

SEEDS & HARVEST

St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church in South San Jose

VOLUME 2010, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

This season of Lent we are using the Max Lucado course, *Fearless*. Through the Sunday sermons, weekly small group meetings, and the on-line blog, we are holding conversations on specific ways that the fears we carry within us can debilitate us and keep us from living out the life and purpose that God wants for us. We are specifically zeroing in on the fears of Not Mattering, of Disappointing God, of Life's Final Moments, of Global Calamity, and the Fear of God Getting out of the Box. Holy Scripture is filled with examples of people in our faith tradition who have faced these same obstacles. Our endeavor this Spring is to learn from them so we can put fear in its proper place.

If you miss a Sunday, go to our website at www.sstif.org, go to the audio sermon library, and hear what was discussed on Sunday. If you would like to join one of the small groups that are meeting throughout Lent, contact Margo Westfall for group meetings days and locations. If you would like to take a shot at some on-line reflection pertaining to this theme, go to the church website and click on "Lenten Series Blog". This will take you to a page which posts some comments from me, and responses from others who have joined this on-line discussion.

As we approach the end of March we will have entered into Holy Week., which starts with Palm Sunday on March 28th. This is a very sacred time in the church, and I can promise that the more you can participate in Holy Week, the more you will get out of Easter Day. Our strength as a liturgical church is that our services reflect the tone and meaning of the events that shape our tradition and culture as Christians.

If you have wondered what it would have been like to be a follower of Jesus, celebrating his amazing ministry, and welcoming him into Jerusalem with all the pomp and circumstance of a visiting Roman emperor, don't miss the Palm Sunday service.

If you have never felt the humility of our Lord as he washed the feet of his closest friends as he bid them goodbye; and if you have not experienced what our Worship space looks and feels like when every symbol of our Christ is stripped away until Easter Eve, please, please come to the Maundy Thursday service.

If you have never experienced the Stations of the Cross, or if you have not experienced the way we do that service here, do not miss the noontime or evening service of the Stations on Good Friday. Each station of Jesus' passion is displayed on a wall of the church, as a narration is read, prayers are said, and solemn, live instrumental music plays for each station. This service will leave you breathless.

The Easter Vigil service begins with a darkened church as we meet outside to light a New Fire on the patio near the front door. That New Fire is used to light the Paschal Candle, which in turn is used to light candles which everyone carries into the Worship Hall. The lights are raised, the music is exquisite, the air is filled with light incense and the sweet perfume of Easter lilies, and the music is filled with Alleluias once again. This service is nothing short of magnificent. It provides the transition from the dark depression of Good Friday, to the excitement of the tomb of Jesus being found empty, because Christ has risen!

Of course Easter Day is the premier worship experience of the Christian church. And we do it up with excellence. Come to bathe in the celebrations of Voice, Bell and Junior Bell choirs, the children's Flowering of the Cross, the Great Easter Egg Hunt, and a Potluck Easter Brunch which normally spreads across our beautiful property, inside and outside, under the oak tree, on the back patio, and in the playground area.

A priceless gift for yourself could be your attending these service. Another priceless gift could be your invitation to a neighbor or friend to join you for these deeply meaningful worship services. May you experience a transformational Holy Week. Ken +



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SEEDS & HARVEST

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN...

Hello St. Stephen's!

This is my first month as Sr. Warden and I am excited and ready to serve Fr. Ken and your church in this manner. I believe this will be an exciting and challenging year (in the good sense) at St. Stephen's, and I give thanks to our Lord that he has blessed us with Fr. Ken leading the way. But, he is not the only person leading - you have a terrific Vestry with each member serving as liaison to the valuable ministries that are the Lord's good work. Lastly, and certainly not the least, are you, the faithful members of St. Stephen's that make our parish come 'alive'. At our recent annual vestry retreat, we were asked to identify a core value of St. Stephen's. Immediately, I expressed that ..."we live the power of prayer"... a good sign that we are Alive in Christ.

Peace and Blessing! Rod Sato

SWEETHEART BREAKFAST REPORT...

Red balloon shaped hearts, 'I love you' candy, a scrumptious breakfast, mimosa, and what else am I missing? oh yeah, a team of energetic and musically talented crew of men. Thank you Dan Hughes, Andy Lief, Harold Yamamura, Tom Good, Morrie Munson, Ken Wratten, Larry Lee, and Ken Redder. Our Sweethearts loved it and give a big "Thank You". Attention all the Ladies of SSITF. Don't miss next year...I hear there will be a special surprise. Hmmm! *By Rod Sato*

PRE-SCHOOL UPDATE...

