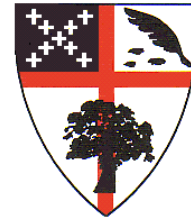


# Seeds and Harvest Newsletter



## Message from the Rector

The Lenten Study group met for the first time this past Thursday, as we began the study “When the game is over, it all goes back in the box”. An opening premise of this study is that we should all live our lives in a way that is ‘rich toward God’. One person in the study group posed the question what it means to be *rich toward God*. We kicked around some ideas, but I think this is a great question for you to ponder as you commit to make this season of Lent your own **personal, holy, Lent**. (For more on this subject of a personal Lent, listen to my Ash Wednesday sermon, located on the church website).

One way to be *rich toward God* is offered in 1 Peter 4:10, which reads “God has given to each of you from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God’s generosity can flow through you.”

How would you rate your self-awareness and gratitude for the gifts God has given you? Have you taken the time to become aware of special skills and talents God has given you? Have you asked someone you trust to help you recognize those gifts? How comfortable are you with the idea that you have some God-given gifts? Does

that feel too self-centered? Or are you comfortable enough in your relationship with God to claim and to celebrate the skills and talents God has given you?

But now for the bigger challenge. How would you rate your management of the skills and talents God has given you, so that they ‘flow through you’? To what degree do your gifts bring blessing to your children, or your spouse, or other people you come in contact with? Are your gifts all used up at work? Or are they burned up on the highway during your commute? What a waste!!

If you don’t spend the time to reflect on what you’re doing with your life; if you don’t challenge yourself to find your weaknesses and to demand more from yourself; if you don’t let your gifts flow through you for the benefit of others, then you really don’t have a life that is *rich toward God*. The time for this homework is now, this Lenten season. I hope you find the St. Stephen’s Lenten studies and services helpful in learning more about yourself, and guiding your journey through a **personal, holy, Lent**.

Yours in Faith, Ken +

St. Stephen's  
in the Field

March 2009

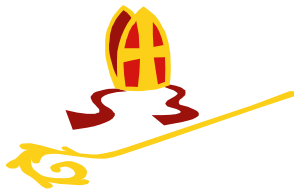
Volume 2009, Issue 2

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## Words from Your Senior Warden

I am extremely excited about 2009. As a Faith Community, St. Stephen's continues to set the bar for others to follow. Although the upcoming year poses many unknowns and challenges, we have acknowledged the road in front of us. The finance committee has made the decision to meet monthly rather than quarterly, to make sure that we are not caught by any surprises. The new Vestry members are in place and ready for the challenge, you can be confident that they have chosen and accepted their new liaison positions and are ready to lead in these roles.

Rod Sato, your Parish Life Liaison has done a won-



## Lenten Soup Supper and Study...

We have begun our traditional Soup Suppers and Adult Study during Lent. Since Divine Drama Bible Study meets on Tuesday nights, we have switched the Soup Supper to Thursday nights at 6:30 pm. This allows the Bible Study classes to continue their studies, and to have the choice to attend both activities during Lent.

The Adult Study is a new course from our friend

## Preschool Update...

We held our first Preschool Open House on February 27<sup>th</sup>. A few families attended the event, and were pleased with the classroom, playground, faculty and curriculum. We will continue to promote the preschool through Craig's list, Bay Area Parent, flyers, and signs along Santa Teresa Blvd. Please keep your

derful job planning the early events this year, and I would like to thank all of you for the support you have given these events. Fellowship is one of the vital ingredients to a thriving Faith Family, it is the glue that helps hold us together, check it out! I would personally like to thank everyone for the commitments you make to St. Stephen's, by honoring them, you help make St. Stephen's the strong Faith Community and model it is. Together we can make 2009 a truly memorable and exciting year; I look forward to being a part of it.

God Bless, Tom

## Congratulations

At Bishop Mary's parish visit on February 15<sup>th</sup>, we were delighted to participate in the Confirmation Rite for Larry Lee and Melissa Epps. In the same service, Bill and Marie Bianco were formally received into the Episcopal Church. Congratulations to the four of you. We feel very blessed to have you as part of this faith family, and we were honored to be part of this important step in your journey of faith.

John Ortberg, "When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box". The course leads us in discussion about what it takes to really win at the game of life. It guides us how to live with an eternal perspective, keeping our eyes on the true prize – the prize that unlocks the gate to the Kingdom of God.

