

SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH -December, 2017



From the Vicar's Desk

Looking back, November this year was a joy filled month for us. It began with a glorious celebration of

All Saints and sandwiches being made for Safe Harbor Shelter, something we do on the first Sunday of most months. It continued with a visit from old friends and well as a sweet funeral for another. I was most grateful for the presence of the choir from Bethany Presbyterian who helped us sing Charlotte Lynch home to God. The Wednesday night group, despite technical difficulties, finished up our study of Moses with some new insights about our lives and the nature of God. At our Thanksgiving Day service we gave thanks for many things including Margaret Burke joining us as organist. At the 10am service on the last Sunday after the Pentecost we gave thanks to Donald Mulliken for months of faithful service as our organist and reminded him that while he is now going back to his previous status as substitute organist, that is as far away as we are going to let him go. Every Sunday there was an opportunity, near an icon of Mary Magdalen, to offer prayers by lighting candles. Each Sunday, after coffee hour was cleaned up and everyone had gone off to the next part of their day, I would sit in the nave until the candles fully burned out adding my own prayers and grateful for the love, compassion, and faithfulness of the people of our congregation.

With the first Sunday of December we will enter into the season of Advent and before the month is out we will be in the middle of the Christmas season. Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year so some of our traditions are being altered a bit to fit the realities of the calendar.

The Greening of the Church, also sometimes called decorating for Christmas, will occur after the 10am service on Advent 3, Dec. 17. On Dec. 24 our only Advent 4 service will be at 8am at North SEA. There will not be a 10am service that day. Instead, we will have 2 evening services, both in San Bruno. At 4pm the service will include the

children's Christmas Pageant. At 10 o'clock that night we will have the traditional "midnight mass" so many of us think of when we think of Christmas Eve services. Christmas Day there will be one service, at 10am, in San Bruno. It is the service of Christmas Lessons and Carols we have been holding for quite a few years now. It is very casual, you can even come in your pajamas, if you would like. The following Sunday, Dec. 31, we will have our usual 8am and 10am services.

The Safe Harbor Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 9 will be as usual. Please join in the festivities if you are able. The shelter requires all participants be 18 years of age or older, other than that all that is needed is to show up from 2-4pm. We join with others in making decorations for their tree, eat nachos and other snacks, and maybe sing a few Christmas carols. If you would like to donate toward the gift cards we provide for each guest please do so. Any excess funds will go to help the victims of the fires in Santa Rosa and other neighboring communities. I look forward to this event every year. It helps make Christmas so real. My prayer for all of you, and for our congregation as a whole, is that you have a wonder and joy-filled Advent and Christmas. May the love of God and the marvel of the Incarnation become ever more true for you as we enter into a new year together.

In His service,
Debbie+

Holiday Party at Safe Harbor“, Dec. 9, 2017

Saturday , Dec 9th from 2:00 -4:00 is the “holiday gathering” at Safe Harbor in SSF.

We need volunteers to help.

We need items to make ornaments and holiday cards (construction paper, glitter, glue sticks, snacks, soda, cookies to decorate and actual decorations for cookies. We can also use monetary donations to purchase whatever is needed.

Please let Kathy De Simone know if you want to participate or make a donation. Her phone number is 650-872-108 4 after 3:30pm



Gift Cards for Safe Harbor

Each year SEA Episcopal gives a \$10.00 gift card to each of the 90 Safe Harbor residents. That will be our goal this year; however, if we exceed that amount, we will send the excess money to Episcopal charities for the Santa Rosa fire victims.

Please be generous with you gift this year. There are so many who can use a gift to uplift their spirits and hopes for the New Year.

The money for the gift cards should be sent to the church or put in the collection plate duly marked for "Safe Harbor Christmas."

**Advent Lessons and Carols
Saturday, December 2 at 5pm
Choir of St. Paul's Burlingame**

You are invited to begin the season of Advent with this special candlelit choral service. Carols for the congregation and choir alternating with readings from the prophets include all in a dramatic procession, from the darkness of the story of the Garden of Eden to the light of Angel Gabriel's message to Mary. Festive reception follows. (no charge or special seating for the regular evensong or advent worship services. 0

Bachmann *I look from afar*
Hildegard von Bingen *O Virtus Sapientiae*
Burleigh *My Lord, what a morning'*
Bach *Bereite dich*
Gardner *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day*
Manz *E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come*
Howells *Magnificat (Collegium Regale)*

**2nd Annual Christmas Concert Sunday,
December 17 at 4pm
A Benefit for St. Paul's Church Choir of St. Paul's
Orchestra and Organ**

Fund Raiser Program

Highlights from Handel *Messiah* and Bach *Christmas Oratorio*
Adam *O Holy Night*
Favorite Bell Carols
Christmas Carols for all to sing.
General Seating: \$30 / \$20 Students

Our altar flowers group is dwindling. We need some volunteers to help provide flowers for the altar. It is not imperative that you have a lot of knowledge about flower arranging, but rather that you love seeing the flowers at the altar.

