



The Messenger

St. Gabriel the Archangel Episcopal Church

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September

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Home communion is available for those who are unable to attend

Sunday worship service. Contact Jeanne Koppel at 503-520-0240 to arrange for an appointed time.

Parish email: If you have email for the first time or have recently changed your email address, please notify the office so we can update your contact information.

Vicar's Corner

Laughter at a BAC meeting? Not unusual, around these parts - laughter seems to always accompany the work we do at our Bishop's Advisory Committee meetings. I love it! It is a blessing to do the work of our church with joyful people! I believe, after all, that if we enjoy what we do and have fun together, our dreams can come true - if we laugh together we can do anything!

The laughter, however, grew in intensity recently, as we worked on our organizational chart. You may have noticed that I am a bit of a "circular thinker" - org charts, it seems, are best done by folks a bit more linear than I. My attempt was lovely, circles circling 'round about creating interesting, complex - albeit confusing, patterns. It made sense...to me. (Sometimes mine is a lonely world!) Then (thank goodness) our senior warden shared his version - boxes and lines clear as a bell! I had to admit, that although circular thinking works in many areas, org charts are not among them!

After the tears of laughter had been dried, we got to work "fine tuning" the organizational chart born of the work we have been doing all year - the work of defining how our community functions, and seeking ways of improving on an already strong system. The product is a clear organizational chart that draws from the wisdom of the past, as well as incorporating new ideas. (Some even from my creative endeavor.)

The chart is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex and has been given to the chairs of various committees. Consistent use of this chart will guide us all in our work - clarifying lines of communication, among other things. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this tool, and use it! If you have any questions or comments, let me, or someone on BAC know. BAC members include: Jennifer Brandlon, Wayne Brooks, Connie Brown, Bill Clyde (Sr. Warden), Don Erickson (Jr. Warden), Tom McHale, Lynn Paff, Carol Reifsteck, Elly Steacy, Jack Stiles and Margaret Wilson. Ellen Adamosky attends serving as treasurer, Debbie Kyler as clerk, Tom Lang as a member of the clergy. They all work hard!

I am deeply grateful to the BAC and others who have volunteered in so many ways. We now have active committees dealing with finance, building and grounds, personnel, communications and outreach, just to name a few.

Circles, boxes, lines and laughter - life is good!

Blessings,

LouAnn+

The Mission of St. Gabriel the Archangel Episcopal Church is to share the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and to help each other on our spiritual journey with God.