

"The Ark"

St. John's Episcopal Church
Fallbrook, California
November/December 2009

ALL SAINTS' DAY



November 1st

Dear Saints and Sinners of St. John's Episcopal Church,

We ended our official Dialog with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at a Pot-luck dinner at their church on Stagecoach Dr on Oct 22. We had four gatherings, first to explore how to do the dialog. Then the three following were one to have them listen to our Episcopal ways then following a couple of weeks later to have us listen to their faith stories and last Thurs to break bread at the Pot-luck. It doesn't sound too earth shaking and that was deliberate. We were not out to convert them nor they us. We were just trying to understand where each of us was coming from and I think I can safely say, "Mission accomplished".

Our Episcopal group is going to get together for an evaluation and we will be happy to share with all of you our insights and thoughts and feelings at a gathering yet to be determined...Stay tuned...More experiential and inter-active adult Christian Ed is on its way.

The Pastor of the Methodist church would like to do the same kind of dialog with us and hopefully we could have even more Congregational participation after the New Year. Again I see the Lord using my passion for Ecumenism and Interreligious activity bloom wherever He sends me. Thank you all for letting me do what is deep in my heart

Advent is just around the corner and we will be having another, "Liturgy 101" as we begin the "Season of Anticipation" on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29th. Why is Advent so important to a meaningful Christmas/Epiphany experience? We will explain all of the new and traditional things the Liturgy presents to us and allows us to play an integral part. Questions will be entertained and thoughtful ideas will be presented.

May we all have a very meaningful Thanksgiving and deeply spiritual Christmas as we once again encounter Christ incarnate in our midst.

Love and Peace, Always in Christ, Father Wayne+
The Rev. Canon Wayne F. Sanders + Priest in Charge and
Ecumenical and Interreligious Officer for the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

WARDEN'S WORDS

November is the month for Thanks-giving! I am extra thankful this year for my church and my parish family. A little over three years ago I sat in an election where only thirteen people in our church wanted to remain Episcopalians. Our newest church directory shows 120+ members! What a joy!

In the past few months, I have watched so many strong, talented, dedicated, committed, hard working Christians pull together to save and build our parish church, the same little church I have cherished since coming to Fallbrook as a little girl in 1955. I am so thankful to the Lord for you and for all you have done—and I thank you all personally.

My wish for this month is to have a miraculous pledge drive, to increase our number of pledges from 21 last year to 50 or more! We will be presenting the written pledges at the altar on November 22nd, the Sunday before the Thanksgiving Day holiday. They will be offered in one collective glorious thanks giving to God.

Again, I offer to you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, my humble thanks and praise for all you have done and continue to do for our church. I am very proud to join you in being a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, Fallbrook.

Blessings, Kathy Wood, Your Senior Warden

DISCOVERING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Have you ever noticed the small, square ivory-colored tiles hung on the walls of our sanctuary between the stained glass windows? There are fourteen of them, and they depict the progress of events in Christ's crucifixion—the "Stations of the Cross." They are hung in order, beginning on the east wall behind the altar rail, proceeding down the wall, then back to the front of the church to proceed down the west wall

These were a gift from Bill Taylor a number of years ago, in memory of his wife Nancy. I was a member of the committee who chose them from the options in catalogs of churchly objects, and we wanted a dignified, traditional look that would be in harmony with the rest of the church. Perhaps we were a bit too low-key in our choice, because it is easy to overlook these lovely little art pieces.

