

Parent Culture

FROM LAURA THORNTON, CHILDREN'S MINISTER

In Parent Culture, we create community. On Sunday mornings at 10:15, there is a safe space to share your experience, there is support and encouragement as we do the work of parenting, and there is a lot of laughter! Sometimes parenting can feel like an isolated job that we must trudge through without help, but Parent Culture is a group where you can bring your struggles, your second-guessing and your heartache. We share our stories of parenting in the framework of current topics and issues, spirituality, outreach, sexuality, race, death, family, holidays, and much more. Our intention is to build community by getting to know each other, encouraging one another and feeling the kindred spirits of other parents along the way.

Parent Culture has been meeting for the last 3 years and in that time we have connected in conversations on Sundays as well as social gatherings and service opportunities. We have shared many meals with other parents and children at a transitional home which helps homeless families get into permanent housing. We have had potlucks, Mom's Night Out, Dad's Night Out and pool parties every summer. We are striving to put our faith into action and teaching our children about peace and justice in real, tangible ways.

I'm often asked, "How do I talk to my children about God? They are asking lots of questions and I don't know the answers."

First of all, if your child (grandchild, godchild, any child you know) is asking questions, you are doing it right! I firmly believe that when children ask questions, they already have an idea about the answer. Here is an opportunity to talk. Part of our job as adults is to provide space for the questions and

wonder with our children about the answers.

Second, you do not have to know all the answers. In fact, I'd be curious about your faith journey if you felt you did know all the answers.

Wonder is a beautiful part of our Sunday school curriculum. Children hear a story from the Bible, then they are invited to wonder about it. "What do you like about the story?" "I wonder where you are in the story?" We can wonder with our children about all kinds of things including how God works in the world, where we see God, how we feel God in our lives. We can wonder about all aspects of our faith and give space to our children's thoughts and feelings. My experience with children shows me that, most days, they can hold the mystery of God much better than I can.

And finally, this is an ongoing conversation. When you are open to the questions of children, it allows you to be part of their journey. In Parent Culture you can bring your own questions and struggles. You will be supported and loved, you will hear stories of how other parents are talking to their children, and you may be challenged to try on a new way of thinking. We will come again and again to questions about God and our beliefs, and each time the conversation is new with more understanding, more insight, more experience, and maybe even more mystery! We have a lifetime with our children to participate in the wonder and conversation about faith and life.

You are invited to join us in Parent Culture, to be on the journey together as we raise our children and encourage each other along the way.

February

Confirmation 2016

The Confirmation program is for anyone wanting to go deeper into the history, theology, and core values of the Episcopal Church and the Christian faith in general. Participants include those seeking Confirmation in the Episcopal Church -- described in the Prayer Book as "a mature public affirmation of faith and commitment to the responsibilities of Baptism." It also includes those wishing to reaffirm their Confirmation or to be "received" from another tradition into the Episcopal Church. Finally, it includes those who just want to know more about the Episcopal Church or to explore their call to lay ministry as a member of All Saints Church. The class consists of a series of eight presentations, discussions, and small group meetings plus a two-day retreat. The class begins Sunday, Feb. 21. Sign up online or for more information contact Jamie Hebert, jhebert@allsaints-pas.org.

Jazz Vespers: Russell Ferrante

Sunday, Feb. 21, 5:00 p.m. in the Chancel. All Saints Parishioner, founding member of the Yellowjackets, Russell Ferrante's first exposure to music came from his church, where his father was the choir director, as well as being a frequent vocal soloist, and had a vocal gospel quartet. He began piano lessons at 9 with the expectation that one day he would be the church pianist...but his musical interests took him elsewhere. Russ has performed with Jimmy Witherspoon, Jim Pepper, Joe Farrell, Joni Mitchell, Bobby McFerrin, Robben Ford, Al Jarreau, Marilyn Scott, Kevyn Lettau, Ernie Watts, Sadao Watanabe, GRP, Big Band, Lee Ritenour, Tom Scott, Take 6, Michael Franks, Eric Marienthal, and Brenda Russell. Russell currently teaches in the Jazz Studies department at USC. Ed Bacon offers a meditation. Childcare provided. Information = Melissa Hayes, 626.583.2725 or mhayes@allsaints-pas.org.

