

# THE EPISTLE

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WALNUT CREEK | SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022



## A Message From The Reverend Krista Fregoso

### Have you heard this recently?

"At this time, all of our customer service representatives are attending to other callers. Your call will be answered in the order received; please visit our website for online assistance. If you would like to speak to a customer service representative, the average wait time is 45 minutes. Thank you."

After waiting the absurd time, I am then put into a different queue with an additional waitlist time. It is frustrating, especially when some of those nightmare calls are to health care providers.

At times it seems that nothing is working as expected anymore. So many of our systems are worn and stressed, with a shortage of service providers, coupled with tired workers frayed from the pandemic, coupled with continuous disruptions in our supply chain.

In her blog *The Corners*, Nadia Botz-Weber, a Lutheran pastor, wrote about her five-hour drama stuck in a plane on the tarmac, only to find out after a 30-minute reprieve at the gate that the flight was canceled. She suggests it is time to create a survival guide to life. The first on her list is to find **gratitude** in the moment.

Gratitude? That sounds like a Hallmark channel's simple guide to a better life. How can gratitude really help?!

*Cont'd. on pg. 14*



### IN THIS ISSUE

A Message From  
The Rev. Lynne

Musical Notes

Meet Your New  
Seminararian

Did You Know?

Concert Review

The Joys of Travel

Reminders

What Can One Person  
Do?

Church Bylaws

Property Update

Celebrating  
Nancy Burchett

How Do You Sustain  
a Spirit of Gratitude?

Trinity Center

Helping Hungry  
Neighbors

What Books and Movies  
Have You Enjoyed?

Inspiration



## A Message From The Reverend Lynne Sharp



A number of years ago the Episcopal Church started to observe Creation Season from September 1 through St. Francis Day on October 4, when some churches hold a blessing of animals. Over the years this has morphed in many ways, but this year we hope that our liturgy will reflect some of the wonder of Creation.

Did you know that there are about 7,500 varieties of apples in the world, and about 2,500 hundred varieties in the US, depending on the resource you search? When I read Genesis hearing God day-by-day creating with the spoken Word and the power of the Spirit, it seems like there must be only one or two of each species. “Then God said, ‘Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear with the seed in it.’” (Genesis 1:11) However, we quickly learn that God never stops creating, and didn’t stop with one variety or color of rose or any other vegetation...or insect...or animal. When I stop to ponder this my brain lights up! God, in full glory, delights us, surprises us, exceeds our expectations, and will never ever cease to amaze.

I love taking my morning and evening walks when I take the time to pause and enjoy everything around me. Every single day the sky looks different, the smell in the air changes, some plants spring up, others fade. It is my prayer time, my me time, my time to listen and sort out the day. Once a month I try to take a day of rest in the wilderness, where I seem to be able to settle in with God and just breathe and listen. It is at those times when I am most deeply grateful for all I have been given: a relationship with God, my family, my friends, a living wage, delicious food, books, travels, adventures, and nature.

*O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.*

(Psalm 96:11-12)

One of the things I love about Psalm 96 is that creation joins in the praise of our Creator—the heavens are “glad,” the earth “rejoices,” the sea “roars,” the trees “sing for joy!” When was the last time you paused to hear creation rejoice? When was the last time you really stopped to taste the complex flavors of the food you were consuming? Or the last time you lingered at the farmers market to smell fresh, ripe produce and to savor the samples?

*Cont'd. on pg. 5*





## Musical Notes

By ERIC NEWELL, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Happy Fall, St. Paul's!

I hope you had a beautiful summer! As the days draw shorter and cooler, and we inch closer to holidays, which rely on the human spirit to provide the warmth which the climate of the new season often cannot, I find myself feeling particularly thankful for this parish and the experiences we share.

