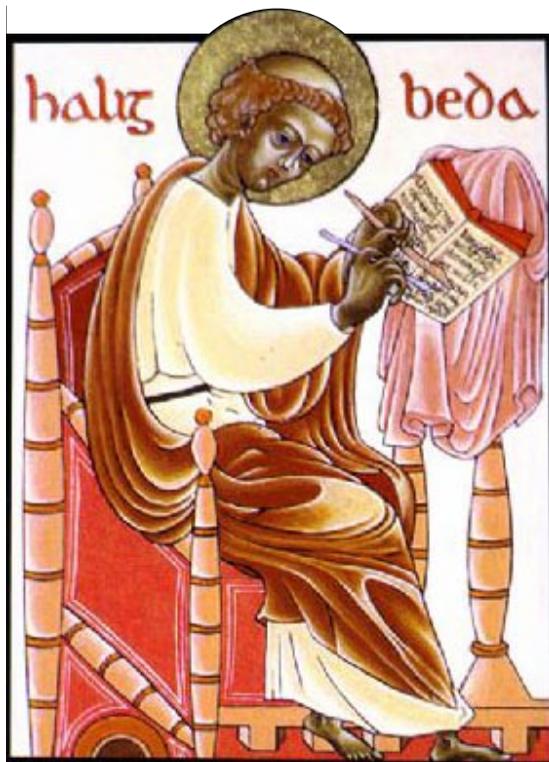


Bede's Journal

The Monthly Newsmagazine of St. Bede's Episcopal Church



We help all ages grow in faith and service.

June 2016

June at a Glance

Sunday 5 June

9:00am Soulwork: Faith Practices for Families – *suitable for all!*

10:15am Last Sunday School & Last Choir Service

11:30am Last Youth Group

11:30ish Potluck lunch for all, hosted by Children’s & Youth Ministry

noon Altar Guild Luncheon

Friday-Sunday, 10-12 June

St. Bede’s Annual Parish Retreat at The Bishop’s Ranch, Healdsburg

9:00am, two Sundays in June: 6/19, 6/26 (also 7/3 and 7/10!)

Soulwork: The Psalms

Sunday 19 June

Sunday Funday begins!



Look Ahead and Save These Dates!

Sunday 3 July

Red, White, & Blue Bake Sales at coffee hours, benefiting our charitable partners

Sunday 28 August

Sunday school returns

Sunday 11 September

Fall Kick-Off

Soulwork in June

On June 5, Soulwork concludes its series on Faith Practices for Families, co-led by Michaela Eskew and Gia Hayes-Martin. Many of these practices are for adults as well as children, so this series is for everyone! Children are welcome to attend with their parents.

Soulwork will not meet on June 12, the weekend of the Parish Retreat.

We’ll begin a new four-week series on Psalms on June 19. We’ll explore this book, often called the prayer book of the Bible, and the wide range of human emotion expressed in it. Singing and praying the psalms are both important spiritual practices in Christianity, and we’ll have the opportunity to do both.

Soulwork meets on Sundays at 9:00am in Lehman Hall; childcare is available.

St. Bede’s Children & Youth

The Sunday school year is coming to a close. On June 5 we will be having an all-parish potluck lunch after the 10:15 service to celebrate the end of choir and the end of Sunday school. This is the last time we can all get together before we head off to our busy and sun-filled summers, so we hope you all can make it. St. Bede’s will be providing the hamburgers and hotdogs, but if parish members can bring side dishes, desserts, and drinks we would be most appreciative!

After the Parish Retreat weekend, we will begin our summer Sunday school curriculum, known around the parish as Sunday Funday! From June 19 through August 21, we will hold one Sunday school classroom for all ages, 3 through 12. This year’s Sunday Funday theme will be “Around the World Adventure: Visiting the World’s Christians.” We will learn about people all over



Potluck Lunch!

June 5 after the 10:15 service



The Children’s & Youth Ministry is hosting a potluck lunch for congregants of all ages on the last day of Sunday school and the last Youth Group of the program year. We would love to celebrate together before we all get busy with summer plans. Please bring a side dish, drink, or dessert for the group and we will supply the hamburgers and hot dogs!

the world that practice Christianity, from right here in Menlo Park to Russia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Hungary, and many more! We will have a lesson each week with an interactive activity. We hope you can join us on our Around the World adventure!

We are still looking for volunteers to help with Sunday Funday—you just choose a destination and a week and I will partner with you to lead the children through some educational fun! We hope that it will be a nice environment to learn something about the wider Christian world, while also providing an easy curriculum for families to join as often or as few times as they can! All are welcome, young and old, returning and new!



Note for Sunday Funday attendees under age 3: Nursery care will also be available by advance request. We will need to know by no later than the Thursday before if you will need a nursery attendant. The Nursery room, however, will be available every Sunday for your own use; we just can't promise an attendant without prior notification.

Our youth group at St. Bede's has been doing a great job serving the local community lately! On May 15, the middle school and high school-age children baked more than twenty small lasagnas for the non-profit organization There With Care that provides care and support to families that are going through a child's medical crisis. It is a spe-

cial organization to the St. Bede's community and we were happy to help! The youth group has already voiced their desire to do some more cooking, so please keep your eye out for the next cooking dates!

