

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & updates



December 6, 2020 | This Week at Christ Church

THIS SUNDAY

We gather every Sunday at 9 a.m. ONLINE!

Join the interactive service on Zoom or watch livestream on YouTube by clicking below.

[CLICK HERE to ZOOM 9 a.m. Sunday Service](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on YouTube](#)



[CLICK HERE FOR Sunday Bulletin with readings](#)

Today's Service

Acolyte - Angela Hey
The Lesson - Jeffrey Rainey
The Psalm - Mary Paine
The Epistle - Catherine Aragon
Nicene Creed - Louise Delafield
Prayers of the People/ Intercessions - Louise Delafield

Celebrations

Birthdays

Elaine Raitt, Sandy Bakken, Gardner Holmes, George Holmes

A Note from your Rector



Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

The waiting and preparing during the season of Advent is often compared to the waiting and preparing that one does when preparing for a baby. We are said to be "pregnant with hope." As kids were are ever so hopeful for what gifts might be found under the tree. As adults, we hope for a world with more peace, more caring and kindness. I imagine all of the comparison of being

pregnant with hope and Mary being literally pregnant with the hope of the world. I still find it difficult to wrap my head around the idea that God of God being human, being born and breastfed. I found this poem by Kaitlin Shetler most compelling, I hope you do too.

sometimes I wonder
if Mary breastfed Jesus.

if she cried out when he bit her
or if she sobbed when he would not latch.
and sometimes I wonder
if this is all too vulgar
to ask in a church
full of men
without milk stains on their shirts
or coconut oil on their breasts
preaching from pulpits off limits to the Mother of God.
but then i think of feeding Jesus,
birthing Jesus,
the expulsion of blood
and smell of sweat,
the salt of a mother's tears
onto the soft head of the Salt of the Earth,
feeling lonely
and tired
hungry
annoyed
overwhelmed
loving
and i think,
if the vulgarity of birth is not
honestly preached
by men who carry power but not burden,
who carry privilege but not labor,
who carry authority but not submission,
then it should not be preached at all.
because the real scandal of the Birth of God
lies in the cracked nipples of a
14 year old
and not in the sermons of ministers
who say women
are too delicate
to lead.

Blessings,
Beth

THE CHRIST CHURCH CAROL PROJECT

Dear Christ Church community,

It has been a delight to hear from so many of you that you enjoy seeing virtual videos of the choir. For Christmas, I would like us as a community to expand on that idea and have as many of our community as possible joining together to sing Joy to the World! There is no need to have any vocal training; if you can sing in church you can sing for this. The goal is to have many voices so that the contribution of individuals cannot be singled out. Beth and Charlie have already agreed to lend their voices and I hope many more of you will as well!

You can find the music and audio track you will need [here](#). You may sing the melody or the harmonies as you feel comfortable.

All you need to make this recording is a smart phone. Use headphones to listen to the audio track through your computer and then use the camera app on your smartphone to take a video of yourself singing. The set up is that simple!

If you have any questions about this project, I will be holding Zoom “ **office hours**” On Sunday, December 6th from 10:15-10:45am (after church) and Wednesday, December 9th in the evening from 6:30-7:30pm. Join the meeting at those times by clicking the Zoom link below. Or, you can always

reach me by email at lauren@ccpvw.org.

All videos should be emailed back to me by Sunday, December 20th.

I look forward to singing with all of you!
Lauren

[Click here for Zoom office hours](#)

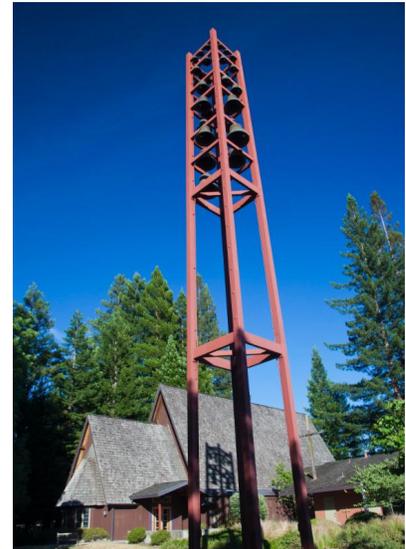
[Click here for the musical materials](#)

2021 STEWARDSHIP

2021 Stewardship Campaign

Happy Holidays on behalf of your Stewardship Committee! You should have received your pledge card for our 2021 Campaign earlier this week. We are seeking to raise \$375,000 to keep our Parish in financial balance. This translates to an average gift of \$5,000 per family. Every single gift is deeply appreciated regardless of its size, so please give an amount that works for you. And, if you can make your gift or pledge before the end of 2020, it will trigger a \$500 donation to our Carillon Bell Restoration Project. Your commitment will go a long way towards helping our community both through the work of Christ Church and the Carillon restoration. And, enjoy the bell ornament on your Christmas tree or other holiday decoration as a thank you from our committee.

