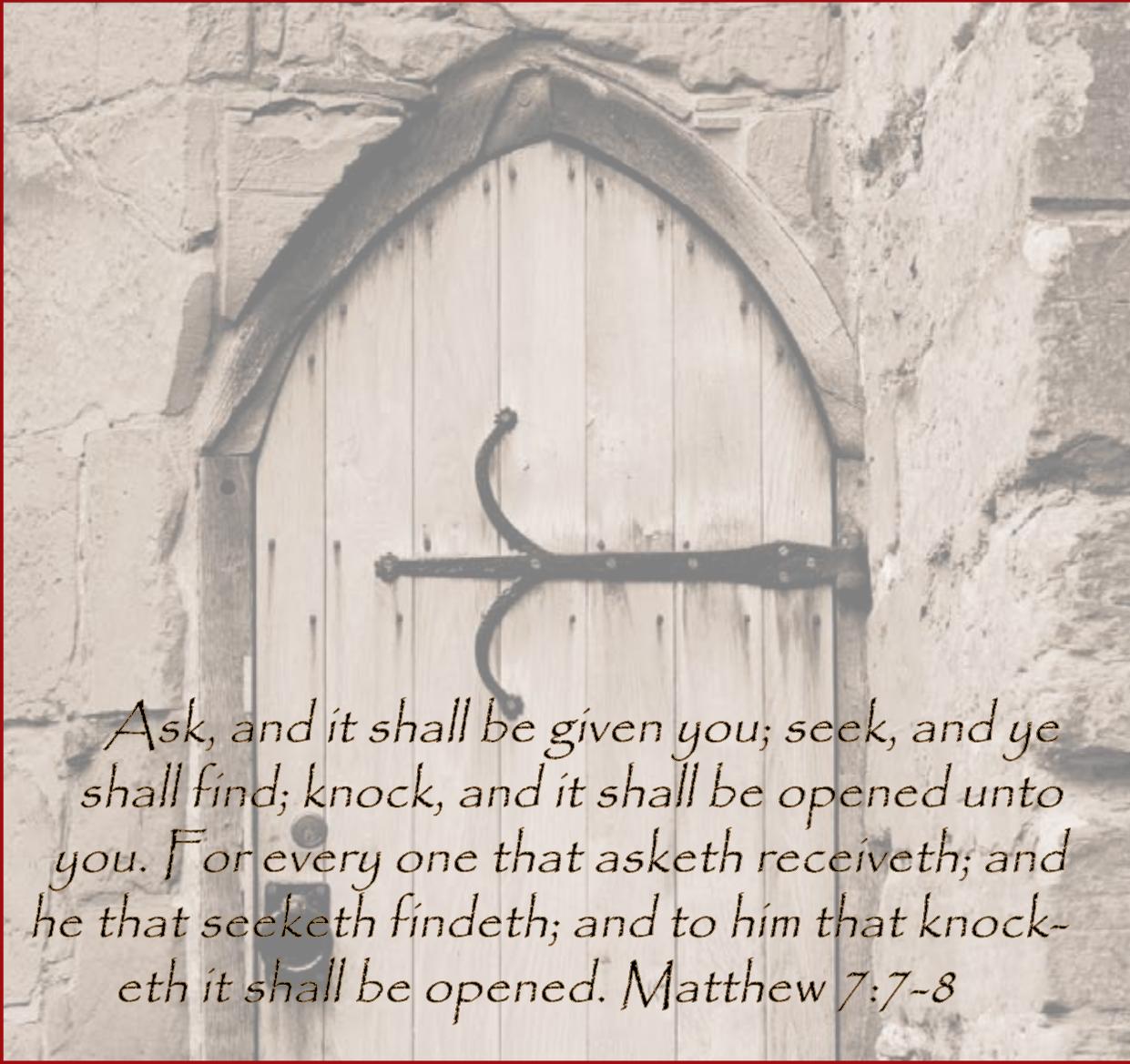


The Shape

September 2008

The Episcopal Church in Almaden

6581 Camden Avenue, San José, California 95120 408•268•0243 www.eca-sj.org



Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Matthew 7:7-8

Opportunities at ECA

Worship

September 7 – 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist
September 14 – 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM Folk Sunday & Holy Eucharist
September 21 – 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist
September 28 – 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist

Fellowship

September 6th Men's Steak and Stein – Fellowship Hall
Cost: \$25 Time 5-9 PM. NO at-the-door admissions.