Gratitude seems inherent in our new seasonal setting of service music, **Mass of Creation**. There is a natural sense of wonder and awe to be found in the Gloria and the Sanctus especially, and I look forward to hearing the majestic acclaims being sung throughout our sanctuary. Meanwhile, the Agnus Dei is more meditative in its tempo and melodic line—it holds a special place in my heart for its innate ability to remind us of the eternal mystery found in our Lamb of God, who “takes away the sins of the world...”

But there is so much more in this community for which to practice gratitude. I recently attended a California Choral Directors Association conference (yes, this is *the* place for choral nerds in our state to unite), where master teacher Tesfa Wondemagegnehu began his first session by teaching us a song with these lyrics:

*You’ve gotta put one foot in front of the other, and **lead in love**.*

Simple, right? Obvious, even? As Tesfa taught us and reminded us over the following days though, living out this command is sometimes extremely demanding, even seemingly impossible. It is uplifting and hope-giving to see smiles from the time I enter our campus to the time I leave and to know the persevering involvement of St. Paul’s in the greater community, both at an individual level and as a faithful collective.

If you are giving your time to **lead in love**, know that I am personally grateful for your pouring of your cup into others’ who are reaching empty. Your faith and work are essential—to those who benefit directly, but also to those who witness and follow. Our world now desperately needs this selfless servant leadership, however we can contribute.

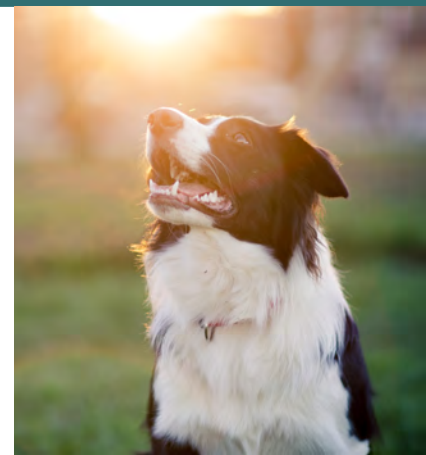
Thank you for reading,  
Eric



## Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 2, 2022

Join us as we commemorate St. Francis, the Patron Saint of Animals, and honor our beloved animal friends!







## Meet Your New Seminarian Cal Payne-Taylor

Hello, friends in Christ!

I'm Cal Payne-Taylor, your new seminarian intern for the coming academic year. I am a cradle Episcopalian raised in the Boston area by an Anglo-Catholic family and Reformed Jewish godparents, so the beauty of "High Church" Episcopal liturgy, as well as building interreligious connections and community, have always been guiding passions of mine.

Having lived in the Bay Area since 2015, I am now entering the second year of my Master of Divinity program at Church Divinity School of the Pacific. I also hold a Master of Arts from UC Berkeley in medieval and early modern European religious history. You'll find me an especially enthusiastic conversation partner at Coffee Hour if you bring up the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, *Star Trek*, *M\*A\*S\*H*, long-range backpacking, Christian existentialism, or gardening of any kind. I'm a tree climber, avid outdoorsman, contemplative extrovert, and complete goofball.

As a Postulant for the priesthood right here in the Diocese of California, there's no other parish I'd rather learn and serve with than St. Paul's, and I can't wait to dive into Christian formation and fellowship with you.

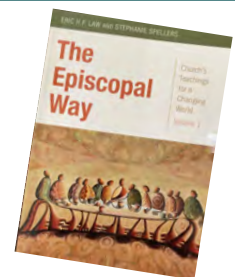
Peace be with you. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Thanks, Cal

## Did You Know?

By RHEA WILLIAMS

Did you know that when making difficult decisions, the Episcopal Church is guided by ethical principles?



In *The Episcopal Way*, authors Eric H.F. Law and Stephanie Spellers pose this question: "How do Episcopalians decide the right thing to do?" They note the metaphor of "the three legged stool," saying that it represents "a balanced approach that appeals to the authority of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason." Scripture is the word of God as written in the Bible. Tradition includes prayers, doctrines, practices, structures, and stories, while Reason refers to our intelligence and experiences.

