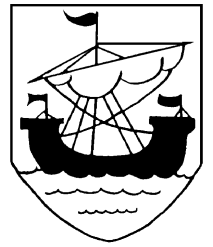


Canterbury Tales

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



July/August 2025

From Rev. Will

Dear St. Anselm's,
Summer 2025 is turning out to be a busy one for our parish. We are celebrating the lives of beloved members, welcoming new people into our community, preparing lunches for those in need, and making plans to ensure that this loving community is here for the long haul. In this edition of Canterbury Tales you'll find news about our upcoming Parish/Preschool Picnic and Yard Sale.

From July 25 to August 3rd, Matt and I will be visiting Cape Cod. I've been invited to preach on July 27th at our sibling church, St. James the Fisherman, in Wellfleet. I am looking forward to learning more about the community, architecture, culture, and landscape that inspired our unique sacred space—the Revs. Linda McConnell and Audrey Miskelley will cover for me on the Sundays I am away.

When I return, I'll be focusing on our fall program year. Beginning in September, the first Sundays of each month, our 10 a.m. service will be intentionally intergenerational, featuring a Children's Homily, crafts, and other fun activities for children and youth. Let me know if you'd like to help support this effort.

Peace,
The Rev. Will Scott
Rector



Rev. Will and Ruth Tsu during her visit to St. Anselm's

THANK YOU

Anselm's Angels

Special thanks to **Alex MacDonald** for providing St. Anselm's with a Automated External Defibrillator. And for holding a training session to teach the congregation the proper methods on how to use an AED.

Many thanks to **Joni Pearce** for organizing the Drive-of-the Month: 10,000 Lunches. Thank you to 10,000 Lunches founder **Brett Lorie** who educated the congregation on his organizations goal to distribute bagged lunches to homeless communities in Oakland. And to everyone who has donated food items and helped pack lunches.

Much appreciation to **Ruth Tsu** for visiting us and sharing her stories with the congregation.

A very big thank to **Iris Hillman** for hosting the Endowment Launch Party at her home. Thank you to **Hank Gatlin, Peg Matson, Joni Pearce, John Powers, Marian Mulkey, Sheila Reedy, Julie Starr, Sara Swimmer, Katie Taggart, Mike Morf, Joan Gardner, Naomi Chamberlin, Matt Chayt & Rev. Will** for all your help.

Many thanks to **JP Zhang** and the Property Commission for resealing the parking lot.

Thank you to everyone to helped plan and volunteered to make the Queer Faith Festival a huge success: **Sarah Vickers Webb, Kayce Rane, Sylvia Williams, Peg Matson, Katie Taggart, Jeff Boero, Pamela Dawkins, the Rev. Krista Fregoso, Matt Chayt, Ben Bachmann, Kim Hall, Henry Rosenberg, David Rowe, Eva Woo, David Solnit, Mitch Turner, the Rev. Canon Eric Metoyer, Caren Miles, Matthew Giesecke, Holly Blooms, Behavioral Fitness of Walnut Creek, Jack Barben Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill,**

(continued on page 2)

From The Senior Warden

Summer at St. Anselm's: Full of Spirit and Service

Summer has arrived—and it's moving quickly!

While summer is often thought of as a time for relaxation and slower rhythms, that hasn't exactly been the case at St. Anselm's this year. It's hard to believe a third of the season has already passed! June has kept us busy with meaningful and memorable events:

- Ron Hillman's beautiful memorial service
- Our joyful and loving Queer Faith Festival
- Some major plumbing challenges (not so joyful!)
- Our vestry potluck dinner and meeting (we now know Hank and Suzanne make a killer summer zucchini dish!)
- And most recently, Dick Orear's lovely memorial service

Each of these events has called upon our leadership and our incredible volunteers to step up and serve—and once again, this community rose to the occasion. We are so blessed to have so many faithful, generous individuals who offer their time, talent, and treasure to make things happen, fix what needs fixing, and keep the life of the church running joyfully and faithfully.

We continue to prove that we are a small but mighty, devoted, hard-working, and loving community that knows how to get things done!

