

The Shape

July 2010

The Episcopal Church in Almaden

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



*Listen to me, my faithful children, and blossom
like a rose growing by a stream of water.*

Opportunities at ECA

Worship

- Jul 1 - 7:30 AM Thursday Morning Prayer
- Jul 4 - 7:30 & 11 AM Holy Eucharist
- Jul 8 - 7:30 AM Thursday Morning Prayer
- Jul 11 - 7:30 & 11 AM Holy Eucharist - Folk Sunday
- Jul 15 - 7:30 AM Thursday Morning Eucharist
- Jul 18 - 7:30 & 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - Healing Anointing
- Jul 22 - 7:30 AM Thursday Morning Eucharist
- Jul 25 - 7:30 & 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
- Jul 29 - 7:30 AM Thursday Morning Eucharist

Fellowship Events this Month

- Jul 8 - Martin Luther King Library tour (Page 7)
- Jul 21 - Book Group at Audrey Wiedrick's (Page 11)
- Jul 24 - Happy Hollow and picnic in the park (Page 7)
- Jul 27 - Bunco in Fellowship Hall, 5:30 PM (Page 7)

Fellowship – Teens

Wednesdays at 6PM SHYG & Alumni Volleyball & BBQ. All are welcome, bring your friends!

SHYG Upcoming summer events:

Afternoon at the Beach & Rafting. Details will be available *soon*.

We have two youth groups, the JHYGs (Junior High) and SHYGs (Senior High). Both groups meet on a regular basis for Sunday night fellowship and activities in the community. Check our web site for current information.

Study - Adult

Adult Thursday morning bible study 10:30 AM to Noon on July 15, 22 and 29 only.

Study – Children and Youth

Sunday School is on summer break.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30 am and 11:00 am

INTERIM MINISTER

The Reverend Dr. Frank Hegedus

SENIOR WARDEN

Kimberly Axtell
(408) 623-6076

JUNIOR WARDEN

Alex Dykes
(408) 839-2632

MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES	Marcus Bond
ALTAR GUILD	Anna Spanjaart
COFFEE HOUR	Margaret Alvey
FOLK CHOIR	Andy Kerr
GREETERS	Sharon Mills
GOOD SAMs	Kelli Casale / Brenda McHenry
HAND BELL CHOIR	Ruthanne Adams
KIDS' BREAKOUT	Leslie Rousseau
LAY READERS	Jenny Hoyt
MONTGOMERY MEALS	Amy Griffith
NURSERY	Dot Allfrey
PRAYER VINE	Ann Avoux
USHERS	Dave Byers
SR HIGH YOUTH GROUP	Jon Mills
JR HIGH YOUTH GROUP	Bonnie McPherson
STEWARDSHIP	HANK DeVoss, George Romer
WORSHIP	Andy Kerr

ECA STAFF

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MUSIC DIRECTOR, ORGANIST	D. Asa Stern
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THE SHAPE IS USUALLY A MONTHLY PUBLICATION
OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

Father Frankly Speaking

Shortly after the American Revolution, the newly constituted Episcopal Church of the United States devised a special set of prayers and lessons, called “proprs,” to commemorate the Fourth of July and the recently won American independence from Great Britain. The Church encouraged the use of these proprs each year on the Fourth of July. Yet within a very short time they had fallen into neglect and were eventually abandoned by the Church. Why?

Well, with few exceptions – Washington comes to mind – members of the early Episcopal Church were anything but enthusiastic about the Revolution and the break with England. According to *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, a modern compendium of proprs and commentaries, the majority of the Church’s clergy had, in fact, been loyal to the British Crown.

Staunch royalists, these clergy apparently would have sooner prayed for a tyrant king than for someone with the inelegant and business-like title of president. So, rather than aggravate matters, the Church quietly shelved the new proprs. It was not until the publication of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer that a liturgy was again introduced for the Fourth of July. And the Church has ever since provided prayers and lessons for this important national celebration.

Issues of church and state have a long and complex history. In many cultures, realm and religion have been inextricably woven together into the very fabric of everyday life and thought. Such was surely the case with the people of ancient Israel, who understood themselves to be the Lord’s own chosen nation. Still, as we have come to know all too well, there is a big difference between the kingdoms of this world and the Kingdom of God.

The footnotes of history are filled with patriotic would-be messiahs ready to save their nations from all manner of perceived ills and threats. Politicians of all ages and nations continue to mistake their own cause for the Lord’s, eagerly wrapping themselves in the mantle of religion to curry favor and win votes. Nothing new there. Perhaps it is an occupational hazard.

Throughout Christian history, nation after nation has had the hubris to think itself unique or more blessed than other peoples. But this kind of exceptionalism is a dangerous thing. The Roman and Byzantine Empires, in spite of their great splendor, are no more. The hegemony of England, France, and a host of other nations has come and gone. The America of today is not the Promised Land either, nor are we the Chosen People.

Recently, the Episcopal Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City installed a monument to the great Jewish-American poet, Emma Lazarus, who seems in some ways to have caught the true spirit of our nation as well as anyone before or since. In her poem, “The New Colossus,” which is inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, she welcomes the immigrant to our shores: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me.”

Our country today is much more diverse than it was at its foundation, and in this we are more blessed than many other nations of the world. Our Church too has become a haven to peoples of many cultures and assorted political stripes and views. The Lord welcomes and accepts them all. “Come unto me,” he bids his people in the familiar

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Fr Frank

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comfortable words from Scripture and the Rite I Eucharist, “all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.”

To be poor and “heavy laden” in ancient Israel was not a curse, for the entire nation had experienced exile and privation. In fact, the anawim Yahweh, the “Poor of God,” were considered to be among God’s most beloved. Perhaps to the extent that we as a nation continue to welcome among us the “huddled masses yearning to be free” can we hope to enjoy God’s favor and find rest for our own too often rootless souls.

Father Frank

*The Rev. Dr. Frank Hegedus
Interim Minister*

Search Committee

Dear Father in Heaven, we praise you, glorify your name, and return your proven love for us. As you know, we are assembled for the high purpose of launching our congregation’s efforts to find a good and right choice of a candidate for a new rector to provide spiritual guidance for ECA’s on going worship services, visions and ministries. Grant us the strength and courage to do our very best effort. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

-Hank DeVoss

Some words to describe your Search Committee:

Excited; Thrilled; Hard working; Questioning; Listeners; Travelers; Responsible; Fun-loving; Talented; Observant; Respectful; Experienced; Encouraging; Innovative; Passionate; Funny; Serious; Confident; Committed; Patient; Prayerful. All of which are in high use during the search process.

Process up-date:

We have pulled the “cone of silence” over us and are working hard in our discernment as we read, re-read, score, re-score and discuss all applications which have been forwarded to us from the Bishop’s Office. This is a time-consuming process, which entails thoughtful work, gentle patience and great discussions. In the next few weeks, we will have selected the candidates to be contacted for telephone interviews.

We continue to listen to you and incorporate your thoughts into our work. Again, thank you for trusting us with this wonderful ministry. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me and I will address them to the best of my ability.

Nancy Romer

Search Committee Chairperson

From the Editor



I love gadgets. Really, I do. My love of gadgetry and “convenience” is often strangely tempered by a desire to live simply and do-it-myself in so much as I can. I love the fact that I can have a phone with literally more computing power than the entire FAA had on the year I was born. I love the fact that I can take pictures with my camera and have instant gratification. I am always amazed that we have cars on the market that will detect cars and pedestrians and if the driver does not attempt to slow down, the car will do it for you. Still, where is my flying car? I distinctly remember being told in the 1980s that I would have a flying car by now and I demand to know where it is! We’ve been cheated I say!

Technology is such an odd bag. Sometimes, the more technology I am surrounded by, the less I think I might need it. In an era where phones will do everything except wipe your bottom, I have been making a concerted effort to write in cursive whenever I need to write something. Why you ask? I have no idea, it just popped into my head one day that I should try to keep that skill up as it might be useful one day. This was either shortly before or shortly after I had an intense desire to buy an old typewriter from the late 1800s, which was right after the random thought that Rob and I should buy a few sheep. Why not, we do have a few acres, they are kind of cute, rather tasty and we could spin our own wool for some odd sense of novelty, but I digress. I think our sense of “technology” really only involves the things we have seen rise to popularity (dare I say popular science?). Our flights of novelty and whimsy tend to only stretch back a generation or two. For me, the digital camera, cell phone,

personal computer, VHS, DVD and the internet all fall into the categories of “technology” or “gadget”. Items like the calculator, television in general, electricity, the automobile and indoor plumbing all seem somehow normal, expected and not really a technological marvel. Farming, raising livestock and very mechanical “time saving” machinery all fall into the whimsy category since they are not essential, not efficient by modern standards, but are interesting to me in some fashion.

The funny thing that made me realise how our perspective on life changes, was standing in line somewhere (the location was inconsequential) and hearing a conversation behind me. A mother and child were having a conversation: the boy was all of 6 years old and was demanding that the mother allow him to use her cell phone to call his father. She of course seemed to be of the opinion that a cellular conversation was inappropriate at the time and could wait. She was of my generation where you couldn’t contact anyone at a moment’s notice. You called someone’s home from the awful orange or avocado kitchen wall telephone supplied to you by AT&T. It was the only darn phone in the whole house and had a cord long enough to reach just about any corner of the joint. (And since you frequently took that phone to all corners of the house you had to untangle the darn thing constantly). You couldn’t make quick calls, mostly because your mom and dad didn’t pay for touch tone dialling. You grumbled when you had to call numbers with too many 9s or 0s in the number and when the person you were calling wasn’t there you grumbled to yourself and had to repeat the process later since there was no contraption to talk to on the other end. Voicemail? That was when you sent a cassette tape to your friend via the US Postal Service. Of

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Editor

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course now we all call people on their cell phones, parents call their children on their phones and demand to be in contact 24x7.

Our perception of the world and connectivity is so condensed it's no wonder we miss the forest for the trees. Remember dialling a wrong number? Not only did your finger eventually wear out from spinning the dial, but you also apologised for dialling incorrectly when you reached a random person. Now it seems people just hang up. Wrong number? Telemarketer? Political advertisement? Computer generated reminder? All of them may be dismissed with the press of the "End" button. Still, I am sure that in the grand scheme of things the telephone is vastly less personal than a calling card, having the wrong address would mean you would have to interact with a total stranger. God forbid. In the end that is what makes life living in a way, interacting with total strangers. Something I am terrible at, but it does make me ponder. Church? Perfect strangers. The two mix frequently and I am the first to admit that I am terrible at trying to handle that blend.

Alex Dykes



Church Gardening

Are you currently helping with the gardening chores at church? If so, JV would like to know! We are blessed with parishioners that have the initiative and drive to make it down to the church to cut the grass, pull some weeds, trim the bushes and sweep the patios but we (the JV Board) don't know who you are. If you could let us know who you are and what you are taking care of we can be sure that new volunteers don't try to re-double your efforts, and if you're on vacation or decide you'd like to tackle a different project we can find a replacement. Please contact Alex Dykes at (408) 839-2632 or alex@dykesfamily.net or you can just drop a note in my box at church. Thanks to all those who take care of the yard work, the place looks great!

Summer Schedule

Our summer schedule has already begun. During the summer our later service will be at 10:30am. Our capable choir will also be on summer break during this time. We will return to our usually schedule sometime in September.



Work Day

Our next JV work sat will be on Saturday August 28th. We'll be starting bright and early at 8am. There will be a light breakfast provided. We'll be tackling the usual tasks of mowing and blowing as well as trimming the ivy and hedges. We'll also need a group of volunteers to weed the rose garden and fill in some gopher holes in the front lawn and rose garden area. If being in-doors is more your thing, there is plenty to be done inside as well. Please look for the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall soon and contact Alex Dykes at (408) 839-2632 or alex@dykesfamily.net if you have any questions or would like to tackle some of these tasks early!

July Fellowship

Thursday, July 8th

Tour of the Martin Luther King Library, downtown San Jose. The tour starts 11:30 AM and is 100% free. We'll carpool from church at 10:30 AM either to downtown or light rail. For those interested, lunch will follow the tour. Sign up and details are on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, July 24th

Happy Hollow and picnic in the park. Meet at the park at 10 AM, the picnic will be potluck. Sign up on bulletin board in Fellowship with more details.

Tuesday, July 27th

Our next Bunco event will be in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 M for the friendship salad, with Bunco starting at 7 PM. Bunco will be every month the last Tuesday of the month. Sign up is necessary. Information and sign up are on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.



Where There is a Will, There is a 401K

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty . . . of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses. BCP 445

Most Episcopalians have heard by now that a significant part of stewardship is remembering the Church in one's will. And, of course, this is absolutely true. For many people, however, making a will or revising an existing one is an unpleasant and laborious task, though admittedly an important one. After all, it reminds each of us of our mortality and our inevitable death. And thus often gets put off until too late.

Beyond that, revising a will may require a trip or two to an attorney and additional expenses. So, if a person has not gotten around to remembering the Church in his or her will by now, the chances are it may not happen. But did you know that there is an easier way to remember the Church and leave something for the building up of God's kingdom after you are gone?

Remember that 401K you signed up for at work? Or the 403B your spouse has at the hospital or school? Or the IRA you set up years ago for its tax advantages? Or that old annuity or cash-value life insurance policy? Fact is, each of these investment plans allows you to designate a beneficiary separate from your will. Many of us may have simply written in "estate" as beneficiary when completing the application as a quick and easy way to handle the paperwork, promptly forgetting the importance of our decision and perhaps not realizing that such a designation may actual cause probate complications after our death.

However, the beneficiary designation on a retirement plan, such as a 401K or an IRA, presents a fairly straightforward and easy means of leaving something to the Church or another favorite charitable organization. You may even be able to avoid both income and federal estate taxation by such a designation. Check with your own financial professional about this.

If opening a new retirement account, such as an annual IRA, the process is very simple. Where the application asks for a beneficiary, just write in "The Episcopal Church in Almaden, San Jose" or the name of another charity. That's all there is to it. You can even designate a portion -- such as 50% -- to one beneficiary; and the rest to another beneficiary, perhaps a relative.

However, you may also change the beneficiary on an existing retirement plan with a minimum of fuss. Simply request in a phone call, e-mail message, or letter, the appropriate form -- usually one page -- from the organization managing your account. This may be a bank, a stock brokerage, or another financial institution.

Complete the form indicating "The Episcopal Church in Almaden, San Jose" as your new beneficiary, sign it, keep a copy for your files, and send it back. Depending on the institution, you may actually be able to make the change without a special form by simply writing out your instructions in a signed letter. Normally, you will not require an attorney or even a notary.

Decades from now -- Let's hope! -- when you pass on, your investment will go to work for the Church, enriching its ministries and providing a lasting legacy of your stewardship and caring. And

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Planning

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all because you were thoughtful enough to fill in a simple line or field on an uncomplicated form way back in 2010.

This is not to suggest of course that one should not remember loved ones and family members when disposing of the treasures of a lifetime of hard work. But for most of us, the Church is also an important part of the family and worthy of our remembrance.

If you have planned to add the Church to your will but just seem never to get around to it, consider what good you can do by completing a change of beneficiary form on a retirement plan, remembering an institution which has been there for you from baptism until now.

If, after prayerful reflection and consultation with a trusted and reputable financial advisor, it seems like a good idea to remember the Episcopal Church in Almaden as beneficiary on any of your various retirement plans, then proceed with joy, knowing you have fulfilled an important part of your stewardship commitment to the Gospel.

After all, where there is a will, there is usually also a 401K or 403B or IRA...

The Rev. Dr. Frank Hegedus, MBA

JV Marketing

Did you know that our two Joint Venture congregations are among the best-kept secrets in Silicon Valley? Yup... Not even the latest top-secret iPhone app from Apple can match us for confidentiality! We are the envy of Steve Jobs. And, that is unfortunate...

It is high-time we changed all that and got the word out about who we are and what we have to offer residents of the Almaden Valley and beyond. One way to do this is with targeted advertising, including spreads in the local press and door-to-door campaigns. All tastefully done, of course. Most of our "copy" will come from the well-known Church Ad Project, started some years ago by an Episcopal priest from Minnesota and a former colleague of Father Frank.

The leadership of our two congregations, including Pastor Kevin and Father Frank, will soon begin advertising in our Almaden Valley press. We are also planning a neighborhood walk-about on Saturday, August 21, to hang flyers on doorknobs highlighting our upcoming fall program – especially our top-notch Sunday School.

And, we need your help! If you would like to help in planning this major event, please contact Father Frank or Pastor Kevin now. We need folks to map and walk the neighborhoods, provide refreshments and encouragement, and give overall direction.

We need you!

Presiding Bishop in London

[Episcopal News Service]

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori preached June 13 during a service of Holy Eucharist at Southwark Cathedral in London, as part of a five-day visit to the U.K.

The complete text of the Presiding Bishop's sermon can be found at http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79425_122868_ENG_HTM.htm

I come from a notorious place. Gambling and prostitution are legal in Nevada. Ministry there means that many congregations host 12-step programs not just for alcoholics and drug addicts,



but for those addicted to gambling. There are a few groups for sex addicts, too. A story quietly circulated when I was there, about a priest who encouraged the local madams and their employees

to visit the churches he served. One congregation made a warm enough welcome that the women of the night returned frequently. Other congregations acted more like Jesus' fellow dinner guests – "who let her in here?" The women didn't return to those dinner tables.

I don't know what it's like in the Church of England, but in some circles the Episcopal Church has the reputation for being a place where you have to dress correctly, and know how to act – i.e., you really should know all the responses by heart, and how

to find your way around the several books we use in worship – or you shouldn't even bother walking in the front door. Yes, I'll admit that there are a few places like that, where the local pew-sitters are more afraid than their potential guests, but there are lots more communities where all comers are not just invited, but welcomed with open arms.

I have an old friend, a quirky priest who's been a college chaplain for decades, who tells about the summer he traveled across the United States visiting different churches. He was camping, and didn't get a bath every day, but he talked about what a different reception he'd get when he wore his collar, even when he was grubby. The Bishop of Rhode Island spent part of her last sabbatical learning what it's like to live on the street. She tells about sleeping in homeless shelters in some of her own churches, and then going upstairs to church on Sunday morning. She was never recognized, but she learned a great deal about the welcome and unwelcome of different congregations.

What makes us so afraid of the other? There's something in our ancient genetic memory that ratchets up our state of arousal when we meet a stranger – it's a survival mechanism that has kept our species alive for millennia by being wary about strangers. But there's also a piece of our makeup that we talk about in more theological terms – the part that leaps to judgment about that person's sins. It's connected to knowing our own sinfulness, and our tendency toward competition – well, she must be a worse sinner than I am – thank God!

Fear is the only thing that keeps us from knowing God's love – and we most often discover it in the people around us.

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Presiding Bishop

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Those who know the deep acceptance and love that come with healing and forgiveness can lose the defensive veneer that wants to shut out other sinners. They discover that covering their hair or hiding their tears or hoarding their rich perfume isn't the way that the beloved act, even if it makes others nervous. Eventually it may even cure the anxious of their own fear by drawing them toward a seat at that heavenly banquet. There's room for us all at this table, there are tears of welcome and a kiss for the wanderer, and the sweet smell of home.

Want to join the feast? You are welcome here. Love has saved you – go in peace. Lean over and say the same to three strangers: you are welcome here. Love has saved you – be at peace.



Book Group

July 21 at the home of Audrey Wiedrick and August 18 at the home of Kelli Casale. We'll be reading "To Kill A Mockingbird" by Nelle Harper Lee

September 15 at the home of Amy Griffith. We'll be reading "In Defense of Food" by Michael Pollard.

October 20 at the home of Joan Wagner. We'll be reading "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett.

Guest are always invited. Please RSVP to the hostess in advance.

Update Your Pledge

As we enter the second half of budget year 2010, it would be a good time to check and make sure your giving is up-to-date. We are actually running a deficit budget this year, so your support is absolutely critical!

Sudanese Youth

In March, Peter Nyok returned from his trip to Kenya where he arranged the best schooling for the Sudanese children in our program. Because of generous sponsors, twenty-three children were enrolled in boarding school in January 2010 with uniforms, books, and all fees paid. We have just paid fees for the May term, which will cover all of their expenses through August. For just \$50 per month, one student's fees are covered for an entire year. If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a student, please contact us for more information. Thanks for your support!

Sandie Mueller

Sponsor Coordinator

(408) 997-1642

slm1269@sbcglobal.net

www.sudaneseyouthopportunity.org



Christian Ed

Happy summer! I will be travelling to Israel July 14-31 to participate in an archaeological dig and a course in ancient history and culture of the region. As part of the course requirements, I must share what I learn in my local community, I look forward to sharing with you when I return.

Can you believe it is already time to start talking about Sunday School? We will start up our Sunday School program again in September. In preschool through middle school we will be using the Power Xpress curriculum we tried in the spring. This is a rotation model in which the children go to a new station each week. I will be working with teachers to plan the high school program.

In order to provide these programs to our children, we need YOUR help. We now need two types of volunteers. Shepherds are responsible for a class. They build relationships with the children in the class and provide extra hands and eyes in the stations. I ask for a longish term commitment of every other week for a semester or a school year. No planning is necessary, but information about the theme being studied is provided. Station leaders are asked to commit to teaching the same lesson for three weeks in a row to the different classes. Curriculum and supplies are provided. You may sign up for as many 3-week terms as you like.

I hope you will each consider serving our children and youth in this way. The children need you, and you may even find great joy in making new connections with our young ones. Who knows, maybe you will learn something new! If you have questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions, please contact me at (408) 268-0243 or mjclick@comcast.net.

Melanie Click

Worship The Lord in the Beauty of Holiness

Worship is arguably the most important thing we do at ECA. Some might make a case for the importance of our outreach programs or even our fellowship events. But as important as they are, they cannot compare with prayer and worship. It is what brings us together as a Christian community. And, it is what keeps us together as we reach out to the community and come together in fellowship.

In the early church, ministers such as acolytes, altar guild members, and choir members were considered as integral to worship as priest, deacon, and bishop. It is still so in many churches -- the Eastern Orthodox for example. Perhaps we need to get back to an understanding of actual participation in worship as central not only to who we are; but to what we do as followers of Christ.

Here at ECA, we are in need of ministers at the altar. We are of course in the middle of a great search for the principle minister at the altar – a new rector. But we also need acolytes, altar guild members, worship committee members, and choir members. Here are some of the duties of each...

Acolyte. Today, most of us think of acolytes as “altar boys and girls.” And, it is a delight to see our young folks serving in this capacity. But anyone can serve...and at any age. Being an acolyte brings you close “to the action” at the altar itself. Requirements: A good sense of reverence and ritual, some degree of poise in public, and a commitment to service.

Choir Member. Music is so important in worship that in earlier days the Church would actually not ordain priests who could not sing. If you love to lift up your voice, consider joining our wonderful choir. Or, if you love contemporary worship music and can sing or play an instrument consider our folk group.

Altar Guild. The unsung heroes – and heroines -- of worship, the members of the altar guild prepare the sacred vessels and fair linens and vestments for worship and clean and maintain them. While Altar Guilds have often been made up of the women of the parish, men are most welcome to participate as well. Altar Guild, or sacristan as the position is sometimes called, was considered a plum job in Seminary!

Worship Committee. Many Episcopal Churches have a committee which helps the clergy oversee the liturgy and worship on a regular basis. They often do a lot of the work of preparation as well. Father Frank would like to see an expanded Worship Committee as he completes his duties and as a new rector joins us later this year. Expect to hear more about this in the coming days.

Think about it. Pray over it. If you would like to serve in any of the above capacities, or if you would like additional information, please contact Father Frank, Andy Kerr, or our Music Director, Asa Stern.

Anniversaries

George & Nancy Romer	2
Jim & Elizabeth Ward	5
Arnold & Suzanne Moore	17
Bill & Toni Hird	24
Mike & Trish Reilly	25

Birthdays

Pauline Gilligan	June 27
Rob McClaine	2
Melinda Jennings	2
Jessica Fahlen	4
Chris Joslin	8
Harold Lee	9
Roberta Verderico	10
Robin Williams	10
Guido Spanjaart	11
Dom Consorte	12
Suzanne Mayo	12
Sandy Sandrock	18
Annie Estrade	18
Kabeja Fallone	20
Matt Gunderson	20
Kathryn Hussain	22
Ed Mueller	23
Arnold Moore	25
Taylor Wing	30



JV Update

The legal mediation process took place on Friday, June 4, and a financial settlement acceptable to Joint Venture was reached. Our Joint Venture President, Melinda Jennings, has outlined the particulars in a letter to parishioners which is posted in Fellowship Hall.

As always, the Board also cautions our parishes' membership that successful mediation is simply one further step in an ongoing process, although an important one. The Board is committed to keeping members and interested parties fully informed. If you have any questions about the issues involved, please feel free to contact Father Frank, Pastor Kevin, or Melinda Jennings.

Dinner Groups

We have set up the dinner groups for this season, and if you signed up you should be receiving a letter in the USPS mail soon telling you about your group and how the whole process works. We have five Adult/Restaurant Groups, one Family Group and one Restaurant-Only Group. If you did not get a chance to sign up, please email Maryke Williams at maryke@sbcglobal.net, and she will try to put you in a new group. We will probably be forming new groups 6 months from now.

