THIS WEEK'S HAPPENINGS

-Sunday Service at 10 a.m. inside at Church

-Sunday, Confirmation Class in library from 5 - 7 p.m.

-Monday, March 21, 5:30 p.m.
FIELD TRIP to Grace Cathedral for Sound Bath Contemplative Service
For Lent, Mother Beth is leading a field trip for any one interested to Grace Cathedral this Monday for a special contemplative service of ethereal music in sacred space called a Sound Bath. Please RSVP to Mother Beth by Sunday so she can purchase a ticket for you and send you details. We will meet in the church parking lot and Mother Beth will drive. Check it out here.

-Tuesday, March 22, 6-7 p.m.
Lenten Soup Group in the Parish Hall
This week we discuss Chapter 29, page 136-139 in Brian McLaren's book We Make the Road by Walking. Click here to read the chapter. Each chapter can stand alone so you may drop in any week but RSVP so we set a place for you at the table!

-Wednesday, March 23, 10 a.m.
Women's Spirituality Group via Zoom

-Wednesday, March 23, 11 a.m.
Bible Study in Parlor 3 at the Sequoias

Click Here for SUNDAY, Bulletin/Order of Service

CLICK HERE to join on Zoom

CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube

CELEBRATIONS
Birthdays
Julie Fouquet, Barbara Harwood, Ruth Ann Wrucke, June Tunnell

TODAY'S SERVICE
Greeter: Louise Delafield
Altar Guild: Betsy Alexander
Usher: Tim McAdam
The Lesson: Betsy Alexander
The Epistle: Danny Alegria
Intercessions: Sarah Halsey
Coffee Hour: Norma Cance

LENTEN REFLECTION - BY DIANE LEONARD

Death. Taxes. And Lent. To be perfectly honest, for a long time, that’s somehow how it felt to me. Inescapable and grim. But Lent and life changed for me when my mother died suddenly in 2008. Unspeakably sad and more than a little bit angry that my then quite young children would be raised without this amazing presence in their lives, I was awash to say the least. When Lent came around that year, it felt like a cruel joke — my
“suffering” already felt too great.

What I couldn’t see at that time, but is all too clear to me now, is that I was already knee-deep, in fact, nearly drowning, in the work of Lent. I didn’t need a priestly Lent “pass.” I was already on an extended Lenten journey, walking through flames and struggling to find a path that would allow me to emerge forged rather than permanently shattered. The seeds of that path were planted as my mother lay on her deathbed.

Rocked by the news that she had had a massive heart attack while traveling, I managed to get through those first hectic hours of settling my kids, booking a flight, and getting myself to New Mexico, no small thanks to my husband. When I arrived at her bedside, all went still. The activity around me continued -- distressed siblings, distraught father, pain, grief – but in that moment all I could hear and feel permeating the room and my being was, “Forgive, forgive, forgive.” I looked around to see if anyone else was hearing this, but no, it was a message for me and me alone. This divine gift led me through the immediate, long-burning fire, and has guided and fortified me ever since.

Love, forgiveness, gratitude. They were all in that room with me on that terrible day. And for me they are the distillation of what it means to be centered and to “stop the noise.” Whether external, internal, tangible or intangible, finding this center in our daily lives is a constant process, one we are simply reminded to enter into more fully during Lent. And unlike death and taxes, no forms required.

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**ADVOCACY TRAINING FOR CALIFORNIA EPISCOPALIANS**

Are you interested in learning more about public policy advocacy? The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California with the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations is offering online advocacy training for California Episcopalians:

Join this two-part advocacy training to learn the basics of advocacy and then how to craft an approach that also acknowledges the need for self-care and maintaining energy for long-term, effective engagement.

To attend both sessions, you must complete each registration separately!

Hosted by the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California with The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations, session 1 will cover the basics in, **"Advocacy 101: What is it and how do I start?"** on March 29th 10-11:30am PST. **Register.**

Session 2, **"Striving for Justice and Peace with Strategy, "** April 19th, 10-11:30m PST, will go a bit deeper, exploring how to create an advocacy strategy for yourself and your community or congregation. **Register.**

You may attend either or both parts, and attendance at session 1 is not required to attend session 2. While the Office of Government Relations represents The Episcopal Church at the federal government level, the advocacy practices covered can be applied even in state and local politics.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Liz Laderman at liz.laderman@gmail.com or 650-799-7738.

