



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



DECEMBER 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.

Advent: A Season for *Ad Orientem*

On my last day in Aotearoa New Zealand, I preached at the historic St. Stephen's Chapel in Auckland, beside a wooden altar upon which the first constitution of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa was signed. I preached on the gift of Anglican openness and shared the following phrase that I learned after reading a book titled *The Shape of Anglican Theology*: "Anglicans are not always angels, but we are good at looking at things from different angles."¹

I then proceeded to co-celebrate Eucharist with the cathedral precentor Fr. Ivica Gregurec, who consecrated the elements with his back to the congregation so that we were all facing the same direction together. This way of celebrating Eucharist is called *ad orientem*, which means "towards the East," and it is the way priests have been celebrating Eucharist for most of church history.² I celebrated this way a couple times at my field education parish in Berkeley (St. Clement's) as well as at my previous parish in San Rafael (Redeemer); and some of you may remember priests at Christ Church Eureka celebrating this way many decades ago. Although my experience with this orientation has been relatively limited, I found it to be powerful and transformative and especially appropriate during the season of Advent.

When I returned from my Sabbatical, several of you expressed interest and curiosity about how my experiences in other Anglican provinces may influence the way I lead and design worship here at Christ Church. Let me first say that, as an Episcopal priest, I am bound by the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer and would need to request special permission from my bishop before making any significant changes to the established liturgy. However, this Advent, I will be celebrating Eucharist *ad orientem*, which one can argue is *more* faithful to the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer than the way we have been doing it.³

¹ This aphorism is not included in *The Shape of Anglican Theology* but is rather one that I gleaned from reading the book. *The Shape of Anglican Theology: Faith Seeking Wisdom* (Boston: Brill, 2022), 30, 84. The aphorism is also a nod to Pope Gregory the Great's famous pun, *Non Angli Sed Angeli*. You can read my sermon "Anglican Openness" here: <https://deforestlondon.wordpress.com/2023/08/20/anglican-openness/>

² The name for the orientation that we use regularly is *versus populum*, which means "towards the people" or more literally, "against the people."

³ If we look at page 361 in the Book of Common Prayer, we will see that the rubric says, "The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says: 'The Lord be with you.'" This part of the Eucharistic prayer is called the *Sursum Corda* and even priests who celebrate *ad orientem* say this part while facing the congregation, since the words are being addressed to them. However, look at the rubric that follows the *Sursum Corda*: "Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds." Why would this rubric be included if the Celebrant is already facing the Holy Table? Also, look at the bottom of page 364 where the rubric says, "Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation: 'The Gifts of God for the People of God.'" Why would this rubric be included if the Celebrant is already facing the people? The rubrics seem to assume that the priest is celebrating *ad orientem*, consecrating the elements with his back to the congregation.

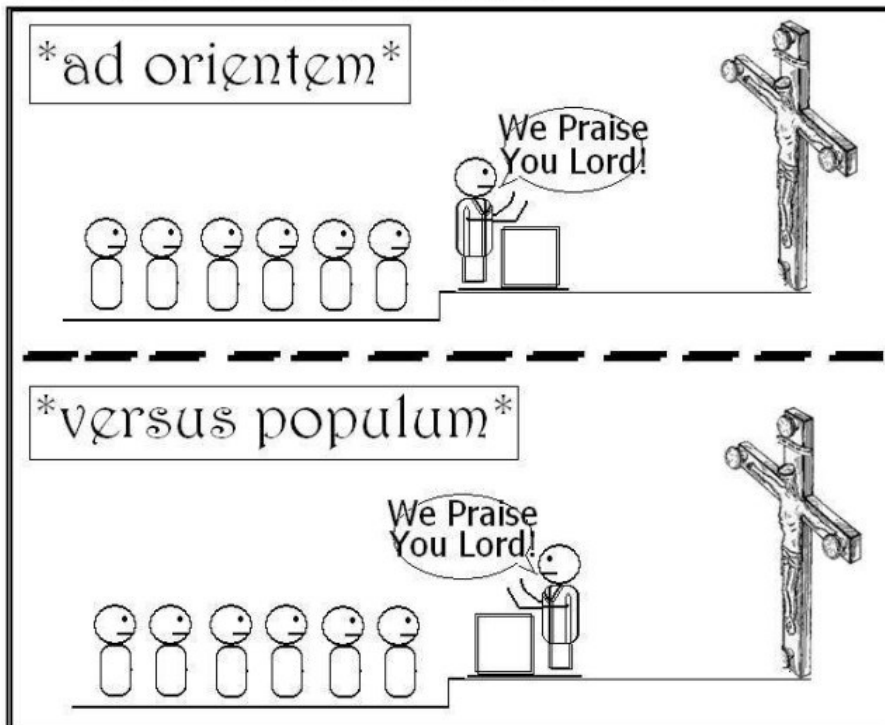
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Advent: A Season for *Ad Orientem* - Continued from the previous page

I am only planning to celebrate Eucharist *ad orientem* during Advent, which is essentially only three weeks this year.⁴ Advent is a perfect time to worship in this way as we look together towards the coming (the *Adventus*) of the Son. Christians have traditionally faced East to await the rising of the sun which symbolizes the dawn of a new era and the arrival of eternal light and life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Although we will technically be facing south due to the architectural orientation of Christ Church, we will symbolically be *looking together* towards Christ and his arrival.