The youth group will be holding one last gathering before the summer begins, on June 5 from 11:30-1:30. (Yes, that means during the potluck.) We will be screening the documentary *Jesus Camp* and then we will discuss the differences and similarities that we have with conservative evangelical Christian communities. As Christians we are both living into a faith that we hold dear, so where is our common ground and how can we learn to work together to fulfill Christ's call?

And finally, Rev. Gia and I will be finishing our three-part Soulwork series on June 5. Our final lesson will be focused on prayer. We will do many different practices so that children of all ages, even adult ages, can experience prayer in new and meaningful ways outside of the Sunday worship context. Feel free to bring any children with you because it will be a great space for interaction and exploration! We hope you all can join us!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns on the Children's & Youth Ministry here at St. Bede's, I am available on campus on Tuesdays all summer or can be reached at michaela@stbedesmenlopark.org.

— *Michaela Eskew*
Children's & Youth Minister

Home & Hope

Summer Service Opportunities

Adults, youth, and families are warmly invited to help our partners at Trinity Church in Menlo Park with the Home & Hope transitional family shelter on selected nights between June 19 and July 2. Openings are available to prepare one or more dishes for a meal (typically serving 12-16 people), to socialize with adults or play with children in Trinity's play areas or inside, and to serve as an overnight host with private sleeping accommodations. Contact Emilee Wilhelm-Leen for details and to sign up for this fun and easy service opportunity.

For those who are not able to serve at Trinity, there are also a few openings for volunteers June 12-19 at Transfiguration Episcopal Church in San Mateo, including Monday, June 12, when Jeanne Cooper is looking for a partner to serve dinner. For details, please contact Jeanne.

Thanks to Our Community

Ask, and ye shall receive: St. Bede's thanks members of our greater community for aiding our efforts at Home & Hope. Please feel free to thank them, too, if you patronize them, and consider inviting others to contribute in similar ways. It's a great way to spread the news of what our parish is up to, and to spread the joy of serving others.

* **Dr. Charles Carter, DDS**, in Redwood City regularly contributes travel-sized toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, and toothbrushes for our team to give to Home & Hope clients staying at Congregation Beth Jacob.

* **Bill Petrin**, co-owner of **Studio Rincon** in Menlo Park, donated a dozen yoga mats for use on the cots that Home & Hope clients sleep on.

St. Bede's also thanks **Country Club Cleaners** in Menlo Park and **Diddam's** in Mountain View for providing discounts that help stretch our hospitality budget, and **Kepler's** in Menlo Park for discounts on books read by our discussion groups.

— *Jeanne Cooper*

From a note of thanks from Home & Hope to St. Bede's, for our donation of funds raised by our annual rummage sale in April:

Your contributions will allow us to provide homeless families with not only food and shelter, but with hope and stability as we partner with them to overcome devastating circumstances. Our families have found caring people who help them realize that they are not alone. They are thriving with the support of case management, learning about programs that can help them on their journey to self-sufficiency. ... Just last year, 71.8% of our sheltered homeless families transitioned into housing and 67% increased their income.

Summer Hospitality

With the onset of summer, many of our regular coffee hour hosts—including yours truly!—will be away on a number of Sundays, particularly in June and July. But thanks to our conveniently stocked coffee cart, including a stash of cookies and other treats on its lower shelf, it's easy to volunteer to help.

Please let Carol Shedlock know if you're available for one or more of the following tasks this month or next:

* *bring fresh finger food, such as doughnuts or strawberries.* You don't have to make the items, and you can be reimbursed up to \$25 for 8am coffee hour (for about 25-35 servings) or \$50 for the later coffee hour (for about 60-70 servings) by providing receipts. Carol can provide you with the check request form.

* *make coffee.* Fred Langhorst has volunteered to pair with those who don't know how to use the one-step coffeemakers, to show them the ropes. It's also okay to host a lemonade social—Carol and Ed Brink stock bottles of Minute Maid in our refrigerator or pantry.

* *help with clean-up or set-up.* The tables and chairs are always ready to go; just add tablecloths, the provisions from the coffee cart and any fresh food, and you're ready to go! For clean-up, just replace all supplies on the cart (including emp-

ties and washed creamers) and wipe the tablecloths clean before replacing in the marked kitchen cabinet. Our Bunn carafes for coffee and hot water are labeled with a note to be returned to the pantry—in a pinch you'll find unlabeled ones under the small kitchen sink.

It's been wonderful to see how long people gather at coffee hour and how many newcomers feel comfortable enough to stay and chat with us, too. Even if our provisions are a bit simpler over the summer, let's continue to share smiles and conversation with all ages, and perhaps thereby entertain angels.

— *Jeanne Cooper*
Hospitality Chair



Stanford Canterbury Connections



*Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

(Ps 85:10, BCP)

On Pentecost Sunday, the Rev. Andy Shamel was our clergy visitor, conducting Soulwork and preaching here at St. Bede's. Andy is the Episcopal Chaplain at Stanford University, currently a three-quarter-time position. Stanford Canterbury, the Episcopal chaplaincy at Stanford, welcomes students, faculty, and staff, wherever they may be on their faith journey, and offers a community where our future leaders can grow into their spiritual and intellectual fullness. Working in co-operation with the Lutheran chaplaincy, Stanford Canterbury is the only faith community on campus that embraces all seekers, whatever their background, ethnicity, race, age, gender, or sexual orientation.

