



# The Shape

NEWSLETTER OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

## *From Stephen*

As I write this our nation is poised on the brink of war. The question of the hour seems to not be whether but when. I do not know whether this war or even any war is a good idea or not. I have friends of wisdom and compassion on both sides of the issue. We all pray that when the war comes it will be short and that the loss of life will be few. What I do know is that if the US forces are quickly victorious it will not be a sign of God's favor towards the United States. God loves the people of Iraq as much as God loves you and I and God and God mourns each and every violent death. I also know the Kingdom of God will not come about through force or violence but through the transformation of the human heart. How do we allow our hearts to be transformed? By going on a pilgrimage. One such pilgrimage is coming up this month. It is called Holy Week and Easter.

Our pilgrimage begins on Palm Sunday. We begin our week with hope as we hail the coming of the Kingdom as Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem in triumph on Palm Sunday. For a short time it appears that the Kingdom of God really has come to the earth in all its fullness and glory as we acclaim Jesus

as Lord and Savior. But the day turns out to be a bittersweet one and as the week progresses the conflict between Jesus and the authorities escalates and it becomes apparent that they will stop at nothing to have his message silenced.

On Maundy Thursday we eat our final meal with Jesus at the Last Supper as we gather for a communal meal in the Fellowship Hall. We then move up to the Sanctuary as we eat our final spiritual meal with Jesus and we witness His arrest and betrayal. We conclude with a glimmer of hope as we mourn our loss in the haunting but hopeful service of Tenebrae.

On Good Friday we will again witness the horrible spectacle of the crucifixion at noon in the Sanctuary as we celebrate

the Good Friday Liturgy and then outside at 1:00 p.m. as we walk the Via Dolorosa - the way of the cross in the service of the Stations of the Cross.

On Easter Day we will witness the first light of Easter kindled, be reminded of our promises in baptism, and begin to feel the joy of Easter as the Good News of God's love begins to dawn on us in a celebration at the Almaden Quicksilver Park at dawn with

contemporary music and led by our youth. We continue our growing awareness of hope and joy on Easter Day as we celebrate the love of God which triumphs over the power of all evil, even death, with bells and flowers, at both the 7:30 and 11:00 services. We will even have an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 as we tearfully but joyfully say goodbye to our wonderful Director of Christian Education, Penny Sabin.

See you on the journey!

Salaam,

Deadline for May Issue:  
*April 15, 2003*

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## A Word From the Editor



I am not sure what happened really, I was sitting there in the usual 7pm Vestry meeting just minding my own business, when the topic of The Shape came up. I was informed that our previous editor Shirley had decided to resign her post and a replacement needed to be found. Right about that moment I opened my mouth to say something inconsequential, and instead "I'll do it" popped out... I am still not totally sure what happened at that Vestry meeting. Perhaps I never will. If there was ever a moment that I was possessed by something, I swear it was then. I just hope it was the Holy Spirit rather than his nemesis down below....

My further inspiration in regards to The Shape is several fold. The first is the revised format that you see before you. The major change is in the printing of The Shape. We on the Vestry have been seeking ways to reduce expenses and hopefully, at the same time increase the size and quality of our newsletter. To this end we decided to seek a sponsor to underwrite the costs of publication. Coit Services of Burlingame is our new sponsor. Rest assured that it was decided at our last Vestry meeting to not turn The Shape into an Episcopal classified, so Coit is the one and only sponsor. The major benefit to us as you also may have noticed is that The Shape is now in glorious Technicolor... Let the presses roll!

- Alex Dykes

## April Birthdays

3 Dennis Moran	11 Doug Dunham	18 Brooks Mancini
4 Robert Hum	11 Trevor Wilson	18 Ginger Redman
4 Stephen Taylor	11 Diane Conrad	21 Penny Handorf
5 Lyn George	13 Gayle Byers	22 Mariolein Ciappa
7 Natalie Mena	14 Carol Gooding	22 Laura Moore
7 Hank Ciappa	14 Ken Redder	22 Vickie Jones
9 Sandie Mueller	16 Sean McCormick	22 Sandy Taylor

## April Anniversaries

19 Steve and Joyce Wing
27 Lori Prince and Robert Hum
29 Bryan and Inge Bond
29 Todd and Kimberly Axtell

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

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#### RECTORY

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408-997-1502

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30 AM and 11:00 AM

#### RECTOR

**The Reverend Stephen Mills**  
408-802-5347  
[rector@eca-sj.org](mailto:rector@eca-sj.org)

#### VESTRY MEMBERS

<b>Ann Avoux</b>	CHRISTIAN ED., OUTREACH
<b>Lele Blackman</b>	FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH
<b>Alex Dykes</b>	COMMUNICATION
<b>Susie Ferguson</b>	FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WORSHIP LIAISON
<b>Allan Jones</b>	JUNIOR WARDEN, COMMUNICATION, RECTORY
<b>Ellen Lukanc</b>	CHRISTIAN ED., YOUTH
<b>Ken McCormick</b>	SENIOR WARDEN FELLOWSHIP
<b>Jon Mills</b>	CHRISTIAN ED., YOUTH
<b>Pat Rimroth</b>	FINANCE
<b>Terry Root</b>	OUTREACH, RECTORY
<b>Elizabeth Ward</b>	FINANCE, FELLOWSHIP
<b>Len Whitlock</b>	FINANCE

#### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

ACOLYTES	<b>Taylor Wing</b>
ALTAR GUILD	<b>Judy Graun, Katherine Hussain</b>
COFFEE HOUR	<b>Pete Mayo</b>
GREETERS	<b>Sharon Mills</b>
GOD SQUAD	<b>Jenny Hoyt</b>
GOOD SAMS	<b>Jenny Hoyt</b>
LAY READERS	<b>Dennis Moran</b>
MONTGOMERY MEALS	<b>Amy Griffith</b>
PRAYER VINE	<b>Dorothy Willard</b>
TLC	<b>Jan Day</b>
USHERS	<b>Dave Byers</b>
WORSHIP	<b>Francie Kerr</b>
WEB EDITOR	<b>Kim Petruzzelli</b>

#### ECA STAFF

MUSIC DIRECTOR, ORGANIST	<b>Margaret Kvamme</b>
CHRISTIAN ED. DIRECTOR	<b>Penny Sabin</b>
TREASURER	<b>Maryke Williams</b>
YOUTH DIRECTOR	



## Remember Scrip?

Many of you who have children in local schools are probably still active in the Scrip program, but I rarely think about it until I get a report from the Scrip people telling me how much our spending donated to ECA in the past accounting period. This past month I got a statement and read that I could update my account electronically. When I logged in I found that most of the old credit cards I'd originally given were ones that I no longer use (having switched to lower interest rates) or they had old expiration dates and need to be updated. It concerned me that the church wasn't getting all of the donations they could because I hadn't been vigilant in updating my account when I changed credit cards. Many of you may also have outdated

accounts. Wow, it was easy. I just deleted the ones I don't use and updated with my new numbers. It only took a few minutes.

Everyone, even if they didn't buy scrip before, can contribute to the ECA coffers every time they go to the market by just recording your supermarket or credit card number. After that, you don't even have to think about it again and ECA is the benefactor. Both PW and Safeway pay up to 4% of your purchases to the organization that you designate. On that note, you can split your donations between three organizations, so if you want to support school, church and Youth Counseling, you can do that too!

A sign up form is included in the SHAPE for your use as well and is also available at the church office. You may also contact Elizabeth Ward (997-9806) or Pat Rimroth (323-8218) for more information.

On April 13 and May 4, Elizabeth and Pat will both be available in Fellowship Hall after the service to register anyone who wishes to participate and be involved in growing the future of ECA. Strong participation by our congregation will go a long way toward helping us meet our financial commitments at no cost!

*-The Mysterious Budget Team*

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## Altar Flowers



We would like to remind you about the opportunity to sign up for altar flowers. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway and there are lots of available Sundays.

If you wish to remember a loved one by providing altar flowers, a dedication can be mentioned in the Sunday bulletin. Just call Lorraine in the office (268-0243).

Flowers can be from your garden, the church rose garden or purchased. Betty Consorte may be available to

make an arrangement for you. Call Betty at 268-7768 for details. Flowers should be delivered to the church before the 7:30 a.m. service. If you wish to bring flowers before Sunday, please call Lorraine in the office. She can put you in touch with the Altar Guild team for that week and they can let you know when they will be at church preparing the altar.

*- Judy Graun & Kathryn Hussain  
Altar Guild*



# News From Everywhere[else]

## *New Archbishop of Canterbury Enthroned*

In a ceremony that included everything from robust Welsh hymns to colourful dance, thunderous applause and pageantry, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Rowan Douglas Williams, was enthroned today following ancient custom in Canterbury Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion. The Dean of Canterbury, the Very Reverend Robert Willis, led the Archbishop by the hand to his chair. Handing the Archbishop the Pastoral Staff, the Dean said: "I give you this Pastoral



*The 104th Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams and his wife, Jane Williams*

Staff, a symbol of your investment with the Spiritualities of the See of Canterbury." The Bishop of Dover then gave this blessing: "May Christ the Good Shepherd so uphold and sustain you that you may lead with courage and guide with love those committed to your charge."

