



Tidings

FEBRUARY 2011 NEWSLETTER

From the Rector: Proposed Sunday Schedule

Likely, you will read this after these ideas have already been rolled out at the Annual Meeting. So here it is again, in case you missed it.

Last November at the first Parish Wellness Forum, we introduced the idea of changing the Sunday morning schedule to include time between services for Christian Formation for all ages. Not only would our children have more time to interact and learn, the proposed schedule provides for regular Adult Formation on Sunday morning. As important as worship is, usually it doesn't offer opportunity for us to be in conversation with each other.

Two possible scenarios have been presented. The first preserves our current starting time; the second moves everything earlier by thirty minutes.

Schedule A:

8:30 Holy Eucharist
10:00-10:45 Christian Formation for Everyone
11:15 Holy Eucharist

Schedule B:

8:00 Holy Eucharist
9:30-10:15 Christian Formation for Everyone
10:45 Holy Eucharist

We all know that space is at a premium. Adult Formation would meet in the worship space between services and children would use the "hospitality" room as well as the Chapel. The thirty-minute "adjustment" time between the conclusion of Sunday School and the beginning of the second liturgy would allow time for the Choir to warm up, as well as time for people to chat.

We have two dialogue sessions scheduled during which everyone is encouraged to bring their thoughts and suggestions: February 13 and February 20, both occurring after the 10:30 liturgy. Please plan to attend at least one of these sessions, as we want to hear from you.

Fr. Harold+

*"We have two
dialogue sessions
scheduled...
February 13 and
February 20..."*

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Candlemas Liturgy

On Sunday, February 6, the 10:30 service will be a child-centered liturgy celebrating Candlemas (the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ at the Temple), along the lines of the Bishop Nicholas Celebration we held in December. We will enjoy the story of the presentation of the infant Jesus at the temple (Luke 2:22-40) and present the children in our lives to God for a special blessing as well. Children of the parish will lead the Prayers of the People using prayers they have written together in Sunday school. We will share a simplified Eucharist and then gather at the back of the church to make crafts (think candles!) and eat good food.

The 8:30 service will be a tradition "high" celebration including a special blessing for the children as well.

The more children present, the better!

The Rev. Anne Smith



Staff of St. John's

The Right Rev. Bishop Jerry A. Lamb, Bishop
The Rev. Harold Clinehens, Jr., Rector
The Rev. Anne Smith, Assisting Priest
The Rev. George Ross, Assisting Priest
Randy Knutson, Music Director
Robin Knutson, Organist
Katie Newsome, Youth Group
Carol Shelley, Nursery Care Provider
Ramon & Camerina Ibarra, Sextons

*All children are welcome at
the altar!*

Vestry Retreat Highlights

St. John's Vestry gathered at the Mercy Center in Auburn January 21-23 for its annual retreat, along with the Vestry of St. Anne's. Stockton. Demi Prentiss, Ministry Development Officer for the Diocese of Forth Worth, was our facilitator. Some St. John's members attended the "Cycles of Leadership" workshop she led at St. John's last summer, and at other locations in the Diocese.

It was a rich and productive time for us, which afforded time for conversation and reflection on the Vestry's calling as leaders in the parish, with an honest look at the challenges facing us. "Leadership's job," said Demi, is to perceive where the spirit is working and moving and go with it."

St. John's Vestry set some broad goals for 2011:

To engage the entire parish in a Visioning Process. The current Mission/Vision statement is at least ten years old. Needs and priorities have changed since then. We want to understand our purpose to be large enough and broad enough to unite the current members of St. John's as well as attract and engage people of spiritual energy to join us in following the Holy Spirit's leading. In other words, Who are we? What is our purpose in Lodi? If we weren't here any longer, would anyone notice? How does Christ want us to use our gifts to advance the reign of God here?

The visioning process will help us with these questions, and help us to know each other better as followers of Jesus. A current and accurate vision statement will also give us a touchstone for decisions on what ministries we choose to pursue and how we choose to allot our resources. We will soon be looking for the right person to lead us through this process so that St. John's mission is clear and current once again.

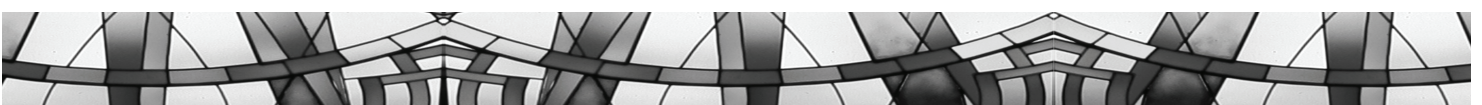
Come up with three viable strategies to pay down the mortgage. Does this even need to be explained? The mortgage is the elephant that is always in the room. St. John's pays approximately \$222,000 annually to service this debt. Doing so means that we are constantly in arrears with the Diocesan Assessment (about \$4000 per month), sometimes late in Pension payments for the clergy, unable to designate more of our budget to ministry support, not to mention constantly having to play the cash flow game with monthly bills.

