



The Episcopal Church of Our Saviour

A community of the Spirit of God, rooted in Holy Scripture, history, traditions, sacraments and worship; sharing the love of Christ through our service with others in our parish, neighborhoods and the world.

Dear all,

It is such a blessing to be back with you after my sabbatical. I had planned on finishing a book I have been working on called "Pulpit Non-Fiction." God had other plans and my sabbatical did not go according to my plans, but was exactly what I needed for my own spiritual nourishment and also to equip me with new leadership resources that I will begin to utilize. One of the books that I found helpful was *Deep Work*, by Cal Newport. I have come to realize that I have gotten accustomed to too much multi-tasking and too many distractions. I have begun taking a weekly sabbath from the internet and emails, as well as following a schedule that allows for more focused time for planning and implementing classes and forums to benefit our church. I have been working on a Lenten series with a colleague, but it is too early to talk about Lent here! It is the season of Epiphany - the season that we look for the light of Christ around us. If you have a story that you would like to share in which you have experienced the presence of Christ incarnate please let me know. I can include it in an email, or maybe you would like to share it from the pulpit during the season of Epiphany. The last Sunday of Epiphany is Feb 27th.

The Work of Christmas, by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.

May the presence of the incarnate Christ bless you,

Rev Deb

Parish News and Events

Chalking the Door

It's that time of year again. "Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. As it does we let the meaning of the symbols written sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions the Latin words, *Christus mansionem benedictat*, "May Christ bless the house."

Chalking the Door is one custom that some families and churches do for Epiphany. We invite you to adopt this custom in your family. The family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

A traditional way of doing this is to use chalk to write above the home's entrance, 20 + C + M + B + 22. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedictat*, "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross and 2022 is the year.



Blessing the Chalk

V. Our help is the name of the Lord:

R. The maker of heaven and earth.

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

R. From this time forth for evermore.

Let us pray.

Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name that we who use it in faith to write upon the door of our home the names of your holy ones Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit our home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Instructions for Blessing the Home

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

20 + C + M + B + 22 while saying: The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and fifteen years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. *Amen.*

Then offer the following prayer: Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. *Amen*

Don't miss an opportunity to have a good time!

Come to dinner and Invite a few friends.

When: Saturday, January 15, 2022. (4:00 pm. to 7:00 pm.)

What: It's a **\$5 Taco dinner** with all the fixings. (Children under 8 years old with a parent will eat for free)

Where: Church of Our Saviour - Parish Hall.

The meal will be finished off with a lovely Tres Leches cake prepared by **Marcia Goodrich. Boyd Roberts** will provide the elegant music. **Raffle Prizes** will also help make the evening festive. Hope to see you there!

((Suggestion: If you personally know anyone who has lost their home in the recent fires, this might be a perfect time to take them out to dinner.))

The proceeds from the dinner will be donated to the Church.

Cherie Raffety

Sacred Ground Circle ~ Key Ideas

Lyman Dennis

(A new Sacred Ground Circle begins on January 20th. Lyman Dennis attended previously and provides a summary here of the first four sessions (of 10) in the Sacred Ground Course.)

The Episcopal Church has committed \$2 million and other resources for a response to systemic injustice, of which the Sacred Ground program is an element. This initiative is seen by the Church not as a series of individual programs, but as steps in a journey. *The labyrinth logo is taken by the church from Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Rev. Mpho Tutu's The Book of Forgiving.*



The American Story is all about individual aspiration and achievement. This is the land of ... unlimited opportunity. We can become what we want to be. We can go where we want to go... This is the Great American Creed. It does not matter where you come from. It matters where you are going.

“What we (David Kennedy and Condoleezza Rice) have in common is a shared belief in the fragility of our common purpose and our common enterprise as a people.”

“I hear more and more people say, ‘We are coming apart. Institutions don’t work. Our government can’t get anything done. We are not civil to one another anymore. Our political system is so polarized.’”...

[Click here](#) to continue reading Lyman’s interesting and comprehensive summary.

Annual Meeting ~ January 30

We will be having our Annual Meeting on January 30th. We will meet in the church following the worship service that day. The worship service will be at 9:30 am. There will be a potluck following the Annual Meeting.

Call for Reports

If you are the chair or leader of a committee in the church please turn in a written report to Karen Cornell at cornellkl@me.com by Jan 15th so she can prepare the Annual Report.

Vestry Vacancies

Vestry members oversee parish financial issues and approve the annual budget. They also serve as liaisons for communication between the Vestry and Ministry Teams. We will have two seats open for 2022. One is a 3 year seat and the other is a 2 year seat.

Vestry members should represent the breadth and diversity of the parish membership and the slate of nominees should be drawn from a broad spectrum of parish life. To be eligible to serve on the Vestry, a person shall be a communicant whose name is duly enrolled in the Register of the Parish, be sixteen years of age or older, regular in attendance at services and other church activities, and a steward of their time, talent and treasure for its support.

