



# Church Mouse

News & Events from St. John's Episcopal Church • Oakland, California

## November 2010

October 30 – St. John's  
9:00 a.m. – Rewired Summit

October 31 – 23rd Pentecost  
7:45 – Early Eucharist  
8:55 – Pirate Eucharist  
10:00 – Church School  
Trick or Treat  
10:45 – Choral Eucharist

November 7 – All Saints' Day  
Daylight Saving Time Ends  
10:00 – All Parish Breakfast  
Service

November 14 – 23rd Pentecost  
Pledge Sunday  
7:45 – Early Eucharist  
8:55 – Family Eucharist  
10:00 – Adult Education  
10:00 – Church School  
10:45 – Choral Eucharist  
Dec. MOUSE articles due

November 21 – Last Pentecost  
Pledge Sunday  
7:45 – Early Eucharist  
8:55 – Family Eucharist  
10:00 – Adult Education  
10:00 – Church School  
10:45 – Choral Eucharist

November 28 – 1st Advent  
7:45 – Early Eucharist  
8:55 – Family Eucharist  
10:00 – Adult Education  
10:00 – Church School  
10:45 – Choral Eucharist  
Lessons & Carols

December 5 – 2nd Advent  
7:45 – Early Eucharist  
10:00 – Adult Education  
10:00 – Church School  
10:00 – Choral Eucharist



## Rector's Message



It won't be long before the elections will be behind us. Thanks be to God! The constant spin and vitriol has been enough to make one feel embarrassed to be human. What in the world has happened to public discourse? How did we arrive at this place? Instead of having a commitment to explore issues in depth we prefer jumping to conclusions. We "tweet" rather than discuss, text rather than answer the phone, email instead of meeting face to face. It makes one wonder if we are raising a generation that will only know how to communicate with sound bites?

I was thinking about this as I recently sat with our St. John's deanery delegates on the diocesan convention floor. To say that I am not one who loves conventions would be an incredible understatement. The resolutions and resulting debates often make me fantasize about being excommunicated. And yet we were together, hearing each other out and exercising our right to vote. The room was packed, the conversation tense and divided, but we were in the

same room trying to be a community face to face. I believe that more than ever, the Episcopal church has an opportunity to be truly prophetic in this day and age simply by modeling a willingness to stay in conversation, to engage in civil debate, to radically disagree with one another on one issue and work together on a different one. What a concept.

But if we want to build community, we will have to accept the challenge that goes with any relationship. Over the years we have seen programs at St. John's grow. The confirmation program created at St. John's is now in over 250 congregations in this country and beyond. Genesis, a community organizing effort co-founded by St. John's had a radical impact this year on how millions of stimulus dollars were used in our region. And, yes, our diocese has a proud history in our region and beyond. In all of these examples much could be added about the frustration one encounters in working outside the walls of our own parish. It's not a rose garden out there. Not surprisingly, everyone is not like us and they have the gall to disagree with our approach. It would be easy to throw up our hands

—Continued on Page 2

## Reflections from the Interim Rector



*I'd like to use the occasion of this month's Mouse column to reflect back to the parish some of the things I've been thinking about as a result of all this Rewired business.*

*For five months now we have been talking and praying and announcing and writing and interviewing an Appreciative Inquiry into stories and experiences of St. John's at its best. I'm wondering how it has been for all of you and am eager to hear more at the Rewired Summit on October 30. I also want to tell you how it has been for me.*

*This entire process would not have happened without the collaboration of an excellent Planning Team – Scott Tate, Bob Davidson, Tim Johnson, Sarah Jones, Anne Landstrom, Katherine Schaffer, Sandra Ahn and Scott Denman. I thank them again. Their creativity unleashed my own as we applied new facets of Appreciative Inquiry practice in an "in-house" consulting context.*

*The Planning Team in itself exemplifies one of the gifts of our congregation; immensely talented and busy people using their considerable professional and personal gifts in the service of the church.*