Please let Nancy Rauch know if you can provider flowers once a month for the altar. 650-355-1442.



**There will be No
See's candy fund
raiser this
Christmas.**

Sunday Morning Prayers for Healing

Members of the Healing Intercessory Prayer Ministry are available most Sunday morning, beginning this Advent, to pray with you for the needs of yourself or your loved ones. You may share briefly and confidentially with us what is on your heart or mind or say nothing at all. Be assured that what is spoken during that time is held only in our hearts and is kept confidential. We take this seriously and so refrain from checking in with you when we see you around.

If you would like to ask for prayers for healing, guidance, or gratitude, come to the kneeler near the icon of St. Mary Magdalene after receiving communion and let us lift you gently to God in prayer.

December 3, 2017.

First Sunday of Advent



SEA Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Directly after the 10AM service

PRAYER LIST -

Our prayers have been asked for Randy, preparing for baptism in January. For Lani and Tom preparing for their marriage.

Our prayers have been asked in thanksgiving for: friends and family; for the volunteers who make sandwiches for Safe Harbor Shelter.

Our prayers have been asked for healing and strength for:

Al and Patrick (by Norma 11/19/17)
the Rollins family (by Jeanne 11/18/17)
Duncan and Robin (by Diane 11/17/17)
Mike (by Pam 11/12/17)
Janice (by Dar 11/10/17)
Ken (by Joyce 11/5/17)
the Franzella family (by Jeanne, 11/1/17)
the Larsen and Galleta family, 11/1/17)
Diane (by the vicar 11/1/17)
Margie (by the vicar 11/1/17)
Maggi (by the vicar 11/1/17)
Julie (by the vicar 11/1/17)
Gene and Jack (by Kathie 11/1/17)
Maybelle (by Laura 11/1/17)
Steve (by Kathy 11/1/17)
Lee (by vicar 11/1/17)
Gerrie (by Lee 11/1/17)
Meg (by Gerrie 11/1/16)
Mike and David (by Mickie 11/1/17)
a mother facing deportation, and for her children
For victims of violence and natural disaster
for all those who mourn



We pray for the repose of the souls of Mary, Carol, Danny, Tina. The repose of the souls of worshipers killed in Egypt. For all those who have died and who we see no longer.

The prayer list is updated monthly. Add or renew names and concerns by writing them in the binder at the back of the church, calling the church office (650-583-6678) or emailing stelizabeth2008@att.net

Many Thanks

- To Judy Puccini for weeding the front flower bed
- To Holy Seed Baptist Church for the beautiful flowers for the Thanksgiving Day service
- To Donald Mulliken for selecting and playing beautiful music and leading the choir since mid-August while Margie was out ill. As we welcome her back, we say to Donald, "Thank you, thank you good and faithful servant." That first Sunday Donald got maybe 15 minutes notice and he has graciously played for us ever since. Happily Donald will continue to play for us on occasion as he long has.



Suzanne and Anthony Zip-Lining

Suzanne Doerr

Member of SEA: 28 years

Born and educated: Boise and Twin Falls, Idaho

Children: 4 daughters. Grandchildren: 2

Book: Baker's Dozen by Autumn Doerr (our daughter)

Anything by Anne Tyler

Movie: My Favorite Year. Moonstruck

Food: Pasta

Hobbies: Reading. Tai Chi

Travel: Italy England France

Anthony Geraci

Member of SEA: 28 years

Born and educated: Brooklyn & Long Island, NY

Children: 4 daughters – Grandchildren: 2

Favorite Book: Bakers Dozen by Autumn Doerr (our daughter)
Centennial

Movie: Moonstruck. On the Waterfront

Food : Pasta (hot)

Dessert: Apple Pie ala mode

Music: Andrea Bocelli

Dream for our Church in 2018: To grow in love and compassion

Hobbies: My children & grandchildren

Travel: Italy Portugal England France

Christmas Riddles



1) Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting?

