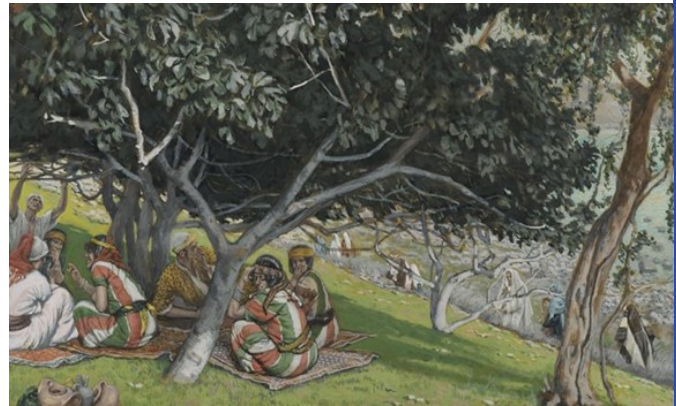


SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Usher: Daniel Alegria
Altar Guild: Mary Soubirous
Acolyte: Louise Delafield
The Lesson: Paul Lovoi
The Epistle: Catherine Aragon
Intercessions: Lenore Lovoi



HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 14
10 a.m. Service
Nursery
Sunday School

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

Monday, January 15
Church office closed in observation of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day



CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Daniel Lopez, Nancy Kruberg, Adellyn
Geenen, Brett Bakken

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 -- Clara Bergamini, Norman McKee, John Hooper, Claudia Patronik, Peter Schmidt, Ted Carter

Healing -- Chris O'Connell, George Mallinckrodt, Betsy Alexander, Kelly, Mary Jennings, Maria Chicas, Robert Redfern-West, Gabriella, Hugh Sawyer, Peggy Dubes, Richard Stinnette, Francis Mack, Tom Schneider, Denise Pagan, Julian, Ron Larson, Don "Jake" Jacobson

A NOTE FROM OUR NEW SENIOR WARDEN

We are looking forward with enthusiasm to a wonderful 2024 at Christ Church. We have a marvelous supply priest in Rev. Michael Barham, who will be with us for at least several months. Take the time to say hello to Rev. Michael. The Vital and Thriving team continues with Tricia Christensen and Carol Wentworth providing continuity for V&T Year Two. They will work to add members to the steering committee and begin the experimentation part of the process. Christ Church Los Altos has reached out to work together on V&T (they are a year ahead of us), to collaborate in other ways and Claire Ranna, their rector has offered pastoral support, when needed, to our parish family.

We will be working on ways to connect to our community, to build structure to support each other, and to refresh our worship, Carillion preschool, music program and campus.

And we need your ideas; don't be shy about bringing them forward. We will need help with these projects and hope to get everyone involved.

Blessings,
Paul Lovoi

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 \$219,000 from 33 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 via [this form](#) or by [email](#) or by returning your pledge card.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

Outerwear and Underwear for Coast House. If your New Years resolution is to clean out your closets, let Outreach help by giving you a place to donate it. To people who really need it! During Advent and until Epiphany (Saturday January 6th) we are collecting **warm outerwear** and **new underwear** for Coast House shelter in Half Moon Bay, though things are continuing to arrive this week.

Outerwear includes new socks, hats, scarves and gloves. Everything except socks can be new or used. Gently used mens and women's clothing including jeans and sweatshirts are



also welcome along with kids clothes. 40 rain ponchos are also urgently needed.

New underwear sizes are:

- Men: 14 large, 13 XL, 2 XXL, 1 XXXL. **(most urgently needed)**
- Women: 6 small, 10 medium/large and 5 XL Used (or new) bras are welcome.

Bring donations to the marked box in the breezeway. So far we have had four deliveries on December 15, December 23rd (for Christmas), December 30th and January 6th. They include **Outerwear** (78 pairs of socks, 17 hats, 9 scarves, 33 pair of gloves, 42 jackets, 65 sweatshirts, 31 shirts, 21 pairs of pants and more) and **Underwear** (43 pairs of adult underpants plus 25 bras). 18 warm

blankets were also delivered. Thank you for your generosity!!! There will be a final delivery to Half Moon Bay the second week of January. We will be boxing things up for delivery on **Friday January 12th at 3:30PM** in the library and would welcome help. Also included in this delivery will be some much needed full-sized toiletries.

