



DIOCESAN E-NEWS

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

News for the week of February 1, 2021

From the Presiding Bishop

Embracing Evangelism Course

A six-part digital course exploring our call to seek, name, and celebrate Jesus' loving presence in the stories of all people – and then invite everyone to more.

embracing
EVANGELISM

Each session features teachings on Episcopal evangelism, group discussion, and exercises to help Episcopalians understand the ministry and call to evangelism. The full Embracing Evangelism series consists of six video sessions, each under 45 minutes.

Visit The Episcopal Church [website](#) for more information.

From the Office of the Bishop



Consecration in Oregon

Bishop Megan traveled to Portland, Oregon to be one of three attending Bishops to the Consecration of the 11th Bishop of Oregon, The Rt. Rev. Diana Akiyama. Bishop Akiyama was the first Japanese-American woman ordained to the priesthood in The Episcopal Church in 1989 by the Rt. Rev. Rustin Kimsey, Diocese of Eastern Oregon. Before returning to Oregon to serve as the 11th bishop, she served as the Vicar at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Kapaau, Hawai'i and as Dean at Waiolaihui'ia School of Formation for the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i.

Spotlight on our Companion Diocese



Companion Diocese - walking together in Christ

The mission of the dioceses in the companion relationship includes mutual encouragement and prayer, intensified understanding and concern, and the exchange of both spiritual and material resources. Companion relationships are to strengthen the Anglican Communion through the direct experience of interdependence across cultural and geographical boundaries. Each partner in the companion relationship is to be both a giver and a receiver.

To read more about our companion Diocese –**the Diocese of Honduras** – visit their [website](#).

From Around the Diocese

Diocesan Clergy Transitions!

We've had many clergy make some transitions recently - here is a glimpse of what's been happening:

The Rev. Canon John Day as Priest-in-Charge of St. Mary's in Elk Grove

The Rev. Jeanne Forte has completely retired and moved to Canada for the duration of the pandemic.

The Rev. John Heidel has accepted a unique call to a parish in Kentucky. This call includes being 100% virtual, with visits to the parish about once a month.

The Rev. Portia Hopkins has been called as Assistant Rector to All Saints in Sacramento.

The Rev. Kenn Katona has accepted a call in Delaware to be closer to family.

The Rev. Karen Lawler has accepted a call as an Associate at St. Mary's in Elk Grove

The Rev. Betsey Monnot is Priest-in-Charge at St. Clement's in Rancho Cordova

The Rev. Lew Powell was received as Br. Simeon Powell into the Society of the Gospel

The Rev. Julie Wakelee accepted a call as Priest-in-Charge at St. Peter's in Red Bluff

The Rev. Julie Vice accepted a shared ministry call in Elko, Nevada

The Rev. Libby Vincent is an Associate at Trinity in Folsom

And finally, we'd like to introduce...

The Very Rev. Perry W. Polk as the new **Dean of the Wingfield Deanery**, with our thanks to **The Rev. Mack Olson** for his service as the dean.

From the Episcopal Relief and Development

As Lent approaches this year, we lament. We lament all those whose lives were lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our hearts break for all of the people who are no longer with us. We also lament other losses that include jobs and livelihoods, the opportunity to travel to visit loved ones and the ability to worship together in our church buildings. So much was lost, with little or no time to lament that which was lost. Because of the magnitude of these collective losses, we decided to focus on lament as the theme for the 2021 Lenten Meditations.

You are invited to meditate on these reflections daily and to engage the [Four Steps of Lament](#),” by resting, reflecting, repenting and ultimately being restored to God and to one another. [Read more here.](#)

Two new Sacred Ground Dialogue Circles are available

St. John’s Episcopal Church, Roseville, will hold a Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle via Zoom at the beginning of the Lenten season. The bi-weekly ten session program will begin February 18, 2021 and end July 1, 2021.

Contact stjohnsroseville@surewest.net, or call (916) 786-6911, by February 11 to register.



Parishioners from other churches and others are invited to join in to discuss race and faith issues from historical to present-day perspectives which are relevant to the societal and culture issues we experience today. The assigned videos, readings, and discussions are powerful and can be challenging, but they are also profound and transformative as we engage in respectful conversation with the vision of becoming Beloved Community. Given that each of us has our own personal history that we bring to this work, a diversity of backgrounds and viewpoints are not only expected but welcomed.

More information can be found here about the Sacred Ground program: [Sacred Ground | Episcopal Church.](#)



Episcopal Relief & Development offers a [new digital prayer tool](#), bringing together prayers from many sources and the opportunity to share prayers with others.

Get Prepared - Whether it's an earthquake, wildfire, flood, or COVID-19, Listos California wants everyone to get ready and stay safe. Working with you to establish resilient communities and build a new culture of disaster preparedness for all Californians. Listos California offers resources for you and your family. Visit their website [here](#).



[Online resources for people in recovery](#)

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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