

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



MARCH 2024 - 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 Parochial Report (Annual Report)

The Parochial Report is the oldest, continuous gathering of data by The Episcopal Church. By tradition and canon, the reporting requirements are developed by the House of Deputies' Committee on the State of the Church, using a form approved by the church's Executive Council. Seen as an annual rite of passage throughout The Episcopal Church, and overseen by the Executive Officer of General Convention, the Parochial Report touches every congregation of the church. Together with other data, including that of the Recorder of Ordinations and the Registrar of General Convention, the Parochial Report provides an insight to the state of the church.

For this issue of the Chronicle, we thought we would share some numbers and narrative with the congregation.

In-Person Worship Attendance:

The following numbers are from the Parish Register of Services. This Register has entries for every service held for the year. This is a small sampling of the data that is submitted to our Diocese and then to General Convention.

	2022	2023	
Average Weekly Attendance:			
Total In-Person Attendance: Sundays	4034	4768	18% increase for 2023
Total Weeks	52	53	
Average Weekly Attendance	78	90	15% increase for 2023
Average weekly Attendance	78	30	
Total In person Easter Attendance (including Easter Vigil)	151	178	17% increase from 2023
Total In person Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Attendance	144	252	75% increase from 2023

Narrative Questions:

What opportunities and challenges did the congregation face in 2023?

When I first arrived as the rector six years ago, one of my goals was for the parish to experience a successful Sabbatical, since there had not been a successful Sabbatical for several decades. The last two rectors both left abruptly, and while one left for Sabbatical, he did not return. So, there was understandably anxiety among those who remembered that last Sabbatical attempt. The abrupt and unexpected dissolution of a pastoral relationship is painful and to undergo that sudden dissolution twice in

Continued on next page

The Parochial Report (Annual Report) - Continued from the previous page

a row is even more so. The parish trusted me enough to send me on Sabbatical; and I trusted the congregation to remain faithful to our mission while I was gone. And the parish trusted that I would return. And now, after my return, I trust that our experience of a successful Sabbatical together has been healing for all of us and that God's healing love has tended to some of our wounds, making us stronger and more resilient.

Looking toward the future, what changes do you hope to see in your faith community? What does your community need in order to bring about these changes?

Since we launched our Joy Mass Family service in October 2023, our average Sunday attendance (ASA) has increased by 40%. Before COVID, our ASA placed us on the lower end of a pastoral-sized church (75 - 135). Now we seem to be approaching the higher end, which means we could be on our way to becoming a transitional-sized church (135 - 225), with the hope of eventually transitioning into a program-sized church (225 - 800). I am excited about this increase in attendance, especially since the general trend in the Episcopal Church and in mainline denominations has been steady decline. However, as we look toward the future, we need to remain open to changes that can help keep the growth sustainable. One change that we would need and that I hope to see would be the addition of another staff member: perhaps a part-time Director of Lifelong Formation, who could oversee the Joy Mass as well as other Christian Education opportunities. In order to bring this about, we would need to increase our budget.

We invite you to tell stories of how you have spent the last year naming , addressing, and dismantling the injustices of racism in yourselves, congregations, and your communities.

In October 2023, one of our parishioners published a biography of Betty Kwan Chinn, a Chinese philanthropist and humanitarian in Humboldt County who suffered unimaginable persecution and torture in China during the Cultural Revolution when she was a seven-year-old girl. After escaping and emigrating to the United States, Betty responded to her own suffering by fearlessly providing food, showers, housing, and job training to thousands of people struggling in northern California, even though local community leaders initially ostracized her. Eventually, thanks to the advocacy and support of other local leaders, Betty and her work have been embraced and celebrated by the community and beyond, including President Barack Obama who awarded her the Presidential Citizens Medal in 2010. Betty's story inspired me to tell the truth about the troubling history of the Chinese expulsion in Eureka and my own parish's complicity in the expulsion in the late 19th century. Although some people have responded to this truth-telling with offense and with the frustrated sense that I am trying to make others feel guilty about the sins of past generations, I have felt motivated by Betty's courage to remain steadfast in telling the truth about our history in order to also proclaim the dream of the beloved community, practice the way of love, and work towards repairing the breach. Ironically, the one person who has done the most to heal the social wounds of Humboldt County is a woman from China and it is her courageous work that has inspired a partnership between my parish (Christ Church Eureka) and the Humboldt Asian & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity (HAPI), a partnership that seeks to acknowledge the reality of the Chinese expulsion in Eureka and to start working together, courageously, towards healing and reconciliation. In 2023, we began planning a Lunar New Year celebration and Book Signing Event with HAPI and Betty, which took place in February 2024 and drew in over 250 people. The event featured a performance of a poem titled "Hope" by an African-American, spokenword artist Rashad Hedgepeth, with whom we plan to continue partnering in the future.

High Church or Low? Part II: The Oxford Movement



It has been said that if the Evangelical Revival was Anglicanism's most significant religious movement of the eighteenth century, then the Oxford Movement, was the most important of the nineteenth. Once again, the movements within Anglicanism reacted against and responded to the thought currents of their time. Evangelism had stressed the importance of personal holiness and, some would say, the religion of sentiment, while the Oxford Movement sought to reaffirm the corporate holiness of the independent Divine Society, which had existed since the Church began. Reacting against rationalism, Evangelicals had emphasized the importance of feelings, and as has been said, the sentiment of the time, as seen in the Roman Catholic Cult of the Sacred Heart, and the pietism of the Lutheran and Moravian churches. In its time, the Oxford Movement began as a reaction to the humanist and political aspects of nineteenth century liberalism.

