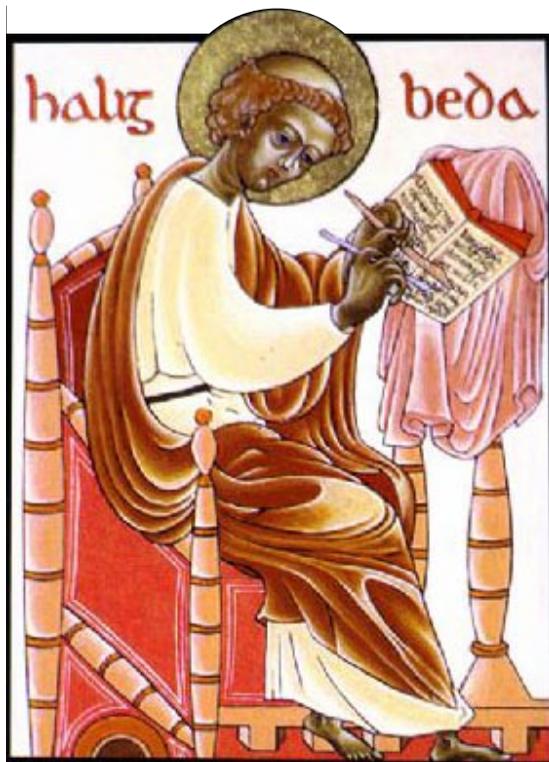


Bede's Journal

The Monthly Newsmagazine of St. Bede's Episcopal Church



We help all ages grow in faith and service.

January 2014

January at a Glance

9:00am, every Sunday in January
Soulwork: The Sermon on the Mount

Sunday 5 January

10:15am Bede's Bulbs during Sunday school
8:00pm FALL GALA sign-up event: *Downton Abbey* Premiere Party

Sunday 26 January

11:15am Parish Annual Meeting
noon 2014 Vestry Organizational Meeting
4:00pm Arts at St. Bede's presents Thomas Schultz, pianist



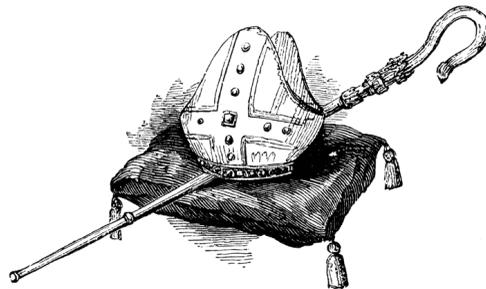
Look Ahead and Save These Dates!

Sunday 23 February

4:00pm Arts at St. Bede's presents Divisa Ensemble

11:00am, Saturday 17 May

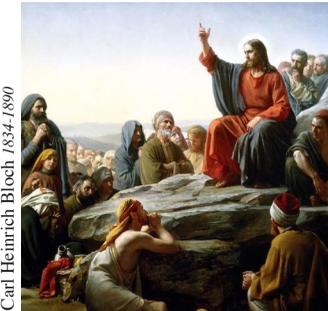
Celebration of Mutual Ministry:
The Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus welcomes The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin
as Rector of St. Bede's



January Soulwork:

The Sermon on the Mount

In the last couple of months, Soulwork has focused on who Jesus was. Other questions about Jesus flow naturally from his identity: What did he believe? What values did he hold? How did he want his followers to live? The Rev. John Oda-Burns will lead us through these questions as we reflect on the Sermon on the Mount. The series meets Sundays in January at 9:00am.



Carl Heinrich Bloch 1834-1890

Childcare is available.

Welcome & Hospitality

Welcome Back,

Welcome Forward!

Start the New Year at St. Bede's by helping us learn how we can welcome the stranger, retain the newcomer, and bring long-timers and new parishioners together through hospitality. We'll gather for an initial conversation in Lehman Hall after enjoying some hospitality at the 10:15 service's coffee hour on Sunday, 5 January.

Ushers and coffee hour hosts (past and present) are particularly encouraged to attend this meeting with Rev. Gia, but all are welcome. If you can't make it then but would like to be included in future planning or emailed updates, please contact Jeanne Cooper.

