

Navigating Transition

FROM CHRIS DELAMARTER AND CARRIE RYAN, TRANSITION LIFE COMMITTEE

Think of a time of transition in your life -- maybe it was a marriage, the birth of a child, or the loss of a job -- and reflect on how you felt during that time. Were you Excited? Sad? Angry? Confused? Perhaps it was a combination of feelings.

Transitions force us to confront many conflicting emotions, and to ask ourselves very basic questions: *Who am I now? Who will I be after this transition? Am I headed in a healthy direction? Is this an opportunity for growth?*

When Ed Bacon announced his retirement last year, All Saints Church began the necessary and difficult process of asking itself these same kinds of questions: *What does it mean to be All Saints? Who will we be without Ed?*

The Vestry of All Saints seeks to create a space of open, honest, safe, and compassionate questioning, recognizing that healthy transitions lead to healthy change, and healthy change leads to healthy and vital communities.

To support this process, the Vestry has authorized the creation of the Transition Life Committee (TLC), whose mission is to:

- Support the parish during the transition period by offering workshops, book groups, and other events around the theme of transitions;
- Plan events to say goodbye to Ed;
- Welcome the new rector to a healthy and vibrant faith community.

The TLC recognizes that no two people will react to any transition in the same way, but research has shown that most will experience some or all of the following three stages:

- *Endings.* This period can be marked by sadness, anger, even grief, as the awareness of an impending change takes hold. Because this period is often one of reflection on the past, of asking *What has All Saints been in my life?*, there is always the possibility of old wounds being reopened, or hidden patterns being exposed. This is a normal, if difficult, part of transition. At the same time, looking back can also give us a clear picture of what we do well, and can

help confirm and strengthen our core values.

- *The Neutral Zone.* The “in-between” time. This period can feel like wandering aimlessly. Because it is so fluid and difficult, most of us would rather move through it quickly. Experts in Institutional Transitions, however, have shown that the Neutral Zone can be a time of incredible creativity, as the inertia built up over years of relative stability starts to break down, releasing built-up creative energy. The result is that everything, from programming all the way down to basic institutional structures, is up for re-examination. This is a time to plan, to dream, and to ask “*What do we want All Saints to be?*”
- *Beginnings.* This is a time of renewed energy, focus, and growing excitement. Dreams start to become reality, ideas are implemented, as we begin to adjust to the new situation. This is a time for us to focus on the future, to jump in to new projects, and to ask “*Where is All Saints headed, and how can I use my skills and passions as part of that journey?*”

The story of Jesus’ 40 days of wandering, prayer, and fasting can be instructive during transition times. Jesus left everything that was familiar because he knew that he could not ignore the call of God. During his wilderness experience, as he prayed and listened, he was tempted to fall back into old patterns, to do what everyone expected him to do, and to play it safe—caring only for his own survival. Jesus listened to God, and came out of the desert with a new purpose of self-offering and love and a clear vision.

Let us, as a faith community, use this transition time to follow Jesus’ example! If we commit ourselves to listen, pray, discern, and struggle together as a community, All Saints can emerge from this period with a clear vision and strengthened purpose to bring hope, peace, and love to the world.

Please be a part of the conversation. Join us in the Rector’s Forum on June 21 as we discuss coming events and the role of the broader parish community in this process. Check out our web page for updates and events: <http://allsaints-pas.org/rector-search/transition-life-committee/>.

June

Voices from the Heart Brunch: Music and Faith

Please join Women's Community to honor All Saints Choir Soloists Zanaida Robles and Elizabeth Tatum on Sunday, June 14, at 12:30 p.m. in Sweetland Hall. Everyone



Elizabeth and Zanaida

is welcome! Elizabeth and Zanaida will share their faith journeys and love of music, plus the inspiration that mu-

sic has contributed to their lives. They will also sing! If you have been amazed by the artistry of these two outstanding musicians/singers, you won't want to miss this special program.