Well, we are still dodging raindrops, but the sun has come out a few times and the children *really* enjoy their time outside. I think those opportunities to go outside and stretch their legs and vocal cords are an excellent marketing tool that lets the neighbors know we are in business!

One thing that I particularly like about the Preschool is that our wonderful teachers, Mrs. Nielsen and Mrs. Horn, use a variety of methods to help the children learn their letters. This week is the letter "P" and the kids will be making their very own PIZZAS!! They are nice enough to share their creations with the rest of the "staff."



In March the teachers will have Parent Conferences and we all get to wear green on the 17th!

Looking ahead: we have five children enrolled for Fall 2010 – that is five more than we had at this time last year! We still have openings in all classes so if you know anyone who is looking for an excellent Preschool, send them our way. We are open from 8 until noon, Monday through Friday! *By Judi Sato*

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE...

We have had a beautiful ivory lace tablecloth lying around the office for the past several weeks. If it is yours please pick it up or let me know so we can get it to you.

While cleaning out a drawer in the office I found this recipe. Someone thought it important to save, so I thought I would submit it for the Newsletter so everyone will now have it. Enjoy – it looks really good.

SANTA MARIA MARINADE (It was for a Welcome Back BBQ)

Recipe makes 1 ½ cups - use 1 ½ cups per 5 pounds of meat. (It does not specify the meat, but I'm thinking Tri-tip)

½ cup soy sauce

½ cup lemon juice

½ cup extra virgin olive oil

1 clove garlic, minced

1 bay leaf

Cracked pepper

Place in a zip lock freezer bag. Leave in refrigerator up to one week, turn every day. *From Judi Sato*

WITH THANKS...

The Psalms course is now completed, was well attended, and very effectively led by Marie Rose Bianco in the Tuesday morning session, and by Karen Cuffie in the Tuesday evening session. The students and I are deeply grateful for the investment of time and energy into this most educational look at the Book of Psalms *By Fr. Ken*

EUROPE ANYONE?...

Gloucester and Canterbury Pilgrimage 2010: July 23 – August 3 This summer Barbara Creed will be leading a pilgrimage to Gloucester and Canterbury. The pilgrimage is sponsored by the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the United States. We will depart San Francisco on Friday, July 23 and return Tuesday, August 3 (or stay for an extension until about August 8). We will arrive in England on Saturday, July 24, and make Gloucester our base of operations until July 29. While in Gloucester we will have opportunities to explore Gloucester Cathedral and visit significant religious and spiritual sites in that part of England in the company of Bishop Michael. If you would like a more detailed itinerary or think you might be interested, please let Barbara know at bcreed@truckerhuss.com or 650-343-6157.

ASH WEDNESDAY REPORT...

Ash Wednesday is the day that Lent begins. This is the service of the imposition of ashes on our foreheads. It is a service of repentance. This year stones were passed out. While holding their stone, each person silently contemplated their sins of the past year. Afterward, all the stones were placed in a bowl and Father Ken poured water over them to signify the washing away of our sins. It is a powerful service that so appropriately begins the forty days of Lent. *By Karen Cuffie*

KYRIE ELEISON...

This acclamation is usually added to our Lenten services. We are learning a new setting for this prayer that comes from our "Wonder, Love and Praise" hymnal. Kyrie Eleison is translated "Christ have mercy" and comes from the Greek, kuri eleeson. When the Mass was converted to Latin, the Kyrie was the only prayer that remained in Greek. Most masses that are set to music have a Kyrie. In the Ordinary Mass, it comes first, and in a Requiem, it is often second. Many well known composers like Bach, Haydn, Beethoven and Mozart have composed Masses. . *By Karen Cuffie*

HOLY WEEK...

It may not seem like it, but Holy Week is just around the corner. There are several services during the week that you'll want to take time to attend. The week starts on Palm Sunday with the blessing of the palms outside. Guitars accompany our procession into the Church. The voice choir will also be offering two special anthems. The service on Maundy Thursday is at 7:30 pm where we do a foot washing (completely voluntary). The service ends with the stripping of the altar in silence. The Prayer Vigil begins immediately after this service and continues throughout the night until noon on Good Friday. The Vigil is set up with hourly time slots for one or more people to sign up for.

