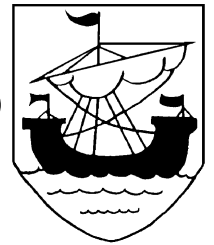


Canterbury Tales



The Newsletter of St. Anselm's Church, Lafayette, California

September 2024

From Rev. Will

Dear St. Anselm's,

Last Sunday evening, I was grateful to attend Michael Lane Preschool's Parent orientation. I was glad to welcome everyone on behalf of our parish, distribute the stickers we blessed at the 10 a.m. service, and share that my agnostic Jewish spouse and I attended preschools hosted by an Episcopal Church: Matt's in the DC suburbs and mine in the Shenandoah Valley.

A parent, teacher, board member, and I talked about our appreciation for the folk story Stone Soup. We each remembered its impression on us from our preschool days. I was glad to learn that it is part of the curriculum at Michael Lane. If you don't know the story or want to enjoy it again, [here's an animated video version](#).

As we look ahead to the next few months, St. Anselm's will be a hive of activity, much like the story of Stone Soup. We have exciting events, including Welcome Sunday, a ministry fair, a safety day, Congregation Listening sessions, Winter Nights, St. Francis Day blessing of the animals, and our Annual Stewardship campaign. Each event is an opportunity for us to come together, contribute what we can, and create something extraordinary. Please bring what you got and put it in the pot!

See you soon!
Will

*The Rev. Will Scott
Priest-in-Charge
St. Anselm's*



Anselm's Angels

A great big thank you to **J.P. Zhang** for overseeing two church work party clean ups and to **Allen Zhang, Arthur Powers, Bob Eddy, Bob Green, Dharmini Harichandran, Edee Allison, Evan Powers, Joan Martin, John Powers, Julie Rinkenberger, Marian Mulkey, Matt Chayt, Pamela Green, Peg Matson, Sara Swimmer, Vicki Pappas and Rev. Will Scott** for all their hard work.

Special thanks to the Stewardship Commission **Greg Heiman, Keith Pearce, John Powers, Julie Rinkenberger** and chair **Katie Taggart** who have been busy planning our 2025 pledge campaign.

Worship Commission **Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Marty Fischer, Peg Matson, Greg Heiman, Sylvia Williams, Chris Young, Rev. Will Scott** and chair **Judy Peak** for their planning of the fall liturgy.

Many thanks to the Property Commission members **Bob Eddy, Elaine Sherwood, Pam Green, Marian Mulkey Rev. Will Scott** and chair **JP Zhang** for all the building maintenance projects they have been working on over the summer.

And much appreciation to **Peg Matson** for all her support with neighborhood

*Thank
you*

A graphic of several pink leaves with green veins, arranged in a cluster around the text.

From The Senior Warden

Wow! St. Anselm's has accomplished a lot this summer, and we have a lot to look forward to as fall approaches.

On Sunday, September 1 you will be hearing my reflections on the chapter in our shared life that is about to close, and the opportunities that I see ahead. So I'll keep this column brief and to the point.

These last two months have seen continued movement on many fronts, including:

- A revised and updated budget that forecasts a considerably better financial outlook than we contemplated at the end of 2023;
- The launch of an internal audit and further improvements to accounting and financial systems;
- Progress on a wide range of property and facility matters;
- Greater clarity about the path by which we will discern next steps with Rev. Will; and
- An organized effort to reach out to people we haven't seen in a while to invite input about how they want to stay connected to St. Anselm's.

All that is in addition to ongoing worship, study, connecting and praying that are hallmarks of St. Anselm's – and it's all happened over the summer, when many of us have been fortunate to spend some time traveling and enjoying a change of pace.

In September and beyond, there is much more to look forward to:

- Welcome Sunday, September 8, when we'll be invited to consider new ways to serve and participate within our community;
- A thoughtful process for listening to one another, discerning where we are as a church community and envisioning where we want to go;
- Our Fall stewardship campaign, through which we will be able to get to know one another a bit better in small group settings and consider how we might commit and contribute to our shared future; and
- Several opportunities to engage with the broader community, including Safety Day on September 14 and Winter Nights beginning September 30.

As ever, I am grateful to be part of the vibrant, evolving community that is St. Anselm's.

