



Transfiguration  
Episcopal Church

THE  
**JOURNEY**  
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021





# FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

## What Can I Say to Make it Better?

*“Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not the bad?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.*

Job 2:10, NRSV

As I write this article, we find ourselves in a massive reversal. The Delta variant of COVID-19 has wreaked havoc, especially on the unvaccinated. Even the vaccinated are susceptible to this new variant. Although we do not get as sick, we can quickly spread the disease to others. Burnout among healthcare workers is rampant. Even the best and the brightest can't tell us when we can return to normal. So how do we respond? Where do we go from here?

We learned so much during this pandemic. We learned that science is a friend, not an enemy. So many healthcare workers rushed to help, rather than holding back their skills, despite personal costs. Supply chains matter, and disruptions are painful. What we took for granted turned out to be lifesaving. We also learned that we cannot always rely on governments or officials to do the right thing.

As a faith community, we learned how to support each other, even while sheltering in place. We have a meditation group and a morning prayer group. Gospel preview happens weekly. We learned the vagaries of Zoom, hosting two services each Sunday. We are still learning how to make live streams work for us. We learned to host in-person services while managing risks to the attendees. And, we managed to remodel the parish hall and reconfigure the site to make it more accessible. It is a lot for a congregation to tackle, especially during a pandemic.

So, what do we do in this “two-step forward, one step back” time? We should continue what we are doing. Much of it seems to work, although we have had some ups and downs. We will continue in-person worship, along with Joyful Noise on Zoom. We need to figure out how to evolve our children and youth programs to meet family needs while keeping everyone safe. We also need to figure out how to use the outdoors better.



As you read further in this issue of Journey, you will see some of our ideas to gather as a community. We can't wish the pandemic away. We can, however, innovate in response to the ever-changing challenges we face. That is how we will make our lives and the lives of others better. That is how we show our strength as a community. That is how we give thanks for the gifts God has given us.

Blessings,  
Bob+

# TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY





# MINISTRIES

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRY

Welcome to a new school year and welcome back to school! The pandemic is still with us, but our students are returning to school and our church doors have been open since May. Despite taking steps towards normalcy, COVID is still with us and we are remaining vigilant in keeping our community safe. With safety in mind, our programs for children, youth and families will be offered on zoom and outdoors, in-person.



I am delighted that we are offering **Joyful Noise on zoom at 9am** and I invite everyone to join us for 25 minutes of interactive, intergenerational worship with lively music

and delightful stories. You can find Joyful Noise every Sunday morning by clicking on the Transfiguration Zoom Room link from our website.

I'm excited to welcome some new acolytes to our group of awesome altar servers. We were able to have an in-person gathering of our acolytes earlier this month.



It was so wonderful to see our youth in person and I'm looking forward to **starting Faith Lab again in a hybrid format beginning September 5.**

Normally we would be gearing up for another season of our Community of Wonder (C.O.W.) meeting during the 10:30 service. With current concerns about the delta variant and ineligibility of children under 12 to be vaccinated, we will not be having C.O.W. as we normally would for now. Instead, I invite you to join us for Joyful Noise on zoom and to outdoor family



activities this season. We will be having an **outdoor intergenerational Eucharist on September 5** that will be a safer option for unvaccinated people.

We will also be participating in the **Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, September 18.** We are partnering with our friends from Epiphany, Good Shepherd and Holy Family to clean up Poplar Beach in Half Moon Bay. Join us on the beach and then stay for a picnic at Holy Family. Bring your sunscreen, work gloves and a picnic lunch for a morning of creation care and community fun!

As our children return to school and we slowly find a new normal, you may find that you, your child or other loved ones are experiencing challenges in adapting to a new routine. I am thrilled that our wonderful deacon, Hailey, has organized a zoom session with local family therapist, Stephanie Moody. The session is entitled **"Helping Kids Transition Back Into Life During COVID"** and it will be a helpful and important discussion. Please join us on **September 1 at 7 pm on zoom** to learn more about supporting our children and each other during this challenging time.

This fall is going to be another different kind of season and I'm looking forward to seeing you on zoom and outdoors in person. If you have suggestions for activities we can do together, I would love to hear from you. Please call, text or email me! In the meantime please see below for some exciting upcoming opportunities for us to gather as a faith community.

Love,  
Michele

## CONFIRMATION AT TRANSFIGURATION

Sunday, September 5 — Faith Lab: Confirmation at Transfiguration, after coffee hour at about 11:45 am

As our children grow into adulthood, they pass through many milestones. We celebrate baptisms, the first day of school, moving from elementary school to junior high and on to high school, and finally graduation and possibly college. In the church, we

celebrate moving from childhood to young adulthood through Confirmation. For Episcopalians, Confirmation is a reaffirmation of the promises made at our Baptism. It is an opportunity for our young people to affirm their faith.