*As of this writing we have 107 individual interviews. At the suggestion of the Rewired Planning Group I have also visited 10 ministry groups in the congregation for "second-tier conversations" – a focused group discussion about particular ministry areas – with another 107 to 114 people. Several of those in the second tier conversations were in more than one group.*

*The Rewired work has facilitated my getting to know a wide group of individuals as well as understanding the congregation as an organizational system, in ways that might otherwise have taken three times as long if we'd not done this. Your welcome, support and tolerance of my many foibles has been a wonderful entrée for me into your hearts, ministry and lives.*

—Continued on Page 2

## Rector's Message

—Continued from Page 1

and walk away; after all, we always have St. Johns. But then I remember that St. John's would not be St. John's if we surrendered our passion for bringing our light to the broader community.

I guess I am grateful for my time on the convention floor simply because it helped me remember my commitment to stay connected with the broader community even when it's a pain in the neck. Yes, there will be times of frustration, tension and even chaos. It can, at times, even feel like a complete waste of time, but the alternative is worse. The last thing we want is to end up isolated in our own little piece of spiritual real estate hiding our light under a bushel. And in the case of St. John's, that's a lot of light to try and hide.

Scott+

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### The Year in Worship

Eucharistic Lectionary: Year C  
Daily Office Lectionary: Year Two  
Advent 2009 to Advent eve 2010

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### St. John's Episcopal Church

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*It ys a sotyll mouse that slepyth  
in the catty's ear.*

—Hilles *Commonplace Book*, 1530

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### impact

Public policy.  
Machete euphoria.  
Compare and contrast.

## Interim Associate Rector

—Continued from Page 1

*Themes that surfaced, particularly in the second-tier discussions invite the image of St. John's as gyroscope. Here's the Wikipedia definition:*

*A gyroscope is a device for measuring or maintaining orientation, based on the principles of conservation of angular momentum. A mechanical gyroscope is essentially a spinning wheel or disk whose axle is free to take any orientation. This orientation changes much less in response to a given external torque than it would without the large angular momentum associated with the gyroscope's high rate of spin. ...*

*Applications of gyroscopes include navigation when magnetic compasses do not work (as in the Hubble telescope) or are not precise enough (as in ICBMs) or for the stabilization of flying vehicles like radio-controlled helicopters or UAVs.*

*Maintaining orientation, sophisticated navigation when the older, mechanical forms don't work, precision, stabilization of flying vehicles, gimbals or rings that spin on different but inter-connected axes counter one another to provide stability and direction. Does this sound like a description of how our parish works?*

*Over and over again people describe their involvement with St. John's as a way to orient their life and faith, to integrate values and engage in meaning-making with other faith-journeymers. Part of the vitality of this enterprise is the expectation that we NOT be in agreement, sometimes even with regard to core principals. Yet, different from the workplace or other social organizations, there is the expectation that love and mutual respect enable us to listen to one another, practice ministry together and engage God's mission both locally and around the world.*

*My doctoral thesis examined characteristics and practices of vital, growing, dynamic congregations. Over the course of that work my collaborators and I interviewed Episcopalians throughout the coun-*



*try, in congregations of all kinds, sizes and theological orientations. As I have come to know St. John's it seems to me that intuitively, this congregation has engaged many of these marks of vitality. I strongly believe that this dynamic is the result of exceptional, permission-giving leadership throughout the congregation, lay and clergy alike. It is this strength that positions St. John's for being the church God calls us to be in the next ten years. The work we are doing with Rewired is an important component for building on our strengths. Who knows what the Holy Spirit might have in mind? Come on Sat., October 30 at 9 a.m. and BE SHOCKED!*



## Happy November Birthday!

Parishioners celebrating this month are:

Ali Clayton	Elizabeth Clayton
Laura Craig	Ken Fuller
Cherie Glasse	Hugh Gourdin
Morgan James	David Johnson
Norm Jones	Elizabeth Kroger
Nikolas Levandowski	James Padilla
Katherine Schaffer	Dewey Watson
Meredith Tahan Schley	Nathaniel Welch
Amos McCray-Goldsmith	

The traditional November birthstone is topaz but citrine is also used. Did you want to know that November is the month dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory in the Roman Catholic Church?

