

THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 2017

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

St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church, 1625 N Lincoln St, Stockton, CA 95204

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The Friars Quill

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ANGLICAN CHURCH

5405 North Pershing Avenue,
Stockton CA 95207

In fervent prayer and with the guidance of our Bishop's Committee and our Transition Team, we searched, consulted, deliberated, and finally decided to move to our new Church location at 5405 North Pershing Avenue, Stockton CA 95207.

In agriculture, this change of location is called transplanting: the process of moving a plant from one location to another location where the conditions are better suited for growth and maturity.

This is the backdrop against which I invite us all to view our "transplanting" – our change of location. We, as St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church, are moving to a new location with the lively hope that the conditions in this new location are better suited for the promotion, growth and maturity of our life and mission.

Our location may have changed but our Mission – our reason for being - is unchanged: *To Proclaim the Good News of Salvation in Jesus Christ through Sacred Worship, Serious Discipleship and Selfless Service.*"

We tried our best to select a good location in a nice area with better visibility, with easy accessibility and with adequate parking to enhance our mission. We chose a facility that is large enough for worship and education, service and fellowship needs.

Through our Wish List Committee together with other committees, we are busy making our worship space an attractive place worthy of the Lord's presence among us.

We are preparing our big room for larger meetings and fellowship. We have classrooms for group study and reflection, for nursery, for choir, for youth, for sacristy, for Altar Guild. We have offices for administrative and pastoral needs.

Let us note that all these choices that we made and continue to make are founded and guided by the three elements of our mission, namely worship, discipleship and service. Furthermore, all the activities that emanate from this mission are oriented towards the nurturing and the building up of the inner life and mission of our Church community.

Let us remember, however, that we are not a self-enclosed Church. We build and strengthen our inner life in order to share it with others. We are a Church for others. That is why we hope to share our facilities with others. One parishioner asked me, "with the classrooms we have, maybe I can bring my bride ladies over?"

That is just one of endless possibilities. Already the Worship Committee is developing a Taize group through some members of the choir, and is encouraging the choir itself to continue with Lesson and Carols and add Evensongs, is starting Healing Mass on a weekday, etc. The Discipleship Committee is starting a Bible Timeline Study on the Acts of the Apostles, is supporting the formation of small bible study groups, etc. The Service Committee is thinking of Tea Groups, Card Groups, aside from continuing with our presence under the bridge, the Sams Packs, Food for Families, etc.

A number of parishioners told me that our change of location is a leap of faith. I agree. But it is also a leap of hope and of joy. I have a very good feeling about this change. I am very sure that because of the generous and ever faithful hearts of our parishioners, the Lord is about to bless us a hundred fold.

† Fr Woodrow Gubuan



Shalom,

Hope You have a relaxing Labor Day weekend. Labor Day is the holiday that lets us know school is back in full swing. That the kids will

start to be preoccupied with all that is going on in school. So we should enjoy this last day of summer.

In the last Messenger I started to talk about the church and how we need the church with three things that happen in our attending. This month I'll talk about why we enter into the church.

When entering into the church we leave the secular world outside. We leave a hostile world toward Christians and enter into a place where God is present and welcomed. As we enter into the church we are taking refuge from the distractions, temptations and attacks of the world, allowing our minds to be receptive to the power, majesty and worship of God. It is important to be surrounded with likeminded people for support and comfort.

The world isolates us and tries to tell us that we are alone, by coming to church we are strengthened by numbers and that others feel the same way. We can see the body of Christ coming together. As the body assembles it helps us focus our attention on our Lord and savior and that we are part of something much greater than ourselves. It helps us and enables us to resist the temptations of a world that does not like the message that we believe. In entering we hold each other accountable and in study hold to the true message of the Gospel. We come in from an exhausting and hostile week of proclaiming the good news of the Gospel through words and actions. This reminds us that we are to be in the world and of the world and that church is our refuge until we can enter into the kingdom of heaven.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with You!

