Dear all,

Deacon Stephen announced his retirement as our deacon effective May 30th. Since his announcement I have received many questions about the diaconate. Deacons are members of one of the three orders of ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. The three orders are bishop, priest and deacon. The vocation is different for each order of ministry. A deacon’s ministry is focused on servanthood. Deacons serve directly under the bishop (not the parish priest) to serve all people and especially those in need (BCP, p. 543)

The definition of a Deacon in the Episcopal Glossary says that, “In the early church deacons were ordained [not to the priesthood but to the servanthood of the bishop]. In the ancient Greek-speaking world the term diakonos meant an intermediary who acted or spoke for a superior. Christian deacons were agents of the bishop, often with oversight of charity. Since ancient times the liturgical functions of deacons have suggested the activity of angels. As they proclaim the gospel, lead intercessions, wait at the eucharistic table, and direct the order of the assembly, deacons act as sacred messengers, agents, and attendants. The revival of the order of deacons in the twentieth century has emphasized social care and service. Many bishops in the Episcopal Church expect their deacons to promote care of the needy outside the church.”
I have served with many deacons over the last 20 years and would not hesitate to say that our Rev. Deacon Stephen Shortes is the best one I have had the privilege to know and to serve alongside with. Stephen does indeed ‘suggest the activity of angels,’ not only in his liturgical function but even more so in his passionate desire to reach out to others outside the church walls.

Deacon Stephen did not hesitate when I came up with the idea of a four day walking pilgrimage to re-trace the steps of our founder, Caleb Peirce. He has led many of our fellowship activities and dinners, and took us with him on his own pilgrimage with Leslyn on the Camino de Santiago. I will miss having him by my side at the altar, but will continue to value him as a friend and colleague.

May we continue to be the hands and heart of Christ in the world today.

With love in Christ,

Rev Deb
~ Deacon Stephen’s Letter ~

Church Family,

I decided to retire from active Church ministry as a Deacon as of the end of May. I want to dedicate my time more to my wife and family, do some traveling, and focus my Christian activities on a couple of special interests that I have not been able to focus on.

I have been truly blessed by being able to be your Deacon these last five years and will continue to be a member of Church of Our Saviour as a regular parishioner.

God Bless you all, Stephen

Parish News and Events

Vacation and Sabbatical

Rev. Deb will be taking her vacation and continuing education the middle of June and most of July. She will be back all of August and will leave for sabbatical on Sept. 5th. She will be on sabbatical Sept - Nov and be back with us on Dec. 5th. Pastor Christine, the Rev. Mike Kerrick, and the Rev. Mary Hauck will be with us on the Sunday’s Rev. Deb is gone.

Sharing Stories

As we gather together more often in person, we can still use the other modes of communication we've relied on for the past year-plus.

For Our Saviour's summer newsletter (July-August), you are invited to submit a short story (up to 2 paragraphs?) about a notable Fourth of July celebration from your past. Please sign your name. I'll be contributing one from my childhood.

Pastor Christine

Blessing Bags

Rev. Deb sends everyone who participated in filling the Blessing Bags a huge thank you! She’ll take photos when they are all assembled and will deliver them to The Lighted Candle the first week of June.
~ This course will change your life and how you think of Indigenous peoples. ~

Everyone is welcome in this course. Through your journey in a multi-media web quest, you will find out the thinking behind the Doctrine of Discovery, how it was justified by Christian church leaders, what happened to the people it touched, how it continues to affect Indigenous people worldwide today, and what hope there is for Indigenous people in the future. You will hear Indigenous voices again and again, something that is unusual in Doctrine of Discovery courses. You will learn how the connection with the land and with Creator has given Indigenous people the spiritual resilience we have today as survivors of the Doctrine of Discovery.

This course is offered **July 18-August 14**.

Join us for this course that runs July 18-August 14, 2021. Read through the materials outlined for each week, then join the Rev. Dr. Mary Crist (Blackfeet/Amskapi Pikuni) for a live conversation about the week's material.

**Support Indigenous Learners**

There is no charge for the Doctrine of Discovery course. The costs have been covered by a 2020 Constable Grant and services contributed by Bexley Seabury Seminary and the Episcopal Church's Office of Indigenous Ministries.

Bexley Seabury Seminary has created a fund to provide scholarships to Indigenous People for Pathway courses and for our degree programs. Please consider offering what you believe is the course's value to our Indigenous Learners Fund. Your gift helps us support them in gaining easier access to theological education and ministerial formation.

