



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



JULY 2023 - CHRONICLE

Steadfast and growing since 1870

Where we seek to glorify God, follow Jesus Christ, and serve all people through the power of the Holy Spirit, as a community of companions walking together in the Way of Christ's Love for all.

The summer season is upon us, ...

...although with some of the temperatures we have been having of late, we might not be convinced of this. Yes, despite the often cloudy skies, and temperatures in the low to mid-sixties, here in Humboldt County it is summer. With summer, comes the usual drop off in church attendance. I've noticed that this drop off is much more pronounced on the East Coast, when from mid-June, through Labor Day, Sunday attendance would be much lower than normal.

For many years I served churches in the Diocese of New York, churches without or with inadequate air conditioning, and often the heat on Sunday mornings would be unpleasant, sometimes almost unbearable. It was not surprising that the beach, park, lake or simply staying at home in the cool, was more appealing than sitting in a hot sticky church. One couple I knew owned a boat, which they kept on Long Island Sound and all summer long they would spend weekends on their boat. Sometimes I would see them during the week, when they came home to restock, but never on Sundays, and we all missed them.



It is understandable that we are away from our regular Sunday worship during the summer; it is after all the traditional vacation season. Many of us take trips, go to visit family, or in my case, have family come to visit us, and sometimes we just need a break from our regular routine, especially during this sabbatical time. After all, isn't this a time for rest and renewal for us, as well as Father Daniel and Ashley? Before you think I am complaining about your church attendance, I am not. It is simply that I recently read about a survey which charted the decline in attendance at regular worship. This survey addressed all faiths, and covered churches, synagogues, temples and other places of assembly. People who identified themselves as 'religious' were asked if they attended a place of worship at least once per week. Before the pandemic, 35% responded yes to the question, more recently the number was down to 30%. The survey didn't seem to take into account those who may have been participating remotely. The takeaway being, that interest in, and commitment to, any organized religion continues to decline.

Bishop Mary Glasspool is currently a Bishop Assistant in the Diocese of New York, and from time to time she writes what she calls "Unofficial Letters to the Clergy", and it was in her most recent offering that she asked the question, "Why go to Church?". Point of interest, before retirement Bishop Glasspool was the Suffragan

Continued on next page

Summer Season is upon us - *Continued from the previous page*

Bishop of Los Angeles, and she ordained our Rector Father Daniel.

Her letter about church going was interesting, and it prompted me to think about us, and why on every or most Sundays, we find ourselves at Christ Church. There are those who, if asked, would say they believe in God, but they don't agree with going to church. They will offer many reasons, my husband, did not like organized religion, and he was not alone in that. Others say their relationship with God is private, and they don't need to be with other people to pray. Some find God in creation, saying they can worship God on the mountain top, beach or golf course, claiming church is boring, and restrictive. No matter how friendly the space, families with small children can be uncomfortable in a formal church setting, and so prefer to stay away.

Lastly there are those who say that churches are full of hypocrites. Unfortunately, I think this may well be true, although I would prefer to use the term 'sinners'. Bishop Glasspool comments on this point of view by saying, "The church is not some earthly antechamber where a contingent of miraculously saintly people gather, as we wait to be ushered directly into an especially lofty place in heaven." What a wonderful description, and would that it were true. We may wish it so, but in our hearts, we know that it is not. As we strive to follow Jesus, we have all fallen short, and perhaps it is because of this, that we find ourselves drawn to church each Sunday.

What do we find when we attend Christ Church on a Sunday? Our primary focus is always worship; we praise God in word and music, we listen to the scriptures, we offer prayers on behalf of ourselves and others, we confess our sins, receive God's absolution, and we are fed with the body and blood of Christ. Then, after being given God's blessing, we are sent on our way, "to do the work we have been given to do".

Think of our Five Core Values, worship, discipleship, fellowship, outreach, and hospitality. As a community of faith, we are called to uphold these. As well as the worship of God, they too bring us together on Sundays. Discipleship: where through teaching and preaching we learn to better follow Jesus, helping us to reach out and bring others closer to God. Fellowship: with one another, with those who come through our doors, and those we meet in our outside lives, called to share God's love in our interactions with one another. Outreach: in this we share the many gifts God has bestowed upon us, with those who are in need. Last but not least, hospitality. We are all called to share the hospitality of God, the boundless, all-encompassing hospitality of God. This core value is far reaching and is reflected in all of our core values. For what is worship, if we do not welcome others, and in discipleship we share the hospitality of God with others. Fellowship could not exist without hospitality and through Outreach we show love and hospitality to our neighbor.

