our parish is a new way of accounting for our money. At the request of the bishop we have moved our accounting system to a new software program, Church Windows, which is designed specifically for churches and should give us more appropriate financial information.

Along with the new accounting system and also at the direction of the diocese, we have instituted more modern, generally accepted "best practices" in the actual handling of our funds. This involves two people. The Treasurer is a volunteer who oversees the flow of monies and authorizes expenditures. Don Riccardo has graciously volunteered to fill this very important position. The second person is a bookkeeper who does the physical work of keeping our records up to date. This is a paid position.

The Sunday collection is now counted immediately after the service and either stored in the safe or deposited in the bank. This is done by five teams of two persons each. Why so many? So that no one needs to serve more than once a month. With more teams serving, no one will see enough to be able to guess at another member's giving levels. This actually increases confidentiality. Cash is counted, checks are sorted, totaled, and a record prepared for the bookkeeper.

Now here is where the congregation can help.

- i If you pay your pledge in cash, put it in an envelope and write your name, the amount and the purpose clearly on the envelope so it can be credited to the correct account. Unless you have coins there is really no reason to seal the envelope.
- i If you use checks be sure to write clearly paying special attention to the amount. Be sure to write the purpose of your check on the memo line so it can be credited to the correct account. There is no need to put your check in an envelope.
- i If you pay your pledge weekly, you might consider paying it monthly. The less paper handling the fewer the chances for errors and the less bookkeeping cost.
- i If your bank offers a bill pay service and you are comfortable with it, you can pay your pledge along with your other bills. This is a great convenience and helps keep your pledge up to date if you are going to be on vacation or otherwise unable to attend on Sunday.
- i Your bank may be able to arrange a regular electronic transfer of funds.

You as a member of the congregation will not notice much difference with the new system, except that your checks will clear more promptly.

Thank you for considering these suggestions.

Happy February from Sunday School and Youth Group!



First and most important, THANKS for the WONDERFUL Christmas Pageant. It was truly a HUGE success and we received MANY compliments. THANKS for the youth participation and to the parents for the support!

As of February 1st, the structure of the Sunday School and Youth Group will be changing a little. We are delighted to continue with SEASONS OF THE SPIRIT as our curriculum. To enhance this curriculum, at 9:30 we will meet as a full group to read our Bible story for the day and share our ritual of prayer, lighting the candle and music. We will then branch off into two separate groups. From that point, Grades K-5 will be involved in one activity and grades 6-12 will be in another activity. We will branch into these two groups, no matter how many students attend. We will both be a part of your child's education, but concentrating on one particular age group.

On Youth Group Sundays, (the first and third Sunday's of the month), the meeting time will change from the evening to 11:30 am-1:30 pm. We have done this for a couple of reasons. First, we are hoping it will allow more students to stay and attend the sessions if they are already at the 9:30 service. Second, it will not break up the day for either the students, Father David or Ann-Patrice, allowing everyone a full late afternoon and evening with family etc.

Youth Group is now open from 6th through 12th grades. At some times, we will do activities with just 9th through 12th graders, but these will be separate from the 11:30 to 1:30 time slot. We hope this change will boost attendance. This will begin on Sunday, February 7th, incorporating lunch, NOOMA and some sort of OUTREACH activity.

Finally, in an effort to add a personal touch, we will be calling families to invite them to both the Sunday School and Youth Group activities.

Souper Bowl of Caring - Sunday - Feb. 7th

On Sunday, Feb. 7th, the Youth Group and Sunday School will be a part of "The Souper Bowl of Caring". We are registered in this national day of giving, centered around the idea that we give locally with "soup" while the United States revolves around the excitement and frenzy of the "Super Bowl." This will be Saint Dunstan's 6th year to participate.

With that little history in mind, if you are able, please bring the following items to church on Souper Bowl Sunday:

- 1) A can of soup or any food item(s) that you can spare.
- 2) Any loose change or dollars that you would like to contribute for a special collection.
- 3) A loaf of bread and the following:

Last names ending with A - K = a jar of peanut butter

Last name ending with L - Z = a jar of jam

The Youth Group and the Sunday School will be charge of making Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches during the 9:30 service. Everything collected on Feb. 7th including the cans, special monetary collection, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches will be taken to the Seattle Union Gospel Mission in the afternoon. We appreciate your support of this worthy cause.

