



CHRIST CHURCH
PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE news & update

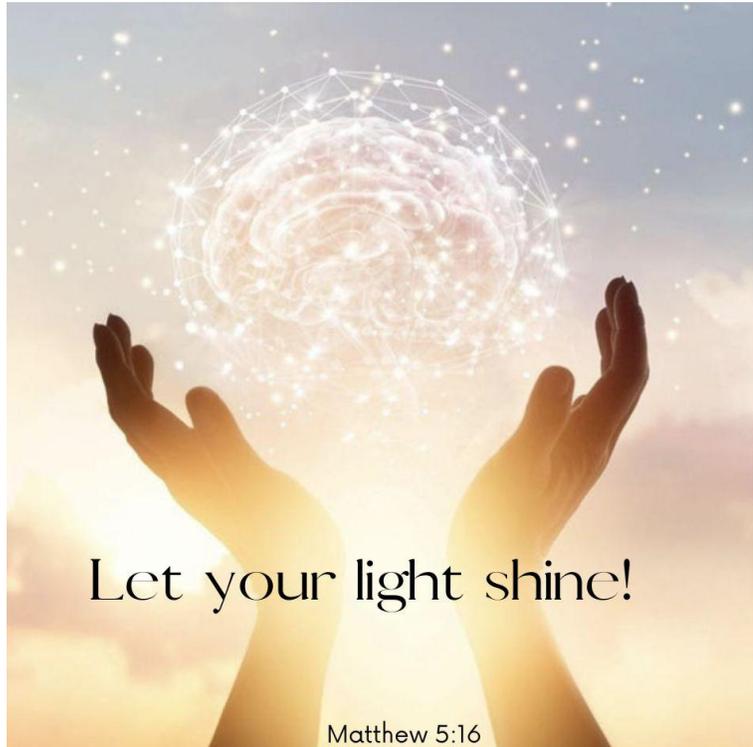


SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Flowers: Diane Leonard
Usher: Ross Soubroux
Altar Guild: Betsy Alexander
The Lesson: James Coker
The Epistle: Betsy Alexander
Intercessions: Sarah Halsey

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Tuesday thru Friday - Morning Prayer
[on Zoom](#) and streamed on [FB](#)
Wednesday -



Let your light shine!

Matthew 5:16

[Click Here for Bulletin/Order of Service](#)

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Julie Seipp, Dede Jamison, Robert Redfern-West, Mary McCann

Anniversaries

Hobart & JoAnne Birmingham

[CLICK HERE to join on Zoom](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)

JESUS IS IN THE SUPER BOWL!



Did you know that Jesus is going to be in the Super Bowl? Maybe not in the actual football game but featured in the most watched commercials in the world. It is part of an ad campaign called *He Gets Us*. Two commercials will air during the Super Bowl – a 30-second spot between the 1st and 2nd quarter and a 60-second ad during the first break in the 4th quarter.

I first learned about the *He Gets Us* ad campaign from one of our newest members, Christa Enns. I googled and liked what I saw. Then David Riggs brought it up in a recent visit I had with him. All three of us found the ads to be well done and powerful.

If you are like many people, then religion is something that is personal and private. God, Jesus, the Divine or anything related to religion is not something most of us are comfortable bringing up at work or while having a beer in a sports bar. However, who doesn't love talking about the Super Bowl commercials? **Now here is where the really cool part of the *He Gets Us* ad campaign comes in.** . . . the ads provide an incredible opening and opportunity to have meaningful, holy conversations with the people in our everyday lives as part of the expected community conversations about the Super Bowl commercials. The campaign opens the door to these conversations, we just need to walk through it. Moreover, the ad campaign's website provides resources to help foster these conversations! To access these resources click [here](#) or scan the QR code below.