Advocates for *ad orientem* often point out that this way of celebrating limits the performance aspect of worship as if the priest and the altar party are putting on a show for the congregation. They also point out that this formation brings the focus back to God, as the meme below demonstrates:

Which Makes Sense?...



Of course, we also believe that Christ is present among us, which is why I most frequently celebrate Eucharist facing the congregation, *versus populum*. This regular formation can be a very powerful way of recognizing the *immanence* of Christ among us. However, there are also times when it is important for us to remember the radical *transcendence* of God, the unknowable mystery of the divine who is the “wholly Other.” And the season of Advent is such a time.

Last Sunday, we celebrated the Feast of Christ the King, acknowledging that Christ is the ultimate ruler of all things in heaven and earth. However, we do not need to look very far to see that Christ’s Reign of Love and Compassion has not yet been fully realized in our world. Advent is a season to remember that we are in a time of “not yet”; and Advent invites us to look together towards the coming Son and pray, “Come, Lord Jesus!” (Rev 22:20). And it is hard for me to imagine a better way of embodying this practice than by facing the Cross together during Holy Communion.

⁴This year, the fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve so we will only be celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent at the 8 AM Contemplative Eucharist and the 9:30 AM Joy Mass. The 10:30 AM Eucharist will be our family Christingle service.

Advent: A Season for *Ad Orientem* - Continued from the previous page

My friends, I am looking forward to celebrating another Advent with you by *literally looking forward together* to the Adventus of Christ. When we celebrate Christmas on December 24 and 25, we will return to the *versus populum* formation since that is a season to celebrate the Incarnation of Christ among us. However, we are not quite there yet.

If this new (or should I say “ancient”?) way of celebrating Eucharist is not your cup of tea, then I would humbly appeal to that Anglican openness I preached about in New Zealand and invite us all to try looking at things together, as faithful Anglicans, from a different angle, since Advent is also a season of openness to something new...



The Rev. Charles Leachman at the altar of the new Christ Church

TL



Fr. Daniel and Fr. Ivica Gregurec at St. Stephen's Chapel Auckland NZ



Christ Church chancel arranged *Ad Orientem* for the Season of Advent



St. Stephen's Chapel Auckland NZ



Fr. Daniel celebrating Eucharist *ad orientem* at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in San Rafael

Advent Blue



My favorite of my priest stoles is also the one I don't get to wear very much. The red stole I wear only at Pentecost, for ordinations (it was a gift I received at my own ordination), and in Lutheran churches, on Reformation Sunday, so technically I suppose I wear it the least of all.

But the one I most love to wear is my blue Advent stole. There are only four Sundays on which I might wear it (or three, if the color rose is worn for Gaudete Sunday). It is a deep, vivid, blue, with a multi-point gold star superimposed on a white cross on the right side. Just donning it on the First Sunday of Advent always brings a sense of hope and excitement, enhanced by singing our unique Advent hymns such as "Prepare the Way, O Zion," and "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry." My own favorite Advent hymn is one we'll be hearing or singing on all the Advent Sundays this year, "Canticle of the Turning," a rewording of Mary's Magnificat, set to a most rousing Irish traditional tune. It makes me want to march or something! Both the hymns and the stole – Advent blue – point the way to a significant change in the church year.

Advent is the beginning. Happy New Year! Happy Lectionary Year B – the year of the gospels of Mark and John! The dark of the solar year in the Northern Hemisphere and the expectant dark of the church year collide. God's Light is coming into the world, even as we look into the distance for the returning light of the sun.

One of my favorite hymn writers, Susan Palo Cherwien, wrote the text for a beautiful Advent hymn called "As the Dark Awaits the Dawn," which is included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, the liturgy book and hymnal for the ELCA. I share her words with you here. The music is by Carl F. Schalk.



As the dark awaits the dawn
so we await your light
O Star of promise, scatter night,
loving bright, loving bright
'til shades of fear are gone

As the blue expectant hour
before the silv'ring skies
we long to see your day arise
whole and wise, whole and wise
O lucent Morning Star

As the moon reflects the sun
until the night's decrease
may we your healing light release
living peace, living peace
unto your holy dawn

Shine your future on this place
enlighten every guest
that through us stream your holiness
bright and blest, bright and blest
come dawn, O Sun of grace

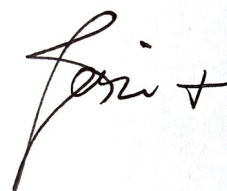
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Advent Blue - Continued from the previous page

We will hear of the Second Coming, then John the Baptist 1 (Mark) and 2 (John), then Mary and Elizabeth, with Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat. Each Sunday brings us closer to the Word who will become Flesh and dwell among us, full of grace and truth, the white season of Immanuel, God with us.

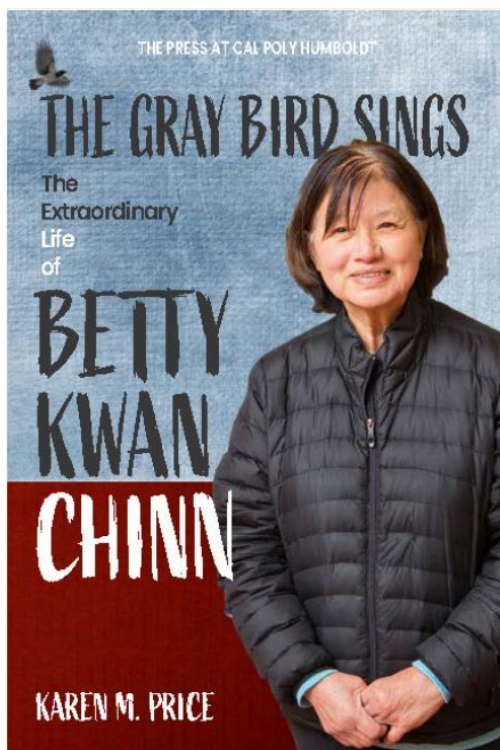
But until then, for a brief time, we live in Advent blue, the time of hope and expectation. A time to savor the unique glimpses of the beginning (and the end) of the story.

