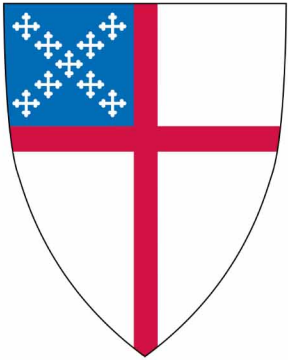


All Saints' Episcopal Church
Riverside, CA

The Good News

January 2022



VISION

The vision of All Saints' Episcopal Church is to be a vibrant, loving, welcoming community of faith called to serve Christ and to nurture all persons to be fully alive in God.

MISSION

With God's help we will live our vision as a community that serves all people through ministries of worship, education, fellowship, and aid to those in need.

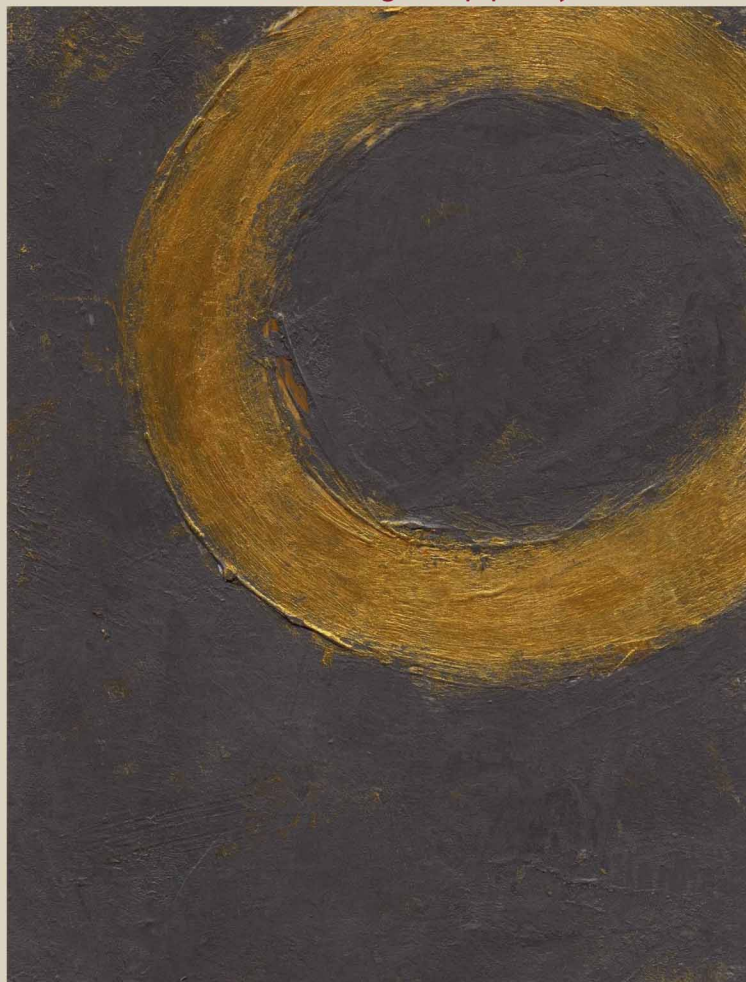
WHERE THE MAP BEGINS

A Blessing for Epiphany

This is not
any map you know.
Forget longitude.
Forget latitude.
Do not think
of distances
or of plotting
the most direct route.
Astrolabe, sextant, compass:
these will not help you here.

This is the map
that begins with a star.
This is the chart
that starts with fire,
with blazing,
with an ancient light
that has outlasted
generations, empires,
cultures, wars.

Look starward once,
then look away.
Close your eyes
and see how the map



begins to blossom
behind your lids,
how it constellates,
its lines stretching out
from where you stand.

You cannot see it all,
cannot divine the way
it will turn and spiral,
cannot perceive how
the road you walk
will lead you finally inside,
through the labyrinth
of your own heart
and belly
and lungs.

But step out
and you will know
what the wise who traveled
this path before you
knew:
the treasure in this map
is buried not at journey's end
but at its beginning.

—Jan Richardson

from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Season

Navigating *the Nave* The Rector's Reflections *A Baby in our Arms*

*Below is the outline of the Christmas story told by
KGG+ at the Christmas Eve services, December 24,
2021*

A story is told of a community looking for hope, a new beginning, safe haven, for a return to health. They became a caravan on a pilgrimage. Doing their best to take care of each other, sometimes mis-stepping into danger, sometimes falling short of goodness. They were not sure where they were going or when they might arrive, they only knew they could not be the way or in the place they were before. They knew they had to move forward in trust.

One day an old man in the group fell down; tired, feeling his age, he did not think he could go on. You know that deep down burden of tiredness? Of feeling you have no more to give? Of not wanting to face another day? This was this man. Some felt he should be left there; "we must keep moving forward for the safety of the whole," they argued. Others thought he should be carried. But others thought that too much a burden. The old man wanted to be left alone.

