

THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2018

THE MISSION OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANGLICAN CHURCH IS TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST THROUGH SERIOUS DISCIPLESHIP, SACRED WORSHIP AND SELFLESS SERVICE

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Easter 2018



Happy Easter to every home and to every family of St. Francis Anglican Church.

Christ is risen! What does this mean to us? It means that sin and death have no longer any power over us. It means that the mercy and compassion of God have triumphed. It means that the love of God can transform our lives!

This Easter is especially significant because it marks our first Easter celebration in our new place of worship. Our journey as an Exodus people has gone a long way.

Remember how four years ago we left the old and venerable building of St. John's Church, literally and figuratively with only the clothes on our back but a strong faith in our hearts.

Remember how we pitched our tent at the rented Hall of Grace (now St. Paul) Methodist Church.

Remember how we pulled down our tent – carried our Tabernacle, our altar furnishings, our mass booklets, our hymnals, even our pots and pans to our new place of stopover on Pershing Ave.

There were and are difficulties and anxieties along the way. But like the Exodus people, this is the way God is preparing us to be a new family and a new people.

Our journey continues. With prayerful hearts, we search for a new Vicar to join and lead us in this journey. With hopeful hearts, we invite our neighborhood, our family members and relatives, our friends and people of good will to journey with us.

We see the promise of growth in the many initiatives by members of our Church family: the Women's Bible Study, the Arts and Craft Group, the Taizé Group, the ACTS Bible Study, the weekday liturgies, especially the First Saturday mass before we go out to serve the homeless and the hungry, the opening of our doors to Food Addicts Anonymous.

This Easter, let us recommit ourselves to this JOURNEY. Let us go deeper into our calling as active participants in this journey.

Above all, let us renew our faithfulness to the MISSION of this journey as the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, which is *To Proclaim the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ through:*

- Sacred Worship,
- Serious Discipleship
- Selfless Service

Again to one and all a Happy Easter! Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Fr. Woodrow Gubuan

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Congratulations John Felix Gubuan, a new Ranger in the US Army. Celebrating with him are his proud parents, Fr Woodrow and Ruth Gubuan.



Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

I hope everyone had a fun St. Patrick's Day and a Happy Easter!

During this April as we celebrate the Eastertide, we begin the transition into the spread of the kingdom. The Book of Acts gives us an idea of what the early church went through, to not only grow, but on how they spread the Good News of the risen Christ to the rest of the world.

The world still needs to hear that same message, that yes, though they are sinners, there is hope for them, it is the risen Christ. And we can have confidence in that teaching. As Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 *"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."*

This is the beauty of Easter! Not only are we forgiven and our sins are washed away, but Jesus will pull us through death in the resurrection. And when we are resurrected, we will be able to walk with Him in the new heaven and new earth. In a world that seems so dark, the light of Easter sheds hope! A light that even after some two thousand years still shines and can't be extinguished.

This is what the Apostles were preaching about in the Book of Acts. This is what we need to be talking about today! The spread of the kingdom is the spread of the light of Jesus. With us being in our new place, we need to be spreading the light of Jesus. The light of the world, Jesus, is what guides us through this world of darkness, not to just pass by, but to spread that light on our journey.

Like in the Book of Acts, the early church stepped forward in faith with a new beginning. We too in the midst of our new place, need to step forward in faith spreading the word about Jesus, who is the light of the world. And the celebration of Easter and days following is a great start! We should be celebrating in such a joyful way that people will ask what is the reason for the joyful hope that they see in us! And we can respond with the joyful words: Alleluia, Christ is risen, He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



Ted Yumoto - Bob Johnson - Mike Combs

These three fine gentlemen represented the Anglican Foundation of Stockton at a Bob Foy Dedication for the California Water Service Company.



As Ted & Lisa Yumoto and Mike & Kim Combs traveled to Arizona for Spring Training of their beloved SF Giants, they visited Alberta Rodriguez in her home. Alberta is doing very well and they all enjoyed the visit! What a blessing it was to see her!!



Mary Massod with her plea to keep open the San Joaquin County Activity Center for developmentally disabled adults.

Sacred Worship



Easter Sunday
 April 1st – 9:30am



Join us on Wednesday, April 18th at 7:00 p.m. and refresh your soul at our next Taizé prayer service. It's an hour of meditative

music, sung prayers, and sacred silence; a time for you to find rest in the beauty of the Lord.

