



"The Ark"

St. John's Episcopal Church
Fallbrook, California
November 2008



TUESDAY, Nov. 4th

Dear friends at St. John's Episcopal Church.

I am never ever going away again. I seem to miss all the "good news" items that come our way. More of them are on their way and we Thank God for His Wisdom and Grace.

It seems appropriate to release the liturgical year now ending and welcome the new one now beginning with words made memorable by former U. N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld: "For all that has been, thanks! For all that will be YES!"

Today on the Eve of All Saints' Day the Angels welcomed into Paradise this morning the Beloved wife **Lois** of **Victor Baker**. May her soul and all the Souls of the faithful departed rest in Peace.

November invites us to stand on the threshold where two liturgical years meet, and to look back at the ending year with gratitude and ahead at the new year with hope. As we remember the past and anticipate the future, the sacred authors will remind us that all is a gift. This fact is made quite clear by a parable of Matthew that stands in the very center of November. In the narrative (Nov16), when we will be at St. Paul's Cathedral, Jesus tells of a man who gave each of his servants a share of his possessions before departing on a journey, challenging us to consider ourselves in a similar light. In the interim between Jesus' two advents, each of us has a special gift that we are to tend, and for which we shall be called to render an account. Let us all be more aware that ever before the gift of so soul that we also celebrate this month the gift of God's presence in time and space and haven't we all experienced that these last couple of years. God has become one of us in Jesus, and the incarnated divine presence, when made welcome, can even make a Community Center a sacred place. We are to revere that presence in all those people and places where God chooses to be revealed and experienced and we thank God with all our hearts and souls.

Always in Christ, Your Friend and Priest,
Father Wayne+

The Rev. Canon Wayne F. Sanders +

California Court of Appeal Rules in Favor of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

October 22, 2008

In a unanimous decision issued October 21, a three-judge panel of the California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division One recognized the authority of the bishop in determining parish structure at St. John's Episcopal Church in Fallbrook. Specifically, the court ruled that in order to be a member of the board of directors for any corporation formed by a parish, one first must be a member of the parish vestry, which is the governing council of the congregation. Church rules require that every parish have a vestry and that the members of the vestry serve as the directors of any parish corporation.

This decision recognized that members of the board of directors as a matter of canon law need to be members of the vestry. It affirmed that this is an internal dispute within an Episcopal church, and affirmed the bishop's decision regarding eligibility to be a director of the parish corporation.

"The decision recognizes the authority of the church to establish its own rules of governance," said Chancellor Charles Dick, "and says the courts are obliged to respect the decisions of the Church with regard to its own structure."

"I am delighted that the court has ruled that when there's a disagreement as to the eligibility of a person to serve on the vestry of a parish, the bishop is the final arbiter of the question. **When the bishop has decided who is eligible to serve, the courts are going to respect that and not second guess it.**"

"The dissidents have attempted to say that if they wish, they can change the by-laws of a parish corporation and disavow any obligation to obey the rules of the Episcopal Church. This ruling said, 'No, when you make a pledge to be bound by the canons of the Episcopal Church, you can't just revoke that pledge because you don't like what's going on in the Episcopal Church.'"

The Right Reverend James R. Mathes, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego said, **"The people of our diocese welcome this sweeping decision that supports the members of St. John's Episcopal Church,** which has been a part of the Episcopal Church since 1891. Even as we give thanks for this development, we continue to hold all members of St. John's Episcopal Church, as well as those who have left and will be disappointed by this decision, in our prayers."

"I pray that both sides in this dispute might find a way to worship together in the unity that we received as a gift through Christ."

"Even as we do what is necessary to be good stewards of the parish corporation and its

property, we wish the best for those who have left and pray that they will find a way forward.” The members of St. John’s Episcopal Church have been holding regular Sunday services at the Fallbrook Community Center since the dissenting faction deprived them of their church home in 2006.

“Despite this dislocation,” said Bishop Mathes, **“the congregation is vibrant and growing under the leadership of the Reverend Canon Wayne Sanders.”**

Taken from the Bishop’s message on the Episcopal Church web page, which also appeared in the newspapers.

