



Church Mouse

News & Events from St. John's Episcopal Church • Oakland, California

May Calendar

May 1 - Tuesday
5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. - Pizza Club
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. - Singers' Forum

May 2 - Wednesday
6:00 p.m. - Ministry Catalyst Meeting

May 3 - Thursday
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Tenors & Basses)

May 5 - Saturday
11:00 a.m. - Meditation Garden workday

May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter
7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist
2:00 p.m. - Berkeley Bach Cantata Group
5:30 pm - Youth Group

May 8 - Tuesday
5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal

May 10 - Thursday
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Tenors & Basses)

May 11-13 Parish Retreat at Bishop's Ranch

May 12 - Saturday
Noon - Memorial Service for Carol Booth

May 13 - Seventh Sunday of Easter
7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist

—Continued on Page 2

Rector Reflects on "Changes and Chances"



Fr. Scott with grandson Joshua

It has been said that change is the only constant. Sometimes I wish this constant would also change so that we could enjoy a little stability for a change.

This morning, as I began my day with prayer and reflection it was clear I was feeling unsettled by the changing nature of my world. It's enough to feel the constant turbulence on the political front, but I was feeling it more personally. I was feeling a deep sense of loss. I feel this every time we lose a parishioner, whether to illness or simply because they are moving away. Both happened this week. I am feeling an impending loss as my son will be moving to Colorado to start a new life there. Every parent knows what I am talking about. And we all feel a sense of loss as both our office coordinator and our music director are about to move on to their next assignment. Of course I am so proud of, and excited for, my son who is taking this adventurous step, welcoming what is next for him. I feel the same way about Peter and Jun who are also faithfully stepping into their future. And, to be honest, I also feel this way

about those we lose through death. I believe that they too are courageously moving into what is next for them. But it's a different kind of challenge for those of us staying behind.

As I reflected on the anxiety and loss I was feeling a phrase from the prayer book leapt out at me. In our Compline service (p. 133) there is this beautiful prayer:

"Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

It is a spiritual practice to let go. But this should always be accompanied with a renewed commitment to trust in the purposes of God. God remains at work. It's important to reaffirm that every day. As I read and re-read this verse, letting it sink in, I began to rejoice in the fact that I am not in control, and instead rest in the stability of God. When changes have happened throughout my life, God has always surprised me. As we look for what God has in store for us, it's a good thing to remember that change is not the only constant. God is.

Scott+

Associate Rector Says, "Can Do!"



One of the things I truly love about St. John's is that it is a "can do" parish. Collect a mountain of paper and other schools supplies and send them to Oakland schools? Yes!

Can do! Help run and maintain a food pantry that hands out over 200 bags of grocery that feeds 771 people almost weekly? Yes! Can do! Help kids get to school by working with city and county officials to give students bus passes? Yes! Can do!

St. John's is a vibrant community focused on being relevant out there in the world. We are a relevant loving community being Christ's hands and feet in the world.

Sometimes the "Yes! Can do!"... becomes "... Yes??"

How are we going to find the resources? How are we going to find the time to do what we really want to do? How will we continue to be Christ's hands with so much going on in the world?

I believe that we sometimes forget to nurture our community within our walls. We get so focused into the world, we forget to stop, reflect and share how what we do outside transforms what is going on inside each of us.

Over the past couple of months I have been developing a program that will create an opportunity for us to gather together and discuss our lives and our faith in a way for us to put our own spiritual oxygen mask on first and enliven us for our ministry in the world. Love your neighbor as yourself. We are truly loving our neighbors in so many ways, but perhaps we can do a better job of that other part.

—Continued on Page 2

May Calendar

—Continued from Page 1

May 15 - Tuesday

5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. - Singers' Forum

May 17 - Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Tenors & Basses)

May 19 - Saturday

1:30 p.m. - Celebration of the
Rev. Dr. Fran Toy

May 20 - Day of Pentecost (wear red)

7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Jazz Eucharist
11:30 a.m. - CnC Introduction
2:00 p.m. - Sacred Space
5:30 -7 p.m. - Youth Group

May 21 - Monday

7:00 p.m. - Vestry meeting

May 22 - Tuesday

5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal

May 24 - Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Tenors & Basses)