Deacon Jeff Stugelmeyer

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Bishop's Warden Report

August continued to keep us all very busy. The lease has been signed and renovation work has begun on the property at 5405 N. Pershing Ave. After further discussion with the City of Stockton we were told the property is already zoned for church worship and that we would not need a permit to hold services there which was great news. We will still need to have the Fire Department sign off on the building before we can occupy it but that doesn't happen until after all of our furnishings such as pews, tables, etc. are in place. The most recent date we have received that the property will be ready to occupy is somewhere around the first week of October. I have also given St. Paul's our 90 day notice that we will be terminating our lease with them effective October 31st. It sounds like they have some interest in the property so they may have someone to replace us soon.

I would like to thank the wish list committee for all of their work in picking out colors, carpet, ceiling tiles, pews, window clings, blinds, etc. To date we have ordered the pews, tabernacle, ceiling tiles, stone facing for the wall behind the altar, and have reached out to the parish for donations to offset the cost of these fixtures. We have had some donations come in already!

With all of this going on and the end of the year in sight, we will be starting our Stewardship campaign very soon so that we can put together a budget with the added expense of the new property.

Please continue to keep the Parish of St. Francis as well as the Bishop's Committee and Transition Team in your prayers.

Sacred Worship

Another development over the past few weeks was the assignment of St. Anselm's Anglican Church in Elk Grove as a Parochial Mission under St. Francis of Assisi. This came as a result of St. Anselm's losing their priest, Fr. Mmor. On Saturday, August 5th Fr. Gubuan, Deacon Jeff and Myself met with St. Anselm's Deacon Daniel and their Bishop's Warden, Ed Marlow to give our support and encouragement and to let them know we are not here to take them over but rather to give support where needed. Then on Sunday, August 13th Fr. Gubuan and Myself attended their service and met with their parish afterwards just to answer questions and ease their minds.

Going forward, Fr. Gubuan will be celebrating at their service once a month and Fr. Carl Johnson will also celebrate once a month with the remaining services being handled by their Deacon doing Morning Prayer with the Reserve Sacrament.

Please keep St. Anselm's in your prayers that they will get through this difficult time and eventually regain their Mission status.

If you have any concerns you would like to discuss, you can e-mail me at any time at mikecombs@sbcglobal.net or feel free to call me at (209) 642-3129.

Sincerely,

Mike Combs - Bishop's Warden



Our Bishop's Committee has created a dedicated fund "St Francis Future Home" for those who would like to give separate gifts for our future. Please mark your giving "St Francis Future Home"

You will also see our Wish List Committee at work with a list of things we will need for our new location.

We pray you will be called to help in some way during this transition.



Sundays

9:30am St Francis of Assisi
Fellowship Hall

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month

2pm O'Connor Woods Chapel
3400 Wagner Heights Rd, Stockton



<http://stocktonanglican.org/sermons/>

Child Care is Available each
Sunday from 8:30am.

Please see an Usher for location.



Childcare Available



St Francis uses Flocknote to send emails to our parishioners with notices and information. If you do not receive these notices, we do not have your email. Please put it in the offering plate with your name, or call the church office 565-0648

Then watch your emails!!!

Serious Discipleship

Daily Office Resource

<http://legereme.com/office>



Choir: Upcoming Rehearsals:
September 17th

Coffee Hour Hosts: Sign up on calendar
behind food table

Altar Guild:
September 19th at 10am

Daughters: September 9th at 10am

Bishop's Committee Meeting: Sun, Sept 24th

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.stocktonanglican.org

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Other Ministry Opportunities

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



We do have some reading material to borrow, read and return in the church office. Honor system is in place. Bookshelves in Fr Gubuan's Office.

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

Diocesan Newsletter:

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



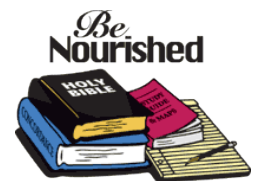
Don't forget to sign the cards on the back table for our homebound and sick

Lorraine Hitchcock is offering a Women's Bible Study to begin in October.