Celisse Johnson, Junior Warden, will head a task force, which will regularly report to the parish as well as give opportunities for regular engagement.

Implement the Acoustics recommendations we received last December.

Kathy Creath, from Tucson, Arizona, with double PhD's in Optics and Music, spent three days in early November carefully measuring reverberations and analyzing our acoustics. She discovered that our problems are real. To grossly over-simplify her findings, there is too much reverberation bouncing off the walls longitudinally. The acoustics problems and sound system problems can be corrected for between \$30K -\$40K. David Brewer has taken the first step by replacing our worn out soundboard with a new one. Thanks, Dave! And Walt Wolterstorff has offered to help out with the sound system needs as well. Thanks Walt!

Kathy Creath's report continues to be available to anyone who wants a copy. The Vestry is committed to find a way to implement all her recommendations, so that the quality of our worship will be better.



**Special Convention of the Diocese of
San Joaquin to Elect
Provisional Bishop and
Celebrate the Lambs' Ministry**

Saturday, March 5, 2011
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Holy Family Episcopal Church
1135 E. Alluvial Avenue
Fresno, CA 93720

All parishioners of St. Johns' are invited to join our clergy and delegates at the special convention of the diocese to elect Bishop Chester Talton as our new provisional bishop and to celebrate the ministry of outgoing provisional Bishop Jerry A. Lamb and his wife Jane. The convention will be at Holy Family Episcopal Church, 1135 E. Alluvial Ave. in Fresno, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration forms will be available at the church; there is no fee to attend. A box lunch will be available for about \$10 for pre-registrants. If you would like to carpool, let the office know of your interest and we will try to match drivers with passengers.



Bishop Jerry Lamb



Coming Soon !

Who doesn't love a good story?! You've read them...the ones that bring you closer to their characters...or draw you deeper into or expand your own world..or that help you to see the sacred in the ordinary and God moving in the world. *TIDINGS* will soon be offering a special series of articles, brought to you by Connections and Directions, in which members of our parish can share some of their stories. The series will represent cross sections of our community....8:30am and 10:30am worshippers, members who attended St. John's downtown and those who have joined more recently, folks with grandchildren and folks with young children, families who have been in area for generations and those who came from other parts of the country or California. Our hope is that through this series we'll get to know our own community a little better in all its richness and treasure.

Your stories matter; they're important. So if you get a call from the *TIDINGS* requesting an interview and choose to spend a little time with us, that would be a real gift. And if you'd like to volunteer to participate, just call the St. John's office and let them know you'd like to talk with us for this Connections series.

Carol Foote

Help Wanted!

Have a few hours a month to spare? Would you like to meet new people and/or see familiar faces? We could use someone like you!

The office is looking for an Office Angel to answer phones, take messages, make phone calls, and light office duties.

Inquire with the parish office.

Fundraising for Playground Equipment

Buying Fair Trade coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and chocolate bars at St. John's raises money for playground equipment for our children. These products are delicious, they are better for farmers and the earth, and they will help us make St. John's even more welcoming for young families.



Thank-You from Edyth Ledbetter, Outgoing Treasurer

It is with relief and sadness that after my many years as Treasurer for St. John's that I am passing on the duties to a very capable person, Patty Grauman. St. John's is at a point where the "guard" is changing: the "old guard" will be in the background to help if needed, but the new guard will now take the leading role.

I have enjoyed my time as your treasurer because it has helped me have a personal contact with many of you. Also, I feel that being treasurer helped me focus on the fact that God is in charge (even if we want to be). I have learned (but constantly need to be reminded) that God will lead us through all times. We just need to ask and trust in Him.

During my time as Treasurer I have had many people assist me. Some of these people are no longer with us, but they are still close to my heart: Joyce Pegg, Pat White, Roscoe Brownfield, Carrie Martin, Priscilla Brownfield, and Yvonne Schildt, Barbara Jones, Deb Shook (the authorized signers of checks), Chester George and his team of counters, and Ann Marie who helped answer my questions I wasn't sure what was happening. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, because over the years there have been many helping hands.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you. I did this for all these years as a Thank You to God for the gift of accounting which He gave me.

