



The Shape

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

FROM STEPHEN

They say a picture is worth a thousand words and here it is:



This is The Reverend David Knight standing in front of what is left of Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church in Long Beach Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. The flag he holds in his hand is the flag of the Episcopal Church. So what did the people of St. Patrick's do when their church buildings were destroyed? They worshipped. They found another building and they worshipped. The church is not the building, it is the people. What a message of faith and hope. I thank God for our beautiful building. I thank God for the loving care with which it is cared for by so many, but if the building were not here ECA would not cease to exist. Because you are ECA. I wonder sometimes what would happen if we were to lose every material possession we owned. Would we be devastated? Perhaps for a time. But we would also discover something of primary importance. We would discover what the core values are in our lives. We

would be forced to ask that difficult question of whether we were living out those values.

What else does this picture have to do with you? St. Patrick's will be rebuilt and assistance is flowing into the area because of your generosity. We have sent over \$2,000 to the diocese, which will in turn forward it on to Episcopal Relief and Development who will use local contacts like the people of St. Patrick's to see that the relief is used where it is most needed. All totaled over \$10,000,000 to date has been donated to Episcopal Relief and Development, for the victims of hurricane Katrina. I believe the church is at its best. I believe when we give to others we are living out our core values.

While we are on the subject of core values, I want to commend the Diocese of El Camino Real for what they have done in the past year. Under the leadership of Bishop Romero and the Standing Committee, and with the invaluable business background of Brian Nordwick, they have taken a decision making process that was fatally flawed and an accounting system that was in a shambles and created working relationships, mutual accountability, and transparency in financial affairs. They are to be commended for their efforts and the renewed trust which will flow from what they have done.

Salaam
Stephen +

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR



A slower pace of life in a rushed world may seem like something that's impossible. It might also seem like the last thing that I would do. Sure, I love fast cars, I like accelerating out of curves, and occasionally I have been known to live by the "must get there first" mentality. But lately I decided that I need to

relax a bit more, and what better place to do that than in my car? I spend two hours a day in my steel cocoon, so I might as well use it as a time to wind down. How does one get started? First, try driving slow. I don't mean try going 25 on Highway 85 on a Saturday, but just go the speed limit or a little below. It's good for the soul, and good for the environment. As a former king of the left lane, I know how hard it is to do. The thought of letting someone actually pass you is such a scary thought. However, rest assured that once you actually let the first 10 or so cars go faster than you, it becomes a little easier. The second thing to do is to not care what anyone else on the road is doing. By this I mean of course to not care if they are flipping you the bird or blowing a raspberry. By all means, if the traffic is stopping in front of you, you shouldn't just plow them down while you're in your happy place. Throw away the Axel Rose, Madonna, and U2 CDs, and trade them in for something warm and fuzzy like the Little Mermaid soundtrack. Hum a simple tune; listen to some music, think warm fuzzy thoughts and arrive refreshed, and at peace.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

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COFFEE HOUR	Pete Mayo
FOLK CHOIR	Andy Kerr
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
USHERS	Dave Byers
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FELLOWSHIP

POTLUCK & GAMES NIGHT SINGLES EVENT

Informal get together—time to kick back, meet new and visit with old friends, eat, play games, and relax before the holidays.

Date — Saturday, November 12th

Time — 6:00 PM

Where — ECA / AVUCC

6581 Camden AVE.

San Jose, CA 95120

Bring a main dish, appetizer, dessert, or beverages (wine is okay) and your favorite game to share, plus ½ hour set-up or tidy-up of the kitchen and Fellowship Hall areas. RSVP to Kathy Mastre with what you plan to bring at (408) 362-0905 or kamastre@yahoo.com

Updates since the last meeting:

New Years Eve Party - The “**Formerly Ed’s Party at the Villages**” group will be hosting a New Year’s Eve Dinner / Dance at our church. More information will be available soon.

Name for the group - What do you think about **Saint Almaden Singles** as the name of our group?

Newsletter / Expanded Events - We are thinking of joining forces with another group of singles. This will allow us to expand the number of activities. We are planning on sending out an, as needed, e-mail newsletter.

Sponsoring an event - Have you ever wanted to invite others to join you in any of your activities such as movies, hiking, biking, bowling, dining, dancing, games, concerts, etc.? If so, consider “sponsoring” an event.