When these tools are used together, Scripture, Tradition, and Reason serve as reliable guides for ethical decision-making, empowering Episcopalians to make difficult decisions as they consider competing points of view.



## Concert Review: Volti

By DEBORAH WEBSTER,  
CONCERT SERIES PRODUCTION MANAGER



What an incredible concert! Volti set the stage with the most illustrative sounds and you could practically see the music as intensely as hear it. This a cappella voice ensemble presented modern pieces that were inspired by poetry, a day in the desert, a remembrance of 9/11, and other current reflections that were familiar to the audience. These pieces painted the scenes with bold

strokes overlapping with whimsical, prayerful, giddy, mournful, and often reverent colors. The composers included percussive sounds and sliding scales for which there are no symbols for annotating in musical scores. The ensemble executed these exceptionally well, layering them over tonal progressions and melodies. We thank Volti for introducing the St. Paul's Concert Series to such current modern compositions with this marvelous performance.



### St. Paul's Concert Series Saturdays | 7:00 pm

September 10: Ensemble Ari, Violin & Cello Duet  
October 22: Marina Tolstova, Soprano

For details, visit [stpaulswc.org/concert-series](http://stpaulswc.org/concert-series)



## Message from The Rev. Lynne Sharp *Cont'd. from pg. 2*

When did you last go to your favorite spot, whether on your back patio or out to the ocean just to sit and watch the sunset?

In this Season of Creation, and the beginning of a new school year when the days become shorter and we anticipate the end of Daylight Saving Time (November 6), I invite you to slow down and remember all the good gifts we have been given.

Peace, Lynne





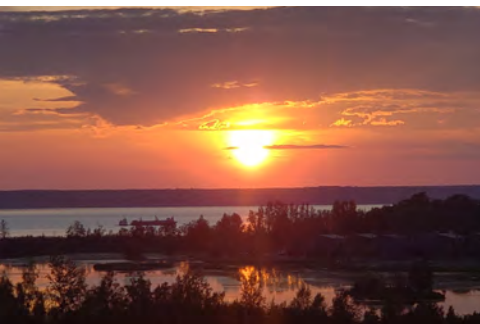
## The Joys of Travel

By DEBORAH WEBSTER

Why do we travel? The joys of traveling may start with simple benefits, such as a change of scenery and a feeling of freedom from daily routines. But let's go deeper; what do we experience from a road trip that changes us, even just a little bit, where our lives are enriched when we return home?

Phil and I are grateful for the trip of a lifetime this summer. We left Walnut Creek in mid-May, steering our camper van northbound for the Canadian border, and continued northward all the way to the Arctic Circle of Interior Alaska. Meeting up with many friends along the way, we renewed our closeness with them after months and often years of separation. And, as our trek progressed, we met new friends, fellow travelers who were in the throes of their great adventures, to whom we were grateful for their sharing. We now have new life-long friends that know us only as "travelers," and we have shared something deep and transcendent with them.

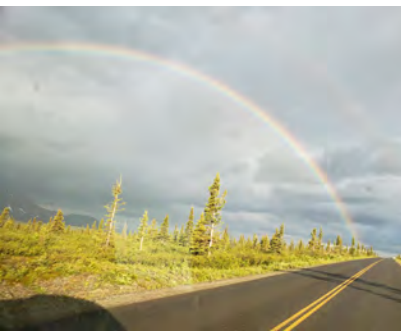
To say we "saw some great scenery" along the way would be a huge understatement. The mind-blowing beauty of the mountains, valleys, waterways, fauna, and flora out there will leave you giddy, throwing your head back in amazement at the wonders that God has created. To stand at the toe of the Athabasca Glacier, looking up at the expansive Columbia Ice Field near Jasper, Alberta; the memory still brings tears to my eyes. Then, to watch the clouds unveil Alaska's Denali peak in mid-morning, just long enough for us to marvel at its 20,000 ft. dominance over the peaks surrounding it; I am moved. Then, just as quickly as the clouds unveiled the giant, they stirred again and slowly closed the curtain on our view, as if to hide this great northern being until its "show-time" again the next morning.