If you wish to nominate a candidate for the Vestry, please discuss it with him or her and convey the eligibility requirements (on the nomination form) to each person you wish to nominate to ensure that each nominee is eligible and willing to serve. Vestry Nominations are due by **January 12th**.

Please return the Nomination Form (next page), with a short biographical sketch to the Church Administrator via email at oursaviour.placerville@gmail.com or turn in to the church office. The biographical sketch should not exceed 300 words in length. ([Click here](#) to download the form.)

NOMINEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT - Must be submitted no later than January 12, 2022

I _____, agree that my name may be placed in nomination for election to the Vestry of The Church of Our Saviour. I understand that in order to serve on the Vestry I must be 16 years of age or older, a communicant in good standing for a continuous period of at least 12 months prior to my election, and baptized/received into the Episcopal Church, or will be baptized, confirmed, or received as soon after election to the Vestry as practicable.

I understand that as a member of the Vestry, I am expected to act in a manner that expresses my position of faithful leadership in the parish. These expectations include:

1. Be actively involved in the programs, activities, and spiritual life of the parish;
2. Regularly attend worship services, monthly Vestry meetings, retreats, and conferences;
3. Practice proportionate giving with an awareness of the tithe as the Biblical standard of giving;
4. Be willing to serve as a liaison to a committee in the church.
5. Work with the clergy, staff, and other members of the parish to foster an environment of mutual trust and prayerful support.
6. Attend major gatherings of the congregation (e.g., Annual Meeting) and as many other events as possible.
7. Serve the entire parish and not a constituency.
8. Be committed to careful listening and open and respectful dialogue, considering a wide range of points of view.
9. Take seriously personal growth in the faith through community or private study and practice.

Vestry group norms:

Meetings begin & end on time

Be prepared for the meeting Be open, honest and direct

Respect one another

Assume good intentions

No side conversations

Everyone participates

Keep appropriate confidentiality

Embrace consensus that does not require full agreement. Once a decision is made, the group respects it.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Delegates to the Convention

We will also be electing 3 delegates to the 2022 Diocesan Convention to be held from Friday, October 21 thru Saturday, October 22, 2022.

Scheduling a Meeting, Conference, Training, Forum, Counseling Session or Event?

We are thrilled that things are beginning to happen again in person at Our Saviour. This means that we will inevitably have more than one person who wants a particular space at a given time. All scheduling must be done through our Office Administrator, Karen Cornell. Email her at cornellkl@me.com or send a text to 530-417-2951 (be sure to identify yourself in the text). Karen will make sure your space is available and put your meeting on the website calendar. (You can check there for conflicts before scheduling, www.oursaviourplacerville.org)

News from the Diocese

Ministries

In addition to the diocesan-level ministries listed here, our individual congregations are deeply committed to their communities. We are proud of our congregation-based ministries and believe them to be a testament to the desire present in all our congregations to serve others. Looking for a ministry not yet listed? Please contact us at communications@norcalepiscopal.org.

Worship Everything we do flows from our worship of God, in keeping with the best of our Anglican tradition.

Outreach In the love of Christ, we care constantly for the least, the last, and the lost in body, mind and spirit.

Formation We help people of all ages to grow into spiritual maturity, and to be fully equipped to live the Christian life.

St. Peter's Church prepares (Re)Start bins for infants

Parishioners from **St. Peter's Church in Red Bluff** gathered after worship on Sunday, December 19 to assemble and prepare ten Infant bins for **Project (Re)Start**. This project is a new initiative by the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California to develop standardized bins containing essential household and personal goods to help victims after the initial days of a disaster. Thanks to the members of St. Peters for their generosity and commitment to this important work!



Top left: Senior Warden Cicely Prewett applied labels to the bins

Top right: Gail Locke, Peggy Whitten, and Fred Reynolds inventory the bin contents

Bottom left: Jeanne Woodstrup and Angela Hoenninger assemble bins

Bottom right: Six of the completed (Re)Start Infant bins, ready to be deployed after a disaster

Links to Diocesan Commissions and Committees

- [Commission on Ministry](#)
- [Christian Formation Committee](#)
- [Episcopal Community Services](#)
- [Ministries of Health Committee](#)
- [Investment Fund Committee](#)
- [Disaster Preparedness](#)
- [Recovery Ministries](#)
- [Episcopal Foundation of Northern California](#)

News from the Wider Church

The Episcopal Church

- [Posts from the Hill](#)
- [Indigenous Ministries](#)

Episcopal News Service

- [Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, activist and apartheid foe, is dead at 90](#)
- [12 Top Stories from the Episcopal News Service in 2021](#)
- [Toward GC80: Vaccinations to be required of all attendees](#)

Episcopal Café

- [Looking for the Light](#)
- [Prepare the Way](#)

Vestry News

Summary of meeting held December 19:

Rev. Deb reported she had a good sabbatical and will now focus on Christian formation and leadership.

