

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE news & update

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Flowers: Mickie Anderson & Mary Paine

Coffee Hour: Kathy Kennedy Usher: Betsy Alexander Altar Guild: Betsy Alexander Acolyte: Louise Delafield The Lesson: Casey McKibben The Epistle: Louise Delafield Intercessions: Paul Lovoi



Sunday, May 19

10 a.m. Service
Nursery
Sunday School
11:30 Vestry Meeting

Saturday, May 25 11:30 a.m. Art Lessons Program

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Kathy Kennedy, John Mashey, Noel Fenton

Anniversaries

Gavin & Tricia Christensen, Mark & Maria Geenen



Click Here for Bulletin/Order of Service



For pastoral care we invite you to reach out to The Reverend Claire Dietrich Ranna

Tel: 650-948-2151 x 203 Cell: 415-305-0593 Email: claire@ccla.us

CHRIST CHURCH PRAYS

Please join as a community in lifting up the following people to God in prayer:

Remembrance -- June Tunnell, Frederick Helversen, John Jessup, Anne Cooper,

Sarah Frances Morgan, George Franklin Hexter, Charles Ross

Healing -- Catherine Aragon, Carl Cheney, George Mallinckrodt, Robert Redfern-West, Peggy Dubes

WELCOME DEACON LAUREN



Please welcome Deacon Lauren. She will be joining us on Sundays, once a month.

Deacon Lauren Patton McCombs was raised in San Jose and attended UC Santa Barbara, where she graduated with degrees in environmental studies with a concentration in geology. After graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C. where she worked in environmental and mining positions in government and private industry. Deacon Lauren moved to Menlo Park and continued her environmental and mining regulation work before moving on to financial

controller position at two computer magazines.

Deacon Lauren's path toward the deaconate started when she began attending Transfiguration Episcopal Church in San Mateo in 1990. She served as Junior Warden, was on the altar and flower guilds (inspiring her to become a professional florist), and initiated the parish's healing services program.

Deacon Lauren realized that becoming an ordained minister would fulfill her passion for outreach and pastoral work for people in need. She completed the three-year Bachelor of Diaconal Studies at the School for Deacons in Berkeley in 2011. Deacon Lauren was ordained at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco on December 3, 2011. Deacon Lauren first served at Christ Church in Los Altos. She lifted the parish's outreach activities by cultivating a meal provision program and developing service opportunities at the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital. She also became Chaplain for the church's Ventana Preschool.

In 2014, Deacon Lauren became Chaplain at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Saratoga, a role that consisted of leading chapel services and teaching 150 preschool and elementary school students.

In addition, in 2014, Deacon Lauren joined the board at The Bishop's Ranch Retreat Center in Healdsburg. She created and was the Event Chair for Sip and Savor, which was the first fundraiser of its kind. She is currently actively serving on their

Philanthropy Committee as their first Ranch Ambassador promoting The Ranch out in the community.

In 2018, she was invited to join the clergy at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in San Carlos. Her responsibilities as deacon involved running the outreach committee and developing the leadership of the laity around outreach.

In 2017, Deacon Lauren joined Peninsula Solidarity Cohort, which is an interfaith clergy group of 35 members, focusing on Social Justice issues in San Mateo County and beyond.

In 2019, Deacon Lauren joined The Episcopal Church of St. Matthew's where Covid presented us with many challenges. She led Zoom Sunday Children's Chapel time and developed and led a Zoom Coffee Hour following their Sunday services. She created St. Matthew's Land as well as a San Mateo City Scavenger Hunt. Deacon Lauren served liturgically on Sundays, preached, and wrote Prayers of the People.

Currently, Deacon Lauren is actively involved in lifting-up the challenges that the underserved are facing in San Mateo County. She is actively involved as a leader in Faith in Action Bay Area. She leads Press Conferences, Public Prayer Services and makes Public Comments at San Mateo County Board of Supervisor's Meeting. Recently, her public comments have been quoted in the LA Times and the San Jose Mercury News.

May God's healing light and love shine forth in all the good works that you do.

INAUGURAL SPEAKER SERIES

Filoli: A Vibrant Landscape of The Bay Area



Join us at Christ Church Portola Valley on **Tuesday, May 21** as Filoli database specialist Lisa Chai takes us on a visual tour through a beautiful setting in our own backyard!

10:30 – Talk and questions, 11:30 – bring a bag lunch and enjoy our own beautiful garden after the talk.

Drinks and dessert provided.

Bring friends — all are welcome. Transportation from the Sequoias will be arranged.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who have pledged or contributed to our 2024 Stewardship Campaign. These funds are the lifeblood of our parish and are vital to our existence We greatly appreciate everyone's collective generosity! To date, we have raised \$280,000 from 42 donors. Our goal (and our need) is \$375K from 70 donors so we still have a ways to go!