Thursday, September 11 Group trip to the Chihulay exhibit at the DeYoung Museum 8:30 am. See Page 6.

Men's Breakfast Thursday Mornings 8:00 AM at Denny's

Adult Study

September 3 Rector's Bible Study at the Church – Potluck dinner 6:30, Bible Study 7:30

September 17 Rector's Bible Study location to be announced – Potluck dinner 6:30, Bible Study 7:30

Outreach

Montgomery Meals – Friday September 5, 19

Other

David Hoyt's Eagle Court of Honor
Friday September 12, 7:00 PM

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30 am and 11:00 am

RECTOR

The Reverend Stephen Mills
408-802-5347
rector@eca-sj.org

MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES	Taylor Mills & Marc Bond
ALTAR GUILD	Margaret Halliwell, Anna Spanjaart
COFFEE HOUR	Pete Mayo
FOLK CHOIR	Andy Kerr
GREETERS	Sharon Mills
GOD SQUAD	Stephen Mills
GOOD SAMs	Kelli Casale / Brenda McHenry
HAND BELL CHOIR	Maryke Williams
KIDS' BREAKOUT	Leslie Rousseau
LAY READERS	Jenny Hoyt
MONTGOMERY MEALS	Amy Griffith
NURSERY	Dot Allfrey
PRAYER VINE	Dorothy Willard
USHERS	Dave Byers
SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP	Jon Mills
STEWARDSHIP	HANK DeVoss, George Romer
JR HIGH YOUTH GROUP	Bonnie McPherson
WORSHIP	Andy Kerr
WEBMASTER	Kim Petruzzelli
YOUTH SUNDAY	Jim McPherson, Bryan Bond

ECA STAFF

CHRISTIAN ED. DIRECTOR	
MUSIC DIRECTOR, ORGANIST	John Leslie
TREASURER	Maryke Williams
YOUTH DIRECTOR	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Dennis Elliott

CONTACTING

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The Shape

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OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

From Stephen



In September we will have a unique opportunity. Our Deanery is sponsoring a U2CHARIST on September 20th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Saratoga. What is a U2CHARIST you may ask? As I understand it, it is a celebration of the Holy Eucharist with the music from the musical group U2. Who is U2? Well you have me there. Someone said it was a singing group led by Bono. I nodded politely as recognition slowly dawned on me. Then confusion took over again and I asked politely but isn't Sonny Bono dead? Everyone laughed at the wrinkly white guy and told me it was Bono not Bōno. So I had better let the people organizing the event explain.

The U2charist was initially started in the U.S. Episcopal Church. It is typically a liturgical service (including communion) that features the music of the rock band U2 and a message about God's call to rally around the Millennium Development Goals. The U2charist is held by supporters to be a great opportunity to reach out to people in their congregations and larger communities, especially young people, with U2's messages of global reconciliation, justice for the poor and oppressed, and the importance of caring for your neighbor. (Wikipedia)

The purpose of this U2CHARIST is to support the Millennium Development Goals. These are goals established to make the world a better place to live for all and have been agreed to by the leaders of 189 countries including the United States. The goals are:

- Goal # 1: A World without Extreme Poverty
- Goal # 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

- Goal # 3: A World with Equality for Women
- Goal # 4: Reduce Child Mortality
- Goal # 5: Improve Maternal Health
- Goal # 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and other Communicable Diseases
- Goal # 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal # 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

The Speaker at the U2CHARIUST will be Peter Kithene. Peter was orphaned as a child, and against all odds, received an education in Kenya with his grandmother's help, and was later accepted at the University of Washington. He never forgot the needs of those from where he came and founded the Mama Maria Kenya Medical Clinic. In December 2007, Kithene was honored for his work, on CNN Heroes, An All-Star Tribute, as a "medical marvel."

"I'm honored to help bring attention to the needs of all the world's people – promoting access to healthcare care, inspiring the young ones to stay in school, reducing poverty and child mortality, promoting clean air and water, stopping HIV's spread, and bringing equality to the poorest of the poor and the afflicted", said Peter Kithene. "With U2's music as a backdrop at this interdenominational gathering, any member of the community whose heart is touched by the call to help, can unite with others for this noble cause."

I hope to see you in Saratoga on September 20th.

