



# The Episcopal Church IN ALMADEN



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## THE SHAPE

May 2001

From Nolan

### *A Life of Hope*

Dear Family in Christ,

Alleluia Christ is risen!

Ah...at last Easter! An unseasonably cold spring and a late Easter seem to have conspired to make Lent linger on and on, it only makes this season all the more joyful.

With mixed emotions I share the following for any of you who have not heard.

On Easter Sunday I announced that Ann and I have gratefully accepted the offer of the Vestry to take early retirement as early as July 1, 2001. Out of loving concern for Ann's ongoing battle with cancer the Vestry has made it possible for me to retire next year, two years earlier than we anticipated. The one condition the Vestry placed upon my acceptance was that I remain in place until your new rector is elected and I agreed.

When Ann and I came here in 1986 we knew we were coming to a special congregation. Today after almost fifteen years of ministry in your midst we know just how true that is. ECA is a healthy, loving family in Christ; it will be difficult to leave. We love you all very much and in turn we know your love for us.

The primary thing we need to do is pray; for a loving completion of one ministry and the successful launch of another.

Much needs to be accomplished over the next fourteen months, if there is to be a new Rector elected by that date, as the Vestry desires. Establishing a timeline, preparing a parish profile and forming a search committee need to begin immediately. The calling of your new Rector needs to be completed by May 1 of 2001, only twelve months away.

Easter is the season of hope. I see the coming year as a yearlong season of hope. Christ is risen and in him so are we!

This will be challenging year for all of us, frankly I'm looking forward to it. We don't always have the time or opportunity to be so intentional about saying goodbye and building new lives. Let's make the most of this time, celebrating what we've had and joyfully anticipating what is yet to come. God's hand is visible in all of this and we are blessed.

May we all have a blessed Easter!

In Christ's love,

**If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.**

**Colossians 3:1-4**



**Illumined**

For we are His  
workmanship,  
created in  
Christ Jesus for  
good works,  
which God

***Thank You***

We had a wonderful walk through Holy Week. A quote by one child while attending:  
"Not only are we learning about our Lord, but we are getting our exercise too." Thank

**prepared  
beforehand,  
that we should  
walk in them.**

**Ephesians 2:10**

you to all our players, it was a huge success:

Russ Petruzzelli • Rob Moore

Ron Howie • Jenny Hoyt

Dick Galanis • Joe Machado

John Haws • Harold Hotelling

Monte Bishop • Kendrick Hough

Julianne Stokstad • Tom Rose

Tami Nieder • Dorothy Willard

Warren Willard • Pat Dorey

Debbie Bishop • David Hough

Sandy Baldwin • Melinda Jennings

I would like to have a support group to support me with extra activities. This group could help with Christmas pageant, Walk through Holy Week, Egg Hunt, and the end of year party. It would be nice to hear ideas about curriculum also. You would not have to commit to everything. All ages of young adults and adults in this group would be very beneficial to the children and to me. Please call me if you are interested.

- Penny Sabin 268-6150



## **Christian Education**

# *Sunday school schedule*

### **April 22- June 3:**

Sunday school as usual

### **June 10:**

Sunday school and adult Christian education celebration. We will have a J.V. youth centered church service (no communion - J.V. Folk Choirs ) BBQ, games, fellowship to

follow.

**July 9-13:**

Vacation Bible School: 9:00 - 11:30 am

**September 30:**

Sunday school begins



**Shine**

Finally,  
brethren,  
whatever is true,  
whatever is  
honorable,  
whatever is  
right, whatever  
is pure,  
whatever is  
lovely,  
whatever is of  
good repute, if  
there is any  
excellence and  
if anything  
worthy of  
praise, let your  
mind dwell on  
these things.

**Phil. 4: 8**

## *ECA Profile Update*

Fellow Parishioners:

As many (probably most) of you are aware, Ann and Nolan have experienced an extraordinary test of their faith, in dealing with Ann's seemingly undefeatable cancer. It is also easy for all of us to see that Ann and Nolan have provided us with, what I believe is a perfect example of, what the Lord would have any of us do when faced with such a test or trial. During the last two months the Vestry, in the name of you the parishioners, has been examining the details of a recommendation to Ann and Nolan. This recommendation would offer, in a very meaningful way, an expression of the compassion of the appreciative parishioners of ECA. Everyone knows how selfless these two fine people have been, individually and collectively, to members of this parish.

On Easter Sunday many of you were made aware, by Nolan during the service, of this recommendation of "early retirement" for Nolan so that he and Ann might have more time to spend with each other, without the daily sweet burdens of their ministry. As you also know, Nolan accepted the recommendation. Those of you who were unable to be with us this Easter may be learning of this now.

One immediate consequence of this action is, ECA must update its Profile and begin the search for, (although I believe this Fisherman's shoes will be hard to fill) a replacement for Nolan and Ann.

I have been given the opportunity, as Profile Update Committee Chair, to revise and update the ECA Profile, in anticipation of the actions of the Search Committee. This document will be an invaluable asset to the Search Committee and should be in their hands as soon as possible. I am aware that some of you have performed this function before and if you are willing to participate again, I personally will be grateful. Even if you haven't participated before and would like to add you skills and talents to the

project, you're most welcome. I believe the committee should consist of 3-4 others, beside myself.

If you would like to participate, please contact me at 408-997-0876, or by email at [srdat@aol.com](mailto:srdat@aol.com). Avoid the rush and volunteer early. To be honest, I do not know how much time it will take, but it will be time well spent. If the Profile Update Committee and the Search Committee are successful, we may be able to avoid an interim situation and even, under the best of circumstances, have some overlap and a seamless transition. Please think this over and call or email me soon.

Thank you very much, in advance, for your support.

- Dave Thomas

He who is kind  
to the poor  
lends to the  
Lord, and He  
will reward him  
for what he has  
done.

Proverbs 19:47

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## *ECA Outreach 2001*

### *Refugee Report*

It is hard to believe that just over one year ago we brought a family of four from West Africa in a joint venture with the Holy Spirit Catholic Church and UCC: the Akue family of Ata, the father, and three of his sons, Fabrice, Joseph and Valentine. In one year, after being total strangers to the American way of life, three of the four are working and starting to fit into the mainstream of everyday life in the USA.

Who do they go from here? Ata and his youngest son, Valentine, have moved to Houston, Texas and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the other nine members of their family from Africa, expected to be in Houston in May. Joseph, the middle boy, is staying with friends until the end of the school year, and will then decide what he will do. Fabrice, the oldest son, has moved to Redwood City and Catholic Charities is trying to place him in a new job there.

We should all continue to pray for the Akue family as there is still a hard road ahead.

### *Food for the Homeless*

The Montgomery Meals group continues to cook and serve to the homeless. On every other Friday approximately 200 to 225 complete meals are consumed. According to the people who go down to the homeless shelter to serve the meals, "ECA meals are the greatest." The Montgomery Meals cooks will also be cooking meals the first week of

May for the twenty homeless people who will be staying at the Catholic Church of the Transfiguration in San Jose.

## *What are your thoughts for ECA Outreach?*

The members of the Vestry who have chosen outreach as our ministry are always open to suggestions and ideas as to where we might put our efforts for outreach. We are looking forward to your input. Please contact any one of us and let us know your thoughts.

- Bonnie Ashurst, Ann Aroux, Warren Willard



### **House**

## *Building Committee Status Report*

It's probably been awhile since you've heard from us. We are working hard to propose a design that will meet our needs now and in the future.

We have six members on the committee. Myself, Robert Hum, and Terry Gooding from ECA. Bob Thomas, Bob Dando, and Richard Specht are representing UCC. (Stan Yumen will soon step in for Richard.) Roger Hoyt and Nolan Redman have submitted ideas we are considering and Pete Mayo has helped out by getting information from the city planning commission.

