



# The *V*iew from the Orchard

February 2012

*St. Jude the Apostle, The Episcopal Church in Cupertino*

*St. Jude's is a spiritual oasis where lives are transformed.*



## RSVP

In our Ash Wednesday liturgy every year, we hear these words: "I invite you. . .to the observance of a holy Lent." Then follows a set of practices which won't make many lists of "My Favorite Activities." Those practices include self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on scripture. And yet, we are not urged, or commanded, or even begged—we are invited, *invited*.

I don't know about you, but I am most likely to accept invitations that offer to add something to my life: an activity I enjoy, the happiness of a special occasion, satisfying work, better health, the well-being of my family, advancement of a cause, or just good food in good company. And the traditional Lent practices all seem to involve subtracting rather than adding. The way they are worded emphasizes sacrifice, giving up. Giving up vanity, self-righteousness, immediate gratification, background noise, some spontaneity and personal preference--and time, along with whatever productive activity would have filled it. But in God's economy, giving up is

inseparable from gain. Lent invites us to experiment with giving up in order to gain grace-full space—space in our days, minds, hearts and souls.

Such space is as countercultural for us as giving up. Our society doesn't place much value on silence, fallowness, inefficiency, waiting, rest, Sabbath, unstructured play, open-ended process. In fact, our aversion to such "nothingness" is akin to fear. And yet, as Richard Rohr, Franciscan priest, author and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation, observes: "The nothingness we fear is, in fact, the treasure we long for. We long for space where there is nothing to prove and nothing to protect; where I am who I am, and it's enough. Spirituality teaches us how to get naked ahead of time, so God can make love to us as we really are."

That's the promise of Lent, the giftedness of the stripping away: more and more space for glorious intimacy with God, with self, and eventually with each other. So the invitation to mark the forty days of Lent with some intentional space-making, consciousness-heightening, body-restoring or spirit-liberating practice really *is* an invitation that offers new possibilities for belonging, pleasure, discovery, acceptance, release, companionship, adventure, delight

(continued on next page)

and love. Each of us has the freedom and the responsibility to respond in a way that is personally appropriate. There is no one “right” discipline, no “one size fits all,” no “oughts” or “should.”

A wise friend, my spiritual director for many years, used to ask me every Lent what ‘rule’ I intended to keep. I would read him my list. Then he would reshape it or whittle it down to size, saying gently, “now I *invite* you.” “I invite you to spend your lunch hour in that lovely chapel of adoration once a week...I invite you to serve supper at the shelter...I invite you to find that old prayer and use it daily...I invite you to set your alarm early enough to walk every morning...to meditate five minutes on the gospel when you read morning prayer...to go make those three apologies...to find one whole day to retreat, examine the last year, and prepare a really thorough confession...to read the last book you bought before you buy another.” And after one difficult year, “I invite you to eat dark chocolate ice cream every day, but put down your spoon after each bite, savor and give thanks for its goodness.”

Eventually, in that way, I have come to long for the ashes and practices of Lent, to welcome them with gratefulness and expectation. Each year my practice is different. No year do I keep it perfectly. Some years I even begin late. But the only barren Lents have been when I thought I was too busy to accept the invitation at all. **Sherridan+**

**SPRING STUDY GROUPS FORMING**

On Sundays January 29 and February 5, there will be opportunity to sign up for a spring book study group.



Once again, you will find a selection of books and sign-up sheets on a table to the right of the kitchen pass-through. If you think you are interested, please indicate which day/time you could attend and your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice of book to read. Depending on the book(s) chosen, groups will begin the week of February 12 or February 19. Have questions? Contact Sherridan at [sherridan@saintjudes.org](mailto:sherridan@saintjudes.org).

**SPRING BIBLE STUDY**

I have been asked if I would be willing to facilitate a small group Bible study of the **Gospel of John**. The answer is, of course, “yes,” if we can find a mutually convenient time to meet for a few weeks this spring. Monday evening is a possibility, or a daytime midweek. There will be a sheet on the Book Study table in the Parish Hall January 29 and February 5 where you can indicate interest, your name, some possible days/times you could meet weekly, and the best way for me to contact you.

**Sherridan+**

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## *Did you know?*

◆ **Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves** will be here for worship on February 5th. She will preach at both services and speak at the 9:15 am forum.