Next time you are in church, study the Station nearest your pew and try to determine which scene is depicted, and then perhaps meditate or pray for a few moments on Christ's great sacrifice of love for us. The traditional Stations are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Jesus is Condemned to Death | 8. Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem |
| 2. Jesus Carries His Cross | 9. Jesus Falls a Third time |
| 3. Jesus Falls the First time | 10. Jesus Is Stripped of His Clothes |
| 4. Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother | 11. Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross |
| 5. Jesus Is Helped by Simon of
Cyrene | 12.. Jesus Dies on the Cross |
| 6. Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus | 13. Jesus Is Taken Down from the Cross |
| 7. Jesus Falls the Second Time | 14. Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb |

And then, next time you're online, to bring this experience vividly into relevance with today's reality go to www.foodforthe poor.org/prayer/stations/ to see a harrowing but beautiful interpretation of the Stations as the sufferings of the contemporary poor.



It seems odd that – as I peer ahead toward Advent – I find myself looking back upon a recent trip I took to Texas.

My dad and stepmom, who are in their mid- to late-80s, can't travel far these days. Because of that, I find myself making periodic 1,800-mile pilgrimages from the West Coast to the Texas Gulf Coast.

Texas, for me, has always been a place of myth, magic and massive proportions. I fell in love with her when I was nestled in her bosom for a decade. And each return trip brings me a renewed sense of serenity and spirituality.

The retirement center where my folks live seems to brim with the spirit of the Lord. It has become like a second home to me. I am welcomed back like family to this place that seems to exist on the doorstep of heaven itself.

Perhaps it is because of Jack Robertson, a center resident who was ordained in the Assembly of God Church and now gives daily Bible readings there. He is a humble, plain-spoken preacher who speaks to the soul.

Perhaps it is because of Dwayne Wise, a congregation leader at Alamo Heights Baptist Church and the chaplain of the assisted living center.

Perhaps it is because of other pastors I encounter during my visits. Some of them give services at the center. One of those services remains etched in my mind as we approach Advent and broaden our work at St. John's.

Advent is, of course, a coming into being. It is the coming of Christ into the world. It is the period beginning four Sundays before Christmas. It was when, according to Luke, "there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars." It was when John the Baptist told of the need to "Make ready the way of the Lord, make straight His paths."

It is, in this vein, that I await Advent. I know I will soon mine more nuggets from Jesus' life, His death and the lessons that He left for all of us to learn.

During my recent Texas visit, we opted to attend the Sunday service at the assisted living center rather than drive to my dad and stepmom's Presbyterian church in town. con't on page 5



The Rev. Carl E. Westbrook – pastor of the First United Methodist Church – was in the rotation to give that afternoon’s service. But he seemed to be running late, even though some of the center residents had spotted him earlier inside their building.

Then, suddenly it seemed, in scurried a man wearing a glittering robe, an embroidered tunic and a headdress. He introduced himself as Joseph of Aramathea, and told us the story of when and where Jesus preached and how he was crucified and subsequently resurrected.

Joseph of Aramathea told how us he was changed from a coward to a Christian, and how the stone to the tomb where Jesus lay was rolled away on the third day.

“Mary of Magdalena said he’s gone,” Westbrook continued in character. “The word of God is strong, and He is risen.”

Westbrook’s characterization mesmerized his 20-member audience.

“As you think of Jesus, know he resides in heaven not that much,” Westbrook said as he began to slip away as softly as he had arrived. “He lives in your hearts. Let him in.”

We were all touched by the service, which told the story far better than simply reading the passages aloud ever could.

At St. John’s, we will soon be given those glimpses of Jesus’ life once again. We must prepare the path, make straight the road and love and cherish each other without reservation or judgment. We must embrace Luke’s revelation that

“The kingdom of God is within you.”

Blessings of Advent!,

Tim O’Leary





Two Faith Study

St. John's Folks Get the Skinny on Mormons—and Vice Versa

So do they really believe that Joseph Smith got the Book of Mormon from the angel Moroni on gold plates? Do they all tithe? Do they really abstain from coffee, tea, and alcohol? Do they go to church for THREE HOURS every Sunday? Are they really Christians?