Stanford Canterbury is dependent on donations from people who believe that a university should be a place where faith and intellect grow in tandem rather than apart, a place that develops leaders who will articulate narratives of reconciliation, humanity, and fullness of life for all.

This year, Stanford Canterbury has been offered a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$25,000. If you are called to support this ministry, you may contribute online at www.stanfordcanterbury.org, or send a check to Stanford Canterbury, P.O. Box 18687, Stanford, CA 94309. Alternatively, you may donate through St. Bede's church office, or hand a check directly to Irene Lawrence, Treasurer, Stanford Canterbury, who will be glad to answer questions about the chaplaincy.

From the Rector

Hope Does Not Put Us to Shame

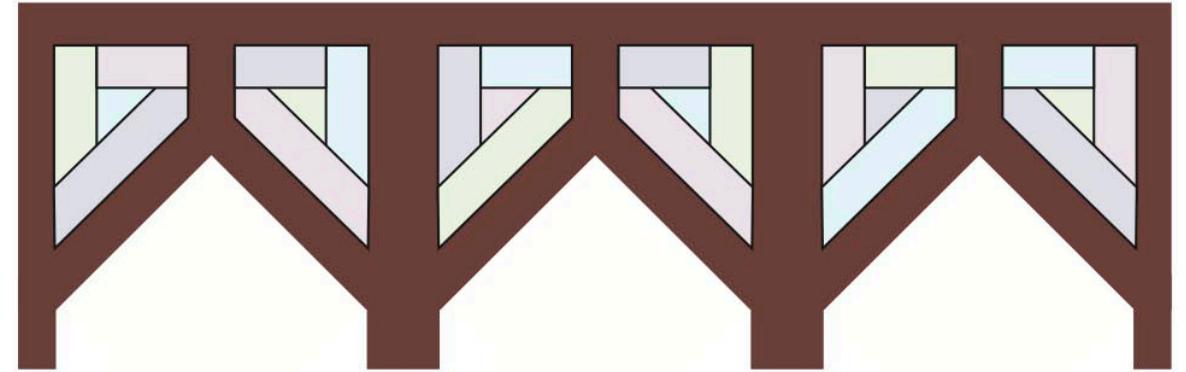
The following sermon was offered on Trinity Sunday, May 22.

Last Sunday in Soulwork, our adult-education hour, we had a conversation about being Christian, specifically about being Christian in public. Other religions ask their members to wear some outward marker of the faith—long beards and turbans for Sikhs, headscarves for Muslim women—but Christianity is not big on distinctive dress. We might wear a cross necklace or lapel pin, but plenty of people who are not practicing Christians wear that symbol, and for most of us, nothing about our appearance marks us out as Christians. We have to say something to be recognized as churchgoers. And in an environment that is at best indifferent to religious faith and at worst hostile to it, outing ourselves as Christians can be intimidating. We talked about how uncomfortable it is to be the only churchgoer among our colleagues or on our street, how there is the risk of embarrassment in admitting where we are on Sunday mornings. And we talked about our efforts to overcome our discomfort and be honest about who we are, despite the negative consequences we may reap.

That struggle to be who we are, to be openly Christian in a disapproving world, would be familiar to the Christian community in

Rome in the first century.[1] It's not clear how long there had been Christians in Rome, but most scholars believe the community had been there for several years by the time of Paul's letter. It was a mixed community of Gentile and Jewish Christians, and some of the Jewish Christians had lived through the emperor Claudius' expulsion of the Jews from Rome (Acts 18:2). That was a humiliating experience: being accepted in a place, putting down roots, then being forced to leave their homes and livelihoods, feeling the judgmental eyes of their former neighbors upon them as they packed up their houses and trudged out of the city on to God knows where. The Gentile Christians in Rome might have had an experience of humiliation on a smaller scale, as their families rejected them for choosing Jesus Christ over their traditional gods and worship. They might not have been kicked out of town, but they could have been kicked out of their families, maybe left to stand in the street pleading to be let in while the rest of the relatives gathered without them.

[1] I owe this exegesis to Margaret Aymer, "Exegetical Perspective," *Feasting on the Word*, Year C Volume 3 (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010), 39-43.



The culture of the ancient world was based on honor and shame. Honor—your good name, your reputation—was your most precious possession. Shame, especially public shame, was the worst thing that could happen to you. Shame damaged your honor, tarnished your good name. The kind of humiliation the Jewish and Gentile Christians of Rome went through was catastrophic. Their honor might never recover from it.

When the Christians of Rome asked why this devastating loss of honor had happened to them, they might have found an obvious answer in the histories of the Jewish people. Throughout the Hebrew scriptures, individual and collective catastrophe is God's punishment for sin. Break God's law, and bad things will happen to you. Jewish Christians had broken God's law by allowing Gentiles into their community and, worse yet, eating with them. They should have expected humiliation in return. They should be ashamed of themselves. They deserve whatever has happened to them.