◆ **The annual meeting will be January 29th** following the ONE service at 9:15 am. Mark your calendars and attend this important event. There will be a potluck brunch immediately after the service at 10:15 am. Please bring a dish to share.

◆ **Meditation.** There will be an on going drop-in Christian meditation meet-up at St. Jude's starting in February. It will be held on the third Saturday of the month, starting February 18th at 9:30 am. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Shortal @ [andreashort@yahoo.com](mailto:andreashort@yahoo.com).

◆ **In 2012 the View** will go paperless. If you desire to receive a paper copy, please contact the office at (408) 252-4166.

◆ **Epiphany Sunday Crèche Sharing** On Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 8, a wonderful variety of crèches from many countries were shared in the Parish Hall. Thank you to all who came to see them and play with the hands on crèches. Thank you especially to those who shared crèches this year, helped with setup, take down, loaned tablecloths, or supervised during the viewing time: Judy & Doug Bailey, Carolyn Bowker, Laura & Sue Bryson, Jean Chandler, Lauren & Steve Corriveau, Connie Erickson, Betty & Jim Harrah, Jan & Howard Hill, Emily Holton & Jim Reyner, Maly Hughes, Margot & Syd Jacobsen, Audrey Matthews, Linda Morris, Gail Sena, Jennifer Stern, Steve Swayze, Ginny & Jack Tolan, Sara & Mason Razavi, and Marianne & Dennis Wilcox.

## The Socks Project



"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,...I was naked and you gave me clothing."  
*Matthew 25:35-36a*

What do you do when cold, rainy weather leaves you with wet shoes, wet socks, and cold feet? Our brothers and sisters who live on the streets do not have the luxury of going home and putting on dry, clean socks. They may not even own a second pair of socks.

During Lent, donations of new socks will be collected in local parishes by students from the School for Deacons and delivered to Martin de Porres House of Hospitality in San Francisco or one of the local shelters in our own diocese for distribution (last year the socks collected in ECR went to SMUM.) The campaign for socks will run from Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> until Palm Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. We need women's or men's White Socks, any size. This year Robin Poppoff, now a student at the School for Deacons, will collect socks here at St. Jude's. Last year the school collected 4500 pairs of socks from four dioceses.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, a box will be placed in the narthex to collect our sock donations. Please join Robin in filling up the box with lots of socks for those less fortunate than us.

## **Vestry **N**otes *Doug Bailey***

Jennifer Stern reported that the site plan spending is on schedule with donations covering current and projected costs. Liz Jones highlighted the revenues and expenditures for 2011, noting that we have a surplus of \$33, 528.22 at the end of 2011. The vestry approved the budget for 2012, maintaining a surplus by cutting some budget requests. The vestry will review the budget mid-year with the hope of restoring funding to some of the requests which were reduced in the recommended budget. The meeting ended with a brief discussion on displaying the children's tiles on a wall to be constructed as part of the site plan.

### **Youth Lock-In and Parking Lot Sale, Friday, February 3, 6:00 pm**



All youth, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades, are invited to the lock-in on Friday, February 3. We will gather for dinner at 6:00 pm and spend the evening with fellowship, games, movie, popcorn, etc. Bring your sleeping bag and pillow for a sleepover in the parish hall at St. Jude's.

On Saturday morning, the youth will sell parking lot spaces to the people visiting the Flea Market at DeAnza College. The money raised goes to provide Christmas to families in our local community who are in need. Please join us....and bring a friend (or two).

## **News from the **O**rchard *Bruce LaFetra***

I get asked this time of year, "Why haven't the apricot trees been pruned yet?" Traditionally, apricot trees are pruned about this time during the dormant season. Nick Miljevich, our late orchard advisor, cautioned us to prune a bit later after many trees in Saratoga were killed by a fungus, and open pruning wounds provide access for disease, especially when exposed to lots of rain. At St. Jude's, we typically prune around mid- to late-February, just as the trees are emerging from dormancy. If you look closely, you'll also notice that many of the trees were partially pre-pruned after they fruited last summer. Help is always appreciated at pruning time. No experience, no problem; we'll train you. If you even think you have an interest, please contact Bruce La Fetra at [bruce@lafetra.com](mailto:bruce@lafetra.com) or (408)732-7560. All of us that work on the trees encourage interest in the orchard.

