



St. Jude the Apostle Episcopal Church in Cupertino

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

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the **View** from the orchard

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Joy in the Midst of ... Lent!

Wilma

Warm greetings!

Our annual meeting at the end of January was both a joyful celebration of our life together in 2017, and a realistic look at the challenges we face in our financial life and in living out our mission covenant, making it real in our parish life.

On the rector's recognition list, those who served our parish in special, behind-the-scenes ways: Susan Davenport; Tom Dyer; Juneann McDonald; Becky Smith; Sherry Snow. Thank you!



Convention members elected: Lisa Carpenter, Wren Gray-Reneberg, Margot Jacobsen, Karen LeBlanc, Matt Matthews. Our new vestry members: Don Disney, Lauren Corriveau Minkel, Mason Razavi, Scott Rotondo and Kathy Yates, who is also our new senior warden. Ken Foot steps in as junior warden. Many thanks to past wardens Carlos Estrada, Mary Hultquist and vestry members Margot Jacobsen and Dennis Lee. A big thank you to all who made our annual meeting possible; it really does take a village to put together the potluck, AV support, reports about people and \$\$\$, and keeping everyone present listening and engaged!

Joy in the Midst of Lent

This Lent, Bishop Mary has given all the churches in our diocese the opportunity to explore other prayers from the Anglican Church around the world. We will try some out and invite your feedback – please help us by writing comments on paper rather than emailing, and include your name. There are Liturgy Comment boxes in the hall and the farm house, and the Community Prayer box outside the church can also be used.

Joy in Lent? The purpose of Lent is to prepare spiritually for Easter and open ourselves to God's transforming love. As we focus on our brokenness and wounded places where we need healing for ourselves and our world, we seek forgiveness and turn towards Easter and the resurrection that brings joy, and new life rising out of the ashes of our failures and the dust of our despair.

This year, why not take something on for Lent? Our Wednesday 1pm book group and 6:30pm soup suppers give the opportunity to learn and grow in community with others. Our theme is 'Joy in the Midst...' of life, loss, suffering... as we read 'The Book of Joy' with the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Given all they have experienced of suffering, oppression and difficulty, how are they so joyful and full of laughter? Read the book! I look forward to exploring the obstacles and pillars of joy with you this Lent. May God's love be at work in all of us in this season.

Getting a jump start on our Mission Covenant, "Learning to Live as Jesus' Disciples in 21st Century Silicon Valley" -- Westar's Jesus Seminar on the Road (JSOR) a Success!

Jan & Howard Hill

February's JSOR at St. Jude's was a resounding success, according to attendees and the two speakers, Professor Bernard Brandon Scott and Professor David Galston. Friday's and Saturday's Seminars attracted approximately 80 people, some from as far away as Grass Valley, Monterey and Oregon, including about 20 from St. Jude's.

Topics included: The Wisdom teachings of Jesus; The God of Jesus; God and the Human Future; The Historical Jesus. A Q&A session on Saturday afternoon raised interesting and thoughtful discussions.

Quotes from some attendees: "I would like this every year." "I most enjoyed the feel of attending a college course that approaches the topics with authentic scholarship and attitude, especially the philosophical part." "I want my church to hold a JSOR and want to know your secrets." "Thank you very much for hosting this event with food, drinks and warm hospitality."

David Galston spoke at the Community Forum on Sunday, aptly condensing a couple of his previous seminars. Check out St. Jude's website for details: <http://saintjudes.org/forums/god's-human-future>

A heartfelt thanks to our team who worked so hard and diligently to host registration, book sales, to provide food, coffee and tea and who welcomed all who attended: Brock Carpenter (A/V), Emily Holton, Jan Panell, Dianne Rhudy, Diane Snow, Susan Stanley & Carol Brown, Susan Witherspoon.



**As an expression of Mission Covenant,
“Support each other across life stages” --
The Book of Joy, Rx for Mental Immunity**

Mary Souza

How did the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu know just what I needed?

I was managing surprisingly well after 22 months of loss and disruption – the sudden death of my husband, the deaths of two more dear people in my life, a diagnosis of metastatic cancer, and to top it off a water leak that resulted in the past 11 months of (continuing, chaotic) extensive renovation of my house. These painful losses have brought into sharp focus all that I DO have, and I am grateful for the many blessings in my life. But one recent afternoon, a major disappointment on the construction front sent me into a tailspin of extreme frustration and anger, leaving me feeling exhausted, vulnerable, sad, and very much alone.

