



# Discerning Hearts: The Newsletter of The Episcopal Community

Marked as Christ's Own For Ever

Volume: 2022 Issue 9

## From our President

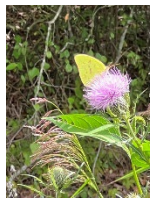
Dear Sisters,

A few weeks ago my Spiritual Director and I were talking about "habits". I was struggling with not being able to write and complaining I didn't see the Awe and Wonder in the world. She shared 30 days is often considered enough time to break a habit and create positive change in myself. She never gives homework. But this day she suggested for homework I take on a 30-day writing challenge to write every day, without editing, free flow poetry about Awe and Wonder in my life.

So here I am on Day 10 and have lengthened my challenge which I call 60 Days to Awe and Wonder. Day 10, imagine that, without skipping a day! I keep a habit tracker in my journal and check off each day I write before I go to bed.

Here is my poem for today ...

Where's Awe and Wonder  
 You will know when you see it  
 You will hear a gentle voice calling  
 Saying, I will find you  
 Awe and Wonder  
 where will I find you  
 on gravel road I walk  
 dancing through rays  
 dappled sunlight  
 gazing at pastures  
 in voices of singing birds  
 looking to the celestial sky  
 Where's Awe and Wonder  
 You will know when you see it  
 You will hear a gentle voice calling  
 Saying, I will find you  
 Faintly hear beating of tiny wings  
 Breezes carrying colors of yellow and purple  
 Turning slowing  
 a tiny lemon yellow butterfly  
 balancing on a purple thistle  
 gently swaying with the breezes  
 Just being  
 A purple thistle  
 And a lemon yellow butterfly  
 Where's Awe and Wonder  
 You will know when you see it  
 You will hear a gentle voice calling  
 Saying, I will find you  
 Today  
 Awe and Wonder found me  
 dressed as a  
 tiny lemon yellow butterfly  
 balancing on a thistle



60 Days of Awe Wonder Day 10  
Pattijoy Posan

## My ministry with Habitat of Humanity

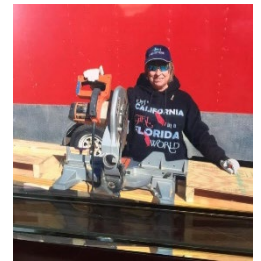
Gayle Ahrens



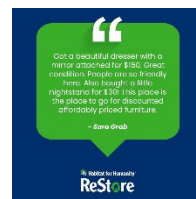
Habitat for Humanity is a global nonprofit housing organization working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in approximately 70 countries. Habitat's vision is of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Habitat works toward our vision by building strength, stability, and self-reliance in partnership with families in need of decent and affordable housing. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage.

I began volunteering with HFH about 18 years ago as a committee member. I became a Board Member two years later; Eventually serving as Vice-President and President of the local affiliate in Bay County, Fl. I continue as a Board Member.



What I enjoy most, though is the actual building. I began years ago helping to frame the houses. I helped cut the 2x4's, 2x6's, 2x10's, vinyl siding, and soffits. Eventually, the 'saw master' retired, and I became affectionately known as the "saw queen". I cut the framing, siding, and soffits for 9 houses over three years. I have to say, this was the most fun time I've had. Knowing that I literally helped build homes for people who needed affordable housing. I've retired from the actual building now but remain active behind the scenes.



Contrary to popular belief, HFH does not give homes away. There is an application process, in which the prospective homeowner must show need, ability to pay, willingness to partner with Habitat. Once approved, they must put in a total of 500 hours of 'sweat equity' on homes being built, and their own. After 100 hours of their own, family and friends can help with hours. When the house is completed, the homeowner will have an interest-free mortgage with payments determined by their income. The price is based on the cost of the land and building the home. The term of the mortgage is based on the monthly payment amount.

If you have a local affiliate in your area, check them out!



## Membership News

Carol Putnam, Chair



Thank you to everyone!

In 2022, 93 % of our member's paid their dues. This means dues were paid by the member, an Episcopal Community sister helped, or it was paid by the Naomi Fund. It speaks

highly of an organization that cares so much for each member.

We have made good progress this year. We updated and printed brochures, created a printed directory of members, added, or updated our software programs that keep us connected, and our financial records in order and we are working on more.

We look forward to the 2024 General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky and hope to see many of our Episcopal Community in attendance. Our dues help with the cost for us to participate.

The 2023 dues notice will be sent out in early October by email with a link to pay on-line and snail mail to our sisters that no longer have email. Dues will remain at \$50.

Again, thank you all for our amazing success we have accomplished with your dues payment in 2022. Together we can do anything. Bless you all.



## Annual Gathering



Time: Wednesday, Sep 28, 2022  
05:00 PM Eastern Time  
04:00 PM Central Time  
03:00 PM Mountain Time  
02:00 PM Pacific Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87978867763?pwd=YThmMy9Fd1N3aVRxNUJPTFJYR2RZdz09>

Meeting ID: 879 7886 7763

Passcode: 473598

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US

Please join the Circle of Leadership and other members of The Episcopal Community for our 2022 Annual Gathering via Zoom on September 28, 2022. We will share about the activities The Episcopal Community is undertaking, report on financial matters and how we are serving the church today. There will be no business requiring the vote of the membership

We will have a Service of Remembrance for those sisters who died.



## September Birthdays

September 25 - Susan McKee

## Event Calendar

**September 28 - Annual Gathering 4PM CST**

October 11 - Executive Committee Meeting

October 25 - Circle of Leadership Meeting

## Compline Schedule

If you would like to lead compline please contact  
Please contact Rebecca Taylor at [bekatay@me.com](mailto:bekatay@me.com)

September 04 - Chris Butterworth

September 11 - Barbara Willis

September 18 - BB Vaughn & Carol Putnam

September 25 - Rebecca Taylor



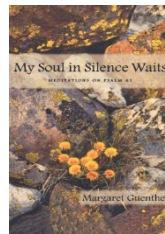
## Prayer List Changes

Lorna McDonald

Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, people on the prayer list will remain on the list for the month. If a name needs to remain on the list at the end of the month, you must notify our coordinator so that they will be included in the following month's list. All prayer requests are to be sent to [prayer@theepiscopalcommunity.org](mailto:prayer@theepiscopalcommunity.org)

## Book Study

Becky Scott



Book study continues each Sunday at 5:00 p.m. We are reading "My Soul Awaits in Silence, Meditations on Psalm 62" by Margaret Guenther. In these reflections on Psalm 62 Margaret provides the foundation for a time of reflection and retreat without ever leaving home. She explores the images the psalm evokes of longing, silence, waiting, safety, enemies, and God as a rock and refuge.

This is a fabulous book and we hope you will prayerfully consider joining the community for this time of study, retreat and reflection. To order the book, please click on picture above or [here](#).



## Benedictine Living

We [can] become aware of the interplay between tool and user and start to recognize the interconnectedness — the oneness — of all things.... From there we adopt the attitude of nodding towards everything — the lamp, the desk, the roof, and the floor. Soon, we're living a life full of gratitude.

Zen 24/7 by Philip Toshio Sudo

[Spirituality & Practice: Resources for Spiritual Journeys \(spiritualityandpractice.com\)](http://spiritualityandpractice.com)



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