

# THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE news & update

#### **SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

Coffee Hour: Tricia Christensen

Usher: Betsy Alexander Altar Guild: Betsy Alexander Acolyte: Louise Delafield

The Lesson: Annemarie Redmond The Epistle: Casey McKibben Intercessions: Sarah Halsey

#### HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 24th

10 a.m. Service - Palm Sunday Nursery Sunday School

#### **CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK**

**Birthdays** 

Ruth Ann Wrucke, June Tunnell, Eden White

Anniversaries

Andrea Kohler & Per Bjorke



Click Here for Bulletin/Order of Service



For pastoral care we invite you to reach out to The Reverend Claire Dietrich Ranna

Tel: 650-948-2151 x 203 Cell: 415-305-0593 Email: claire@ccla.us

### **CHRIST CHURCH PRAYS**

Please join as a community in lifting up the following people to God in prayer:

**Remembrance** -- Tim Sheehan, Doug Soffey, William Whittington, Myrlee Walker, Eleanor McKee, Eric Roles, Janice Marie Lovoi

**Healing** -- Paul Lovoi, Carl Cheney, Chris O'Connell, George Mallinckrodt, Betsy Alexander, Robert Redfern-West, Hugh Sawyer, Peggy Dubes

# **HOLY WEEK**



# March 24 (Palm Sunday) — 10 a.m.

Worship with us, then join Rev. Michael after coffee hour in distributing palms to passing bikers.

# March 28 (Maundy Thursday) — 6 p.m.

Community Dinner. Please RSVP to nicole@ccpvw.org.

# March 29 (Good Friday) — 7 p.m.

Worship with us at Christ Church Los Altos. Our choirs combine to present a choral reflection on the Passion.

# March 30 (Holy Saturday) — 7 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter.

# March 31 (Easter Sunday) — 10 a.m.

Easter Sunday Worship followed by an Easter Egg Hunt!

# **EASTER EGG HUNT**



# EASTER EGG HUNT

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31** 

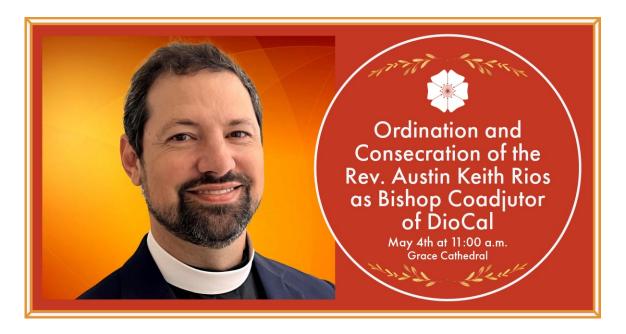
TIME: 11:00 AM
FOLLOWING THE
10:00 AM SERVICE

CHRIST CHURCH
815 PORTOLA RD PORTOLA VALLEY



# **JUNIOR BACH**

**Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m.** Two Junior Bach programs will be taking place at our church. Come hear children from around the Bay play Bach on our new piano, beautiful organ, and other instruments like violin and even harpsichord!



# Registration is now open for the May 4 ordination and consecration service

Register now to save your seat!

The Rev. Austin Keith Rios will be ordained and consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of California at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 4 at Grace Cathedral.

Please share this invitation (English, Español) with anyone who may want to attend in person or via live stream.

Please remind in-person attendees to register via this link: <a href="https://diocalbishopsearch.org/registration/">https://diocalbishopsearch.org/registration/</a>.

#### **CARILLON SPRING AUCTION**

Dear Christ Church Community,

The countdown has begun for the Carillon Spring Auction: Galactic Gala, a Cosmic Cause! It's time to buy your tickets and get ready to blast off to a faraway galaxy for an evening of glitter and glam and a sparkling good time!

Come in glitter and sparkles, or as your favorite Star Wars character on **Saturday**, **May 4th from 6:30pm to 9:30pm to Christ** 



Church in Portola Valley!

We invite you to please *purchase your tickets* for this super fun event! Let's celebrate together with a night of fun, food, friends, silent auction, raffles, and dancing the night away in support of our favorite preschool!

The auction lineup includes awesome prizes at every price point, details coming soon...

Tickets are available ONLINE NOW- please click **HERE** to purchase tickets and/or donate! We would love for

everyone to attend - there is absolutely **NO** expectation to bid! If you would like to attend with a donated ticket, please reach out to Anne Van der Staay or Cara O'Connell to receive a ticket donated by a community member.

We are So excited to see you all and support our amazing preschool!

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who have pledged or contributed to our 2024 Stewardship Campaign. These funds are the lifeblood of our parish and are vital to our existence We greatly appreciate everyone's collective generosity! To date, we have raised \$280,000 from 42 donors. Our goal (and our need) is \$375K from 70 donors so we still have a ways to go!