Bede's Bulbs: An In-reach Offering from St. Bede's Sunday School Classes

The Sunday school will be planting over one hundred bulbs in the Community Garden on Kings' Day, 5 January. Our modern word for tulip derives from the old Persian word that the Dutch transcribed as *turlec*, meaning turban. These regal flowers were named for kings' turbans, and so it is appropriate to plant the "queen of flowers" on Kings' Day.

Along with two varieties of white tulips, the classes will plant white irises, Mt. Hood (white) daffodils, anemones, and ranunculus for use by the Altar Guild. These flowers will be used in the small bouquets for the Holy Water table. At Lent, all flowers will come into the Social Hall to remind us that as we prepare for Easter, we honor Sundays.

Did we mention sweet peas? We have harvested seeds and replanted our original sweet peas for three years. On 15 December the younger Sunday school class planted a fourth generation of these spring favorites in peat pots. Although the seedlings will not be ready for transplanting on Kings' Day, look for them in the early spring as temperatures come above freezing at night.



—Vicki Blayney

➤ — Community Service — ⚡

Seccombe Outreach Fund

At the end of the year, the Community Service Committee traditionally divides monies raised for the Seccombe Outreach Fund among seven local nonprofits with a long record of hands-on parish involvement. The funds come primarily from private donors—a number this year were in memory of namesake Jean Seccombe—and monthly contributions from eScrip, in which various merchants donate small percentages of parishioners' credit card purchases.

With the painstaking help of bookkeeper Angela Sherry, it was determined we had nearly \$4,100 to divide in 2013. InnVision Shelter Network, Ecumenical Hunger Program (EHP), Home & Hope, and Service League will each receive \$615, while *Los Ayudantes*, Episcopal Chaplaincy at Stanford Hospital, and Habitat for Humanity of Greater San Francisco will each receive \$510. The remainder, approximately \$100, will be kept on reserve as seed money for future fundraising.

You can help boost those totals for next year at no cost to yourself by signing up for eScrip at www.escrip.com or, if you've already signed up, by updating expiration dates or adding new card numbers since you first enrolled. Please feel free to contact Fred Langhorst for assistance.



— Jeanne Cooper

Report on Advent Initiatives

Although St. Bede's parishioners give of themselves year round, Advent brings special opportunities to donate our time, talent, and treasure. Here's a look at the success of our Advent 2013 initiatives, spearheaded by the Community Service Committee and generously supported by many.

* **Family Sharing:** Donations from our congregation allowed us to provide Christmas gifts and food resources to four needy East Palo Alto families totaling 16 members. Donations of money and gifts came to an average of \$240 (gifts and food) per family member, with \$568 left over which went into the Seccombe Fund. Fifty-four beautifully wrapped presents were delivered to EHP.

* **Typhoon relief:** Sales of *lumpia* (spring rolls) and other Filipino treats prepared by mother and daughter Connie and Celeste Rojas raised \$500 for Philippines disaster aid through Episcopal Relief & Development.

* **Alternative giving:** St. Bede's parishioners contributed nearly \$700 towards a Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance (GAIA) nursing scholarship in Malawi, in an annual fundraiser coordinated by Carol Brink. A full year's scholarship is \$1,900, so the Community Service Committee may make GAIA the recipient of our Lenten fundraising, traditionally a rummage sale.

* **Service League:** Our annual ministry to the nearly 1,000 inmates in San Mateo

County jail included donating twenty gifts, collected for the Feast of St. Nicholas, to children of inmates; decorating 200 cookie bags with help from Trinity School students, with some bags later filled by cookies from master baker Nancy Stork; and sorting donated greeting cards. We also had a record turnout for caroling and delivering cookie bags to the inmates early Christmas morn, with Nancy and Livy Stork, Jeanne Cooper, Ian Hersey, and Ann Latta participating.

Vestry View: Notes from the December meeting

Assistant Treasurer George Fern's report started the meeting on a positive note: Although we may not receive our projected revenue for December, our careful watch on expenditures means we are still operating within our means. Our stewardship campaign, while still needing more participants, is also on track.