While I have not seen the two commercials that will be aired during the Super Bowl, you can click on the photos below to get a representation of what to expect. Mary Jennings has wisely counseled me to be cautiously optimistic because not a lot is known about the contributors to the campaign, etc. But so far their message seems right on point. So I am cautiously hopeful that this is the beginning of a spiritual movement that transcends all that divides us and pushes us closer to the beloved community that God dreams for us. At the very least, I hope it is the first of many opportunities and openings to have holy conversations with people in all areas of our lives. **I pray you will check it out even if it is only a one-off. I look forward to hearing your thoughts about this campaign to make Jesus relevant and bring God into the public conversation.**

The Refugee - click photo below



The Dinner Party - click photo below



TEXT
Super Bowl
to 70193



to learn more about He Gets Us and get free fan gear to help you get ready.

OUTREACH TEAM GIVEN GRANT AND RECOGNIZED BY THE DIOCESES' EPISCOPAL IMPACT FUND!

Click on photo below to read the entire article published by the Episcopal Impact Fund about the work being done here at CCPVW by the Outreach Team and interview with Kathy Kennedy!



Christ Church Portola Valley Woodside Linen Drive recipients

VITAL + THRIVING

Welcome to Vital+Thriving!

Greetings to everyone as we kick-off as co-chairs of the Vital+Thriving program (V+T). Read on for a “short-ish” description of this fairly lengthy but worthy program and where we ALL fit in:

What is V+T?!

V+T is a lay-led, 3-year program funded entirely by the Diocese which offers hands-on, professional help for parishes willing to explore how to “innovate” their capacity to thrive. In short, we collectively gather information about our past, our present, and our community and find new ways to move forward that embrace God’s mission for us in a changing world.

Starting Gate: Listening & Steering Teams

The Listening Leaders team (*Carl Cheney, Tricia Christensen, Mary Hufty, Lenore Lovoi, Diane Leonard, Wendy McAdam, Bob Wrucke*) will complete about 24 interviews of church and community members. These 8-question interviews are anonymous and meant to create a picture of where our congregation is now.

From there, V+T’s professional Reading Team reviews our findings, culminating in a Community Discovery Report. Based on this report and the data collected from our surveys, interviews and a parish-wide Timeline Event, the Steering Team (*Tricia Christensen, Daniel Hill, Diane Leonard, Paul Lovoi, Carol Wentworth*) leads us into the “discernment phase.” With the Vestry and Parish, they brainstorm on the question, “What might God be calling our church to be and to do in God’s mission in our town?”

To The Finish Line: Experimenting & Focusing

In V+T’s phase two, we’ll put our discernment into action, experimenting with new programs &/or other undertakings. The Diocese offers seed money during this “trial and error” time, and sustaining grants after clear plans are in place that best enable us to flourish as a church revitalized in its mission to embrace today’s realities.

What Can I Do?

