

Rector's Report (for vestry meeting on June 27, 2021)

- On Thursday May 27, the wardens and I installed the Christ Church Eureka Time Capsule under the altar, thanks to the ingenious work of John Patton. Paul Gossard recorded the installation and final blessing, which you can watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzTWR7hcFqs>. Also, if you want to watch Bishop Megan's blessing of the Time Capsule, you can watch the following video from February 14, 2021, which also includes a description of the items included in the capsule: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjGxnG36Qw0>
- On June 3, 4, and 5, Ashley and I drove to Berkeley CA for the first time in years to visit friends. Parish friends Don and Carol Anne (Smullin) Brown have moved to Portland OR and their son Kevin is helping them clear out their Berkeley home. They decided to generously give Ashley and me a serigraph (silkscreen painting) by John August Swanson, which portrays the Holy Nativity, and which used to hang in their Berkeley dining room. See pic below. It will now hang in the Transfiguration House.
- On June 4, Ashley and I visited a special exhibit at the Legion of Honor Museum in San Francisco titled "Last Supper in Pompeii: From the Table to the Grave" which focused on the culinary world of Pompeii before it was destroyed by the Mount Vesuvius volcano in 79 AD. The exhibit included the display of a loaf of carbonized bread and explained that such bread was often distributed to people around the time of elections to boost the campaign of candidates running for office. The bread, which resembles communion bread today, sheds new light on the context and political implications of Jesus's feeding of the 5,000 (Mark 6, John 6).



- On Friday June 11 at 1:30 PM, I was prepared to proceed with the second part of the court hearing with my attorney David Nims at the Janssen Malloy LLP office building. However, the Respondent Mike Morgan requested a continuance and Judge Timothy Canning granted the request. The trial was originally going to be rescheduled for June 25

(while I'm spending time with my family back East), but I asked that it be rescheduled for July 30. So now the court hearing is scheduled for Friday July 30 at 1:30 PM.

- After the anticlimactic court hearing, Ashley and I drove down to Sacramento on June 11 to attend an ordination at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on June 12. Katie Evenbeck, Kathy Lawler, and Barbara White were ordained to the transitional diaconate. Although I know all of the ordinands through my participation in the Commission on Ministry, I am particularly close to Katie who served as the Executive Director of St. Dorothy's Rest. I served as her liaison to the COM and she was one of Ashley's students at Starr King School for the Ministry. So we were both excited to be invited to her ordination on Saturday June 12 (the feast day of Enmegahbowh), which you can view here: <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity.Cathedral.Sacramento/videos/533192974533731>
- Also on Saturday June 12, I participated in the Spring online meeting of the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars (AABS). Through my connection to Ming Hua Theological College in Hong Kong, I had arranged to have Dr. Stephen Lim speak as the keynote presenter on "Teaching in Context." I introduced him from my hotel room in Sacramento to a group of about 50 people from around the world. The presentation and discussion were followed by a brief prayer service led by the Rev. Ian E. Rock from the British Virgin Islands. You can watch Dr. Stephen Lim's presentation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gy3DdtO0SAw>



- On Sunday June 13, I participated in the final zoom coffee hour; and on Tuesday June 15, I participated in the final Healing Compline, which you can view here: <https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchEureka/videos/509767507111719>
- On Tuesday June 15, I learned I was accepted to the Forest Therapy Guide Training with Wolfpack, starting September 28th. <https://www.natureandforesttherapy.earth/hidden-pages/payment-refund-policies>. See acceptance email below. I have not yet paid the deposit.
- On Wednesday June 16, Ashley and I flew to Ithaca NY. On June 18, I visited St. James Episcopal Church in Skaneateles NY, the only church with lakefront property along one of the cleanest lakes in the country. On June 19 (Juneteenth), we visited the old

stomping grounds of Harriet Tubman and the Equal Rights Heritage Center in Auburn NY.

- On Sunday June 20, my family and I worshipped at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Syracuse NY (<https://www.stpaulsyr.org/>), the former cathedral of the Diocese of Central New York. Like Christ Church Eureka, they offer an 8 AM service and then they live-stream their 10 AM service. All in-person worshippers are required to wear masks.



- On June 25, Ashley and I drove from Ithaca NY to Winchester VA, where we are staying with the Rev. Dr. John Kater, who married us. We will be worshipping with him at Christ Episcopal Church Winchester on Sunday June 27.
- I wrote a chapter for a book titled *René Girard, Theology, and Pop Culture* (Rowman & Littlefield). The chapter is titled "Exorcising Blame Through A *Contract with God*: A Girardian Analysis of Will Eisner's Graphic Novel." The book will be available here: <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781978710085/Ren%C3%A9-Girard-Theology-and-Pop-Culture> as well as on Amazon here: https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1978710089/ref=dbs_a_def_rwt_bibl_vppi_i2
- My book on the Cloud of Unknowing titled *The Cloud of Unknowing, Distilled* (Apocryphile Press) is in the process of being published and is now available on kindle here: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B097TS99G4/> The book will be the subject of a men's retreat I will lead for the diocese September 17 – 19 as well as for a retreat I will lead for the Associates of the Community of the Transfiguration on October 26 – 28.
- Finally, I just learned (while driving from Ithaca to Winchester) that my book *Theology and Spirituality in the Fourth Gospel* has been selected as one of four finalists for the GTU Borsch-Rast Book Prize. I also learned that one of the other four finalists is Ashley London Bacchi, for her book *Uncovering Jewish Creativity*. The winners of the prize will be announced in November. You can read about the Book Prize here: <https://www.gtu.edu/academics/borsch-rast-prize-lectureship>

From: admissions coordinator <admissions@natureandforesttherapy.org>
Subject: Forest Therapy Guide Training Acceptance Letter (Wolfpack) - Daniel London
Date: June 15, 2021 at 12:40:44 PM EDT
To: "daniel.london@gmail.com" <daniel.london@gmail.com>
Cc: admissions coordinator <admissions@natureandforesttherapy.org>

Dear Daniel:

I've just looked over your application for the Forest Therapy Guide Training with Wolfpack, starting September 28th, and I'd like to be the first to congratulate you on your acceptance.

I want to begin by expressing my gratitude for this application.

Thank you also for sharing your fond memories of swinging on the Eucalyptus trees on your way to the "Church in the Woods". With your strong spiritual foundation and leadership skills, you will make for an excellent Forest Therapy Guide!

I highly encourage you to experience one of our walks before training begins. You may find a local guide here: [International Guide Directory](#). If you are sheltering-in-place, you may experience a walk here: [Virtual Forest Therapy Walks](#).

Although you are accepted into the program, your space is not guaranteed until you register with a deposit or full payment. We enroll accepted students on a first come first serve basis. If we receive your payment after a training has filled, we will either transfer your payment to the next available training in your time zone or refund you. Please choose your payment and enrollment option here: [Payment Plan](#) or [Full Payment](#). If you choose the monthly payment plan, you will be automatically charged \$500.00 USD on the same day each month with the same payment method provided at registration.

Additionally, you may want to prepare for training by reading [Your Guide to Forest Bathing by M. Amos Clifford](#) if you haven't already done so. You might also enjoy these books written by ANFT Certified Guides <https://www.natureandforesttherapy.earth/about/recommended-readings>

Before you make a deposit, please review our [Payment Policy](#).

Thank you, Daniel, and welcome to our forest therapy community.

Happy Trails,

Jennifer Russillo
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"Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better." —Albert Einstein
Office Hours Monday - Friday