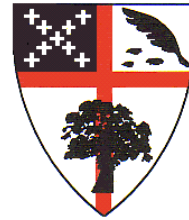


Seeds and Harvest Newsletter



**St. Stephen's
in the Field**

Message from the Rector

Following General Convention 2009, you may be staggering away from what transpired there with some confusion. Me too. I want you to know my perspective on the matter, at least as it stands today, resulting from conversations with some people who were there; reading formal postings by our bishop, our presiding bishop, and the Archbishop of Canterbury; and visiting some blogs about GC2009.

Some topics at Convention stand out as significant, like the decision to have church employees melded into one national group, thereby reducing medical coverage costs.

Two resolutions stand out as something beyond significant; shall we say – earth shaking? Resolution D025 states in part;

Resolved, that the 76th General Convention affirm that God has called and may call (homosexual persons) to any ordained ministry in The Episcopal Church

Presiding Bishop Jefferts-Schori wrote that this resolution simply documents what is already the case, and nothing more. Some bishops say that it goes much further. It abolishes the moratorium that went into effect at the General Convention in 2006. Resolution B033 at that Convention, “called upon standing committees and bishops with jurisdiction to exercise restraint by not consenting to the consecration of any candidate to the episcopate whose manner of life presents a challenge to the wider church and will lead to further strains on communion.” My take

is that we’ll have to see if Bishop Mary and our Standing Committee consent to those consecrations. It will take time to see.

Resolution C056 calls for the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to “collect and develop theological and liturgical resources (for the blessing of same gender relationships), and report to the 77th General Convention.”

Archbishop Rowan Williams has written his deep regret over these events. He has recently written that this action by the Episcopal Church may lead to our being given a different level of membership in the councils of the Anglican Communion. He wrote,

“Perhaps we are faced with the possibility rather of a ‘two-track’ model, two ways of witnessing to the Anglican heritage, one of which had decided that local autonomy had to be the prevailing value and so had in good faith declined a covenantal structure.”

I was told at our pre-convention deanery meeting with delegates that these issues would not come up at Convention, since a covenant agreement was being drafted by the Anglican Consultative Council, and any action at our Convention would be ‘too soon’. As much as this rhetoric and bantering upsets me, it also gives me great pride in our church. We don’t hide who we are, and we don’t avoid disagreement. As the Archbishop has shown, we also should not run away from each other, even when we disagree. Based on what the Archbishop has written, we are, and

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August 2009

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Words from Your Senior Warden

Throughout our lives we are presented with moments that affect us deeply and leave lasting impressions. This past month I have been in a position where I have experienced the excitement of a young person beginning the pursuit of their dream in this life and at the same time dealing with the death of a colleague that left this life earlier than we all thought should have been the right time. But what is the right time?

My month began with the opportunity to travel and share the experience of the Women's United States Open Golf Championship with my 15 year old student who had qualified for this event. At the same time I had an employee and friend in intensive care suffering from a brain aneurysm and in an induced coma. Did God put me in this position to experience these two extremes? Was there a lesson for me to learn? As I progressed through the week enjoying the growth of this young person just beginning her journey and the challenges of the life in front of her, I was also struggling with the possible unknown outcome of my friend's life at home. I was faced with the enjoyment of a new beginning and the probability of mourning a loss.

Our journey in this life is unknown but influenced by the choices we make. Our time here is temporary, and we are faced with unknowns every morning that we wake up. We must make things right with all our loved ones every day, because we do not know when we will be called home to God.

We are all put on this earth with God-given talents that we are supposed to use to make our lives better and to share our gifts with others, it's important to recognize our gifts not sell ourselves short with the talents that we have.

One life has continued to move forward to new challenges, another has moved on to a life with God. How do we handle this? I believe it is with a solid grounding in Jesus Christ and the knowledge that we are infinite souls who will one day join our loved ones who are waiting for us in Heaven.

In closing, remember how precious this life is and don't waste it!!

God bless,

Tom

OUTREACH

As Vestry Outreach Liaison to one of our Outreach Ministries, Santa Maria Urban Ministry, we have a need for some of your TIME from the congregation to not only put resources toward Santa Maria Urban Ministry, but to VOLUNTEER to help put those school supplies into backpacks when the time



comes to do so. Please give this some thought and see Edy Unthank or Wanda Bryan to sign up to be in this volunteer group. All ages welcome. This will be at a time to be determined in August.

Wanda Bryan

Preschool Update...

The 2009 summer camp program is winding down, with its last day on August 6th. Attendance was usually three children, who had a ball with crafts, supervised play, and reminders of the things they had learned last year. Mrs. Horn did a terrific job putting together a fun summer camp. Having the summer camp also provided an operational preschool class which parents could survey as they consider having their child attend St. Stephen's in the Fall. We now have eight verbal or paid confirmations, and another



five or six interested families. There continue to be inquiries received almost every day now, as people realize time is running out to register for Fall. The first day of classes is September 8th. Please pray for our preschool, our faculty and staff, and our new students and their families.

Ken +

Treasurer's Report

We are at the half way point for the year and are on track with income and expenses. However, we have built up a planned deficit of approximately \$10,000 which we will recover from the upcoming Golf Tournament. The Golf Tournament also provides a similar level of funds for the remainder of the year and we also look forward to the Fall Craft Fair to finish up the fundraising for the year.

We have all been facing economic challenges this year and the continued level of support is a testament to everyone's commitment and dedication to St. Stephen's.

June 09	Actual	Budget	Percent Difference
Income	\$12,094	\$13,052	93% of Budget
Expense	\$16,838	\$15,117	111% of Budget
Net	(\$4,744)	(\$2,065)	
Year to Date			
Income	\$79,993	\$77,820	103% of Budget
Expense	\$89,593	\$87,165	103% of Budget
Net	(\$9,600)	(\$9,345)	-3% Better

This continued support is appreciated.

Logan R. Zintsmaster, Treasurer

Annual Golf Tournament

August 10th is coming fast... That is the date for our *Sixth Annual St. Stephen's Golf Tournament*. It is our primary fundraising event, with proceeds being used to fund our work of ministry and mission, including our work with Santa Maria Urban Ministries, support of our friends from the Sudan, and strengthening of our own Parish Preschool. If you play golf, please sign up for a very fun day of the



game at Almaden Golf and Country Club. If you don't play golf, please sign up for a fabulous dinner which includes raffle prizes, Tom Good as Master of Ceremonies (not to be missed!), and the Specs offering live music. Please do all that you can to make this event a huge success.

http://www.ssitf.org/golf_tourn.html

(Continued from page 1)

always will be part of the Anglican Communion. We may be asked to go to our room for a time out while the majority of the Communion figures out what to do with us, but we are still part of the family. The resolutions from GC2009 state that there is deep disagreement within the Episcopal Church on these matters. For that matter, there is disagreement within our own faith family at St. Stephen's. But we are still family. My pride in the Episcopal Church is that our Anglican roots call for 'unity in diversity'. We are not told how to think, and we in fact welcome the whole range of (orthodox) thought. Well, we certainly understand the concept of tension. Even when we deeply disagree, we must honor the presence of God in the other person. That isn't easy. It takes commitment. It takes Christ-like love. By engaging in the discussion, all of

us will be changed. I think that change is growth, and I believe it is growth that God is after by allowing this emotional debate within the church. My soul mourns for those who have separated from the Episcopal Church over these matters.

My ordination vows call for my allegiance to Holy Scripture, to the Prayer Book, and to my Bishop. I have never felt tensions among those allegiances. I have no intention to change my ministry focus or style because of these events at General Convention. My ministry is still about challenging us all to live into the likeness of Christ. That is the highest calling God could have given me.

If anyone would like to discuss these recent developments in more detail, I invite you to call me for a chat. Blessings in Christ, Ken +

ECW NEWS AND NOTES

Just a word about the UTO Ingathering on May 30, 2009. I am proud to report our St. Stephen's in the Field congregation put their Blue Box Blessings money together and contributed \$264.44 to the Diocese United Thank Offering. Keep your Blessings flowing into your Blue Boxes. We have a Fall UTO Ingathering to look forward to in November. At the Episcopal National Convention in Anaheim, it was reported to the ECW Triennial Meeting that the UTO Fund has approximately \$7,000,000.00 to give in Grants Nationally and Worldwide. Impressive, don't you think!

Our next Episcopal Church Women's activity is the Mary Lou Thompson Retreat at beautiful Villa Maria Del Mar in Santa Cruz. The Retreat Theme is "Reaching Deep", "Exploring aspects of Celtic and other spiritual traditions as a guide to us to the interior

life. The retreat is an opportunity to come away from our busy life and hear the call of God to know the still, small voice that is within and discover the movement of the Kingdom of God that Jesus proclaimed." Our Retreat Leader is The Reverend Jerry Drino. Please pick up your Reservation Form in the Parish Hall, posted on the bulletin board. The Reservations include the retreat program, three meals, and overnight room at Villa Maria Del Mar - Costs are \$110 for a Shared Room/ \$120 for a private room/ Day only \$40. Send your reservation and Check made out to ECW by September 1, 2009. We need to know the number of rooms we will occupy by then for Villa Maria Del Mar to plan for us. Mail your check and reservation to Wanda Bryan, ECW, 378 El Portal Way, San Jose, CA 95123. Please join me and I am looking for a roommate and would love to have one of you lovely ladies be that person.

Wanda Bryan

Family Campout 9/4-7

Mark your calendar and the end of summer with annual "St. Stephen's in the Field down by the Big Sur river" camping trip.



of the Big Sur River Inn this event is a weekend of tubing, rafting and fellowship around the campfire, for all the family. Once you've been you'll want to go s'more! Contact Andy and Ruth Lief for details.

Held at a private campground just south

Wednesday Crafts Night

One year ago Sherrie Hughes began bringing her craft projects to St. Stephen's on Wednesday nights. It is a time for members, friends, and neighbors of St. Stephen's to gather once a week to share fellowship, conversation, and some light refreshments as they

work on their favorite craft project. Please give this event a try. Invite a friend to join you. Bring your own craft project - whether to work on, or to ask for advice from someone else who may have experience in your craft. What a great summer event! Questions? Contact Sherrie Hughes at sherriehughes@prodigy.net

Thank You Notes

If you want send out a quick thank you this is the place:

Thanks to **Ken Redder** for the countless hours he has spent sorting through photos and photo albums to create our new Photo Library. Ken has also worked with **Dan Hughes** to update the church history that Dan originally wrote for the St. Stephen's 25th Anniversary Celebration. Thanks also to Dan and **Sherrie Hughes** and **Jim and Chris Glancey** for their help in identifying timeframes and people from many, many loose or unlabelled photos.

Thanks to everyone involved in now having a new, very cold, refrigerator in the kitchen. Our 15 year old refrigerator failed again after many repairs. **Jim Glancey** spotted a sale going on at Sears. **Logan and Julie Zintsmas** spent an entire afternoon and evening searching out Sears and many other local sources, to find the best deal in town. **Dan Hughes** and **Fr. Ken** provided the delivery and installation work.

Movie Night

Mark your calendars. August 14th at 8:15 pm (or when it is dark) we will hold *our first Movie Night* on the lawn at St. Stephen's. The movie is the very popular "High School Musical" (Not Rated, a Disney Channel movie, 100 minutes). It will be projected onto the outside wall of the church building. Bring your folding

New Photograph Library

Father Ken's office shelving has been revised to contain the photo albums that have been lying around in various places for years. All of these albums and loose pictures have all been reviewed and placed in new durable photo albums. The loose pictures have been installed and identified with the help of Dan and Sherrie



Marriage Encounter

WANT TO GET CLOSER TO THE ONE YOU LOVE? That's what Marriage Encounter is all about! Marriage Encounter is forty-four hours where the two of you can focus on each other, away from all the distractions of daily life. For a richer, deeper, more vibrant marriage, try a Marriage Encounter weekend!

Diocesan Course on Discernment

ECR's Commission on Ministry invites members of you to participate in a "Day of Discovery" on

Diocesan 2010 Budget Presentation

The 2010 Budget Advisory Committee recommended, and the Board of Trustees approved, the 2010 draft budget for presentation at deanery meetings with Q and A in the morning followed by time with Bishop Mary in the afternoon as follows:

August 29 – Santa Clara Valley Deanery

Place: St. Andrew's, Saratoga

Time: 10 a.m. to noon -- Deanery Meeting (mainly for delegates and alternates, although all are invited)

chair or blanket. There is no charge for the movie. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. Invite your friends. Wear RED for the Wildcats! Contact Rod Sato or Father Ken with any questions.



