



# Bede's Journal

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Bede's Episcopal Church

## May 2019

### Month at a Glance

Wed 1 - 9:00am Bede's Bedhead Book Club

Thu 2 - 6:00pm Taizé on Thursdays

#### **Sun 5 - 3 Easter**

9:00am Soulwork: Meditation

11:30am "This Is Home" panel discussion

Wed 8 - 9:00am Companions alumni mtg

noon Buildings & grounds mtg

Thu 9 - 6:00pm Taizé on Thursdays

Fri 10 - 7:15pm Pizza Theology off site

#### **Sun 12 - 4 Easter**

9:00am Soulwork: Old Testament Survey

9:00pm Choir sings Compline at Mem Chu

Wed 15 - 9:00am Bede's Bedhead Book Club

Thu 16 - 6:00pm Taizé on Thursdays

#### **Sun 19 - 5 Easter**

9:00am Soulwork: Old Testament Survey

4:00pm Arts: Golden Anniv Organ Recital

Tue 21 - 7:00pm Vestry meeting

Thu 23 - 6:00pm Taizé on Thursdays

Fri 24 - June Bede's Journal deadline

7:15pm Pizza Theology off site

Sat 25 - Feast Day of Bede the Venerable

#### **Sun 26 - 6 Easter**

9:00am Soulwork: Old Testament Survey

Mon 27 - Memorial Day - Parish office closed

Thu 30 - 6:00pm Taizé on Thursdays

### Adult Education: Soulwork

On Sunday, May 5, Soulwork will meet in the Ford Room for a session on Meditation from Fr. Ernie. On the following three Sundays, we'll take a survey of the Old Testament, trying to put each book into its historical context; Irene Lawrence will lead.

### Coming Up

\*\*\* This Is Home panel discussion \*\*\*

**RSVP:** [office@stbedesmenlopark.org](mailto:office@stbedesmenlopark.org)

#### **Panelists:**

**Noel Perry**, *Founder of Next10.org*

Next10 is a nonpartisan nonprofit that educates and empowers Californians to improve the state's future.

**Karen Camacho**, *Organizer at Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County*

Karen will present findings from the HLCSCM report: "Building on Success: How San Mateo County can meet the need for affordable homes."

**Brian Greenberg**, *VP of Programs & Services at LifeMoves.org*

LifeMoves's mission is to provide interim housing and support services for homeless families and individuals to return rapidly to stable housing and achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

## "THIS IS HOME"

Join us for a panel discussion on Sunday, May 5, 2019

11:30 to 1:30 including light lunch in Lehman Hall,  
St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road

Learn About Homelessness and Housing Solutions in our  
Community from Local Experts



LifeMoves



**\*\*\* St. Bede's Choir sings Compline at Stanford Memorial Church \*\*\***

The St. Bede's Choir will sing the office of Compline at Stanford's Memorial Church on **Sunday evening, May 12**. The church is open for meditation at 8:30pm, and the half-hour service, which is entirely sung, begins at **9:00pm**.

**\*\*\* Arts at St. Bede's: Golden Anniversary Organ Recital \*\*\***

On **Sunday, May 19, at 4pm**, Grammy-nominated organist Gail Archer will present a gala program honoring the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of St. Bede's beloved von Beckerath organ. In addition to her work as a recitalist, Ms. Archer serves on the faculties of Vassar College, Barnard College, Columbia University, and the Harriman Institute. Her program will include works by Max Reger, Mary Howe, Judith Shatin, Robert Schumann, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, J.S. Bach, and Dieterich Buxtehude.  
*Free to subscribers; tickets \$15 at the door.*

**\*\*\* St. Bede's to host Home & Hope \*\*\***

As one of our focused Community Outreach programs, St. Bede's will once again host the families of Home & Hope this summer. Please mark the dates of **June 30 to July 7, 2019** for this opportunity to serve homeless families in our community. Please note that this is the week of July 4th, and some of our parish families may be out of town.