A final note. Our weird "winter" weather is confusing our trees, and there is a likelihood some trees will bud prematurely. These early buds will either freeze or wash off when we finally get rain, so don't get excited. We don't want the trees to emerge too early, but there is nothing that we can do to prevent it.



## **Stephen Ministry** *Susan Stanley*

### **What is Stephen Ministry about?**

Recently Stephen Ministries' home office sent out this description of its ministry. I quote it here as it may be useful to those who wish to become more aware of the resources available at St.



Jude's: "First, Stephen Ministers are *sorrow-bearers*. They are not sorrow-fixers, sorrow-brighteners, or sorrow-deniers. They come alongside a hurting person to listen, care, support, pray, empathize, encourage—to bear another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2). And through their sorrow-bearing, God brings about real, lasting healing.

Second, an effective sorrow-bearer remains connected to Jesus, who 'took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows.'" (Isaiah 53:4). Jesus, incarnate in you, empowers you to be a sorrow-bearer. He makes sorrow-bearing possible—and powerful.

Whether or not you are involved in Stephen Ministry, you probably won't have to look hard for opportunities to be a sorrow bearer, because they'll come looking for you. Welcome them. By sharing people's burdens so that God's healing love can flow through you to those who are hurting, you'll make a real difference in people's lives—and your own life will be immensely enriched as well." This is the call our Stephen Ministers have answered and for which they have been trained. We invite you to answer the call too, whether or not you become a Stephen Minister.

## **A Leaf from the Library**

Jean Lin



February, the month of love, brings to mind two books from our library.

### ***For Adults:***

A tender page turner from the author Bo Caldwell, *City of Tranquil Light*, is set in 20th century China. It is the tale of a missionary couple whose great love for God, for China, and for each other carries them through many difficult years. Caldwell's first book was the best selling, *The Distant Land of My Father*. This is an audio book on CD's.

### ***For Parents:***

*The Five Love Languages of Children* by Gary Chapman. From the cover: "Every child (like every adult) expresses and receives love best through different communication styles. Find out which one of these your child speaks. If your love language is different from your children's, you'd better learn to translate fast. Discover how to express unconditional feelings of respect, affection and commitment that will resonate in their souls and inspire them for the rest of their lives." This will help with communication ideas for all relationships including your partner, family, friends and adult children.

## Lenten Meals *Pat Coles*

**Feb. 21: Mardi Gras/ Shrove Tuesday.** We will have our traditional Pancake Supper beginning at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. It is a family affair and all are welcome. This has become a time for the men and their older kids to prepare and serve pancakes, sausage and applesauce. If you can help with decorations, food prep, entertainment, or cleanup please contact Pat Coles, [pat@saintjudes.org](mailto:pat@saintjudes.org) or (408) 253-1224.

### Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers will be on Wednesdays Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28 at 6:30 pm. This is a call for Soup makers for Wednesday, Feb 23, March 9, and 16. Approximately 40 people attend each week requiring at least 15 quarts of soup each evening. If you would like to prepare soup for one of the evenings please call me at (408) 253-1224 or [pat@saintjudes.org](mailto:pat@saintjudes.org).

Those not preparing soup are asked to bring salad, bread or beverages according to the following, but if your alphabet assignment doesn't work for you bring whatever does:

Week	Date	Salad	Bread	Beverage
1	Feb. 29	A-L	S-Z	M-R
2	Mar. 7	M-Z	G-L	A-F
3	Mar. 14	A-L	M-R	S-Z
4	Mar. 21	M-Z	G-L	A-F
5	Mar. 28	M-Z	A-F	G-L

Also needed are volunteers to set tables and chairs each week. It takes about 30 minutes prior to dinner.

**Maundy Thursday Supper,** Maundy Thursday is on April 5, 2012, a coordinator for the soup production is needed. Helpers are usually plentiful. Please contact [pat\\_coles@yahoo.com](mailto:pat_coles@yahoo.com) or (408) 253-1224 to volunteer your help.



## Rector Search Process Update

With thanks and gratitude for months of work, on January 8, 2012, the vestry accepted the final formatted parish profile from the parish profile committee (Bob Hebson, Sue Knight, Bruce La Fetra, Sue Bryson, Peter Troop, and Mike Landis, chair.)

