

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Commission for Intercultural Ministries



Episcopal Church
Becoming Beloved Community

August 2021

“Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love.” - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

[Power at its Best is LOVE - Martin Luther King, Jr. - YouTube](#)

Stay safe, stay committed...and always know that you are beloved.

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BELOVED COMMUNITY AT GOOD SHEPHERD, CLOVERDALE By The Rev. Tim McDonald, Vicar, and The Rev. Deacon Bob Scott



About ten years ago, the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cloverdale had a part-time priest and around seven in attendance on Sundays. Today, it is a parish of 30 to 40 on Sundays with a new commitment to making Cloverdale a more beloved community. Like so many other Episcopal churches in our Diocese, we are an older and smaller congregation. Initially, the idea of a stand-alone service ministry seemed like a pipe dream – until we understood what skills we had to offer the community. Many of us are retired business executives, teachers, medical personnel, fundraisers, and homemakers. Rather than trying to start our own programs, we

reached out to the community by joining civic organizations such as Kiwanis, Alexander Valley Healthcare Center, Wallace House, La Familia Sana, St Vincent de Paul, and Cloverdale Foodbank. The wisdom of many hands makes light work seemed to be the appropriate direction for our church as these organizations specifically serve the underserved in our community.

Cloverdale is a small but caring city of approximately 10,000 with a population that is approximately 75% white and 25% other minorities, mostly LatinX. There have been ongoing issues around homelessness, adequate and affordable housing, food insecurity, and violence against women.

Through the vision of members of the faith communities in town, we banded together to start a chapter of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Peter's Catholic Church. Before the pandemic hit, on a weekly basis we brought together service providers to address healthcare issues (Alexander Valley Healthcare), mental health (County Dept of Mental Health), homelessness (Reach for Home), trash disposal for homeless living on the river (Russian Riverkeepers), and provided food, financial support (rent and utility payments) for anyone who showed up with a need. When St. Vincent de Paul can safely reopen later this year, our plan is to offer even more services including those targeted toward LGBTQ youth (Social Advocates for Youth), the LatinX community (La Familia Sana and Undocufund), diapers for families with young children (Kiwanis) and others. It is intended to be a one-stop shop for anyone in need.

Our parish members are also involved in the operation of Wallace House which was the brainchild of The Rev. Gary Wallace, an Episcopal Priest at Good Shepherd in the late 60's. The Church Parish Hall was initially turned into housing for battered women and their children. Wallace House has grown and serves 28 clients who live in permanent, supportive, or transitional housing, some of whom are families with children or displaced seniors. Wallace House is now partnering with a development company to build new low-income housing that will house even more clients in 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments.

Some of our church members are, or have been involved, with the Alexander Healthcare Center which provides healthcare to the underserved and was instrumental in the fight against Covid-19 by ensuring that vaccination was available to all citizens, but especially the LatinX community. As a result, our city is over 70% vaccinated. Deacon Bob Scott has recently been assisting with the start-up of a new non-profit called La Familia Sana. La Familia Sana is a nimble bottom-up grassroots organization that assists underserved people. They partner to co-create equitable and culturally cognizant solutions with community members to address long-term needs for healthcare, housing, jobs, food, and education in our community.

It is doubtful that Good Shepherd would have been able to do any of this on its own but by discerning the needs in the community and finding other partners in meeting those needs, a lot can be accomplished toward becoming a more beloved community.



TWO SACRED GROUND CIRCLES ARE FORMING

Two Sacred Ground Circles are forming via Zoom in September and are welcoming new participants:

- The Rev. Mary Claugus and Deacon Cindy Long from St. Michael's in Carmichael will co-facilitate a circle meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays from Sept. 15 through Nov. 17. To register, email deaconcindy@stmichaelscarmichael.org.
- The Rev. Kathy Hopner, Deacon Emerita Tina Campbell, and Susan Hotchkiss of Trinity Cathedral in Sacramento will co-facilitate a circle at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays from Sept. 16 to Nov. 18. To register (by Sept. 9), email susan_hotchkiss1@hotmail.com.