*Editor's note: Birth dates were taken from the church database. If you wish to be recognized send your birth month and day to [lebennett1950@yahoo.com](mailto:lebennett1950@yahoo.com). Due to personal security considerations, birth dates will no longer be printed in the parish directory.*

## All Parish Breakfast, Sunday, November 7 at 10 a.m.

*"It is the Heart that Gives,  
the Fingers merely let Go"*



On Sunday, November 7, at 10 a.m., we, the parishioners of St. John's, will sit down together to worship and break bread together – to feed our bodies, as well as our souls.

We'll also have the privilege of hearing the Rev. Canon Britt Olson, Canon to the Ordinary for the Diocese of Northern California speak. Canon Olson began her work for the Diocese of Northern California in December 2006. Her responsibilities include encouraging evangelism, working with congregational development, guiding the transition process for parishes and clergy and providing support and resources for the 70+ congregations of the Diocese.

Canon Olson served as the Rector of St. Paul's in Sparks, Nevada for seven years. She was ordained in Oregon, where she spent her educational years in Portland and at the University of Oregon. She is a graduate of the Church Divinity School of the Pacific and also studied at Ripon Theological College in Oxford, England. She spends a lot of time on the road in order to be with congregations and diocesan organizations. Canon Olson makes her home in Auburn where her husband, Bryon Hansen, is the pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of the ELCA.

Canon Olson will speak to us about stewardship in its full meaning. Capital "S," if you will. St. John's annual pledge drive, which our breakfast on November 7th kicks off, is one part of Stewardship, but as Christians trying to live our faith fully we are called to consider how best to use all of our gifts from God – time, talent

and treasure – in the service of our Lord. We are also called to consider how WE, as a community of Christians, use that community in the service of God.

After the breakfast service, you will be asked to pick up your information packet for this Fall's pledge drive. During the two weeks following the breakfast, please take the time to read the materials included in the packet, pray on what Stewardship means for you and, when you are ready, make a pledge to St. John's to support our work in 2011. Our two Commitment Sundays this year are November 14 and 21. We need everyone to make a commitment, whatever that may be for you, to support St. John's. Our Vestry will budget for our community's service in 2011 based on pledges in hand by December 31, 2010.

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On behalf of the Stewardship  
Committee and our community  
of St. John's, I hope to see you on  
November 7, at 10 a.m.

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If you haven't already, and in order to assure there is plenty of food, please RSVP to [stjohnsbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsbreakfast@gmail.com), or on the sign up sheet in the Narthex or by calling me at 510.338.0911. However, if you wake up Sunday morning, November 7th and realize you haven't responded, PLEASE COME! I have faith that, like the loaves and fishes, we will have plenty to go around.

*"God has given us two hands--one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing."* – Billy Graham

Gratefully,

*Michelle Inama*  
Chair, Stewardship Committee 2010

### harvest

Pumpkins are patient.  
They watch peaches and apples  
fall. Then swell and grin

## Income and Remembrance

Two seemingly disparate financial planning goals can both be achieved with a single financial instrument. The twin goals of obtaining generous and secure income that one will never outlive, and the goal of remembering church and charity with an expression of ultimate gratitude, can both be met with a gift annuity.

- In retirement Helen, who had been struggling to get by on dividends from a public utility, exchanged a block of her stock for a gift annuity and more than tripled her income.
- Richard bought a pre-retirement annuity to gain an immediate tax deduction and, by postponing the annuity income, boosted the lifetime payout to double digits.
- When her CD matured, Betty used the proceeds to buy a gift annuity that increased her income from 1.1% to 7.8%, guaranteed for her lifetime.

In all three cases the church will receive the remaining principal when the income is no longer needed. All three qualified for their parish legacy societies as well as for The Bishop's Society.