FORGIVENESS THERAPY

FORGIVENESS means bending without breaking, being strong enough to withstand the heavy weight of injury but resilient enough to recover. Be forgiving.

LIFE is never perfect and often unfair. Forgive life’s inevitable failures.

FORGIVE yourself: for what you regret doing and for what you wish you had done, for not being fully yourself and for being only yourself.

SELF-FORGIVENESS cleanses the soul, washing away shame and guilt. Out of self-forgiveness comes the power to extend forgiveness to others.

YOU have the right to feel sad, betrayed, angry, resentful when you’ve been injured. Understand, accept, and express your feelings. Pushing them below the surface only means they will erupt in another place, at another time.

CONFRONT those who have hurt you; tell them how you feel. When that’s impossible or when that could harm you or someone else, speak to them in your imagination.

JUSTICE may right the wrongs, but forgiveness heals the hurt. Seek forgiveness beyond justice.

TO refuse to forgive is to continue to hurt yourself. Victimized once, your lack of forgiveness keeps you stuck as a victim, holding on to a victim’s identity. Instead, claim the identity of one who forgives.

FORGET about forgetting an injury. That’s not always possible-and maybe at times not even desirable. Rather, choose to move on, past remembering to forgiveness.

FORGIVENESS is a lifelong process. Forgive over and over-even for the same offense.

FORGIVENESS is not something you do for someone else; it’s something you do for yourself. Give yourself the gift of forgiveness.



**DON'T FORGET
TO VOTE**

TUESDAY, Nov. 4th

Voting as Stewardship

An Election Day message from Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori

As Election Day approaches, I want to remind you that our democracy gives us the opportunity to speak urgently about the many issues and challenges confronting our nation and the world. I would encourage every eligible voter to prayerfully consider the choices before us and commit to using the political process to seek solutions to our society's most intractable problems. As part of our baptismal vows we commit "to strive for justice and peace among all people" and "respect the dignity of every human being." As you prepare to vote, I urge you to consider how the Reign of God – a just society – particularly as explicated by the Hebrew prophets and by Jesus, can be made real in our own day.

Our baptismal ministry calls us to transform our communities into something that looks more like that Reign of God. That is our part in God's mission. We are sent and commissioned to build a society where all have adequate access to health care, where the weakest are protected and God's creation safeguarded, and where each person has access to the blessings of life. That work requires committed engagement in the civic life of our nation if we seek to make God's dream more effectively real and complete in this world.

As caretakers and stewards of all of God's creation, each one of us is responsible for the flourishing of the rest of the human family. As in all elections, on 4 November we have the opportunity to continue working to reconcile and heal the world. I urge every citizen to use this opportunity to motivate our government to respond to, and participate in, building the Reign of God. We prepare the ground for the possibility of more abundant life through our part in the ministry of governance.

What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived
in Eden ?

Your mother ate us out of house and home.

BOOKLOOKING

by Patty Campbell

FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE: A SURGEON LOOKS AT THE HUMAN & SPIRITUAL BODY

by Dr. Paul Brand & Philip Yancey. Zondervan, 1980.

In this Christian classic, writer Philip Yancey and celebrated physician Dr. Paul Brand look at four aspects of the human body: cells, bones, skin, and motion. The interaction of the parts and their function, the delicate and precise way that they are combined inspires wonder and awe at God's complex creation, as in Psalm 139: "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

These meditations go on to demonstrate analogies in the human body to the Body of Christ and the life of the church. There is some fine writing here, soaring passages of fresh theological insight. But what really gives the book immediacy are the dramatic and moving anecdotes from Dr. Yancey's life spent among lepers, studying the disease and the causes of its pain. He is a renowned hand surgeon, and his wife an ophthalmologist, and the two of them have given hope and healing under primitive surgical conditions to thousands of people in India and at Carville Leprosy Center in Louisiana, where they now live. These thoughtful musings on our amazing human body come from a man who has lived his faith.

