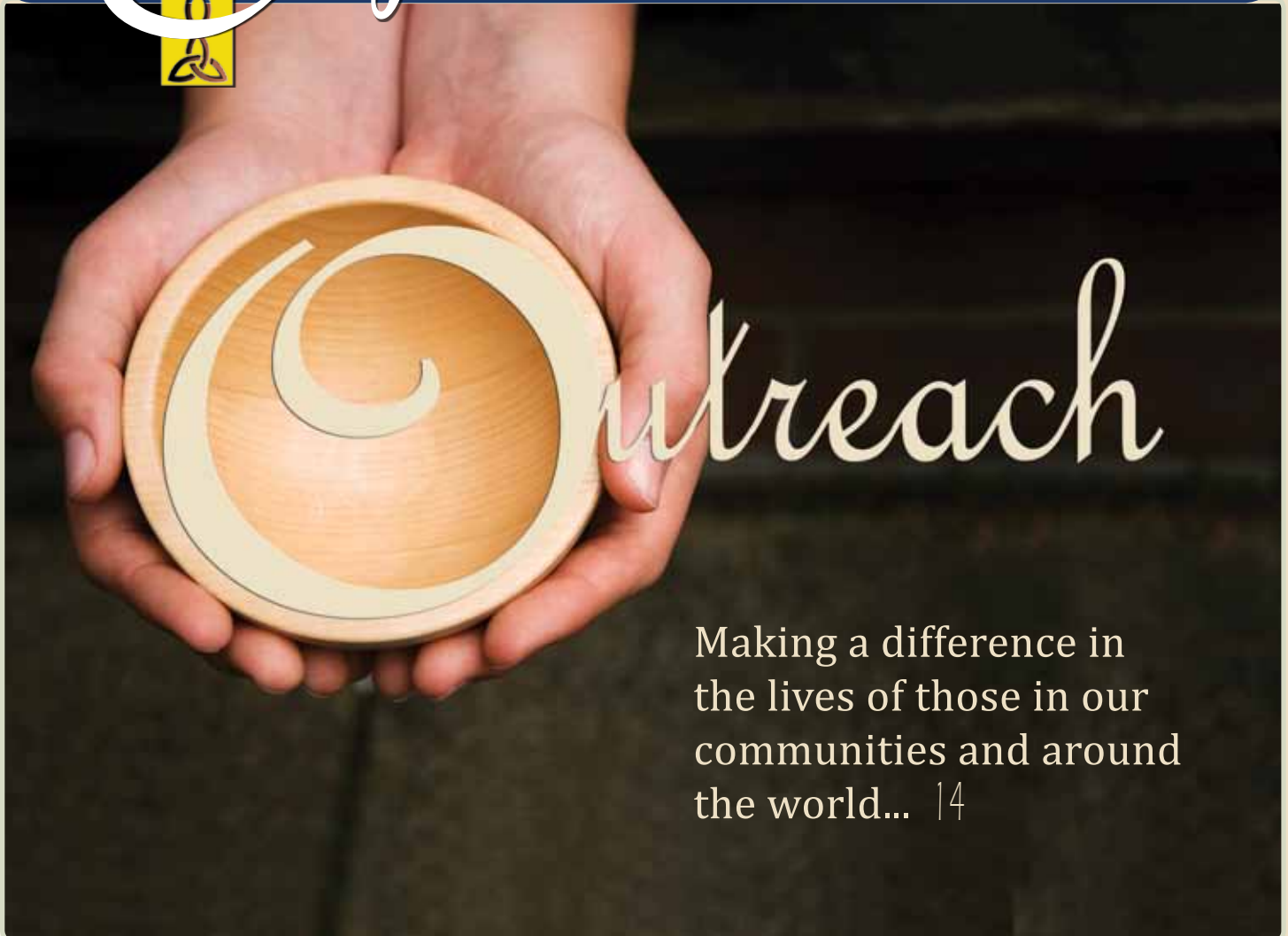




Together in Mission



Making a difference in
the lives of those in our
communities and around
the world... 14

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Together in Mission

The Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

Published once a year in November by The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California.

Please contact us with submissions, letters to the editor, book reviews, article ideas and more via e-mail to communications@norcalepiscopal.org.

Our Next Issue:

We would love to hear from you! Please send your stories, thoughts, book reviews & letters to the editor (between 50 and 600 words) to communications@norcalepiscopal.org for consideration. Please include your name and contact information for verification.

The Episcopal Church

In the Anglican Communion
A global community of over 80 million members in 44 regional and national member churches.
The Most Reverend Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

In the United States

A community of more than 2 million members in 110 dioceses in the Americas and abroad. Established in 1789. *The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop*

In the Diocese of Northern California

A community of 14,000 baptized members in 71 congregations in the northern counties of the State of California. Established in 1874. *The Rt. Rev. Barry Beisner, Bishop*

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Our Core Values

Our abiding Values are the values of the New Covenant of Jesus Christ, and of our Baptismal Covenant with Him. This is how we mean to live.

In our Diocese, we are especially committed to:

Worship

Everything we do flows from and returns to our worship of God, which we do as beautifully and meaningfully as we can, in keeping with the best of our Anglican tradition.

Outreach

In the love of Christ, we care constantly for the least, the last, and the lost in body, mind and spirit.

Formation

We help people of all ages to grow into spiritual maturity, and to be fully equipped to live the Christian life.

Our Mission

Make disciples, raise up saints, and transform communities for Christ in Northern California.

Visit www.norcalepiscopal.org to learn more about our Diocese.



welcome

by Keri Lopez, keri@norcalepiscopal.org



Shown here are just a few photos of Office of the Bishop staff, all of whom volunteered their time recently at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Sacramento (counter-clockwise from top L): Thea and Monica help to sort canned goods; Jenifer works to help with much-needed filing; and Anne (St. Matthew's), the Rev. Canon Britt and Cassie share in stocking the Food Pantry storage shed.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

(Matthew 25:35-40 NRSV)

Everywhere we look today, we see signs of a struggling economy

--from neighborhood lawns sprouting foreclosure signs to increasing lines at local food banks and homeless shelters. The congregations of our diocese are working to keep up with demand, and are overflowing with stories such as the few shared in this issue of our magazine. As you read through them, consider the ways you share your time; might you have an extra hour or two each week to sort through canned goods, launder sheets and blankets, or prepare meals? Perhaps God has blessed you with a particular talent which might prove helpful at your local food bank, thrift store or medical outreach program. What's more, perhaps a story within this issue might inspire you to start a similar outreach program in your congregation. We pray for continued blessings upon the work being done, those dedicating their time and resources to this work, and above all to those for whom these efforts have proven life-changing.

Peace to you,

Keri Lopez
Director of Communications



THE CONGREGATIONAL VITALIZATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS...



2012 BISHOP'S CONFERENCE

RENEWING
the CHURCH

*Building up the body
of Christ in love*

Ephesians 4:16

April 27 - 28, 2012
Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

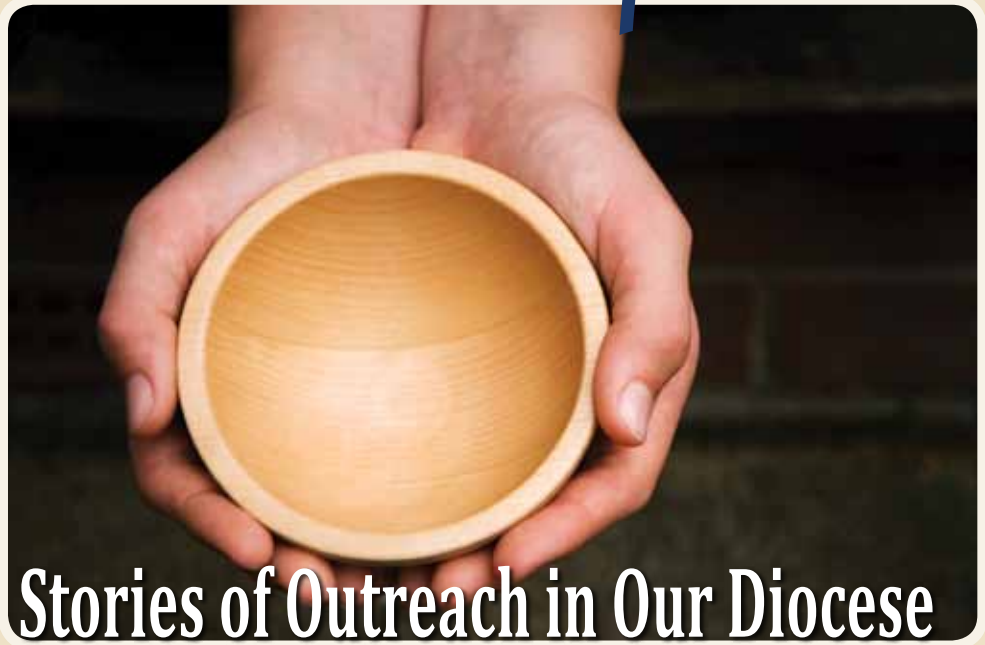
Workshops and worship for every size and type of congregation will engage the mind, spirit and heart with a hope-filled vision for renewal.

Don't miss our keynote speaker, the Rev. Thomas Brackett, the Episcopal Church's missionary for church planting, ministry redevelopment, and fresh expressions of church. He has been passionate about lively communities of faith for twenty-seven years of ordained life, and shares his insights and experience through his blog, "Church Planting Central," found online at plantingcentral.typepad.com/bench.

NEW! ~ The Rev. Canon Neal O. Michell, Canon to the Ordinary for the Diocese of Dallas and author of two bestselling books, entitled "How to Hit the Ground Running" and "Beyond Business as Usual," will be presenting at this year's event!

Save the date, and watch for additional details online at
www.norcalepiscopal.org/bishopsconference

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a message from our Bishop

by Bishop Barry Beisner, barry@norcalepiscopal.org



Shown here: Bishop Barry volunteers time sorting and stacking canned food for St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Sacramento.



This issue of our magazine is especially exciting for me, because it goes to the heart of what it means to live the Christian life. Outreach is foundational for us.

We are asked in the Baptistal Covenant if we will resist evil, seek and serve

Christ in all persons, love our neighbors, strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being. To these questions, we answer, 'I will, with God's help.' In these pages you will read stories of the living of those promises, in real ways, through concrete actions—big and small, by people of our diocesan family who are taking that Covenant seriously.

Outreach is defining for us. It is one of the distinguishing marks of the Church. Outreach is not identical to mission, nor is it most of what we do in mission, but it is an essential part of it. Along with worship, evangelism, stewardship, and education, outreach makes us what we are. There is no way a church that is not doing outreach could be said to be carrying out its mission. It could hardly be said to be a church. Healthy congregations reach out beyond themselves to those in need; they manifest God's love to the poor, to the stranger, to those from whom we might reasonably expect to receive nothing in return. In these pages you will read of servant ministry as practiced by many people in many places around our diocese, as they live what it means to be Church.

