



## Miraculous Abilities

BY REVEREND DANIEL C. GREEN

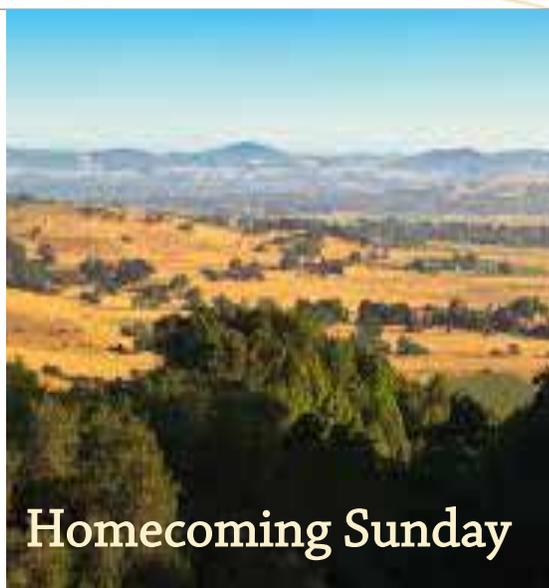
A friend here at St. John's recently gave me a book to read called *Deep*, by James Nestor. The author began with an assignment to cover an international competition in freediving—that is, plummeting straight down into the ocean as far as one can go on a single breath of air. But from his growing fascination with people whose pursuit of ever-deeper and longer dives takes them far beyond our normal expectations of what is humanly possible, he launches out to explore the extraordinary abilities of living creatures who inhabit the depths of the sea. And he points to research that suggests we humans may have similar capacities in the latent but forgotten potential of our evolutionary inheritance: not just the ability to make long, deep dives into the ocean, but capacities like echolocation and magnetic navigation. It is a book that arouses wonder and awe at the near-miraculous resourcefulness of God's creatures, including ourselves.

The Bible is another book that invites us to consider latent potentials that we may have difficulty believing are even there. While they may have a biological component (the biblical worldview does not support the radical dualism that divides the mind from the body and identifies spirit exclusively with the former) the scriptures speak of them primarily as spiritual capacities. And their purpose and function is not the survival of individuals, but the formation of a new kind of community. Indeed, the Bible's foundational story of the church, the Pentecost story in the book of Acts, is a story of the pouring out upon the disciples of Jesus the extraordinary ability to speak in the native tongues of many lands (albeit in Galilean accents).

We shouldn't let our fascination or incredulity at the paranormal gift of tongues, however, keep us from understanding the deeper meaning of this event, which is the power of the Holy Spirit to create a new and universal human community out of people from all nations. In his speech interpreting the experience to the crowd afterward, Peter identifies this as the same spirit that inspired the visions and oracles of the ancient Hebrew prophets. It is the spirit that revealed to Israel God's ultimate purposes in calling them to be a people. At the same time, the spirit of prophecy instructed them in the right course to take in their daily moral and religious and even political life in order to fulfil those purposes.

And the passages of the New Testament that talk about the Holy Spirit describe it in the same way. Except that, through the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Spirit of prophecy is given, not just to a few rare and extraordinary individuals

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## Homecoming Sunday

### HOMECOMING POTLUCK LUNCHEON

September 9 | After 10:00 am Service

### FIRST FRIDAY TAIZE

Resumes on September 7

### REGULAR SERVICE SCHEDULE

Resumes on September 16

8:00 am Rite I

10:00 am Rite II

### JULIAN'S WAY

Resumes on September 16

After 8:00 am Service at 9:40 pm

### ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

September 30 | 11:15 pm

### MICHAELMAS EVENSONG

September 30 | 5:00 pm

### LABYRINTH WALK

with Veriditas

Oct 28, Nov 25, Dec. 30 | 5:00 pm

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BY REVEREND DANIEL C. GREEN

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** once in a generation or in a century, but, at least potentially, to all.

This creates new problems, of course, one of which is a tendency for people to think that their spiritual gifts are to their own credit and for their own aggrandizement. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians is largely concerned with correcting that misunderstanding. In the famous 13th Chapter, Paul asserts that the gifts of speaking in the tongues of men and angels or of prophetic powers are in themselves worth nothing without love. He then goes on in chapter 14 to instruct the church in Corinth in the proper use of the aforementioned gifts. He recommends the pursuit of spiritual gifts on the part of all the members of the church, but especially the gift of prophecy, which is for the strengthening, encouragement and consolation of others. And he takes pains to stress repeatedly that all such gifts are for the building up not of the individual, but of the community.