If you have any questions please reach out to Wendy McAdam (wendymcadam@mac.com).



FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Reminder

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

PICK UP YOUR

COOKIES AND EVENT BAG

**Drive-by Pick-up at Church, 9-11 A.M.
for the**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

**CAROL SING & A CELEBRATION
FOR KIDS, ADULTS & FAMILIES**

Zoom; 4:00 – 4:45 P.M.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE: CARL CHENEY, LENORE LOVOI, SHERRY LUND, CAROL WENTWORTH

SPECIAL SEASON EVENT

longest night...

a space for heavy hearts

DECEMBER 17 • 7:00pm

live on ZOOM • Meeting ID: 829 5025 5953

a joint service of Valley Presbyterian, Woodside Village, Christ Church and First Presbyterian Palo Alto

OUTREACH NEWS



News from Outreach

Clothing Drive: In December Outreach is collecting warm new socks, hats, scarves and gloves for the adult homeless at the Maple Street shelter in Redwood City. You can drop off items from 9-11 on Saturday December 5th in the church parking lot or bring items to the marked box in the breezeway. If you want to participate but are concerned about shopping, contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com and she will do it for you. Other questions, contact Ruth Ann Wrucke for more information.

Change for GAIA For the past month Outreach has been running a "Change for GAIA" program to raise money towards medical supplies needed for GAIA's six mobile medical vans in Malawi,

Africa. GAIA also provides medical care for 500,000 AIDS orphans. If you are participating, bring your change collection jars (or ziplock) to the church parking lot on Saturday 12/5 from 9 -11 or give it to Nicole. A little goes a long way in Malawi to help eradicate AIDS. Contact Carol Wentworth at carol_wentworth@hotmail.com or call her at 650-854-6750 for more information.

Grocery Drive for 4 local Homeless Families: Christ Church parishioners provided a weeks worth of groceries for 4 Home & Hope families, 6 adults and 7 children including 2 babies. The donated groceries were delivered on **Sunday November 29th**. Thank you Betsy Alexander, Norma Cance, Tricia Christensen, Lori and Deke Hunter, Kathy Kennedy, Eda Lim, Dan Lopez, Linda Millard, Darci Reimund, Sue Riggs, Carol Wentworth and Ruth Ann Wrucke. We also provided a hot Sunday dinner and \$25 Target gift cards for each child. We plan to do another grocery drive on Sunday December 27th.

Dinners for Maple Street Shelter: Outreach provided dinner for 160 homeless people at the Maple Street Shelter in Redwood City on Saturday November 28th. We give thanks for leader Ruth Ann Wrucke and Carol Wentworth, The Hill family and Mary & Ross Soubirous. A delicious Turkey salad dinner with Brown Rice Salad and Date Roll cake was provided in the main shelter plus Carne Asada with Pineapple Cheese Salad and Brownies was provided for the dinner for 40 frail homeless living in a nearby motel to keep them safe from COVID. We'll be making two more dinners in January. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at cwrucke@mindspring.com or call her at 650-851-8435 to volunteer.

Lunches for the Frail Homeless: On **Friday November 20th** teens and college students again prepared 40 sack lunches for frail homeless adults who are currently housed by Life Moves in motel rooms. Teens also made two no-sew fleece blankets for a couple of local homeless kids. Thank you Charlotte Hill & friends, Sophie Horn, the Miller twins, Erin Miller and Annie Pflaum. We plan to do this again in January. Contact Kathy Kennedy at kennedyiti@aol.com to volunteer.

Linen Drive for Homeless Families: Outreach concluded the linen drive on behalf of Life Moves for the 23 homeless families living in Haven House in Menlo Park and the 10

homeless families living at the Redwood Family Shelter in Redwood City. We delivered 50+ warm blankets (including 7 no sew fleece blankets made by church teens and college students), 20+ towel sets plus several sets of sheets. Thank you so much to all our generous donors!!!

Toiletries for the Homeless: Remember travel and those cute little toiletries that hotels used to give out? If you have any or know anyone who does, we are still collecting them for the Maple Street Adult Homeless Shelter. Bring them to the church breezeway or you can drop them off on Saturday 12/5 from 9 - 11. No human contact required.

Zoom Outreach Meeting: There will be a meeting of the Outreach Committee on Tuesday December 8th starting at 9:30. All are welcome. Use the same zoom button you use to attend church on Sunday.

Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside |
ccpvw.org