Please consider how you can support Christ Church in 2024 and let us know viathis form or by email or by returning your pledge card.

# **OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS**





3/30 Dinner for 84 at Coast House: On Saturday March 30th Outreach volunteers will make a scrumptious dinner for the residents of Coast House, with your help. Contact Ruth Ann Wrucke at 650-851-8435 or <a href="mailto:cwrucke@mindspring.com">cwrucke@mindspring.com</a> to volunteer. Bakers and sous chefs are needed. Most of the preparation will be done on Friday but people are also needed on Saturday. Coast House is one of the newest of the Life Moves shelters and houses 84 adults, couples, plus a few families (with 12 kids) in a converted Coast side motel. It is the only interim shelter with support services for those experiencing homelessness on the San Mateo Coast; those services are provided irregardless of immigration status.

Easter Baskets for a Dozen Coast House Kids - During coffee hour on Sunday March 17th the congregation helped assemble candy-filled Easter eggs for an egg hunt for a dozen children staying at Coast House shelter in Half Moon Bay. Thank you bunnies!! Easter basket components are being gathered and we could still use a couple of small tablets of drawing paper. Can you help? Signup on the Sign Up Genius: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FA8AE2DA13-48675841-easter#/form/Standard">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FA8AE2DA13-48675841-easter#/form/Standard</a> then deliver your pledged items to the marked box in the breezeway by noon on Saturday March 30th. Everything will be delivered on Saturday March 30th at 3:00, along with the dinner. Questions, contact Carol Wentworth at <a href="mailto:carol\_wentworth@hotmail.com">carol\_wentworth@hotmail.com</a>

SpiritCare Visit to Silver Oaks: On Sunday March 17th, also known as St. Patrick's Day we shared a wee bit of Irish photography of ancient sites along with a bit of Trad (Traditional) music. Photos from the Emerald Isle accompanied the story of St. Patrick's illegal Easter Even bonfire in 432 AD followed by a "magic battle" with the druid priests on Tara Hill. Patrick won which resulted in the Irish, mostly, converting to Christianity. Patrick worked hard to train future Christian leaders including St. Finian who started Irish monasticism and trained the twelve apostles of Ireland; two were especially impressive as St Brendan was the first European to discover North America and St. Columba brought Christianity to Scotland. We shared green four leaf clover cookies, for luck. If you want to know more about St. Patrick, the Keynote presentation is attached, complete with a link to a Trad music

session. There was singing of Easter hymns and hymns about God guiding our thoughts and actions. We concluded with singing Amazing Grace and saying the Lord's Prayer. Our thanks to singer Nora Bevan, cookie baker Erin Miller, pianist Angela Hey and presenter Kathy Kennedy.

Contact Angela Hey at <a href="mailto:amhey@heymash.com">amhey@heymash.com</a> or 650-796-2377 to volunteer next month, Sunday April 21st, 1:30 when we talk about Earth Day.. SpiritCare provides spiritual and emotional support for "forgotten" elderly and disabled residents at over 60 care centers in the Bay Area. Christ Church has partnered in this important ministry with Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park.

**Life Moves Benefit Lunch:** On **Thursday April 25th, 11:30AM** at Crowne Plaza, Palo Alto a lunch will be held to benefit Life Moves, which provides interim housing for 1500 people EVERY night in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Outreach has worked with Life Moves since its inception and applauds the 2100 people last year who moved from homeless to permanently housed. Stephanie Land, the author of NY Best Sellers Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive) is the featured speaker. President Obama calls *Maid* an "unflinching look at America's class divide and a reminder of the dignity of all work." This book is the inspiration of the Netflix series Maid. Land's most recent book (2023) is Class: A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education. Land takes us with her as she finishes college and pursues her writing career. Facing barriers at every turn including a byzantine loan system, food insecurity, the judgments of professors and fellow students who didn't understand the demands of attending college while under the poverty line—Land finds a way to survive once again, finally graduating in her midthirties. Tickets are \$150/person. RSVP by Thursday April 11th. Donations made will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$1M thanks to a matching grant.

President's Volunteer Service Award - The President's Volunteer Service Award is a civil award bestowed by the President of the United States to honor volunteers that give hundreds of hours a year helping others. The Outreach Committee was recently approved as a volunteer certifying organization. Anyone who is a US citizen or Green Card holder, ages 5 and up, can have their volunteer hours\* "certified" towards a Presidential award. We do have to keep track of your hours so submit them to Kathy Kennedy at <a href="kennedyiti@aol.com">kennedyiti@aol.com</a> This award program is run by AmeriCorp and it used to be part of George HW Bush's a Thousand Points of Light organization.