As we resume our full parish program this year, one of our priorities is planning for the future. This work is prophetic in nature, as it seeks a vision of God's higher purpose for St. John's, and the faithful practical means by which we can serve it. A truly fruitful planning conversation will depend on exercising a capacity which we have been making a conscious effort to develop for several years now, in the vestry and other places, one which our schools, workplaces, and civic institutions are ignorant of and have never asked us to use. It is the ability to listen deeply in a group for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is different from our usual modes of decision-making, problem-solving, expressing our opinions, or politicking to bring about our preferred result. None of these modes are inherently wrong. But as members of the body of Christ, we are called to seek another kind of gift. To open ourselves to inspiration, to watching and listening for the Spirit's movement in ourselves and others, so that Christ can communicate to us as a whole body about his desired future for us, and to interpret and incorporate that communication in a way that makes the presence of God in our midst more tangible to everyone, including neighbors who are not members of our church—that extraordinary untapped more-than-human potential is what our Strategic Planning process is inviting us to use. ■



## Blessing of the Animals

**THIS YEAR'S** Blessing of the Animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi will take place on **Sunday, September 30** after the 10 o'clock service at approximately 11:15 a.m. We will gather with our animal friends in the courtyard. All species welcome!

## Regular Sunday Schedule Returns

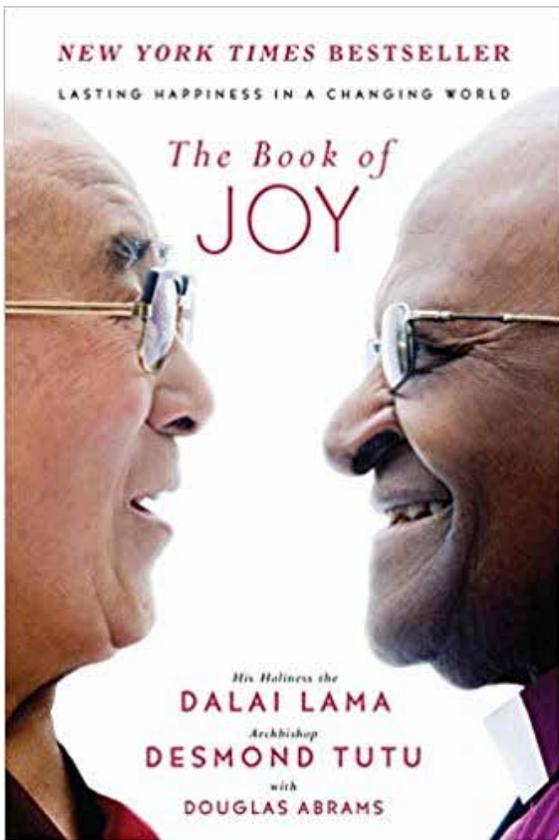
**ST. JOHN'S** regular Sunday morning worship schedule resumes on **September 16**, with Rite I Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and Rite II Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. **Godly Play** and **Connect** Sunday school programs for children are offered at the 10 a.m. service. **Julian's Way**, a weekly contemplative conversation with the gospel reading of the day and voices from the Christian mystical tradition, will take place each Sunday in the library at 9:40 a.m.

More information about all our worship services and programs may be found on our website at [www.saintjohnsepicopalpetaluma.org](http://www.saintjohnsepicopalpetaluma.org)

## Homecoming Lunch

**ST. JOHN'S** annual Homecoming Sunday Potluck Luncheon, after the summer break in our two-service regular schedule, will take place this year on **September 7**, at 11:40 pm after the the 10:00 am service. There are sign up sheets to choose your potluck dish in the church kitchen. In tandem with the luncheon will be tables and a chance to hear about the Vestry's ongoing Strategic Planning Process. For more information see page 6.





## Bishop's Book for Fall 2018

Bishop **Barry Beisner** has selected *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* as this fall's Bishop's Book. Join us in reading about this conversation on joy by two remarkable spiritual leaders.

"Joy is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and a clear sign of God's presence and favor. In this time of hard hearts and deep divisions, the Church needs to be seeking true joy – as a way to build community, nurture our souls, and witness to the world that God exists and that we are God's beloved creation," Bishop Barry said.