I removed myself from the immediate source of this angst – my house—and taking *The Book of Joy*, I sought quiet refuge near the Apricot Window in the St. Jude’s

sanctuary. I sat quietly for a few minutes, settling in. I had already read and resonated with the chapter, “Why Are You Not Morose?” So I opened the book to the next chapter. I laughed aloud as I read the title, “Nothing Beautiful Comes Without Some Suffering.”

These wise souls proceeded to gently remind me that while emotions can spontaneously arise, the ultimate source of happiness is always within us: “You are not a solitary cell/you are part of a community;” “It helps to look away from yourself and think of others that might be in the same or worse situations;” “Reframe your situation positively.”

And, just looking at the joyful demeanor of these icons of courage and deep humanity made me smile and giggle with them. I could feel the boost in my mental immunity! I look forward to practicing joy with these companions and you in the midst of ... whatever life brings... this Lenten season.

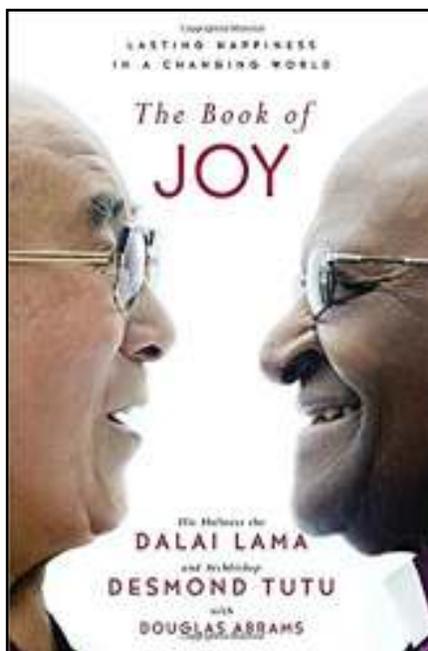
**A resource to equip us for our Mission
Covenant, “Support each other across life
stages” -- *The Book of Joy***

Dianne Rhudy

What joy I experienced on every page of *The Book of Joy*. I believe you will, too. So profound, but completely accessible. As Archbishop Tutu says at one point, “We have hardship without becoming hard. We have heartbreak without being broken”. This is the wisdom path we travel as we seek wholeness in our lives. This book helps light the way.

On the occasion of the Dalai Lama’s 80th Birthday, Archbishop Tutu flew to spend a week with him at his home in Dharamsala, India. They are interviewed by their co-writer Douglas Abrams, where we hear their insights on living in and with joy. As they both expressed, “Lasting happiness cannot be found in pursuit of any goal or achievement. It does not reside in fortune or fame. It resides only in the human mind and heart, and it is here that we hope you will find it.”

Please join us at St. Jude’s for our soup suppers and Lenten series on Wednesday evenings as we explore joy.....what makes human experience satisfying. See you there!





Remixing Mission Covenant: Vestry Retreat and the Year Ahead

Kathy Yates, Sr Warden

Vestry retreat on February 9 and 10 was a satisfying and illuminating time to focus on our work in the coming year.

Sharing our Abundance

We focused on “Stewardship Year Round”, following up on a vestry workshop with Richard Felton, speaker at Harvest Dinner. This builds broader awareness of stewardship as much more than money and the season of Financial Promise in October.

We talked about what “Stewardship Year Round” means to us. It can sound like a never-ending pledge season! (Ugh!) But we focused on the many ways in which the Mission Covenant promise ---to joyfully share our abundance—aligns with the concept of stewardship year round. We explored the many ways we experience abundance in our lives, parish, financially, in non-financial resources like volunteer time, our campus, buildings, and our relationships with each other.

Our covenant to joyfully share our abundance implies that we first cultivate an intentional awareness and appreciation of the abundance we experience every time we come together.

Vestry agreed that as your elected leaders of the Parish community, we will lead a practice of year-round stewardship by mindfully attending to the abundance we experience in so many ways. We will seek to recognize and share that abundance in all the work we do. Expect to see visible signs of intentional “awareness building” of our abundance, and how we share it throughout the year.

Mission Covenant Remix

We also focused on the Mission Covenant Remix mentioned at the Annual Meeting.

Our seven Mission Covenant promises articulate a vision for St. Jude's parish community as we go about our parish activities. They are meant to serve as guideposts for how we conduct our worship services and our ministries: inclusively; intentionally open and welcoming to people of different ages, backgrounds, traditions; generously; with commitment to social justice; joyfully.

Vestry members individually made commitments to serve as “supporters of the ministries” this year. Each ministry leader will have a designated “Vestry Buddy” to support that ministry and help explore ways that ministries can sustain and extend the spirit of the Mission Covenant promises through the members and activities of that ministry.