But Paul disagrees. He uses the legal term "justification" to conjure the image of the church in Rome on trial. The Christian community is in the dock, charged with breaking God's law. The prosecutor presents the evidence: public shame. The defendant must be guilty because it is being punished. Paul steps in and says: wait a minute, wait a minute. This is all wrong. The Christians of Rome aren't guilty, they shouldn't even have been charged, because they aren't being punished at all!

Paul says to the Christians of Rome: look, I know shame is as bad as we all believe it is, but ask yourselves if that is truly what you have experienced. You have suffered, and your suffering has created the quality of endurance. Endurance has developed your character. Your strength of character generates hope. And hope does not disappoint us—or, to use a more accurate translation of that word, hope does not put us to shame. Our hope is in God, in the love of God that has flooded our hearts



through the Holy Spirit, and God's love has nothing to do with shame. Look what God has done for you, Roman Christians! Look at the peace you have with God, that sense of being at one with God's purpose for the world. Look at the grace in which you now live. Feel the love of God overflowing your heart and pumping through your veins. This is not punishment; it is blessing! We can even boast about our sufferings because they are an opportunity to share the good news of what God has done for us. When we talk about the hope we have, we affirm the glory of God, the God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, the God who has poured love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

So Paul reframes the shame the church in Rome has experienced. Suffering is not God's punishment; their suffering is a sign of their faithfulness. That faithfulness is made possible by God's overflowing love for God's people. The hope we have in God cannot ever shame us. I want to be very clear about the kind of suffering Paul is talking about. Too often, this passage has been used to glorify suffering for its own sake—to discourage people from leaving abusive relationships, to justify exploitation and slavery. This is a dangerous misreading of this text. Paul is not saying that all suffering is spiritually beneficial. He is talking specifically about

suffering because of our Christian faith, what Dietrich Bonhoeffer called "the cost of discipleship." That one particular type of suffering is a sign of faithfulness, and it is an opportunity to proclaim the glory of God.

I realized how powerfully Paul's message to the Romans speaks to us today after last week's meeting of the vestry, our church's governing board. We were discussing talking about our Christian faith to people who aren't churchgoers—a similar conversation to the one in Soulwork about being Christian in an unfriendly environment. There was a fair amount of self-criticism for being so reluctant to talk about our faith, and for not doing it very competently or effectively. But that isn't what I heard in the stories vestry members were telling. What I heard was courage in being who we are, even when it's uncomfortable or intimidating. I heard perseverance and a desire to keep trying in spite of negative reaction. I was so proud of our vestry. They are choosing, if not to suffer, to be uncomfortable for the sake of their Christian faith. They aren't the only ones; many of you are also taking the risk of being openly religious in a relentlessly secular environment. It's not easy. We may feel completely incompetent or ineffective. But I think we're doing better than we feel. We *can* talk about our faith, and we *are* doing it.

And we can hold our heads up when we do, because our discomfort produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame. How could it, when God has given us so much? All that God did for the Christians in Rome, God has also done for us: the peace that comes from union with God and God's purposes for the world. The grace in which we live. The love of God that overflows our hearts and pumps through our veins. And the hundreds, even thousands of blessings large and small that God has poured out upon us. Talking about our faith may be uncomfortable, but it is an opportunity to bear witness to all that God has done for us—to tell the world the good

news of God's overflowing love. That's really what we are doing when we make ourselves uncomfortable for the sake of our faith: we are affirming the glory of God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, the God who has poured the Holy Spirit into our hearts.

It's hard to be a person of faith in a disapproving world. But we can do it, and we are doing it, regardless of the discomfort. For our discomfort produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and the hope of God in Christ Jesus will never put us to shame.

Peace,

Gia+



+ Rites of Passage +

Life is marked by significant cycles and events: we are born, baptized, confirmed; some of us are married, families are raised, illness comes, death occurs. Such are the Rites of Passage and such are marked by special prayers in the church.

+ Burial +

Elizabeth Goodrich Chamberlain
22 August 1916 – 25 January 2016

*Grant that she may come to
your heavenly kingdom.*

June 2016 at St. Bede's Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p style="color: green; text-align: center;">Go forth for God; go to the world in strength; hold fast the good, be urgent for the right; render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome all darkness with his light.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Hymn 347, J.R. Peacey</p>			<p><i>Justin</i> 1</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist 8:30a School chapel noon Bldgs & Grounds mtg 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p><i>Blandina and Her Companions, the Martyrs of Lyons</i> 2</p> <p>8:30a School chapel noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p><i>The Martyrs of Uganda</i> 3</p> <p>8:30a School chapel</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work 7:00p Scandinavian Dance*</p>
<p>3 Pentecost 5</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork-family faith 9:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday school 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:30a Potluck Lunch 11:30a Youth Group noon Altar Guild luncheon</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30a School chapel 9:00a Counting Crew 7:00p Companions cont.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30a School chapel Trinity School Fun Day 2:00p Staff meeting 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist 10:00a Trinity Graduation 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p><i>Columba of Iona</i> 9</p> <p>noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p><i>Ephrem of Edessa</i> 10</p> <p>noon Parkinson's Caregivers*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Retreat at The Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg</p>	<p>St. Barnabas 11</p> <p>7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work 7:00p Folk Dance* Parish Retreat at The Bishop's Ranch</p>
<p>4 Pentecost 12</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00a Nursery 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II Parish Retreat at The Bishop's Ranch</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00a Counting Crew</p>	<p><i>Basil the Great</i> 14</p> <p>Flag Day 2:00p Staff meeting 7:00p Finance Cmte mtg 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p><i>Evelyn Underhill</i> 15</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>16</p> <p>noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p>17</p>	<p><i>Bernard Mizeki</i> 18</p> <p>7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work 3:00p Stork/Mitchell wedding</p>
<p>5 Pentecost 19</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork-Psalms 9:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday Funday 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00a Counting Crew 7:00p Companions cont.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>noon Parkinson's Caregivers* 2:00p Staff meeting 7:00p Vestry meeting 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p><i>Alban of Britain</i> 22</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>23</p> <p>noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p>Nativity of St. John the Baptist 24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work</p>
<p>6 Pentecost 26</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork-Psalms 9:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday Funday 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II 2:00p Scottish Dance*</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00a Counting Crew</p>	<p><i>Irenaeus of Lyons</i> 28</p> <p>2:00p Staff meeting 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>St. Peter and St. Paul 29</p> <p>8:00a Holy Eucharist 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>30</p> <p>noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>		

