



St. Jude the Apostle Episcopal Church in Cupertino

20920 McClellan Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 252-4166

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

the View from the orchard

God's Spirit, By Way of Cellophane

By Olga Lah

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The window installation at St. Jude's is meant to convey an expression of the Holy Spirit descending. In red and magenta pink, the Spirit moves down vibrantly from the top to the bottom of the windows. Some iridescent yellow pieces appear towards the bottom, changing in color as the light moves. Using craft cellophane, I cut out random shapes with the intention of installing them intuitively once I arrived at the space. The end result reminds me of a modernistic patchwork that emphasizes a downward movement -- the open areas allowing a glimpse of the natural view outside. The work invites the viewer to consider the experience of the Holy Spirit coming upon oneself and bringing a sense of peace and freedom. My hope is that as the congregant gazes on the work the same sense of flow would be felt as the Spirit of God's love rains down.



Welcome Jana Chow!

Jana is a Media and Public Relations Manager, with a degree in journalism and an MBA. She previously worked in communications and media relations for Stanford Health Care, and now serves as a Vice President at FleishmanHillard. We are thankful to have her guidance.

“Sarah Plus”

By Sarah Lapenta-H

A few Sundays ago, Jennifer Shearin told me that her family refers to me as “Sarah plus.” She said, “We know that’s a small cross after your name, but we like to call you Sarah plus.”



Pictured: homemade kimbab

I laughed, remembering another congregation that called me that and how we came to see this as an invitation to think of our pastoral relationship as “Sarah plus YOU and YOU and YOU..., with God’s help.”

I believe our life and ministry together is most meaningful and impactful when we partner in missional engagement within and beyond our church walls (for examples of “missional engagement,” check out <http://www.missionalvoices.com/mv16-video/>). *The View* is focused this month on our missional engagement. Being the Body of Christ in the world, we each have a role and gifts to offer for the good of the whole. As you read, I encourage you to reflect: Where are you currently engaged or how might you get connected to our shared ministry? What are your curiosities, gifts, or ways of giving (back) to our shared life in Christ? How may clergy help you mature in missional engagement?

Missional engagement has long been important to me pastorally and theologically, and even more important personally this year because Paul and I became foster parents. “Sarah plus” grew to include two sisters we “dated” and who have now been placed with us for permanent foster care. While I miss being a rector, it was not a good fit for my family’s hopes at the time, and being at St. Jude’s has been great for them, family expansion included!

We cannot print their names or share identifying information for privacy reasons, but we can say that one is a rising sophomore and the other a rising senior; they/we have great support from their church (in their first language), their school, Catholic Charities, and our friends around the Bay. We have been enjoying each other very much!

“Sarah plus” now also includes Paul and two dynamic teens who welcome your prayers and grace as we find our rhythm together.

Making God’s Love Tangible

By Wilma Jakobsen

As we move into the summer, the liturgical rhythm of the church lives into the Pentecost season, the Holy Spirit propelling us into mission and ministry, spreading God’s love throughout the world - also called ‘ordinary time’ - a time to live out the transforming life, love, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus the Christ.



The life of our faith community at St. Jude’s reflects this, as we continue to live out our Mission Covenant. On July 4th-on-the-2nd, we celebrate the strong spirit of volunteerism that is a wonderful characteristic of America, holding our first ever ‘Civic Sunday’, to celebrate those who belong to local organizations, serving the broader community. Girl and boy scouts, Rotary, United Nations Association, PACT, Habitat for Humanity – these are some of the groups who will be visibly present in our Sunday service, with flags and banners in the procession, and in our liturgy and prayers. This fits our goal to become more missional and increase our service to others. This will be followed by our 33rd annual BBQ and talent show under the awning - originally started in order to gather and watch the Cupertino fireworks at De Anza College. This year you are invited to bring your favorite BBQ dish that reflects your American and/or immigrant background, as we celebrate the diversity of America that includes many of us at St. Jude’s who are immigrants. Bring your friends and family! This is all part of deepening our welcome. *See the weekly announcements for details.*

Come and worship by working! On July 16 we hold our fifth Service Worship Sunday! Instead of the 10:30 am Sunday service, we gather at 9:15 am for a short commissioning service, then serve in work projects on or off campus. This emerging movement says that worship happens not just in our sanctuary, but out in the community, through acts of service to people in need. The word ‘liturgy’ means ‘the work of the people,’ showing compassion and mercy to people through community service projects, partnering with local non profit organizations. It’s a great way to make God’s love tangible!

Becky Smith and her team worked hard to bring this to St. Jude’s. They learned from Westminster Presbyterian

(continued on next page)

Church, who have done this for five years. We do this in July and January, near the birthdays of Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr, as days of service to honor their legacy. At 5:00 pm, people re-gather for a delicious meal prepared by parishioners, share their experiences, and celebrate an informal eucharist together. *See the weekly announcements for details.*

On a personal note, after Easter I had a wonderful trip to South Africa, where I officiated at the wedding of my niece, and enjoyed precious time with family and friends. In May I went on my annual eight day silent retreat, which refreshes and restores my soul and strength for the ministry. I am grateful to St Jude's for the gift of this sabbath time of rest and refreshment. May your summer of 'ordinary time' be one of love and service, rest and refreshment. Blessings.

Service Worship Sunday is Only a Few Weeks Away!

By Becky Smith

Please join us for our fifth Service Worship Sunday (SWS) on July 16, 2017. This is a great opportunity for our church community to step "outside our walls" and help our partners in service. Plan to attend our 9:15 am Commissioning Service, join a project, and participate in our evening supper and celebration.



Sign-ups begin July 2nd.

Sign up online, after church, or during the July Celebration and Talent Show festivities.

Planned projects:

At St. Jude's:

- Clean Toys in St. Jude's Nursery (Leader needed)
- Magazine and Bible prep for Men's Jail (Leader Carolyn Bowker) - Please bring paperback books and magazines (no thick magazines like National Geographic) to church and put them in the large white bucket in the Narthex.
- Writing letters for a cause (Jean Lin)
- Preparing paper bags for use at Sunnyvale Community Services (Gordon Mullin)
- Project Linus blankets (Sharon Lee and Marcia Landis)
- Backpacks for Santa Maria (Becky Smith)
- Painting Room 5 for Live Oak (Andy DeBaets)

Off-site (multiple locations)

- Relay for Life (Matt Matthews)
- Music performance at Relay for Life (Leader Laura Green)
- Enhance drip system at Santa Maria Urban Ministry (Leader needed)
- Paint parking lot walls at Santa Maria Urban Ministry (Leader needed)
- Habitat for Humanity Build on Saturday, July 15th (Linda Morris)

Leaders needed

If you are interested in leading a project, please contact Becky Smith (beckys100@hotmail.com). Without leaders, we can't have Service Worship Sunday. Please contact us if you'd like to help. We will support you.

Who Is My Neighbor?

By Jean Lin

In my favorite New Testament story, The Good Samaritan, Jesus is asked, "Who is my neighbor?" It is a story that resonates with all of us in every era and country. If we ask ourselves that question today, some of our neighbors, who, like the Samaritans, face intolerance and downright hostility, are the Muslims living among us. Opportunities to engage with our Muslim neighbors are all around and I have been fortunate to find a new Turkish Muslim friend by participating in such a blessed moment.

I first met Meryem when she and some of her friends from the Pacifica Center (a Turkish organization that promotes interfaith and intercultural understanding) visited our book club to lend some insights into the book we were reading, *The Butterfly Mosque*.



They were eager to answer any questions we had about their Muslim faith, including why they chose to wear hijab and abayas (conservative, long sleeved, full length dresses). Many of their mothers did not embrace this custom, but they were moved to follow this part of their cultural and religious traditions. At the time they decided to wear the hijab, students were banned from wearing them at Turkish universities, but they found a clever way to still cover their heads by donning baseball caps!

Members of our book group (who are Jewish, Christian, Unitarian and secular) soon found ourselves invited to their homes for the evening Iftar (breaking of the Ramadan fast meal). We were treated as honored guests. The food was delicious and the conversation lively, touching on family, religion, politics, and travel. Meryem and her family later came to our home for dinner, and cooking lessons at Meryem's home followed. We had truly become friends.

When we had Taizé services at Saint Jude's during our special prayers for the election, Meryem and her friend Nihal attended and were touched by the inclusion of readings from their culture in the program. In turn, we were moved by their asking if it would be all right if they prayed their evening prayers in our church. And so they knelt on their improvised prayer rugs in a true ecumenical gesture.