We also heard from the Rev. David Sheetz, interim music director, on the historical roles of St. Bede's music program, including choir section leaders (paid a stipend for their talent and commitment) and three positions sometimes held by one person: a choir director, an organist, and an arts series director. With our permanent music director job search under way, David's report provided useful context for what this half-time position could entail.

Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin's report on building sustainable youth ministry also gave us valuable context while generating excitement for a vision that will continue to take shape with parish input. We'll all have a chance to become involved in the web of relationships that help our young people grow in Christ while also helping grow our church.

It was a full house, with three of the four incoming vestry members in attendance: Jon Backlund, Jack Wenstrand, and Laura Gable. Although the new class doesn't formally join the parish's governing board until after the Annual Meeting on Sunday, 26 January, Jon has already volunteered to join the Buildings & Grounds committee (which is also seeking new non-vestry members), and to help investigate a diocesan program that could see the installation of solar panels for free.

All parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings, with the first fifteen minutes designated for their input. The next meeting is Tuesday, 21 January, 7pm in the Ford Room.

— Jeanne Cooper Vestry class of 2016

✧ Bede's People ✧

Jeff & Noelle Roux Dunn and new big sister Amelie welcomed baby Grayson Dunn to the family on 13 September.

We enjoyed visiting with former parishioner Diane Lantz, now of Washington state, who joined us at coffee hour after St. Bede's Christmas Lessons & Carols.



From the Rector

A Sustainable Approach to Children's and Youth Ministry

In many parishes, children's and youth ministry follows a pattern. The church hires a youth minister, often fresh out of college with no ministry experience, who is so on fire for Jesus that he or she is willing to work for \$23,000 a year. The volunteers who've carried the youth program during the interim shift their time to other ministries, so the youth minister has little support from the congregation. His or her charismatic personality is supposed to be enough to sustain the program. The church's expectations go unspoken; the church may say it wants the youth minister to do hands-on ministry with teenagers, but it really expects him or her to recruit and manage volunteers, write curriculum, and make strategic plans. After a year or two, the youth minister burns out and either quits or is fired. Attendance at youth group collapses. The church searches for another young, charismatic, inexperienced, poorly paid youth minister, and the cycle begins again.

Mark DeVries, a youth minister for over thirty years, describes this approach to youth ministry as the superstar model. He views this model as the reason most youth ministries are stuck in failure. In his book

Sustainable Youth Ministry: Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do about It, DeVries offers an alternative: the sustainable model. This model depends on systems and structures, not individual personalities. A team of adult leaders crafts a vision, mission statement, and core values for the program as well as job descriptions for each role, so that all expectations are clearly articulated. The sustainable model is resource-intensive: DeVries has consistently found that sustainable programs have one full-time paid youth minister for every 50 youth, one volunteer for every 5 youth, and spend between \$1,000 and \$1,500 per youth (including all funds budgeted for youth ministry, from staff compensation to pizza and mission-trip supplies). Because the leadership team works to create a parish climate that's supportive of youth ministry, the parish is willing to make this level of investment in the program. The sustainable model can be used with any curriculum for children and youth, as long as the curriculum aligns with the parish's vision and core values.

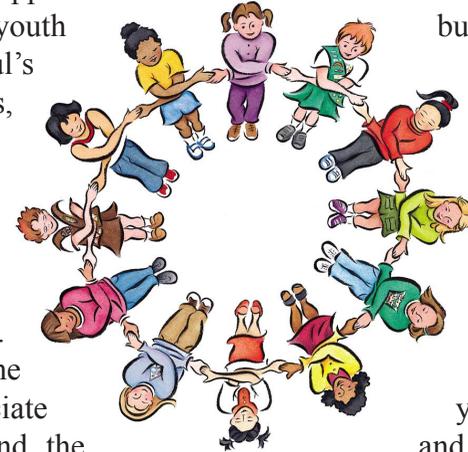
This is the model of children's and youth ministry that I hope St. Bede's will embrace. It makes sense to me to place children's and youth ministry under the same umbrella for a couple of reasons. It seems right for our size and the number of young people we currently have. And it allows us to view

