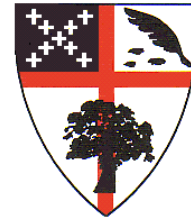


Seeds and Harvest Newsletter



St. Stephen's
in the Field

Message from the Rector

I have not figured out if the end of summer brings with it more a sigh of regret, or a sigh of relief; probably some of both. We are a people who work hard and play hard. We fill our days to overflowing, and so the way we fill them has to be planned with care to supply our needs and bring a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment. If we just let each day happen, we will probably feel like our life has filled up with a churning hubbub of commotion that wears us down but doesn't move us forward.

There were times that my summer felt like that. But now, as September approaches, I see plans finalizing for the annual Parish Campout; Family Fun Day; the CommunityFest where we get to promote our school and faith community to our neighborhood; a Ministry Fair; a Fall Bible Study; a workshop for Greeters; and the St. Francis Day Pet Blessing. That takes us to the beginning of October, when I will write to you next.

The planning might get tedious sometimes, but what it produces is sacred. In Matthew 18:20 Jesus told his disciples this; "Where two or three gather together because they are mine, I am there among them." The first part of

this verse (*because they are mine*) tells us that these things we do together are not most importantly about being with friends. The most important thing is being friends because we share a commitment to make Jesus Christ the priority of our life. We are bonded so deeply because we know what we hold in common.

The second thing we learn from Matthew 18:20 is that all of these activities we share and the ministries we sign up for invite Jesus to be there among us. Please look through our fellowship events, our worship events, and a new ministry that you might like to try, and remember that your decision to jump in is also a decision to ask Jesus to jump in with you. The results are more than just friendships (which is pretty good stuff); the results are sacred times.

Blessings in Christ,

Ken +

September 2009

Volume 2009, Issue 9

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Words from Your Senior Warden

I would like to take the opportunity to thank this community for its support of our annual Golf Tournament. As I reflected back on the event, the first thing that hit me was that we did not hit our budgeted dollars for revenue, and was a bit depressed. Then I looked at how this faith family stepped up to make this event a success in many ways. We may not of hit the numbers we were hoping for, but we again touched lives of people not in our church family. It showed me once again how strong we are working together, and we don't have to go it alone.

Everyone in the community supported the event in so many different ways. There was the creation of the Raffle baskets under the guidance of Team Steitz and the purchasing of raffle tickets by everyone. Tony Pecora stepped up big time, getting involved with the acquisition of raffle donations from area businesses, then he brought in players in from across the country to try and win the event, maybe next year!

We increased our documentation of the event this year with two photographers Ken Redder and John Little,

they should have some great pictures of the event. The ladies at the registration table Edy Unthank, Wanda Bryan, Amy Corbus, Susie Good and Frances Steitz the event would not have come off without you. How can I not mention those of you who participated as players and put together teams, and those of you who joined us for dinner with music by Bruce, Art and Bill of Specs. Then there were the fabulous "Beer Cart" drivers Father Ken and Deacon Michael. Finally I would not been able to do what I did with out the help of Tim Good organizing and setting up the the event .

So as I look back on the event, I look past the fact that it did not hit the projected revenue we had hoped, but we succeeded again in coming together to share our faith with others, demonstrating what it means to be a strong Faith Family. I cannot say enough what a joy it is to be a part of the Faith Family at St. Stephen's.

God Bless,

Tom

Worship and Music Update

By Julie Zintsmaster

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to and end, and fall is right around the corner. With fall comes bell choir, voice choir, Praise Band, Sunday School, and chanted Rite II. (Players 4 Christ maintained their once-a-month schedule right through the summer.) If you are interested in joining any of these groups, please let me know and I will help



you get connected. In September, the Praise Band will play on September 13 (Family Sunday / Family Fun Day).

Preschool Update...

The first day of Fall classes is September 8th. We held a 'meet the teacher day' on August 28, and the attendance from our neighborhood was EXCELLENT!! We now have verbal or written commitments for 13 children to start school in September. There are another 3 or 4 families who have shown high interest, and we continue to get several new inquiries every week asking about the preschool. We are one student short of doubling the student population from last year. God is Great.

One father said that he is so impressed with our preschool that he wanted flyers to take home. He plans to



talk to his neighbors and get them to sign up their preschool aged children. Now that is enthusiastic advertising!

Please continue to pray for our preschool, our faculty and staff, and our new students and their families.

Ken +

Treasurer’s Report

As we pass the mid year point, our results show that we have been right on target for our income and expenses and our budget. We have had our expenses under control and the pledge support and other contributions have been as expected. However, due to the current economic conditions, the Golf Tournament did not meet expectations. While everyone did their best to make it a success, we could not overcome the financial challenges that everyone is facing. Some of this was anticipated in the establishment of the Contingency Set Aside account which we can now use to offset some of the shortfall. The Finance Committee will also be looking at the expenses that remain for the end of the year and look for opportunities for saving.

On the income side, your support is also important.

July 09	Actual	Budget	Percent Difference
Income	\$11,725	\$12,852	91% of Budget
Expense	\$12,864	\$14,087	91% of Budget
Net	(\$1,139)	(\$1,235)	
Year to Date			
Income	\$91,499	\$90,672	101% of Budget
Expense	\$102,289	\$101,252	101% of Budget
Net	(\$10,790)	(\$10,580)	-2% Better

We know that financial setbacks may happen to any of us in the future. All that we ask is that everyone does their best to continue their support of St. Stephen’s in the Field.

Logan R. Zintsmaster, Treasurer

Ministry Fair – Sunday, September 20th

By Julie Zintsmaster

On Sunday, September 20, we will have our annual Ministry Fair following the 10:00 am service. Each vestry member will set up an informational display of their ministry area, so we can all see the many opportunities for service and participation at St.

Stephen’s. Sign-up sheets will be available for: choir, bell choir, acolytes, lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, buildings and grounds crew, outreach, communications, Sunday School teachers, nursery providers, Sunday morning offering counters, altar guild, hospitality, greeters and every other area of service at St. Stephen’s. So, be thinking about how you want to be involved in our church life this year and check us out!

SHEPHERDS & GREETERS WORKSHOP

Do you want to get more involved with St. Stephen's in-the-field Church? Are you a new member and want to meet more of the families of our Parish? I have a ministry for you! Shepherds and Greeters are very important to the growth of our Parish. They are the first people that newcomers and visitors meet when they come to our Church. Come to the Shepherds/Greeters Workshop and find out more. We would love to increase our existing group of dedicated Shepherds and Greeters. Any questions call Genie Lee

Membership Liason.

All Shepherds/Greeters, current and new, please attend the workshop on:

When: September 26, 2009 Saturday
Time: 10 am until 12 noon
Where: St. Stephen's in-the-field Church

Thank you so much for considering this ministry. Hope to see you at the workshop.

Love in Christ, Genie Lee, Membership Liaison

2009 Family Fun Day BBQ

Bounce House-Field Games-Face Painting
Cotton Candy-Sno Cones
BBQ Hot Dogs-Burgers-Soda
Live Music



**Y'All Come! • Bring a Friend
Great Food • Great Friends • Great Time**



Sept 13th 12pm - 4pm

**Suggested donation \$5 per person,
max \$15 per family, under 2 free**

Volunteers

If you would like to help make the Family Fun day a big success by volunteering with setup, cleanup, cooking, or supervising activities please contact Rod Sato.

Community Fest at George Page Park

(Santa Teresa and Miyuki)
Saturday, September 19, 2009

St. Stephen's in-the-Field Church and Pre-School will have a table again this year at our local Community Fest on Saturday, September 19, at the corner of Santa Teresa and Miyuki. We plan to have an activity for children, provide informational brochures about our worship services, activities and our pre-school, and

give those who stop by our table something to take home with them. The Festival will open at 10:00 am and end mid-afternoon (exact time not published). If you would like to cover a shift during the day, please contact Julie Zintsmaster. Or just bring your family to the Festival and stop by the St. Stephen's table. We want our community to know about the many exciting things that are happening at St. Stephen's and extend a hand of welcome to those who are looking for a church family.

Thank You Notes

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

We'd like to say a Great Big **THANK YOU** to the following people who donated and/or helped with the basket raffle for the Golf Tournament. It's amazing what a big part of the total the baskets earned for St. Stephens.
Without the "before, during, and after" help Jack and I could not have done it. We think you are all angels. Thanks again. Jack & Frances Steitz

Thanks go to: Julie Zintsmaster, Karen Cuffie, Logan Zintsmaster, Wanda Bryan, Larry & Genie Lee, Laura Lewis, Chris Glancey, Nancy McGuinness, Eve Wright, Jeanne Noteware, Sherrie Hughes, Lisa Thornburg, Arlene Coffee, Rod & Judi Sato, Amy Corbus, Caroline Buckner, Janet Thorsrud, Tracy Cooper, Mia Pecora, and Edy Unthank.

Job Seekers at St. Stephens-in-the-Field

One of the most distinguishing marks of a healthy Christian community is the degree to which we help bear one another's burdens. As I listen to the list of intercessory prayers from the bidding book for individuals and families during The Prayers of the People each Sunday, I can't help but think that for each request for prayer, there is one or two that go unbidden, at least publically.

There are many reasons why we don't express our need for prayer or assistance. Some of us are just intensely private people and really don't feel comfortable putting our troubles out in front of everyone no matter how valid the need. Other times we're dealing with issues that guilt and shame us into not revealing them in the fear that we would be rejected if known.

One of the strongest challenges to our sense of self-esteem and security comes when there is a job loss, either through a reduction in force (layoff), termination or through serious illness. I don't think it is too hard to underestimate the difficulties on an individual or their family when one is faced with having to seek new employment, whether expected or not. And it is a process which has its ups and downs which are all too well known. No one can underestimate the joy experienced when the new position is found, we are rehired or we recover to the point where we can return to our jobs--the world just seems to be a brighter place.

Last Sunday (August 23) **Deacon Bob Williams** and

Give Education to a Sudanese Orphan Today!

A \$10 Monthly Pledge

Three people making \$10 a month pledges will take care of an orphan for 1 year! Encourage your friends to work with you to sponsor one child. You'll receive a photo, updates, and you may send your student a note.

Learn more at www.peternyok.info

Read part of Ayen's biography:

(Pictured in the photo right)

"Before, my life revolved around cattle's and other domestic animals and I never thought there was a bet-

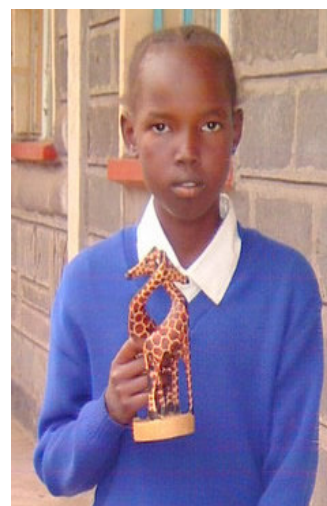
Pat Williams joined us for services and reminded us of their positions as liaisons for Congregational Development. During coffee hour after service, Deacon Bob reminded me of the "Job Seekers Program" developed at St. Timothy's Mountain View. This "Best Practice Program" is being offered by The Congregational Development Committee of ECR. This is a methodology that has been highly successful at St. Timothy's and has assisted 7 out of 21 persons participating in the program in obtaining a job (that is a 30% success rate) in the 9 months that the Program has been in operation. It addresses important aspects of the job search process from inception of a job search through guidance in obtaining an interview for a desired job.

Not long ago **Margo Westfall** and I were discussing the possibility of developing a job seeker support group here at St. Stephen's in the field. Between the two of us I think we came up with some pretty good ideas for assistance, but we were unsure whether or not there was in fact need here at St. Stephen's in the field for this kind of program/support network.

So I am asking you, our St. Stephen's community to contact me, confidentially or otherwise, and let me know if you or someone you know personally would benefit from a program like the one Deacon Bob brought to my attention. Please contact me either by email, phone or pull me aside on a Sunday. I look forward to hearing from you.

e-mail is mwridgway@earthlink.net

ter life than that of cattle keeping and cultivating land, so when I came to Kenya and started schooling I have experienced a different kind of life, I have also developed self confidence and I believe to make it big in life now that I am enlightened I want to climb up the ladder to the last stair and live a better life in my future life."



Good News— baby Chelsie

Moniz

Monica had a baby girl August 13th at 4.42 pm. Delivered by C Section, she is 20 inches long, 9.5 lbs and no doubt as adorable and gorgeous as Lainie, Kaylie & Chloe! Monica and the baby are home now and both



are doing well.