Both income and remembrance result from a gift annuity. For current rates, go to [www.EpiscopalGift.org](http://www.EpiscopalGift.org) or call (415) 869-7812.

*The Rev. Richard Schaper, CFP*  
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## Altar Guild Expands

**I** The Altar Guild has two new members and we are very happy to have them. They are Anne Meyer who serves on the third weekend of the month and Susan Merrill who serves on the fourth weekend.

**Anne Meyer** is a lifelong resident of Oakland and a 4th generation Californian. She was baptized at St. John's and just reconnected with us last year at the Blessing of the Animals. Her early education was at Joaquin Miller, Montera and Head Royce. She received a degree in Political Science at UC Berkeley and a Juris Doctor in Law from UC Davis. She has practiced trusts and estate law for 25 years in Oakland and San Francisco. Six years ago she made a big change in careers. She decided to teach school and has taught 1st and 3rd grades until being transferred due to budget cuts to Ygnacio Valley High School. She gives academic support to students as well as supervises high school students who work for credit in elementary schools. Anne is an animal lover. She has two cats and is a learning docent at Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation.

She has been a world traveler from a young girl as her father and grandfather were both ship captains. In just one year here at St. John's she has been active in adult education, Altar Guild, as a lector and adult guide with the Journey group. Anne would like to work with others in the congregation to participate in outreach ministries that require group rather than individual efforts.

**Susan Merrill** joined St. John's Community shortly after she moved from Albany, where she had lived for 12 years, to the Rockridge area of Oakland. She was brought up an Episcopalian where she sang in the girls' choir at the Chapel of the Intercession in Manhattan. In those years she went to an Episcopal high school, St. Hilda's and St. Hugh's, where she was well schooled with four years of daily morning prayer and religious studies. Susan has a PhD. in psychology and is a psychotherapist. After college, and for 25 years she took a hiatus from the church except for Easter and Christmas. During that time she explored other spiritual traditions. In the late 80's she felt drawn back to the church and her friends told her about St. John's. Shortly after arriving she joined the choir. She observed the preparations done by the Altar Guild prior to services

and on Saturday mornings when the choir rehearsed in the church. She mentioned to another member of the choir who is also a member of the Altar Guild that this "quiet" ministry would be a perfect complement to her choir participation.

WELCOME TO ANNE  
AND SUSAN...

*Judith Fleming*

## Some Thoughts About Bishop's Ranch

**I** The Ranch is a place where many of us have been refreshed and restored. Here are some things you might like to know about it.

The Annual Fund supports The Bishop's Ranch mission: to be a place where renewal of spirit, mind and body can occur. The Annual Fund has a direct and immediate impact on the quality of a guest's visit by ensuring clean and welcoming facilities for Ranch guests. They strive to keep guest fees as low as possible to make the benefits of a Ranch visit available to as many people as possible; therefore fees do not cover the entire cost of a guest's experience. Yet, it is more critical than ever to remain both an affordable and a well-cared-for retreat center. As a self-supporting institution of the Diocese of California, gifts to the Annual Fund are an indispensable part of the operations budget and to the continued success of the Ranch's ministry.

Thanks to 278 generous supporters, a total \$120,758 has been given or pledged to the Annual Fund in 2010. Their goal is to raise \$140,000 from 350 donors to balance the operations budget this year. One hundred percent of the Ranch's Board members and 82% of Acorn Society members have contributed to the annual fund this year. Gifts and pledges received by December 31, 2010 will be included with the list of Annual Fund supporters in the annual report, to be published after January 1, 2011.

*Please consider our wonderful Ranch in your end-of-year charitable giving thoughts.*

*Ray Riess*

## Library Services for Those in Jail

Our very own Carolyn George, Deputy Public Defender for Alameda County, is spearheading a program to put paperback books (paper only- no hardcover) into the hands of prisoners in Alameda County jails, and to provide books for their children. She will accept paperbacks in good condition, on nearly any topic (except, of course, "How To Saw Your Way Out of Jail," "How To make a Bomb," etc. There is a marked collection box in the narthex for these books. Look by the book cart near the name buttons.