Nineteenth century England was affected greatly by the French Revolution, and by the American Revolutionary War. Within the country there developed an enthusiasm for tradition, a new appreciation of the past, and of society as an organism, not simply a collection of individuals. At the same time the Romantic Revival was taking place. Sir Walter Scott through his popular writings, took his readers back into the perceived charms of mediaeval times, while William Wordsworth reminded all of the eternal and enduring beauty of nature.

The eighteenth century had seen a progressive decline in all aspects of church life, while the spread of Liberalism in theology, was causing misgivings among leaders in the church. The Romantic Movement had led many to a new interest in the primitive Church and Mediaeval Christianity. Following the passing of the 1829 Catholic Emancipation Act which removed many of the restrictions on Roman Catholics, and the 1832 Reform Bill, along with the plan to suppress ten Irish bishoprics, there was a fear that many Anglicans would desert the Church of England for that of Rome.

On July 14, 1833, John Keble, priest and Oxford professor, preached a sermon at the University Church of St. Mary, on "National Apostasy." This was directed especially against the proposed suppression of the bishoprics, and included the defense of the Church of England as a Divine Institution, of the Apostolic Succession, and of the Book of Common Prayer as a rule of faith. This sermon is generally regarded as the beginning of the Oxford Movement.

Following Keble's sermon, a series of pamphlets, "Tracts for the Times" were published to further realize his aims. Begun in 1833 by John Henry Newman, and subsequently written by such as Pusey, Keble and Bowden, these leaflets were designed to spread information about true Church principles. The first by Newman himself, which was a four-page leaflet titled "Thoughts on the Ministerial Commission respectfully addressed to the Clergy," contained a

High Church or Low? Part II: The Oxford Movement - Continued from the previous page

defense of the Apostolic Succession. The last, Tract 90, published in 1841, was Newman's controversial "Remarks on Certain Passages in the Thirty-Nine Articles" which brought the series to an end.

The Oxford Movement inspired restoration and renewal in the Church of England, and throughout Anglicanism. The wisdom, work, and vision of its followers inspired much of what is commonplace in our church today, be it low or high. Stay tuned for next month's installment.

A Prayer for the Church – BCP page 816 Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. Amen.

Lesley



Sights from Merton College, Oxford, United Kingdom

ASSOCIATE PRIEST — Pastor Jeri Gray-Reneberg

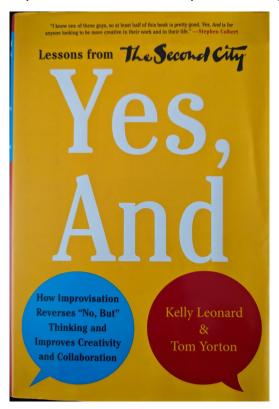
Following our "Yes, And" Leader

Comedian Tina Fey, veteran of the Second City improvisation troupe, once said about improvisation, "the first rule of improvisation is to always agree with your improv partner. The second rule of improv is to say not just yes, but 'Yes, And.' It's your responsibility to contribute. Always make sure you're adding something to the discussion. Your initiations are worthwhile."



A few years ago, I stumbled upon and ordered a book by Kelly Leonard and Tom Yorton called, Yes, And: How Improvisation Reverses 'No, But' Thinking and Improves Creativity and Collaboration (Lessons from The Second City). Leonard and Yorton say about the two words, 'Yes, And': "[They] form the bedrock of all improvisation. Creative breakthroughs occur in environments where ideas are not just fully explored, but heightened and stretched to levels that might seem absurd..."

If you have ever seen an improvisational piece, or watched a show like "Whose Line is it Anyway?" it can



look a lot like foolishness, with each partner building on the silliness of what was handed to them. And sometimes, it's even an abysmal failure.

This theory of improvisation and the season of Lent come together for me in one of the scripture texts for the Third Sunday in Lent, I Corinthians 1:18-25: "The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?... We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength."

I propose that Jesus is our "Yes, And" leader, the one we follow. And that's never more apparent than during the season of Lent.

Just imagine: when Jesus was born on this earth, God said "Yes" to humanity. In effect, God said "I will enter into all that it means to be a human being. I'll participate in a more immediate way in the drama already unfolding. I'll be an enfleshed part of the ongoing

conversation." In our world, the idea of God becoming human flesh became, using Leonard and Yorton's words, "an idea fully explored."

And as a particular human being – a Galilean of no apparent grand destiny, whose three-year ministry brought him homelessness, the misunderstanding of both those closest to him and those who held political power, and eventually a criminal's painful death – he continued to give, to heal, to share the good news of the reign of God. He responded without a self-protective orientation (that might have led him to say, "No, But..."). In doing so, he said "And..." until he died. The fact that this one became crucified is an idea –

Following our "Yes, And" Leader - Continued from the previous page

again, using the authors' words, "heightened and stretched to a level that might seem absurd..."

The foolishness of the incarnate one ending up on the cross.

We proclaim Christ incarnate. Yes...

And we proclaim Christ crucified. And...

So what does it mean that we follow our "Yes, And" Lord?

First, it means we are all together in this ministry. It means that it's next to impossible to be a Christian alone, and we need the most diverse experiences and voices people are willing to share. We say "yes" to each other because of the One who said yes to us, who became one of us. And we say "and" to each other with the inspiration of the Spirit, knowing that both our ideas that succeed and our ideas that fail are inspired and guided by the one whose ending was death, but who redeems our lives in his death and resurrection.

