

June 2018

The SHAPE

From the Rector

Dear Friends

Recently, I read, “Humberto Maturana, a Chilean biologist says, ‘Love is the only emotion that increases the intelligence of the system.’ In other words, any system organized around love increases that system’s intelligence and connection.” This quote is from “The love economy: How we help women survivors heal and thrive at Thistle Farms” by The Rev. Becca Stevens, Episcopal priest, social entrepreneur, and founder of Thistle Farms in Nashville, TN., a place for healing and a new start for female victims of abuse and trafficking, addiction, or prison. Systems organized around *Love* increase in intelligence and connection. But then, as Christians, we knew that! God invented the Love Economy.

It is interesting to me that this principle is noted by both a biologist and a social entrepreneur/priest. The latter, Becca Stevens, found when she began looking for ways to create space for women to heal and recover, to rediscover their worth and dignity, that a sustainable way to do this was to create justice enterprises. These enterprises are win-win solutions for giving people dignified labor in an atmosphere of acceptance and love. And Stevens has found that there is a dramatically growing consumer base interested in cause branding...people who want their purchases to support freedom, independence, and dignity. This appears to be especially strong among Millennials.

At ECA, we are extending and intensifying the discernment that led us to offer Kids’ Camps during school holidays, operate a neighborhood Pumpkin Patch, work together with other organizations to create a broad-based community organizing group, and offer a Day Center to the homeless women of Village

House. Collectively, we listened respectfully to the movement of the Holy Spirit among us, and we were led into all these transformative ministries. The Vestry is now opening ourselves to more discernment of where the Spirit of God is leading us next.

What are the new ways in which God’s Creative Spirit will guide us in being Church? Will our spiritually grounded, risk-taking, inclusive, community-oriented fellowship (those are our values) find a way to create a new Love Economy? Justice enterprises? This is Silicon Valley...the air here is filled with the spirit of creating something new. The very founding of the “Joint Venture” churches, 50 years ago, was a bold, new undertaking. Your Vestry invites you all to join us in this openness to the excitement and creativity of God in our midst.

*Blessings,
Shelley+*



The Fellowship Hall was full for May's Spring Tea. More photos and articles inside.

Summer Sunday Forum is Coming!

We will be having our Summer Sunday Forum beginning Jun 24, 9:15-10:30 am. Our topics include:

•**Book study on *Becoming a Blessed Church*, N. Graham Standish.** Alain Guichard objects to the title of this book because he says, “We are a Blessed Church.” I agree, and this book will help us grow as a congregation in listening to the Holy Spirit. The Vestry is reading it right now.

•**End of Life decisions:** Shelley and others will lead us to think though our end of life decisions like our memorial service, wills, trusts and other areas that will help us age gracefully.

•**Love Languages:** Leslie Rousseau and Wendy Martin will share their experiences with the book called *The Five Love Languages*.

•**Gratitude Journaling:** We will learn how keeping a journal of gratitude can help us be grateful.

•**We are working on other ideas.** If you have a suggestion for a topic for Summer Sunday Series, let Shelley or Marianne know.

Vestry Update

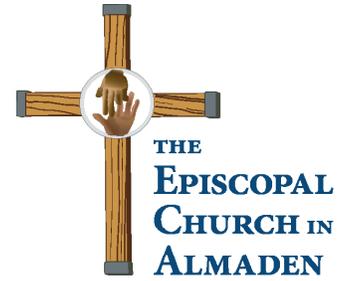
The regular Vestry meeting was held on May 8. After an opening prayer and Lectio Divina, Wendy Martin told her faith story and then the group shared the various ways in which they work with their prayer partners.

The bulk of the meeting was spent discussing the first two chapters of a book the Vestry is reading, *Becoming a Blessed Church*, by N. Graham Standish. First, the group discussed the ways in which ECA already has the marks of being a blessed church and then suggested steps we can take to become more open and guided by the spiritual dimension.

Marianne then asked the Vestry to discern what is God’s will as concerns the rich resources we have available to us and to especially think about the land the Joint Venture owns. Shelley and Marianne have had several discussions with the CCAVUCC leadership on this topic and its something that both churches would like to spend time thinking and praying about.

The next scheduled Vestry meeting is on Tuesday, June 12th, at 7:15 P.M. All are welcome to attend.

Elizabeth Guichard



Rector

The Reverend Shelley Denney
email: shelleys@eca-sj.org
408-268-0245

Staff

Susie Ferguson
Children and Youth Ministries Director

Lynda Ford
Music Director

Ruthanne Adams Martinez
*Administrative Assistant
Treasurer*

Holly McCullough
Building Bridges Coordinator

Andrea Mackenzie
Field Education Intern

Assisting in our Ministry

Marianne Schmidt
Senior Warden

Don Hall
Junior Warden

Joan Wagner
Altar Guild

Ann Avoux
Prayer Vine

Debbie Estill
Ushers

Mike Schmidt
*Shape Editor
Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Kathleen Eagan
Senior Ministry

Taylor Wing
Webmaster

June Kids Camp

We are focused this month on preparing for a very exciting June camp week. We are most fortunate to have Rachael Parakh, one of our new vestry members this year and liaison to our Children and Youth Ministry, to be our curriculum creator for this camp. Rachael is creating a wonderful experience for our campers around the theme of "Nature's Gift, Joy and Peace." She has done a great deal of research on this subject which is very close to her heart.

Check out our "Children and Youth Ministry" bulletin board in the hall and see what Rachael and I are in the process of creating for our campers. Look at what resources are needed. See where you might like to share in this experience June 11 through 15 and let us know where we can plug you in.

*In Your Faithful Service,
Susie Ferguson,
Children and Youth
Ministries Director*

Ordination of Andrea Mackenzie

You are most gratefully invited to attend the ordination of Andrea Mackenzie to the sacred order of Deacons on Sat, June 2 at 2:00, Trinity Cathe-

dral, San Jose. Please join us for this wonderful celebration! If you can't make it for the Saturday, please plan on coming to ECA that Sunday, 6/3 to continue the celebration! There will be a total of three of us being ordained to the vocational diaconate on that Saturday. We all are looking forward to serving God's people and the world in our future ministries. I also must tell you that my days at ECA are growing fewer. My last Sunday at ECA will be Aug 26. I will be able to continue serving at ECA as a deacon through the summer before I begin my new placement at St. Andrew's, Saratoga in September. I am very grateful for all of the love and support I have received from the members of ECA over the past year and a half! Thank you all so very much!

Andrea Mackenzie



*By the Grace of God
And with the consent of the people
The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves
Will Ordain
Andrea Shortal Mackenzie
To the Sacred Order of Deacons
Saturday, the Second day of June
In the Year of our Lord Two-thousand Eighteen
Two O' Clock in the afternoon
Trinity Cathedral
81 North Second Street
San Jose, California
Reception to Follow Clergy: Red Stoles*

Book Group

The JV Book Group will meet on Wednesday, June 20th (3rd Wednesday of the month), at 5:30 PM, at the Marie Callender's Restaurant on Blossom Hill Road. June's book is *Killers of the Flower Moon*, by David Graun. Please RSVP to Amy Griffith (408 268-0920 or email amy-g@pacbell.net). July's book will be *Small Great Things*, by Jodi Piccouth.

JV members:

*Bill Lavallee, Joe Machado
and Don Hall*

Vestry members:

Senior Warden
Marianne Schmidt

Junior Warden
Don Hall

Communication
*Joyce Wing
Inge Bond*

Stewardship
Bonnie McPherson

Finance
Todd Lukanc

Outreach and Connection Team
Kathy Mastre

Pastoral Care and Senior Ministry
Marianne Schmidt

Family and Youth Ministries
Rachael Parakh

Adult Ministry
Wendy Martin

Hospitality and Fellowship
*Wendy Martin
Kathy Mastre
Bonnie McPherson*

ECA Activities June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 2pm Andrea Mackenzie Ordination at Trinity Cathedral
3 7:30am Holy Eucharist <u>Appreciation Sunday</u> 10:45am Holy Eucharist and Special Music	4 9:30am Yoga	5 7:15pm Vestry Meeting	6 12pm Healing Service and Holy Eucharist 3:30pm Centering Prayer 4:30pm Handbell Rehearsal 7pm Class/Discussion Group on Prayer	7 8am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Morning Prayer 10am Lectionary Bible Study	8	9
10 7:30am Holy Eucharist 10:45am Holy Eucharist and Handbells	11 8am Kids Camp 9:30am Yoga	12 8am Kids Camp 7:30pm JV Board Meeting	13 8am Kids Camp 3:30pm Centering Prayer 5pm Book Group 7pm Class/Discussion Group on Prayer	14 8am Kids Camp 8am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Morning Prayer 10am Lectionary Bible Study	15 8am Kids Camp 2pm Montgomery Meals	16 4:30pm Church Picnic and Let's ROC
17 7:30am Holy Eucharist 10:45am Holy Eucharist	18 9:30am Yoga	19	20 3:30pm Centering Prayer 5pm Book Group 7pm Class/Discussion Group on Prayer	21 8am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Morning Prayer 10am Lectionary Bible Study	22	23
24 7:30am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Summer Sunday Forum 10:45am Holy Eucharist	25 9:30am Yoga 6:30pm Cooking Class	26	27 2pm Bridge Group 3:30pm Centering Prayer 7pm Class/Discussion Group on Prayer	28 8am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Morning Prayer 10am Lectionary Bible Study	29	30

Nature's Gift, Joy and Peace

Our camp this month, "Nature's Gift, Joy and Peace," has been a wonderful collaboration creating a most exciting week for children in our neighborhood. Rachael Parakh did an amazing job creating an enriching program for our campers to explore nature and the natural resources we all need to care for and preserve for our future. Shelley selected Bible stories to coincide with our daily themes to help our campers connect God's word with creation and our daily lives. On the curriculum side my job was to balance activities and be sure we had variety that suited our different age groups from kindergarten to 5th grade with a preponderance of boys.

Camp enrollment this summer of 32 campers, is 20 boys to 12 girls. How lucky we are to have 4 high school young men to be counselors: Andrew Shahtout & Andrew Thorne from Leland, Aaron Fenton from Bellarmine, and Jack Ulrich from Willow Glen, Doug and Betty Wood's grandson. A former camper and middle schooler, Prestin Krisman is joining us as a "training counselor." Thankfully we also found 3 exceptional high school girls to join us: Natalie Khayo, a home schooler and part time Leland student, Ava Yazdanfar from Leland, and Natasha Denton, a former camper, also at Leland. We offer our high school students community ser-

vice hours for their commitment to our camp week.

Everyday we try to have something special happening for our campers. On Monday we will be creating our camp t-shirt. Going along with our theme of light we will be doing sun prints on our shirts using acrylic fabric paints and nature leaves and flowers. Tuesday one highlight will be our hike to the creek. Helping us with this experience will be guests from the San Jose Environmental Department with their program Creek to Classroom. On Wednesday "flora" will take center stage with lots of beautiful colors and smells. Thursday a beekeeper will find his way to camp as we focus on insects and all they do for us. A tasting treat of honey will make snack time even more special. Friday, our week will wind down bird watching and being grateful for all the beauty of this earth. At the end of this month you should be able to see many of our highlights in photo form on our bulletin board.

Of course, this camp as all our camps requires lots of adult help with our many centers and activities. Look at this great list of volunteers already signed up as of this Shape's deadline: Judi Dimicelli, Amy Griffith, Elizabeth Guichard, Holly McCullough, Pat McGovern & her grandson, Josh, Susanne Moore, Leslie Rousseau, Marianne Schmidt, Anna Spanjaart, Mel Stonehocker, Susan Tam, Anne Tysanner, Maryke Williams and Joyce Wing. Most of these volunteers were able to give us three or more days of help.

What a blessing that is! We cannot put on these types of programs for this many children without many volunteer hours. Thank you to all these wonderful and fabulous volunteers.

*In Your Faithful Service,
Susie Ferguson,
Children and Youth
Ministries Director*

Fellowship, Worship and Outreach

Parish Picnic and Eucharist

Mark your calendars and please join us for our Annual Church Picnic, Saturday June 16th, starting at 4:00. We'll enjoy fellowship and a Let's ROC-style Eucharist together. Enjoy the company of friends and see what we've been up to at Let's ROC this year. Please watch for a sign-up sheet in the parish hall and more announcements in the mid-week. If you'd like to help, please contact Holly McCullough at holly@eca-sj.org.

Holly McCullough

Looking Forward

Independence Day Picnic •

July 1

John Leslie Play •

September 8 and 9

What is this Book?

You may have heard that the vestry is reading the book *Becoming a Blessed Church*, by N. Graham Standish, as part of our attempt to move forward with our strategic plan and to prayerfully decipher where the Holy Spirit is leading us as a church. The book is all about finding your church's unique mission and passion and grounding it in a personal, "felt" relationship with God. It's about breathing in the Holy Spirit and being invigorated by it as the disciples were at Pentecost, and doing what and going where the Spirit leads you- not necessarily where we have ever traveled before or even thought we would ever travel as a church. This willingness to soak in the Holy Spirit and trust where it is leading us takes a leap of faith that all of us are struggling with, because it almost assuredly means change and being church in a different way. But...it can also mean experiencing God in a way that most of us in our crazy, busy, scheduled lives haven't slowed down to experience- the God who fills us with the love that surpasses all understanding!