Out of the crowd came a young woman. Everyone knew her and most thought she was an extended member of their own family, but they were not too sure how that was. She carried in her arms her newborn baby. She walked up to the old man, looked at him square in the eye, then down at her child. She loved them both so much her heart ached. She sighed deeply. With tears in her eyes but a steely strength in her gaze, she took the baby and thrust him in the old man's arms. "We need to keep moving, together, forward," she said to him and to everyone around. Then she turned and started walking.

The caravan was stunned. There was an eerie silence throughout the community. Some turned and followed the woman. Some stared at the man. Slowly, ever so slowly, the old man took his weary body under him and stood up, with the precious child in his shaky arms. He gathered his strength and started moving with the caravan. He had been entrusted with a sacred task of carrying this new life forward. He did not believe he could, he only knew he must. And that he must, he could only, do it in community.

Later, down the road a bit, a group of young people were being a bit reckless. Jumping and hooting and hollering; they'd jump down in the ditch then jump back up again. Their carelessness was a concern to their safety and the safety of the whole caravan. The baby was handed over to one of the young people. It was her turn to carry the child. She, too, was stunned. Shaking, even. She looked up to see the mom lovingly staring at her and the child. Grave concern mixed with a bit of delight welled up inside the young person. She had been tasked with taking care of another life. She had, she, who had never been given the responsibility of anything, now had to get the baby out of the ditch, back on the road and moving with the community. She arose to her full stature, gave her little finger for the child to suck upon, as she had seen her aunts do, and led the caravan with hope in her arms.

One of the adults in the group resented the time and attention it took to care for the child. He had plans to work out on life at the end of their journey. People to see, places to visit, things to do, empires to created. One day he tripped and fell hard. He felt humiliated and he was angry at everyone. He could easily see how to place blame on everyone around him. This was not how his life was supposed to unfold. He should be on top of his game at this point in his life. And here he was stuck with a caravan of people whose only vision was a light in the night sky. The child was placed in his arms while he protested and scoffed. The mother looked at him and said, "If not you, then who?" She turned and continued to walk. The sense of urgency and responsibility that rushed over the man was inexpressible. He looked around to see to whom he could pass the baby on. Surely there was a nanny, a caregiver, a professional child care worker who needed his money. No one looked at him. They simply kept walking. He was left with no choice but to stand up, comfort the child and move forward. He remembered how the old man patted the baby and how the young woman gave the child her little finger for comfort and he did the same. He felt awkward, embarrassed, even. But, as he walked on, he felt the warmth of the community and a warmth in his heart. He was caring for someone else. When was the last time he did that? It made all the difference. Later, he would show his son

continued

continued from page 2

how to do the same when it was his turn to carry hope. And they both grew in wisdom and grace.

There were others who took their turn carrying the child. Some waited expectantly for their turn, others were horrified at the thought they would need to carry such precious life in their arms on such a precarious road. I am too old. The way too uncertain. I am too much in grief. I am too busy. Too small. Too smart. Too broken. Too outside. Too loud. Too important. Most knew, on their own, that they were not equipped to do what was being required of them. Some silently thought it would be the ruin of them all, to let such tenderness lead. Occasionally they asked the mother to carry the beloved burden. She would do so, with such dignity, such grace, such love and determination that everyone in the caravan was renewed in their commitment to the journey and the sacred task of tending to the child who held such hope for them all.

They did not have a clear vision of where they were going or when they would arrive, but they slowly began to see that how they treated not only the child, but the old man, and the young person, and the executive, and the mother mattered. In many ways it mattered more than the journey itself. They began to see that having a newborn baby thrust in their arms, into their care meant how they lived their lives mattered. It meant there was hope and joy, that miracles were possible. It meant their lives could be redeemed; they could get untangled from all that separated them from wholeness. It meant that the

world was worth their best efforts and their sacrifice. Often they would ask after the father of the child. A clear answer was seldom given. It was to remain in the heart of the one who gave birth. But she knew that the child was sent to save them all. And everyone who carried the Child knew that God was involved, that God had come to them in the small child. That God was with them, always. There would be other times when that child would be thrust into the arms of souls in other communities who were on their own precarious journey. Even right down to this night, in this place. A child has been put in your arms. How shall you tend to the child that carries with it such tenderness, such hope, such sacredness, such need to be nurtured and loved?

My friend and colleague, Lester McKennie says, “what an exciting reminder each year that God gives you and me, instead of an explanation, God gives us life. God gives us a life in which we can place our lives.” We need do no more than to dwell in the sacred story that God is always placing in our arms life itself. On our pilgrimage to the manger is where we find the life and the light where we can put our life.

Bring your gifts. Bring your prayers. Bring all of you. And then take the experience out into the world. Continue your journey. Look for others whose time it has come to carry the child and give them the baby to carry. May the miracle of the Christ Child fill your souls and renew your spirit.