Finally, we discussed Wilma’s coming sabbatical, which will extend from May until mid-August. We will communicate specific roles and responsibilities in more detail closer to the time, but for now, please know that the Vestry and clergy are talking through the details of who will assume Wilma’s regular functions and our vision of how the community will function during the Rector’s absence.

Our goal is to ensure that the parish feels a sense of secure continuity in our work and community spirit during her absence, especially in the areas of focus—the Mission Covenant remix and joyful sharing/stewardship.

Mission Covenant Actions, Rooted in Prayer

Sarah+

At the Annual Parish Meeting, the Vestry affirmed three Mission Covenant areas to focus on this calendar year: continuing with the area of Welcome and Accessibility; continuing with the area around Our Life Stages, and taking up in the fall, Living as Jesus' Disciples.

Can you name some Mission Covenant actions already happening in these three areas?

For example,

- Judy Bailey offered a wonderful 2017 report of actions in the last **View** around Welcome and Accessibility, including the ongoing work of improving the sound system or changing up of the Lord's Prayer in worship services (*Are you enjoying them? Any we should add?*)
- Food Truck lunches offer a great opportunity to sit with people Across Life Stages and get to know them and, thus, how better to support each other (*Whom have you met recently?*)
- Our recent hosting of Jesus Seminar on the Road created an opportunity to wrestle with who Jesus was and what it means to each of us to be Jesus' Disciple (*What did you think?*)

All of our Mission Covenant actions are intended to be rooted in prayer... hence the back of the Mission Covenant bookmark:

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"With God's help, we will!"

Can you name where we offer opportunities to be rooted in prayer, outside of Sunday mornings?

Prayer is offered Monday through Friday in Morning Prayer (9:15-9:45am; also posted on our website), Tuesday Taizé prayers (6:30-7:15pm), Wednesday Noonday prayers (Noon-12:45pm), and is included at all planning meetings, not to mention special seasonal and small gatherings.

With all our Mission Covenant action-talk, if you are feeling action-top heavy, spiritually weary, or disconnected from Holy Listening, we hope you will embrace an opportunity to be rooted and renewed in prayer! Regular prayer centers us, helps guide us, and renews us for regular partnering with God in the world.

This is our own infinite loop: Prayer --> Action --> Prayer --> Action --> Prayer ...





Gratitudes: We give special thanks for...

The powerful trip and continued relationships in Haiti

- All those who helped organize and volunteer for Service Worship Sunday
- Our good ministry in 2017 and the faithfulness reflected at the Annual Parish Meeting, including selecting our new vestry and convention delegates
- Courageous conversations happening behind the scenes and strengthening our community quietly but surely
- The glorious baptisms of Leo Adams and Stella Johnstone

Join us through the season of Lent through Easter!

Vestry Meeting Feb 20, 2018

Ken Foot

Wilma began the meeting by introducing the new vestry members. Readings from Ephesians 3:14-20 and Philippians 4:4-7 focused on abundance of God, the love of God, as the source of joy.

Rector's remarks -

- Safe Park Program is up and running, with two cars, three guests. Volunteers are being signed up and there will be a weekly meal on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. More volunteers welcome!

- Jani Wild's ordination to priesthood is on April 7, 11:00 am at St Andrew's, Saratoga

- The Vestry discussed possible responses to the school shooting in Florida, in response to requests from parishioners.

Possibilities include sharing resources about supporting the grieving, caring for lonely, isolated children, information about protests and school walkouts.

Discussion of items continued from the Vestry Retreat.

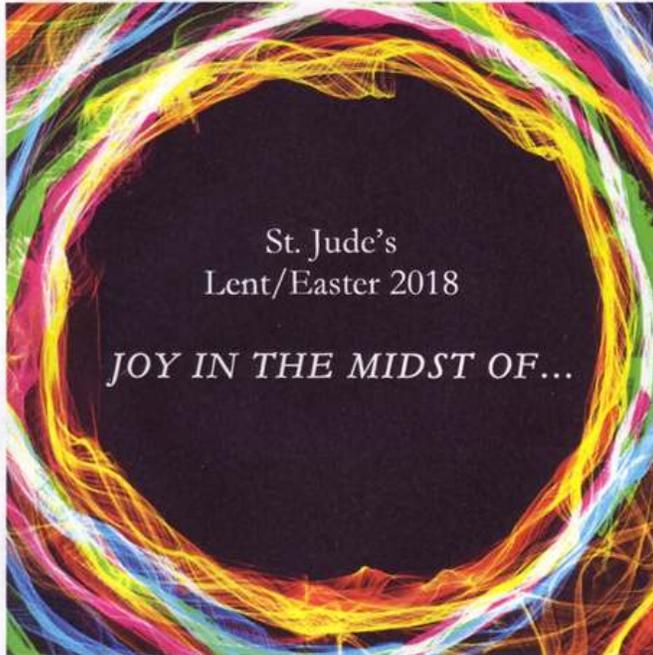
- At the annual meeting we introduced the ReMix of the Mission Covenant. Vestry continued discussion about inviting ministries to grow in one area of the Mission Covenant this year, and vestry buddies for the ministries.

- Discussed how St Jude's can celebrate our abundance in many areas of our lives - our faith, campus, community - throughout the year.

Finance Report:

- Actual expenditures are tracking to budget
- Approved a list of acceptable designated funds
- Discussed submission of parochial report
- Approved resolution to allow more flexibility to Rev Denise Tervine in Haiti, to decide to use previous funds designated for a feeding scheme at St Patrick's, either for St Mathias school where there is urgent need, or for the feeding scheme, as she discerns.

Kathy led us in a closing prayer.



St. Jude's
Lent/Easter 2018

JOY IN THE MIDST OF...

For a list of Lenten resources for individuals
and families, see saintjudes.org/lent

Ash Wednesday | Feb 14, Noon and 7pm

We begin the season of Lent with an invitation to our theme, *Joy in the Midst of...* and imposition of ashes.

Sunday Forums | Feb 18 – Mar 18, 9:15am

Drawing lessons from the *Book of Joy*, clergy will facilitate learning and conversation on the following:

- 2/18: The True Nature of Joy
- 2/25: Obstacles to Joy: Fear, Anxiety, Suffering
- 3/4: Obstacles to Joy: Loneliness, Envy, Greed
- 3/11: Pillars of Joy: Forgiveness, Gratitude
- 3/18: Pillars of Joy: Compassion, Generosity

Tuesdays | Feb 20 – Mar 27, 6:30-7:15pm

Taizé Prayers continue through this special season.

Wednesdays | Feb 21 – Mar 28

Following the Noon Healing Eucharist, bring lunch to the Fireside Room and enjoy discussing the *Book of Joy*, by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu.

Wednesday Soup Suppers | Feb 21 – Mar 28

- 6:30-7:15pm All ages invited to enjoy soup suppers in the Parish Hall. Soup provided by volunteers. If you are able, please bring bread, salad, beverage, dessert according to alphabet names (see announcements).
- 7:15-8:30pm Clergy present a brief summary of the previous Sunday morning forum, direct conversations, introduce “joy practices,” and conclude with compline. *Childcare available.*

“Joy in the Midst” Jazz Vespers

Sunday, Mar 11, 5-6:30pm

Young adults Mason Razavi and Lizzy Hood share their reflections on the seasonal theme. Music by Mason Razavi and friends. *Refreshments following.*

Quiet Morning led by Joy Hayter and Wilma

Saturday, Mar 17, 9:30am-12:30pm

“Joy in the Midst” Developing mental immunity and resilience, putting the weeks of Lent together with guided prayer practices.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday | Mar 25, 8am and 10:30am

Liturgy of the Palms, with procession, brass ensemble, and dramatic reading of the Passion.

Tuesday Taizé Prayers | Mar 27, 6:30pm

More information under the first column.

Wednesday Soup Supper | Mar 28, 6:30pm

More information under the first column.

Maundy Thursday | Mar 29, 7pm

Bring flowers to create the Garden of Gethsemane near the apricot window, where we will watch and pray from 9pm through 11am Friday. *Sign up in the Narthex to keep vigil for one hour in the night.*

Good Friday | Mar 30

12-2pm Join us for part or all of this traditional Anglican service. *Grounds, labyrinth available for prayer.*
7-8pm Stations of the Cross for all ages, beginning in the parking lot.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Saturday Easter Vigil | Mar 31, 8pm

Celebrate the first light of Christ, with incense, candlelight, and bells. Flashlight, youth scavenger hunt after the service. *Bring bells to ring!*

Easter Sunday | Apr 1

8 and 10:30am Festival Eucharist with brass ensemble. *Bring bells to ring!*

9am Potluck Brunch; *bring a dish to share.*

9:30am Children unearth the Alleluias.

9:45am All-ages Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt; *bring an Easter egg basket.*

Learn more at www.saintjudes.org

Rv: 2/5/18