We are still considering various proposals. One architect has given us a written bid for preliminary design work and architectural services. A second architect sat in on our last meeting to discuss our needs and to give us an idea of the services he could provide. This architect will also be submitting a written proposal. We have not ruled out any of the design ideas so far, and will soon begin focusing in one direction once we have more information from the city planning commission.

I ask for your patience in this, and your participation. New committee members have been coming on board and it takes a little time to bring everyone up to speed on our status, thoughts, and needs. What design we decide upon and propose to the Joint Venture council will of course depend on what representatives from both congregations have agreed is feasible from the standpoint of future mortgage payments.

I for one, will tell you from firsthand experience, that it is not easy to try to accommodate the widely varying concerns, desires, and tastes of everyone. So I would again ask your patience and your prayers for our committee. Thank-you.

- Russ Petruzzelli

ECA Building Committee Representative



**Dori's Ordination**



*Through the grace of God and with the consent of the people of God*

***The Right Reverend Richard L. Shimpfky***  
***Bishop of the diocese of El Camino Real***

*will ordain*

**Dorothy Ellen Torrey**

*a transitional deacon*

***Saturday, 23 June, 2001***  
***Ten o'clock in the morning***

*Trinity Episcopal Cathedral*  
*81 North Second Street, San Jose, California*

*Your prayers and presence are requested*  
*Reception to follow.*

*A private reception will be held*  
*Saturday, 23 June, 2001,*  
*Two o'clock in the afternoon*

*The Episcopal Church in Almaden,*

6581 Camden Avenue, San Jose, California

*RSVP to the church office  
(408) 268-0243*



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**Diocesan News**

A spectacular and dramatic presentation of

**The Gospel of Mark**

prayerfully and powerfully proclaimed by

**Michael Reardon**

directed by

**Patrick Lane**

Saint Timothy Episcopal Church  
2094 Grant Road, Mountain View, California

Saturday, May 5, 2001 at 7:00 pm

a benefit for Canterbury Community at San Jose State University

Michael Reardon proclaims The Gospel of Mark, following the Jerusalem Bible text. Special lighting and colorful costuming designed by director Patrick Lane adds a dramatic enhancement to the words of Mark, delivered word for word and from memory. This blend of voice and light honors the Word of God as a unique ministry of proclamation.

Michael Reardon has committed to memory the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as well

as the Book of Revelation, and proclaims them dramatically worldwide. He is a native of Anaconda, Montana, and this is his full-time work. Patrick Lane, Director and Lighting Artist, is a native of Morrill, Nebraska. Both men are based out of San Francisco, California.

Filled with a desire to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, these two men have given over one thousand performances in more than 600 cities throughout the United States, as well as to Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, the Republic of China, Europe, and Israel.

The public is invited to attend, and to experience the power of the Word. A reception to meet the artists will follow the performance.

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St. Francis Retreat Center is offering a

**Married Couples Retreat**

***"Sharing the Good Life"***

with Tom and Rena Grant and Fr. Richard McManus, OFM

May 4-6, 2001

We offer this special time of retreat for couples to get away for prayer, reflection, and sharing together on God's call to live the 'good life'. What does that mean for you in the midst of today's demands, pressures, and challenges? Come and find out for yourselves....

Retreat begins with supper on Friday, May, 4th  
(registration beginning at 4 pm)

The Retreat ends with lunch on Sunday, May 6th.

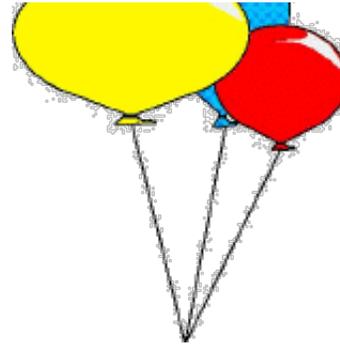
\$250 per couple



***Happy Birthday***



*and*  
*Happy Anniversary*  
*to those celebrating*  
*in May*



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**The Episcopal Church in Almaden**  
6581 Camden Avenue, San Jose, California 95120  
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