

The Piper

January 2019



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NEW OFFICE HOURS FOR REV. ROB

Beginning January 2019 Rev. Rob Neville's office hours will be Thursdays and Saturdays. He is also moving his office downstairs to the middle office (old preschool office). Send Rob an email at the rector's email starector@sbcglobal.net to set up an appointment.

The Old Year -- Contemplations from the Junior Warden

... a poem from the late 1800's ends with two lines: "I am the captain of my fate, I am the master of my soul." thinking about my past and choices I have made, I find this particularly meaningful. Here it is 2019, and I think I finally get it. I think I know what the meaning of life is for me. I used to tell students that opportunities come and go and many we ignore. What if that one opportunity that we ignored could have been the choice that could have made all the difference in our life and provided us with lasting happiness? Therefore, my advice was to carefully think about those opportunities we are given, and make sure we either accept or reject them for the right reasons. Temporary love, euphoria, or short-lived satisfaction should not be the basis for good decision making.

I gave that advice knowing that I almost never followed it in my own life. Now that I know what I should have done at various crossroads, it is too late. You can't go back in time despite what Einstein or H.G. Wells writes. There are just too many temporary/transient things we chose that have lead us away from the possibilities of everlasting happiness. Family is one of those things. We are part of something greater which includes relatives. "For better or worse, until death do us part," is a resounding description of families; and I say this with a smile and smirk.

Rob said in a recent sermon, "you must love others, even though you might not like some of them." I would go one step further, you should try and find ways to like others with whom you might have differences -- especially family. We only pass this way once. What a shame it is to spend valuable time not liking some members of our family. You can't go back, you can't redo situations, you can't mend fences once a person is gone. Do it now! Time continues onward and never backward.

Therefore, I believe what I have learned thus far, the meaning of life for me is the realization that I cannot change the past. I can only move forward and try and make the relationships I have with family and friends productive, loving, and caring. So here I am at 2019. There are so many problems in the world with people hating each other, people asserting their religion over others, people hurting others. I can do little to change that. I can, however, look at the small world around me -- my friends and family and realize that I can try and make a difference in those relationships. And so I enter 2019, with the goal of doing just that. Life is much too short. I can't go back and do it over, but I can move forward into this future and try and make it better for those around me, and hopefully through that example, perhaps in some small way, it might become contagious as we come to know each other with our hopes and fears, our insecurities and quirks, our desire to know and care about each other and find ways to show it. At the end of the service in Massachusetts, we used to say, "As you leave this place, be secure in the knowledge that you are loved; tell others about it; let it show in everything you say and do." Reach out to your family and friends, let them reach out to you -- *life is too short not to do that!* Peace in 2019.

Steve LaFever



St. Andrew's Annual All Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 27 th

In the Parish Hall immediately following
the **9:00 am service.**

O Night Divine, O night when Christ was born

Hi, all. Elizabeth and Blaine and Mochajava are in a sort of holding place this Christmas season. Blaine's father, Blaine G., has moved to a retirement home. Meanwhile, Elizabeth and Blaine both retired, Blaine from St. Andrew's Church in Ben Lomond, CA and Elizabeth from St. Phillip's Church in Scotts Valley, CA, after retiring from mental health counseling years back. Since we didn't have a place to go when we left California in July, we were encouraged by family members to come and stay in Dad's houseboat – so here we are for the immediate future. Dad is going to sell the houseboat one day soon, probably in the spring, so we continue our search for a place to land. We are grateful for this residence but missing the 80 to 90% of our stuff which is in storage.

Meanwhile, we have become reacquainted with St. Luke's Church in Ballard, which was once a center of the Charismatic Renewal when Fr. Dennis Bennet was the Rector. It is now a mission, with Canon Britt Olson as the Vicar. St. Luke's went through a very down period but is now rebuilding and renewing again, in a different way, with a very strong ministry to the homeless in Ballard who have increased to a multitude. There is quite a collection of clergy and others with theological educations in the congregation. The church offers free breakfast five days a week (Edible Hope), and also houses a program called The Bridge, which offers some housing, a clothes closet and a daytime place for rest and recreation such as television. St. Luke's also has beehives on their roof – they sell the honey to fund Edible Hope – as well as a community garden and water-saving cisterns.



Blaine wasn't retired for very long before Bishop Greg Rickel said he wanted to form a Homeless Task Force, and Blaine felt a strong push to volunteer. The Task Force hasn't done much so far, we've only had two meetings, but Blaine feels it is a good place to spend time and effort.

