



Episcopal
Diocese of
Northern
California

ENews

News from the Diocese and Wider Church

November 23, 2021

Around the Diocese

St. John's, Petaluma launches Afghan Allies Project

The Very Rev. Daniel Currie Green

We are pleased to announce the launch of our [Afghan Allies Project](#) at **St. John's Episcopal Church, Petaluma**. This is a story that began only two weeks ago when our volunteer receptionist took a phone call from Ali, an Afghan refugee who had just arrived in Petaluma and was hoping we could help.

When parishioner Frances Frazier and I went to visit Ali and his wife and three small children in their new apartment, he told us how he had done an internet search for "refugee resettlement agency near me" and St. John's was at the top of the search results. I can only think it was because we have had information on our website for a couple of months about how to donate to Episcopal Relief and Development and Episcopal Migration Ministries for relief of refugees.

But search algorithms aside, it has become clear that this was God at work. Since that day Frances and others at St. John's have been very busy getting to know these incredibly courageous families, and in partnership with Mr. Shir Haidari, Project Director from the ULM Family Foundation, we are now in a position to invite others to join us in this effort.

Our new webpage, saintjohnsepiscopalpetaluma.org/afghan-allies-project has more information and a link to our volunteer information form, where anyone can sign up to help out.



The Bishop's Mission for Disaster Resilience was honored to assist the Commission for Intercultural Ministries and Russian River Deanery in the settling of Afghan refugees through the delivery of Project (Re)Start bins to help the displaced people find their place, in their new communities. Bins containing the basics for infants, bedrooms, and bathrooms were delivered from the following congregations:

- Holy Trinity | Ukiah
 - St. Barnabas | Mt. Shasta
 - St. Michael's | Carmichael
-



Office of the Bishop

YOU ARE INVITED

St. Michael's, on behalf of the Diocese of Northern California,
invites you to come to witness and support

TINA FERRIOT

as Bishop Megan Traquair receives her Three-fold vows of
Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience.

Tina will then be Consecrated to the Religious Life as an
Episcopal Franciscan Nun, under the direction of the Bishop.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

5 pm at St. Michael's Episcopal Church

2140 Mission Avenue, Carmichael, California
916.488.3550

stmichaelscarmichael.org

Dessert Reception to Follow

RSVP for the reception at

renee.pierce99@gmail.com

Convention Survey Closes December 1

If you haven't had a chance, please take a few minutes to share your



thoughts on this year's convention. Your feedback is critical for planning future conventions.

[Take Survey](#)

The Office of the Bishop will be closed **Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26**. We will reopen on Monday, November 29.

Mission for Disaster Resilience

Missioner for Disaster Resilience joins "Gathering" at St. John's, Roseville.

On November 15, Mark Dibelka, Diocesan Missioner for Disaster Resilience, was given the honor of spending time with the guests and staff of **The Gathering Inn** at **St. John's Episcopal Church in Roseville**.

St. John's has been supporting The Gathering Inn for many years, and has been the primary stable location throughout the universal struggle of COVID that has continued to feed and house the chronically unhoused population of the west side of Placer County up to 5 days a week. [Read More](#)

From Trinity Cathedral

Difficult Words of Jesus: An Advent Study

Bud Swank will lead a conversational Zoom class on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm during Advent. We'll prepare ourselves to welcome the Christ Child by thinking together about some of the hard-to-understand teachings of the grown-up Jesus.

Each session will launch with some thoughts from *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A beginner's guide to his most perplexing teachings* by Amy-Jill Levine; from there we'll go wherever the discussion leads us.

- **November 30** | What's this about hating your family?
- **December 7** | Who may we look down upon?
- **December 14** | What did Jesus mean about Hell?
- **December 21** | Did Jesus teach us to hate "the Jews"?

Please email shotchkiss@trinitycathedral.org to register.

Thursday Night at the Cathedral - Advent 2021 | 7:00 – 8:30 pm

- **December 2** – Dean Matthew will talk with us about Advent on zoom.
- **December 9** – An Advent Craft-We will gather on zoom to do a craft together. Packets will be available for pickup on Sunday or mailed to you on request.
- **December 16** – Join a Trinity Cathedral tradition for all ages *in person*. Singing of carols and viewing of "A Christmas Carol" in the Assembly Area with popcorn,

hot chocolate and other treats.

Living Compass Advent Series: Practicing Patience

You are invited to join Trinity Cathedral's Advent discussion series via Zoom on four Mondays at 1 pm: **November 29 and December 6, 13, and 20**. This year the theme selected by Living Compass, an Episcopal faith and wellness program, is *Practicing Patience with All You Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*.

This series is open to everyone in the diocese.

We will meet once a week to discuss the daily booklet readings and to share our efforts to practice patience this Advent season. Our facilitator will be the Rev. Anne Dryden McKeever.

To register, contact Susan Hotchkiss at shotchkiss@trinitycathedral.org

To receive your free copy of the Living Compass Advent booklet, please request one from Susan at shotchkiss@trinitycathedral.org

or from Anne McKeever+ at amckeever@wavecable.com

Allow at least a week for your booklet to arrive in the mail. The free booklet is also available online at LivingCompass.org/Advent.

