



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 2026 - CHRONICLE

Steadfast and growing since 1870

Where we seek to glorify God, follow Jesus Christ, and serve all people through the power of the Holy Spirit, as a community of companions walking together in the Way of Christ's Love for all.

From the Rector ...

The Season of Creation

Last year, I learned about the ecumenical origins and scope of the new liturgical season that we will be celebrating for the second time at Christ Church this month: the Season of Creation. In 1989, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople (the spiritual leader of 300 million Eastern Orthodox Christians) declared September 1st to be "Creation Day," a time to offer "prayers and supplications to the Maker of all, both as thanksgiving for the great gift of creation and as a petition for its protection and salvation."¹ In the mid-1990s, the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Morristown NJ began celebrating "Creation Time" throughout the entire month of September; and in 2003, the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines followed suit, writing: "During this period of 'Creation Time' we urge that 'our different liturgies celebrate the beauty and pain of our world, our connectiveness to the natural world and the ongoing struggle for social justice.'"² In 2008, the World Council of Churches invited all churches to extend the season of Creation from September 1 to October 4, the feast of St. Francis, the patron saint of creation, ecology and animals. Just ten years ago, in 2015, Pope Francis endorsed Creation Time and now tens of thousands, if not millions, of Christians across the globe celebrate this season.



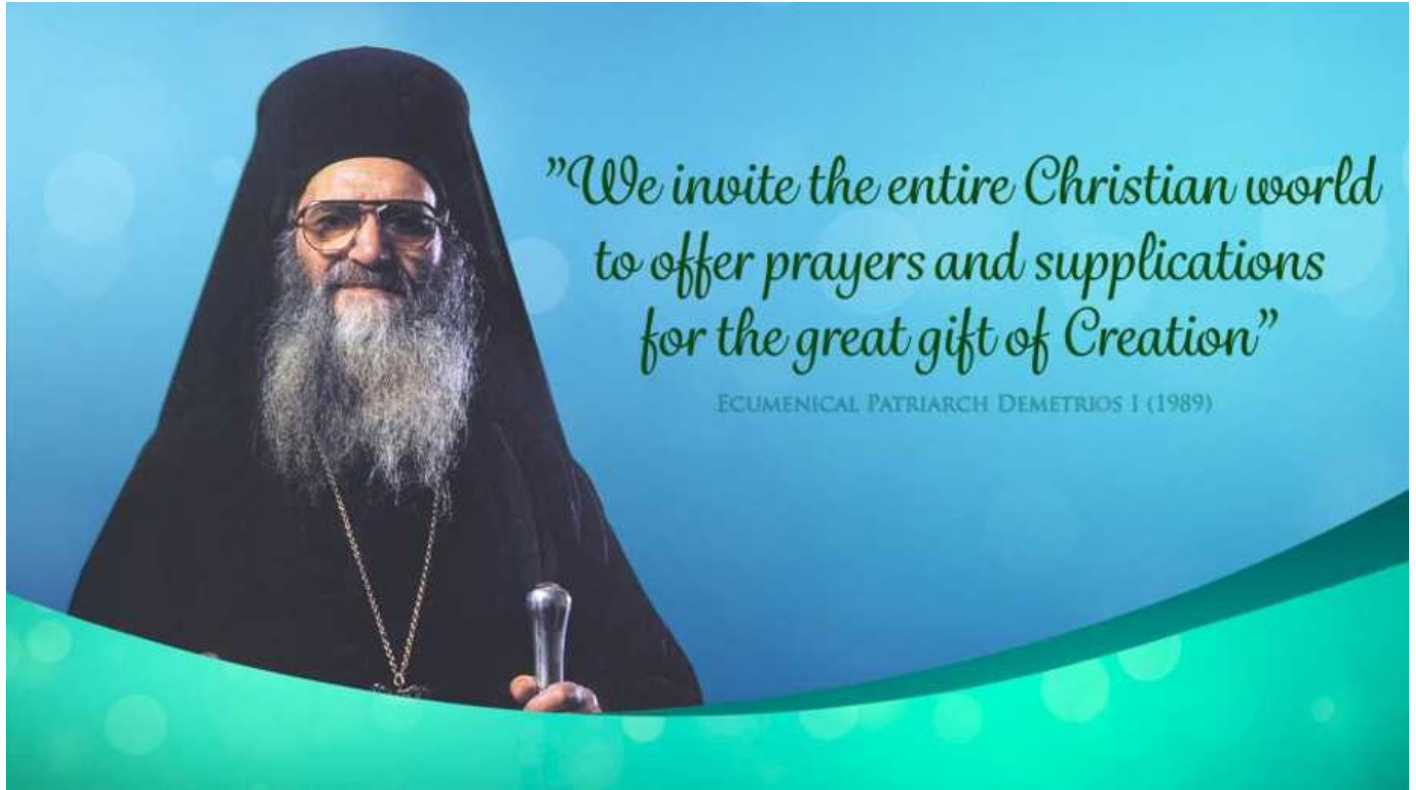
This year, we are joining our siblings in Christ around the world by using "Season of Creation" liturgies created and endorsed by the Episcopal Church.³ We will be following the same Scripture readings appointed for the Sunday Propers, but we will be including new Collects, Prayers of the People, and other liturgical modifications. You will also notice that our songs and hymns will reflect an emphasis on Creation and our divine Creator. Since our liturgical calendar includes two major feasts dedicated to God the Son (Christmas and Easter) and one major feast day dedicated to the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), it seems most apt to devote a season to God the Father or, more specifically in this case, God the Creator.

Continued on next page

¹ "Message of His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I on the day of the protection of the Environment (1st September 1989)," <https://ec-patr.org/en/message-of-his-all-holiness-the-ecumenical-patriarch-6/>, accessed September 1, 2025.

² "Celebrating Creation Day and Creation Time," A Pastoral Statement of the CBCP Permanent Council, September 1, 2003, <https://cbcponline.net/celebrating-creation-day-and-creation-time/>, accessed September 1, 2025.

³ <https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/>



The Season will begin on Sunday September 6 and conclude on Sunday October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We will be offering two Sacred Saunters throughout the season: one on Saturday September 12th in celebration of the Feast of the Holy Cross and one on Saturday September 26th in celebration of Lancelot Andrewes, the leading translator of the King James Bible and one of the founding fathers of Anglican Christianity. What do these two feasts have to do with the theme of Creation? Well, the Holy Cross was described by the 6th century poet Fortunatus as the “one and only noble tree! None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be.” So, what better way to celebrate the “only noble tree” than by sauntering among the massive redwoods, who certainly reflect some of the nobility of the “Tree of Glory.”

And the writings of Lancelot Andrewes which have become most popular in the last several decades are his Personal Prayers of Devotions (*Preces Privatae*), which he arranged for each day of the week with themes corresponding to the six days of **Creation**, concluding with a prayer of Sabbath rest on the seventh day. Thomas Merton, who was raised in the Episcopal-Anglican tradition and later became a Trappist monk, wrote, “I have been using the prayers of Lancelot Andrewes at night in the hermitage” and “I will spend an afternoon in the woods with them one of these days.” We will spend a Saturday morning in the woods with Lancelot’s prayers, as we did last year.

After the Holy Cross Saunter on September 12, we will offer a Labyrinth Day from 2 to 5 PM and this will be the first time when the outdoor labyrinth will be available to walk along with the indoor labyrinth(s)! And speaking of the outdoor labyrinth, on Saturday October 3, Bishop Megan will bless our outdoor labyrinth along with our solar panels, after confirming a robust class of confirmands.

The Thomas Merton Redwood Chapter will meet at 5 PM on Tuesday September 15, which will be the one-year anniversary of our first meeting. The meeting will also take place a few days before convention delegates meet for Convocation on September 19 to discuss, among other business items, a resolution to add the Feast of Thomas Merton to the Episcopal Church's calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts. You can watch an explanatory video of the resolution here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSXNh-zIG5o>. And I will ask Thomas to include a copy of the Resolution (with Explanation and Background) in the Chronicle, in case you are interested (pp. 33-35).