It's also not easy to receive what they call in improvisation, "gifts and offerings" from others. In fact, our culture imitates what I Corinthians calls "the debater of this age." We are not taught to listen in order to comprehend; we learn instead to listen in order to respond, to convince. Halfway through another person's words, we are already constructing what we're going to say. We either pay half-hearted attention, or we let our need to control the outcome impact what we are able to receive.

The authors of Yes, And quote British satirist Tony Hendra, in his book, Father Joe, as he speaks about receiving the other as listening. Hendra says, "The advice I'd gotten from every source... was listen. Listen at every level – to the words, the emotions, the intent of the other or others. Be completely open to them, bring nothing preconceived or prepared to the moment. Listen and then speak only to what you've heard. Do that, and you can't go wrong. Improv is not just a means to entertain, it's also a process that is an end in itself, a way of knowing, of grasping the nature of another, the reality of the other's existence, an aspect of the truth of the matter under discussion which you thought you knew but didn't until this moment... The only way to know God, the only way to know the other, is to listen. Listening is reaching out into that unknown other self, surmounting your walls and theirs."

In the ensemble that is the church, it's also necessary to "surrender the need to be right." Leonard and Yorton say, "To be honest, the axiom 'surrender the need to be right' sounds more likely to be found in Buddhism, but it is also inherent in improvisation." It's also found in Christianity, as we come to know the one who ultimately surrendered his own will, in order to give love until and through his death. When we are invested in being right, we can't surrender. In the face of Jesus' self-surrender, how can we ultimately argue about being right?

Theologian Henry Langknecht ruminates about the 1 Corinthians text:

"Much sermonic hay has been baled around the need to keep God strong and wise at all costs. It often goes something like this: 'Paul is not saying that God is actually foolish or weak. Rather that when God is as foolish and weak as God ever gets, God is still smarter and stronger than we are.' The intention here is honorable. But because this approach keeps divine and human power and wisdom on the same continuum, it becomes a theology of glory... Theology of Glory is plausible and... revels in equations, cause and effect... It is not evil, it gives us purpose, and the Bible is filled with it! 'Do this and you shall live.' But Paul knows it falls short."

Following our "Yes, And" Leader - Continued from the previous page

In comparison, he says, "Theology of the Cross is implausible and paradoxical. It draws us into the mystery of the cross, demanding utter trust in God who at the deepest is – not merely seems – impotent and irrational... The cross is always scandal. It must be. Nothing in this passage should encourage us to be smug about our grasp of the mystery. We bear witness to whatever in the world is so weak and foolish that it could not possibly be God's work and presence. And yet, it is."

God's "yes" to us is the incarnation. God's "yes" works through us in the many ways Christ is enfleshed among us. God's "and" to us is love that gives without calculation, without defense, and is always unpredictable. Because of God's "and," we are invited to walk the way of the cross, saying yes to a cruciform life of improvisation together, listening, surrendering, and seeking the way through God's foolishness and God's weakness, to life.



THANK YOU for your generous donations of dental hygiene products for children and teens who have limited access to supplies. The overflowing donation box will benefit Family and Community Resource Centers and other organizations throughout Humboldt County!



Lenten Service Music

"Lenten liturgy should be simpler, solemn, but not overly sad. Lent is a season of nuance where we hold in tandem both our sinfulness and God's grace-filledness. Our Orthodox siblings refer to this tension as 'luminous sadness'" (Planning for Rites and Rituals: Year A, 2019, p. 97). With this in mind, we have chosen to use three parts

(*Kyrie, Sanctus*, and *Agnus Dei*) from the *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena* by Anglo-Canadian composer and organist Healey Willan (1880-1968) for our service music during this Lenten season. And in keeping with the style of music written by Willan we have returned to using plainsong chant for the Psalms.

Willan described his provenance as "English by birth; Canadian by adoption; Irish by extraction; Scotch by absorption." He began his career as a church organist in London and early on became interested in the Anglo-Catholic Tractarian movement that had led to an Anglican revival of plainsong. In 1913, Willan emigrated to Canada. He served as church organist and choir master at St. Paul's, a large "evangelical, low church." But he became interested in the music of a smaller church which was notably "high church or Anglo-Catholic." His royalties as a church music composer allowed him to leave the larger church and become the precentor (person who helps facilitate worship) at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Toronto. He remained there until his death in 1968. Under Willan's leadership, St. Mary Magdalene became a North American mecca for choral and Anglican church musicians.



Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto

From 1937 to 1950, Willan was also University of Toronto Professor of Music and Organist and responsible for the music degree examinations. 2000 people attended an October 15, 1955 concert in St. Paul's to honor his 75th birthday. He received many honors during his lifetime, including a Companion to the Order of Canada. In 1956, Willan became the first non-English church musician to be honored with the Lambeth Doctorate, Mus. D. Cantuar, granted by Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael Ramsey.

Willan composed over eight hundred musical pieces, including operas, symphonies, concertos, chamber works, and liturgical works for use in church services. In 1953, Willan received a commission to write an anthem for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The resulting anthem, *O Lord Our Governour*, continues to be frequently performed.

