



As we head into May, the spirit of Easter continues at St. Bede's. We will be in full planning mode for our first Parish Picnic on June 5th with a Market Place to benefit the Seccombe Outreach Fund. For those of you who may not know, Roger and Jean Seccombe were long-time parishioners at St. Bede's. Jean taught Sunday school for over twenty years. Her calm, gentle nature was a perfect match for our youngest members. Roger was a history teacher at Woodside High School. Even while he was still working, he was focused on helping those in need. After retirement, he spent almost every day in some sort of outreach to the community. He made regular visits to the county jail, supported efforts to provide for the unhoused and food-insecure and was dedicated to raising funds to support these efforts. Their spirit lives on with us at St. Bede's as we continue to provide for those in need in our local community. We who have abundance in life can truly make a difference in the lives of others. I hope you will join us at the Picnic and contribute generously to the Seccombe Fund.

– Sue Sartor, Senior Warden

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Letter from Reverend Dan

*Our God makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.*

*The Lord breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.*

*The Lord says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth." (Psalm 46:9-10)*

Greetings in the name of Christ,

It still strikes me as remarkable, and perhaps always will, that we can so quickly become complacent toward news of great tragedy.

The war in Ukraine is a modern example of this for us. In February and early March, that was most all that we heard about in the news and it occupied much of our conversation together. But now that it is May and the fighting has gone on for several months with little progress or changes in events to report on, our attention has largely turned elsewhere. But regardless of our own attention spans to these events, the suffering and destruction persists as a daily reality for those living it... and that's a curiosity to me.

Maybe it's that our souls only have so much margin to contemplate tragedy until it begins to harm our mental and emotional health, and so it's protective of our own well-being to resist taking in any more than we can endure. Or maybe it's the initial shock that triggers a reaction in us, but as that shock gives way to normalcy we lose what it was that made the events significant in the first place, like how a kick of adrenaline wears off and the high slowly fades. Or perhaps it's what we've become accustomed to in the news, that new things pop up to take away our attention, and that we've been conditioned to expect this and to accept this.

Whatever the cause of our shortened attention spans, the suffering is real for a great many people affected by violence. And that is a tragedy, and it wearies the soul. Warfare is a great challenge to those who are committed to peace, and believe in a God who likewise is a God of love and peace and concord. It certainly is for me, who on principle

believe that this is not the way that things should be. Which, unfortunately, doesn't negate the fact that it happens, and it's happening right now, and that the options seem to be to either let evil proliferate or to fight violence with violence. It's a terrible conundrum.

I've been reminded recently that perhaps the best and highest goals to which we can aspire are to lead our lives in a way that brings goodness into the world, that all that we do and say is motivated by bringing good into the world. This is the path that Christ walked, whose life was dedicated to this purpose, and who laid down his life in order to ultimately bring healing and hope to the world, and whose resurrection broke the power of sin and death that we may have life and have it to the full.

So what is one to do in these trying times? To resist evil, to make no friend with oppression, and to commit oneself to love and peace and concord. To look after widow, orphan, and stranger, and those on the margins in our world. To heal the broken-hearted, binding up their wounds, and to pray for the day when the Lord will make all wars to cease, turning our swords into plowshares.

Blessings to you all, and may God be with us always.

Dan+

Looking Ahead: Key Dates on our May and June Calendars:

- May 5: Community Service Outreach Committee Meeting, Zoom, 6 p.m.
- May 6: Bede's Book Club, 9:30 a.m., Zoom
- May 8: Arts at St. Bede's, The Menlo Brass Quintet, 4 p.m.
- May 10: Finance Committee meeting, 4:00 p.m., Lehman Hall
- May 17: Vestry Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lehman Hall
- May 23: Copy Deadline for June *Bede's Journal*

- June 1: Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting, noon, Lehman Hall
- June 2: Community Service Outreach Committee Meeting, Zoom, 6 p.m.
- June 21: Vestry Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lehman Hall
- June 22: Copy Deadline for July *Bede's Journal*

Vestry View

The following is a summary of the March 2022 meeting of St. Bede's Vestry, a board that manages the finances and steers the direction of our church. More detailed minutes can be requested from Sue Sartor at sartorsue@gmail.com.