"We love because He first loved us." The people of God will always reach out in love and concern to others. Wherever there are people who love God, there will be ministries of outreach. Nothing can prevent it. It comes with being part of the unstoppable movement of God in history. It comes with being Church.

With a grateful heart,

+ Barry



Special Thanks from Episcopal Relief & Development

Thank you to all who are contributing to Episcopal Relief & Development, whether individually or through your churches. Episcopal Relief & Development works to "eliminate poverty ... alleviate hunger, promote health, create economic opportunities and respond to disasters" around the world. Recent contributions from the Diocese of Northern California include church donations of \$2,000 for aid to Sudan, \$500 for St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus, and a general contribution of \$416 from the Episcopal Church Women.

More information about Episcopal Relief & Development, an invaluable outreach ministry resource, is available online at er-d.org or by contacting Jane Snibbe, Diocesan Coordinator for Episcopal Relief & Development, dickjanespot@comcast.net, or (707) 894-8558.



When the earthquake hit Haiti in January 2010, it effectively leveled the most populous diocese of The Episcopal Church. Seventy percent of church buildings were considered a total loss. Diocesan-run schools, clinics and hospitals that served over 100,000 Episcopalians, as well as countless community members, were wiped out in thirty-five seconds.

Epicenter of Ministry

Many of the services we expect from the government—healthcare, education, culture—are provided in Haiti by The Episcopal Church. And many governmental agencies and NGOs have rushed to fill these needs in the aftermath. Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with the Church in Haiti to provide short-term employment, provisional homes, and sanitation systems in addition to other community-focused recovery programs. The Clinton-Bush Haiti Fund sponsored mobile health clinics, and a United Nations fund has underwritten the clean-up of six neighborhoods in Port-au-Prince. But there is one thing no one else can rebuild for The Episcopal Church: Holy Trinity Cathedral. Home of the famous murals that depicted the Biblical narrative, the Cathedral was a beacon in a land where strength of faith is inversely proportional to economic development.

Holy Trinity Professional School and the primary and secondary schools also located on the Cathedral grounds, raised up future leaders in an environment of cultural and spiritual grace. In 35 seconds, it was all reduced to rubble.

Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin and the people of Haiti have asked for our help. The Episcopal Church, acting through the Executive Council, asks every Episcopal diocese and congregation to join in this initial phase of rebuilding the Diocese of Haiti. As the walls of a new Cathedral rise, so too will the hearts and fortunes of those who have depended on Holy Trinity for spiritual succor, for education, and for income. We have the chance to resurrect the spirit of a nation.

As they say in Haiti, *Men anpil chay pa lou*, or “many hands make the load lighter.” Working together, we can complete this project brick by brick, and \$10 buys a brick. Visit www.episcopalchurch.org/haitiappeal today to make a donation or to get involved in raising money at your congregation level.



rebuild our Church in Haiti



New Life for Haiti

The new Cathedral will serve as an anchor to the expanded Episcopal presence in downtown Port-au-Prince, offering worship space for 1,000, housing diocesan offices and a rectory, and incorporating the former cathedral ruins as an historic memorial garden.

Brick by brick, you can raise up the walls of a new cathedral over the ruins of the past.

The Diocese of Haiti has conducted initial strategic planning, and engineers are already at work in Haiti instructing masons in earthquake-safe methods that are no more costly than the masonry that failed.

Making a Donation

To begin, all we need is a brick or two, or ten, or a thousand. If you wish to make a donation by check, please mail it to: *Rebuild Our Church in Haiti, c/o Episcopal Church Foundation, 815 Second Ave., New York, New York 10017.*

Help Share This News, Strengthen Our Connection...

See page 13 for additional appeal resources available to congregations interested in working to support this fundraising campaign, as well as in building and strengthening our partnership with Haiti.



canon's note



by the Rev. Canon Britt Olson, britt@norcalepiscopal.org
Canon to the Ordinary

You may have heard it said that “The Church doesn’t have a mission... God’s mission has a Church!” If you read this issue of *Together in Mission* from cover to cover (as I hope and pray you do) you will discover that the mission of Christ is happening throughout the churches of the Diocese of Northern California.

Everywhere we see the needs of the hungry, the homeless, the depressed, young people, seniors, and even our closest friends, neighbors and fellow church members. Rather than being paralyzed, every one of our churches is finding a way to work together, to share what they have and to care compassionately for others. As our Presiding Bishop, Katharine Jefferts Schori writes, “The response of the Episcopal Church to all of God’s children... ought to be... to see the suffering of human beings, made in the image of God, and to respond in ways that seek to realize God’s dream of a restored and healed world.”¹

Sometimes we see these needs and wonder, “What can I do? What can our small church do? We have enough difficulties of our own.” And yet we find that in giving our lives away (as well as our time, skills, money and support) we receive new life, fulfillment and purpose. This is what we learn when we let the mind of Christ enter into us as Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians; “doing nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, looking not to one’s own interests, but to the interests of others; and like Jesus, for the joy set before us engaging the hurt and pain of our world.”² What comes through in our stories of serving others in Christ’s name is passion, enthusiasm, deep satisfaction and yes, joy!

This summer I found myself in Assisi, Italy, where the sweet smell of St Francis and St. Clare still lingers. Many are drawn to his example of selfless poverty, compassionate love and faithful service. His joy and gentleness are reflected in the beautiful murals that tell the story of his life and ministry. But I recently learned something interesting about Francis. His first act of charity involved “appropriating” goods from his father’s textile business, taking them to a distant market where he sold them

and then gave the proceeds to the poor. These are the actions of an immature and headstrong radical but not necessarily those of a saint!

Yet, we in the church are able to give only because we are drawing on a rich store of resources laid down for us by the faithful saints who have gone before us. From them we have received the good news of God. In many cases their generosity built the sanctuaries we worship in and supported the programs in which our Christian discipleship was formed. We engage Christ’s mission with a goodly heritage, rich resources and I hope, a deep sense of gratitude for all we have received.

This is the time for Christians to open our hands and hearts in generosity, to lay down our lives in hope for a day we cannot see, and to act faithfully trusting in the goodness of God and the presence of Christ when we reach out to the least, the last and the lost.

With faith, hope and love,

Canon Britt+

¹. *Gospel in the Global Village: Seeking God’s Dream of Shalom*, p. 13

². (*Philippians 2:3-11, paraphrased*)



2011 MDG Grant Recipients Announced

*The Rev. Lucretia Jevne, St. Luke's, Calistoga;
Chair, Millennium Development Goals Committee*

The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Committee has announced the recipients of the 2011 Millennium Development Goals Grants. The purpose of these grants is to provide congregations with start-up or expansion funds for ministry programs or projects which support the Millennium Development Goals. The MDG committee strives to encourage individual churches to develop and work with a project targeting one or more of the MDGs in partnership with someone in the developing world. They are pleased to announce grants in the amount of \$12,300 covering a wide variety of projects and targeting several MDG goals:

Jonathan Pregill: Jonathan has returned home safely following a year in Ecuador, where he worked with the Diocese in a variety of ways as a member of the Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church. At Bishop's Conference, we conducted an interview via Skype with him which those gathered found very inspiring. His work touches on MDG goal number two -- he is working as a primary school teacher; and goal number eight -- as a missionary he is developing a partnership between the Episcopal Church and the church in Ecuador. Grant Amount: \$ 2,000

Grace Church, Fairfield and St. Brigid's, Rio Vista: Through a parishioner of Grace Church, these congregations have been developing a partnership with Punta Gorda Misson, Belize. This is an impoverished area with both limited supplies of food and access to education for children. The grant request was for money to help the children, who have no learning skills, develop the tools needed to be successful in school. The scholarship fund is administered by the Toledo Institute for Development and Environment. Beyond scholarships the goal is to develop an ongoing relationship with the people of Punta Gorda that will enrich both them and the people of Fairfield/Rio Vista. Grant Amount: \$2,000 for scholarships

Haiti Children's Immunization Grant Project: This initiative comes from our Diocesan Health Ministries and the National Episcopal Health Ministries of the Episcopal Church, and is partnering with the Haitian School of Nursing and the Episcopal Church of Haiti. The goal of

this initiative is to assemble a team of medical professionals that will develop ongoing education and a children's immunization program. The long-term vision is to provide routine immunization to every child and to turn the project over to the School of Nursing to administer. The money requested is for medical supplies and for scholarships to help defray the costs of the diocesan team who are going to be serving in Haiti. Grant Amount: \$3,000

Holy Spirit Church, Tela, Honduras: Our Companion Diocese Committee requested funds to help the women of Holy Spirit to develop their own jewelry business. This helps to empower women, thus promoting gender equality, continues the development of a global partnership with Holy Spirit, and aids in alleviating poverty and hunger by helping the women support their families. Grant Amount: \$2,500

Episcopal Relief & Development/Southern Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SUDRA): This project provides seeds and tools to help returning refugees in the Sudan grow their own food. The area is in crisis because of the ongoing strife around their independence and an increasing number of refugees are entering the area. This project addresses MDG goals number 1,3,4,7 and 8. Grant Amount: \$2,000

Episcopal Relief and Development/St. Luke's Anglican Hospital in Nablus, West Bank: Episcopal Relief & Development partners with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and gives support to St. Luke's Anglican Hospital in Nablus in the West Bank. St. Luke's is a full service medical facility and also runs community outreach programs for all in need, regardless of their ability to pay. This project impacts Millennium Development Goals of eradicating extreme poverty, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and creating a global partnership. Grant Amount: \$500

Global Episcopal Mission Network: This is a network designed to support and promote partnerships for global mission. Grant Amount: \$300 for diocesan dues.

Many thanks to the generosity of the people of the Diocese of Northern California, who have dedicated 0.7 percent of the diocesan budget towards the Millennium Development Goals. It is our hope that every church in our diocese will be able to sponsor a program dedicated to the relief of poverty around the globe.

The Millennium Development Goals committee includes: the Rev. Lucretia Jevne, Warren Dunning, Stephanie Schulz; the Rev. Mark Allen, Thea Mangels, Kim Andrup, Dan Boeger and Jane Snibbe.

**For more information, please visit us online at
www.norcalepiscopal.org/millennium-development-goals**



in & around our diocese

Send your news stories to communications@norcalepiscopal.org for consideration.



St. Martin's Gets a New Look

article by Janet Lane; photos by Gail Gong of St. Martin's, Davis

After four months of construction (May 23 – Sept. 30), the new narthex and renovated sanctuary at The Episcopal Church of St. Martin's in Davis are complete. What a joy it was to have been able to share our new space with many of you from around the Diocese at the joyful occasion of Ernie Lewis' ordination to the priesthood on October 1.

For those who have not seen it, the 500-square-foot narthex is a beautiful, inviting space with high ceilings and lots of natural wood and glass. This addition, along with an outdoor shade structure and large window in the shape of a cross, give an entirely new look to the front of the church. Improvements to the existing sanctuary



include new energy efficient windows, an insulated roof, fresh paint, new carpeting, lighting and sound system as well as a remodeled sacristy and vesting area.

One particularly notable feature of the new narthex is a 7 x 7 foot baptismal pool. The Rev. Mark Allen, Rector of St. Martin's, explains that baptism by immersion is

the most ancient form of baptism and was most likely used in the church until the Middle Ages. It was recovered in the Catholic wing of the church as part of the liturgical renewal movement in the 1950s and '60s. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer states in its instructions about baptism: "Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon the candidate..." (BCP page 307). All the language of the prayer said over the water in the baptismal rite implies the generous use of water in baptism (see BCP page 306). Made of concrete and unpolished granite, St. Martin's baptismal pool has a simple and natural design and, according to the Rev. Mark, allows our architecture to reflect our theology of baptism.

One of St. Martin's classroom buildings has also been remodeled to provide better classroom and

meeting space and to add a music classroom named after former St. Martin's music director, Dona Brandon. For all the projects, Eric Doud of Spirit Designs in Winters provided the architectural design. Monley Cronin, Inc. of Woodland is the general contractor. To fund the work, St. Martin's held a capital campaign last year and was able to raise the money needed via donations and pledges from church

members.

St. Martin's parish hall and adjoining kitchen are currently in the process of being remodeled and upgraded in order to provide additional space, as well as to make the existing space more functional, energy-efficient, and pleasant. This building is essential to St. Martin's outreach efforts and is where Davis Community Meals offers three meals each week to the homeless and low income in our community. Construction is expected to be fully completed by the end of October.

We have sensed God's presence in so many aspects of this project—from the beauty of what has been created to the teamwork that has gone into making it happen. We are grateful to have this updated, more welcoming space and to be able to use it as one of our tools for ministry for many years to come. We hope you'll come visit us soon.

What is Cursillo?

article by the Rev. Mike Kerrick, Interim Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Folsom

Have you been at a diocesan-wide gathering and noticed somebody wearing a Cursillo button, and wondered what it was all about? You are not alone. Lots of people have

heard about Cursillo, but aren't sure what it is.

Cursillo is a three-day presentation designed to build enthusiasm for and renew your commitment to your faith. It is especially helpful for those who take an active role somewhere in the life of their congregation. Why? History has shown us that people who attend Cursillo return from the event highly motivated with a strong desire to serve in the parish and share their experience.

Cursillo has its origins in Spain after WWII. The Roman Catholic Church was trying to motivate Catholic men to become more involved in their churches. A program was designed to generate enthusiasm for the faith and to build leadership within the parish. A success overseas, the program was then imported to the United States. In the early 1970s, the Roman Catholic Church licensed the Episcopal Church to be a presenter of the program. In the Diocese of Northern California we are licensed to present Cursillo.

In Northern California, Cursillo is an ecumenical program with active participation from the Methodist, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran and Baptist Churches, and also several congregational churches. The presentation begins on a Thursday evening and ends the following Sunday afternoon, and is normally held in the spring and fall in Jackson or at Camp Noel Porter. During these three days, we will focus on Jesus Christ as most of us have never been focused before. We bring together people from all over the diocese, from all walks of life and experience. A new community of the Body of Christ is formed while enjoying food, music, worship, talks, lots of fun and laughs. When you leave on Sunday afternoon, you will not be the same person who arrived on Thursday evening!

Sound interesting to you? For more information on attending, sponsoring or becoming a member of the Cursillo community, please visit www.norcalepiscopal.org/

cursillo or the Cursillo NorCal website at www.cursilloncal.org.

Below are additional Cursillo opportunities in the Northern California area:

The Trinity Help Christian Community, a Cursillo-like gathering in the Superior Deanery, which primarily serves Trinity, Tarrant and Shasta counties. For more information, please contact the Rev. Jeff Frost by calling (530) 243-1000.

The Redwood Empire Cursillo movement, serving the people of Mendocino, Sonoma, and Napa counties. There are many Episcopalians connected with this area. All are welcome! Contact the Rev. Canon Stephen Carpenter at (707) 255-0991 or (707) 255-1349 for more information.

New St. John's Sanctuary is Consecrated

photos by Caitlin Gutenberger, Diocesan News Editor

Almost exactly two years after breaking ground, the new St. John's Episcopal Church building in Roseville (shown above) was consecrated by Bishop Barry on Friday, September 9, 2011.

Interfaith religious leaders, local firemen, police and politicians gathered with St. John's congregation and clergy to celebrate the consecration of the new church, located in the center of West Park, a young and growing neighborhood of Roseville.

"This beautiful building has become



a visible symbol of Christ in our midst," says the Rev. Cliff Haggenjos, Rector of St. John's. "The cross atop our cupola proclaims this to our community and to the world."

A project over six years in the making, the new church was made possible by a gift of over ten acres of land by

local developers in 2005. Building God's Way, a Utah-based architectural firm, was chosen to design the worship space, while Hilbers, Inc. handled the construction.

Having outgrown their old location on Main Street, St. John's was able to secure the majority of the funding for the building process from the sale of their old property for 3.5 million in 2007. Honoring its roots, the new sanctuary incorporates furniture and design elements, as well as many beautifully restored stained glass windows from Main Street into the new design.

While the completion of the

in & around our diocese



in & around our diocese

church alone is a huge achievement, it is only phase one of St. John's plans for their property and the community. Phase two will include the construction of educational and office complexes, choir and youth rooms, a parish hall, cafeteria, and commercial kitchen. Phase three will see the building of expanded school facilities.

Over the last year, St. John's has continued to grow along with the West Park neighborhood. "Since making the move, our attendance at Sunday services has increased by about 35 percent," says Father Cliff. "We are meeting new families and friends every Sunday."

Over Labor Day weekend, the church saw an attendance of 271 people at their Sunday service, up from 178 the same weekend of the previous year. The church has a goal of one day accommodating as many as 550 people for worship services and other gatherings.

St. John's is also exploring continued outreach opportunities in the community. Beginning in 2012, they will begin working with the Gathering Inn to serve as a host site for their homeless shelter program. Once a month, approximately 60 homeless will be invited to the church for food, fellowship and a clean, safe place to spend the night.

The church also serves as a meeting location for several local support groups, and will provide space for vital community services like medical diagnostic testing and polling in the coming months.

"This is just the beginning of our ministry to the community, as well as to Roseville and the surrounding areas," says Father Cliff. "We have been given this place to be the Light and to serve as God's presence here with love and service to others."



To learn more about St. John's Episcopal Church, Roseville, visit www.stjohnsroseville.org.

Hallisey Named New Dean of Students

article reprinted courtesy of Church Divinity School of the Pacific

The Rev. L. Ann Hallisey of Davis, Calif., [wife of Bishop Beisner] is the new dean of students at Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP), the Very Rev. Dr. W. Mark Richardson, president and dean, announced.

Hallisey returns to serve the Berkeley, California seminary where she earned her Doctor of Ministry degree.

In her 28 years of ordained ministry, Hallisey has served as rector and interim in congregations and has developed an independent practice as an organizational and leadership consultant. She is a spiritual director and retreat leader, and is a licensed marriage and family therapist. She is currently working toward certification as a Master Practitioner in Appreciative Inquiry.

"These skills and experiences will be great strengths for her ministry at CDSP," said Richardson. He said the dean of students at the Episcopal seminary "plays a critical role in the life of CDSP, building relationships among students at various stages of their academic work, offering chaplaincy support to students and their families, leading in all aspects of formation in preparation for ministry and supporting communications between students and other aspects of institutional life."

"After many years of ministry, Ann is well known in the Bay Area, and

is well-equipped for this role," Richardson said. Former Dean of Students the Rev. Jan Wood left CDSP in July after six years to accept a call to be priest-in-charge of Grace Episcopal Church in Sandusky, Ohio. Wood, who received her M.Div. degree from CDSP, is a former Canon for Congregational Development with the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Hallisey, a Los Angeles native, received her B.A. from University of California Santa Barbara, an M.S. in Clinical Counseling from California State University Hayward, a Master of Divinity from Yale University and a Doctor of Ministry from CDSP.

She has been an Episcopal priest of the Diocese of Northern California for 28 years; 22 of those years have been in parish ministry, including nine years as rector of Church of the Ascension in Vallejo, California. Most recently she has been the interim associate rector at St. John's Episcopal Church in Oakland and Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Berkeley.

To learn more about CDSP, please visit www.cdsp.edu.

A New Look for Online News Room

*Caitlin Gutenberger,
Diocesan News Editor*

In our continuing efforts to make your news more accessible, we have redone our Online News Room (shown at left). Visitors will now find the news home page contains a few article highlights, our handy *Share an Article* button, and links to the following news sections:



~Office of the Bishop Alerts - news related directly to Office of the Bishop, important notices to clergy and lay leaders and Office of the Bishop-affiliated events.

~In & Around Our Diocese - news, event information and stories about our congregations.

~Administration & Finance - administration, finance and human resources-related news.

~Youth & Young Adults - news and events for and about the younger members of our diocese.

~Wellness - news from the Office of the Bishop and the Episcopal Church Medical Trust about how to stay healthy and fit -- body, mind and soul.

~National & International - select national and international news and events, as well as news feeds from both the Anglican and Episcopal News Services.

~Employment Opportunities - a list of jobs both in and outside the diocese.

~Calendar of Events - past, current and upcoming diocesan events.

Each news section contains a variety of articles on its designated subject, as well as an archive of older material. Do you have questions about the Online News Room? Let us know by emailing: communications@norcalepiscopal.org. If you have an article to share in one of our news sections, simply visit www.norcalepiscopal.org/news to submit using our easy online submit form.

Together in Mission Receives Print Communications Award of Distinction

We are pleased to share news that *Together in Mission*, the official diocesan print magazine for Northern California, has been selected by The International Academy of Visual Arts to receive a 2011 Communicator Award.

Judged and overseen by the International Academy of Visual Arts (IAVA), the Communicator Awards

is the leading international creative awards program honoring creative excellence for communication professionals.

The 2011 Communicator Awards received over 6000 entries from ad agencies, interactive agencies, production firms, in-house creative professionals, graphic designers, design firms, and public relations firms. This is the first Communicator Award for The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, but the second in national awards received for print communications excellence.

How to Appeal for Help in Haiti

from the Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs

New and updated resources for dioceses and congregations who are about to launch campaigns to support the *Rebuild Our Church in Haiti* appeal are now available online. In addition to the practical tools, news and progress reports already available, there are newly updated communications materials (weekly bulletin inserts and e-communications), as well as seasonally relevant materials, including:

Advent Devotional - This advent devotional, *Advent Reflections*, was written by the seminarians at *Seminaire de Théologie Episcopale d'Haïti*. Working with volunteer Kyle Evans, Diocese of Pennsylvania, each student picked a day in Advent and chose a verse from the assigned readings on which to write a reflection and prayer. These can be shared in congregations to help pass on the hope rising from the ruins in Haiti.

Gift Cards - Participants can now give friends and family the gift of renewal by buying a brick toward

the new cathedral. This fun gift card makes a great stocking stuffer, Thanksgiving place card, teacher or office gift.

Sample Fundraiser Ideas

- For congregations looking for inspiration for a fundraiser, examples of already successful fundraising ideas from innovative Episcopalians across the globe are available.

Materials, resources and ideas are available online at www.episcopalchurch.org/haitiappeal.

Rebuild Our Church in Haiti is a national, grass-roots effort launched on the 1st anniversary of the magnitude seven earthquake that decimated Haiti in 2010. The appeal was authorized by Executive Council

in response to the request from Bishop Jean Zach Duracin and the people of Haiti to help rebuild the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

For more information, contact our diocesan campaign coordinator, the Rev. Cliff Haggenjos via e-mail to haggenjos@comcast.net or by calling (916) 786-6911.



Choir Fills Holy Family with Song, Benefits Food Bank

article and photo courtesy of the Rev. Dr. Gail Cafferata, Priest in Charge Holy Family, Rohnert Park

The "Divine Transportation" bus opened its door and out tumbled 40 neatly dressed boys ages 10 to 14 and chaperones eager to help them lay down garment bags in neat rows on the parish house floor of Holy Family, Rohnert Park. On a two-week tour throughout California, the 37-year-old Northwest Boychoir makes its home in Seattle, Washington as the premier children's and youth choir in the Pacific Northwest.

continued on page 30



When asked to share stories of outreach, the response by congregations in our diocese was overwhelming. On the pages that follow, you will find just a few of the stories uncovered, each sharing a glimpse into the many ways they are working to make a difference in the lives of those around them, locally and around the world.

If you are inspired to learn more, to become involved, or to share details of your own outreach efforts not found in this issue, please visit us online at www.norcalepiscopal.org/outreach.



Wallace House Brings Abundant Blessings

Good Shepherd, Cloverdale



There is an outreach shelter and services program in Sonoma County known as the “little agency that can.” It was started, and still lives, at Good Shepherd Church in Cloverdale. In fact, Wallace House Community Services, aka Cloverdale Community Outreach Committee, memorializes a young Episcopal priest named Gary Wallace, who lived and served in Cloverdale in the 60s. Colleen Halbohm, the Wallace House Executive Director, now has her office in the church vicarage; which is located between the church and Wallace House itself.

Today the agency has grown far beyond the overnight shelter it once was when it opened as Wallace House in 1982. With the help of Episcopal Community Services (ECS), local Episcopal clergy --in particular, the Rev. Marvin Bowers of Healdsburg-- and several dedicated citizens of Cloverdale, namely Nora and Jerry Webster, Wallace House evolved through the years and was reorganized and incorporated as a 501(c)3 non-profit in 2008. In 2009 the Board of Directors hired their first Executive Director, and the agency now manages not just Wallace House, but a small motel complex and two residential homes. In addition to an emergency shelter, the agency provides permanent supportive housing for an average of 29 clients, many of whom were chronically homeless and disabled. The Drop-In Service Program provides assistance to people



reach



“The [Wallace House] Drop-In Service Program provides assistance to people seeking help who are homeless, hungry, ill and unemployed.”

seeking help who are homeless, hungry, ill and unemployed. Services include food, clothing, transportation vouchers and referrals to counselors, medical providers and employment opportunities.

The agency is funded by private and corporate contributions and by a variety of Federal and State grants and a “services contract” with the City of Cloverdale. The Board of Directors and the Advisory Board is comprised of people from several churches, businesses, and caring professionals. The staff includes the Executive Director and one part-time person. Along with the help of client interns and volunteers, they handle case management, intake and referrals to other agencies.

The connection with the Episcopal Church remains strong as Wallace House, the building, is actually owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California and the President of the Board of Directors is the Rev. Ed Howell, the current Priest in charge of Good Shepherd Church. Good Shepherd, along with St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church, the United Church of Cloverdale, and other city organizations support the agency’s many ministries with money, time and talent.

One recent program at Wallace House provides some on-the-job-training for students of local colleges who are majoring in social services or health-care. They serve as interns, learning about the many details of operating a non-profit agency and about the critical needs and increasing numbers of people who are homeless, hungry and unemployed.

The expression “little agency that can” comes from a comparison with other shelters and agencies in Sonoma County. With a relatively small budget, Wallace House takes pride in the following statistics for 2011, so far providing:

- Essential services to 3,597 people (intake, referrals, housing placement, etc.)
- Over 1,000 bags of food *with the special help of St. Peter’s Church*
- Over 1,000 emergency shelter beds
- Over 600 transportation vouchers

You can do your part too, if you are so called. Your time and talent or in-kind donations are greatly appreciated. The agency is in great need of items such as toilet paper, paper towels, copy paper, cleaning supplies and non-perishable food. And of course they are always in need of cash donations.

We invite you to visit their website at wallacehouse.org.

...I was a stranger and you invited me in...
providing shelter



feeding the Hungry
I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.



Pictured above: "Hot Meals" Volunteer Team

Food Ministry Nourishes the Community

St. Nicholas', Paradise

After conducting and analyzing a survey, the parishioners of St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church determined that extensive unemployment and poverty exists in our surrounding area. The affected households were obviously being underserved by community service organizations.

From humble beginnings, St. Nicholas', Paradise now partners with seven other area churches to serve approximately 300 to 360 people each week.

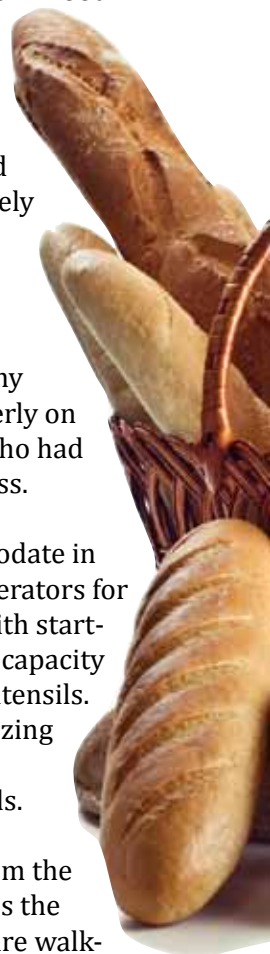
We responded to this need, establishing the Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry three years ago with one free dinner being served once a month. From that humble beginning St. Nicholas is now partnering with seven other churches in Paradise to provide two free lunches and one free dinner every week from our kitchen. We serve about 100 to 120 people during each of these hot meals.

In addition to the hot meals, we established our own food pantry in January 2010 to serve families in Paradise once a month. Our first remodeling consisted of building cupboards at one end of our parish hall to provide storage for nonperishable food items only (boxed food, dried foods, and canned foods). We served approximately 70 families once per month.

After six months of operation we found that the families in Paradise area needed more help than we were providing. Our families consisted of many disabled persons on extremely low incomes, elderly on low/fixed incomes, and families with children, who had lost their jobs with no income, and some homeless.

The demand was greater than we could accommodate in our existing facilities. We needed freezers/refrigerators for stocking perishable food, as well as assistance with start-up costs. We also needed an increased hot water capacity to maintain sanitization of cooking and serving utensils. The deteriorating hot water system was jeopardizing our Health Department permit and limiting our ability to provide the existing volume of hot meals.

Our Loaves & Fishes program received grants from the Diocese and United Thank Offering, thus giving us the ability to fulfill these needs. We developed a secure walk-



in pantry facility with storage for perishable and nonperishable food. The pantry has the capacity to serve each family every other week on a rotating schedule so that we provide nonperishable and perishable food to about 40 families every week, thus considerably increasing our previous capacity. The grants also enabled us to replace the hot water system and meet our Health Department sanitization requirements. These improvements allowed us to sustain the volume of 100 to 120 hot meals guests served from our kitchen.

The St. Nicholas' Loaves & Fishes program has become an established fixture, coordinating a group of

Free Lunch, Food Shelf Nourish Local Families

St. John's, Marysville

St. John's is located in downtown Marysville. People often approach the church asking for food or assistance in some capacity. Over a year ago, fellow parishioners Suellen Stenhouse and Jan Caselli shared their hearts and talked about the need to provide food and shelter for the homeless or less fortunate in our area. The idea to serve lunch, on the 4th Thursday of each month was born!

The team later expanded to include Susan Kimmel, Lanny Reed and Carolyn Childers. The lunches are nutritious and include all the food groups. As the weather changes our menu focuses on a warm meal served in our great hall. Preparation begins around 9:30 am. We serve from 11:30 am to 1 pm. In the event we have leftovers, we take them to the men's rescue mission in Yuba County.

We often chat with our guests, and they love to share stories with us! In July, chatting with "Curtis", one of our regular guests, he had this to say: "It is something to look forward to; pleasant company, as well as a good meal."

Our Priest in Charge, the Rev. Philip Reinheimer, has been very encouraging and supportive of our endeavors. This past June our Free

local churches in the Paradise and Magalia communities. Hungry and lonely people can come for a hot meal and friendly face in a caring environment.

For more information and to become involved in this ministry, please email loavesandfishesstnicks@gmail.com or call (530) 877-7006.

Helping Those in Need

All Saints' Redding

Hope Outreach Together is a weekly program providing food for homeless people receiving medical care at a mobile clinic van parked across the street from the church.

For more information, please visit episcopalchurchredding.org

Lunch Program was just a year old and serving over 350 lunches during the year. We would like to expand to two days a month; we will just see where God takes us!

In addition to our free lunch program, St. John's Food Shelf has been in existence for over 30 years and distributes food to low income and indigent people on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday. Funding for this program is part of the Christian Assistance Network (CAN) servicing Yuba and Sutter Counties. In 2010, St. John's provided over 10,000 meals to those in need. The first Sunday of each month is "Food Shelf Sunday," and parish members bring one can of food and \$1 for the Food Shelf.

"The first Sunday of each month is 'Food Shelf Sunday,' and parish members bring one can of food and \$1 for the Food Shelf."

If you are interested in talking about our Free Lunch Program, call the church office at (530) 742-8829 and leave a message for Suellen

Stenhouse or Jan Caselli. Food Shelf contacts are: Margaret MacDonald, Susan Kimmel and Fran Harris.



Living Out Our Faith

Renee Crevelli-Gross, Co-Chair

Outreach Commission

St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Davis

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin's in Davis has a long history of commitment to outreach. The parish community recently completed a capital campaign and, as I type this, builders are putting the finishing touches on the renovations to our nave, the parish hall and the classrooms (see p 10 for details). This remodel effort was not just for cosmetic purposes. Some of our buildings were old and in disrepair and we needed to make better use of our limited space. But Capital Campaigns are relatively costly. In spite of the funds raised for the facility improvements, we have not seen a decrease in the amount of Outreach giving within our parish community.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Outreach Commission at St. Martin's is the distribution of funds from our Matthew 25 account and other accounts earmarked for outreach giving. In June we invite local, national and international organizations and programs to apply for a grant. In September we go through a discernment process to distribute the funds to approximately 30 social and human service programs. These are all organizations who do the important work of "caring for the least of these among us". One of our past grant recipients made the following statement which I think encapsulates Outreach at St. Martin's:

"We are grateful for the spirit of stewardship which your parishioners obviously treasure."

