

Christ Church Parish, Kent Island  
830 Romancoke Road  
Stevensville, MD 21666

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Stevensville, MD  
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## January 2023 Connections

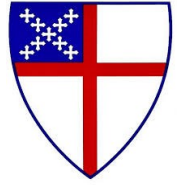
✙ Grounded in Christ  
✙ Growing in Faith  
✙ Giving in Community  
410-643-5921    [www.ccpki.org](http://www.ccpki.org)



*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Easton*

# MEMBERSHIP AT CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

I am often asked “What is an Episcopalian?” Usually, the question implies a contrast to other Christians communities, both Protestant & Catholic. Of course, there’s a short answer and a much longer answer. We are a church of the Reformation; we also maintain many traditions of the Catholic Church.



Church Membership is determined by Baptism. Whether one is baptized here or on another church, you are a member when you worship here regularly as a baptized person. We believe baptism is a one-time event and under no circumstances will we ever “re-baptize” someone. If you or your family members were baptized here, we keep a permanent record of that. If you should ever move away, you can ask for a Letter of Transfer so your new congregation will know about your baptism. If you have come here from another congregation, it will help them (and us) for you to request a Letter of Transfer. If you or a family member has never been baptized, speak to Fr. Mark and we can start preparations!

All the baptized are expected to make a mature affirmation of their faith before the bishop. The Service of Confirmation offers the chance for adults and teens to affirm their place in the church. Those who have been confirmed in another tradition can choose to be Received into the Church by our bishop who “recognizes them as a member of Christ’s one, holy, catholic and apostolic church”. Any school age students Grade 8 or above, and any adult who wants to join the Episcopal Church, should speak to Fr. Mark as soon as possible so they can be prepared for Bishop Santosh’s visit April 23.

This winter, I’d like to begin some “time with the rector” so you can ask your questions. Our history is fascinating. Our Prayer Book is a spiritual gem. Our standing as Anglicans gives the church a worldwide reach. We will begin with a “Walkabout Tour” on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Immediately following the 8 & 10 services, I’ll take all interested to see our ancient Bible, the Pre-School, the Kitchen, and Backpack Pantry. The end of January, I’ll offer classes to prepare those who would like to make their affiliation with the Episcopal Church official through Confirmation or Reception into

the church when the Bishop visits in April. I have a book which can serve as an introduction.

I look forward to your questions as we grow as members of the church.

**Mark +**

## **READING MATTHEW: THE GOSPEL OF MERCY**

Matthew, the author of the gospel, was a minor tax collector and a scribe. He assembled stories of the life of Jesus to help his fledgling community of Jewish Christians grow in their understanding of God's law and God's mercy. Emphasizing forgiveness, reconciliation, and at-one-ment, the Gospel of Matthew offers us a place to stand in the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth.

We will gather in-person and on-line Monday nights 7:00 pm & in-person Wednesdays at Noon to read through verse-by-verse this amazing witness from the early church.

Monday Classes: January 2, 9, 23, 30

Wednesday Classes: January 4, 11, 25 – Feb 1

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81860077899?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81860077899?pwd=WERBQ2loeGoxUXgxYVMoaU9mRWcrZz09)

[pwd=WERBQ2loeGoxUXgxYVMoaU9mRWcrZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81860077899?pwd=WERBQ2loeGoxUXgxYVMoaU9mRWcrZz09)

Meeting ID: 818 6007 7899

Passcode: 08301631

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,81860077899#,,,\*08301631# US

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)



# PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 22, 2023

11:15 am

## There will be only one service that day!

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the **10:00 AM Worship service**. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to gather together, enjoy lunch, celebrate the closing of 2022 and share plans for 2023.

We will celebrate our new Treasurer and our new Sr. Warden, thank **Molly Cannon** and **Pat Spinella** for their service, elect five new vestry members to serve three-year terms and approve three lay delegates to the Diocesan Convention. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting, and members in good standing will vote for Vestry candidates and delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention.