Willan is best known for his sacred choral and organ works, which evidence his love for plainsong and Renaissance music. For example, many of his liturgical compositions employ western church modes from a thousand years ago and the modality and harmony of late nineteenth-century Russian Orthodox choral music. His vocal lines are significantly more melismatic, his style more contrapuntal and rhythmically much freer than was the case in the liturgical music of his contemporaries. The lively acoustics at Saint Mary Magdalene allowed the melismatic lines to soar and yet linger at the same time. [Primary Source: Wikipedia, 2/28/24 (<u>https:// en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Healey_Willan</u>)

Woman Composer Sunday, March 10, 2024

To celebrate Woman Composer Sunday on March 10 (Lent 4 or "Laetare" Sunday), the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the Society of Women Organists, and the Royal College of Organists have invited all who can "to play or sing a work by a woman composer" (TAO, Jan. 2024, p. 37). And those who can are asked to

Continued on the next page.

The Chronicle



Lenten Service Music - Continued from the previous page

post a recording on social media accounts, websites, etc. with the hashtag #WomanComposerSunday. Okay, I confess, I have never posted anything with a hashtag #, but am willing to try with some help! However, I will choose to play at least one piece by a woman composer (TBA) on March 10.

I had not heard of Woman Composer Sunday before, so I was curious to learn more. In case you are also interested ...

In 2021 the <u>Society of Women Organists</u> (SWO) inaugurated Woman Composer Sunday, when organists and choral directors are invited to include a piece by a woman composer in that day's church service, and/or post a performance on social media. They launched it in collaboration with the Royal College of Organists, and together they published a repertoire list of music by women composers, for inspiration. In 2022, Woman Composer Sunday was on 6 March, and was a joint promotion by SWO and the American Guild of Organists. **Woman Composer Sunday in 2024 will be on Sunday 10 March.**

During the COVID-19 lockdown of 2020, a group of volunteer researchers, all members of SWO, compiled a directory of women who have written for the organ, and for church services, and unearthed a wealth of unknown women and their music that had disappeared with the passage of time. Along with the Directory, they have published a Work Catalogue of the women composers mentioned in the Directory.

Here are a few photos from "The Lady Organist" (<u>https://www.theladyorganist.com/woman-composer-sunday/</u>) – another wonderful resource.



Images clockwise from top left:

Florence Price,

Amy Beach,

Cecilia McDowall,

Cecile Chaminade.

BACH ON!

Concert on Sunday, March 24 4 pm at Christ Church

Bach On, A Tiny String Orchestra, presents Baroque and Romantic-era works in their upcoming spring performance. Local musicians, many of them members of the Eureka Symphony Orchestra, play music from the vast repertoire for string orchestra including works by Handel, Bach, Bruch, anonymous Renaissance masters and more.

Soloists feature Rory Pitts playing a Bach Violin Concerto, Merry Phillips performing a Handel Organ Concerto and violist Holly MacDonell performing the Bruch Romanza. The program will also include Renaissance Dances, Tangos, Italian Opera, and Other Surprises.

The Bach On! ensemble includes violinists Reid Blickenstaff, Julie Fulkerson, Trillium Pitts; violin-viola doublers Hanah Rolf and Katie Swisher; cellist Cassandra Moulton-Rizzo; and bassist Ron Lee.

Admission is free and donations to support the music gratefully accepted.



From the Senior Warden Elizabeth Harper-Lawson

February has been an active month! Numbers aren't everything, but they can be encouraging: 250 at our Betty Chinn Book Signing on February 10th, and 12 children at Joy Mass the next day. Fifteen took part in excellent discussions at the Gospel of Mark Bible Study led by Pastor Karen Stanley on Thursdays at 12:30.



It is an honor and a privilege to be your senior warden for this year. Being an ex officio member of all church meetings, is allowing me to see and more fully appreciate the inner workings of the staff and worship committee meetings. While I always knew it took many people to assist us in Glorifying God, this became very evident when I noted 12 people at the staff meeting and 10 people at the worship committee: so many decisions to make for a service to run smoothly such as: at what time in the service should a baptism be performed? or which readings should we choose for Palm Sunday?

In addition to new opportunities, regular activities continue: Eucharistic Minister, Acolyte, Healing Minister, Altar Guild, and Eucharistic Visitor. Parishioners without good access to technology are more likely to request a visit. Altar flowers are distributed following Sunday service. *If you know of someone who would enjoy a bouquet, please let me know.*

As part of the facilities team, I visited Transfiguration House with Heidi and Jim to see the side garden. There are plans to remove some old planters and improve the lawn space.

Speaking of gardens, have you seen the new plants Lyn and Jim put in at the Fish Memorial wall?



While doing the Thursday Evening Security check, I came upon the choir practicing "For God So Loved the World," under the enthusiastic and capable direction of David Powell. Magnificent.

Overheard at the bus stop: "Did you know that Christ Church was having Soup Suppers at 5:30 on Tuesdays? It's about Betty Chinn's new book." Reply: "We like Betty Chinn." To which the first person stated, "But if you come on a Tuesday, you won't get to hear the music."

See you on Tuesdays for Soup Supper and Book Study of The Gray Bird Sings with Betty Chinn and author Karen Price. See you on Sundays for worship and music!

Elizabeth | Home phone: (707) 445 1726 or email: eaharperlawson@suddenlink.net

Glorify God, Follow Jesus Christ, Serve All People

From the Senior Warden - Continued from the previous page

Coming up:

March: Racial Justice Survey for congregations.

Here is a recent webinar about it: <u>https://vimeo.com/912663524?share=copy</u> Originally it was to be only 5 surveys per congregations. Steve and I pushed for more people to have an opportunity to do the survey.

Save the Date: Vestry Essentials

Saturday, March 16 | On Zoom | 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Workshops will cover the following topics:

- What Every Vestry/Mission Committee Member Should Know
- Pastoral and Spiritual Leadership
- HR basics, Property, and Financial Matters

Click the link to register: https://form.jotform.com/240154966519160





Fearless Faith Revival **April 26-27** Registration opens March 1. Revival website:

https://www.fearlessfaith2024.org/.