Click on this link and scroll down to sign up. [https://bexleyseabury.pathwright.com/library/doctrine-of-discovery/196111/about/](https://bexleyseabury.pathwright.com/library/doctrine-of-discovery/196111/about/).
The Rev. Canon Mary Crist, Ed.D., is enrolled Blackfeet (Amskapi Pikuni) from the Douglas family in Babb on the reservation Montana. She is a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, serving at St. Michael's Riverside, and serves on the presiding bishop's staff as the Indigenous Theological Education Coordinator for the Episcopal Church.

Mary, married to The Rev. Will Crist, is the mother of an adult son and a daughter, grandmother of five, and great grandmother of one. She earned the Doctor of Education at Teachers College Columbia University in New York, the Master of Divinity at The Episcopal Theological School/Claremont School of Theology, and the Bachelor of Arts at The University of California Berkeley. She is the former Dean of the Metcalf School of Education and former professor in the Online and Professional Studies Division at California Baptist University in Riverside.

She has been active in Indigenous Ministry in The Episcopal Church for many years, as a member of the Executive Council’s Committee on Indigenous Ministry.

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**Keeping up with Edith**

Edith let us know that she has a new email address for staying in touch: EdithC1929@outlook.com
News from the Diocese

Responding to Disasters

Episcopal Relief & Development’s US Disaster Program works in areas across the United States that have been affected by disasters. By offering resources and training to help communities prepare for disasters and providing emergency support, we help vulnerable groups of people to make a full and sustained recovery.

Our Church partners are an integral part of these communities; because of our ongoing relationships we are there before others arrive and stay with them for the years of recovery that follow. Episcopal Relief & Development’s Disaster Preparedness Initiative equips Episcopal dioceses in the United States to prepare for and respond to disasters. Dioceses that sign on to the initiative receive ongoing training, resources and support from Episcopal Relief & Development’s US Disaster Program.

When necessary, we may also provide emergency financial assistance to dioceses to supplement these resources, enabling churches to connect with and offer assistance to their most vulnerable neighbors. Emergency funds are distributed through the local bishop’s office, often with the help of a Diocesan Disaster Coordinator, who communicates with Episcopal Relief & Development’s US Disaster Program team.

Learn more about their Emergency Responses and Long-Term Recovery programs by visiting the website: https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-we-do/us-disaster-program/

News from ECUSA

“Conversation with others across difference is not just a nice thing to do. It is a spiritual practice of love in action.”
- Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

“The body is not made up of one part but of many.”
- 1 Corinthians 12:14

What do you love? What have you lost? Where does it hurt? What do you dream?
“From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference” is a campaign inviting Episcopalians and our neighbors to engage in one-to-one listening and sharing across the many differences that separate us.

Echoing the Latin phrase on the U.S. seal – E Pluribus ("from many") Unum ("one") – and following in the footsteps of Jesus, we trust that the spiritual practice of conversation across difference can help to knit us all into a diverse, more perfect union.

Check out recordings of our 2021 webinars.

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/video/from-many-one-video-channel/

- The How and Why of Conversations Across Difference
- From Many One “Listen-In” – Sharing Our Stories and Growing Our Practice

Click here for the document that provides the overview of the program if you’d like to print it out. It contains the following sections.


Explore the following sections to find information on how to engage with From Many, One: Conversations Across Difference. You can find explanations for each of the questions, suggestions on going deeper, and additional resources to keep your conversations going.

Don’t forget to sign up for updates on From Many, One. Watch the videos. Invite a partner. Have the conversation. Pray. Join in deeper conversation, learning and action. Help to form God’s beloved community.

Click on this link and scroll down if you’d like to subscribe to the mailing list.

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/from-many-one/

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**How do I engage?**

As you commit to having conversations across difference, use this framework to help you and your partners through the process.

1. **Explore the guide.**
   

2. **Reflect personally** on The Four Questions.

3. **Watch videos** of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and other leaders modeling brief, one-to-one conversations using The Four Questions (starting January 18 and rolling out every other week). https://www.episcopalchurch.org/video/from-many-one-video-channel/
4. **Explore the resources** to learn about conversation as a spiritual practice, set up your own conversations, and reflect well afterward.

5. **Sign up** and set a conversations goal.
   
   https://www.episcopalchurch.org/from-many-one/pledge/

6. **Have the conversation.**

7. **Pray** for your partner after the conversation.

8. Repeat with new partners.

9. **Contribute** to the “From Many, One” **story space** with a poem, prayer, reflection, or image inspired by your conversation(s), or with video/audio highlights or reflections (with your partner’s permission).
   
   https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/from_many_share

10. **Participate** in related efforts to take the learning, listening, and action further (see options under Keep the Conversation Going). And **celebrate the campaign** during Pentecost 2021 in a churchwide virtual gathering.

