



Church Mouse

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

August 2011

Two-service
Summer schedule

August 4 – Thurs, 7:15
Coaches Field
Saints & Sinners Softball

August 5 - Friday
6:00pm - Family BBQ

August 7 – 8 Pentecost
7:45 - Early Eucharist
10:00 – Eucharist

August 13 – Yoga workshop
11:30 a.m. in the Reception
Room

August 14 - 9 Pentecost
Celebrating Ann Hallisey's
Ministry
7:45 - Early Eucharist
10:00 – Eucharist

August 15 – Mon. 6 p.m.
Coaches Field
Saints & Sinners Softball –
Last Game!

August 21 - 10 Pentecost
7:45 - Early Eucharist
10:00 - Eucharist

August 28 - 11 Pentecost
7:45 - Early Eucharist
10:00 – Eucharist
11:30 – 1:00: Workshop to
receive time as a gift

September 4 – 12 Pentecost
7:45 – Early Eucharist
10:00 – Choral Eucharist

September 5 – Labor Day
“Garden Party” work day 8-4
and BBQ

3Gs featured on page 4



Goodbye from Ann

Dear St. John's Friends,



The time has inevitably come for me to say good-bye to this marvelous parish and tell you how very much I will miss you. We knew this day was approaching, though it kept on being a moving target. I am glad for the eight months more than I thought would

be my tenure among you because leave-taking is not my strong suit. When I was 17 years old and graduating from high school, grieving the inevitable separation, my favorite teacher said to me, “Annie, you're walking into the future backwards.” It's true. Only a couple years ago did I discover that this is a traditional Maori phrase. So as I walk toward the next thing with only a vague sense of its shape in my life, I will be looking back fondly to my time at St. John's.

I think we've accomplished a great deal together in the last 16 months and we should be very proud of the work that now moves you more solidly into being a Program-size congregation with big building plans coming to fruition, exciting program to strengthen ministry both internally and in outreach, and a talented young Associate Rector waiting in the wings. Lay leadership at St. John's is some of the best I've seen in 28 years of ministry and I promise you I'm not shining you on about this. St. John's is blessed with im-

mensely talented, smart, caring and loving folks who want to make a difference in the world and grow deeper in their faith. Much of that has to do with Scott's instinctive sense about where to be directive and where to let the mystery unfold. But as anyone who has been in ordained ministry for more than five minutes will tell you, clergy can't do it alone. Clergy and laity are together in this enterprise of building God's Reign. While it is seldom a smooth trajectory, it is at least an interesting one.

I didn't expect to become so attached to you all. I didn't expect to learn so much from you. For all of this, I am grateful. No paths cross entirely by accident. I believe God put us in each other's way for a time. There has been much grace in our time together and I pray that you and I will continue to grow in grace as we see what next surprise God has in store for us. God speed to you all. Know that you hold a special place in my heart.

Our life is a perpetual departure
in the clear morning of springtime.
It is always springtime for God,
always morning.

The apostles are always young,
and the departure is always a beginning.

With great affection,
Ann

Hello from Krista

Greetings St. Johns!



I am so excited to be joining you in September. It is an honor to work with a community that prides itself in building, inwardly and outwardly, the Kingdom of God. I truly look forward to getting to know more about you in the upcoming months.

I thought I would share a short biography of myself so you might get to learn more about me. I was raised in North Carolina and I went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Go Heels! Needless to say I love college basketball.

After school I spent two years in Bulgaria as a Peace Corps Volunteer. In Bulgaria I taught English and modern educational theory. I also adopted Kismet, my bilingual cat, who is probably the only cat in Oakland with an official Bulgarian passport.

When I returned to North Carolina I taught in an inner-city public Montessori school as a 4th and 5th grade teacher. After 9/11 I started discerning a call to being a priest and started seminary a few years later.

Being adventurous I drove across country to another foreign land: Berkeley, CA. There I attended the Church Divinity School of the Pacific

—Continued on Page 2

Hello from Krista

—Continued from Page 1

ic where I met my husband Tom Fregoso. Tom was born and raised in San Francisco and is an amazing children and youth minister.

After seminary Tom and I moved to Los Angeles where I served as the Associate for family ministries at St. Francis in Palos Verdes for two years and then served as the interim campus minister for UC Irvine. Tom and I really look forward to moving back to the Bay Area, where we both will be near family and friends. I am thrilled to be working at St. Johns and I know God has some amazing things in store for us!

It is an honor to be called to work in a community of Christian doers.

Your servant in Christ,

The Rev. Krista Fregoso+

The Year in Worship

Eucharistic Lectionary: A
Daily Office Lectionary: Year One
Advent 2010 to Advent eve 2011

St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Scott Denman, Rector

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

—Hilles *Commonplace Book*, 1530



Rector's Message: A Goodbye and Hello



We have said a lot of “goodbyes” lately. This summer we have celebrated the ministries of Sara Evinger, Frank Sterling, Elaine Reichert and Annie Pierpoint as they have transitioned to other opportunities. I warned you that we had to brace ourselves for one more “goodbye”. Well the time has come to send Ann Hallisey off to her new assignment (which I will let her tell you about). Also, I am happy to say that we have now hired a permanent full-time Associate Rector after an extensive nationwide search process.

But first I want to say that I truly do not know what I would have done without Ann over the last year. I remember meeting her in Berkeley in the pouring rain after being directed to her by the diocese. In that conversation it became apparent that God was at work. The timing was perfect. She was ready to transition to a new assignment. With my sabbatical fast approaching I needed someone who could not only take hold of the controls but also someone who could, in my absence, lead a strategic planning process that would focus on input from the parish. We could not have found a better person for the job.