There will be two Good Friday services, one at noon and the other at 7:30pm. This year both services will be Stations of the Cross and will include instrumental music between the stations. The Great Vigil of Easter is on Saturday evening (Easter Eve). This is the night that we get to officially celebrate Jesus' resurrection and exclaim "Alleluia" again. For some (including me) this is the most special service of the year! Easter Day will be a glorious service complete with music from the Bell Choir, Jr Bell Choir, and the Voice Choir. The children do a special procession with their Alleluias that have been locked up during Lent. They will also carry on the tradition of flowering the cross – a wonderful photo opportunity! There is a potluck brunch after the service and, of course, an Easter Egg Hunt for the children! *By Karen Cuffie*

COMMUNICATIONS...

Aren't you burning with desire to find out what others think about our new Lenten series "Fearless"? Maybe you have some thoughts to share with others in our faith community that aren't quite right to get into due to lack of time. To share and help spread the good news try out the new blog on the St. Stephens website. You can read and inwardly digest what others think and then post a comment of your own. Go on...try it. Remember, it's for you. *By Janet Thorsrud*

CURSILLO EN CHRISTIANIDAD...

We are now accepting candidate applications for the next Cursillo weekend (Short course in Christianity), which will be held May 13-16, 2010 at Camp St Francis in Aptos. This year's leaders for the weekend are Tim and Donna Miller. Tim has visited St Stephen's before to play in our Player 4 Christ. The leadership team consists of representatives from ECA, St. Jude's, St. Joseph's, St. Andrew's, Holy Spirit, and St. Stephen's in-the-Field.

Cursillo is one method of renewal in the Church. Its purpose is to help those in the Church understand their individual callings to be Christian leaders. This leadership may be exercised in work situations, in the family and social life, in leisure activities, and within the Church. Prayerfully consider joining us in May.

For information or an application, contact Father Ken or any St Stephen's member who has attended Cursillo.

WE NEED HELP COUNTING...

We have three teams of money counters, who do the accounting for each Sunday offering. We need at least one more counter. If you are interested in serving on a counter team (about once per month), please contact Ron Jones at ronjones@windermere.com.

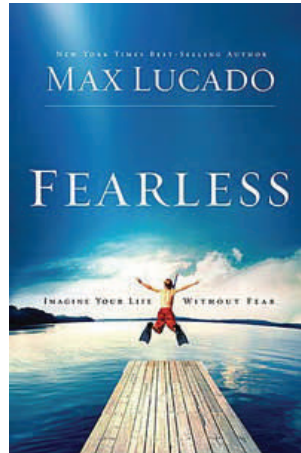
SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER REPORT...

A fun and tummy-filled night with [pancakes](#) and flap jacks!

Thank you Judi Sato, Dan Hughes, Lisa Thornburg, Tracey Cooper, Margo Westfall, Tom Good, Andy Lief, and special thanks to our Youth...Tommy, Joey, Samantha, Carly, Jordan, and Taylor. *By Rod Sato*

LENTEN STUDY AND SOUP SUPPER...

There are three small groups meeting in homes in south San Jose, Almaden Valley, and Morgan Hill, with a total of 30 people sharing fellowship, study, and a soup supper. The weekday topics are coordinated with the Sunday sermons during Lent. Sign up to attend a Lenten Soup Supper Small Group by contacting Margo Westfall: mmwca@aol.com



SUNDAY NURSERY CAREGIVING...

Margo Westfall welcomes Janelle Lief into the nursery care ministry beginning 3/7. She has prior experience with babysitting through the Girl Scouts. Janelle, Brooke, Samantha and Melissa are currently working with Margo in the Nursery to provide infant care during our 10 am service. *By Anthony Francis*

JANUARY FINANCIALS...

A partial financial update for January 2010 is contained in the table below. By the end of February we had received \$3,975 of additional pledges and cash contributions for 2010. These contributions allow us to fully fund the professional cleaning of the church, and the clergy expenses in support of diocesan and deanery activities. Through these very important financial gifts we are able to operate St. Stephen's at the level we operated for the last six months of 2009. In other words, we will be carefully monitoring every expenditure, and cutting any discretionary expenses. But the 'painful' program cuts which were originally planned in order to present a balanced budget to the congregation, will not be necessary.

The January expense information will have to be presented in the next newsletter. Our employee payroll is no longer done by the diocese. In the conversion, some expense figures were double entered. The corrected numbers are not ready in time for this newsletter update. *Reported by Fr. Ken*

January '10	Actual	Budget
Income	\$13,923	\$13,372
Expense	Not reconciled	\$15,618
Net	*	-\$2,246

MARCH PARISH ACTIVITIES...