Please consider how you can support Christ Church in 2024 and let us know viathis form or by email or by returning your pledge card.

CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

Big Church Cleanup Preparing our "Home" for New Rector Search Saturday May 18, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

RSVP to admin@ccpvw.org - Let Nicole know what time you will be

available, morning, afternoon or all day
Lunch will be provided
All materials will be provided, bring you gloves and energy!
We may not get all this done but we will make good progress – Maybe
Cleanup II?

COMMUNITY ART EVENT AND LUNCH

Community Art Event and Lunch

Christ Church Portola Valley and Woodside
815 Portola Road, Portola Valley
Saturday, May 25, 11:30
Lunch will be provided and no art experience is required!

RSVP Nicole 650-851-0224 by May 22

Join art teacher Jenny Bishop for a contour line drawing lesson. We will use Prismacolor pencils to make observational drawings of the beautiful gardens at Christ Church Portola Valley. At the end of the lesson, we will use the drawings to create a community art piece.



Learning how to draw is learning how to see. Taking time out of our day and enjoying an aesthetic experience fosters spiritual mindfulness and awareness of the beauty around us. It brings us closer to nature, ourselves, and one another.

Hi, my name is Jenny Bishop, and I grew up a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Los Altos. I studied art history at the University of Oregon and earned a single-subject credential in art. I taught at the high school level for ten years before leaving to start my own family. Once on that journey, I was reconnected with Christ Church through their new school, Ventana. I have been teaching preschool and elementary art there for almost 17 years. I was lucky enough to be a founder of our elementary school and a proud mom of two Ventana graduates.

I love art and am passionate about sharing the techniques I enjoy with others. I have taught students of all ages, from toddlers to their great-grandparents, and I enjoy using art projects to help build community.

I ask that you bring a mind open to looking at your world in a new way and a heart ready to play, learn, and connect with others.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

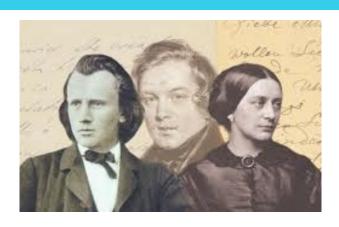
Notes and Letters: Music of Brahms and the Schumanns

Two Clerestory concerts featuring our Soprano section leader, Von Bringhurst!

Saturday, May 25 at 7:30, Piedmont Center for the Arts in East Bay (tickets).

Sunday, May 26 at 7:00, Noe Valley Ministry in San Francisco (tickets).





Aaron Tan Organ Recital

Save the date! On June 28th at 8:00pm, Aaron Tan will give a recital at Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside as part of a "Beyond the Convention" event for the American Guild or Organists National Convention. Winner of the 2021 Canadian International Organ competition and the 2018 American Guild of Organists National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, Aaron Tan is one of North America's leading young artists.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS





Flowers Needed: We need flowers,



greens, baby's breath...to make 24 small flower arrangements, one for each room, for the seniors at Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park on **Sunday May 19th** during coffee hour. It is a belated Mother's Day. Bring your clippers too! Questions, contact Kathy Kennedy at 650-291-9678 or kennedyiti@aol.com

SpiritCare Visits: Contact Angela Hey at amhey@heymash.com or 650-796-2377 to volunteer on Sunday May 19th, 1:30 at Silver Oaks Memory

Care in Menlo Park. Readers, singers and senior hand-holders are needed. This month we will discuss Biblical gardens and sing familiar hymns. The Lord's Prayer is popular too with this community. SpiritCare provides spiritual and emotional support for "forgotten" elderly and disabled residents at over 60 care centers in the Bay Area. Christ Church has partnered in this important ministry with Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park which houses 46 seniors.

Beginning Sunday May 19th, 4PM at The Sequoias (Portola Valley) in Haddon Hall we will visit with the 300 residents. Many of our parishioners live there and their on-site Vespers program is kaput. In May we will visit with residents in independent and assisted living; we hope to add a regular visit to the memory care unit this summer. We will be singing hymns "Powered by Connection" that embrace all on Earth. Slides will be shown about "Three Biblical Gardens" talking about the art and archaeology of the Garden of Eden, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Garden Tomb. The last two are real places and the first one might be. Singers, readers and listeners are needed. WE understand the residents of The Sequoias are opinionated and we want to gear future programs to their needs. Contact Pam Kaufmann. 619-885-0885. Thank you Barbara Creed, Angela Hey, Pam Kaufman and Kathy Kennedy for helping put this program together. To volunteer, contact Pam Kaufmann at pamkaufmann@gmail.com

Collecting Used Children's Clothes - Until Sunday June 2nd we will continue to collect any new or clean gently used children's summer clothing your children or grandchildren have outgrown. Or your next door neighbors kids have outgrown. Just toss them in the marked box in the breezeway and Outreach will deliver them. Kids at Redwood Family House range in age from 3 months to 16. There are 12 girls (ages 3 months to 16) and 19 boys (ages 2 to 16). Questions, contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com or call/text her at 650-291-9678.