Julie Backlund provided a financial update that included a summary of how the Buildings and Grounds committee, Finance committee, and Vestry will collaborate to manage our physical plant. Reverend Dan reported that Trinity School continues to work on their Strategic Plan, which includes a possible renovation of campus buildings. The Lenten Series in conjunction with Trinity Parish is going well, and attendance is increasing at both the 8:00 and 10:15 services. Miranda Pinckert reported that during the Trinity School spring break, we will be removing dead pine trees from the berm facing Sand Hill Road.

Trinity School Update

April saw the close of applications for the elementary school and we are anticipating 10 more kindergarteners attending Trinity in the new academic year. A full kindergarten class confirms the school's growing academic reputation. Our 5th Grade trip to Teton, Wyoming to explore Yellowstone National Park's ecosystem went smoothly. Fifth graders will take their experiential learnings into middle school and help our neighborhoods be more conservation-oriented. The last week of April saw our Library turn into a wonderful Book Faire as our school families reinforced their love of reading. While June 8th is the last day of classes on the upper campus, there will be a few summer sessions for teachers on the St. Bede's campus to upgrade the math and artistry curricula and syllabi.

– Jon Poe, Trinity School Board of Trustees



Community Outreach Steering Committee Update

The Parish Picnic is set for June 5th after our Pentecost service at 10:15.

We have planned a *delicious picnic lunch* with fresh barbequed burgers, veggie burgers, salads and drinks for all. We're asking those who attend to bring a finger-food dessert to share potluck.

Our *Market Place* will be brimming with lots of tempting items and events. Be sure to

bring your checkbook or credit card to purchase a beautiful hand crochet shawl, gift certificates from local merchants, exceptional wine or gift baskets full of goodies. You will definitely want to purchase a space at one of our events hosted by fellow parishioners. Options include a Chinese lunch for four, or a French Bistro dinner for eight! All purchases go directly to our Seccombe Outreach Fund to support those in need.

Please watch for your invitation to come in the mail, or pick up one from the back of the church. You won't want to miss this event! It is sure to be filled with fun and fellowship for all!

If you have questions or would like to donate an item to the Market Place, please contact Sue Sartor.

Sue Sartor, Community Outreach Steering Committee Chair

Volunteer Spotlight: Palm Cross Folding

In early April, volunteers gathered to fold palm crosses for the Palm Sunday service. Participants found it a time for great conversation while improving their fine motor skills! St. Bede's thanks the wonderful volunteers who make our parish vibrant and reflective of the glory of God.



From left: Laura Gable, Eileen Kriegh, Joan Sanders, Liz Bellock, Ann Latta, Anne Vitullo

Filling the Baskets: Lenten Food Drive for EHP

Thank you for contributing to our Lenten food drive for EHP; you've been enormously generous! This photo shows the donations that arrived at St. Bede's on a single Sunday in March.



Demand for food resources is at an all-time high in our community – and the families served by Ecumenical Hunger Program continue to need our help. You can help by purchasing a few of the following items when you do your weekly grocery shopping and then bringing them to church on Sunday. Please note that all food items left in the Narthex donation baskets should be nonperishable.

While our Community Outreach Steering Committee (COSC) launched the food drive as a Lenten outreach project, we hope you will continue to bring these kinds of donations to church long after Lent has ended.

Here's a recommended shopping list, reflecting EHP's greatest needs.

Canned and packaged food:

- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Canned and boxed soups
- Chicken, beef and vegetable broths
- Quick soups like Cup-o-Noodles and Top Ramen

- Canned chili and pasta with sauce
- Canned tuna, salmon and chicken
- Boxed macaroni and cheese
- Rice, noodles and pasta
- Peanut butter, jelly and jam
- Cake, brownie and other baking mixes
- Cooking oil and salad dressing
- Flour and sugar
- Juice boxes, lemonade and other drink mixes
- Coffee and tea
- Basic seasonings: salt, pepper, oregano, thyme, parsley

Toiletries:

- Bath soap/body wash
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss and mouthwash
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Body lotion
- Feminine hygiene products
- Baby wipes and disposable diapers (sizes 3 – 6)
- Disposable razors
- Facial tissues and toilet paper

Cleaning Supplies:

- Dish detergent and laundry detergent
- Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes and spray
- All-purpose household cleaner
- Sponges

Just a reminder that EHP is not accepting used clothing or household goods right now. Please pick up a fact sheet in the south (parking lot) narthex, for information about local organizations that would appreciate these items. Thank you for your generosity!