Our heartfelt thanks to **Tom Christensen, Susie Reckord and Toinette McDowell** who will have completed their terms as Vestry Members.

Our new Sr. Warden is **Lois Vanderbok**



I was baptized and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church and grew up an active member of the parishes in which I lived in New York and Florida. Upon moving to Texas in the early 1980's, I began to gravitate toward the Episcopal Church. I was drawn to the more accepting and loving tenets Episcopalians revere, while still holding onto the rites and traditions of the church that I held dear. In 1984, I was received into the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Dallas. I

subsequently led the community food pantry our parish housed for several years which was a labor of love.

In 2012, I retired early as Director of Human Resource Operations for North America from a global wind energy company. Over the years my job took me to many small towns all over the United States, Quebec, Europe and India. I have had the privilege of meeting and working with people from all walks of life and from many different backgrounds. Over the years, I was able to develop

skills in budgets, insurance negotiation, project management, training and leadership that I believe will serve me well in my new as Senior Warden.

My husband Bill and I moved to Kent Island in 2019 and almost immediately found Christ Church Kent Island which we are proud to call our church home. Since then, we have consistently found our lives enriched and enlivened by the parish family. I am currently in my fourth year of Education for Ministry, and serve as a mentor for that group, I also serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Usher, and Lector. With God's grace and the help of my parish family, I hope to continue the legacy of our previous Senior Wardens as we move out from the shadow of the pandemic and grow our parish in light and love.

Contact Lois at [srwarden@ccpki.org](mailto:srwarden@ccpki.org)

Our new Treasurer is **Dennis Conrad**



My wife, Carol, and I moved to Chester in August 2019. We relocated from Potomac, Maryland, where we had lived for eighteen years. Before that we had lived for 18 years in Providence, RI, and before that 10 years in Durham, NC.

I am a retired historian; before my retirement I worked eighteen years at the Navy History and Heritage Command as a documentary historian, completing projects on the American Revolution, the Spanish-American War, and most recently, World War I. The fruits of my labors are digital documentary editions that can be found on the command's website. My Rhode Island work was a thirteen-volume edition of the papers of Revolutionary War General Nathanael Greene, whose command at one point included the Maryland Continental Line.

Carol and I have two sons and three grandchildren, including one who was born in May. We moved to Kent Island to be near the water and at the same time to be within driving distance of our sons and their families.

While we have only recently re-located to Kent Island, we have fallen in love with the island and the people living here. Early on, Carol and I began looking at churches on the island. When we

visited Christ Church, we were immediately attracted to it because of the dynamism of the congregation, the choir--Carol and I have both sung in church choirs for a number of years, and the impressive social outreach programs that Christ Church supports. We wanted to be part of this.

I grew up in a small town outside Pittsburgh and was raised Roman Catholic. While living in Providence I served on the parish council of a Catholic Church there, so I understand what being on the vestry means and I look forward to contributing to the vital community that is Christ Church.

Contact Dennis at [treasurer@ccpki.org](mailto:treasurer@ccpki.org)

## 2023 Vestry Candidates

The five vestry nominees are:

### Liza Hamill



I was raised Episcopalian and joined Christ Church Kent Island in 1989. I began reading scripture in 1990 and joined the Eucharistic Ministry soon afterwards. My 2 sons became acolytes and were active in youth groups. They both were confirmed here.

I was the coordinator and scheduler for acolytes and advisor for both junior and senior youth groups for around 15 years.

I am still actively reading scripture and serve as EM at the 8 AM service. I am a part of both teams for live-stream videoing the 10 AM service and counting money.

My professional career began as a member of the research environmental chemistry team at Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. After 21 years, I transitioned into a full-time safety and occupational health specialist. Finally, after another 21 years, plus 2 years of contracting, I am fully retired, although, I am still a volunteer and assisting in the transition process with the new hire in my position.

I moved to Kent Island in 1984 and am currently upgrading my house and yard. Huge projects!