Taizé prayer gives us an opportunity to focus inward, to adore and worship the Lord through the quieting of our minds. The candlelit sanctuary helps us to find respite and an inner peace only the Lord can impart. Especially when you think you are too busy or too tired or too stressed out to come to church on a weeknight, that is when you need rest and spiritual refreshment the most.

God is our refuge and our strength. He will shelter us under His wings. He will deliver us from evil. Our souls are at rest in Him. We are never alone thanks to Jesus' redeeming sacrifice and the sending of the Holy Spirit. He gives us peace. He gives us a hope and a future. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

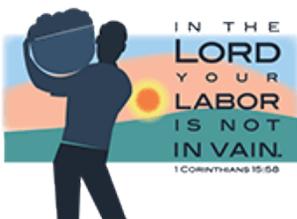
Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27 NKJV)

Find the peace of the Lord and refresh your soul at our Taizé prayer service on **Wednesday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.** Come. Listen. Pray. Sing. Or just sit and soak it all in. God will meet you in the songs and in the silence.

If you are curious about Taizé music or if you would like to use it for your own meditation, there are song sheets from our March prayer service in the Fellowship Hall. Look for the Taizé sign and the candles on the table between the window and the entry doors.

Holy Communion on the First Saturday of each month at 9:30am

An opportunity to gather and praise God before you "Go and Make Disciples" in the different food ministries St Francis offers in our community.



Child Care is Available each Sunday from 9am.

Please see an Usher for location.

Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi

1st Friday of the Month

12noon Healing Service

1st Saturday of the Month

9:30am Holy Eucharist



Taizé Prayer: Returning and Rest

By Gigi Kemalyan

Are you feeling frazzled? Is life keeping you too busy to pray? Is it too hard to set aside time for the Lord? You're not alone. So many things demand our attention and can cause our gaze to drift away from God. And yet, it is "in returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength." (Isaiah 30:15 NKJV)

Serious Discipleship

Arts & Crafts

Mini-Retreat for Adults

Saturday, April 21st

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Artists and crafters are invited to our second St. Francis Church Arts & Crafts Mini-Retreat for Adults! Our first retreat in March was a wonderful time of creativity and fellowship. We got to see some of Marvin Lykins' gorgeous icons and watched him work on his latest painting. Some of us colored, others painted rocks (yes, that's a thing), or crocheted. We had a great time visiting and being unhurried for a few hours. Being creative can make you lose all sense of time, and that's a good thing!

Come join us on April 21st and discover for yourself how inspiring it is to create in community. Please bring a quiet craft project (no metal tooling or noisy woodworking, sorry) and all necessary materials. No craft materials or project suggestions will be offered. However, we will have a small amount of art supplies available, like coloring pages for adults, felt markers, colored pencils, origami paper, and more. (Thank you for all your generous donations!)

If you are interested in iconography, Marvin Lykins will again be working on his latest icon (St. Valentine) and is available to answer your questions about the process of painting icons.

In order to keep things quiet enough to work while we visit with each other, we ask that children stay at home. There will be no childcare available. Pre-teens accompanied by an adult or teens are welcome as long as they are working on creative projects.

Those who are not painters or crafters but would like to spend the morning in quiet rest, reading, or journaling are also welcome; we will have a couple of designated quiet rooms.

No refreshments provided, but we will have hot water for tea and a Keurig coffee maker. Please bring your own Keurig coffee pods and tea bags.

No registration is required, just drop in any time between 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 21st. Bring a friend or neighbor!

Art can delight our eyes and inspire devotion. Art can deepen our understanding and enrich our worship. It can soothe, delight, and set us free.

– Robin Jensen, "Art, Faith, and Christian Community"



Daily Office Resource

<http://legereme.com/office>

The ACTS class is still in progress at 8:30am on Sundays. It is not too late to join. See Deacon Jeff or Cyndi Telander for more info.



A New Women's Bible Study will begin Wednesday, April 4 at 9:45 AM.



The study is entitled "Uninvited" featuring Lysa TerKeurst.

This study will help us to see that we are handpicked by God for a life that will honor and glorify Him.