Both Elizabeth and Blaine have had to deal with a transfer of medical care to this area, and Blaine found that an occasional pain he has been experiencing for a long time is a hernia that has to be operated on. That will happen on January 3. Elizabeth has been going through a persistent leg pain and has been frustrated in attempts to solve that problem. It has really impacted her ability to

⁵ get around.

Our return to the Pacific Northwest has meant that we can get together again with family. We went to Nanaimo on Vancouver Island for son-in-law Michael Hammond-Todd's graduation party for his PhD in August. We also went to Salem, OR for a revisiting of the family Thanksgiving celebration, though Blaine's sister Malana and her husband Steve are in Ketchikan, and niece Amy and her husband Ryan have moved to New Zealand. We missed their presence. We also hosted a ceremony to commit the ashes of Solweig, Blaine R.'s step-mother, to the waters of Portage Bay. Solweig's daughter Paula and her husband Thomas were visiting from England and thus able to take part.

Daughter Dawn continues to work on finishing a Bachelor's in Nursing as she also continues to work as an RN and home-school our granddaughter Olivia. Elizabeth is working with Dawn on her assignments and Blaine and Elizabeth are taking a turn teaching Olivia, who is a joy.

Dawn's husband Bob has been looking for work after many years working for the same man, who has now retired. Bob has some hopeful contacts going on right now.

Sheila and Michael are now faced with Michael having an upcoming position in the States, which means they will have time apart. But he will be commuting home every few weeks. Granddaughter Huckleberry is still in college, but being a part of our family means she has learned some tools to deal with the difficulties of that lifestyle

Dad is still clipping along at 95 and there's no reason he can't keep clipping. He didn't like leaving the houseboat but he has made friends and become part of the community at Vineyard Park in Mountlake Terrace, which has the advantage of being a very short distance from Blaine's sister Beth and her husband Howard's home. Beth and Howard are now in England visiting their daughter Mindy who has moved there for a work opportunity. We are now geographically closer to Elizabeth's brothers and sisters-in-law than we have been in many years. That may mean some visiting in days to come. We do miss the



opportunity to get together with niece Angel and her wife Hannah who live in Santa Cruz. Without their help our moving process would have been far more difficult.

It is strange not having a job to go to but it is also nice to get up when we want to and look out the window at Portage Bay. St. Andrew's Church in Ben Lomond gave us a rowboat, built by some of the members, as a retirement gift and we have enjoyed it greatly. Blaine bought an electric outboard motor which is nice for trolling. Fall came on strong before he got to use the motor more than twice, but he is anxious for spring to get it going again. But rowing is a deep pleasure all by itself.

We are experiencing the wet and cold of the Pacific Northwest as returning natives who got used to a dryer climate for a while; the wetter winters in the Santa Cruz Mountains backed off for drought for all but one of the past several years.

Sadly, we returned to Washington with only one of the two dogs we left with when we moved to California. Yoshi died on Thanksgiving Day, 2017, but Mochajava, though she is going on 12 years old, continues to be lively and energetic, and makes more friends faster than we humans do.

We come to the Feast of the Nativity as retired people for the first time ever. That doesn't mean there is nothing to do. Blaine will sing and play guitar. He will be singing *O Holy Night* again this year. His Mother, Eloise, sang it for a Christmas play the first time he heard it. Not only did he fall in love with the song, it is a memory connection with his mom.

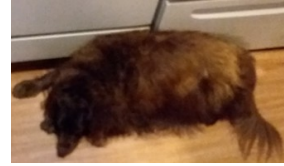
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother.

And in his name all oppression shall cease.

How many the needs, how many the desperate and hungry, how important it is to remember our common humanity with all those whose fears and oppression cry out for our attention. The heart-breaking pictures from Yemen join the unbroken miles of ruins in Syria. The asylum seekers at our border challenge our desire to remain comfortable and unchallenged. It is difficult to keep up with the numbers of wars going on right now, partly because much of the U.S. news media seems uninterested in them. The crisis of homelessness throughout North America is in our face every day. How tempting to push it all away and not open ourselves up to the pain. But to visit the manger is to accept and embrace the pain, and also the Love that offers solace and relief.

*Behold, your King, before him lowly bend.
Behold, your King, before him lowly bend.*

If you have lost track of us, use the following:
(The Rev.) Blaine R. Hammond (831-334-0796)
(Dr.) Elizabeth Forbes (831-332-7631)
3126 Portage Bay Pl. E., Unit B
Seattle, WA 98102



Giving Until I Feel It by
Jeannette McDonald
December 28, 2018



It's that time of year when we are making decisions about how much we give to our church. Will I pledge annually or just put it in the collection plate when I attend church? Do I give what is left over or do I "give until I feel it?"

