



The Penny Post



Northbrae Community Church

July 2025

Celebrating Community in July

The Next Four Sundays at a Glance:

Sunday 7/6 - Special Guest Preacher Rev. Lauren Van Ham (See bio below)

Sunday 7/13 - Write for Your Life with Rev. Elizabeth Hutchins and Friends
(please see Rev. Christy's article on Page 2)

Sunday 7/20 - Church in the Wild (in the Sacred Hoop Garden with Chairs)

Sunday 7/27 - Launch of the Northbrae Community Church Survey
(please see Page 2 for more info)



Rev. Lauren Van Ham is deeply dedicated to living sustainably on Earth, our only home. She was born and raised beneath the big sky of the Midwest, and holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University, Naropa University, and The Chaplaincy Institute. Lauren worked as an interfaith hospital chaplain, serving St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. She was also the Executive Director of Green Sangha, a nonprofit organization practicing spiritually-engaged environmental activism. In 2007, recognizing that caring for the earth had become her deep love, Lauren entered corporate America and went to work at Saatchi & Saatchi S, a sustainability consultancy in San Francisco. She has worked with a range of Fortune 1000 clients, combining her passion and skills to custom-design curriculum and facilitate trainings to increase awareness, encourage behavior change and build new bridges between the inner/outer ecology of individuals and organizations. In the summer of 2007, she professed herself an Eco-Chaplain. Currently, Lauren tends her private spiritual direction and consulting practice, and serves as Dean for her alma mater, The Chaplaincy Institute, in Berkeley, CA.



Welcome summer!

A number of unique worship services are planned for the month of July. Dive deep into the Penny Post to discover more details.

I want to highlight the Worship Service on Sunday, July 13. Prepare for a special treat that day. For years, Rev. Elizabeth Hutchins has facilitated a writing group, Write for Your Life. Many of the writers in the group are Northbrae members. They have just published an anthology of their writings. Congratulations!

On July 13, the worship service will feature those writings. The written word will become spoken word as members of the group read portions of their writings. We will join the Write for Your Life group in celebrating the creativity of writing and the ways it can call attention to the wonder, challenges, heartbreak and resilience of our spirits as we navigate our way through life.

Come celebrate with the Write for Your Life writers. Their anthology will be available for sale during coffee hour.

‘See you there,
Christy



Church in the Wild

Sunday, July 20th

Sacred Hoop Garden

Chairs will be provided

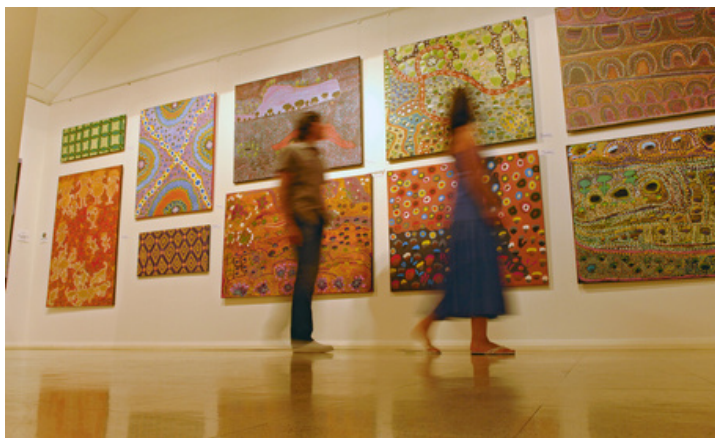
Open and inclusive discussion to follow

Our beautiful milkweed attracts two main species of butterfly every year: the anise swallowtail and the monarch.



Northbrae Wants to Hear From You!

Northbrae is preparing to take a good hard look at ourselves, and we need your help. Polish up your spectacles because we have put together a state-of-the-art congregation wide survey to truly understand where we are and where we aim to be as a steadfast and progressive Northbrae of the future. We are so grateful to be completely open and transparent throughout this entire process and are really looking forward to getting to the core of what makes Northbrae truly special. Thank you to everyone who helped create the survey and thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey.



The Return of the Art Gallery?

Thanks to a successful fundraising campaign for the new carpet in the Parlor, we were able to recarpet the upstairs Gallery, as well.

Feeling inspired by the generosity of our members and friends, we thought of a beautiful way to showcase the new carpet and revitalize the space, reminiscent of one of its older iterations: an Art Gallery! We are so excited to announce the resurrection of the Northbrae Art Gallery, making its vibrant return this Fall. That cannot happen without your art. We would love to borrow pieces, new or old, professional or preschool, yours or a loved ones.



National Night Out Tuesday, August 5th

National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen our community by encouraging neighborhoods to build stronger relationships with each other and with their local Public Safety and City Officials. What a wonderful opportunity to meet our neighbors, engage with our local community and just like we did last year: barbecue! Please join us from 6pm - 8pm as we come together along the Alameda with cold water and hot dogs.