In addition to the latest information, you'll find: Frequently Asked Questions, Revival Survey, Flyers, Posters.

Disaster Preparedness Academy Saturday, May 11th at Christ Episcopal Church

I Will With God's Help Workshop

(This workshop meets the Licensing requirement for Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lay Eucharistic Visitors).

Saturday, June 8 | Zoom | 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Register here: https://form.jotform.com/240327903106145

Registration deadline: June 1, 2024

For questions, contact Bob Wohlsen: <u>bob.wohlsen@gmail.com</u>

Glorify God, Follow Jesus Christ, and Serve all people through the power of the Holy Spirit

From the Junior Warden Heidi Erickson

Hi everyone. Yes, I'm back as your Junior Warden, and so honored to be.

I would like to share a couple of my buildings and grounds priorities for the upcoming year.

The first one is to have the front doors of the church repaired. As many of you have noticed, those doors do not open with the greatest of ease. We really want people to be able to open the doors and come into our church, right? So, I've already spoken with a contractor to see what needs to be done to get the doors operational. And then to have them painted. The poor doors are not very attractive right now. Serious NEED.



Along with the front door repair, I'm also passionate about having the Lewis Hall doors become more ADA friendly for our friends using canes, walkers and wheelchairs. My hope is to have a button placed on the outside of the door to open and close the door automatically. And to also have a non-automatic opening door as well. The process of searching for contractors that do ADA work has begun. Another NEED.

My next priority is to have the church building painted. So far, I've spoken with 2 painting companies and the wait is at least a year. So, the important thing is to find an exceptional painter who is also affordable and to get on that person/company's wait list. The good thing about being on a waiting list is that it will give us time to raise the funds to pay for the painting. Which will be quite an investment. Definitely a NEED.

There has also been conversation about painting the Smullin House and the Transfiguration house. My philosophy is: one thing at a time. These are all big projects and each one will take time. So, in my opinion, the church is first in line, then Transfiguration house, then the Smullin House.

Speaking of the Transfiguration House, on February 2, Jim Hendry, Elizabeth Harper-Lawson and I met with Fr. Daniel about sprucing up the side yard, repairing/cleaning the gutters and some other repairs. The bids for the gutters are coming in now.

I also see a workday in this congregation's future, sometime after the rainy season ends.

And finally, I'd like to sincerely thank my predecessor Jim Hendry for all his hard work this last year. He is a tremendous gift to this church. Thank you so much, Jim. You are truly appreciated.

In closing, I am mindful that these priorities are not cheap. They will cost a few dollars. Having said that, these projects need to be done. My spending philosophy this year is: the church's NEEDS outweigh the WANTS.

So, until next month, to paraphrase the legendary Casey Kasem, "Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for Heaven".

Sincerely

Heidi Erickson Jr. Warden



Vestry Page

Christ Church Core Values: Worship, Discipleship, Fellowship, Outreach Hospitality

Vestry Organizing Meeting February 4, 2024 YOUR VESTRY After opening prayer, call to order, Fr. Daniel welcomed new vestry members of the Class of 2026: Ian Hayes, Lyn Klay and Royal McCarthy. Appointments and elections took place: **CLASS OF 2024** Senior Warden: Elizabeth Harper-Lawson Robin Cardona Junior Warden: Heidi Erickson Treasurer: Francis Rivinus Steve Cole Assistant Treasurer: Thomas Swanger Elizabeth Harper-Lawson Senior Warden **Regular Vestry Meeting – February 19, 2024** *Check In*: Vestry members discuss their experiences of implementing Matthew **CLASS OF 2025** 25:31-46. Roni Carlson Treasurer's Report: Bob Hines explained the sections of a financial report, and that there is much fluctuation from month to month as some parishioners pay their Lin Chase pledge early or later. Vestry receives an abbreviated report monthly and a full re-Heidi Erickson port quarterly. These reports are posted in Lewis Hall. Full financial reports avail-Junior Warden able upon request. Finances for January are on track. **CLASS OF 2026** New treasurer, Francis Rivinus, has been looking at ways to make our financial system more available to those needing access, as well as making it more secure. Ian Haynes Rector's Report: Did you know they are posted on the Christ Church Website un-Lyn Klay der the "News" (Main page > News > Rector's Reports. https://christchurcheureka.org/rectors-reports/ Fr. Daniel is looking forward to Royal McCarthy attending General Convention in June. He will be attending the meetings of the "Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations" Legislative Committee prior to conven-**Rector:** tion. The Rev. Dr. Daniel London Archdeacon's Report: Pam shared some of the tremendous ripple effects of Betty **ARCHDEACON:** Chinn Book signing event. As she read from a San Francisco Chronicle article The Ven. Pam Gossard describing the low rate of Foster children graduating from university, Pam highlighted the importance of our work with Foster children. CLERK: Peg Gardner Sr. Warden's Report: See Sr. Warden page. **TREASURER:** Jr. Warden's Report: Goals for the year include repair of the front doors of the Francis Rivinus church, as well as doors into Lewis Hall, and obtaining bids and discussing the financing of painting our buildings. Joy Mass Report: Although numbers fluctuate, 11 children anticipated Lent with a successful pancake toss on February 11th. Robin is exploring Social Media adver-Minutes of the most tising. Joy Mass montage: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dHUnn4fb7bk recent Vestry meetings, Green Team Report: Francis' research shows that 10% of our electricity cost goes **Outreach**, and Financial to our chandeliers in Lewis Hall and the Heritage Room. The plan is to replace *Reports are always* posted on the Lewis Hall current light bulbs with energy efficient light bulbs of the same style. The cost of bulletin board. the bulbs will be recovered within 20 weeks. The next vestry meeting will be Monday March 18th at 5:30 in Lewis Hall.