Edyth Ledbetter, Past Treasurer

Parish Reports

Copies of the Annual Parish Report for 2010 may be found on the table at the back of the church. Please take one home.



2010 gathering in the church

Office Closed

The parish office will be closed for the President's Day holiday on Monday, February 14.

*The Arts at St. John's
An afternoon of Bach was enjoyed by all.*



The Arts at St. John's, together with the Lodi Branch of the Music Teachers' Association sponsored Jade Huang in a Young Artist Guild recital on January 9th at St. John's.

Jade is an excellent student and displays an amazing musical talent. It was a wonderful concert; she has the ability to "make the piano talk". You can feel the emotions of excitement, sadness, angry and joy through her performance.. The Arts of St. John's is currently working on this seasons line-up. Stay tuned and be sure to support this wonderful ministry.

**Cookies and Kisses to be
Sold by Compassion**

On Sunday, February 13th, Compassion will again be selling their traditional bagged fresh, home-made cookies and chocolate kisses. Please plan on buying a bag or two for your loved ones.

We are asking the parish members to help bake the cookies. We'll gather Saturday, February 12th at the church and bake cookies, bag, and wrap them so that we'll be ready to sell them on Sunday. All are welcome, we'd love to see you!

**Cooking for
Salvation Army**

St. John's will again be cooking at the Salvation Army on Friday, February 18, 2011 at Lockeford Street. Please see Pat Fehling if you wish to help with the exciting outreach to the City of Lodi through the efforts of the Salvation Army.

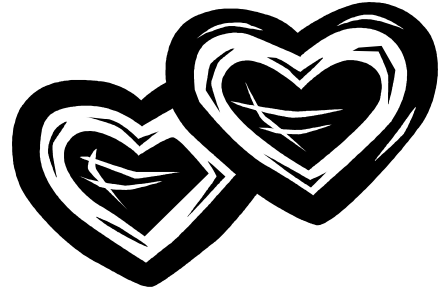


Thank you! *from Ann Marie*

While working in the office I've had the great pleasure of getting to know almost every one of you, our family at St. John's. Your friendships have been a blessing and I cherish the stories, laughs, concerns, and fun we've shared over the years. I'll miss the 'quick visits' in the office during the week and look forward to seeing you on Sundays.

I appreciated the after service "coffee hour" and thank you all for your cards, hugs, thoughtful words, and prayers.

Thank you again!



From the Music Director

Our music groups will continue to celebrate the theme of the coming of God's light and love in the month of February.

The Parish Choir has a number of anthems related to this theme including some we have done before, some new pieces and some that have a definite 'Gospel' feel to them.

St. John's Bells will be playing handbell works that might not have 'light' in the title, but that exhibit certain joyfulness, full of activity.

Choristers will sing at the beginning of month, as part of our Candelmas liturgy and then continue exploring this theme along with preparations for Lent in early March.

All of these groups would welcome new members in this month of February. Our Parish Choir meets on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m., Choristers on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. and St. John's Bells most Sunday nights also at 7 p.m. Contact Randy Knutson in the church office (369-3381) for more information or randyknutson@sbcglobal.net.



February Birthdays

2:	Cecil Brewer Jack Christy	16:	Kenneth McConnell Nancy Walker	25:	Charlene Bess Richard Stevens
4:	Laurel Bell Chris Knutsen Jeannette Waechter Clottu	19:	Julie Buchmiller Betty Friston Deb Shook	27:	Chester George Katharine Tudor
5:	Yinka Olowoyeye	20:	Jonas Knutson Tina Newsome Reagan Wuelfing	28:	Tom Gundershaung Elaine Sager
8:	John Ledbetter	21:	Jordin Kafton Walt Wolterstorff	29:	Ida Lobb
11:	Elfonda Filomeo	23:	Emily Freund		
12:	Edmund Freund Becky Loiacono	24:	Kristin Luiz		
15:	Hannah Martin Joseph Martin				

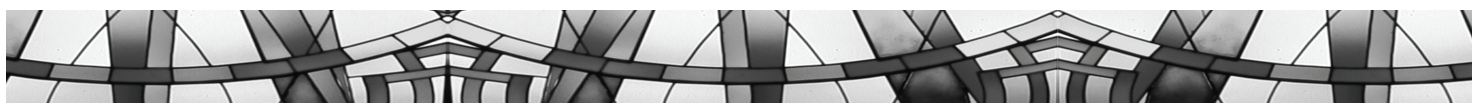
February Anniversaries

7:	Dianna and Jack Christy
13:	Chris and Doug Wied
14:	Rosemary and Richard Cress
17:	Father George and Darlene Ross

Our Appreciation...

After two years of faithful service, Clif Painter is stepping down as webmaster.

Clif was able to take our web site to 'the next level' and has spent numerous hours enhancing and updating our site. Thank you.



Raising Funds at No Cost to You

St. John's has partnered with a few local businesses in Lodi...

If you shop at Raley's, be sure to use your scrip card. These cards can be used at **any** Raley's. If you don't have one—see the parish office.

Safeway scrip: we are now signed up with Safeway to receive credit on purchases made by our members. All you have to do is bring in your Safeway Rewards card; the office will record your number and set it up so St. John's gets credit for a portion of the sales.

Fresh Cleaners donates a portion of sales for St. John's members. Be sure to tell them you're a member of St. John's.

EWASTE 4 GOOD

Free E-Waste pick up fund raiser — coming to St. John's.

All you have to do is go to the following website:
www.eWaste4good.com

Click on St. John's Episcopal Church
Fill out your information and a truck will be
dispatched to your home or business.

St. John's will receive proceeds from your electronic waste donation.

If you do not have computer call eWaste4good at **1-800-317-5112**

Types of items eWaste will pick up:

- TV's, LCD's Monitors
- Computer Towers, Servers
- Laptops
- MP3 players, cell phones
- Batteries
- Other electronics

We're currently investigation our options with eWaste...watch for more details!



We are grateful for these donors whose gifts adorn our worship in February

February 6

Mary Dawson in loving memory of her husband Euclid for his birthday February 1 and for her grandson Joseph in celebration of his birthday February 2

Elfonda Filomeo in loving memory of her sister Laquita Gage for her birthday February 3

Mrs. Jack Brooks in memory of her step-mother Violet Carroll for her birthday February 1

February 13

Tony and Betty Ferrara in loving memory of her parents Thomas and Uralea Gaines and his parents Philomena and Anthony Ferrara

February 20

David and Diana Martin in loving memory of her grandmother Beatrice Martinez for her birthday February 12 and in celebration of the birthday of their children Hannah and Joseph February 15

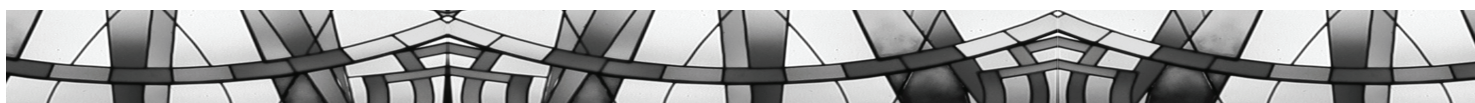
If you would like to dedicate flowers in memory of a loved one or for thanksgivings, please call the parish office at 369-3381.

Go Green

We have a number of programs currently in place that help the environment as well as St. John's:

- * We recycle all our paper
- * We recycle ink cartridges and cell phones
- * We use Fresh Cleaners (a non-toxic dry cleaner) for our dry cleaning
- * Recycle styrofoam

Can you think of other ways we can be a greener parish? We'd love to hear your ideas.



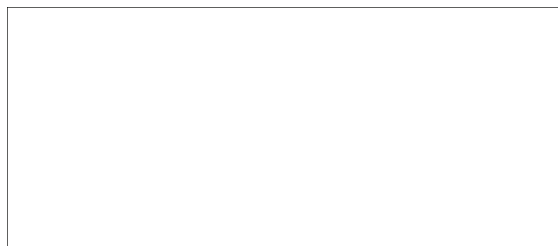
The Episcopal Church of Saint John the Baptist

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Return Service Requested



**WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.STJOHNSOFLODI.ORG**

What's happening in February

Tues. 1st	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Yoga for Christians 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thurs. 10th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Sun. 20th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers
Wed. 2nd	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Study Group II 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Fri. 11th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 21st	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Thurs. 3rd	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Sun. 13th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers	Tues. 22nd	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Yoga for Christians 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Fri. 4th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 14th	Office Closed	Wed. 23rd	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Sun. 6th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers	Tues. 15th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Yoga for Christians 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thurs. 24th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Mon. 7th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Wed. 16th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Study Group II 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Fri. 25th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
Tues. 8th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. Yoga for Christians 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Thurs. 17th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Sun. 27th	8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Nursery Care Provided 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. St. John's Ringers
Wed. 9th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 4:30 p.m. Choristers Rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	Fri. 18th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Mon. 28th	8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

