



CHRIST CHURCH
PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & update



TODAY'S SERVICE

Flowers: Tricia Christensen
Greeter: Mary Hufty
Altar Guild: Betsy Alexander
Usher: Danny Alegria
The Lesson: Katy Darrow
The Epistle: Lauren Wittine
Intercessions: Sarah Halsey
Coffee Hour: Jim Szewczak

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays
Forrest Anderson, Michel Dubes

Anniversaries
Carl Cheney & Sherry Lund, Carl & Carol Wentworth, Danny Alegria & Mary Hufty, Wil & Sandy Patterson, Dave Miller & Kathy Kennedy

THIS WEEK'S HAPPENINGS

Sunday, October 2
10 a.m. Blessing of the Animals!

Tuesday, October 4
8 a.m. Morning Prayer T-Fri

Wednesday, October 5
10 a.m. Women's Spirituality Group

Thursday, October 6
9:30 a.m. Thursday COFFEE GROUP



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

[CLICK HERE to join on Zoom](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)



A Note From Your Rector

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

Thank you! You are an incredible community. Last Sunday's Rise Against Hunger event was amazing. We packed 10,000 meals in less than two hours. Thank you for showing up and sharing what some of what we have with those without. It was awesome.

This coming Sunday is one of my favorite Sundays - the blessing the animals. Of course, it is one of my favorite days of the year being the animal lover that I am. However, it increased in importance to me over the years. The day goes beyond just animals and includes our care of creation. It is a big responsibility and our salvation is literally bound up with the care we exercise for the planet. When we talk about Jesus being our salvation, to me it is literal. If we don't stop living the way we are living, I believe that we will not survive as a species. We need to stop killing each other and our planet and learn how to love each other and the earth.

I briefly want to mention that this week I was away at our annual Clergy Conference at Bishop's Ranch. We had some spiritual time with the leaders of Canticle Farms, and intentional Franciscan community. I hope to share with you some of the practices we did with them. It was very out of the

box and spiritually nourishing for me. I am grateful that our current Bishop is encouraging us to be more innovative in the way we gather and worship. I look forward to exploring this with you as a congregation as we start the diocese's Vital + Thriving program. You will hear more about this later.

We also started having a conversation at the conference about the search for our next Bishop, as Bishop Marc announced that he will be retiring in May 2024. It takes about that long to have a search for a Bishop. So you will be hearing more about that as well. I never thought much about Bishops until I became a priest. I am curious what the Bishop means to you as parishioners, and what you think we should be seeking in our next Bishop.

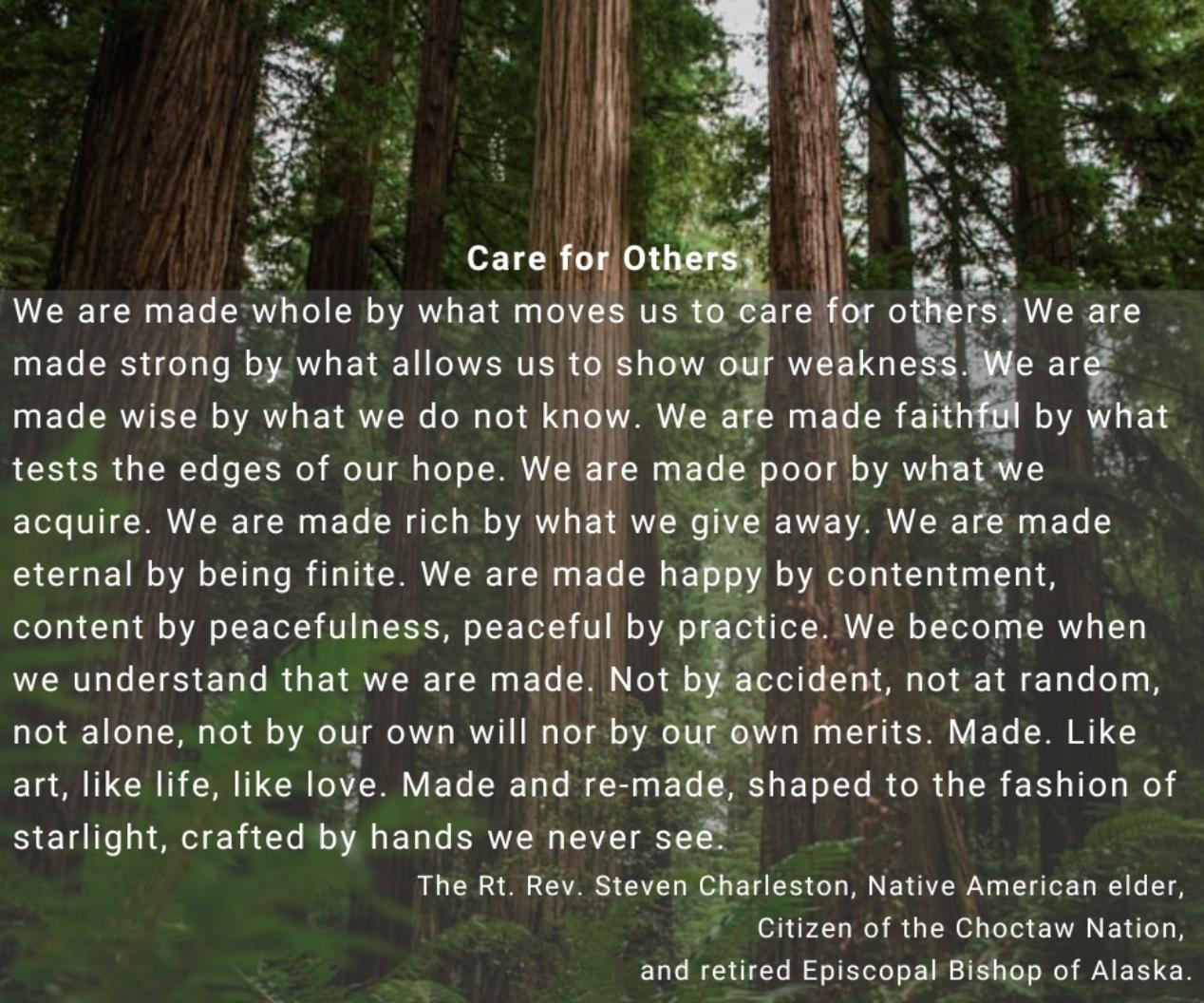
I look forward to seeing you Sunday!

