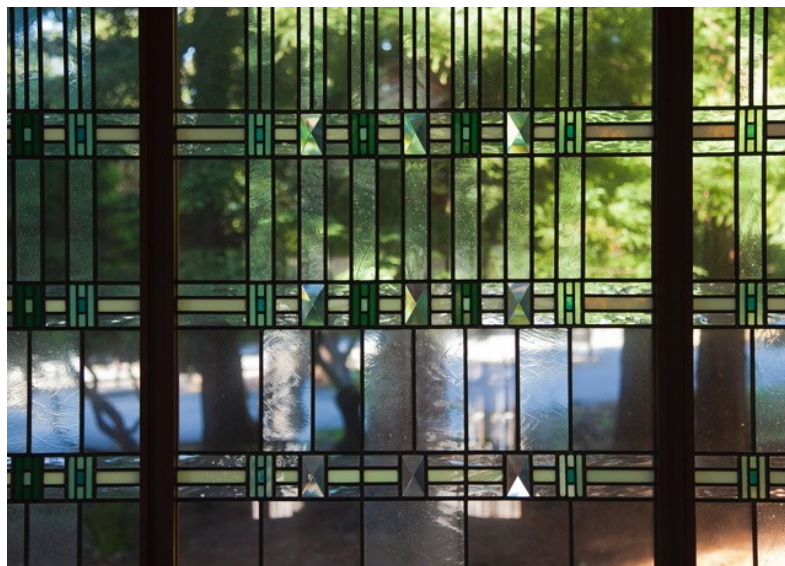


SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Coffee Hour: Jim Szewczak
Usher: Danny Alegria
Altar Guild: Mary Soubirous
Acolyte: Louise Delafield
Lesson: Anne Bertenthal
Epistle: Casey McKibben
Intercessions: Danny Alegria

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 17
10 a.m. Service
Nursery Open
Sunday School



CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Sherry Lund, Ted Wilson, Vinie Miller, Suzie Redfern-West

Anniversaries

Stu & Kaethe Langs

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



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

VITAL & THRIVING



****CHANGE NOTICE – The BBQ has become a provided lunch!****

The Vital and Thriving team at Christ Church Portola Valley and Woodside is hosting an information and discernment event on Sunday, September 24th starting at 9am with lunch provided. The worship service will be incorporated into our time together.

Vital and Thriving is a major congregational development initiative of our Diocese to facilitate and support congregations to self-assess, brainstorm, experiment, and pivot in response to the present mid-pandemic realities

and move forward into the future with faith, optimism, confidence, and renewed energy.

The V&T steering committee and listening team have hosted a timeline event and undertaken interviews with over 24 parish members. The data from these events along with the community demographic data prepared by the Vital and Thriving team at the Diocese has been summarized into documents that will be presented at the September 24th meeting. This will allow our church community the opportunity to use this material to help guide us as we move forward.

We hope that everyone associated with Christ Church and the broader community that we serve will come to this meeting to learn and become part of the process of moving forward.

Breaks will be woven into the morning and snacks always available.

In our timeline event we asked everyone to put notes on a timeline for times that were difficult at Christ Church, for when things were good and notes for hope in the future.

With many notes, and thus many voices, a Wordle was created. A Wordle is a graphic that displays words that occur more often in larger fonts and thus summarizes the large content more easily. Here is the Wordle for a hopeful future at Christ Church:

A few quotes illustrate what we heard from the interviews:

“People I respect are now church shopping or making a decision to leave.”

“I feel strongly that I want the church to be here and to make it.”

“Although people take an interest in each other and genuinely care about each other, I don’t see the nurturing now.”

We hope to see everyone at the Parish-Wide Discernment Event
September 24th. 9:00am – 12:30pm.



SPIRITUAL QUOTE

Where the Light Begins
By Jan Richardson

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.



Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see
what has forever
shimmered in front of us—

the luminous line
of the map
in the dark

the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart

the love
so searing
we cannot keep
from singing,
from crying out
in testimony
and praise.

Perhaps this day
will be the mountain
over which
the dawn breaks.

Perhaps we
will turn our face
toward it,
toward what has been
always.

Perhaps
our eyes
will finally open
in ancient recognition,
willingly dazzled,
illuminated at last.

Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.

A PANEL DISCUSSION ABOUT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

On Sunday, September 17th at 4:00pm, Christ Church Los Altos will have a fantastic opportunity to learn more about a very hot topic! Hear a panel of AI experts discuss this rapidly emerging technology, explaining what it is, how it will affect your everyday life, and what you need to know to navigate this both exciting and disturbing "new frontier." There will be time for questions from the audience. Learn more about the panelists [here](#), a panelist meet-and-greet and reception will follow.

This free event is being presented as a public service and will be widely promoted through social and print media. We encourage you to make reservations for your FREE tickets as soon as possible by clicking [here](#). Or if you prefer, send an email with your full name and the number of seats wanted to events@ccla.us.

Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER



Sylvia Francis Bertenthal
8/24/23

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS



Signup for Rise Against Hunger: Thanks to those who volunteered, during the post-church picnic but we still need 25-40 more of you to signup to help make meals for the hungry overseas. A lot of meals! You can signup here:

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/CCPVW2023> We also need help doing everything from unloading the truck (have to be able to lift a 50 lb. bag of rice) to helping clean-up. You can volunteer for those tasks at the same signup location. On **Saturday September 30th starting at 10AM** the Christ Church Community will assemble 75,000 meals in TWO HOURS. That is a 50% increase from last year. To make it work we need you, your kids, your relatives, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Everyone! Meals will be assembled at the PV Community Center then we will gather at Christ Church for a post-celebratory lunch. Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief non-profit that coordinates the packaging and distribution of food and other aid to people in developing nations. Our 15,000 food kits (each holds 5 meals) will be sent to the hungry

worldwide. This year the need is especially urgent since Russia is blocking food deliveries from Ukraine. In 2022 Rise Against Hunger distributed 67.6 million meals to over 4 million people in Central America, Asia and Africa. Rise Against Hunger is also teaching sustainable farming practices in some African villages to make the communities self-reliant. Questions, contact Mary Soubirous at 650-224-0277 or msoubirou@aol.com

Seeking Tutors for Homeless Kids: Life Moves is seeking teens or college students interested in volunteering in-person (for the first time in 3 years) to help with the fall homework, reading and tutoring program. Tutoring is held Monday - Thursday from 4:00PM - 6:00PM at family shelters in both Santa Clara (4 shelters) and San Mateo County (4 shelters). Volunteers can work as little as an hour each week. TUTOR AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Learn & Earn** Tutor volunteers must be between the ages of 14-18 and will work with Kindergarten and 7th graders.
- **Tap-in-Tutor** volunteers must be between 16-18 or college students and will work with 8th - 12th graders.

To sign up à <https://lifemoves.tfaforms.net/f/falltutoring2023> . The closest shelters to our church are in Redwood City and Menlo Park.

Questions, contact Lynnelle Bilsey, Sr. Manager Volunteer Programs, at lbilsey@lifemoves.org.

Fall Linen Drive for Homeless Families - Starting **Sunday October 1** Outreach will begin collecting sheet sets, blankets, new pillows and bath towels for 87 families staying at four Life Moves family shelters in San Mateo County. With your help we will also make 30 cozy fleece blankets for the kids. Ten blankets of material are cut and are in the church shed, ready to be fringed and tied. Contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com or 650-291-9678 if you would like to take one or two home with you to work on.

Episcopal Impact Fund Gala: The Episcopal Impact Fund will be holding its Night of Light Gala on **Saturday October 7th, 6PM** at the City Club in San Francisco, 155 Sansome Street, 10th floor. The event raises money for programs addressing the root cause of poverty in the Bay Area. In 2023 the Outreach Spring Linen Drive for Homeless Families was partially funded by one of their grants and we have just received news that the 2024 Spring Linen Drive will receive funds too. The joyous party will be a celebration in Roaring Twenties Style with a fine dining experience, speakeasy cocktails, a live auction and Jazz Age inspired fun. Tickets, which are \$400 each, can be purchased by clicking here (and donations are also welcome):

**Buy Tickets
Now!**

Crafts Project at Burlingame Skilled Nursing residents-Burlingame Skilled Nursing is home to 170 disabled residents, most of whom have no family support. It is one of the neediest of the 60 care homes supported by SpiritCare in their mission to provide spiritual and emotional support to forgotten seniors. Under the guidance of the effervescent and creative Pam Kaufman on Thursday September 14th we helped the seniors make fall flower arrangements to cheer up their rooms. Our thanks to Angela Hey (pianist), Pam Kaufman, Mary Soubirous, and Carol Wentworth. Due to a COVID outbreak this event was postponed from August. Questions or to volunteer in November contact Pam Kaufman at pamkaufmann@gmail.com or 619-885-0885.

Silver Oaks Memory Care - We visit Silver Oaks in Menlo Park each month. In August there was a COVID outbreak and two died the day before our scheduled visit. We postponed our visit until September 10th. Our thanks to Angela Hey for doing a musical sing-a-long with these forgotten seniors. If you can sing, read or have a moment to hold a senior's hand, contact Angela at amhey@heymash.com or 650-796-2377 to volunteer on **Sunday October 15th, 1:30** . We will be conducting a simplified communion service with familiar parts like The Lord's Prayer plus share some slides about miracles performed around the Sea of Galilee. We will also say prayers for those who died. 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.

(Bicycle) Ride to End Homelessness -On Saturday August 26th Life Moves held its 9th annual fundraiser, which involved bicycle rides of varying lengths suitable for anyone's

ability. Angela Hey rode the 66 mile Metric Century up Old La Honda west to Alice's Restaurant and somehow ended up "enjoying an 8 mile uphill ride on Tunitas Creek Road. Duane Soubirous rode the 33 mile "Go-Get-It" ride which still sounds pretty challenging. The goal of the fund-raiser was to raise community awareness and support of Life Moves programs. Last year their programs reached 7000 clients in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, with 2100 moving into stable housing. Life Moves has 26 shelters sites. The program's financial goal was to raise \$600K and over half that was raised by the week before the ride. If you are inspired to donate to the Christ Church bicycle team click on <https://www.classy.org/team/519373> (Christ Church Portola Valley team page for donations).

Dinner for Coast House Shelter -On Sunday August 20th a tamale casserole dinner was served to the 60 residents of Coast House shelter in Half Moon Bay. The yummy dinner menu was Tamale Pie, tossed green salad with 8 vegetables, with watermelon and pineapple for dessert. Our thanks to volunteers Erin Miller, salad maker Carol Wentworth and Ruth Ann Wrucke. We also delivered personal size toiletries and socks. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at 650-851-8435 if you can help in October. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses 60 adults, couples, plus a few families in a converted Coast side motel, regardless of immigration status. It is the only shelter that provides interim shelter and support services for those experiencing homelessness on the San Mateo Coast.

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 is located in Half Moon Bay and provides housing for 60 coast side homeless adults, couples and a few families each night. Life Moves is also providing support for local farm workers from that site. Donated 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



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

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