Questions, contact Ruth Ann Wrucke. Ruth Ann reminds everyone to bring a pair of new socks or a pack of new underpants to the Sunday service. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses 82 adults, couples, plus a few families (with 15 kids) in a converted Coast side motel. It is the only shelter that provides interim shelter and support services for those experiencing homelessness on the San Mateo Coast, including displaced farm workers.

Upcoming SpiritCare Visit: On **Sunday January 21st, 1:30PM** join us for our monthly visit at **Silver Oaks Memory Care** in Menlo Park (16 Coleman Place). Singers, readers and senior hand-holders are needed. This month we will be showing slides from Israel/Palestine/Jordan including Qumran National Park (where John the Baptist trained with the Essenes) and the site of Jesus' baptism. The real site of his baptism, in Jordan, not the tourist site further north in Israel. Jericho, which is 864 feet below sea level, is the oldest city in the world, the site of the invention of agriculture and where Jesus faced temptation for 40 days on Mount Quarantine. It is hard to visit these places today but we will share the story plus photos from these sites with the seniors. Contact Angela Hey at amhey@heymash.com or 650-796-2377 to volunteer. 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 in Menlo Park which supports 46 seniors suffering from memory issues.

Dinner for 84 at Coast House on Saturday December 30th. Our thanks to Miki Anderson, Claire Suvari, Tricia Suvari and Ruth Ann Wrucke who prepared a wonderful dinner with three different entrees: 1) Lamb & sweet potatoes 2) meatloaf and scalloped potatoes or 3) chicken with mashed potatoes. They were accompanied

by Cole slaw, succotash and squash. Dessert consisted of pumpkin pie, apple pie and cherry cake. Ruth Ann also took 5 box loads of outerwear and underwear with her for delivery. She reports 10 people were waiting for her at Coast House to help her unload and to express their thanks for all the Christmas items for the children and adults. It turns out warm socks and new underwear are quite a hit. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at 650-851-8435 or cwrucke@mindspring.com to volunteer in the future. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses 84 adults, couples, plus a few families (with 15 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; those services are provided irregardless of immigration status.

Dinner for 12 in Palo Alto: Hotel de Zink is where Life Moves started. Places of worship in Palo Alto provide a warm place to stay and a hot meal in their parish halls on a rotating basis for 12 homeless adults. In December the Palo Alto Friends meeting is hosting and Christ Church parishioner Rita Comes is coordinating food provisions. Outreach was asked to help out by providing dinner on Thursday December 28th. Our thanks to Kathy Kennedy, Jessie Myers, Mary Soubirous, and Carol Wentworth (program leader) who provided a lovely dinner of chicken, rice pilaf, Norwegian carrots and Eggnog cake.

Christmas for 15 Kids at Coast House: We collected new warm jackets and socks for the kids along with a new toy for 7 of the younger children (6 months - age 12). Starbucks and Target cards are being provided for the older children. The gifts were delivered on December 23rd, just in time for Christmas. Our thanks to: Hayley Bakken, Kathy Kennedy, Lenore Love, Denise Moriarty, Pam Padilla and Carol Wentworth plus thanks also to wrappers/deliverers: Pam Kaufman, Dave Miller, Erin Miller and Kelly Miller. On Christmas Eve, during services, Kathy received this note of gratitude from Elyse at Coast House: "***Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones! More blessings and happiness. I'm glad there are people like you all; our clients don't have to go without, especially the kids.***"

Holiday Food Baskets delivered to 10 homeless Redwood City families: Christ Church was asked by Life Moves to provide 10 Christmas food baskets for families staying at Redwood Family House in Redwood City. Thank you Betsy Alexander, Vicki Baker, Jan & Bruce Beekley, Sherry Lund & Carl Cheney, Katja Gagen, Ed & Mary Jennings, Claiborne Jones, Mary Peterson and Suzanne Redfern- West for providing the non-perishable food for a basket. Christ Church generously donated a gingerbread house kit for each family. The Outreach Committee provided a small laundry basket, spices, aluminum foil, an aluminum foil cooking pan, kitchen hot pad set, a can opener, a tin of butter cookies plus seasonal plates/napkins. The festive and nutritious baskets were delivered to Redwood Family House on Tuesday December 19th.