I wish you all a holy and hopeful Advent, my friends!



Save the date | Saturday, February 10, 2024

The Gray Bird Sings: The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn



Plan to join us as Christ Episcopal Church celebrates the book launch of this biography written by Karen M. Price. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

Price, Karen M. Ph.D.. *The Gray Bird Sings: The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn*. Humboldt State University Press, 2023. <https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/monographs/21>.

Description

“Touched by childhood tragedy, Betty Chinn brings hope to those who have fallen on hard times. Left homeless as a child in China, Chinn became mute. When she came to America, she found both her voice and her mission: aiding those without shelter on our own shores.” - *Barack Obama, awarding Betty the Presidential Citizens Medal*

She's the humanitarian compared to Mother Teresa, hailed as the “Hong Kong Angel,” and beloved by her community in Humboldt County. She miraculously survived the most vile brutalities to become a beacon for humanity and an inspiration for all. Meet Betty Kwan Chinn.



Sunday
December 10, 2023
3:00 o'clock pm

Christ Episcopal Church
1428 H Street
(corner of 15th & H streets)

MESSIAH SING-ALONG

Under the direction of David Powell, the audience will be the chorus— joined by soloists Annika Bäckström (Soprano), Carl McGahan (Bass), and David Powell (Tenor) — we will ring in the Christmas season singing Handel's *Messiah*, Part I plus the Hallelujah Chorus. Scores will be available for loan or bring your own (Schirmer edition).

The event is Free and all are welcome ...
come and sing or listen!

A reception in the Parish Hall will follow the concert.

FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY DECEMBER 17



Fresh Produce Sunday is December 17. Baskets will be placed at the back of the nave to collect donations of fresh produce which will be blessed and then taken to St. Vincent de Paul's dining facility on Monday morning. Thank you parishioners for remembering to help each month with your gifts of potatoes, carrots, apples, oranges, bananas, lettuce, onions, cabbage, kale, avocados, peaches, kiwis, and, and, and....



Save the Date!



JOSHUA STAFFORD CONCERT ORGANIST

2016 Pierre S. du Pont First Prize Winner
Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition
Minister of Music, First Congregational Church, Columbus, Ohio

Friday, January 12, 2024, 7:00 pm

ENCOUNTERS : JOSHUA STAFFORD, WINNER
LONGWOOD INTERNATIONAL ORGAN COMPETITION 2016

Excerpts from interview/article published in *Choir & Organ* (May/June, 2017):

I was raised in Jamestown, a small town in western NY. My parents weren't musically inclined (my mother always jokes that she can barely play the radio), but my grandmother played the piano a bit, mostly old evangelical hymns. ... I'd always enjoyed banging around on my grandmother's piano, so my parents decided I should take piano lessons. Our local AGO chapter hosted a Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza when I was 10; after the concluding recital, the organist of the Episcopal church in town told me to show up Monday morning at 9am and start practicing. Shortly after I had started playing, Ken Cowan gave a recital at my church. He spent a good deal of time with me that week, coaching me and letting me watch him practice. After that recital I decided I really wanted to be an organist. It was particularly touching, these many years later, to have Ken be the Head Judge at the Longwood Competition. ...

... It perhaps sounds a bit clichéd, but what I really love about playing the organ is the way in which it allows me to connect with people. This is true both in worship and as a concert musician. The organ, with its endless range of colors and dynamics, can create a depth of emotion unrivalled by any other instrument. The most magical moments for me occur when you let go of the last chord of a piece and have those few seconds of absolute stillness before you feel the whole room exhale. There's nothing like it.

More information about Joshua can be found at: <https://concertartists.com/artists/joshua-stafford/>

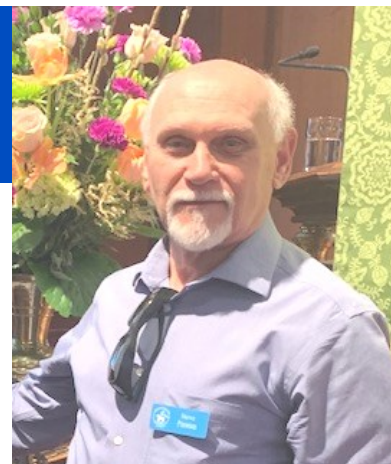
SAVE THE DATE

Bach On! Concert Sunday, December 17 | 4 PM Main Church

Admission is free; donations to support the musicians are gratefully accepted.



**From the Senior Warden
Steven Preston**



Nominations for Vestry and Convention Delegates

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 4, 2024, and begins in the Worship Service. That means it's time for nominations for Vestry and Convention Delegates. Below are descriptions of each position. We encourage you to think about whether God may be calling you to one of these crucial leadership roles in our church. There are three Vestry positions available for election for a three-year term.