The study is of Jesus "I AM" Statements from the book of John.

Book – "Finding I AM" by Lysa TerKeurst - \$14.99 on Amazon

More Info to follow!!!



Selfless Service



September 3rd

Jeremiah 15:15-21
 Psalm 26
 Romans 12:1-8
 Matthew 16:21-27

September 10th

Ezekiel 33:1-11
 Psalm 119:33-48
 Romans 12:9-21
 Mathew 18:15-20

September 17th

Ecclesiasticus 27:30—28:7
 Psalm 103
 Romans 14:5-12
 Matthew 18:21-35

September 24th

Jona 3:10—4:11
 Psalm 145:1-21
 Philippians 1:21-27
 Matthew 20:1-16



September

- 12th Beatriz Foronda
- 18th Carolyn Hays
- 19th Dolores Aulwurm
- 22nd Peggy Tobias
- Carrie Crowder Berry
- 23rd Melody Chamberlain
- 27th P.K. Cheung
- 28th Alegria Naites
- 29th Davy Emmatty



September

- 1st Mr & Mrs Denis Ceballos
- 4th Mr & Mrs Jim Telander



September

- 7th Cesar, brother of Rachel Allanigue
- 18th Joan Fay, mother of Bob Fay
- 27th Dorothea, mother of Jeff Stugelmeyer
- 28th Darlene, mother of Kim Combs



August

Tan Family in memory of Mauricio J Abanes Sr, Harriet Ann H Abanes, Alexander H Abanes Sr, and Philip H Abanes.

Wilson and Betty Melchor in celebration of their wedding anniversary

Aulwurm Family in memory of Erich Aulwurm



Under the Freeway Ministry the First Saturday of Every Month

Our ladies are always in need of ladies toiletries, such as small shampoos, deodorants, lotions, lip balms, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc, underwear as such. See Samantha

Towne for more info. This is an awesome ministry to the homeless women of Stockton. This ministry piggy backs on the Downtown Feeding of the Homeless on the First Saturday of the Month. See Deacon Jeff for more details.

September 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Pentecost XIII 8:30 Catechism 9:30 Holy Eucharist	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Pentecost XIV 8:30 Catechism 9:30 Holy Eucharist	11	12	13 2pm O'Connor Woods Mass	14	15	16
17 Pentecost XV 8:30 Catechism 9:30 Holy Eucharist	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Pentecost XVI 8:30 Catechism 9:30 Holy Eucharist Bishop's Committee Meeting	25	26	27 2pm O'Connor Woods Mass	28	29	30

The Messenger

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'17 Nancy Thomas, Bill Aaron
'18 Jim Telander, Rachel Allanigue
'19 Mike Combs, Mike Finney

October is Clergy Appreciation Month



Plan a date on your calendar to show your appreciation for our clergy!

Clergy
APPRECIATION
month

5 Things You Should Know About Your Pastor

By Nicholas Davis on Aug 18, 2017

Sometimes I'm baffled at how quickly Americans trust a pastor who they don't know with care over their souls. When we consider a job opportunity or are looking for a school for our children, usually we spend a little bit of time getting to know the company or school before jumping right in.

Unfortunately, I don't think many people operate the same way when it comes to religion. In general, people avoid an interview process and just start attending.

Here are five things you should know about your pastor. (And if you can't find any of this information about your pastor, or you can't ever meet the head pastor, then it's probably time for a new church.)

1. Where did my pastor go to school?

I realize that a seminary education doesn't automatically create a good (or even decent) pastor. In some cases, it can create a monster, and if that has been your experience, I am deeply sorry.

There are some men in church history who never required any theological training, and there are some remarkable people today who might fall into this category. But this should be an exception to the rule, and is not the norm. Unfortunately, not pursuing any training before becoming a pastor has become a staple in American churches—and its part of the reason why so many Christians today are ignorant of basic Christian beliefs. Whenever we drive by a new church that pops up in our neighborhood, my wife and I look it up online and every single time the pastor has "felt called by God" to start the church.