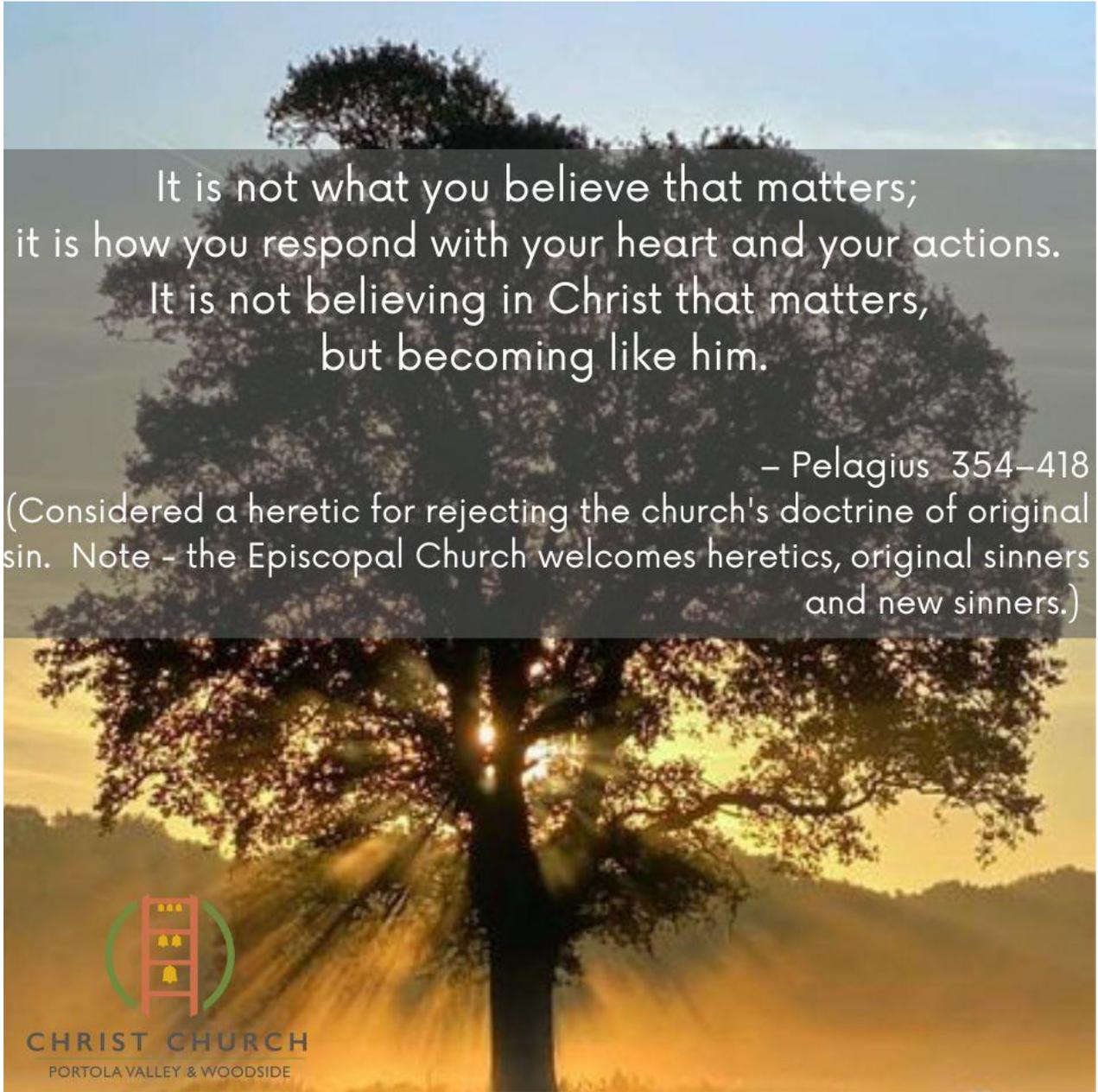
Please “show up” – initially, that means say “yes” if one of our team members asks for an interview, make

every effort to attend the Timeline Event when scheduled, and be prayerful, open to outcome, and open to respectfully speaking *your* truth.

So, fasten your seatbelts, put on your storytelling, listening, and thinking caps, and stay tuned...

Diane Leonard & Tricia Christensen
V+T Co-Chairs

SPIRITUAL QUOTE FOR THE WEEK



It is not what you believe that matters;
it is how you respond with your heart and your actions.
It is not believing in Christ that matters,
but becoming like him.

– Pelagius 354–418

(Considered a heretic for rejecting the church's doctrine of original sin. Note - the Episcopal Church welcomes heretics, original sinners and new sinners.)



A NOTE FROM YOU RECTOR

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

As we discern our vocation personally and collectively, I always find it helpful to look at scripture. What does the Lord require? What does the Lord require of me, of us? Well the prophet Micah tells us:

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you*

*but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)*

Our particular congregation does an outstanding job of mission and outreach - particularly with feeding and clothing the hungry and unhoused. See the article above published by the Episcopal Impact Fund. We are small but mighty, kind and generous. You are all amazing!

I now wonder how can we work at the root of these problems and "do justice" for these people? How can we do justice for immigrants, undocumented workers, and the mentally ill. How can we do justice for exploited communities like the farm workers in Half Moon Bay? As we enter Black History Month, I wonder how can we do justice for so many that were excluded legally from so much for so long? I do not have the answer, and it can seem like an overwhelming task. However, as Bishop Charleston says we each have some power to change our corner of the world and, collectively, it can change the world.