The Nominating Committee for Vestry is the “outgoing” Vestry members: Belinda Zander, Junior Warden Jim Hendry, and Senior Warden Steve Preston. If you are interested in standing for election, or you are curious or want more information, please contact one of them in the next few weeks.

Candidates for Vestry are asked to submit a photograph and brief written answers to the following questions: 1.) What attributes or talents will you bring to the Vestry? 2.) What ministries have you participated in within the last two years at Christ Church? 3.) Which leadership area do you believe you could help grow, expand and be an advocate for?

Description of Vestry and its Responsibilities:

The vestry is the legal representative of the parish with regard to all matters pertaining to its corporate property. The number of vestry members and the term of office varies from parish to parish. Vestry members are usually elected at the annual parish meeting. The presiding officer of the vestry is the rector. There are usually two wardens. The senior warden leads the parish between rectors and is a support person for the rector. The junior warden often has responsibility for church property and buildings. A treasurer and a secretary or clerk may be chosen. These officers may or may not be vestry members. The basic responsibilities of the vestry are to help define and articulate the mission of the congregation; to support the church's mission by word and deed, to select the rector, to ensure effective organization and planning, and to manage resources and finances.

Source: The Glossary of The Episcopal Church: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/vestry/>

Christ Church Constitution, Article 5, Section 5.1 Authority; Compensation:

The Vestry shall be and constitute the Trustees, Directors, or other persons who by law are empowered and authorized to manage the affairs and conduct the business of this Parish. Except as otherwise provided by law, Church Canons, or this Constitution, the Vestry shall be agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property and the relations of the Parish and its Clergy. Whether elected, chosen, convened, acting or referred to as Vestry, Trustees, Directors, a Board of Vestry, Board of Directors or otherwise, they shall always be deemed to be the same body and as acting in all capacities in which they may be authorized to act under statutory or Canonical law or both. No person shall be compensated for service on the Vestry, except that a member of the Vestry may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses actually incurred in the performance of official duties. {NC I.14.2; DC33.1}

[**Note:** Vestry meets after the Annual Meeting to organize and elect officers, monthly for business, occasionally for special meetings, and usually for a one-day retreat.]

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From the Senior Warden - Continued from the previous page

Christ Church Constitution, Article 6, Section 6.5 Standing Committees:

The membership of each general purpose standing committee shall be open to members of the parish; *provided that* each standing committee shall include at least one current member of the Vestry who shall act as a liaison between that committee and the Vestry, and every current member of the Vestry shall belong to and participate actively in the work of at least one standing committee. The chair of each standing committee shall be appointed or approved by the Rector and may but need not be a member of the Vestry.

Nomination and Election of Five Convention Delegates:

Christ Church Constitution, Article 3, Section 3.6 Election of Lay Delegates to Diocesan Convention; Qualification; Alternates; Special Conventions:

Lay delegates and alternates to Diocesan Convention in the numbers specified by the Canons of the Diocese shall also be elected at the Parish Annual Meeting in the same manner prescribed for the election of Members of the Vestry in Section 3.5 above, except as follows: (a) any voting member of the Parish shall be qualified to serve as a convention delegate; (b) the Vestry may prescribe a different manner of nomination, such as by self-nomination (i.e. declaring oneself a candidate); (c) there shall be no limit on the number of years, consecutive or otherwise, a member may serve as a delegate; (d) the highest vote-getters shall be elected to the available positions, and the next highest vote-getters shall be deemed elected as alternates in their order of finish; and (e) in the event no alternate is available at the time of convention, the Rector shall have authority to fill a vacancy from the Communicants of the Parish. {D.Const.Art.V}

[Notes: Our practice has been for members to self-nominate for Convention Delegate. The 2024 Diocesan Convention will be virtual (online), and therefore no travel or housing is involved. The Finance Committee is recommending that the 2024 budget provide for reimbursing the early registration fees for our delegates and alternates.]

Joy Mass Family Service

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sundays | 9:30 AM

Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour
15th & G Streets



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



Centering Prayer

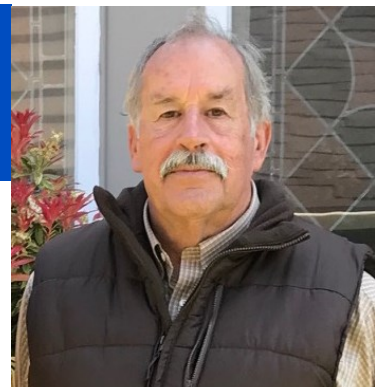
MONDAYS in ADVENT | 6:30 PM | In Person and on ZOOM

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>

From the Junior Warden Jim Hendry



By the time you read this article, November will be over and we will be into Advent. So much will be happening in December. I hope you will find time to go to some of the special events such as soup suppers and the Messiah Sing Along on December 10th at 3 pm.

Here is the latest on work I have been involved in as Junior Warden.

Over the weekend just before Thanksgiving some parishioners became aware that someone was sleeping and relieving themselves in the bushes alongside our Chapel. Royal McCarthy and Thomas Swanger artfully manicured the vegetation, and Lyn and I hauled it away.