We plan to start a confirmation program this Fall with a short introductory session for parents after the September 5th service. The program will begin on September 26th. We invite all parents with youth to join our information session.

## ARCHDEACON: DID YOU KNOW?

Archdeacon isn't a particularly well known ministry in the church. When the bishop invited me to be one of the Archdeacons of the Diocese of California, I understood the basics: that I would support the bishop with administrative tasks involving deacons and provide pastoral support to the deacons in this diocese. Since then, of course, I realized that a lot more is involved!



As Archdeacon, I am an employee of the Diocese of California, and I work closely with my co-Archdeacon to do a bunch of things, including:

To build relationships with and between the deacons of the diocese.

To help deacons and the bishop discern placement of deacons throughout the diocese.

To assist with the formation and placement of new deacons.

To ensure that the deacons in the diocese know, understand and adhere to the policies and procedures of the canons and the diocese.

Archdeacons generally serve for two or three years, at the discretion of the Bishop.

These first months of doing this work have been incredibly exciting. We have about 68 deacons in the diocese—some retired and some active. Our deacons are doing incredible work in all sorts of areas of the world. I've talked to deacons who are gathering books for prisoners and for school children who don't have any. I've talked to deacons who help lead worship services for the homeless community right in the streets of San Francisco. We have one deacon who wrote a children's book to help kids understand what being transgender is like. Many deacons are helping to support and encourage ministries ranging from food pantries to political lobbying about initiatives around housing and food insecurity. Many serve on boards and committees in our diocese. It's breathtakingly humbling and inspirational to hear about all that's going on.

In September, I will be "installed" as Archdeacon at a service of Evensong at Grace Cathedral. The service will be Thursday, September 16, at 5:30 PM. You are all invited! You can either come to Grace Cathedral (RSVP here <http://evite.me/CcEzZJarnX> or to my email [hailey@cyberdeacon.com](mailto:hailey@cyberdeacon.com)) or join via livestream (link to be determined).

Of course, this work will be in addition to my serving the Transfiguration community. This is an incredibly exciting time for our community—and I wouldn't miss it for the world!

—Hailey

## MUCH THANKS & A FAREWELL

We are truly grateful for the work that Ole has done while he's been with us, but it is time to say goodbye in mid-September as he heads back to Brazil for a new venture. He will be around for a few more weeks helping us as construction concludes and we settle in to our new spaces.



We will miss him and wish him all the BEST!

# Outdoor Intergenerational Service

## Sunday September 5 at 10:30 am

Join us on Labor Day Weekend for a special Eucharist on the Memorial Quiet Garden Patio.

We hope that this outdoor format will enable some of our unvaccinated children and other vulnerable parishioners to attend (masks will still be required, due to the limited space).

The service will be designed to be accessible to all ages, including a children's sermon and paperless music selections. Coffee hour will follow as usual.

This service will not be streamed, but we will still offer our Joyful Noise service via Zoom at 9:00 am, at which all are welcome.

Please contact any of the clergy or staff with questions, and we hope you will join us!



# COASTAL CLEAN UP DAY 2021

Saturday Sept. 18

*“The heavens are the  
Lord’s heavens, but  
the earth he has  
given to the children  
of man.”*

*-Psalm 115:16*

## WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN?

### **WHO: You!**

This will be a multi-congregational, multi-generational event. We will be joined by members of Good Shepherd, Holy Family and Epiphany

### **WHAT: Beach cleanup followed by a picnic**

### **WHERE: Poplar Beach, Half Moon Bay Holy Family, HMB**

### **WHEN: Saturday Sept 18. Beach clean up 9am – 12pm Lunch afterwards**

## Other FAQ

### **Q: How do I sign up?**

A: Please email Michele Maia at [michele@transfig-sm.org](mailto:michele@transfig-sm.org) and include if any kids/family members will also be joining you. (Michele will respond and follow up with additional details)

### **Q: What should I bring?**

A: For the cleanup we recommend bringing work gloves, sunscreen and a hat. The weather can be volatile on the Coast, so layers are always a good idea. Please pack a lunch and join us at Holy Family afterwards, beverages will be provided.

### **Q: Is this activity suitable for small children?**

A: It’s never too soon to start learning how to be good stewards of the Earth. Children are welcome! (12 and younger with adult supervision)

### **Q: Are there accommodations for people with mobility limitations?**

A: Unfortunately, this activity will be on the sandy beach so it might be difficult, however you are more than welcome – and **encouraged** to join us for lunch!