– *Anne Vitullo, Community Outreach Steering Committee*



Arts at St. Bede's Presents: Menlo Brass!

4:00 P.M. Sunday, May 8, 2022

Works by Tomaso Albinoni, Victor Ewald, Anthony DiLorenzo, Ennio and Andrea Morricone, Brian Balmages, Fats Waller, Leonard Bernstein, and Chick Corea

Tickets: \$20 General Admission/\$15 Seniors & Students/\$10 youth under 18 at the door, or save \$5 per ticket by purchasing in advance at

<https://stbedesmenlopark.org/arts-series/>

– *Rani Fischer, Organist*

Bedhead Book Club Update

Megan Ancker will lead our discussion of *The Choice: Embrace the Possible* by Dr. Edith Eger. Comments from early readers are full of praise of this thought-provoking book. Join us on Friday, May 6th at 9:30 for our discussion. Use this reusable link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89275115638?pwd=SHINbms3QUlkQ3VheXF5V2ExdlZ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 892 7511 5638 Passcode: 953651 One tap mobile:

+16699009128,,89275115638#,,,,*953651# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,89275115638#,,,,*953651# US (Tacoma)

Book Club is taking summer break; our next meeting will be on September 2 (the first Friday of the month). All are welcome!

– *Helen Greenwood, Book Club Chair*

Celebrations: May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

3 Ann Latta, Hasma Serverian
 4 Josh Knowles
 5 Juliet Knowles
 6 Cameron Bowman
 9 Alex Drobac
 13 David Shaw Bass
 14 Eliza Barrett
 28 Kirk Festing
 21 Catherine Ross
 28 John Hickson
 29 Hal Louchheim
 30 Jack Reynolds

Anniversaries:

7 Josh and Juliet Knowles
 8 Kirk Festing and Annie Zhou
 10 John Hickson & Sarah Babin
 28 David Chu and Irene Lawrence

Please let the parish office know if you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary this month!

St. Bede's Episcopal Church

2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025 • (650) 854-6555 • www.stbedesmenlopark.org

Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and on Zoom
 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary and on Zoom

Staff

Rev. Daniel Spors, *Rector*
 Naomi Braun, *Acting Music Director*
 Rani Fischer, *Organist*
 Siri Huntoon, *Parish Administrator*
 Angela Sherry, *Bookkeeper*
 Claire Lawrence, *Sunday School Teacher*
 Lina Jiang, *Nursery Caregiver*

Vestry

Megan Ancker
 Jon Backlund
 Susan Chan Egan
 Laura Gable, *Junior Warden*
 Irene Lawrence
 Miranda Pinckert
 Joan Sanders
 Sue Sartor, *Senior Warden*
 Nancy Stork, *Clerk*

Altar Guild: Elizabeth Bellock, Elaine Kriegh, Sue Sartor, Anne Vitullo

Buildings and Grounds: Miranda Pinckert, Mike Sartor, Richard Zeren

St. Bede's Choir:

Sopranos: Orlia Budge, Catherine Clover, Amy Spencer, (Section Leader), Rani Fischer, Vera Shadle, Nancy Stork
Altos: Naomi Braun (Section Leader), Dora Ho, Cathleen Josaitis, Kathleen Thompson, Becky Zeren
Tenors: Chris Brown, Gabriel Ellis (Guest Section Leader), Liza Taft
Basses: David Chu, Joseph Krohlow (Section Leader), Quentin Long

Community Outreach Steering Committee:

Julie Backlund, Vicki Blayney, John Hickson, Sue Sartor, Angela Sherry, Anne Vitullo and Becky Zeren

Finance: Julie Backlund, *Treasurer*;

Randy Kriegh, Irene Lawrence, Hal Louchheim, Jon Poe, Angela Sherry, Michelle Swenson, *Assistant Treasurer*

Hospitality: Helen Greenwood, Kathy Thompson and Anne Vitullo, *Captains*

Deanery delegates: Michael Graebner and Irene Lawrence, Laura Gable, *alternate*

Trinity School Board representatives:

Jon Poe and Michelle Swenson