Wondrous Encounters: Scripture & Meditation for Lent

Once again Richard Rohr gives us rich food for our mind and soul in this small but intriguing book of Lenten daily meditations reflecting on accompanying scripture. Each Thursday,

Money Matters!

Breaking News out of Washington, D.C.: At the end of 2015 a package of tax changes were made permanent by Congress. Among the changes is the popular IRA Charitable Rollover.

The IRA Charitable Rollover is a great way to give a tax-free gift to All Saints. You can use your gift to satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) without increasing your income taxes. If you are 70½ or older you can have your IRA administrator transfer your gift directly from your traditional or Roth IRA account to All Saints. (401(k), 403(b), SEP IRA accounts, and other retirement accounts do not qualify.)

You can make a gift of up to \$100,000 per person, per year. If you have a spouse who is also 70½ or older who has an IRA, she or he may also give up to \$100,000 from her or his IRA, enabling married couples to donate up to \$200,000 per year from their IRAs.

Consider these important requirements to give an IRA Charitable Rollover gift:

- You must be age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
- The gift must come from a traditional or Roth IRA account.
- The gift must go directly from your IRA administrator to All Saints Church.
- Total IRA charitable rollover gifts in any one year cannot exceed \$100,000 per person.
- The gift can count toward your RMD if you haven't already taken your RMD for the year.
- The gift from your IRA will not be available as an income tax charitable deduction.
- The gift from your IRA will be excluded from income.
- As always, it is wise to consult with your tax professionals regarding your own tax situation.

Up next month: *Money-Saving Energy Tips*. Contact Jim Loduha in the Giving Office at jloduha@allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.2736, with questions about giving or pledging.

Soul and Synapse:

The Integration of Science and Spirituality

Dr. Daniel Siegel is returning to All Saints Church on Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 12-13 for "Soul and Synapse: The Integration of Science and Spirituality." In this contemplative retreat, through the learning and use of current meditation and mindfulness practices, we will explore the integration of science and spirituality and experience the ways in which our inner subjective lives, our interpersonal relationships, and our objective empirical knowledge can be woven together to illuminate the importance of meaning, connection, and equanimity in our lives.

Utilizing experiential exercises engaging the deep nature of our subjective inner and interpersonal lives, we will address such questions as: why does feeling part of "a larger whole" matter so much, and why does not simply living as an isolated self, limited to our skin-defined boundaries, improve our immune system functioning? What are the scientific insights that reveal why a spiritual life with meaning and connection is "good for you"? Participants will learn how to use their mind in integrative ways in order to transform their lives as we work together to transform the world. Cost for the retreat is \$180. Register online. More information = Jamie Hebert at jhebert@allsaints-pas.org or 626.583.2733.

Feb. 11 – Mar. 17, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Learning Center we will read and share insights, questions and challenges on these readings as a group. Discussion will be led by Susan Adkins. To provide a comfortable opportunity for participation, the group size is limited to 24 participants. *Wondrous Encounters* may be purchased at Vroman's or through Amazon as a book or Kindle format. For information or to sign up contact Susan Adkins, 626.298.3260 or susannaadkins@sbcglobal.net.

CONNECT
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Sin Coats!

This year's coat drive collected 905 new and gently used coats, 20 blankets, 40 scarfs, and 20 pairs of gloves that were distributed amongst the Los Angeles Catholic Worker, Pasadena Unified School District's Families in Transition program, and The Bad Weather Shelter. Our Homeless ministry also received 30 coats which they distributed among our homeless guests on Mondays, as the ministry had received requests for winter/rain gear.

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.

Transition Life Happenings Celebrate Ed Bacon's Last Year

Save these dates now, and celebrate Ed Bacon's time
at All Saints Church!