Marian Mulkey
Sr. Warden



Vestry Update

At the July 21 Vestry meeting:

- We held a robust discussion about outreach and identified 3 focus areas for the remainder of the year. These are intended to be meaningful to both St. Anselm's and the broader community, to align with the level of volunteer engagement we are likely to attract, and to follow the general principle of "start small and succeed."
- We walked through next steps in our mutual discernment with Rev. Will. The hope is that by the end of the year there will be alignment across the congregation, the Vestry and Will+ regarding next steps and a possible match between St. Anselm's and Will+ as our future rector.
- We reviewed plans for ministries fair on September 8 and took stock of progress on property, stewardship, and finance.

Elaine Sherwood
Clerk

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE DRIVE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR US ALL – A BIG-TIME COMING



St. Anselm's 2025 Stewardship Campaign will kick off with a bang on Oct. 6!

After our 10 a.m. service, there will be a courtyard coffee hour and LIVE music featuring B Street Combo; they will be playing oldies but goodies to get us in the groove for the month. Don't miss them-you'll hum all the way home, guarantee it!

Also, parishioners will host gatherings each Saturday throughout October to deepen our connections and celebrate the life we share at St. Anselm's. Receptions will be held in Lafayette, Walnut Creek/Rossmoor, and Moraga: Sip, snack, and chat. Watch your email for details.

Every Sunday in October, our very own John Powers, Julie Rinkenberger, and Keith Pearce will give a brief talk about what stewardship/pledging means to them.

But wait! There is more – the campaign ends Nov. 3 (Ingathering Sunday), when we will bring our 2025 pledge to be blessed during the 10 a.m. service and enjoy a special brunch prepared by our Vestry as a thanksgiving to all of us for our ongoing support of St. Anselm's.

Looking forward to seeing and chatting with you all – your Stewardship Committee
Chair Katie Taggart, John Powers, Julie Rinkenberger, Keith Pearce, and Doug Merrill



HARVEST FESTIVAL UPDATE

After 10 years with its base of activity at St. Anselm's and over \$500,000 raised to support the work of Trinity center, the 2024 Harvest Festival Dinner & Auction will be celebrated at Trinity Center in Walnut Creek on November 16. The goal in making this shift is to expand beyond a faith-based organization at St. Anselm's to broaden community support for the wonderful organization our gifts helped launch. TC hopes to gain support not only from other faith-based organizations, but service clubs, city governments, local businesses and concerned individuals that hope to reduce the impact of people without homes within the greater Walnut Creek community.

In showing support for this move and the unique work at Trinity Center, Will+ and the Vestry of St. Anselm's have committed to a major sponsorship of the event. Mark down November 16 on your calendar if you would like to attend and/or sponsor a table as an individual or business. The price for the event is \$100 per person. Each ticket will include a social hour fair with booths, dinner and auction.

A tour of Trinity Center is also included. Tickets will be sold through Trinity Center's website starting around 9/15. If you wish to attend, sponsor, volunteer or are part of an organization or network that might help or you have questions, please contact Marty Fischer (marty@fischermarketinggroup.com) or Pam McGrath (pamm@trinitycenterwc.org).

Thank you, St. Anselm's, for all the support you have provided over the last 10 years and for birthing the Harvest Festival concept. We look forward to your continued support in the years ahead as we build out this fall fund raising effort into a broader community supported event.

*Pam McGrath and Marty Fischer,
 Co-Chairs of the 2024 Harvest Festival*



Does anyone remember the television series Bewitched, where a witch named Samantha twitches her nose and the project at hand is magically done? Or maybe you prefer Harry Potter and his wizardly spells, like the Scouring Charm for cleaning. Luckily, the property commission found a new spark of wizardry by collecting, organizing, and tackling our task list. Thanks to the contributions of those who have long managed property projects, plus our many July work party volunteers, we've made what feels like magical progress.

Hopefully you've noticed the many spring and summer accomplishments, like ... the sanctuary roof repair, benches and windows painted, weeds wacked, flowers planted, window screens replaced, windows washed inside and out, ceilings and walls cleaned and dusted, grounds power-washed, irrigation leaks fixed, security camera batteries replaced, and oh-so much more!

In August we completed the annual Fire Safety inspection with a review of many more items including inspecting 10 fire extinguishers in church and pre-school, replacing exit sign and smoke alarm batteries in church and pre-school, and ensuring the kitchen door is properly operational in an emergency.

While we are proud of our accomplishments, we have many more items in our sights. One large task ahead of us is addressing our many electrical needs and this is where you could be an honorary property commission member ... Do you know of an electrician that you could recommend? If yes, please contact JP Zhang, Pamela Green, Bob Eddy, Marian Mulkey, or Will Scott+.