We wish you a pleasant and fun filled VALENTINES DAY and PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND!

Take care!

Ann-Patrice Riccardo and Sandy Lamb
Youth Group and Sunday School Coordinators

Summer Camp 2010 at Camp Huston

Hello from Huston! There are several exciting things coming up at camp.

Brochures will be available soon! Please be on the watch for brochures in the mail and get ready for this year's camping season! Information and guidance from the Camp Huston staff is available online at www.huston.org or by contacting the Huston office at 360-793-0441 or info@huston.org. We are looking forward to continuing our week-long camp sessions, International Odyssey, Horse Camp, Theater Camp with Missoula Children's Theater, and Family Camp!

Homestay Family Opportunity - Camp Huston's Session Three, August 8-14, marks another session at camp that we are joined by students from the Rikkyo Episcopal School in Japan. Every two years the students participate in one of Camp Huston's week-long sessions and have the opportunity to stay

with a family for 2 days after camp, before going home. We need your help to make this experience welcoming and fun! Please contact the Huston office at 360-793-0441 or info@huston.org if you are available or interested in this opportunity!

Upcoming Events

Work Weekend: Join the Huston community in beautifying the camp and preparing for the upcoming season. April 30-May 2, 2010, only \$10/person for a weekend of hard work, good food, fellowship, and fun! Visit www.huston.org for more information and a registration form.

Huston Quilters Spring Retreat: Spring clean your quilting projects and join us April 28-May 2, 2010 to enjoy good food, good company, and all the quilting time you need. Visit www.huston.org for more information and a registration form. 9156.

Musical notes

I want to thank the congregation at St. Dunstan's for the warm welcome that you have extended to me as your interim musician. I have served several other congregations in this capacity and I enjoy it. My role is to provide continuity in the music program while the next permanent parish musician is selected. Our worship is enhanced when many members contribute their various talents.

There are several ways that you can get involved. Consider joining the choir; new members are welcome. You may want to join the choir for part of the year to try it out. Consider singing with us through the Easter season. We rehearse Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:15 pm. If you are intrigued by the bell choir, talk to Karin Rogers about ringing. There is a place for many different instruments in worship. Patricia Jaeger did a lovely job playing her violin with a choir anthem a few weeks ago. I would be delighted to make use of other instruments in worship. Contact me if you would like to play a prelude or offertory. I look forward to making music with you these next months to the glory of God.

David Lepse, Interim director of music

Christmas Past

During Advent we were privileged to enjoy two very special events.

On December 13th the St. Dunstan's choir under the direction of Marion Anderson presented a "Ceremony of Lessons and Carols." The program was followed by a reception organized by St. Agnes Guild and Wassail served by the Youth Group. The program was a delight, the food and drink was good and the holiday spirit joyous.

The following Sunday the combined Sunday School and Youth Groups under the direction of Ann-Patrice Riccardo, Sandra Lamb and Mary E. Pacher presented a pageant entitled "Jesus the Greatest Gift" during the 9:30 service.

We thank every-one involved for the hard work that added so much to our enjoyment of the season.



Nathen Theiler and Isobel Wright

Please send material for the Highlights to Joan Baker at joanruth3@verzon.net before the 20th of the month.

Shrove Tuesday A Taste of Italy

February 16

featuring the

Ain't No Heaven Seven

★★★

Live Auction ★★★

Social Time 6:30 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm



Adult \$12

Child (6-12) \$6

Children under 6 Free

Family Packages

Two adults and children under 12 \$30

One adult and children under 12 \$20

Tickets go on sale January 24th after church
Reservations required and paid prior to February 12
or call Dixie Buol at (206) 533-0288

Here are a few of the auction items, a more complete list and a description is in the Narthex.