We will need volunteers for set-up and take-down on the first Sunday and final Sunday. Additionally, we cook and serve dinner, provide childcare activities, and every night two volunteers stay on site through an early breakfast. On July 4th we hope to provide a special celebration. Please look for sign-ups by SignUpGenius in May.  
*– Vicki Blayney Community Outreach Steering Cmte member*

**Parish Administrator News**

It is with mixed emotions I share this news with you. Carol Shedlock, our expert and beloved Parish Administrator, will be retiring after nearly ten years of dedicated service to St. Bede's. This summer Carol and Mark will be relocating to Arizona where they look forward to delving into new endeavors and catching up with old friends in the Phoenix area. We'll miss them terribly but wish them all the best as they settle in their new home.

Members of the Vestry and Staff are working with Carol to lay the groundwork for Gia's search for Carol's successor. We have been blessed with Carol's multitude of talents and skills to carry out all the position entails. Our task is to prepare so that Gia can begin recruiting soon after her return. When Gia and Carol decide the time is right, our congregation will give Carol and Mark a most appreciative and joyful send-off.

If you have any questions please contact me.

*– Julie Backlund Senior Warden*

**Coffee Hosts Needed!**

If you'd like to channel your inner Martha Stewart, join the hospitality team! Your help is welcome, whether you can host coffee hour on a regular basis, or just once every few months.

Please contact the parish office ([office@stbedesmenlopark.org](mailto:office@stbedesmenlopark.org)) or Junior Warden Anne Vitullo so we can add you to the list of volunteers.

**Renewing Our Community Outreach**

With the World Café discernment process completed and our 2019 service projects identified, a new team is at work planning activities. In early March we gathered as the Community Outreach Steering Committee (COSC), comprising Vicki Blayney, Home & Hope Chair; Mary Working and Katie Machermer, who coordinate First Step for Families All-ages Meals with Pam Stevens; Angela Sherry, Ecumenical Hunger Program Family Sharing Chair; Carol Brink as Vestry Liaison; and Sue Sartor and Julie Backlund as COSC co-chairs. This may sound very official, but we knew it would take a boatload of us to get ship-shape after the

amazing Jeanne Cooper set sail for her new home. Fortunately Jeanne joined our planning session and continues to share her expertise generously from afar.

The new committee's responsibilities include:

- Coordinate parish-sponsored outreach ministries. During this renewal season these are hosting Home & Hope (June 30 to July 7), First Step for Families meals (February and early fall), and a housing education/advocacy panel discussion hosted by Deb Blackmore and Van Jepson on May 5.
- Establish event dates, recruit leadership, support parish communication and encourage participation.
- Report results to the Vestry at the completion of each major ministry.
- Recommend to Vestry the annual allocation of prior year Seccombe Fund proceeds.

To inform our recommendation for the 2019 Seccombe Fund Grants, we reviewed the conclusion reached through the 2018 discernment process. The consensus was to focus our outreach and fundraising on two organizations served by many committed parishioners. In March the Vestry approved grants to Home & Hope (\$5,000) and *Los Ayudantes* (\$4,000). Additional funds are held in reserve for First Step for Families meals and Home and Hope hosting.

St. Bede's parishioners continue to support Ecumenical Hunger Program with donations of food, clothing, and household items. Trinity School will partner with us, adding our items to their collections and sending all to EHP during the school year. During summer recess, David Chu and John Hickson will deliver St. Bede's donations. In addition, Carol Brink will continue delivering toiletries we donate to those in need. When Christmas comes, Nancy Stork will organize our volunteers for Christmas Caroling through the Service League at the county jail.

Thank you to the many St. Bede's people who are participating and sharing God's love through these ministries. We're off to a good start on our renewal season re-launch!

– Sue Sartor and Julie Backlund Co-Chairs

### **Update on the Hospitality Roundtables**

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.* Hebrews 13:2

Two March roundtable discussions on hospitality were well attended and confirmed the importance of hospitality to our St. Bede's community. Here are some key learnings and recommended next steps to streamline our processes and better support our volunteers.

#### **Key Learnings**

Hospitality is an important, ongoing part of our community at St. Bede's. It's an opportunity for people to come together and work together—and in doing so get to know each other better. As one participant noted, it's where the “real companionship” takes place. It can also be viewed as a form of pastoral care—it's how we care for each other. It's an opportunity to check in with each other from week to week, particularly our “venerables” or those who may be going through trying times.

Current and prospective volunteers agree: weekly coffee hours don't have to be elaborate. Simple coffee/tea/beverage service with sweet and savory options are plenty, making set-up and clean-up easy.