## What is International Coastal Clean Up Day (ICCD)?

This is one of the world’s largest annual preservation and protection events with **6 million volunteers** across **90 countries** doing their part to keep our coastlines clean.

Locally this cleanup event is a great way for families, friends, community/church groups and schools to come together to help clean up creeks, parks, neighborhoods and local beaches.





# WAYS TO CONNECT @TRANSFIG

## MORNING MEDITATION - WEEKDAYS AT 8:30AM

A group gathers for meditation at 8:30am every Mon thru Fri on zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> (password: 3900) All are welcome! Those who have participated have found it to be a wonderful way to begin the day. Questions? email: [bob@transfig-sm.org](mailto:bob@transfig-sm.org) or [michele@transfig-sm.org](mailto:michele@transfig-sm.org)



Episcopal  
Relief & Development  
Working Together for Lasting Change

## EVENING BIBLE STUDY - TUESDAYS@7PM

via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89096557150?pwd=OVV3WlpsRlBmRy9DL0VHVVE56S3JGdz09>

Join us as we engage with God's word in new ways. Each week, we read a portion of scripture (often something lesser known passages from the Hebrew Scripture, New Testament and Apocrypha. We meet for one hour to read, reflect and discuss. Led by Hailey.

## MORNING PRAYER - WEDNESDAYS AT 9AM

Every Wednesday morning at 9:00, a group gathers for Morning Prayer via the Transfig zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> (password: 3900)

All are welcome! Questions? email: [garipatton@astound.net](mailto:garipatton@astound.net)

## GOSPEL PREVIEW - WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30AM

Every Wednesday morning at 10:30, a group gathers for Gospel Preview bible study and lively conversation via the Transfiguration zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> (password: 3900)

All are welcome! Questions? email: [bob@transfig-sm.org](mailto:bob@transfig-sm.org)

## ONGOING OUTREACH:

### HILLSDALE PEACE PANTRY

Each Week Joseph, Gari and a crew of dedicated Transfig Bakers are there, providing breads and other treats in support of hungry Hillside High families. They welcome your contributions whenever this works for you. Friday mornings at 9:15 in the Hillside High parking lot.

For more information, contact Gari Patton, [garipatton@astound.net](mailto:garipatton@astound.net), or Joseph Villa, [villajosephe@gmail.com](mailto:villajosephe@gmail.com).

*Every gift, however small, makes a difference.*

## HAITI EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

The scene in Haiti right now is devastating...

After a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck on Saturday morning, at least 5,700 people have been injured, 30,000+ people lost their houses, hospitals and churches have been reduced to rubble and at least 1,300 people are dead. That death toll continues to climb.

[Communities affected by this deadly earthquake urgently need your help. Please donate now to support relief efforts on the ground.](https://support.episcopalrelief.org/haiti-relief) <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/haiti-relief>

Episcopal Relief and Development is in touch with our partners in Haiti as they assess the damage and determine what is most needed and will be providing that support. They have reported numerous casualties and extensive damage in and around Les Cayes, Petit Trou de Nippes, and Maniche.

The needs in Haiti are already immense, and they will continue to grow. But every dollar, and every prayer, can make a difference to families that have lost everything. [Please give whatever you can right now.](#)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 22

*The 13th Sunday after Pentecost*

**9:00am** *Joyful Noise Plus!*  
via Transfiguration zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

**10:30am** *In-Person, Indoor Eucharist at Transfiguration* with simultaneous Livestream via Transfiguration website (masks required)

Monday, August 23

**8:30am** Morning Meditation via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

Tuesday, August 24

**8:30am** Morning Meditation via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

**10:30am** Staff Meeting via zoom

Wednesday, August 25

**8:30am** Morning Meditation via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

**9:00am** Morning Prayer via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

**10:30am** Gospel Preview via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

Thursday, August 26

**8:30am** Morning Meditation via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

Friday, August 27

**8:30am** Morning Meditation via zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

Saturday, August 28

Sunday, August 29

**9:00am** *Joyful Noise Plus!*  
via Transfiguration zoom  
<https://zoom.us/j/6503418206> password: 3900

**10:30am** *In-Person, Indoor Eucharist at Transfiguration* with simultaneous Livestream via Transfiguration website (masks required)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, September 1– Helping Kids Transition Back to Life During COVID, 7 pm on zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6044649147?pwd=VoFpQ3Q1U1VDNDJHb1c1cVRZMWRqZz09>

Join us for an interactive discussion with local family therapist, Stephanie Moody, about how to support our students as they return to school and other activities. She will address how to talk to kids about the upcoming school year and setting expectations, how to talk about safety/risk, what to look for/how to know if your child is struggling, what to do if your child is struggling, how to deal with kids who are rebelling against COVID safety rules, and offer specific strategies for different stages (small children, school aged, teens).