May 27 - First Sunday after Pentecost

7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist
Summer Sunday School begins
2:00 p.m. - Sacred Space
4:00 p.m. - Choral Evensong

May 29 - Tuesday

5:00 p.m. - Primary & Junior Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. - Men's Group Dinner Meeting
6:15 p.m. - RSCM Voice for Life
7:00 p.m. - Senior Choir Rehearsal

May 31 - Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Sopranos & Altos)
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Tenors & Basses)

June 2 - Saturday

4:00 p.m. - Choir Picnic

June 3 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

7:45 a.m. - Early Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - Choral Eucharist & RSCM
Awards

Associate Rector

—Continued from Page 1

At St. John's we have begun Beta testing a new program that will create groups to help oxygenate our ministries, our faith and our lives so we can continue being a can do community. These groups (we are calling them discipleship groups) are going to meet for 8 weeks. At the end of the 8 weeks we will evaluate, discuss what we would do differently and launch a parish wide program in the fall.

Do you want to learn more? Feel free to connect with me by emailing associate@stjohnsoakland.org

Krista

St. John's Episcopal Church

1707 Gouldin Road, Oakland, CA 94611
510/339-2200 — Fax 510/339-2487
www.stjohnsoakland.org

The Rev. Scott Denman, Rector
The Rev. Krista Fregoso, Associate Rector

Editor: Laurie Bennett
Layout: Ray Craun
Production: St. John's Administration
Publisher: Bedivere

*It ys a sotyll mouse that slepyth
in the catty's ear.*

—Hilles *Commonplace Book*, 1530

The Year in Worship

Eucharistic Lectionary: B
Daily Office Lectionary Year Two
Advent Eve 2017 to Advent Eve 2018



Senior Warden Offers "For Your Consideration"



In this world of unre-
lentent (and sometimes
unwanted) change,
there are a few con-
stants that help me
navigate the uncertaint-
ty and anxiety of this
thing we call life: that
the sun will rise and set

each day – there is always a new begin-
ning waiting for us, that my family loves
and cares for me and that my friends are
at the ready to help should I call. I am a
lucky woman. And now I can add what
I have found at St. John's - connection,
faithfulness, purpose and a community
that is committed to making the world a
better place.

So, that last part. That's a pretty broad
statement - how does it work? Let's be-
gin with the basics – Vision and Mission.
I think we are all pretty familiar with our
Vision Statement: The Vision of St. John's
is to Manifest God's Love through Invita-
tion, Inclusion, Faith and Action. Okay, I
get that. And I think we are doing an ever
better job manifesting this as a faith com-
munity.

But what about our Mission statement:
anybody know where to find this? I had to
do some searching for this – I looked ev-
erywhere for it, and finally found it on our
website: St. John's mission is to manifest
the love of God through the Holy Spirit
with each other, our community and the
world through worship, spiritual growth
and Christian service. Whoa! How do we
do this? What does it mean?

Well, lots. But I think the nuts and bolts of
it are that God has called us – all of us - to
care for each other and the world around
us. We do that every time we sit next to
each other in church, pray with each oth-
er, work side by side at a parish workday
or on a church committee, protest injus-
tice together, give help or ask for help, or
thoughtfully consider what God is calling
us to do.

And so, I invite you to thoughtfully con-
sider. What are you doing to show God's
love to your family, friends, neighbors,
church community, and the world? How
do you need God's love in your world?

Kathy Araujo
seniorwarden@stjohnsoakland.org

Invitation Bridge Update

April 16, 2018

The Invitation Bridge project is in the first phase of the capital campaign to raise the capital necessary to build out the next phase of the St. John's master plan. This phase is called the "Discernment Phase". Its purpose is to educate the congregation about what the building project is and why we are building it. By the end of the Discernment Phase, which should conclude by the end of May, we hope at least 85% of the parish knows about and supports the project.

The Discernment Committee is a subcommittee of the Invitation Bridge Committee and Vestry. The co-chairs are John Seals and Debi Stebbins. Members include: Fr. Scott, Kathy Araujo, Lone Beeson, Kendace Denman and Ian Storrar.

Members of the Discernment Committee, Invitation Bridge Committee and Vestry are wearing buttons on Sunday mornings saying "Ask Me About" with a depiction of the bridge. We encourage you to engage them in discussion of questions and comments about the project.