I really want to say is that it's not her skills, but rather, who she is, that makes this goodbye so difficult. Ann's sense of humor and grounded sense of compassion allowed the staff to embrace her immediately. I felt complete trust in her as she gently pried the controls from my fingertips, assuring me that I really could take a break. Ann brought a profound connection with the broader church and a love for the church's tradition to us during a time of reflection and transition and assured us that it was a wonderful thing to embrace who we are. I feel we have a friend for life. Come and celebrate with us on August 14th, her last Sunday at St. John's. Ann will preach at both services and there will be a festive coffee hour following the 10 AM service.

Every goodbye brings a hello. On September 11th, Welcome Back Sunday, we will officially welcome The Rev. Krista Fregoso. Krista will be meeting with

the staff, and other leaders at St. John's in late August to begin getting to know the turf, but her first official Sunday with us will be Sept. 11th. Krista is a graduate of CDSP and has been a Peace Corps volunteer, a Montessori teacher, a Christian Education Director, an Associate for Family Ministries and most recently a chaplain at UC Irvine. She and her husband Thomas have now rented a place in Alameda and are excited to begin their new adventure with us.



In particular I want to thank the search committee. Cathy Crocker, Lilah Greene, Arnell Kilian, Scott Tate and Ann Hallisey all spent exorbitant amounts of time and energy sifting through nearly 30 applications from all over the country and, in a few cases, beyond. The committee narrowed the choices to five semi-finalists. All of them were interviewed by phone and three finalists were chosen. All three flew into town to have face-to-face interviews with the search committee and the staff. Two debriefing meetings later and an offer was made and Krista joyously accepted. Our next step is to fill the Church School Coordinator position vacated by Annie Pierpoint. That process is continuing and we will keep you posted.

With our strategic planning process complete, and our staff team coming together, I am excited about what awaits us in the coming year! Thanks be to God!

Always grateful to be your rector,

Scott+



Finance Notes – The Funds

I We have been providing regular reports on the Church's Operating Budget. There is another aspect of our finances, the Program budgets, which we will attempt to describe here. It's complicated, but hopefully this will help our collective understanding.

We can separate the finances of St. John's into two discrete but interconnected elements; Operations and Programs. Operations include day-to-day activities, personnel or staffing costs, general overhead such as utilities, office supplies, etc., and some direct spending for programs. An example of direct spending is youth program support.

St. John's as we all know has a very extensive group of programs; In-reach, Outreach, Education, Worship; which is a vital part of our mission. For me, and I do not think this is an uncommon attitude, what takes place outside of Sunday morning services is every bit as important to

our community. The list of programs and related fund balances is below.

Until recently, this year, a portion of the Operating Budget has been directed to funding these programs. It in 2011 these contributions were largely eliminated, as has been previously reported. One message we want to convey here is that St. John's does not and will not diminish its strong support for our programs. We maintain a balance of funds in the amounts listed in this report, will make ongoing efforts to supplement these funds, and report the status regularly.

Some, but probably not all of them will be familiar to you, the reader. Each has a rather specific focus or objective, engaging or using the time, talent, and treasure of our community. Each of the programs listed in the report have previously received funding, and the numbers in the report show, by column, the opening balance of funds dedicated to that program (at the beginning of the year), new contributions, expenditures made during the

current year, and ending or current balance of funds remaining or available.

One other way to present the situation is to observe that St. John's is a \$1 million operation. This consists of approximately \$500k in the Operating Budget and an equal amount for the Programs. It's complicated, and we are happy to respond to any questions.

*Peter Freeman
Ministry Catalyst for Finance*

Electronics Recycling

Saturday, October 1st, 2011
from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Come to St. John's, drive up, and the youth will unload your items.

Support the 2012 Youth Mission trip to
New Orleans

Temporarily Restricted Funds	12/31/10	additions contributions	expenses distributions	6/30/11
Donor restricted				
Youth & Education - CVC, Youth Music, misc Youth funds	\$4,483	\$6,124	\$4,475	\$6,132
Youth & Education - Youth Mission Trip fund (future missions)	\$12,749	\$0	\$0	\$12,749
Inreach - Discretionary funds, resource funds, Pastoral care etc	\$1,641	\$7,231	\$8,162	\$710
Inreach - Elder Ministry Fund	\$11,525	\$0	\$1,888	\$9,637
Outreach - North Oakland Village, RTO, Samaritan, Ecology	\$7,530	\$751	\$2,048	\$6,233
Outreach - Genesis, Uganda, Africa Partners	\$33,612	\$69,226	\$61,607	\$41,231
Operations - Landscape restricted for Capital Improvements	\$35,321	\$5,310	\$1,809	\$38,822
Worship - Special Music Fund	\$235	\$3,532	\$2,901	\$866
Miscellaneous donor restricted fund	\$2,644	\$0	\$0	\$2,644
Subtotal Donor Restricted Funds	\$109,740			\$119,024
Set Aside - Restricted by Vestry action				
Pooled Administrative reserves	\$29,339	\$0	\$2,021	\$27,318
Total temporarily restricted funds	\$139,079			\$146,342
Endowment Funds				
Music Endowment	\$19,690			\$19,690
G Gay Endowment	\$5,000			\$5,000
Samaritan Endowment	\$9,600			\$9,600
Total Endowment Funds	\$34,290			\$34,290
Time to Build Up	\$418,179	\$1,637	\$33,171	\$386,645

3G Network Comes to St. Johns

Grateful, Glad and Giving

What is there to be grateful for around here anyway?

Come and see!!!