Traveling by water along the coastal villages, we see another world, First Nations peoples so separated from us, but here we are meeting them in their world, learning how productive their livelihood is, even if it is considered "subsistence-living" by other cultures. Their way of life has sustained them for a thousand years in this land. We would be hard-pressed to last one winter, and yet we are the "more developed" society? And still, the kindness in their greeting transcends all history and culture. Phil and I are touched and humbled. Returning home, our world has been changed by our travel experiences.

Thankfully, we returned unscathed, our camper van intact, and our spirits lifted forever. We are so grateful for the experience, and delighted to share it with you!

For full details of our road trip, you can read our travel journal at [debandphilnow.blogspot.com](http://debandphilnow.blogspot.com).



# Reminders

*New Class!*

## **Caring for Creation Series**

**Sundays | October 9—November 20 | 11:00 am**

**Livingston Conference Room**

Join the **Rev. Lynne** for this seven-part series that will intertwine Scripture, theology, ethics, quizzes, videos, self-reflection, music, prayer, resources, poetry, inventories, and more. We will explore the creation that surrounds us, our impact on the natural world, and our biblical imperatives to care for each other and the earth. This series will be different each week inviting us to reflect on our lives in relation to creation, justice, sustainability, and our natural resources. No prior knowledge needed, just a willingness to listen to how God might be calling you as co-creator to heal our fragile earth. We will start and end each session in prayer and leave plenty of time for reflection and discussion.



## **Stewardship 2022**

Begin now to prepare to commit to St. Paul's Church with "optimism and hope, and [consider your pledge] with strength and conviction and love."  
*Inspired by a Parishioner—Grace Cathedral*

## **Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

"It is a Christian obligation to vote, and more than that, it is the church's responsibility to help get souls to the polls." ~*Presiding Bishop Michael Curry*

Be sure to cast your vote on or before November 8! To learn more, visit [civicholidays.org](http://civicholidays.org).



*Join the discussion!*

## **St. Paul's Online Book Groups**

### **Afternoon Group, 1:30 pm**

Thursday, September 8: *Facing the Mountain* by Daniel James Brown

Thursday, October 13: *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

### **Evening Group, 7:00 pm**

Thursday, September 8: *The Nightwatch* by Louise Erdrich

Thursday, October 13: *The Stranger in a Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom



## What Can One Person Do?

By SHARON TAPLIN



My niece, **Clare Orton**, was killed when she was just 19. She was filled with hope for the future and a desire to work for the environment, making the world a better place. My daughter started a social media movement (@RunforClare) to gather support for an annual run that takes place in October in honor of her cousin. In addition to the training schedule and healthy recipes, she has provided information about violence against women and the environment. Our family's tragedy has made me want to be more informed and support the causes that can make the world a better place. You can, too.

In addition to the social media account, my daughter reached out to a local coffee house, **Rooted Coffee Co.** in Walnut Creek, and asked if they would consider adding an item to their menu in honor of my niece. We were thrilled when they not only agreed to create an acai bowl but also proposed that with every acai bowl sold they would donate to **One Tree Planted**, an organization that plants a tree for every dollar donated. We are happy that something positive in our own community could come from a tragic event, and we hope it brings lasting change.

What can you do? Start small and start locally. Donate to causes you support. Buy an acai bowl, or do whatever you can to raise money for positive change. Promote worthy causes by sharing the information about them with others. Watch the support grow and know that one person *can* make a difference.