The answers are yes, yes, yes, yes, and emphatically yes. For the past two months, interested members of our parish have been meeting with an interested group of Fallbrook Mormons to share information about our different faiths. In the process we basically found that we share a love of Christ and a desire to serve him, but details of our beliefs, lifestyles, and forms of worship vary. To help us get a sense of these variances, we did a presentation of our church history, liturgy, and the Book of Common Prayer, and we loaned them each a copy of the BCP, which they seemed to find a bit puzzling until we explained that it was a script for communal worship. Equally central to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are the thirteen Articles of Faith, which we discussed, and the Book of Mormon, which tells of Jesus' time in America after the Resurrection. Each of us was given a copy of both.

An astonishing fact that came up in the discussion was that LDS teens go to Bible study at 6 a.m. EVERY SINGLE SCHOOL DAY. There are no clergy (they were intrigued by Fr. Sanders' demonstration of clerical vestments); instead, each local church is governed by a male Bishop, who gives his services for four or five years. There is a heavy emphasis on the family and healthful living, which we admired. In Fallbrook there are four "wards," or geographical areas for churches, and about 700 Mormons in all.

We found these folks to be warm and welcoming, and respectful of our mutual agreement not to use these meetings to proselytize. And we came away with a renewed conviction that God can be worshipped in many ways. We finished up with a fellowship potluck at their church on October 22, and everybody enjoyed themselves. There will be more information for anyone interested. (see Fr. Sanders article on page one)

--Patty Campbell



BLACK STONE

I left for Burundi, Central Africa as a missionary for the White Fathers: Missionaries of Africa in 1969. During our seminary training, we had been taught about the "Black Stone". We were told to always carry a part of one in our cassock as we went among the people. For years, the missionaries and doctors/nurses in Africa have saved many, many human lives with this "home remedy".

A Black Stone is a mineral found in Scotland and Belgium. It looks somewhat like slate but is not as hard nor rigid/brittle. It can break rather easily. Usually a piece of Black Stone, for healing purposes, should be about two inches by one inch and 1/2 inch thick. When someone is stung by a scorpion or bitten by a poisonous snake, you can save his/her life by taking a razor blade and making a deep incision about an inch from the wound. Then you apply the Black Stone directly over the incision and tie it on with a piece of cloth. The Stone sucks on to the blood at the incision and normally only falls off when the poison has been withdrawn from the system!!

When we would make the incision, we would say to the person:" Ibuke matata ya Yesu Kristu (Remember the sufferings of Jesus Christ). Then you put the stone in some milk and it regains its properties of withdrawing poison within a day.

People in Africa are beautiful, gregarious human beings who believe deeply in God and love His Son, Jesus Christ. It was a blessings to be able to help them medically. This also helped them open their hearts to the marvelous message of the Good News of Salvation we preached in the name of Our Lord Jesus.

(Rev.) Malcolm Smith.

NOVEMBER'S DOINGS AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, November 1st All Saints/Souls Day

9:00am ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 Church ALL SAINTS DAY Commemoration of all the Faithful Saints (our loved ones) past and present in our families.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 4th Fr. Tom Wilson

4 pm Healing Eucharist

5 pm Bible Study

SUNDAY, November 8th Fr. Tom Wilson will be the celebrant.

9:00 am Adult Sunday School

10:00am Holy Eucharist and Sunday School

11:30:am, Luncheon with **Joe Littell** presenting his program on China.

WEDNESDAY, November 11th

4 pm Healing Eucharist

5 pm Bible Study

6pm Vestry meeting

SUNDAY, November 15th

9:00 am Adult Sunday School

10:00 am Eucharist and Sunday School

WEDNESDAY, November 18th

4 pm Healing Eucharist

5 pm Bible Study

SUNDAY, November 22nd

9:00 am Adult Sunday School

10:00 am Eucharist and Sunday School



*Thanksgiving
Nov. 26th*



Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff-- including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see. Have a Blessed All Hallowed eve!

ABOUT ST. JOHN'S FAMILY



When we walk through to our patio, through many will not be aware of it, there is a clear spot in the pavement which houses our time capsule. It was placed there for our 100th anniversary celebration and **Sam Dale** was responsible for it and donated it.]

The hope was that it would be opened on our 200th anniversary. That is a long time from now since we were founded in 1891. Some of us were fortunate to be here to celebrate that 1991 event and the many former parishioners who came to celebrate. **Peggy Johnson** handled a very large luncheon and some of us were waiters and waitresses. It was a joyful time and one of the reasons we wanted to keep this small church going for those who worked so hard to sustain it over the years

We just learned this week that **Sam Dale** died suddenly and we wanted to acknowledge work he and his wife **Dee** did in the early days for St. John's..

On November 8th, after church, **Joe Little** will present a video on China. He was born in China, one of 8 children of an Episcopal Missionary and his wife (a nurse). Educated at Trinity College and Columbia University. He has been editor-in-chief of 2 major Educational Publishers and most recently, published of McDougal, Littell & Co. which he co-founded. He is the author of over a dozen textbooks as well as an autobiography and two books of humor and he has received the mid-western book award for Excellence in Publishing. Don't miss his updated presentation.

Fr. Sanders has been asked by **Bishop Mathes** to attend a Credo conference especially designed for parishes and dioceses that have been affected by the split. When he returns we hope to get a very interesting account of the happenings at the conference.

Stan Nagle, **Gail Jones** and **Ellen Mykkanen** presented some very handsome photographic mockups of a new sign, showing how it would look in place from Mission Ave. The committee of Special Gifts voted to pay for one sign to start with in the amount of \$2,700. The money for the second sign would be matching funds by the parish and the Special Gifts treasury.



St. John's celebrates with you on your birth.

Look with favor we pray, on your servants

Keith Goard	5th
Sara Pearson	6th
Anarochelle Goard	14th
Carol Pearson	16th
Patty Campbell	20th
Jane Millsap[24th

as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

ANNIVERSARIES

STEVEN AND KATHY WOOD—9th

May the love that began this relationship continue to be nurtured by Almighty God

AL-ANON MEETING WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

There is a one hour, 12 step support group for people whose lives have been touched by alcoholism or addiction.

All are welcome to come to St. John's Episcopal Church at 434 Iowa Street. If you have questions come and check it out. Or you can call Jan Massman at 760-451-1667.

St. John's has graciously hosted Al-Anon for at least 10 years, sometimes as many as many as 3 meetings a week.


COME ON DOWN!!

It's happening—it's real—
NOW—every Saturday Morning at
7am at church.