## Stan Link



I was born and raised in the Halethorpe/Arbutus area of Baltimore County, MD. I was baptized in the Episcopal church and when I was around 6 years old my family started attending The Church of the Holy Apostles in Arbutus, MD. I pretty much grew up in that church. I was an acolyte, member of the youth group and later the acolyte director, a position I held for 25 years. I married my wife Nancy in 1971 at Holy Apostles and we both

continued to worship and be involved there. I sang in the choir, served numerous times on the Vestry and was both Jr. and Sr. Warden for two different Rectors. Nancy helped with various fund raising events and served on the altar guild and had a term on the Vestry.

I graduated from The Johns Hopkins University in 1970 with a degree in Electrical Engineering and in 1976 I received my Master's Degree in Management Science. I worked as an engineer with Baltimore Gas and Electric for approximately 16 years before going into the real estate development field where I oversaw the design and construction of numerous buildings, office parks, etc. I retired in 2006 from Corporate Office Properties Trust as SR. VP of Construction and Government Services.

Upon retirement, Nancy and I moved to Murrells Inlet, SC and attended The Church of the Resurrection (COR) Surfside Beach, SC. Again we both became active, Nancy served on the Altar Guild and I served on the Vestry, was Sr. Warden and later chaired the Finance Committee and sang in the choir. While at COR another parishioner and I started the New Beginnings program, a food distribution program for those in need. We started out small but within several years we were providing food once a month to over 300 plus families and became the right arm for the Low Country Food Bank.

In 2021, we moved back to Maryland to be closer to our family and currently reside here on Kent Island in the Four Seasons Community. We started attending Christ Church Parish around October 2021. I currently sing in the choir and my wife is on the altar guild.

Nancy and I have been married for 51 years and have two married sons and four grandchildren.

*Continued page 10*

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | W  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>1</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:00 Bible Study</p>                                     | <p>3</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry Delivery<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>5:30 EfM Conf. Room<br/>7:00 Boy Scout Meeting</p>  | <p>4</p> <p>10:00 Exchange<br/>10:00 Postcard<br/>12:00 Bible Study<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:30 AA Meeting</p>          |
| <p>8 <b>Blood Pressure Screening</b></p> <p>8:00 Worship Service<br/>10:00 Worship Service<br/>11:15 Church Tour</p> | <p>9</p> <p>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:00 Bible Study<br/>7:00 Cemetery Committee Meeting</p> | <p>10</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry Delivery<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>5:30 EfM Conf. Room<br/>7:00 Boy Scout Meeting</p> | <p>11</p> <p>10:00 Exchange<br/>12:00 Bible Study<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:00 Financial Meeting<br/>7:30 AA Meeting</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>8:00 Worship Service<br/>10:00 Worship Service<br/>3:00 Girl Scouts</p>                                 | <p>16</p> <p>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>6:30 Vestry Meeting</p>                                 | <p>17</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry Delivery<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>5:30 EfM Conf. Room<br/>7:00 Boy Scout Meeting</p> | <p>18</p> <p>10:00 Exchange<br/>12:00 Bible Study<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:30 AA Meeting</p>                            |
| <p>22</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service<br/>11:15 Annual Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Youth Group</p>                              | <p>23</p> <p>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:00 Bible Study</p>                                    | <p>24</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry Delivery<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>5:30 EfM Conf. Room<br/>7:00 Boy Scout Meeting</p> | <p>25</p> <p>10:00 Exchange<br/>12:00 Bible Study<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:30 AA Meeting</p>                            |
| <p>29</p> <p>8:00 Worship Service<br/>10:00 Worship Service<br/>3:00 Girl Scouts<br/>7:00 Youth Group</p>            | <p>30</p> <p>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>7:00 Bible Study</p>                                    | <p>31</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry Delivery<br/>5:00 Evening Prayer<br/>5:30 EfM Conf. Room<br/>7:00 Boy Scout Meeting</p> |  |