You just never know quite what you're getting into when you agree to volunteer for something at St. Johns. It sounded like a neat idea to do a program about gratitude and honestly, I was ga-ga about the job title. I don't think anyone ever called me an "angel" before and I was hoping to sort of grow into it.

Anyway, here's the thing about gratitude. All you have to do is start thinking about it, maybe reading a few things and paying better attention to reasons for it in the world. It helps to have a volunteer job centered on the topic, as I do, and then slowly but surely you wind up living inside of a miracle where just about everything starts looking and feeling like a gift. Even the chance to work on a program about gratitude, for which I'm now so grateful! Odddest thing.

The way the program works is that every month has an "Apostle" – a volunteer for just that month who focuses the program on a particular theme. My job is to help the Apostle realize her or his vision. For July, we've been blessed with the ebullient energy of Apostle Lilah Greene who has designed and rolled out a series of ways for us (both as individuals and as a community) to think about, experience and share reasons to be grateful for family. We're noticing that there are all kinds of families in addition to the biological ones and that it's pretty cool to belong to one... or more than one.

In August, our Apostle will be Jenn Kitt who will lead us in our focus on REST. My shoulders move down away from my ears just thinking about what it will be like to be grateful for Rest. We have themes picked for a few more of the upcoming months but we're still brainstorming ideas. Do you have a suggestion? Please call, email or leave a post-it on the bulletin board in the Narthex. There are still seats left for some folks daring enough to volunteer to dive into gratitude for a month. If you'd like to try your hand as an Apostle for a short period and take a peek at living inside of a miracle, come and join us. The pay is phenomenal.

What is there to be grateful for around here anyway?

Come and see!!!

Susan Pierpoint
Gratitude Angel
Susan.thomaspierpoint@gmail.com

Grateful, Glad and Giving In August

Our focus will be gratitude for rest and renewal so. . .

Saturday, August 13 – YOGA at St. John's!

Begin your day of renewal and rest with an 11:00 AM yoga class at St. John's led by amazing yoga teacher Dr. Dominik Wegesin (<http://theopener.com/>) Dominik will lead a 90 minute mindful yoga class appropriate for all levels. The sanctuary and garden will then remain open for prayer and meditation after the yoga class for those wishing to stay. Childcare for kids 1 or over is available if you RSVP to jkitt@berkeley.edu by August 10. Please bring a yoga mat and have a light snack in advance. (Yoga class 11 AM – 12:30 PM followed by optional prayer time).

Sunday August 28- Workshop on Sabbath as away to receive time as a gift

Jennifer Kitt leads a 90 minute workshop on sabbath as a practice for receiving the gift of time. We will grab coffee and begin 10 minutes after the 10 AM service (approx. 11:30 – 1 PM). This workshop builds on Jennifer Kitt's class earlier this year, Receiving Time as a Gift. Come and enjoy! Childcare provided upon request to jkitt@berkeley.edu by August 25.

A Gratitude Post-it for Family

As I'm sure many of you know, I have the privilege of being Susan Pierpoint's roommate. She is the Gratitude Angel of St. John's new program, Grateful, Glad, and Giving, and also my mother. Before attending church one day, she asked if I would write about something for which I was grateful, and put a post-it about it on the narthex bulletin board. It's a lovely idea, but I couldn't do it. I had a hard time fitting my gratitude on a post-it sized piece of paper!

The month of July had a theme of Gratitude for Family – not just the folks we live with, but our chosen families. St. John's is a church community like none other, and I am so grateful to be a daughter in this family. All of you invest so much time and love into the youth of this church – you are sowing seeds into fertile ground! The fruits of your labors are all around you. They are in the youth who recite passages from memory at the iConfirm service, the children who participate in the 9am service, and in 20/30 year olds who have returned to build community here. These are just some of the reflections of the Grateful, Glad, and Giving spirit that permeates St. John's.

I have been receiving the gift of your time and love ever since I was four years old, and I can barely contain my gratitude for that. But, as I hope you know, the generosity of St. John's is not limited to time and love. On July 12, Pentecost, this church family raised money for my Seminary book fund. The words that come to my mind are THANK YOU and WOW! There is not a big enough post-it in the world to thank all of you for your generosity. This money is incredibly helpful and will go a long way towards my education – it will certainly cover all my books this semester!

As I prepare for my move to Virginia on August 7th, I'm making some tough decisions about what "stays" and what "goes." But the first things to go in my suitcase are the gifts from my church family – the love, generosity, mentoring, and growth. I won't leave home without them or without all of you in my heart. THANK YOU ST. JOHN'S!!

Annie Pierpoint

St. John's Family

Laurie Bennett traveled to Seattle to take care of her granddaughter, Liesl, while Liesl's parents Janine (Peacock) and Chris biked from Seattle to Portland (10,000 people ride in the STP and this is their 5th year of riding together). Laurie then went to SoCal for a niece's wedding...The good times did roll for Bonnie and Jerry Moran at her class reunion, followed by several days traveling around Louisiana, (New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Grand Isle, St. Francisville, Amite, Avery Island and Lafayette). Bonnie's second cousin, Linda and her husband, a civil engineer, gave them a very interesting tour of the levees and other reconstruction in which he participated... John, Nancy, Kate and Maya Walker were in Tuscany and Umbria in July...Ernest Knell has retired from the San Francisco Opera and was treated to a big party by his colleagues. A special gift included a framed copy of his original contract, signed by Kurt Herbert Adler...In July Ernest and Julie went to Clearmont WY to see some of Ernest's high school buddies, then on to Cody WY to see the museums and rest a bit; on down through Yellowstone into the Grand Teton Park and to Teton Village where Julie sang with the chorus - Mahler II - at the Grand Teton Music Fest, and Ernest helped with the production...Sara and Joe Evinger played tourist in Chicago and visited Indiana for reunions with family, college friends and for Joe's 45th high school reunion...Kellor Smith recently found herself relaxing by a hotel pool all by herself when after a mere 15 minutes, 35 teens jumped in the pool - it was a church youth group returning from a mission trip!... Happy campers: St. Dorothy's Rest Week 1 attendees included: Walter Marion, Frankie and Mimi Trevor, Abby and Holly Slater, Abby Smith, Max Sharnoff, Stuart and Maddy Jones and Will Sooter... Week 2 High School Division attendees: Alison Sooter, Kirby Marion, Vanessa and Salina Wittmer. And the Rev. Steve Hasset was St. Dot's Chaplain...Stephen and Celia Fong traveled to Spain recently and ran into Jessie Dutton Kenny - they spent a day together in Barcelona...Don and Ashley Stebbins spent some father-daughter time in Coconut Grove, FL for a family wedding. Don got to practice his salute, now that Ashley is a JAG for the Navy...

Giving Thanks for Family

By Sarah C. Jones

I was invited to share what I'm grateful for about family on July third, and then asked to recap my remarks for inclusion in the Mouse.

What am I grateful for with respect to family?

Well, to begin with, I'm grateful for the continuity of family. I've always been rather amazed by the thought that my family line goes back to —Adam and Eve? —the gorillas? I'm not sure about the source, but it's irrelevant. And yet it's not simply a linear continuity: it radiates out, at the present moment in time, to not only my extended family, but also—and not insignificantly—through God's gracious invitation into the Holy Family, the divine family—to all of you, in this community, in the Church. Marvelous community.

The second thing that I'm grateful for about family is its intrinsic reciprocity: In family we give and we take; we serve one another. I'm thankful for that built-in mutual dependence upon one another. It's both humbling and empowering.

The third thing family offers is respite: safe harbor from the pace, the stresses of the world “out there.” Family have to accept you—they just do. And it's so tremendous to be able to rest, to stay a while and be refreshed before sailing out again into the fray. At its best, family gives respite.

Next, family provides a continuous means for grace: for patience, for faithfulness, for generosity and for forgiveness — over the long haul. We make mistakes, we hurt one another in ways big and small, but we forgive and begin anew.

Finally, no discussion of family would be complete without acknowledging the gift of dysfunction. It may seem odd to call it a gift and to suggest that it might be something for which we offer thanks, but like it or not, family dysfunction is formative—very much part of who we are—and when named and addressed, it can be the source of wisdom, of empathy, and ultimately, of character.

So these are some things about family for which I am grateful.

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir continued its summer schedule during July, gathering at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday to practice for the 10:00 service. Soloists included Jere Torkelsen, baritone, and sopranos Marika Kuzma and Elizabeth Gallagher. On July 10, the Chancel Choir was joined by soloist Salina Wittmer and members of the Youth Choir to sing John Rutter's “Look at the World.”



For three July Sundays Sara Evinger served as Choir Director/Accompanist, and for two Sundays the organ bench was occupied by former Music Director, The Rev. Sherman Heselgrave (1982-1985),

now Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, downtown Toronto. Sherman also house-sat for Joe and Sara while they were away. Following his stint at St. John's, Sherman headed to Vancouver to visit his daughter, Claire - a recent graduate of Univ. British Columbia.

The Chancel Choir will be on vacation during August, and soloists will be featured each Sunday.

The Choir is always glad to welcome new members. Please speak to Sara E or Ernest to schedule a brief (and not in the least intimidating) audition.

Movie Night – Pursuit of Happiness

Sponsored by the CnC youth to raise funds for the Glide Methodist Church “Meals for the Hungry” fund. This movie was filmed at Glide in San Francisco. The CnC's goal is to raise \$5,000 and this is one of the efforts.

When: Friday Sept 9 at 7:30 p.m. right after the parish BBQ

Cost: \$10 person or \$25 for a family of 3 or more

Popcorn and baked goodies for sale. Bring your pillow and blanket!

Join us for a fun family night BBQ and a family movie.

St. John's Commons

P Something new is coming for St. John's this Fall: a website dedicated to supporting all of our ministries and social groups – St. John's Commons. The Commons will make it easier for groups of any kind to self-organize, communicate, collaborate, and connect with each other. It will eliminate the need to create and join multiple Yahoo mailing lists and manage bulky "Reply to all" lists. All communications within a group will be permanently archived and searchable, so you won't have to dig through your email to find that one piece of information that someone emailed months ago.

Every group – whether it is the Vestry, the Youth Group, the 20s/30s group, the Sunday School teachers or the Saint & Sinners softball team – can have their own "space" in the Commons. Within your group's space, you can share a calendar, a discussion board, documents, blog posts, polls, and even "wiki" pages for collaborative document writing. Groups can be parish wide so that anyone from St. John's can join and see your content. Or it can be private and content can only be seen by members of that group and membership is by invitation only.

As a member of St. John's Commons, you will be able to sign up for any open groups you wish, and can be added to private groups at the discretion of the group

Saints & Sinners Start Strong

Ed. Note: At press time, the team's record is 4-1. Here is manager Sarah Jones commentary on win number 2.

Coming off a strong win last week, I was a bit nervous when two women I thought were coming tonight didn't show. I was expecting Molly — and I hope it was just traffic (or plain forgetfulness) that resulted in her missing the game tonight, and Josette, while a warm body, is still DL. So with trepidation we fielded three women: myself, Michelle and her partner and new Saint/Sinner Rosemary Bristow (welcome Rosemary!). We three, together with a six-man field (can't play a full ten without four women) — but seven in the roster — came out SWINGING tonight. I think just about everyone had at least one hit. However, the play of the game goes

managers. For each group you join, you will receive email notifications anytime something new is posted in your group, but you'll have complete control over how often you receive emails.

We will be contacting "group owners" over the next couple of months to talk with them about St. John's Commons and work on getting all of the groups established. If you would like to get your group started in the Commons, please feel free to contact Michelle Ziegmann at mziegmann@gmail.com.

Later this Fall, we will invite the entire parish to join the Commons. We'll hold several coffee hour sessions where you can get a personal tour of the Commons and get assistance to update your profile and join your favorite groups.

We look forward to seeing you all in the Commons this Fall!

The St. John's Commons planning team

Michelle Ziegmann, Laurie Bennett and Will Berkey

P.S. from the Grateful, Glad, and Giving Apostles – in September we are grateful for Community, and the new Commons is a central theme for creating easier and better ways to be connected to our St. John's community.

to Mr. Will Berkey, who took what had been a commanding lead and knocked us into the cosmos with a GRAND SLAM homerun. Way to go Will! He also threw a great game to Tim and Lucas, alternating behind the plate (and catcher closer Herb Johnson). I fielded first, Michelle made a couple of good plays at second, Bryan played a strong short and Scott C and Mike alternated, ably defending third and center. John played a strong left field and Rosemary debuted in right. Thanks, Herb, to solid third base coaching and to Scott D, who bravely retrieved a foul ball from Moraga Rd. Some great plays were made defensively, too, with a lot of infield action. Well done!

Possibly our first season to start 2 and 0 and definitely a rare shutout: 11-zip. Couldn't be prouder of you all.

Supporting Our Troops

P The cooling scarves made by a team of incredible sewers, ironers, turners and stuffers have been shipped to Kalen Brockwalder of San Anselmo, whose mother is a friend of Elaine Reichert. It is hoped that Kalen will be home for Christmas! The soldiers soak the scarves in water, then use them to keep cool for 2-3 days in the blazing Iraq/Afghanistan summer heat.

The boxes of toiletries, snack foods and magazines collected over the last couple of months have been shipped overseas through the American Legion Women's Auxiliary, Marin County Chapter.

While chatting with Kristina Osborn recently, I learned that her nephew Andrew Balcunas is serving yet another tour of duty in Iraq/Afghanistan. In 2005 the Youth Choir spearheaded the collection of goodies, and sent CARE packages, emails, cards, letters, etc. to Andrew's unit. Watch this column and the weekly announcements regarding the next CARE package collection.

Sara Evinger

2011 Annual Conference: Re-Awakening to the Contemplative Dimension of Life

Thursday, September 29, 2011 - Sunday, October 2, 2011

Location: Marriott San Francisco Airport Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway Burlingame, CA 94010

Fee varies depending on one day or four day. From \$75.00 to \$425.00.

Meeting or registration questions via the website.

<http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=106221>

General questions to Sandra Ahn at sjahn_vienna@yahoo.com or 510-290-2850.

Ministry Profile: Kellor Smith

Originally excerpted in "Grow Up in Every Way/Ministry with Young People in the Diocese of California"



With a B.A. in child psychology and children's television from Mills College, Kellor Smith has served as director of youth and family ministries at St. John's Oakland since 1984. Interestingly, her path to youth ministry at St. John's involved attending "Search" (forerunner to "Happening"), where she met James Ward, who subsequently invited her to her first gig working with youth — at St. Stephen's Orinda. She was hooked.

Perhaps the longest serving youth ministry associate in the Diocese, Kellor has a wealth of wisdom for up-and-comers. When asked to name the best thing about her job, she said, "My greatest joy is seeing former youth come back, volunteer and get involved as active members of the parish."

And the hardest thing, she says, is "When I see kids really hurting, and I just cannot reach them. Whether they are active or just on the periphery at church, I find it very hard when I can't get through. Facebook helps: I can always tell, when they disengage from FB, that something is up. They don't like to project anything other than fantasy happy perfection on FB."

Among Kellor's many achievements are six mission trips and 40-plus youth retreats — and more than 600 St. John's youth shaped. She is also co-creator of CnC — Confirm not Conform — currently in 400 churches internationally, reaching 1000s of youth, empowering them to explore spirituality, encouraging their voices: ultimately developing the future church. She says of youth ministry, "It is planting a zillion seeds."

What about the future? Looking forward, she says, "My focus is on Tweens: the 8- to 11-year-old set (late elementary) and

Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in St. Paul, Minnesota

The Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) ran from Wednesday, June 22 to Sunday, June 26. Five youth delegates and three adult leaders representing the Diocese of California attended. For three days, 1,200 youth, adult leaders and clergy came together in St. Paul, Minnesota, to worship, attend workshops and meet others from across the country.

"The sheer number of people was incredible!" said Olivia Bisel, of St. Stephen's Orinda. Nicole Patera, also from St. Stephen's, commented "EYE showed me that the Episcopal Youth are a much larger community than I thought."