2) What does December have that no other month has?

3) Whar;s the only direction Santa can go from his house?

4) What is green and goes ribit, ribit?

5)How much did Santa pay for his sleigh??

Answers: 1) *because they keep dropping their needles* 2) *a "D"* 3) *south* 4) *mistle-TOAD* 5) *nothing, it was on the house.*

Office volunteer needed:

Room use coordinator

Maintain the calendar for room use in our buildings. Schedule groups as required. Ensure users are complying with our requirements regarding insurance, alcohol use policy, 'Safeguarding God's Children' training, etc. Keep list of key holders. Requires checking email regularly to reply to any booking requests, otherwise time requirement is intermittent.

the Rev. Deborah Hawkins
Vicar
SEA Episcopal
San Bruno, SSF
steandarev@gmail.com
530-219-1656

The Legend of the Cane Candy

It is widely believed that the candy, which earlier was straight as a stick, was given its distinctive J-shape by a German choirmaster. It is said that during service one evening, the children were being very loud and noisy, creating quite a ruckus and not paying any attention to the choirmaster. To keep them quiet and still for the nativity ceremony, he gave them a long, white, sugar candy stick. Since giving chocolates and candies at church was considered sacrilegious, he bent these sticks at one end to make them look like a shepherd's cane and thus, attached a religious significance to them. In Christianity, Jesus is regarded as the Good Shepherd and so, the staff is considered to be a sacred symbol. The Staff also represents the shepherds who came to visit the infant Jesus.

The candy cane became popular when, in 1847, a German-Swedish immigrant in Wooster, Ohio, who liked candy canes a lot, decided to string them on his Christmas tree as decorations. The idea soon caught up became quite a fashion in no time. By 1900, candy canes, which were earlier only white, came in red stripes, and with peppermint and cinnamon flavoring. Of course, now it's a popular tradition everywhere.



The candy canes became a much sought-after Christmas-decoration item as the 'hook' in the candy made it easier to hang them on the Yule trees, and the unique shape made it an eye-catching attraction.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thursday night services during Advent and Christmas

7pm at North SEA

Wednesday night Bible study moving to Thursday nights for the Seasons of Advent and Christmas at North SEA, 7pm, in the nave. Each week we will celebrate Eucharist and discuss the readings associated with the commemoration of the day. The service lasts about an hour.

Nov. 30th - Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle

Dec. 7th - Feast of St. Nicholas (transferred) - and celebration of new carpet upstairs!

Dec. 14 - Feast of St. Ambrose (transferred)

Dec. 21 - Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle

Dec. 28 - Holy Innocents

Jan. 4 - 11th day of Christmas

Wednesday morning Bible Study - -10:15am-11:30am, South SEA. We discuss the readings for the coming Sunday. All are welcome.

Calendar

Sunday worship 8am at the North Campus

the 10am service is at South campus, in San Bruno

December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

BC meeting at 11:30 (combined Nov and Dec meeting)

no sandwich making this day

December 7 (Thursday)

Celebration of Feast of St. Nicholas, 7pm North SEA

December 9 (Saturday)

Christmas Party at Safe Harbor Shelter, 2pm-4pm

December 14 (Thursday)

Celebration of Feast of St. Ambrose

December 21 (Thursday)

Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, 7pm North SEA

December 22 (Friday)

Preschool Christmas Pageant, 10am

December 24

4th Sunday of Advent. 8am North SEA

Dec. 24

Christmas Eve services at South SEA

4pm family Holy Eucharist with Christmas pageant

10pm Christmas Eve candle light service

Dec. 25 (Monday)

Christmas Day Lessons and Carols, 10am, South SEA

Dec. 26 - 28

Office closed

December 28, (Thursday) Celebration of Holy Innocents, 7pm North SEA

January 1&2, 2018 (Mon., Tues.) Office closed

January 4 (Thursday)

Holy Eucharist, 7pm, North SEA

January 7

First Sunday after the Epiphany, Baptism of our Lord Celebration of Holy Baptism at 10am service;

SafeHarbor Sandwiches during Coffee Hour

January 21 (Sunday)

Annual meeting

February 4 (Sunday)

11am Safe Harbor Sandwiches and Coffee Hour conversation with Officer Campbell about *LifeWorks* and homelessness in San Bruno and neighboring cities.

February 10 (Saturday)

Equipping the Beloved Community/Vestry Day, 9am-3:30pm, Grace Cathedral