

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & updates



September 12, 2021 | This Week at Christ Church



CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Ben Leonard

[CLICK HERE to join on Zoom](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)

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

TODAY'S SERVICE

Flowers - Diane Leonard

Greeter - Louise Delafield

Usher - Tim McAdam

Altar Guild - Betsy Alexander

Lesson - Danny Alegria

Epistle - Mary Hufty

Intercessions - Andy Pflaum

Coffee Hour Host - Kathy Kennedy

A NOTE FROM YOUR RECTOR

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

This SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, is our Annual Kickoff for the program year at 10 A.M. ON THE PATIO followed by a barbecue. Come find out about our new youth group, Confirmation, new Sunday School classes and our new Youth Group Director.

As for me, this week I have been reflecting on 9/11. In one day we saw the best and worst we humans can do. Every year we commemorate the date and those that were lost. This year, the twentieth anniversary of that day, feels different to me. The news coverage I have seen seems more hopeful. It seems to focus on the courageous acts of heroism carried about by ordinary people and endless acts of kindness and compassion as our humanity was bound together in our collective suffering on that day. It makes me feel hopeful about human nature.

The entire concept of "original sin" was created by Augustine in the 4th century. I am not sure whether he was wrong or right, but who am I to argue with one of the greatest theologians of all time. However, it is difficult for me to look at a newborn baby and think that baby has sinned. It is also difficult for me to imagine anyone living a long life without sin (except Jesus of course!). This dark view of human nature is captured in the famous novel, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, which I found rather depressing. So imagine my surprise when I was driving home one evening and happened across an interview on the radio with a historian, Rutger Bregman, who wrote a book about a real *Lord of the Flies* situation. Apparently in 1965, six Tongan boys ranging in age from 13 to 16 stole a boat and were shipwrecked on a deserted island for more than a year before they were rescued. Unlike the fictional account, the boys did not descend into savagery, but rather worked together in teams of two collaborating to ensure the survival of all. Bregman researched and published an account of the castaways' experiences in his book *Humankind: A Hopeful History*, as a rebuttal example to Golding's fictional story. Hearing this story gave me solace and hope. If you

could use a dose of hope you can listen to the interview with Bregman by [clicking here](#). It is part of an NPR podcast titled *Stories of How We Cope With Chaos* and this particular story starts at 25:20.

Can't wait to see you Sunday!

With love,
Beth+

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM



Linen Drive for Homeless Families: beginning in September the Outreach Committee is running a linen drive for homeless families staying at Haven House in Menlo Park and the Redwood Family Shelter in Redwood City. The families use the (new) towel sets (2 bath towels, 2 hand towels, 2 wash cloths), twin/full-sized sheets and twin/full-sized blankets to establish their permanent homes. Bring donations to the bench in the church breezeway. On **Saturday September 11th from 4PM - 6PM** on the Parish Hall patio we will have an old-fashioned fleece blanket making party. If you can tie a knot, we need your help. We will be socially distanced and masked but near enough to chat. Snacks will be available. Contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com or 650-291-9678 for more information.

SpiritCare: We need flowers (from your garden or a store), donated jam jars, ribbon to decorate them plus fully vaccinated volunteers on **Sunday September 19th**. If you know how to do simple flower arranging we could use your help. We plan to take flowers to the residents of the Silver Oaks Memory Care unit. If you have any musical talent from guitar to kazoo or can sing a simple song like "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," on or off key, volunteer for this joyful Outreach program. SpiritCare provides emotional support for lonely institutionalized seniors. Contact Penny McCulloch at 415-713-9002 or penny.j.mcculloch@gmail.com

Toiletries for the Homeless: Remember travel and those cute mini toiletries that hotels give out? We are still collecting them (mini shampoos, conditioner, soap, lotion, sewing kits and more) for the Maple Street Adult Homeless Shelter. Bring them to the church breezeway and drop them off in the green box. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors and shower shoes are also needed. For those of you living at **The Sequoias** a collection box is there too. Contact James Coker who is managing it.

Dinners for Maple Street Shelter: On Saturday August 21st Christ Church volunteers Norma Cance, Penny McCulloch, Linda Millard, Mary Soubirous, Carol Wentworth and Ruth Ann Wrucke made dinner for 75 souls at the Maple Street Shelter. Carved turkey, Chutney Salad, Brown Rice Salad, Cole Slaw, Watermelon Salad and a Mixed Fruit Salad were topped off with lemon cake or chocolate cake for dessert. Wow! We need your help for future dinners in September. Contact Ruth Ann at cwrucke@mindspring.com or call her at (650) 851-8435. The Maple Street Shelter is part of the Life Moves program which provides a warm bed to over 1300 homeless people on the Peninsula every night.

Life Moves Event with Golden State Warriors Basketball Coach Steve Kerr: On **Thursday September 23rd** from 8AM - 9AM there will be an in-depth zoom conversation with Golden State Warriors Head Coach Steve Kerr, as he discusses critical issues from his unique "see something, say something, do something" perspective. It will be hosted by Audrey Merriman, CEO of Life Moves. This will also be a chance to get an update from Life Moves views on the end of eviction moratorium (9/30) here in California. Click on the box to register.

[SAVE MY SPOT!](#)

Next Zoom Outreach Meeting: Tuesday September 14th at 9:30AM. All are welcome.



CARILLON SCHOOL



CARILLON
SCHOOL

**We are now open
for enrollment!**

Call to schedule your tour.

(650) 529-1335

Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside | ccpvw.org