Join us for our Annual Meeting on Sunday  
ONLY ONE

Christ Church Office: 410-643-5921 ~ office@ccpki.org ~ www.ccpki.org

Regular Office Hours 9 am—3pm



| Wed   | Thu  | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>c Com Meeting<br/>t EfM Group<br/><b>le Study</b><br/><b>ing Prayer</b><br/>Meeting</p>  | <p>5</p> <p>8:30 Backpacks Prep<br/>2:30-5:30 Soup Sales<br/><b>5:00 Evening Prayer</b><br/>7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>6</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry<br/>Delivery<br/>7:30 AA Meeting<br/>7:30 AI-Anon Meeting</p>  | <p>7</p> <p>2:00 AA Meeting</p> <p><b>7:00 Macum Creek<br/>Concerts Presents<br/>Pat Byrne</b></p> |
| <p>c Com Meeting<br/><b>le Study</b><br/><b>ing Prayer</b><br/>nce Com Mtg.<br/>Meeting</p> | <p>12</p> <p>8:30 Backpacks Prep<br/>2:30-5:30 Soup Sales<br/><b>5:00 Evening Prayer</b></p>                         | <p>13</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry<br/>Delivery<br/>7:30 AA Meeting<br/>7:30 AI-Anon Meeting</p> | <p>14</p> <p>2:00 AA Meeting</p>   |
| <p>c Com Meeting<br/><b>le Study</b><br/><b>ing Prayer</b><br/>Meeting</p>                  | <p>19</p> <p>8:30 Backpacks Prep<br/>2:30-5:30 Soup Sales<br/><b>5:00 Evening Prayer</b></p>                         | <p>20</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry<br/>Delivery<br/>7:30 AA Meeting<br/>7:30 AI-Anon Meeting</p> | <p>21</p> <p>2:00 AA Meeting</p>   |
| <p>c Com Meeting<br/><b>le Study</b><br/><b>ing Prayer</b><br/>Meeting</p>                  | <p>26</p> <p>8:30 Backpacks Prep<br/>2:30-5:30 Soup Sales<br/><b>5:00 Evening Prayer</b></p>                         | <p>27</p> <p>10:00 Food Pantry<br/>Delivery<br/>7:30 AA Meeting<br/>7:30 AI-Anon Meeting</p> | <p>28</p> <p>2:00 AA Meeting</p>   |
|   |  |  |  |

January 22nd following the 10AM service.  
E SERVICE

Clergy Emergencies, contact Father Mark S. Delcuze, Rector ~ 203-240-8884

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

## Karin Olsen



I was born in San Francisco – raised on Long Island, New York and Annapolis, Maryland. My spiritual pilgrimage has included membership in Baptist, Bible, Evangelical Free, and Presbyterian churches. Growing up along the banks of the Severn River, I remember wondering, “Who made this beautiful world?” I am grateful for direct and indirect mentorship from speakers at Camp-of-the-Woods in

Speculator, New York, at Wheaton Graduate School and at Hampden DuBose Academy.

I was introduced to the attention span of children while helping my mother with Good News Club meetings in our home and that lesson has proved invaluable, especially in my public school teaching career. A job offer and a marriage proposal led me to the Midwest where I lived for 30 years in the western suburbs of Chicago. Teaching 8th grade English, Honors English and American History with a collegial team of talented, caring teachers in Naperville was one of the most fulfilling and fun positions of my life. Before returning to teaching I worked as an editor for Scripture Press curriculum and other firms. My professional background is editorial and educational in nature.

I have an abiding interest in how we learn, how we develop moral values and my personal philosophy is expressed well by Albert Einstein, “... the pursuit of truth and beauty is a sphere of activity in which we are permitted to remain children all our lives.”

My first exposure to the Book of Common Prayer occurred in my teens when I attended an Episcopal camp in Connecticut. When my mother moved to Kent Island, we attended St. Luke’s Chapel in Queenstown during our frequent family visits where Rev. Charles Osberger provided inspiration, example and leadership.