Luncheon, drinks and socializing will begin at 12:30 p.m., followed by the program of music and stories which promises to entertain and inspire. Admission is \$20. Sponsorship categories are available to help defray the cost of the event and to provide scholarships for anyone who may need assistance with the cost of admission. Sign up at the Women's Community lawn table, or visit the Women's Community online signup here: <http://www.allsaints-pas.org/community/parish-life/womens-community/>. If you would like to volunteer to help at this event, or have questions please contact Gerry Puhara at 818.970.7564 or gdpuhara@gmail.com or Gloria Roman at 626.660.8638 or gloriaroman@att.net.

Childcare can be arranged through Jamie Hebert at 626.583.2733 or jhebert@allsaints-pas.org by June 10.

California's Drought and the Human Right to Water

While the media focuses on water regulations, urban vs. agricultural water use, and jet stream rainfall movements, California's

Summertime Giving

Are you making plans for vacations and time away this summer? If so, make sure that you include continuing contributions toward your pledge. Our staff can help you find ways to maintain your generous giving while away. Contact Jim Loduha in the Giving Office at 626.583.2736 or JLoduha@allsaints-pas.org with questions, or visit www.allsaints-pas.org/support/donate to make online pledge payments and contributions (maybe even while you're streaming on the website on Sunday mornings!). And, as always, thank you for your inspiring generosity!

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Salt Lake City

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets every three years and is the only council of the church authorized to speak for the whole church. Two legislative houses (Deputies – who are laity and clergy – and Bishops) will meet in Salt Lake City from June 25-July 3 to consider a vast array of issues and opportunities. High on the list in 2015 are proposals to restructure and streamline the institutional church; to make canonical and liturgical changes to bless and celebrate marriages between same-sex couples and a plethora of social and economic justice resolutions. The work of General Convention is deeply prayerful work – done in the context of daily worship and ongoing prayer and reflection. Attending from All Saints this year will be Jim White (who is the chair of the deputation from the Diocese of Los Angeles), Susan Russell (who is a first alternate deputy and will be coordinating the legislative team working for marriage equality) and Mel Soriano (who is the Communication Director for Integrity – the LGBT caucus.) Do keep the important work of General Convention in your prayers – and visit <http://www.generalconvention.org/> or follow #GC78 on twitter for information and updates.

four-year drought is having a devastating effect on disadvantaged communities and their families. In a state where over 10% of its residents, mostly in



rural towns and working class cities, have no daily access to potable water, the California water crisis goes far beyond lawn watering and almond growing practices. Join us on Thursday, June 18, 7:00 p.m. in the All Saints Forum as Meredith McKenzie, California water expert and lecturer at Cal Poly Pomona, talks about the depth and ramifications of the crisis and ways that All Saints members and the community at large can support effective water availability and environmental justice for our poorest citizens. Co-sponsors are Sustainable World, EDEN (Environmental Defense of the Earth Now), Transition Pasadena and the Arroyo Interfaith Environmental Coalition.

Jazz Vespers: Russell Ferrante

On Sunday, June 28, 5:00 p.m. in the Chancel, All Saints parish-ioner and founding member of

the YellowJackets, Russell Ferrante offers music. Russell has performed with Jimmy Witherspoon, Joni Mitchell, Bobby McFerrin, Robben Ford, Al Jarreau, Marilyn Scott, Sadao Watanabe and Tom Scott. He currently teaches Jazz Studies at USC. He will be joined by Michael Valerio on bass and Steve Schaeffer on drums. Zelda Kennedy offers a meditation. If you would like to use the elevator for accessibility, please arrive five minutes early. Child care provided. Info = or Melissa Hayes, 626.583.2725 or mhayes@allsaints-pas.org.



Russell Ferrante

Clarke Oler Memorial Service

The memorial service for former All Saints priest Clarke Oler will be held in the church on Saturday, June 13, at 2:00 p.m. A reception will follow in Sweetland Hall. All are welcome.