St. Martin's is committed to outreach on both an institutional level and an individual level. The majority of the funds for the outreach

grants come from our Matthew 25 Fund, which is a line item in the operating budget. This means that a percentage of money is set aside each month for annual distribution as outreach grants. The Commission carefully screens each application to ensure that our grants are used in the spirit of the biblical passage of Matthew 25:

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

It is also tradition at St. Martin's that special offerings on Good Friday, Easter and Christmas are all given away to those in greater need than ourselves.

On an individual level, we see time and again members of this faith community step up to help the poor, the downtrodden, the hungry and the sick. Our annual Thanksgiving basket drive is fast approaching. This is when parishioners ensure that some families who otherwise would not be able to afford a Thanksgiving dinner for their families will enjoy a meal. Parishioners purchase food for baskets, donate money for grocery gift certificates for perishable items and help with the intake and distribution of the baskets.

St. Martin's is pleased to have earned the distinction of a Jubilee Parish, a congregation, whose mission efforts affect the lives of those in need, addressing basic human needs and justice issues.

In a very real way, outreach giving is a tangible way of living out our faith. When there is a need or an opportunity to give, St. Martin's responds . . . to be Christ in the world to the least among us.

"[T]ime and time again members of this faith community step up to help the poor, the downtrodden, the hungry and the sick."

Volunteer Thrift Shop Provides Clothing, Hope

All Saints' Episcopal Church, Redding

The Thrift Shop has a long history of donating money to important causes to our community. Since 1994, the Thrift Shop has donated over \$446,880. In 2010, the Thrift Shop donated over \$32,000 to the following organizations: ACCA, Eagles' Soar Youth Activities Center, Francis Court Transitional Housing, Good News Rescue Mission, HIV Food Bank, Lifeline, North Valley Catholic Social Services, SEACM, Shasta County Relief Fund, Shasta County Women's Refuge, Special Olympics and Youth for Christ. In addition

to the groups we regularly support, we have sponsored many special occasion causes. One-time support has included: supporting victims of the Jones Valley and French Gulch fires, the Trinity River Lumber Company Employee Fund, and the Anderson Police Department Police Dog Fund.



The All Saints' Thrift Shop, located at 3268 Bechelli Lane in Redding, began in 1994. Over fifty volunteers work in excess of 900 hours per month to keep All Saints' Thrift Shop running. Everyone who works at the Thrift Shop is a volunteer – including the managers. The Thrift Shop has three large sales a year: Easter, Back to School and Christmas in addition to some special occasion sales.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact the Thrift Shop at (530) 223-2523.



Diaconia — Servant Leadership
Virginia McNeeley, All Saints', Sacramento & Trinity Cathedral

A deacon is called to lead, enable, and encourage those around them in order to make disciples, raise up saints, and transform communities for Christ in Northern California. Meet Susan Reeve.

Deacon Susan Reeve works full time as a librarian in the little town of Rio Vista, on the banks of the Sacramento River. Susan, who founded the Episcopal congregation in Rio Vista, *St. Brigid's*, is active in Kairos prison ministry for women, and supports the CARE family ministry and the church's ministries. With her encouragement the mission started a clothing exchange for children, collects calendars for the seafarers at the Port of Stockton, and participates in the diabetes walk. All this is done by a parish with approximately 20 active communicants. Susan is the only ordained clergy person assigned to the parish, which is an "unorganized mission," a parochial mission of Grace Episcopal Church, Fairfield that supports itself and pays apportionment regularly to the diocese.

The clothing exchange was born of Bishop Barry's Visioning Conference. Parents bring gently used, outgrown clothing to the multi-purpose room at the elementary school. The items of clothing are counted, and they can pick out the same number of pieces they donate. The event is held in August and January, and this August 6,000 pieces of children's clothing changed hands.

CARE, Inc., is the local Family Resource Center and a non-profit counseling agency. The director is a member of St. Brigid's. The congregation supports its programs by providing one-to-one mentors for middle school children.

Last year the congregation came in seventh out of the top ten fundraisers, ahead of many larger organizations, in the amount of money they raised for the American

"The clothing exchange was born of Bishop Barry's Visioning Conference... [and] this August 6,000 pieces of children's clothing changed hands."

Diabetes Step-Out to Fight Diabetes Walk in Sacramento. Again this year, the congregation was actively involved in the September 25, 2011, Step-Out to Fight Diabetes, as well as encouraging other local congregations to join them.

It takes just one leader who cares and encourages.

For more information or with questions about the diaconate, please visit www.norcalepiscopal.org/deacon or contact the Ven. Cookie Clark, Archdeacon via e-mail to cookie.clark@sbcglobal.net or by calling (707) 448-2275.

...I was naked and you gave me clothing...
providing clothing



Evidence of the Healing Presence of God

Susan Wahlstrom, Chair, Diocesan Health Ministries

Laura Delaney, RN, St. Brigid's, Rio Vista

The Rev. Diana Lueckert, RN, St. Andrew's, Corning

Jesus "sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." Luke 9:2

Partners in Ministries of Health throughout the diocese have heard the call and are reclaiming the Gospel imperative to go out and heal the sick in body, mind & spirit in ever widening circles.

Stories from Diocesan Health Ministries' Community Outreaches...

For the past seven years *St. Brigid's, Rio Vista* has twice-yearly sponsored a **Community Clothing Exchange** (see p. 19), a successful outreach ministry. This year Laura Delaney has become St. Brigid's Parish Nurse and received a grant from Episcopal Community Services (ECS) to add a **Health Fair** component to the Clothing Exchange Ministry. On August 27th through Laura's efforts, Solano County Health and Social Services, Solano Children's Community Services and First Five provided exhibits and education on health and community resources. In addition, blood pressure, blood glucose and vision screenings were provided to the 60 families that attended the event. Plans for the January 28, 2012 Clothing Exchange and Health Fair are already in the works with the Solano Dental Van scheduled to offer free dental work for children.

St. Andrew's, Corning & St. Peter's, Red Bluff: After two years of offering a diabetic support group with a grant from ECS and a minimal response from the targeted population, these two churches redirected their vision of doing it alone to community collaboration. **Latino Outreach of Tehema County** has many members with diabetes and also serves the community with health fairs and scholarships. By joining with this link we found a program targeting nutrition and diabetes prevention at The Family Resource Center in Corning. We now work directly with them and schools, local churches, partner nonprofits and volunteers to identify families affected with food insecurity issues. By concentrating efforts at the school level where children are already gathered, chronically hungry children are identified and given the help they and their families need. Admitting families into this program means nutritious meals for the whole family on weekends; nutrition classes, including cooking



classes for moms and children, learning how to stretch their food dollars and prevent diabetes; then shopping bags filled with culturally appropriate nutritious groceries and recipe cards

with costs included are provided. Case Management is offered with resources and referrals as needed. In sum, this program addresses families' food insecurity issues in a holistic manner by identifying the causes of their hunger and offering tools that can help in stabilizing their food insecurities and preventing nutritionally enabled diseases.

For the last fifteen years, *Trinity, Sutter Creek* has had Health Ministries that provide both in-reach and outreach components as they minister to people fully in body, mind and spirit. Outreach ministries to Amador County for the body have included services of parish nurses, a community medical equipment loaning closet, and scholarships for medical and dental emergencies. Outreach ministries for the mind have included development of a counseling center with a licensed counselor and scholarships for counseling services for those in need. In addition one parish nurse has been involved with the Amador Mental Health Department in development of the CA Mental Health Services Act and connecting county

a source of healing
...I was sick and you took care of me...



faith communities to the programs being developed. This project included receiving a grant in 2009 from **Episcopal Community Services** (see below) to expand that role as a community faith & mental health liaison. The latest addition is the development of a community support group that meets at the church for parents struggling with challenges with their adult children. Outreach ministries for the spirit were expanded to include having a trained spiritual director, centering prayer group and a prayer shawl ministry available to the community.

“By concentrating efforts at the school level... hungry children are identified and given the help they and their families need.”

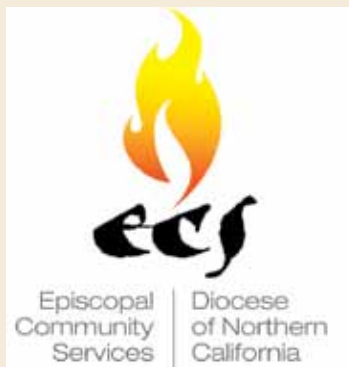
In ever widening circles of healing, Diocesan Partners in Ministries of Health this year received a grant from the Diocesan Millennium Development Grant Program (see p.31) for a **Haitian Children’s Immunization Project**. Partnering with National Episcopal Health Ministries, Episcopal Relief & Development and the Haitian School of Nursing, the project will develop a program to track and immunize all the children of Haiti. When developed, the program will eventually be turned over to the Haitian School of Nursing for on-going implementation. Diocesan Parish Nurse Laura Delaney, RN was on the first fact finding and program development trip to Haiti in May.

Is your parish interested in expanding Jesus’ call to “heal the sick?” Consider developing or expanding a health ministry or outreach. For information or consult,

go to **www.episcopalhealthministries.org** or contact the Diocesan Health Ministries Coordinator Susan Wahlstrom, RN: call (209) 296-1139 or email to wahlstrom@volcano.net.

ECS Aids Local Congregations in Developing Programs to Serve

Episcopal Community Services (ECS) is delighted to appear in this issue of our diocesan magazine, which features articles and photos of congregations actively reaching out to the poor, the homeless and the hungry in their communities in so many different ways. But these stories are not the only stories that need to be shared. From among the 13 2011 ECS grant recipients are even more examples of successful diocesan programs: *St. Paul’s, Crescent City* provides community dinners to tsunami-damaged community; *St. Matthew’s, Sacramento* reaches out to Arden Arcade residents through its Community Resource Center; *St. Brigid’s, Rio Vista* has expanded its Children’s Clothing Exchange to include a health fair; and *Christ Church, Eureka* offered its successful children’s music program again this past summer.



We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, And there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God’s grace to enter and do the rest.

We are all, together, planting seeds that are being watered by God’s grace.

Every single one of these stories is important, not for our own self-satisfaction, but because they illustrate the vision we share: that to serve others is to serve Christ. We need God’s help to do this, and we need each other: to share ideas, to bolster each other when the reality of our current world’s economic and social hardships become seemingly overwhelming.

