

Rector's Report (for vestry meeting on May 23, 2021)

- On Sunday April 25, I emceed the Humboldt Interfaith Fellowship Hope and Healing service, which included representatives from the Jewish community, the Wiyot tribe, the Sufi community, Baha'i, Islam, Quakers, UCC, Disciples of Christ, the Episcopal Church, and more. Highlights included remarks from Chairman of the Wiyot tribe Ted Hernandez and the recitation of an excellent poem titled "Nature" written and performed by the young Trillium Pitts at around 1:11:50. You can watch the entire program here:
<https://www.facebook.com/eurekaucc/videos/2919426531711315>
- On Friday April 30, I was interviewed by HSU Religious Studies Professor Vincent Biondo and several of his Religious Studies students to help them with a research project called "Churches, NGOs, and Emergency Preparedness."
- On Monday May 3, Ashley and I built a three-tier raised bed in the front yard of the Transfiguration House (see pic below). We are currently growing kale, cucumber, yellow squash, and fennel. The other raised bed (which we built last summer) includes chard, mint, radishes, and spring onions.



- On Friday May 7, Ashley and I celebrated her birthday by receiving our second dose of the Moderna vaccine (see pic above). On May 8, I experienced most of the side effects: soreness, headaches, chills, nausea, fatigue, and a fever, but by May 9, I was feeling much better.
- Sacred Saunters have continued throughout Eastertide on Saturdays at 11 AM. On May 1st, we celebrated the feast of [St. Catherine of Siena](#). On May 8th, Mother Lesley led the Julian of Norwich Sacred Saunter since I was at home in bed, due to side effects of the second Moderna shot. On May 15th, we prayed Rogation prayers and David Tschoepe shared a reflection on St. Pachomius the Great. On May 22nd, we celebrated the final Sacred Saunter of Eastertide by honoring the feast of [St. Helena of Constantinople](#).
- Following the advice of the Bishop's Office and others, I hired David Nims from Janssen Malloy LLP (Limited Liability Partnership) as an attorney to represent me in the court hearing regarding the restraining order against Mike Morgan. The Diocese of Northern California is generously covering the expenses of David Nims.
- I have continued serving on the COAD Relaunch Committee, which meets biweekly; and I now serve on the COAD logo subcommittee. Also, on May 11, I invited the COAD Relaunch committee coordinator Alison Sterling Nichols to speak at the Humboldt Interfaith Fellowship meeting.

- On Thursday May 13 (the Feast of the Ascension), Paul, Merry, David and I recorded, compiled, edited and premiered the beloved Ascension Day hymn, "Hail the Day the Sees Him Rise," which can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTRRhiobEOI>
- On Friday morning May 14, I recorded the Rector's Forum conversation with Dr. Alexander John Shaia, which I then edited and premiered on the afternoon of Sunday May 16. The Rector's Forum can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmNm2O4ao9c>
- On Friday afternoon May 14, I met with my attorney David Nims at a conference room at the Janssen Malloy LLP office building, where I then testified at the court hearing through zoom. David Tschoepe also testified through zoom. After more than an hour and a half, the judge of the case (Judge Timothy A. Canning) scheduled the remainder of the court hearing for June 11 at 1:30 PM. As much as my conversation with Dr. Shaia was soul-nourishing, my experience at the court hearing was soul-depleting.
- On May 18, I participated in my last Fresh Start meeting and officially graduated from the program. On May 19 and 20, I participated in the diocesan Clergy Conference. The guest presenter was my friend from Fuller Theological Seminary, Dr. Eric Harvey, who presented on the Psalms of Lament. You can read about Dr. Harvey here: <http://www.blindscholar.com/>. I'm planning to have him guest preach and join the Rector's Forum at Christ Church in October. (The bishop first asked Ashley London Bacchi to present at the Clergy Conference. After she respectfully declined, the bishop asked me. After I respectfully declined, I suggested Eric Harvey.)
- During the Clergy Conference, we had a "fireside chat with the bishop," mostly discussing guidelines for regathering. The bishop has not yet given any clear guidance regarding mask-wearing. She said that the three main concerns of the diocese are (1) protecting the vulnerable (2) following county guidelines (3) stopping the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We will keep wearing masks inside at Christ Church until at least June 15 (since that is the state requirement).
- After the Clergy Conference, Ashley and I celebrated our 5-year wedding anniversary by walking along the waterfront trail in Eureka and through Redwood Park in Arcata. If you haven't seen the video of our wedding on the prayer labyrinth at Grace cathedral and would like to, you can view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8TPloWnxBl>
- On Friday May 21, John, Royal, and I installed portraits of St. Philip, St. Nathaniel, and St. Thomas in Lewis Hall.
- On Sunday May 23 at 4 PM, we premiered the Pentecost concert, which is the final, fully online concert of the program year: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rXMUkrnxtuE>