~ KGK+

THE 134TH ANNUAL MEETING OF ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

WILL TAKE PLACE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

FOLLOWING THE 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

(THERE WILL BE NO 8:00 A.M. SERVICE)

Ministry Leads are asked to submit their annual reports to AllSaintsR@gmail.com or Darlene.AllSaints@gmail.com
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE- deadline for submittal is January 16

Note From the Senior Warden

This is my last item for the newsletter in my current capacity as senior warden, so I wanted to talk about something I am proud to be involved with here at All Saints'.

At its October meeting, the Vestry approved the Endowment Committee's proposed *Endowment and Investment Fund Policies and Guidelines*. The document expands All Saints' endowment program, provides for review for gifts and bequests, and created a new fund, the Kairos Mission and Ministry Fund. The fund was started with \$50,000 of church reserves and has since received a life gift of \$30,000 and an anonymous gift of \$10,000. Annual disbursements from the fund will begin next year. Unlike a true endowment fund, like the one begun by Father John in 2016, this is a quasi-endowment, the principle of which could be accessed by the vestry in the event of an urgent need but only after meeting stringent requirements. It also differs from that fund by allowing disbursements to be used to fund and expand ministry.

The name of the fund has been the source of some head scratching. The word *Kairos* means time in Greek, but time in the sense of timeliness, the appropriate or appointed time, God's time. In modern writing and rhetoric, it is the special moment that it is appropriate to say or do something. For example, Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech was a kairos event. In 1985, ministers and theologians in South Africa produced the Kairos Document that outlined a biblical and Christian response to apartheid.

The hope for the Kairos Fund is that it will be timely and appropriate to the life and ministry of All Saints' Church here in Riverside, California, for many years to come. Although I am rotating off the Vestry, I will remain involved with the Endowment Committee. If you would like more information about the All Saints endowment program, please contact me or Jane Carney.

~ Kurt

Taizé worship

First Congregational Church,

3504 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside

Monday, January 10, 7-8pm

Taizé is an ecumenical style of worship that uses silence, repetitive chanting and thought-provoking readings to invite a deep experience of the presence of God.

Several churches have joined together to provide this opportunity to the community, on the second Monday of every month. FCC's service will be in-person; unvaccinated persons are encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing.



Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Walk Canceled

From the Riverside African-American Historical Society website, "We regret to inform you that out of an abundance of caution once again, we must cancel the event for this year. We greatly appreciate your support and participation in the Martin Luther King Jr. Walk-A-Thon. We are deeply disappointed that we must make this decision. The Riverside African American Historical Society's main priority is the safety of our community and our supporters. Due to the rise of the Omicron variant in our community and surrounding areas, the RAAHS Board of Directors and MLK Planning Committee feel that canceling the event is in the best interest of our community." <https://raahsinc.org/mlkwalk/>

Toolkit for the Bleak Midwinter

Contributed by David Glidden

Our current season is the perfect time to keep a prayer toolkit handy. Death, illness, and gloom often shadow us and those we know during this time of year. I am not talking right now about reading from the Book of Common Prayer, the Hymnal, or the Bible, though they are certainly indispensable. The Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary have surely proven themselves in times of need, though it does take time to recite them. Instead, I am talking about portions of prayers and devotions we can immediately turn to, out of memory and habit. A turn of a phrase or a few words can put us into immediate conversation with God, especially in times of peril. So, choose your words carefully.

Even a short foreign phrase whose meaning we know can carry us out of our ordinary vocabulary and day-to-day reality, to place us directly into God's presence. Kyrie Eleison (Lord have mercy) serves this purpose well. In the traditional Benedictine Order, most of their many daily offices began with same brief words: "Deus, in adiutorium meum intende./ Domine, ad adjuvandum me festina." Like many other Benedictine antiphons and short responses in Gregorian chant, the phrasing is syncopated with breathing in and breathing out: In English, (breathing in) "God, come to my assis-

tance;" (breathing out) "Lord make haste to help me." "Lord have mercy"; "Christ have mercy"; "Lord have mercy" serve this purpose too.

Over the decades I have found these breathing prayers and phrases sustain me through grief, fear, and suffering. But each of us must choose the specific prayers that can put us into conversation with God at any given moment. Keeping these prayers readily in mind, contained within our very breathing, can become an unceasing prayer with every breathe we take, when we give God our heart.

Most breathing prayers turn into longer conversations with God, for petitions, concerns, daunting problems. Unfortunately, I have found my breathing prayers are often too weighed down with petitions than with thanks: "Deo/ gratias" or "Thanks/ be to God" are useful breathing prayers of praise. But I find them less helpful to me personally than by simply saying, as I breathe in and out: "Thank you,/ Jesus." And in order to remind myself of giving prayers of thanks, I first make a prayer to myself, saying as I breathe in and as I breathe out: Gaudé (Rejoice). Rejoice I say, and again I say, rejoice.

Acolyte Appreciation

Acolytes are those who assist the Priest before and during the church service. We are very fortunate to have a cadre of young people at All Saints' who feel called to serve in this capacity. There are *Torch Bearers*, usually the beginning level; *Crucifers*, those with additional experience; and *Thurifers* who assist with the incense on special occasions.