Silver Oaks Memory Care Christmas Caroling - On Sunday December 17th we returned to sing Christmas carols with the Seniors. We also learned more about the Annunciation in Nazareth (the shocking announcement by the Angel Gabriel to teenage Mary), the return of Gabriel to reassure Joseph it was okay to be with his inexplicably pregnant fiancé and the Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem on April 17, 6 BC. Yes, in April, which means you have more time to send out your Christmas cards. Pictures were shown of the present-day locations of these events and parts of the story you have only heard alluded to will be included. Our thanks to story-teller Kathy Kennedy, pianist Angela Hey and enthusiastic caroler Nora Bevan. Christmas cookies were shared with the seniors and sweets were also provided to the hard-working staff. Contact Angela Hey at amhey@heymash.com or 650-796-2377 to

volunteer in the future since we visit each month. 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 in Menlo Park which supports 46 seniors suffering from memory issues.

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 at Coast House. 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. Coast House shelter is located in Half Moon Bay and provides housing for 84 coast side homeless adults, couples and a few families, currently with 15 kids. Life Moves is also providing support for local farm workers from this site.

Outreach 2023 Year-end Summary: On Sunday December 24th, during the Christmas Eve candlelight service. Outreach Chair Kathy Kennedy summarized that Outreach acts as directed by Mary’s baby boy who exhorts us to heal the sick, feed the hungry and house the homeless, among other things. She described Outreach’s actions through two newer organizations (SpiritCare and Rise Against Hunger) and two organizations we have worked with for more than 20 years, since their inception (GAIA Global Health and Life Moves).

- **SpiritCare** provides spiritual support to forgotten seniors at 60+ Bay Area Senior care homes. Christ Church partners with 270 bed Burlingame Long Term Care (4 crafts programs) and 46 bed Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park (9 music programs).
- **Rise Against Hunger** is working to eradicate hunger worldwide; it currently operates in 37 countries, primarily in Asia, Africa and Caribbean/Central/South America. In September we packaged 16,000+ nutritionally balanced meals that were sent to Somaliland which is facing starvation due to a prolonged drought.
- **GAIA Global Health** is working to eradicate AIDS in Malawi, Africa an event we anticipate this decade as the last of the disease is snuffed out. It has taken building a medical infrastructure of 528 nursing graduates (with 236 more in school) who are deployed to the far corners of Malawi and Liberia. In Malawi, GAIA Scholars represent 10% of public sector registered nurses who serve in 27 of Malawi's 28 districts. GAIA also supports 7 mobile health clinics which operate in the rural areas. Through your generosity in 2023 Outreach provided medical supplies for a mobile clinic for a month plus supplemental funding during the March medical emergency response to Cyclone Freddy.
- **Life Moves** provides food and interim shelter to 1328 people each night staying in 26 shelters in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. 2100+ moved into stable permanent housing in 2023. Outreach has special partnerships with Coast House shelter in HMB (84 people) and Redwood Family House in Redwood City (10 families). In 2023 we provided 650+ meals (Coast House in HMB, Hotel de Zinc in Palo Alto), plus 500 snack bags for San Mateo county homeless kids camps, We ran 3 large toiletry drives for two shelters, donated 40 backpacks filled with school supplies for homeless kids and provided 10 festive Christmas food baskets to Redwood Family House. We also donated \$17K of linens for all 4 San Mateo County shelters (blankets, pillows, sheet sets and towels) during two drives (spring, fall); families use the linens in the shelters then take we them to help set up permanent housing. Currently our warm outerwear and new underwear campaign is underway benefitting Coast House adults; Christmas gifts, jackets, socks and underwear were also provided for 15 HMB shelter kids.

With gratitude to you who make it possible and follow the message of Mary's baby boy! Merry Christmas.

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



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

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