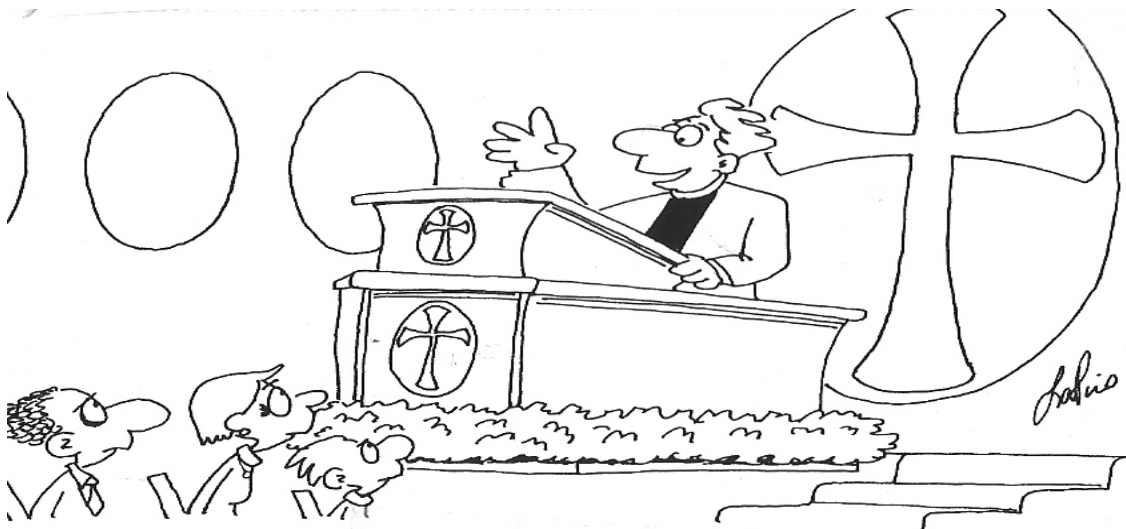
FOR MEN—BY MEN

A hearty breakfast and great
companionship with those you know
slightly—and now have an opportunity
to know much better in fun.

JOIN US AND EAT TOO!



Men's
Breakfast
Sat.Mornings 7am



"I'll be preaching today from the New Internet Version of the Bible."

DECEMBER 2009

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE YEAR A

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Gospel	LEM
Dec. 6	Dale New Malachi 3:1-4	Jane Millsap Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3: 1-6	Dale New Frankie S.
Dec. 13	Marcia Pick Zephaniah 3:14-20	Gail Jones Philippians 4: 4-7	Luke 3: 7-18	Kathy Woo Dale New
Dec. 20	Frankie Schwenderman Mica 5:2-5.	Jim Pick Hebrews 10: 5-10	Luke 1: 39-45	Frankie. S. Keith Goard
Dec. 27	Frayne Sidoroff Exodus 33:18-23	Patty Campbell 1 John 1: 1-9	John 21: 19-24	Dale New Kathy Wood

Prayers of the people are led by the 2nd reader from their seat.

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Oblations	Acolytes
Dec. 6			Nancy Wilshire Anita Province	Wm. Sumner Leighton Goard
Dec. 13			Lois Nikodym Barbara Stevenson	Wm. Sumner Cassidy Bruchard
Dec. 20			Jan Massman Ruth Mowat	Ana Goard Wm. Sumner
Dec. 27			Norma Pearson Ruth Mowat	Wm. Sumner Dale New

NOVEMBER 2009

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE YEAR B & A

Date	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Gospel	LEM
Nov. 1	Ellen Mykkanen Wisdom 3:1-9	Jane Millsap Revelation 21:2-6	John 11:32-44;	Dale New Frankie S.
Nov. 8	Marcia Pick Ruth 3: 1-5,4:13-17	Gail Jones Hebrews 9: 24-28	John 5: 24-27	Kathy Wood Dale New
Nov. 15	Frankie Schwenderman 1 Samuel 1:4-20.	Jim Pick Hebrews 10: 11-14	Mark 13:1-8	Frankie. S. Keith Goard
Nov.22	Frayne Sidoroff 2 Samuel 23: 1-7	Keith Goard Revelation 1: 4-8	John 18: 33-37	Dale New Kathy Wood
Nov. 29	Jim Peck Jeremiah 33: 14-16	Ellen Mykkanen 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21: 25-26	Frankie S. Dale New

Prayers of the people are led by the 2nd reader from their seat.

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Oblations	Acolytes
Nov. 1	Norma Pearson Carol Pearson	Victor Baker Tim O'Leary	Jan Massman Ruth Mowat	Wm. Sumner Leighton Goard Ana Goard
Nov. 8	Msrion New	Dr. Steve Jones Gail Jones	Norma Pearson Ruth Mowat	Wm. Sumner Cassidy Bruchard
Nov. 15	Janet Watson Lois Nikodym	Dave NcStay Bob Watson	Marion New Gail Jones	Ana Goard Wm. Sumner
Nov. 22	Patty Campbell	Victor Baker John Stephens	Amy Burchard Aspen Burchard	Wm. Sumner Dale New
Nov. 29	Frankie Schwenderman. Amy Burchard	Keith Goard Leighton Goard	Janet Watson Susan Ortler	Wm. Sumner Cassidy Burchard