As residents of our county, inmates are entitled to library services. Our great county librarians take book carts through the jail and offer lending services. The variety of interests and intellectual ability of the inmates are truly amazing. As you might expect, this service has suffered budget cuts as all county departments have. We can help them in this valuable work by donating new or used paperback books for the service to be used by the inmates.

Can you imagine your child never owning a book, or never having a book read to him/her? This is the plight of many children whose parent is in jail, and who often have long waits to see the parent. Alameda County Library has a wonderful program that benefits the children who come to visit them at the jail. Volunteers read to the children on visiting day and give each child a book of their own. Is this not wonderful?



Please help if you can.

Thanks to everyone who helped donate books to the Jail Library. Raul Rodriguez, the jail librarian, came with their van and filled it up with our donations. Attached to this email are pictures of the van full of books we donated. It is rewarding to think that we are helping to support this important work that is such a comfort to individuals in jail.

## St. John's Family

EMILY KNELL and her friends made a fabulous dinner for all the parental units visiting during Parents Weekend at Willamette University, including her mom, JULIE BOOTHKNELL... CHRISTINE MCQUEEN and DIMITRA LOOMOS were in the 73rd Annual Distaff Singers concert entitled: "A Day at the Fair" at Skyline High School's Farnsworth Auditorium. They had a great time performing with such a creative, talented, and fun-loving group of women. Monies raised by The Distaff Singers concert fund the Ida Altenbach Scholarships to further music education for young people in our community... KELLOR and SCOTT SMITH enjoyed a few days in Manhattan in October... Nice to see Leone Evans, Bobby Kaiser, and Barbara Cadwalader together at St. John's events.

## Youth Group Outreach Projects

### Bake Sale Benefits Toy Drive

Sunday, Nov 7th following the 10:00 a.m. service

Hosted by the youth group. All monies raised will benefit the youth buying new toys for the Oakland Mayor's Toy Drive. We know you will have just enjoyed a wonderful Brunch that morning, so we will have many yummy items that you can take home to enjoy during the week!

### Pennies From Heaven

It that time of year to collect all the spare change from under your couch and in your pockets! Place your donations in the silver bucket that says Pennies from Heaven in the Narthex. All spare change will be used to buy new toys for the Oakland Mayor's Toy Drive.

### New Toy Holiday Drive

Nov. 7 – Dec. 12

You may leave new toys, books, games, art sets, etc. in the basket in the Narthex. We always need toys for babies and pre teens. So please shop early and bring them in by the Dec. 12 deadline. We need to get the toys to city hall so they have time to distribute them to kids in Oakland.

## Youth Choir



The Youth Choir will sing in costume for the Pirate Eucharist on October 31, and is preparing special music for the 8:55 a.m. service on Sunday, November 14 as they learn about turning swords into ploughshares. We are also busy working on our Advent Concert: "Where Is Christmas?" examining all the places and ways we might find Christmas and carry it throughout the year. As we do every fall, we are also looking at Truth in Advertising by viewing many different print ads for products we're encouraged to buy throughout the year.

### Upcoming Rehearsals and Performances

Tues. 11/2, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Mandatory rehearsal in the Church following Pizza Club.

Sun. 11/14, 8:30 a.m.: Rehearsal in the Fischer Room. We sing at the 8:55 a.m. service for Veteran's Day.

Tues. 11/16, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Mandatory rehearsal in the Church. We'll have scripts.

New members are always welcome. Please contact Sara Evinger at 510-658-2792 or [sevinger@comcast.net](mailto:sevinger@comcast.net).