STEPHEN MINISTERS
by Julie Rinkenberger

Stephen Ministry has been busy the few of months reviewing a book called The Gift of Empathy. Reading the book has been part of our continuing education in how to serve those in the church and in the community when we provide care. Stephen Ministers are trained to walk with people that are going through difficult times in their life providing confidential one on one care to those in our church and people in the wider community. We attend regular continuing education sessions on various topics throughout the year to grow our skills and identify resources that may help those going through a change of life, like transitioning to Assisted Living, or a crisis like a serious illness or death of someone dear to them.

In May one of our group completed Stephen Leader training so we are planning a commissioning ceremony for two of our Stephen Leaders in the Fall. The Stephen Leaders focus on the administration of our church's Stephen Ministry. Some of the things they do include spreading the word about the ministry, serving as the contact point for people that request care for themselves or others, and identifying and training new candidates for Stephen Ministry. Our Stephen Leaders are also working with the other churches in our consortium to plan the next training series for new Stephen Ministers which will start in the Fall. All the churches in our consortium help provide training to Stephen Ministry candidates including those that come from our St. Anselm's community. The training includes 50 hours of in-person and Zoom-based sessions over several months to teach new Stephen Ministers how to provide one on one care to those in need. If you have questions about Stephen Ministry or would like to request care for yourself or someone you know, please contact Vicki Pappas.



Sunday, September 8th

Join us for worship at **10 a.m.**
 as we welcome
 people who have found a home here
 at **St. Anselm's** this past year
AND
Come for coffee hour at **11:15 a.m.**
 and learn all about the activities
 and ministries of **St. Anselm's**
 and the ways you can become involved!



Maggie McCloskey: I grew traveling and living abroad as my family followed my father to his jobs with Chevron in Alaska, Colombia, Saudi Arabia and eventually back to California. After living in SoCal for a few years, I moved to the Bay Area in 2000 and have lived in Moraga since 2008. I'm retired from my career in commercial insurance. My current passions are travel (my photo is from last November and shows Budapest, Hungary in the background) and cats (I volunteer as a cat socializer at Joybound (formerly ARF). I "found" St Anselm's last fall and appreciated how welcome I felt.

Janice Fugler: I just moved back to Lafayette from the East Coast having lived in New York City, Washington, DC, and Virginia. I am glad to be back in California after over forty years! I love to travel, read (mostly military history), and spend time with my friends and family. I look forward to meeting a new church family at St. Anselm's!



Dave Rowe began attending services in late January after learning on Facebook that Will Scott was the supply priest at St. Anselm's. Prior to moving to Rossmoor in 2021, Dave and his wife, Diana, lived in Alameda and attended Christ Episcopal Church where Will was the Associate Rector. While living in Alameda, Dave worked for an advertising/marketing agency in San Francisco and commuted each day on the ferry. He still works part time in that field but is enjoying the extra time to explore Rossmoor and its various activities. Dave assists Chris and Henry running the AV equipment and Zoom broadcasts of the Sunday services. Dave and Diana have two adult children who both live nearby in Concord and Walnut Creek.

Greg Heiman was born in Ohio, but was raised in Southern California. He served both in the U.S. Navy and in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He was a Systems Analyst for Electronic Data Systems. Greg has two sons, one living in Walnut Creek and the other in Washington D.C. Greg became a member of the St. Anselm's congregation in May of 2023 after relocating to Lafayette.



Michael Lane Preschool



And just like that, Summer is over and back to school we go!

We started our year with a Parent Work Party, an Ice Cream Social for our families, and a Parent Orientation meeting. Thank you to Will+ and Peg for joining us at our Orientation meeting with stickers for our families that were blessed at the service on Sunday morning. I know the families appreciated this because there are no stickers left!

We have 5 teachers on our staff this year, myself (year 5 as Director), Trina Audley and Reshma Faiq who are returning for year 2 and worked at the preschool many years ago. Jemma Kalberg and Molly Nelsen round off our staff, each coming to us with MLP preschool experience.

There are 21 students and 19 families with us this year. We are starting the year reviewing rules, talking about our families, and blending colors. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

Warmly,
Holly Higgins
Director, Michael Lane Preschool

**2nd Annual
Lamorinda Public Safety Day
September 14, 2024
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

Fun for the kids, treats and information for Everyone!! Bring the whole family!