The design for the actual bridge is being refined to make sure it is both compliant with current building codes and can be constructed in a cost effective manner. The Architectural Planning Committee is working closely with our engineering consultants to refine the design.



Parish leaders continue to have discussions with the Water Quality Board, one of three agencies which must issue permits for the project and it may be the most challenging of these agencies. They focus on the amount of shading on the creek that will be added by construction of the bridge. The shading impact could be ameliorated by our paying for the elimination of shading on a waterway somewhere else in Oakland.

However, another solution that may be acceptable to Water Quality involves a joint effort with Montclair Presbyterian Church. Montclair Presbyterian needs to remove an older foot bridge across the same creek on their property. This "elimination" of shading by removing their bridge could potentially neutralize the addition of shading created by building a new bridge on our portion of the Creek. This collaborative approach could be less costly than our paying for a shading "fix" somewhere else in Oakland.

Jerry Moran deserves special recognition for his leadership in the permit process and discussions with Montclair Presbyterian. Stay tuned for more information about this unique opportunity for St. John's to work with a neighboring church community.

*Debi Stebbins,
Invitation Bridge Facilitator*



New EfM Class to Begin

Join members of many other Oakland and Berkeley parishes in Education for Ministry (EfM) classes hosted by St. Clement's in Berkeley. Seats are now available for next year's classes. Classes begin in September. EfM is a 4 year religious study program in practical theology that includes explorations of the Bible, church history, Christian theology, and theological reflection. Many members of St. John's are EfM graduates. If you are interested in joining the group, please feel free to contact the mentor Helen Hampton from St. Clement's at 510-932-9108 or helenhampton@yahoo.com. You can also speak with Tim Hart at cuorese@gmail.com.

Sanctuary Redesign: The Word Is In!

In April after Easter, newsprint sheets and an online form captured thoughts about the sanctuary redesign that was used during Lent. Here's a few of them:

"We all felt closer together."

"Loved the choir in front."

"View not as good."

"I loved being close during communion."

"Bad Feng Shui."

"Felt airy, light, welcoming."

What did you think? What would you do differently? What did you like?

The redesign hoped to help us recognize "God among us". A God who is present not just in worship but our conversations! Please join us for a conversation on April 29th, after both services, when all your comments will be shared and we can imagine what might come next. A final report will also be available later in the month. Got questions? Want a copy of the report? Contact the project coordinator, Peter Homeyer (phomeyer@ses.cdsp.edu).



Easter at St John's – Flowering the Cross



Notes from a Seminarian



I have had an incredible year with all of you at St. John's. Thank you for welcoming me so graciously, for trusting me, and for making this such a rich learning experience. It has truly been a gift. I am particularly thankful that I will be returning in the fall for another year as St. John's seminarian!

Almost as soon as I get home to Vermont in late May, I will turn around to fly to Richmond, VA, where I will attend the Episcopal Preaching Excellence Program, an annual, week-long intensive in which seminarians present sermons for discussion and affirmative feedback.

Then I will be in Austin, Texas for the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church from June 30 - July 14. While there, I will continue my work with House of Deputies Special Committee on Sexual Harassment and Exploitation, Subcommittee on Theology and Language. I will also be working with my employer, Canticle Communications, reporting for Deputy News, helping coordinate a public witness event for Bishops United Against Gun Violence, and working with other clients in various ways. I will also get to see friends from CDSP, as the seminary celebrates its 125th anniversary at General Convention.

Finally, I will get some time at home in Vermont, where I will help out with the diocese's Rock Point Summer Camp, preach at a handful of parishes, and reconnect with my home parish. I will also be happy to get in some quality time with my family and friends, as well as plenty of time outdoors running, hiking and paddling.

You will all be in my prayers. Can't wait to see you again in August!

Kathleen

Bishop Marc and Wife Visit St. John's



The Andruses are blessed by Fr. Scott for their gifts to the world and upcoming sabbatical time.

Earth Day on April 22 was an event packed morning at St. John's. Our Bishop, Marc Andrus, and his wife, Dr. Sheila Andrus, began the day at a breakfast meeting with clergy and vestry.