That said, we also need fresh energy and more helping hands so we don't burn out those who repeatedly answer the call. There are several ways to get more involved—some take very little time, but all make a big difference:

- Altar Guild – A spiritually rewarding ministry that welcomes new members
- Sunday Counters – A 15–20 minute task a few times a year to support our financial stewardship
- Coffee Hour Hosts – Just once or twice per year; no need to follow a formula—be yourself! We'll help you get started
- Ministry Support – Lend your time and talents to Parish Life, Ushers, Communications, Property, Family Programs, and Special Events

July and August will be here and gone before we know it. Two great events are coming up:

- Endowment Fund Launch Event – Saturday, July 13
- Summer Parish & Preschool Picnic – Saturday, August 16

Please prayerfully consider finding one new way to serve our wonderful St. Anselm's community.

With gratitude,
Peg Matson
Senior Warden

Anselm's Angel's *(continued from page 1)*

The Rev. Mees Tielens St. Anna's, Antioch, Rev. Remi Shores Lafayette Christian Church, Rev. Lauren Michelle Stevens Lafayette United Methodist Church, Dr. Karen Leslie Hernandez of the Contra Costa Interfaith Council, Rev. Dr. Deb White Grace Church, Martinez, Theo, Pollo Del Mar, Mx.Kiki Krunch, John Fedallaga, Ben Bachmann, Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, Interfaith Council of Rossmoor, Episcopal Diocese of California, PFLAG Lamorinda, Lafayette Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Lafayette United Methodist Church, Lafayette DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging), Church of the Resurrection Pleasant Hill, St. Anna's Episcopal Church Antioch, St. Paul's Episcopal Walnut Creek, Moraga iKind Project, Pride Action Lamorinda, Grace Cathedral San Francisco, Grace Episcopal Church Martinez, Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church.

And thank you to ***Rev. Jessica Abell, Rev. Linda McConnell*** and ***Rev. Audrey Miskelley*** for filling in as guest preachers while Rev. Will was out of town.



Vestry Update

Our June Vestry meeting was held on Monday evening, June 16, beginning with a wonderful potluck dinner and followed by a productive and focused meeting. Here's a summary of what was discussed:

Strategic Planning

We reviewed the outcomes of the 3-Year Planning Exercise conducted during our April Vestry Retreat. The focus remained on three key areas of concern:

- Attracting Families and Young People
- Team Development, Recruitment, and Engagement
- Property Improvements

For each area, the vestry discussed concrete next steps to move forward with action plans.

Property Updates

We addressed several immediate and long-term property concerns:

- Parish Hall Plumbing Repair: The current situation and a bid from Roto-Rooter were reviewed. The vestry approved obtaining two additional bids. The Property Commission will review all bids and determine the best course of action.
- Parking Lot Resealing: It was approved to proceed this summer with the recommended company, based on the Property Commission's evaluation of material quality, durability, and cost.
- Other Property Issues Discussed:
 - § Fire Safety and Defensible Space work
 - § Fire Alarm System
 - § Interior and Exterior Lighting

Following extensive discussion, the vestry agreed on the following action items:

1. Develop a comprehensive vision and plan for the entire church property
2. Gather more detailed cost information for various projects
3. Prioritize the list of capital projects
4. Begin preparing for a Capital Campaign to launch in early 2026

Financial Resolutions

- Account Consolidation: A resolution was passed to close and consolidate all auxiliary bank accounts (including Columbarium and Altar Guild) into the main St. Anselm's Mechanics Bank checking account.
- Preschool Accounts: Another resolution was approved to establish separate checking and reserve accounts for Michael Lane Preschool at Mechanics Bank. This change, recommended by our bookkeeper and prior audits, will go into effect in August 2025 to improve clarity and compliance.

Next Vestry Meeting Sunday, July 20 at 11:15 a.m.

Drive-of-the-month: 10,000 Lunches

Our donations for the months of June & July will go to the organization **10,000 Lunches**. Their mission is to alleviate hunger in homeless communities by empowering middle and high school students as they prepare and provide meals. A local teacher in Moraga, Brett Lorie, has been a passionate supporter of 10,000 lunches for 20+ years. He organizes students to prepare bagged lunches that they then distribute throughout Oakland to people in the homeless communities. We will collect non-perishable items and decorate bags to put the food items in and then pass them on the Brett to distribute. Please note all items should be individual size portions - think snack size.