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## St. Paul's Episcopal Church Bylaws Regarding Nominations for Vestry

4.2 ...Parish members wishing to serve as candidates [for Vestry] may submit their names to the [Nominating] Committee before October 15 and if they are eligible under Section 4.3 of these Bylaws, their names will be included on the slate. Members of the congregation may submit names to the committee sixty days before the parish meeting date as well, and with those persons' agreement and eligibility under Section 4.3, their names will also appear on the slate. The slate shall be published to the parish at least forty-five days before the annual parish meeting...

4.3 Eligibility of Nominees. All nominees for election as vestry members or delegates/alternates to the Diocesan Convention shall be communicants in good standing registered in the parish for at least one year, age eighteen or over, and regular contributors to the support of the parish as confirmed by the pledge treasurer. A retiring or resigning vestry member may not again serve on the vestry until one year has elapsed, except that a member completing less than two years of service may be elected for a full term. Incumbent delegates/alternates to Diocesan Convention may again be nominated and elected as delegates/alternates on expiration of their terms.



## Property Update

By KEN JESSUP

There have been many accomplishments around St. Paul's property these past couple of months. We are grateful for the commitment of the Vestry to carefully maintain and be good stewards of our property. Some of the projects completed include:

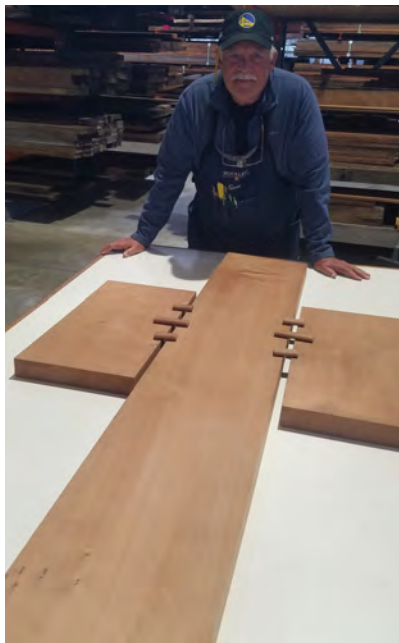
- Office wing painted
- Drop ceiling installed in office wing with new tiles and lights
- Both office wing restrooms painted
- New floors in these restrooms
- Parish Hall and Chapel—New gutters, guards and downspouts installed
- Broken Chapel cross removed by gutter/roofing company
- New Chapel cross in production by Gene Blazick

Many thanks to **Jim Bell** and **Richard Kemink** for all the hours of painting and installing new restroom floors in the office wing. We are grateful for their excellent work and effort.

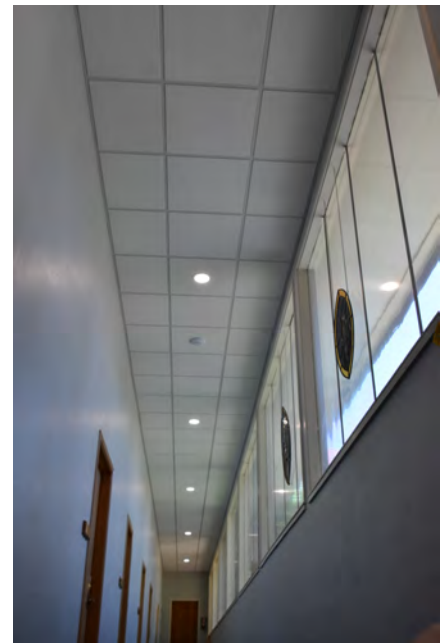
In the last Epistle we mentioned that Gene Blazick had his first communion at St. Paul's as a young boy and also was an Acolyte. He's making good progress on our new cross. We are so grateful that Gene came forward to make this new cross for our chapel with craftsmanship and pride.



*Gene with the template pattern*



*Gene with "biscuits" used to glue and hold the pieces together*



*The new drop ceiling and lights in the office wing*

## Celebrating Nancy Burchett

By SHERI GROSJEAN

You've seen **Nancy Burchett** at the lectern on Sunday mornings, or sitting in prayerful reflection about four rows back from the front of the church, and connecting with friends at coffee hour each week—one of her favorite things to do.