So, 'Why go to Church?' I believe it is these values that keep us coming to church each week. Aside from worship, at times one core value may have more prominence than another, but it is the love of God, the hospitality of Christ, and the love and fellowship of our community that calls us to be together. During these summer months, we may decide to take a break from church, but think of what you will be missing, and remember that our community is always diminished by your absence. See you in church!

A Collect for Sundays *page 98 BCP*



Lesley+

The Very Rev. K. Lesley McCloghrie
Sabbatical Priest



Encountering the Stranger

In the season of summer, many of us become peripatetic, in some way or another. Those of us who are not traveling often play host to those who are. Wren and Erik will be visiting us this weekend and for the next week with their two much-loved dogs, Penny and Dottie. And Linden just got home from a camping trip in Yosemite with a group of friends. She spoke of her hike on the Mist Trail to Vernal Falls, that she was happy she had started the hike as soon as it was daylight because there were fewer people on the way up, although there were many more climbing as she was stepping carefully down the stone steps to return to her campsite. These were people she was never going to know as they squeezed past each other on the way to their ultimate destinations.

If you travel in the summer, you will likely encounter many strangers.

I had a phone encounter with a stranger just yesterday. Genealogy is one of my hobbies, and I often spend time working on my family tree or figuring out through DNA how potential cousins might be related to me. Both my sisters asked for my help because they had both been approached on 23andMe by an unverified 4th cousin who doesn't know much about her family because there are family secrets just beyond each deceased parent. I agreed to help her, but before I could send her a message via 23andMe, she sent me a Facebook friend request. I went to her Facebook profile and looked at her photos as well as the things she has recently shared. I knew right away I didn't want to be her Facebook friend, because we have different ways of making sense of the world, and reach very different conclusions about ways to make the world a better place.



But I did end up spending an hour and a half with her on the phone, asking questions and guiding her through the people on my family tree. She seemed to be grateful, and I let her know that I would be available for future conversations if she needed them. We will probably always be strangers to some extent, but it was nice to focus on what we could work on together.

Last Sunday in the Lectionary, we heard Jesus' words about welcome and reward. I was preaching and presiding at the United Congregational Church of Christ, and in my sermon shared these words of Quaker author Parker Palmer with them. They come from his 1983 book, *The Company of Strangers: Christians and the Renewal of America's Public Life*:

He says: "Hospitality means letting the stranger remain a stranger while offering acceptance nonetheless. It means honoring the fact that strangers already have a relationship – rooted in our common humanity – with-

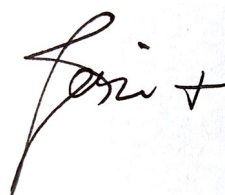
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out having to build one on intimate interpersonal knowledge, without having to become friends. It means valuing the strangeness of the stranger – even letting the stranger speak a language you cannot speak or sing a song you cannot join with – resisting the temptation to reduce the relation to some lowest common denominator, since all language and all music is already human. It means meeting the stranger’s needs while allowing him or her simply to be, without attempting to make the stranger over into a modified version of ourselves.... Every hospitable act is an outward and visible sign of our inward and invisible unity, a unity which finds expression in the very root of the word ‘hospitality,’ for [the Greek word] *hospes* means both host and guest – the two are really one.”

Doesn’t “an outward and visible sign of our inward and invisible unity” sound familiar? It’s very much like the Book of Common Prayer Catechism’s explanation of the sacraments as “outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace.” In a sense, even with strangers, whenever we are welcoming or acting in hospitality toward another person, we are acting sacramentally. The mission of the Church is to be Christ’s body, given for the sake of the world. Presiding Bishop Curry might describe that as the way of love.

And especially in summer, we may have more opportunities to encounter other unique humans who are often as strange to us as we are to them. Some will likely remain so! But we can still be welcoming and accept welcome from others as both host and guest.

In all our wanderings and hostings this summer, may there be ample opportunity for hospitality and sacramental action, both with those we love and with those we relate to as hospitable strangers.



A note from Nellie Thompson

**My new address is:
13505 E Broadway #101
Spokane Valley, WA 99216**

We are about 45 minutes from Suz and my grandson, James, works about a mile from us.

All is well. We have made many friends here and age means nothing. They range in age from about 69 to 99. We have dinner together every night. There are lots of activities here and we stay quite busy. We have planted quite a few plants around our first floor apartment. Snack Pack, our cat, is enjoying herself. She chased a squirrel up a tree a few days ago.

