



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.

October 2017 Volume 32, No. 9 www.saintjudes.org

the View from the orchard

This Month

Why we Love Santa
Maria Urban
Ministry
page 1

SMUM Leadership
Reflections
page 1

Meet the New
Convener at SMUM
page 2

Inviting Friends
Along-SWS
pages 2-3

Grace in Action
page 3

Upcoming
Community Forums
page 3

Harvesting
Abundance
page 2-3

Judy & Doug Bailey
tell their
Stewardship Story
page 4

Where does the
Money Go?
page 5

Gratitude Corner
page 6

Grace in Action
Actions
page 7

Vestry update
page 7

Why we love volunteering at Santa Maria Urban Ministry

By Howard and Jan Hill

There's a happy, busy place in San Jose that echoes with laughter, questions and discussions. Here, preschoolers learn their ABCs, students receive homework help, adults attend ESL class, and qualify for a box of essential food supplies, or visit the clothes closet.

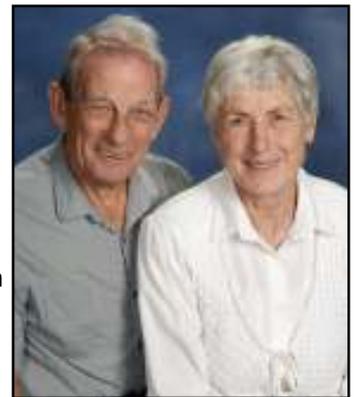
This is Santa Maria Urban Ministry, part of the outreach of the Diocese of El Camino Real, located in the Washington District of San Jose. For more than 30 years, St. Jude's has supported SMUM with volunteers and financial support. We, along with others from St. Jude's, work with the K - 6th grade students with their homework. It's a thrill to see students persevere and go on to graduate from high school. Their parents, some of whom have limited English, are determined to have their children succeed.

To be involved in some of the programs is a privilege, also a learning process. No Spanish is required, although it's fun to learn a few words by having the students teach us. We are pleased to be a part of this valuable place, including our support of the...

SMUM Teen Leadership Program Yosemite Reflections, 2017

The summer 2017 Santa Maria Urban Ministry Teen Leadership Program trip to Yosemite was a success on many levels. The teens and leaders that participated in the program found the experience to be one not only where fun memories were made, but of self reflective aspects, interpersonal skill development, independence, and day-to-day life skills. As a group, the teens helped to plan the overall trip, including the meals they would make and the activities we would participate in. We spent a lot of our time in the water, playing games and getting to know one another. Below are some of the reflective responses from our teens:

- "I was able to experience life without service/Wi-Fi"
- "The night sky was beautiful, my first time seeing the stars without city light"
- "I was able to be more honest with myself"



Meet the new convener of Santa Maria Urban Ministry

the Rev. George McDonnell

Santa Maria was privileged over the past year to have the leadership of the Rev. Peggy Bryan as their convener. I agreed to take up where Peggy left off. Why did I take up this challenging position? Upon my arrival at St Mark's, I was invited by leadership of my new church to "go and see" the work being done at Santa Maria. It was love at first sight, from the diversity of people working the food pantry, to the young artist painting murals on the fence, to the job training partnership that helps people with disabilities have dignity and worth, to the stories of people in crisis getting their needs met and then giving back by becoming volunteers and leaders for Santa Maria. I saw the Gospel in action and I was in love. I knew that I had to be a part of this amazing organization that represents our deanery's desire to BE good news in our region. To those that haven't been to Santa Maria, I say: Come and See.

Here's what happening with SMUM:

- Donations to SMUM have gone up this past year due to better communication with donor base
- Able to hire part time warehouse assistant
- Seeking to hire full time Executive Director (E.D.)
- Putting together subcommittee to look at the details of hiring an E.D.
- Putting together fundraising strategy
- Applied & received \$100,000 grant for food bank program
- Best summer camp program year thus far - skilled leaders, best attended
- First youth trip to Yosemite
- Recruitment of 3 new board members

Plans to come:

- Celebrating anniversary next year
- Re-engagement of all deanery churches to help us make SMUM's mission more vibrant
- Board working day with the Rev Sarah Lapenta-H to help us renew the mission of SMUM
- Discerning what it means for us to grow the mission of SMUM in San Jose
- Conversations with local high schools to help draw more families to SMUM

A big thank you to all who have given to us of your money, time and talent!



Inviting Friends Along; SWS Painting at Santa Maria

Gwyn Azar

For the last Service Worship Sunday that we had, when scanning the various clip boards of interesting projects and opportunities, one in particular caught my eye. Painting a wall at Santa Maria Urban Ministries. For one thing, it was off site, which was something that I had been interested in. It was also painting, which sounded quite enjoyable. This coupled with the fact that my mom was interested in the same project, and I had my Service Worship Sunday project decided.

