

Bede's Journal

January 2019



The Monthly Newsmagazine of St. Bede's Episcopal Church

January at a Glance

9:00am, every Sunday in January

Soulwork: How2charist

Sunday 6 January — Feast of the Epiphany
Chalk blessing & marking of the church doors

6:30pm, Saturday 12 January

FALL GALA sign-up event: Provençal Dinner, hosted by Ann Latta

Sunday 13 January — First Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00am Renewal of baptismal covenant

10:15am All ages worship together & baptisms (No Sunday school)

11:30am, Sunday 20 January

Parish Annual Meeting

Monday 21 January

St. Bede's renewal period commences



Look Ahead and Save These Dates!

4:00pm, Sunday 10 February

Arts at St. Bede's presents Vajra Voices — Women's Voices Uplifted

Sunday 17 February

Intergenerational Service Project: Family Shelter Dinner

4:00pm, Sunday 24 February

Arts at St. Bede's presents MUSA — Chinese Baroque

Sunday 9 June — Pentecost

The Rector's return from renewal leave

Sunday 15 September

The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop of California, visits St. Bede's

January Soulwork:

How2charist

Why do Episcopalians worship the way they do? What do the words and actions of the Eucharist mean? This month, Soulwork will view and discuss *How2charist*, a new digital instructed Eucharist created by the Rev. Callie Swanlund. We'll understand our liturgy better and reflect on the connections between parts of the liturgy and our own lives.

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



Caroling Christmas Morn

Joy to the World, It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, and a host of other favorite carols rang through the hallways and common rooms of the San Mateo County Jail on Christmas morning. Volunteers from a number of churches, including St. Bede's, arrived in the cold dawn to bring some Christmas cheer to the inmates at both the old and new jail facilities. There were enough hardy souls to divide into two groups in order to be able to sing to all the residents of both facilities. It was a joy to be able share the gift of song with those whose lives are not altogether merry and bright at this time of year, and our efforts were very much appreciated to judge from the applause and enthusiastic wishes of "Merry Christmas!" and "Happy New Year!" as well as the occasional emotional, teary eye. Huge thanks to Nancy Stork, who recruited the singers from St. Bede's and arranged for our security clearance, as well as all who sang: Orlia Amaral, Gia Hayes-Martin, Melville Hayes-Martin, Kathy McKee, Colby Roberts, Becky Zeren, and Dick Zeren.

— Kathy McKee

Community Service

Families Shared at Christmas

Christmas 2018 was another successful year with our Family Sharing program, but with a new twist. During the holiday season, teenagers served by the Ecumenical Hunger Program are often overlooked by giving programs. Not this year! Our parishioners stepped up and donated wonderful, creative, and fun stockings geared towards teens. We stuffed 31 youth-oriented stockings, each including \$50 worth of gift cards. In addition, the Seccombe Outreach Fund supported two teenagers, a 17-year-old girl and a 16-year-old boy, with \$200 gift cards each, for their specific wish list items. Huge appreciation to everyone who participated—thanks to you we brought much happiness to so many hardworking teens devoted to helping their families in so many ways—they deserved a holiday nod their way.

— Angela Sherry
Family Sharing coordinator, 2018



Parish Renewal

We Can Do This, Once We Know What “It” Is!

In September 2017 St. Bede's embarked on a journey to plan for Rev. Gia's well-deserved four and one-half months of renewal leave. As Gia sketched out her plans to deepen her role as a disciple of Jesus and serve in a spiritual community, we started exploring how we, the parishioners, could follow a parallel path with her so we also grow spiritually as a community during her absence. St. Bede's volunteers formed a team to apply for a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant. During the application process the team members solicited information from parishioners and created a blueprint for us to follow. The goals were to “empower a cadre of lay leaders to supplement our worship, facilitate our human need to come together, and answer God's call to serve others.”

We soon realized that in order to “answer God's call to serve others” we needed to determine exactly what that meant.