If we truly are following our Lord's teachings, then some of us might have a guilty conscience. We may give regularly to our church but often it doesn't have the same priority as mortgages, utilities, college, car or recreational loans. We think those have bills come first, then food, clothing, entertainment follow – there it is, there is what I can give to the church - the crumbs, the leftovers. These words may seem strong, even a bit offensive but the intent is not to offend but to suggest a deeper look, at our priorities. It may be time for soul searching "what would my life be like without my church?" In a world that is filled with turmoil, division, greed and many other adjectives, our church community is the place we can rest. To be with like-minded people who care about one another and have a commonality ~ love, respect, God, Jesus, gospel lessons, music, inspiring homilies, outreach.

Matthew 16:23 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect".

Henri Nouwen writes "You won't become poorer, you will become richer by giving."

So, are we okay with giving what is left over or do we make ourselves a bit uncomfortable by giving until we feel it?

Reprinted from ECF Vital Practices www.ecfvp.org



Angel in the Kitchen

Feeln good when cookn

*Sharing the love of God through
your love of cooking*



CHOCOLATE CHUNK COOKIES

By Master Chocolatier Norman Love on Princess Cruises

2 Cups Semi-sweet chocolate chips	1 cup Butter, unsalted
1/2 cup Milk chocolate chips	1/2 cup All-purpose flour
6 Eggs	2 cups Granulated sugar
1tsp. Vanilla extract	1/2 tsp. Baking powder
Pinch of salt	3/4 cup Walnuts, chopped (or pecans)

Makes 28 pieces

Ingredients:

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F.
2. Whip the sugar, eggs, salt and vanilla together in mixing bowl. Set aside.
3. Melt the two chocolate chips and butter in saucepan over low heat. Be careful not to burn. When melted, remove from the heat and stir well.
4. In separate bowl, sift baking powder and flour together. Whisk into melted chocolate. Mix just until combined. Add nuts. Add egg mixture and whisk until fully combined. Let mixture cool.
5. Using small ice cream scooper, scoop dough and place onto ungreased cookie sheet. If scooper is not available, use tablespoon. Cookies will be large.
6. Bake for 20 minutes.
7. Remove and let cool completely.



Check out the new and improved St. Andrew's Website. It has a calendar, pictures, announcements and previous editions of the Piper. Thank you, Teresa Ruff for updating and improving our website.

<https://saintandrewsbenlomond.org/>

Bishop Search— an excerpt from Real Episcopal -<https://www.realepiscopal.org/>

The ordination & consecration of the fourth bishop of El Camino Real will take place January 11, 2020. Until that date, Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves will continue with her usual “passion and commitment.” Read her full announcement [here](#). The Standing Committee is overseeing the transition and election process, assisted by the Office of Pastoral Development and search consultant Judy Stark.

The nominating period has ended, and the Bishop Search Committee has begun the screening process. The Standing Committee expects to announce the slate of candidates in March 2019.

Meanwhile, the Transition Committee has started its work and is preparing for the candidates to visit each deanery in May prior to the Electing Convention on June 1, 2019. Scroll down to meet the Search and Transition Committees, view frequently asked questions, and more. You can read the diocesan profile at www.bishopsearch2018.org.



January Birthdays



1	Kristen	Snyder	12	Sandra	Cadell
4	Christa	Shanaman	13	Linda	Evans
4	Alonzo	Landeros	15	Larry	Laufenberg
5	Nicki	Kearns	17	Sari	Mitchell
6	Sara	Hector	18	Kris	Waller
6	Christopher	Mello	19	Beth	Leslie
10	Kim	Rooks	24	Sofia	Davidson
11	Jamie	Butler	24	Victor	Davidson



St. Andrew's Women's Reading Group

Next Meeting will be at Barbara Bain's on Tuesday, January 15th. The book will be , "*Educated*" by Tara Westover.

Contact Jean Templeman for further info.

A New Year Prayer For the Elderly

God, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, The good fortune to run into the ones that I do, And the eyesight to tell the difference.



Calendar & Events

Sundays: 8am-Eucharist/Rite I

10am-Eucharist/Rite II

Sunday Jan, 27th– One service only at 9:30am.

Mondays: AA meeting at 6:30pm Upstairs Meeting Room

Wednesdays: **Evening Prayer** at 5:15 pm

Choir Practice at 7:00pm

Thursday, Jan. 17th at 6:45pm **Vestry Meeting** in Parish Hall

Saturday (second Saturday of the month), Jan. 12th 9am
Men's Breakfast at Rocky's Café in Felton

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Amen

(A modern prayer for the New Year from www.lords-prayer-



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Where God is worshiped and the people are fed