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**LENTEN MUSIC AND CONCERTS**

**Saturday, March 26, 2pm and 7:30pm**

On March 26th, children who placed in the Junior Bach competition will be performing in two concerts at our church. It is always a delight to see their hard work, talent, and creativity in this showcase of Bach’s music!
Sunday, April 3, 3pm
The American Guild of Organists will be presenting their spring member’s recital at Christ Church this year. Join us to hear many skilled organists from our community!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Please make a pledge to support our ministry here at Christ Church. You are welcome to donate now towards the 2022 Stewardship campaign or make a pledge to be paid at your convenience by the end of this year - December 31, 2022. Thank you for keeping Christ Church Portola Valley strong.

For those with outstanding pledges from 2021, please let us know if you need an invoice to know if your pledge was met. Please reach out to wendymcadam@mac.com or admin@ccpvw.org with any questions or concerns.

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

**SpiritCare visit:** Fully vaccinated singers and readers are needed at the Silver Oaks Memory Care unit in Menlo Park for a half hour on Sunday March 20 starting at 1:30. Contact Penny McCulloch at 415-713-9002 or penny.j.mcculloch@gmail.com for more information. SpiritCare provides spiritual and emotional support for “forgotten” elderly and disabled residents at over 60 care centers in the Bay Area. There are 43 memory care residents at Silver Oaks in Menlo Park, the facility with which Christ Church has partnered.

**Seeking Toiletries:** Remember travel? If you have any travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap or lotion you picked up 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 120 homeless adults each night.

**Grocery Drive for Home & Hope families:** Happily several otherwise homeless families from Home & Hope moved into permanent housing a few weeks ago but new families have moved into the program. We plan to do a grocery drive for the new families on Sunday April 3. Look for a Signup Genius this week of the grocery items that are need. Contact Kathy Kennedy at 650-291-9678 or kennedyiti@aol.com for more information. Home & Hope provides shelter for four otherwise homeless San Mateo County families.

**GAIA Healthcare:** Normally GAIA in Malawi focuses on eradicating AIDS and Malaria in one of the poorest countries in Africa. But when Tropical Storm Ana struck the southern districts of Nsanje, Phalombe, Mulanje and Chikwawa three weeks ago GAIA used their mobile health care clinics to help assist the 188,000 people who were displaced and the 30,000 households of people who are now homeless. A third of the country’s electrical capacity was also destroyed in the storm. The Outreach Committee quickly sent a check to help provide healthcare assistance.

**Ukraine:** The Episcopal Relief and Development Fund has people on the ground helping in the Ukraine. To find out more, visit the website. Outreach encourages donations to Spanish-American Chef Jose Andres’ “World Central Kitchens” (WCK) who has set up kitchens on the Polish (9 kitchens), Romanian (1 kitchen), Moldova (2 kitchens) and Hungarian (1 kitchen) borders as well as inside western Ukraine (5 kitchens in western Ukraine plus food support for chefs in eastern Ukraine including Kiev, Odessa Kharkiv and more) to help feed the 3 million fleeing Ukrainian refugees plus the 1.8 million displaced in-country Ukrainians. Mostly women and kids are coming across the border in freezing conditions. WCK has provided over a million meals and is currently providing 150,000 meals a day to refugees. WCK will be setting up a kitchen in Slovenia in the next few days. If
possible, the refugees don’t want to go too far away from Ukraine because they want to go home and rebuild so the need for meals at the border is urgent. If you want to help, this organization is worth your consideration. [http://wck.org/benevolentspirits](http://wck.org/benevolentspirits). The TripAdvisor Foundation has announced they will match any donations.

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**FILM SCREENING - SUNDAY, APRIL 3**

Humane Prison Hospice Project
In partnership with Trinity Church, Humane Prison Hospice Project presents a screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall, followed by a panel discussion with activists who are working to improve the way people die in prisons across the U.S.

Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall breaks through the walls of one of America’s oldest maximum security prisons to tell the story of the final months in the life of a terminally ill prisoner, and the hospice volunteers, they themselves prisoners, who care for him.

This is a FREE event, offering light snacks, sparkling water, beer & wine. ID required. Proof of vaccination and booster are required for admission, per the Trinity Church Safety guidance. Tax deductible donations are always welcome for the Humane Prison Hospice Project, a 501C3 organization dedicated to advocating for compassionate end-of-life care in our nation’s prisons.

**MARVIN MUTCHE**
Co-Founder/Senior Advisor-Public Information/Policy Advocate

**LADYBIRD MORGAN**
RN, MSW, Co-Founder/Program Director

**EDGAR BARENS**
MFA, Filmmaker, Correctional Healthcare Activist

**TRINITY CHURCH**
330 Ravenswood
Menlo Park, CA

WHEN: SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022
TIME: 2PM - 4PM
INFO: tinyurl.com/HumanePrisonTrinityChurch