ECA's Surf - N - Turf Dinner

Another exciting fellowship event happened on June 18th with 102 adults and 8 children in attendance for ECA's Surf or Turf Dinner. This year it went off without any unusual hiccups. Our shipment of Maine lobsters, all 179 pounds, arrived as scheduled, alive and kicking. The evening was balmy and comfortable, not unbearable heat like last year. And, of course, all those extra hands that pitched right in, made our work load to do such an event fun and rewarding.

Our fellowship hall was all decked out in a red, white, and blue theme. Betty Consorte was responsible for planning our décor this year and did an excellent job making the most of what we had in our "famous lobster box." Lobsters and lighthouses were everywhere. Lucky Lobster sang at our check-in table where everyone found their place cards and name tags all lettered superbly by Mary Moran.

Our evening started with appetizers on the patio while the 102 lobsters steamed in 10 cookers under the basketball hoop. Jerry Ferguson and Andy Kerr supervised all who wanted to help with the lobster cooking, a major feat in itself. Thank you to all who were able to donate a "turkey deep fryer" for the evening. It took 10 cookers with lobsters strategically placed in the pots to get all cooked at the same time! Our BBQ experts, Jerry Long, David Byers, & Warren Willard did a fabulous job grilling 16 rib-eye steaks to order while many extra volunteers (Kelli Casale, Liz Criner, Amy Griffith, Pat Dorsey, Nancy Romer, Debbie Bishop, & Maryke Williams under the supervision of Suzanne Mayo and Carol Macdonald) helped in the kitchen on salad, potato, butter detail and more.

Somehow everything got done. The lobsters were rinsed for better presentation by Jerry Ferguson and George Romer and then served thanks to

Marianne Schmidt & Dwight Dorsey... and finally all were enjoyed.

After those fantastic hot towels were served up by Dorothy Willard and Gayle Byers to get ourselves ready for dessert, Bonnie McPherson with the help of her mom, Myrna, and sister, Nicole, served up delicious strawberry shortcakes. Bonnie had baked 120 shortcakes earlier in the week which were smothered in fresh strawberries and whipped crème. What a decadent treat to end a delicious meal.

You can imagine the clean-up of such an event can be overwhelming but with all the many hands that helped we had the fellowship hall spotless and all the dishes and glasses put away before the custodian was ready to do the floors. Special kudos go to Jim McPherson, his brother-in-law, Jeff, Tim Miller & Roger Hoyt, who handled the dish washer and major part of our clean up at the sink. Also, special thanks to Ann Avoux and Joy Austin-Lane for getting the dishes organized for our dishwashers. Many hands helped dry and put away everything. The kudos that so many of you shared with the committee made all their hard work and effort well worth it. Of course those lobsters were pretty tasty!

As has been a recent custom for fellowship events, baby-sitting is provided. Donna Miller helps recruit our baby sitters and organize "kid friendly meals." Donna's efforts are much appreciated by the parents. We also want to thank Taylor Mills and Marcus Bond for taking such good care of our kids during our Surf of Turf dinner.

We know there were many more of you who helped throughout the evening to fill water pitchers, re-
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ECA's Lobster Fest

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plenish ice, put away tables, chairs, etc. We would need to list almost everyone on the sign up sheet for the event. You are what makes being part of the ECA family such a joy. You are what makes organizing major events a pleasure. We cannot thank you enough for the blessing that you bring to ECA and our events. So even though we may have omitted your name, please know we appreciate all that you did and we noticed at the time. (Our aging memory doesn't always retrieve information as we would like!)

Special thanks must go to those who served on our committee: Suzanne & Peter Mayo, Carol Macdonald and her friend, Woody, Francie and Andy Kerr, Jerry Long, Betty and Dom Consorte, Gayle and David Byers, Dorothy and Warren Willard, Alex Dykes, & Rob McClaine. You put together a great event of which you can be very proud.

*Susie & Jerry Ferguson
Your Lobster Aficionados*



Running on Empty!

It has come to my attention that we need a volunteer (or volunteers) to keep the gasoline cans in the tool shed full so that we can keep the mowers, blowers and trimmers all running to keep the grounds in order. If you are interested in helping us out (even if you can only do this now and then), please contact Alex Dykes at (408) 839-2632 or alex@dykesfamily.net