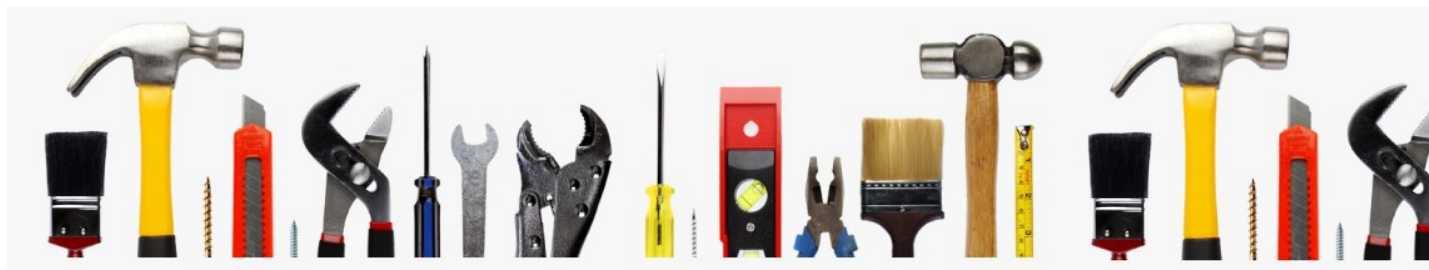
Since then, someone apparently trying to scale the wall by the Chapel and courtyard, pulled down the downspout and gutter attached to the roof of the Chapel. We will try to get repairs made as soon as possible.

At their last meeting the Vestry approved the use of some of the remaining money in the Fish Memorial Fund to landscape the dirt area on the top of the wall. Digging has been started to remove the top layer of soil (currently being used to cover bared weed mat on the G Street side of the Chapel). The end goal is to have a low maintenance landscaped raised area along the length of the walkway/wall that will enhance the area.

In the Spring of 2024, Christ Church will undergo an analysis of our carbon footprint on God's great earth and our local environment. To prepare for this visit from Energy For Purpose, we must gather together information about our electricity and gas usage, as well as the dimensions and volumes of the Church narthex and nave, Heritage Room, Lewis Hall, and kitchen. Their report to us will enable our various teams and committees to prioritize our needs and project a path forward to reduce both our financial costs and environmental impact.

Wishing you a joyous Christmas and God's blessing in the New Year.

Jim Hendry
Junior Warden



Help Bring Joy to a Family for Christmas!



There's a special and deserving family who'd be very grateful for our sponsorship this Christmas!

There are two adults and four children: a 3 year old boy and a 5 year old girl, with two older siblings, a 17 year old girl and 18 year old boy. The two older ones have reunited with the family after being in foster care.

Thanks to Janelle Harris and TFI (The Forgotten Initiative) we learned about the family. Janelle is well-acquainted with the family, feels they are very worthy and would be most appreciative. The family lives in the area, the father is employed, and they are housed, though they are in need of more space.

When we contacted Janelle about suggestions for needs/wishes, she asked the mother who responded to us by writing:

**"I wanted to start this off by thanking whoever's reading this.
You guys are amazing."**

Three year old boy: Clothing, underwear, socks, pjs – all size 3T. Toddler crocs – size 7. (*Note:* Only one 'toy' request – which is already on order.)

Five year old girl: Clothing, size 5T. "She's very much girly, loves playing with makeup, so a makeup set, kid friendly, etc. She has her ears pierced so some hypoallergenic kid earrings, the kind that won't bug her ears. "

Seventeen year old girl: "Loves bracelet making, so kits that come with stuff to make bracelets, like the strings and beads and charms and crystals. She loves bracelet making but nothing too little-girlish."

Eighteen year old boy: Men's slippers, size large. Boxer briefs, medium. Socks. Hoodie.

AND: "Or any gift cards for Target, or any gift cards at all, the older kids would love and obviously I'm not asking for all of it. I was just giving you guys an idea. Thank you so much. Sending lots of love and positive vibes and hope you guys have a merry Christmas and a happy new year!!!!"

Note: The mother did not include requests for herself and her husband.

The suggestions also will be posted on the display board. If you wish to provide an item, please help all of us by removing the suggestion so we do not receive a lot of duplicates. Also, should you wish, you may provide a different item, but please identify it by boy or girl and age.

How to share in supporting this family?

Shopping or donating are options. We'll have a location in the Heritage Room for gathering the gifts. During the week, the office is open during office hours (9am-1pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday). **We'll wrap for you.** There will also be a container for gift cards and cash/checks (memo: Family Christmas) for purchasing gift cards. Our timeline is to finish on **Sunday, December 17 (Gaudete Sunday).**

We hope that you will find your Christmas even more meaningful and joyous by sharing with this family.

Thank you so much!

Any questions? Check with Peg, Elizabeth or Pam



LOOKING FOR A CHURCH TREASURER



Our Church Treasurer, Bob Hines, is retiring after more nearly 20 years of serving this Parish. From our Church Constitution: *The Treasurer shall be elected by the Vestry and serve until a successor is elected. The Treasurer may, but need not, be a member of the Vestry. The Treasurer shall perform the usual functions of such office and such duties as may be prescribed in Parish Constitution. At the Annual Meeting the Treasurer shall present to the Parish a full and accurate statement of all monies received and paid during the year ... [Constitution of Christ Church Parish {DC 33.6 and DC 34.5} as amended January 22, 2023]*

What are the usual functions of the office? The church treasurer is a voluntary official responsible for monitoring, recording, and managing the offerings, donations, and tithes paid by church members. The Treasurer works with the Rector, Wardens, Vestry and Finance Committee to coordinate the church’s finances, such as bookkeeping and money output, into church activities. It is important to regulate its inflow and outflow and keep a proper record to ensure transparency and accountability to the church and diocese. This is where the church treasurer (and assistant treasurer) comes in and manages most of the church’s financial matters such as record keeping, depositing of funds, payroll, investments, budgeting, tax filing, etc.