*"Wondering, where is Christmas?"*

**WHERE IS CHRISTMAS?**

**On Sunday, December 12,**  
*Christmas might be found at the*  
**8:55 a.m. Service & 10:00 a.m.**  
**Youth Choir Concert**

## The Future of Confirm not Conform

(Part 3 of 3)

**I** Laura Toepfer, managing director of CnC says, “I’ve been asked to write a series of articles on the past, present and future of Confirm not Conform, the fabulous confirmation program developed right here at St. John’s and now being used in over 200 parishes nationwide—no, wait! Check that. CnC, both youth and adult, is now being used in over 300 parishes nationwide, plus some in Canada, Australia, and Europe. I wrote in August about the mythical beginnings of CnC; in October, we looked at where it is now. This month, we’ll conclude with some words about its future.”

I’m sorry I didn’t get an article to you last month to conclude our series on Confirm not Conform, but my busy-ness relates to the future of CnC. We are hard at work creating a program for other denominations—CnC Ecumenical. We are consulting with the Methodist and Presbyterian churches who have already expressed an interest, are using, or have used the program to get their input on translating CnC for a wider audience. With an ecumenical program, CnC can reach a much wider world than this little corner of the church. And that, we hope, will be the future of Confirm not Conform: that it will make an impact far beyond St. John’s, far beyond this diocese, far beyond even the Episcopal Church.

But here’s something else to consider: the future of CnC is not primarily about sales or the number of churches we reach. It’s about how many people’s lives are changed forever because they have been through this program. And how our Church—not St. John’s, but the Church Universal—is changed forever because of them.

Think of all the kids just at St. John’s who have experienced Confirm not Conform, who have stood up in front of you and said, “This is what I believe.” Now multiply that by hundreds, and multiply that by years.

That is the future of Confirm not Conform: thousands of people who believe that their thoughts, their questions, their beliefs, their actions matter; that their faith can be their own because they have claimed it; that they can make a difference.

That’s what will be most interesting to see in the long run: will the experience of going through Confirm not Conform fundamentally change the way people approach their churches? Will we find that those who have been confirmed to believe, not only in what the church teaches, but that what they say and do matters become those people who play an active role in their churches and whose words and actions shape it throughout the 21st century?

Obviously, I’m a big believer in this program. I honestly think that the kids who are going through Confirm not Conform today are the ones who are going to keep the church not just alive, but vital. The kingdom of God is among us. I think Confirm not Conform helps the church bring it to light.



## Sabbatical News

Rev. Scott will be on sabbatical again for most of November. But you will probably see him at some of the big ‘happenings’. And he promises NOT to be captured by the sabbatical pirates this time. But ‘Ransom the Rector’ on September 11 raised \$4400 for the Rector’s Discretionary Fund and fun was had by all.

Cindy Cox, our 8:55 a.m. Service Music Coordinator, is spending this year on sabbatical in Buenos Aires, Argentina with her family. She writes:

*“It has been great being away in Buenos Aires. In many ways, it is a challenging place to live, but very interesting and certainly the city has many amazing cultural resources. We’ve traveled around a bit already—we went to Iguazu Falls in September—they are the largest falls in the world and in a tropical rain forest—it was just amazing. In November, we go down to Patagonia to the Valdes Peninsula to see the whales and the penguins. I am very busy writing several commissions and have deadlines pressing. I’ll be back in the Bay area in February for performances with the SF Chamber Orchestra and in March for the California Symphony. Say bello to everyone there and give them my best. I miss you!”*

## A Talk with Neal and Alice Clark

**I** Many of you know Neal and Alice personally, but to some of us they are only names. We pray for Neal regularly, and you see a Eucharistic Visitor go out to him nearly every Sunday. Who are Neal and Alice?

I went to Neal recently with Eucharist and asked him to offer a few thoughts about his current situation. To fill in the background story, Neal fell and broke his hip last December, and has not been able to get back to where he’d like to be since then. He has spent much time at home, and much time visiting doctors. He’s ready for a change!

When asked what helps him keep going, Neal told me that he feels “I have to keep going for all the other people involved: family, friends, St. John’s members, as well as myself.”

At times he is depressed, with a stubborn infection that refuses to heal completely. It leaves him drained, exhausted and discouraged. Sometimes even exercise is too much for him. “Until now, every time I got sick, I got better. No longer. But I’m going to keep on. I look forward to coming back to church.”