Thomas Merton Redwoods Chapter Meeting in August 2026

I submitted this Thomas Merton resolution on July 31, the Feast Day of St. Ignatius of Loyola, and speaking of Iggy (who was the founder of the Jesuits), we will be blessed on Sunday September 27 with a special guest preacher who was previously a Jesuit and is now an Episcopal priest and author who will be teaching us all about Ignatian spirituality. His name is Bill Glenn, and I can't wait for you to meet him! Also, speaking of Iggy and the Jesuits, I'm on my way to a Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos right now, where Bacchi and I will be attending a Symposium on Theology and AI called "Unmasking the Machines: Sustaining Spiritual Community in the Technocracy." I look forward to telling you all about it in an Adult Forum when I return. But before that, I hope to lead an Adult Forum on my new book: *Francis of Assisi and Related Writings* by Hermann Hesse! I'm so thrilled that this book is available in time for the 800th anniversary of the saint's passing. I hope to receive my bulk order of copies by Sunday September 13, which would be a good day for me to share some of the book's content with you, including the lovely illustrations by local artists. Stay tuned for more offerings during the Season of Creation, a relatively brief liturgical season in which you will not want to miss a single Sunday, especially if you want to enjoy some of Jenny's special Creation Season cookies!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. V. +", is centered below the text.



Fr. Daniel and Fr. Bill Glenn at the Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg, CA.



A preview of Jenny's special Creation Season cookies.

Created in Relationship

The Rev. Jeri Gray-Reneberg, Associate Priest



I am writing this on September 1, the first day of the Season of Creation. For the next month, we will focus our worship on God our Creator and the created world, concluding on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis. And today, as I meditate on the gifts of creation, and also look toward the start of the new Bereavement Group on September 14, I am reminded of the second creation story in Genesis 2.

“It is not good” that Adam, the creature of the earth, “should be alone,” God says.

Foundationally, we are anchored on this earth to our family of origin, the family that raised us, siblings, and the friends we feel a kinship with. Some of us have partners or spouses. Some of us have children, and some have grandchildren. It is almost unheard of for someone to be completely alone throughout their lifetime. But when we lose those who are dear to us, yet we hear their echo and see their imprint on the world around us, the feeling of loss can be overwhelming. Other, less positive, feelings may also come up: sometimes guilt, or resentment, or lack of resolution. It can help to talk about those things with others who have also experienced loss, in a safe and prayerful setting.

It feels appropriate that we are beginning our Bereavement Group in the Season of Creation, as we acknowledge that we are not alone, that we have been significantly involved in each other’s lives, and often have loved and been loved deeply.

Please pray for our new group, and for all who mourn the loss of a dear one. Jenny Coleman, retired LCSW, and I will co-facilitate. I encourage anyone who might be planning to join us to let Jenny or me know, so we can expect you.

Date: September 14

Time: 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Place: The Heritage Room

Jeri+ took this photo in
November 2022, at
Manhattan Beach, CA



Our youth group has held steady with a core group of about 8-10 kids. They come every week sometimes bringing friends and new people but they are faithful! We have a great time together!

The month of August taught our youth all about PRAYER.

Week 1 – what is prayer – simply 2-way communication with God

Week 2 – when can we pray – any time. That’s why we like to “take a little Jesus” with us everywhere.

Week 3 – who can pray – anyone! Gather some friends around you that can pray for you and you for them.

Week 4 – how to pray – Jesus gave us the perfect example and actual words to pray.

Week 5 – practice prayer – walking the labyrinth

We have always ended our youth group with our “Gratitude Candles” when each person can get up, light a candle and say what they are thankful for. This month we added a new discipline – we take a moment to write down anything we want to be prayed for. The youth have taken this very seriously (most of the time, they are still teenagers...) and at the end of each week when they turn them in, I get a dozen prayer requests that the leaders pray for all week. It seems the teens like this as all of them participate in this exercise every week. Every once in a while there is a silly one but the overwhelming majority are serious and heartfelt requests that affect these teens lives and they are counting on us to pray for them.

Do you want to be a part of interacting with our youth and growing our youth group but don’t have the time or energy to come every week? Would you like to be a part of one of their answered prayers? If you will commit to praying and holding confidential the requests, I would invite you to pray for our teens’ prayer requests. You will get a text on Sunday evening with a list of prayer requests exactly as the teens have written then (no names included) and we ask that you pray throughout the week for their requests. If you are interested, text me (Jenny 707.479.8243) or email me and I will add you to the list (jennyharris630@yahoo.com).

We are holding a garage sale in September to raise money for a trip to San Francisco. We are all very excited about this trip and the chance to invite our friends. Trips are a great way to help build unity, cohesiveness and a sense of community within our youth group.

Remember to pray for the youth of Christ Church even if you don’t always see them Sunday mornings.



Jenny Harris
Youth Minister



Be part of the solution - Food for Fellowship Fund (10:30 Coffee Hour) *we need your help!*

Do you wish you could contribute food for our 10:30 coffee hour but do not have the energy or ability?



Please consider giving financially to our coffee hour ministry by donating to our Food for Fellowship Fund. This fund was established last year to assist our volunteers who bring food every 5-6 weeks and are on tight budgets.

Funds have dwindled and it is time to refill our coffers. Donations can be made to Christ Church with the notation "Food for Fellowship Fund" and added to the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you for considering financially supporting this important ministry.

Lynne Dougherty Bean, Coffee Hour Coordinator

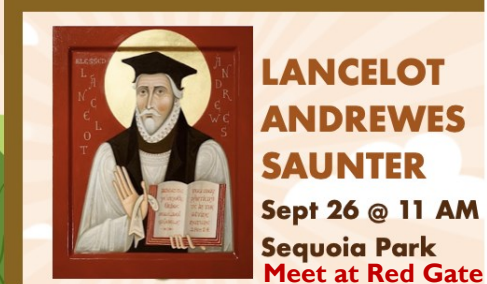
A graphic for the Season of Creation Sacred Saunters. It features a landscape with a blue river, green trees, and a large cross in the sky. The text "SEASON OF CREATION SACRED SAUNTERS" is prominently displayed.

SEASON OF CREATION SACRED SAUNTERS

A graphic for the Holy Cross Saunter. It features a large cross in the sky and the text "HOLY CROSS SAUNTER".

HOLY CROSS SAUNTER

Sept 12 @ 11 AM
Sequoia Park
Meet at Red Gate

A graphic for the Lancelot Andrewes Saunter. It features a portrait of Lancelot Andrewes and the text "LANCELOT ANDREWES SAUNTER".

LANCELOT ANDREWES SAUNTER

Sept 26 @ 11 AM
Sequoia Park
Meet at Red Gate

Lay Ministry Fair—*Take a trip amongst our ministries*



Jesus Christ calls us all to be good stewards, to build up the realm of God as we share our gifts with others, and care for those in need. Lay Ministry at Christ Church offers many opportunities to share our gifts, but sometimes it's hard to know where or how. The Lay Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 20 following the 8:00 and 10:30 services, is a chance to learn about the many Lay Ministries at Christ Church and to find where your talents can be best employer.

This year you will receive a passport book. As you visit the tables you will get your passport stamped. At the end of the event, those that have completed getting stamps will get a prize!

See you on September 20!

Momentum grows for Anglican observance of the Feast of Creation in Christ

Posted Episcopal News Service July 21, 2026

[Anglican Communion News Service] Several Anglican churches worldwide are preparing to observe the Feast of Creation in Christ this September. In July, the Church of England General Synod approved the addition of the observance into its liturgical calendar.

The Feast of Creation in Christ, also known as the [Season of Creation](#), is a worldwide ecumenical Christian observance that begins with the Day of Prayer for Creation on Sept. 1 and ends with the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and ecology, Oct. 4.

Several Anglican churches have already begun to institute the festival, including The Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada.

The growing momentum for this new liturgical festival was reflected in a resolution that passed during the Anglican Consultative Council, which met June 28 – July 4 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The resolution encourages the adoption of the Feast of Creation in Christ in member church calendars, while also leaving space for churches to draw on ecumenical materials or develop their own.