What would I have to do? - Just send an email to our party-planning person. Do not get too excited—it does not mean a lot of work or money. It could be as simple as *I would love to go to (name the activity) who wants to come along? We would meet at (give date, time and place). Just RSVP me at (your e-mail address) so I can make any necessary reservations / arrangements.*

Kathy Mastre

WWW.ECA-SJ.ORG

It’s finally happened—Pete Mayo emailed an article to the Shape (see page ?). Of course we know that Suzanne Mayo had a hand in this, and it probably means that hell has frozen over, but it also shows that 21st Century has truly reached every member of ECA.

Now that the digital age is entrenched in the Mayo household, it’s time for the rest of you dawdlers to visit the website. Not only can you read the Shape online (often well before it’s been mailed out), but you’ll also find things like the Worship Matrix (who’s scheduled to do what and when on Sunday), youth group details, a page about upcoming special events, Bible study handouts, our monthly calendars, descriptions of the many ministries and activities at ECA, and of course, jokes.

TURKEY DRIVE

Yes, it’s that time of the year again! Calling all volunteers that can give time and/or \$ donations to help this Thanksgiving week to cook and freeze turkey for the meals we prepare in our kitchen to feed the homeless every other week in the Montgomery Meals program. The dedicated MM volunteers do a tremendous job in this fine example of ECA outreach, providing meals for close to 200 hungry people each time. Once again, we thank the Almaden Pizza Company (formerly Stuft Pizza of Almaden) for allowing us to use their pizza oven Thanksgiving morning for this special annual event. A big THANKS is in order for all participants!

Steve Wing (Head Turkey)

FELLOWSHIP



PRAYER VINE

Are you interested in a ministry that takes a minimum amount of your time, and gives a maximum amount of benefit to others? This ministry is called "The Prayer Vine". It consists of a group of dedicated ECA members who pass on via telephone or email the prayers that are needed for our fellow church family members, their friends or relatives.

All prayers are handled in confidence. If this is of interest to you, please contact Dorothy Willard at (408) 268-1212 or wdwillard@sbcglobal.net.

TLC: REBORN!

At the last JV meeting, we discussed the need to reactivate the TLC group. TLC was a group of very dedicated ladies from both churches who met on Wednesday mornings and took care of the church kitchen and Fellowship Hall. The numbers dwindled, and then it became tedious instead of fun. Thanks to the continuous caring work of people like Jan and Al Day, Betty and Dom Consorte, Mary Leal, Amy Griffith, we have maintained. However, now we would like to reactivate the TLC group. We will meet once a month, and work on a list of "to dos". And of course, we could go to lunch!!! The first TLC day will be Tuesday, November 15. If you are interested in joining us, please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

Carol McDonald and Jackie Whitlock

JOINT VENTURE

- The Trash and Recycling service has been revisited with 7 bids received. The council approved a change to Green Waste with a 3 yard container (larger by one yard) for less cost.
- Utility expenses have risen above those expected (particularly, the water bill). The Board will push conservation in the coming months.
- Outside flood lights were repaired. Heavier wiring is required next.
- New low maintenance kitchen sink faucets have been installed.
- Youth Group director will not accept pay for leadership provided but the JV Treasurer will assure expenses incurred will be covered.
- Long term clean-up service by the TLC group was noted by the Board and commended.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Sign Committee for their work in re-furbishing our sign in front of the church.

STOCK DONATIONS

In the July 2005 Shape I told you how to donate stock in lieu of your Pledge. Some of the particulars have recently been changed because Celeste Ventura, our contact, has retired. But there is another broker who has taken over her accounts. So here are the current details to keep in mind when donating stock.

Contact your broker and give him/her the following information.

ECA's broker at Merrill Lynch: Jeffrey Gorman

Phone: (800) 392 5990

email: jeffrey_gorman@ml.com

Account number for stock transfer: 252-04278

Also, please remember to send me an email at maryke@sbcglobal.net or call me at 997-1761 so that I can alert Jeffrey that the transfer is going to occur and so that he can sell it as soon as it arrives.

Maryke Williams

FELLOWSHIP

BENEFICIO COFFEE

Please contact Phyllis Chai (226-7150) for your Thanksgiving requests for “Beneficio More Than Fair Trade Coffee” which supports the small farmers of Guatemala, and is a mission of our NCNC Conference of the UCC.