At 9 a.m. Bishop Marc led a forum on the Episcopal Church's role in ecological issues and climate change initiatives. He shared impactful moments from climate conferences in Paris, Marrakech, Bonn, and the recent "We're Still In" movement in the United States. <https://www.wearstillin.com>



For the 10 a.m. service he preached about "The Beautiful Shepherd" (listen to that on St. John's website) and celebrated the Eucharist. Afterwards they met with parishioners on the patio.

Thank you, Bishop Marc And Sheila!



Getting to YES!

So many things come to mind when I think about Stewardship. Ah, that dreaded word! Why is it so hard to talk about? Why does it make us back away rather than come forward? Why is it so difficult to get to YES, so easy to say NO!

Giving is complicated! When I think back to my own history of giving, I see a little girl, me, dressed in my Sunday best (complete with hat and little white gloves), being given a dime for the collection plate and feeling so proud when it was time to put my dime in with all the other contributions. Then as I got older, that dime became a dollar from my babysitting money. Then the college years and beyond when I was better acquainted with what money really was, with what it meant to have it and what it meant to be without. Scarcity, fear, anxiety set in causing hands to close and purse strings to tighten. Until I stopped going. Until I stopped giving.

I came back, which is a story for another time, but hands were still closed, and the purse strings were still tight. But something had shifted. What changed me? What got me to YES! What made the difference?

First, a loving community that was willing to teach me about commitment, hold my hand through the fear, model generosity for me. When I finally understood that it was the commitment, not the amount of my pledge that mattered, something opened in me. Tithing became a goal. Supporting the people and the structure that helps me to "do the work God has given me to do" became a focus for my time, talent and treasure. So where am I going with all this?

Invitation. I invite you to replace the word Stewardship with Generosity. We are going to have a Generosity Team this year, and we will be exploring all the ways that generosity works in our lives. This is about so much more than asking for money. In fact, that is the least of all we will be tasked with in this campaign. I promise.

I invite you to say YES! if asked to join the Team or volunteer if the Spirit moves you. I promise it will be meaningful, positive, creative and fun!

We have work to do!!!

Kathy Araujo
Generosity Team Chair
kathyaraujo@me.com

Carol Adams' Newsletter

Excerpts from Carol Adams' April 24 letter

Hello to all my friends around the world,

I am back home in Fort Portal Uganda after a long two and a half months in Colorado where I received a second back surgery. I am so so happy to be back among my kids and friends in this beautiful country.

I arrived back home on the 21st of March. The flights were very difficult but thanks to another dear friend, I had good connections and business class flights. I was just quite sick as my body seemed to have rebelled against the many pain medications I had. I was picked up at the airport and had another 7 and a half hours to arrive home. My driver William was very careful over the rough roads. I could not eat and had severe pains in my stomach for several days but Doctor Henry came on the third day and got me in much better condition and I started feeling stronger.



I managed to visit the kids at Manna Rescue Home reasonably soon after returning and by the fifth day I was also back in the office. There I found my staff and volunteers had been working hard and things were busy with many activities. Dawn Howard, my new volunteer, was already active with working with Gregg on our student database as well as writing letters to sponsors of many of the kids. If you would like more information about sponsoring a child email Dawn at dawnhoward@yesuganda.org

I again thank everyone for the ongoing support. You are making such a difference in many lives and giving hope to both students and their extended families.

Carol



Carol at Bishops Ranch in May, 2015

Caroline Booth Memorial is May 12

Please join us for a community celebration of the life of Caroline Booth on Saturday, May 12th at noon. The impact of Carol's life is beyond measure and cannot begin to be summarized here. Her support of, not only St. John's, but also St. Paul's School, the Diocese and Bishop's Ranch, to name a few, inspired all who knew her and extended her impact to many who never knew her. She left this stage the way she lived her life, quietly, courageously and faithfully. St. John's has truly been blessed through her.



Peter Homeyer Invites Us

On Friday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. CDSP is holding its commencement at the Pacific School of Religion in the Chapel of Great Commission. Our former seminarian and current parish coordinator, Peter Homeyer, invites the parish to attend and celebrate his graduation. The chapel is located at 1798 Scenic Ave. in Berkeley.

Congratulations, Peter!

