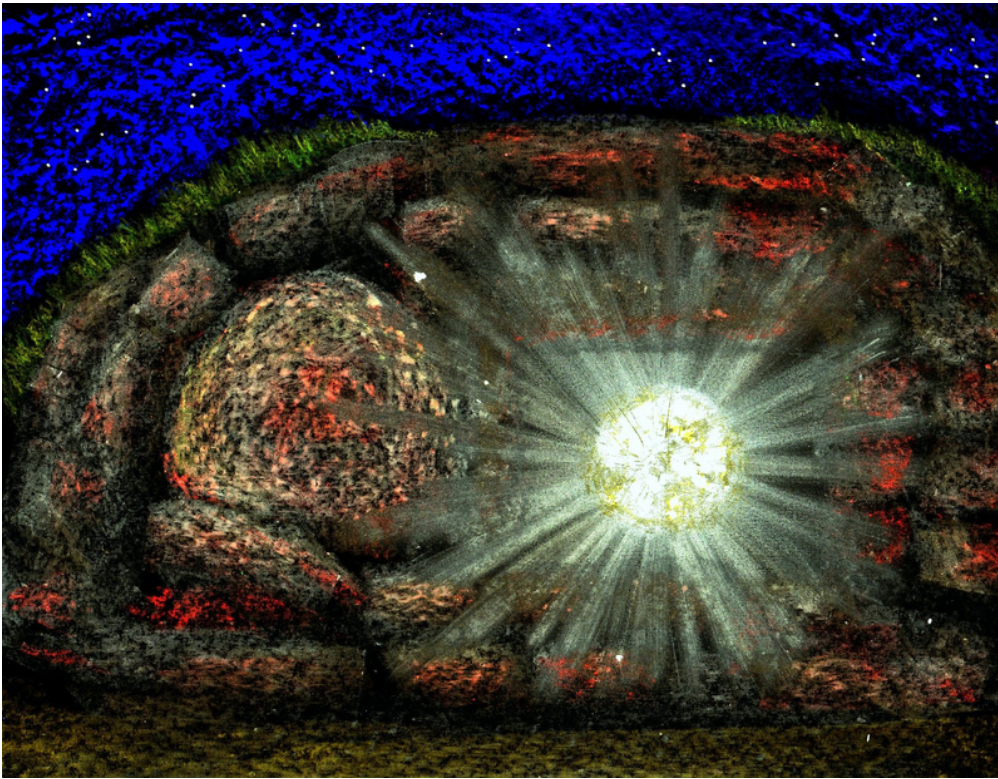


APRIL 2022

THE SHAMROCK

Monthly publication of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church



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Easter is
April 17th

Letter from the Pastor



Dear Friends in Christ,

I can not help but feel a bit more hopeful of late. I do not know if it is the fact that Easter is quickly approaching—mark your calendars for Sunday, April 17th! Or possibly it is the warmer weather enlivening my soul. Or maybe it is the energy that has come out of our most recent Vestry retreat on March 12th—a time for the leadership of this congregation to grow and discern together.

During this retreat the Vestry studied the words of Luke 12:22-31. You might recall this passage when Jesus asks us to look at the birds of the air and the lilies of the field. These words remind us that God takes care of them, and so how can God not take care of us? For me personally these verses encourage me not to be anxious, but to be present to the work of the Spirit in the here and now. These verses put into perspective our own mission on this earth:

Do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well (vv. 29-31).

We as disciples of Christ are called to strive first for God's kingdom. That is our ultimate goal. It is our final reward in the life after this, but it is also a reality we are participating in now. We currently are assisting with the inbreaking of God's kingdom. You might ask yourself, "How is this possible in my limited human capacity?" I see this already happening within St. Patrick's, and I invite you to participate in our work.

We are lifting up the lowly and feeding the hungry with good things (Lk 2:46-55). Every Thursday, Sierra Community House arrives on our campus to distribute nutrition to those suffering from food insecurity. Might you be called to join Lenty Hagen and our other volunteers in nourishing local friends—mind, body and soul?

