



MAY 2024

IN THE INTERIM. . . .



In the Anglican Church we have not only a wonderful Prayer Book but also a wonderful hymn book. It contains so many hymns that we have joyfully sung for so many years. Some of these hymns have wonderful histories and I find it so enlightening to just dig a little below the surface of the words and music to find the history behind them. One such hymn is also one of my favorites and that is Hymn 690:

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.*

The words were originally written in Welsh in 1762 by William Williams who is generally acknowledged to be one of the greatest Welsh hymn composers. It was originally written in Welsh and titled a “Prayer for strength for the journey through the wilderness. The English version as we know today was a translation by Peter Williams in 1771.

The music was originally written in 1905 by John Hughes for a hymn festival (Cymanfa Ganu) in the town of Pontypridd, in the valleys of South Wales. It was modified two years later and became the version that we know so well. This modified version was played for the first time at the inauguration of the organ at Capel (Chapel) Rhondda in the town of Hopkinstown in the Rhondda Valley. It was given the title of “Cwm Rhondda”. Translated into English as “Rhondda Valley” or “Chapel Rhondda”

The valleys of South Wales are famous for their male voice choirs and this piece like so many more pieces that were composed by Welsh composers is primarily set to be performed by male singers. As such it will always be one of my favorites for it has such a wonderful bass line.

The hymn is popular around the world and is frequently used at funerals, most notably the funeral service of Diana, Princess of Wales and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. On a personal note I chose this piece for the funeral of my mother.

Many of you will also recognize the music for another of our popular hymns that we sing at Christ Church and that is hymn 594, “*God of Grace and God of Glory*,” which we will be singing this coming Sunday.

Music is such an important part of Anglican tradition and it is something that we should cherish, so enjoy everything that we sing within our services.

JOHN

“Following Christ, Discipling His People, Reaching Out to the World.”

Vestry Report – Friday, April 26, 2024

- Training to use the Defibrillator was successful with seven members of the congregation attending.
- We are still waiting for bids from contractors for the renovations.
- Training will start shortly on Pastoral Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Licensed Lay Readers.
- Both Easter Sunday and the Confirmation Service were well attended and very successful.
- We will be having a barbeque on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th.
- We will be having a parish picnic at Bass Lake in September.

GIVE THANKS....

Jeff and Heather Nocket for having the carpet cleaned in the Fellowship Hall.

Frank Simonis and Laura Ashley-Spencer for purchasing, fitting and organizing training for the AED machine.

All who helped and contributed to make Easter Sunday and the Confirmation two very special days for Christ Church.

Getting to know you....

Pat Eby

Christ Church Financial Report		
January 1st - March 31st 2024		
	Budgeted	Actual
Income	\$19,015	\$26,006
Expenses	\$37,314	\$8,447
Net	-\$29,151	\$17,559

Heather Nocket was born in San Jose, Ca and raised in Saratoga, Ca. The youngest of four, and the only girl!

“I am a life-long Episcopalian, having grown up at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Saratoga. Church was always an important part of our family life, and after confirmation I became an acolyte, a leader in the youth group, a camp counselor in the church camp, and the youngest sub deacon (now LEM) in the church to date,” she relates.



Heather is a San Jose State University alum, with a degree in marketing. Her career included several sales positions, and she retired after almost 20 years as an Executive Consultant with Touchstone Communications.

“A fancy title that really meant I coached people in presentation skills, lead seminars, and handled logistics for those seminars – a wearer of many hats, when in a small company,” she smiles.

Jeff and Heather met on a blind date in 2000, and married in 2005. They bought their home in Oakhurst in 2012 with the intention of moving there full time after Jeff retired from the aerospace industry. They made the move from Southern California in 2017.

She dove head first into community service upon making the move, specifically Soroptimist International of the Sierras, where she is a two times past president, and slated to be president for the third (“and final!!” she exclaims) time in 2026.

Joining Soroptimist International introduced her to like-minded women in the community who were also passionate about giving back – something she believes strongly in. In the past she volunteered for the USO at LAX for 8 years, was on staff with Habitat for Humanity, Los Angeles, and on staff with Camp St. Andrew’s, Saratoga. She currently serves on the Oakhurst Community Center Board, and is Vestry Community Services outreach person.

“I have lived in several places in the Bay Area, and Southern California, but have always considered myself a Northern Californian. One of my proudest accomplishments is having raised my boys in Southern California as avid Bay Area sports fans! However, my greatest job now is mom to my sons Brendan and Hunter, and step mom to Jeff’s son, Mike.” she states emphatically.

She is passionate about travel, and discovering new places to explore. Jeff shares her passion and they have traveled to several places, including some fantastic motorcycle adventures!

Heather also dearly adores her dogs. She is a self proclaimed “Lab snob”, and has owned and rescued seven Labrador Retrievers over the years. They currently have 3 rescues, one of each Lab color, black, yellow and red. What a handful!!!

“My faith has always been a big part of my life, but finding a church to call home hasn’t always been easy. I am thrilled to have found one at Christ Church!”

Celebrations of Life

Birthdays:

5/24 Nancy Berry
6/02 Lee Millet

Anniversaries:

5/01 Sean & Kim Langley
5/15 Ken & Becky Smith



Confirmation of Kate Hobbs
Ken & Amelia Hunter
Automated External Defibrillator
(AED) Training