14

Congregational Racial Justice Audit

The Diocese is conducting the second part of a Racial Justice Audit, the <u>2024 Congregational Ra-</u> <u>cial Justice Audit</u>. All dioceses and congregations throughout The Episcopal Church are mandated to participate in the Racial Justice Audit.

Quoting from the website of The Episcopal Church: "The Racial Justice Audit of Episcopal Church leadership was born in response to two actions of General Convention 2015: <u>Resolution C019</u>: <u>Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation</u> and <u>Resolution A182</u>: <u>Address Systemic Racial Injustice</u>." (For more background, please see <u>https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/racial-reconciliation/audit-background/</u>)

Our Deanery Dean, Mtr. Lesley McCloghrie, asked Steve Preston to represent her in implementing the Audit in our four churches. As a member of the diocesan Commission for Intercultural Ministries, which hosts our diocesan Racial Justice Audit Team, Steve took part in the 2023 diocesan-level Audit survey. The next step is a congregation-level Racial Justice Audit this year by The Mission Institute.

A report and recommended actions from The Mission Institute will be sent by the Commission for Intercultural Ministries to the diocesan Board of Trustees, for presentation to this November's Annual Convention.

All four churches in the Semper Virens Deanery have submitted the names of their allotted participants: Clergy, Vestry or Mission Committee members, Clerk, Treasurer, and parishioners at least equal to their number of Convention Delegates. Christ Church will be represented in the Audit by 25 people: our 5 Clergy, 9 Vestry members, Clerk, Treasurer, and 9 parishioners selected by Fr. Daniel and Steve.

Sometime in March, each of these people will receive an email from The Mission Institute with a link to the anonymous online survey. At the end of the online survey form, there will be the opportunity to volunteer for a possible in-person interview (The Mission Institute will select a number of people from among those who volunteer).

We can anticipate updates during the summer and fall in the diocesan E-News. Any resolutions for the Annual Convention generated from the Audit, and Convention actions, will also be reported.





LAY MINISTRY by Marty Vega



When you think about our church, and picture the buildings, chapel, and office, do you also imagine the courtyard, classrooms, and parking lot? Have you noticed that our lawns look pretty good and that dandelions haven't taken over?

Our behind-the-scenes Landscape lay ministry is responsible. There are both large and small tasks done routinely, and I'll bet this Spring, after our rainy season, will require a work party



or two. Flower trimming, weeding, planting, mulching ... what do YOU enjoy doing? In what area are YOU experienced?

Our Facility/Landscape Group is headed by Heidi Erickson. She would love to have you join in the fun, and to hear your ideas for a Spring Fling when the rains stop for a while. Call Heidi at 707-496-1916.

Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers

Altar Guild Choir Coffee Hour 8am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Concerts at Christ Church **Contribution Counters Eucharistic Visitors** Green Team Joy Mass Team

Prayer Circle Ouilters + **Readers and Intercessors** Stream Team Ushers and Greeters Welcome Bags

Royal McCarthy John Patton Kathy Clague David Powell Peg Gardner Lynne Bean Elizabeth Harper-Lawson →707 445-1726 Christ Church Office Elizabeth Harper-Lawson →707 445-1726 Steven Preston Vickie Patton Robin Cardona Jannetje Vrieze Belinda Zander Marty Vega Perry Gray-Reneberg Sharon Kalberer Belinda Zander

→707 498-1215

- →707 443-1825
- →707 822 5860
- → davidbpowell@gmail.com
- →707 443-9627
- →707 822-6086
- →707 442-1797
- →213 304-3715
- →707 443-1825
- →707 267-5825
- →jvdutchgirl@yahoo.com
- →707 442-4222
- →707 443-9782
- →perryggr@gmail.com
- →707 630-3100
- →707 442-4222



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday Sunday of the Passion | March 24 | 8 and 10:30 am Joy Mass Family Service | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour | 9:30 am

Holy Tuesday Centering Prayer March 26 | 6:30 pm | Chapel of Our Merciful Savior and Zoom

The Holy Triduum

Maundy Thursday | March 28 | 6 pm Agape Meal, Footwashing, Stripping of the Altar at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Arcata

Stations of the Cross Sacred Saunter | **Friday, March 29** | 12 noon | Sequoia Park

The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday | March 29 | 6 pm Christ Episcopal Church

Holy Saturday Sacred Saunter | March 30 | 11 am | Sequoia Park

The Great Vigil

Saturday, March 30 | 7 pm | Main Church

Easter Sunday

March 31—Holy Eucharist | 8 & 10:30 AM | Main Church Joy Mass Family Service | 9:30 am | Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Navajo Nation and tribes in South Dakota need prayer shawls for women, baby blankets, ski caps for men and women, socks and scarves for men. Items can be knitted or crocheted. A simple prayer shawl pattern that can be found at <u>shawlministry.com</u>. Items can be found in thrift stores, yard sales as well. The only request is that items be in good condition.



Bishop Barry Beisner, Bishop Provisional of Navajoland Area Mission (and former bishop of Episcopal Diocese of Northern California) says these items are needed and are making a difference.

If you have any questions please contact:

Stephanie Schultz, Oblate Community of the Transfiguration at 707.498.1058.