Recently, eight people from St. Jude's and members of the Pacifica Institute met at their center to discuss ways we could work together to promote peace and mutual understanding.

We hope to engage in service projects together and in this way truly live the teachings of Jesus whom we follow as divine teacher, and whom the Muslim religion honors as a prophet. There is much more that connects than divides us as "people of the book" as Islam refers to Christians, Jews and Muslims. Salaam alakium, shalom, peace be with you.

Social Justice Outreach Group - Join Us!

By Liz Mulford

St. Jude's Social Justice/Outreach is a group dedicated to helping St. Jude's be responsive to needs beyond our parish. St. Jude's has provided volunteers and/or financial support to a variety of places and projects, both locally and internationally. Among them: Santa Maria Urban Ministry, SJSU Canterbury project for homeless students, Habitat for Humanity, building a home for homeless veterans, the Winter Faith Collaborative, our Safe Park program, Jail Chaplaincy, Live Oak, the diocese of Western Tanganyika (for student scholarships), St. Patrick's School in Haiti (for teachers' salaries and feeding students), and The Four Homes of Mercy, which are homes that provide nursing support for people with severe disabilities in Palestine.

We are eager for new participants and perspectives. Please come join us, our next meeting is July 22 at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room. Questions or comments? Call Liz Mulford: (408) 420-4918.

St. Jude's Signs Agreement to Support Veterans at De Anza

By Mike Landis

A formal agreement has been signed by Wilma and the Dean in charge of Veteran Services at De Anza College with the objective to support veterans who are students at De Anza. In June, St. Jude's Veterans Support Group hosted the first of what is planned to be a monthly hot lunch for veterans attending De Anza College. This group will also provide tutoring and resume development on an as-needed basis. Future support will include providing used, working laptops and electronic tablets for vets to take and use. Providing clothing assistance for job interviews is also being considered.

For more than 10 years, the St. Jude's Veterans Group has provided support to active duty military and homeless vets through the Adopt-A-Chaplain program and HomeFirst Shelter in San Jose. Parishioners at St. Jude's have been extremely supportive of this ministry with time, talent and funding. A request to the parish for donations of used, working laptops and electronic tablets, as well as clothing will be made when the need is known. If you would like more information about the St. Jude's Veterans Group, please contact Mike Landis: landismr@comcast.net.

Vestry Update

By Scott Rotondo

Wilma opened our Vestry meeting on June 20 with a brief meditation on the third chapter of Ephesians, prompting us to think about the needs and concerns we hold up before God and reminding us that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." (verse 21)

Brief updates shared with the Vestry included a few transitions this month. We welcomed Susan Davenport as the new Clerk of the Vestry and celebrated the official transfer of Sarah's canonical residence from the Diocese of Colorado to El Camino Real. On our campus, there will be another minor transition as we expect Fusion to be replaced by a similar after-school program in the fall.

Santa Maria Urban Ministry is another organization in transition as it seeks to hire a new Executive Director. In support of this effort, the Vestry approved a request to release to SMUM the second half of funding committed for 2016. Wilma noted that for non-profits like SMUM the most difficult fund-raising is for staff and other operational expenses. This is an area where support from St. Jude's can make a tremendous difference.

The Vestry voted to extend the Safe Parking pilot program until July 8 in order to allow for families currently using our parking lot to move to new programs elsewhere. After the pilot program concludes, there will be an opportunity to assess its impact and consider any lessons learned for future programs of this type.

Design and implementation details are being finalized for the courtyard renovation scheduled to take place this summer. The Vestry heard an update from the project committee, which is hard at work soliciting bids from contractors as well as meeting with other stakeholder groups who will benefit from and contribute to the project, such as Live Oak and the Cupertino Rotary. In the meantime, fund-raising for the project is actively underway. Check the large bulletin board display in the narthex to see the latest progress.

Renovating the Church School Courtyard

By Jennifer Stern

We're moving forward! The Vestry approved the plans for an exciting renovation of the church school courtyard that will provide a safer space for children and seniors, a shaded patio area, new plantings, a more visible and engaging playground area, a peaceful garden being developed with Live Oak, and a bocce court for some competition and laughter!