Read the entire article <https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2026/07/momentum-grows-for-anglican-observance-of-the-feast-of-creation-in-christ.aspx>



Vestry Highlights

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Vestry Highlights ...from the meeting of August 25, 2026

Next Vestry meeting: Sept. 22, 5:30 pm, Pierson Room

- The meeting opened with prayer and reading aloud the Vestry Covenant.
- The Treasurer reported that church finances are healthy and that the church is coming back into balance between revenue and expenses.
- Ian Haynes reported on the ceiling fans, and how they are working (very well). They are set to be on as needed and Ian and others appointed will be responsible for running them.
- A bid from Restif, to clean carpets in the office and Education Building was approved.
- The online photo membership directory which Thomas created using a trial version of software was reviewed and purchase of the Premium level software was approved. Several useful features were highlighted.
- A small group will review the fire safety report from last January and report back and what is needed.
- There was brief discussion about printing of worship bulletins and it was agreed that the Season of Creation was not the time to make major changes as the liturgy is not available in the BCP. Parishioners can still be encouraged to access the bulletin on electronic devices if they wish to. Further conversation was postponed to January.
- Elizabeth reported on several completed projects around campus: lighting for the church sign on H Street, painting of the Smullin House, new handicapped parking spot (on 15th Street), new kitchen door, and work on the church grounds.
- A Vestry Retreat will be held Saturday, Oct. 10, 10-1:00 at Christ Church with lunch to follow at the Marina.

Vestry minutes, treasurer's reports, etc. are posted on the bulletin board in Lewis Hall. NOTE: The bulletin boards in Lewis Hall are in the process of being updated.

If you have questions or concerns about parish activities, please contact a member of the Vestry!

Respectfully submitted, Merry Phillips, Senior Warden



Quilters+

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Newcomers and beginners, please join us. We usually meet once each month in Lewis Hall at 9:30 am on a Wednesday. We have fleece for working on soft, colorful fleece throws for children and teens in foster care in Humboldt County. We have fabric pieces to make tops for tied prayer quilts. Knitters work on hats, mittens, sweaters – need expert guidance and help with challenges – we have a knitting pro and teacher with solutions! You are welcome to bring projects of your own, also. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a snack – and fellowship!

Hope to see you on Wednesday, September 9!

Questions? Call Peg Gardner 443-9627 or Belinda Zander 442-4222.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The New Bereavement Support Group will meet on **Monday, September 14 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm** in the Heritage Room. The plan is to meet twice a month. The next meeting is Monday, October 5.

Anyone who has lost a loved one is welcome to join us. We will pray together and discuss what's on our minds and hearts.

All conversation is confidential, sharing as much or as little as is comfortable.

Co-facilitators are The Rev. Jeri Gray-Reneberg and retired LCSW Jenny Coleman.



Christ Church Concert Series

presents

David Schofield, Organist

in works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Britten, Glass, and Schofield

Sunday, September 27, 2026 at 4:00 pm

Christ Episcopal Church

15th & H Streets, Eureka

Suggested Donation \$20

🕊 Please join us for a reception in the Parish Hall after the performance 🕊

Join virtuoso organist Dave Schofield for an afternoon exploring the organ's full sound-world, from thundering fortissimos to passages of quiet delicacy. Treat yourself to great music of today and centuries past, performed live on the magnificent Kegg organ of Christ Church. Schofield has performed at some of America's most notable cathedrals and churches, including the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, and his performances of Bach have been featured on NPR's Pipedreams. Schofield is also a brilliant improviser, having given numerous fully improvised concerts, including a celebrated series at St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia University. Come experience the full power and grandeur of the pipe organ, live and unforgettable.





Summer Activities of the Associates of the Community of the Transfiguration

This year, the Associates and Oblate have gathered monthly for fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

We were pleased to have a week long visit from Associate Director, Sister Jacqueline and Oblate Toni Thomas-Feren in July. We took advantage of their visit to see received a new Associate, Cynthia Packard at the 10:30am service on July 19. Associate candidates met with Sister Jacqueline and Oblate Toni as well as all enjoying an Associate Gathering including Eucharist, a meal and spiritual discussion.

The first week in August, Oblate Stephanie Schultz, Jill and Claire Maples flew to Cincinnati to experience a week of living alongside the Community, participating in the Daily Offices, meals and the Feast of the Transfiguration on August 6. We were able to tour St. Monica's Recreation Center, as well as Bethany School situated on the Campus of the Community. At Evensong on the Feast Day, Jill Maples was received as an Associate and the Oblates renewed their Promises. In between all of this we were able to meet privately and in community with the Sisters and Oblates in attendance. It was a beautiful and rich time of sharing the light of the Transfigured Christ.



Oblate and Associates of the Community of the Transfiguration in Humboldt County

Oblate

Stephanie Schultz

Associates

Emily Arents, Lin Chase, Kathy Clague, The Venerable Pam Gossard, The Rev. Daniel London, Elizabeth Harper Lawson, The Rev. Lesley McCloghrie, Jill Maples, Betty Moore, Cynthia Packard, The Rev. Anne Pierson, The Rev. Nancy Streufert, Nellie Thompson

Candidates

Peg Gardner, Sheena Ruchte, Cynthia Savage, Janet Yale

For more information, or for first steps in becoming an Associate or Oblate, please contact Stephanie Schultz, Oblate of the Community at 707.498.1058.

**For information on the many ministries of the Sisters
visit ctsisters.org.**



Summer Activities of the Associates



Our Church Directory is Online!

You can now view our church directory online or through the **FREE** mobile app.

To access the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click on “**Send Secure Sign-In Link.**” Then check your email and click on the “**Log in to Instant Church Directory**” button found in your email.

A free mobile app is also available in the **Apple® App Store** and the **Google Play™ Store**. Just search for “**Instant Church Directory**” to download.

Important: Your email address **must be listed in the directory before you can log in.**

Need help or have questions?

Please contact the Church office by email:

christchurcheureka@gmail.com or by phone 707 442-1797.

Office Hours are Tues, Wed or Fri between 9 am & 1 pm.



Our Church Directory is powered by **Instant Church Directory.**



“God is good”

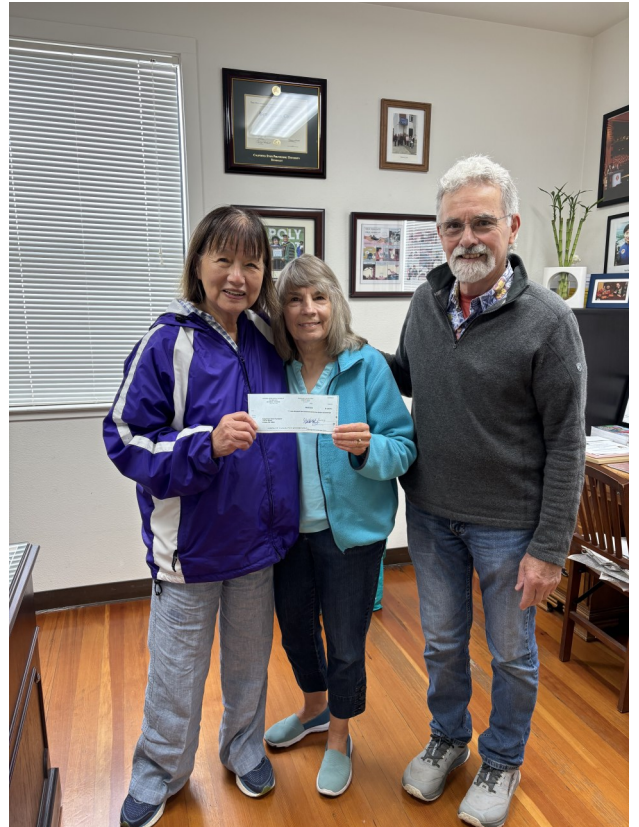
Paul and Deacon Pam delivered the underwear donation check (\$1,222.50!!! plus an envelope of Gift Cards!) to Betty Chinn on August 26 at the Center.