The parish profile is featured on our new St. Jude's website ([www.saintjudes.org](http://www.saintjudes.org)) under the rector search menu. The website (programmed by Jeff Hultquist with help from many others) is now conveniently organized with sections for visitors, community, learning, ministries, outreach, and resources.

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, the rector position was officially posted in the national Episcopal Church database. We expect to receive applications through the beginning of March. If you know of an Episcopal clergy person who you think would be a good candidate, please encourage them to apply, and direct them to the rector search portion of our website for all the information they need. All applications go to the Rev. Canon Brian Nordwick, Deployment Officer for the Diocese of El Camino Real.

This picture is from the December joint Eucharist with the vestry, profile committee, and search committee, celebrating the completion of the parish profile. Please keep the rector search process in your prayers.



**Rector Search Prayer** *Most gracious God, you have called each of us through baptism to be faithful disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ. Bless each of us during this interim period, and especially the members of our search committee as they work to help discern who might be our next rector. Prepare us, and that priest, for the future you are calling us into, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN.***



## **Stewardship**

Emily Holton

One of the many working definitions of stewardship—and this one has been around for the last sixty years—is ***everything we do after we say we believe***. My sense is this definition has its staying power because it begs the question: What do we believe? And how do our choices and actions align with our beliefs? Holistic and ethical in its approach, this definition asks us to consider how we connect our faith and action. How do we bear the light of Christ in our faith communities and in our world?

## **Planned Giving**

Jim Reyner

### **Your Treasure 101**

Whether your treasure consists of an allowance, wages, investments, or other assets, there are many hands reaching out to share your treasure. Leaving out the government (taxes & fees) and the acquiring of personal property, let's look at the "hands" we have here at St. Jude's:

**Stewardship Committee:** deals with current giving needs to support St. Jude's operational budget and outreach programs (also includes volunteering your time and utilizing your God-given talents.)

**Planned Giving Committee:** acts as sales department for the Endowment Fund (those investments that will fund the future of St. Jude's after we're long gone.)

**Site Plan:** our current capital campaign; the

latest of a series of efforts to improve our campus.

**Others:** from time to time, you will see campaigns for your funds from our social outreach committee, the diocese and local religious-backed charities.

So, you may ask, how do I respond to all these hands? First, they all fall under the title of stewardship (giving back some of the gifts from God), where we have the opportunity to share our blessings.) Secondly, think about how to use your assets to benefit the parish you love – if you have an allowance or wages, you are probably interested in supporting the annual stewardship program. If you have also accumulated investments or real property, you probably are thinking of leaving some of it to St. Jude's Endowment Fund. Fortunately, there are many ways to do this at no cost to you while you are still alive. The planned giving committee can help you decide what will work for you – get started by picking up one of our brochures from the Parish Hall brochure rack or chatting with a planned giving committee member.



## **Adult Education** *Bruce LaFetra*

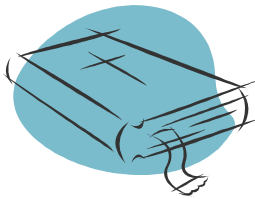


**Feb. 5: Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves**, Bishop Mary shares her perspective on the state of the Church and our diocese.

**Feb. 12: The Importance of Building Community.** Community is at the center of the Gospel and the heart of the Episcopal Church. **Dave Knapp** takes us through the importance of community and some of the ways we can strengthen the community in which we live and worship.

**Feb. 19: Emergency Preparedness.** We live in an area prone to earthquakes, mudslides and other natural disasters, plus these days, there is concern over man-made disasters such as terrorist attacks. What do you need to know about preparing yourself and your family? **Ken Foot**, *Emergency Services Program Manager, Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Services*, tells us what we need to know.

**Feb. 26: Joan Vernikos, PhD**, author and former NASA scientist returns to St. Jude's to discuss her most recent book, *Sitting Kills, Moving Heals*. Learn how floating in outer space made astronauts lose muscle and bone. Joan argues that out-of-shape Americans need to start doing exercises that make their bodies resist the force of gravity. Joan Vernikos is an engaging speaker with a highly compelling call to action--even for the non-astronaut.