I was drawn more recently to Christ Church by its reverent worship, stirring music and memorable homilies when I moved to Kent Island in 2014. The pace and beauty of this place nourish me every day. My grown children and grandchildren live in Rockville, Maryland and Escondido, California.

## Warren Prender



I was raised in Prince Georges County of Maryland and attended St Andrews Episcopal Church in College Park, Md. Later as an Adult and Parent I moved to Montgomery County and attended Ascension Episcopal Church in Gaithersburg, Md. I married Mary Lucille Weschler on 5 May 1978 and together we raised two wonderful sons and are blessed to have six grandchildren.

I served a total of 24 years in the Military, five in the Marines and nineteen in the Army, retiring from the Army in 2003. Highlights of my time in the service was being a member of the Commandants Own USMC Drum and Bugle Corps, and serving in the duty position of First Sergeant for HHC 1st Bn 115th Inf. I also owned and was chief instructor for Freestate Martial Arts and then after retiring from the Army spent 15 years as a Realtor and Real Estate Instructor. I now will be working as a tax professional with H&R Block.

Christ Church has welcomed us in ways I did not expect and has become the center of our lives. I look forward to serving and doing anything I can to continue to help the church grow and make all welcomed at Christ Church.

## Patti Snyder



I have had a unique path to the Episcopal church, having been raised Lutheran and going to mostly Roman Catholic mass in the years when I was stationed overseas. Moving back to the States, I knew I preferred a liturgy on Sunday mornings, that I wanted to grow my faith, and that I needed to find a place that welcomed everyone. I showed up late to my first Episcopal service in Odenton, not knowing their summer hours had just shifted by 30 minutes. Mortified, I turned to go rather

than creak open a door. A lovely greeter still standing outside all but dragged me in – where I found the familiar cadence of the liturgy, as well as heaping amounts of joyous acceptance.

After I moved to Kent Island, I made my way to Christ Church with

two little ones in tow. I've run the gamut on various ministries: Sunday school, Soup Groupies, Backpacks, to name a few. I served on the Vestry from 2012-2015 and am currently a Eucharistic Minister and on the Altar Guild. I'm hoping to fully take on the mantle of the Acolyte ministry in 2023.

I am originally from Pittsburgh, PA, and graduated from Penn State University. I've lived in California, Florida, England, Spain and Greece, serving over 20 years in the US Navy and retiring as a Commander. I currently work for Leidos as a Senior Technical Lead, managing a cyber intelligence contract. I married Gene Block in 2018 and have two kids, Sophia and Emerson, along with two bonus kids, Stacia and Tony. You can generally find us surrounded by some number of dogs, cats, chickens, and snakes while we plan our next travel adventure.

## **SHELTER ASSISTANCE**

Volunteers are needed for "fellowship time"(6pm-12am) at Haven Ministries Shelter. We are asking for one or two volunteers per night. Responsibilities include helping to serve dinner and cleaning up afterwards, playing games or socializing with the clients. Each night there will also be a staff member. They will supervise clients and assist with any need they may have. Volunteers will learn the routine and the rules when they arrive. Masks are optional at this time for volunteers. Dates for Christ Church volunteers are January 13 and 14.



## **MEALS ARE NEEDED - January 13 & 14**

We are asking you to provide dinners for approximately 12 people. A main dish casserole, salad and bread-dessert is optional. Please have the casserole fully cooked, hot and ready to serve in a throw away pan. Bag salads are good, they can be put in bowl at shelter. Someone will meet you at the kitchen door between **6:30 and 6:45** to drop off the meal.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide. Please contact Leslie Schneider 410-310-4085 or [lschneider3@msn.com](mailto:lschneider3@msn.com)

## **BACKPACK WEEKEND MEALS FOR KIDS**

Christ Church provides weekend meals for children who are at risk of hunger on weekends. We serve three schools: Bayside Elementary, Kent Island Elementary and Sudlersville Middle School. We meet every Thursday morning at 8:30 to pack and deliver food to the schools. We love our volunteers, so please join us any time to see what we do and pitch in to help. We are almost always finished by about 9:15! We welcome donations of food, following these guidelines:

### **Shopping Priorities, all Single-Serving**

**BREAKFAST: Oatmeal Packets, Cereal**

**LUNCH: Mac & Cheese Cups, Chef Boyardee Cups, Chicken Noodle Soup**

**FRUIT: Applesauce Cups/Pouches, Fruit Cups**

**DRINKS: 100% Juice, Shelf-stable Individual Milk**

**SNACKS: Raisins, Cheese Crackers, Granola Bars, Pretzels, Cookies**

For information or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Sells: 410-490-6042 or [backpacks@ccpki.org](mailto:backpacks@ccpki.org). Thank you and God Bless you!

### **GRASONVILLE FOOD PANTRY**

The donations of Hearty soups with bean, cans of tuna, and other types of canned items were welcomed this past month by our teams of volunteers. Presently ,the food pantry needs Spaghetti Sauce, pasta, cereal, and smooth peanut butter (small jars). The volunteer team thanks you for all the canned food and cash donations this past year.



Please bring only non-perishable unexpired food items. These donations should be placed in the shopping cart labelled “Food Pantry” either in the Narthex or the entrance area to Shand hall. Drop-offs can be made on Sundays or any other day when the church doors are open.

For further information about this program or to volunteer to assist contact Juanita Dombkowski 410-310-0139 or email [foodpantry@ccpki.org](mailto:foodpantry@ccpki.org).

## CECDS NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year! We are ready for a wonderful start of 2023. We ended 2022 with a sweet evening Christmas Pre-K program that told the story of the birth of Jesus through finger plays and song. Father Mark led the children into the Sanctuary by waving a bright star for the children to follow. It was a full house in the Sanctuary and once again the children's bell ringing brought down the house.



Most of December days were filled with various Christmas activities. We did join in this year with “Wreaths Across America”. The children enjoyed seeing all the trucks filled with wreaths, fire trucks, police cars and motorcycles. We took advantage of the fire truck's big beautiful American flag and said the pledge of allegiance.





The children participated in the packing up food for the Backpack program and started learning that we can all be helpers and take care of each other.

Our wonderful PTO is up and running and provided the staff with a great Christmas breakfast! They have started writing fundraising letters to raise money for scholarships and enrichment supplies and events for CECDS.

In January we will open registration to the public at our first Open House on January 11. This Open house is from 6:00-8:00pm. Please check our website for updates at [www.cecds.org](http://www.cecds.org).

## **FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS**

With 2022 drawing to a close and a new year before us, I am excited to continue growing youth and family programs. This is perfect for thinking up a plan, a mission for the Family Ministry team and me to accomplish in the next twelve months. Right now, we are looking for growth. 2022 was about planting the seeds and getting a solid foundation for us to grow. 2023 is looking forward to building on what we have.



Family Dinner Night with our whole parish will carry on with the same goals, to gather together and celebrate the community we are always trying to foster here at Christ Church. Family Ministry will also continue with the youth group and story time activities on Sundays to create that community of faith and love within the younger generation of our church and teach them about God in a way that is accessible to them. This year will be filled with fun and fellowship as we grow together. Happy New Year!

Contact Jane Ford for more information at [familyministry@ccpki.org](mailto:familyministry@ccpki.org)

Special Opportunity

## MACUM CREEK CONCERTS



### Presents Irish Singer/Songwriter



**PAT BYRNE**

Winner of **The Voice of Ireland 2012**

Local House Concert promoters Dave & Kathy Airel have welcomed musicians to our community for years. With the coming of COVID, they began looking for larger venues, particularly for their most successful performers.

You can learn more about Pat Byrne and his music (including songs) here: <https://patbyrne-music.com>

Saturday, January 7, Christ Church Parish will welcome Pat Byrne at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:15). Suggested donation of \$25 per person.

For more information or to reserve tickets  
<https://www.macumcreekconcerts.com>