I miss my Christ Church family. The church I’m attending, Church of the Resurrection, has an interim priest who is soon to leave, so they are in the beginning of calling a new priest. I love the service here. It is quite simple and meaningful. The congregation is growing older like most churches are. They have a few teens. They have some nice raised beds to plant vegetables and from which they give to the food bank here.

I hope all is well. Peace, Nellie



Joy Mass Family Service

**Christ Episcopal Church
October 1, 2023
9:30-10:00 am**



**Please join us in a new
Ministry adventure!**



2023 Donations Request

Got Milk – Cartons That Is? For Camp Living Waters

Boat-building campers need empty, well-rinsed milk cartons of all sizes for the annual Camp Living Waters boat race. Your donation might be the one crafted and decorated to win the race!

Camp Living Waters, our Deanery camp for 9-15 year olds, is scheduled for July 23-28. Emily Buck, camp director, shared information, and pictures at the coffee hour on June 4. She would welcome donations of:

- milk cartons
- toilet paper
- paper towels
- band aids

Please bring your donations to church by Sunday, July 16.

For more information check with Peg Gardner, Outreach Committee

Sara Hines is the Christ Church contact person for Camp Living Waters. She can provide information about camp registration, the camp program, camperships, and opportunities for adult volunteers. Sara's contact information: 707-445-8974 and/or email sarahines42@yahoo.com

Thank you for your support.





Centering Prayer

Tuesdays | 6:30 pm | In person and on Zoom

*Covid protocols are: Full vaccination is recommended, masks are **OPTIONAL** for those who are fully vaccinated, and masks are expected for those who are not fully vaccinated. Seating is distanced.*

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82639812032>



Food for People is going great guns.

Not only are we in the newly rebuilt facility at Summer and 14th Sts., but there will be a Grand Opening / Open house on Sunday, June 25 from 1 pm—5 pm. I hope you will attend to view the new facility.

Thank you for your donations on “Just One Can” Sundays. We had a really good month for June but on the other hand we had two first Sundays. Total for the June was 90 pounds which brings our yearly total to 398 pounds. This is really good and let’s please keep it going.

Thanks Bev

Move To End Hunger
A Walk-a-thon
celebrating food security

JUNE 3, 10 AM - 12 PM
1 mile, 3 mile, & 4.5 mile courses
At the Arcata Marsh
(Klopp Parking Lot)
SELF-PACED: WEEK OF MAY 28-JUNE 3

FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION VISIT
foodforpeople.org

Supporting **Food for People**
The Food Bank for Humboldt County

Betty Kwan Chinn Honored by Carnegie Corporation as One of the ‘Great Immigrants’ of 2023

Humboldt’s beloved local philanthropist Betty Kwan Chinn – who has been working to help our homeless population for more than 40 years – has again been recognized for her tireless efforts, being honored as one of the Carnegie Corporation of New York’s ‘Great Immigrants’ of 2023.

Reached by the *Outpost*, Chinn said that she was completely surprised to receive this honor, which she had actually never even heard of until she was notified that she would be one of this year’s recipients.

“I’m really grateful for this award,” Chinn said in a recent phone interview. “I was totally surprised when they called me. I thought it was a scam and I told my son, and he said, ‘No, it’s a really important organization. Take it!’”

The Carnegie Corporation announces the honorees every year around the Fourth of July, choosing a group of naturalized citizens whose contributions in their fields have enriched society, to recognize the important role of immigrants in our country. Chinn is one of 35 individuals selected this year, including actor Pedro Pascal, Grammy-winning singer/songwriter Alanis Morissette, *Elle* magazine Editor in Chief Nina Garcia, best-selling author Min Jin Lee, Grammy-winning artist Angélique Kidjo and Academy Award winner Ke Huy Quan.

This is certainly not the first time Chinn has been recognized for her charitable contributions. Last year she received an honorary doctorate from Cal Poly Humboldt, and in 2010 former President Barack Obama selected Chinn as one of 12 recipients of the Presidential Citizens Medal.

Chinn said she does not always have the easiest time receiving acclaim for her work, but she appreciates that the recognition helps inspire others and helps her to raise funds for the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center and the work that she and her team do.

“I remember when I got the medal from Obama he said, ‘From now on, your name doesn’t belong to you; it belongs to the homeless,’” Chinn said.

