

Benediction Weekly

July 16, 2017

St. Benedict's Church is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry and commitment to social justice.



Parish Council Meeting Today, 12:30pm

You are welcome to attend, as meetings are open to all. There are currently two vacancies on the council for confirmed or received Episcopalians. Maybe you?

This week at St. Benedict's:
(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

- 8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
- 9:20 am – Bible Study
- 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/music
- 12:30 pm – Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 18

- 5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck supper

Wednesday, July 19

- 10:00 am – Intercessory Prayer Circle
- 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Thursday, July 20

- 7:00 pm – Drop-in Dream Group

Sunday, July 23

- 8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
- 9:20 am – Bible Study
- 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/music

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

August 14th – 15th

St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista

Sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women
of El Camino Real

The theme of the 35th Annual Mary Lou Thompson Retreat is "*Art Inspired by Faith*". Be ready to find God in the beauty of art. The retreat leader is The Rev. Penelope Duckworth, who is well known for her art and writing. Please bring an art object to share -- a picture, poem, song, dramatic reading, an artifact, or your own special choice.

The Retreat will be held from 2 pm on Monday, August 14th to 2 pm on Tuesday, August 15th at the St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista. Registration includes one night's lodging and three meals. Forms available on our bulletin board. For more information, contact ECW President, Diane Lovelace: call 408-263-8945 or DiLovelace@aol.com.

**Rev. Caro+ will be
on Vacation**

**July 31 -
August 12**



Please sign-up to provide food or to serve at People's Kitchen, August 5th
Sign-up sheets are at usher's station.



**Elaine Mason and Marie Moore invite you to
their Walk About Wedding...**

Saturday Aug 19 at Spooner's Cove, Montana de Oro State Park, 1-3 PM
Wear comfortable clothing, hats, and sunscreen! Meet at the Cove, walk around for about half an hour, then everyone gather so Elaine and Marie can exchange vows, Caro+ Hall presiding. Low tide is at 2:30 PM.

...and New Deck at Home Reception

Reception and food: 1416 Las Encinas Drive, 3-6 PM
Going east on LOVM, go one block past So. Bay Blvd., turn right on Oakridge, then three blocks to Las Encinas...go left one block... you're there!
(805) 528-3782 No gifts, please.



Serving God and the People of St. Benedict's this Week:

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Eucharistic Minister: Alan Kiste; Chalice Bearer: Bryson McKelvey;
Lector: Diana Hammerlund; Ushers: Esta Kandarian & Brian Spolarich; Greeter: Elaine Mason;
Altar Guild: Diana Hammerlund; Flowers: Pamela Bleisch; Coffee Hour Hosts: Maureen Titus & Judy Schloss;
Tellers: Francis Rivinus & Mary Ellen Rico; Intercessor: Lisa Gonzalez; Music Director: John Cribb

Thank you all for your service!



**On-Going
Activities
at St. Ben's**

BIBLE STUDY - Come join us for Bible Study at 9:20 a.m. every Sunday except first Sundays.

DREAMS & SPIRITUALITY GROUP— First and third Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm.

EARTHCARE – A discussion/action group to formulate local solutions to environmental concerns. Second Wednesdays at 2:30 pm.

HEALING SERVICE – a time for prayers for healing at the 10:30 service on 5th Sundays.

HOLLISTER INSTITUTE – Opportunities for stimulating discussion and thoughtful exploration for everyone, whether or not they are members of a church. See website.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE— Prayers for the community and the world. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10am.

LITLOVERS' BOOK CLUB – Discussion and fellowship in members' homes. 4th Saturdays 1pm (Suspended till September)

LUNCH BUNCH – lunchtime social gathering following church, 2nd Sundays at Celia's Garden Café.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – morning social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at Celia's Garden Café.

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN – Providing and serving food at Prado Day Center, 1st Saturday of even-numbered months.

POTLUCK AND PRADO on the 1st Sunday of each month donations to Prado Day Center are collected, and potluck lunch follows 10:30 service.

VESPERS AND CONVERSATION 5:30 pm Tuesdays. Vespers service using varying liturgies, followed by potluck supper.

VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL
3rd Thursdays at 6:30pm
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, Rector
Anne Kanter, Sr. Warden
Pamela Bleisch, Lisa Gonzalez,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Francis Rivinus, and Kathie West.

For Such a Time as This: Foreign Assistance & Humanitarian Aid

Episcopal Relief & Development invites you to join The Episcopal Church and our ecumenical partners, to participate in the #ForSuchATime movement. On the 21st of each month through December 2018, the community is called to pray, fast and act to fight hunger and poverty around the world.

Get ready to pray, fast, and act #ForSuchATime on July 21st for foreign assistance and humanitarian aid.

This July, we highlight programs that work around the world that aim to alleviate hunger, create economic opportunities, promote health, and respond to disasters. The U.S. has a longstanding bipartisan tradition of working to alleviate poverty and responding to humanitarian crises all around the world. At less than one percent of the federal budget, foreign assistance has saved millions of lives and continues to do so today. In fact, we have made remarkable progress in reducing global poverty rates—during the past 30 years, rates of extreme poverty have been cut in half, and we expect more progress in the years to come. To do so, we need to commit to sustained support for foreign and development assistance.

Join us in preparing for prayer, fasting and advocacy in support of our country's critical foreign assistance and humanitarian aid programs.

Pray for an end to extreme poverty and for an end to humanitarian crises, including ongoing famines, around the world.

Dear God, You understand the needs of our broken world. Please guide us to share our time, talent, and wealth to help end extreme poverty, that we may deeply engage in our church's mission of global reconciliation. Amen. [From Lifting Women's Voices: Prayers to Change the World]

Fast to raise awareness of the need to respond to human suffering and hunger no matter where it takes place. Share on social media using #PrayFastAct and @TheEPPN. On the 21st, post a picture of a dinner place setting with the reason you are fasting this month.

Act to maintain funding support for vital international assistance programs. Contact your members of Congress on the 21st to urge them to provide sufficient funding for these life-saving programs of the U.S. International Affairs Budget:

- ◆ **Development Assistance (DA):** DA is a key piece of U.S. investment in helping the world's poorest obtain access to education and clean water, grow nutritious food, promote economic development, support good governance, respond to environmental crises, and create more sustainable, self-sufficient democratic societies.
- ◆ **International Disaster Assistance (IDA):** IDA provides lifesaving assistance following natural and man-made disasters, including conflicts, earthquakes, floods, and droughts.
- ◆ **Global Health Programs:** U.S. global health funding helps reduce child mortality, slow the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, address health emergencies, prevent malnutrition, and support initiatives such as the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).
- ◆ **McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition:** This program gives school-age children in poverty-stricken countries with what is often their only full meal of the day, and helps protect vulnerable children and their families, especially during societal shocks.
- ◆ **Food for Peace Title II:** Title II food assistance program authorizes the U.S. to confront global hunger and malnutrition and bring stability to situations that can threaten our national security.
- ◆ **Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC):** The MCC aims to reduce poverty through growth in investments in areas such as agriculture, education, private sector development, and capacity building.

From: episcopaldigitalnetwork.com and episcopalrelief.org

Keeping in Touch during the Week. For counsel & spiritual care, please contact any of the clergy: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, 704-5826; The Rev. Donna Ross, 235-5117; The Rev. Barry Turner, 784-0670; or The Rev. Faye Hogan, 541-4595.

Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974.

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