We are considering how we might live into our Baptismal Covenant which asks us, "Will you strive for justice and peace, and respect the dignity of every human being" (BCP p.305). This spring, after our celebration of the Resurrection, a small group will be gathering on Sunday mornings to participate in a transformational discussion about race and reconciliation in a program entitled, "Sacred Ground." Might you be called to join us for this series?

We are learning more fully to love our neighbor as ourselves (Lk 10:27). Over the last two years, homeless and housing insecurity in Tahoe has been on the rise. It is no longer just a concern, but a crisis. Several parishioners, including a beloved Vestry member, River Coyote, have joined the work of United for Action, as we educate and advocate concerning this issue that affects all of us. Might you be called to help us finally find a creative solution to this monumental dilemma?

My friends, the work is not easy but it is rewarding and life-altering. It is the work of the Resurrection, which reminds us that nothing can overcome the love of God. Will we ourselves break out of the tomb of death and decay of the last two years and bring the light of Christ into the lives of those who so desperately need it?

Letter from the Pastor, cont'd

Will we be a beacon of hope for the beloved community of North Tahoe? Will we strive for the kingdom of God here on earth?

God's peace and love, The Rev. Sarah A. Dunn+

Letter from the Vestry

The Vestry completed their annual retreat on Saturday, March 12, at Camp Galilee. What a peaceful and spiritual place for a retreat. The blue sky and peaceful campus environment allowed the vestry to gain spiritual, creative and realistic insights into activities that form our St. Patrick's community.

As one might expect when on a retreat, the most important task was to understand what we (the vestry) and we (the church) are – both as a vestry or governing board and as a parish. We looked inward as we began to understand who we are, and outward to understand who we needed to become. Roles within the parish and within the community were discussed. We identified what we were doing well and where we needed improvements. We were very proud of the parish's continued outreach, expanded use of our outdoor chapel, our ability to use technology to reach more people, and the courage and persistence we all showed as we navigated worship during the pandemic. We noted, however, that we needed to improve communication both within the parish and the community. Nothing like talking about "growing edges" to keep us modest!

We were able to make progress on perhaps the most important decision facing the parish: how to make use of the proceeds from sale of the condominium donated by Sally Hammel. First, and most importantly, the Vestry approved over \$450,000 to fund the Sally J. Hammel Endowment at St. Patrick's church! The endowment will ensure the future of the parish with proceeds used to support the mission of St. Patrick's including worship, formation, education direct support of operating needs and outreach. St. Patrick's will forever be grateful to the vision and love shown by Sally – both when she was here in person and in the future where her spirit will live with us.

Sally's gift was not limited to funding the endowment. Proceeds from the sale of the condominium allowed the parish to add \$150,000 to its capital reserve and replenish funds used to refurbish the condo in preparation of its sale in January. We were also able to add funds to rectory reserve so that needed updates and improvements can be made. Finally, we were able to earmark over \$70,000 to support regional projects that address homeless and housing insecurity. Sally's generosity, love and vision for the future will be felt for years to come!

You'll hear more how funds are expended and improvements we will support in the weeks ahead. Rumor has it that we will have a dinner in her honor in June – stay tuned!



Outreach Committee

LEADERS: CONNIE SKIDMORE AND CHERRY BARNEY

**KAREN BARNEY, REV. SARAH DUNN, LENTY HAGEN,
GINNIE JED, MARILYN JOHNSTON, LUCILLE WANG,
SALLY WHITE**

UKRAINE RELIEF:

\$5412 has been sent to Samaritan's Purse for those affected by the war in Ukraine. This includes \$1000 pledged by the Outreach Committee.

HOUSING INSECURITY:

Clare is a member of the Mountain Housing Council's Tiger Team which seeks solutions for temporary work force housing. For example, a safe place to park campers overnight might be offered by a local church or non-profit. "Landing Locals" is another example. Landing Locals connects vacation-home owners and renters with the goal of finding stable housing for local residents— whether seasonal or long-term. Its innovative partnership and grant program, funded by the Town of Truckee, offers qualifying Truckee property owners up to \$10k when they rent their homes long-term to local employees.