Betty was thrilled and mentioned that this would go toward the needs of children as they come up during the school year.

Betty added that they are serving a lot of young people currently through the Center. Again, she mentioned how the backpacks were joyfully received.

Betty has shared with individuals who are now adults who benefitted from this ministry who are blown away by Christ Church and the outreach and generosity regarding the underwear donations.

As Betty is fond of saying, “God is good”.



Successful Back-to-School backpack program this year.



Betty, Archdeacon Pam, Peg, and vestry member Joel helped with Betty Chinn's successful backpack program this year, distributing dozens of backpacks to smaller rural communities in Humboldt County .



- Open to all **2S/LGBTQIA+** people in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California
- Every month on the 3rd Monday from 7:00-8:30 pm on Zoom **NEW DAY!**

For more information or for the Zoom link to our support group, contact:

RainbowMinistriesEDNC@gmail.com



Sponsored by the
Rainbow Ministry
of the
Episcopal Diocese of
Northern California

FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY FOR ST.VINCENT DE PAUL'S ON SEPTEMBER 20

Fresh Produce Sunday is September 20. Baskets will be placed at the back of the nave to collect donations of fresh produce which will be blessed and then taken to St. Vincent de Paul's dining facility on Monday morning. Thank you parishioners for remembering to help each month with your gifts of potatoes, carrots, apples, oranges, bananas, lettuce, onions, cabbage, kale, avocados, peaches, kiwis, and, and, and....



Sacramental WELCOME

A Rainbow Spiritual Retreat

for the Dioceses of Northern California and San Joaquin

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(Check-in Coffee Klatch at 9)

Saturday, Sept. 26

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

9000 Sonoma Hwy., Kenwood

Cost: \$20

*Limited scholarship assistance available. To apply,
email RainbowMinistriesEDNC@gmail.com.*

To register, use the QR code (at right) or visit
<https://hpci.jotform.com/form/262175723851157>
Questions? Email: rainbowministriesednc@gmail.com

*Join
Episcopalians
who are part of
the 2S/LGBTQIA+
community, their
friends and allies
for an in-person
spiritual retreat
focused on
Scripture, prayer
and fellowship.*



*Sponsored by the Rainbow Ministry of the Commission
for Intercultural Ministries in the Diocese of Northern California.*

Centering Prayer

Tuesdays | 6:30 pm

Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour
corner of 15th and G streets



Looking for Volunteers for Story Corner/Kid's Corner at the 10:30 Service

Volunteers greet families with children. Coloring, puzzles, toys, and activities are supplied to help children understand the gospel reading of the day. Parents enjoy prayer and spiritual time during the service while their children are safe and having fun just around the corner. Children rejoin their parents for communion.

This FUN job does need some prior fingerprinting with background check, and some classes to keep the kids safe which are offered by the diocese.

Please see Vickie Patton for more information. 707-498-4538

September 2026

Christ Episcopal Church | Wednesday Chapel Services
Chapel of Our Merciful Saviour | 9:30 am (new time)

September 2 — Morning Prayer

Commemorating The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942

During World War II, the suffering of both the native people and the missionaries was severe. One historian reckons that the total number of martyrs from all Christian denominations during this period was around 330. This feast day, observed in the Diocese of New Guinea and in the Church of Australia, marks the witness of nine Australian missionaries and two Papuan martyrs who died while serving those who needed them.



September 9 — Morning Prayer

Commemorating The Martyrs of Memphis, 1878

In August 1878, yellow fever invaded the city of Memphis, Tennessee, for the third time in ten years. By the month's end, the disease had become epidemic and a quarantine was ordered. While more than 25,000 citizens had fled in terror, nearly 20,000 more remained to face the pestilence. As cases multiplied, the death toll averaged 200 people per day. When the worst was over, ninety percent of the people who remained had contracted the fever and more than 5,000 people had died. Notable among these heroes were four Episcopal sisters from the Community of Saint Mary, and two of their clergy colleagues, all of whom died while tending to the sick. They have ever since been known as "The Martyrs of Memphis," as have those of other communions who ministered in Christ's name during this time of desolation.

September 16 — Morning Prayer

Commemorating Ninian, *Bishop*, c. 430

The dates of Ninian's life, and the exact extent of his work, are much disputed. The earliest, and possibly the best, account is the brief one in Bede's Ecclesiastical History. Ninian was a Romanized Briton, born in the latter half of the fourth century in southern Scotland. He is said to have been educated in Rome and to have received ordination as a bishop. But the main influence on his life was Martin of Tours, with whom he spent some time, and from whom he gained his ideals of an episcopal-monastic structure designed for missionary work.



September 23 — Morning Prayer

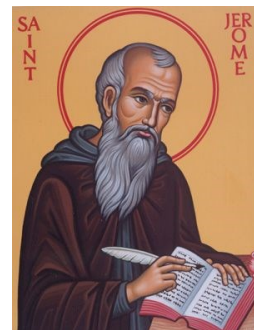
Commemorating Thecla of Iconium, *Proto-Martyr Among Women*, c. 70

Thecla, who according to tradition was a disciple of the apostle Paul, was one of the most popular female saints in the early church. Her story is told in the second-century Acts of Paul and Thecla. According to this narrative, upon hearing Paul preach the gospel, Thecla abandoned her plans for marriage and followed Paul. Condemned to burn at the stake, her life was saved by a miraculous thunderstorm. As her adventures continued, she was thrown to the beasts in the local arena. There she was protected by a fierce lioness. Finally, thinking this was her last chance to be baptized, she threw herself into a pool of ravenous seals and baptized herself in the water, while the seals were struck dead by lightning. The governor then released her, and she went on to travel and preach the gospel.

September 30 — Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Commemorating Jerome, *Priest and Scholar*, 420

Jerome was the foremost biblical scholar of early Latin Christianity. His Latin translation of the Bible from early Hebrew and Greek texts, known as the Vulgate version, along with his commentaries and homilies on the biblical books, have made him a major intellectual force in the Western church.



From the Junior Warden

Elizabeth Harper-Lawson



Junior Warden Chronicle Report September 2026

Church Sign: The lighting for our church sign has been completed by Adam at An Electrician.

Outdoor Lighting: An Electrician is sending a quote to replace broken light fixtures in the courtyard and above the chapel door on the G Street Side.

Labyrinth: Coming along nicely. Most of the bricks have been put in place, and it looks great! There was some fear that there would be scattered sand etc. and that the grass would need recovery time, but the workers have been very careful and precise. What a great team we had working hard over six days. It has taken a labyrinth committee many months, even years, of planning: A labyrinth facilitator, engineers, experts, laborers, and enthusiasts. Shipments of donor inscribed bricks continue to arrive, and will be placed later this month.

Smullin House: Mike St. John and team did an expert job of painting the Smullin House and garden sheds. Project Manager: Royal.

Smullin House Garden trim: Merry Phillips and Jacqueline Ruzsala spent hours removing ivy from the house and trimming shrubbery so the painters could do their job. Mike took several loads of green waste away.

Nave Fan Project: All in one week, An Electrician installed wiring. Restif cleaned ceiling. BAS Fans representative installed fans. Project Manager: Ian.

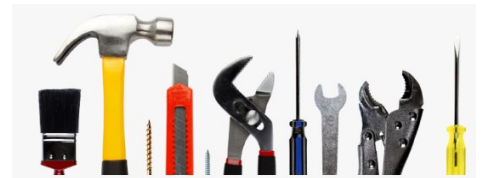
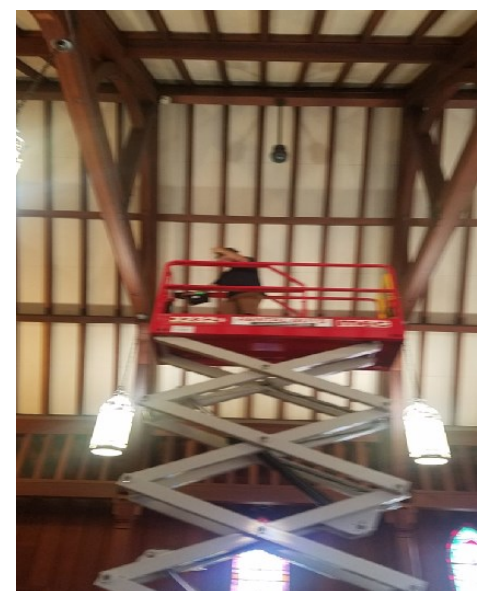
Handicapped Parking Spot: An additional handicap parking spot on 15th Street was approved and installed by the city.