You can find more info on this year’s “Great Immigrants” in this press release from the Carnegie Corporation of New York:

<https://www.carnegie.org/awards/award/great-immigrants/>



Reprinted from The Lost Cost Outpost, [Stephanie McGearry](#) / [Wednesday, June 28](#) @ 7:30 a.m. / [Activism](#)



Vestry Page

YOUR VESTRY

CLASS OF 2023:

Jim Hendry
Junior Warden

Steve Preston
Senior Warden

Belinda Zander

CLASS OF 2024:

Robin Cardona

Steve Cole

Elizabeth Harper-Lawson

CLASS OF 2025:

Roni Carlson

Heidi Erickson

Joan Stewart

RECTOR:

The Rev. Dr. Daniel London

SABBATICAL PRIEST:

The Very Rev.
Lesley McCloghrie

ARCHDEACON:

The Ven. Pam Gossard

CLERK:

Peg Gardner

TREASURER:

Bob Hines

ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Thomas Swanger

Minutes of the most recent Vestry meetings, Outreach, and Financial Reports are always posted on the Lewis Hall bulletin board.

JUNE 25TH MEETING: At its regular meeting, after opening prayer by Joan Stewart, Vestry approved the minutes of the May 28th Vestry Meeting, the written reports from the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Outreach Committee, and Green Team, and approved changing the July meeting from the 23rd to the 16th. The Financial Report through May was reviewed and received.

Mtr. Lesley, our Sabbatical Priest led us in several minutes of “Check-In” time. She briefly reported on her activities as Sabbatical Priest, and plans for the Wednesday Lectionary Bible Studies from June 14 through August 23, the Anglican Poetry Forums at 9:15 am on Sundays from July 30 through August 20, and the Sabbatical Check-Ins during both coffee hours on July 9th and August 27th. She will meet with the Pastoral Care Team, and arrange meetings of the Sabbatical Team and Stewardship Committee during the summer.

Senior Warden Steve Preston reported that we have received from the Diocese a free one-year subscription to “ECF360,” online pledge and fundraising resources from the Episcopal Church Foundation.

Junior Warden Jim Hendry reported that replacing the posts supporting the carport over the handicapped parking space would be completed in the coming week.

Archdeacon Pam Gossard reported on her activities, and that she and husband Paul had been asked by the Bishop to lead the planning of the prayer elements of the Presiding Bishop’s final Revival event next April in Sacramento.

In Robin Cardona’s absence, Steve Preston reported that Robin expects to gather the Joy Mass Team during July to begin focused planning on resources, possible staff recruitment, “Safe Church” training, and publicity/advertising. Steve reported that our Treasurer and Parish Administrator have set up a Fund in our accounting to track income and expenses once we receive the \$3,500 grant money from Episcopal Community Services of the Diocese, as required for later reporting to ECS.

There was no report from the Vestry’s Ad Hoc Committee on Church Facilities Use Agreements and Fees, but they expect to recommend fee schedule updates for the July 16th Vestry meeting. Steve Preston reported that Deacon Anne is still waiting to hear from the person who is going to make the signage for the Lending Library/Prayer Request Station on 15th Street.

Vestry continued its review of Christ Church’s organizational structure, focusing on how our Standing and Special Committees/Teams and Lay Ministries relate to our Core Values of Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Outreach, and Hospitality. After discussion, Mtr. Lesley agreed to try to create an organizational chart from our discussions. Vestry agreed to review this on July 16th and to decide when to continue with our review of church policies, procedures, and job descriptions as requested by Fr. Daniel.

There was discussion of the time of the blessing and location for the donated Mary Magdalene painting.

Continued on next page

Peg Gardner presented a request for Back-to-School Backpacks from the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation, and estimated the cost for 24 backpacks at no more than \$500. Vestry voted to spend up to \$500 to purchase backpacks and school supplies for this request.

Vestry amended and approved the following Green Team Mission and Vision Statement: “In fulfillment of Diocesan Resolution R1-2022, General Convention Resolution A087, and our church mission statement, the Christ Church Green Team promotes care for the earth and its resources as God’s gifts for sustaining life. We strive to minimize the environmental footprint of the parish and its people by honoring the land and practicing mindful stewardship of our planet and its resources. As Christ Church Eureka, we seek to provide a carbon neutral presence by the year 2030.” Steve Cole closed the meeting in prayer, with a dismissal by Archdeacon Pam.

The next Vestry meeting will be on Sunday, July 16, at 1 pm in the Pierson Room.