**use of St. Bede's facilities in outreach to the broader community*

Community Event

Being Mortal

Film screening & community discussion

Friday, June 17 • 7-9pm Trinity Church
330 Ravenswood Avenue, Menlo Park

If you thought you were dying, what would matter most?

Join us for a free screening and community discussion of *Being Mortal*, the PBS Frontline film based on the best-seller by Atul Gawande, MD.

This event is part of a national conversation about our individual end-of-life wishes and goals. After the screening, you can join a guided conversation on how to take concrete steps to identify and communicate your wishes.

Free, but space is limited.

Please register at MissionHospice.eventbrite.com



Arts at St. Bede's 2016-2017 — Save the Dates!

Plans for next year's Arts at St. Bede's series are in the works.

Don't miss any of the marvelous music coming our way in 2016-17!

All events begin at 4pm.

- Sunday, September 18 San Francisco Renaissance Voices
- Sunday, October 23 Evensong & organ recital with organist Jin Kyung Lim
- **Saturday**, November 12 All Souls Memorial Service with combined choirs
- Sunday, December 11 Kitka *concert and CD release*
- Sunday, January 29 Artist TBD
- Sunday, February 12 Artist TBD
- Sunday, March 19 Evensong & organ recital with organist Angela Kraft-Cross
- Sunday, April 2 Soprano Rachele Perry and Mezzo-soprano Sally Mouzon
- Sunday, May 21 Artist TBD

☀ Bede's People ☀

Congratulations to our graduates!

Colby Roberts, husband of our music director Kathy McKee, was recently awarded an M.A. with a Concentration in Biblical Languages from the Graduate Theological Union, in cooperation with the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Colby, who already holds other degrees in music and divinity, will continue as a full time chorister with the SF Opera and chairman of the local committee for the American Guild of Musical Artists, as well as with volunteer ministries at All Saints', SF, where he serves as a vestry member and deanery delegate.

Alec Drobac, son of Michelle Swenson & Stan Drobac, is graduating from Vermont's Middlebury College with a B.A. in physics. A Trinity School and St. Bede's youth group alumnus, Alec will enter a doctoral program this fall at Tufts University, near Boston.

St. Bede's nursery caregiver **Shabriese Davis**, who also directs a preschool in San Leandro, graduates this month with a B.A. in criminal justice from CSU, East Bay. She says she is still exploring her career options—please offer her your congratulations and encouragement when you see her next!

Graham Knight, son of Carol Shedlock & Mark Knight and a frequent St. Bede's hospitality volunteer, graduates from Los Altos High in June. He will enter Arizona State University's Fulton Schools of Engineering in Tempe this fall.

Rosemary Reynolds, who was confirmed at St. Bede's, graduates from Mid-Peninsula High. The daughter of Arts at St. Bede's patrons Laurie Reynolds and Trevor Nelson, she plans to study criminal profiling at Seattle University.

Maddie Stewart, daughter of St. Bede's friends Grace & Colin Stewart, graduates this month from Menlo School and is headed to Tufts University with a volleyball scholarship.

J.B. Pellegrin is completing grade eight at Woodside School and will advance to Bellarmine College Preparatory this fall.

Eighth-graders **Luke Norman**, **Alexandra Spath**, and **Athena Burrs-President** are completing La Entrada Middle School. Luke and Alexandra will move on to Menlo-Atherton High School in the fall, while Athena will attend Castilleja School in Palo Alto.



Vestry View

Prior to our vestry meeting, several vestry members as well as Rev. Gia and Carol Shedlock met with the Rev. Joseph Peters-Mathews, the Working Group Head for Communications in the Diocese of California. As we begin to re-imagine the communication and marketing strategy for our parish, Joseph offered us both broad guidelines as well as several exciting and actionable specifics such as targeting use of Google ads and evaluating the analytics on our parish webpage. We also discussed improving the signage along Sand Hill Road.

Our vestry meeting began with a spiritual practice focused on gratitude. This kind of gratitude practice will be the subject of an upcoming Soulwork—stay tuned!