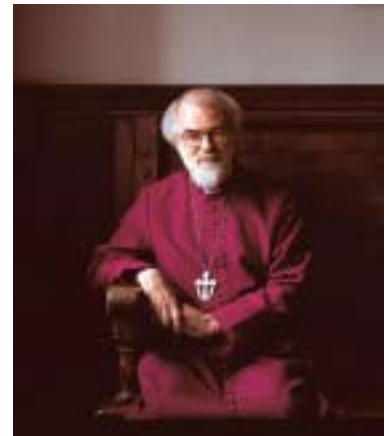
Archbishop Rowan took his seat as the 104th Archbishop, in succession to St Augustine. The ceremony was attended by many representatives of other churches and other faiths. Brother Primates of the Anglican

Communion were present, along with Bishops of the Church of England and the readers and clergy of the Diocese of Canterbury.

In place of the sounding of fanfares, the response to the act of enthronement was dancing accompanying singing, "Amen. Siakudumisa." The Archbishop took the corporal oath on the Canterbury gospels book. During the exchange of the peace, Archbishop Rowan was joined by his wife, Jane, in greeting dozens of people seated in the area behind the high altar. Approximately 600 people from the Church in Wales made the journey to Canterbury to see their own Archbishop take on this new role for the worldwide church.

The day also marked the Feast of George Herbert, priest and poet, and the choir of St Woolo's Cathedral sang a setting of *Come my Way* to music by John Sanders. One of Archbishop William's own poems was used during the Pennillion, in a setting for Soprano and Harp. The renowned choir of men and boys of the Cathedral sang the church's great hymn of praise, *Te Deum Laudamus*, to a setting by Benjamin Britten. The Archbishop left St Augustine's throne as the congregation sang:

*Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy powerful hand.*



*The Most Reverend Rowan Douglas Williams*

Members of the government were present as was His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. Security was tight and there has been a significant police presence in the Precincts of the Cathedral in recent weeks.

Dr Williams legally became the Archbishop of Canterbury at the Confirmation of Election ceremony in St Paul's Cathedral on Monday 2 December 2002. Today's Enthronement service was his formal reception and a celebration of the start of his new ministry.



*Lambeth Palace, home of the Archbishop*



## Meet our Vestry Mother-Daughter Duo: LeLe Blackman & Elizabeth Ward

Have you ever heard a Southern drawl permeating from a pew near you on Sunday? If so, you may have been near this Louisiana Duo. Elizabeth and LeLe left crayfish, Mardi Gras, Creole, and the humid bayou to migrate to the drier climate of San Jose & ECA.

### LeLe Blackman

Elizabeth found ECA through the yellow pages six and a half years ago. She and her husband, Jim, and her daughter, Hanna (now 15) eased into ECA life first getting connected and integrated into our parish life through our dinner groups. Several years ago they took adding to our numbers literally and brought LeLe into our midst as well as the newest member

of their family, now 2 years old, Patrick Ashton Samuel Ward. (Now if that isn't a name with a Southern heritage!) Needless to say, as a wife with a teenager, a two year old, and a full time job as an attorney at Agilent Technologies, Elizabeth is a very busy woman. In spite of her hectic schedule, Elizabeth finds time to serve most capably on our vestry. She was

one of the key organizers of ECA's auction last year, which was a highlight of 2002. Now during her second year she is serving in the finance ministry and lending her support to the fellowship ministry. Introduce yourselves to Elizabeth and discover how blessed ECA is to have her sharing her talents with us.

### Elizabeth Ward

LeLe followed her daughter's path to California and ECA several years ago. She joins those of us in the commuter lane daily as she heads to her current position in the library department at Stanford University. As a mature single adult, she wasted little time after joining ECA working to establish a "single community" within our parish. One of her first endeavors

was a shared Thanksgiving Dinner at ECA following the annual turkey roast. Building a meaningful ministry for singles continues to tug on LeLe's heart. In 2002 she served as the vestry clerk. Caught up in the vision of ECA and its future LeLe willingly accepted to continue her involvement with the vestry by serving as an elected member. One of her focuses this year

is in the area of Spiritual Growth. Currently she is pursuing the possibilities of developing a labyrinth and spiritual garden at ECA. If you are unfamiliar with such, seek LeLe out. She would be delighted to share her visions and hopes for this meditative opportunity at ECA.

**Polling Your Vestry:** What would you hope would be achieved by our fellowship events?

**Terry** – Friendship.

**Ellen** – Getting to know each other, have fun, and create a sense of community.

**LeLe** – Having fun together, share laughter & joy, ideas and friendship.

**Jon** – Opportunities to bring more people to ECA.

**Pat** – For having fun, extending our "family" and enjoy our time together.

**Ken** – Getting to know members from the early service.

**Alex** – Developing closer fellowship.

**Ann** – Fellowship events should include bringing friends and neighbors that are not members to introduce them to our family.

