

Shamrock – St. Patrick Newsletter



Winter events in our church's life:

- Christmas Activities
- Baptism of Ruth Alice Scott

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February 2016

Breaking Bread

Dear Friends,

I love things that glow in the dark...the vast expanse of “interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and even this fragile earth, our island home (BCP 370).” Think about it, viewed from space even earth glows! The moonlight hitting fresh fallen snow, huge grids of electrical lights, candles and sometimes even fire and molten lava flowing are seen from heaven’s perspective. God sees much more.

Bigfork’s Young Life pastor, Brian, just returned from a world-wide Young Life Conference in Orlando, Florida. There were 5,000 in attendance. At one point each person was given fingertip wraps to wear on all ten fingers. The house lights were turned off. Everyone stood and raised their fingers upwards—they glowed in the dark. The miracle is this—each individual light represented over 300,000 youth who have received Christ through the mission of Young Life in the past 75 years!

When you and I put on Jesus Christ in baptism, we begin to glow in the darkness of the world. When we Episcopalians gather as a people of prayer to take the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world, we glow. We are a people engaged in mission. Did you know that the American Episcopal Church’s name is officially “The Foreign and Domestic Missionary Society”. Another way of saying this is, “We seek Christ and Make Christ Known.” God sets our hearts on fire.

As the season of Light (Christmas-Epiphany) which marks the light of Jesus coming into the world comes to a close, I believe God sees many souls at St. Patrick’s standing up for Jesus, glowing in the dark and making disciples.



God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit decide who is in 'communion' Anglican or otherwise. Christians are members one of another. There is great diversity even within our diocese and our small rural church. And there is great love and unity to carry the message of salvation out into the world.

I imagine you have heard about the Archbishops meeting at Canterbury two weeks ago and the ensuing "ruckus". So what response should we have to the Primates vote to inhibit the Episcopal Church from full participation in the Anglican Communion? We are a house of prayer for all people, so let us pray for the Worldwide Anglican communion: the third largest movement in Christianity on the planet. Pray for our new Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as he guides the Episcopal Church on the winding wondrous journey with Jesus. Pray for those in the church who are wounded and confused. Pray for more light.



Come Holy Spirit and kindle the fire that is in us.
Take our lips and speak through them.
Take our souls and see through them.
Take our hearts and set them on fire. Amen

*In the love and light of Christ,
Louise+*

Christmas and Advent Celebration!





Ruth Scott – Taking the vows of Baptism



Rev. Louise Baker leads the congregation in the rites of Baptism



Camp Marshall, MT

Baptism of Ruth Alice Scott

On January 10, 2016, the St. Patrick was blessed to be able to fulfill Jesus commandment and baptize by water and spirit Ruth Alice Scott. She has long been a dedicated follower and leader in various churches during her lifetime. The lack of her baptism was an oversight and Rev. Louise Baker was happy to perform the ritual of baptism on one of our most stalwart members.



Marks of the Anglican Communion

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Transformation: Discerning a Capital Campaign for Camp Marshall

Each household should have received a feasibility study questionnaire either electronically or by post. Those questionnaires should have been returned by January 30, so if you have not responded yet, please do so as soon as possible. The responses will help the diocese decide how Camp Marshall will continue to foster wonder, faith and adventure in campers for generations to come.

Annual Vestry Meeting



The Vestry has approved a slate for vestry: Doreen Thigpen, Jerry Southwood for 3 year terms and Linda Edwards for a one year term. Nominations are open for 2 additional 3 year terms and for 2 delegates to attend Diocesan Convention.

Please contact Lin Sultzer or any member of the vestry if you are willing to serve. The election will be held during the annual meeting on February 7 at 10:00am. A celebratory meal hosted by the vestry follows the Eucharist and Meeting. All are welcome!

Lenten Outreach Mission

During the season of Lent, we are all called to remember the sacrifice that Christ Jesus made for each of us. There are several ways to make this a personal remembrance:

- 1) Lenten Daily Devotional –
 - Materials including the ERD Devotional Books Will be available at the Annual Meeting and on Ash Wednesday
- 2) Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) – contribute through the use of the ERD Hope Chest
- 3) Lenten Coupon Books – Sponsored by Missoula Lake
 - Daily Awareness of the Needs of the World

The Hope Chest and the Lenten Coupon Books will be available and distributed on Ash Wednesday (February 10) and the first Sunday of Lent (February 14.)

Website Updates

Make sure to check out the changes to the St. Patrick website. Our official website is: <http://www.stpatricksbigfork.org>.