April 22, 2016

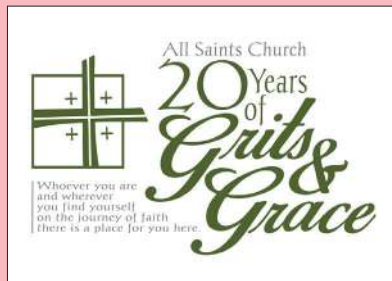
Roast and Champagne reception, open to all.

May 1, 2016

**10 a.m. All-Parish service on the Street.
Ed's last Sunday!**

20 Years of Grits & Grace

The mural is back this month on Sunday, Feb. 7 (and will return February 14th and 28th as well)! Please visit and add your artistic vision to our celebration of 20 years of grits and grace! Find an image that speaks to you, grab a Sharpie, and add a bit more color to All Saints' already vibrant history. Volunteers are on the lawn ready to answer questions or help.



All Saints Memory Book for Ed and Hope

All Saints Church is creating a memory book for Ed and Hope to celebrate their time here, and the impact they have had on so many lives. To participate, please email a digital photo to asc.pasadena.photos@gmail.com, or drop a paper photo off at the Sign-Up Center between Feb. 14 - March 13. One photo per family. If you bring a photo to the table, please be aware that it will NOT be returned to you, so make sure that you bring a copy. When you submit your photo, please clearly identify the date the photo was taken, the event (if necessary), and the people. Due to the high volume expected, there is no guarantee that your photo will be included in the final book, though every effort will be made to include as many as possible.

Shrove Tuesday

February 9, 5:30–7:30 p.m. in Sweetland Hall. Bring your Mardi Gras spirit to this traditional last "fat" meal of pancakes before Ash Wednesday! Gluten-free options available. Children's crafts and activities. \$5 Adults \$3 Kids (Under 5 years free). Info = Amanda McCormick, 626.583.2765 or amccormick@allsaints-pas.org.

Ash Wednesday Services February 10

7:00 a.m. (Chapel) Jon Dephouse preaches

12:10 p.m. (Church) Susan Russell preaches

6:00 p.m. (Chapel) Spanish Language service Antonio Gallardo preaches

7:30 p.m. (Church) Ed Bacon preaches and Canterbury Choir offers plainsong and music of Byrd and Gibbons.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, traditionally the 40-day period of fasting before Easter. Ashes are blessed, mixed with either holy oil or water, and imposed on the head with the sign of the cross, or sprinkled on the forehead. Child care is provided. Information = Debbie Daniels at 626.583.2750 or ddaniels@allsaints-pas.org.

Contemplative Evening Eucharist

Sunday, Feb. 14, 5:00 p.m. in the church. As we enter the season of Lent enjoy music, silence and the beauty of our church's architecture. Open yourself to the blessings of joy, healing and peace. Canterbury Choir offers music of Hopkins and Gwyneth Walker. James Walker offers *Prelude, Fugue and Variation* by César Franck. Child care is available. Information = Debbie Daniels, 626.583.2750 or ddaniels@allsaints-pas.org.

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

February 7

Under the Affluence: A Conversation about Wealth and Poverty, Race and Religion with Rick Thyne

Tim Wise came to All Saints on January 30 and 31 to engage us in a dialogue about race, and understanding the dynamics of white privilege, in order to gain the skills to be more effective in eradicating racism in America. All Saints parishioner and gifted teacher, Rick Thyne, will continue this vitally important work in a 2-week series engaging the topics of income inequality, racial injustice, and the role faith plays in our public discussions and decision. Though it is not required, it is recommended to read Tim Wise's book *Under the Affluence*, during or before this class series. Rick is a practicing psychotherapist for individuals and families in Pasadena. He is the author of *The Awful Grace of God: A Memoir of Faith, Death, and the Survival of Hope*. His other writings can be found at whenlifegetsdifficult.com. SWEETLAND HALL

Opening our Eyes to Youth Homelessness in Los Angeles with Rhonda Johnson

Homeless youth are a population that does not receive a great deal of attention. They are essentially invisible, hard to recognize as homeless, and difficult to understand. Who are these homeless youth? What are the struggles and issues they face on a daily basis? Why they are homeless? Where are they located within Los Angeles County? And how can we help them out of their homelessness, work through their struggles and become whole, healthy, and contributing members of our communities? These are the questions that will be discussed in this informative presentation. Rhonda Johnson is a Homeless Systems Analyst at Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and member of the All Saints community. GUILD ROOM