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**The Four Questions**

**What do you love?** What do you value? What will you struggle to protect?

So much of human action and thinking is driven not by hate or anger but by the urge to protect what we love. By asking and sharing our answers to “what do you love,” each of us has a chance to name and to hear what matters most to us and why. It’s harder to argue when we start from what we love.

**What have you lost?** What keeps you up at night? What has been lost in your community? What do you miss?

People across the spectrum understand the experience of loss: the loss of money, jobs, status, national identity, cultural identity, a sense of security, a sense that they matter, etc. By asking and sharing our answers to “what have you lost,” we become curious about what each of us has lost, what we’re grieving, and perhaps what we’re trying hard to get back.

**Where does it hurt?** Where have you been wounded by life? What makes you angry? How or where do you feel that pain and anger?

Regardless of our race, gender, age, ballot choice, earnings, or location, we all know what it is to hurt. By asking and sharing our answers to “where does it hurt,” we become curious about how each of us has been wounded by life, by others, and by social forces, instead of assuming “others” are fine and only I or my group is hurting. We offer up our experiences and learn to offer one another compassion.
What do you dream? What do you hope for the future – for yourself, your family, your community, and your nation?

We all dream of a better world, as we imagine it from our own personal perspective, but we don’t get to hear or share that vision very often. Instead, people often assume that their own ideal picture of life, community, and society is shared by everyone or that certain others can’t possibly want the same kind of future they do. By asking “what do you dream,” we become open to hear and share each other’s dreams for our families, communities, society, and ourselves.

What’s the Point?

As individuals, we may find conversations like these help us with “engaging others, knowing ourselves.” Through sharing across difference around simple questions, we can…

• **Acknowledge** the differences and divisions in our families, communities, and nation.

• **Be open** to understanding and collaborating without insisting we’re the same.

• **Practice** disagreeing without dishonoring.

• **Live the Way of Love** as we BLESS by listening, sharing, and honoring God’s presence in one another and as we GO across borders of race, class, ideology, region, age, and experience.
  
  [https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love/](https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love/)

• **Find language** to name what is hopeful, challenging, and loving in our everyday lives.

• **Learn** to create hospitable, respectful, generous space for others to share their stories.

• **Notice God** showing up in the spaces between us.

  As a Church, we can offer a faithful perspective and tested practice for knitting deeply divided communities into a diverse, more perfect union. Together, we can…

• **Counter the current culture** of retribution, punishment, and “othering,” and instead honor difference, curiosity, and relationship.

• **Reknit the fabric** of families, communities, and a nation fractured by pandemic, racial reckoning, and politics.

• **Practice the ministry of reconciliation**, that is, the spiritual practice of seeking loving, liberating, and life-giving relationship with God and one another across the many borders that separate us, and striving to heal and transform injustice and brokenness in ourselves, communities, institutions, and society.

• **Teach** intentional listening and “StorySharing” as part of living the [Way of Love](https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love/).
• **Forge the Beloved Community**, where all people may experience dignity and abundant life and see themselves and others as beloved children of God, and where the flourishing of every person (and all creation) is the hope of each person.

  https://www.episcopalchurch.org/beloved-community/

• **Point** individuals and groups toward ongoing efforts that support learning and engagement across difference, such as:

  - **Braver Angels**: https://braverangels.org/what-we-do/with-malice-toward-none/
  - **Civil Discourse**: https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/civil-discourse/
  - **Love God-Love Neighbor**: https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/lgln/
  - **the Difference Course**: https://difference.rln.global/
  - **Sacred Ground**: https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/
  - **PrayOnMLK**: https://prayonmlk.org/
  - and **the People's Inauguration**: https://thepeoplesinauguration.org/

• **Be true** to our core Anglican values. Our tradition as born in the fires of conflict between religious and ideological factions. Anglicans have a unique calling to adapt, listen, hold tension, and bridge fierce convictions.