If you are interested in serving as our next Treasurer, please speak with Fr. Daniel.



Food for People REALLY thanks you!

In November, 66 pounds of canned, not perishable food items were donated. This brings our total for the year to 617 pounds!

At the beginning of this year, I was hoping for a collection goal between 600 to 700 pounds. With the great response this year, I have hope now that we exceed our goal of 700 pounds for the year.

This is a season for giving and I realize that many are making requests. I am hoping that you can dig deep and help combat local food insecurity and top our goal!

Many thanks, Bev



Christ Episcopal Church Green Team Tip of the Month

IDEAS FOR A GREENER CHRISTMAS SEASON



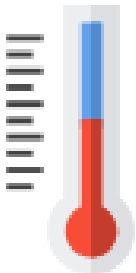
Replace Incandescent Lights with LED Lights.

LED lights use up to 95% less electricity than incandescent lights. According to eartheasy.com lighting 500 traditional lights for one month will cost about \$18.00. The same number of LED holiday lights will cost about \$0.19. There are lots of other great benefits to using LED lights strings. They never heat up, so you don't have to worry about little ones or pets getting too close. You can use fewer outlets—familyhandyman.com indicates that 40-50 strings of LED lights can be connected to one electrical outlet, as opposed to 4-5 traditional strings. And—drumroll please! LED lights last between 30,000 and 50,000 hours.



Cut Down on Waste and Double Your Gift by Wrapping it with Dish Towels:

Gift wrap cannot be recycled if it has foil, or metallic shapes, plastic, glitter or velvet or if it has too much tape on it or sticky labels. That means that upwards of 2.3 million pounds of gift wrap ends up in landfills every year. Using a pretty dish towel to wrap gifts keeps paper out of the landfill, and its a re-usable or re-giftable addition to



Creation Care Fund: Thanks to your generosity, the Creation Care Fund already has \$1875.00 dedicated to the needs assessment that will be conducted by Energy for Purpose. Going Forward, your donations will help cover the costs of moving Christ Episcopal Church towards carbon neutrality.

Christ Church Eureka Green Team Mission and Vision Statement

In fulfillment of Diocesan Resolution RI-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.



Quilters+



The day: Wednesday, December 13
The time: 9:30 AM
The place: Lewis Hall

Our next Quilters + meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13 at 9:30 am in Lewis Hall.

We will be working on blankets for local foster children and prayer quilts for our parish. No experience needed. Supplies will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

If you have a 'portable' Christmas project or gift you are working on, you are welcome to bring it to work on and share in the fellowship.

You can bring your own project to work on. Come and enjoy conversation, snacks, and working together.

Questions? Call Peg Gardner 443-9627 or Belinda Zander 442-4222.



Save
the dates!

“Sabbatical Adventures - Confessions of a Churchaholic”

TUESDAYS—November 28, December 5, 12, 19

5:30—7 PM | Lewis Hall

November 28 - Canterbury Cathedral, Abbey of Rievaulx, Christ Church Naples

December 5 - American Cathedral in Paris, Sainte-Chapelle,
Chartres, Cluny Museum

December 12 - Episcopal Churches in Virginia, NY, CA, OR

December 19 - Aotearoa New Zealand, Holy Trinity Cathedral Auckland,
Powhiri, Hobbiton, Rotarua, etc.



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

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.

NOVEMBER 19TH MEETING: At its regular meeting, after opening prayer by Fr. Daniel, Vestry members shared things for which they were thankful.

The Senior Warden requested that the October 22nd Minutes be pulled from the consent agenda for consideration of two important corrections before the Financial Report. The two corrections were approved: inserting “no less than” in the motion that staff compensation be “no less than” the equivalent of minimum wage; and that a motion was approved that the current ratio between the salaries of the Music Coordinator/Organist and the Choir Director be maintained whenever adjusting those salaries. The minutes were then approved.

The Financial Report through September was reviewed and received. At the Finance Committee’s recommendation, Vestry approved 10% rent increases for the apartment (May 1, 2024) and Smullin House (January 1, 2024). Fr. Daniel then left the room and the Senior Warden assumed the chair, as Vestry considered the amount of the 2024 Cost of Living Adjustment for staff. After debate, Vestry voted for a 3.2% COLA (the Social Security COLA percentage) rather than the Diocese-recommended 5.8%, with six yes, zero no, and three abstain. Fr. Daniel was summoned back, resumed the chair, and was informed of the COLA decision. Vestry examined the Treasurer’s 2024 budget projections-to-date, and made several adjustments; the 2024 budget will be reviewed and voted on at the December 17th Vestry meeting, for presentation to the 2024 Annual Meeting.

Vestry approved the written reports from the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Green Team, Stewardship Committee, and Joy Mass Team.

Fr. Daniel reviewed highlights from his written report, and commented on his plans for the Advent Soup Suppers.

Senior Warden Steve Preston asked for any questions from his written report, of which there were none. He asked for feedback on his written descriptions of Vestry and Wardens duties and there was general support that they would be useful in recruitment. He mentioned that the Stewardship Committee is meeting on November 29th to review this year’s pledge campaign, the current 2024 pledge-levels, and to look ahead to 2024 plans. Finally, he celebrated Fr. Daniel’s vision and perseverance, and that of the Joy Mass leaders and team, in launching the Joy Mass, and pointed out that we now have several new children and families becoming part of the Christ Church family through the Joy Mass.