Participants include:
Lafayette Police Department
Contra Costa County Fire
Prevention Department
East Bay Regional Park District Lifeguard Services
Contra Costa County Search and Rescue
Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group and MORE!!



**Fire Truck at
10 a.m.**



St. Anselm's Episcopal Church
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette



**Search
& Rescue**





HELP ST. ANSELM'S HELP OTHERS

It's the heat of summer, but Winter Nights are upon us! We need your help hosting our guests **September 30- October 14**. We need help shopping for groceries, preparing dinners, hosting breakfasts, helping with homework, setting up/taking down tents in Jackson Hall, and just being a ray of light for our guests! Email sign ups are being sent out to our mailing list. St. Anselm's will host September 30- October 6, then our brothers and sisters in Christ from the LDS Church of San Ramon will take over October 7-13. Feel free to contact me with any questions or dates of availability at jonipearce@me.com. I look forward to serving with you.

BOOK CLUB

We continue our summer read "Team of Rivals", the political genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin. We will meet on Thursday, September 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the Library in Jackson Hall. We welcome you to join us. And help us select our next book.

Sharyn and Naomi

CALLING ALL ASPIRING CHOIR MEMBERS

Whether you're a novice who can't read music or think you're the next Pavarotti -- our choir needs your musical talents and participation! A central pillar of our worship service every Sunday is music, and just one or two more voices can help take our music program to the next level. Choir members meet at 9:15 to practice every Sunday before our 10am Sunday morning worship service and spend time during the week learning the week's music on their own time. The requirements are simply to show up promptly for rehearsal Sunday mornings, have reviewed the week's music (which is emailed to you in advance) and attend the 10am service somewhat regularly. We're a small but mighty group of voices that come together to enrich the St Anselm's worship experience, and would love to have you be part of it!



If you're interested in learning more, please contact Iris Hillman at Iris_Hillman@comcast.net or Marty Fisher at marty@fischermarketinggroup.com and be sure to come visit our table at the September 8th Ministries Fair.

Also, if you have a favorite hymn you'd like us to sing we'd love to hear from you! Call, text or email Keith Pearce at 650-281-6881 or pistolprce@gmail.com

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Bring your family pets to be blessed at St. Anselm's Episcopal Church

Sunday, October 6, 2024

10:00 a.m. service
11:15 a.m. blessing & fellowship with LIVE music and food!!



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Bob Green
- Laura Ho
- Julie Starr
- Wynne Bacon
- Gail Clark
- Jane House
- Dharmini Harichandran
- Joan Martin
- Marian Mulkey
- Vivian Jiang
- Gregory Zwakman
- Marty Fischer
- Shelley Frost
- Iris Hillman
- Judy Peak
- Chris Young

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Howard & Eva Woo Slavitt
- Chris & Peggy Young