If you have not yet attended this supper and study, please consider joining us. You will enjoy the discussion! Contact Fr. Ken if you have any questions about the course.



word-of-mouth marketing going. We will have another Open House in May. Please pray for the registration of 3 and 4 year olds in our preschool for the Fall term.  
Ken +

## Treasurer's Report for Jan 2009

The new year, 2009, is off to a great start. A summary of 2009 Income and Expenses is shown in the table below.

As the first month of the year, it is important to get off to a good start. Our receipts were ahead of the budget and as a result our short fall was lower than planned. This really helps our cash flow during the first half of the year.

Contribution Statements for 2008 have been mailed, as well as, 2009 Pledge statements. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer.

| January 09          | Actual    | Budget    | Percent Difference |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| Income              | \$13,544  | \$12,962  | 104% of Budget     |
| Expense             | \$14,673  | \$15,065  | 97% of Budget      |
| Net                 | (\$1,129) | (\$2,103) |                    |
|                     |           |           |                    |
| <b>Year to Date</b> |           |           |                    |
| Income              | \$13,544  | \$12,962  | 104% of Budget     |
| Expense             | \$14,673  | \$15,065  | 97% of Budget      |
| Net                 | (\$1,129) | (\$2,103) | 46% Better         |

Logan Zintsmaster, Treasurer

## On-Line Sermons

Father Ken has been working with Carol Pecora and Doug Dunham over the last few weeks to add a feature to our ever-expanding website. Several sermons have been recorded, and the audio files have been posted on the website. By going to the home page and clicking on 'Listen to Audio Sermons', you will see a directory of service dates. By clicking on a date, your Windows Media Player will open, and the sermon audio will be played. It's that easy!!

After starting this project a few weeks ago, people have

commented how nice it is to have access to the sermons for review, to share them with someone, or to catch up on a Sunday they missed. Give it a try, and let Father Ken or Carol know what you think.

Thanks to Doug Dunham for loaning us his digital recorder. This recorder makes the production work of these sermons a snap, and with very impressive quality. If we decide to keep this audio sermon directory growing, we will soon look at how we can purchase our own digital recorder.

## Cursillo

There will be an especially important Ultreya on March 14th at St. Jude's in Cupertino. As part of this Ultreya, there will be a meeting to discuss whether Cursillo should continue, or whether there should be a

time of suspended activity. If you support Cursillo, and you want to keep it active in Santa Clara County, you are asked to attend this event.  
Ultreya / Community Meeting  
St. Jude's in Cupertino  
March 14; 3PM to 8PM

## WOMEN'S DAY

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Paul's, Salinas, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

The Episcopal Church Women have adopted the theme "*Women Sharing Gifts in the World*" for 2009. Across the diocese, women will focus on how we can make a difference, both locally and globally. **WOMEN'S DAY** begins at **9:30** with Coffee and Pastries and a chance to share with others. The Eucharist follows at **10:15** with the In-Gathering for the Church Periodical Club. **DON'T FORGET YOUR PENNIES.** The Rev. Mary

Blessing will be the celebrant. Women's Day features a day of sharing gifts and learning new gifts in a variety of **classes**. There will be two class sessions -- one in the morning and another after **lunch**. Last year we shared with 105 women in the diocese and guests from the diocese of San Joaquin and our Province VIII representative and hope to see Cordelia again this year to share what is happening nationally in our church.

See Wanda Bryan for registration details.

Bev Anderson, President, ECW [bev.larry@comcast.net](mailto:bev.larry@comcast.net)

## **Holy Week**

It seems a long ways away, but it isn't. Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter are coming up on April 5 through April 12. There will be flyers and emails to advise you as these important worship events draw near. Start thinking now about who you can invite, to share these services with someone else. The Episcopal

## **Prayer Shawls**

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You to Marie Bianco, Caroline Buckner, Laura Lewis, Ann Little, Doreen Senior, and Judy van der Molen who have lovingly volunteered to make Prayer Shawls. This should keep our shelf well stocked. Thank You also to Nancy McGuinness who donates and sews the tiny crosses on each corner of the shawls, and to Sharon Wardman who feels that this is such an important ministry that she's offered to help any one who needs it to pay for their yarn. All these ladies are quiet and

## **Sweetheart Breakfast**

Thank you to all the ladies who braved a beautiful Saturday morning to make us gentleman work so hard preparing a sumptuous breakfast and singing our unrehearsed hearts out. Thank you gentleman for your support of this fun event, you know who you are and I won't compromise your reputation by naming names. Here is a genuine email I received from a guest:

## **In the Diocese:**

### **World Mission Network Convocation: Conversations on the Mission Partnerships we Build Together**

Together, as the Body of Christ, we are called to be as one in service to the world. The World Mission Network of El Camino Real offers a tangible and practical way in which we connect with the Global Church and the needs of the world. Congregations involved in world mission partnerships and those seeking mission connections are encouraged to send representatives to this "con-vocation:" *speaking together*. Three conversations will be woven into our day: Mission Partnerships as Renewal of Congregations (Jesus Reyes), Cross-Cultural Discoveries and Sensitivities

Church has a rich worship tradition, which few people outside the Episcopal or Catholic churches have personally experienced. Maybe this is the year; and maybe your invitation is the one that will introduce someone to a level of appreciating Easter that they have never experienced before. Give some prayerful thought to who you can invite.

loving angels.

The Prayer Shawls are available to all of us, either to keep when we feel the need to wrap ourself in prayer, or to give to some one who needs our prayers. There are prayers said during the making of the shawls and each one is blessed by Kr. Ken at the Altar before being placed in his office for any one to take.

Again, ladies, "Thank You". If any one else would like to be a part of this ministry in any capacity just call Frances Steitz

*Thanks to you and all the rest of the St. Stephen's men who participated in the Sweetheart Breakfast for us ladies. It was a wonderful treat, delicious food and a good chance for socializing without interruptions. Thanks again for the invitation and generosity. I know it takes a lot of work, energy and creativity to pull off something like this.*

(Amy and Vince Zuniga-Denney) and Reshaping our Theology of Mission for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Jerry Drino). Come, be refreshed, renewed, connected and empowered for mission! Let us keep evolving this vital network in our diocese.

**March 14 (Saturday) 9:00-4:00 Church of the Good Shepherd**, 301 Corral de Tierra Rd, Salinas (off Route 68) **Cost: \$5** per person. Registration 8:30 am **PLEASE BRING YOUR SACK LUNCH.**

Contact Susan Altig to register. [susan@edecr.org](mailto:susan@edecr.org)  
831-394-4465

Contact Joanna Shreve with questions:  
[jrshreve@aol.com](mailto:jrshreve@aol.com)

## Bible Study

Tuesdays

Two classes:

9-10AM & 7-8PM

This Bible Study is called *The Divine Drama*. The title is very apt. The Bible has many stories from Adam and Eve, to Jesus and His disciples. All of which point to the Main Story – our relationship with God. Taking part in this bible study will benefit us in two ways.

First it will benefit us individually. It doesn't matter how much I already know about the Bible, any time I study it I learn something new about God and gain new wisdom. I will promise you the Holy Spirit will quicken something new in you whether you come every week or sporadically.

Second – the bible study will benefit us as a community. As we go through the study together, we will find the Holy Spirit spinning a common thread among us.

We will find our bonds of community strengthened as we read Mark and inwardly digest the scriptures together

New bonds of friendship and respect will be formed

God will be healing common wounds

### **Telephone and Photo Directories Ready...**

We have received the Photo Directories that we ordered from Life Touch. There is one directory per family, and we probably have enough for most families to get a second directory if you need one. Please

### **New Deanery Delegate Orientation**

The next Deanery Meeting will be Saturday, March 7 at 9:30 am, at St. Timothy's in Mountain View.

The agenda will include a Restorative Justice Project orientation, Deanery elections, and an orientation for new Delegates and Alternates.

God may be creating a new energy for a new ministry

We may be drawn into a exploring areas of the bible in greater depth

Cost for the Bible study is \$33.00 for the workbooks. The study is set up so that each lesson is complete in itself and not dependent on having to be there every week. But the more one attends – the more one will get out of it. We'll take breaks for Christmas and Easter. Both morning and evening classes will be the same so you can switch times if something comes up.

If you have any questions or want to sign up, let me or Fr. Ken know.

We will be taking a wonderful journey, and I hope you will join me.

God Bless,

Judi Sato



Check the web site calendar for dates.

see Judi Sato to get your copy.

Judi has also completed an update to the Members and Friends Directory. This directory has a much more complete set of contact information, and is more up to date than the photo directory. Be sure to see Judi for your copy of this directory.

### **Daily Lenten Devotional emails in your Inbox?**

Episcopal Relief and Development are me a daily devotional email, a good way to stat my day, during Lent.