Please pray for Monica's swift recovery and for the health and well-being of this new member of the Moniz and St. Stephen's families. God bless!

Thanks to

Sue Nielsen and Robin Horn for many hours of volunteer time spent making the preschool classroom so appealing as we worked to display it to parents over the summer. Although there were three weeks in August with no preschool or summer camp, they kept the room looking sharp.

Also helping with that task is the amazing Logistics Team; made up of members of the vestry. This group makes sure that every Sunday morning the preschool is converted into a Parish Hall, and every Sunday afternoon that it is converted back into a preschool classroom. Without this group doing what they do, there would be many frustrated people walking around St. Stephen's. Many thanks to all of you.

Movie Night

Our first Movie Night was on August 14th. It went very well. We had about 18 people attend, using blankets on the lawn, or lawn chairs they brought and set up. Rod and Judi Sato ran a goodie table with the

assistance of Kendall Watson, selling drinks, popcorn, and candy. Rod and Father Ken set up the projector and sound systems. This was such a popular event, we hope to continue it, outside or inside, throughout the year. Check back for our next Movie Night.

New Lighting

PG&E has an energy saving program which is probably going to go away next year. But we found out about it, and moved fast to sign up. Under this program we have replaced all lighting inside and outside the church, with the exception of the parking lot lighting. The work replaces incandescent bulbs with lower wattage halogen bulbs, and replaces

fluorescent tubes with half the number of the new T8 tubes. (4 tube fixtures were changed to only require 2 tubes.) The result of this change will be a 30% reduction in our lighting bill. The payback on our very modest \$2600 investment is 0.8 year. If we had done this work without the PG&E plan, it would have cost over \$7000. This retrofit will give us significant utility bill savings for years to come.

New Copier

For the past five years we have been leasing a Konica copier for church office use. The lease was to expire in October. We were approached by our copier company about getting a new (actually repossessed) copier. It is almost new, and the lease they are offering is actually a contract to buy the copier. So we will own the entire equity of the copier at the end of the five year lease.

The financial impact is a savings for the next 12 months, over our current copier. That grabbed our attention! Then we will pay slightly more per month, but we pick up some nice features, and we own it at the end of 60 months. This decision was reviewed and accepted by the Finance Committee.

Hanging On

The Rev. Laurel Johnston is Program Officer for Stewardship for the national church. She has written a pamphlet titled, "Finding Hope in Hard Times". Here are the major steps she offers:

1. Count Your Blessings
2. Count Your Cash
3. Learn to be Content
4. Choose a Simpler Lifestyle

5. Keep on Giving
6. Rebuild Generous Communities

This list works to put our priorities right, take stock of the reality of the economic conditions of the time, but also keep from falling into the easy pitfall of worry leading to blindness to the blessings we have.

You can find the entire pamphlet at:

www.episcopalchurch.org/stewardship

Fall Bible Study

Part A: New Testament Background

A four week study of the inter-testamental period; religious and political groups at the time of Jesus; historical evidence for the authors of the Gospels; formation of the biblical canon. (Tuesdays, Sept 15—Oct 6, 2009) Textbook price is \$16.00.

Part B: The Gospel of Mark

An eight week study of the Gospel of Mark, using the Kerygma course. (Tuesdays, Oct 13—Dec 1, 2009)



Resource book price is \$20.00.

- The Foundations of the Gospels
 - The Galilean Ministry Begins
 - Teaching and Preaching
 - A Man Who Does Everything Well
 - Visions of the Kingdom
 - What is Power?
 - Signs of the End
 - Death into Life
- Sessions at 9am & 7pm
To register, contact Father Ken or Judi Sato.

Thanks to

the Lawn Mowing Team; Bob Young, Trig Thorsrud, Lars Samson, Marshall Lewis, and Jack Baird. Through heat of the summer, and busy-ness of weekends, and malicious attacks of gophers, and coordination with special weekend services, nothing

keeps this group from their appointed rounds.

I have also spotted Tracy Cooper with her weed trimmer, grooming the hillside. One afternoon I saw her stop by just to pick up litter from the hillside. This is pride of ownership at its best. Thanks to all of you for making our shared home sparkle!!

Fall Craft Fair Spectacular

The expanded Fair will be held on October 10th

volunteers are needed. Watch for opportunities in your email inbox.