- ✿ *Where is God calling us?*
- ✿ *What is St. Bede's passionate about as a community?*
- ✿ *Where can St. Bede's make a real difference in the world?*

In September 2018, we held two “World Cafés” in Lehman Hall gathering thoughts from

parishioners on those same questions about our community outreach efforts. Parishioners who attended summed up their thoughts on Post-it® notes that were organized into common themes including:

- ✿ *Who do we/should we serve?*
- ✿ *How can we provide structure to outreach efforts?*
- ✿ *How do we address the spiritual poverty of a secular society?*
- ✿ *How can we involve families in outreach projects?*
- ✿ *What projects should we continue, eliminate, or start?*

On a Saturday in late November, seven present and incoming vestry members, seven other parishioners, and Gia gathered to review the input from the World Cafés and create a new vision for community service during the renewal time. Using a prayerful discernment process from the “Companions in Christ” program, we worked through a ten-step process:

The first step was **Framing** our question. We used a similar question asked at previous events: “How is God calling us to reach out to the world in Christ's name and grow spiritually through service?”

The second step was **Grounding** us by establishing the principles that would keep us on the right path. Examples from this step included: “Plan for long term, replicable or one-time projects,” “be responsive to im-



mediate (emergency) needs,” and “continue to lift up individual service.”

Step three was **Shedding** our fears or prejudgments that might keep us from entertaining positions other than our own.

Next we shared biblical references or personal experiences that are **Rooting** us in service. Among those listed by the group were Matthew 25, “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God,” the Franciscan Blessing, and the Beatitudes.

The fifth step was **Listening** to consider additional voices the group needed to hear. Trinity School, other churches, current volunteers, and the people we hope to serve were among the many groups that were listed.

The sixth step immersed us by **Exploring** all of the options we could think of that were within our guiding principles. →

This brainstorming conjured up specific ideas such as a speaker series, focusing on the housing crisis, community dinners and collaborative projects with Trinity School, as well as more philosophical responses such as narrowing our focus or doing a “deep dive” into one area of need.

As we moved into the seventh step we focused on **Improving** our options by taking those that resonated with us and making them the best they could be. Of all those on the list, we “improved” four that focused on housing, emergency response, community gatherings, and immigrants and refugees. We went into detail on how each of those might be a focus for our community outreach efforts.

At last we arrived at the eighth step, which was **Weighing** our options to determine our preference. The group’s consensus was the housing provided the greatest opportunity to continue and expand current projects, such as Home & Hope, while adding new aspects including education and advocacy.

After **Closing**, where each of us declared a level of acceptance of the proposed path, we ended by **Resting** and held our decision in silence to keep it near our hearts in prayer.

As the day ended, I realized that one Post-it® from a World Café conversation that had caught my attention summed up the

day. It read, “*We can do it once we know what ‘it’ is!*” We started the day asking where God was calling us and ended with a plan to implement three community service projects during the renewal time as outlined in our Lilly Foundation Clergy Renewal Grant proposal.

The St. Bede’s Vestry was briefed on the group’s work at their November 2018 meeting and agreed wholeheartedly to provide the leadership needed to start planning for these projects. Below is a final summary of our vision to address the Peninsula housing crisis:

- ♥ Provide two weeks of **Home & Hope** temporary housing for families on St. Bede’s campus;
- ♥ Continue and increase our parish participation in the intergenerational **First Step for Families** dinners;
- ♥ Learn more about local housing needs and advocate as a parish for affordable housing solutions.

We also envision a restructuring of the Community Service Committee into a Community Service Leadership Team. This team of six parishioners would provide leadership for the above projects during the renewal period, as well as consider how to structure this ministry so there is institutional knowledge and clear communication to the congregation. Some vestry members have already indicated that they will serve in this

role. If you have an interest in joining this team, please let Gia know.

One article cannot provide enough information for parishioners to have a complete understanding of the process we’ve worked through and the plan’s nitty-gritty details. You are welcome to take a look at the charts in the Ford room that reflect the World Café sessions and November work group’s thoughts. We will dedicate January’s Annual Meeting to provide further details and information. There are still many decisions to make before we begin our renewal, and decisions will be made along the way. I welcome all of you to participate whenever and however you can.

Our journey has been steady and successful so far. I am excited about the possibilities ahead as we embark on a dedicated, parish-wide approach to community service. Upon Gia’s return, we’ll hear her stories and share ours. Then we will begin the next phase of our journey together. Thank you to all who participated in the World Cafés and the following congregants who spent a November day together to refine the vision: Jeanne Cooper, Erica Cicero, Ann Latta, Doug and Vicki Blayney, Sue and Mike Sartor, Deb Blackmore, Curtis Grisham, Mary Working, Juliet Knowles, Brad Sherrill, Evan Deocariza-Nee, Van Jepson, and Gia Hayes-Martin.