Hughes and Jim and Chris Glancey. There are now 12 picture albums depicting the growth of our church from its beginning until the present time. Each album has a sequence number and the dates of information found within. I hope that you will feel free to check out this new photo library, and view the history of our church and the people who made it all possible.

There is a shortage of pictures covering the timeframe 2001 through 2007. If you have pictures for that timeframe, please see me about incorporating them into our new albums. Ken Redder

The next Episcopal Marriage Encounter weekend in the Bay Area will be October 10-12. Contact Curt & Arlene McClelland by phone at 408-371-5581 or by email at curt@sbcglobal.net for more information, or go to www.episcopalme.com to register on-line. Registration is limited so a quick response is encouraged.

Saturday, **August 22** at St. Paul's, Salinas. This is a one-day retreat (10am-3pm) designed to help individuals explore their particular calls to ministry. For more information, contact Fr. Ken.



Agenda includes deanery business (reports on nominations and Capernaum Fellowship) and presentations on the diocesan budget for 2010 and resolutions for the 2009 Diocesan Convention

Noon to 1 p.m. -- lunch. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. 8/26 to Joanna Shreve (jrshreve@aol.com) \$5.00

1 to 3 p.m. -- Networking with our bishop. Open to all.

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

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

Notable dates:

August 2 : SMUM School Supplies
 August 10 : Golf Tournament

August 14 : Movie Night
 September 4 : Camping trip
 September 13 : Family Fun day

Servant Calendar

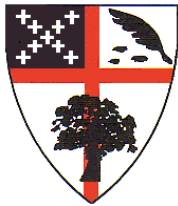
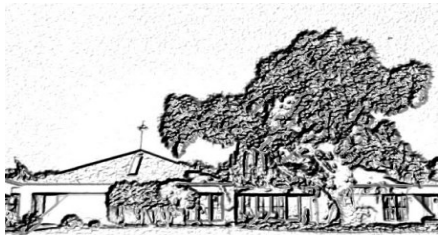
	8/2/2009	8/9/2009	8/16/2009	8/23/2009	8/30/2009
Lector1	Edy Unthank	Nancy	Catherine Blair	Susie Good	Larry Lee
Lector2	Sharon Wardman	Julie Zintsmaster	Caroline Buckner	Tom Good	Genie Yomtov
LEM	Tom Good	Julie Zintsmaster	Wanda Bryan	Caroline Buckner	Jan Martin
CB	Susie Good	Sharon Wardman	Rosemary	Genie Yomtov	Judi Sato
Crucifer	Brooke	Charlie	Taylor	Brooke	Melissa
Acolytes	Isabella, Grace	Peter, Janelle	Sabrina, Brianna	Isabella, Coleman	Peter, Janelle
	Hannah	Carly	Natasha	Hannah, Kendall	Carly
Altar	Nancy	Laura Lewis	Laurie Watson	Edy Unthank	Laurie Watson
Guild	Susan Zaballos	Susie Good	Barbara Gray	Janet Thorsrud	Barbara Gray
Sunday School	Crafts	Crafts	Crafts	Crafts	Crafts
Elementary					
Youth					
Sitter					
Music					
Shepherd	Elaine Alton	Jim Glancey		Robert Young	Logan Zintsmaster
	Tim Alton	Chris Glancey	Frances & Barbara	Ann Little	
Coffee Host					
Counter	Nigel Cooper	Judi Sato	Andy Lief	Tom Good	Andy Lief
	Tim Alton	Sharon Wardman	-	Sandi Redder	-

St. Stephen's in the Field

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, Ca 95139



Seeds and Harvest
August 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,,
Logan Zintsmaster, Tom Good,
Wanda Bryan, Ken Redder, for article
submissions,

You too can contribute!

**Next Issue: September. Deadline
for articles is Thursday August
27th**

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

Movie Night

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