**Susie** – Building a stronger sense of community as more and more members of our parish get to know each other better.

*Your vestry invites you to get to know them and let them get to know you as we serve and fellowship together at ECA.*



# Fellowship

*This article was inadvertently omitted from the March Shape, which means some of the acknowledgements are a little past due.*

## A Gift of Gratitude

ECA is blessed with people who give generously of their time and talents; some with a big fan fare that everyone notices and others with a whisper. In both cases, ECA is grateful for their gifts.

Perhaps, you will notice someone during the next month that you would like to give the “gift of gratitude.” If so, please just submit their name and what they did to the Shape Editor by

deadline so they can receive their gift right here. Everyone can be a contributor to this column. Just keep your eyes and ears open and take the few minutes required to say “Thank you.”

*Ellen Lukanc:* Thank you for your gracious hospitality opening your home for the Vestry Retreat.

*Shirley Kelley:* Thanks for all your efforts to put our Shape together.

*Margaret Kvamme:* We praise God for the blessings you have bestowed on this congregation through your music ministry since 1995.

*Susie & Jerry Ferguson:* Thank you for hosting the “Plan the Fellowship Events” party.

*Earl Griffith:* Thanks for fixing the back fence.

*Bill Strandberg & Pete Mayo:* Thanks for all your work on the grounds.

*Bob Greene:* Thanks for fixing & painting the railings on the stairs.

*All the cooks:* Thanks to all who provided food to the Junior High/High School Sunday School class.

*Gwen Hacker:* Thanks for your work with the children’s choir, and the joy that they bring to our service.

**And all the ECA volunteers who helped out at AVUCC’s St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Auction**

### ECA Leprechauns

Doug Dunham  
Kathy Dunham  
Jerry Ferguson  
Susie Ferguson  
Graham Kelly  
Lynne Kelly  
Katie McCormick  
Ken McCormick  
Pat McGarvin  
Ellie Mills

Stephen Mills  
Dennis Moran  
Mary Moran  
Ed Mueller  
Sandie Mueller  
Connie Rimroth  
Pat Rimroth  
Robin Root  
Terry Root



# Fellowship



## *Fellowship at ECA*

ECA's Party to Plan the Parties was great fun and a great success thanks to those who attended: Kim & Russ Petruzzelli, Susanne & Arnold Moore, Ellie & Stephen Mills, Katie & Ken McCormick, Mary & Dennis Moran, Anna Spanjaart, Alex Dykes, LeLe Blackman, Kathy Dunham, Susie & Jerry Ferguson,

& to those who sent in ideas, Robin Root, Suzanne & Pete Mayo, and Pat McGarvin. We had an abundance of ideas from which to choose for the coming year's activities.

Take a look at all that has been planned and mark your calendars

now for the events you won't want to miss. Better yet, consider working on a committee for your favorite event and mark the chart in Fellowship Hall. Working on the preparations for an event is always lots of fun and a great way to get to know those in your parish even better

*Here's what's in store in the months ahead at ECA.*

April 5 – ECA's Family Night: Fun & Games (details elsewhere in the Shape)

April 28 – Tennis Social, adults only (date is still tentative)

May 10 – Hiking New Almaden, all ages, bring a bag lunch

May 30, 31, June 1 – Camping at Big Sur, all ages

June 14 – Lobster Dinner & Event Fundraiser, adults only

July – Road Rally, all ages (date to be determined)

August Ideas – Under Construction

September 13 – BBQ & Line Dancing

October 12 – Evensong At Grace Cathedral

October 25 – Pumpkin Carving and Simple BBQ, all ages (daytime event)

November 1 – Possibilities being considered

December 13 – Christmas Party

January 2004 – Possibilities being considered

February 2004 – Valentines Party with St. Stephen's Church

February/March – Adult Ski Weekend

March 22 – Something new in the works to welcome in spring

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding Fellowship at ECA, please feel free to contact any of us who are serving on your Fellowship Ministry this year. We are here to serve you and make Fellowship meaningful and fun for all of you.

*- Susie, Ken, LeLe, & Elizabeth*



# Joint Venture News

## Music Director Search Committee starts work

The search for a new Music Director is under way! The ECA Vestry, AVUCC Council and Joint Venture Board have developed a process for the search and selection of a new director. Similar to how such things have been done previously, a search committee will be responsible for interviewing, auditioning and recommending a candidate or candidates to a selection committee representing the governing bodies of the churches.

The Vestry and Council have each selected three members from their respective congregations to serve on the search committee. The ECA members are Gwen Hacker, Andy Kerr and myself. The AVUCC members are Sandy Baldwin, Lynn Wittman and Bob Hawes. In addition,

AVUCC Pastor Julianne Stockstad and ECA Rector Stephen Mills will serve on the committee.

The individuals on the selection committee that will finalize the choice are Ken McCormick, ECA Senior Warden; Rosse Hemeon, AVUCC Moderator; Allan Jones, Joint Venture Vice-chairman; Julianne and Stephen.