Steve Preston
Senior Warden



Nothing says “summertime” like a live band concert! Please join us on July 23 as we welcome back to Christ Church the Scotia Band, conducted by Kenneth P. Ayooob. Since its formation in 1935 by a group of individuals in The Pacific Lumber Company town of Scotia, California, Scotia Band has continuously served Humboldt County communities. This spirit of dedicated public service enriches our northcoast community.

Christ Episcopal Church, Eureka, CA presents
Sundays at 4 Concert
Sunday, July 23, 2023, 4:00 pm
Corner of 15th and H Streets



Photo from website: scotiaband2.org/

Outreach Report

June 2023



Quilters Plus

On June 25th Mtr. Lesley blessed 26 new fleece throws for foster children. The throws will be delivered to the resource center for The Forgotten Initiative (TFI).

Camp Living Waters Donations (CLW)

In response to Deanery Camp Director Emily Buck's recent request, the parish is collecting paper towels, toilet paper and band-aids, in addition to monetary gifts. The annual budget also includes a line item for the camp. Sara Hines serves as the Christ Church contact/coordinator for CLW.

Food for People

The Summer 2023 issue of the publication "Food Notes" included the feature, 'Volunteer Spotlight,' honoring Nellie Thompson, who recently moved to Spirit Lake, Idaho. Nellie volunteered weekly for over 20 years and served on the Food Bank's board. The newly rebuilt and expanded Food Bank facility has just opened, but Nellie was thrilled -and impressed - to have a behind-the-scenes tour before she moved.

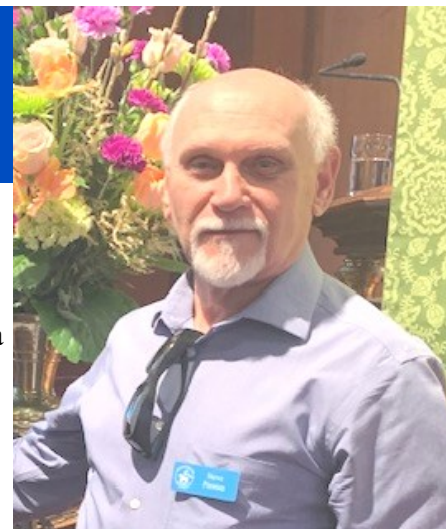
Christ Church makes regular and special monetary contributions to Food for People. Parishioners bring food donations each Sunday with a special emphasis on the first Sunday, also known as "Just One Can" Sunday. Thanks to Bev Olson, who volunteers each week, our donations are delivered on a regular basis.

Backpacks for Betty Chinn

The past two summers Christ Church has responded to a request from Betty Chinn for back-to-school backpacks with school supplies. Again this summer she has asked for this support. We plan to provide another 24 to help students return to school in August with the backpacks and supplies they need to begin the new school year. The Vestry has funded this project the past two years.

---Peg Gardner, Pam Gossard, Elizabeth Harper-Lawson – Outreach Committee

From the Senior Warden Steven Preston



Discipleship – A Core Value

What is a “disciple”? The word is sometimes rendered as “student.” And, indeed, being a disciple involves learning, often directly from the teaching of a more learned person. And yet, biblically, being a disciple is a more involved relationship. Discipleship is a life dedicated to following the teaching and the example of a mentor; in Christian experience, following the example of the ultimate Mentor, Jesus Christ. In the simplest of terms, being a disciple is accepting Christ’s call to “Follow me!” wherever He goes.

But, you might ask, how do we do that? Unlike the first Christian disciples, we cannot physically follow Jesus, learning from him and observing his own life. And so, we must learn “remotely” by studying Scripture, learning from the teachings and lives of those who have preceded us, and walking in companionship with those with whom God has graced our lives.

During this Sabbatical time, we have some excellent opportunities for discipleship. **Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study**, from 12:30-1:30 pm in Lewis Hall, provides a time of focused exploration of Scripture under the excellent mentorship of Mtr. Lesley and Pastor Karen. With our sack lunches, group members are actively sharing together our deep understandings of these texts. Coming up on Sundays between the services, from July 30th through August 20th, is a **Study of Anglican Poetry**, led by Mtr. Lesley.

Another time of discipleship is Tuesday’s **Centering Prayer Group**, from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Chapel (and on Zoom), where we reflect on texts, poems, or articles about contemplative prayer, before devoting ourselves to 30 minutes of silent prayer, seeking to experience the presence of God. “Be still and know that I am God.”