– Sue Sartor and Deb Blackmore

Community Service

All-Ages Service Project at LifeMoves/First Step for Families Sunday, February 17

At 3:00pm we will prepare a dinner meal together in the kitchen at St. Bede’s. All ages are welcome to help prepare the food, and we will have special food preparation options for children.

At 5:00pm we will caravan to the First Step for Families shelter in San Mateo to serve the food and eat it together with the guests. Children aged ten and older are welcome to serve the food.

To volunteer, please contact Pam Stevens at
pstevens@stbedesmenlopark.org



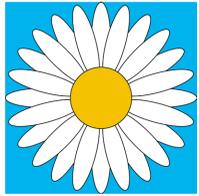
January 2019 at St. Bede's Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks,</i></p>		<p>The Holy Name of Our Lord 1 New Year's Day Parish office closed 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>2 2:00p Staff meeting 7:30p Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>3 noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work 7pm Scandinavian dance*</p>
		<p>The Epiphany of Our Lord 6 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork:How2charist 10:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday school 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II noon De-greening the church</p>	<p>7 8:30a School chapel 9:00a Counting Crew</p>	<p>8 8:30a School chapel 2:00p Staff meeting 5:00p Finance Cmte mtg 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>9 <i>Julia Chester Emory</i> 8:30a School chapel 9:00a Companions alumni mtg noon Bldgs & Grounds mtg 7:30p Choir rehearsal 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>10 <i>William Laud</i> 8:30a School Eucharist noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>
<p>1 Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord 13 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork:How2charist 10:00a Nursery 10:15a All-Ages Eucharist & baptisms</p>	<p>14 8:30a School chapel 9:00a Counting Crew 6:00p Sarum Seminar*</p>	<p>15 8:30a School chapel noon Parkinson's Caregivers* 2:00p Staff meeting 7:00p Vestry mtg 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>16 8:30a School chapel 4:00p P. Nunn mem svc 7:30p Choir rehearsal 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>17 <i>Antony</i> 4:00p A. Inglis mem svc 8:30a School chapel noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p>18 Confession of St. Peter the Apostle 8:30a School chapel</p>	<p>19 <i>Wolfstan</i> 7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Small group leader training 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work</p>
<p>2 Epiphany 20 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork:How2charist 10:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday school 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:30a Annual Meeting</p>	<p>21 <i>Agnes</i> M.L. King, Jr. Day Parish office closed 9:00a Counting Crew</p>	<p>22 <i>Vincent</i> 8:30a School chapel 1:00p Staff meeting 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>23 <i>Phillips Brooks</i> 8:30a School chapel 7:30p Choir rehearsal 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>24 <i>Ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi</i> 8:30a School chapel noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p>25 The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle 8:30a School chapel</p>	<p>26 <i>Timothy and Titus</i> 7:30a Sunrise AA* 9:00a Alcoholics Anonymous* Altar Guild work</p>
<p>3 Epiphany 27 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00a Soulwork:How2charist 10:00a Nursery 10:15a Sunday school 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II</p>	<p>28 <i>Thomas Aquinas</i> 8:30a School chapel 9:00a Counting Crew 6:00p Sarum Seminar*</p>	<p>29 8:30a School chapel 1:00p Staff meeting 8:00p Narcotics Anonymous*</p>	<p>30 8:30a School chapel 7:30p Choir rehearsal 7:30p Highland Pipe Band*</p>	<p>31 8:30a School chapel noon Alcoholics Anonymous*</p>	<p><i>slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.</i> 1 Corinthians 12:13</p>	

