



DIOCESAN E-NEWS

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

News for the week of Apr. 1, 2020

Bishop Megan shares guidance on creating sacred space



In her video address from Mar. 28, Bishop Megan offers pastoral guidance and instruction on how to build a sacred space in our homes.

At Bishop Megan's request, Team Holy Week, a gathering of clergy and lay leaders from around the diocese, has curated resources for Holy Week on a special page on our website. Our thanks to the this team for their time and talent as we head into a season of worship made especially meaningful because of their work. Click the link or the button below to access the resources: norcalepiscopal.org/holy-week-home

Holy Week @ Home



Click Here for news and resources
on Holy Week worship

Worship service suggestions for Holy Week

Check your church's website for Holy Week worship schedules and plans.

Are you looking to for a service that's not being offered at your at your church? Use this link for a list of supplemental services offered throughout the diocese: norcalepiscopal.org/holy-

Holy Week @ Home

Suggested Online Worship

Your Website: Is it up to date?

Have you updated your website for Holy Week? In these times, people are looking at your website more than ever to find out how to join you in worship and share their financial resources with you:

- List your service times and the ways to access your online worship on the homepage of your website
- Make sure that your online giving link or button is posted on the homepage
 - Give instructions for the way that a donor can send a check to you
- Spell out the plans your church has for Holy Week

Weekend worship links

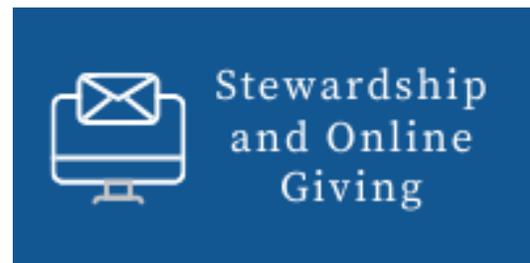
[Click here](#) to see what's available for regular weekend worship in 40+ churches in our diocese. If your church is not listed, or we have information that is out of date, please email communications@norcalepiscopal.org with the addition or correction and we will get it on the page as soon as possible.



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Stewardship and online giving resources

Canon Andrea wrote an encouraging piece entitled, "Stewardship in the time of COVID-19," last week. In it she said, "Our stewardship is the only way that our faithful witness can continue." She also enumerated helpful steps in how to encourage your congregation to give now. [Read more...](#)



- Online giving resource page:
 - norcalepiscopal.org/how-to-set-up-online-giving
 - Register for the Tithe.ly webinar, entitled "Setting up Digital Giving with Tithe.ly", offered Thursday, Apr. 2 at 4:00 pm PT, [here](#).

Health and Safety: COVID-19



Our webpage will be continually updated with the latest communications, links and recommendations. We will also archive links to past messages on the same page. You can access that information at: norcalepiscopal.org/covid-19-health-and-safety or by clicking the Health and Safety: COVID-19 button, pictured above, on the [home page](#).

The CARES Act and Paycheck Protection Program

Many of you are hearing about government assistance in this time of financial instability.

This impacts our churches in two main ways:

1. Extended unemployment for our congregants who have lost work
2. Small business loans for those that have incurred economic injury

Right now we are all waiting for the legislative process to be completed.

Our office, the presiding bishop's office, as well as the chancellors are all reviewing this as it unfolds.

[Click here](#) for the Small Business Administration (SBA) webpage that addresses these items.

Are you using Zoom?

If you've begun to use Zoom to connect your congregation, go to our [Facebook page](#) and share your successes, struggles and tips using the hashtag **#NorCalZoom**. We can all benefit from learning this new tool together.



Bishop Megan has prioritized digital communication in each congregation during the time we are not able to gather physically. To that end, she has made a grant to each congregation for a subscription to the Zoom online meeting platform.

See the Zoom resources below.

RESOURCES AND LINKS

Online resources for people in recovery

Updated March 23, 2020 12:00 pm
The Rev. Anne McKeever, Diocesan
Recovery Facilitator



Isolation is perilous for people in recovery. We learn that our sobriety depends upon keeping connected to sober people, being accountable to others, being of service to others.

Some people in recovery attend one or more meetings a day. Many people attend several meetings a week.

