



# The Shape

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

## FROM STEPHEN

For a long time I believed that the church existed primarily for its members. We, as Christians, were called to show forth Christ's love in the way we cared for one another. While I still believe that we, as Christians, are called to care for one another and in caring for one another we show forth Christ's love, I no longer believe that is our primary calling as Christians. I now believe that the church exists **primarily for those outside the church**. Why do I believe that? Because in almost all of Jesus' teaching he expands the boundaries outward to encompass all of humanity. The disciples are shocked when Jesus talks to women. The disciples are shocked when Jesus talks to Samaritans. The disciples are shocked when Jesus talks to gentiles. At each of these events Jesus tells the disciples, in essence, that their world is too small – that any world that does not encompass all of humanity is too small. So too a church which does not encompass all of humanity is too small. How do we begin to embrace those outside the church? We invite them in and make them feel welcome. It's as simple as that.

We are currently working on a plan to improve our signage so that it is more descriptive, more readable, and more inviting. I hope those plans will be brought to fruition soon. But we also need to improve the appearance of our facilities in order for people to feel welcome. We are really blessed with a dedicated group of volunteers who have done a superb job of maintaining our building. This is truly a blessing. Many churches defer maintenance until they are faced with a huge bill, but the Joint Venture Board is doing the opposite. They are developing a maintenance schedule to forecast what will have to be done, when it will have to be done and how much it will cost. The board has, also, over the years, set aside money to use for maintenance.

The schedule for this year calls for the replacement of the carpeting in the sanctuary and narthex. A design team of Betty Consorte, Penny Handorf, Aris Thomas, Audrey Wiedrick, and Joan Wagner picked the color and the quality. We secured bids from several sources. The cost is not cheap (about \$21,500) but the question is not whether but when. Take a good look at the carpet in the sanctuary. There are patches and holes over by the organ. There are bare spots in the high traffic areas. Those who lovingly care for this place have glued down the seams as many times as they can so no one will trip and fall, but in spite of their best efforts, the carpet is close to being a serious hazard. Look in the corner of the narthex where the carpet has been patched. Yes, that is the same color. Finally, ask yourself, would I feel comfortable inviting guests into my home if my carpeting looked like this? I know these are difficult times financially for many of us, but we need to invest in the future and the future is outside the church. By refurbishing the sanctuary, we will have a much more inviting place for people to come.

By the way, for those of you who feel excited or even inspired by the thought of new carpeting and would like to be a part of this adventure, you can! We are going to supply the pew moving. No experience is necessary. We will give you all the training you need. All you have to do is contact our carpet co-coordinators, Mary Leal and Joan Wagner. And for all of us, we need to be ready to welcome the newcomer into our midst because in welcoming them we welcome Jesus.

Salaam,  
Stephen +



## A WORD FROM THE EDITOR



Anyone remember watching Space 1999? It is a science fiction show originally airing between 1975 and 1977. I recall seeing the repeats in the 80s and got strangely hooked. The show is an absolute must see. The series is so bad it's almost a cult classic.

I have no doubt that in its time the series was the height of modern science fiction. However, I find it interesting that in the 1970s they thought that in barely 25 years we would have a moon base and space ships galore. The series is so unbelievable right from the beginning. The moon is hurled out of orbit by an explosion in the nuclear waste storage areas (apparently it went critical). The moon is hurled out of orbit so fast there is no time for anyone to get on their little space ships and get to Earth, however somehow almost nobody dies in the breakaway. Then, all the characters trundle around the galaxy, seeking a new home riding on the moon. Some of the stranger things Space 1999 includes are:

- The uniforms with the unduly large zipper up one sleeve (the only way to get in).
- The show starts with 311 people on the moon, however at least 2 people die per episode.
- They have a seemingly unlimited supply of space ships since they crash all the time.
- The computer has voice recognition, but always responds with ticker tape.
- All the monitors on the moon are black and white, because of course, by 1999 we don't have color yet.
- Somehow all the aliens speak English.
- The commander is the trigger happy "shoot now ask questions later" kind of cowboy.
- A moon that travels close to the speed of light. Somehow, it's only been "4 years since the breakaway for the people on the moon but that means hundreds of years for the people on earth."

.... All in all, this is an absolute must see show, it's very addictive once you take it for what it is. It's a time period show, we'd just won the space race, people were talking about moon bases and missions to Mars and nothing seemed beyond out reach. Imagine if we had walked down that alternate path... Something to ponder. I have 16 of the DVDs and still collecting... I think I need help.