LADIE'S LUNCHEON

Ladies' 3rd Thursday lunch will be dinner at 6 pm. Dinner will be at Maggiano's at Santana Row on Thursday, November 17th.

Please sign up in the fellowship hall - guests are welcome. For more information call Amy Griffith, (408) 268-0920.

RECYCLING

Since no one specific person is responsible for recycling at the JV Churches, how about sharing the joy, and more of us carrying home recyclables after an event on the church property...Our environment will be glad that we did...Thank you!

SAND BOX

If you remove the sandbox cover outside Fellowship Hall, please replace it when you leave, so that our children may play safely there. Thank you!

FORECAST: CHILLY WINTER

Actually, I have no idea whether it will be a particularly chilly winter or not. However, what I do know is that the price of keeping the church warm is going to rise significantly. I am sure that you are all concerned about these cost increases for your own homes.

In order to keep the congregations' costs down as much as possible, the Joint Venture Board has prepared a budget that is as lean as we think possible.

In order to stay within that budget for utilities for the coming year, it is going to be necessary for us all to bundle up a bit more. We will be lowering the temperature that is programmed into the various thermostats, and we hope that you will bear with us.

Actually, one possible solution if you are cold is to join the choir! Under those lights and wearing the robes we are seldom cool!

Seriously, it is important to all of us to keep our gas and electric usage down as much as possible, and we really appreciate everyone's cooperation! We don't want anyone to suffer, and certainly if you are not happy with the temperature we would appreciate your letting the office, or any JV Board member, know. Please know also that we are addressing this issue with all outside users of the facilities and asking them to help in this endeavor.

Thank you very much for your help with this important matter.

*Mary Leal
Treasurer, Joint Venture*

FELLOWSHIP

ATTENTION OUT-OF-TOWNERS

ECA is revising the Shape mailing list. If you still wish to receive the news of ECA, please let us know, via email or phone, and we will email a copy of it to you each month.

ATTENTION IN/OUT-OF-TOWNERS

ECA has an "e-list". We use our list to email out announcements about upcoming events, notices that the Shape is available, details of upcoming memorial services and other church-wide activities, etc. The messages are sent from the church office by Desi or Father Stephen, and they're emailed in a way that hides the individual email address (so recipients don't see who else is on the list, and no one outside of the office can send email to the list). Typically, people on the e-list receive 2 to 4 emails per month.

If you would like to be added to ECA's e-list, let Desi know your email address. You can call the office at (408) 268-0243 or send her an email at office@eca-sj.org.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

ECA's Christmas dinner is going to be December 10th at 6PM.



THOUGHTS IN CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

So close to the presence of God I feel
Were there a place I would like to kneel
And ponder awhile, since I'm here at last
The places where in ages past
Pilgrim feet have worn ruts in the stone
Reminding me that I am never alone.

I feel their spirits in the air
In shadows whispering everywhere.
If I listen closely enough I'll find
Remnants of prayers they left behind
All of those who came before
Four hundred years ago or more.

Amid the bustle of the world outside
I marvel at the glorious quiet
That surrounds me in this holy place
Where God and I come face to face.
I know I must go, though I wish to stay.
There's hardly any time to pray.

The tour guide says it's time to go.
Other sights await me I know,
Other place far and near
Wondrous things, or so I hear.
But my heart and would may well remain
In what is clearly the Lord's domain.

I hope that I may leave behind
Some of what is on my mind,
Part of my spirit and my heart
Might remain though I depart
On to the next thing on my list
But I'm so grateful I haven't missed

Walking where pilgrim feet have trod,
Standing in awe at the altar of God.

Mary Leal

YOUTH

HOW TO SUPPORT SHYGS

Donate your old magazines that have lots of pictures and advertising in them. We're using these to stimulate prayer requests and to talk about sexual stereotypes and the force of advertising. Put them in the box in the youth center marked 'SHYGS Magazines'.

Purchase an Entertainment Book for \$25.00 during coffee hour. SHYGS will donate their share of the profit (\$5) to Habitat for Humanity.

Purchase a Servant Auction Item! Proceeds from this event go to our Outreach Projects and allows us to adopt families for the holidays. Our families come from the EOPS program at West Valley College and we purchase food, clothing and toys for kids. The more we make from our services, the more we can donate.

Continue to drop off your toiletries throughout the year. We just filled 40 gallon-sized bags with an assortment of items that YOU contributed and we donated them to EOPS. When we have another big stash, we'll get the assembly line going again and contribute another load. It is an easy way to make a difference! Please watch for sales on dental items as we are usually short on toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss.

Bring your items to be wrapped or your kids' babysat. Mark your calendars now for our a gift-wrapping and babysitting event, this year will be on Sat, Dec 17, 1-4:00 pm. Proceeds Outreach!

Keep our teens in your prayers that they grow their faith and in their love and trust in one another.

UPCOMING SHYGS EVENTS

Sunday, Nov 6 2:30-9:00 Trip to Grace Cathedral in SF-Modern Service to the Music of U2-Dinner and cable cars-Meet at church-Bring \$10 (If cancelled by Grace Cathedral we'll have a regular meeting at church at evening)

Friday, Nov 18 Field Trip-Hunger, what's that? (Trinity Cathedral)

Sunday, Nov 20 - Shop for Thanksgiving food for our adopted families right after church-Meet in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Nov 20 - Regular meeting 6-8:30

Sunday, Nov 27 - Servant Auction during Coffee Hour

Sunday, Dec 4 - End Servant Auction at Alternative Christmas - All need to be present

Sunday, Dec 4 - Regular meeting 6-8:30



SHYGS LEADER CONFERENCE

The first weekend in October brought over 3400 youth pastors and leaders to a National Youth Worker's Conference (NYWC) at the Sacramento Convention Center. Terry and I attended the event Friday through Monday and we were uplifted and inspired by the speakers and entertainment. NYWC is produced by Youth Specialties and they do a fabulous job making sure that there are dozens of breakout sessions with speakers on such a variety of topics that everyone was able to find something of interest. Especially rewarding to us were the speakers who seemed to be able to know right where SHYGS is in the development of a youth group without ever attending one of our meetings. The experience the speakers brought to the event was formidable. We laughed, we cried (well, I did), we sang and jumped around to the music, and sat in rapt attention as other youth leaders shared their visions.

We wanted to share with you that this event was such a pleasure—all performers thanked their audience for the work they do with youth and you could just feel the crowd accepting the virtual 'hug' given in appreciation for the love and time given towards the youth in the churches back home. We were able to be refreshed and renewed and after hearing multiple speakers we have a very clear picture to present to the Christian Ed committee about next steps for SHYGS. Think-Small Groups for teens! We are already looking forward to next year's event!

CHANGING SHAPE

Wouldn't it be wonderful to receive the news letter by the 1st of each month? We currently mail the Shape out around the 25th of the preceding month, and then say a prayer that it will arrive in a timely matter. Unfortunately prayers don't seem to have much of an effect on the U.S. Postal Service when it comes to sending bulk mail. Although bulk mail is supposed to arrive in 2 to 9 days, it's been taking 2 to 3 weeks for ours to arrive.

This issue was mailed in the usual fashion—so you're probably reading it around the 15th; however, beginning with the December issue, we're going to completely revamp our mailing. There's still some debate as to whether we'll go first class (very expensive) or just switch to a lighter weight, folded version (still bulk mail but arrives quicker). Whichever we decide, we pray that you'll find it in your mailbox by December 1st!

FELLOWSHIP

OUR BIBLE STUDY GROUP

A little over a year ago, Mary McPherson put together an outstanding Lenten series for ECA based on the Rick Warren book, "The Purpose Driven Life". At the time Suzanne and I were looking for a Bible based series that we could relate to, simple to follow, and a message that applied to us. From that series, we subsequently created our own follow on Bible study group of nine people, all seeking a better understanding of the Bible and the message being conveyed to us.

For the past 18 months, our group has grown spiritually as individuals and as a group supporting each other. For the first time in my life, I feel that I am growing spiritually by sharing each others' thoughts through the lessons, and with our concerns both verbally and through prayer.

Two of our members from our group have expressed their views by the following comments:

1. Our small group is precious to me. It is uplifting to me to find other people who love God and love our church and want to read scriptures and deepen their faith. Because we have been together for over a year, a trust has built amongst us and we can share our most exuberant joys and deepest heartaches and we rejoice and grieve with one another, and pray for one another. This group inspires me and I feel a powerful love and a great commitment towards them. I set them as a high priority, and wouldn't miss a group meeting if at all possible. My own faith has grown by being in the group. I firmly believe God intended for us to be in small groups in order for us to grow closer to him. He commands us to love one another. We can't fully love someone unless we fully know them, and we can't know everybody, so we need a small group to experience loving and being loved as God intended.

2. I could go on and on, but I think it really can be summed up this way. I have learned that life is about relationships, our relationship with God and with our fellow human beings. I believe that being in this small group has deepened my rela-

tionships on both levels. Praying for and with other group members keeps me even more connected with God, not to mention studying more about Him through Scripture and other readings.

The trust and love within the group has helped me in relationships with other human beings, not just those in the group but also those I encounter outside.

The purpose of this article is to highlight that such a Bible study has changed our lives and hope that other people within ECA would be interested in starting a similar group.

If you are interested or want more information, please call us at (408) 268-0754.

Pete Mayo

FROM "THE CLOSER WALK"

By Kathleen Norris

"...Poetry's function is not to explain but to offer images and stories that resonate with our lives."
"The painful images we find in psalms are essential for praise – without them praise is meaningless."

"In expressing all the complexities and contradictions of human experience, the psalms act as good psychologists."

Submitted by Sandra Mueller

MUSIC



MATTHIAS and 50th Birthday Party

Please plan to attend John Leslie's performance of "Matthias" on Saturday, November 19 at 7:30pm. (See more information about "Matthias" in the Almaden Adventures in the Arts article.) The performance will be about an hour long, and will be followed by a big blow-out 50th birthday party for John in Fellowship Hall...the entire audience will be invited (but attendance at the concert is required for admission to the party). Buy or reserve your tickets today! Susie Ferguson is heading up the refreshments and decorations, and there will be surprise performers to entertain during the party.

REQUIEM CONCERT at TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Several members of the ECA and AVUCC choirs will be singing in a combined choir at a Mass for All Souls Day, Wednesday Nov. 2, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in downtown San Jose. They will sing the beautiful Faure Requiem during the Mass, and names of those who have died in the past year will be included in the prayers. In addition, all the past year's victims of hurricanes, earthquakes, war, etc. will be remembered. Please consider attending this moving service of worship and music.

TALENT NIGHT

Save the date: Music at JV Churches will present its 3rd annual Epiphany Talent Night on Saturday January 7, 2006 at 7:00pm. There will be a great variety of entertaining acts. If you would like to share any of your talents with the JV community in this informal setting, please contact John Leslie through the church office.

ECA Choir

The ECA Chancel Choir is delighted to welcome Ruth Kerkok into our alto section...her spirit and joy (as well as her voice!) are a great gift to us. Please consider joining us, especially as we begin to plan music for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Rehearsals are Thursday nights from 7:30pm-9:00pm.

JV Handbell Choir

The JV Handbell Choir has resumed rehearsals and is planning to play during a worship service soon.

Hopefully, they will also play at the next JV Talent Show, January 7, 2006. If you might be interested in joining this group which meets Wednesdays from 4:45 - 6:00 pm, please contact John Leslie or Maryke Williams (or any other Bell Choir member) for more information.

JV Children's Choir

The JV Children's Choir will resume rehearsals after Thanksgiving, in order to prepare music for the Sunday School Christmas Pageant and the family Christmas Eve service.

Private Music Lessons – piano or voice

John Leslie continues to offer private instruction in piano and/or voice, including music-reading skills and some theory. If you are interested in lessons for yourself, or for your child, please contact John with any questions.

LOST and FOUND - clothes

Several articles of clothing have been found around the church property and have been placed on the clothes rack outside the Christian Ed-Music Office. Please check to see if anything you are missing is there. If these articles aren't claimed by Nov. 15, they will be donated to a local charity.