From authors Archbishop Desmond Tutu and His Holiness the Dalai Lama: "We hope this small book will be an invitation to more joy and more happiness... We are sharing what two friends, from very different worlds, have witnessed and learned in our long lives. We hope you will discover whether what is included here is true by applying it in your own life."

**Questions?** **Anne Clarke**, Lifelong Christian Formation Coordinator for the Diocese of Northern California, would love to hear from you; email Anne at [anne@norcalepiscopal.org](mailto:anne@norcalepiscopal.org) or call 916-442-6918, ext. 215

If you would like to host a book discussion evening for members of St. John's contact Daniel at 762-8872 or [rector.episcopal.petaluma@gmail.com](mailto:rector.episcopal.petaluma@gmail.com). ■

## Taizé Returns to St. John's

On **September 7**, our dedicated crew consisting of cantors **Suzanne Gray** and **Connee Young**, musicians **Susan Stewart** and **Leilani Wickland**, and support team of **Bruce Elliott**, **Frances Frazier**, **Linda Lee Boyd**, **Paul Mascovich**, and **Kathy Bradley**, will be on deck to launch the eighth year of Taizé services at St. John's on the First Friday of each month (excepting summertime).

If you've not yet attended, these participatory gatherings, held by candlelight in the darkened sanctuary, feature a contemplative hour of simple melodic chants in English, Latin and Spanish. With Daniel's invocation and each chant followed by a brief silence for meditation, the Taizé service offers a welcome island of calm at the end of a busy week. ■



## Veriditas and St. John's Will Offer Labyrinth Walks

Veriditas will be partnering with St. John's this fall to present monthly events for the Petaluma community and beyond. These labyrinth walks will be facilitated by Veriditas staff and take place in Norm Cram Hall on Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. on **October 28**, **November 25**, and **Decem-**

**ber 30**. Veriditas is the organization founded by the Rev. Dr. Lauren Artress in 1995 to support the world-wide rebirth of the use of the labyrinth as a tool for spiritual practice, and its mission is to inspire personal and planetary change and renewal through the labyrinth experience.

The Veriditas labyrinth walks are in addition to a special All Saints walk hosted by Dr. Kayleen Asbo on Thursday, **November 1** at 7 p.m.

## Update on Interfaith Food Pantry



Second Thursday at 5:30 pm at Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Things have changed a little since 2009 when **St. John's, St. Vincent's, Elim Lutheran, Methodist, B'nai Israel Synagogue**, and the **Petaluma Islamic Center** came together to form the Westside Interfaith Food Pantry. The food distribution continues, however, and so does the need for volunteers to help with the program.

The Westside Interfaith Food Pantry takes place once a week, and on the second Thursday of each month, St. John's volunteers meet inside the **Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall at 504 Baker St.** to help with the food distribution. The Thursday evening Interfaith Pantry opens at **5:30 p.m.** The pantry distribution used to take place in "Triangle Park," but this work move indoors years ago and continues to be conducted indoors for the convenience, comfort, and safety of the workers and recipients, especially in the winter months. **To learn more** about how you can participate, contact Janet by email at [jnknudson@comcast.net](mailto:jnknudson@comcast.net).

For referral information, there is the **Westside Interfaith** distribution and a separate interfaith Eastside Tuesday night food pantry that used to take place in the Lucchesi Community Center parking lot, but now occurs at the **Salvation Army, 721 South McDowell Blvd.** Refer anyone you know in need of food to either or both operations.

★ Unfortunately a third food pantry, at the United Church of Christ, 825 Middlefield Dr., that took place on Saturday mornings has recently closed. — **Janet Knudsen**



SEPTEMBER 16: NEW BOOK STUDY

## Julian's Way Resumes

A new book will open Julian's Way lection divina book study when it resumes at on September 16: ***The Voice of the Eagle – The Heart of Celtic Christianity, John Scotus Eriugena's Homily on the Prologue to the Gospel of St. John*** by **Christopher Bamford**. One does not need to buy this book to be a part of the contemplation, for we read aloud the short passages we consider each week. All are welcome after the 8:00 am Eucharist at 9:40am in the Library. ■