Job Opportunities Around the Diocese

St. Patrick's | Kenwood is seeking an organist/pianist. Click [here](#) for more information.

St. Paul's | Sacramento is seeking a **Music Director**.

Read the job announcement [here](#).

St. Paul's | Benicia is seeking a **Contemporary Music Leader**

For more information, click [here](#).

St. Patrick's, Kenwood is seeking an [Interim Parish Administrator](#)

Commission for Intercultural Ministries

You can help Afghan Refugees in our diocese

Thank you to the many Diocesan faithful who have warmly welcomed our new Afghan neighbors by offering services and donating dollars, furniture, food, and household goods. With winter on its way, our agency partners are seeking cold weather gear and bedding for the Refugees, who arrive with only a suitcase of belongings. [Click here](#) to access the revised **Ways to Help** flyer for details about how to contribute to these drives.

Episcopal Relief and Development

Double the impact of donations made before the end of 2021!

Episcopal Relief & Development has announced that all donations until the end of the year will be doubled, thanks to the generosity of a group of donors. The matching

funds will apply to **Gifts for Life** selections and **1000 Days of Love** selections. The matching funds will be sent to the global fund. Many congregations and individuals in the Diocese of Northern California make Gifts of Life donations part of their Christmas giving.

To donate or learn more, visit: episcopalrelief.org

Episcopal Community Services

Sunday, December 5 named in-gathering day for Episcopal Community Services.

Bishop Megan recently designated **Sunday, December 5, 2021** an in-gathering day for the work of **Episcopal Community Services**.

The mission of ECS is to support, empower, and equip congregations as they seek to transform communities served in the name of Christ. In 2021, thanks to your support, ECS was able to grant \$27,500 to fund outreach efforts in our diocese. These funds go to aid the homeless, the elderly, refugees and other communities. Your donations are hard at work! Be generous.

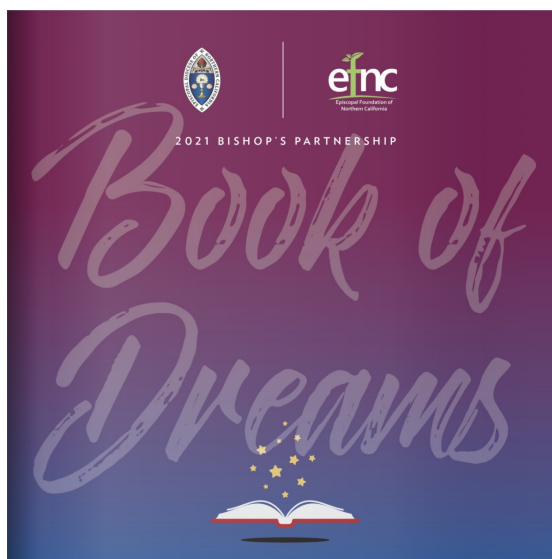
We have Board members in every deanery now! We are available to visit your church to talk about our work or consult with you on one of your projects.

If you have any questions please contact:

Stacy Duval – ECS Communications
707-849-2702
rsduval@earthlink.net

Cookie Clark – ECS President
707-761-6601
cookie.clark@sbcglobal.net

Episcopal Foundation



The 2021 Bishop's Partnership Appeal ***Book of Dreams* is live!**

Click [here](#) to view the book and learn more about how to donate to these projects.

Spiritual Formation

Explorations in the Gospel of Luke

by The Rev. Peter Rodgers

Advent 1, November 28, 2021

Luke 21:33 *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

These explorations in the Gospel of Luke are written to help those who preach and teach the scriptures in our congregations. There are many resources available in commentaries and websites, and some of those will be referenced in these notes. But the particular focus of these short studies will be Luke's use of the Old Testament. Throughout the gospel, and in Luke's second volume, *The Acts of the Apostles*, Luke makes extensive use of the Old Testament scriptures, and his emphasis on scripture helps us to understand the gospel message: through Jesus Christ the whole world will see the salvation of God.

At the end of the parable of the fig tree (Luke 21:29-33). Jesus makes the astonishing claim, *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.* One of my reference Bibles gives the cross-reference Isaiah 40:8. *The word of the Lord will stand forever.* As Jesus echoes these words from a passage that we hear especially in Advent (Isa 40:1-11, If you read it, you may hear the music of Handel's *Messiah!*) he takes words which in the Old Testament referred to God the Father and his word and applies them to himself and his own words.

This phenomenon of taking words that referred to God the Father and applying them to Jesus, his person, and his mission, will come up again in our study of Luke. Keep your eye on it. What does it tell you about Jesus, who he is, and what he came to do?

Diocesan Commissions | Committees | Ministries

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[Episcopal Community Services](#)

[Ministries of Health Committee](#)

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[Disaster Preparedness](#)

[Recovery Ministries](#)

[Episcopal Foundation of Northern California](#)

[Center for Bible Study](#)

The *ENews* is published weekly on Tuesdays.

To submit news/events, please email

communications@norcalepiscopal.org by Wednesday
of the prior week

[Submit a Calendar Event](#)

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ