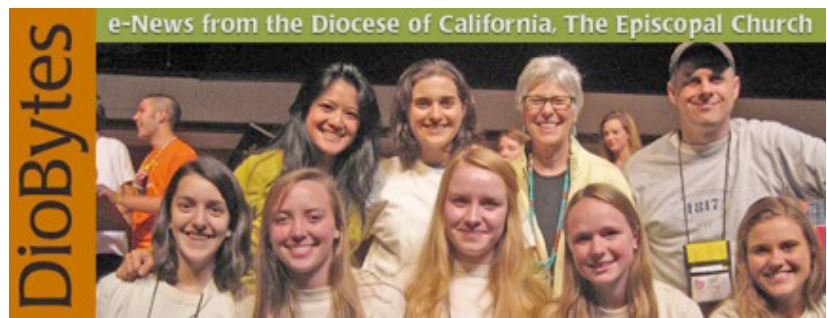
The event was titled "Come Together: Intimately Linked in this Harvest Work." Through guest speakers and workshops like "Meaningful Art for Mission" and "Taking Your Passion for Missions into Your Community," the delegates reflected on the relationships developed through Mission, and how Mission trips are lifelong transformations, not short term journeys. Our very own adult leader, Shannon

Eng, presented two workshops on Mission, which were attended by adults and youth from all over the country, including the Bishop of Northwestern Pennsylvania.

Our youth are eager to share what they've learned with the Diocese of California. "I hope to bring back the energy that was present during EYE, and the motivation for fundraising and mission," said Olivia Kern of St. Alban's, Albany. Hannah Foote of Christ Church, Alameda, is ready to share, too: "EYE has motivated me to become more active in my own diocese," she said.

Adult leaders and seminarians Greg Brown (General Theological Seminary) and Annie Pierpoint (Virginia Theological Seminary) were struck by the incredible spirit of the youth, and noted that the future of the church looks bright. As Marguerite Cauchois of St. John's, Oakland, put it, "This experience gave me faith in the Episcopal youth of this generation. Seems like we're on to great things!"

Annie Pierpoint



Back row, 2nd from left, Annie Pierpoint; far right, Greg Brown
Front row, 2nd from right, Marguerite Cauchois

the 17- to 19-year-old community college set — a big group these days! Both groups are amazingly similar in needs and outlook on life, and neither feel they fit in at their schools and at church." One of the most popular programs at St. John's is Pizza Club for third-through-sixth-graders, which meets once a month. "Many of the kids go to different schools, so if they don't have friends at church, they don't come back or push their parents to bring them back. Pizza Club builds community."

She adds, "Church does not have to be in a building: It's the mission trip, the food

bank volunteering, playing softball, working on Rebuilding Together Oakland. This is what church often looks like for youth. Later, returning young adults observe their peers, who may be a year or two ahead of them, caring about church, and this makes all the difference."

Sarah C. Jones



Blessing of the Backpacks!!

Sunday, Sept. 11 at both services

Bring your donations and your kids' backpacks for a blessing

New Backpacks for the Students of Horace Mann School



We all remember the feeling of promise and hope with a new back pack and cool pens at the start of a new school year. So help us do that for the kids of Horace Mann. We are asking for a donation of a FULL new backpack. Below is the list of what to put in each backpack, so keep your eye out for sales and deals. Work as a team or family to fill the backpacks and bring extra items, too.

Last year we donated 42 full backpacks. Let's go for 50 this year. Principal Alanna Lim was overjoyed to receive these gifts to go to families who value education but struggle to provide food and shelter in these difficult times. There will be a basket in the narthex till Sunday, September 11.

We have a driver to take them to Horace Mann, so help make sure the car is FULL.

Basics that are needed:

Basics that are needed:

- * new backpack
- * scissors
- * glue stick
- * colored markers
- * bag of ink pens
- * pack of pencils
- * pencil sharpener
- * ruler
- * wide-ruled loose-leaf paper
- * 3-ring note book
- * 3 folders
- * pencil case

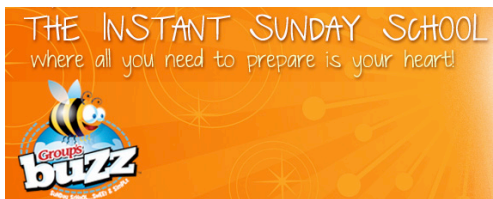
And whatever you would like to add. Surplus supplies that can't fit into the available backpacks become an important reserve for classroom needs.

Thanks for all your help!

Kellor

All Adults and Youth 10th Grade and Up: *WE NEED YOU!*

*The more volunteers we have, the better the team,
the fewer times you'll be needed in class.*



*4th through -6th grade
class is now called
BUZZ!*

- **Class is from 10:00-10:45a.m. between services on 2nd through 5th Sundays.**
- First Sundays all will attend the 10 a.m. service.
- There will be a mix of guest speakers, pre-made skits and fun.
- BUZZ offers a Bible-based lesson plan that's really easy to use.
- You will only need a ½-hour intro on how to use the materials.
- No Saturday-night panic or stop at the art store!
- The kids will like it as it is very hands-on, and full of games to introduce and bring the point home each Sunday.
- On whatever Sunday you choose to volunteer, you just show up 15 minutes early to set up and focus on your lesson.
- High School youth are welcome to volunteer to teach this class.

*The 7th through 12th grade class is now
called **OMG.***



- **Class is from 10:00-10:45a.m. between services on 2nd through 5th Sundays.**
- First Sundays all will attend the 10 a.m. service.
- Guest speakers, skits and a great DVD series throughout the year.
- No prep when using the DVDs: You just show the 10-minute clip, then follow the leader's questions in the DVD handout.
- Only adult volunteers for this class, please.