SEPTEMBER 30: 5:00 PM

## Michaelmas Evensong

On Sunday, September 30 at 5:00 pm St. John's will celebrate the Autumn Christian Festival of Michaelmas with its second annual Evensong for the Archangel Michael. This festival, which can be thought of and experienced as an Inner Easter, will include music, poetry, gospel readings, songs and contemplation to help bring this important festival of awareness of the Spirit, for work in the present and for the future of Humanity. It is a rightful preparation for Advent. ■



OCTOBER 6: 9:30 AM

## Michaelmas Soul Spa

A Michaelmas Soul Spa will take place on Saturday, October 6 at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. Come for nourishment of body, soul and spirit, with the refreshing artistic activities of speech and singing, movement, drawing and painting. For more information contact **Larry Temple** at 707-628-9870.

# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2018



BY ALISON ADAMS



## Welcome Back to Another Year of Godly Play & Connect!

Beginning September 9, **Emily Betts** will start the Godly Play year off with "The Circle of the Church Year" so our younger children can begin to understand that the church has its own way to mark the seasons. After that, **Heather Oehm** will introduce the children to the "Holy Family" followed by the story of "Creation" the next week. At the end of the month, they will hear the story of "The Ark and the Flood." Our Godly Play teachers this year include Emily Betts, Heather Oehm, **Alison Adams**, and **Elizabeth Schroeder**.



We are excited to be expanding our Connect lessons to every week. We will keep the lessons a little shorter so our older children can return to church for communion. Kari

Klein will start off the Connect!! year learning about the "Creation." Our older St. John's children will then move on to exploring "The

Fall," "Suffering," and "The Flood." Our Connect teachers this year include Kari, Elizabeth Schroeder, Alison Adams, Amy Andersen, and Monty Sullivan. We are so grateful to this team!

We welcome anyone to join us in this important ministry of teaching our future generation about the love of God and our Lord Jesus. We still have plenty of spots to fill for teaching in the coming year. Drop in any time to see what we do or touch base with Elizabeth Schroeder (eschroeder16@yahoo.com) for more information.



### Follow Us on Facebook

BY JULI LEDERHAUS

St. John's is sharing its stories on Facebook. If you are Facebook officianado here's how you can help us make the most of it.

1. **"LIKE"** St. John's Petaluma Church's Facebook page.
2. On the **"FOLLOW"** button, choose the drop down arrow and select **"SEE FIRST"** so you don't miss any posts — otherwise FB only sends you about 7% of what we post in your feed.
3. Write a **REVIEW** for St. John's on FaceBook. We only have two right now and one of them says nothing.

I know we all love our church. **Let's make sure** that new people looking for a church can see WHY we do!

### THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

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Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Northern California,

**The Rt. Rev. Barry L. Beisner**

Rector, **The Very Rev. Daniel C. Green**

Senior Warden, **Jerry Taylor**

Junior Warden, **Walter Lederhaus**

Vestry Members: **Alison Adams, Emily Betts, Linda Lee Boyd, Adam Klein, Walter Lederhaus, Ellen Monck, Geri Olson, Rebecca Smith, Gerald Taylor & Jacqueline C. Woytych**  
Newsletter Production Editor, **Victoria Temple**

The **MISSION** of St. John's Episcopal Church is to  
Bring Christ to Life: Celebrating the mysteries;  
Honoring the beauty and wisdom of every person;  
Healing the soul; Serving the peace and renewal of the Earth.

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

40 5th Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 707-762-8872



## WISDOM of the Ancients

From the September, 1903 edition of *The Instructor*, the monthly newsletter of St. John's, Petaluma, along with an advertisement for the Bank of Sonoma County. Paid up Capital: \$300,000. Surplus and Undivided Profits: \$100,000. Geo. P. McNear, Pres.; F. H. Denman, Cashier; H. B. Higbee, Assistant Cashier.

