

MAY 2019



St. Cross
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Crossroads

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH



4

CONFIRMATION

4

CAMP STEVENS

7

HUMAN MIGRATION

Construction REV. RACHEL

As you have likely seen we are almost finished with our work on the Education Building and Church building. All of the stained glass windows have had their seams reinforced, and new coating has been put on the outside of all of the windows. There is more sunlight coming into the church through the windows and it is beautiful to see on Sunday morning (even if you do need sunglasses on the north side). We finally have new glass doors in the back which will keep out the wind and cold but allow people to see that we are open. The walls have been reinforced, repaired and painted. We found a few unexpected trouble spots with leaks in the front of the narthex and also

the rector's office which were repaired.

The Education Building had flashing and root rot repaired. The balcony was rebuilt. New safety doors were installed. And about the time you receive this newsletter, the new cabinetry will be installed. The whole building was painted also.

The elevator plans were approved by the city. We are now working with an electrical engineer about getting the right power to the building. This work will likely start in September. That said, the kitchen is on hold. We have a pricelist for all that has been requested. We are prioritizing based on feedback from kitchen users and will start on those projects once the elevator is complete.

No matter how hard contractors try, there is always some collateral damage in construction to plants surrounding the building. Madi Weissenberg is replanting the children's garden behind the Education Building as her Gold Award project. This garden as originally installed by Megan Difley as her project and now is being refurbished after construction by Madi. You will see her fundraising the next few weeks which is part of the Gold Award requirements.



WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM Choral Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

8:30 AM Centering Prayer
7:00 PM Holy Eucharist

CLERGY

RECTOR

The Rev. Dr. Rachel A. Nyback

ASSOCIATES

The Rev. Robin Denney
Christian Formation

The Rev. Nathan Biornstad
Pastoral Care

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

The Rev. Cn. Robert Cornner

DEACON

The Rev. Patti Angelo

RECTOR EMERITUS

The Rev. Cn. Dr. Paul D. Lawson

St. Cross Episcopal Church
1818 Monterey Boulevard
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
310-376-8989
info@stcross.org

MORE ON PAGE 3

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY

10 AM: Listening Hearts
1 PM: Staff Meeting
1 PM: History Committee *
4 PM: Temple Shalom
7 PM: Tai Chi
7 PM: EfM

TUESDAY

9:53 AM: Sewing Group

WEDNESDAY

8:30 AM: Centering Prayer
9 AM: Women's Bible Study
5:45 PM: Men's Bible Study
7 PM: Holy Eucharist

THURSDAY

6:15 PM: Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY - Office Closed

* 2nd and 4th Monday

WEEKLY 12-STEP MEETINGS

Sun: AA 7:30 PM
Mon: Al-Anon 7 AM
CODA 7:30 PM
Tue: Serenity 7 PM
Wed: Al-Anon 7 AM
OCA 5:30 PM
CEA-HOW 7:30 PM
Thu: Al-Anon 12 Noon
OA 6 PM
Fri: AA 8 PM
Sat: Al-Anon 10 AM