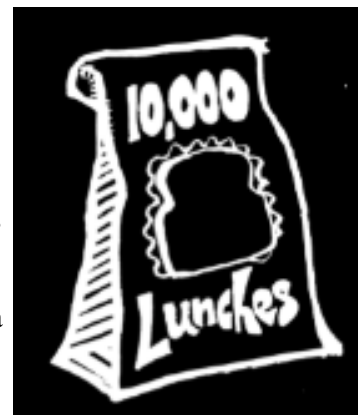
We will gladly take the following items: granola bars, juice boxes/bags, small cans of tuna or spam, small peanut butter, instant oatmeal, fruit cups, and applesauce. Please see the list on [Amazon here](#).

More about the organization can be found through this link:

[10,000 Lunches organization](#)

And thank you to everyone who donated to help the Lamorinda Care Collective during the month of May! Your donations of full-size personal care items like shampoo, toothpaste, body soap, toothbrushes, women's hygiene products, etc are so appreciated by the clients of LCC.

Warm regards,
Joni Pearce



St. Anselm's Lafayette Endowment Launch Party



Thank you to Iris Hillman for hosting a lovely afternoon in her beautiful garden on Sunday, July 13, to celebrate the launch of St. Anselm's endowment. Guests enjoyed music from the 360s, heard from our endowment committee members, and were encouraged to name St. Anselm's Lafayette Endowment in their estate plans. If you have questions or would like to make a gift to St. Anselm's Endowment, contact John Powers, Keith Pearce, Iris Hillman, or Joan Gardner.





"TOGETHER WE SHINE" HUGE YARD SALE
Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025 9am to 4pm

Committee: Iris Hillman, Sylvia Williams, Janice Carrigan, Maggie McCloskey

WANTED: GENTLY USED - MEN'S & WOMEN'S CLOTHING, HATS, BELTS, BAGS, SCARVES, PURSES, SHOES, TIES & SUNGLASSES. CHILDREN'S CLOTHES, CAMPING EQUIPMENT, & SPORTING GOODS, BALLS, RACKETS, SCOOTERS & SKATEBOARDS, ELECTRONICS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, TOOLS & GADGETS. JEWELRY, BOOKS, PLANTS, GARDEN TOOLS, PET SUPPLIES, LUGGAGE, LAMPS, COSTUMES, CHRISTMAS & HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS, CRAFTS AND ART SUPPLIES, PICTURE FRAMES, ETC. ETC.

"One person's trash is another person's treasure" "If I haven't used it in the past 5 yrs. I probably won't ever use it or need it."

There is still time to do some Summer Cleaning, taking the opportunity to get rid of unwanted items that are usable and in good working condition. Please save and donate them to the Fall Rummage Sale. Beginning in August, you can bring your donations to church on Sundays and we will store them, ready to begin sorting and pricing. Please do not drop off any donations outside the office door.

Clothes should be in good condition, tools and electric items in good working order, with no frayed cords or missing parts. We can handle small furniture items that can be put into a car. No sofas, beds, oversized chairs. Cleaned and polished items will be more salable and appealing than those that are rusted or dusty. Ask your neighbors to donate also.

Thank you to those who agreed to staff all 9 tables at the sale. In August, we will begin advertising across the County. We will have flyers to give out to all parishioners, asking them to post a flyer in their Senior Residences, local coffee shops, libraries etc., wherever there is a community bulletin board. Thank you for your help.

Click here for [Rummage Sale flyer](#)

For more information:

Email: Iris.Hillman@comcast.net. Cell: 925-381-2936

Sylvia: sw94565@yahoo.com. Cell: 925- 586-0730

Maggie McCloskey : mrwsctt@gmail.com. Cell: 415-609-0774

Janice Carrigan: jfluger@comcast.net.



Michael Lane Preschool Updates

Hello from Summer Vacation!

Our school just completed 2 weeks of summer camp. Each week had a different theme - Camping (maybe you spotted the awesome airstream trailer in the parking lot) and Beach. We were completely full with 17 children enrolled each week, and Trina Audley, Reshma Faiq, and myself taught both sessions. Some personal highlights were making smores in foil packets and then leaving them in the sun to "roast", being able to enjoy some of our graduating students for 2 more weeks, dramatic play in the airstream, sorting shells, and seeing alumni students back at MLP with their siblings!

Our summer sessions are a wonderful way to offer our families a little bonus during their summer break. The parents were grateful, and the kids were happy to be back, and it's just enough teaching for the staff!