He is very grateful for the ministry of the Eucharistic Visitors. “They do good work. They do a wonderful thing and should be on that list of Saints. This is our connection. I am so grateful.” Alice says, “We’ve got to keep going. I try to find humor in any situation.” And truly, we did laugh while I was there.

*Keep Neal and Alice in your prayers – it means a lot to them.*

Ray Riess

### land ho

Dillydallying,  
I heard a branch shadow dance.  
Right there at my feet

## Uganda News

A recent communication from Rev. Ezra Musobozi, director of Kitojo Integrated Development Association (KIDA) in rural Western Uganda, speaks to KIDA's request to begin hospital services in the new building nearing completion.

Dear friends,

Today we received the Kabarole District health inspector. He was so impressed by the developments and the plans ahead of having other new buildings. He appreciated our proposals to begin hospital services within the available premises. He had come with all the inspection forms and suggested the following:

a) Finish up the new building--get it painted, glasses fixed and every thing cleaned up. The internal doors are already fixed.

b) Partition the hall as we proposed to create outpatient space and room for laboratory, consultations (doctor/clinical officer), waiting, dispensing, and dressing.

c) In the meantime also add one more pit latrine to serve the increased number of people who will be using the place.

Considering the dire need of hospital services in the area, he said that if we can have the first two above before end of Nov, he is ready to come for a final inspection with no doubt of recommending us to be licensed to begin operation 2011.

So we are continuing to work hard to have the things done to meet the target, considering our urgent need for inpatient and maternity services.

Ezra

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## A Ugandan Water Well Story

Hello again everyone,

Here is the saga of our well. In mid July it was becoming obvious that something had to be done to get water to our home for the AIDS kids. Different things were talked about and a bore hole--drilled well--seemed the best solution. I contacted National Water as we do have pipes that are supposed to have water flowing connected to the home. They told me that there were too many people now on the water line and we can not get much as we are further out.

When I mentioned a bore hole they said that they would not allow such. After contacting more people I was told to write a request that would go through several politicians for acceptance of a well. I knew

a couple of them who I felt would have refused without considerable "convincing". I then wrote to the mayor asking his permission and spent several days chasing him. When I finally caught up with him he was very helpful and signed with no problems.



The next steps were to find a geologist to survey the land for possible water and then a driller. Easier said that done but finally the surveyor was found. I worried when he picked up a forked stick and started walking around with it -- he was very expensive -- but after the stick did the pointing he then brought out scientific looking equipment which relieved me with my small faith in the other method. Then he sent us drilling bids that seemed way too high. So I hired a local engineer to step in and help negotiate. He found a driller and we signed a contract and gave a sizable payment to get the equipment started with a promise that he would return in a couple of days. He disappeared for two weeks with much worry and searching on my part.

Finally he was found with two broken trucks about 100 kilometers from Fort Portal. Once the trucks were fixed, things went well and drilling started and water was hit in half a day. We now are completely hooked up with the pump and good clean water in plenty. The joy is huge at the home and kids are throwing water on each other and in general celebrating having running water right at the home.

It took less than three months but it sure seemed longer. I am overwhelmed at the generosity of so many who made this dream a reality.

*Webale muno and Mukama Asimmve---*  
(Thank you so much and praise God)

Carol Adams  
Youth Encouragement Services  
Fort Portal, Uganda  
[www.caroladamsministry.com](http://www.caroladamsministry.com)

## The Green and Yellow Festival

The Friends of Ruwenzori Foundation, KIDA's only supporter, relies heavily on its Green and Yellow Festival, which will begin at 6 p.m. on November 6, 2010 at the Piedmont Veteran's Hall. Please participate and help us meet our pledge to support KIDA's eight programs that empower the community to fight AIDS and poverty.

For tickets, call Karen Gleason at (925) 376-0519 or send an email to [gilgleason@comcast.net](mailto:gilgleason@comcast.net). Regular price tickets are \$50 and there are discounts for groups if your check is received by October 30th.