*Salaam,
Stephen +*

From the Editor



I'm always hunting for a bargain, and lately that has meant that I do most of my shopping online when I can, or at the very least I bargain hunt online looking for places that have reviews about cheap places to shop. So far I've grocery shopped, car shopped, clothes shopped, music shopped, book shopped, computer shopped, et cetera online. I think just about the only thing I have yet to buy online would be gasoline, and dear Lord how I wish I could get an online deal on that. My latest shopping experience (for better or worse) was a hunt for shoes suitable for use with a tuxedo. You would normally think this was an easy quest, but the local stores like Eli Thomas and Jos Bank were a little bit expensive and DSW while cheaper seems to have the problem of the right shoe and the right size not coinciding. As an aside, I would like to ask the stock people at DSW exactly why they seem to stock simply piles of men's size 5 shoes when the average American is a size 9.5 these days? Is the customer base of DSW really a band of Liliputians? I digress. So, in the search for the perfect shoe my virtual travels brought me to Endless.com which is Amazon.com's online shoe and handbag store. Now, this seemed like a match in heaven because I love Amazon.com, the service is great, the selection is endless and on the whole, if they don't have it I don't want it.

Upon finding exactly the right shoe for me, and a shoe that Rob could live with, I places the order and waited with baited breath for the UPS man to arrive. The next day (endless.com does free overnight shipping) my box arrived and I opened it with a sense of excitement to find not a black patent leather shoe, but a grey pump replete with 2"

heel in a women's size 6.5. Needless to say I was a bit miffed but at the same time thankful that I had ordered well in advance so I could clear the mis-ship up. As it turns out it is somehow cheaper for them to tell you to keep the shoe than to return it, so I was able to spread some shoe love to my co-workers and the pump found a happy home shortly thereafter.

Where am I going with this? Well, it seems to me that religion can be like that box arriving from Amazon.com, or as Forest Gump put it: that box of chocolates. You really never know what you are going to get, and despite any problems along the way there usually seems to be a silver lining at the end (and someone happy with a pair of free shoes). As another month draws to a close and the countdown towards W day (wedding day) is drawing nigh I continually tell myself that whatever happens, God is with me, and that it will all work out right in the end.

Alex Dykes

Senior Warden

I am writing this article on August 7, that you will read somewhere around the first of September, when all of my thoughts will have been changed through time and circumstance. On this day I went to UPS and returned all the Sound of Music material, which caused me to relive my sadness of John's leaving and think about all the changes that are and will be happening in our church family. I have also called around looking for a mattress or cot to sleep on for our church family event (BBQ, movie, camping) that will happen tomorrow evening (Aug. 8). That, too, brings forth anxiety, wondering if anyone will attend and who will help with the gaps I know exist. But my greater concern is, who out there in our midst will come forth in the year ahead to fill all the needs our church has.

What I have noticed through all my years at ECA (and that is 27 years) is that every job gets done; and usually done well. Many of you reading this are those faithful servants of Christ who have year upon year served and done well for ECA and all of us who are here. But much lies ahead for those of us who remain as committed servants to Christ and ECA. Can we pull together one more time with the energy required to continue this small island in God's kingdom?

In the next 3 months we need four individuals who are willing to commit their stewardship of time for 3 years to ECA by serving on our vestry. They will be asked to attend a vestry retreat, once a year for a weekend, attend monthly meetings, and be a liaison or a leader for a particular ministry in our church. Some ministries require more leadership and action than others; but all are important to the members of our congregation and need a voice on our vestry. Being a vestry member may or may not be an easy job depending on your personality, pas-

sions for Christ, and the ministries you choose to be involved in; but it is a rewarding, fulfilling and satisfying way to serve Christ.

We also need some individuals who will help us with our "Stewardship Drive or Campaign." Yes, we have a vestry member with that ministry as their focus, but this is a ministry that God calls us to share. We need individuals willing to share this challenge in partnership with others. We need people willing to grow and be transformed through service with us. We need people to help plan, prepare, inspire, organize, manage, coordinate, pray, and more. No one person needs to do all of this. We need many to help us cover all the bases.

These opportunities are serious opportunities and we need serious, caring, committed members to help us. But we also need people to help us on the fun side, though truthfully not an easy side. We need some help planning and implementing our Christmas party for 2008. Jerry Ferguson has volunteered, without any coercion on my part, to chair this party for usually 100 people. He needs people interested in planning dinners, activities, atmosphere and decorations, and more. Call him at (408) 997-0107 if you would be willing to help on a committee for this event.

Yes, ECA needs lots of help in the next four months. Could you help us? Give me a call, (408) 499-6381, leave your number for a return call (just in case I don't answer.) I would love to hear from at least 50% of you who are listed in our newest directory to help ECA in some way in the coming months. Prayerfully consider offering your gift of service.

Susie Ferguson
Senior Warden

Stewardship at ECA

The word stewardship can conjure up so many feelings and emotions in our church family. Knowing this, your vestry, at its August meeting, took the opportunity to reflect on its meanings, personally and biblically, expectations that it arouses, personally and biblically, and how do we as a church choose to deal with it. Like all of you, the vestry represents a wide spectrum and continuum on the subject. We also found it beneficial to share with one another our thoughts, opinions, and emotions on the subject of stewardship and how we are each being called in our spiritual journey through stewardship.

One result of our discussion was a plan for our fall stewardship activities growing from the leadership of our past several years and modifying components in light of the Holy Spirit's direction to us at this point in time. First, you will find some of your vestry members' thoughts on giving and stewardship in this Shape. Next month, you will hear from some other members of our parish. Pat Fox will be calling some of you to have you share your own thoughts on giving and stewardship. It is the hope of your vestry that many of you will be willing to do this.

In October we are planning a fellowship event with stewardship as our focus for the evening. This will be Saturday evening, October 18. Plans for this evening are still in the making. We hope many of you will join us for a spirited evening of dinner and dreams. If you would like to share in the planning of this evening please give Hank DeVoss a call and volunteer. We welcome your input in our dinner, program, and activities planning. Watch for details on an ECA bulletin board.

On Saturday evening, November 1st, we will be holding our Annual Meeting and elections, as well

as begin our ingathering of our stewardship offerings for 2009. This will be another evening you won't want to miss with its new twist. This, of course, is ECA's birthday and like at all birthday parties we hope to have "lots of presents!"

Most of all, your vestry asks each of you to take time in the next couple of months to join them as they pray and meditate on giving and stewardship. Let us all pray for discernment from our Lord as to how each of us can serve Him through the generous giving of our time, talents, and treasure to ECA and to growing God's kingdom in our world.

Your ECA Vestry

DeYoung Museum / Chihuly Trip

Interested in glass art? This is your event! On Thursday, September 11 a group will be taking a trip to the Chihuly exhibit at the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco/Golden Gate Park. We'll be leaving church at 8:30 AM. Admission to the museum is \$10 or if you are a senior it is \$7. There is also an additional fee for the Chihuly Glass exhibit of \$5. (Headphones and sound tour extra.) We will have lunch at the museum cafeteria and return back to the church between 2-3 PM. If you are interested, e-mail Amy Griffith (amy-g@pacbell.net) so we know to wait for you at the church! All are welcome, so please invite anyone you think will enjoy it!

Stewardship

Some thoughts on giving and stewardship.....

“I have always had a sense that the more I can give to others, the more they will in turn give to still others. I like the concept of “pass it on.” I find a great deal of joy in giving, making a difference, serving through giving, and not desiring a return or pay back personally. From an “ECA perspective” it means the more I can give to ECA the more ECA can do to reach out to others. Every year I hope ECA’s treasure will far exceed our “budget of essentials” and give us real opportunities to give far and wide as God and the Holy Spirit leads us.”

Susie Ferguson

“I give because I receive so much from ECA. I know that by giving treasure, I help support everything we do. By giving my time & talent, I enjoy giving what others enjoy receiving” *Tim Miller*

“Stewardship for me is an expression of our common vision, our common life in Christ. Giving of my life – time, talent & treasure – is a gift of gratitude back to God and to my community. Through Stewardship, we are all enabled to grow into the image of a giving God” *Kimberly Axtell*

“Just look around – ECA is all about giving. There are a multitude of ministries fostered by giving people reaching out to others in a wide variety of ways. The treasure part is, of course, key to enabling the physical necessities. But even of greater import is the time & talent we continually exude to others” *Steve Wing*

I believe that ECA, its abundant love and fellowship, is among the principal ways God demonstrates his unconditional love for each of us. I give time talent & treasure to ECA as an expression of heartfelt gratitude to God” *Hank DeVoss*

Gifts of Gratitude

Dave Byers: Thank you for your dedication to our BBQ pit. Your help with our family event in August made it so easy for the rest of us to get our dinner cooked.

Hans & Guido Spanjaart: Thank you for handling our movie viewing under the stars. We appreciated your help from start to finish.

Alex Dykes and Rob McClaine: Thank you for sharing your gifts & talents with us and serving our youth especially at our family camping event in August.

To all who helped with John’s celebration, service, brunch, and more: The list of those who helped from ECA and UCC is endless. Many helped in the preparation and planning under the leadership of John Hawes (music), Mary Leal & Betty Consorte (the program), Susanne Moore (decorating), Janey Sanders (menu/food). We thank all our leaders. But mostly we want to thank you, the unnamed, who helped set up, clean-up, wash and dry dishes, do the tablecloths, and more. You blessed the day with your service in honor of John who blessed all our lives.

Ron Howie: Thank you for the new security lights on the building.

Melanie Click, Kelly Yamanishi & the Youth: For a GREAT Vacation Bible Study!

Ann Mayers: Thank you for playing piano on Folk Sunday.

The Cast & Crew of The Sound of Music

All Inclusive Packages of Fellowship

They were evenings designed with something for every age, low cost and local. Yes, the BBQ appealed to our more mature members, the movie appealed to a cross section of ages, and camping...well, if you were there, you know. Like any event the more hands helping the easier and more fun it is for all.

Our most recent time in August brought some of our previous helpers from July as well as new folks pitching in to help. Dave Byers was our fire master in August. He cleaned our BBQ pit, prepared and lighted so everyone could grill their choice for dinner just as they liked it. Dave did this task even though he was just returning home from helping family members with some major tasks and knowing he would be back at the grill on Sunday for us as well. We surely appreciate his always going above and beyond to serve us at ECA.

Another individual who went above and beyond to serve was Bonnie McPherson. Bonnie had much on her plate before our evening began and was booked coaching hockey on Saturday following our event. And yet, she stayed the night to help supervise and cook us all a great "super burrito" breakfast (eggs & hash-browns) accompanied by fruit and pastries. There is much residual to clean up after such an event and Bonnie stayed until it was all done before she headed off for hockey.

Our movie technicians are others who go above and beyond. Bryan Bond got our screen all set up before he was off to another event. Doug Dunham offered his sound system and made a special trip to get it out of "lock up." Then Hans and Guido Spanjaart get the prize for truly their labors of love to run our movies and put it all safely away at the end of the evening (11 PM or so.) Hans and Guido ran two showings this time, one for our youngest

viewers (Nims Island, their choice) and the late show, Batteries Not Included, Melinda's choice for the adults. Yes, Hans and Guido did a lot of work and labor for our movie goers. I am sure they would appreciate even larger audiences for their efforts next time.

Two other people we must acknowledge are Alex Dykes and Rob McClaine. Alex and Rob were not planning to camp this time, though they did in July. But for our SHYGs, who wanted to "camp in the church," they willingly consented to stay on and supervise. At midnight they were still all going strong with Scattergories. Rumor has it after that there was their own movie showing and finally lights out at 4 AM. Needless to say they were all off quickly after breakfast, probably to their own comfy beds!

There were many who helped set up for the BBQ and clean up after. Ann Mayers called and volunteered her help which was wonderful. She did this in spite of her difficult week and day with "car dilemmas." Suzanne Mayo and Amy Griffith also offered much in the way of help even after all their time and energy preparing food for Montgomery Meals that day. And for all of you who pitched in and helped unnoticed as so many do at ECA, our sincere thanks and appreciation.

We must also thank all of you who attended our Family Events in July and/or August. Your participation and enthusiasm makes all our efforts worthwhile. You are encouraged to let us know your thoughts and ideas on continuing these types of events. We welcome your thoughts on ways we can enhance and make these events even better for all of you.

Susie Ferguson & Tim Miller

September Reflections

*Tell me the stories of Jesus, I long to hear.
Things I would ask him to tell me, If he were here.*

These song lyrics were ringing in my head this month. I learned this song long ago as a child. And for me it indicates a wish for certainty in an uncertain world. It is in the stories of Jesus' life that we can ground our own personal narrative of faith. Through the parables and stories of the disciples we see ourselves interacting with situations and people that are similar to what we face in our daily lives. In our own lives, we play the part of Jesus who has compassion on those around us, we play the part of the clueless disciples, or we play the part of the outsiders wanting just a taste of heaven, here and now. And in the big picture, our church communities participate in the larger Christian story of trying to act on the wisdom of Jesus in our culture.

What would Jesus do if he lived and taught today? What if Jesus was among us now – how would we recognize him, or his impact in our lives? How would Jesus live and act in a joyous sense of wonderment and expectation while living in God's Kingdom? A vision of the Christ appeared to me during the joint Sunday service we had on August 3rd.

August 3rd was the joint service where we celebrated the music ministry of John Leslie. It was a joyous festival of story and song. And the reason that this service impacted me was listening to the stories. Several people got up and told their story of how they had stepped out in faith to try something new – something that ultimately benefited our community. And with the encouragement of John, they succeeded, played their part well, sung their solos, hit their lines. I'm sure that, for everyone that had the courage to get up and talk about a personal

journey of stepping out into the unknown, there were several other stories waiting to be told.

Now I am not suggesting that a community play such as *The Sound of Music* is a replacement for God's Kingdom, nor am I suggesting that John is the second coming of Christ. But what I am suggesting is that God's Kingdom was present in the here and now, on that day. Together we broke bread and drank wine (or grape juice); together we told stories of faith and overcoming obstacles, together we grew in love and compassion, together we talked about how to encourage each other to step out in faith more often.

Isn't that what God's Kingdom is really about?

Kimberly Axtell

Invitation

Troop 200
Boy Scouts of America

Invite you and your family to attend
The Eagle Scout Court of Honor

In Recognition of David J. Hoyt

Friday, Sept. 12, 2008
7:00pm to 8:00pm
The Episcopal Church in Almaden
6581 Camden Avenue
San Jose, CA 95120

Reception Following
RSVP by Sunday, September 7th, 2008
(408) 997.1826

From John Leslie

Thanks to all who made the “So Long, Farewell” party so meaningful, particularly Janey Sanders and her AVUCC crew, Susanne Moore and her ECA crew and to Mary Leal, for organizing the talent.

All who cooked and provided brunch dishes were at their best...everything was “de-lightful, de-licious, de-lovely!” The entertainment was excellent, as expected, and I particularly enjoyed the Seven Amigos singing “Dos, a beer” (with Cursillo sombreros!) and all the clever original lyrics to other songs by Susie Ferguson, Mary Leal and Judy Martin... the children, as always, were adorable! Thanks to all who helped set-up, decorate, provide food and beverage, those who served food, cut the cake, provided piano accompaniment for the singers, the clean-up crew, and - of course - the “audience” - thanks to all who attended our celebration!

Thank you for the generous gifts, cards and monetary gifts, the JetBlue flyer cards, the money tree and the great Dennis Moran caricature! I was humbled, to be sure.

I was disappointed and disheartened that two of my JV colleagues, Pastor Kevin Smith and Katie Taplin, due to pastor-parish relation and personnel issues, were not invited or welcome at the celebration. Reading the “cease and desist - or leave” letter sent to Pastor Kevin, signed by 30 members of AVUCC (including many AVUCC musicians and singers - what!?!), makes me ever-more grateful for the various words of support to me through the years, and particularly grateful for the honesty from people who told me they were dissatisfied with some of my hymn or music choices and/or performances. Thanks for your honesty, and I’m glad you were, for the most part, “on my side.” I don’t think I would have had the spiritual strength

to endure as Pastor Kevin has - to discern and then to return to serve and work with you - had I ever received a similar reproach (“strong criticism; dishonor”). (Remembering the words from a South Pacific song: “You’ve got to be taught before it’s too late, before you are six, or seven, or eight, to hate all the people your relatives hate, you’ve got to be carefully taught.” Find all the lyrics to this song on-line, and see where society was, how far it has come, and how far you still have to go, regarding tolerance and acceptance.)

Thanks to all those families and individuals who have made it possible for me to afford to live in the Santa Clara Valley, through their private music lessons with me. Thanks, too, to Pat McGarvin for renting me her Los Gatos house for all five years, even when I didn’t think I could afford to remain.

Thank you, Father Stephen, for being here since the beginning and throughout my five-year tenure, and for helping me, Pastor Paul, Pastor Kevin and now Pastor Ann “learn the ropes” of the Joint Venture community and its workings. Thanks to Diane, Lorraine, and now Dennis in the Administrative Office for all their assistance and advice. Thanks to Bob Green (AVUCC) and Pete Mayo (ECA) and others too numerous to mention for all their help and advice with the JV facility. Thanks to Kim Petruzzelli for her assistance with the JV computer network and E-mail, and all those involved with the Kalos and The Shape newsletters. Thanks to all those who offered their “muscles” to move the organ for concerts, and the altar and kneelers - and even pews - for various worship services and other events.

Thanks to Doug Dunham for the Music Office computer and to Tim Miller for the Music Office furniture.

John

Thanks to Todd Axtell and the Almaden Adventures in the Arts committee members.

Thanks to all the parents who have entrusted their children to me in the JV Children's Choir and in the various show performances.

Thanks to all those in the Shalom Choir, ECA Adult Choir and JV Bell Choir who helped to encourage others to join the groups and make the choirs what they have become!

Thanks to the various treasurers: Mary Leal (JV), Maryke Williams (ECA) and currently Stan Yumen (AVUCC).

Thanks to all you fine instrumentalists and vocal soloists for sharing your great gifts.

Over the years, I have, of course, been grateful to the Folk Music directors John Hawes (AVUCC) and Andy Kerr (ECA), as well as the music committees: John Hawes, Sandy Baldwin and Lynn Widman (AVUCC) and Andy Kerr, Todd Axtell and Mary McPherson (ECA). Now there are a few new faces on the music committee to help search for just the right person to continue to lead you in musical and spiritual discovery, learning and sharing.

Truly, your hearts have "been blessed with the sound of music, and you'll sing once more!"

"May the Lord protect and defend you" and may God bless us, every one, in all of our new ventures.

To God be all the Glory!
John Leslie

VBS 2008

Vacation Bible School 2008 has wrapped up. Twenty children, eleven youth, and six adults enjoyed a week of Bible stories, music, crafts, games, mission, and yes, even science. There were a few hitches, but all in all, it went very well and we all had a great time. Thank you very much to the youth and adults who led the groups and stations and played parts in the Bible skits. And thank you children for all you taught the adults during VBS.

It is time to think about Sunday School. We will begin on September 7 with new classes and new curriculum for every age level. I am very excited about this curriculum, Living the Good News. We tested it last year in the third and fourth grade class, and the teachers loved it. It is lectionary based, so the children will be learning about the same scriptures as the adults learn about in church. The teachers will be provided with background information and a choice of activities. Each child will have a book filled with age-appropriate activities. In addition, the junior and senior high classes will be visiting faith communities with their teachers and youth group leaders to learn about the beliefs and faith practices of others.

I look forward to this new year of Sunday School, and I hope to see all the children enjoying their new classes soon.

Melanie Click
Interim Christian Education Director
christianed@jointventurechurches.org

Music Search

Following the same model as the process that brought us John Leslie, the search for a new Joint Venture Music Director is being coordinated by the Music Committee. The committee is composed of three members from each parish selected by the rector and pastor, both of whom also serve on the committee. The ECA lay members are Betty Consorte, Andy Kerr and Todd Axtell. The AVUCC lay members are Sandy Baldwin, Lynn Widman and John Hawes.

The committee has posted job notices in numerous local and national newsletters and trade publications including the American Guild of Organists online job board. To date, the committee has received five applicants. Interviews are being conducted throughout the month of August. The tentative application deadline is Sept. 5.

The committee will select no more than three candidates to return for a second date to audition on the organ and piano, rehearse with the combined choirs, and do a hymn sing-along. Anyone interested from the parishes will be welcome to attend the second sessions and will be encouraged to pass along feedback to members of the music committee.

A brief second interview with the music committee will also be a part of the candidates' second visit. These second visits will not take place until after Andy Kerr returns from vacation in September, since he is not able to participate in the initial interviews.

The committee has received impressive resumes and is encouraged that the process will result in the selection of an excellent new Music Director!

Todd Axtell

Anniversaries

Todd & Ellen Lukanc	1
Matt & Kelli Gundersen	3
John & Mary McPherson	3
Allan & Virginia Jones	4
Graham & Lynne Kelly	20
Jerry & Susie Ferguson	21

Birthdays

Brenda McHenry	2
Louis Stephan	3
Margot Estrade	4
Ted Fahlen	5
Kelli Casale	8
Dorothy Willard	9
Debbie Bishop	14
Marc Bond	16
Trish Reilly	16
Elizabeth Stevens	16
Maryke Williams	17
Pat McGarvin	19
Jerry Long	20
Gary Cassetta	24
Kathy Mastre	24
Joe Machado	28
Nancy Romer	29
Jean Cassetta	30