The following is a list of the recent changes:

- Front Page - up to date with upcoming special services.
- Breaking Bread section – latest Breaking Bread and copy of the current edition of the Shamrock
- What We Believe – This has been updated with our church's mission statement
- Links – Currently there are links to the MT diocese information. We will be expanding this page to have links to the Book of Common Prayer, the readings for the week in the liturgy, and other Episcopalian resources

Look for upcoming changes and updates to the Community Garden page!





Linda Edwards - Biography

Linda was born in Kansas (Beloit), raised in a little mountain community in Colorado (Idaho Springs), lived in western Colorado (Grand Junction) for 35 years before moving to Montana (Kalispell).

Calvary Episcopal Church in Idaho Springs, Colorado played a big part in her religious upbringing, being baptized in 1953; confirmed in 1959; and married in 1968 there. Shortly after moving into Grand Junction in 1978 she began attending St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (living 55 miles from Grand Junction for 3 years thus the wording of "into" Grand Junction). She started attending St. Patrick's once she moved into and settled in her home in Kalispell, around 2012.

For education, Linda has a Bachelors Degree from the University of Northern Colorado (1969) and a Masters in Business Administration from Western State College (1984). She met her husband while attending UNC, marrying in 1968. They have a son, Jason, who lives in Polson and he has four children – thus the reason for them moving to Montana. Linda and her husband are both retired and love being outdoors – fishing,

camping, etc.

Linda had the luxury of gaining many skills in my 46 years of work experience starting as a waitress and ending as a Volunteer Coordinator for the Northwest Region with the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Between those two jobs, she has been a mail clerk, librarian clerk, cost accountant, computer operator, sales clerk, Trust operations supervisor, administrative clerk, secretary, typist, high school business teacher and college instructor. She learned a lot about customer service!

The most rewarding experience was working with the Division of Wildlife, learning from the biologists, officers, and other staff members about wildlife. Where else would you get the question "how do you feel about putting your hands in a bear's mouth?" Working with volunteers taught Linda quite a bit about herself as well as coordinating with others on that whole endeavor. . She states that she has had some great people in her work experiences plus a wonderful husband and son.



Linda Edwards



Community Garden

The Bigfork/Ferndale Community Garden will hold our first winter workshop on Saturday, **Feb. 6th, at 10AM**. Our presenter will be MonaRae Tuhy, a 3rd Level Master Gardener and local expert on growing here in the Flathead. At this workshop we will learn what to look for when ordering seeds from catalogs. Since growing conditions vary greatly in the Flathead Valley, this



workshop will also address our optimum planting and maturity dates.

We will also learn how to make seed tapes, an easier way to plant your garden. Bring some of your own favorite seeds or we will have some available for your use. By starting with your own seeds, you can be sure that your plants have been raised organically from first to last.

We will also be accepting gardeners who wish to purchase a plot for the upcoming gardening season. Details will be available at the workshop.

Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in this fun workshop. As always, the workshop will be held at St Patrick's Episcopal Church across from the Ferndale Fire Dept. on MT 209 at the blinking light. Please enter through the big red doors off the parking lot. Call Michelle at 871-3509 with any questions.

- *Michelle Patterson*



Lent is coming!

Upcoming Events:

February 7 (10am) –

Annual Meeting with Lunch afterwards

February 10 (noon) –

Ash Wednesday – Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist

**March 13 (10am)–*

St. Patrick's Day celebration with Irish meal following service

March 20 (10am)–

Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion)

March 24 –

Maundy Thursday – Agape Meal, Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing with Stripping of the Altar

March 25 (11am)–

Good Friday service – Stations of the Cross, Good Friday Liturgy

March 25 (3pm)

Good Friday Community Service – Bigfork Chapel

March 26 (11am)

Holy Saturday - Liturgy of Word and Prayer

March 27 (10am)

Easter Service

**denotes beginning of Daylight Savings time*



Our Family

Rector : Rev. Louise Baker
 Senior Warden: Dick Carter
 Junior Warden: Doreen Thigpen
 Treasurer: Jerry Southwood
 Clerk of Vestry: Fran Beyer
 Lin Sultzer, Michelle Patterson

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<http://www.stpatricksbigfork.org>.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

“Happy Birthday!”

January

Heidi Berendt	1
Jerry Bell	25
Edwina Aker	30

February

Jean Fisher	4
Ruth Scott	13
Gene Gribben	13
Jonathon Detwiler	16
Quincy Paine	16
Katie Peters	19
Jennifer Whitney	28

“Blessed Anniversary!”

January

Brian and Dana Whitney	2
Ruth Alice Scott (baptism!)	10

February

Jerry and Jean Southwood	10
Dick and Winnie Greenshields	13
Charles and Sally Sebring	14



Members enjoying St. Patrick's Day 2015