Each vestry meeting begins with dedicated time for community input. This month, Kathy McKee joined the meeting to let us know that she is planning to attend a conference for Anglican musicians. We are excited to hear what she brings back from what we hope is an inspiring few days!

We spent time furthering our vestry initiatives, which I described in the last “Vestry View.” Broadly we have divided into working groups to address the priority areas we identified during our Mutual Ministry Review in January: *invite*, *community*, and *send*. The *invite* committee will pursue the ideas garnered during our discussion with

Rev. Peters-Mathews. The *community* group is planning an event, likely to be held in the fall, possibly in conjunction with our community service partners. And the *send* group is discussing ways in which parishioners can share their stories of faith.

Rev. Gia shared some calendar planning for the coming year:

9/11/16	Fall Kick-off
9/30/16	Fall Gala
10/30/16	Harvest Brunch
1/22/17	Parish annual meeting
2/4/17	Vestry retreat
2/28/17	Shrove Tuesday pancake supper
5/6/17	Rummage sale

Rev. Gia offered the Trinity school update. Graduation will be held on June 8. In excellent news for next year: all the lead classroom teachers will be returning in the fall. Finally, there are still spots available in the three-year-old preschool class and in the kindergarten class; if you know a family looking for a quality Episcopal education, please do recommend Trinity!

Next, we received the Rector’s report. First, Rev. Gia is planning to reinvigorate stewardship and giving in our parish, starting with the creation of a standing committee for stewardship. This committee will likely include five or six people, both vestry and non-vestry members. Several vestry members expressed interest in serving on this committee; if you would like to serve or have a nomination for consideration, please let

Rev. Gia or one of the wardens know! Next, there will be a special diocesan convention on June 11 to discuss revising the canon regarding diocesan institutions. More details regarding this agenda are not known at this time. The convention will be attended by our parish Deanery reps who will return with a full report. Finally, Rev. Gia will be attending a conference on Gen X and Millennial ministry in Portland, OR from May 23-27. Pastoral issues in her absence will be referred to the Rev. John Oda-Burns.

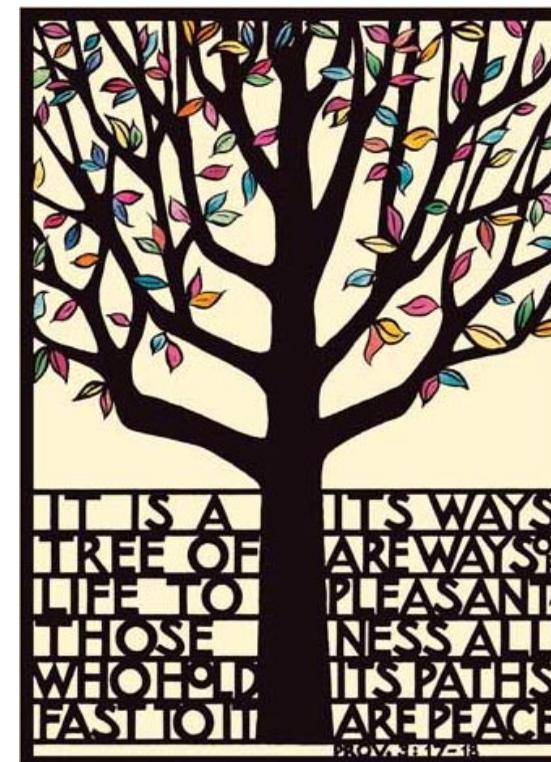
Senior warden Jon Backlund, along with Curtis Grisham, reported on two key Build-

ings & Grounds issues: first, planning is moving forward to consider adding solar panels to our grounds. Members of the vestry will meet with a representative from American Solar prior to the next vestry meeting to further evaluate the details of their proposal. Second, there are several dead Monterey Pine trees on our berm along Sand Hill Road that need to be removed; Jon is working with PG&E in an effort to have these taken care of at no cost to the parish.

As junior warden I offered a report on Community Service this month. Led by Jeanne Cooper, parish volunteers too numerous to count put on our annual rummage sale on April 23-24. As always, the sale was well attended by members of the community. We raised \$1650 for Home & Hope. Great job, everyone! Speaking of Home & Hope, a team of parish volunteers including Hasma Serverian, Graham Knight, Carol Shedlock, and the Wilhelm-Leen family provided dinner, childcare, and overnight hosts at Congregation Beth Jacob on May 10. We’re planning our next service opportunity, dates TBD, during the last weeks of June/early July at Trinity Church in Menlo Park. Finally, the Community Service committee is planning a festive coffee hour in early July to benefit nursing scholarships in Malawi.

Curtis Grisham led us in Compline to end the meeting.

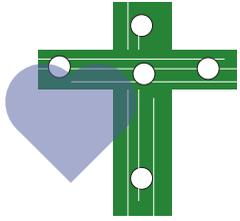
– Emilee Wilhelm-Leen
Junior Warden



Trinity School

Grade 5 Homilies at Eucharist

The students in Grade 5 compose the homily for the last School Eucharist each year. Here are their reflections on passages from 1 Corinthians, Psalms, and Matthew.