Clarke Oler

Transformational Journey to Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple

Saturday, June 6, 10:30 a.m. –2:00 p.m. Join us for local TJ to this Chinese Buddhist Temple in Hacienda Heights to learn about Buddha's teachings of kindness, compassion, joyfulness, and equanimity. The tour will cover the Bodhisattva Hall, gardens, courtyard, and Main Shrine. A museum is also on site. Join others in the famous dining hall for a delicious veggie buffet. \$10/person for tour and lunch. Sign-up = Norma Sigmund at 626.583.2734 or nsigmund@allsaints-pas.org.

Canterbury and Coventry Spring Concert

Sunday, June 7, at 5:00 p.m. in the Church. Canterbury and Coventry Choirs, directed by James Walker and Zanaida Robles, will offer music from around the world, including selections from Louis Vierne's monumental *Messe solennelle* and from composers Coleridge-Taylor, Gjeilo, Nystedt, Parry, Paulus, Robles, Walker. If you can't join us, watch live video streaming at <http://www.allsaints-pas.org/worship/streaming/>. Child care provided. \$10.00 suggested donation. Information = Debbie Daniels, 626.583.2750 or ddaniels@allsaints-pas.org.

The Impact of Overpopulation on Planet Earth

According to studies cited in this month's Conscientious Projector documentary, *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret*, the leading cause of global climate change is not fossil fuels, but meat, a.k.a. the animal agriculture industry. The production of meat for human consumption is the world's largest driver of rainforest destruction, water depletion, species extinction, habitat loss, topsoil erosion, ocean dead zones and virtually every other environmental ill. The film cites both corporate media's failure to report this and the environmental movement's silence on the subject.

Cowspiracy will screen on Thursday, June 11, 7:00 p.m. at Armory Center for the Arts, 145 N. Raymond in Old Pasadena. **NOTE:** Brief but graphic images may be inappropriate for young children. Admission is free and the facility is accessible to disabled persons. More information = Marty Coleman at 818.517.8878 or visit www.cowspiracy.com.

All Saints Theatre Ministry Summer Season

- **Waterfall** - Friday, June 26, 8:00 p.m. at Pasadena Playhouse; tickets \$53, available at <http://qrs.ly/lf4nmfz>

Join us for a world premiere of a new musical, *Waterfall*. An epic love story set in Bangkok and Tokyo between the turbulent years of 1933 and 1939, as a monarchy falls in Thailand and Japan is on the brink of war. We will have a pre-show beverage and cheese reception.

- **Shiv** - Friday, July 17, 8:00 p.m. at Theatre @ Boston Court; tickets \$24, available at <http://qrs.ly/ta4nmfw>

This post-Colonial fantasy loosely based on Shiva, the Hindu destroyer god, explores a vividly rendered relationship between a girl becoming a young American woman and the South Asian poet father who inspires and eventually disappoints her. We will have a post-show beverage and cheese reception.

Tickets will be available for purchase at the Sign-Up Center on the lawn, June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 5 and 12, or by following the links above. Information = Debbie Daniels, 626.583.2750 or ddaniels@allsaints-pas.org.

Summer Adventure

Mark your calendars now for our week of summer fun at All Saints. Our theme this year will focus on health and wellness: *Fit to Change the World: everyBODY included*. This program is for children and youth, Kindergarten through 8th grade, with opportunities for high school students as camp counselors. Camp will run Monday–Friday, July 13–17, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Registration online begins June 21 at <http://bit.ly/1FhhTjf>. More details to come! Information = Jamie Hebert, 626.583.2733 or jhebert@allsaints-pas.org.