And here are two outstanding **Diocesan events** that provide discipleship opportunities. One is training for leadership and the other is mutual sharing from the discipleship practice of evangelism. This information is from the E-News.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

The Episcopal Diocese
of Northern California

ASU Lodestar Center
for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation
Arizona State University

nmi nonprofit
management
institute

Best Skills, Best Churches – Registration Now Open!

This exciting Continued Education program is designed to meet the professional needs of leaders of nonprofit and public organizations. Upon successful completion of the program, participants will receive a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation.

The Topics: **Volunteers in Service:** October 13-14, 2023; **Legal Aspects of Governance:** November 17-18, 2023; **Effective Communication & Handling Conflict:** January 12-13, 2024; **Marketing and Community Presence:** February 9-10, 2024; **Financial Management for Effective Service:** March 8-9, 2024; **Fundraising Aspects of Stewardship:** April 12-13, 2024. The 6 modules are from 6-9 pm Friday and 9am-Noon Saturday.

The cost is **\$400** for attendees from within the Diocese of Northern California. For more information on cost, graduation requirements, policies, and to register at <https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/site/best-skills-best-churches/>

Tuition reimbursement is available from Christ Church. Contact the church office for more information.

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A Monthly Zoom Event Hosted by the Missioner for Church Life

Third Wednesdays Evangelism Gathering

Thank you to those who were able to make it to the third Wednesday Evangelism Gathering last week. We had a chance to share some of our evangelism success stories, we reviewed resources from the Episcopal Church, and discussed topics for future meetings. To check out resources we discussed and view a recording of the meeting, click [here](#). Finally, don't forget to mark your calendars, our next gathering will be **Wednesday, July 19 at 5pm**. Hope to see you there! Here's the meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85093512190>

(Topics for future Evangelism Gatherings will include Evangelism in an Episcopal Context.)

DIOCESAN E-NEWS: Sign up for this weekly newsletter at <https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/#signup>.

BELOVED COMMUNITY RESOURCE NEWSLETTER: This is the monthly e-newsletter of the Diocesan Commission for Intercultural Ministries. This is a very useful resource for the broader social justice activities of the Diocese and the National Church. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/BCRnewsletter>.

Within every challenge lies opportunity! The task is to find the opportunity and to fulfill it!!

Steve Preston, Senior Warden



Thank you!!



On June 25, over 70 people gathered at Christ Church for our first “Sundays at 4” summer concerts—featuring the Pitts Family Quartet.

Thank you to the Pitts Family and all who attended the concert; and with special thanks to the volunteers who helped: Paul Gossard (sound), Steve Cole (usher/counter), Lyn and Jim Hendry (ushers/introducer/\$ counters), Elizabeth Harper Larson, (usher), Steve Preston, Thomas Swanger and Kathy Clague.

From the Junior Warden Jim Hendry

During June I have concentrated on replacing the corner posts supporting our rectangular carport roof that is now reserved for handicapped parking. Previously the area was to provide parking for the apartment tenant. Now the two parking spaces to the right side of the carport are reserved for tenant parking. The project has been completed and from the included picture looks as if it will last for some time to come!

I will be gone for the second part of July as Lyn and I will be in Ireland (we leave July 17th, return August 2nd). We hope to visit the location of the historical remains of the church of our founder Thomas Walsh while we are there.

Enjoy the month and see you when we return.

Jim Hendry
Junior Warden



Jim showing off the new sturdy supporting posts for the carport roof which has become the handicapped parking space.

Campus Weeding Project

Saturdays | 9 to 12 noon
JULY 29, AUGUST 5 and 12



Information and call for
volunteers will be in the
Weekly Email Updates





Book of Acts: Building a Community of Love

Matthew Taylor

A common thread found amongst the plethora of sects within our large umbrella that is Christianity, is that every denomination thinks that theirs is the most true or accurate to the early church. That early church being the one often referenced in our Book of Acts and by Paul's letters within the New Testament. Many of the Protestant denominations that we have today, for example, sprung out from this idea. The idea that the Roman Catholic Church or possibly even whatever other Protestant sect that they broke off of had strayed away from the true path of the early church. This has been a point of contention for hundreds and even thousands of years. An ideal that has not only led to disagreements and debate, but even war, oppression, and death. Think about that, for a moment. The good-intentioned desire to be as true to the early apostles and disciples has led followers of Christ to abuse and even kill other followers of Christ. It reminds me of the old saying "The road to hell is paved with good intentions."