Canterbury Tales is the monthly newsletter of

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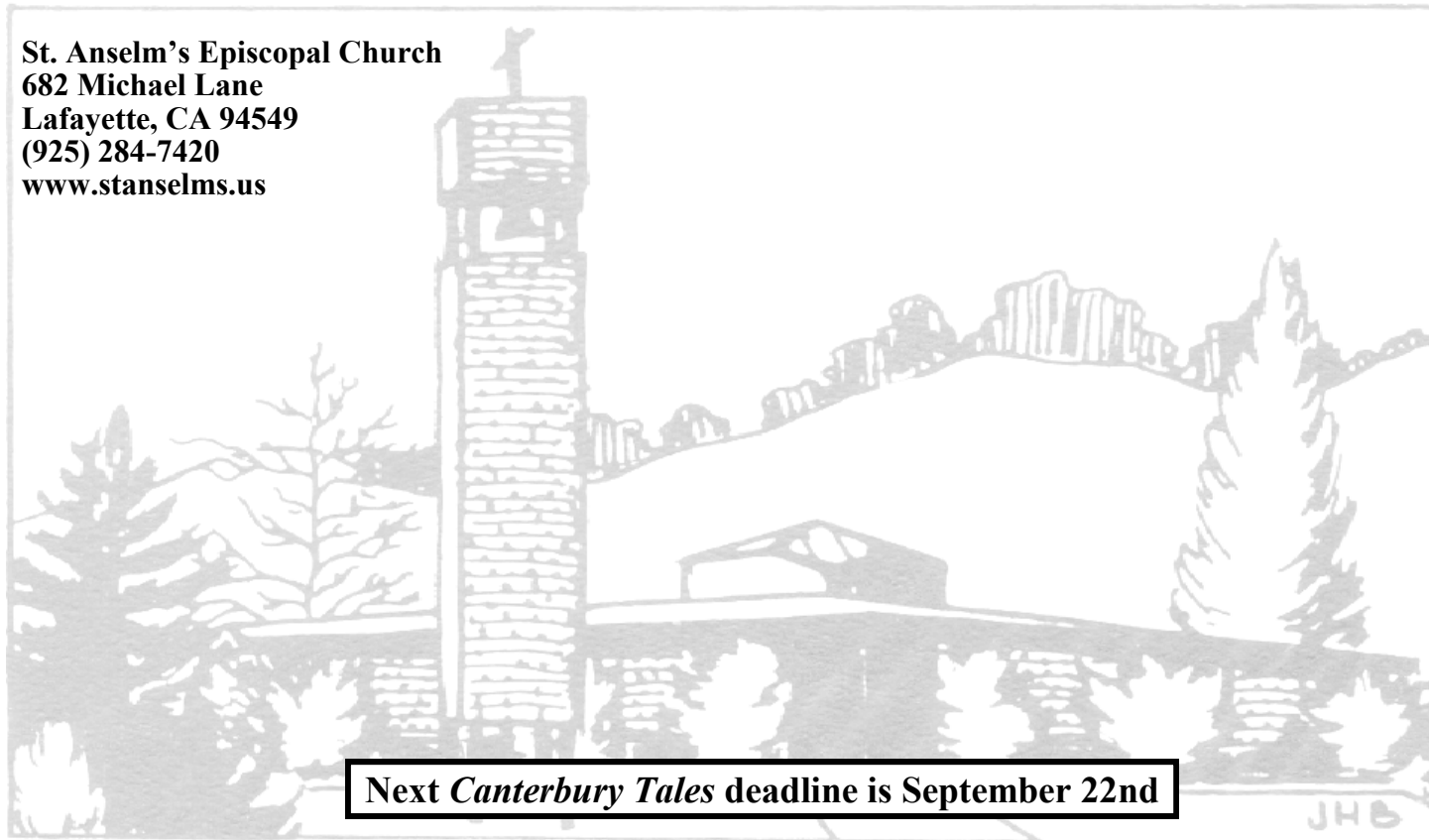
In-Person & Virtual Sunday Service:
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

St. Anselm's Staff

- The Rev. Will Scott, Priest-In-Charge
- The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Deacon
- Margaret Wolfe, Office Manager
- Dawn King, Bookkeeper
- Holly Higgins, Michael Lane Preschool Director

To schedule an in person conversation with Rev. Will, email rector@stanselms.us

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Next *Canterbury Tales* deadline is September 22nd

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday September 1st — Telling the St. Anselm's Story by Sr. Warden Marian Mulkey during 10a.m. worship service

Sunday September 1st — Cancer Support Group will meet in the library and via Zoom at 11:30 a.m. To be invited, email Julie Rinkenberger at jripmaggie@hotmail.com.

Tuesday September 3rd/10th/17th/24th — Morning Prayer will be led by Deacon Naomi via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

Tuesday September 3rd — Grief Support Group will meet via Zoom at 12:00 noon. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

Thursday September 5th/12th/19th/26th — Evening Bible Study will meet via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

Sunday September 8th — Welcome Sunday and Ministry Fair learn all about the activities and ministries of St. Anselm's and the ways you can become involved.

Saturday September 14th — 2nd Annual Lamorinda Public Safety Day 9:00a.m. to 11:00 a.m. To help volunteer please contact Peg Matson plmatson@comcast.net

Thursday September 19th — Book Club will meet at 2 p.m. in the church library.

September 22nd — Vestry will meet in the conference room and via Zoom at 11:30 a.m. Vestry members will receive an email from Marian Mulkey with the meeting link. Parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings or to listen in via Zoom.

Wednesday September 25th — Stephen Ministers will meet via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministers will receive a link from Vicki Pappas.

Monday September 30th to October 14th — Winter Nights St. Anselm's will host September 30- October 6, then LDS Church of San Ramon will take over October 7-13. To help volunteer contact Joni Pearce at jonipearce@me.com

Sunday September 15th — Parish Profile Listening Session 11:30 a.m. in Jackson Hall

Friday September 20th — Parish Profile Listening Session 2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Tuesday September 24th — Parish Profile Listening Session 7:00 p.m. on Zoom