As part of the selection process, the search committee will be surveying both congregations for suggestions regarding the music programs of the respective churches. This will be done in the form of a questionnaire to be handed out at Sunday services. Please be sure to fill one out if you have not already done so.

The position will be advertised during the month of April. It is the intention of the search committee to have a new Music Director in place no later than Sept. 1.

With God's help, we hope to find an individual that will enable the churches to maintain the excellent quality of music and musicianship with which we have been blessed during Margaret Kvamme's tenure these past six and a half years.

Please keep the search committee in your prayers.

—Todd Axtell  
Music Director Search Committee

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## Re-Keying the Church

Plans are moving forward to re-key the locks of the church. Currently many of the password security codes which are being used to set and disarm the system belong to people who are no longer attending either of the Joint Venture Churches. New keys will be issued on Sunday, April 6 along with instruction on how to properly use the alarm system. Too often the "on call" people are called by the alarm company in the night or the alarm sounds disturbing our Joint Venture

neighbors. Usually this is because of mistakes in setting or disarming the security system. A sign-up sheet is available for those who would like or need a key to the church. Current password security codes may be retained or new ones assigned as requested. If you have questions, please contact John Hawes (268-7206).

—John Hawes





## 2003 Camping Trip

Want to spend a couple of nights around a warm Big Sur campfire, relaxing and singing under the stars? How about a Saturday full of children's laughter from innertubing on the river, adults smiling after a spectacular hike to the ocean and all ages gathering for a delicious community dinner as the day's light slips into a special evening light? If this appeals to you and your family, please join us for ECA's annual camping weekend May 30-June 1.

We have a beautiful oak tree studded site reserved just for us on the Big Sur River, 20 miles south of Carmel. Tent camping is best here, but there is an area designated for small R.V.s as well. There are flush toilets, but no showers. No pets, please. This campsite is owned by All Saints

Episcopal Church in Carmel and they charge \$8.00 per person, per night. We found out last year that it is worth every penny!

Webmistress Petruzzelli has put together a lot of great information and photos under "special events" on our website, [www.eca-sj.org](http://www.eca-sj.org). It also gives details about two hotels very close to the campsite in case you'd like to join us for activities and fellowship, but would rather have four sturdy walls around you instead of four soft ones. Susie and Jerry Ferguson opted for a hotel last year and it worked out really well for them. I'm sure they'd welcome questions about their experience.

I'll be putting a sign-up poster in Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday. It

will include space to sign-up to make contributions to the community dinners and the fun "Danger, Men Cooking!" Saturday morning breakfast. I'll be collecting cash, and checks made out to All Saints Episcopal Church, on two Sundays only this year: May 4 and May 11. You can also send it in the mail to my home. The campsite is limited to 50 people, so sign up and pay early!

We'll be having a great big watergun fight with the spirit of Ann Redman smiling and laughing in us all at some point during the weekend. Bring your waterguns and look forward to a good soaking!

- Belinda Byerly-Robins  
(408) 268-5462

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## The ECA Reporter Hits the Pews

*The church records show that you attended the Camping Weekend of 2002. What are your fondest memories of that weekend?*

I liked inner tubing on the river, the water gun fight, and the place we stayed. I liked when Dennis played the guitar. I liked it all!" Avery, age 8

"The location was nice because it was a big, open place where we could all run around. I liked the water gun fight and inner tubing." Marshall, age 12

"It was nice spending time in all that natural beauty with such a great group of people." Belinda Byerly-Robins (ECA's wagon master 2002 & 2003)

"There are three things. One, the location was fantastic. Two, inner tubing on the river was great. It was long enough, safe and not dangerous. Three, the campfires were great."

The Hoyt Family, Roger, Jenny, Elizabeth, age 17, & David, age 12.

"Dinner together and the campfire were very special." Hans Spanjaart

"Going into the water and building a bridge with rocks." Guido, age 11

"The big old water fight! And, s'mores at the campfire." Christa, age 15

"Cooking breakfast Sunday and sharing our breakfast tacos." Nikki Pulling

"The campfire camaraderie was special for us." Helen & John Beacher

"Rafting on the river!" Jon, age 11, and Daniel, age 9

"The sounds of the river were so nice



# Events

*[Continued from previous page]*

as I was falling asleep.” Ellen Lukanc

“Squirt guns and going down the rapids.” Greg, age 14

“I liked the songs at the campfire. I liked the hike and shooting the lizards with water. Remember the one that bit my shoe?” Douglas, age 11 (I remember.)

“I thought the water fight was GREAT!!!! The stream (river) was COOL. The campground wasn't quite what I prefer. It was too..... well, I like camping to be more primitive, you know, like roughing it. The running water in that kitchen area made it like “celebrity camping.” Eric, age 16

“ I like the water gun fight and the inner tubing. I also like the kite flying. When we went to the beach. The wind was super for kite flying. More people should bring kites to fly this next year.” Sean, age 9

“It's not the greatest place to get sick. I was so jealous of everyone who was eating such good food, when I felt so bad and was so sick.” Katie McCormick (Reporter's comment: Katie was sick because of circumstances prior to the weekend, not as a result of the experience.)

“I didn't like the fact the Fergusons stayed at a hotel.” Ken McCormick

“We were astounded to discover the beauty at the campground along the Big Sur River. Filtered sunlight moved through the redwoods and other trees. What a jewel in God's creation. We

especially like the memories we made helping others set up their tents, meeting those we didn't know before, and meeting their children and being able to talk with them in this relaxed setting.” Dennis & Mary Moran

“I liked the hike at the beach and that trail we took that went way high up and overlooked the ocean.” Taylor, age 13



“My favorite part was the hike at the beach. Crossing the stream to get on the trail was hard. It was very cold and rocky. Someone just grabbed me and helped me across.” Brooke, age 10

“Well, the worst part was when my mattress deflated in the night. But I loved the morning hike the adults took in the area.” Sharon Mills

“I liked tubing down the river, wading, the big picnics, and all the campfire songs.” Kristen, age 11

“I liked climbing the rocks and seeing the eel. The doughnuts we made were very good, too.” Danielle, age 9

“Our community meals were all very special. The breakfast the men cooked for everyone on Saturday morning

was a real treat, especially for the moms. We were at the camp ground from early to late, but I did like sleeping in a real bed at the Big Sur Lodge at Pfeiffer State Park.”

Wouldn't you like to join the camping group this year at the end of May? See details below.

*- Susie Ferguson*

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## Confirmation Class Off and Running

Last Wednesday evening Stephen and Julianne met with youth from both ECA and AVUCC to begin our 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class. It was a lively meeting, with lots of energy, laughter, and good discussion. Topics covered in our first class were Basic Beliefs – we focused on different names for God, characteristics of God, the nature of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. The group is very bright and kept the teachers busy answering very challenging questions. ECA youth attending the course are Beth Nollette, Thomas Hall, Tommy Haley and Alex Bemas. We will let everyone know as soon as we have scheduled Confirmation Sunday.



## Avon Walk for Breast Cancer

At ECA those who have battled Breast Cancer have impacted many of our lives. For several years some of us at ECA have made contributions to support members of our parish and their families participating in an Avon Walk. In the past Jerry and I have made our contributions through ECA, which in turn divided the contributions equally to support all from our parish walking. We would like to see this tradition continued. Currently we know of four women planning to walk this summer: Maryke Williams and her daughter, Heather, Ginger Redman and her sister, Cathy, each who have to raise \$1750.

We will establish this fund with an initial donation of \$25. Then we will

pledge \$2 for each person hiking with us on May 10 in New Almaden. This hike/walk, led by Mary and Dennis Moran, easy for all ages, will feature historical sites in New Almaden. We would love to have at least 50 hikers thereby assuring a contribution of \$125 from us.

If you would like to lend your support to the Avon Walk and ECA's participants, here are some ways.

1. Make any size donation by check, payable to ECA, noting



- Avon Walk in the memo area. This is a tax-deductible donation and will appear on your ECA record of contributions for the year.
2. Come out and hike on May 10.
  3. Encourage others to hike with you on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Invite your neighbors and friends.
  4. Consider making your own pledge for our May 10 Walk.
  5. If you want to donate your contribution to a specific walker, please contact them directly to make arrangements for that donation.

Any and all support will be greatly appreciated.

- Susie & Jerry Ferguson

## ***ECA's Family Night - Fun & Games*** ***Join us on Saturday, April 5,*** ***6:30pm to 9pm. All Ages.***

Here's your opportunity to unwind and de-stress and enjoy a laugh or two with your ECA family. You'll find games for all ages and styles. That's right. There will be quiet games and raucous games, large group and small group games, solitary games and puzzles, individual competitions and team competitions. You don't think games are your thing. Then just come and meet someone you haven't

met yet at ECA. Guaranteed the evening will lift your spirits, bring a smile to your face and a joy to your being.

This would be a great time to invite your friends and neighbors to join us and introduce them to ECA. Admission is one liter bottle of your family's favorite soft drink, a snack to share, and a "hygiene product" to

donate to Santa Maria Urban Mission. Suggested products Santa Maria needs include: shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, & razors.

A sign up and more details can be found in Fellowship Hall. If you haven't signed up, don't let that stop you in attending this particular event. Just come and enjoy the fun and fellowship.



# Parish Life

## Is Honesty in Relationships an Oxymoron?

We're just friends... "I never had sexual relations with that woman, Ms. Lewenski" Why do we lie? And what is it about sex that seems to make the lies more prevalent? I have often wondered what my life would be like had I actually had the moral fortitude to actually tell everyone the absolute truth. Would people I have loved, friends, family still be in my life? For all the fears of losing people over the discovery of the truth, I look at my life and those people are no longer in my life at this point. So did the lies really accomplish anything?

Don't get me wrong, white lies, or lies of civility are what make this world bearable. When someone asks you how they look, you usually don't tell them they look terrible, even when they do. This is what keeps our society together. We have just labeled it "social grace" rather than lying, it

sounds less harsh. Can you imagine what it would be like if everyone in the world told the truth about everything?

"Honey, does this dress make my rear look fat?" "Why yes, honey, yes it does. Geeze, watch it, you could knock lamps over with that thing."

Now does that discourse sound like a good idea to anyone in the crowd? I thought not. What I do think is healthy is sitting down with your loved one and saying "listen honey, I love you, I need to tell you something." Perhaps in this honest dialog you may find what you seek. Nothing is as liberating to the soul as revealing the honest truth. So many of us blindly walk through life keeping things in, pretending things don't matter, when they do matter, when we should let them be known.

- Alex Dykes

## Power of Prayer

We are all familiar with the power of prayer. I would like you to know that we have a dedicated group from ECA who pray on a daily basis for the special needs and concerns of our parish family, and for their friends and relatives. We refer to this group as the Prayer Vine.

Perhaps you have a prayer request for yourself, for someone you love, or for someone you know is in need in some way. To put this request on our Prayer Vine requires one phone call to me, your Prayer Vine Coordinator. From that point the phones start ringing and your request goes out to all members of the Prayer Vine.

All requests for prayers are confidential. We not only pray for people who are ill, but we also pray for any other concerns or troubles you may have. Please call for support in times of need. Remember, Our Lord calls us to pray for others.

- Dorothy Willard (408) 268-1212  
Prayer Vine Coordinator

## Wanted: Youth Group Leader!

If you are gifted in leading a group of enthusiastic high school aged young people or think you would be, this is just the spot for you. We are looking for a leader or leaders to fill this urgent need as soon as possible.

Graciously, Ginger Redman has volunteered to lead the Senior High Youth group temporarily. However, her schedule does not allow her to fill the position on a permanent basis.

The group meets two Sunday evenings a month. It is a small group but mighty! Most of the members went on the mission trip to Colorado last summer. They need someone with love, energy and a desire to get involved to lead them in further adventures— in spiritual growth, in fellowship and in just plain fun!

Please give a lot of prayer and thought to the possibility of taking

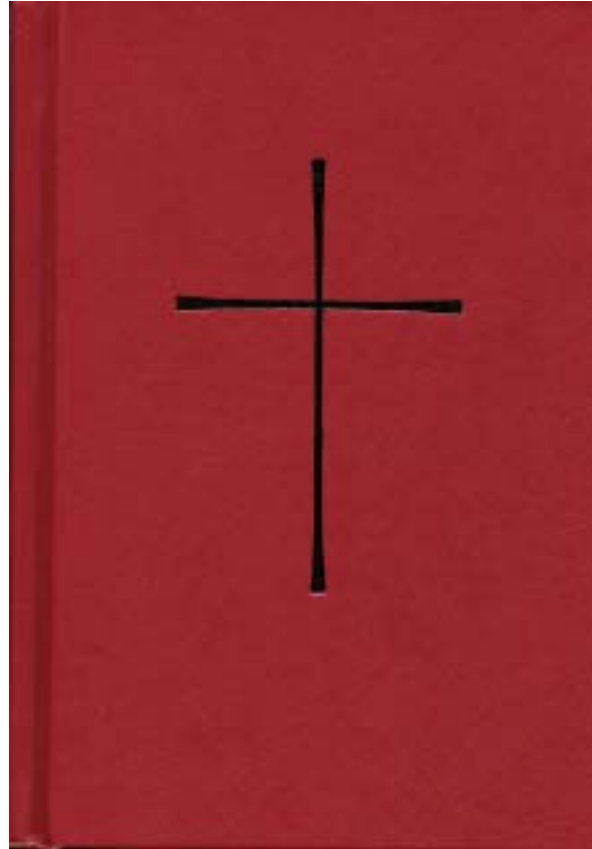
this opportunity to serve. We will provide a great deal of help and support. If this job is just made for you or someone you know, please contact Stephen or Ken McCormick for further information—or, better yet, to sign up!

- ECA Vestry



## Prayer Book Replacement!

In 1979 the national convention of Episcopal Church in the United States ratified a new Book of Common Prayer, the first revision in 51 years. Many of you may remember this historic event in the church. Many of you may also notice that ECA hopped on the bandwagon right away and that's why some of the prayer books in the church still say "Proposed" on the cover page.. And judging by the condition of most of the books it's been a hard 24 years of heavy use. Responding to the need for new prayer books we invite everyone in the congregation who would like to donate money towards new books to fill out the insert in your bulletin in April and donate books in memory, celebration, recognition, or honor of anyone you like. We need 100 new books to retire the aging books in the pews. Alex Dykes has generously started us off with 20 new prayer books arriving shortly. Please remember to fill out those inserts!



