Dear friends in Christ,

We had our first Zoom Vestry Retreat and I am happy to say that it went very well. The Vestry retreat is not just a longer vestry meeting. It involves spiritual development, personal renewal and team building. I wasn’t quite sure if we would be able to do all that on Zoom, but we did. We had a facilitator, Renee Regacho-Ancelerto, lead the retreat this year. She has a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of the Pacific in Stockton and is a trained spiritual director. She led us through a series of reflections and helped create goals and strategies for the year ahead. One of responsibilities as a vestry board member is to discern how to best serve your church and community. Some of the questions she asked us to consider were:

- How is God calling us to be as a church after our journey to the desert?
- How do we now prepare to proclaim the kingdom of God at hand?
- How are we the Body of Christ to each other and to the larger world?

We identified areas we wanted to build, support, and celebrate our community within the church as well as provide outreach to the greater community. Some of the ideas we discussed include:

I. Outreach:
   - Resources for seniors,
   - Resources single mothers,
   - Resources for homeless; continue working with the Lighted Candle.

II. Evangelization - growing the church
   - Implementing the Invite Welcome Connect program,
   - Having more themed worship Sundays; i.e. Mr Rogers Day.

III. Pastoral care
   - Preparing and responding to grief and loss, sickness and dying,
   - Praying for one another as a congregation.

IV. Connection in the larger Placerville area:
   - Pre-election prayer service
   - Mardis Gras
   - Healing liturgies
Upper Room  
Veterans Ministry  

Current vestry members are:  

Class of 2022  
Becky Leighton (Senior Warden)  
Debbie Lightfoot  
Leslyn Shortes  

Class of 2023  
Trish Naylor  

Class of 2024  
Lyman Dennis (Junior Warden)  
Cherie Raffety  
Lee Weikert (Clerk)  

Non-voting member: Treasurer, Ed Mathews.  

I am looking forward to working alongside this vestry as we continue our generative conversations and find ways to share God’s love with others.  

With love and prayers, Rev Deb  

Regathering Team  

We are all eager to get back to worshipping in person together. The Regathering Team includes people with a variety of opinions, which seems to be true in all of our gatherings! It’s one of the blessings of our church. I think it was Thomas Aquinas who said, ‘In matters of taste there is no dispute’. The challenge and the blessing in our gatherings is to listen to all opinions, look to other sources of information, pray together, and make decisions based trying to care for the whole body of people. COVID has presented so many challenges and opportunities. The team is looking at what we need to do in order to re-open as quickly and safely as possible. Some of the things we are looking at include the ventilation in the church, the current level of risk in El Dorado County and CDC recommendations. A survey is being sent out to each parishioner so we can hear your concerns and find ways to address them. We are also looking for volunteers to help sanitize the sanctuary after the 8:00 am service.  

Lenten Forum: Embracing Evangelism  

It is not too late to join the Lenten Forum. We are using a video series on Episcopal Evangelism from The Episcopal Church and Virginia Theological Seminary. Throughout this adventure, we will explore evangelism as a spiritual practice rooted in joy, gratitude, and holy curiosity; a practice through which we seek and speak of Jesus’ loving presence and invite other people to celebrate God’s life and love for them. Please consider taking part in this by watching one video per week. Each session features teachings on Episcopal evangelism, group discussion, and exercises to help Episcopalians understand the ministry and
call to evangelism. The full Embracing Evangelism series consists of six video sessions, each under 45 minutes.

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/embracing-evangelism/sessions/

We will have a Zoom gathering from 9:15 - 10:00 on Sunday mornings from Feb 21 thru March 28. The link to join the forum is

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88297175169?pwd=Slp0VXY0TDZvaWI2THdaelNqVzBtZz09
Meeting ID: 882 9717 5169
Passcode: 524735

Vestry Meetings

The vestry meetings are held on the third Sunday of the month at noon. The next one will be on Zoom on March 21st at 12:00 pm. Vestry meetings are open to members of the parish, who may observe without power of vote. Please let Karen Cornell, the Communications Administrator, know if you would like to attend the Vestry meeting and the Zoom link will be sent to you. Her email address is cornellkl@me.com. If you would like to present something for the vestry to consider, please email it to the Senior Warden (leightonbecky@gmail.com) or the Rector (revdebra.oursaviour@gmail.com) at least two weeks prior to the vestry meeting.

Newsletter News

Karen Cornell, our Communications Administrator and Bookkeeper, is going to take over the newsletter in March. We will have a regular Vestry News column, information from around the diocese and the national church. Karen also maintains our website which can be found at http://oursaviourplacerville.org. The website has a calendar and is also filled with relevant news you can use; i.e., vaccination updates. If you have an article you would like to include in the newsletter please send it to cornellkl@me.com.

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

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<th>Birthdays:</th>
<th>Anniversaries:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marcia Goodrich</td>
<td>Jim and Mona Baker</td>
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<td>Chris Piazza</td>
<td>Rich and LeAnn Bettencourt</td>
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<td>Emma Piazza</td>
<td>Sandy Bert</td>
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<td>Boyd Roberts</td>
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<td>Sheila Wagner</td>
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Letter from Bishop Meghan

November 16, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the world continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, I have witnessed great resourcefulness and perseverance from our churches. In this challenging time remaining safe and connected to our congregations is still critical. We are blessed that with technology and other resources, we are still able to bear witness to Christ. To help continue your ministry, please find enclosed a grant of $1,000.00 to continue to respond to COVID.

My priority is for every church in our diocese to stay safe and to continue their ministry. The purpose of this grant is to help cover expenses in response such as:

- Renewal of a Zoom account
- PPE (masks, gloves, sanitizer)
- Touchless thermometer
- App for service registration
- Cameras

God’s Holy Spirit has always spoken to and empowered God’s people in a time of crisis. Thank you for offering the Good News so powerfully. We are all connected as children of God and you will all be in my prayers as we continue to navigate the future.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP 816)

In Christ,

[Signature]

Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ
Episcopal Church of  Our Saviour
P.O. Box 447
2979 Coloma Street
Placerville, CA 95667-0447

TIME DATE MATERIAL.  PLEASE EXPEDITE