- Alex Dykes

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

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#### RECTORY

6884 Burnside Drive • San José, CA 95120  
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)

#### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

ACOLYTES	Evelyn Wing
ALTAR GUILD	Elaine LaVallee, Betty Wood
COFFEE HOUR	Pete Mayo
GREETERS	Sharon Mills
GOD SQUAD	Jenny Hoyt
GOOD SAMS	Jenny Hoyt
LAY READERS	Dennis Moran
MONTGOMERY MEALS	Amy Griffith
NURSERY	Lorry Long
PRAYER VINE	Dorothy Willard
TLC	Jan Day
USHERS	Dave Byers
WORSHIP	Susie Ferguson
WEB MASTER	Kim Petruzzelli

#### ECA STAFF

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Lorraine Zeller
CHRISTIAN ED. DIRECTOR	Katie McCormick
MUSIC DIRECTOR, ORGANIST	John Leslie
TREASURER	Maryke Williams
YOUTH DIRECTOR	Katie McCormick

### Contacting *The Shape*

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The Shape is usually a Monthly Publication  
of The Episcopal Church in Almaden



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2004 GRADUATES!

## College

Marie Deveaux - Bachelor of Arts, New York University

## High School

Christopher Deveaux

Betsy Dingman

Elizabeth Hoyt

Daniel Root



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Anniversaries

George and Nancy Romer	2
Ross and Shawn MacPhee	4
Jim and Elizabeth Ward	5
Arnold and Suzanne Moore	17
Bill and Toni Hird	24
Mike and Trish Reilly	25

### Birthdays

Nikki Pulling	1
Callen MacPhee	1
Carol Hoyt	2
Melinda Jennings	2
Ken McCormick	4
Jessica Fahlen	4
Sarah Stephan	5
Curtis Lord	7

Chris Joslin	8
Harold Hotelling	9
Barbara Robinson	10
Roberta Verderico	10
Robin Williams	10
Guido Spanjaart	11
Dominic Consorte	12
Suzanne Mayo	12
Annie Estrade	18
Sandy Sandrock	18
Fallone Kabeja	20
Kathryn Hussain	22
Ed Mueller	23
Vince McCord	24
Arnold Moore	25
Alex Appleton	29
Taylor Wing	30
John George	31



# WORSHIP

## WORSHIP AT ECA

*Your Worship Committee* met for their quarterly meeting on Friday, June 4, at Susie and Jerry Ferguson's over dinner. This meeting was by far our easiest. At most meetings we have to plan for special festival Sundays and seasons which often include additional worship experiences. For summer planning our only challenge was working around everyone's travel and vacation plans.

*Folk Sundays* for the next several months have been moved to accommodate travel schedules. Please note that your Folk Sundays for July and August will be the first Sunday of the month. So July 4<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> will be Folk Sundays. October's Folk Sunday has also been rescheduled for the first Sunday of the month. This is a Cursillo weekend and John Leslie will be attending it. So both UCC and ECA graciously agreed to change Folk the Sunday he is away in support of his attending Cursillo.

*John Leslie* will be on vacation for two weeks this summer that includes the Sundays of July 25 and August 1. We know that you will be gracious to our guest organist on July 25 in his absence. Since the choir is on its summer break, there is an opportunity for some special music offerings during the service. If you would be interested in participating in such or have an idea, please contact John directly. He is very open to entertaining your ideas and input.

*Youth Sundays* will continue throughout the summer. These will continue as the third Sunday of the month (July 18 and August 15). There is a sign up poster in Fellowship hall with various openings for readings, ushering and the like. Any young person who would like to take part need only to sign up and we will be sure to get them the appropriate information and materials before hand.

*Kick off Sunday* for the fall will be on September 12<sup>th</sup> and this will be a Folk Sunday led by Tim Miller and Doug Dunham in Andy's absence. We will also hold a

Ministry Faire on that day as well as a BBQ after our family service.

Your Worship Committee has done its planning and organizing for you. They sincerely hope you will come worship and fellowship with them at ECA.

-*Susie Ferguson*  
*Worship Chair*

## WATER, WATER FROM EVERYWHERE!

Don't forget to bring some water back from wherever you travel this summer. Add it to our display at church. In the fall at our Kick off Sunday in September we will have a special part of the service where we will pour our water into the Baptismal font and celebrate our church family all coming back together again. This will be our second year of this tradition. If you missed out last year, you can start in with us this year. Have questions? Need answers? Check with one of your Worship Committee members

# ALOHA !

*Saturday, September 18, 2004 @ 5:00 pm*

Move over Gidget! Now it's ECA's turn to head for the tropics. Of course we have our own special way of doing things so instead of using your air miles, we're going to bring the island to the church.

Mark your calendars for a September 18th luau and stay tuned for more details about this dinner, auction, Fant-ECA Island event.

Aloha!

# FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



## JULY 4TH AT THE BALLPARK

Join fellow ECAers and friends as our hometown San Jose Giants take on the High Desert Mavericks at 6:30pm on Friday July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Come for the baseball game and stay for the fireworks. Enjoy the flavor that only a minor league game can provide. For those of you that have never attended or forgotten what it is like...last year at a home game that I was attending, the Giants had just mounted a nail-biting comeback from 3 runs down in the ninth that sent the game into extra innings. Having held their opponent to a single run in first half of the inning and with runners in scoring positions, they did the timeless turn-on-the-sprinklers distraction. So effective was their strategy that the very next pitch, after the water was turned off, was a deep blast in the gap that drove in the game winning runs. Clearly, this kind of entertainment is lacking in the major leagues. General admission tickets are \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (12 and under) and seniors (65 and over). To ensure that you get tickets to this routinely sold-out event, please sign-up and leave a check at the poster hanging in fellowship hall. Due to the short

notice that I am giving you (sorry about that—I am still in training) please act quickly if you plan on attending.

Enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> and I hope to see you at the game Friday night,

*-Jon Mills*

*Yankee's 2<sup>nd</sup> basemen 1979*

## LOBSTER EVENT A SUCCESS!

The deadline for this month's Shape was before the actual Lobster Dinner and Fellowship Evening. But by the time you are reading this, if you were one of the 90 plus attendees to the event you know how successful it was and how tasty the lobsters were.

One thing we know for sure at this writing, a fabulous group of individuals helped make the event all it could be and more. A great committee came forth to plan and enthusiastically execute this party. It was all made possible by Betty & Dom Consorte, Joan Wagner, Amy Griffith, Betty & Doug Wood, Pat & Dwight Dorsey, Sharon & Jon Mills, Lorry & Jerry Long, Dorothy & Warren Willard, Debbie Bishop, Maryke & Robin Williams, Russ Petruzzelli, and Ken McCormick. Each committee member took a small part which when put all together made a great contribution to our evening. Many hands made the work seem light and the experience a joyous one.

Jerry and I cannot thank all of our wonderful committee members enough for all they did to make leading this ECA fellowship fun and enjoyable for us as well. It was a pleasure for us to work with each and every one of our committee. We would highly recommend any of them for future fellowship parties!!

## MUSIC IN THE PARK

Starting on Thursday July 8th there will be free concerts at Greystone Park from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The free concerts will continue every Thursday evening in July and finishing on August 5th.

Last year the concerts were held at Parma Park and a few ECA members attended, brought their dinner and wine and enjoyed the wonderful music along with the fellowship.

The music each week varies from the 50's to rock and roll.

Mark you calenders for some great music and fellowship.

*-Ken McCormick*

*-Susie & Jerry Ferguson*



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Lava Lava Island Vacation Bible School is where Jesus' love flows. Come join us as we travel from island station to island station for games, crafts, songs, Bible verse adventures, Island theater and Luau fun. It all begins July 6 at 9am and we finish each day at noon. On Friday we'll have a BBQ lunch with our families.

Our Island stations each require one adult and our traveling crews require one teen as their crew leader. I'm hoping for about 30 kids and that means we'll need at least **six teens** to help. Marian Henderson has stepped forward to take care of the Tropical treats. We need **five more adults** to cover Hot Bible Adventures, Crater Crafts, Jungle Gym games, Chadder's Island Adventure Theater (video segment) and the Sing and Play Bay station. I will be managing the Crew leaders and cover the closing Lava Lava Luau review.

Please encourage your children and their friends to come to VBS. There are registration forms in Fellowship Hall and a sign up in the hallway as well. You may also call me at home (408) 997-9817 or on my cell (408) 838-6143, or email me at [mac6558@aol.com](mailto:mac6558@aol.com) to reserve your space. See you in your Hawaiian outfits!!

*-Katie McCormick*

## JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP UPDATES

The Junior High Youth Group had a busy year. We had a celebration pool party welcoming our 5th graders and saying farewell to our 8th graders. Seventeen kids attended and not everyone was there! In between swimming, snacking, Ping-Pong, and BBQ we talked about our year and here's the list of what we did.

Rock Climbing, skiing, beach trip, theater and pizza, ice skating down town and in the fellowship hall with ice strapped to our feet!, baked pies, wrapped gifts, cooked and served Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, bake sales for concerts, bought clothes for our adopted family at Christmas, talk sheets about friends, peer pressure and kindness, read from the Bible, line tag, broom hockey, got our feet washed, ate dinner together and prayed together.

Our summer plans include: volleyball and BBQ, beach days, help with Vacation Bible School, meet at Graystone Park for the Almaden summer music-in-the-park series and an outdoor movie night for our families in our grove.

Thanks to all our fantastic kids and their parents, our pastors and partitioners who have supported our program for a great year.

*-Katie McCormick*





## SHYGS UPDATES

Elizabeth Hoyt and Betsy Dingman graduated from High School in June and are both headed for college this fall. Congratulations!

We had a blast celebrating our first year together on June 11th. SHYGS cooked dinner instead of Terry and it was delicious! Ann Mayers made two chocolate cakes to celebrate our June birthdays for Evelyn Wing, David Mastriana and Greg Lukanc-they were also yummy (the cakes, not the kids)! Kyle Dando joined us for the evening and will continue to do so during our summer volleyball nights. The teens surprised the advisors by giving us all cards they had signed, thanking us for our time with them. In addition they gave Jean and Ann flowers and Terry and I gift certificates to Bucca di Beppo and the G spa. I was really overwhelmed with their thoughtfulness and generosity! We then went on to play some marathon volleyball-we have some hidden talents out there (don't ask about who hit the ball with their nose!). We also completed our timeline of our first year as SHYGS and had a lot of fun commenting on what we liked and didn't like.

The San Jose Mercury News gave us a great write-up in the Home and Garden section on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. It was a good plug for joint venture, scouting, plant a row, and the youth group. Speaking of the garden, we have now delivered to the Food Bank twice with a total of 5 pounds of food. Everything is starting to bloom, so we should have big harvests of squash, beans and eggplant in the next few weeks. If you have time, take a walk over there and check it out.

Our volleyball Wednesdays kicked off on June 23<sup>rd</sup> as we celebrated Greg Lukanc's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday! The Lukanc family provided our dinner (Thank you!) and that was great. We had a lot of our regular group away on vacation, but we welcomed some of our new 9<sup>th</sup> graders and Greg brought some of his friends, so we were still able to play. Thank you to David Mastriana and Greg McCormick who finished putting in lights on the volleyball court before they left for the summer-they

work great! We will continue to meet Wednesdays from 6-9 throughout the summer.

In early August we will be shopping for school supplies for our adopted family, and on August 13-15 we will go on our long-planned raft trip to officially say goodbye to our college grads and to welcome our freshmen.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Senior High this first year together. Your support, donations, and encouragement have been invaluable!

*-Robin Root*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Dear Sunday School Teachers,

I cannot thank you enough for your time in the classroom. You have all been such a blessing to our children and to me. Thank you too, for being patient with me as I have become acquainted with this job. I would like to gather together early in August to hear your suggestions and brainstorm about that works the best and what didn't work. I want all your suggestions to make our Sunday School run as smoothly as possible. I'm looking at either the first or second Sunday in August. If those dates are not good for you please send along your thoughts either in email or drop them in my mailbox at the church.

*-Katie McCormick*



# GIFT OF GRATITUDE

ECA is blessed with people who give generously of their time and talents; some with a big fanfare 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 the deadline so they can receive their gift right here.

*Dennis Moran, Evelyn Wing, Betty Wood, Elaine LaVallee, Peter Mayo, Sharon Mills, Lorry Long, Dave Byers, John Leslie, Andy Kerr, & Kimberly Axtell-*

Thank you for your time, energy, and commitment to our worship at ECA by leading one of our ministries that serve our church directly through our Sunday worship.

*To Sixty-two Families of ECA-* Thank you for serving in one or more of our worship ministries led by those mentioned above. You certainly make their jobs easier by your willingness to participate and share your gifts and talents.

*The Lobster Committee (named elsewhere in this Shape)-* Thank you for your willingness to serve on this fellowship event.

*Thank you to all of SHYGS -* for the wonderful card and gift certificates you gave to Robin at the end of the year party. It was such a surprise and so appreciated! And thank you to all SHYGS parents who have supported the youth group this year-it’s meant a lot.

*Ann Mayers and Jean Cassetta -* for being at most of the SHYGS events as a support to Robin and Terry and all the teens. We couldn’t do it without you!





## MUSIC NOTES

### VARIETY SHOW

The Joint Venture Semi-Annual Variety Show will be held on Tuesday, July 6 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. (Do you remember the January 6 Variety Show?) Any talent you would like to share with the Joint Venture Community will be gratefully welcomed. You can offer anything: not just performers, but bakers, coffee makers, child care, table-setters, sound equipment, audience members, etc. Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.

### SOUTH PACIFIC by JV Churches

AVUCC Music, under the direction of John Leslie, will present a full production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Pulitzer-Award-winning musical "South Pacific" at the church on August 20 and 21. This project is funded in part by an AVUCC Memorial Fund established by the family of Alma Helms. Adult and High School members of ECA are invited to participate. There are still openings in the men's chorus ("There Is Nothing Like a Dame" and "Bloody Mary"), women's chorus ("I'm Gonna Wash that Man Right out of My Hair" and "I'm in Love with a Wonderful Guy") and in men's speaking roles: navy and marine officers (no singing required). Rehearsals are Wednesday and Sunday evenings. If you are interested in performing with AVUCC and members of the local community, or assisting with technical jobs, please contact John Leslie at the church.

### SUMMER MUSICIANS

ECA Summer Worship schedule has begun. The Adult Choir is on summer break, but we might see a few of the singers during the summer for special small music ensembles. If anyone in the ECA community would like to provide some solo or duet music (vocal or instrumental) for the 10:30am Sunday worship service, please contact Music Director John Leslie at the church.

### SUMMER PRAISE SINGERS

A new opportunity has begun for hesitant singers! We gather with Music Director John Leslie on Thursday

nights during the summer, at members' homes, share some "cheer" and sing some easy, fun, praise-type songs. It is fun (and less intimidating) to sing in a group, and singing in harmony will be optional. If there is enough confidence after several rehearsals, we might even share our music in church! The first meeting of this new group was Thursday, June 24, hosted by Susie Ferguson at her home. John looks forward to meeting you, and sharing YOUR love of music! If interested in joining this group, please contact John to find out our next rehearsal location..

Praise the Lord. To God Be the Glory!

*-John Leslie  
Director of Music*



## SERVANT AUCTION

We have determined that quite a few of you who bought items from the SHYGS servant auction have not called your servant to cash in! The teens really want to fulfill their commitment to you, so please call them to arrange a time for them to do their task. If you have lost your contact information please give me a call at (408) 268-1203 and I can give that to you again. We would like to have all of these done by the end of August if possible.

*-Robin Root*



# JOINT VENTURE

## JV FINANCES

The Joint Venture Corporation is responsible for the financial obligations associated with repairs, modifications, improvements and additions to the properties and facilities.

A J.V. committee has been formed to compile a listing of all assets, useful life and planned replacement year. The following table is a comprehensive listing of the Joint Venture Corporation assets. As each of these assets requires replacement, the monies are drawn from existing capital reserves. The JV capital reserves account has accumulated \$32,000 as of April 30, 2004. Our JV reserve needs are presently being evaluated by the

JV Board in order to determine an appropriate capital reserve dollar amount which will be deposited for this fiscal year as well as that required for future years to come.

Did you know that the Joint Venture Board meetings are open to all members of both Churches?

Our next meeting is planned for August 3, 2004. The Board meets at 7:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall.