- Sun., Mar 7 8 am—HOLY EUCHARIST— **3 LENT**
10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY CARE
- Wed., Mar 10 10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
7 pm—CRAFTS NIGHT—
bring projects to work on
7 pm—CHOIR REHEARSAL
8 pm—BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
- Thu., Mar 11 7 pm—VESTRY MEETING
- Sun., Mar 14 8 am—HOLY EUCHARIST— **4 LENT**
10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY CARE
- Tue., Mar 16 7 pm—MEMBERSHIP CLASS—Sign up with
Genie Lee (genie.yomtov@yahoo.com)
- Wed., Mar 17 10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
7 pm—CRAFTS NIGHT—
bring projects to work on
7 pm—CHOIR REHEARSAL
8 pm—BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
- Sun., Mar 21 8 am—HOLY EUCHARIST— **5 LENT**
10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST—
FAMILY SUNDAY
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY CARE
After the 10 am service—
NEW MEMBER BRUNCH
- Sat., Mar 27 1 pm—PARISH WORK DAY:
PREP GROUNDS FOR EASTER
- Sun., Mar 28 8 am—HOLY EUCHARIST— **PALM SUNDAY**
10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY CARE
- Wed., Mar 31 10 am—HOLY EUCHARIST
7 pm—CRAFTS NIGHT—
bring projects to work on
7 pm—CHOIR REHEARSAL
8 pm—BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
- Thu., Apr 1 7:30 pm—MAUNDY THURSDAY –
HOLY EUCHARIST;
FOOT WASHING;
STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR
8 pm – 12 noon Friday – PRAYER VIGIL
- Fri., Apr 2 Noon—GOOD FRIDAY:
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
1-3 pm – SILENT MEDITATION
7:30 pm – STATIONS OF THE CROSS &
COMMUNION FROM
RESERVED SACRAMENT
- Sat., Apr 3 7:30 pm—EASTER EVE: THE GREAT VIGIL
(light incense)
- Sun., Apr 4 8 am—EASTER DAY HOLY EUCHARIST
10 am—EASTER DAY HOLY EUCHARIST
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, NURSERY CARE
Following the 10 am service – POT LUCK
BRUNCH & EASTER EGG HUNT

MARCH SERVANT SCHEDULE...

March 2010	3/7/10	3/14/10	3/21/10	3/28/10
	3 Lent	4 Lent	5 Lent:	Palm Sunday
Lector 1	Genie Lee	Jordan Lief	L&H Samson Family	Maggi Munson
Lector 2	Larry Lee	Jan Martin	L&H Samson Family	Morrie Munson
LEM	Genie Lee	Caroline Buckner	Wanda Bryan	Jan Martin
CB	Edy Unthank	Rosemary Goodman	Julie Zintsmaster	Laura Lewis
Crucifer	Melissa Epps	Taylor Cuffie	Brooke Westfall	Melissa Epps
Acolytes	Peter Pecora-T Janelle Lief-T Carly Cooper-B Jordan Lief-B	Sabrina Denton-T Brianna Padilla-T Natasha Denton-B	Isabella Greathurst-T Coleman Jones-T Hannah Tarbox-B Kendall Watson-B	Peter Pecora-T Carly Cooper-B/T
Altar Guild	Nancy McGuinness Susan Zaballos	Susie Good Laura Lewis	Barbara Gray Laurie Watson	Edy Unthank Janet Thorsrud
Sunday School: preK/K	Rowena Burger	Maggi Munson	Family Sunday	open
Grades 1-5	Candace Jones	Heather Samson	Family Sunday	Laura Denton
Grades 6-9	Lisa Thornburg	Philip Ong	Family Sunday	Andy and Ruth Lief
Nursery	Janelle Lief	Brooke Westfall	Samantha Cooper	Janelle Lief
Music	Voice Choir	Bell Choir	Praise Band	Voice
Shepherds/Greeters O= Fam Sun	Bob Young Ann Tyler	Jim Glancey Chris Glancey	Amy Corbus Frances Steitz Samson Family: O	Ann Little Dot Remson
Coffee Hosts	Carol Pecora Candace Jones	Wanda Bryan Doreen Senior	Eve Wright Jeanne Noteware	Tim & Shelly Good
Counters	Nigel Cooper Ron Jones	Tom Good Sandi Redder	Larry Lee Andy Lief	Nigel Cooper Ron Jones

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Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of
my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23:6

ST STEPHEN'S IN-THE-FIELD

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