One Saturday in 1967, Nancy and her husband **Max** moved into their Walnut Creek home with two young children, and attended St. Paul's Church the very next day. Nancy's daughter, **Christina Burchett Petersen**, distinctly remembers attending St. Paul's preschool and observing conversations between her beloved teacher **Lois Foster** and her mother, and weekly potluck suppers and other fellowship activities. Chris expresses much gratitude to her parents for her upbringing in St. Paul's Church. Of her mom she says, "She gave St. Paul's to my brother and me, providing us with this group of people who are still so significant in our lives."



Nancy has participated for 55 years in the life of St. Paul's. She was the first woman Lector here, raising more than a few eyebrows early on as she persisted in achieving this ministry. Her list of loving service also includes Lay Eucharistic Minister, Altar Guild member, and homilist at Sunday morning worship on two separate occasions. "I loved doing that!" she exclaims. Add to those things Vestry, search committee, Women's Retreat, office volunteer, Folk Choir, dinner groups, and benefactor of St. Paul's charities and outreach missions, especially Trinity Center. Oh! And the Valentine Tea and Rummage Sale set-up volunteer. Her years of attendance at St. Paul's are punctuated by summers at Family Camp. Nancy and Max are early Eel River "Irregulars," and she is renowned for her delicious cashew chicken, prepared lovingly in a giant wok under the redwoods.

Nancy's spiritual practices extend beyond the four walls of St. Paul's. In the Cursillo movement, she was a facilitator/member of a 4th Day Group. She is today a Spiritual Director, and shares Centering Prayer with others which further nurture her spirituality.

Nancy is an inspiration and a beloved and loving child of God.

*Nancy (far right) at the 2001 Women's Retreat at the Villa in Santa Cruz*



## The Epistle Team Asked... How Do You Sustain a Spirit of Gratitude?



### **Walt Busenius**

It may sound strange talking about gratitude given the times we are living in, with so much concern in the news and around us. Most importantly to me, this is the time I am thankful for family, friends, St. Paul's—all given through the grace of God. With gratitude, I am trying daily to acknowledge the goodness in my life. I feel gratitude also helps connect me with something larger than myself, God—my higher power.

### **Marianne Johnson**

I sustain a spirit of gratitude by being mindful of the many blessings in life and the miracles that happen every day. My cup truly runneth over! We have hummingbirds visiting our feeder, I get to have brunch with my father almost every Sunday, and I have a four-month-old granddaughter who has just learned to laugh. These blessings are ongoing. Beautiful sights, acts of kindness, funny stories, connecting with others, collaborating, and solving problems are all part of daily life and I am grateful and humbled to be part of it.



### **Julie Layne**

When I feel complacent, or sorry for myself that I can't do things I used to do or want to do, I try to look at various aspects of my life and compare them with the lives of so many people in the world. I don't have to worry about a roof over my head or food on the table. I have family and good friends nearby. Most importantly, I know that God loves me, guides my choices and decisions, forgives me when I err, and is always there to help me make course corrections.

### **The Rev. Margaretmary Staller**

Difficult to explain, gratitude is a feeling more than an emotion. Within us it is deep and rich and grows with use. It begins with awareness—people, surroundings, silence, the present moment, and God as Trinity who awakens the depth of awareness. Prayers done regularly for others are a base for gratitude. The short arrow prayers when we feel a “thank you” firms the gratitude as we truly observe our surroundings and those we meet daily. Silence is gratitude and meditation is the mate of prayer, the strong foundation for a life of gratitude. At times we may need to pray for the gift of gratitude itself.







