

# THE MESSENGER

JULY 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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## REVIEWING OUR MISSION

Reviewing our mission statement as the Church of St. Francis of Assisi is to get a sense of where we are and where we are headed in the future. This review is especially good as we prepare to receive our new Vicar.

The Mission of St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church “is to Proclaim the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ through Sacred Worship, Serious Discipleship and Selfless Service.”

This statement identifies three priority ministries to realize our mission of proclaiming the Good News of salvation: namely, through (1) *Serious Discipleship*, (2) *Sacred Worship* and (3) *Selfless Service*.”

These three priority ministries may be viewed as three interrelated moments of our Mission. It starts with the proclamation of the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ. This leads to the hearer’s vital encounter with Jesus Christ, the acceptance of him as his savior and the decision to follow him as Lord in the fellowship of his Church.

Then comes the first moment proper, *Serious Discipleship*: the deepening of the initial faith by means of a more systematic education in the faith (catechesis). The believer gets a better grasp and appreciation of the person and message of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The second moment consists of other elements that contribute to the growth and maturation of the faithful believer. There are, above all, *worship and fellowship* that come into play in the process.

*Selfless Service* is the third moment – a kind of end moment or a sure sign of the maturity process: the coming to faith, the nurture and deepening of the inner life of faith. That is to say that all these moments prepare the disciple to a life of service.

All three ministries have a double dimension: an **inward** and an **outward** dimension. By **inward dimension**, I refer to the coming to faith, the nurture and deepening of the inner life of faith of the disciple and building up of fellowship and mutual service.

These are the moments that foster the inner life of the faith community. By **outward dimension**, I refer to all those actions and ministries that are directed to the world where God is at work.

The three priority ministries together with their double dimension are structured into three committees headed by members of the Bishop’s committee. The Committees look like this:

COMMITTEES	INREACH	OUTREACH
Committee on Worship (Jim T & Mark)	*Organist *Weekday Healing Mass *First Saturday Mass *Prayer Team	*Taizé *Evensong *Pastoral care
Committee on Discipleship (Mike C & Agnes)	*Bible Time-line: Acts of the Apostles *Art Mini-retreat	*Lorraine’s Bible Study Group *Food addicts
Committee on Service (Mike F and Rachel A)	*Hospitality *DOHC: - Cards, Flowers, visits, *Rides to Church	*Food for Families *Homeless Women’s Ministry *1st Saturday *Love Stockton

In the survey made months ago, these ministry needs were expressed: more Senior and Community Social Events, neighborhood door to door pamphlets, financial planning, mentoring, Book study in the homes and the like.

After a cursory view of where we are, the concluding question is where we are going? There may be changing of the guards, new environments, new situations, new challenges but the mission remains the same. The ministries which constitute the main components of the mission continue to make up the to-do list of the future tasks.

May St. Francis be with us along the way and all the way!

Fr. Woodrow Gubuan

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

The Friar's Quill	1
The Deacon's Corner	2
Sacred Worship	3
Serious Discipleship	4
Selfless Service	5



Hello,

Here we are already in July and the year is half over. I would like to wish everyone a happy and fun filled 4<sup>th</sup> of July! As the summer gets into full swing make sure you stay cool and hydrated. The heat can over take you very quickly so be careful.

I was talking with a parishioner about healing and the anointing with oil and they wondered why more people don't come forward to receive the anointing with oil for healing. They noted that my short homily at the healing mass that I presided over in the absence of Fr. Gubuan should be in the newsletter to explain what is going on and why. So I have included it here in this article for the July newsletter.

**“And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.”**

Today we are here for a healing mass. In the Gospel reading, Jesus gave the 12 disciples a mission to go out by two's and cast out demons and heal the sick by anointing them. And if you remember just before the Passover, Jesus himself was anointed with oil. The anointing of individuals is an important part of who we are as Christians of the Anglican faith. And it was important to Jesus as well otherwise he would not have commissioned the twelve to go and anoint the sick and heal them. That is why we perform the anointing, because it was important to Jesus and if he sent the twelve, we are sent as well to bring healing and comfort to the sick.