Some of you participated in the Sacred Ground program. Through education and dialogue it helped raise the issue of "doing justice." As we enter the Vital + Thriving process, I am confident that the Spirit will lead us to opportunities to do justice and make progress toward some systemic and structural changes to bring about a truly beloved community for all.

Peace and love,
Beth

CARING FOR HALF MOON BAY COMMUNITY

We continue to be heartbroken at the violence that occurred in Half Moon Bay. As I mentioned last week, I spoke with the senior warden at Holy Family, which is the Episcopal Church in Half Moon Bay. When asked how we at CCPVW can help, he directed us to Coastside Hope, which is a shelter we just starting working with this past fall that is under the umbrella of LifeMoves. Hence, we are very well positioned to be the hands and feet of Christ there. Meanwhile, Charlie is delivering a load of things donated from William Sonoma that LifeMoves said they could use.

Additionally, he asked for prayer and words of support for the families. Some of you wrote letters at the Annual Meeting. Thank you! We will have church notecards available in the narthex again this Sunday. You may do your own at home and then bring the to church for delivery or use one of our church notecard. You may also sign the cards that our new Senior Warden, Vinie Miller, is doing with a message in Mandarin for those who speak that language. If we have any Spanish speakers on Sunday, it would be lovely to have a message in Spanish to the Jimenez and Perez families. If you do your own, you may address your note to the "the family of . . ." then the family name of each victim. Here is the list:

- **Aixiang Zhang**, 74
- **Zhishen Liu**, 73
- **Qizhong Cheng**, 66
- **Jingzhi Lu**, 64
- **Yetao Bing**, 43
- **Marciano Martinez Jimenez**, 50, worked at Concord Farms for 26 years and was a supervisor there.
- **Jose Romero Perez**, age not known, was the married father of four children.

Thank you for being the caring community that you are. It is an honor and privilege to serve with you.

Love in Christ,
Beth

SAVE THE DATES!



Friday and Saturday, February 3 and 4 - Vital + Thriving Steering Committee Training

Saturday, February 4, Carillon Open House

Friday, February 10, Clean Out Day 1 - Church Office Building

Saturday, February 11, Cambridge Opera Event in the Sanctuary

Thursday, February 16, Clean Out Day 2 - Church Building - Sacristy Rooms - Flower Closets

Wednesday, February 22, Ash Wednesday - Ashes to Go! and Service at Noon

Thursday, February 23, Clean Out Day 3 - Parish Hall Building, Kitchen and Closets

Wednesday, March 1, Lenten Soup Series begins 5 p.m. every Wednesday
Good Enough by Duke Divinity Professor Kate Bowles

Saturday, April 29, Carillon Spring Gala

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

Pick up your “Change for GAIA” jars - It’s not too late to pick up your Change for GAIA jars —I know you planned to grab one as you dashed out from the Annual Meeting to watch last week’s catastrophic 49ers loss. Toss your loose change into the jar until Mardi Gras (Tuesday February 21). The proceeds will be used to pay for medical supplies for one of GAIA’s mobile medical vans operating in rural Malawi which treats AIDS, Malaria and other diseases. The vans also provide medical care for Malawi’s 500K AIDS orphans. In Malawi, preventable illness doesn’t get the last word:

- 2.4 million mobile clinic visits provided in rural Malawi
- 496K malaria cases treated
- 112K HIV tests administered with a decrease in positivity from 23% in 2008 to 3% in 2021.
- 100K+ sexual and reproductive health consultations enabling safe birth spacing and improving maternal, neonatal and reproductive health.
- 510 nursing scholar graduates deployed to date

Malawi is now the first country that anticipates the eradication of new AIDS cases in this decade. Your pennies, dimes quarters and dollars can help. Questions? Talk to Andy Pflaum or Carol Wentworth.