More info: (310) 376-8989 or
info@stcross.org

May Calendar Highlights

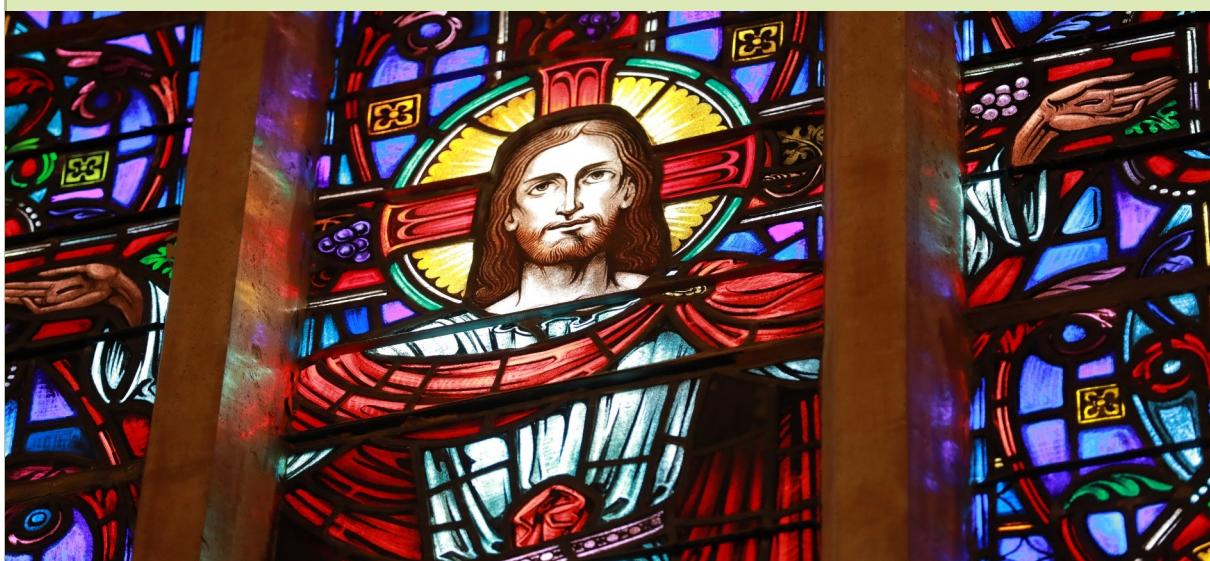
5/02: Neighbor to Neighbor
5/09: Sociable Seniors
5/12: Mother's Day
5/19: Peace & Justice, 11:30 AM
5/23: Sociable Seniors
5/25—5.27: Fiesta Hermosa
5/27: Memorial Day
Office Closed
5/28: Folding of *Crossroads*
5/28: Vestry Meeting
5/29: Laundry Love

Mother's Day Activity during
Christian Education hour, 5/12.

Fiesta Hermosa Parking!

Remember to tell everyone that the **BEST** place to park for Fiesta Hermosa weekend is right here at St. Cross! Convenient location, friendly parking crew, supports St. Cross Youth!

Fiesta Hermosa, Memorial Day Weekend:
May 25, 26, 27



**Alpha &
Omega**

Born

Kennedy Claire Rose
Henry Philip Albitz
Alice Treidl

In Memoriam

Barbara Moore
Delaine Anthony
Margery Miller Hughes
Charlie Gessler

ST. CROSS History



Do you know what each is called? And the significance of each?

In the springtime both the Jews and Christians celebrate major festivals – Passover and Easter. Then fifty days later they each have another important feast.

Answer on page 6

CONSTRUCTION

FROM PAGE 1

We thank you for your patience as we have gone through the challenges of construction. More parking is now available to you on Sunday mornings. And our church has a literal fresh coat of paint to welcome you when you arrive.

Rev. Rachel+

Episco-speak: Flowers

Why do we have lovely flower arrangements in the church each Sunday? Flowers primarily remind of us of God's beautiful creation.

In addition to reminding us of God's beautiful creation, flowers can serve several other symbolic purposes. Since flowers only vibrancy remain for a few days, flowers can symbolize the fleeting nature of life.

Flowers also enhance the power of the season in the church calendar year. For example, you might have noticed that during the season of Lent, the church's only flowers were not flowers at all, but pussy willows. These nearly barren branches remind us of Lent's penitential season.

The floral display's color and variety can also be symbolic. Red roses for passion, white lilies representing resurrection on Easter, etc.

Flower dedications are ways for people to dedicated flowers to commemorate a wedding anniversary, the loss of a loved one, or they can be given in thanksgiving to God.

If you would like an opportunity to have one your questions answered about why or how St. Cross does something, let me know at nbiornstad@stcross.org



Prayer Ministry

We are pleased to announce the return of the St. Cross Prayer Ministry, ending a one-year hiatus. While we continue to miss those who served so faithfully in the past, we are excited to add four new prayer ministers: Eugenie Baumann, Patrick Bridges, Susan Tucker, and Pat Woolley. Sr. Patricia Sarah will return and Rev. Nathan Biornstad will participate whenever he is able.

Prayer ministers will be in the chapel after communion every two weeks during the 10AM service beginning Sunday, May 12th and monthly during the 8AM service, beginning on Sunday, May 26th.