We still have space available in our program for the fall, so I will be around this summer giving tours and overseeing our preschool bathroom remodel.

Now back to reading and relaxing with my family - have a wonderful summer!

Warmly,
Holly
Director, Michael Lane Preschool

SAVE THE DATE

St. Anselm's Summer Parish/Preschool Picnic



**Saturday
August 16th
4-6 p.m.
More Details
Coming Soon!**

EVENT ASSISTANT ALLEN ZHANG



St. Anselm's warmly welcomes Allen Zhang as our Event Assistant. Allen is a second year student attending San Francisco State University. He graduated from Campolindo High School in 2024. Allen celebrates his nineteenth birthday in July. This is Allen's first job and we are thrilled to have him helping us.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Help provide refreshments following the service. To sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044bada722a2f85-coffee> or contact Sylvia Williams at 925-586-0730.

Canterbury Tales
is the monthly newsletter of

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, CA
Phone: (925) 284-7420
web site: www.stanselms.us

Editor: Margaret Wolfe
email: margaret.w@stanselms.us

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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Tom Frangoulis
Norm Gorsuch
Jeremy Martin
Suzanne Gatlin
Alan Swimmer
JP Zhang
Betty Frangoulis

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Ann & Jim Burns
Heather & Clark Alexander



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Elaine Sherwood
Ann Burns
Christopher Stone
Caroyn Merrill
Margaret Nicholas
Georganne Eddy
Thomas Passas
Kayce Rane
Jonathan Martin
Hemma Harichandran
Janet Nadol
Sylvia Williams

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

John & Leslie Weaver
Hank & Suzanne Gatlin
Carolyn & Doug Merrill
Julie Rinkenberger & JP Zhang
Joni & Keith Pearce
Marian Mulkey & John Powers
Jon & Joan Martin

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flower donations can be dedicated to the memory of a loved one, in honor of a family member or simply to the glory of God. Please sign-up for your selected date (s) and complete a dedication card or email parish@stanselms.us with your selected date(s) and dedication.

Checks for \$50 can be made payable to "St. Anselm's Altar Guild." Please note that the Altar Guild cannot accept payments via Zeffy.

PRAYER CHAIN

St. Anselm's Prayer Chain is a list of our parishioners and loved ones for whom prayers have been requested. Prayer is voluntary and on your own whenever you wish to pray. If you would like to receive the Prayer Chain or if there is someone you would like to add to the Prayer Chain, please email Vicki Pappas: vrpappas@gmail.com.