*Will you please pray and consider Church School ministry?
My goal is a team of 6 volunteers per class, so you'll only be needed every 6th to 8th Sunday.*

*BUZZ teacher training on Sunday, September 18
10:00 to 10:45 a.m. in the Rector's Office*

*Sunday Church School is important to all of us. Just email me questions or a
YES, I do so want to be a part of church school! kellor@stjohnsoakland.org*

Medical Shipment to Uganda

There is great anticipation in the Kitojo community of Uganda as they eagerly await the arrival of a very large truck, bearing a 40-foot shipping container full of hospital equipment for KIDA's new hospital. At this writing, the container is at sea aboard the MSC Michaela en route to Durban, South Africa and from there is expected to arrive in Mombasa, Kenya on August 22nd. Then a trucking company will take it across Kenya and Uganda to Fort Portal and then over dirt roads another 24 kilometers to KIDA's recently constructed General Hospital. We ask for your prayers for its safe journey and especially for a smooth Uganda customs process.

On the back bulletin board at St. John's you can find a world map where we will post updates of the container's progress. It is possible to track the container's progress on the Internet, unlike the other time (1998) when St. John's was involved in sending a shipping container to Uganda that took six months, and we didn't know where it was most of the time. It sat in Kampala for two months, racking up "storage fees" while Bishop Kamanyire tried many times to clear it from customs. This time we have arranged for the customs process to take place while the container is at sea.

Friends of Ruwenzori is still KIDA's only funding partner and the hospital project has been and will continue to be a major fundraising challenge, as well as a journey of faith, for our group of wonderful volunteers. The container's contents were gathered from hospitals and packed by other volunteers at IMEC (International Medical Equipment Collaborative) in Boston according to KIDA's specifications. Friends of Ruwenzori are so grateful for the many large and small donations that raised the required \$48,000 to gather and pack \$350,000 worth of equipment and the additional \$12,000 for shipping and insurance. Abundant thanks to all who made this project possible!

So what will KIDA's newly recruited medical staff be able to do once the equipment arrives? Rural women will have prenatal care monitored with ultrasound, have assisted delivery of their babies in a clean, well-equipped facility, and have access to C-sections if required. Children can be treated for complicated malaria and other

diseases. Emergency care including surgery, AIDS care, treatment of infectious disease, and care for those with chronic diseases will be available for the first time to rural people in the Kabarole District. The hospital has solar panels to provide electricity in an area that has no power grid. This is life saving medical care that we believe that all people deserve.

Word of the hospital opening soon is spreading around the Kitojo-Rwaihamba area. The picture of women working around the new building shows a group of volunteers who spontaneously gathered to help clean up around the new building. They are excited and wanted to help.

Karen Gleason, founder of Friends of Ruwenzori and chair of St. John's Africa Partners



Solar panels on KIDA's new hospital building



People who love KIDA came to do volunteer cleanup

A Double Inheritance for Children



Research has confirmed common observation that sudden wealth is seldom well-spent. Winning the lottery or receiving a substantial inheritance all at once

often produces unforeseen difficulties. On the other hand, a steady predictable income is for most far easier to manage well.

For these reasons many parents are choosing to leave their children's inheritance in a two-fold form: partly as an outright sum of money, and partly as a steady stream of income for a limited number of years.

This "double inheritance" approach offers multiple advantages:

1. Since some people handle money better than others, this lessens the danger of an heir "blowing" an entire inheritance all at once.
2. Children may receive quarterly "gifts from Mom and Dad" for 10 or 15 years after their parents' demise.
3. The trust that pays the income to children may at the end of its term of years transfer the remaining principal to the church and/or other charities—a "charitable remainder" trust.

This "Give It Twice Trust" first gives income to the children and then gives the remaining principal to charity. This produces a charitable income and estate tax deduction. The resultant gift to charity may establish a permanent named endowment fund—insuring that the donors' generosity will last forever.

One excellent asset to fund such a "Give It Twice Trust" is an IRA, 401(k) or other retirement plan, since this approach may reduce heirs' income taxes.

The good news is that you need not choose between remembering family or church in your plans—here is a way that you may benefit BOTH your children AND your church. For more information about a "Give It Twice Trust" or for a complimentary custom illustration, contact your gift planning officer.

*The Rev. Richard L. Schaper, CFP
Gift Planning Officer, Diocese of California*

(415) 869-7812 or RichardS@diocal.org
www.EpiscopalGift.org

From The Thoughts of One Reader

Some of you have commented about how I prepare for my readings. It is not to draw attention to me personally or the amount of time I put into preparing for my readings. It is, rather, to draw attention to the Word of God and to encourage others to spend time in it regularly. For a believer, there is more potential power in every syllable of God's Word than is housed in the nucleus of the atom.

I hope that I never acquire so many degrees of higher learning or become so sophisticated in intellectual pursuits that I forget or downgrade the importance of God's Word.

If just one person hears something in that reading that piques his or her interest to go back and re-read a scripture, or is touched for the first time by something in that reading that they never noticed before, then it is worth any amount of preparation. The nice part is that it blesses the person giving the Reading as well.

"So Faith comes by hearing
the Word of God."
Romans 10:17

My first position after completing my medical residency and fellowship, was as a practitioner for Ross-Loos, one of the medical group precursors of today's PPO's (Preferred Provider Organizations) and HMO's (Health Maintenance Organizations) in Southern California. Part of my responsibilities was routine "house calls" on Ross-Loos members confined to nursing facilities in Pasadena and South Pasadena which required quite a bit of travel. It was about the same time that I began to take my Christian Walk more seriously and wanted to reserve a portion of my day in the scriptures. What better way to satisfy the requirement of daily bible study than to listen to scriptures as I worked?