Our Acolytes have experienced some special services recently, including the visit by Bishop Taylor and our Christmas Masses. For the Bishop's visit, we pulled out "all the stops" and every one of our Acolytes rose to occasion! We had crosses, doves, banners and incense. Bishop Taylor commented on how well they understood their role.

I want to acknowledge all of our Acolytes. They demonstrate maturity, an understanding of the service and ARE THE BEST IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH! Hands down! (and they even put the celebration cotas back on hangers following the 10 pm Mass... without being asked!)

It is my pleasure to guide them as they move through the various positions.

Please welcome our newest Acolytes: Sam, Shelby and Jordan.

When you see them around the church, please tell them thank you!

Faithfully, Mary Ellen Gruendyke

We had ten volunteers at our Laundry Love Riverside event in December. We were able to assist 21 clients for \$330.42. Our friends at Unity Hope and the social worker interns were unable to join us for the event. This was an event that would have benefitted from social services as some clients have been displaced and were facing social-emotional and financial challenges with the upcoming holidays.



The inside of the laundromat was decorated for the holidays. On this chilly evening, with the temperature at 43 degrees, a few of the clients were dressed in t-shirts and shorts as their cold weather clothes were being washed. We gave away three boxes of hot cocoa mix packets that were donated by Unity Hope to the laundromat clients.

We continue to be blessed with volunteers from St. George's Episcopal Church, including Mother Karri Backer.

As you discern your committed Christian giving for 2022, please consider Laundry Love Riverside for a donation. You can donate using Text-to-Give, Pay Pal (designate LLR in your donation), by way of a check to ASR with LLR in the memo line, or you can donate your time as a volunteer at LLR events.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: This month our Laundry Love Riverside event will be on Wednesday, January 19th, at 5:30 p.m. If you can volunteer or donate to LLR, please contact Sherri Bradley, Liz Atkinson or Mother Kelli Grace.

Love never ends... neither does laundry!

~ Liz



“WE ARE THE **Episcopal** BRANCH OF THE **Jesus movement**”

—Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.

- Madeleine L'Engle

Thanks to the generosity of many saints at All Saints' we were able to gift the following ministries this Christmas-tide:

- **Path of Life Homeless Ministries:** *gifts and gift cards*
- **Inspire Life Skills** for aged-out Foster Care young adults: *gifts and gift cards*
- **Believe Center Foster Care:** *gifts and gift cards*
- **Camp Stevens:** *donation to the campership fund, donation of antibacterial wipes and craft supplies*
- **Saint Michael's Outreach Community Center:** *gift cards*
- **Laundry Love Riverside** clients: *financial help for housing needs*
- Several unhoused guests who came on the church campus: *food cards*

Funding came from the Christmas Outreach campaign lead by Paul Johnson, the Penny Bowl championed by Jim Boyer, and generous donations to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. In total, approximately \$3,500 was sent forward to help those in need. God is good. God's people proclaim such in word and action. Thank you.

Prayer List

Please keep these parishioners in your prayers

For Healing, Comfort and Strength: The Nze family, Chuck & Yvonne Stowe, Karen Colaluca, Enor & Roy Harris, Jan & Dwane Mickelson, Jennifer, Rob Hoyt, Beverly, Beth, Micaela, Grace Slocum, Fritz & Ethel, Beverly N., Polly G., Rickye & Ralph Galliher, Richard, Mary Gabe, Cathy Porter, Jon Schleuter's brother Erik, Crystal, JoEllen, Winnie & Julie Williamson, Blair Gilbert, Sally, Aric, Sandra, Chuck & Ginnie Beck, Liz Tonge, Marlene Coverdale, Anne, Dean Bradley, Robin, Cheryl Bartel, Tim & Suzy Hanigan, Jose Hernandez, and Rick & Pam

For Healing, Comfort and Strength; short-term list: Mary Cahill, Charlene Bostrum, Sally, JoJo, Bill, Robyn, Ann, Terry, Pam, Kari, Dean, Susan, Robert, Cecilia, John, Nancy, Jennifer, Bill C., Tim, Kadie, Laura, Arie Lopez, Rick and Pam, and Elaine, Eli, Kenneth, Trish, Barb, Mark Kurtz

For those who are affected by COVID-19: Alice, Barry, Allison, David, Diane & Sherry, Jose & Chuck, Kristin, Michelle, Miles, Kelsey

For those preparing for Marriage: Danielle Pietro and Danny Renneisen, Dominique Pietro and Matt Marsh, Bill Butler and Elizabeth Kurtz

For those preparing for the Birth of a Child: Miranda and Kyle Bradley, Brooke and Andrew Johnson, Kate and Tyler (daughter & son in-law of Andrea and John Briggs), Alisha and Spencer Page (daughter and son-in-law of Pam & Tony Elmo), Ashley Carrol and Kevin Hendrix (daughter of Gayle and Marty Wendt)

In thanksgiving for the lives and witnesses of: Nina Miramontes; the retired Archbishop of South Africa, Desmond Tutu; Dan Benner