Friends of Ruwenzori News

The Friends of Ruwenzori Foundation's mission is to reduce preventable deaths and foster healthy living among the people living in the Ruwenzori foothills of Western Uganda by supporting the rural region's only local hospital and economic empowerment and health programs. Our partner in Uganda is the Kitojo Integrated Development Association (KIDA), a Ugandan charity directed by Rev. Ezra and Marjorie Musobozi.

<http://www.friendsofruwenzori.org>

New mothers delivering babies at KIDA Hospital are so grateful to St. John's donors for your gifts of onesies and blankets that were hand carried by the last two mission teams. With about 35 deliveries a month, the store of newborn clothes is getting low. We welcome more donations to bring next year. Contact Karen Gleason at karen.gleason@friendsofruwenzori.org.

Are you interested in joining a small group to visit KIDA in 2019? Trips are open to Friends of Ruwenzori donors. Contact Executive Director Kristen Brock at kristen.brock@friendsofruwenzori.org before August 1, 2018.

Save these dates:

May 1, 2018: Fundraising online auction and wine sale preview at <http://www.BiddingforGood.com/Ruwenzori>. Donations to auction welcomed.

June 4, 2018: Auction opens at BiddingforGood.com/Ruwenzori

June 17, 2018: Auction closes at 6 PM

October 20, 2018: Annual Green and Yellow Festival, details to follow



Traveling to Uganda to volunteer: Left to right: Dawn Howard (to YES with Carol Adams), Virginia Jardim, Debbie Cox, Kristen Brock (3 to KIDA)

Youth Notes

Youth Pilgrimage Is Soon

Youth from St. John's Oakland are excited to go on this journey with the Youth of St. John's Ross from June 22-29. We are all traveling as God's people. Each day will be full of insights, exploration, interviews, prayers, journaling, silence and discussions all framed with the new traditions we create along the way.

Day 1:

Visit Allensworth State Historic Park. It is where settlers established a town founded, financed, and governed by African Americans.

Day 2:

Manzanar (Natl. Park) War Relocation Center was a camp where Japanese American citizens and resident Japanese aliens were incarcerated during World War II.

Day 3:

Museum of Tolerance - a museum in Los Angeles designed to examine racism and prejudice around the world with a strong focus on the history of the Holocaust.

Day 4:

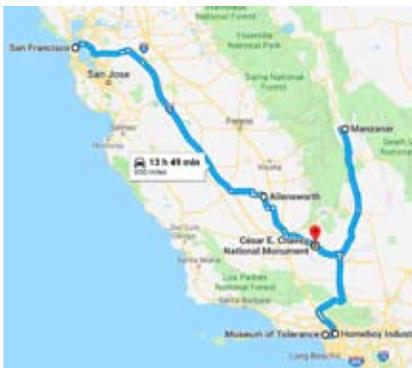
HomeBoy Industries - provides hope, training, and support for formerly incarcerated men and women, allowing them to redirect their lives.

Day 5:

Fun Day in LA and a beach visit!!!

Day 6:

Cesar Chavez Memorial - a monument in Kern County to the man who led the farm workers and supporters in the establishment of the country's first permanent agricultural union.



Youth Pilgrimage Fundraiser

These Emergency packs are great for your home, workplace, cars, school lockers, and back packs. They make great gifts for neighbors, friends and family.

Sales will be held on Sundays during the coffee hour. \$20 per pack

Or you mail a check with the number of packs to St John's /attn. Kellor Smith, 1707 Gouldin Rd. Oakland, CA 94610. Make checks payable to St. John's and memo 'youth mission trip'.

May Pizza Club

The last Pizza Club meeting for the current school year is Tuesday, May 1st from 6-7 p.m.

Bring a friend and \$5 per person for pizza.



Summer Sunday School Begins May 27

All summer in the Godly Play room (at the top of the stairs above the kitchen) children will learn bible stories that focus on our Earth. All ages (3-12) are welcome.

Used by over 600 churches, Illustrated Earth curriculum requires no preparation time for teachers. Read the bible verse at home, then everything else you require will be in the classroom. To volunteer for one or two Sundays from May 27 through September 9, contact Kellor Smith at Kellor@stjohnsoakland.org.

An Inviting Congregation: Welcoming at St. John's on May 6



People don't usually come to church because they saw a great sign or an ad on

Facebook. More than 85% of newcomers attend because a church member invited them. St. John's is a special place. You don't have to spend very much time in this parish before you hear people telling one another about the ways in which they have been supported, inspired, and transformed by the love of Christ.

So, why aren't we shouting it from the rooftops? There are good reasons for that, including fear of offending someone, of being rejected, or of being seen as one of "those" Christians. This forum will unpack the reasons we so often feel uncomfortable inviting friends, family, and acquaintances to church, and will discuss potential strategies for individuals and the parish as a whole to become more inviting.

The forum will take place on Sunday, May 6. Participants may choose to attend the 9:00 a.m. or the 11:30 a.m. session.

Expanding God: Exploring the language we use for God.

YHWH, Father, Mother, El Shaddai, Creator, Lord, Abba...

Starting May 20 after the 10 a.m. service we will explore the language we use for God. Marilyn McEntyre will help facilitate this discussion and help us expand the language we use. Be on the lookout for more details in the Friday email.



Rev. Fran Says, "Thanks, and Thanks, and Ever Thanks."*

*Reputedly a remark by one of Shakespeare's characters in Twelfth Night, Act 3, Scene 3, whether or not it is true, nevertheless, I both need to and want to express thanks, repeatedly.



First of all, it is daily thanks to God upon awakening for the gift of another day and then thanks to God before falling asleep for what was accomplished that day.

Many of you know that I have lived with cancer for more than a decade. Last September I learned that a six-year "reprieve" had ended !!! I had stage IV or metastatic cancer as my cancer had traveled outside its original location (my liver) and now was in both lungs and the lymph node in the center of my chest.

Upon learning of my cancer's return, I instantly had an idea which I shared with Bishop Andrus and Rector Scott. Both agreed that it was a worthy idea. I said that when reading obituaries, frequently the phrase, "Celebration of Life" has now become a euphemism for the funeral service. As I have intentionally lived a life of thanksgiving, now more than ever, I wanted to have a worship service at St. John's to give thanks for the many blessings which I KNOW I have received throughout my life and I wanted to "celebrate my life," while alive, with friends, relatives, and especially my church family.

Therefore, you are all invited to attend a 1:30 p.m. worship service at St. John's on Saturday, May 19th, with "tea" following the service. Since it is the eve of Pentecost, wear red, if possible.

Please RSVP by Monday, May 7th with an e-mail to frantoy@att.net or telephone (510) 530-1188. NO GIFTS, PLEASE! You may contribute to a voluntary-tax-deductible contribution to St. John's for the Art and Fran Toy Fund which provides scholarships to parishioners attending the women's retreat, the men's retreat, the parish retreat, or the youth mission trip.

Contained in last month's Church Mouse is a photo of my holding up a quilt. This special quilt, a calendar quilt, was made by Lisa Thorpe, the artist-in-residence at The Bishop's Ranch and commissioned by Susan Pierpoint and the women of St. John's. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan and the women for the GORGEOUS quilt presented to me during the women's retreat. IT WAS A STUNNING SURPRISE and it is and will be a much-cherished treasure. "Thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks!"

Easter blessings,
Fran Toy+

Jun Kim Is Moving



Rev. Scott sadly informed the parish on April 23rd that our beloved Music Director, Jun Kim, will be leaving St. John's this summer. His mother needs assistance and he is moving to the

East Coast to be near her. Jun's last day at St. John's will be July 15th.

Needless to say, this is a huge loss. Jun has been an exceptional part of our staff team and we are so sad to see him leave us. We will be planning a celebration of Jun's ministry and a worthy send off as he embraces the next leg of his journey. We ask for your prayers for Jun as he seeks a new beginning and for St. John's as we discern what's next for us.

The Personnel Committee is updating the job description and will be posting the position soon. If you have any people to recommend for the job or know of appropriate job boards for posting, please inform Rev. Scott.



St. John's Annual Parish Retreat
Bishop's Ranch
May 11-13

Parish Cleans Up

The Landscaping Committee has planned a work day for outside projects. Come have fun and join us at 11:00 am on Saturday, May 5th for work on our grounds. Help is needed spreading gravel to beautify the meditation garden. Questions? Please contact Lea Seals at leas1914@gmail.com.



