

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & updates



September 5, 2021 | This Week at Christ Church



[CLICK HERE to join on Zoom](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)

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

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Alice Hill, Dave Miller, Chuck Harwood, Diane Leonard

Anniversaries

Daniel & Lisa Hill

TODAY'S SERVICE

Acolyte - Louise Delafield

Lesson - Danny Alegria

Psalm - Mary Hufty

Epistle - Carl Cheney

Nicene Creed - Sherry Lund

Intercessions - Anne Bertenthal

A NOTE FROM YOUR RECTOR

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

It is back to school time and back to church time! **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12. We will kickoff our program on September 12 ON THE PATIO at 10 A.M. followed by some barbecue. That is one week from this Sunday.** Bring the kids, bring the neighbors - it will be fun and lovely for all. Come find out about our new youth group, new Sunday School classes and our new Youth Group Director. It will be fun for all. Come hang out on the patio, have a hot dog and catch up with each other. (This Sunday, September 5, we will be online at our current usual time 9 a.m.).

On a different note, I know recent events in Haiti, Afghanistan, and New Orleans weigh heavily on our hearts. Last week when I was driving home one evening, I happened to hear a moving interview with a woman who had been a refugee to the United States after the Vietnam war. She shared how more the government and various organizations encouraged people to help Vietnamese refugees compared to the polarization around refugees from Afghanistan. She was moved by American generosity, including a family that rented a 3 bedroom house for her family, gave them furniture, pots and pans, and even food. You can listen to the interview [here](#). (Listen to the interview because it is different than the article linked to it). I was so moved hearing her story, that I went home and contacted [Jewish Family Services - East Bay](#) (who are already helping settle Afghan refugees in the bay area) and offered up our guest bedroom/ my home office. I probably should have consulted my husband Charlie before I did this, but when I told him a couple days later he was excited. It is unlikely that any one will be placed with us through them as they have few refugees at this moment with many families willing to host. However, if you visit their website there are other ways to help.

As I continued my search to offer our extra room I found some other organizations that are also helping resettle refugees in the bay area. I know that you are a people of prayer, contemplation and action so I share the information about those organizations with you should you be so called. They are

the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Oakland and the Burma Refugee Family Network (BRFN). Both organizations are leading a housing response team to identify and place newly arrived refugees in initial 90-day housing. The contact for IRC Oakland is: Kit Stebbins, Resettlement Coordinator at Kit.Stebbins@rescue.org and the contact for Burma Refugee Family Network is: Jodi de La Pena, jodid@brfn.org, 510-519-7391. Additionally, the City of Fremont Human Services Dept. has an Afghan Refugee Fund to provide direct assistance to refugees who will be arriving in the area in the next few months. For more information or to make a direct donation to that fund [click here](#).

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry released a video this week about helping the Afghan refugees. Click [here](#) to watch the video. He also provides some contacts to help in different ways through the Episcopal Church:

- To find out how to stay involved in the work of advocacy in ensuring the U.S. government honors its commitments to our Afghan allies at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/>
- To contribute financially to provide for housing, medical and financial support, and expanded community sponsorship to serve our Afghan allies, visit bit.ly/supportafghanallies to make a secure donation online, or text "EMMALLIES" to 41444.
- For opportunities to volunteer, provide housing, or sponsor, visit <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/volunteer-community-interest-form/>

People of God at Christ Church - thank you for all that you do. Thank you for this work. It is an honor and a privilege to work with you in bringing a little bit of God's kingdom to this earth.

God love you. God bless you. And may God bless the people of Afghanistan, Haiti, New Orleans, and people suffering everywhere, Amen.

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** at 5PM 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. 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 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 cwrukke@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.

You Filled the Backpacks!!: In August Christ Church filled 15 backpacks with school supplies for homeless kids staying at Life Moves shelters in Menlo Park and Redwood City plus 2 more for homeless elementary school kids lodging with Home & Hope. Everything from notebooks to pencils plus flash drives to headsets have been provided by our generous parish members. Thank you so much Wendy McAdams, Lenore Lovoi, Julie Fouquet, Carol Wentworth, Penny McCulloch, Diane Leonard, Betsy Alexander, Claiborne Jones, Kathy Kennedy, Lauren Wittine, Lisa Hill, Louise Delafield and Anne Van Der Staay. Christ Church kids helped fill the backpacks. Tricia Christensen delivered the backpacks August 17th!

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