June Adult Education Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

June 14

Sacred Path of the Fool: Brave Vulnerability in Buddhist Perspective

with Caitlyn Conlin

The archetype of the fool cultivates a mind of openness, innocence, and play while being completely honest with the present moment. This brave vulnerability allows one to step fearlessly into the unknown and discover a sense of wonder in relation to our obstacles and afflictions. Through meditation and wisdom we will explore how the entirety of our human experience can be used as a pathway towards awakening and deep compassion. Caitlyn Conlin is a student in the Gelugpa lineage, the lineage of the Dalai Lamas in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. She is the Arts Curriculum Coordinator at the Mahasukha Center in Los Angeles, a meditation teacher, an actress, musician and interdisciplinary artist. SWEETLAND HALL

Transformed by the Vastness of China

with the TJ China Team

China is a large country filled with ancient art, culture and tradition while also a modern force speeding through economic and social development. In April a group of 20 All Saints members traveled through five Chinese cities and learned for themselves all about what China was, is, and hopes to be through its geography and people. Come hear about the traveler's journey of awe, wonder, joy and transformation. GUILD ROOM

June 21

Sacred Path of the Fool: Brave Vulnerability in Buddhist Perspective

with Caitlyn Conlin

Part 2 of 2 parts (see June 14 above). SWEETLAND HALL

Access to Clean Water Builds a Secure and Healthy Future

with Leslie Moulton

Leslie Moulton talks about her work with El Porvenir, Spanish for "the future" (www.elporvenir.org), and a recent work trip to rural Nicaragua in March to support local community-based efforts to build water wells, latrines, washing stations, and micro-reforestation projects that together help secure access to sustainable, clean water supplies. Access to safe and enduring clean water supplies improves health, provides economic opportunities and supports a better future for the many rural Nicaraguans living in poverty today. Nicaragua is the second poorest country in our Western hemisphere. El Porvenir has been partnering with rural Nicaraguan communities for over 25 years to develop access to clean water. Join Leslie for some armchair travel to El Sauce, Nicaragua and hear about the inspiring work happening in Nicaragua. Maybe there's a work trip in your future? Leslie is an environmental consultant working on water projects throughout California. GUILD ROOM

June 28

Manzanar and Homeboy Industries: Local Transformational Journeys of Faith

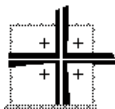
with the Manzanar and Homeboy TJ teams

Come and hear from the participants who journeyed to Homeboy Industries and Learning Works Charter School in Boyle Heights in late February and to Manzanar in late April. Learn how these two day trips provided travelers with the unique opportunity to hear stories of the disenfranchised and understand how they were transformed by listening, receiving and experiencing what these communities had to offer. SWEETLAND HALL

Praying for Others

If you are interested in praying for others, please call the Prayer Line at 626.583.2707 or prayers@allsaints-pas.org.

Altar flowers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one, celebrate a special event, or to give thanks for someone who has touched your life. To donate flowers for the altars, please call 626.796.1172.



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Events and Opportunities

• **Fiction Fun! Reads** ***The Narrow Road to the Deep North*** •

Join us on Friday, June 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Guild Room as we discuss Richard Flanagan's *The Narrow Road to the Deep North*. Copies are available each month at Vroman's Will Call desk, with a discount of 20% if you mention *Fiction Fun!* Information = Amanda McCormick at 626.583.2769 or amccormick@allsaints-pas.org.

**Have you included
All Saints in your will
or estate plan? Let us
know! If you'd like
to learn more about
making a pledge or
planned gift, call
the Giving Office at
626.583.2736**

• **Becoming a Spiritual Director: An Orientation**

• Stillpoint: The Center for Christian Spirituality has created a new three-day orientation to this ancient ministry. Those who are exploring what spiritual directors do are invited to join us for an enjoyable introduction to this extraordinary work. Thursday–Saturday, June 11–13. "Becoming a Spiritual Director" will be held at Church of Our Saviour, 535 West Roses Road, San Gabriel, California 91755. For more information and to register, go to www.stillpointca.org. Registration is limited and must be received by June 1.



An Inspiring Children and Youth Spring Concert, 5/17



Farewell to Associate Organist Szymon Grab

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