2009 Lenten Devotional, Peace & Compassion:

To Heal a Hurting World

<http://www.er-d.org/>

St Stephen's in the Field : [Online Calendar Page](#)

<http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=L6O9G1N8O9I3N8N8H2>

**Notable dates:**

Tuesday Bible Study  
 Thursday : Lenten Soup Supper  
 15th New Member Brunch –bring a dish

April 5th –12th Holy Week  
 5th: Palm Sunday  
 9th Maundy Thursday  
 Overnight prayer vigil  
 10th Good Friday  
 11th Great Vigil  
 12th Easter

**Servant Calendar**

|                      | 3/8/2009             | 3/15/2009            | 3/22/2009        | 3/29/2009            | 4/5/2009         |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
|                      |                      | Family Sunday        |                  |                      | Palm Sunday      |
| <b>Lector1</b>       | Judi Sato            | Family Sunday        | Edy Unthank      | Nancy                | Catherine Blair  |
| <b>Lector2</b>       | Frances Steitz       |                      | Sharon Wardman   | Julie Zintsmaster    | Caroline Buckner |
| <b>LEM</b>           | Tom Good             | Edy Unthank          | Caroline Buckner | Julie Zintsmaster    | Judi Sato        |
| <b>CB</b>            | Susie Good           | Rosemary             | Wanda Bryan      | Jan Martin           | Sharon Wardman   |
| <b>Crucifer</b>      | Brooke               | Melissa              | Taylor           | Brooke               | Melissa          |
| <b>Acolytes</b>      | Isabella,<br>Coleman | Peter, Janelle       | Sabrina, Brianna | Isabella Grace       | Peter, Janelle   |
|                      | Hannah, Kendall      | Carly                | Natasha          | Hannah               | Carly            |
| <b>Altar</b>         | Laura Lewis          | Laurie Watson        | Edy Unthank      | Nancy                | Nancy            |
| <b>Guild</b>         | Susie Good           | Barbara Gray         | Janet Thorsrud   | Susan Zaballos       | Susan Zaballos   |
| <b>Sunday School</b> | Monica               |                      | Maggi            | Penny                | Penny            |
| <b>Elementary</b>    | Heather              |                      | Laura            | Carol                | Candace          |
| <b>Youth</b>         | Phil                 |                      | Ruth L.          | Tony                 | Tracy & Nigel    |
| <b>Sitter</b>        |                      |                      |                  |                      |                  |
| <b>Music</b>         | Bell Choir           | Praise Band          |                  |                      | Voice Choir      |
| <b>Shepherd</b>      | Jim Glancey          |                      | Robert Young     | Logan<br>Xintsmaster | Elaine Alton     |
|                      | Chris Glancey        | Frances &<br>Barbara | Ann Little       | Craig Cuffie         | Tim Alton        |
| <b>Coffee Host</b>   | Westfall             | New Member<br>Brunch | Little           | Senior Bryan         | Redder           |
| <b>Counter</b>       | Judi Sato            | Andy Lief            | Tom Good         | Nigel Cooper         | Nigel Cooper     |
|                      | Sharon Wardman       | -                    | Sandi Redder     | Tim Alton            | Tim Alton        |

## St. Stephen's in the Field

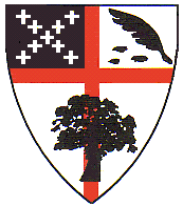
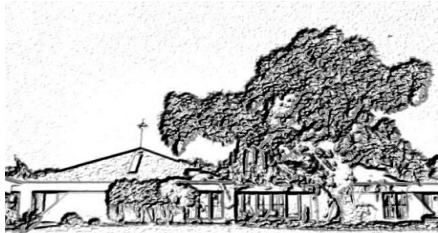
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7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard  
San Jose, Ca 95139

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*Seeds and Harvest*  
*March 2009*



**ST. STEPHEN'S IN-THE-FIELD  
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(408) 629-1836  
email [rector@kwratten.com](mailto:rector@kwratten.com)  
[Http://www.ssif.org](http://www.ssif.org)**

**SUNDAY:**  
8 & 10am: Holy Eucharist  
10am: Sunday School &  
Nursery

**Wednesday:**  
10am: Healing Service

**This Issue:**

Special thanks to Fr. Ken Wratten,,  
Tom Good, Logan Zintsmaster,  
Frances Steitz , for article submis-  
sions,

You too can contribute!

**Next Issue: April. Deadline for arti-  
cles is Thursday March 26th**

Send articles to Tim Alton [timalton@yahoo.com](mailto:timalton@yahoo.com). Or drop something  
in my box in the office.