During these past few months, the daily lectionary has been guiding us in reading through the Book of Acts, the source of our unity but in some ways the source of our division. Acts accounts of the suffering and discrimination that many early Christians had to persevere through, sometimes even to death, at the hands of both the Empire and their peers. And/also... it is a book that accounts for acts of pure selflessness, forgiveness, and humility. A story about reaching across the aisle regardless of one's previous life or background. A story about an early church that understood that above all it is our love and care of one another that is the purest form of Christian practice and belief. One of the purest forms of imitating Christ Jesus.

The early followers shared in all things because they knew in the end that all things belonged to God from the beginning and in the end. Much like how Jesus taught "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21). Due to this none among the followers were lacking and their collective resources were distributed in equity (Acts 4:32-35). The early church also healed indiscriminately, because they understood that their acts of healing did as much if not more to spread the Good News than simple verbal preaching could. These healings, wonders, and miracles were not only for their fellow Christians to enjoy and gain from but for all the world. Both Jew and Gentile, men and women, those of every economic class.

Do you want to know what the best part about these traits and practices found within the early church is? That any Christian, by the power and grace of the Holy Spirit, can choose to do these acts. Any group, denomination, or sect can make the decision to orientate or reorientate themselves toward this mission. It's a beautiful sight to see that at our best as Christians, we can create these incredible charities and missions with the sole purpose of showing love to others and honoring the dignity of their personhood. When we ask ourselves how we can be more like the early church, like Paul and the many apostles, we should remember that it's less about us and always about others. Instead of hyperfocusing on being right, focusing on caring for our fellow Christians and the world at large. By caring for each other and those outside of our community as well, then naturally we will orient ourselves to the vision that the early church and Christ Jesus had.

When praying for the unity of the church I remember that that unity should be a unity of this collective calling. That together we may all be more Christian, not just in our words but in our actions. Our actions of selfless love, sharing, and healing one another in body, mind, and spirit. This unity should not come from a want or will to destroy fellow followers of Christ's different traditions, cultures, and personal interpretations of scripture. For it is in that space for diversity and discussion that we grow and show that we are human. If any of us wish to emulate the early church then we simply must ask ourselves: "Am I loving God with all my heart and all my soul", "Am I loving my neighbor as I love myself?", and also importantly "What am I doing to show that I do?"

Called to *Serve*

LAY MINISTRY

By Marty Vega

Are you enjoying the long days of Summer? Do you have a little extra time now that you would like to fill? How about a Lay Ministry that you've never done before? This is a perfect time to join a new group, enjoy a brand new activity – or perhaps refresh your knowledge of something you used to do.



Here is a list of some of our ministries, and there are more behind-the-scenes activities which you can consider. What is your special talent?

Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers	Anne Pierson	→707 448-2025
Altar Guild	Kathy Clague	→707 448-2025
Choir	David Powell	→davidbpowell@gmail.com
Coffee Hour 8am	Peg Gardner	→707 443-9627
Coffee Hour 10:30am	Lynne Bean	→707 822-6086
Contribution Counters	Bob and Sarah Hines	→707 445-8974
Eucharistic Visitors	Elizabeth Harper-Lawson	→707 445-1726
Prayer Circle	Jannetje Vrieze	→jvdutchgirl@yahoo.com
Quilters +	Belinda Zander	→707 442-4222
Readers and Intercessors	Marty Vega	→707 443-9782
Story Corner	Vickie Patton	→707 443-1825
Story Corner	Robin Cardona	→707 267-5825
Technical Team	Christ Church Office	→707 442-1797
Ushers and Greeters	Sharon Kalberer	→707 630-3100
Welcome Bags	Belinda Zander	→707 442-4222





July Birthday Wishes



Watch over your child, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

David Powell	07/02	Joan Stewart	07/25
Ronalda Carlson	07/06	Leila Binder	07/25
Alice Rosendahl	07/15	Julie Lawson	07/26
Stephanie Schultz	07/16	Willie McCarthy	07/26
Steve Cole	07/18	David Lochtie	07/29
Gail Freeman	07/22		



Happy Anniversary



O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church. Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Ann Clark & Gary Knudsen	07/04	Ann & Gordon Carter	07/14
Nick & Anna Smithler	07/07	Thomas & Peach Bond	07/16
Grey & Carrie Brothers		07/27	



Did we miss your special day? The staff apologizes for our time perception disorder with any omissions of birthdays and anniversaries. Send your special day information to: christchurcheureka@gmail.com
We want to acknowledge and celebrate your special day next year!