**Weekly Gospel Group.** We meet every Wednesday at Erik's Deli on Stevens Creek Blvd. in Cupertino, from 6:45 pm to 8:00 pm. Adults of all ages are welcome. If you're interested, please contact: Michael Diamond, 408-594-9350, or Brandon Schroeder, (michael\_diamond@sbcglobal.net)(brandon.p.schroeder@gmail.com)

## **Career Actions Ministry**

This spiritually-based joint Ministry is a proven resource for job-seekers. For more information, call CAM @ (650) 967-4724 Ext.7. The Employment Assistance Ministry at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Mountain View now offers its "Resume Upgrade" service to parishioners in other churches in the diocese, as well as to participants in the Career Actions Ministry (CAM) at the Mountain View campus of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church (MPPC).



Update

## New Website with Parish Profile

Just in time for the rector search to be posted, the new St. Jude's website is live. Jeff Hultquist designed and implemented the new site using Drupal, a content management system used by many web-authoring companies. The new site allows for ministry leaders to edit their own sections easily, while keeping the same look-and-feel throughout the sections. Thanks to Lisa Carpenter, there are numerous slideshows and still pictures that bring the Saint Jude's community to life.

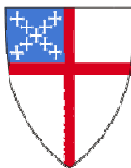


Take a look at [www.saintjudes.org](http://www.saintjudes.org). Thanks to Jeff Hultquist for his many hours spent designing and building it and for all who helped him, especially Lisa Carpenter and Mary Hultquist. Our new parish profile is featured in the rector search section, thanks to the parish profile committee and to everyone who contributed.

There is a new section on the site, directed primarily to visitors. In recent years, we've had an increase in people citing our website as their introduction to St. Jude's. Now there is a place designed especially with them in mind.

- \* The community section is more informational for those already here. It includes things like the latest news, newsletter, and calendar.
- \* Learning contains sermons, adult forums, Sunday School, Youth Group, etc.
- \* Ministries detail some of the ways we use our gifts. The schedules for Sunday ministries are included under Worship, and can be accessed directly as well. (example:<http://www.saintjudes.org/ushers>)
- \* Outreach highlights the work of the Social Justice/Outreach committee and their involvement with major areas, such as Adopt-A-Chaplain, NetsforLife®, Santa Maria, and Haiti.
- \* Resources expands on some of the former web links area.
- \* The rector search section is chock full of information for those interested in becoming our new rector. This also includes the parish profile itself.

The website will never be "done." It is not meant to be stagnant. Even today, it is not entirely complete. It will evolve as more people become involved in the content. Finally, St. Jude's has changed its internet provider, which will give us more flexibility for email, list servers, and website infrastructure, all at a lower price. Please direct questions, suggestions, and comments to [web@saintjudes.org](mailto:web@saintjudes.org).



**Diocesan  
Communications**  
*Linda Morris*

**Diocesan Conference – Stewardship of our Story:** 17 from St. Jude’s attended this Jan. 14 conference with the Rev. Eric Law, Founder and Executive Director of the Kaleidoscope Institute for Competent Leadership in a Diverse Changing World. After a memorable Eucharist, this very informative and engaging conference began with viewing his “Who Am I” video on YouTube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IP\\_la0Zitdg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IP_la0Zitdg) about assumptions that we might make when we meet another person. We all shared our stories and learned how to implement the process at St. Jude’s.

**Winter Deanery Meeting - Saturday, February 18, 2012** - St. Thomas, Sunnyvale. We will gather for our annual winter orientation and business Meeting on Saturday, February 18 from 9 am to Noon. This is our annual opportunity meeting to orient new convention delegates (and re-orient returning ones), to elect or re-elect deanery officers, and to do any other business that may come before the deanery. We'll also have an update on the progress of the Strategic Plan and some time to discuss the shape of the proposed area "Ministry Centers." Coffee and snacks will be available. All are invited.

**Eucharistic Minister (EM) Training at ECA on Monday, January 30.** There will be a diocesan-sponsored training session for Eucharistic ministers (also referred to as Chalice Bearers) by the Reverend Mary Morrison on Monday, January 30 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm to at Episcopal Church of Almaden (ECA). All currently licensed Eucharistic ministers who need their licenses renewed, newcomers interested in serving in this ministry in their own congregations, and those currently serving who would like a refresher course are

welcome. Please RSVP to The Reverend Kate Flexer (Rector, ECA) at [kflexer@eca-sj.org](mailto:kflexer@eca-sj.org) and/or The Reverend Mary Morrison (instructor) at [rector@stjamespasorobles.org](mailto:rector@stjamespasorobles.org) so that there will be enough materials.