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

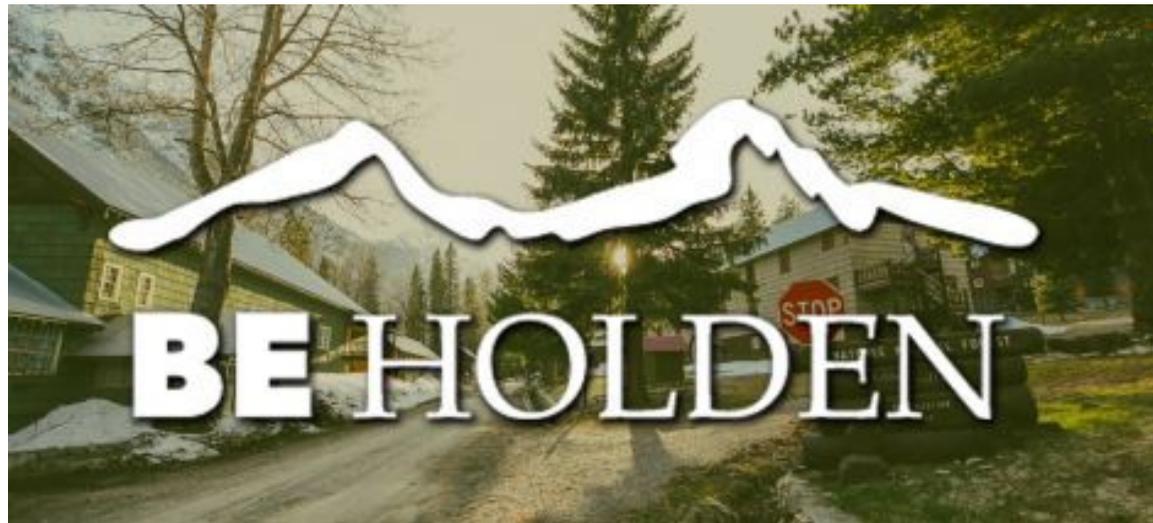
From the Rector

Renewal: And Away We Go!



After more than a year of planning, our renewal season starts this month! My renewal leave and the parish's renewal activities both begin right after our Annual Parish Meeting on January 20. (See previous issues of *Bede's Journal* for more information.) I strongly encourage you to attend the Annual Meeting this year. We will reiterate some critical information about the renewal plans to ensure everyone is on the same page, share the results of our community service discernment and next steps, learn about and sign up for small groups—and it'll be my last opportunity to see you until June.

It's often an anxious time when a priest, especially a solo rector, goes on renewal leave. It is a blessing that this parish has such strong lay leadership. Incoming senior warden Julie Backlund, incoming junior warden Anne Vitullo, and our vestry have been preparing for this season for the past year. Together, we have planned and prepared as thoroughly as we could, and our wardens and vestry will lead this parish capably in my absence. Our locum priest, the Rev. Ernie Boyer, will be with St. Bede's starting on January 21. He'll be here about twenty hours per week to lead worship and preach, offer pastoral care, lead chapel for Trinity School, and support the small groups. Ernie's calm presence and pastoral gifts will serve our community well. I have absolute confidence in Julie, Anne, the vestry, Ernie, and all of you.



I also have absolute confidence in God's abiding presence with this community. God has carried St. Bede's through challenges before—the departure of what is now Phillips Brooks School and the refounding of Trinity School in the late '70s, a longtime rector's retirement and a difficult interim—and God will carry us through this time, too.

Throughout 2018, the vestry has been praying through the Farewell Discourse, found in chapters 13 through 17 of the gospel of John. It's set at the Last Supper, when Jesus teaches his disciples all they'll need to go on in his absence, then he prays for them. It's struck me repeatedly this past year how Jesus needed to leave in order for the church to become the church. If Jesus had remained physically present with the disciples, they would have continued to rely on him to lead them, and they would never have developed their own considerable gifts—gifts necessary for Christianity to spread from Judea to the entire known world. I am definitely not Jesus, and I am coming back to St. Bede's. Yet we've already begun to see the flowering of gifts in this community as we prepared for me to step away for a time, and so much more will emerge in you and through you over these four and a half months. I can't wait to find out what God does at St. Bede's in this renewal season.



I will be back with you for Pentecost Sunday, June 9. I hope you will join me that day at either 9:00 or 11:30am, when I'll share photos and stories from my leave and begin to catch up with all of you. May God be with you 'til we meet again.

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.

+ Death +

Peter Nunn

17 August 1934 – 3 December 2018

Bring our brother to the joys of heaven.

Christmas Pageant 2018

The 2018 Christmas Pageant allowed us physically to experience the Nativity as children, and to marvel in wonder at the event of the birth of our Savior. Claire Lawrence estimates this is “maybe my fifth” year of directing the Pageant, and observes that each performance brings with it something special. This year, families worked together with Claire and Sunday school teacher Katie Gosling to bring our children into a living experience.

With one-year-old Elyssa Festing in the role of a live Baby Jesus, and with vivid costumes and sets, our children brought to life the story of the Nativity from the prophets to the birth Jesus as we continue in our liturgical cycle.