The project was hurting a little for volunteers, and I knew that our school required community service hours. I also had a few artistic friends in mind who I knew would enjoy the project, so I sent out a quick text: "If anyone needs community services, I'm doing this project..." I got two friends to chip in, and soon it was Sunday morning, and we were merrily singing along to the radio on the way to Santa Maria. This was my first time volunteering there, and one of my first times volunteering at an organization like it, so I had a bit of the jitters in anticipation of the new experiences, but I was looking forwards to a learning experience, especially when I got to experience it with my buddies.

The day ended out quite hot, but we still enjoyed mixing the paints together and listening to music as we tried to neatly paint in squares on the white brick wall in an artistically pleasing way. When we'd finished with the squares, we started painting on butterflies, keeping with the theme that the wall had started with.

Overall, we had a good time. It isn't every day that you get to paint a wall after all, especially when you're given free range to interpret what to do with it. I had a good

(continued on next page)

Upcoming Fall Community Forums

time catching up with my friends who I hadn't seen since the school year had ended, meeting a few new faces and the fact that we were helping to make someone's environment a better place made it even more enjoyable. Definitely an experience that I found valuable, and it always feels good to help out somewhere, especially at a great place like Santa Maria Urban Ministries!

Grace in Action

Warm greetings! Like a generous mother serving plates piled high with a meal for her children, God generously gives us grace, watches while we enjoy it, and hopes we will ask for more.

Grace in Action! Is the theme for our Financial Promise Season in October. As God's grace is at work in us, we reflect God's grace to those around us with grace-filled hearts that love generously and give generously. God's abundant grace is a paradox – the more we give, the more we receive. Beginning with Judy and Doug Bailey (pg. 4), our members tell their stories of faith and financial giving in church and in writing.

One of the places we significantly give our money, time and talent is Santa Maria Urban Ministry in San Jose. Jan and Howard Hill, and the Rev George McDonnell tell why they are inspired by their engagement (pages 1-2)

Our faith invites us to give a proportion of our financial and other resources, giving sacrificially as Christ gave, and the Episcopal Church encourages us to work towards giving ten percent. That is challenging, yet can be life transforming! We do this in grace - sometimes we give more because we have more, other times we give less because we are stretched. Thus as a community we share God's grace with others and receive the grace of others, as we care for each other through our financial giving. We trust that God will do abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine! (Ephesians 3:19)

I invite you to pray and ponder how the Spirit is leading you to respond to God's grace in 2018. I look forward to being with you at the Harvest Dinner on October 20th, bringing us together to celebrate abundant grace in action in our lives. May this season be a grace-filled journey that furthers our outreach in the communities we serve and brings great joy!

In Christ, Wilma



Oct 8: Karen Carlson & Wilma Jakobsen, 'Mind the Gaps'. Phone call or text? Email or paper View? Hymns or contemporary music? *King James Version* or *The Message*? Explore differences and similarities in our cultures and generations, and the gaps between church and our varied experiences.

Oct 15: Lizzy Hood, 'Religion and Pop Culture'. Lizzy is a facilitator of the Young Adult Salons at St Jude's, with conversations about faith, culture and theology.

Oct 22 Anne Clarke, 'Spiritual Formation across Ages and Stages'. Anne is the Lifelong Christian Formation Coordinator in the diocese of Northern California

Nov 5: Laurie King, 'A storyteller's religion: working theology into the mystery novel.' Mystery writer Laurie R. King talks about weaving religious and theological ideas into her fiction.

Nov 19: Howard Hill and Chris Kimberlin, 'The Science of Genetic Modification.'

"Harvesting Abundance: Local Initiatives of Food and Faith"

by Brian Sellers-Petersen; reviewed by Charlotte Pannell

Brian Sellers-Petersen has been with Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) for over 16 years in roles including senior advisor to the president and overseeing development of ERD's Abundant Life Garden Project. In this inspiring book, Sellers-Petersen describes how growing and sharing food is an entry point to exploring what it means to care for creation, be concerned about issues of food justice, and practice hospitality.

Sellers-Petersen provides examples of small and large projects/farms that provide food, hospitality, and farm-based education to their communities. These range from churches simply hosting farmers markets, to growing food which is donated to food pantries. Other projects included creating compost from community donations of food scraps and manure, and creating sustainable environments for wildlife (with public access) by building birdhouses, flower gardens for butterflies, and keeping bees. He visualizes gardens as evangelism tools that communicate to members, neighbors, and visitors your values and how we are a people of faith committed to gathering around a table to eat. He hopes to inspire an agrarian movement both inside and outside the Episcopal Church.

(continued on next page)

"Harvesting Abundance" is currently on the top shelf of our book cart in the Parish Hall. A few other books on the cart that may interest you, as well, are: "Generous People", by Eugene Grimm, "The End of Poverty", by Jeffrey D. Sachs, and "Rich Christians In an Age of Hunger", by Ronald Sider.



Judy and Doug Bailey tell their stewardship story:

Q: How long have you been at St Jude's and what drew you here? "Doug and I have been at St. Jude's since late 2008. Previously we were active members of St. Timothy's in Mountain View for 37 years. There was upheaval at St. Timothy's in 2008, and Doug decided to leave and to come to St. Jude's because of its history of strong social justice/outreach. That left me in a tough spot, to follow him or not. Clearly I did and I am happy to be at St. Jude's."



Q: Do you have a church/faith background, and how did you first hear about the connection of faith to giving, whether financial or giving time and gifts? "Doug is a cradle Episcopalian, I am not. I was raised in the United Church of Christ in Wisconsin. Doug's parents were Episcopalians and Doug's father was always very involved in the church, giving generously of his time, talent, and financial resources so it was natural for Doug to strive for a tithe. Tithing was new to me when I became an Episcopalian. It was during our first stewardship season together in 1971 that I first heard about tithing. At that point we started to strive to give 10%."

Q: What does God and faith have to do with your giving, and how do you go about deciding how much to give to the church? "Although our faith journeys have been different, our personal faith is strong and our church community is very important in our lives. It is easy to give back to the church, just not always easy to give 10%. Now that we are both retired and on a mostly fixed income, deciding how much to give can be a bit more challenging. Our faith calls us to support the church as much as we can. Although the church receives the

largest amount of money that we give, we do give to other causes above and beyond what we give to St. Jude's."

Q: How have you given of your time and gifts and skills? "We have always given of our time and talent as well. Both of us have participated in many ministries in the 46 years of our marriage. Doug's main passion over many years has been outreach/social justice and my main passion has been in the area of lay pastoral care, the Stephen Ministry. We are committed to serving others in whatever ways we can and feel that our faith calls us to give of our time and talent to the mission of this church, to the support and strengthening of this church community and to serving others in the world around us."

Q: How have you experienced grace in action? "We believe that we have been blessed in many ways despite the difficulties we have encountered along our life's journey. We are committed to being a blessing to others in whatever ways we can. Believing in God's grace and love, we have experienced that grace and love through others at both St. Timothy's and St. Jude's, and for that we are very grateful."

Q: Anything else you want to add? "There is nothing remarkable about our faith journeys. Like so many people here, we are committed Christians, committed to living out what we believe our faith teaches us: to love one another, to be compassionate, to serve others in whatever ways we can with integrity and joy."

We receive so much more than we give from being part of this church community. So, what will we do for 2018? We will continue to give as much as we are able to support this church community, so that it can remain a vibrant place of worship, fellowship, service, comfort and joy."

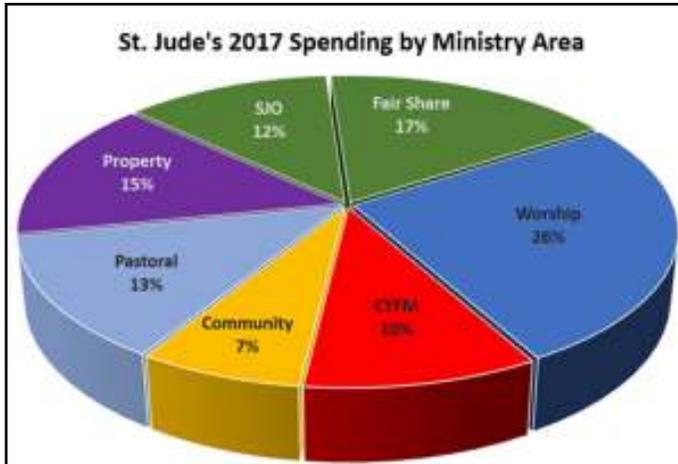
Thank you, Judy and Doug Bailey!



Where Does the Money Go?

by Scott Rotondo

Last year Jeffrey Pugh wrote a series of articles for the *View* showing how our annual spending is distributed across different parts of our mission. Using the same categories, I've updated the chart below with figures from the 2017 budget.



Jeffrey's four-part series contains a detailed description of each ministry area. Briefly, they are as follows:

Worship (26%) encompasses everything that goes into our services on Sunday morning plus other special services like Taize and Jazz Vespers. This includes a large portion of clergy's resources, musicians, and some additional expenses such as flowers.

Children, Youth, and Young Adults (10%) reflects program supplies from nursery snacks to salon dinners and speakers, plus clergy resources and child care providers.

Community (7%) covers a wide range of engagement activities within our congregation and outside, including community forums, communications, and offsite events like the Men's and Women's Weekends.



Outreach (29%) includes our various Social Justice/ Outreach ministries (12%) and also our Fair Share contributions (17%) that support the broader Episcopal Church in our diocese and nationally.