The excellent 9/21 report by the Tahoe Prosperity Center on the housing crisis in Washoe Tahoe (Incline, Crystal Bay) can be found at
<https://tahoeprosperity.org/wp-content/uploads/Washoe-Tahoe-Housing-Needs-final-9.30.21-Web.pdf>



UFA hopes to be a liaison between the Mountain Housing Council (CA) and Tahoe Prosperity Center (NV) in adapting housing ideas to our area. Cathie Foley and Clare will give a presentation on the local housing crisis to St. Francis Church on April 6 at 6:30 pm. Clare and Cathie will also speak to St. Patrick's at a Sunday coffee hour soon. All For One, UFA's program providing a night's stay in a motel for stranded travelers, will now be administered by St. Francis. The program had been on hold during the pandemic.

ST. PATRICK'S MEAL TRAIN:

Lenty has coordinated meals for Rachael and Andrew Marshall, a church family, upon arrival of their new baby. The committee thanks Lenty for her dedication to this outreach effort for many years.

SIERRA COMMUNITY HOUSE:

The SCH food distribution serves 530 households weekly—210 of these are served by the St. Patrick's distribution on Thursdays. Between 1100 and 1400 pounds of food (about 916-1166 meals) are given out at St. Patrick's every week. The Pet Network contribution of pet supplies has been much appreciated.

HAMMEL ESTATE MONIES:

Sarah reports that the Vestry has determined how this bequest of \$723,000 will be used. The Rectory Reserve Fund will receive \$50,000. The Capital Reserve Fund will receive \$125,000. There will be an Endowment Fund of \$425,000. \$72,000 will go toward solutions for local Homelessness and Housing Insecurity. This represents a tithe or 10% of the total bequest.

CAFÉ CONVERSACION:

Lucille reports that the Café has been on pause after the resignation of the ESL teacher at TFS. Millie has been looking for a new teacher and may teach one evening a week herself. When TFS resumes ESL classes, the Café hopes to become active again.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East--The plate collection at the Good Friday service will be donated to the Province. The Outreach Committee adds \$250 to the Good Friday collection for the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East.



SIERRA
Community
HOUSE





St. Patrick's Day Party



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2
2





Family Service at St. Pat's

Twice a month, we gather for worship in a family-focused environment. Every service starts with a potluck supper at 5pm and ends with the kids doing a fun craft. We are so happy to have Deacon Ken officially on staff to design these services!

The next family service is scheduled for April 23rd.





Sacred Ground

A Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race & Faith

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of *Becoming Beloved Community*, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.

Stuart Campbell, the ED of Camp Galilee, and Rev. Sarah Dunn, will be co-facilitating this group together at St. Patrick's. Our time together will be approximately 1.5 hrs. This series is ten sessions long, and we ask that participants be able to commit to at least 9 of 10 of those sessions. We can chat about the possibility for hybrid participation, or moving the dates slightly later if need be. Please email Nora Behrens, our St. Pat's admin, at office@tahoeepiscopal.org in order to pursue this opportunity.

I hope you will join us in this transformational work of learning to more fully love our neighbor as ourselves. This will change us as individuals, and us as a church community.

Holy⁺Week

SCHEDULE AT ST. PATRICK'S

<u>Maundy Thursday</u> - Apr 14 - Joint service at St. John's in the Wilderness. 1776 Rt. 50, Glenbrook, NV. Meet at St. Pat's at 6:15pm to carpool.	7PM
<u>Good Friday</u> - Apr 15 - Noon worship in the chapel	12PM
<u>Good Friday</u> - Apr 15 - St. Matthew Passion presented by TOCCATA at St. Patrick's (free)	7PM
<u>Easter Sunday</u> - Apr 17 - Join us just before dawn in the Outdoor Chapel as we await the sunrise of Easter morning. Or gather with us for our traditional Easter celebration in the sanctuary at 10am, followed by Easter egg hunt and potluck!	6:15 & 10AM

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