Kitchen Door: Jim and Kelly have completed installation of the back door in the kitchen. So nice to have a door that opens and will be weatherproof. John skillfully renewed a rotted out section of post by the door. You would never know there had been a massive hole!

Church Garden and Lawn: Vickie, John, Jacqueline and David are hard at work.

Future Projects: Carpet Cleaning, adjusting the Cross on top of the Church, Fire Safety for the Sanctuary

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707 445 1726





Christ Episcopal Church

Green Team

Tip of the Month

Genesis 8:22 As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

Promoting Creation Care & Reducing our Carbon Footprint

The Green Team Tip of the Month is written by Elizabeth Haynes. If you have a tip to share, you can forward it to her at ehaynes@mnsi.net.

Working Towards Carbon Neutrality—

Bulletins: At our August 23rd Creation Care Forum, we reported that at Christ Church, even after switching to solar power, printing bulletins for Sunday services with the complete order of service will produce upwards of 18,000 kg of carbon each year. What can we do to reduce this? Before you come to church download your bulletin to a tablet or smart phone. The carbon produced from downloading is negligible. Can't use a tablet or smartphone? Don't worry we'll have plenty of bulletins on hand for everyone during the Season of Creation. Beginning in October, we will try reducing the numbers of printed bulletins by half—you'll be able to follow the service in the prayer-books that are already in the pews.

Electricity update: Our electricity bill probably won't go to Zero. We are not off grid, and we still have to pay for transmission and powerline maintenance, etc. But we have two good news items to report. First, we are now approved to sell excess power back into the grid. This will help offset the ongoing costs. Second, our numbers are **way down!** We were charged for 1664 Kwh of electricity on our May 10 bill (before solar). Our August charges were for just 247 Kwh of electricity. You gotta love the power of the sun!!

Creation Care—

Use outdoor lighting sparingly and point your lights in the right direction.

My neighbors to the north and my neighbors to the east run lights all night long. They shine so much light into my house that I don't need nightlights to navigate from room to room after dark. For many years, we have been encouraged to use outdoor lighting for safety. But, it's also appropriate to look at how the use of lighting deters crime and effects backyard habitat.

Engineerskill.blog reports that porch lights can deter crime, but that is only part of the story. Porch lights can give the impression of home occupancy and the light can deter illegal entries through lit doors or windows. However, as AIWEN Lighting reports, lights that are too bright, or pointed in the wrong direction can reduce visibility for drivers and pedestrians, increasing the risk of accidents. And outdoor lighting can have adverse effects on backyard habitat.

Dark nights are important for most animals and humans to maintain their circadian rhythms (natural sleep and wakefulness patterns). Nocturnal animals rely on dark nights for hunting, feeding and mating. Frogs, birds and moths also rely on the stars for navigation. Artificial lights can disturb healthy life cycles and ecosystems by disrupting circadian rhythms, quality of sleep, mating success and or foraging. According to The Land Between the results of outdoor lighting can include sub-optimal health or death as well as species leaving an area. Artificial light can also promote growth of organisms we don't want—like algae growth in backyard ponds and pools.

Labyrinth Quest...

Our Labyrinth: A Labor of Love!

Kathryne DeLorme, Veriditas Certified Labyrinth Facilitator



On Friday August 21st and Saturday August 22nd, our volunteers gathered to officially embark upon construction of our labyrinth. Fr. Daniel led us in a prayer of thanks and blessing for the project about to begin.

Stages of the Project

Using Cynthia Packard's miraculously meticulous calculations and creatively designed tools, the McCarthy Meadow was measured, markers were placed, and the labyrinth pattern was painted on the grass. With lawn edging tools, cuts were made along both sides of the painted lines and trenches were dug.

The sections of removed sod were stacked and later offered to anyone having a use for it. After careful measuring of the exact trench depth, sand was added and then bricks were placed at ground level. Each brick was pounded with a rubber mallet to securely position it in the trench. Cynthia expertly guided the process through each stage and Dale assigned tasks to our robust volunteers.

Brick by brick, the trenches were filled as the labyrinth pathways gradually came to life. It was truly like witnessing a birthing process!

Some of us wrote prayers and blessings on the sides of bricks so that our loving intentions would be incorporated into the creation of the labyrinth.

On Friday and Saturday August 28th and 29th, the crew gathered again to continue filling the trenches with sand and placing the bricks. Michael Forchini, a member of St Paul's Episcopal Church in Healdsburg, brought his skills and tools to the task of cutting the bricks to create the labrys shapes at the path turns. He took it on as a puzzle to piece together and made the precise cuts needed. We will always be indebted to him for this generous contribution.

Yet more work lies ahead to complete the remaining labrys shapes and the rosettes in the labyrinth center. Cynthia has devoted many hours of measuring and making cardboard templates for these elements of the labyrinth and will bring her tile cutting experience to creating them. Dale will locate a mason to help complete this intricate work. When these cuts are made, the crew will gather once again to level and set the cut bricks securely in place.

Our Crew Managers and Volunteers

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated volunteers who measured, marked, painted, dug, stacked sod, hauled sand and bricks, and pounded each brick into place with care and precision. These hardy souls are:

Cynthia Packard, Dale and Reese Maples, Royal McCarthy, John Patton, Paul Gossard, Jim Hendry, David Kearns, Roger Miller, Jacquie Ruszala, Judy Palmire, Bill Strider, Ashley Bacchi, Fr. Daniel, Charles Fick (visiting friend of Fr. Daniel), and Michael Forchini. Snacks, beverages, and lunch were provided by Elizabeth Harper-Lawson, Vicki Patton, Jill Maples, Connie Miller, Stephanie Schultz, and Thomas Swanger.

Engraved Bricks to be Placed

Cynthia reports that we have sold 127 engraved bricks which will be placed around the outer border of the labyrinth (replacing the plain bricks that are currently there). We expect them to arrive around September 25th and we hope to plan a day when those who ordered bricks can come to place their brick on the labyrinth.

Signage and Brochures

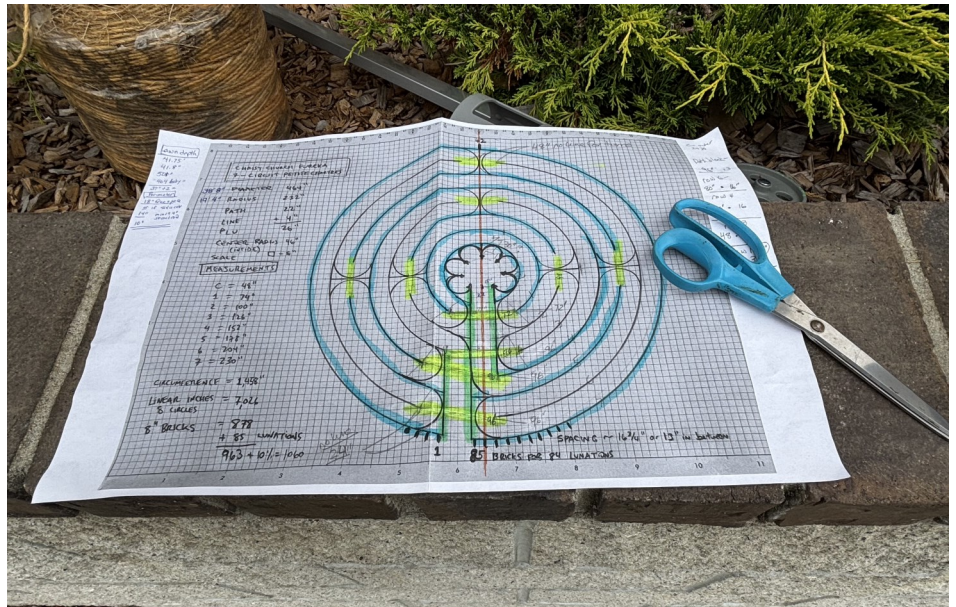
The Labyrinth Committee will be ordering a brass plaque to be placed near the labyrinth entrance with simple words of instruction for walking. Brochures will also be available with more detailed information.