November 2009

OTHER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Date	Healing Prayer	Lock-Up Church
Nov. 1	Patty Campbell Jane Millsap	Carol Pearson
Nov. 8	Patty Campbell Frankie Schwenderman	Steve Jones
Nov. 15	Kathy Sanders Patty Campbell	Victor Baker
Nov 22	Kathy Wood Frankie Schwenderman	Kathy Wood
Nov. 29	Patty Campbell Kathy Sanders	Patty Campbell

WHO IS IN THE OFFICE?

Mondays	Victor Baker	728-6059
Tuesdays	Kathy Wood	728-0477
Wednesdays	Jane Millsap	728-4542
Thursdays	M. & T. O'Leary'	451-0062
Fridays	Charlotte McCutchen	645-3552
Substitutes on call: Janet Watson		723-1446
	Anita Province	723-0713
	Patty Campbell	723-6184

December 2009

OTHER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Date	Healing Prayer	Lock-Up Church
Dec. 6	Patty Campbell Jane Millsap	Marion New
Dec 13	Kathy Sanders Frankie Schwenderman	Jane Millsap
Dec. 20	Patty Campbell Frankie Schwenderman	Kathy Wood
Dec. 27	Kathy Sanders Patty Campbell	Steve Jones

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE?

**WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER,
WHO DO I TALK TO?**

Facilities *Steve Jones**

Office Help *Jane Millsap*

Worship *Kathy Wood*

(Includes Music & Altar Guild)

Sunday School/Child Care

Carol Pearson, Steve Wood

Finance *Carol Pearson & Marion New*

Thrift Shop *Victor Baker—*

Frankie Schwenderman

Communications *Patty Campbell—Gail Jones*

Weekly Assignments *Jane Millsap*

Healing Prayer—*Patty Campbell*

Outreach/Parish Life *Margaret O'Leary & Peggy Johnson*

(Includes Food Pantry liaison)

Special Gifts *Arthur Brown, Marion New*

Newcomers *Carol Pearson, Janet Watson*

**italics indicates a Vestry person*

A Vestry person can be identified by the name tag they're wearing.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

St. John's Episcopal Church
434 Iowa St. Fallbrook, CA 92088
Phone 1-760 728-2908
E-mail—stjohnsfallbrook.@att.net
The Rev. Canon Wayne F. Sanders
Priest in Charge

Altar Guild—Pam Stephens
Choir—Kathy Wood & Kathy Sanders
Christian Education—Steve Wood
Clerk—Patty Campbell
Cursillo—Kathy Wood
Daughters of the King—Kathy Wood
Directory—Anita Province
Healing—Patty Campbell , Kathy Sanders,
Jane Millsap, Kathy Wood
Hospitality—Susan Ortler
Communications—Gail Jones & Patty
Campbell
Liturgy & Music—Keith Goard ,
Kathy Wood & Kathy Sanders
Newsletter—Jane Millsap, Editor Janet
Watson, Tim O'Leary & Patty Campbell
Outreach—Bob Watson—Peggy Johnson
Parish Life—Peggy Johnson, M.O'Leary
Pastoral Care—Bob & Janet Watson
Phone Tree—Gail Jones
Planning—Arthur Brown & Dale New
Prayer List—Patty Campbell
Prayers & Squares—Mary Mazy
Sunday School—Steve Wood
Treasurer—Carol Pearson
Website—Rick Barclay
Youth—Keith Goard

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stamp

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church is to be the Good News of Christ Jesus in the world by welcoming and nurturing all as we celebrate God's love.

VISION STATEMENT

We are committed to welcoming, teaching, and inspiring others with the Good News of Christ. . We strive to restore people to unity with God and each other in Jesus Christ, by equipping God's people for ministry and caring for God's world.