If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:1-7

Cecily: Once there was a little fox. He gave away some of his old toys so he could brag and say he was better than everyone else. The fox said he was the best, better

than everyone, however he had no love. He gained nothing because he had only done the deed so everybody would think he was the best, and he didn't do it out of love. If you do something so you can boast and brag, you won't gain anything. It is very important to do things with love. It's love that connects us to God and makes things worth it. You should always do things with love and don't be like the fox from the story.

Finley: If you give away everything you have just to brag that you're the nicest and most generous, you gain nothing. You have to care for your cause and do it because you want to, and not to brag. You have to be humble, it should be about the person you are helping and not about you.

Baxter: I really like the second stanza about the problem of doing things without love. I like how it says that that you can have everything, do anything, and know everything, but without love none of it matters. An example is, if you're the best at a game, everyone might still dislike you, like if you were boastful or a bad sport, and with that, you're nothing.

Riley: If one gives away all possessions to help those who need, gives money to those who are poor, but does not have love in their heart and feels obligated to do so, they gain nil. If you give, and truly do not care, you gain nothing in your heart. Love is kind. Love can spread from one to many in a matter of seconds.

Joshua: If you don't have love, you never do any good. Raise your hand if you've ever done something good, but did so a bit grumpily. One example I had was when I cleaned my room, but was fussing about it the whole time. It really got nothing accomplished, because I was unhappy about it. If you do something reluctantly, nobody gets satisfaction out of it, so if you do a task, be happy about the good results.

Happy: There were two families of bears, one was selfish and rude with no love for each other. The other was kind and loving to each other. It was time to gather food before hibernation. The family with no love were fighting over who gets to kill one fish when there were hundreds of fish. The family that was loving tried to catch all the fish they could to share, unlike the other family in which each bear wants to hunt for themselves only. You should be kind and loving and help your family and other people.

Philip: Love is patient and kind. This means things like don't scream at people if they don't pass you the ball or if they drop it. Instead, encourage them and be patient with them. Imagine if you were the person who kept being blamed, would you have happy emotions? It's more important to treat people well than to win a game.

Annaliese: Love does not make itself, it needs an engine. The engine to love is people. Love does not just pop up out of the blue, but needs a source. Love involves

friendship, happiness, and cooperation. To be a loving friend means to be kind and care about the other person.



The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

*He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.*

Psalm 23

Catie: To me, this psalm basically means that God will guide you through your hardships. A shepherd guides his sheep so they won't go on the wrong path, and God's place is the shepherd. Sheep tend to wander off, and from our point of view, we see that as sin. We are the sheep. But because



shepherds love their sheep, and they will put their sheep back on track again.

Nicky: When I think about God leading me I think about when I was a little crazy toddler running around not knowing where to go. My parents, being like God, would lead me. If they hadn't been there, I would go the wrong way or get lost. God helps me in the same way because when I might not be doing the right thing he tells me to stop.

Audrey: Psalm 23 means trust. Especially the part in the first stanza, "You are my shepherd, O God." I remember the time that I told my sister about a test I was having the next day in third grade, and she helped me get ready. The next day when the test came, in my head I said, "Nicole (my sister), please help me get through the test" and surprising enough, I got 100%. I believe that every human being should have someone or something that they can always rely on.

Rishi: Psalm 23, or The Good Shepherd, is a very interesting psalm. I think it is about us being the sheep, and God being the shepherd. God takes care of us and helps us in the hardest times. He loves us. Also, I think it is about God always being there for us, and helping us with things we need, not want. Here are some examples: You want candy, but you don't need it. You want a new toy, but you don't need it. Wanting and needing things are very different from each other. In a nutshell, I believe that this psalm is about God helping us when we re-

ally need something, not always when we want something.

Eddie: To me this verse means that God will comfort you no matter what happens, but God cannot prevent trouble. It means that you won't have any fear, not that you will not be harmed. God will be with you for as long as you live. For example when it was my first time doing something I didn't want to do it. I got comforted because I knew God was with me and did it.

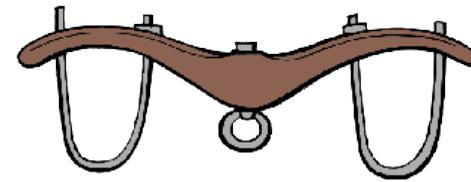
Sam: I think this verse means that God is always by your side. Also, that no matter the hardship, God will be with you. It means that whether you have a cut, or your friends won't talk to you, God will protect you and make you feel safe.

Adam: This psalm is about how God is there for you and how he protects you, but you still have to experience your fears and face dangers. This has applied to my life when I went whitewater rafting. In the extraordinarily cold water of the Deschutes river in Oregon, I was sitting at the front. I remember vividly the water splashing up from the river and soaking me. Our boat almost capsized in the heart of the rapids, but, suddenly, our boat uprighted itself and, after a few more surprises, we drifted to safety.

Sophia: For me this psalm means that even if you are scared, God is always there to support and comfort you. No matter what you face, God is there to help. Like when

you're alone in the night, you can know that someone else is with you.

Austin: The line in the psalm about fearing no harm even though you are in a valley as dark as death means that even if you were to do something that would change your life, you would have no sign of fear, for you know that God will always be with you. God gives you courage to face any challenge, even if the challenge has a consequence of death like the sacrifice Jesus made.