Junior Warden Jim Hendry reported on his continuing efforts to find out from the city if it would repave the deteriorating city alley between our two parking lots. Having had no response from city staff, his latest effort is a letter to the City Councilmember who represents our Ward, which he read to the Vestry.

Archdeacon Pam Gossard reported on her activities, including co-leading the Prayer Team for the Diocesan April Revival. Pam also gave each Vestry member a copy of parishioner Karen Princes’s biography of Betty Kwan Chinn, which Fr. Daniel asked us to read. He plans a congregational (and community) study of the book during Lent.

Continued on next page

Fr. Daniel reported that he had hired Mike Robnett as part-time Sexton, initially for 7.5 hours per week, matching the hours and pay that he receives as part-time Sexton at St. Alban's Arcata (where he continues to work). He reported that the number of contracted hours may need to be increased to a maximum of 10 hours per week if the duties require it. Mike started work the day of this meeting. Relatedly, the Wardens and Fr. Daniel reported that the church cleaning contract with A-1 Cleaning Service has been cancelled effective immediately. Senior Warden Steve Preston pointed out that these steps will represent a net savings of between \$4,000 and \$12,000 a year, depending on the Sexton's number of compensated hours.

Robin Cardona reported that the number of children and adults attending Joy Mass varies week-to-week, and that there were 9 children and 12 adults this Sunday. Another 5' x 3' banner has been received, to be installed at the Chapel's G Street entry doors. Steve Preston shared a report from Thomas that about \$646 of the \$3,500 ECS grant remained.

There were no questions about the Green Team's written report, and there was no update from the co-leaders of the Emergency Response Team. The Ad Hoc Committee on a Diversity Statement will meet soon. Fr. Daniel, Ven. Pam, and Steve Preston updated planning for the Diocesan "Fearless Faith" Revival on April 26-27, 2024.

Junior Warden Jim Hendry reported that Miller Farms quoted \$5,000 to landscape the narrow strip of land between the Fish Memorial Wall and the Office/Apartment Building. He thought that volunteers could do the work of excavating, adding good soil, plants, and possible irrigation for much less. After brief discussion, it was agreed that this was best, using funds from the Fish Memorial Fund.

Fr. Daniel and Belinda Zander reported on the committee that is planning the Betty Chinn Book Launch event on Saturday, February 10, 2024. A hundred copies of the book have been ordered, and the church will resell them, with the net proceeds going to the Betty Chinn Homeless Foundation.

Vestry spent some moments discussing possible candidates that the Nominating Committee of Belinda Zander, Jim Hendry, and Steve Preston might consider approaching for nomination to Vestry.

After a very full and productive meeting, and with two minutes to spare, Steve Cole offered a closing prayer, followed by dismissal by Archdeacon Pam.

The next Vestry meeting will be on Sunday, December 17th at 1 pm in the Pierson Room.

Called to *Serve*

LAY MINISTRY

By Marty Vega



In case you didn't see it, there is another Lay Ministry listed below. Many different talents and interests are needed for our Concerts at Christ Church committee. Having a love and enjoyment of music is needed to research and choose which artists we invite. Members also perform publicity, transportation of musicians, handing out programs at each event; even sell CD's when available.

Our other ministries welcome newcomers as well, just contact us for more information about some of these:

Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers	Anne Pierson	→707 448-2025
Altar Guild	Kathy Clague	→707 822 5860
Choir	David Powell	→davidbpowell@gmail.com
Coffee Hour 8am	Peg Gardner	→707 443-9627
Coffee Hour 10:30 am	Lynne Bean	→707 822-6086
Concerts at Christ Church	Elizabeth Harper-Lawson	→707 445-1726
Contribution Counters	Christ Church Office	→707 442-1797
Eucharistic Visitors	Elizabeth Harper-Lawson	→707 445-1726
Green Team	Steven Preston	→213 304-3715
Joy Mass Team	Vickie Patton	→707 443-1825
	Robin Cardona	→707 267-5825
Prayer Circle	Jannetje Vrieze	→jvdutchgirl@yahoo.com
Quilters +	Belinda Zander	→707 442-4222
Readers and Intercessors	Marty Vega	→707 443-9782
Technical Team	Christ Church Office	→707 442-1797
Ushers and Greeters	Sharon Kalberer	→707 630-3100





December 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.**

Ken Musante	12/05	Anne Van Zandt	12/19
Mtr. Lesley McCloghrie	12/08	Paul Gossard	12/20
Karen Stanley	12/08	Daisie Harris	12/20
Leslie Allen	12/09	Margaret Cole	12/24
Kaley Smithler	12/09	Austin Bozzoli	12/25
Anne Pierson	12/13	Chris Hamer	12/25
Denise Braafladt	12/16	Peach Bond	12/27
Carol Moorehead	12/16	Kamryn Bozzoli	12/31



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.**

Howard & Peg Gardner 12/22

Dr. Angus & Joan Stewart 12/24



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!