The July 2023 Cycle of Prayers

for our Diocese and the Anglican Communion

Please pray for the diocese, congregations, and clergy listed below on the Diocesan and Anglican cycles of prayer as well as those prayers requested by our Bishop, Dean and Diocesan Search & Transition Committees.

Every Sunday, the Diocesan Transition Committee requests that we pray for our bishop.

Look graciously on your Church and our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair, as she so graciously and ably serves as a caring, faithful pastor for your people, guiding and supporting us in our ministries during this time of Covid-19 and beyond.

Every Sunday in July, The Very Rev. K. Lesley McCloghrie, Dean of our Semper Virens Deanery, has asked us to pray for the people of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Crescent City.

Intercessor: We pray for the people of St. Paul's, that they be filled with God's passion for justice as they draw near to God in prayer and praise, and, having been filled with the fierce love of God, may share that love with each other and their whole community.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*



July 9

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Red Bluff
The Rev. Tammy Smith-Firestone
Interim Priest-in-Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Burundi
The Most Rev. Sixbert Macumi
Archbishop and Primate

July 16

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Sacramento
The Rev. Rik Rasmussen, Priest-in-Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Canada
The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, Primate

July 30

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Corning

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Central America
The Rt. Rev. Julio Murray, Primate
and Bishop of Panama

July 23

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, Gridley

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church
of the Province of Central Africa
The Most Rev. Albert Chama, Archbishop
and Primate of Central Africa
and Bishop of Northern Zambia

August 6

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Andrew’s in the Highland, Antelope
The Rev. Peter Rodgers, Vicar

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento
The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair, Bishop
The Very Rev. Matthew Woodward, Dean
The Rev. Megan Anderson, Cathedral Vicar











ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo
The Rt. Rev. Georges Titre Andre
Primate and Archbishop



If you wish to offer prayers daily for the church in the world, our Anglican Cycle of Prayer has a daily list of diocese and clergy who would benefit from your prayer ministry. This list can be obtained via this website: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer/download-the-acp.aspx>. If you do not have a computer, I would be glad to make a copy of the 2023 Anglican Cycle of Prayer for you. Deacon Anne.



SUN	M	T	W	Th	F	SAT
<p>2</p> <p>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost TRINITY SUNDAY 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Centering Prayer 6:30 PM</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 pm Lewis Hall</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Altar Guild 10 AM</p> <p>Deanery Sacred Saunter Cheatham Grove 11 AM</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p> <p>Parish Conversation Lewis Hall Following the 8 and 10:30 AM services</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Centering Prayer 6:30 PM</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 pm Lewis Hall</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Altar Guild 10 AM</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p> <p>FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY</p> <p>VESTRY MEETS—1 PM Pierson Room</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Centering Prayer 6:30 PM</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 pm Lewis Hall</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Altar Guild 10 AM</p> <p>The Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene</p> 
<p>23</p> <p>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p> <p>SUNDAYS at 4 Main Church The Scotia Band</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Centering Prayer 6:30 PM</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 pm Lewis Hall</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Altar Guild 10 AM</p> <p>Church Work Party Weeding Church Campus 9 AM</p> 
<p>30</p> <p>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>Church Office • 625 15th Street • P.O. Box 861 • Eureka, California 95502-0861 Office Hours • Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday—9 am to 1 pm Phone • (707) 442-1797 Email • christchurchureka@gmail.com Website • www.christchurch</p>				



The Right Reverend Megan M. Traquair
Bishop
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Daniel D. London - Rector
The Very Rev. K. Lesley McCloghrie - Sabbatical Priest
The Rev. Jeri Gray-Reneberg - Associate Priest
The Venerable Pam Gossard - Archdeacon
The Rev. Anne Pierson - Deacon

Merry Phillips - Music Coordinator and Organist
David B. Powell - Choir Director
Dr. Douglas Moorehead - Organist Emeritus

Thomas Swanger - Administrative Assistant

THE VESTRY

Steven Preston, Senior Warden; Jim Hendry, Junior Warden; Peg Gardner, Clerk;
Dr. Robert (Bob) Hines, Treasurer; The Venerable Pam Gossard; Robin Cardona, Roni Carlson,
Steve Cole, Heidi Erickson, Elizabeth Harper-Lawson, Joan Stewart, Belinda Zander

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Email • christchurcheureka@gmail.com

Webpage • www.christchurcheureka.org