Selfless Service

Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/>
 Diocesan Newsletter:
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/san-joaquin-anglican.html>



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals: Apr 1st

Coffee Hour Hosts: See Cat Rhodes

Altar Guild: April 17th @ 10am

Arts & Crafts Retreat: April 21st ~9-11:30am

Daughters: April 21st @10am

Bishop's Committee Meeting: April 22nd

Other Ministry Opportunities

- Acolyte
- Lector
- Prayer Team
- Collection Counter
- Hospitality
- Usher
- Flowers
- Homebound Ministry
- Senior Ministry

Don't forget to sign the cards on the back table for our homebound and sick



March Altar Flower Donations

Denis Ceballos in memory of P.K.
 Helen Arcala in loving memory of her husband, Elpidio



April 1st

Acts 10:34-43
 Psalm 118:19-24
 Colossians 3:1-4
 Mark 16:1-8

April 8th

Acts 3:12a, 13-15, 17-26
 Psalm 111
 1 John 5:1-5
 John 20:19-31

April 15th

Acts 4:5-14
 Psalm 98
 1 John 1:1—2:2
 Luke 24:36-49

April 22nd

Acts 4:23-37
 Psalm 23
 1 John 3:1-10
 John 10:11-16

April 29th

Acts 8:26-40
 Psalm 66
 1 John 3:11-24
 John 14:15-21



April

2nd Irene - Isabel Johnson & Remy Balagey
 25th Margaret Finney - Mike Finney



Congratulations to Ryan Vaughn who recently brought home the gold in the San Joaquin Special Olympics Basketball tournament. Ryan plays center and power forward for the Open Doors program. During coffee hour he would be pleased to show you his medal.



April

- 5th Mr & Mrs Ken Moeckel
 17th Mr & Mrs Jose Rosal Jr
 21st Mr & Mrs Frank Berghuis
 28th Mr & Mrs Mike Combs



April

- 1st Betty Melchor
 Kathy Hamilton
 5th George Nwaogu
 6th Ernest Nailles
 8th Patricia Smith
 13th Rebecca Telander
 Jonathan Telander
 14th Ngozi Nwaogu
 Phillip Giambastiani
 17th Nancy Thomas
 20th Marsha Crowder
 21st Paul Sigwart
 22nd Avery Berry
 24th Rebecca Aaron
 Deanna Holman
 27th Jim Telander
 30th Susan Sperry

Lenten Reflections

By Agnes Olmsted

I am the Light of the World

In John 8:12, Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world.

He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (NKJV)



Black darkness surrounded Emelie. She had just come up from the secret slough crossing, off a board strapped to two floating tires, carrying her heavy bundle of family items and food she had gone to retrieve in Eastern Germany. She came to a fork in the road and could not determine which way to go. Having experienced many miracles escaping from Poland, this night Emelie needed the miracle of illumination. Only the correct path would lead to life and return her to her family. She prayed to Almighty God to show her the way. Light filled the path to the left and guided her safely back to the naturalization camp in West Germany near Hannover.

The Israelites were told to follow the pillar of fire by night to the place God had planned for them to go. Sometimes the pillar moved, sometimes it stopped, always showing the direction to travel to the place God had promised them.

These are two examples of physical light from God that led to life. Sometimes the illumination we need is physical, but Christ was talking also about clarity and spiritual understanding. To see the divine truths that lead to eternal life, we must look to Christ, not only gaze at the Light, but by the Light, to see.

No follower of Christ can survive or thrive without the light that Jesus gives to the human heart, soul, and spirit. However, once we acknowledge Christ's light in us, we must not think we "have arrived." We keep looking toward the light by immersing ourselves in things that are of the Light. Study God's Word and seek Understanding.

1 Corinthians 13:12 says, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face."

When going through desperate times, you may hear that there is light at the end of the tunnel. Sometimes the light cannot be seen or imagined at all. By faith, a state of heart, not a fancy or specially worded prayer, we keep our eyes on Christ. As German concentration camp survivor and Christian author Corrie ten Boom said, "When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer." We can trust the promised Light.

April 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter	2	3	4	5	6 Healing Mass 12noon	7 Holy Eucharist 9:30am
8 Easter II 9:30 Holy Eucharist	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Easter III 9:30 Holy Eucharist	16	17 Altar Guild Meeting 10am	18 Taizé 7pm	19	20	21 Arts & Crafts 9 - 11:30 Daughters 10am
22 Easter IV 9:30 Holy Eucharist BC Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Easter V 9:30 Holy Eucharist	30					

The Messenger
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Do you see a ministry that you are interested in?

Contact that ministry leader or the church office 565-0648 M-F 9am - 1pm

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stocktonanglican.org

There is a First Aid Kit, Aspirin, and a Defibulator Available under the Attendance Check in Table





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