Sr. Patricia Sarah



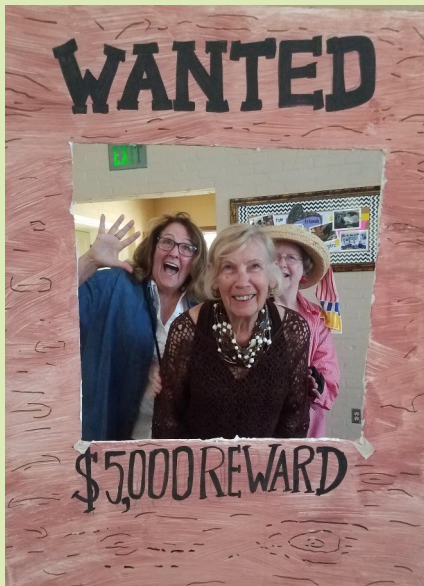
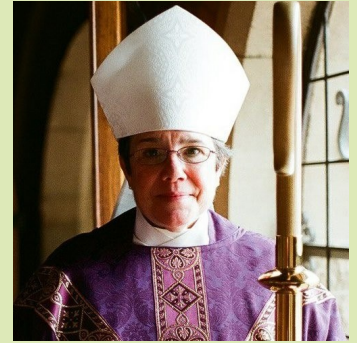
From the Peace & Justice Community's Human Migration Event. More on Page 7.

Confirmation & Graduation: June 9

Our youth and adults will be confirmed on June 9, during the 10am service, with Bishop Diane visiting. We will also be celebrating the graduation/promotion of each youth class, and thanking our Sunday School teachers.

If your youth are entering grades 6-12, or if you are a teacher, please be present for a festive and joyful service!

Contact Rev. Robin for more information: rdenney@stcross.org



Senior to Senior Dinner

May 19 at 5 PM in Parker Hall

The high school youth, and our fabulous youth leaders will be serving dinner to the seniors of the parish in a festive atmosphere on May 19 at 5pm in Parker Hall. All seniors of the parish are welcome. This year the youth will be going to El Salvador, and Scotland, and would appreciate your support with prayers.

Seniors, come experience the decorations and fun, have a delicious meal, and get to know the youth of the parish better, so you will be able to pray for them on their journeys this summer in a special way.

Go To Camp Stevens!

Episcopal Summer Camps are a wonderful place for children to build their faith, learn, make friends, and develop new skills and interests. Studies have shown that summer camps can have a big impact on children's faith development! Our diocese has a wonderful camp, Camp Stevens. Many of our youth work as counselors, and many of our children attend the camp.



St. Cross has scholarships available for any child who would like to attend camp, if financial concerns are an issue. See the flyers at either door of the church, posted in the office window, or online at: <http://campstevens.org>.

If you are interested in coordinating to send your child the same week as other St. Cross children, contact Rev. Robin. ***Read more about Camp Stevens on page 6!***

10 AM Children's Chapel in the Summer

This year we will be having children's chapel during the summer! The Sunday School education hour (which begins at 9 AM during the school year) concludes this year on June 9 and will begin again with the next program year on September 15.

During the summer (June 16-September 8), Children's Chapel will take place during the 10 AM service. Children (ages 3-10) will come with their parents to church at the start of the service, and then will be invited to follow one of the clergy out of the service to room 3. If children prefer to stay in the service, they are very welcome!

Parent volunteers will assist the clergy in the lesson, songs, and craft, and will return to the service before communion. Nursery care, in Room 1, for children 3 and under continues to be available throughout the summer during either service.



Church Toy Bags Updated!

We've added the "Sunday Paper Junior," a church bulletin just for kids, to our toy bags! The "SPJ" includes cartoons for coloring themed to the bible readings of that day, plus information for parents for talking with children about the bible stories. These toy bags are for children to use during the service and include: toys, activity books, clipboards, crayons, and stories. Each bag also has fidget toys appropriate for all children, but especially for those with sensory processing issues. Feel free to mix and match toys from different bags. If your child has special needs and you would like to see other items included, let Rev. Robin know!

Register Today for Vacation Bible School!

Registration for St. Cross' Vacation Bible School "To Mars and Beyond!" is now open at www.stcross.org/vbs — **VBS takes place from July 15-19.**

This year we will be closing registration on June 9 to give us time to order supplies, so be sure to register early to reserve a place! Participants and youth volunteers should both register.

Sunday July 14, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM: Kick-Off event and Registration

July 15-19, 9 AM-Noon: Vacation Bible School

Sunday July 21, 10 AM: VBS Beach Mass, at 22nd and the Strand



Pastoral Care Corner

By the time you read this article, several weeks will have passed since the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris caught fire. I, like many of you, grieved as I watched this historic church burn. Although rebuilding plans have already been announced, the sting of the loss still burns.