The anointing or Unction as it is called, is a sacrament given to the church. What takes place in the sacrament of anointing the sick? The anointing is accompanied with healing prayers of the body and mind, forgiveness, and for spiritual strengthening; then the laying on of hands and the anointing on the forehead with oil that was

consecrated by the bishop. It is important to note that you notice that the prayers cover the whole body, this is because we are asking for the one being anointed to become whole again, not to just heal what seems to be ailing them at the time. Although we may focus on a certain ailment, we are asking for the restoration of the whole person. This helps in the healing and wards off spiritual attacks that may come to discourage the healing.

We know that the Holy Spirit can heal as he wills but it seems that the oil used in the anointing works like a conduit and or coupler. A conduit allows the information or whatever it is to flow directly to where it is needed, without being diverted or dissipating. And a coupler allows the transfer between two things by connection the two and making them as one; for instance like an ultrasound, they use a gel, that when the ultrasound is placed on the body makes it seem as part of the body allowing the image to be seen better and clearer. The point of the oil is, it is an outward sign of an invisible grace that is taking place. Perhaps knowing that the oil is being placed on the forehead allows the body and spirit to be more open to the receiving of the Holy Spirit. So that the Holy Spirit may more freely perform the healing that is needed.

In closing we receive this healing by the mercy and grace from our Lord and Savior Jesus who through the will of the Father sends the Holy Spirit to heal us. So let us pray through faith, that we allow ourselves the receiving of this healing benefit, from the loving grace of the one true God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer



Communion  
Schedule

Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month

12noon Healing Service

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month

9:30am Holy Eucharist

## Sacred Worship

HEALING SERVICE



St Francis Church offers a healing service on the First Friday of every month at 12noon. July 6<sup>th</sup> will be the service in July.

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



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

### Taizé: Contemplation in Community

*By Gigi Kemalyan*

On **Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m.** we gather for our next monthly Taizé prayer service. It's a too-short hour of resting in the Lord in the middle of a busy week. Yes, you could easily (or maybe not so easily?) set aside a quiet hour at home — but then you'd miss out on the power and beauty that can only be experienced in community, where two or more are gathered together in His name to contemplate the Lord. (Matthew 18:20)

Let's look at the definitions of *contemplation* and *community* to get some insight into what these terms mean in relation to a Taizé prayer service.

Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines *contemplation* as "a *concentration* on spiritual things as a form of private devotion; a state of mystical *awareness* of God's being; an act of *considering* with attention; the act of *regarding* steadily."

Contemplation or meditation is an important aspect of the Christian life that is often neglected. It is so easy to become distracted, take our focus off the Lord, and look at the world and our problems instead. A sermon I once heard explained it like this: we should only *glance* at our concerns and intently *gaze* at the Lord, not the other way around. Whatever we focus on will take precedence in our lives.

The best method for returning our gaze to God is through His Word and contemplative prayer, when we talk less and listen more. And what better way than in a service specifically intended to do exactly that? When we *concentrate*, become *aware*, *consider*, *regard* our ever-present Lord with our undivided attention, we fix our mind's eyes upon God, giving Him the opportunity to speak to us.

The term *community* is defined as "a unified body of individuals" and comes from the Latin *communitas* meaning "common, public, general, shared by all or many." One of the beautiful things about being a Christian is that we are part of the body of Christ wherever we go. When we meet other brothers and sisters in Christ, we identify with each other as members of God's family because of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It's a beautiful and mystical bond that is only strengthened whenever we pray and worship together. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

On Sunday mornings we do the important "work of the people" in the Liturgy of the Mass, culminating in partaking of the Eucharist together. It's a very active service inwardly and outwardly: standing, sitting, kneeling, walking to the communion rail, bowing, genuflecting, crossing ourselves.

At a Taizé prayer service we don't use a formal liturgy; instead, we sit in near darkness to hear, sing, and pray from the Scriptures together. Removing a lot of outside stimulus helps us fix our gaze upon God, and it provides precious moments of sacred silence when God can speak to each of our hearts individually while joined in communal prayer.