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2023

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS Seasons

Sundays of Advent

celebrated on December 3, 10, 17 and 24

Holy Eucharist | 8 & 10:30 AM | Main Church

Joy Mass Family Service | 9:30 am | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour

Advent Soup Suppers | Sabbatical Adventures—Confessions of a Churchaholic

Tuesdays—November 28, December 5, 12, 19 | 5:30-7 PM | Lewis Hall

Centering Prayer | Mondays | November 27, December 4, 11 and 18

6:30 PM | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour

First Week of Advent

Rooted in Abundance 2024 Pledge In-Gathering | Sunday, December 3

Second Week of Advent

Handel's *Messiah* Sing-along | Sunday, December 10 | 3:00 PM | Main Church

Third Week of Advent—Gaudete Sunday

Bach On! Concert | Sunday, December 17 | 4:00 PM | Main Church

Fourth Week of Advent/Christmas Eve

Holy Eucharist | 8 AM | Main Church

Joy Mass Family Service | 9:30 AM | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour

Christingle Service | 10:30 AM | Main Church

The Feast of Christ Mass

Sunday, December 24

7:00 PM—Musical Prelude for Christmas Eve
followed by Holy Eucharist: Rite II



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Christmas Day—Monday, December 25

10:30—Holy Eucharist: Rite II with Carols



The First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 31

Holy Eucharist | 8 & 10:30 AM | Main Church

Joy Mass Family Service | 9:30 am | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour

Hanukah & Human Rights Day

Sunday, December 10th

The 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

3 pm ~ Interfaith Study & Discussion of the Declaration

4 pm ~ Hanukah Candle Lighting & Music

Temple Beth El Choir

Redwood Community Peace Choir

Bring your Hanukiah & Candles!

5 pm ~ Dances of Universal Peace

Led by Garden of the Heart Sufi Community

Free Admission

Refreshments Available

Donations Welcome

Sponsored by

Temple Beth El & United Congregational Christian Church

At the United Congregational Christian Church

900 Hodgson Street, Eureka

On Hanukah we read from the Book of Zechariah:

“Not by might, not by power, but through My Spirit!”

How can this ancient teaching help us build a peaceful world?

Please RSVP here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0844A4AC2CA3FC1-46293435-hanukah#/>

As always, we encourage you to check out our website at templebetheleureka.org

Please feel free to contact the office at (707) 444-2846 or via email at

templebetheleurekaca@gmail.com

The December 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 December, The Very Rev. K. Lesley McClohrrie, Dean of our Semper Virens Deanery, has asked us to pray for the people of St. Francis Episcopal Church, Fortuna.

Intercessor: We pray for the congregations of our deanery, this month for the people of St. Francis, Fortuna. Gracious and loving God, during this season of preparation for the coming of the Messiah into our lives and into our world, grant to the people of St. Francis' your grace of expectant hope as they embark on new adventures of intergenerational Joy Church and other ways to welcome all people to your church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.



December 3

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Woodland
The Rev. Steve Leonetti, Supply Priest

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of North India (United)
The Most Rev. Bijaya Kumar Nayak
Moderator and Bishop of Phulbani

December 10

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Calistoga
The Rev. William (Father Mac) McIlmoyl
Priest in Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of Pakistan (United)
The Most Rev. Dr. Azad Marshall
Bishop of Raiwind & Moderator of
The Church of Pakistan

December 17

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, Paradise
The Rev. Richard Yale, Supply Priest

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
The Rt. Rev. Nathan Ingen, Bishop of Aipo
and Acting Archbishop of Papua New Guinea

December 24

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Galt
The Rev. Barbara Elizabeth Nixon, Rector

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines
The Most Rev. Brent Harry Alawas, Prime Bishop

December 31

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Davis
The Rev. Pamela Dolan, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Ernie Lewis, Associate Priest
The Venerable Margaret Grayden, Deacon

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Rwanda
The Most Rev. Laurent Mbanda, Primate
and Bishop of Gazebo

January 7

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

*(The 2024 Diocesan Cycle of Prayer was not
available at the time of publication)*

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Scottish Episcopal Church
The Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus
and Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness

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 2023-2026 Anglican Cycle of Prayer for you. Deacon Anne.



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 Office Hours • Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday—9 am to 1 pm
 Phone • (707) 442-1797 | Email • christchurcheureka@gmail.com | Website • www.christchurch

DECEMBER 2023

SUN	M	T	W	Th	F	SAT
<p>3 The First Sunday of Advent PLEDGE IN-GATHERING SUNDAY 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p>	<p>4 Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel </p>	<p>5 ADVENT SOUP Supper 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall</p>	<p>6 Staff Meeting 10 AM Worship Committee 11 AM Lewis Hall</p>	<p>7 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Altar Guild 10 AM</p>
<p>10 JUST ONE CAN—Food Bank Sunday</p>	<p>11 Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel </p>	<p>12 ADVENT SOUP Supper 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall</p>	<p>13 Quilters+ 9:30 AM Lewis Hall</p>	<p>14 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Altar Guild 10 AM</p>
<p>17 The Third Sunday of Advent GAUDETE SUNDAY 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka</p>	<p>18 Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel </p>	<p>19 ADVENT SOUP Supper 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall</p>	<p>20 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room</p>	<p>21 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Altar Guild 10 AM</p>
<p>24 The Fourth Sunday of Advent 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II CHRISTMAS EVE 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Christingle Service THE FEAST OF CHRIST MASS 7:00 PM Musical Prelude for Christmas Eve followed by Holy Eucharist: Rite II</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II with Carols</p>	<p>26 Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel </p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 The First Sunday after Christmas 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II</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 - Associate 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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