**The Good News Along the King’s Highway** is the weekly news magazine for diocesan news and to register for events. Go to [www.edecr.org](http://www.edecr.org), click on “News & Events,” click on “Subscription News,” click on “The Good News along the King’s Highway” to access it and subscribe to get in your Friday email. Please send news/photos about parish events to Mary Beth Powell at [MaryBeth@edecr.org](mailto:MaryBeth@edecr.org). For more diocesan or deanery information, contact Linda Morris, St. Jude’s diocesan communications liaison, at [communications@saintjudes.org](mailto:communications@saintjudes.org)

**How to contact St. Jude’s:**  
[www.saintjudes.org](http://www.saintjudes.org)  
email: [office@saintjudes.org](mailto:office@saintjudes.org)  
(408) 252-4166

St. Jude’s Church Attendance		
	8:00 am	10:30 am
Dec. 11:	58	129
Dec. 18 :	53	135
Dec. 25:	10:00 am 61	
Jan. 1:	10:30 am 132	
Jan. 8:	69	162
Jan. 15:	51	142
Noon Service		
Dec. 14:	6	
Dec. 21:	7	
Jan. 4:	8	
Jan. 11:	4	
Jan. 18:	5	

At our annual meeting on January 29, 2012, we will elect five vestry members. Four are for three year terms and one is to fill a remaining one year term. We will also elect six delegates to represent us at the diocesan convention. The following pages contain brief, personally submitted autobiographies.

## Vestry Candidate Profiles

**Kevin Bryson** I began attending St. Jude's as an infant, accompanied by my parents. As I grew older I was involved with the youth group and music ministries. After high school I took a brief hiatus from worship at St. Jude's while attending college in Boston. During this time I was able to discover other aspects of the Episcopal Church through exposure to different worship settings and new ideas about the role of our church in modern society. These ranged from a small and intimate college congregation of just 12 students, to the more progressive emergent church, "The Crossing" led by Episcopal priest, Stephanie Spellers. Since returning to California I have continued to stay involved at St. Jude's working as a mentor for the youth group, a delegate to convention and continuing my involvement with the music program as a trombonist. Growing up at St. Jude's provided me with the knowledge and love of the heritage and traditions of the Episcopal Church; my experiences with the emergent church opened my eyes to new possibilities. As part of St. Jude's vestry I hope to uphold the traditions of our church while being open to changes that could help us grow with the society around us. Growing up in this community has been one of the greatest blessings of my life and I would be honored to give back with service on the vestry.

**Andy DeBaets** I'm 54 years old, and have been a parishioner at St. Jude's for 11 plus years. I was raised Roman Catholic and am attracted to the familiar liturgy, the music program,

and the thoughtful sermons at St. Jude's. My wife, Becky Smith, has been active in the Sunday school program and we are fortunate to have had our son (Michael) and daughter (Hannah) grow up at St. Jude's. As a family, we have volunteered for many years at the San Jose Family Shelter, cooking 2-4 times a year. I've had many years in high technology, mostly engineering management, at Hewlett-Packard (21 years) and Xilinx (10 years). There have also been many years of youth sports volunteer work and coaching. I'd like to see if those experiences can help St. Jude's from a position on the vestry.

**Bob Hebson** I have been an Episcopalian all my life growing up in the Church of the Incarnation in San Francisco where I was confirmed. I have been a member of St. Jude's since 1970 when we moved back into the bay area from Southern California. I have raised three daughters at St. Jude's and am aware of the changing climate of the parish. I have served St. Jude's on the vestry, as a delegate to convention, on the search committee that selected Pastor Karen, on the profile committee for our present search process, as the leader of the smoother movers (a group of church members that helped move parishioners in this mobile society) and even taught Sunday school for one year (this was not my calling.) I am presently involved with the Adopt a Chaplain program here at St. Jude's. I am retired from an electronics firm and have time that can be devoted to helping the parish by serving on the vestry.