With love,
Beth +

**Some quick pics from last Sunday's
Rise Against Hunger
(there will be more next week!)**



Quote for the Week



Care for Others

We are made whole by what moves us to care for others. We are made strong by what allows us to show our weakness. We are made wise by what we do not know. We are made faithful by what tests the edges of our hope. We are made poor by what we acquire. We are made rich by what we give away. We are made eternal by being finite. We are made happy by contentment, content by peacefulness, peaceful by practice. We become when we understand that we are made. Not by accident, not at random, not alone, not by our own will nor by our own merits. Made. Like art, like life, like love. Made and re-made, shaped to the fashion of starlight, crafted by hands we never see.

The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, Native American elder,
Citizen of the Choctaw Nation,
and retired Episcopal Bishop of Alaska.

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Outreach Committee News

SpiritCare Retirement Celebration for Rev Sue Ann Yarbrough. On Sunday October 1 from 3-6 Rev Yarborough, who has been a SpiritCare pastor for 15+ years, is retiring. Remarkably, since COVID started she has written weekly messages to care communities from Burlingame to Santa Clara and from Alameda to San Lorenzo. An outdoor celebration of her ministry will be held in Redwood City. RSVP by registering at <https://SueAnnOct1.eventbrite.com>.

Linen Drive for San Mateo County Families: Beginning in mid October, the Outreach Committee will be collecting towels, blankets, sheet sets and NEW pillows for local families currently staying in Life Moves Family Shelters in San Mateo County. We will also make cozy fleece blankets on Friday October 14th at 4:30PM on the Parish Hall patio to help keep kids warm this winter. Questions, contact Kathy Kennedy at 650-291-9678 or kennedyiti@aol.com

SpiritCare COVID outbreak/Peace visit: On Sunday August 21st several parishioners set off for Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park to sing and read with seniors only to learn the facility was facing a serious COVID outbreak. 3 of 46 residents died and more were infected. We stopped in our tracks. Silver Oaks has asked that we do a communion service in September, in memory of those they lost, along with our planned August musical program on Peace. On Sunday September 18th we tried, but got rained out so we will try again soon. Contact Angela Hey at 650-796-2377

or amhey@heymash.com if you can help read or sing with the seniors. 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 which supports 46 seniors. Outreach plans to have parishioners paint pumpkins on Sunday October 16th after church to take to Silver Oaks to cheer everyone’s day.

Rise Against Hunger: The UN says worldwide starvation is driven by the spike in food, fuel and fertilizer prices plus by the war in Ukraine. 345 million acutely hungry people are marching towards starvation, a 25% increase from last year. On Sunday September 25th the Christ Church community with help from friends, relatives and congregants from Valley Presbyterian Church made 10,152 bags of food or 50,760 meals in one and a half hours.

Our food kits are being sent to the hungry in Southeast Asia. Justin, from Rise Against Hunger complimented us on our organization and positive working spirit. The volunteers were described as a “well oiled machine.”

On Sunday morning we were ready to go. Thanks to Carillon pre-school Director Cara O’Connell the pre-school gear was stowed away and Trask Leonard, Bob Wrucke, and Ross Soubirous had set up the tables. At 10:00 Sunday morning, while most people were in church, a box truck pulled into our church driveway. Waiting to unload the truck were Matt Van Der Staay, Trask Leonard, Ross Soubirous, Andy, Eda, and Alex Carlson. 50 pound bags of rice, soy, and dehydrated vegetables along with the equipment needed was offloaded and set up in the Parish Hall.

Promptly at 11:30 Betsy Alexander and Claiborne Jones handed out the stylish hairnets and gloves. The Parish Hall doors opened and over 60 eager volunteers entered to start bagging meals. Mother Beth gave a blessing and we went to work. Charlie Mabie demonstrated he can handle those bags of rice. We had many enthusiastic adult plus child/teen volunteers. Beatrix Bakken was in charge of child care with assistance from Hayley Bakken, and Lauren Wittine. Bob Wrucke was event photographer.

By 1:00 the meals were all bagged and loaded into the truck. The tables were put away. The rice was swept up. The Carlson family, with supervision by teacher Elise Eisenman, had the Carillon pre- school ready to use the next day.

We were ready to enjoy the after-banquet prepared by Ruth Ann Wrucke, Carol Wentworth and Diane Leonard. The banquet included 60 portions of chicken and cheese enchiladas, taco salad, strawberries ,watermelon, cut up oranges, a corn and rice dish, several apple cobblers, ice cream, and brownies. There was also a special Mac ‘n cheese lunch for the children. The leftovers were taken to Life Moves Maple Street Shelter in Redwood City.

Our Rise Against Hunger event was more successful than we could have imagined. Rise Against Hunger’s goal is to eradicate hunger worldwide by 2030. That seems daunting, but when you see what we did in less than 2 hours... Mary Soubirous and the Outreach team want to thank everyone who helped to make this event possible. It is a true miracle!

Seeking Toiletries: Are you still 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.

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



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