We offer these words of Archbishop Oscar Romero:

This is what we are about: We plant seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

Currently, Episcopal Community Services is composed of five volunteer Board members with varying backgrounds and experience in finance, communications, healthcare, community resources/food programs, nonprofit management and community development. Our mission is to help congregations, through financial and technical assistance, to develop programs that reach out to those in need. As with you, our resources (time and money) are limited; currently, we are planning to co-host, with congregations, workshops and round table discussions focusing on food/feeding programs,



health outreach and clinics, and public school support. This is an opportunity for experienced individuals and congregations to share their stories of best practices and dreaded pitfalls.

We look forward to partnering with you in efforts to strengthen and expand outreach efforts in the diocese. We eagerly seek your suggestions and help, especially volunteers to expand the number and breadth of our Board membership. In the meantime, look for our display at the Diocesan Convention in November; come and share your stories; reach out to congregations that are doing outreach in ways that would benefit your particular communities.

Peace and blessings.

The Venerable Cooke Clark/Epiphany, Vacaville
Finances; congregation/diocesan relationships
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Warren Dunning/Epiphany, Vacaville
Food/feeding programs; city/county relationships; site renovation
 warren@dunning.com

The Reverend Cindy Long, RN/St. Mathews, Sacramento
Health clinics, community resource centers, food programs
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Gaye Anne McWade/St. John's, Roseville
Communications; program management; women's issues
 gaye@bamagazine.com

Susan Swift/Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento
Community partnerships
 susanwasswift9@gmail.com

Susan Wahlstrom, RN/Trinity, Sutter Creek
Congregational health outreach; health clinics and resources
 wahlstrom@volcano.net

Archdeacon's Fund for Education

Christ Church, Eureka:
 Expanded Children's Music & Arts Ministries

Church of the Incarnation, Santa Rosa:
 The Open Table Ministry

Holy Family, Rohnert Park:
 Neighbors Organized Against Hunger

Shepherd by the Sea, Gualala
 Episcopal/Lutheran Mission:
 Gualala Food Bank

St. Brigid's, Rio Vista:
 Community Children's Clothing
 Exchange & Health Fair

St. Matthew's, Sacramento:
 Community Resource Center renovation

St. Nicholas, Paradise:
 Community Food Pantry freezers

St. Paul's, Crescent City:
 Kitchen upgrade for Community Dinners

Trinity, Sutter Creek:
 English as a Second Language
 (ESL) Ministry

Church of the
 Incarnation, Santa
 Rosa:
 St. Andrew's,
 Monte Rio
 Community Food
 Program

Kids Spree!

St. Mary's, Elk Grove/Sacramento

St. Mary's, Elk Grove/Sacramento participated in an amazing Elk Grove event on Saturday July 30th to help children from low income families. This is called "Kids Spree," and the event gives children the opportunity to get up to \$100 of school clothes from Kohl's store for the coming school year. St. Mary's and other community groups donated money to sponsor children. Through the work of their Senior Group and other donations, St. Mary's sponsored ten children. Dorothy Stoppelmann and Fr. Ray Hess from St. Mary's joined many other community volunteers to help individual children on the day of the event. Adult volunteers took a child around the store and helped them select up to \$100 of clothes and other things for school. While at the store, children could also get a free haircut by volunteers from Great Clips. As they left the store, the children were given free new backpacks and stuffed animal toys. Another service club provided free breakfast for all participants. This is an incredible community project that helps over 100 children each year. Next year, St. Mary's is planning to sponsor at least 10 children and to have at least 10 church volunteers come to help out on the day of the event.



Cathedral Supports Local School Through Back-Snack Giving

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

What started as an idea for a tutoring program for children has blossomed into the adoption of an entire elementary school! In the late 1990s, retired teachers from the parish wanted to offer after-school tutoring services at Trinity Cathedral for school-age children. Due to transportation obstacles, leaders at the church opted instead to work in conjunction with Sacramento ACT (Area Congregations Together) to focus their outreach efforts in adopting a school. In 2001, Jedediah Smith Elementary School, a school in Upper Land Park in which every student lives in poverty, was selected. In the ensuing 10 years, Trinity's outreach to the students, staff and families has grown and flourished under the leadership of Nancy Tennyson and the administration at Jed Smith, with the help and support of Trinity parishioners.

One of the specific programs of Jed Smith outreach efforts is the Back-Snack program. Due to the poverty at Jed Smith, breakfasts and lunches are provided to the children at the school on a daily basis. Sadly, on weekends for many children, food is scarce. To help with this, Trinity began the Back-Snack program, where children are provided a backpack filled with easy to prepare food for the entire family over the weekend. Peanut butter, tuna, bread, ramen noodles, oatmeal, fruit cups, boxes of macaroni & cheese, and granola bars are donated and packed into backpacks by Trinity volunteers and distributed to children on Friday

afternoons at the school. Backpacks are returned on Mondays and then refilled and redistributed the following Friday.

“[Through] the Back-Snack program, children are provided a backpack filled with easy to prepare food for the entire family.”

Trinity has also supported Jed Smith by providing dinner for back-to-school night and open house, to make it easier for parents to attend. Additionally, volunteers assist teachers in the classroom; provide free clothing to Jed Smith families through the Trinity-sponsored Clothes Closet, and present holiday gift bags to each child at Jed Smith from St. Nick and his elves!

Trinity actively supports the hard working teachers at Jed Smith as well, with Secret Pals who stay in touch with teachers throughout the year, sending notes of encouragement and small remembrances for special occasions, and by hosting the Back-to-School Coffee and an end-of-year luncheon for the staff.

Billy Aydlett, the current principal, reported two significant improvements in the last year. The first was that student achievement improved a whopping 30 points! The second was that every teacher but one returned to teach this year. Mr. Aydlett made it clear in a recent meeting that Trinity's partnership of support was an important aspect of both improvements. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori was quoted as saying: “The Christian faith is about the eternity of hope.” Through the efforts of the Trinity outreach partnership, thousands of tiny slices of hope have been shared with the people of the Jed Smith community, helping them to create a better life for their children.

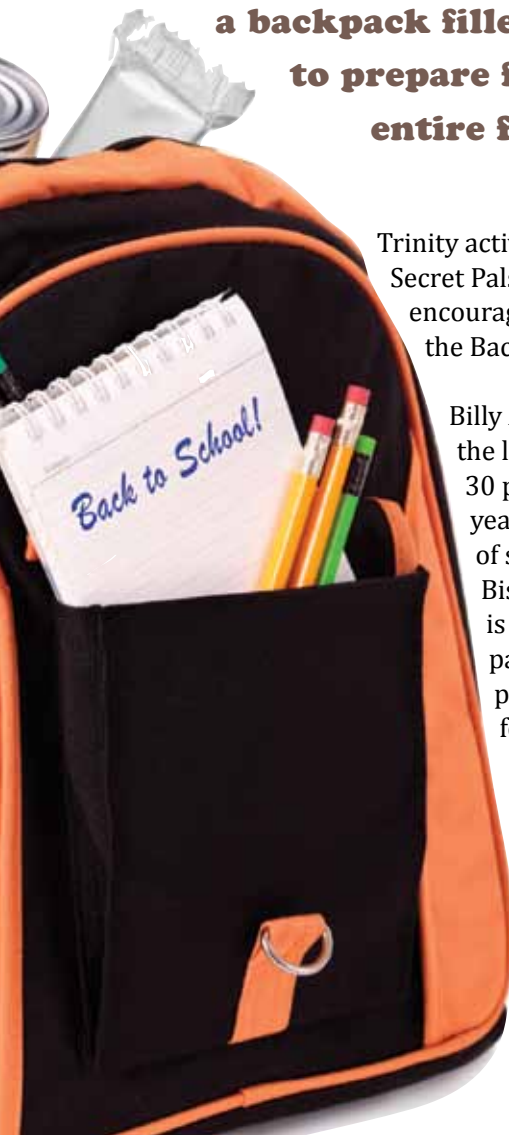
For more information about this outreach, please contact:

Nancy Tennyson,
Director of Family Ministries
Trinity Cathedral
(916) 446-2513
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...just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me...

carving for our youth





Grace in Navajoland

Phil Toohey, Grace Church, St. Helena

Some say we as adults are just renting this Earth from our youth. That is a good reminder that legacy is important. The pressure is on adults to turn over to the youth a better planet. If the code of our democracy is fidelity to liberty and freedom, then the code of our humanity must be to that unwritten code that says we will give our children better than we ourselves had.

From June 25 through July 3 the youth of Grace Episcopal Church in St. Helena spent 9 days in Farmington, New Mexico on an outreach program, making the world a better place. Under the direction of youth director Erika Trez, 21 young people from St. Helena and Napa and a team of five adults left at 5:30 am on a Justin Siena School bus to Oakland Airport.

The group landed in Albuquerque, New Mexico and drove three hours northwest to a desolate place, save the Super WalMart, called Farmington, New Mexico. We were living at a church community house that was too small for 26 of us but better than sleeping in the basement we were promised. The temps got to 113 during the day and cooled down to low 90s at night. There was a breeze in the air, as we lived up on a mesa top, but the wind brought sand and the gusts were enough to blow a tent, my tent, half-way across the parking lot.

There were two projects in two communities all in Navajoland. Half the team repaired a kitchen including new paint and fixtures not far from our outpost, at St. Michael's Church. The second half took over a landscape



project of five acres in the searing heat, including taking 20 tons of old tires, rugs and broken glass away from a hillside dump site. The kids took on the project with drive and emotion to want to help out people they didn't know.

It was not all work. One of Erika's goals was to give our youth a small understanding of what it was like to live and be as a Navajo. One night the youth cooked dinner for the congregation of All Saints'. The dinner was informal so everyone could visit and cross culture. The most impressive opportunity the youth had was to visit a working sheep ranch and to sit under the stars and hear from the owner Cornelia Eaton and her teenaged daughter,

“Youth, when given the chance to lead and put into action the tools they learned and only studied, became a working village with discipline and laughter.”

outreach abroad





Nicole, about growing up and trying to preserve a native culture in these modern times.

The kids gave up their cell phones and opted for time together to connect without the technology. When given the chance for a little downtime, the youth opted to visit an orphanage and spend time reading to the children there. No one complained. No one sat out the work time because it was too hard.

When we returned all hands went up for In-N-Out Burger in Napa even

though it was 10 o'clock at night on a Sunday. Many of the parents were surprised at the stories we told of how engaged their children were. There was true leadership in this event. The work was not high profile like the year before when the group went to New Orleans to help out Katrina victims. This was quiet "under the radar" stuff with not much but a thank you and a tee shirt to show.

Youth, when given the chance to lead and put into action the tools they learned and only studied, become a working village with discipline and laughter. I don't know when we start calling our children adults, but this time with youth did nothing short of inspire me. There was everything from, "I love music" to, "look how cool the landscape is and the people seem". They are no different than us. We should be proud of our youth and renewed in the spirit that our world, as we hand it off from our adult stewardship, will be well taken care of and in good hands.

College Students Dig Deep in Hard Times

The Belfry, UC Davis

For many students at UC Davis, times are hard. Current students entered college as the recession set in, or are beginning their studies in its aftermath. And, as purse strings tightened at home, tuition and fees at the University

have continued to rise. Additionally, the students face increasingly bleak job prospects after they earn their degrees. Anxiety on campus is high and getting higher. In fact, last year the Student Government at UCD opened a food pantry on campus after learning that 25 percent of students were going hungry. These are tough times indeed.

And yet, the students of The Belfry, the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at UC Davis, still look for ways to reach out to the community. For the past three years, they have been active volunteers with the Davis Interfaith Rotating Winter Shelter. One year, The Belfry hosted several homeless guests, and the students cooked and served meals, and stayed overnight. They have also volunteered with the Shelter when our partner parishes have hosted it.

Last year, the students decided to put a new spin on the season of preparation that is Advent. In light of River City Food Bank's (RCFB) tragic fire, the Belfry students wanted to help. With guidance from Belfry Pastor Jocelynn Hughes, they used their annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols as an opportunity to unite the needs of the world with their worship of God. They dubbed the service a "Baby shower for Jesus" and brought diapers, wipes, baby food and formula, which was placed on the altar during the service. They donated over twenty pounds of baby products to RCFB.



They also like to volunteer in local parishes. They helped with the construction of St. Martin's labyrinth. They have helped serve lunch at Lutheran Church of the Incarnation. When a parishioner needed help in her garden, several students rode their bikes to her house to help. A special offering was taken for relief in Haiti (split between ERD and Lutheran World

Relief). And, when they heard a student from the Canterbury Club at University of Arizona's home had burned down, the students pooled their money to send the family a Visa gift card so they could buy food. But they find it an important part of their spiritual lives to be engaged in service. These are habits that will no doubt impact them, and their faith, for the rest of their adult lives.



Liberian School Project

St. Timothy's, Gridley

“Africa” brings images of wild herds of antelope, elephants and giraffes charging over savannas and drinking from great rivers. In Africa, the skies are filled with stars because of the clean air and no light pollution to hide the stars on the black skies. It feels ancient and it feels like home - maybe because our earliest ancestors were from Africa. Maybe somewhere in Africa is the Garden of Eden. But Africa is also the land of starvation, of disease and tribal wars. Many of these wars are caused by helplessness from lack of food, lack of schooling, lack of opportunity. When Jesus said, “... I was in prison and you came to visit me”, I think of freeing today's Africans from their prison of helplessness to bring all of us, black, white, brown, red and yellow, closer to God's Kingdom.

The Liberian Children's Schooling Project (LCSP), an outreach project of St. Timothy's Church in Gridley and other churches in the Diocese, gives farm equipment to a farm cooperative located in remote villages in Liberia. The equipment is owned by LCSP, and the growers pay a crop share for the equipment use that puts more of their 'swamp land' into rice production.

The Liberian 'swamps' have about three inches of standing water from ditches that overflow from storms throughout the year. These "swamps" breed malarial mosquitoes in the stagnant water between storms. To plant rice here, the high weeds must be mowed by hand with bent machetes, the turf turned under by hand with pick axes and hand shovels, ditches and levees built with the hand shovels, rice transplanted, weeded, and harvested by hand. The tractor helps with roads and some ditches.

This "swamp" rice has five times the yield of their historical "slash and burn" rice method, meaning that they can



now feed their families for the entire year, put away seeds for next year's crop, and actually have rice left over to sell for cash.

LCSP uses its crop share to build new schools, medical clinics, village water wells, improve rutted dirt roads, and other infrastructure projects as requested by each village council. Twenty-six villages, 20,000 adults and 80,000 children, are being largely fed by this new rice technology. With the excitement of the LCSP farm equipment arriving from California, the Kpelle tribe formed the Panta Area Farm Multipurpose Co-op Society (PANFAMCOS). US African Development Foundation (USADF), a division of the US State Department built a farm warehouse and a farm office for PANFAMCOS, and provided 18 months of professional, modern farming advice. The World Bank has taken note of LCSP and PANFAMCOS and this past June flew Executive Director Mogana Flomo to South Africa to speak at their National Resource Management Conference in the hope that other farm co-ops would be formed to spread the word of modern farm technology. Giving assets directly to the rural farmers reverses the typical third world problem of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.

“Twenty-six villages, 20,000 children, are being largely fed by this new rice technology.”

Liberia and the other countries of Sub-Saharan Africa are deemed by the UN as not even making progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The LCSP project will help Liberia make progress on all seven of Liberia's MDGs.

Cash from farming!

Villagers sold \$8194 of rice in March, 2011 --the first time rice had ever been sold there. Three have since used their cash to set up TV-set cinemas powered by generators. Another bought and now runs a palm oil pressing machine. Their cash also now sends their children to Liberian schools that require some tuition fees be paid.

The United Nations projects that by 2050 the world population will double; therefore, food supply must double to avoid massive starvation. For more information or to become involved, visit the project's website at www.liberianchildren.org; or contact Dan Boeger, dan@liberianchildren.org or (530) 846-3868.

Shown here (clockwise from upper left): Villagers sell their rice for cash; Liberia is located on the west coast of Africa, just below the Sahara Desert. The interior of Liberia sees 80 inches of annual rainfall; Dan Boeger listens as villagers explain the challenges of planting "swamp" rice; Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori visits with LCSP Executive Director Mogana Flomo at the US Episcopal Church's Cuttington University, located in Liberia, West Africa.



Mission: An Attitude of the Heart

Faith, Cameron Park

On a summer Sunday at Faith Episcopal Church in Cameron Park one of the announcements was in the form of an email from Father Kent McNair, who was in Honduras on a mission during his sabbatical. He requested \$500, which would purchase doors and windows for a partially built church. At the offertory there was more than the usual flurry of checks being written, and the following Sunday it was announced that \$2,000 had been given, and Father McNair had been able to fund the completion of the church and other projects.

The congregation heard the news with satisfaction, but not surprise. Everyone who was in church the Sunday of Father McNair's request was sure that the appeal would be met abundantly. The reason for this assurance is that being informed about needs and having the opportunity to give has come to be an expectation. Embracing the theology of our responsibility to give to others has developed in a myriad of ways. For example, a church-wide study of the book *The Hole in Our Gospel* and Sunday sermons have expanded the idea of God's mission in the world.

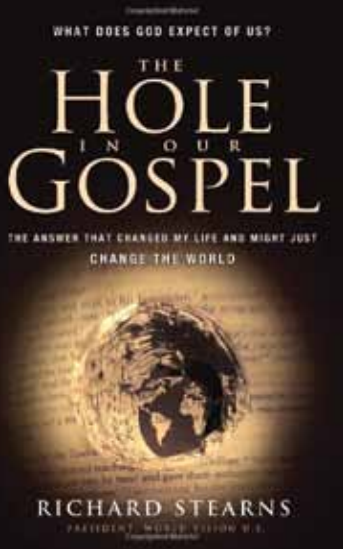
The mission team was formed to plan projects and to communicate about the work being accomplished. To facilitate organization and the choice of projects to support, each member of the mission team oversees an area for which they have a passion. During quarterly meetings, information is exchanged and plans are made for involving the congregation, such as potlucks, sermons by mission speakers, articles in the newsletter, and the presentation of mission opportunities locally and abroad.

The projects supported by Faith include our neighbors. By providing funds and

volunteer assistance, the congregation partners with United Outreach, a program for homeless families, Sacramento-based Furniture for Families, and Re-building Together, an organization which repairs homes for people needing such help. Coat and blanket drives and a U-Haul truck full of food for the Food Bank on Super Bowl Sunday recall the Bible verse from *Luke 6*, which says, "a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing..."

The people of Faith and the Diocese of Honduras have had an ongoing relationship that has resulted in two mission trips to Honduras, where the teams did some construction on a church and provided a Bible school experience for kids. Faith Church adopted the small village of Suyapa Frontera in the hills of Honduras near the Guatemalan border. When the community leaders of Suyapa Frontera were asked what would help the people the most, they requested *pillas*, which are outdoor laundry sinks, vented concrete stoves, concrete floors and metal roofs for the houses. The improvements made in the homes in the village have had a direct impact on quality of life and health issues. For mission to be a mutual partnership and not just charity, relationships need to be developed, and that was made possible when Faith hosted a visit to Cameron Park by Father Francisco Madence and his family from Honduras.

Sometimes knowledge of needs come from those with experiences in the mission field. Kathy McNair accepted Dr. Scott Kellerman's invitation to visit his medical clinic in Uganda for Batwa pygmies. Kathy was sent with donations to help the clinic and the people it serves. Jim and Mary Higbee of Faith have served in two African countries as volunteer Episcopal missionaries, and as a result there has been ongoing financial support for a secondary school in South Sudan and the Mothers' Union women and orphan ministries in Kenya.



The Hole in Our Gospel
by Richard Stearns
published 2009

John Ramey, who serves as a pastor to missionaries in the Muslim world, shares prayer and financial needs learned from his frequent travels.

The best part of mission at Faith Episcopal Church is the opportunity for hands-on involvement for all ages. The kids learn about God's mission in the world through missionary speakers in their children's chapel services. Last November, the children's advent collection was sent with Jim and Mary Higbee who were going on mission to Kenya after Christmas. Jim and Mary found an Anglican primary school in which the special education building had been condemned, and the special education students no longer had their own classroom. The Higbees donated the Sunday School's gift of nearly three hundred dollars so repairs could begin. Using money raised through their own fundraising efforts, youth group members arrive at K Mart on a Sunday afternoon in mid December, armed with lists and information about gender, ages and sizes to share the love of Jesus Christ through new pajamas, Hot Wheel cars, and cuddly baby dolls with local children

“The best part of mission at Faith is the opportunity for hands-on involvement for all ages.”

who would not have Christmas without these youthful benefactors. High school teens participate in the Sierra Summer Project which provides service opportunities in other communities. When the teens return, they are given center stage at Sunday service to give witness to the transformational experience of giving yourself in the service of others.

Adults have many creative ways of using their time and talent for mission. For example, a quilting group makes baby blankets for the Batwa pygmies in Uganda. Some have opted to help with school fees of children in Honduras. Part of the Easter offering bought building supplies for use at Camp Noel Porter, and fifteen men spent a weekend in May at the camp making repairs. A study group who read *The Hole in the Gospel* was so concerned by the lack of availability of safe water that they are in the process of researching and planning a well project in Africa through *World Vision*. There are always dreams of new projects and perhaps future mission trips to Honduras.

As we recount the things that we are doing at Faith Church to promote involvement in mission, we do not do so as if patting ourselves on the back. One of the key lessons for us is that we that we can't out-give God. Whatever is given, we receive back hundred fold in the shared purpose and joy of our congregation united in the belief that *Matthew 6:19-21* is absolutely correct:

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Sometimes world mission is thought of as a function of geography, but we have learned through personal experiences that mission is an attitude of the heart.

Building Relationships Helps in the Fight to End Hunger, Poverty

Sharon Sheridan, *Episcopal News Service (ENS)*
- an excerpt from an online article under the same name posted on September 28, 2011, www.episcopalchurch.org

Street people used to frighten Edith Heller. “They were a little scary, and they’d say funny things, and they looked funny, and they were different.”