**Howard Hill** With my family, I have been a member of St. Jude's since moving to Cupertino in 1972. We were quickly assimilated into this community and have participated in many ways, including church school leadership, reading, and the establishment of the Senior Day Care Center here. I served on the vestry and was senior warden during the transition from John Buenz to Joe Kennedy. I was a vestry member again when we called Karen Siegfried so I understand that the makeup of the new vestry will be very influential in defining the future of St. Jude's. I am thankful to be a member of a caring community. My family and I have made many deep friendships here. I share in that caring by being a member of the outreach committee and of the LEV team. I particularly value the adult forum as a means to broaden our perspectives and introduce new ideas. My ideas about Christianity have evolved over the years. I have moved from being a literalist to one who appreciates the metaphorical and artistic aspects of our tradition. I'd like to think that's spiritual growth. Orthodox Christian belief as expressed in the creeds and some of the liturgical language make little sense to me anymore. For me, the social justice aspect of Christianity is much more important. That's why I serve as a board member of Santa Maria Urban Ministry and volunteer there as a mentor with the Studio-17 after school program. If those understandings resonate with you, I will be happy to represent them as a member of the next vestry.

**Margot Jacobsen** For those who don't know me, my husband, Syd, and I found St. Jude's in 1974 when we were a young family, with a three year old and one on the way, looking for a church. Bob Mayer was the first person we met on that Easter morning. His warm welcome brought us back the next Sunday and we have never left. Our two daughters are grown now and we have four grandchildren who we really enjoy. St. Jude's has been the constant in our lives all this time, a place of comfort and grace during sad times and a place of joy during happy ones. Over the years I have had many roles; vestry member, sr. warden, jr. warden several times, parish life minister, delegate to convention several times and a member of a rector search committee as well as several short term committee memberships. For the past seven years I have been part of the finance committee as the Pledge Secretary and I help with memorial receptions. St. Jude's has been our community for these 37 years as well as a special place to learn and grow in our faith. I can't imagine not being a member here. Our Sunday morning "home" is the 8:00 service because we are early risers, but I enjoy the special services and events where we are all together.

**Bruce LaFetra** I'm a cradle Episcopalian who came to St. Jude's in February 2001. I immediately became involved in the Sunday morning adult forums and currently chair the adult education committee. I help manage our apricot orchard (with lots of help) and serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. During the past year I've also served on the interim rector search and parish

profile committees. I hope to see St. Jude's become an ever more vibrant member of the larger community in which we live. Community is more than the ethnicity of the people living in the surrounding houses. With a strong laity, a fabulous oasis of a campus and a new rector, I feel the best years at St. Jude's lay ahead. During the day I'm a marketing consultant, dad to Brian and Sarah, and husband. My wife Debbie is an active member of Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills. Prior to St. Jude's, I spent 10 wonderful years at St. Thomas in Sunnyvale where I was elected to vestry, served as senior warden, and was later appointed to complete an unexpired term.

**Jack Tolan** I was raised in Palo Alto in a traditional Roman Catholic family. I attended Bellarmine and Stanford, then went to U. Michigan for my doctorate in physical chemistry. My career focused on developing new pharmaceutical products and guiding their regulatory approvals. I met my future wife and life partner, Ginny, while we were both active duty Army officers. Following graduation we began our careers in New Jersey. We struggled with identifying our church home, finding the Roman Catholic churches in this region unwelcoming and non-inclusive. We then visited an Episcopal church in our area, and were thrilled with the warm reception they gave us. We were subsequently received into this fellowship on Pentecost Sunday in 1983. I continued to participate in Episcopal Church communities throughout job relocations. I supported these communities as lay reader, usher, coffee host, and on special projects. At St. Jude's I have con-

tributed as lay reader, Rebuilding Together, small dinner groups (co-chair, 2011), Adopt-A-Chaplain, and coffee hosting. On my 2012 pledge card I identified Social Outreach as a new ministry I would like to pursue, because I'm able to accept expanded responsibilities following my recent retirement. St. Jude's has guided me toward becoming a more spiritual and prayerful person. These are special gifts, and I wish to dedicate more of my time and talent to St. Jude's. I would be honored to accept vestry membership if it is offered to me.