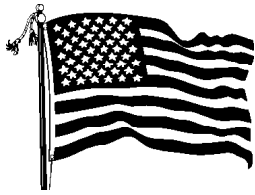
French Country dinner for 6
Mexican dinner for 6
Italian dinner for 6
Doll
Quilts
Seattle TourSaver Discount Book
Waterways Cruises:
 2-hour Sunday Brunch Cruise
Piano Lessons
Kayaking
Italian Cookies
Accordion or Piano Entertainment
Boat Cruise

These are just a few of the great items we have to auction. The proceeds from this auction will go to the church's General Fund. With this goal in mind, we ask that you come join us for the social hour, a delicious dinner, live music Live Auction. Please bring your checkbooks! A complete list of the items for bidding will be posted at church. Even if you cannot attend, you can bid. Terry Rogers will be our auctioneer.

Bring family and friends on Feb. 16th. You will enjoy a delicious dinner, no host bar, music by the "Ain't No Heaven Seven" and the opportunity to bid on some great items.

Come and join in the fun!

In Service



Please offer prayers for the safety of military personnel, connected with this parish or known to members:

Lt. Commander Clayton Massey
Sergeant Robert Munsey
Lieutenant Scott Washburn
Senior Airman Vera Thornton
Private Mickel Ditanra
Lt. Commander Kris Runaas
SPC Brady Rohrig
Bryan Peterson
Sgt. 1st Class Tom Collison
Pvt. Jeremy Lewis

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (BCP)

Food Bank Donations

Remember! The last Sunday of the month is Food Bank Sunday. The unemployment numbers keep growing and so do the lines at the food bank. Although we will accept donations at any time but the last Sunday of each month is a special day to remember those who may be hungry. Thanks to Al Bahlkow for faithfully delivering your donations.

Saturday Work Party

You may have noticed a new weekly event on the calendar. This is a fellowship activity and it occurs every other Saturday at 10:00 am You are welcome to join any (or every) Saturday. No reservation required.

All joking aside, this is a very important part of our parish life and the more parishioners who participate the less work for each person. There is simply not room in our budget to hire a new sexton or at this point even a full time cleaning service. The work of a good sexton, and Dick Germain was a very good sexton, is invisible, only noticed when it is not done. He is greatly missed.

I am not really joking about its being a fellowship activity, there is no better way to get to know someone than to work together for a common cause.

Hope to see you some Saturday.

Joan Baker

Prayer list

In your prayers please remember :

At St. Dunstan's: Betty Conover, Mark Eddy and George, Alan and Shanta Francis, Randy and Maya Garman, Monica Lever, Kelly and Judy Makngren, Ginger and Joe Phelan, Carmen Ray, Steph Ross, Ruth Sawyer, Shirleymae Wendt, Dick and Ellen Germain, Peggy Miller, Faith Moore, Nicholas and Margaret Bartolomeo, Jeff Buol, Susan E., Gail, Keelen Keiser, Robert and Lorraine McCormick, Don Argo, Bill Bayard, "Ginna " Dunn, Daniel Riccardo, Karen and Fred Jones, Jody Enderle, Nate Albro, B. J. Duffy, Hayes Keeler, Kurt Wenzel, Katie Havers

In the diocese: St. Aidan, Camano Island; Transfiguration, Darrington; St. Martin-St. Francis, Rockport

Altar flowers

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the fund for decorating the church for Christmas. It was truly beautiful.

Many parishioners have signed up for particular calendar dates to sponsor altar flowers on our permanent flower list. However, there are dates available for sponsors during the year.

The cost for flowers is \$60.00 including tax. We will make the arrangements with the florist or you may talk to them directly. Simply contact Dixie Buol or any

altar guild member and they can answer questions or help you select an available date. You will be asked to supply a dedication for the flowers to be included in the Sunday bulletin. You are welcome to take the flowers home after the service

The Altar Guild

February	7	Karen and Paul Hogle
February	14	Mary and Charles Pacher
February	21	Lent
February	28	Lent

Coffee Hour

We hate to sound like a broken record, but, once again, we do not have sign ups at St. Dunstan's for coffee hour.

Hopefully, you all have noticed the increased participation at the after church coffee hour. Visitors are being welcomed, friends are greeting each other and there is a warm feeling of closeness developing. And this augmented by a hot cup of coffee or tea and a cookie or some other snack.

Please look around at church and find another family to share the responsibility of providing goodies for a Sunday coffee hour soon. It's always fun when two (or more) families share the duty and maybe you can become better acquainted with fellow members.