Hours Required to Earn Awards in Each Age Group

Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime Achievement Award
Kids (5-10 years old)	26-49 hours	50–74 hours	75+ hours	4,000+ hours
Teens (11-15)	50-74 hours	75–99 hours	100+ hours	4,000+ hours
Young Adults (16-25)	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250+ hours	4,000+ hours
Adults (26+)	100-249 hours	250-499 hours	500+ hours	4,000+ hours

<sup>\*</sup> Volunteer hours cannot be political or religious.

Full-Sized Toiletries and Laundry Supplies Delivered: Coast House shelter in Half Moon Bay (84 people including 12 children) and Redwood Family House (RFH) in Redwood City (a shelter for 10 families) were in urgent need of full-sized toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, TP, Kleenex and more). Plus laundry supplies (laundry pods, dryer sheets). Thanks to you, things are much better now.

A first delivery was made on Saturday February 3rd to Coast House, prior to the drive beginning since they were out of everything; a delivery to Redwood Family house (100 items) was made on Tuesday February 20th to the joy of the staff and families. The final delivery of a van load of supplies to Coast House was made on Thursday March 7th and it was fun to have some of the moms and four year old Olive help unload. Thank you to boxers/deliverers: Kathy Kennedy, Dave Miller, Cara O'Connell and Mary Soubirous.

Thank you to all who donated!!! You are wonderful. Thank you Betsy Alexander, Mickie Anderson, Anonymous, Tricia Christensen, Sandy Cold, Barbara Creed, Louise Delafield, Patty Dewes, Julie Fouquet, Katja Gagen, Lisa Hill, Kathy Kennedy, Eda Lim, Lenore Lovoi, Dave Miller, Erin Miller, Outreach Committee, Pam Padilla, Carol Wentworth. Questions, contact Kathy Kennedy at <a href="mailto:kennedyiti@aol.com">kennedyiti@aol.com</a> or 650-291-9678.

**Seeking Hotel-sized Toiletries:** Are you on vacation or going on one soon? If you picked up any travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap or lotion during your last hotel stay, you can donate them. Bring them to the box in the breezeway. And if you have a toothbrush or toothpaste your dentist gave you on your last visit that you have no use for, they could use that too. Children's toiletries will be delivered to Redwood Family House in Redwood City. In Match toiletries were delivered to the Navigation Center in Redwood City (formerly Maple Street Shelter) which houses 260 adults. Our thanks to Mary Soubirous for doing the delivery.



**Women's Spirituality** meets on Wednesday morning from 10:00 - 11:30 remotely, on Zoom. Contact Mary Jennings at <a href="mailto:emjennings@aol.com">emjennings@aol.com</a> for more information. On February 14th we began reading <a href="Falling Upward">Falling Upward</a>: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life by Richard Rohr. "Drawing on the wisdom from time-honored myths, heroic poems, great thinkers and religious texts, the author explores the two halves of life to show that those who have fallen, failed, or "gone down" are the only ones who understand "up." We grow spiritually more by doing it wrong than by doing it right. A few useful quotes from the book are "Sin happens whenever we refuse to keep growing." "The people who know God well - mystics, hermits, prayerful people, those who risk everything to find God - always meet a lover not a dictator. Intrigued? Join us. Weekly readings are assigned, then the the group discusses them during the meeting.

In these divided times, outside of the group, some of us are also reading The Kingdom, the Power, the Glory: American Evangelism in an Age of Extremism by Tim Alberta. One of Barack Obama's favorite books of the year, the award winning-journalist and staff writer of *The Atlantic* follows up his New York Times Best Seller American Carnage with this timely, rigorously reported and deeply personal examination of the divisions that threaten to destroy the American evangelical movement. If there is interest, we anticipate doing a one week discussion (1 1/2 hours) on this book in the future.

#### **EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY**

**Bearing Witness: Lenten Study** 

Christ Church Los Altos is having a Lenten Study this year which centers the lives and stories of Christians living in the Holy Land. This year they'll join Episcopal congregations across the country in a five-week series called <u>Bearing Witness</u> created by the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem. This series, produced before the war began, centers the lives of Christians and the ministry of the Anglican church in this blessed and broken corner of creation. We'll hear directly from lay and ordained leaders, learn more about the day to day life in Israel and Palestine, and come to understand more deeply the challenges and opportunities of our brothers and sisters in Christ who live and move and have their being in the same land as Jesus. Each of the five sessions focuses on a theme of Jesus' ministry: Belonging, Healing, Teaching, Breaking Barriers, Building Hope. All are welcome!

This Lenten Study kicks off with a potluck in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday**, **February 21st from 6pm - 7:30pm**. There is no Community Dinner that week so the whole session will take place in the Parish Hall. In the weeks that follow, we'll all gather for Community Dinner and eat from 6pm - 6:30pm, then everyone interested in the study will be invited to one of our classrooms from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. We'll provide additional childcare supervision of the Parish Hall during that hour for any parents with young children. **The series runs from Wednesday**, **February 21st through Wednesday**, **March 20th**.







Christ Church | 815 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028

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