NOVEMBER 2008

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE YEAR A

Date	1st Lesson	Psalm	2nd Lesson	Gospel	LEM
Nov..2	Jane Millsap Micah 3:5-12	Jane Millsap 43	Patty Campbell 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23: 1-12	Frankie S. Keith Goard
Nov. 9	Franya Sidoroff Amos 5:18-24	Franya Sidoroff 78:1-7	Gail Jones 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13	Frankie Dale New
Nov. 16	Rebecca Brown Zephaniah 1:7,12-18	Rebecca Brown 123	Keith Goard 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11	Matthew 25:14-30	Jane Millsap Keith Goard
Nov. 23	Dale New Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24	Dale New 100	Frankie Schwenderman Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46	Rebecca B. Keith Goard
Nov. 30	Jane Millsap Isaiah 64:1-9	Jane Millsap 80:1-7,16-18	Gail Jones 1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37	Dale New Jane Millsap

Psalm is read by the First Reader

Prayers of the people are led by the 2nd reader

Birthdays of the Month



St. John's celebrates with you on your birth.
Look with favor we pray, on your servants

Keith Goard	5th
Barbara Paster	9th
Anarochelle Goard	14th
Carol Pearson	16th

Patty Campbell	20th	Jane Millsap	24th
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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



Steve Wood is planning a youth outing on **Sunday, November 16th**, to attend worship at the Cathedral. Everyone should bring a sack lunch to eat in Balboa Park. After lunch everyone will visit the Reuben H. Fleet Science Museum. The entry fee for youngsters is being covered by the Church. The adult entry fee is \$10.00 for people 13 years old and up. It would be great if all of St. John's would go together to the Cathedral for services.

Our prayers go out to **Victor Baker** and family at the passing of Victor's wife, **Lois** on Friday, October 31st. There will be an announcement regarding the services for Lois.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2008

ELEPHANT BINGO AND PIZZA PARTY

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

So, families, set aside this date and bring your white elephant gift and your kids, your friends, and your neighbors. It will be held at **Kathy Witkoff's** home, and for more info call **723-4315**

FALLBROOK WRITER'S READ

A new monthly literary event has hit our town-- **Fallbrook Writers Read**. The first meeting was a smash success, and one of our own is going to be the featured speaker at the second meeting.

Fallbrook Writers Read is sponsored by **Carrie Repking**, owner of that great little book shop on Hawthorne, **the Book Nook**. The organizer is **K.B. Gressit**, who among her many talents lists "writer" and "former columnist for the Union Tribune."

The first meeting was held Wednesday evening, October 15, at the **Café des Artistes**, behind the Art and Cultural Center. Poet **Kate Harding** and humor writer **Dan McCle-naghan** read to a very appreciative full house. During open mike time, we heard the work of two nine-year-old girls, **Taylor Martin** (whose Mom read for her shy daughter) and **Carol Valenzuela**, as well as grownup local writers **Alicia Nyblade**, **Anita Coolidge**, and **Robert Sommers**. and, oh yes, **Patty Campbell** read one of her poems, titled "Blank."

Patty will be the featured writer at the second meeting of Fallbrook Writers Read, on **Wednesday, November 12**. She will read some of her favorite passages from her new book, *War Is... Soldiers, Survivors, and Storytellers Talk about War*, while **Col. Steve Fisher**, USMC retired, will read some of the more military selections favored by her co-editor **Marc Aronson**. Elementary school and junior high students are invited to an open mike from 5:30 to 6:00; Campbell and Fisher will read from 6:00 to 6:30, and there will be an open mike for high school students and adults from 6:30 to 7:30, followed by discussion for as long as anyone wants to stay.

There is no admission charge, and the Café des Artistes offers a special reasonably priced dinner menu, as well as wine, soft drinks, or coffee for those who wish to indulge while they listen.

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

**TURN
YOUR
CLOCKS
BACK**



Saturday, Nov. 1st



**Vertans Day
Nov. 11th**



TUESDAY, Nov. 4th



**CHRIST THE KING
Sunday, Nov. 23rd**



You shall eat your
fill and bless the LORD
your God for the good
land that he has given you.
Thanksgiving Nov. 27th
Deuteronomy 8:10



Nov. 30th