With the month of September the machinery of the church begins to run in smooth and regular order. The Guilds and other auxiliaries again take up their work, and after the rest of the summer months redouble their exertions to carry on the work they have undertaken. Let attendance at divine service be one of the principal objects of the winter session. Nothing but actual sickness should prevent us from attending service twice on the Lord's Day. Every family should be represented by some member at each service, so that outsiders might be encouraged to attend by seeing the faithful zeal of the members. ■

## STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

# Homcoming Sunday Offers a Chance To Learn More and Participate

BY MONTY SULLIVAN

You will have an opportunity to chat with members of the Strategic Planning Committee at the **September 9 Homcoming Potluck Luncheon**, at which the committee will staff a table, along with other congregational groups. Not only will members of the committee be available to answer your questions, but you will also have the opportunity to sign up to attend and even host at your home one of several small meetings designed to seek your input on the committee's needs assessment process, a part of the data gathering process designed to culminate in an internal and external audit of the congregation. If you are interested in hosting one of these small meetings at your home this fall, you may **email Emily Betts at [emilyf-betts@gmail.com](mailto:emilyf-betts@gmail.com)**.

Also, on August 9, the committee met with several key congregational leaders to conduct a needs assessment and to further refine key questions for the congregation's planning process. The attendees divided up into groups to engage in a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis. This analysis led to a larger discussion yielding pivotal questions for the group to consider, such as:



- What can we do to introduce ourselves to people who are not already at St. John's?
- What is unique about our calling not being done by others?
- Do we interact enough with others and can we learn from other congregations?
- What is essential about who we are that needs to be preserved?
- What should we be doing to retain the people who are already at St. John's?
- What does success look like?
- How open are people in Petaluma to hearing about new ways to think of God or Jesus?

Asking and eventually answering these larger questions will be essential to our discovering how to take advantage of our gifts and create new ways to have conversations about our future. Stay tuned! ■

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE

## Audio-Visual Upgrade Underway

**YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED** that the music room in the parish offices houses a couple of audio-visual carts loaded with equipment that almost never gets used. This equipment is still operable, but it is at least fifteen years old, if not older. Advances in technology being what they are, these items have become obsolete, and are also needlessly taking up valuable space. Today's communications environment requires tools that can be easily paired with a laptop computer. The Rector and Junior Warden recently reviewed the AV needs of the parish and recommended the purchase of two pieces of new equipment. The first would be a portable LED projector for showing video, slideshows, etc. on the pull-down projection screen in Norm Cram Hall. The second would be a 50" flat-screen TV that would be permanently mounted on the wall in the parish library. This would enhance the utility of the library as a classroom not only for parish members, but also for those who rent our facility.

The cost of making these upgrades to our audio-visual capability (and clearing out space in the music room) would be approximately \$600 for the projector, and \$950 for the flat-screen monitor and installation. If you are in a position to donate in support of this project, payment can be made to St. John's, designated for "Building Fund — AV upgrade." Thank you!

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

## A Call to Attend City Council Meeting

**DR. DENNIS POCEKAY** was invited to our August meeting where he gave us some background information on his life and on the issues about which he is passionate. At the top of the list is affordable housing in Petaluma as well as just cause eviction. We enjoyed our conversation and asked many questions.



PEACE & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Our committee is participating in the local appeal from the McDowell School neighborhood about Safeway's intention of building a new gas station right next to the elementary school and two preschools. We are asking people to sign a petition opposing this construction on the basis of noise, increased traffic and air quality. You are invited to join us at the City Council meeting on **Monday, September 17, 7:00 pm**, to witness the appeal process.

**John Cinnamon** gifted each of us with a wonderful book, *Love. Period. When All Else Fails*, by Rev. **Rudy Rasmus**. It talks about love without conditions as being at the heart of Jesus' teaching as the greatest commandment of all. Thank you so much, John. — **Frances Frazier**

FROM THE VESTRY

## What Is God Inviting Us to Do?

BY ADAM KLEIN

**O**ver the last few months the vestry has been reading the book "Grounded in God". It is proving to be a helpful practice for us to be studying together. On the surface this looks like a slim read but in it the author invites us into quite



a lot of depth. The latest chapter we studied was about the discerning "The Signals" from "The noise." In other words in what ways is God speaking to us (the signals) versus what is the noise of our psyche, culture, preferences, etc that may be drowning it out. In the course of the evening we all reflected on what are the ways in which we have learned to discern and are continuing to learn to discern God's whisper-like voice amongst these other things that often get in the way. A couple of the questions raised in our meeting were:

In what ways do our preferences dictate how we make decisions and understand what is right?

How do I understand my own defaults and propensities and how do those both reveal what is unique about me and what I bring to world and how they also cloud what God might be inviting me into?