I once heard it said that life is learning to cope with loss. Although this statement might seem like a dreary worldview, our ability to navigate loss shapes our ability to love. One of the keys to coping with loss is to acknowledge our felt reality of pain and loss. Give voice, put into words, as best as you can, the loss that you are feeling. Acknowledge the pain, the hurt, the sadness, the anger, the despair, or whatever other emotion that you are feeling. Talk to God and keep talking to God. As you talk to God, remember that God is with you, in your grief, and in you as you pray. God's love is unending and you can do nothing to diminish God's amazing love for you.

If you would like to meet together, I would be delighted to take you out for coffee. Please contact me through the church office at 310.376.8989 or via email at nbiornstad@stcross.org.

-Rev. Nathan Biornstad



Give to Camp Stevens! *a peaceful place apart*

Have you ever been to Camp Stevens or has your child or grandchild been a camper, counselor, or staff member there? Most people who have experienced Camp Stevens are eager to return. The location is beautiful with great walking trails and a pool and a big front lawn, the food is fabulous with gluten free and vegan food, and there are a variety of sleeping accommodations. Throughout the year a variety of programs are available to individuals and families – family weekends, summer camp, retreats, backpacking, river rafting and rock climbing, etc. All of this is possible because of the many, many people who have contributed to the operation of the camp over the last

60+ years. **Currently the camp is working toward the goal of 100 people giving monthly online.** Any amount is acceptable; no amount is too small. Let's say 100 people gave \$5 a month. That's \$500 in income the camp can count on for unexpected expenses or designated accounts (e.g., camperships or a new water tower). Are you willing to commit to the future of Camp Stevens? **Go to: campstevens.org and then click on "Give" in the upper right corner.** If you have any questions you can talk with Allison Wilcox or Patsy Brierley. The Camp Stevens staff, board of advisors, current and future campers thank you very much!

ST. CROSS

History

From page 2

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The Jews celebrate Shavuot, a grain harvest festival, fifty days after Passover to commemorate the revelation of the Torah on Mt. Sinai to the Jewish people. Christians celebrate Pentecost on the seventh Sunday after Easter in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples after the ascension of Jesus into heaven. This year (2019) both pairs of festivals fall at the same time. This does not happen very often due to the use of lunar and solar calendars to determine the dates of each.

Human Migration Event

Mervis Reissig

The Peace & Justice community is extremely thankful for all the support of the phenomenal Human Migration event held in partnership with Doctors Without Borders (“MSF”).

The MSF volunteer very capably led 4 of the 5 stations on her own, as her partner had been called to Congo for the Ebola crisis the week before. These are truly front-line people who kept the 120 participants interested, and just a little fearful, during the exhibit.

Participants were randomly assigned a country and status. After a description of conditions for the journey, people quickly picked five things to take as they chaotically ran to the raft. Other stations were detention, the camp with sleeping quarters and a kitchen, and a medical facility.

Our volunteer Miriam complimented our Q&A volunteers as “even better” than the official version, in large part because of the emotional debrief they led.



The Ai Weiwei film “Human Flow” (available on Amazon) was shown; and the Virtual Reality showing of refugee camps was also quite popular, especially among the 30-some high school students who attended.

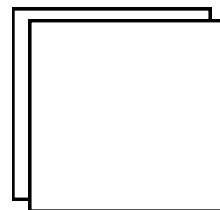
Local papers had featured this event, and every community member to whom we talked characterized it as both moving and informative!

Editor’s note: I wish we had space to show more from this event this month. Thank you to the St. Cross Peace & Justice Community for their effort in putting together such a moving, incredible experience.



1818 Monterey Boulevard · Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 · 310.376.8989 · www.stcross.org

First Class Mail



Fiesta Hermosa Parking!

Remember to tell everyone that the **BEST** place to park for Fiesta Hermosa weekend is right here at St. Cross!

- Convenient Location
- Friendly Parking Crew
- Supports St. Cross Youth

Fiesta Hermosa
Memorial Day Weekend
May 25, 26, 27

*Special thanks to the volunteers
whose generous gifts of time and talent make this
newsletter possible.*

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