our offerings from birth through high-school graduation as one cohesive program that flows seamlessly from one age group to the next. The vestry and I discussed this in some depth at our December meeting, and they are as enthusiastic as I am about the possibilities a sustainable ministry offers for our parish. I have seen the sustainable model work for other congregations. I guided my last parish, St. Matthew's in San Mateo, to adopt this approach in its collaborative youth ministry with St. Paul's in Burlingame. It was, indeed, a labor-intensive process. But two and a half years after we began implementing the sustainable model, I resigned to come to St. Bede's at the same time that St. Paul's associate rector also departed—and the youth ministry did not collapse. The systems and structures we had built carried the program through the leadership transition, and it continues to thrive with a strong team of adult ministers and healthy attendance among young people. I am confident and hopeful that the sustainable model will work just as well for St. Bede's.

St. Bede's has done much good work with children's ministry over the past couple

of years. Our children's enthusiasm for writing the Christmas-pageant script shows that they are finding God here. We have a strong team of teachers in Claire Lawrence, Katie Gosling, and Christina Becher. The climate in our parish is already supportive of children's and youth ministry, and both your parish profile and our fall parish meeting revealed that children and youth are a high priority for St. Bede's. Now it is time to move to the next level, to build a sustainable children's and youth program that will serve our young people from birth through high school and give our adult leaders the support they need to carry out their ministry. You will not notice much change in our day-to-day ministry with young people; Sunday school and the nursery will continue much as they have done in the past while we build the sustainable program.

This spring, we will convene a leadership team to read DeVries's book and begin implementing the sustainable model. This is not solely for parents with children at home; anyone who has a stake in children's and youth ministry is welcome, regardless of their age or family situation. We seek six to eight people who have the gift of vision, who work collaboratively with



others, who can develop and implement plans, who can communicate those plans to the parish, and who will be visible and vocal champions of children's and youth ministry within St. Bede's. Does this sound like you or someone you know? Please talk to me to suggest a name or to express interest in being part of the team.

Please keep our young people and the children's and youth ministry in your prayers. These are exciting times, and I'm looking forward to the new thing God is doing in our midst.



Peace,

Gia+

Arts at St. Bede's presents
 Thomas Schultz, piano
 Sunday, January 26, 4pm



A sumptuous feast of music awaits: Piano Piece in E flat major by Schubert, Ballade in G minor and Fantasie in F minor by Chopin, North American ballads (1979/80) by Frederic Rzewski: *Down By the Riverside* and *Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues*, and works by San Francisco-based Korean-American composer Hyo-shin Na, whose compositions are elegant, with delicate dissonances, and accessible to every listener.

Tickets: In advance \$22 general/\$20 senior/\$10 student
 At door \$27 general/\$25 senior/\$15 student

The deadline for the February issue of Bede's Journal is Wednesday 15 January.



Please send copy to: cshedlock@stbedesmenlopark.org



In the Month of January

Birthdays

5 Dora Ho
 6 Sally Norman
 7 Anne Vitullo
 15 Vera Shadle
 17 Michael Pellegrin
 19 David Rogers
 20 Dean Wenstrand
 21 Stephen Turner
 24 Rose Flegel
 26 Liza Taft
 27 Gregg von Thaden
 28 Elizabeth Sanger Flegel
 Michelle Swenson
 29 Claire Lawrence
 30 Matt Hayden
 Bob Latta
 Linda Wenstrand

Anniversaries

4 Robin & Richard Sequeira
 28 Brian & Kathleen Douglas



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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. David A. Sheetz *Priest Assistant & Interim Music Director*
The Rev. John Oda-Burns *Priest Assistant*
Carol Shedlock *Parish Administrator*
Rani Fischer *Organist*
Angela Sherry *Bookkeeper*

Sunday Services

Holy Eucharist 8:00, 10:15am
(Nursery 10:00, Sunday school 10:15am)

Weekday Service

Holy Eucharist Wednesday 8:00am

Parish Office Hours M-F 9:00am-5:00pm
650-854-6555

Trinity School + Preschool-Fifth Grade



Bede's Journal is on-line at

www.stbedesmenlopark.org