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT FORMING A SACRED GROUND CIRCLE?

Calling all potential Sacred Ground Facilitators: If you've been thinking about forming a Sacred Ground Circle but still have questions or concerns, here's your chance to consult with a pair of veteran facilitators. **At 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25**, The Rev. Anne Clarke and social justice advocate Bob Wohlsen will share their practical knowledge about how to organize and facilitate Sacred Ground Circles and answer questions. Clarke is Assistant Rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Saint Helena and has led several Circles that have included participants from throughout northern California. Wohlsen, who lives in Santa Rosa, has facilitated four circles under the auspices of the Diocese of Northern California and the Washington National Cathedral. His circles have included participants from northern California, other states, and from other countries. To register for the Zoom session, click here: <https://forms.gle/FYrqShZWiHp2Bdt76>. For more information about facilitating a Sacred Ground Circle, visit <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/getting-started/>.

Interested in joining a Sacred Ground Circle? Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/G26EPxDzEFSpnsZW7>

Are you forming a Sacred Ground Circle? Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/hriHCPKmlWjUHEyEA>

Or email NorcalCIM@gmail.com.

SACRED GROUND EVALUATION SURVEYS DUE AUGUST 16, 2021

There are three surveys--one for participants, one for facilitators, and one for circle organizers. Please fill out the relevant survey(s) if you have been in multiple roles and can spare the time. Also, facilitators, **please forward this survey announcement to participants** in all circles you are leading or have led. This survey process evaluates the experiences and impacts of Sacred Ground and will help the national Episcopal Church Sacred Ground program learn and disseminate best practices, offer updates to the Sacred Ground webpages, and shape the ongoing support and resources made available to the Sacred Ground community.

To access the surveys please click on the relevant link(s) below:

[Participant Survey](#) due **August 16th at 6 AM PT**

[Facilitator Survey](#) due **August 16th at 6 AM PT**

[Organizer Survey](#) due **August 16th at 6 AM PT**

BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY: AAPI ROUND

The Commission for Intercultural Ministries (CIM) received information about a Becoming Beloved Community grant application from The Episcopal Church. **The application deadline is August 30, 2021.** The focus of the grant proposal needs to be on the Asian American Pacific Islander population. If a group is interested in writing a grant and would like to discuss it, please email Lynn Zender, CIM Co-chair, ZenderLynn@gmail.com. Here is the information:

Thank you for your leadership, participation and commitment to racial healing and justice. It has been a great inspiration to witness the church coming together as siblings, allies, advocates, and champions as we continue to strive for Beloved Community. Within this past year there has been a rise in the profile and frequency of violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. As a church we have thoroughly condemned these crimes and seek now to invest in and partner with those who are addressing the issues in their local contexts. As such we are inviting grant proposals from those combatting this scourge of hatred and violence.

This grant program was designed by the Presiding Officers' Advisory Group on Beloved Community Implementation and approved by Executive Council, and it will distribute a total of 50,000. Applications received on or before September 1st will be considered.

Click here for the main [application](#). Program criteria and applications in English are available here: <https://episcopalchurch.org/grants/becoming-beloved-community>.

Please note: All proposed projects must demonstrate adherence to relevant local, diocesan and state public health guidelines for gathering and interaction.

Please contact Sarah Alphin at salphin@episcopalchurch.org if you have an issue with your application. Also, Edwin Johnson at padreedwinj@gmail.com; Meg Wagner at mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org, Warren Wong at wjwstjames@gmail.com, and Tom Chu at thomaskamchu@gmail.com have all made themselves available as resources should you have any questions.

PREACHING IN ASIAN DIASPORA WORKSHOP September 8-10, 2021

This is a training for Asian American Episcopal leaders and their allies to make them more effective and empowered in preaching the Gospel in the context of diversity and change in the 21st Century. It is designed to improve preaching style, sermon content, delivery, and the articulation of homiletic imagination and theology especially in the context of Asian diaspora. It is offered for free to the first 100 registrants on a first come first served basis. Read the details [here](#) from *Episcopal News Service*.