For the comfort of those who mourn: Don, Ana, and Emily Miramontes; Rene and Cole Benner

For those on hospice: Dennis Macala

For our ministry partners: Path of Life, Laundry Love, Inspire Life Skills, Saint Michael's, and Research and Development Early Childhood Center., the Riverside Taize community, our Friends the Quakers, Believe Center

For those serving in the Armed Forces: Cameron Wolf, Jonathan O'Connell, Stephen Jenkins, Alia McMorris, Alex and James, Thomas Lopez, Justin Garcia, Andrew Tyner, Shelby Przyk, Michael Daschbach

If you have an addition to the PRAYER LIST, please e-mail: ASRprayers@gmail.com



LAY MINISTERS AND USHERS

		Lay Minister	Lector	Intercessor	Crucifer	Torch Bearers	Ushers
9 January	8A	Susan Tedesco	Brian Draper	Brian Draper			Sue Liddle Burton, Scott Burton
	10A	Craig Riemer	Peggy Darlington	Nerni Miller	Michelle	Oliver Ryan	Francie Johnson, Charlie Dailey Robert Miller, Diana Testa
16 January	8A	Scott Burton	David Glidden	David Glidden			Sue Stevens, Ralph Wilkins
	10A	Laura McMorris	Christina Miller	Ian McCausland	Emily	Andrew Sam	Roy Harris, Kristen Urbaniak- G Jon Schlueter, AJ Jetti, Diana Testa
23 January	8A	David Glidden	Brian Draper	Brian Draper			Sue Liddle Burton, Scott Burton
	10P	Stephanie McMorris	John Briggs	Janet Dietzman	Jack	Shelby Lucas	Jim Boyer, Francie Johnson, Robert Miller, Leslie Sunderland Diana Testa -G
30 January	8A	Susan Tedesco	Scott Burton	Scott Burton			Carol Leon, Sue Stevens
	10A	Mary Ellen Gruendyke	Kurt Marcks	Judy Cook	Elliott	Dean Carrie	Charles Dailey, Ian McCausland Kathy Welborn, Kristen Urbaniak Leslie Sunderland - G

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- Choir/Handbells Abe Fabella 909-800-9633 abefabe@gmail.com
- Martha Martha Hospitality Kathy Woodbury 951-990-5482
mkctw53@sbcglobal.net
Mary Ellen Gruendyke 951-640-3935
maryellengruendyke@gmail.com
- Newcomers Mother Kelli Grace
- Parish Nurses Cheryl Bartel 818-981-5061 cabartel@aol.com
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- Prayer Chain Penny Ellien & Elaine Crabtree ASRprayers@gmail.com
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*Photographers for this newsletter include:
Liz Atkinson for Laundry Love; Lindy Colaluca Polling and
Mother Kelli Grace for photos of the Holiday Extravaganza and
the preparation of the church; and Kathryn Morton for her family
photo.*

*If you have photos of any of our events, please send them to me
at: kjkendrick1499@gmail.com*



Left: Sam, one of our newest acolytes. Right: Kathryn Morton's grandson Isaiah loves the Star of Bethlehem ornament she bought for him from Bethlehem Handicrafts when they were with us in late November. Proceeds from the sale of the handicrafts go to support life in Bethlehem, Palestine.

Conversation about Race

A Recurring Feature Contributed by Andrea Briggs

Statement from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on the passing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu

December 26, 2021

Office of Public Affairs

With the passing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a true friend, colleague, and mentor -- and a genuinely humble, great soul -- has gone before us. He has passed through the gate of death into the arms of the God who gave him life.

While on this earth, he sought to follow Jesus of Nazareth in God's way of love and life. In so doing, he showed us how to live God's dream as children of the one God and creator of all.

So, even in our sorrow that he is no longer walking among us, we can thank God that he did.

Perhaps we best give thanks by honoring his legacy—

not merely with lip service to racial justice and reconciliation, but with lives dedicated to this work. We do this by learning to live together as the children and family of God, no longer hurting each other or God's creation, but together living the dream God intended. For in God's dream, as the Hebrew prophet Isaiah said, "they will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

To borrow from a friend who texted me on Archbishop Tutu's passing, may the knowledge of his life and heart keep us all strong, good, kind, and loving. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church

Desmond Tutu, cleric who campaigned against apartheid in South Africa, dies at 90

Excerpted from an LATimes article written by Bob Drogin, published December 26, 2021.

Desmond Tutu, the former Archbishop of Cape Town who won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his impassioned campaign against apartheid in South Africa while Nelson Mandela languished in prison, died early Sunday, December 26. Tutu, 90, died of cancer at a care center in Cape Town.

A moral beacon in a deeply troubled land, the impish priest in the purple cassock stood for decades as an inspiring symbol of courage, dignity and hope in a nation that at times seemed doomed to civil war. His fervent pleas for peace and racial justice, along with his irrepressible sense of humor, were a constant balm to a country on the edge.

Tutu held a unique place in apartheid-era South Africa, and he used his stature as an Anglican prelate to navigate violent cross-currents. He was a moral guardian to what he proudly called the "rainbow people of God." He wept at funerals for victims of apartheid, risked his life to stop violence by Black protesters, and defied

death threats by white people for leading the international campaign to impose economic and cultural sanctions against the white minority regime.

One of Tutu's greatest contributions was leading the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a statutory panel charged with investigating murder, torture, bombings and other crimes by Black and white people committed during apartheid, the former white minority rulers'

continued



Photo by Scott Barbour/Getty Images

continued from page 9

system of segregation. As Tutu watched and often wept, perpetrators confessed to atrocities and victims forgave them in a wrenching process of national catharsis. “To preside over an attempt at healing the nation, that is the most humbling honor of all,” Tutu told *The Times* in June 1997.

After his retirement from public life in 2010, Tutu continued to speak out on social and political issues, and led the Elders, a group of world leaders including Mandela and Jimmy Carter who used their influence to work behind the scenes for peace.

Desmond Mpilo Tutu was born Oct. 7, 1931, in a dirt-poor Black township southwest of Johannesburg. His late father, Zachariah, was headmaster of the segregated high school for Black students, where Tutu later taught English. His mother, Anetta, was an uneducated maid for a white family. Tutu recalled her as compassionate, gentle and caring, an abused woman who stood up for the underdog in any argument.

Tutu married Leah Nomalizo Shenxani in 1955. They were inseparable over the years and had four children. He is survived by her, their children and several grandchildren.

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Tutu quit teaching because the government had imposed Bantu education, which was designed to train Black students only as laborers for white people. “I felt I couldn’t be part of this,” he recalled.

In 1961 he was ordained as a priest. He later insisted, usually with a twinkle in his eye, that he joined the clergy because he didn’t know what else to do. “It wasn’t highfalutin, noble ideas, like I wanted to serve God or serve our people,” he said with a laugh, “which shows that God can use even the worst kind of instrument for his works.”

In 1976, riots exploded in Soweto, the country’s largest Black township. It would take nearly 18 years and tens of thousands of deaths, but the Soweto uprising marked the beginning of the end of the apartheid era. But that was hardly assured. With Mandela and most other Black leaders in prison, and liberation groups banned, Tutu became the most prominent public voice in South Africa to rail against the racism and oppression of minority white rule.

Tutu justified his political activism by describing the Bible as the most subversive document in history, citing Moses’ leading of the Jewish slaves out of Egypt. He challenged the government over human rights abuses, and repeatedly broke the law by leading protests and boycotts. “I’m not defying the government,” he once explained; “I’m obeying God.”

Even in the darkest days, Tutu said he never lost hope -- or faith. “I never gave up,” he told *The Times*. “But sometimes you wish you could whisper in God’s ear, ‘God, I know you’re there. But could you make it a little more obvious?’”



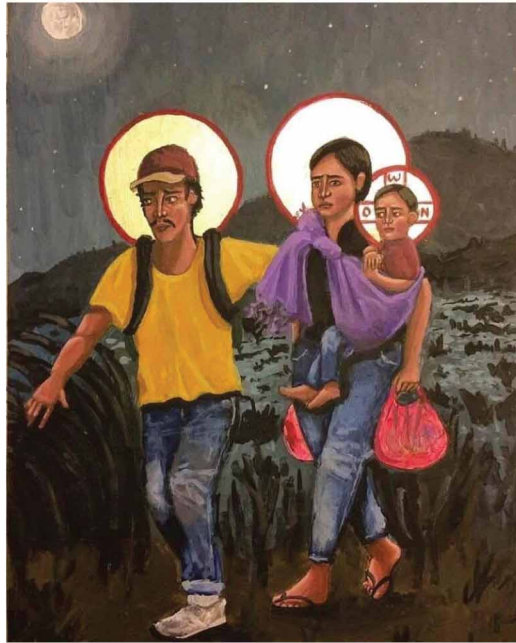
All I Really Want: Readings for a Modern Christmas.

By Quinn G. Caldwell

If you came to this place expecting a tame story,
you came to the wrong place.

If you came for a story that does not threaten you,
you came for a different story than the one we tell.

If you came to hear of the coming of a God who only showed up so that you could have a nice day with your loved ones, then you came for a God whom we do not worship here.



Holy Family by Kelly Latimore

For even a regular baby is not a tame thing.
And goodness that cannot threaten complacency
and evil is not much good at all,
And a God who would choose to give up power
and invincibility
to become an infant for you,
certainly didn't do it just so you could have dinner.

But.

If you came because you think unwed teenage mothers
are some of the strongest people in the world.

If you came because you think that the kind of people
who work third shift doing stuff you'd rather not do
might attract an angel's
attention before you, snoring comfortably in your bed,
would.

If you came because you think there
are wise men and women to be
found among undocumented travel-
ers from far lands and
that they might be able to show you
God.

If you came to hear a story of
tyrants trembling
while heaven comes to peasants.

If you came because you believe
that God loves the animals
as much as the people
and so made them the first
witnesses to the saving of the world.

If you came for a story of reversals
that might end up reversing you.

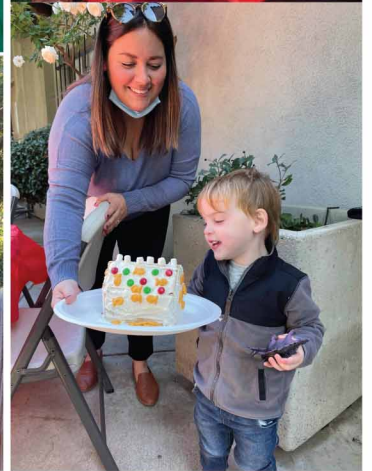
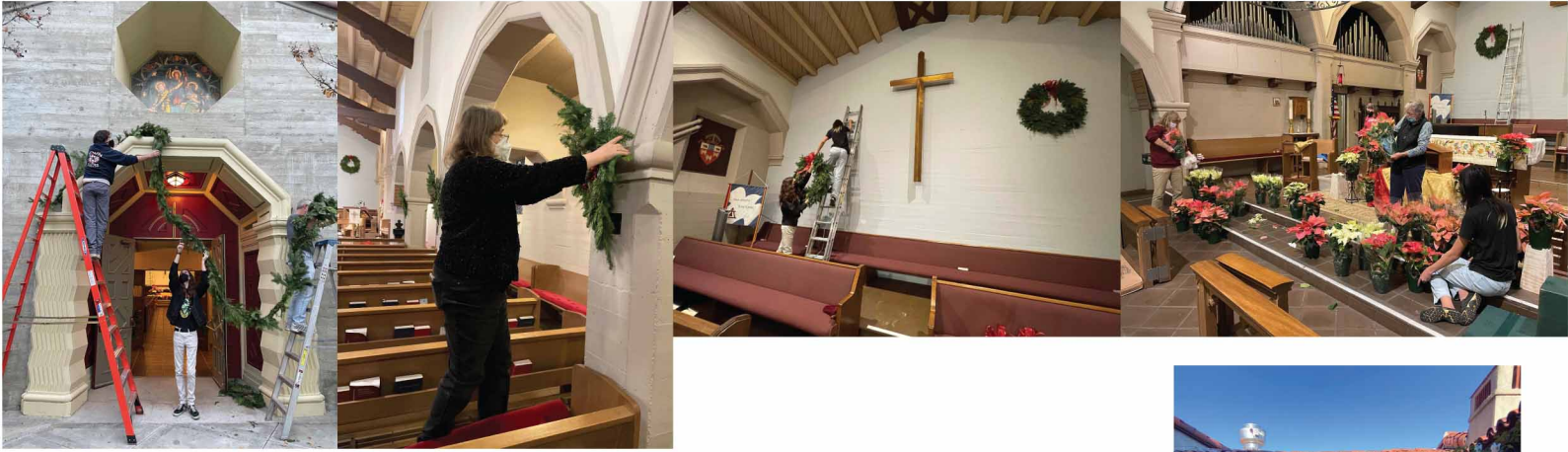
If you came for a tale of adventure and bravery,
where strong and gentle people win,
and the powerful and violent go down to dust,
where the rich lose their money but find their lives
and the poor are raised up like kings.

If you came to be reminded that God loves you too
much
to leave you unchanged.

If you came to follow the light
even if it blinds you.

If you came for salvation and not safety,
then, ah, my friends,
you are precisely in the right place.

So what are you here for?"





ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MINUTES
November 15, 2021

Present: Mother Kelli Grace Kurtz, Sue Burton, Steve Slayten, John Briggs, Kurt Marcks, Leslie Sunderland, Liz Atkinson, Kathy Woodbury, Francie Johnson, Sue Stevens; **Via Zoom:** Ian McCausland, Cheryl Bartel; **Treasurer:** Jane Carney; **Clerk:** Laura McMorris; **Absent:** Craig Riemer

1. Call to Order Meeting called to order with prayer by Mother Kelli Grace.

2. Approve Agenda *M/S Atkinson/Marcks* that agenda be approved with the addition of 6a Vestry Nominations. *Carried*

3. Approve Minutes of September Meeting *M/S Atkinson/Marcks* that October minutes be approved as corrected. *Carried*

Add Halloween to costumes encouraged to item 4

Add currently to 5% and in the county item 5

Change issued to missing Item 8

Change in the amount of to totaling and \$50,000 to \$40,000 item 8.

Change 3 /12 to 3 ½ and correct Poling to Polling item 8

4. Families, Children and Youth - Leslie Sunderland

-Margaret is planning to begin live Sunday School when our children are vaccinated.

-Hopefully we will have enough vaccinated to present some sort of Christmas Pageant.

-Margaret will be present on November 21 for Advent wreath making outdoors.

5. Community Health - Kathy Woodbury, Cheryl Bartel

-There is a COVID surge nationwide, but Riverside County is holding steady through October and November.