September 12th Labyrinth Walk

On Saturday September 12th we will be offering our Labyrinth Walk on the canvas labyrinth in the Heritage Room and the Chapel labyrinth. As always, healthy snacks and Labyrinth Art Activities will be available. The outdoor labyrinth will be walkable unless there is work still in progress.

Bishop Megan's Blessing

Bishop Megan will be here on October 3rd to officially bless and dedicate our labyrinth along with the solar panels. Join us for this joyful gathering to dedicate our long-awaited labyrinth, which will be a blessing to all who walk it!



Stage 1

The volunteers gather for a blessing

Cynthia's drawing with intricate measurements

Measuring and staking

Painting the circles

Bricks and sand delivered and ready





Stage 2

Lines of the painted labyrinth pattern are cut with edgers

The sod is removed to create trenches.



Continued from previous page — Labyrinth Quest



Stage 2 continues

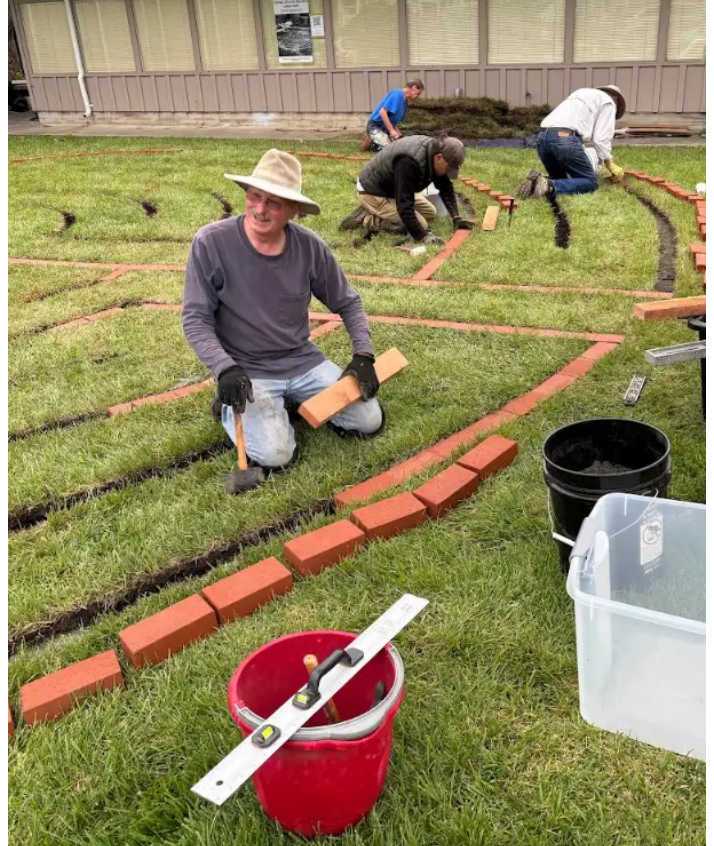
Much labor required to create the trenches for the entire labyrinth.

Fr. Daniel & Bacchi were among the workers.

The crew takes a lunch break.



Continued from previous page — Labyrinth Quest



Stage 3

Sand is added to trenches at a carefully measured level.

Bricks are laid on the sand at ground level and pounded into place with rubber mallets.

Slow tedious process!



Continued from previous page — Labyrinth Quest

Stage 3 continues

One by one, the borders of the paths are created with the bricks laid in the trenches.

On August 28 and 29, the rosettes in the center and the labrys shapes at the path turns will be cut.

Volunteer Michael from the Healdsburg Episcopal Church (where Fr. Daniel spoke about St. Francis) has skills and tools to cut bricks. He will be here Friday & Saturday to help with this final stage of the construction.





Food for People

The Food Bank for Humboldt County

Your Support Changes Lives.

Our monthly non-perishable food donation amounted to **48 lbs.** in August.

Our year to date donation total is **860 lbs.**

Our average giving is **107.5 lbs** per month this year.

Imagine

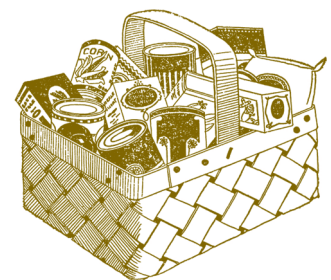
... a world without hunger

Our parishioners support Food for People as a calling to share love and hope with others in our community.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Canned tuna/chicken/beans
- Canned tomatoes, tomato sauce/paste
- Easy-to-prepare foods: soups/stew/chili
- Pasta
- Rice
- Dried beans
- Nuts and nut butters
- Dried fruit
- Baking mixes
- Coffee
- Alternative milks (almond/oat milk)



PLEASE NO GLASS OR HOMEMADE FOODS!

If you would like to make a monetary contribution you can make a check to Christ Episcopal Church and enter "Food for People" in the memo section and place in the offering plate.



Called to *Serve*

LAY MINISTRY by Marty Vega

Laity, derived from the Greek word for "people," refers to how we organize ourselves to support our congregation through Lay Ministries. We have various formal church organizations, including the vestry, Christian education programs, coffee hour, and other parish activities that you can find listed below. As we enter the Season of Creation this month, we invite you to explore if our unique liturgy sparks your interest in one of our ministries!

Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers	Royal McCarthy John Patton	→ 707-498-1225 → 707-498-4536
Altar Guild	Kathy Clague	→ kjc7001@humboldt.edu
Associates & Oblates of the Sisters of the Transfiguration	Stephanie Schultz	→ 707-498-1058
Choir	David Powell	→ davidbpowell@gmail.com
Christ Church Concert Series	Steve Cole	→ 707-845-4767 (text)
Coffee Hour 8am	Peg Gardner	→ 707-443-9627
Coffee Hour 10:30am	Lynne Bean	→ 707-822-6086
Contribution Counters	Francis Rivinus	→ 805-254-4055
Eucharistic Visitors	Elizabeth Harper-Lawson	→ eaharperlawson@suddenlink.net
Green Team	Steven Preston	→ 213-304-3715
Labyrinth Walk	Kathryne Delorme	→ 707-616-1721 or → labyrinthquest@gmx.com
Office Assistants	Church Office	→ 707-442-1797
Prayer Circle	Jannetje Vrieze	→ jvdutchgirl@yahoo.com
Quilters +	Belinda Zander	→ 707-442-4222
Readers and Intercessors	Marty Vega	→ 707-273-8743
Stream Team	Perry Gray-Reneberg	→ perryggr@gmail.com
Ushers and Greeters	Sharon Kalberer Ian Haynes	→ 707-630-3100 → ihaynes66@gmail.com
Welcome Ministry	Belinda Zander	→ 707-442-4222
Youth Group Team	Jenny Harris	→ jennyharris630@yahoo.com



September Birthday Wishes



Watch over your child, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lisa Bozzoli	09/01	Grace Maples	09/17
Mark McKinney	09/02	Christina Strevey	09/19
Isaac Cardona	09/02	Tom Davies	09/20
Avery Alexander	09/05	Kathryne DeLorme	09/22
Evaonne Hendricks	09/08	Dan Phillips	09/23
Lourdes Triana	09/08	Jake Schultz	09/23
Linnea Hill	09/13	Richard Whaley	09/26
Cynthia Packard	09/14	Sharon Kalberer	09/26
Marcia Marling	09/15	Peg Gardner	09/26



Happy Anniversary



O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church. Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

John & Victoria Patton	09/02
Lynne & Greg Bean	09/08
Hannah & Micah Brown	09/21



Did we miss your special day? The staff apologizes for our time perception disorder with any omissions of birthdays and anniversaries. Send your special day information to:
christchurcheureka@gmail.com
We want to acknowledge and celebrate your special day next year!