**Sunday, September 5 — Outdoor Intergenerational Eucharist, 10:30 am on the Memorial Quiet Garden patio**

Everyone is invited to the table for our COVID safe outdoor Eucharist. The entire service will be outdoors with a children's sermon and acolytes and a coffee hour to follow. Although this event is outdoors, we are asking everyone to remain masked for the safety of all.

**Sunday, September 5 — Faith Lab**

Faith Lab youth will be meeting after the 10:30 service. Please bring a bag lunch and join us for some fun, fellowship and planning for our year.

**Saturday, September 18 — Coastal Cleanup at Poplar Beach, Half Moon Bay, 9-12 pm**

Join us at the beach with your sunscreen and a picnic lunch! After cleaning up the beach we will enjoy a picnic lunch together.

**Sunday, October 3 — Blessing of the Animals and a special service project**

Bring your pet or favorite stuffed animal for a blessing. We will also be blessing our favorite pets by making a special treat for them.

**October 17 — Safe Church Training with Caren Miles**

Caren Miles, Associate for Faith Formation at DioCal, will be preaching at the 10:30 service. Following the service, stay and learn about how we can live into our baptismal covenant by protecting the most vulnerable in our community. The Safe Church training and background check is required for anyone working with vulnerable populations including children and youth.

**October 31 — Halloween celebration for all**

A fun event hosted by Faith Lab youth, stay tuned for more details.



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

*Things are progressing!*



*And Little Carey Preschool is readying to open at the end of the month.*



# LAY LEADERSHIP AT TRANSFIGURATION

## VESTRY CLASS OF 2022



Michael Hutchinson

m.s.hutchinson@gmail.com



Michelle McLean  
Junior Warden

julsmontgomery@gmail.com



Bill Peters  
Senior Warden

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Ann-Marie Wiese

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## VESTRY CLASS OF 2023



Barbara Carlisle

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Eric Johnson

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Hilary McClure

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Helaina Titus

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## VESTRY CLASS OF 2024



Tim Fox

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Anne Gearhart

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Brad Lewis

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Chris Villanis

chrisvillanis@yahoo.com

## DEANERY



Matthew Burt  
Deanery Delegate



Noelle Chard  
Deanery Delegate



Aidan Jobe Sea  
Deanery Delegate



Stacy Ryan  
Deanery Delegate

Mees Tielens, Alternate Deanery Delegate



# PARISH DIRECTORY

## STAFF

**Interim Rector:** The Rev. Robert Kossler  
415 309-9118 - [bob@transfig-sm.org](mailto:bob@transfig-sm.org)

**Director of Music:** Matthew Burt  
650 283-7512 - [matthewb@transfig-sm.org](mailto:matthewb@transfig-sm.org)

**Director of Family Ministry:** Michele Maia  
510 816-4324 - [michele@transfig-sm.org](mailto:michele@transfig-sm.org)

**Operations Manager:** Noreen Huey  
650 341-8206 - [office@transfig-sm.org](mailto:office@transfig-sm.org)

**Site Project Coordinator:** Jennifer Robinson  
[jenn@transfig-sm.org](mailto:jenn@transfig-sm.org)

**Sexton: Ole Neves**  
Contact via the parish office

**Bookkeeper:** Christine Semenza  
Contact via the parish office

## ASSISTING PRIEST

The Rev. Amber Stancliffe-Evans  
Contact via the parish office

## DEACON

The Ven. Hailey McKeefry-Delmas  
650 201-6139 - [hailey@cyberdeacon.com](mailto:hailey@cyberdeacon.com)  
This position is shared with Epiphany, San Carlos.

## PARISH OFFICE

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## VESTRY LEADERSHIP

**Senior Warden:** Bill Peters

**Junior Warden:** Michelle McLean

**Clerk to the Vestry:** Eric Johnson

**Treasurer:** Joseph Villa

**Assistant Treasurer:** Cathy Cohn

## VESTRY MEMBERS

### Class of 2022

Michael Hutchinson

Michelle McLean

Bill Peters

Ann-Marie Wiese

### Class of 2023

Barbara Carlisle

Eric Johnson

Hilary McClure

Helaina Titus

### Class of 2024

Tim Fox

Anne Gearhart

Brad Lewis

Chris Villanis

## DEANERY DELEGATES

Matthew Burt

Noelle Chard

Aidan Jobe Sea

Stacy Ryan

Mees Tielens, Alternate