Property (15%) includes utilities and all of the expenses to maintain the buildings and grounds that make up our campus.

Pastoral Care (13%) reflects resources needed for pastoral care and visitations, and otherwise ministering to the needs of our congregation.

I'm honored to be leading a newly formed Finance Committee to assist the Vestry with the task of financial planning and oversight. Soon we will begin working on a budget for 2018, and I think it's helpful for all of us to consider whether we are using our resources in a way that reflects our priorities and values. If you have thoughts about this, please talk with me or any Vestry member.





Gratitude Corner

Beach Church

Thanks to Jennifer Stern and Louise Thompson for offering music and to all who came out for a morning of spiritual reflection and celebrating God, creation, and friendships!



Parish Camping Trip

Thank you, Ned Snow and Kathy Disney, for organizing a memorable camping trip...and to all who braved the heat for varying lengths of time!



Summer Parent Support Group

Thank you, Beth Leonard, for your leadership with the Parent Support Group over the summer!



Youth Group Patio

A HUGE THANK YOU to Nick Harrah for all his hard work and hours on the Youth Group Patio! Thank you also to those who supported him — Donald, Syd Jacobsen, Mary Hultquist, Vance Nau, Tom Dyer, and Mark LeBlanc. They helped turn youth mentors Lauren and Karen's vision for a youth patio into reality!



The youth group had fun playing “never have I ever” to break in the space, learning that they have three things in common: everyone has seen the original Star Wars, eaten at McDonald’s, and swum in the ocean.



Giving to Episcopal Relief & Development for Hurricane Relief:

Thank you ALL who have given so generously, for their tireless work after the terrible effects of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Our prayers of gratitude and for strength are with you and all those working to bring recovery and relief.



Serena Beeks: Deep gratitude to Serena Beeks, Executive Director of Episcopal Schools in the Diocese of Los Angeles, for spending the weekend with us at St Jude's! She taught and we learned so much, about Haiti, partnerships, giving to ensure economic independence not dependencies, Through her sermons and the forum, stories at Jazz Vespers, she helped us understand the realities of life for many young Haitians.



Grace in Action 'actions'?

Sarah+

My family unit and I have long appreciated stewardship season in the Church, across many denominations, embracing the approx 4 weeks to reflect and discern where to share our time and other resources (finances included) in the upcoming year.

St. Jude's invites people to focus "faith and finances" to support our mission and ministry together. Finances are a necessary part of our life and faith together, no doubt. Yet in busy Silicon Valley, it seems to me that time and energy are ever becoming rare and precious commodities. Particularly for a church that is largely lay-parishioner led, where many core members are less available due to health needs and new members already feel stretched taut like a rubber band.

As I listen to ministries struggling to get sufficient volunteers or new leadership; as I hear great ideas from parishioners with the tagline, "if only we had more people;" as I look at the many Mission Covenant Goals and ponder how to meaningfully lean into all of them, I wonder what would happen in our life together next year (and beyond) if, for example...

- Most congregants joined a small group and all congregants made at least two new or closer friends this year, including one intergenerational relationship?
- We took more time to call and visit parishioners and spend less time emailing or merely thinking about each other?

- We RSVP faithfully and dependably followed through on our 'yes' and 'no' to allow ministries to plan more accurately?
- We had sufficient volunteers in Godly Play so that volunteers need not serve more than 2 Sundays per month?
- All ministries had co-leaders and term limits, with a plan for passing the baton next year?

Our seasonal theme is Grace in Action. What are other possibilities for grace-fully "giving back" of your time and energy in 2018, to help our community continue maturing and thriving in meaningful ways? What pledge might you make this coming year to reflect Grace in Action 'action' to support our mission and ministry?

Vestry Update

by Liz Mulford

Wilma's report: She's not bored!

• Her time in South Africa, celebrating 25 years of women in the priesthood, is packed with lots of church services and activities, including brunch with Archbishop and Mrs. Desmond Tutu. Sarah will be in charge while she is away. Wilma and Bruce return October 3.

• The food truck and GOTS program starts October 8. The hope/intent is that this will facilitate deeper relationships amongst members of the parish. All support, needed and appreciated.

• The parish stewardship dinner is October 20.

• The Classroom Courtyard landscape project update: The planning commission says 'yes'. The building department is still working on it. We hope to start soon.

• The Vestry approved the annual grant of \$2,500 to the Correctional Institutional Chaplaincy.

• To simplify parish bookkeeping, Vestry decided to close some accounts with zero balances, and consolidate others while carefully maintaining the purpose of any designated gifts.

• Peter Troop reported on Haiti—and the wisdom of our staying the course of our covenant with St. Patrick's School through 2018. This summer, there's been good communication with the head of school, the newly assigned priest, Denise Trevine, (one of 3 women priests in the diocese).

• St. Jude's is receiving a Green Business Award!