February 14

Under the Affluence: A Conversation about Wealth and Poverty, Race and Religion with Rick Thyne

Part 2. See February 7 above. SWEETLAND HALL

Syrian Refugee Documentary to Feature Local Filmmaker

When news of the refugee exodus from the civil war in Syria first emerged, local filmmaker Elias Matar felt compelled to help. So in September 2015 he joined other international volunteers in assisting the refugees on their treacherous journey north. As a Syrian-American born in California, and having lived in Syria for 15 years, Elias felt a personal connection to the refugees, and was committed to documenting their remarkable stories of survival and determination. The result of this labor of love is the documentary *Flight of the Refugees*, Conscientious Projector's screening on Thursday, Feb. 11, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Armory Center for the Arts, 145 N. Raymond in Old Pasadena.

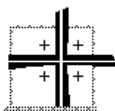
Filmmaker Elias Matar joins us for a community discussion following the film. Admission is free and the facility is accessible to disabled persons. For more information contact Marty Coleman at 818.517.8878 or visit the film's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/flightoftherefugees.

Lenten Meditation/Mindfulness Experience

Jesus' life was marked by a balance of contemplation and action. During the Sundays in Lent, Feb. 14, 21, 28, Mar. 6 & 13, we will have 10 minutes of facilitated meditation prior to all services. We invite you to enter the church, quiet your body, sit restfully in peace, and follow the suggestions of our meditation facilitators. Information = Melissa Hayes, mhayes@allsaints-pas.org.

Parish Camp -- Save The Date!

For the first time in many years we will venture to beautiful Camp Stevens in Julian, on Memorial Day Weekend, May 28 – 30. We leave Saturday morning and return on Monday – and we may even have a charter bus to ride out on together! Jon Dephouse will be chaplain for the weekend. All food and activities provided, and all ages welcome. Registration will begin on FEBRUARY 21 so you can calendar this weekend in advance. Space is limited. Stay tuned for details.



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Events and Opportunities

• **Interfaith Study Group** • On Valentine's Day, Sunday, Feb. 14 at 11 a.m., join us on a special Interfaith Journey to All Saints with members of The Islamic Center of Southern California, and The Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, as well as members of All Saints' 20/30's, Middle East, and Transformational Journeys Ministries to experience a typical Sunday service together. Following the service we will take a tour of our beautiful Church and gather for a light lunch where we will have an opportunity to learn about All Saints' Mission and have questions answered by a member of the All Saints clergy. Because we are taking

a tour and serving a light luncheon we need to limit attendance to a maximum number of 50 attendees. To reserve a space for this event please use the following link to register: <http://bit.ly/1ZQb1sb>.

• 2016 Pledging Guide

• It's not too late! Now is the time to pledge for 2016. As of January 15 we have \$3,531,148 in pledges toward a pledge goal of more than \$4,000,000. Annual pledges support everything we do at All Saints, from our peace and justice work and our musical offerings, to our children's, youth and family ministries. Every pledge helps us reach our goal, so please consider generously pledging or even increasing in your 2016 pledge today.

Pledge today in one of

four easy ways: **Click:** www.allsaints-pas.org/support/pledge; **Call:** 626.583.2753; **Write:** return a completed pledge card to church; or **Scan:** scan this QR code from your mobile device.



The Giving Office will gladly answer any questions you have about pledging at All Saints Church. Please contact Jim Loduha, Senior Director of Development and Giving, at 626.583.2736 or jloduha@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

Attention Postmaster: Dated Material

February Rector's Forums at 10:15 a.m. Sundays

February 7—Kenneth Turan on the Oscars



February 14—James Carroll on his new book

February 28—Bryan Stevenson on justice (and Bryan will preach at the 9 and 11:15 services!)



2 Decades of Baby Jesuses Gather on December 20th!



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