We already do so much right, and it is the reason that we all love this place- we feel the personal connections and love that emanates in these walls- but this book is encourag-

ing us to move further, trust deeper, love without boundaries and embrace spirituality more fully.

I encourage all of you to read the book if you get the chance, and spoiler alert...there might be a book study using this book later this summer.

Feel free to ask any vestry member about what we are doing and why, there is a lot of exciting momentum going on in this church!

*Hugs,
Bonnie*

Fellowship and Outreach

ECA's Spring Tea

The Spring Tea held on May 3rd at ECA was a rousing success! There was delicious finger food and wonderful desserts. Teas were served in beautiful china tea cups that were set around beautiful centerpieces. Many of our ladies brought their own tea sets adding to the charm. There were 20 wonderful baskets of treasures that were raffled off and 21 opportunity drawings, including beautiful art, and sampler quilts made by our own Bobbi Finley, and many glass items in our lovely Glass Garden.

Besides all of the great fellowship between 105 attendees,

we enjoyed Ruthanne's beautiful harp performance and harp history lessons. Many asked her questions and wanted more! New this year, we had Bobbi Finley, a published author and awarded quilter, provide a speech on her discovery of the quilting world. It was fascinating to hear, and we were thrilled when she brought five of her masterpieces for display. Many attendees from outside the church were very impressed with the tea, the entertainment, the wonderful raffle and drawing items, and the warm, funny and inviting Mistress of Ceremonies, Susie Ferguson!

We collected \$5,000 that day, excluding some reimbursements, a very successful and fun day! The proceeds will be divided between the Almaden Valley Counseling Service and Joint Venture. All had a wonderful time in fellowship but even more so knowing that the event was raising funds for these two needs. We want to thank all the coordinators, those that cooked, those that put all the baskets and drawings together, those that decorated the tables beautifully, those that made signs, and those that did all that work to setup, serve and cleanup! See the gifts of gratitude for all those who helped. Join us next year if you can!

*Joyce Wing,
Communications Vestry
Liaison*



You can tell, by the photos and several articles in this issue of the Shape, that last month's Spring Tea was hugely popular, highly successful, and just a fun time for all who attended. MC Susie Ferguson kept things moving with plenty of humor. Ruthanne Adams Martinez provided the entertainment with wonderful harp music, plus "everything you wanted to know" information about harps. Bobbi Finley shared enthusiastically about her longtime love affair with quilting. The tea, finger food, and desserts were all delicious! A very fun time!



Stewardship in Action

First of all, I have to admit that I didn't attend our Spring Tea, nor did I work to get ready for it. So I feel a little funny writing about it. However, as a member of the Stewardship Committee, I'm compelled to comment about what a perfect example of stewardship in action this was!

The Stewardship Committee talks often about the need for year-round stewardship and here it is- happening in front of us, without any prodding or pushing. What a wonderful example of our congregation using their time, talents and treasures to support two important ministries, the Almaden Counseling Center and the Joint Venture churches, while at the same time fostering an ongoing feeling of unity, fellowship and friendship. One could see these gifts at work in both the preparations for the day and also the event itself. Over 30 people prepared, 105 attended and \$5,000 was raised.

The Vestry, and other members of our congregation and diocese, are currently reading a book called *Becoming a Blessed Church* by N. Graham Standish. You'll be hearing more about this book from a number of people over the coming months, but I want

to mention it now because I think the tea was a great example of work ECA is already doing towards this goal. A blessed church has a vibrant sense of faith, hope and love; it is filled with God's purpose, presence and power and it is not afraid to serve God in its own way. I see all of that working through us with this Spring Tea. I also see our values through the event: being spiritually grounded, inclusive, willing to risk, serving and valuing fellowship. None of these attributes operate in a vacuum and working to become a blessed church, being faithful to our values and stewardship are all facets of our goal to be the body and spirit of Jesus Christ here on earth.

Elizabeth Guichard

Appreciation Sunday

June 3 is Appreciation Sunday. We will be thanking all those in our congregation who have contributed this past school year to the many ministries at ECA. It is also the last Sunday of our regular choir before the summer break, and to celebrate all who give so much to our common life, we'll have special music - including a wonderful trumpeter! Please attend the 10:45am service and be moved by the music as well as by gratitude for all who do so much! God has blessed us richly!