Phase 3 of our 2007 site plan not only supports the three primary goals developed as part of the multi-year plan, creating an inviting campus, spiritual spaces, and places for intergenerational fellowship, but it also supports our 2014 Mission Covenant goals of Deepening our Welcome, Supporting Parishioners Through All Stages of Their Lives, and Joyfully Sharing our Abundance. It will re-invigorate a space that is used not only by our St. Jude's community but by all three of our major tenant groups, spanning all ages.

We expect construction to begin in August with cleanup and grading of the existing space, and installation of a large tree to replace our pine and eventually provide shade in the courtyard. As the project progresses, there will be opportunities to volunteer to help with planting, building, and playground installation.

Your financial support is also critical to our success! Volunteer projects will help us keep the costs down, but we need professional expertise for demolition, grading, and hardscape. Financial gifts can be made over the 2017/2018 timeframe and pledge cards are available. Please contact Jennifer Stern or Tom Dyer with any questions.



Gratitude Corner

THANK YOU... to all who came and enlivened our Rogation Sunday services at the end of May – not in the least the outside service at 10:30. It was a beautiful morning of giving thanks for the many blessings we enjoy around our campus and pledging once again to share our many gifts with others.

THANK YOU... to all who made our Pentecost weekend multi-sensory and soul-stretching, as we reflected on where God's Spirit continues to show up and transform us.

THANK YOU...to Andy, Ann, Becky, Chris M, Jan, Joy, Judy, Ken F, Ken N, Kevin, Laura G, Lauren, Lilian, Liz, Mason, Nathan, Paul H, Paul P, Rita, Sara, Steve B, Steve C, and our three clergy, for joining others in affirming God's love for all at the Unity Vigil in San Jose.

THANK YOU...to Youth Mentors John, Karen, Lauren, Mark, Martha, and Steve; and to Godly Play co-coordinators Linda and Mary Lyn; and volunteers Barbara D, Beth, Haley, Kathy D, Lana, Jani, Libby, Kate M, Kelly, Marcia, Marion, Terri, William, and Valerie for another year of engaging and caring activities with our children and youth!

THANK YOU... for your generosity to The Four Homes of Mercy. The cost of living in the Jerusalem area continues to escalate, and this organization has not been able to give a salary increase for the past five years. In September 2016, on a great leap of faith, The Four Homes of Mercy granted all staff a 10 percent increase, effective Nov 1. Our 70 staff members, some of whom have been with us for more than 20 years, were ecstatic!



Moving Forward in Haiti

By Peter Troop

Haiti's 2016-17 school year ended in June. For the California friends of Saint Patrick, it's time to share ideas and consider how to deepen our relationship for the start of the 2017-18 school year in September. Over the past school year, St. Jude's provided funds for needed classroom supplies and tuition support for students at St. Patrick. St. Jude's is one of many parishes and Episcopal schools across the U.S. who have responded to a call by the National Church to be in partnership with parishes and schools in the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. St. Patrick's is a Pre-K through 6th grade school with 200 students in a rural setting on Haiti's Central Plateau. The children walk to St. Patrick from their families' small farm plots in an area named Locorbe.

In a recent message the Rev. Kesner Ajax, director of the Diocesan Bishop Tharp Business Technology Institute and partnership coordinator said, "the Partnership Program is a critical initiative of the Diocese of Haiti... our continued thanks for your support cannot be overstated and on behalf of our country and our people, we thank you in Christ's name. Thank you again for heeding the call of the Spirit and for partnering with us in the rebuilding of Haiti."

To learn more about this ministry contact either Dianne Rhudy, Becky Smith or Peter Troop.

EDECR Introduction to Haiti

§ St. Dunstan's Episcopal parish in Carmel Valley, with a 35 plus year school partnership in Haiti, first introduced St. Jude's to St. Patrick in 2010. Dianne Rhudy and Liz Jones from St. Jude's traveled to Haiti with a group from St. Dunstan's.

§ Following the trip, St. Jude's joined All Saints' Day School and parish in Carmel, along with Good Samaritan parish in San Jose, to form the Calif. friends of St. Patrick.

§ In 2014, St. Jude's entered into a five-year covenant with the people of St. Patrick's that carries through 2018.

§ The purpose of the relationship is to grow as companions in Christ and collaborate to strengthen Saint-Patrick as a school.