Volunteer Camp Counselors Needed for Homeless Kids Camp - Are you ages 14 - 18 and looking for a meaningful summer experience. Volunteer at one of Life Moves Summer Adventure Camps for homeless kids. Sites are in Menlo Park, San Mateo, Daly City, or San Jose. Apply by **June 7th** on the Life Moves website. 2-week minimum commitment. The camp runs from July 1st to August 2nd, 5 weeks.

- each Sunday for 5 weeks during coffee hour the congregation will assemble 100

snack bags for the Life Moves Summer Adventure camp program. It is fast and furious but we need people to gather the needed snacks each week and get the assembly line ready to go. Can you help? Leads are needed on **Sunday(s)** 6/30, 7/7,

7/14, 7/21 and 7/28. Contact Kathy Kennedy to volunteer and let her know which date works for you.

Delivered Socks & Underwear for Redwood Family House-We delivered 241 pairs of undies, 7 cases of diapers and 274 pairs of socks to the 10 families (31 kids, 15 adults) at Redwood Family House shelter in Redwood City. All new. They were distributed the the night of delivery. Thank you everyone. They asked me to tell you how appreciative they are. We made deliveries on April 18th and again on Friday May 10th They asked me to tell you how appreciative they are!! Thank you Betsy Alexander, Barbara Creed, Louise Delafield, Karen Fisher, Katja Gagen, Sarah Halsey, Claiborne Jones, Pam Kaufmann, Kathy Kennedy, Lenore Lovoi, Erin Miller, Denise Moriarty, the Outreach Committee and Carol Wentworth for covering bottoms and toes. Redwood Family House is one of four family shelters in San Mateo County operated by Life Moves. It provides interim housing in a small apartment with a kitchen and provides the support services to get otherwise homeless families back on their feet and into permanent housing. Redwood Family House has a 100% success rate in achieving that goal.

Dinner for 84 at Coast House: Thank you for Sarah Halsey, Mary Paine, Dr. Jack Stockkart, Juniper Stockkart, Carol Wentworth and Ruth Ann Wrucke (lead) for making a delicious dinner on Saturday May 10th for the 84 residents of Life Moves Coast House shelter. Ruth Ann regaled me with the menu: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, fruit salad, Cole slaw, green salad and lemon cupcakes. Yum! When she delivered the meal one of the wheel-chair bound older residents asked her "Are you the Grandma that cooks?" Yes she is, along with her merry band of sous chefs and bakers. Would you like to help next month? Contact Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at 650-851-8435 or cwrucke@mindspring.com to volunteer. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses 84 adults, couples, plus a few families (with 12 kids) in a converted Coast side motel. It is the only interim shelter (with support services) for those experiencing homelessness on the San Mateo coast.

Seeking Hotel-sized Toiletries: Are you on vacation or going on one soon? If you picked up any travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap or lotion during your last hotel stay, you can donate them. Bring them to the box in the breezeway. And if you have a toothbrush or toothpaste your dentist gave you on your last visit that you have no use for, they could use that too. Children's toiletries will be delivered to Redwood Family House in Redwood City. In May toiletries will be delivered to the Hoptel, a Life Moves short term shelter in East Palo Alto for low income veterans visiting the Veterans Hospital in Menlo Park for care.

Women's Spirituality meets on Wednesday morning from 10:00 - 11:30 remotely, on Zoom. Contact Mary Jennings at emjennings@aol.com for more information. We are reading Troubling the Water: the Urgent Work of Radical Belonging by Ben McBride. This week we are reading Chapter 3 so there is time to catch up Activist Ben McBride first waded in when he moved into the Oakland Kill Zone with his young family. The book takes you from the uprising in Ferguson to the moral impoverishment of the white evangelical church. The book combines provocation with good humor. It is the story of the transformation process described by Richard Rohr played out in a remarkable individual's life in today's violent and unjust world. It also relates directly to the work of the Vital and Thriving program and Bishop Curry's call to create Beloved Community. Intrigued? Join

us. Weekly readings are assigned, then the group discusses them during the meeting. .

Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside | ccpvw.org | Carillon School | carillonschool.org









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