To all of you!

When I arrive each week with your donations I am greeted with "there she is again with a handful." Thanks to all of you is really not enough. To date this year we have donated 117 pounds, 69 pounds this month alone.

You surpassed my goal last year of 700lbs and I have set a goal of 800 for this year (2024) and if we keep it up we will make it.

Many THANKS Bev

FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY MARCH 17

Fresh Produce Sunday is March 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....



Music Coordinator/Organist Search Committee News

Submitted by Grey Brothers

Preparing for our beloved Merry Phillips's retirement, the search committee to fill the Music Coordinator/Organist position is in full swing. I agreed to chair the committee, which includes Ann Carter, Steve Cole, Paul Gossard, and Lyn Klay. We have established a timeline for the search, which will begin this week with local, regional, and national postings of the job announcement, will continue with a vetting of applications by the committee members leading to invitations to interview and audition by early summer, and culminating, we hope, in a hire by August. Please keep the search committee in your prayers! We trust just the right person to fill this demanding post is ready to join us at Christ Church Eureka.

Since I am pretty new to the Christ Church community, you may wonder who I am. My wife Carrie, a PA with Open Door Community Health, and I moved to Eureka from Santa Barbara in June of 2022, my having retired from teaching courses and conducting choirs at Westmont College. For over thirty years I was choir director and Minister of Choral and Congregational Music at Trinity Episcopal in Santa Barbara. Both Carrie and I sing in the Christ Church choir and are delighted to be part of the community!



Prize-winning Hungarian organist

Christ Episcopal Church

H and 15th Streets, Eureka presents

Sándor Balatoni, organ & Philip Ficsor, violin

In a varied program of solo and duo works



Acclaimed Hungarian-American violinist

First Prize, Zsámbék National Organ Competition Special Prize, 7th and 8th Salgótarján National Organ Competitions "Completely assured technically and brilliantly vivid musically." - Rodney Lister, *Tempo*

Sunday, April 7, 2024, 4:00 pm

Suggested donation: \$20 per person Reception following the concert



Quilters+

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



You are invited to gather with us on Wednesday, March 13 between 9:30 and 11:30 am in Lewis Hall. Fleece and scissors are

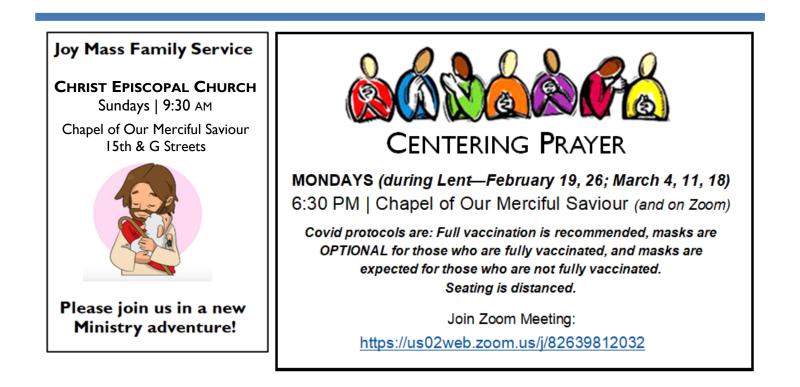
provided along with easy instructions – measure, cut, snip. Then poke the fringe strips through a small slit. Before long there's another cozy and colorful fleece throw, a comforting gift for a foster child!

We have plenty of fabric available for anyone who would like to make a fleece-backed tied prayer quilt to comfort those who are ill, recovering from surgery or shut-ins. Come and see what is available and begin a new prayer quilt.

Coffee and snacks and conversation, busy hands – a great way to spend a morning. Check us out!

> 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.





March 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.**

Gisele Rivinus	03/01	Beverly Olson	03/18
Tom Arnall	03/02	Reina Williamson	03/19
Julie Cairns	03/03	Jensen Charles Lasell	03/20
Mary McNelis	03/03	Dr. Angus Stewart	03/22
Daniel London	03/06	John Hendricks	03/28
Ann Carter	03/12	Jacqueline Moore	03/29
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry	03/13	Greg Bean	03/30
Lisa Bennett	03/15	Lois Gossard	03/31
Gordon Carter	03/15	Jim Hendry	03/31
Katherine Clague	03/18		
Heidi Erickson	03/18		



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.**

Francis & Gisele Rivinus	03/04
Steve & Margaret Cole	03/15
Paul & Pam Gossard	03/17



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 March 2024 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 March, 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 churches in our deanery, this month, we pray especially for St Paul's, Crescent City.We ask that they be lifted up so as to lift up others when comfort, support and encouragement are needed.We ask that you bless them in their Sunday evening fellowship as they share something of their own faith and that the Lenten music, sharing, fellowship and study will be meaningful and unifying so they become one mind and body under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.



People: Lord, hear our prayer.