Gifts of Gratitude

(continued from page 7)

Thank you ...

- to Judi Dimicelli who faithfully makes sure our fellowship is ready to welcome all of our Let's ROC guests. Her support is invaluable
- to Betty Consorte and Holly McCullough for washing and refreshing nursery furniture. It makes the room inviting and feel like home
- to to Shelley Denney and Marianne Schmidt for leading our vestry with open hearts and fervent goals. The possibilities for ECA are so exciting!
- to Wendy Martin for substituting as offertory counter. It was such a relief to know the position was covered
- to Elizabeth Guichard for the AWESOME job, as vestry clerk, in preparing the minutes. The vestry is so blessed to have her with them!
- to Kimberly Axtell for the love and passion she puts into making our world a better place by working with our larger community. We are truly blessed having Kimberly in our congregation
- to John Buenz, and his wife Marilynn, for driving down from Cupertino to ECA, in terrible communte traffic, to share and teach about the book, *The Shattered Lantern*.



Worship Schedule

June 3 – *Second Sunday after Pentecost*

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

June 6

12 p.m. Healing Service and Holy Eucharist

June 10 – *Third Sunday after Pentecost*

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

June 16 – *Let's ROC*

5 p.m. Holy Eucharist

June 17 – *Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

June 24 – *Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Gifts of Gratitude

Thank you to all the following for helping with the successful May Tea fundraiser:

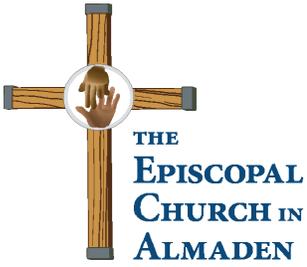
- to Joyce Wing, Nancy Romer, Ellen Lukanc and Ruthanne Adams Martinez, for invitations, programs and signage
- to Amy Griffith, Marianne Schmidt, Joyce Wing, Linda Sarmecanic, Mel Stonehocker, Betty Consorte, Anne Tysanner, Joan Wagner, Kathryn Hussain, Nancy Romer, Leslie Rousseau and Susanne Moore for food preparation
- to Betty Consorte, Joan Wagner, Carol MacDonald, Susanne Moore and Anne Tysanner for centerpieces, raffle, drawings, glass garden and name cards
- to Dennis Moran, Steve and Taylor Wing, George Romer, Mike Schmidt and Arnold Moore for setup, tea service and cleanup
- to Nancy Romer, Leslie Rousseau, Mel Stonehocker, Joyce Wing, Mary Moran and Ruthanne Adams Martinez for raffle ticket sales, sign-in and RSVP management
- to Joyce & Steve Wing, Nancy & George Romer, Mary & Dennis Moran, Ellen Lukanc, Maryke Williams, Amy Griffith, Marianne and Mike Schmidt, Linda Sarmecanic, Mel Stonehocker, Betty Consorte, Anne Tysanner, Joan Wagner, Carol MacDonald, Susie Ferguson, Judi Dimicelli, Kathryn Hussein, Leslie Rous-

seau, Letie Duenas and Susanne and Arnold Moore, plus many more, who helped with setup and cleanup

- to Susie Ferguson (MC), Ruthanne Adams Martinez (harpist) and Bobbi Finley (quilt master) for helping with the program
- to many kind and generous donors from ECA and CCAV-UCC for providing raffle and drawing items
- to Ruthanne Adams Martinez for gathering registration, payment and seating for our Spring Tea. She made the special treat of hosting young Moms easy

Thank you also to the following:

- to Holly McCullough for her creativity and inclusiveness in forming our Let's ROC! program. Her warmth and sincerity make it truly personal
- to Holly for her widespread email newsletter about Let's ROC that reaches out to many and captures past and future events, welcoming everyone from ECA and those in the community
- to Susie Ferguson for her valuable advice and experience in organizing Summer Camp. She personally knows volunteers, counselors and campers
- to Tom Ruffo for the delicious, well-prepared dinners at Let's ROC! The table fellowship he makes possible is an important aspect of the program
(continued on page 6)



6581 Camden Avenue
San Jose, CA 95120

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Evelyn (Wing) Krysnowski	June	3
Jenny Hoyt		8
George Romer		9
Charlotte Boileau		10
Tyler Nollette		17
Gregory Lukanc		23
Michelle Ruffo		25
Pauline Gilligan		27

The SHAPE

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