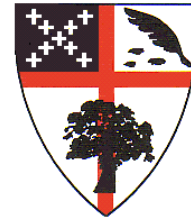


Seeds and Harvest Newsletter



Message from the Rector

Rector's Message...

The activities of Holy Week and Easter were extensive, energized, passionate, and deeply memorable. There were scores of people involved in making this the best attended series of services, studies, prayer vigils, brunches, and egg hunts since I arrived to be your priest almost seven years ago (seven years on July 1). Two benchmark attendances were 116 people on Palm Sunday, and 160 on Easter Sunday.

It has been wonderful to hear praises about all of these events, but many of you who worked so hard may not have heard the praise. So let me personally extend my thanks for all that you did; music, assistance with liturgy, rehearsing for the Passion Drama, printing and folding, grooming the grounds, buying and arranging flowers, polishing the hardware, climbing on the church roof to cover and uncover skylights, installing and polishing the new bricks, preparing, sharing, and serving food, setting up and taking down tables and chairs, greeting and guiding visitors, caring for infants in the nursery, somehow having everything ready for coffee hour, and again having everything ready for preschool, every time,

and after all that, asking me with a warm smile how you could help.

As we are a liturgical church, our worship services provide the outline for the cycle of the Christian life; birth; baptism; empowerment for life; maturing in body and spirit; death; and resurrection to a new and perfect life at the end of this life. This is the pattern we hear unfolding every week in Scripture; a pattern which we also enact in our services. But the real power for me is in the experiences we share; the promises we give when someone is baptized, the bread and wine at the Mass, the community's united support of wedding vows, the living claiming 'Alleluia' at a burial office, our waving streamers as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Easter Event we just experienced together is the core around which everything else revolves.

I love this church; and I love this community, where so many of you contribute to make this a vibrant and holy place; making the concept of a 'faith life' something tangible and important, and defining that faith life for our next generation. There is nothing more important that we could want to accomplish in this life.

Peace to You this Easter Season,

Ken +

Fr. Ken is taking a vacation 5/4-5/12

St. Stephen's
in the Field

May 2009

Volume 2009, Issue 5

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Words from Your Senior Warden

WORDS FROM THE WARDEN

Although it is a few weeks past, I would like to give thanks to those who made Holy Week the meaningful and moving time that it was for me. The thanks start at the top with God making it all possible, then with Father Ken's leadership bringing all the events of the week to us in such meaningful services. To all who served and gave of their talents, THANK YOU! God has blessed St. Stephen's richly. Hopefully many hearts were touched and opened to God's loving grace.

As we move forward in the year, things continue to move forward. There has been a change to the events calendar for the month of May. In the past few years we have scheduled and held two Craft Fairs, one in May and one in October. These events have become a strong component of our annual budget, each year they have grown and we have thought of ways to improve them. The change this year will be to combine both events into one Festival in October. The decision by the Vestry was to put all our energy into one event later in the year giving us more time to make it bigger and better, with more of a Wine and Arts flavor to the event. Susie Good will continue to spearhead the event, but because of the increased scope of the event, more help will be needed. Planning of this event has begun, but we need ideas and energy to help make it the success we need. If you would like to help make

this event a success, please contact Susie, Ken or me. As St. Stephen's has done before we are stepping out in faith to take things to a higher level, and reach the community around us.

Talk about taking things to the next level! Plans are under way for the 6th Annual Golf Tournament, scheduled for August 10, at Almaden Country Club. Mark your calendars, this is a Monday, again we will have the entire facility to ourselves. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and also our biggest fellowship event. It is very important this year that you invite family and friends and co-workers to join us for this event, do it early, don't delay, so they can get it on their calendars too. You will be hearing from me a lot about this event as we move forward. If you would like to get involved with this event please give me a call or grab me on Sunday, we would love the help.

There are many other activities going on at St. Stephen's, and those heading them up could use some help and maybe fresh ideas, if you have ever thought that you maybe should get involved, but were hesitant, think of this; "if you are coasting, you are going downhill" step up and get involved!

God Bless,
Tom

Preschool Update...

The preschool will hold an Open House on Monday, May 18 at 6:00 pm. The director and teachers will be present and available to provide a tour of our facility, to review the curriculum and daily activity schedule, and to share with potential new families the faith-centered environment we offer to our 2 ½ to 4 year old students. Please encourage your neighbors and friends with small children to come and explore this top grade preschool educational environment.

We are taking registrations for *Summer Safari*.



