

Benediction Weekly

March 4, 2018

The people of St. Benedict's are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons in Los Osos and beyond, providing worship, education, nurture, fellowship and service.



Don't Miss...

Canterbury Club's 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off

with Silent Auction & Raffle Fundraiser
at St. Stephen's this Saturday from 4-6 pm

Coming up at St. Benedict's

(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

9:20 am – Bible Study

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist, followed by potluck

Monday, Mar 5

5:00 pm – Community Dinner at TUMC

6:15 pm – Savage Grace study group

Tuesday, Mar 6

5:30 pm – Vespers in the Great Room *
followed by supper

Wednesday, Mar 7

10:00 pm – Intercessory Prayer Circle

7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Mar 8

7:00 pm – Developing Compassion in Daily Life

Saturday, Mar 10 - PARISH COUNCIL RETREAT

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

4 - 6 pm – Chili Cook-off at St. Stephen's, SLO

5:30 pm – Saturday Evening Eucharist

Sunday, Mar 11 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS



8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service

9:20 am – Bible Study

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music

* There will be a 3-day public workshop sponsored by the Morro Bay Art Association meeting at St. Ben's this week Wednesday through Friday from 9am-5pm. They are having an opening reception here on Tuesday from 4-6, which will cause our Tuesday night Vespers service to relocate to the Great Room this week only.

An Evening with John Dear

presenting his new book, "*They Will Inherit the Earth: Peace and Nonviolence in a Time of Climate Change*"

Tuesday, March 6th, 7pm at United Church of Christ Congregational, 11245 Los Osos Valley Rd, SLO

An evening with reading, reflection and book signing with John Deer, a Nobel Peace Prize candidate, international lecturer, and peace activist. His talk will connect the dots between active nonviolence and solidarity with creation showing how our global epidemic of violence and war is only leading to catastrophic climate change. Dear's spiritual focus brings to light that it is morally wrong to destroy the environment, but it is morally right to protest for change.

Sponsored by: Yes We Can Peacebuilders - Morro Bay Earth Care Ministry First Christian Church - Morro Bay and People of Faith for Justice.

Free to the public. Donations Accepted. Info: (805)771-9565

Developing Compassion in Daily Life

Hollister class begins this week, led by the Rev. Caroline Hall and Joe Morris. Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 pm, Mar 8th & 15th

March at Prado

Since we've been having cold, wet weather, our emphasis for donations this month is hot instant cereal, hot chocolate mix, bowls and cutlery, non-perishable beverages like soy and almond milk. Rain ponchos (in good condition) and new socks are also welcomed.



Donna and Rob Ross will be starting a new phase of their life in Santa Rosa, California at the end of April. Their Cambria house is already in escrow and they are looking forward to God's plan for them in (real) retirement. We have been blessed by their ministry in their first retirement, and Donna+ has been an important leader both locally and in the diocese at large. So we are inviting friends from the other SLO Episcopal congregations to join us for a celebration of ministry. Bishop Mary will be here to officiate at Evensong on **March 16 at 6pm** followed by a great party. If you would like to help with food please see Anne Kanter.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple; Eucharistic Minister: Stef Shuman; Chalice Bearer: Janelle LaFond; Lectors: Lisa Gonzalez & John Horsley; Ushers: Alan Kiste & Connie Weldon; Greeter: Lorienne Schwenk; Potluck Hosts: Barbara Schippers & Judy Schloss; Altar Guild: Sarah Chesebro; Tellers: Diana Hammerlund & Stef Shuman; Prayer Team Member: Lisa Gonzalez; Cantors: Anne Kanter & Lorienne Schwenk; Music Director: John Cribb



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

ABUNDANCE SHOP – Thrift shop at 2025 9th St. Tues- Sat 10am-4pm.

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. 2nd Weds 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.

SATURDAY EUCHARIST - Evening Eucharist on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 5:30pm, followed by potluck supper.

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*
Pamela Bleisch Strawn, *Sr. Warden*,
Lisa Gonzalez, Diana Hammerlund,
Esta Kandarian, Alan Kiste,
Michael Lucas, Francis Rivinus,
Barbara Schippers,
Lorienne Schwenk,
Lynn Wise

A Reflection for 3 Lent

“But we proclaim Christ crucified”

Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

Some things just don't make much sense. Water doesn't become wine, bread and fish do not suddenly multiply, the lame do not jump up and walk. And most certainly, dead people stay dead, especially those who experience the horrific death of crucifixion!

And yet, where Jesus is involved, all kinds of things that don't make much sense...happen.

In those earliest years of the Jesus Movement, his followers didn't wear crosses around their necks or hang them in the homes in which they worshipped. They had other symbols, certainly, but not crosses. Crucifixion was not a historical curiosity, but a still-present reality, and an agonizing and shameful one at that. To be crucified was to be executed as a common criminal. Worse, according to the Hebrew Scriptures, cursed was one who hung on a tree, on the wood of a cross.

So to speak of “Christ crucified” didn't make sense to many. It was a stumbling block, something foolish or offensive. But Paul said otherwise. Yes, Jesus could have avoided the cross, found some other way around it. But instead he faced the worst the world could throw at him, and then broke through death itself, and leave an empty cross behind as witness to his astonishing victory.

Some things don't make much sense. The cross is one of them. But it stands now and forever as our rallying cry that God—*not* injustice, *not* suffering, *not* even death—has the final, victorious word.

*Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
The Episcopal Church*

Prayer:

“Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace.”
(Prayer for Mission, Morning Prayer II, The Book of Common Prayer 1979))

From a series of Lenten Reflections prepared by Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and leaders of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Stephen Ministry: Who is it for?

We all experience challenges in life, times when we could benefit from the care and support of a Christian friend. A Stephen Minister can provide the emotional and spiritual care we need when faced with a crisis or challenge. Stephen Ministers are equipped to provide support through Tough Times such as ...

- Loss of a loved one through death or divorce
- Serious illness of self or family member
- Recovery after accident or disaster
- Job crisis, relocation, change of family living situation
- Loneliness, spiritual crisis, or discouragement

Could you benefit from the confidential, one-on-one care and support of a Stephen Minister? Do you know someone else, in or outside of our congregation (perhaps a friend, neighbor, or relative) who could benefit from Stephen Ministry? Are you called to become a Stephen Minister? Contact Deacon Susan Arnold at (805) 550-2907.

Care for Creation

St. Benedict's understands that Creation is sacred and we are called to care for Her. We have a specific opportunity to do this by signing a petition to place on the 2018 ballot a proposition that will ban fracking and drilling new oil wells in SLO County. See Alice Welchert if you wish to sign.



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.

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church - 2220 Snowy Egret Lane – PO Box 6877, Los Osos, CA 93412

office@stbenslosos.org Telephone: (805) 528-0654 www.stbenslosos.org