## A Wave of Gratitude

By LESLIE GLEASON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



For many years, I did not have much of a prayer “habit,” but these days, I relish starting my day with some quiet conversation with God. I’m glad to simply wake up, and thank God for the things that made yesterday joyful. It could have been a smile from a stranger, a beautiful flower, a gentle breeze—simple moments of gratitude, or it could have been something much deeper and bigger—accomplishing a goal, an unexpected gift of support for the work of Trinity Center, or good news about a loved one facing difficulty. When I start by remembering that God gives me everything I need, it makes even the challenging days go well, knowing that I am never alone. Building this prayer time into my day, which moves from acknowledging all the blessings we enjoy to lifting up the needs of individuals and situations on my mind (and I hope that in those moments, the other people feel a spark of light and peace in their day as well) is an important part of my relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

But recently I’ve realized that my prayer is still a bit too focused on me, and what has happened to me—be it helpful or hurtful. I seldom ponder the effects I have had on others—what have I done that brings joy and gratitude to someone else’s day? Did I miss a chance to do so? Did I hurt someone else, as we say in our traditional prayer of confession, “by what we have done and by what we have left undone?” How can each of us bring more joy and thankfulness to others? I know a group of people who have a lot to teach us in this regard—volunteers! No matter where they serve, and most certainly those who share their time and talent at Trinity Center, they know that our richest treasure is service to others. Bringing joy to others, whether through a relationship built over time serving meals or helping someone pick a new outfit in the clothing room, or even in just for a moment of laughter or music, sends ripples of gratitude across creation.

Whatever cause or concern touches your heart, I hope each of us can find new ways to “catch the wave” of gratitude and send it back out to others!

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## Helping Hungry Neighbors

Even in mostly affluent Contra Costa County, there are many who are hungry. How can we help?

### **Fourth Week Food Cards**

This program provides grocery store cards to families during the fourth week of each month to back-fill the need for food after the monthly food stamps have been exhausted. The cards are distributed to social workers to distribute to families they are currently working with. These are typically for 3-6 months while the families pursue long-term solutions.

Send single or quarterly contributions to: CCIC, 2844 Melanie Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

For questions, please contact [info@stpaulswc.org](mailto:info@stpaulswc.org).

# Church Life

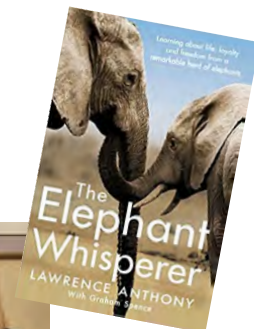
The Epistle Team asked...

## What Books and Movies Have You Enjoyed?

### Barbara Dawson

*The Elephant Whisperer: My Life with the Herd in the African Wild* by Lawrence Anthony

This book is about conservationist Lawrence Anthony, and his family, who own a 5,000 acre wild game preserve in Zululand, South Africa. Lawrence is asked to take on, for free, a herd of wild elephants, nine in total, that were too badly behaved to stay on other game preserves in Africa or they would be killed. The book is about Lawrence's life with the elephants and how he is changed forever.



### Dave Mattern

*Servant of the People* (2015 series, Netflix)

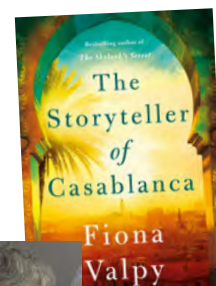
Volodymyr Zelensky, the president of Ukraine, stars in this hit TV series as...the President of Ukraine! He plays a high school history teacher, and after a video of a profanity laced speech deploring the corruption of the government goes viral, his students urge him to run for president, and he wins the election. A professional comedian, he puts together a humorous story about the trappings of power, problems of running the government, and dealing with family and relatives. In 2019, Zelensky became the actual president, with over 70% of the vote. It's as if Martin Sheen, after finishing *The West Wing*, became U.S. president. Warning...the opening theme music is addictive! (49 episodes).



### Nancy Robinson

*The Storyteller of Casablanca* by Fiona Volpy

I enjoyed reading *The Storyteller of Casablanca* by Fiona Volpy. Alternating between two timelines, the book follows the events and choices made by two families: A British couple temporarily transferred to Casablanca around 2010, and a family that left France hoping to book passage to the states in 1941. A diary is discovered under floor boards and as the contemporary couple deal with their difficulties, they are drawn into the story of fears, choices and friendships amid increasing Nazi control in '41. Their stories mesh in an interesting way.