From my first classes at UCLA as an undergraduate when I took "The Bible as Literature," through medical school, internship, residency, etc., there was always a decided view of Christians who believed in the power of the Word of God as being less effective, less intelligent than their agnostic counterparts. I ultimately found no real conflict between contemporary scientific principles and faith. One does not have to annihilate the other. Once I got to that point, I stayed in one form of bible study or another continually. The

last course was through the United Methodist Church's Disciple Bible Study program. It was in large part developed by the Yale Divinity School's Emeritus Leander E. Keck. The course when I took it was six years long, and I am the better for it. In addition to the Disciple Bible Study Course, I was fortunate to be exposed to other wonderful men and women of faith: Smith Wigglesworth, Charles Capps, and E.W Kenyon just to name a few that you may not have heard of.

I encourage all who would explore their Christian Walk to spend some time each day in the Word of God. Nothing maintains, renews and supports the "little grey cells" of the Believer like the Word.

Bette Ingraham

St. John's Needs List

St John's has started a "Needs List" that will be an ongoing clearinghouse for any special items that St John's is in need of. This list is focused on physical items that are needed, as opposed to chores or talents, and will be published regularly in the Mouse and the bulletin.

Here is a list of real goods that St. John's is currently looking for:

1. *Baking trays (4-8) for the kitchen (need to fit in standard ovens - half sheets not full sheets)*
2. *Plastic earthquake latches for the kitchen (that you have to push to release/open the cabinet)*
3. *Large font label maker (for more attractive signage for the cabinets in the kitchen)*
4. *Misc. First Aid supplies (to boost our first aid kits)*
5. *A large flat propane powered grill/griddle for pancake diners and other events*
6. *A new fridge for the youth room*

Three 4-drawer file cabinets for the front office have been donated by Susan and Bob Field and also Kathie Heller. Thank you!

If you would like to donate any of these items or you can think of any additions to this list, please contact vestry members William Berkey at 510.914.3855 or william.berkey@gmail.com or Elizabeth Clayton at 510.301.9354 elizabethclayton@gmail.com.

Hugh Gourdin: 1918 – 2011

Hugh O'Driscoll Gourdin, 92, husband of Leigh Gourdin, passed away peacefully at Piedmont Gardens retirement community in Oakland, CA on June 23, 2011. Mr. Gourdin was born November 14, 1918 in Mengzi, Yunnan Province, China. The family lived in China until 1930, when they returned to the United States and settled in San Francisco. Hugh graduated from Galileo High School in 1936 and attended UC Berkeley, graduating in 1941 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

During his junior year, he went to work for Pan American World Airways as a Ground Engineer at their Treasure Island flying boat base in San Francisco. Following graduation, he transitioned to the position of Flight Engineer, which began a distinguished flying career that spanned forty-two years and numerous aircraft types. He retired from Pan Am in 1982.

Hugh and Leigh lived in Newport Beach, CA until they moved to Piedmont Gardens in 2005. They promptly joined St. John's and participated fully in the life of the parish. In accordance with his wishes, Mr. Gourdin's ashes will be scattered over the Pacific Ocean, which figured so prominently in his aviation career. A memorial service was held at St. John's on July 24. Donations may be made in his memory to the Sierra Club or the University of California, Berkeley, College of Engineering.



St. John's Bulletin Board

Java Corps for August

7 Aug. – Ushers & Subdeacons
(Fred Felder, Betsy Robinson)

14 Aug. – Women's Group
(Ann's last Sunday) (Lilah Greene)

21 Aug. – Singles' Group
(Betty Ingraham)

28 Aug. – Pastoral Care Committee/
Prayer Partners
(Scott Denman, Sandra Ahn)

Contact Sarah Jones if you want to help
coordinate the terrific Java Corps.

sarahcjones@mindspring.com

Youth Mission Trip 2012

The Youth Mission Trip next June will be to New Orleans to volunteer in social services projects. New Orleans is an area still in so much need; many have already forgotten the work that remains to do and a lot of volunteers have chosen to move on to other hard-hit areas.

All youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2012 or graduating from 12th grade in the spring of 2012 are eligible to participate. Our first meeting will be Sunday, Sept 11 at 12 pm (after the 10:00 a.m. service). This is a must for parents and youth if you are considering going on the mission trip. Contact Kellor for more information.

Horace Mann Clothing Pantry

Did your children grow quickly this summer? As you sort through their clothes during August and September, please set aside the too small, but gently used clothing for needy students at Horace Mann Elementary School. As the school nurse wrote after the Spring drive, every item finds a new home and is truly appreciated. Underwear, socks, jeans, and t-shirts are in really short supply at the beginning of the school year when young students are adjusting to the school schedule. Put donations in the boxes that are located in the breezeway between the Fischer Room and the Education Building.

Contact Laurie Bennett, 562-5666 or lebnennett1950@yahoo.com if you have questions or suggestions or if you want to help at Horace Mann.

The Wednesday noon Eucharist will be suspended in August given that so many will be away. It will resume on September 7th. Enjoy some down time!

Grateful Glad and Giving –

July Project – a Family Recipe book –
Deadline extended

During the month of July as a stimulus for gratitude for Family, we asked congregants to contribute family recipes. I have received many wonderful contributions with stories to share. I am extending the deadline to Friday August 12th for additional contributions. Please leave me a note in my mailbox, hang a recipe card on the family fichus tree in the Narthex or email your story and recipe to green-tiem@comcast.net.

Lilah Greene

"Green Bible" Class TBD This Fall

"Is God green? Did Jesus have anything to say about the environment? What is my role as a Christian in caring for the Earth? People are starting to ask these questions as we confront a new situation unique to our history-are we killing our planet? And for Christians the Bible is a natural place to look for answers..." We will use the Green Bible Trail guide to study six main themes of creation care and God's role in creation.

Stay tuned.

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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