*-Joan R. Wagner*

Item	Asset Name	Year Installed	Useful Life Years	Planned Replacement yr	Replacement Cost - \$
1	Carpet & Painting	1983	21	2004	\$25,000
2	Dishwasher	1984	20	2004	\$10,000
3	Parking Lot/Slurry Seal	1993	12	2005	\$8,000
4	Furnace: Nursery	1966	40	2006	\$3,000
5	Furnace: Sunday School	1966	40	2006	\$3,000
6	Furnace: Office	1966	40	2006	\$3,000
7	Water Heater	2003	5	2008	\$ 600
8	Restroom fixtures	1973	35	2008	\$ 2,000
9	Sound System	2002	10	2012	\$3,000
10	Air Cond. South	1990	20	2010	\$2,500
11	Air Cond. North	1990	20	2010	\$2,500
12	Air Cond. Office	1993	20	2013	\$2,500
13	Stove	1993	21	2014	\$2,000
14	Furnace: Narthex	1985	30	2015	\$3,000
15	Organ	2000	20	2020	\$60,000
16	Refrigerator	2002	20	2022	\$3,000
17	Roof	2002	30	2032	\$48,000
18	Parking Lot Repave	1991	20	2011	\$30,000
19	Sidewalk Maintenance				
20	Sanctuary Lighting			2004	
21	Upholstery				
22	PBX Phone System				
23	NEW Building				

# LOBSTER DINNER 2004





# ERATTA

During the last Vestry meeting, It occurred to some of us who grew up in the Episcopal Church that we assume that everyone is versed in the terms we use regularly. We realized that there are many among us who were raised in another denomination to whom these words are completely foreign. Since we are on the verge of a diocesan search for a new bishop, some of us thought perhaps now would be the time to create a handy little guide to the terms. Please be aware that our web “mistress” Kim Petruzzelli also has a list on our web site at [www.eca-sj.org](http://www.eca-sj.org).

-Alex Dykes

**Alb** - A long, white, sleeved (linen) vestment

**Anglican** – English. Used to describe members of the Anglican Church or Anglican Communion- Logically therefore we at ECA are Anglicans.

**Archbishop of Canterbury** - The presiding bishop of the Church of England. The honorary spiritual head of the Anglican Communion, and Bishop of the See of Canterbury.

**Archbishop** - a bishop over a group of dioceses or national church i.e.: Archbishop of New Zealand.

**Bishop** - The head of a diocese; when present, the principal celebrant at sacramental liturgies

**Bishop, Co-adjutor** - an ordained person consecrated to become the bishop of a diocese when the present bishop retires.

**Bishop, Suffragan** - a co-bishop in a diocese without right of succession when the bishop retires or resigns.

**Cathedra** - The chair that a bishop sits in during a church service.

**Cathedral** - The official church of a bishop of a diocese. Cathedrals are usually in the charge of a priest who is the Dean of the Cathedral; Deans are referred to as “The Very Reverend...”.

**Catholic** - literally, “universal”; often a reference to the Roman Catholic Church. The term also includes Anglican, Syrian, Greek, Coptic, Russian and other churches. The Episcopal Church is a “catholic church.” Catholic churches generally accept the teachings of tradition, scripture and usually accept the validity of one or more ancient creeds as the summary of the Christian faith.

**Deacon** - An ordained assisting minister. Deacons often have special clerical duties.

**Diocese** – A district of churches under the jurisdiction of a Bishop.

**ECUSA** – Common abbreviation for the official name of the church: The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

**Episcopal** – Literally means “government by an overseer.”

**Episcopate** – The office of the bishop; the area of jurisdiction of a bishop.

**Fair Share** – Yearly dues parishes pay to their Diocese, calculated on income 2 years prior to current.

**Mission** – An Episcopal congregation that has not yet attained the status of a Parish. Missions are usually not self supporting financially.

**Nicene Creed** - The most widely accepted and used brief statement of the Christian Faith, circa 300 AD.

**Parish** – A self-supporting Episcopal Congregation with a full time priest.

**Presiding Bishop** - Elected Episcopal head of The ECUSA, the ECUSA does not refer to its head bishop as an archbishop.

**Protestant** - church whose faith and practice are founded on the principles of the Reformation

**Rector** - The priest or minister of a parish

**Rubric** - Ceremonial and other directions found printed in italics in *The Book of Common Prayer*. The word comes from the Latin for “red” since the directions were traditionally printed in that color.

**See** - The office or jurisdiction of a Bishop.

**See of Canterbury** – An instrument of Anglican unity. The Archbishop of Canterbury is first among equals in this See.

**Vestry** - Governing board of a parish.

**Vicar** - an older English term referring to a priest in charge of a vicarage—a small parish. In the ECUSA the term is used to describe the priest in charge of a mission.