The September 2026

Cycle of Prayers

for our Diocese and the Anglican Communion

Please pray for the diocese, congregations, and clergy listed below on the Diocesan and Anglican cycles of prayer as well as those prayers requested by our Bishop, Dean and Diocesan Search & Transition Committees.

Every Sunday, the Diocesan Transition Committee requests that we pray for our bishop.

Every Sunday in September, The Very Rev. K. Lesley McCloghrie, Dean of our Semper Virens Deanery, has asked us to pray for the people of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Arcata.

Intercessor: We pray for the congregations of our Deanery, this month, we pray for St. Alban's, Arcata. We give thanks for their faithful community, who bring Christ's love into the world, to be a blessing for the stranger.

People: Hear our prayer.



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Arcata, California - In the heart of the redwoods

September 6

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Clement's Episcopal Church, Rancho Cordova
The Rev. Zac Neubauer, Priest-in-Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria
The Most Rev. Dr Samy Shehata
Archbishop of Alexandria and Bishop of Egypt

September 13

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Trinity Episcopal Church, Sutter Creek

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand
and Polynesia
The Most Rev. Sione Uluilakepa
The Most Rev. Justin Duckworth
The Most Rev. Don Tamihere
Primates and Archbishops of the Anglican
Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

September 20

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Francis Episcopal Church, Fortuna
The Rev. Geri Cunningham, Priest-in-Charge

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Anglican Church of Australia
The Right Rev. Dr Mark Short
Primate of Australia and
Bishop of Canberra & Goulburn

September 27

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Francis in the Redwoods, Willits
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Nan Slavin

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Church of Bangladesh
The Most Rev. Samuel Sunil Mankhin
Moderator, Church of Bangladesh and
Bishop of Dhaka

October 4

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Trinity Episcopal Church, Sonoma
The Rev. Cindy Beck, Interim Priest

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil
The Most Rev. Marinez Rosa Dos Santos Bassotto
Primate of Brazil and Bishop of Amazônia

If you wish to offer prayers daily for the church in the world, our Anglican Cycle of Prayer has a daily list of diocese and clergy who would benefit from your prayer ministry. This list can be obtained via this website: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer/download-the-acp.aspx>. If you do not have a computer, I would be glad to make a copy of the 2023-2026 Anglican Cycle of Prayer for you. Deacon Anne.

TITLE: PETITION TO THE 82ND GENERAL CONVENTION ADDING THOMAS MERTON TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMEMORATIONS CALENDAR

PROPOSED BY: The Rev. Daniel London, Christ Episcopal Church Eureka

PRESENTED BY: The Rev. Daniel London

DATE SUBMITTED: July 31 (The Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola)

RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, That this 116th Convention of the Diocese of Northern California adopts the following resolution and hereby directs the Secretary of this Convention to forward this resolution to the Secretary of General Convention of The Episcopal Church as a duly authorized resolution from this Diocese; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Diocese of Northern California requests that the 82nd General Convention designate December 10 or another appropriate date in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* as the annual celebration of the life and work of Thomas Merton, Trappist monk, poet, social critic, contemplative, and spiritual writer who lived in Kentucky; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the 82nd General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to prepare or review previously prepared biblical lessons, collects and other liturgical resources commemorating the life and work of Thomas Merton.

EXPLANATION:

Thomas Merton was a tremendously influential Trappist monk, theologian, and mystic who bridged Western monasticism with Eastern spirituality. As the author of his bestselling autobiography *The Seven Storey Mountain*, Merton used his writing to advocate for racial and environmental justice, nonviolence, ecumenism, and interfaith dialogue. Merton has already been included in *Holy Women and Holy Men (HWHM)* and *A Great Cloud of Witnesses*, although he is not yet included in the official calendar of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*. His inclusion in *HWHM* encouraged the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia to add Merton to their *Calendar For All the Saints*, because his father, Owen Merton, was a New Zealander. Since he is included in New Zealand's official calendar, then, *a fortiori*, he should be included in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, having been raised in the Episcopal Church and having lived most of his life in New York and Kentucky. In June 2024, Episcopal bishops and deputies gathered for the 81st General Convention in Louisville KY, only blocks away from Thomas Merton Square, where Merton had a vision of everyone around him "shining like the sun" (*Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, 154). Moments after being elected, Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe referenced Merton's vision on Fourth and Walnut as a "touchstone" for the entire convention. He then concluded his remarks with the following quote from Merton: "What really matters [in times of drastic change] is openness, readiness, attention, courage to face risk" (*CGB*, 206).

About 55 miles away from General Convention 81, Trappist monks were praying for us Episcopalians while hosting several deputies and bishops in their retreat house at the Abbey of Gethsemani, where Merton lived as a monk and hermit from 1941 to 1968. Brother Paul Quenon graciously brought several deputies and bishops to Merton's hermitage, where Merton previously hosted ecumenical guests, including Episcopalians from Nashotah House and Baptists from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The Abbey of Gethsemani is also home to a set of sculptures created by Walker Hancock and donated to the Abbey by Trinity Episcopal Church in Topsfield MA as a memorial to Episcopal seminarian and martyr Jonathan Myrick Daniels (August 14). At General Convention, participants sang a beloved hymn tune named "Thomas Merton," a tune that Episcopalians around the world have been singing for decades: Hymn #679 (Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah). The hymn tune was written by Episcopal organist and composer Ray Urwin who described Merton and his works as "very important and influential" to him.

This resolution is being sponsored by deputies from the Diocese of Northern California, a region where Merton felt "unutterably happy" and "at home." He offered his final US presentations near the border of Humboldt and Mendocino County, at the Abbey of the Redwoods, before travelling East, where he died by accidental electrocution in Bangkok Thailand.

Background: Merton and Anglicanism

Considered to be the most influential Roman Catholic spirituality author of the 20th century, Thomas Merton wrote about contemplative life, monasticism, prayer, social justice issues, literature, and other faith traditions. He was a pioneer in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, writing “I will be a better Catholic, not if I can *refute* every shade of Protestantism, but if I can affirm the truth in it and still go further. So, too, with the Muslims, the Hindus, the Buddhists, etc.” (*Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, 129). He befriended Buddhists such as the 14th Dalai Lama, D.T. Suzuki, and Thich Nhat Hanh; Jewish leaders such as Abraham Joshua Heschel and Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi; and poets such as Wendell Berry, Robert Lax, and Joan Baez. When Pope Francis spoke to the US Congress in 2015, he highlighted “four representatives of the American people”: Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr., Dorothy Day, and Thomas Merton.

Merton was born in Prades, France to a New Zealand artist and an American Quaker who was baptized in the Church of England. In his bestselling autobiography *The Seven Storey Mountain*, he writes about undergoing baptism in the Anglican Church, but this is disputed since there is no official record of this. He was raised on Long Island, where his father served as the church organist at Zion Episcopal Church in Douglaston NY, a church that Merton attended with pleasure, saying that “one came out of the church with a kind of comfortable and satisfied feeling that something had been done that needed to be done.” He expressed fondness for the church’s eagle lectern with wings outspread, the men and women in the procession led by the Cross, and the stained glass window with the anchor that stirred up his imagination of heroic voyages at sea. He described his experience of worshipping in the Episcopal Church as “very good” for him, giving him his first taste of humanity’s most fundamental desire for religion and the opportunity to stand with others in acknowledging a common dependence on God (*The Seven Storey Mountain*, 14 - 15).

While studying at Ripley Court in England, Merton attended the local Anglican Church where he enjoyed singing hymns and hearing portions read aloud from *Pilgrim’s Progress*. During this time, he began praying more sincerely and felt “happy and at peace.” After attending Oakham School in Rutland and Clare College in Cambridge, Merton studied at Columbia University in New York, where he read books such as *Mysticism* by Anglo-Catholic author Evelyn Underhill (June 15) and *Gerard Manley Hopkins* by G. F. Lahey, books that compelled him to convert to Roman Catholicism in 1938.