## Things Offered, Things Needed

### ***Wanted: Romans, Looking for Pharisees & Disciples***

We're looking for some talented actors/actresses for the "Walk through Holy Week" We provide the costumes and your lines - no rehearsal necessary. If you'll be available April 13, Palm Sunday please have your agent call our casting director Penny Sabin 356-5773.

### ***Looking for Something?***

Looking for something? Place to live, etc. post it here!

### ***Room to Spare?***

I'm seeking a room in a congenial home in or near the South San Jose/ Almaden area and can pay \$400 - \$500 monthly plus share of utilities. Quiet, clean, reliable, and glad to share homemaking chores. I'd love to hear from you if you'd like to consider sharing your home or know someone who might be interested. Please call Lorraine at the church office (268-0243) or her home (356-0756).



# *AdVentures in the Arts News*

Our Next Exciting Concert

## *Joy!*



**Saturday, May 17, 7:30 p.m.**

After the enthusiastic response they received when they performed during Sunday services at ECA and AVUCC last spring, Almaden Adventures in the Arts is proud to present Joy in concert on Saturday, May 17 at 7:30.

Joy is a Christian Gospel singing group comprised of four women. Earlene Davis, an accomplished composer, pianist and vocalist, leads the quartet. Completing the group are talented vocalists Faye Norman, Karen Colbert and Marilyn Brown.

The group got their start in 1996 when they were invited to sing for a Women's Conference in Visalia. Since then, through hours of rehearsals, music sessions and prayer, the group's harmony has developed into a

moving and joyful sound that listeners remember long after their concerts have ended.

Not limiting themselves to just "good ole gospel," Joy also sings original songs composed by Ms. Davis, anthems, "traditional" and contemporary gospel songs. The group sings in churches, concert halls, and convalescent facilities, in addition to performing at weddings, conferences and other special occasions.

The group's prayer and earnest desire is that God will be glorified in their ministry. Please make plans to join us and be prepared to be uplifted with the spirit of Joy.

**Don't wait. Get your tickets in advance from any member of the Arts Committee: Todd Axtell, Alex Dykes, Marion Grungé, or Shirley Harned-Kelley.**

**Suggested donation is \$15 General, \$8 students.**

**Child care is provided. The Youth Group will sell goodies at intermission. *Eat and drink generously!***

# Events Calander for April, 2003



Tuesday April 1  
7:30 p.m. Joint Venture Board

Wednesday April 2  
7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. TLC  
11:00 a.m. JV Staff Meeting  
1:00 p.m. Mah Jong

Thursday April 3  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Denny's  
7:00 p.m. Mexican Train!  
Fellowship Hall  
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Friday April 4  
3:00 p.m. Montgomery Meals  
7:30 p.m. Bridge Group

Saturday April 5  
6:30 p.m. Family Game Night

Sunday April 6 ALTAR GUILD INDUCTION  
7:30 a.m. Holy Communion  
10:10 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
KEY DISTRIBUTION

Monday April 7  
6:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge  
7:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Tacky Fashion Show

Tuesday April 8  
11:30 a.m. TACKY LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW  
7:30 p.m. Vestry

Wednesday April 9  
7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. TLC  
1:00 p.m. Mah Jong  
6:30 p.m. Children's Choir  
7:15 p.m. Confirmation Class

Thursday April 10  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Denny's  
7:00 p.m. Palm Cross Making  
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Sunday April 13 PALM SUNDAY  
7:30 a.m. Holy Communion  
10:10 a.m. Walk Through Holy week  
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth

4/15/2003 - Midnight! SHAPE Deadline

Wednesday April 16  
7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. TLC  
1:00 p.m. Mah Jong

Thursday April 17  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Denny's  
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Friday April 18 GOOD FRIDAY  
12:00 p.m. Good Friday Joint Venture Service

Sunday April 20 EASTER SUNDAY  
6:00 a.m. SUNRISE SERVICE  
7:30 p.m. Holy Communion  
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
FAREWELL TO PENNY SABIN

Monday - Wednesday April 21-23  
OFFICE CLOSED - STAFF VACATION!

Wednesday April 23  
7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. TLC  
1:00 p.m. Mah Jong  
CONFIRMATION CLASS???

Thursday April 24  
8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Denny's  
7:30 p.m. Adult Choir

Sunday April 27  
7:30 a.m. Holy Communion  
10:10 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth

Wednesday April 30  
7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
9:30 a.m. TLC  
1:00 p.m. Mah Jong  
CONFIRMATION CLASS



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