**Rasika Weerosoriya** I am honored at the invitation to be a candidate for vestry. Soon after arriving in the Silicon Valley in 1997, my family and I started attending St. Jude's and decided to make this our spiritual oasis. My daughter, Shalani, was baptized at St. Jude's and my son, Sachin, was confirmed at this parish. Siri and I have been drawn to this community where all are welcome, no matter where they are in their journey of faith. Born to Anglican parents half way across the world in Sri Lanka, I have been blessed with the opportunity to live in many different parts of the world and attend Anglican and Roman Catholic schools which emphasized the importance of following Christ's teaching through action and community this parish. Siri and I have been drawn to this community where all are welcome, no matter where they are in their journey of faith. Born to Anglican parents half way across the world in Sri Lanka, I have been blessed with the opportunity to live in many different parts of the world and attend Anglican and Roman Catholic schools which emphasized the importance of

following Christ's teaching through action and community service. My years in Sri Lanka, Zambia, Kenya, Singapore and America have enriched me with a global perspective. At St. Jude's, I have both taught and assisted with Sunday School for the past several years. In the aftermath of the 2004 Asian Tsunami, I helped coordinate some relief efforts and was touched by the caring well-wishers at St. Jude's who gave generously and helped fund emergency supplies as well as re-build five temporary houses for those impacted in Sri Lanka. My education includes a BA, MBA and CPA and I presently work as assistant controller in a mid-size public company. As we welcome a new rector and complete the site improvements, I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us all and shape the ministry here at St. Jude's.

### **Delegate Candidate Profiles**

**Judy Bailey** I have been at St. Jude's for over three years after having been a member of St. Timothy's in Mountain View for 37 years. During my time at St. Jude's I have been a greeter, coffee hour host, diocesan alternate and delegate, a member of the stewardship committee, and occasionally an assistant with Stephen Ministry training. It would be a privilege to continue as a diocesan alternate the first year and then as a delegate, collaborating with other churches at the deanery level and supporting the diocese under Bishop Mary's leadership.

**Rita Ching** I have been a member of St. Jude's for almost two years, having moved from St. Timothy's in Mountain View. At St. Timothy's, I

served as a delegate, deanery convener, and as deanery representative on diocesan council, and was the altar guild, a reader, and a LEM. At St. Jude's, I am a member of the rector search committee and serve on altar guild. After many years as a corporate librarian, I currently work as office manager at AchieveKids in Palo Alto, a school serving children and young adults with complex emotional and developmental disabilities. I enjoyed serving as a delegate and would be honored to have the opportunity to represent St. Jude's.

**Robin Poppoff** I am running for a second term as an alternate delegate to represent our parish in our diocese. I have been attending St. Jude's for over four years. During that time I have been a Eucharistic Visitor, Stephen Minister, and have participated in Rebuilding Together events. I continue to be a Eucharistic Minister and labyrinth committee member (a trained labyrinth facilitator), and am now a student at the School for Deacons in Berkeley. I continue to participate in diocesan events and gatherings as I have done during my dozen years as a member of this diocese. I would be honored to again represent St. Jude's.

**Jim Reyner** I served as your delegate last year, and I'm asking you to vote for me as an alternate delegate for two reasons: (1) I am anxious to learn more about how St. Jude's fits into the wider church and (2) I want to utilize my experience and skills in the work of the wider church. I have been at St. Jude's for four very active years: I still serve as a choir member, an offering counter, a LEV team member, and recently elected

to chair both the Endowment Board & Planned Giving Committee. After being a life-long Lutheran, I have found my perfect spiritual oasis at St. Jude's. I also am pursuing my second career as a part-time airplane mechanic (after being retired 1993 as a mechanical engineer/proposal manager with Westinghouse-Marine Division). I am in an exciting second marriage (as a widower, I married Emily Holton on 2/11/2006.) I have one daughter and two granddaughters living in Pittsburgh, PA, who hope to join me as Californians some day.

**Peter Troop** I have been a member of St. Jude's for the last ten years. I was elected alternate to convention in 2008, served as delegate in 2009 and 2011. I have been active in the Social Justice Outreach Committee. In the fall of 2006, I assumed the chair of that committee and since have participated in the parish operations meeting. Most recently, I was a member of the parish profile committee. I would be honored to continue to represent St. Jude's as an alternate to convention for the coming year.