### Karen and Pete Smyth

*The Sweetness of Water* by Nathan Harris

This novel is set in rural Georgia during the early days of reconstruction. While the plot is interesting, the appeal of the book comes from the author's ability to evoke feelings from his characters, and have those feelings resonate within the reader. The quality of writing is so good it draws the reader back, even when the plot becomes painful. This is a book to be savored, not raced through. In so doing, the reader will be rewarded by living the story as a participant, not a bystander.



## Message from The Rev. Krista Fregoso

*Cont'd. from pg. 1*

Gratitude doesn't change the system, it changes us. In the midst of the wait time for a doctor or nurse, it reminds me that I am thankful for having a doctor or nurse. It helps me find the patience with the person who does answer my call and to be thankful for their service. It is simple and powerful, it flips our way of thinking from what is going wrong to what is going right and that makes all the difference!

## Inspiration: Introduction to Creation Season

This fall, St. Paul's is joining churches across the world focusing on creation. Called *Creation Season*, it begins on September 1, the *World Day of Prayer* for creation, and we will celebrate it through the rest of The Season After Pentecost. The theme for this season is *Listening to the Voice of Creation*. We will share in special music, prayers, and sermons focusing on God's creation. Please ponder this prayer.

### A Christian Prayer in Union with Creation

By Pope Francis, May 24, 2015

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.  
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;  
they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you!

Son of God, Jesus,  
through you all things were made.  
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth, and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory.  
Praise be to you!

Holy Spirit, by your light  
you guide this world towards the Father's love and accompany creation as it groans in travail. You also dwell in our hearts and you inspire us to do what is good.  
Praise be to you!

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe,  
for all things speak of you.

Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made.  
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love  
for all the creatures of this earth,  
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power and money  
that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out.  
O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life,  
to prepare for a better future,  
for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.  
Praise be to you!

Amen.



# St. Paul's Staff and Leadership

## Staff

<b>Rector</b>	The Reverend Krista Fregoso
<b>Associate Rector</b>	The Reverend Lynne Sharp TSSF
<b>Deacon Emeritus</b>	The Reverend Margaretmary Staller
<b>Deacon Emeritus</b>	The Reverend Don Adolphson
<b>Director of Music</b>	Eric Newell

## Vestry

Tom Chaffee, Senior Warden	Ken Jessup
Susan Burpee, Junior Warden	Marianne Johnson
Jessica Beerbaum, Chief Financial Officer	Ned Soares
Melanie Corry	



## St. Paul's Vision Statement

At St. Paul's, as followers of Jesus Christ, we envision  
a church that provides and supports  
a loving community of faith: with our church,  
with one another, and with our world,  
Where all are welcome, no matter where they are on their spiritual journey,  
Where activities, events, and opportunities support  
spiritual growth for people of all ages and  
diversities through worship, education, and service,  
Where we use our God-given talents, time, and treasure  
to lift the less fortunate and the vulnerable.  
May we all support each other in remembering and  
creating this vision, not just in the hours  
we spend on campus, but during our daily lives, as we  
interact with friends and neighbors,  
and as we act as members of our wider communities.

### The Epistle Editors:

Rhea Williams, Sheri Grosjean, Eileen Mitchell, Ned Soares. The Epistle Team wishes to thank all our contributors. Please send your ideas and suggestions to [epistle@stpaulswc.org](mailto:epistle@stpaulswc.org).



TIME DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY  
Address correction requested

Sunday Services  
7:30 am: Chapel  
9:30 am: Hybrid: in  
Sanctuary & live on  
Facebook & YouTube  
11:00 am: Joyful Noise

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94596

Office Temporarily  
Closed. Contact us:  
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