March 3

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Grass Valley The Rev. Seth Kellermann, Rector The Very Rev. Canon Mary Hauck, Priest Associate

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of the Province of Uganda The Most Rev. Stephen Kazlimba, Archbishop and Bishop of Mityana

March 10

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Faith Episcopal Church, Cameron Park The Rev. Tom Gartin, Priest-in-Charge

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Carmichael The Rev. Mary Claugus, Rector

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Episcopal Church The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry Presiding Bishop and Primate

March 17

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Cloverdale The Rev. Tim McDonald, Associate

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of Wales The Most Rev. Andrew John Archbishop and Primate of Wales and Bishop of Bangor

March 24

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Susanville The Rev. David Cohen, Priest-in-Charge

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Alturas The Rev. David Cohen, Priest-in-Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of the Province of West Africa The Most Rev. Dr. Cyril Kobina Ben-Smith Archbishop and Bishop of Asante Mampong

March 31

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Auburn The Rev. Brian Rebholtz, Rector

Grace Episcopal Church, Fairfield The Rev. Karen Freeman, Rector

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church in the Province of the West Indies The Most Rev. Howard Gregory, Primate and Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

April 7

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Grace Episcopal Church, St. Helena The Rev. Amy Denney Zuniga, Rector

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria The Most Rev. Dr. Samy Fawzy Primate and Metropolitan and Archbishop of Alexandria

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.

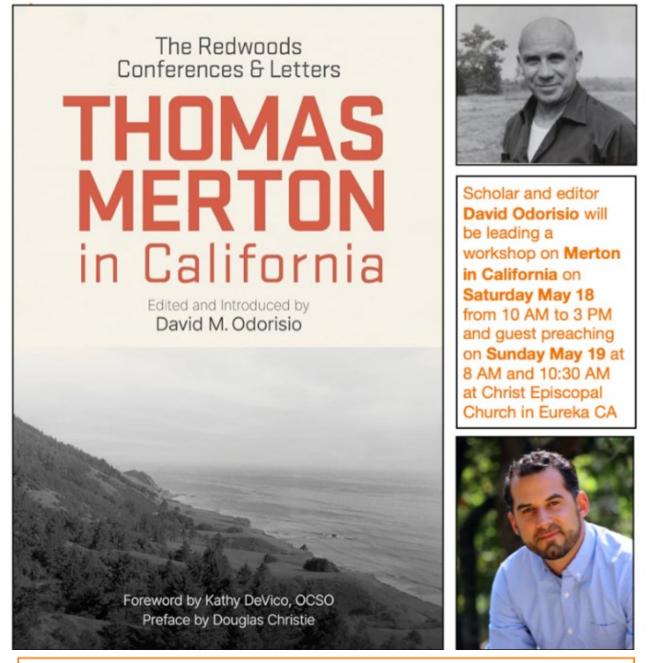


March 2024

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 • <u>christchurcheureka@gmail.com</u> | Website • www.christchurch

Sunday March 31 EASTER DAY 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream	9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream BACH ON! Concert 4:00 PM Main Curch	24 PALM SUNDAY Sunday of the Passion 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II	Fourth Sunday III Lent 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY	Tourth Cunder in Lost 17	Fourth Sunday in Lent LAETARE SUNDAY On Laetare Sunday, the tradition is to wear rose pink! 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream	10	8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II 9:30 AM—Joy Mass Family Service 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II and livestream JUST ONE CAN SUNDAY	Third Sunday in Lent	SUN
	For Centering Pra	25	Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	18	Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	11	Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	4	3
	complete sche ver Maundy Thursda	HO	BOOK STUDY The Gray Bird Sings The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall	19	BOOK STUDY The Gray Bird Sings The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall	12	BOOK STUDY The Gray Bird Sings The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn 5:30-7 PM Lewis Hall	5	-
	For complete schedule of services see p. 17 Centering Prayer Maundy Thursday Good Friday Holy Saturday Sacred Saunter	26 27 HOLY WEEK	Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	20	Quilters+ 9:30 AM Lewis Hall	13	STAFF & Worship Committees Meet Lewis Hall Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	6	٤
	s see p. 17 aturday Sacred Sa	28	BIBLE STUDY The Gospel of Mark 12:30-2:00 PM Lewis Hall	21	BIBLE STUDY The Gospel of Mark 12:30-2:00 PM Lewis Hall	14	BIBLE STUDY The Gospel of Mark 12:30-2:00 PM Lewis Hall	7	Th
	Inter	29		22		15 57		œ	П
	Vigil Rehearsal 1:30 PM Main Church The Great Vigil 7 PM Main Church	30 Holy Saturday Sacred Saunter 11 AM Sequoia Park	Altar Guild 10 AM Palm Sunday Rehearsal 1:30 PM Main Church	23	Altar Guild 10 AM Patrick of Ireland Sacred Saunter 11 AM Sequoia Park	16	10 AM	9 Altar Guild	SAT

"Who can see such trees and bear to be away from them? I must go back...when I was there I was unutterably happy...especially by the sea, I felt I was home." - Thomas Merton describing the Redwoods and the Lost Coast



In May and October of 1968, Thomas Merton offered two extended conferences at the Redwoods Monastery here in Humboldt County. Comprising over twentysix hours of previously unpublished material, *Thomas Merton in California* covers a variety of topics including ecology and consciousness, yoga and Hinduism, Native American ritual and rites of passage, Sufi spirituality, and inter-religious dialogue, along with extended discussions on prayer and the contemplative life. Join us at Christ Church on May 18 and 19 to learn from the editor about this largest remaining uncatalogued repository of Thomas Merton's legacy.

Christ Episcopal Church Eureka | 625 15th Street | Eureka CA 95501



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

Mike Robnett, Sexton Thomas Swanger – Administrative Assistant

THE VESTRY

Elizabeth Harper-Lawson, Senior Warden; Heidi Erickson, Junior Warden; Peg Gardner, Clerk; Francis Rivinus, Treasurer; Dr. Bob Hines, Treasurer Emeritus; The Venerable Pam Gossard; Robin Cardona, Roni Carlson, Lin Chase, Steve Cole, Ian Haynes, Lyn Klay, Royal McCarthy

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