COUNTERS NEEDED

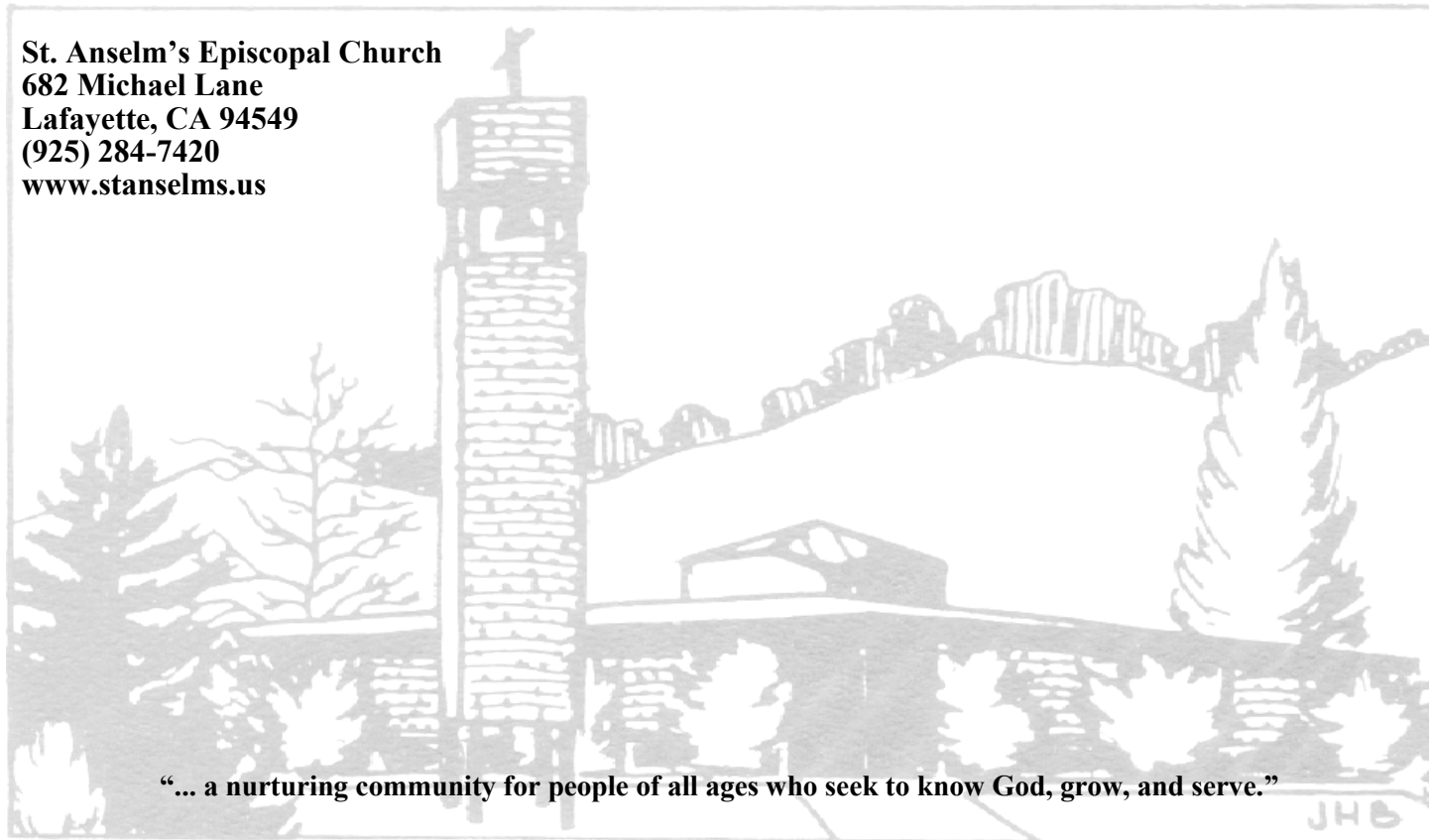
Each week there is a team of two people, one Vestry member and one congregation member who are responsible for counting and recording cash and checks and preparing the deposit. We have a few dedicated parishioners who have stepped up to fill the congregation member role. However, we don't have people signed up to perform this important role for the church. Please contact Peg Matson for more information and/or to volunteer at plmatson@comcast.net or #925-381-1074.

St. Anselm's Staff

The Rev. Will Scott, Rector
The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Deacon
Chris Kula, Director of Music
Margaret Wolfe, Office Manager
Steve Zimmerman, Bookkeeper
Holly Higgins, Michael Lane Preschool Director

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

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church
 682 Michael Lane
 Lafayette, CA 94549
 (925) 284-7420
www.stanselms.us



“... a nurturing community for people of all ages who seek to know God, grow, and serve.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ministry of the Month — July: [Christian Formation Commission](#), August: [Communication Commission](#)

Tuesday, July 1st/8th/15th/22nd/29th/August 5th/12th/19th/26th — 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, July 1st & August 5th — Grief Support Group will meet via Zoom at 12:00 noon. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

Tuesday, July 1st & August 5th — Property Commission will meet via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 2nd/9th/16th/23rd/30th/August 6th/13th/20th/27th — Contemplative Prayer Gathering will meet from 9:00a.m. – 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Thursday, July 3rd/10th/17th/24th/31st /August 7th/14th/21st/28th — Evening Bible Study will meet via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Please contact Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

Sunday July 13th & August 10th — Cancer Support Group will meet in the library and via Zoom at 11:30 a.m. To be invited, email Julie Rinkenberger at jrpmmaggie@hotmail.com.

Sunday, July 20th & August 17th — Vestry Meeting will meet in Parish Hall from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a potluck meeting. All are welcome to attend. Please bring something to share as we break bread together before diving into our business and discussions. [July Vestry Agenda](#)

Sunday, July 27th — Stewardship Committee will meet in the conference room at 11:45am.

Thursday, August 7th — Brian Molyneaux Celebration of Life Service at 11:30am.

Saturday, August 9th — Gordon Repp Celebration of Life Service at 10:00am.

Altar Guild and Book Club will resume in September