“And now,” she says, “they’re my best buddies. I know the people on the streets...and I know why they sometimes hear things in their heads, but they have become friends to me.”

Working at *More than a Meal*, the weekly interdenominational feeding ministry hosted at her Episcopal parish, Grace-St. Luke's in Memphis, Tennessee, made the difference. She got to know some of Memphis' homeless and other hungry people as “captain” for the program on fourth Sundays, when the church provides at least 200 servings of food to more than 100 guests at a point in the month when many people's pay and benefit checks run out.

Her experience shows what can happen when people put faith into action in combating hunger. Developing relationships is the most critical part of mission work and leads to real advocacy, said Rev. Christopher Johnson,

Episcopal Church officer of social and economic justice – which includes Jubilee Ministries and domestic poverty alleviation – and former vicar of Our Merciful Savior Episcopal mission in northwest Denver. “You can't typically do genuinely meaningful advocacy until you have some kind of relational respect for the very issue and the people that you're advocating for. To really love your neighbor as yourself, that really requires a self-emptying...loving them because you actually are valuing them as much as yourself.”

As Episcopalians across the country work to feed the hungry, they also are entering into relationships with those they serve, trying to offer “more than a meal” and to provide aid to help them out of poverty.

Visit www.episcopalchurch.org to read this article in its entirety.





Big Changes for The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California

*pictured here (L to R): Doni Foxworth,
Mary Wilber, Jackie Linn and the Rev.
George Foxworth*



These are exciting times for **The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California (EFNC)**. Early in 2011, our Board of Directors met for its annual retreat and took a long, hard look at what it was doing and how it was being done. During this period of self-evaluation, we tried to look with fresh eyes at the needs of the congregations of the Diocese of Northern California, whom we seek to serve, and we asked ourselves if we were truly being *of service*. Were we doing enough? Could we do more? What could we do better?

As a result of that retreat, the Foundation is now embarking on a *new path* with a *new structure* and fresh *new programs* to serve the needs of the Diocese and its churches. To better service the diocese, beginning in January 2012, the EFNC will become a volunteer organization. We have a cadre of dedicated board members who are anxious to meet with and assist congregations as we discuss ways our programs can *help you* become more successful in doing God's work. While our primary focus will continue to be planned giving, we also have experts available in capital campaign readiness assessment, general fundraising techniques, as well as a variety of other programs, which we will be rolling out in the year to come.

One particular new program we are *very excited* about is the **Life Planning Guide Workshop**, developed by EFNC Board Member **Marcie Larkey**. This lively workshop includes discussions on many topics, including making arrangements for your children, organizing those important papers and making sure someone knows *where to find them*, writing loving letters to your family and friends, leaving the necessary information for your funeral and your obituary, and preparing your Advance Directive. We also discuss the new POLST form, end-of-life choices, understanding hospice, how to donate your organs, deciding who will receive your assets, the importance of having a will, and the difference between a will and a trust. This is information that truly everyone in your parish will be glad they knew.

The pilot program has now been offered to over 90 individuals in two different sessions, and the evaluations have been very enthusiastic and positive with comments like: *"I thought I had done my preplanning but learned that I had omitted something which I will now be able to correct."* Another attendee stated: *"The pace was perfect. No boring details What you did was open our hearts and our eyes."* I think you'll agree that, with comments such as these, this new

Foundation program has really struck a chord with attendees while providing *real value* to parishes and parishioners alike. If you are interested in offering this exciting new program in *your area* please contact EFNC Board Member Marcie Larkey at (916) 488-6960.

As part of our new business model, you will also be seeing EFNC Board Members playing a more active role in the upcoming 2012 regional **Congregational Leadership Conferences**. We are already preparing our training materials and we plan to hold workshops devoted to *helping you* put on these new and exciting Foundation programs in *your parish*. We will also be available to discuss in detail, not only how EFNC programs work, but how they can work *for you*.

If all this sounds exciting (and it should), perhaps you might want to consider joining our board. Do you care not only for the success of your own congregation, but the success of others? Would you like to learn how you can be of greater service to God and our wonderful diocese? Do you have a *passion* for The Episcopal Church and want to see it succeed, not only in your home town but *thrive* in other communities around you? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then we would like to talk to you.

Lastly, please join me in thanking our retiring **Executive Director Rick Harrison Smith** for his years of dedicated service to the churches and parishes of the Diocese of Northern California. Rick's valuable expertise in the field of Planned Giving has helped shepherd many gifts to the diocesan organizations. He has also supported the creation of a wealth of program materials that the Foundation now makes available to all churches within our diocese. These valuable resources serve as solid foundation for any church wishing to institute an active Planned Giving Program within its parish, and we are thankful for Rick's esteemed tutelage in their creation.

If you would like more information on any of the programs I have covered here, please contact me via email to dbundesen@norcalepiscopalfoundation.org or by calling (707) 748-7407. If you will be attending the 2011 Diocesan Convention in November, please plan to attend our Friday night **Joint Reception** with Episcopal Community Services (ECS) of Northern California, and be sure to stop by our booth on the convention floor to say hello. We are here *for you*. Let us show you how!

David L. Bundesen, President
The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California
www.norcalepiscopalfoundation.org



continued from page 13...

Soon after arriving, the sweet sounds of "gloria" and Yiddish folk tunes echoed in the courtyard outside the church in closed rehearsal before a dinner, a quick change into choir robes and an eagerly-awaited procession into church. Medieval polyphony and later sacred music by Delibes, Casals and others filled the church to the brim with enchanting harmonies. Lively world and American folk music led up to the presentation of a Proclamation of Appreciation signed by the Mayor of Rohnert Park. Following the concert, choristers, parents, directors and grateful listeners gathered outside for a candlelit reception that lasted well into the night.

The concert successfully benefited the NOAH Food Pantry as well as the launch of Holy Family's new Holistic Arts and Learning Organization (HALO). HALO seeks to enrich the Rohnert Park/Cotati/Penngrove community by sponsoring, designing and presenting quality education and arts programs, lectures and concerts at Holy Family Episcopal Church, and overseeing Holy Family's vibrant choir programs.

For further information about NOAH food pantry and The Neighborhood Farm Community Garden, please contact the Rev. Dr. Gail Cafferata, Priest-in-Charge: gail.holyfamily@sbcglobal.net. For information about HALO and Holy Family's music program, please contact Ben DeShazo-Couchot, Music Director: ben.holyfamily@sbcglobal.net.

Holy Family Episcopal Church is conveniently located at 1500 E. Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park, CA 94928, just one block from Sonoma State University.

St. George's Announces Scholarship Recipients

St. George's Episcopal Church, Carmichael is pleased to share news of this year's Gregory Kenneth Sherrill Memorial Fund Scholarship recipients (each pictured at right with scholarship committee members). First place winner Conner Reed Quinn received \$4,000 and runner-up Julieta Sandoval won \$2,000 in the recent scholarship competition, which required graduating senior applicants to submit an essay, high school transcript, and application. In addition, the top ten candidates as chosen through the screening process were then interviewed to select the final two winners. All application material and interviews were conducted by the St. George's Scholarship Committee.

Conner graduated from Bella Vista High School and will be attending the University of Texas in Austin, majoring in Business Administration. Julieta will attend UCLA with a major in Business



Management.

The Gregory Kenneth Sherrill Memorial Fund Scholarship was set up for the family of Gregory Sherrill, who was born on May 31, 1956 and died November 14, 1975

of a malignant tumor of the brain. He graduated from La Sierra High School in 1974, where he was a good student, an athlete, and part of a school song and dance group. He was active at St. George's Episcopal Church, where he served as an acolyte.

For more information, please contact John Karsten, Chairman of the St. George's Scholarship Committee, (916) 961-1305.

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are most welcome. Please make your checks payable to St. George's Episcopal Church and send them to: 5600 Winding Way, Carmichael, CA 95608 with a notation at the bottom of the check that it is for the Sherrill Memorial Scholarship. Thank you!

**For more diocesan news,
visit us online at
www.norcalepiscopal.org/news!**

350 University Ave, Suite 280
Sacramento, CA 95825

**A Christmas
Open House**

Come visit our new location!

December 16
4 - 7pm



in memoriam

The Very. Rev. Fred Powers, once a Rector for St. Paul's, Sacramento, former Archdeacon of our diocese and founder of Episcopal Community Services (ECS) for Northern California, died on July 16, 2011 at the age of 84. His obituary was recently shared online by *The Scituate Mariner*.

Marjorie Clark Westling, wife of the Rev. Lester Westling, died in July at the age of 81.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Please send your questions, comments, letters to the editor, article submissions and more to communications@norcalepiscopal.org.

The Rev. Marcia Engblom died on October 28, 2011 following a fall and subsequent injury to her brain. Service was held Friday, November 4th at 2:30 pm at Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento.



11-12 November

Diocesan Convention

Redding Convention Center

www.norcalepiscopal.org/convention

11, 18 & 25 February

Congregational Leadership Conference (CLC)

Deaneries (Southwest, Superior and Southeast, respectively)

www.norcalepiscopal.org/clc

26 February

Women's Retreat

Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg

27-29 February

Clergy Conference

Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg

www.norcalepiscopal.org/clergyconference

3 March

Semper Virens CLC

St. Alban's, Arcata

www.norcalepiscopal.org/clc

10 March

Diocesan Acolyte Festival

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

17 March

Safeguarding God's People

Regional Training Event

St. John's, Marysville

21 April

Regional Confirmation

Christ Church, Eureka

27-28 April

Bishop's Conference

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

see p4 for details

www.norcalepiscopal.org/bishopsconference

www.norcalepiscopal.org/bishopsconference

5 May

Regional Confirmation

Grace Church, St. Helena

12 May

Regional Confirmation

John the Evangelist, Chico

20 May

Baccalaureate Service

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

26 May

Regional Confirmation

Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento

diocesan calendar

Visit www.norcalepiscopal.org/calendar for details and updates to these and other upcoming event listings. Also there are calendars sharing details of Bishop Barry's visitation schedule, and anniversaries of clergy birth, marriage and ordination.





The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California
350 University Avenue, Suite 280
Sacramento, CA 95825
www.norcalepiscopal.org

*"Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints
& Transforming Communities for Christ"*



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This and previous issues are also available online at www.norcalepiscopal.org/together-in-mission

*"Men anpil
chay pa lou."*

(Many hands lighten the load.)

JOIN the Episcopal Church's
campaign to rebuild the Episcopal
Diocese of Haiti. *Brick by brick.*


*rebuild our
Church
in Haiti*

www.episcopalchurch.org/haitiappeal



an invitation by
the Bishop and Office
of the Bishop staff

December 16
4 - 7pm

**A Christmas
Open House**

Come visit our new location at
350 University Avenue, Suite 280 Sacramento

See p 13 for ways to appeal for Help in Haiti