Taizé prayer is the perfect opportunity to **contemplate** the beauty of the Lord and join together in **community** to pray. No processions, no distractions; only songs and silence and candlelight — and the still small voice of God whispering His immeasurable love into your heart.

We pray you will join with us on **Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m.** and set aside the busyness of life for a short holy hour, united with each other and the Lord through sung prayers and calming quiet. God wants to meet you in the songs and in the silence. Come!

#### Some Scriptures about meditation:

Genesis 24:63	Psalms 49:3	Psalms 119:48	Psalms 145:5
Joshua 1:8	Psalms 63:6	Psalms 119:78	Matthew 6:26-30
Psalms 1:1-3	Psalms 77:6,12	Psalms 119:97, 99	Luke 2:19
Psalms 4:4	Psalms 104:34	Psalms 119:48	Luke 12:24-27
Psalms 19:14	Psalms 119:23, 27	Psalms 143:5	Philippians 4:8

## Serious Discipleship

### Arts & Crafts Mini-Retreat for Adults

Is on break during the summer.



Do You Play Bridge?

Marvin Lykins, Valerie Nolan and Susan Sperry are looking for bridge partners. If we can find one more player, we can have a bridge day at St Francis. If you're interested, please let the church office know!

The ACTS class is still in progress at 8:30am on Sundays. It is not too late to join. Lots of good discussions!! See Deacon Jeff for more info.



### Women's Bible Study

To all the ladies of St. Francis

Save the date: 29 August will be the beginning of a new Ladies Bible Study at St. Francis.

Our new study will involve a 7 week commitment. We will meet each Wednesday morning at 9:45 from 29 August to 3 October.

I'm so excited about this new study! Margaret Feinberg, well known Christian author leads this new study entitled WONDERSTRUCK.

I promise you will not be disappointed. Please be praying about setting this time aside and whom you may invite to attend with you. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith and reach out to the community. More about Margaret and the study next month. *Lorraine*

Our Diocese of San Joaquin Website:  
<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/>

Diocesan Newsletter:

<http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/san-joaquin-anglican.html>

### Daily opportunities to read/hear the Word:



<http://legereme.com/office>

<http://www.missionstclare.com/english/>

<https://first5.org/>



Daughters: July 14<sup>th</sup> @10am

Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals: July 1<sup>st</sup>

Coffee Hour Hosts: See Cat Rhodes

Taizé: July 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

Bishop's Committee Meeting: July 22<sup>nd</sup>

### Other Ministry Opportunities

Acolyte

Lector

Prayer Team

Collection Counter

Hospitality

Usher

Flowers

Homebound Ministry

Senior Ministry

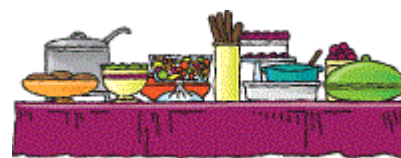
Serving on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of the Month

# Selfless Service

Don't forget to sign the cards on the table in the fellowship hall for our homebound and sick. They are so appreciative to hear from their friends at St Francis Church.



## Pot Luck Sunday



July 29<sup>th</sup>



### July

- 16<sup>th</sup> Archie - Carolyn Hays
- 19<sup>th</sup> Richard - Liz Haines



### July

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr & Mrs Jerry Towne

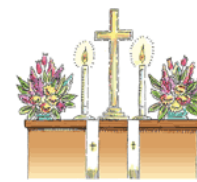


### July

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Emily Arcala  
Dan Tejano
- 11<sup>th</sup> Valerie Nolan  
Cliff Kenst  
Mike Combs
- 16<sup>th</sup> Remy Balagey  
Franca Adiekweh
- 18<sup>th</sup> Taylor Berry
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Nick Grimmett
- 25<sup>th</sup> Jose Dato
- 28<sup>th</sup> Gloria Eich
- 31<sup>st</sup> Donna Lind

## Homeless Women's Ministry

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Each Month  
after the 9:30am Service



### June Altar Flower Donations

Kathy Lynch in memory of her husband, Terry; her dad, Art and her brother, Erich.