On December 10, 1941, Merton entered the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance, the Trappists, at the Abbey of Gethsemani, near Bardstown, Kentucky, where he began his writing career. While Merton criticized the Church of England in his writings, he was also not afraid to dole out strident criticisms of certain aspects of the Roman Catholic Church and his own Cistercian community, such as institutional hypocrisy, rigid dogmatism, and complicity in systemic social evils.

During the 1960s, Merton became close friends with Anglican priest and theologian, the Rev. Arthur Macdonald “Donald” Allchin, who served as the librarian of Pusey House, Oxford, and residentiary canon at Canterbury Cathedral. Through his friendship and correspondence with Allchin, Merton discovered a new appreciation for Anglican Divines, especially Lancelot Andrewes, and Anglican Mystics, such as Thomas Traherne. He expressed a desire to write a book on Anglican Mystics and, in a letter to Allchin, he exclaimed, “The best of Anglicanism is unexcelled.”

It was also in the 1960s that Merton fell in love with a student nurse whom he refers to in his journals as “M.” Although the details of the relationship remain ambiguous, he acknowledged that his intimacy with her was inappropriate and in violation of his monastic vows. James R. Lauridson describes the relationship as overwhelming and humiliating for Merton, emphasizing it as “the last of a series of encounters with the feminine that allowed Merton to develop a healthy human and monastic understanding of himself and the feminine” (“Merton and the Feminine,” 3). His biographer Michael Mott wrote that, after the relationship, “Thomas Merton never again talked of his inability to love, or to be loved.” (Mott, *Seven Mountains*, 438).

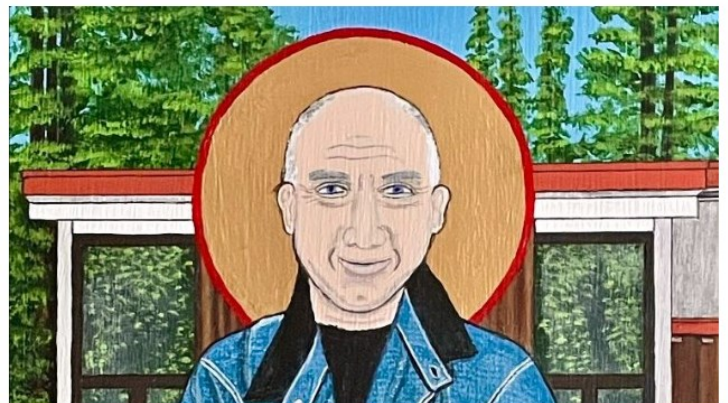
The experience of belovedness remained central throughout Merton’s writings and influenced later spirituality authors such as Henri Nouwen and Richard Rohr. In *New Seeds of Contemplation*, Merton asserts, “The beginning of the fight against hatred, the basic Christian answer to hatred, is not the commandment to love, but what must necessarily come before in order to make the commandment bearable and comprehensible. It is a prior commandment, *to believe*. The root of Christian love is not the will to love, but *the faith that one is loved*.”

Continued on the next page

The faith that one is loved *by God*.” (NSC, 75)

The spiritual insights expressed in his books, essays, poetry, and journals continue to inspire learning, dialogue, spiritual practice, prayer, and social activism across a variety of Christian denominations and faith traditions today. Raised in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, Merton serves as a stimulating model and compelling catalyst for ecumenical partnership and interfaith collaboration. In a journal in 1957, he wrote, “If I can unite in myself, in my own spiritual life, the thought of the East and the West, of the Greek and Latin Fathers, I will create in myself a reunion of the divided Church, and from that unity in myself can come the exterior and visible unity of the Church. For, if we want to bring together East and West, we cannot do it by imposing one upon the other. We must contain both in ourselves and transcend them both in Christ.” (*A Search for Solitude*, 87). And finally, in an address given to Christian monks in Calcutta in 1968, just weeks before he died, Merton invited his listeners (and readers) into a profound experience of Christian unity, saying, “The deepest level of communication is not communication, but communion. It is wordless. It is beyond words, and it is beyond speech, and it is beyond concept. Not that we discover a new unity. We discover an older unity. My dear brothers, we are already one. But we imagine that we are not. And what we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be is what we are.” (*Asian Journal*, 308). Adding Merton to the calendar of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* will not only expand the reach of his contemplative and socially-engaged wisdom, it will also lead us into deeper unity with our fellow Christians and thus help fulfill Christ’s prayer that we may all be one.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.





September 2026

Church Office • 625 15th Street • P.O. Box 861 • Eureka, California 95502-0861

Office Hours • Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday—9 am to 1 pm

Phone • (707) 442-1797 | Email • christchurchureka@gmail.com | Website • christchurchureka.org

SUN	M	T	W	Th	F	SAT
Season of Creation 15th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II No Adult Forum 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka 5:00 PM—Youth Group JUST ONE CAN 12:30 PM—Confirmation Class Chapel	LABOR DAY	1 Writers' Group 12:30 PM Lewis Hall Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	2 MORNING PRAYER 9:30 AM Chapel Quilters+ 9:30 AM Lewis Hall Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Pier Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	3 Foster Parents Association 9:30 AM Lewis Hall	4 Stewardship Committee 3 PM Lewis Hall Labyrinth Committee Lewis Hall 4 PM	5 Altar Guild 10 AM
Season of Creation 16th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II Adult Forum—9:15-10:15 AM 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka 5:00 PM—Youth Group	14 Bereavement Support Group 3 PM Heritage Room	15 Writers' Group 12:30 PM Lewis Hall Thomas Merton Redwoods 5:00 PM Chapel Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	16 MORNING PRAYER 9:30 AM Chapel Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	17 Finance Committee 5:30 pm ZOOM	18	19 Deanery Convocation St. Alban's Altar Guild 10 AM
Season of Creation 17th Sunday after Pentecost FRESH PRODUCE SUNDAY 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II Adult Forum—9:15-10:15 AM 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka 5:00 PM—Youth Group	21 PEO 10 AM—2 PM Lewis Hall	22 VESTRY 5:30 PM Pierson Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	23 MORNING PRAYER 9:30 AM Chapel Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	24	25	26 Altar Guild 10 AM Lancelot Andrews Sacred Saunter Sequoia Park 11 AM Meet at Red Gate
Season of Creation 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM—Eucharist: Rite II Adult Forum—9:15-10:15 AM 10:30 AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite II https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchEureka Bill Glenn, Guest Preacher and Forum Confirmation Class 12:30 PM Chapel David Schofield Organ Concert 4:00 PM Main Church 5:00 PM—Youth Group	28 PEO 10 AM—2 PM Lewis Hall	29 Centering Prayer 6:30 PM Chapel	30 HOLY EUCHARIST Commemorating <i>Jerome, Priest & Scholar</i> 9:30 AM Chapel Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM Heritage Room	OCT 1 Convention Town Hall, 5-7 pm, on Zoom (discussing resolutions)	OCT 2	OCT 3 CONFIRMATION Holy Eucharist: Rite II 11 AM Main Church Blessing of Solar System and outdoor Labyrinth (following Confirmation) Confirmants meet at Church at 10 am



The Right Reverend Megan M. Traquair
Bishop
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Daniel D. London - Rector
The Very Rev. K. Lesley McCloghrie - Associate Priest
The Rev. Jeri Gray-Reneberg - Associate Priest
The Rev. Nancy Streufert - Associate Priest
The Venerable Pam Gossard - Archdeacon
The Rev. Anne Pierson - Deacon
Jenny Harris - Youth Minister

Avery Alexander - Music Coordinator and Organist
David B. Powell - Choir Director
Dr. Douglas Moorehead - Organist Emeritus

Mike Robnett - Sexton
Thomas Swanger - Administrative Assistant

THE VESTRY

Merry Phillips, Senior Warden; Elizabeth Harper-Lawson, Junior Warden; Peg Gardner, Clerk;
Francis Rivinus, Treasurer; The Venerable Pam Gossard; Rich Baker, Joel Bisson,
Ian Haynes, Lyn Klay, Royal McCarthy, Steven Preston, Barbara Walser

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