Visiting Bishops

On September 20-24, our diocese will sponsor a visit from the bishops of our two companion dioceses. Our visitors will be the Rt. Rev. Gerard Mpango from The Diocese of Western Tanganyika in Tanzania, and the Rt. Rev. Michael Perham from The Diocese of Gloucester in England. Visits in the northern part of our diocese include; Sunday, Sept 20 at Trinity Cathedral, San Jose and Monday, Sept 21 at St. Timothy's, Mountain View.

An invitation from Bishop Mary:

On behalf of the planning team that is well prepared to welcome our companion dioceses, we hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to participate in one or more of our scheduled events. We are all excited about deepening our relationship, reaching greater understanding of one another's context for ministry and furthering our mission together. We hope you will choose to be part of this valuable and important process, and that as a diocese we can welcome and enjoy our guests, together deepening our bonds in the body of Christ. All are welcome! Blessings, Bishop Mary

The full itinerary can be found at:

<http://www.edecr.org/companion/Companion-VisitSchedule-200909.pdf>

Pet Blessing

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 3**, and tell your pet about St. Stephen's annual St. Francis Day Pet Blessing. We have a short service outside under the oak tree at 4:00 pm, and each pet that attends will be individually blessed by Fr. Ken and receive a

certificate suitable for framing (or at least hanging on the refrigerator). It's a social event as well for those pets who like to be social and their owners. It's truly a special afternoon and a great gift to give your four-legged, winged, or slithering (if anyone has a snake) friends. Please join us!



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

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

Notable dates:

September 4 : Camping trip
September 13 : Family Fun day

September 15th : Bible Study 9am & 7pm
September 20 : Ministry Fair, Sunday School starts
September 26 : Greeters Workshop
October 1 : Blessing of the Animals

Servant Calendar

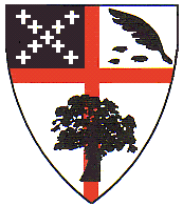
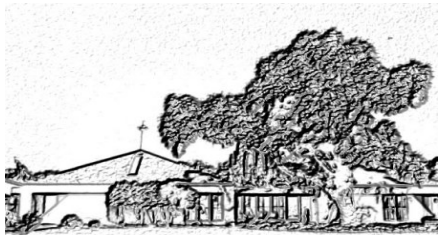
	9/6/2009	9/13/2009	9/20/2009	9/27/2009	10/4/2009
		Family Fun Day			
Lector1	Jan Martin	Family Sunday	Jordan Lief	Tony Pecora	Judi Sato
Lector2	Maggi Munson		Morrie Munson	Sandi Redder	Frances Steitz
LEM	Susie Good	Julie Zintsmaster	Genie Yomtov-Lee	Edy Unthank	Wanda Bryan
CB	Tom Good	Rosemary	Sharon Wardman	Jan Martin	Laura Lewis
Crucifer	Taylor	Brooke	Melissa	Taylor	Brooke
Acolytes	Sabrina, Brianna	Isabella	Peter, Janelle	Sabrina, Brianna	Isabella, Coleman
	Natasha	Hannah	Carly	Natasha	Hannah, Kendall
Altar	Nancy	Laura Lewis	Laurie Watson	Edy Unthank	Nancy
Guild	Susan Zaballos	Susie Good	Barbara Gray	Janet Thorsrud	Susan Zaballos
Sunday School			Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
Elementary			School	School	School
Youth					
Sitter					
Music		Praise Band	Choir		Choir
Shepherd	Elaine Alton	Jim Glancey		Robert Young	Elaine Alton
	Tim Alton	Chris Glancey	Frances & Barbara	Ann Little	Tim Alton
Coffee Host		BBQ	Lee Family	Munson Family	Remson & White
Counter	Nigel Cooper	Judi Sato	Andy Lief	Tom Good	Nigel Cooper
	Tim Alton	Sharon Wardman	-	Sandi Redder	Tim Alton

St. Stephen's in the Field

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, Ca 95139



Seeds and Harvest
September 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.ssif.org](http://www.ssif.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, Dcn
Michael Ridgway, Carol Pecora, Julie
Zintsmaster, Frances Steitz, Genie
Lee, for article submissions,
You too can contribute!

**Next Issue: October. Deadline for
articles is Thursday October 1st**

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