

Ongoing Events

- Sundays:** Holy Eucharist: 8:30 am
Godly Play: 8:30 am, Hospitality room (grades K to 6)
Nursery Care: 8:30 am to noon
Holy Eucharist: 10:30 am
Preschool Class: 10:30 am, Nursery (ages 3 and 4)
Godly Play: 10:30 am, Hospitality room (grades K to 6)
Men's BBQ: 5:00 pm, church (first, alternate months)
Youth Group: 6:30 to 8:00 pm, church
- Mondays:** Morning Prayer: 8:30 am, chapel (Monday - Friday)
Yoga for Christians: 9:30 am, Patsy Gorczyca
Cursillo Men's group: Noon, Frank Pegg
Cursillo Women's group: Noon, Marilyn Cook
Evening Prayer: 5:30 pm, chapel (Monday-Friday)
St. Margaret's Group 7:00 pm, Claire Lima (first and third)
- Tuesdays:** Study Group II: 9:15 am, Ruth Diekman
(second and fourth)
Yoga for Christians: 7:00 pm, Patsy Gorczyca
- Wednesdays:** Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 to 8:30 pm, church
- Thursdays:** Women of Faith Study Group 9:00 am, Barbara Jones (first and third)
Holy Eucharist: 12:10 pm, chapel
Fellowship Ministries: 7:00 pm, Mary Knutsen and Kathy Girard
(third)
Compassion Ministries: 6:30 pm, Hospitality Room (first)
- Fridays:** Singles' Supper Club: 6:00 pm, Sara Heberle
(fourth, alternate months)
- Any day or time:** Green Piece, church garden upkeep



Events In February

Tuesday, February 5:	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5 pm to 7:30 pm
Wednesday, February 6:	Ash Wednesday services: 7:30 am, 12:10 pm. 7:00 pm
Sunday, February 10:	Compassion Cookies and Kisses, after both services
Thursday, February 14:	Lenten Soup Supper Weekly Program, 6:00 pm
Friday, February 15:	Newsletter Deadline
Monday, February 18:	Office Closed in observation of President's Day
Thursday, February 21:	Lenten Soup Supper Weekly Program, 6:00 pm
Friday, February 22:	Youth 30-Hour Famine
Sunday, February 24:	Sunday Service Guest Speaker: The Covenant Players, 8:30 am and 10:30 am The Arts at St.John's presents: Talisman in Concert, 3:00 pm
Thursday, February 28:	Lenten Soup Supper Weekly Program, 6:00 pm

(Please call the church office, 369-3381, for specifics on any of the above.)



Parish Reports For 2007

Copies of the annual report for 2007 can be found at the back of the church. You are welcome to take one.

Lenten Folder

Many people in the parish gain satisfaction by filling a devotional folder with quarters during the forty days of Lent. Each time you add a quarter, give thanks to God. The folders are available at the back of the church and can be returned during Holy Week or on Easter Day.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & PROGRAM

**Come for Evening Prayer at 5:30
Enjoy Fellowship and Soup from 5:50 to 6:30
Enrich your observance of Lent,
Holy Week and Easter
Classes for the entire family
from 6:30 to 7:30
Thursdays, February 14 through March 13**

Editor's Corner

I run an online writers' list and each week we have a new writing exercise. A recent "self-knowledge" exercise is the perfect launch point for today's Corner.

Some of you know my husband bottles wine. He works with machines in a limited, narrow space. When thinking about upgrading something or installing something new, he says he must consider the machine's "footprint" as well as functionality. He's talking about how much floor space the machine will take, how much impact it will have on the other machines in the line. The footprint isn't just the dimensions of the stand, either. Some of them have arms that swing out. That swing space is part of the footprint.

I stopped by St. John's earlier this week and on the way out, I quietly closed the big front door behind me. It's something I adopted when the doors weren't working properly; they slammed shut with a resounding "boom!" that echoed through the church. I think the doors may have been fixed, but I still guide them shut behind me, closing with barely a whisper. In the physical church, I have a very small footprint.

While I was there, though, the volunteer answering phones told me how much she enjoys these articles. She's one of several people to have told me something along those lines. After every month's issue reaches parish homes, I receive a couple of emails commenting on how they liked my article. When I'm at church on Sunday, people I don't know by sight stop me and tell me I've touched them in some way. One parishioner called me three days before she passed away, just to tell me how much the articles had meant to her. In the psychological church, I have a gigantic footprint.

What kind of footprint do you make?

Michelle Hakala

I welcome your comments, questions or critiques. Email me at winebird@winebird.com or drop a note in my church folder.



Cookies & Kisses Sale

On February 10, at both services, Compassion will be selling bags of delicious cookies and chocolate Kisses as well as our St. John's mugs full of Kisses. Fellowship will join us in selling the Chocolate Cookbook which will make a great addition to your gift of cookies and Kisses to your loved ones. The bags of cookies will sell for \$5.00 and the mugs for \$10.00. Please plan on your Valentine shopping at St. John's.