Another thing that was the theme among us was how some kind of practice of stillness or quiet is often helpful in allowing the competing thoughts, voices, sensations and feelings to become still enough and quiet enough that we can listen to that deeper running water within. May God's grace and love be ever before, after and within us as we all venture listen to discern, both individually and collectively, the Spirit's signals. ■

# Winter's Graces:

An interview with Susan Stewart, PhD

BY FRANCES FRAZIER

Susan and I spent a delightful afternoon at Della Fattoria talking about her soon-to-be-published book *Winter's Graces*. Having read excerpts and conversed with Susan on this topic of aging gracefully rather than with the debilitating and demeaning associations often connected with age, we pursued with gusto the theme of ripening into one's later years. *Winter's Graces* offers a balanced and encouraging vision of aging based on recent research, ancient stories, elders' experience, and insights from the social sciences and the world's spiritual traditions. The book highlights the many surprising gifts of later life especially as women experience them.

**Frances Frazier:** How did writing this book change your life?

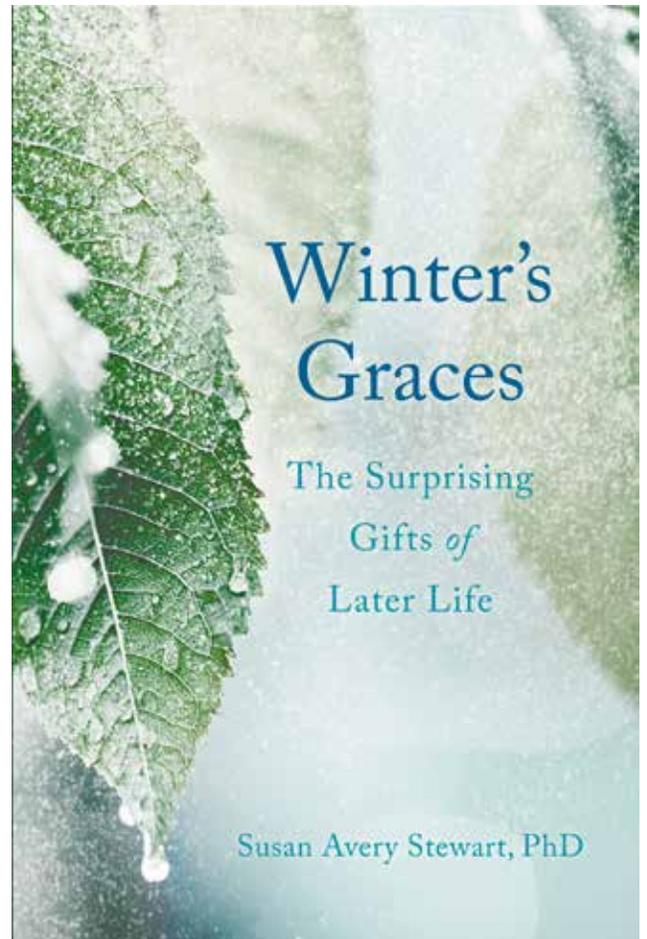
**Susan Stewart:** It completely changed my view of aging. A series of events made me aware that even though I had wonderful parents as a child, I wasn't comfortable with the idea of being old myself. And I began to recognize how widespread the aversion to age is in this culture, and how much suffering it causes. Finding such encouraging information and so many inspiring examples of the gifts of later life has made me grateful for my age and made me want to share what I'd found. Also figuring out how to write a book has been a huge challenge. I was forced to deal with fear, self-doubt, and other demons, but wrestling with those has strengthened my trust in the creative process and in myself.

**FF:** What are the surprising gifts of later life?

**SS:** We think of age as a downhill slide, but older people are generally more content. We grow more at home in our own skin, freer to be who we are, but also become less concerned with our personal selves. There's a growing sense of kinship and connectedness to other people and species that's humbling and also tends to make us more altruistic. We grow more tender-hearted and compassionate, and at the same time, we're willing to hold firm and be tough when something important is at stake – that's Necessary Fierceness.

**FF:** I wonder if the word *Crone* has changed for you since writing this book?

**SS:** Definitely! I first saw it defined as "a withered witch-like old woman" – likely derived from a root that means "rotting flesh." Horrible! Marion Woodman and Jean Bolen point out that *Crone* may derive from *corone*, crown, and that means being the queen of one's life – not in a haughty or demanding sense, but more like what the French



call "a woman of a certain age." Grounded, centered - not at the mercy of others' ideas of who she should be.