-Younger children have started receiving vaccinations. So far there have been 3,000 vaccines given to 5-12 year olds.

-Communion guidelines will remain the same per Bishop Taylor. Sharing of the common cup will not be resumed until Presiding Bishop Curry gives the OK.

6. Outreach - Liz Atkinson

-The October 20 Laundry Love served 37 families. We had 13 volunteers, with two new interns from "Unity Hope". Intern Magaly Munoz's term is complete. With cold weather coming on we will need more donations and volunteers, as laundry needs will be heavier.

-Liz presented an update on Community Engagement provided by Andrea Briggs. (Complete Report on file)

-Liz gave a report from the Nominating Committee. The committee has been reaching out. There are three people interested. We will make a request in the Sunday paper and continue recruiting, hoping to have a full slate by the December meeting.

7. Financial Report - Jane Carney (Complete Report on File)

a. Budget vs Actual Year to Date -

-The church's financial status continued strong through the end of October. Congregational giving continue robust, amounting to \$13,000 over budget. Year-to-date giving has totaled \$325,800, leaving less than \$10,000 to reach budgeted amount for the entire year.

-The Balance Sheet still shows \$1,583.83 in a Capital Campaign Account. These are not designated contributions for Capital Campaign, but funds moved from general funds to cover anticipated expenditures. Jane recommends that the account be closed and funds moved to the general operating account. *M/S Atkinson/Marcks* that we close The Capital Campaign Account (13372) and move funds to General Operating Account (13666). *Carried*

M/S Marcks/Burton that financials be accepted as presented subject to audit. *Carried*

*November, 2021 Meeting Minutes, continued***b. Proposed Budget 2022** (first draft)

Jane presented the proposed 2022 budget fielding questions, and suggested additions/adjustments. (The 2021 budget was \$457,887.63 - Proposed 2022 budget is \$527,912.37) Final budget will be presented at the December meeting.

8. Senior Warden Report - Kurt Marcks

a. The **Endowment Committee** met on 10/26/21. Welcome to new member Jeannene Kelly. The committee recommended that interest (\$1,200) from the All Saints' Foundation is available to spend on maintaining, improving our beautifying our physical plant, and that it be added to next year's budget planning. *M/S Marcks/Johnson* that interest from the All Saints' Foundation be transferred to the general operating account for maintaining, improving, or beautifying our physical plant. *Carried.*

b. The last letter of the **Stewardship Campaign** was mailed today. Ingathering Sunday will be at the single service, this Sunday, the 21st. Pledge cards will be brought forward to the altar and will be blessed by the Bishop. We have 11 pledges-to-date, with a total of \$64,476. Vestry will again make follow-up calls to those who haven't returned their pledge cards.

9. Junior Warden Report - Sue Liddle Burton & Steve Slaten (Complete Report on File)

-Sue and Steve have completed some major tasks: sealed terra cotta patio tiles and concrete in patio area, oiled patio furniture, installed Ring camera outside of office door, added fresh flowers in front beds; ongoing work on the labyrinth.

-Pending Long Term Goals: Earthquake Preparedness Plan, and a Care of Creation Plan. The Episcopal Church describes Care of Creation as a covenant declaring "...We will adopt practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on Earth as individuals, households, congregations, institutions and dioceses."

10. Rector's Report**a. Bishop's Visit**

- November 21, one service at 10:00, Vestry be here at 9:00 to set up
- Bishop will be here before 9:00 to meet with Mother Kelli Grace and review our records.
- Bishop will meet with candidates for confirmation, reception and renewal.
- Reception will be held on front lawn.
- Vestry and Leadership Team will meet with Bishop at the Rectory after reception.

b. Associate Priest

-Thanks to a gift given towards hiring associate priest/curate, Mother Kelli Grace is working with the Diocese researching possible candidates. We will take our time to make a thoughtful selection to meet our needs.

c. Proposed Vestry Retreat

- Mother Kelli Grace polled the Vestry on having a Vestry Retreat in late February or Early March, at Camp Stevens.
- Mother Kelli Grace hopes to have Dr. Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook, Episcopal priest and Dean at Claremont School of Theology, as our facilitator.

11. Diocesan Conventon Overview - John Briggs

- As the Bishop said, this is the first Zoom/Hybrid Episcopal Convention in the History of Humanity.
- Elections for various diocesan position were held.
- There were four resolutions voted upon: 1) Renewal of companion relationship with St. George's, Jerusalem, 2) Commemoration of Barbara Clementine Harris (1st woman bishop, 1st African American bishop, 1st lesbian bishop) on the Church Calendar, 3) Compensation and Benefits 4) Recognition of Juneteenth as a Diocesan Feast Day and include it on the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar.
- Budget report was given. This is the last year that the Corp Sole will be used in budgeting.

November, 2021 Meeting Minutes, continued

12. No Executive Session

13. Prayer Requests

14. Next Meeting - December 13, 7:00 pm

15. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Faithfully submitted

Laura McMorris