It will be a fun and informative evening with a catered dinner, live music, the video sneak preview, and lots of beautiful gift items to bid on. Our special guest will be Mark Sevier, KIDA's former Peace Corps Volunteer.

*We need your reservation by October 31st.*

**Celebrating  
Uganda!**

**GREEN & YELLOW FESTIVAL**

November 6, 2010, 6 p.m.  
Piedmont Veteran's Hall

St. John's Church has been in a months-long process of appreciative inquiry (AI) during which we have shared stories about what we like best about ourselves and our parish, and our other experiences with "church" outside of St. John's.

On Saturday, Oct. 30, we invite you to participate in the culmination of the AI process, **The Rewired Summit**.

From 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., national trainer the Rev. Ann Hallisey will lead us in a guided review of the results of the appreciative inquiry process, helping us select our most prized dreams and then articulating how we might make those dreams a reality for the future of our parish.

**Won't you come — and be shocked?**

## **The Rewired Summit**

**Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010**

**9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Register in the narthex beginning Oct. 3 — or e-mail Tim Johnson at [tjohnson@stearnsjohnson.com](mailto:tjohnson@stearnsjohnson.com)

Ages nine to ninety-nine are encouraged to participate

Ages zero to nine will enjoy free childcare

Coffee and hearty refreshments will be served

**You'll be done before lunch and have the rest of your Saturday free!**



# St. John's Bulletin Board

## Baptism

The next baptism is being celebrated at St. John's on Epiphany Jan 9, 2011. If you, your child or youth is interested in Baptism please contact The Rev. Scott Denman or The Rev. Ann Hallisey by December 5th. If you are considering being confirmed in April, remember that you must be baptized in order to be confirmed.

## Wanted

New or Used Refrigerator –

The youth room fridge is in sad shape and painfully energy inefficient. We need an upgrade! Can you help the youth room be more energy saving?

Contact Kellor Smith at [Kellor@stjohnsoakland.org](mailto:Kellor@stjohnsoakland.org).

## Men's Group

The next Men's Group meeting is on Tuesday, November 16 at 6 p.m. The fun begins in the St. John's kitchen. Contact Paul Brumbaum ([zpaulb@wellsfargo.com](mailto:zpaulb@wellsfargo.com)) if you have questions.

## Attention Youth Group Parents

The Sunday, Nov. 7th evening youth meeting has been canceled. Kellor encourages all youth and their families to attend the service and Stewardship Brunch at 10 a.m. The Youth Group will have its own table.

## Trick or Treat at St. John's

Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010

All kids are invited to Trick or Treat after the 8:55 a.m. pirate service. Dress in costume and bring a treat bag. All kids should start at the second tree on the front patio. There will be about 14 locations to T or T right here at our church. The Youth Group will be behind the doors handing all sorts of fun treats. Be there!



## Adult CnC Class

The adult CnC class will no longer meet on Wednesday evenings. Instead, the clergy will be offering an Episcopal 101 course during Adult Education on Sunday mornings (10:00am to 10:45am). Starting in January, the group will pick up the CnC curriculum based on the interest of the participants. This can lead to official reception into the Episcopal Church, confirmation, and re-affirmation of confirmation vows with the youth on April 30th at Grace Cathedral.

## Ride/Carpool Drivers Wanted

Each person who needs transportation has a rotating team of five drivers. Two parishioners are currently being served, but two more are waiting for assistance getting to church on Sunday mornings. Contact interim coordinator Barbara Cadwalader at 510.547.0391 or [bcadwalader@earthlink.net](mailto:bcadwalader@earthlink.net). (Note: PLEASE DO NOT CALL the former facilitator Neal Clark, who is very ill.) If you can facilitate this effort, contact Sarah Jones at [sarahcjones@mind-spring.com](mailto:sarahcjones@mind-spring.com) or 510.682.5327.

*St. John's vision is to manifest God's love through invitation, inclusion, faith and action*



## St. John's Episcopal Church

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