**Mark your calendars:
Sunday, August 10th
6-9pm**

Trivia Night in the Parlor

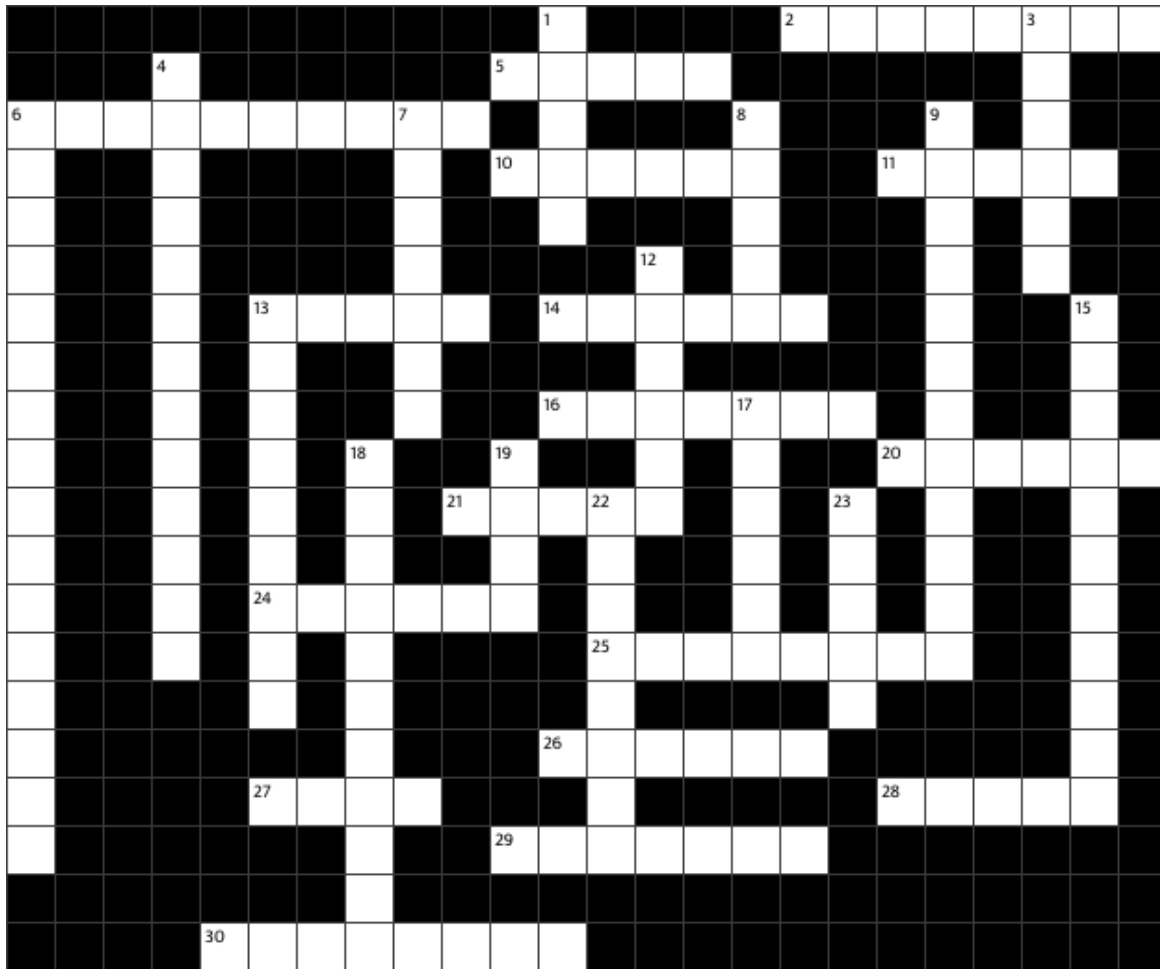
Dust off your encyclopedias and get your thinking caps on: Northbrae Trivia Night is back! The coolest potluck this side of the Mississippi River is making its triumphant return to the Parlor. Please bring a snack to share and your vast knowledge of minutiae.

What two words were combined to make the word "Spam?"



Northbrae Crossword Puzzle

edited by Tristan Bachus



across

- 2** An Anglo-Irish philosopher, writer, and clergyman who is regarded as the founder of "immaterialism"
- 5** Developed Instrumental Astronomy in America
- 6** Served as Northbrae's Minister for 27 years, retiring in 1997
- 10** The seminal figure of the Protestant Reformation
- 11** Chapel Stained Glass Window Artist (East and West)
- 13** Northbrae's Minister from 1924-1966 and Mayor of Berkeley from 1947 to 1955
- 14** A wandering ascetic and religious teacher
- 16** Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone
- 20** An Indian lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist, and political ethicist
- 21** The Hebrew prophet who led the Israelites out of slavery in the Exodus from Egypt
- 24** Prophesied during the reigns of Uzziah (or Azariah), Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, the kings of Judah.
- 25** Greek philosopher from Athens who is credited as the founder of Western philosophy and as the first moral philosopher of the ethical tradition of thought
- 26** Northbrae's Third Minister
- 27** Also named Saul of Tarsus
- 28** An English-born American Founding Father, French Revolutionary, inventor, and political philosopher
- 29** 16th President
- 30** Arab religious, political leader and the founder of Islam

down

- 1** 1st-century Jewish preacher and religious leader
- 3** Literally meaning 'Old Master'
- 4** Key figure in the Social Gospel and single tax movements
- 6** Dedicated in 2014 for Native American Spirituality with the exemplar of the Huchiun people who dwelt long ago on this land
- 7** American essayist, lecturer, philosopher, minister, abolitionist, and poet
- 8** First Minister of Northbrae
- 9** These prophetic voices of the past inform our faith and spirituality
- 12** Co-founded 'Hull House'
- 13** Chinese philosopher of the Spring and Autumn period who is traditionally considered the paragon of Chinese sages
- 15** English social reformer, statistician and the founder of modern nursing
- 17** American agricultural scientist and inventor who promoted alternative crops to cotton and methods to prevent soil depletion
- 18** Another name for our beloved Dawn Redwood
- 19** He labored faithfully to build the Ark at God's command
- 22** German-born theoretical physicist who is best known for developing the theory of relativity.
- 23** Greek philosopher of the Classical period who is considered a foundational thinker in Western philosophy and an innovator of the written dialogue and dialectic forms