

Rector's Report (for vestry meeting on October 24, 2021)

- On October 4 and 5, I participated in a “Mystics and Animals Colloquium” organized by the [Mysticism and Lived Experience Network](#), as part of my research for an article I’m writing on the story of the Wolf of Gubbio.
- On October 8, I prepared an outline for a course that I may potentially teach at the Center for Anglican Learning and Leadership (CALL). The course will explore the tradition of Arguing with God within the Bible, the Jewish tradition, the Christian tradition and beyond.
- On Saturday October 9 at 10 AM, I attended the Deanery Convocation on zoom, which can be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/629309440>
- Also, on Saturday October 9 at 3 PM, we held our annual St. Francis Sacred Saunter at Sequoia Park, which attracted more humans and pets than our pre-COVID Saunters.



- On Tuesday October 12, I attended a Deanery Clericus/Leadership meeting and one subject we discussed was the possibility of Deanery-wide Sacred Saunters.
- On Tuesday evenings in October (12, 19, 26) I participated in the ANFT Wolf Pack sessions on zoom from 5 to 7:15 PM.
- On Friday October 15, I participated in the second module of the Best Skills Best Churches program from 6 – 9 PM and then again on Saturday October 16 from 9 AM to noon. This second module focused on “Legal Aspects of Governance.”
 - o The keynote speaker for both the evening and morning sessions was **Travys Harvey**, an experienced attorney in Scottsdale Arizona who also serves as the Parish Chancellor at All Saints Episcopal Church in Scottsdale. We discussed the three modes of governance: strategic, fiduciary, and generative. We also talked about the *SOAR* approach to leadership (built on Appreciative Inquiry) which focuses on *Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results*. We discussed the

benefits of being a 501c3 Nonprofit corporation (no corporate income tax on income made, eligible for county and state tax benefits, bulk mail postage rate) and learned that a Nonprofit corporation is mission-based, accountable to constituency, and concerned with social entrepreneurship.

- The module inspired me to look up our parish's Articles of Incorporation here: <https://businesssearch.sos.ca.gov/CBS/Detail>. Our entity number is C0086455 if you want to look us up.
- I realized that it would be wise for the vestry to adopt a Conflict of Interest policy as well as a Gift Acceptance policy. The diocesan website offers some policy templates here: <https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/site/church-accounting/#policies>
- On October 16 at 1 PM, I attended the diocesan Town Hall meeting on the diocesan convention resolutions. You can view the two Town Halls here: <https://www.norcalepiscopal.org/site/diocesan-convention-2021/#tab-id-4>
- Also on October 16, we held another successful Virtual Stewardship Dinner at 5:30 PM, which involved parishioners picking up their delicious Plaza Grill dinners from our parking lot. You can view all the Stewardship videos (auction, sharing, presentation, virtual choir piece) here: <https://christchurcheureka.org/giving/>
- The Sabbatical Planning team met for the second time on zoom on Sunday October 17 at 4 PM. We discussed ways that I can incorporate my Forest Therapy Guide Training into the sabbatical. We also talked about the possibility of another trip to Iona as part of my sabbatical, which could potentially lead to a parish pilgrimage to Iona as well as the writing of a new book on the Gospel of John and the Five Senses.
- Also, on Sunday October 17, David Powell led a zoom meeting with parishioners interested in performing an abridged version of the Christmas Carol around Christmas time. The abridged version of A Christmas Carol was written by Charles Dickens and given to me by my clergy coach, the Rev. Dr. Mark Anschutz.
- On Monday October 18, I met with the Worship Planning team for Diocesan Convention, which included the Rev. Dr. Stephen Shaver, the Rev. Megan Anderson, and the Randy Knutson. We planned Evening Prayer and Morning Prayer for November 5 and 6.
- On October 20, I met with the Humboldt Interfaith Fellowship and began making plans for a silent vigil to be held on Nov 10 at the Humboldt County Courthouse from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. The vigil intends to honor the memory of the more than 100 lives lost locally to COVID and to pray for the health and safety of our nurses, doctors, hospital workers, and the general population.

- On Friday October 22, I visited my doctor (Libre Johnson, MD) and we decided it was time for me to start taking medication for my high blood pressure. On Saturday October 23, I started taking lisinopril.
- Also, on Oct 23, I participated in my second Guided Forest Therapy walk; this one at Redwood Park in Arcata.
- The Rev. Jim Richardson and his wife Lori were planning to stay with us at the Transfiguration House on weekend of Oct 22 – 24, but the atmospheric river forced them to take a rain check. However, I still managed to record a Rector's Forum with him to discuss General Convention and upcoming resolutions for Diocesan Convention. You can watch the Rector's Forum here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GdtcwOr2crY>