EVENTS SCHEDULE

ECA's November Events

11/1	JV Board Meeting	7:30 pm	11/18	SHYGS Field Trip	7:00 pm
11/2	JV Staff Meeting	11:00 am	11/18	Tai Chi	12:30 pm
11/2	Mah Jong	12:30 pm	11/19	Matthias Performance - Almaden Adventures in the Arts	7:30 pm
11/2	Bell Choir	4:45 pm			
11/2	Requiem Concert at Trinity	tba	11/20	Youth Sunday	
11/3	Men's Breakfast at Denny's	8:00 am	11/20	Holy Communion	7:30 am
			11/20	Sunday School	10:10 am
11/3	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm	11/20	Holy Communion	11:00 am
11/3	Bible Study - Matthew	10:00 am	11/20	SHYGS Dinner & Meeting	6:00 pm
11/4	Bridge Group	7:30 pm			
11/4	Tai Chi	12:30 pm	11/23	Mah Jong	12:30 pm
11/5	Men's Breakfast at Denny's	8:00 am	11/23	Bell Choir	4:45 pm
			11/24	Thanksgiving	
11/5	Birthday Party and Annual Meeting	6:00 pm	11/24&25	Turkey Drive	
			11/25	Tai Chi	12:30 pm
11/6	Holy Communion	7:30 am	11/27	Healing Sunday & 1st Sunday of Advent - Servant Auction during coffee hours	
11/6	Sunday School	10:10 am			
11/6	Holy Communion	11:00 am			
11/6	SHYGS Trip to Grace Cathedral	2:30 pm	11/27	Holy Communion	7:30 am
			11/27	Advent Wreath Making	10:10 am
11/7	Duplicate Bridge	7:00 pm	11/27	Holy Communion	11:00 am
11/9	Mah Jong	12:30 pm	11/27	JHYG to Laser Quest	5:00 pm
11/9	Bell Choir	4:45 pm	11/30	Mah Jong	12:30 pm
11/10	Men's Breakfast at Denny's	8:00 am	11/30	Bell Choir	4:45 pm
11/10	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm			
11/10	Bible Study - Matthew	10:00 am			
11/11	Montgomery Meals	3:00 pm			
11/11	Tai Chi	12:30 pm			
11/12&13	Aluminum Can Drive				
11/12	Singles Group	5:00 pm			
11/12	Annual Guild Meeting	9:30 am			
11/13	Folk Sunday				
11/13	Holy Communion	7:30 am			
11/13	Sunday School	10:10 am			
11/13	Holy Communion	11:00 am			
11/13	Jr High Youth Dinner & Meeting	6:00 pm			
11/15	TLC	8:30 am			
11/15	Shape Deadline	11:59 pm			
11/16	Mah Jong	12:30 pm			
11/16	JV Staff Meeting	11:00 am			
11/16	Bell Choir	4:45 pm			
11/16	Vestry Meeting	7:00 pm			
11/17	JV Book Club	7:30 pm			
11/17	Men's Breakfast at Denny's	8:00 am			
11/17	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm			
11/17	Bible Study - Matthew	10:00 am			
11/17	Ladies' Dinner	6:00 pm			

Birthdays

Mary Moran	1
Liz Maestre	4
Aaron Parker	7
Todd Lukanc	10
Alex Dykes	12
Brad Bond	14
Amy Griffith	21
Evan Reilly	21
Mary Leal	22
Eilene Lueck	22
Joan Wagner	24
Helen Beacher	27
Monte Bishop	27

Anniversaries

Doug & Kathy Dunham	7
Dorothy & Warren Willard	9
Beverley & Ed Deveaux	16

Save the dates:

Dec. 10 – Christmas Party

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Kristen Petruzzelli, Brad Bond and Val Tysanner for attending a leadership meeting at the Root's house and then leading the October SHYGS meeting while the Roots were in Sacramento. They led 14 teens in a discussion about REJECTION and also introduced a new feature of every SHYGS meeting called GYG time. GYG is our prayer request and sharing time and stands for Guts and Glory. We spend this time giving glory to God in thanks and 'spilling our guts' by sharing our cares and requests for prayer. The leadership team did a great job!

Thanks to Jenny and Roger Hoyt, Anna and Hans Spanjaart, and Ann Mayers for supervising the October 2 SHYGS meeting and cooking and serving dinner, and to Linda Cottle for providing the lasagna and garlic bread!

Thanks to the many people who make the Shape possible: Alex Dykes, Kim Petruzzelli, Mary Leal, Jackie Whitlock, Phyllis Chai, Judy Blankenheim, Stephen Mills, Desi Brown, Robin Root, and everyone who faithfully send in articles and inspirations so that our members are able to keep up with the events of our church and community.

Thanks to Mary McPherson for the hours and hours spent sorting and grouping the "Wish List" information from our Spring Fling dinners. Mary has broken down the data by ministry, and sent the pertinent information to staff and ministry leaders.