Ed Mathews provided the Treasurer's report. It is projected that we will be \$24,000 short. The suggestion was made to ask parishioners for a "13th pledge month".

The Caldor Fire fund still contains \$7,400.00 and it was suggested the amount be donated to the Pioneer Volunteer Firefighters Association. After discussion a motion was passed for Sandy Mathews and Terry Berkery to check whatever professional fire agency oversees the Pioneer area for the possibility of the donation.

Rev. Deb's housing resolution for 2022 was approved.

There have been multiple requests for local groups to use Peirce Hall. Becky will be the contact person for building use and Karen will be the contact for scheduling.

Lee provided an update on the Fixes and Flourishes Committee and Cherie provided an update on the upcoming Taco Dinner that will take place on January 15th.

Becky reported that Sacred Ground will begin a new circle on January 20th.

See the next page for November Financial information.

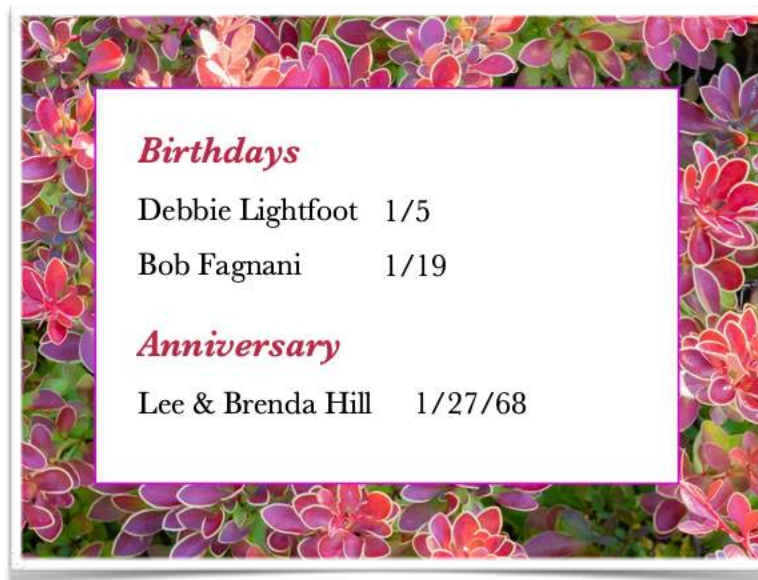
2021 FINANCES FOR NOVEMBER

Actual November Revenue	9,161.00
Budgeted November Revenue	13,176.26
Actual November Expenses	15,403.69
Budgeted November Expenses	12,617.84
November Net	<6,242.69>
Total Revenue (Jan - November)	134,292.08
Total Expenses (Jan - November)	152,088.64
Year-To-Date Net (Jan - November)	<17,796.56>

Ministry and Hospitality Schedules

Date	Time	Readers	Ushers	EMS	Prayers of the People	Hospitality
	8:00 AM					
Jan 2		B. Leighton	TBD	D. Zelinsky	B. Leighton	B. Hill
Jan 9		L. Perpall	TBD	B. Leighton M. Leighton	N/A	L. Weikert
Jan 16		S. Bert	TBD	D. Zelinsky	K. Aquilar	M. Goodrich
Jan 23		L. Perpall	TBD	T. Weikert	T. Weikert	K. Aguilar
Jan 30	Annual Meeting	L. Weikert	TBD	T. Weikert	N/A	D. Adams
	10:30					
Jan 2		T. Fritschi	D. Adams, M. Berkery	Y. Giordano	T. Naylor	L. Bettencourt, S. Mathews
Jan 9		Y. Giordano	M. Berkery B. Roberts	T. Berkery	N/A	K. Fritschi
Jan 16		B. Roberts	M. Berkery, D. Lightfoot	M. Muetz	Y. Giordano	T. Naylor
Jan 23		Y. Giordano	M. Berkery, TBD	T. Berkery	K. Fritschi	C. Raffety, M. Raffety
Jan 30	Annual Meeting	L. Weikert	M. Berkery B. Roberts	T. Weikert	D. Adams	M. Berkery, T. Berkery

December Birthdays and Anniversaries



December Calendar

Please see our website Calendar for current scheduling:

oursaviourplacerville.org

If you have an article you would like to include in the newsletter please send it to cornellkl@me.com.

And be sure to check out our website at www.oursaviourplacerville.org.

~ Our Values ~

Authentic

We are a community of the Spirit of God.

Rooted

We are rooted in Holy Scripture, history, traditions, sacraments and worship.

Christ-centered

We strive to encounter and emulate Jesus Christ.

Inviting

We seek out and invite all to this holy work.

Welcoming

We welcome all whom God has created, extending hospitality and compassion to them.

Relevant

We engage the world in which we live with the love of Christ.

Serving

We share the love of Christ through our service with others in our parish, neighborhoods and the world.

Episcopal Church of Our Saviour
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TIME DATE MATERIAL. PLEASE EXPEDITE