• Click on this **From Many, One** link on the ECUSA page link to see how to “Keep the Conversation Going” and access “Additional Conversation and Dialogue Resources”.

  https://www.episcopalchurch.org/from-many-one/

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**Episcopal Church Foundation**

**The Church Cracked Open**

The President and Board of Directors of the Episcopal Church Foundation invite you to an evening of learning and conversation with The Rev. Stephanie Spellers, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Evangelism, Reconciliation and Stewardship of Creation. Canon Spellers is an ECF Fellow (2008) and longtime contributor to ECF Vital Practices. In this conversation, we celebrate and discuss Canon Spellers’ latest book – *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community*. Church Publishing Incorporated describes, “in this critical yet loving book, the author explores the American story and the Episcopal story in order to find out how communities steeped in racism, establishment, and privilege can at last fall in love with Jesus, walk humbly with the most
vulnerable and embody beloved community in our own broken but beautiful way. *The Church Cracked Open* invites us to surrender privilege and redefine church, not just for the sake of others, but for our own salvation and liberation”.

*Stephanie Spellers serves as Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s Canon for Evangelism and Reconciliation. The author of The Church Cracked Open, and The Episcopal Way (with Eric Law), she has directed mission and evangelism work at General Theological Seminary and in the Diocese of Long Island. A native of Kentucky and a graduate of both Episcopal Divinity School and Harvard Divinity School, she lives in Harlem, New York.*

**Watch the evening’s conversation here:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFL7AzvZ5E&t=35s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFL7AzvZ5E&t=35s)

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**Educational Events**

ECF offers a wide range of online webinars, workshops, and in-person customized trainings for leaders across the Episcopal Church to develop the strategic, leadership, and financial capabilities that they need to pursue their mission and ministry. View ECF’s [events calendar](https://www.episcopalfoundation.org/programs/educational-events) for details and to register for upcoming free webinars as well as conferences and events at which ECF will be offering workshops and training.

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**Vestry News**

*Vestry Notes ~ May 16, 2021, Meeting:*

Treasurer Ed Mathews reported that we continue to be on sound financial footing. There was an unusually large payment on our Diocesan Apportionment as a result of the recently completed 2019
audit. The Diocesan Apportionment is a percentage of our income. The final payment to Ski Air for their work on improving the airflow in Peirce Hall was made.

Rev. Debra provided her vacation and sabbatical dates. She will be taking vacation June 13-24 and July 7-28. She will also be taking a portion of her sabbatical time from September 5 through December 5. Senior Warden Becky Leighton is in charge in Rev. Deb's absence and Pastor Christine is responsible for the services during that time.

After much discussion with The Lighted Candle representative, vestry determined that using our parking lot for the laundry truck does not meet the current needs of the homeless in our community.

The Building and Grounds Committee will begin meeting as soon as we can find a few more volunteers. Lyman Dennis, our Junior Warden, will lead the committee and Lee Weikert has offered to serve.

Cherie Raffety reported on her extensive work to gather information for a grant proposal that she is preparing to fund “Invite, Welcome, Connect”. Grants are being accepted by the Episcopal Foundation of Northern California. The two parts of the grant proposal are for funding Godly Play, a Sunday School program, and welcoming and informational publicity. More information about Godly Play can be found at https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/.

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<td>Budgeted April Revenue</td>
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<td>Actual April Expenses</td>
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<td>April Net</td>
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<td>Total Revenue (Jan - April)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses (Jan - April)</td>
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<td>Year-To-Date Net (Jan - April)</td>
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**Church Schedule - June**

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<th>Readers</th>
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<td>1st Sunday - 6th</td>
<td>Boyd Roberts</td>
<td>Debbie Lightfoot</td>
<td>Mike Muetz</td>
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<td>Randy Douglas</td>
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<td>2nd Sunday - 13th</td>
<td>Yvonne Giordano</td>
<td>Mike Berkery</td>
<td>Tom Weikert</td>
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<td>Terry Berkery</td>
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<td>3rd Sunday - 20th</td>
<td>Leta Parks</td>
<td>Mike Berkery</td>
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<td>Randy Douglas</td>
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<td>4th Sunday - 27th</td>
<td>Tom Fritschi</td>
<td>Boyd Roberts</td>
<td>Yvonne Giordano</td>
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**June Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Birthdays:**
- Yvonne Giordano: 6/6
- Bill Naylor: 6/7
- June Ebbe: 6/19
- Wendy Pryce: 6/24
- Amber Baker: 6/28

**Anniversaries:**
- Chris & Ellen Piazza: 6/5/94
- Tom & Kathy Fritschi: 6/7/75
- Bob & Elise Cannon: 6/28/57
## June Calendar

See the Calendar on our website for more details: [www.oursaviourplacerville.org](http://www.oursaviourplacerville.org).

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<td>Trinity Sunday (1st Sunday After Pentecost)</td>
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<td>Rite I - Holy Eucharist (8:00 AM)</td>
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<td>Fathers' Day First Day of Summer (June Solstice)</td>
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Thank you, Deacon Stephen…