**FF:** One of the eleven graces of winter is agelessness. Can you talk about what this means?

**SS:** Ageless doesn't mean passing for young, but being multi-aged and having access to all the ages we've been. When we own old, we don't lose young – we become women of all seasons. It's very freeing. The linking of age with disability and dementia is inaccurate. We do get slower, but there's lots we can do to stay healthy. And there are many gifts of age that help us deal with losses and challenges with greater humor, equanimity, patience, and wisdom. The traditional role of the elder is to bless the young, and age gives us the tools we need to do that. It's a vital role and a privilege.

*Winter's Graces* will be in bookstores October 9th. Also available on Amazon in soft cover and as an e-book.

For more information visit [wintersgraces.com](http://wintersgraces.com) or email [susanstewart.phd@gmail.com](mailto:susanstewart.phd@gmail.com)

# Emergency Preparedness Planning

UPDATE FROM ST. JOHN'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING COMMITTEE

**ST. JOHN'S** had a good showing Monday at the Petaluma Fire Department presentation on disaster preparedness held at the Lucchesi Center. Most folks attending we believe would agree it was packed with relevant information. For the benefit of those who could not attend we've included an overview below.

Even though there are wildfires raging throughout northern California (and we need to keep a close eye on them) right now, the more likely disaster to hit Petaluma would be an earthquake (The Bay Area is long overdue for a > 6.7 temblor). In any case, being prepared for any disaster scenario just makes good sense.

There are only three Fire Stations and two FD fire department ambulances, and they serve the entire city. In the event of a regional-wide disaster, they may be called to help in other areas. Therefore, expect to be self-sufficient (e.g. no services, electricity, gas, water, etc.) for 5-7 days!

The basic recommendations:

1. Remember duck, cover, and hold (things move) during an earthquake!
2. Place sturdy shoes under your bed, most injuries from the Napa earthquake were cut up feet from broken glass!
3. Have first aid supplies readily available.
4. Learn how to turn off your own gas, electricity, and water, but don't do so unless you smell (or hear) gas or are instructed to do so.
5. How will you feed your family? Aim to always have 5-7 days of food in your home. Consume perishable foods first starting with refrigerated items, and then onto the frozen (which will last a few days). Don't forget to plan for your pets too!
6. Plan on one gallon of water person (buy bottled water and rotate out about every six months). Have bleach available to sterilize water. Note, your hot water heater is a source of potable water. Also, be sure it is strapped to the house!
7. Downed power lines and are extremely dangerous and can electrify fences, houses, etc., be very cautious and situationally aware.
8. Have a lighting plan that doesn't include candles (they are dangerous if there are gas leaks in the neighborhood) for 5-7 days (think batteries and solar).
9. Make use of camping gear or RV if available.
10. Keep one car gas tank at least half-full at all times (Consider putting a sticker in your car to remind yourself).
11. Pay heed to evacuation notices. Don't wait to leave, especially if there's only one way out of your area!
12. Familiarize yourself (and others) with how to manually open your garage door, here's a how-to YouTube video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcC4le7oz\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcC4le7oz_s)
13. If you do evacuate don't leave sprinklers on – many folks do this during a wildfire and it causes city-area-wide water pressure to drop dangerously low.

14. Sign-up for text and email alerts. Nixle is a fantastic tool and great way to stay informed about what's on in your area and you can restrict text and email messages to just safety alerts.

Note the second notification site below is so you will be called (at the number(s) you designate (like your land line) in the event of a code-re-emergency effecting your area (highly recommended)

- a. [www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com)
- b. <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/FES/Emergency-Management/SoCoAlert/>

15. Ten and ten: If you had ten minutes to evacuate your home, what ten items would you take? Walk through this exercise with your family.

16. The other key recommendation is to have a neighborhood plan. Neighbors who pool resources and skills tend to do very well during disasters, Petaluma FD recommends modeling a plan based on: <https://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division/preparedness/map-your-neighborhood>

## RESOURCE LINKS

<http://cityofpetaluma.net/firedept/disaster.html>

<https://www.fema.gov/preparedness-checklists-toolkits>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/topics/disaster-preparedness>

If you have any questions or suggestions about this, please notify **Gerry Taylor, Jonathan Hiller, or Kate Klarowski.**