For most people though, it should matter if your pastor went to school. When we are being treated by our medical provider, we want the best care

possible with the most highly trained and respected doctors. Nobody willingly invites malpractice or asks for untrained physicians to work on their bodies, so why should it be any different with pastoral care? We should want the same treatment for our souls as we do for our bodies. It shouldn't be any different with stewards entrusted with handling God's Word.

So ask some honest questions:

- Is my pastor trained enough to know some of the most significant heresies and controversies in the history of the church?
- Does he know basic principles of interpreting the Bible?
- Can I trust him to care for my soul in the same way I trust a doctor to take care of my body?

2. What does my pastor believe is “biblical”?

Having creeds and confessions, or a statement of faith matters. That's something external to your pastor that holds him to an objective standard outside of himself. All pastors need this kind of accountability. No matter how wise and godly, an individual pastor can't possibly have all the answers. We can't put that burden on our pastors, and our pastors shouldn't try to bear the weight of two thousand years of Christian wisdom on their own shoulders either.

So, what do they officially believe? Do they have a statement of some sort that tells you, in general, what they do and don't believe? Have they promised to remain faithful to a body of teaching that can publicly be accessed by others? Is he willing to submit to the discipline of the church if he ceases to be faithful to God's Word?

3. What does my pastor believe about the church?

Christian traditions vary, and there are different views on what the church should be emphasizing depending on what theological backdrop a pastor (and church) is coming from. However, there should be a strong focus on every pastor in any given Christian tradition on two *vital* things that distinguish Christianity from every other kind of fellowship, group, parachurch organization, and frankly, cult.

Does my pastor believe the central mission of the church is to preach the gospel, administer the sacraments (baptism and the Lord's Supper), and exercise church discipline?

4. Does my pastor really love people?

Is my pastor someone who really believes what he says about the love that we have for one another because of the gospel? Does he have a conviction for truth *and* compassion for others to believe in the truth? Or is he defined by winning arguments and getting it right?

Obviously, every person is different and will express love in different ways. Some people don't seem to be passionate *at all*, but for their temperament they are actually really excited about the gospel—they're just not as passionate as John Piper.

That's okay, but what I mean here is, does your pastor love *you*? Do you see his *love* for the lost?

5. Is my pastor a godly person?

I'm not trying to crush fellow co-laborers in the gospel with this one. I equally fall under this gutting question too and it's a tough one for me to hear. But the apostle Paul uses himself as an example of godliness for all ministers of the gospel to follow after, lest we be disqualified ([1 Cor 9:27](#)). And he often makes it a point to remind people to “imitate me as I follow Christ” ([1 Cor 11:1](#)). Elsewhere, Paul instructs us that “overseers” (or pastors, ministers, elders, bishops, priests, board members, etc.) are to be *godly*.

This is a bare minimum qualification for ordained ministry, so you shouldn't feel bad about asking this one about us. Is my pastor *godly*? Does he live a life that is worthy of imitating? If you are a pastor, trust me, I cry out with you and the apostle Paul, saying:

“Who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.” ([2 Cor 2:16-17](#))

The ministry of the word is a high calling, and it's not for the faint of heart. It's also not a business, and unfortunately, people need to learn how to discern the difference between a church that is out for your money, and a church that seeks to faithfully make the mysteries of the gospel known to a dying and starving world. Ask questions and learn the difference—in this case, both your body and soul depend on it.

With these five questions, you should be able to separate *faithful servants* from those who are just trying to become *super-apostles* by building a

platform. I pray that these guiding questions will help you identify servants of Christ who are worthy of the very gospel they are proclaiming, even though none of us—myself included!—are truly sufficient for these things.

Please pray for your pastor. And if you have a good pastor, thank God for your pastor.



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