We do not need to serve lunch or brunch after the 10:15am service except on those Sundays where a lunch/brunch has traditionally been served, such as the Bishop's upcoming visit in September, the harvest brunch in October/November or the annual meeting in January.

More people would be willing to host or take a leadership role for an event if they could “buddy up” with another volunteer. Particularly for the 10:15 coffee hour or special Sundays, we should try to have at least two people signed up to coordinate.

Have basic supplies (cups, glasses, napkins, *etc.*) on hand and easy to access so that weekly coffee hour hosts just need to take care of food and beverages.

(cont. —>)

## Still Pending

In the roundtable discussions, we did not come up with a clear way forward on the Fall Gala (Keep as is? Try a new format? Move to spring?) or the Christmas Eve dinner (Move to something simpler? Hire a caterer and charge a fee?). Both events require a couple of leaders and a full complement of volunteers to organize.

## Recommendations and Next Steps

1. Using the volunteer sign-ups collected at the two roundtables (along with email feedback sent to Anne), confirm a list of regular and occasional hospitality hosts. Contact volunteers about taking on a leadership role for upcoming events.
2. For this year, combine Fall Kick-off and the Bishop's visit (September 15) into a single event. This recommendation will be confirmed with Gia when she returns.
3. Organize the kitchen and pantry. A "done in a day" project was held in the Lehman Hall kitchen on Saturday, March 30, to take inventory, organize and label supplies, and donate/discard unneeded items. We also identified any needed equipment/supplies.
4. Develop the following checklists:
  - Coffee hour/event set-up and clean-up guidelines
  - General kitchen use guidelines for all users to be posted in Lehman Hall kitchen
  - Checklist for reordering basic supplies
5. Use SignUpGenius to manage coffee hours slots, giving prospective hosts an opportunity to sign up 2-3 months in advance, and buddy up with another volunteer. It would show everyone where volunteers are still needed when there are gaps in the schedule.
6. Develop a short list of caterers we've used for special events and that we can recommend for memorial services.

Watch for more information in the weekly bulletin and future *Bede's Journals* about our progress on these action items.

– Anne Vitullo

## Wrapping Up

### \*\*\* A "New" Setting of the Gospel of John for Good Friday \*\*\*

Chanting the Gospel according to St. John is a centuries-old part of the Good Friday liturgy, going back to the early days of the Roman Catholic Church. Most commonly, the Gospel is sung in plainchant, a single line of vocal music without accompaniment or harmony, with soloists taking the parts of the narrator, Christ, Pilate, Peter, witnesses, *etc.*, and the choir in unison singing the portions assigned to the crowds of onlookers and soldiers. For many years the St. Bede's choir has sung John's account of the Passion story in this traditional manner, although we sing it in English rather than in Latin as was the custom in the early church.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Spanish composer Tomás Luis de Victoria, an ordained priest who spent much of his early musical career in Rome, composed some (for the time) stunningly modern 4-part choral settings of the music for the crowd, to be inserted into the ancient chant setting of John's Gospel. In addition to lending a Renaissance-era musical flavor to the medieval chant, the four-part writing emphasized the importance of the contributions of the crowd—the choir—to the proceedings. In the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, English-language translations of these choral interpolations became available. This year the St. Bede's choir sang the Gospel of John for the evening service on Good Friday using Victoria's music for the crowd's music. Although this music is almost 400 years old, it brings a fresh perspective to the ancient account of Christ's Passion.

– Katherine McKee Music Director

### \*\*\* Vestry View \*\*\*

*This periodic report on the vestry's actions and decisions is part of our commitment to serving the St. Bede's community. Following are key action items discussed at the March vestry meeting.*

**Stewardship.** During February and March, the Stewardship Committee contacted approximately 30 parishioners who had not yet made a financial commitment to St. Bede's for 2019. Vestry wishes to remind

everyone that your gift—at whatever level is comfortable for you and your family—is important to the financial health of the parish.

**2019 finances.** Senior Warden Julie Backlund reviewed the summary balance sheet which shows the status of parish reserves and outlines which funds are set aside for restricted purposes and which can be used to offset any operating shortfalls, if needed.

**Community outreach.** The community outreach steering committee recommended to vestry that the following three grants be made from the Seccombe Outreach Fund:

- \$5,000 to Home & Hope
- \$4,000 to *Los Ayudantes*
- \$507 to There With Care

Approximately \$3,800 remains in the Seccombe Fund which will be used to support future First Step dinners and our Home & Hope hosting this summer.