This fun summer activity for preschool aged children will operate for six weeks, June 30 through August 6, Tuesday through Thursday each week. The theme for this summer is "A Trip to a Tropical Rainforest". There will be Learning Time, Story Time, and Center Time that will all contain themes based on a tropical rainforest. Sounds like fun!

Ken +

Treasurer's Report

A summary of 2009 Income and Expenses is shown in the table .

Pledge receipts were slightly ahead of plan by \$719 against a budget of \$11,904. Overall, Income

was \$1,462 ahead of plan. On the expense side, we were 2,456 over budget due in large part to paying an insurance bill for April for \$1,532 in March. Overall, our Net Income was \$1,030 over budget for the month. If not for the insurance bill, we would have been better than budget.

Year to date income was \$430 ahead of budget, expense was \$3,081 over budget for a net income that was \$2,650 behind budget (which includes the early insurance payment). By comparison, we were \$3,184 behind budget in 2008 at this time.

March 09	Actual	Budget	Percent Difference
Income	\$12,954	\$11,770	110% of Budget
Expense	\$15,543	\$13,087	119% of Budget
Net	(\$2,589)	(\$1,317)	
Year to Date			
Income	\$39,294	\$38,864	101% of Budget
Expense	\$44,453	\$41,372	107% of Budget
Net	(\$5,159)	(\$2,508)	-106% Worse

First Quarter Pledge Statements have been mailed. If you have any questions, please contact the Treasurer.

Your continued support is appreciated.

Logan R. Zintsmaster, Treasurer

Worship and Music at St. Stephen's – May 2009 Julie Zintsmaster

April was a very busy month at St. Stephen's. The Holy Week services led us to Easter with very real and powerful reminders of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us, culminating in the glorious celebration of His resurrection on Easter morning. Thank you to Father Ken and the wondrous St. Stephen's community for working together to make it all happen. We had approx. 160 people for the 10am service on Easter Sunday, and everything was so well organized and pre-arranged that we hardly knew that we had that large of a crowd. The children loved the flowering of the crosses and the procession of alleluia's -- I believe we have a new tradition -- not to mention the egg hunt. (I hear that the eggs were well hidden this year.)

It takes many to prepare for and set up all of the worship services and activities throughout Holy Week and Easter -- the altar guild, music director, vocalists, bell ringers, other musicians, the children, lay servers, pianists, bulletin producers, actors/actresses, event coordinators, set up/clean up crews, kitchen crews, those who came to the

services, and last but not at all least, the grace of God who made it all possible. I think that everyone in the congregation had some type of role in making it all happen. Thank you to each of you! Now we are re-energized and ready to serve our community, worship the Lord, and continue to welcome those who are new to our church.

Our worship committee just met to plan the next four months -- and we have lots to look forward to. Following is a snapshot of May:

May 10: Mother's Day / a special treat for the women

May 17: United Thank Offering (UTO) in-gathering, Family Sunday. Rogation Sunday -- blessing and distribution of soil

May 24: Ascension Day, Dick and Charlotte House will provide music

3:00 pm -- Dick and Charlotte House Concert, Memorial Day Weekend

May 31: PENTECOST -- Wear RED !! Children's procession with streamers / Red balloons, Voice Choir and Bell Choir

Please join us for all of these special Sundays.

COME SEE THE HOUSES AT ST. STEPHEN'S!

No, we don't really have houses at church, I just forgot the apostrophe. I meant to say HOUSE'S Concert. Charlotte and Dick House are back in town and will be sharing their beautiful voices with us again on May 24. Not only will they be offering music for the 10:00 service, they will be giving a concert in the afternoon at 3:00!

If you weren't at church the last time they were here, you're in for a real treat! Charlotte and Dick's voices blend so beautifully when they sing and play their guitars. Their soft gospel, inspirational music includes familiar hymns that we know and love, and some songs that they've composed themselves.



Dick and Charlotte travel all over the country in their RV, sharing Christ's love and asking only for a voluntary donation to help cover their traveling expenses. They also make CDs available just in case you want to enjoy their wonderful music at home or in your car – which you will!

Their warmth and generosity are truly a blessing!

Look for the flyer in you bulletin and spread the word. Bring your family, friends and neighbors to the afternoon concert. It will be a very special event that you don't want to miss and - it's FREE!

Recycling Steward Needed

Are you looking for a special ministry at St. Stephen's? Have you been searching for a way to help the environment? Well, we have just the opportunity for you. We need a "recycling steward." This is someone who could check regularly for the recycling needs at St. Stephen's – paper/cardboard from the kitchen; paper



from the office and copier room; glass and plastic that is not collected by the pre-school for their fund raising. Since we do not have recycling service as part of our trash pick-up, we need for the recycling steward to not only collect the recycling, but take it home to recycle.

If you want to give this ministry a trial period, please talk to Julie Zintmaster after church on Sunday. This could be the opportunity that you have been waiting for.

ECW NEWS AND NOTES

Wanda Bryan

One of the best ECW events of the year is coming May 30, 2009. The Episcopal Church Women, one from each parish or mission selected by her Priest, will be honored by the Diocese ECW Board for her loving, tireless service to her parish or mission. She will be treated to lunch and receive a beautiful Certificate of Accomplishment.

Ladies of St. Stephen's in the Field pick up your registration form from Wanda to attend The Episcopal Women's Annual Meeting, Honored Women's and Spring United Thank Offering In-gathering on Saturday, May 30, 2009, at St.

Philip's Episcopal Church in Scotts Valley. Registration and a Continental Breakfast will be served at 9:30 am., followed by the Holy Eucharist, the Rev. Mary Blessing presiding at 10:15 am. The service will include the Spring United Thank Offering by a church representative from each parish or mission.

We will have the Annual Meeting following the service with a presentation to each Honored Woman. The luncheon will be at 12:30 pm. The cost of the luncheon is \$18.00, checks payable to ECW and mailed to: Dorothy Duckett, 180 North 4th Street #505, San Jose, CA 95112. This information is on the Registration Flyer, so pick one up! This is good time to be had by all!

ST. STEPHEN'S IN THE FIELD **SPRING UTO INGATHERING**

Wanda Bryan

St. Stephen's in the Field's Spring United Thank Offering Ingathering will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2009. This is the day to bring your blessings check made out to St. Stephen's in the Field with UTO on the memo line. Our treasurer will combine all our blessings money into one check to be presented at the ECW Diocese UTO Spring Ingathering on May 30, 2009. Where does the money come from for these blessings checks? From your blue box which has been filled by you with coins and \$ to count your blessings daily! It's not too late to get a blue box if you don't have one - see Wanda at the church door or coffee hour after the service this Sunday or next to get

Lighting the Fire

We recently celebrated one of my favorite church services. It makes me a little sad that there are so few of us gathered around the fire pit on Easter Eve.

That service is so symbolic and we can enjoy its meaning all year long. There is a sanctuary candle above the aumbrey on the wall behind the altar. The aumbrey holds reserved sacrament – essentially the body and blood of Christ. The sanctuary candles are changed by the altar guild every week and burn continuously throughout the year. Only during holy week, when we remember the passion of Jesus, do we empty the aumbrey. Reserved sacrament is set out on the altar of repose, signifying the Garden of Gethsemane, and a sanctuary candle is placed there.

Now to the importance of that fire pit. New life is breathed into the church at this time. It is recognized that Christ is risen. A new fire is lit, fed by

Maria Gavin Funeral Service

Dear St. Stephen's Members and Friends;

The funeral service for our beloved friend and member Maria Gavin is scheduled for May 17 at 2:00 PM at St. Stephen's, San Jose. There will be a reception following. You are invited to come and be part of this celebration of Maria's life.

I have been asked for the address of Frank

your blue box. Keep your box in a visible place to remind you of your daily blessings. Also, keep your box and continue to count your blessings as we have another Ingathering in the Fall in November.

All the blessings money is returned to the parishes and missions in the form of grants. For a parish or mission to receive a grant they must apply by Jan. 31st to receive their grant if it is approved (ie: Jan. 31, 2010 for 2010). Applications for 2010 grants will be available on the UTO web site in Oct. 2009.



See page 7 for a description of UTO

all of those reserved alleluias. The new fire is blessed and censed. The Christ candle is lit from these flames and the new light is ceremoniously brought into the dark church.

This service is particularly moving and beautiful. We can remember this service all year long as the sanctuary candle is lit from that same Christ candle that is so respectfully brought into the church. That small flame is perpetuated throughout the year. Whenever you are in church, take a look at the fresh sanctuary candle burning above the aumbrey and remember that it is a perpetual light that is relit every year on that Holy Saturday.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend next year. It is often said that we are an Easter people. This is the service that emphasizes that with rich and beautiful symbolism, uplifting words and song, and a feeling of renewal that defies words.

Edy Unthank

Gavin, Maria's son. He may be reached at:

Mr. Frank Gavin
6458 Oberlin Way
San Jose, CA 95123

Please pray for eternal rest for Maria, and for peace and comfort for Frank, Mitchell, and their family and friends.

Blessings, Ken +

UW Sports Ministry- Intern Once More!

As many of you remember, last summer I spent nine weeks travelling to Oklahoma, New Mexico, Idaho, Washington, Mexico, Colorado, and California as an intern with UW Sports Ministry, and they have asked me to join them for a second summer. For those of you who may not be familiar with the ministry, UW is an independent non-profit sports ministry that uses its resources to help churches around the world use sports as an outreach tool. You can learn more about the organization at their website, <http://www.unchartedwaters.org>.

I had an incredible experience with UW; I met amazing and inspiring people, traveled to new places, and most importantly, had the opportunity to present the Gospel to hundreds of children, many of whom came to know Christ for the first time. A few weeks ago, a friend of mine chose to apply with UW, and asked me about my experiences so that she could learn more about how she would be spending her summer. Telling her about my adventures reminded me how much I love the ministry, so I sent in a last-minute application, and as it happens, they were in need of one more intern for the first three weeks of the summer.

This summer, we will be partnering with over 150 churches to create sports camps in more than 20 U.S. states and several foreign countries. I will be teaching Bible lessons, coaching various sports (my focus is cheerleading, but as needed I will also coach basketball and soccer), leading music, and most importantly, giving children the opportunity each week to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior

Each member of our team is a short-term missionary. We each need support to make this opportunity a reality. I would ask that each of you prayerfully consider being a part of my support team.



Support comes in many different forms and I believe the most powerful way you can support me is through your prayers. I ask that you would lift up our travel, relationships with the kids and also among the team, our support raising, and most importantly that we will be able to touch children's lives with the Gospel message.

Financially, I will need to raise \$2,100 to pay for ministry expenses and travel. All donations are tax deductible and you will be mailed a receipt. If you are able to support me financially, please mail a check, made out to Uncharted Waters, to 2501 W Colorado Avenue, #204, Colorado Springs, CO 80904 with my account number (151) on the memo line. If you are interested in a credit or debit card donation, please call 719-447-0311 or visit

http://www.uwsportsministry.org/donate_to_uw_sports.php,

fill out the form, and under "Select a Fund," choose "Donate to UW Summer Intern," and in the memo box, please include my name and intern number (151).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me by e-mail at grace.hudkins@gmail.com or by phone at (408) 960-9743 or (408) 226-6582. You can also track the support I have received by going online to my personal support webpage, which can be found at

<http://uwinterns.com/support/gracehudkins151>.

This summer, I have also decided to start an online journal to update my supporters on my experience, which I will update whenever I have computer access. You can follow it at

<http://gracesadventures09.blogspot.com>.

Thank you all so much for your time, prayers, and support!

Grace Hudkins

United Thank Offering – Rich in History and Tradition

This month we will celebrate one of our bi-annual gatherings. United Thank Offerings from all over the diocese will be collected and officially presented in a service at St. Philip's in Scotts Valley. Then, at another service in July, we will present our offerings at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Anaheim.

It is very difficult to express the vision, mission, and values of United Thank Offering (UTO) better than they are expressed on their website http://www.episcopalchurch.org/88377_ENG_HTM.htm

To know that this program has been ongoing since 1889 is inspiring. At the General convention meeting of 1886, about 500 women were present for the Women's Auxiliary worship service. Disappointed with the offering of only 87 dollars, Ms. Ida Soule decided that the women might be more generous if they knew that their offering would address a specific need. She wrote a letter to members of the Auxiliary and earmarked the offering at the next Triennial meeting for a specific cause. The name of the program officially became the United Thank Offering in 1919 and that year the collection totaled \$1,371,537.

UTO has been going strong ever since. St. Stephen's and Santa Maria Urban Ministry have benefited from their support as have other groups in the diocese. This year the diocese will be submitting a proposal for support of one of our companion dioceses, Western Tanganyika, as well as one proposal that will benefit a local congregation.



Why should you support UTO? We need to review the vision, mission, and values.

Vision: We will significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ's love.

Mission: To expand the circle of thankful people. To achieve this mission, we encourage daily prayers, offerings, and awareness of the abundance of God's blessings.

Values:

Thanksgiving – for joy, blessings, and challenges

Generosity – all offerings are granted

Mission – to expand the church

Ministry – to meet compelling human needs

I guess a better question would be – Why don't you support UTO? How can you not support UTO? Would you like to acknowledge the abundance of God's blessings in your life? Are you grateful for the joy and blessings and challenges in your life? Would you like to impact the lives of women and children all over the world?

UTO grants 100% of the offerings. 100%! This program is very unique and effective. Your opportunity to support this program is coming up this month. You can take a look at the awesome and varied programs that have been supported the past four years at

http://www.episcopalchurch.org/88381_10909_ENG_HTM.htm?menupage=23696

Stories from 12 recipients can be found at http://www.episcopalchurch.org/88381_56679_ENG_HTM.htm?menupage=26865

Many other resources are available on the UTO website. We have blue boxes for you to use on a daily basis – offer thanks daily and support global mission.

Support UTO and become a part of this rich tradition of the Episcopal church.

Thankful for all of God's blessings,

Edy Unthank

St Stephen's in the Field : [Online Calendar Page](#)

<http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=L6O9G1N8O9I3N8N8H2>

Notable dates:

Tuesday Bible Study
 May 17 UTO Ingathering
 May 17 Maria Gavin funeral service

May 18 6pm Pre-School Open house
 May 24 Dick and Charlotte House—3pm Concert
 May 31 Pentecost—wear red, come and celebrate
 June 7 Last day of Sunday School
 June 14 Sunday School Picnic

Servant Calendar

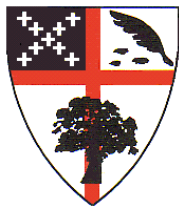
	5/3/2009	5/10/2009	5/17/2009	5/24/2009	5/31/2009
			Family Sunday		Pentecost
Lector1	Tony Pecora	Judi Sato	Family Sunday	Edy Unthank	Nancy
Lector2	Sandi Redder	Frances Steitz		Sharon Wardman	Julie Zintsmaster
LEM	Genie Yomtov		Tom Good	Judi Sato	Jan Martin
CB	Sharon Wardman		Susie Good	Rosemary	Edy Unthank
Crucifer	Taylor	Brooke	Melissa	Taylor	Brooke
Acolytes	Sabrina, Brianna	Isabella, Coleman	Peter, Janelle	Sabrina, Brianna	Isabella, Coleman
	Natasha	Hannah, Kendall	Carly	Natasha	Hannah, Kendall
Altar	Nancy	Laura Lewis	Laurie Watson	Edy Unthank	Laura Lewis
Guild	Susan Zaballos	Susie Good	Barbara Gray	Janet Thorsrud	Susie Good
Sunday School	Penny	Monica		Maggi	Penny
Elementary	Candace	Heather		Laura	Carol
Youth	Tracy & Nigel	Phil		Ruth L.	Tony
Sitter					
Music			Praise Band	House Music	Voice & Bells
Shepherd	Elaine Alton	Jim Glancey		Robert Young	Logan Xintsmaster
	Tim Alton	Chris Glancey	Frances & Barbara	Ann Little	Craig Cuffie
Coffee Host	Sato	Steitz	Young	Wright Noteware	
Counter	Nigel Cooper	Judi Sato	Andy Lief	Tom Good	Judi Sato
	Tim Alton	Sharon Wardman	-	Sandi Redder	Sharon Wardman

St. Stephen's in the Field

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, Ca 95139



Seeds and Harvest
May 2009



**ST. STEPHEN'S IN-THE-FIELD
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
7269 SANTA TERESA BLVD
SAN JOSE, CA 95139
(408) 629-1836
email rector@kwratten.com
[Http://www.ssitf.org](http://www.ssitf.org)

SUNDAY:
8 & 10am: Holy Eucharist
10am: Sunday School &
Nursery

Wednesday:
10am: Healing Service

This Issue:

Special thanks to Fr. Ken Wratten,,
Tom Good, Logan Zintsmaster,
Wanda Bryan, Edy Unthank, Julie
Zintsmaster, Karen Cuffie, Grace
Hudkins, for article submissions,
You too can contribute!

**Next Issue: May. Deadline for arti-
cles is Thursday May 30th**

Send articles to Tim Alton timalton@yahoo.com. Or drop something
in my box in the office.

By popular request: Ann's Pumpkin Cinnamon Muffins

- | 1 - 15oz. can plain pumpkin
- | 1 - box of Spice Cake Mix
- | 1 - 10oz. pkg. Hershey's Cinnamon Chips
- | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup unsweetened applesauce
- | Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease or spray 24 muffin cups.
- | Combine cake mix, pumpkin, cinnamon chips, and applesauce.
- | Mix well. Fill muffin cups full. Bake at 350 for 25 minutes or until
toothpick comes out clean. Each muffin 2 points.