At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:25-30

Emilien: When Jesus talks about a yoke he is not talking about an egg yolk. He is talk-

ing about the yoke that oxen carry. When oxen carry it, it is heavy. Jesus talks about how God is easy going. If you have a heavy yoke, it would be something like you being under stress. Carrying God's yoke would be easier. It would be easier because God can help you calm down and feel better if you're sad or mad.

George: Raise your hand if you've ever felt you were being dragged away from your friends. Now, raise your hand if you consider God as your friend. God is always there for us when we need help. This passage says that God is offering us a yoke, allowing us to never stray too far from our friend, God. This is how two oxen are joined together, with a yoke. God is the other ox. He will never stray far from us. God will allow us to come to him.

Billy: Jesus isn't saying, give me your burdens and problems and I will carry them for you. Jesus is saying, take my yoke, the thing I use to pull my burdens, and I will show you it is much easier than you think. After all, Jesus carried the whole weight of the world. But by having the right attitude and spirit, the problems of a person become light. In doing that, Jesus did another miracle.

Jack: This passage speaks about being thankful for God. There is stuff that really matters, like God's message and how he wants the less privileged to have the privileges of people who are considered



better in society. God also wants us to see people as who they are, not what society ranks them as.

Lucy: You should thank the Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for a couple reasons. First, God helps you rest when you are carrying a heavy burden. If you have a tight schedule or are anxious or worried, God our Father will help us rest. God is like family, and no one knows the parent like the child. God teaches us many things, and thanking him is something important he taught us.



The deadline for the Summer issue of Bede's Journal is Wednesday 15 June.

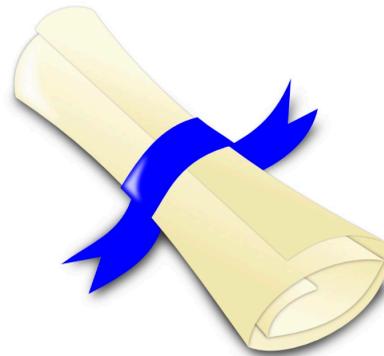


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Congratulations
to
Trinity School
Grade 5
Graduates!



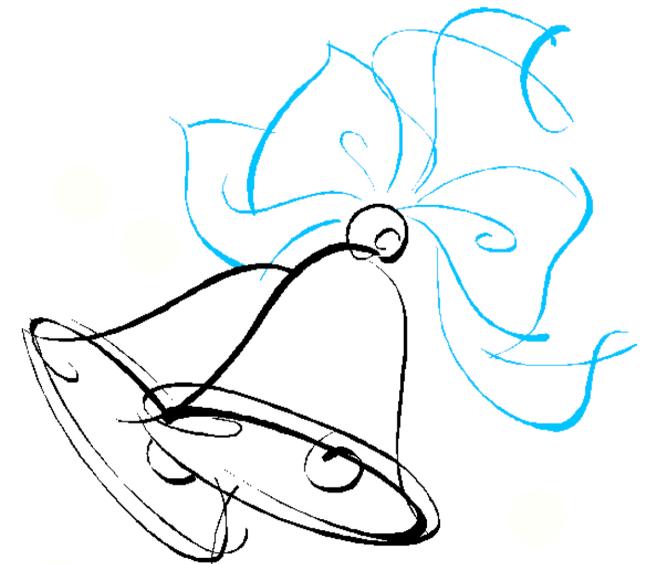
In the Month of June

Birthdays

- 2 Marjo Lachman
- 3 Dick Zeren
- 5 Aram Serverian
- 6 Rita Whitney
- 7 Megan Ancker
Luke Norman
- 8 Will Kopczynski
- 11 Alexander Burrs-President
Zachary Burrs-President
Sue Sartor
Gail Wright
- 12 Rani Fischer
- 15 Mike Sartor
- 16 Anna Poon
- 17 Liz Bellock
- 18 Kathy McKee
John Oda-Burns
- 24 Randy Kriegh
- 26 Melanie Hayden-Gephart
- 27 Daniel Monroe
- 28 Elizabeth Churchill
- 29 Scott DiGiorgio
- 30 Linda Brown

Anniversaries

- 8 Mathai Mammen & Anna Poon
- 12 Becky & Dick Zeren
- 13 Carol & Hal Louchheim
- 15 Carol & Ed Brink
- 16 Barbara & Robert Wood
- 19 Elizabeth & John Churchill
Mike & Sue Sartor
- 21 Bill & Cristina Harris
- 30 Luke & Megan Terra



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The purpose of Bede's Journal is to keep members and friends of the congregation informed of activities and opportunities for education, worship, and fellowship within the parish and beyond.

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin *Rector*
The Rev. John Oda-Burns *Priest Assistant*
Carol Shedlock *Parish Administrator*
Michaela Eskew *Children's & Youth Minister*
Katherine McKee *Music Director*
Rani Fischer *Organist*
Angela Sherry *Bookkeeper*

Sunday Services

Holy Eucharist 8:00am, 10:15am

Sunday Programs

Adult Education 9:00am — *childcare available*

Nursery 10:00am

Children's Sunday school 10:15am

Weekdays

Holy Eucharist Wednesday 8:00am

Parish Office Hours M-F 9:00am-5:00pm

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Trinity School + Preschool-Fifth Grade

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