On April 7th we had the first work day of the year at St. John's. Despite the weather, eleven parishioners showed up. We were able to do many of the items on our list. Among the things accomplished were completely reorganizing the sacristy, changing of light bulbs, removing cobwebs, cleaning up the school storage room, organizing the donated socks for Sacred Space, cleaning up the office area, trimming back bushes in the yard, replacing a faucet, and more.

Many thanks to: Laurie Bennett, Anne Meyer, Steve Baronian, Lilah Greene, Krista Fregoso, Louise Miller, Jerry Moran, Bonnie Moran, Jun, Lone Beeson and Ken Fuller. Apologies to anyone whose name I left out. Due to the weather there was no barbecue.

Ken Fuller



St. John's Family

HOLLY BAZELEY had three of her paintings exhibited in the Merritt College Art Show at the Barbara Lee Science Building...



LINDA LONG (bottom left) performed with Women Sing! at Chabot Space Sciences Center...



SARA and JOE EVINGER spent three weeks in Paris in her old neighborhood (17th arrondissement) enjoying daily life, reunions with

three generations of old friends, and lots and lots of walking to admire architecture. Joe's French studies paid off: he enjoyed two plays ("Art" by Yasmina Reza, and "Quelque part dans cette vie" by Israel Horowitz), and both reveled in organ concerts at St. Augustin and St. Eustache, where the organist literally pulled out all the stops...

SYLVIA AHERN and PAT TWOMEY signed a Grandparent's Promise to Grandkids Contract, pledging to promote their grandchildren's safety over guns and to vote accordingly...



Foyer group members RANDY LEVANDOWSKI, BARBARA CADWALADER, JIM HASLER, ELIZABETH ANN DOYLE, PETER FREEMAN, (not pictured LAURA LEVANDOWSKI) had a wonderful dinner in March...

Please send your items and photos to Sara Evinger at sevinger@comcast.net

On March 17, people from St. John's and St. Paul's Churches met up with members of Just Elders to support Oakland Tech High School students 17-minute walk-out in memory of those who died in Parkland, Florida...



March 24, for the Oakland March for Our Lives: Members from many churches gathered at St. Paul's, and then walked to Frank Ogawa Plaza.

PATRICK COEN (5th guy from the L) participates in the Piedmont High School 2018 Musical Revue March 23 -25. He sang "My Shot" from Hamilton...



ALAN HOWE and BETSEY BEAMISH are part of the marching contingent along with ANNIE PIERPOINT MERTZ, AJ MERTZ and SUSAN PIERPOINT...



And MARK MILLER, MARY DEXTER and MARTHA MILLER at the Phoenix March for Science...



MARY LIM-LAMPE and MARY GONZALEZ attended the Gamaliel Foundation Equity Summit last month...



St. John's Bulletin Board

Last Call for Parish Retreat

Celebrate Mother's Day at the Bishops Ranch! Activities include biking, hiking, art, BBQs with s'mores, softball, naps and so much more. It is May 11-13 at the Bishops Ranch and space is limited. Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/STJ2018Retreat>.

Scholarships are available, please fill out the form here: <http://bit.ly/stjscholarshipform2018>. Send scholarship forms to associate@stjohn-soakland.org.



Smile! Amazon Gives to St. John's

Did you know that your Amazon shopping can benefit St. John's Episcopal Church by one simple click? Use and share this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1507026> and ask your family and friends to bookmark this link so all their eligible shopping will support St John's.

It doesn't cost you anything to shop at smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com. Try it!



Mouse Takes A Vacation

St. John's next newsletter will cover both June and July. Please submit your articles and photos to Laurie Bennett (lebennett1950z@gmail.com) by May 15th for inclusion in the "summer" issue.

Landscaping Committee Work Party Saturday, May 5th, 11 am

The Landscaping Committee has planned a work day for outside projects. Come have fun and join us at 11:00 am on Saturday, May 5th for work on our grounds. Help is needed spreading gravel to beautify the meditation garden. Questions? Please contact Lea Seals at leas1914@gmail.com.

St. John's vision is to manifest God's love through invitation, inclusion, faith and action



St. John's Episcopal Church

1707 GOULDIN ROAD, OAKLAND, CA 94611 510/ 339-2200