Deb Blackmore and Van Jepson are organizing a panel discussion on Sunday, May 5 that will help us all to learn about and advocate for affordable housing in our community. Vicki Blayney is working on plans for our Home & Hope hosting June 30 – July 7. More information about our plans will be available in May—and volunteer sign-ups will begin then as well.

**Hospitality discussion.** Junior Warden Anne Vitullo hosted two hospitality roundtables in March to gather input on our hospitality activities and transition to a team-based approach. Please see the separate article on page 3 for some key findings and recommendations to arise from those roundtables.

**Small groups on faith topics.** A reminder from Vestry that all parishioners are welcome to participate in one of the small groups: Faith Practices for Families; the Bedhead Book Club, which will discuss Anne Lamott's books on faith and Christianity; Taizé on Thursdays, a participatory service of chant, song, prayer and silence; and Pizza Theology, informal discussions of Christianity at a local café. The Taizé practice will continue through mid-June; at that point the group will decide whether to continue the practice on a weekly, monthly, or periodic basis. Look for information in the service bulletin each week, as well as the master schedule and group descriptions on our Lehman Hall bulletin board. RSVPs are being handled by a new online tool, SignUpGenius.

**Upcoming vestry meetings:** Tuesday, April 16 and **Tuesday, May 21 at 7pm** in the Ford Room. Members of the St. Bede's community at large are welcome to join us for the spiritual practice that opens each vestry meeting or to offer community input at the start of our business meeting.

– Anne Vitullo, 2019 Junior Warden

**\*\*\* St. Bede's Touch and See at Families Small Group Meeting \*\*\***

On March 10, the Faith Practices for Families small group gathered to share stories and spend time together in reflection and fellowship over homemade taquitos. Their children also gathered with me for a time of touching and seeing. I had planned to take these six children on an experiential tour of the sanctuary. What actually occurred was that they toured me through their own experiences of the holy!

First, the children playfully walked—and ran—the labyrinth, following its bends and curves. Next, as we entered the sanctuary, the oldest child raced gleefully to the sanctuary candle, pointed to it, and exclaimed to the other children, "It's lit! When you see that candle lit and the one at the altar, it means something very special! It means Jesus is here!" The other children observed the candle and one of them looked around and asked, "Where is Jesus?" Two of the other children turned around in circles and said, "everywhere!"

As we walked up the aisle toward the lectern, the children organized each other in a procession and we talked about how children often carry the light that gathers the community for worship.

I invited them to speak into the microphone at the lectern, and each of the children proclaimed loudly (very loudly) and clearly the words of Scripture that were on their heart. "Jesus taught us to pray, 'Our Father who art in heaven...,'" "Love God and love other people," "Do what your parents say because they love you. Hi Mom, I love you." The youngest among us, coached by his sister, said simply, "The Word of the Lord," to which three of the children replied, "Thanks be to God."

(cont. —>)

As we approached the altar, our group was halted as one of the children appropriately insisted that we reverence the altar. She showed us all how to bow at the waist, and made us practice in unison to ensure we got it right.

As we approached the altar, two of the children climbed into the side pulpits and stood on blocks. They began to "preach," using their arms and their whole bodies, saying things like "Jesus loves you no matter what!" and "I'm going to tell you a funny story about something that happened to me."

The children then gathered behind the altar and three of them assumed the *orans* position, an ancient posture of prayer which priests tend to assume as they begin the Eucharistic prayers at the altar.

One of the children turned around from the altar and pointed to the "secret cupboard," the aumbry, behind the altar. This is where consecrated host is stored in reserve. I opened the aumbry and the children gazed in silence at the cruet and pyx (small dish with lid) which contained reserve "Jesus bread and Jesus wine." They discussed, like any gathered group of inquirers, how Jesus was present in the host and in the Holy Spirit. "We think it's just bread and wine but special prayers from the priest and all the people make it different so it's really Jesus."

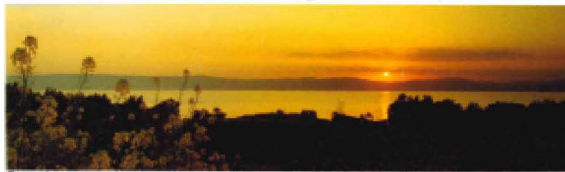
Some of the children walked toward the choir stalls and knelt at the rails with their hands out while other children pretended to offer them Communion bread.