UNITED URBAN WARRIOR SOCIETY—CALIFORNIA CHAPTER CALLS ON STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO INVESTIGATE INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

The United Urban Warrior Society-California Chapter (UUWS-CC) is calling on California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Truth and Healing Council to begin an immediate investigation of all California Indian boarding schools in the state of California. This action comes on the heels of the discovery of over 1,400 graves at Indian residential schools in recent weeks and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland establishing the Federal Indian Boarding Schools Initiative. Read more [here](#) from *Native News Online*.

[These Indigenous children died far away from home more than a century ago. Here's how they finally got home.](#) (from *National Geographic*)

EPISCOPALIANS AMONG THOSE ARRESTED IN POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN RALLY FOR VOTING RIGHTS, WAGE HIKES

Several Episcopal clergy and lay leaders were among more than 200 demonstrators who were arrested and detained Aug. 2 in Washington, D.C., while rallying with the Poor People's Campaign in favor of legislation that would benefit disenfranchised voters and low-income Americans. Read more [here](#) from *Episcopal News Service*.

ACTION ALERT: URGE CONGRESS TO PASS EFFECTIVE VOTING REFORM

The congressional bills under consideration, provisions of which may be introduced in revised legislation, contain many elements relating to election security, voter access, and support for states to carry out elections, including expanding early voting, making Election Day a federal holiday, mandating same-day voter registration, protecting eligible voters from unjust voter purges, and creating a pathway for re-enfranchisement

for those who have lost voting privileges due to felony convictions. **Please contact your members of Congress and urge them to pass effective voting reform.** Explore our [Vote Faithfully toolkit](#) to learn more about specific Episcopal Church policies on voting rights and how to get out the vote in your community. Read more [here](#).

THE EPISCOPAL STREET ACTION HANDBOOK

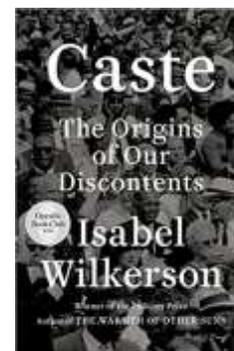
Integrating critical social justice theory with spiritual care in a way that can be used on the streets: [protesting faithfully - handbook.pdf \(episcopalchurch.org\)](#)

CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER TESTIFIES TO THE RACISM HE FACED DURING THE JANUARY 6 RIOT

As pro-Trump insurrectionists poured into the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, a Black Capitol Police officer passionately testified Tuesday that he faced racist epithets, the likes of which he had never heard while serving in uniform. Read the *NPR* article [here](#).

CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS BOOK STUDY BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

St. John's Episcopal Church, Roseville, will facilitate a book study of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent*, by Isabel Wilkerson on Sundays at 1 pm PT beginning September 5, 2021. This is a #1 *New York Times* best seller (read NYT [review](#)) and named the #1 Nonfiction Book of the Year by *Time*. The Amazon description states, "Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more." Please contact Fr. Cliff Haggenjos, Rector, at stjohnsroseville@surewest.net or call 916-786-6911 if you would like to join the study. Fr. Cliff will provide you with the Zoom link.



DIOCESES TO OFFER VIRTUAL CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND WORK OF JONATHAN MYRICK DANIELS Saturday, August 14, 2021, 9 am PT



For over 20 years, the life and martyrdom of Jonathan Myrick Daniels has been remembered through a pilgrimage to Hayneville, Alabama, co-sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama with the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Due to the ongoing pandemic precautions, the 2021 event will be a virtual celebration of Jonathan Daniels life and work combatting voter suppression, and the Episcopal Divinity School at Union

Theological will join as a co-sponsor. *You can view this broadcast on this [this page](#) or on our [Facebook Page](#) or our [YouTube Channel](#).*

HOW TWO WOMEN FOUND HEALING FROM THEIR FAMILY'S DIFFICULT LEGACY OF SLAVERY

The pair—one Black, the other white—became friends while dealing with their family's painful history. Read their *Guideposts* story [here](#) of the two cousins, who both descend from a slave owner, discuss their faith and healing.