Help Make Lunch/Dinner for Coast House in HMB -Last week there was a terrible shooting at two mushroom farms in Half Moon which also revealed horrific living conditions on the farms. At the moment between the shootings and the floods nearly 40 households of migrant workers are seeking lodging. Coast House is the only Coastside shelter and it is one the Outreach Committee started working with late last year, providing meals (before the shooting.) On **Saturday February 18th** we will deliver lunch and dinner to Coast House residents, but we need your help. A lot of the food preparation will be done on Friday and the food needs to be on its way by noon on Saturday morning. Food choppers and bakers are needed. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at 650-851-8435. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses adults, couples, and families in a converted Coastside motel.

Need Singers/Readers for Silver Oaks Memory Care - On **Sunday February 19th** singers and readers are needed at 1:30PM in Menlo Park (16 Coleman Place) to help hold a Sunday service for the residents of Silver Oaks Memory Care. On **Sunday February 12th**, during coffee hour, sign Valentines Cards for the 46 residents. We will also assemble small jars with

message hearts to cheer up their rooms. 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 which supports 46 seniors. Contact Angela Hey at amhey@heymash.com or 650-796-2377 to volunteer.

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 for use by the Maple Street Shelter. 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. Maple Street Shelter is located in Redwood City and provides housing for 100 homeless adults each night. Items best used by families or children (diapers, children’s toothpaste, etc) will be delivered to Redwood Family Shelter in Redwood City which provides housing for 10 families each night. The Outreach Committee is donating **new shower shoes** to be used by homeless adults residing in the new Redwood City Navigation Center, the replacement for Maple Street Shelter which will be opening in February 2023. The Center will house up to 270 adults, more than 2X the capacity of Maple Street Shelter.

Outreach Fall Linen Drive Featured in “The Impact” in the January 2023 Episcopal Impact Fund Newsletter, **The Impact**, Christ Church’s Outreach Committee was recognized for running an enormous linen drive to benefit families staying at four Life Moves shelters in San Mateo County. More than recognition, the Episcopal Impact Fund provided us with a substantial check covering most of the expenses of doing it again this spring. We will attach the link next week, which includes parishioner photos.

Stewardship Campaign 2023

Thank you to all who have donated! We have received 45 pledges and have raised \$336K towards our goal of \$400,000 which is the amount that our Vestry and Finance Committee have determined is needed to keep our financials in balance. We hope to receive another 40 pledges and are asking everyone to consider a 10% increase, if possible. We know that not everyone can, but we will not reach our goals without our collective effort. As a small parish, the contributions of each person is incredibly important.

You can make a payment now for the 2023 campaign or make a pledge to be paid before 12/31/2023. Please return a pledge card or if easier email your pledge to wendymcadam@mac.com or admin@ccpvw.org. For those who contribute monthly through Vanco, we cannot continue those payments in 2023 without your written or emailed permission so please let us know.

CARILLON OPEN HOUSE



Children are welcome!

We will have lots of fun activities for the children to enjoy!

CARILLON
PRESCHOOL

Please join us for the
Carillon Preschool

The poster features a central logo of a carillon tower inside a circle. The text is arranged in a friendly, inviting layout with blue and yellow background elements.

Carillon Preschool

ABCD

Open House

123

Saturday, February 4, 2023

10:00 am - 11:30 am



Parents will have the opportunity to meet the teachers, tour the school, and receive information about the programs.



815 Portola Rd. Portola Valley, CA, 94028
cara@carillonpreschool.org
650-529-1335



The background of the entire page is a dark brown, horizontally-grained wood. At the top, there are two strings of warm white string lights. Three white wire lanterns with lit candles inside are hanging from the top string. The text is centered on the wood.

Save
the Date!

APRIL 29

Carillon
Spring Gala

Mark your calendar's for an evening of dancing and supporting our school. This event will have a silent auction and more ways to give as well as food, friends, and dancing. It's an event you won't want to miss!

Christ Church | 815 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028

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