I took them up to the choir loft and they began to sing, projecting their voices through the sanctuary. After these children had toured me through the places of our holiest worship, we returned to the classroom and they continued to explore worship in the child-size altar set among our Godly Play lessons. Yes, Jesus is here.

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

\*\*\* From the Rector \*\*\*

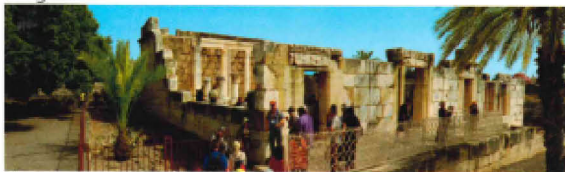
SEA OF GALILEE  
In the footsteps of Jesus



Sunrise



Tabgha



Capernaum



Mount of Beatitudes

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3/5/2019

(For the Journal or anywhere else)

There's a saying here that the fifth gospel is the land of Israel/Palestine, and it does indeed proclaim Jesus in a vivid way that words alone cannot match. I'll have much to tell you about our 2 1/2 weeks here, from Bethlehem to Galilee to Jerusalem.

You can ask us about the camel ride, too.

Blessings, Goro



31434 SC  
Sea of Galilee in the footsteps of Jesus



AIR MAIL

The People of St Bede  
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USA

**+ 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 +**

Mark Alan Eubanks  
25 March 1951 – 7 March 2019

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

**Belated Celebrations in April\*****Birthdays:**

- 2 Graham Knight
- 3 Anne Poulson  
Alex Stork
- 4 Katie Macheimer
- 5 Bobby Churchill  
Julie Reid  
Donna Reynolds
- 6 Lucy Churchill
- 8 Maya Azem
- 10 Michael Knowles  
Marianne Stoner
- 11 Danielle Azem  
Carolina Wahlman
- 16 Emily Flegel
- 17 Demetra Burrs
- 18 Amelia Hayden-Gephart
- 26 Melissa Valentine
- 27 James Madison
- 30 James Bartosh  
Jack Reynolds

**Anniversaries:**

- 2 Miranda Pinckert & Christian du Lac
- 4 Deb & Peter Blackmore
- 17 Larry & Rachael Bowman  
Mark Knight & Carol Shedlock
- 22 Daniel & Katie Macheimer

\* *Apologies to those whose special days are here recognized late.*

**Celebrations in May****Birthdays:**

- 1 Zachary Macheimer
- 3 Ann Latta  
Mo Sanders  
Hasma Serverian
- 4 Josh Knowles
- 5 Juliet Knowles
- 6 Cameron Bowman
- 9 Alec Drobac
- 10 Ginny Johnstone
- 13 David Shaw Bass
- 14 Eliza Barrett
- 16 Betsy Harris
- 18 Kirk Festing
- 21 Catie Ross
- 22 Chris Brown
- 28 John Hickson  
Lara Sherrill-Muñoz
- 29 Doug Blayney  
Hal Louchheim  
Baden Skey
- 31 Ian Hersey  
Elizabeth Skey

**Anniversaries:**

- 5 Elizabeth & Nick Flegel
- 7 Josh & Juliet Knowles
- 8 Kirk Festing & Annie Zhou
- 10 John Hickson & Sarah Babin
- 28 David Chu & Irene Lawrence

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Read *Bede's Journal* online at [www.stbedesmenlopark.org/news-events/bedes-journal](http://www.stbedesmenlopark.org/news-events/bedes-journal)

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin *Rector (on leave until June 9)*

Rani Fischer *Organist*

The Rev. Ernest L. Boyer *Locum*

Carol Shedlock *Parish Administrator*

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

Angela Sherry *Bookkeeper*

Katherine McKee *Music Director*

**Sunday Services:** Holy Eucharist 8:00am, 10:15am

**Sunday Programs:** Adult Education 9:00am, Nursery 10:00am, Children's Sunday school 10:15am

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

**Trinity School + Preschool-Grade 5**

St. Bede's Episcopal Church [www.stbedesmenlopark.org](http://www.stbedesmenlopark.org)  
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