

Benediction Weekly

November 5, 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.



Los Osos Community Dinner

Tomorrow night is our turn to host the Community Dinner at Trinity United Methodist Church in Los Osos. There are sign-up sheets at coffee hour for food and servers. These free dinners bless guests who need help putting food on the family table and all of those who hunger for community.

This week at St. Benedict's

(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

NO 8am Service

9:20 am – Bible Study

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch

Monday, Nov 6

5:00 pm – Los Osos Community Dinner at TUMS

Tuesday, Nov 7

5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck

Wednesday, Nov 8

7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Thursday, Nov 9

10:00 am – Hollister: Coming of the Cosmic Christ

Friday, Nov 10

4:00 pm – Liturgical Dance Rehearsal

Friday, Nov 10 – Saturday Nov 11

Parish Retreat, Mt. Calvary, Santa Barbara

Saturday, Nov 11

9:00 am – Men's Breakfast at Celia's Garden Café

5:30 pm – Saturday Eucharist

Sunday, Nov 12

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Svc

9:20 am – Bible Study

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist - ECUMENICAL SVC

PLEDGES for 2018

We are now in Pledge Drive season. Unlike KCBX, KUSC and other NPR stations we won't be asking you constantly to give money to St Benedict's. Since giving is an important part of our spiritual life we don't need to beg each other to give to the work of the faith community. However, it is helpful for our budgeting process to have giving commitments for the coming year. We don't want to make promises to ourselves or those who serve us that we cannot keep.

Commitment Sunday will be November 19. Prior to that you will receive a letter from Senior Warden, Anne Kanter and one from the Rector to encourage your discernment process, as you prayerfully consider your commitment to St Benedict's in 2018. We are grateful for those who can make larger gifts, but encourage everyone to make a commitment to giving part of your regular spiritual practice. Please put your commitment for next year on the pledge card that you will receive and bring it to church on November 19 for Commitment Sunday.

We started 2017 with a budget that committed to paying the Rector three-quarters time. We have been very blessed with gifts and with income from the Abundance Shop, and it looks as though we will end the year in the black, Praise God!

Parish Retreat: "Consider the Lilies" Nov 10 – 12, Mt. Calvary, Santa Barbara

Led by Donna Ross and Celeste Pennington, this retreat offers thought-provoking times of reflection and insightful questions to help you journey further on the Way of Jesus. Limited space is still available.

Contact Danna at office@stbenslosos.org. The cost for the weekend is \$260 including all meals and accommodation. For more information, contact Donna (927-1989) or Celeste (771-8974).

Hollister Institute: "The Coming of the Cosmic Christ" Starting this Week

The Coming of the Cosmic Christ, by Matthew Fox, will be the basis of a five-week book study led by Rev. Caro and Fr. Barry on Thursdays, November 9, 16, 30 and December 7, from 10 - 11:30 am. We will talk about the Cosmic Christ from the perspective of Scripture, Science, Christian Tradition and our own experiences. You do not have to read the book but will get more from the discussions if you do. Copies of the book are available for \$17.99.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Preacher: Jim Arnold; Eucharistic Ministers: Sarah Chesebro and Lisa Gonzalez; Lectors: Bryson McKelvey & Stef Shuman; Ushers: Esta Kandarian & Michael Lucas; Greeter: Diana Hammerlund; Altar Guild: Stef Shuman; Flowers: Pamela Bleisch; Potluck Hosts: Joan Ghilotti & Connie Weldon; Tellers: Mary Ellen Rico & Francis Rivinus; Intercessor: Lisa Gonzalez; Cantor: Diana Hammerlund; Music Director: John Cribb **Thank you all for your service!**



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

BIBLE STUDY – Sundays at 9:20 am

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.

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 Sundays at 12:30pm
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, *Rector*
Anne Kanter, *Sr. Warden*,
Pamela Bleisch, Lisa Gonzalez,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Francis Rivinus, Kathie West



“*The Benediction*” our bi-monthly newsletter, is being distributed this morning on the verandah. Don't forget to pick up your copy and save us the postage.

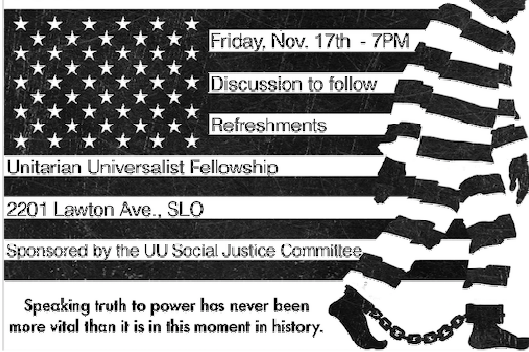
Hot Beverages for Prado in November

In support of our neighbors at the Prado Day Center, our November in-gathering emphasis will be on warm breakfast beverages -- coffee, tea, hot chocolate and items that go with them such as sugar packages, sugar-substitutes, non-perishable creamers, and insulated cups. And as always, donations such as warm socks, hygiene items, detergent, instant hot cereal, and backpacks in good condition are most welcome.



13th

A free movie screening



Friday, Nov. 17th - 7PM

Discussion to follow

Refreshments

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

2201 Lawton Ave., SLO

Sponsored by the UU Social Justice Committee

Speaking truth to power has never been more vital than it is in this moment in history.

MOVIE SCREENING: “13th”

Named after the 13th constitutional amendment, which abolished slavery except as “punishment for crime,” 13th makes the case that slavery hasn't disappeared from the U.S.—it's evolved into our modern system of mass incarceration, one in which many prisons are run by for-profit companies and prisoners can be paid a pittance to work for corporations.

A variety of measures—from Jim Crow laws to President Richard Nixon's “war on drugs” and President Bill Clinton's “three-strikes-you're-out” legislation—have served to send

increasingly large numbers of black and indigenous people to prison. More than 60% of the people in U.S. prisons are people of color.

**SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER HAS NEVER BEEN MORE VITAL
THAN IT IS IN THIS MOMENT IN HISTORY.**

Free Screening: Friday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m.

The public is invited to join us for the evening. Discussion and refreshments to follow..
United Universalist Fellowship, 2201 Lawton Ave., SLO

Giving in October - St. Ben's General Operating Fund - Thank you!!

September Income: \$ 9,686 Monthly Income Budgeted: \$ 12,989 Difference: \$(3,303) shortfall
YTD Income: \$136,230 YTD Income Budgeted: \$129,892 Difference: \$ 6,338 surplus

Thanksgiving Dinner



November 23rd

As always, we will celebrate Thanksgiving at the church with dinner at 1pm. You are welcome to come and bring family and/or friends. Please plan to bring a dish if you can, please come even if you can't. Look for the signup sheet. Who wants to cook the turkey this year???

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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