Rachel Allanigue in thanksgiving for the graduates: Isabella Rose, Jorell, Julian, John and Maria Isabel.

Ted & Lisa Yumoto in thanksgiving for two years of marriage.

Paul & Mary in thanksgiving for fifty-six years of marriage.

Mike & Kim Combs in memory of their son, Alexander.

Kirstian Petersen in memory of his mom, Roberta Sue Stevens Petersen.



*Child Care is available each Sunday @ 9am. Ask an Usher for Help*



Come to Movie Night  
at St Francis Church on  
Friday, July 6th at  
7:30pm.

St Francis Church  
Lending Library

Take a look at our books in the  
Fellowship Hall.  
You may purchase or borrow  
and return the books on the  
bookshelves.

It is all on the honor system.  
Lots of good resources.




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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.stocktonglican.org](http://www.stocktonglican.org)

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We have a lovely area for prayers when  
you are in the Church of St Francis.



It is in the back corner equipped with  
candles, a bible and prayers. A place to  
spend some quiet time with our Lord.



July 1<sup>st</sup>

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

Psalm 112

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Mark 5:22-24, 35b-43

July 8<sup>th</sup>

Ezekiel 2:1-7

Psalm 123

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-6

July 15<sup>th</sup>

Amos 7:7-15

Psalm 85

Ephesians 1:1-14

Mark 6:7-13

July 22<sup>nd</sup>

Isaiah 57:14-21

Psalm 22:23-32

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-44

July 29<sup>th</sup>

2 Kings 2:1-15

Psalm 114

Ephesians 4:1-16

Mark 6:45-52

### **The Messenger**

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St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church

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'19 Mike Combs, Mike Finney  
'20 Mark Kemalyan, Agnes Olmsted

July 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pentecost VI 9:30 Holy Eucharist	2	3	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Office Closed	5 Office Closed	6 Healing Mass 12noon Movie Night 7:30pm	7 Holy Eucharist 9:30am
8 Pentecost VII 9:30 Holy Eucharist	9	10	11 Taizé 7pm	12	13	14 Daughters 10am
15 Pentecost VIII 9:30 Holy Eucharist	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Pentecost IX 9:30 Holy Eucharist BC Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Pentecost X 9:30 Holy Eucharist Pot Luck Coffee Hour	30	31				



**I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life**

By Agnes Olmsted

*In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Some of you may have attended or have a friend who experienced Woodstock in 1969. Others fondly remember Explo '72, a nationwide Jesus Movement event in Dallas, Texas. The press called it the Christian Woodstock. Its final music rally drew nearly a quarter of a million people. The picture that made Life magazine shows a three-man totem pole with the young men on top holding fingers up pointing to the sky showing ONE WAY. An uncomplicated popular song of the era went, "One Way, One God, One Book, and it's the Holy Bible that will take you to the Promised Land."

Another memory for many Christians is the Passion Plays that were (and still are) presented in many churches. These depicted dramatically the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many of these were quite realistic and moving. Some may think it was a ploy for emotionalism, but it was truly bringing home more of the reality of what Jesus did for us

on the Cross. It was a difficult road that our Savior walked to set us free from our sin. Being the Way was not easy for Jesus. His Resurrection assures us of Life. He is the Life.

The Way to the Father for us is made easy. The Way is Jesus. It is so simple, but we often want to make it harder than it is. Accepting this may be difficult. We want to think we are good or could become righteous enough to gain the acceptance of our Father God. Imagine trying to do enough good things to earn your way to see the Creator of the universe!? Everything we have or could ever do would never be enough to reach God. We would have to be sinless like His Son. The Only Way into the presence of God is through Jesus.

The Bible says in Acts 4, "There is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." Jesus is the only remedy God has provided for man's sin problem. He is the only way to eternal life. The single qualification for eternal life is to believe and accept that His death paid the entire price for our sins. This is the Truth of God's Word.



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