With quarantines, self-isolation, and lockdowns spreading in response to the COVID-19 virus, and with many in-person support groups ceasing to meet as ordered, other sinister viruses can spread as well: powerlessness, loneliness, anxiety, fear, shame, all the hurts and harms that fuel addictive behaviors.

As our Diocesan Recovery facilitator, I've begun compiling this collection of online/virtual recovery support resources. It's just the beginning. Please share with me resources you find, too.

Please share these resources with your congregations and friends. Learn who might need frequent check-ins by phone. Let's work together to stay as healthy as possible in these tender times.

- Rev. Anne's article and curated list of resources are available here: conta.cc/2wr45Yj
- Here is an additional article from Episcopal News Service: [Episcopal churches reluctantly close their doors to 12 step meetings](#)

Food assistance available

[River City Food Bank](#) is offering services that may help if you or someone you know is experiencing food insecurity.



Food Distribution:

- They are open 5 days a week – Tuesday through Saturday. [Click here](#) for details.
- Food is available to all those living in Sacramento County
 - no id or proof of residency is necessary
- Also anyone can pick up for someone who is homebound
 - The person picking up will need to know the recipients name and zip code
 - The person picking up will receive an “alternative pick up form” when they come

CalFresh Assistance:

- They offer CalFresh (food stamps)Application Assistance Services. [Click here](#) for details
 - They provide assistance for current CalFresh cases as well
- Clergy and staff of churches can also refer people for services. [Click here](#) for referral form.

Live-streaming resource links:

- Live-streaming resource page:
 - norcalepiscopal.org/how-to-live-stream-your-worship
 - be sure to check out the **Resources and Links** section on the right side of the page
- The Rev. Tom Gartin's helpful videos on tools for live-streaming
 - Part 1: [Live-stream technology & leading worship online](#)
 - Part 2: [Live-stream tools](#)
- Zoom Resources:
 - [Tips from Zoom to prevent Zoombombing](#)
 - [Zoom Meeting Best Practices](#)
 - [Zoom help page](#)
 - [Sign up for Zoom](#)
 - [Zoom Instructions, Hints, and Tips](#) (from The Diocese of Kansas)

Do you have resources that have worked well for you? Share them with us at communications@norcalepiscopal.org and we will share them on our website.

NEWS AND EVENTS IN AND BEYOND THE DIOCESE

Local musicians featured in a national article



Three local musicians were featured in the COVID-19 News Digest on the Episcopal News Service (ENS) website. Stephen, Graham and Collin Durfee of St. Mary's, Napa composed and performed a song called, "The Way of Love" in their online service on Mar. 15 and it was picked up by ENS as a feature. You can read the report [here](#) (scroll down to Thursday, Mar. 19).

This week's "Habits of Grace" video from Presiding Bishop Curry



Are you watching the Presiding Bishop's series entitled, "Habits of Grace?" He posts a new video each week, designed to encourage and help us as we adjust our lives. This week the message focuses on loving God, your neighbor and yourself.

You can [check here](#) each week for a new offering.

POSTPONEMENTS AND CHANGES

College for Congregational Development (CCD)

Attendees who have registered or were planning to attend the weeklong session, scheduled for May 31 - June 5, will be moved to the weekend sessions that are scheduled for Oct 16 - 18, 2020 and Mar 19 - 21, 2021 at The Bishop's Ranch. If you have already registered for the weeklong session, you will be contacted by the Office of the Bishop with more details.

Clergy Conference 2020

Please save the original dates and we will arrange some Zoom conversations between the clergy and Bishop Megan. We know this will not fulfill all of the relationship and connections that take place at clergy conference, and will arrange other events later this

year for that purpose.

Fresh Start, Spring 2020

Fresh Start, originally scheduled as an in person meeting on May 18-19, has been changed. Fresh Start attendees will meet together online. Stay tuned for more details.

Pathways 2020: Butte County

We will not be able to have Pathways at the same place and time that we had originally planned. This is deeply sad to all of us. However, we will gather a team of leaders and will work together to find another way to gather later in the summer. Stay tuned for more details.

To submit news/events, please email communications@norcalepiscopal.org. The submission deadline is the Wednesday before the Tuesday publication.

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ

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