We are so grateful to the parents, to our stage manager Katie Homrig, to Kathy McKee, our music director who taught the children the carols over the past few weeks, and to Rani Fischer, the musician who accompa-



Calendar Corner

22 January: Feast Day – Vincent
Deacon of Saragossa,
and Martyr, 304

- ✠ Member of the fervent Christian community in Spain at the time of a persecution ordered by Roman emperors Diocletian and Maximian
- ✠ A bold and outspoken witness to the truth of the living Christ
- ✠ Martyr



nied them at rehearsals and at the Pageant. Parent Katie Machemer acclaimed it a great night for all, and parishioner Jeanne Cooper commented on the skill of “our young performers and preachers.”

We look forward to sharing with our children another cycle of the liturgical calendar that guides us as we live into the stories of our Christian faith.

– Pamela Stevens, M.Div.
Children's & Youth Minister



Vicente de Zaragoza by Tomás Giner, 15th c., Museo del Prado

Christmas Eve in Community

The fifth annual Christmas Eve community dinner attracted 72 patrons, including young families, choir members, seniors, singles, clergy, and their guests. It was a classic case of “stone soup” hospitality: So many contributed what they could that the result was delicious and beautiful.

The Altar Guild donated leftover greenery that Jon & Julie Backlund fashioned into lovely centerpieces on tables set by Dick Zeren, Jeanne Cooper, Francisco Flores, Helen Greenwood, Melville Hayes-Martin, Miranda Pinckert, and Nancy Nunn. A/V guru Curtis Grisham devised a set-up to play a Yule log fire video with Christmas carol soundtrack on a large screen and speakers. Jeanne Cooper and Ian Hersey donated place

cards (to ensure families could sit together) and British crackers (with paper crowns worn by all ages).

We dined on smoked turkey and lasagne, with Brussels sprouts by Vicki Blayney and sweet potatoes by Hasma Serverian, along with salad, rolls, and desserts including cookies made by Helen’s daughter and granddaughter and sweets donated by Vicki and Hasma. Helen and Jeanne tackled most of the clean-up—two dishwashers really helps!

Because I will be away next Christmas, I’m encouraging new ideas and leadership for this event, and have already heard some great suggestions from Hasma and others. It’s been a joy and privilege to coordinate this special gathering.

– *Jeanne Cooper*
Hospitality leader



Spreading Christmas Cheer

An unexpected surfeit of Christmas candy and small gift bags allowed St. Bede’s volunteers to donate 38 candy bags, each including a Christmas card, to the adult residents of LifeMoves Maple Street Shelter, who are often overlooked this season.

In the Month of January

Birthdays

- 5 Dora Ho
Staci Homrig
- 6 Sally Norman
- 7 Anne Vitullo
- 8 Michael Skey
- 15 Miranda Pinckert
Vera Shadle
- 17 Van Jepson
Michael Pellegrin
- 24 Rose Flegel
- 26 Liza Taft
- 28 Elizabeth Flegel
Brad Sherrill
Michelle Swenson
- 29 Claire Lawrence
- 30 Matt Hayden
Bob Latta
Linda Wenstrand

Anniversary

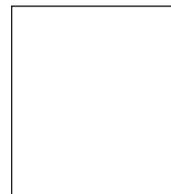
- 28 Brian & Kathleen Douglas



St. Bede's Episcopal Church
2650 Sand Hill Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Date Mailed: 7 January 2019

First Class



Bede's Journal is published eleven times per year, in print and electronic forms. To subscribe or unsubscribe to either form, send a request to the editor at office@stbedesmenlopark.org

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin *Rector*
Pamela Stevens *Children's & Youth Minister*
Katherine McKee *Music Director*
Rani Fischer *Organist*
Carol Shedlock *Parish Administrator*
Angela Sherry *Bookkeeper*

Sunday Services

Holy Eucharist 8:00am, 10:15am

Sunday Programs

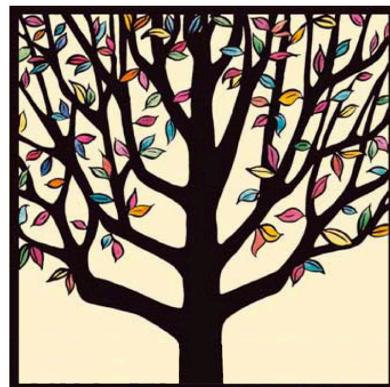
Adult Education 9:00am — *childcare available by request*

Nursery 10:00am

Children's Sunday school 10:15am

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

Trinity School + Preschool-Grade 5



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www.stbedesmenlopark.org