HOW “LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING” WENT FROM A LITTLE-KNOWN POEM TO AN EPISCOPAL HYMN AND A CULTURAL ANTHEM

As the song known as the “Black national anthem” achieves wider recognition in the United States, its significance is also being celebrated in The Episcopal Church. “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” sung by generations of African Americans as a tribute to their struggles and triumphs, was introduced to white American Christians by Episcopalians and Lutherans 40 years ago, and a congressional bill endorsed by The Episcopal Church now proposes designating it as the U.S. national hymn. Read more [here](#) from *Episcopal News Service*.

ACTION ALERT: MAKE LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING OUR NATIONAL HYMN

Please join us in urging your members of Congress to support H.R. 301 to commemorate the song's lasting ode to Black Americans and freedom. [Action Alerts – The Episcopal Church](#)

THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION BLUEPRINT FOR A FAIR, ORDERLY AND HUMANE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

Read the [White House Fact Sheet](#) on how the United States can have an orderly, secure, and well-managed border while treating people fairly and humanely.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH STATEMENT ON AFGHAN EVACUATION

The Episcopal Church calls on the Biden administration and Congress to develop comprehensive plans to evacuate and provide green cards for our Afghan allies who have supported the U.S. armed forces after U.S. armed forces leave Afghanistan on September 11, 2021. Many of the individuals who have worked for the U.S. armed forces as interpreters, drivers, and other support roles [face](#) dire situations once the United States completes the pullout for the region, including potential violent reprisals targeting them and their family members. Read the full statement [here](#).

ADVOCACY SUMMER SCHOOL August 11 – September 8, 2021

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ECLA) partners with The Episcopal Church on advocacy work in Washington DC. The ECLA is offering a great opportunity to attend their Advocacy Summer School which begins August 11, 2021, for five weeks (Wednesdays at 11 PM PT). These sessions will be at a 101 level and a great series to invite folks newer to advocacy or folks in need of a refresher/inspiration.

The first session will paint a picture of what advocacy is and how advocacy is shaped with a faith foundation, especially as members and affiliates of the ECLA. Future sessions will cover ways to carry out advocacy work and specific policy issues where the Lutheran community can make an impact. In the fourth session, we will hear from ECLA Peace Not Walls (PNW) partners and staff for a faith-centric update on what is happening in the region and with Lutheran affiliated ministry.

You can find the registration for each session here:

<https://blogs.elca.org/peacenotwalls/advocacy-summer-school/>.

You can register for the fourth PNW focused session here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/5416273287259/WN_uq19I9OTQVuMTdGcmBAYQw.

Please consider signing up and forward this information to others who have a passion for social justice and advocacy.

DENOMINATIONS CREATE PRAYERS FOR FATAL MASS SHOOTING VICTIMS

Members of several denominations, including Episcopalians, have developed prayers for the victims of mass shootings. Read about [these prayers](#) in *Episcopal Café*.

EPISCOPAL PEACE FELLOWSHIP PEACEBUILDING ONLINE PROJECT

Sunday, September 5, 2021, 1-2 pm PT

Introduction to Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR)

Whether working in advocacy, healthcare, education, government, caregiving, activism, or in any kind of leadership or community building capacity, stressors add up. Impacts of stress and trauma can contribute to cycles of violence, but they can also lead us to break free from toxic patterns. Register [here](#) for this free online event.



CHURCHES WORKING FOR HEALTH ACCESS AND EQUITY

Last month's "From the Pew to the Public Square" webinar recording on health access and equity in the healthcare system is now [online](#). Panelists shared their perspectives on how churches and people of faith can engage with public health.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Interested in being a Presiding Bishop's delegate to COP26? [Apply Here by August 20th](#). The Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop's delegation will participate virtually at COP26 in November. All Episcopalians 18 years or older are invited to apply to be a delegate, and young adults (ages 18-40), and Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and LGBTQ Episcopalians are especially encouraged to apply. Read more [here](#).