Adorning The Altar For Easter

Check here if you participated last year and want your entry to remain the same. Fill in only your name on this form. Finally, put your donation money and this form in an envelope and put it in The Box.

Check here if you want to change last year's wording, or if you are doing this for the first time. Please fill out this form completely, place it and your donation money in an envelope and put it in The Box.

A minimum donation of \$25.00 is requested. All paid adornments will be published in the Easter bulletin and the April newsletter.

Thank you!

ADORNMENT FORM FOR EASTER

Adornment in thanksgiving /in honor of / in memory of: (circle one)

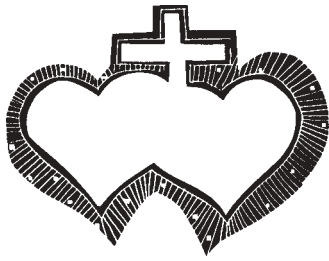
Given by: (print clearly)

Your phone number: _____

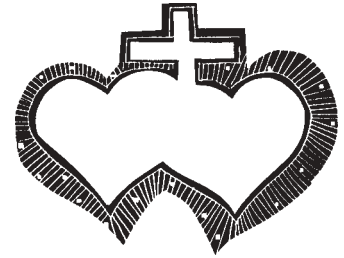
February Birthdays

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 1: | Duke McDonnell | 13: | Diane Chard | 21: | Heather Jennings |
| 2: | Cecil Brewer | | Zachary Devitt | | Jordin Kafton |
| | Jack Christy | 15: | Hannah Martin | | Walter Wolterstorff |
| 4: | Laurel Bell | | Joseph Martin | 23: | Emily Freund |
| | Chris Knutsen | 16: | Kenneth McConnell | 26: | Christian Raught |
| | Jeannette Waechter | | Nancy Walker | 27: | Chester George |
| 5: | Yinka Olowoyeye | 18: | Rachel Peterson | | Sarah Kate Kafton |
| | Elena Woodbridge | | Virginia Brunskill | | Katharine Tudor |
| 7: | Roscoe Brownfield | 19: | Julie Buchmiller | 28: | Tom Gundershaug |
| 8: | John Ledbetter | | Betty Friston | | Elaine Sager |
| | Steve Woodard | | Deb Shook | 29: | Ida Lobb |
| 11: | Elfonda Filomeo | 20: | Jonas Knutson | | |
| 12: | Edmund Freund | | Tina Newsome | | |
| | Becky Loiacono | | Reagan Troy Wuelfing | | |
| | Erik Raught | | | | |

February Anniversaries



- | | |
|-----|----------------------------|
| 7: | Dianna and Jack Christy |
| 13: | Chris and Doug Wied |
| 14: | Rosemary and Richard Cress |
| | Sarah and Tad Platt |



Liturgical Notes

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday when the symbol of the ashes and the liturgical color purple signify the change from the glory of Christmas and Epiphany-tide to a more somber note. In its origin it was much shorter than forty days; probably just the week leading up to the great Paschal feast of Easter. It was called penitential in the early persecution years of the primitive Church because those who had succumbed to State pressure to renounce the faith were welcomed back as Easter approached. They repented and again renounced secular paganism and reaffirmed faith in Christ. Later, all the faithful were encouraged to join the penitent returnees and all renewed their baptismal covenant and were reconciled afresh. That is why it's part of our Easter Vigil.

Easter Day cannot be separated from Good Friday and Holy Saturday. They are one liturgical event, the three great days of the mystery of redemption. To quote St Benedict, "We should look forward to Easter with all the joy of eager expectation and longing." Although we refrain from using the word Alleluia in the Liturgy during Lent, there is no reason why it should not be alive and well in our hearts, waiting to burst out when Easter finally comes. Remember, Lent is Spring! After all, "We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song."

The St. John's Inaugural Organ Recital

The Arts at St. John's and the Krengel family would like to congratulate all performers who provided talented performances at our inaugural organ concert on January 6. Robin Knutson gave a stellar performance on the newly refurbished and installed Felgemaker organ. Over 250 people were entertained by flute, oboe, bass trombone, voice and cello.

Several concert goers commented on the unique sound of a manual tracker pipe organ. St. John's acoustic environs were also enhanced by Eugene Friesen on cello, who gave several wonderful renditions of sacred music and a concert favorite "Cathedral in The Pines."

Hats off to three inspiring performances by Jan Landreth on bass trombone, Barbara Krengel on flute and Randy Knutson's vocals. We look forward to next season's offering of organ performances as we now have a new venue for local organ lovers at Arts at St. John's.

Coming on Sunday, February 24, is the world-renowned acapella group, Talisman, from Stanford University. Many of you have heard this acapella group before at St. John's. Past performances were packed so we suggest you purchase tickets in advance. Concert starts at 3:00 pm.

Pete Krengel
Arts at St. John's



Youth News

Our Youth Group at St. John's has a busy February planned. Easter comes early this year, so that also includes Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday coming sooner. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is Tuesday, February 5, from 5:00 to 7:30 pm. Our planned theme this year is Hollywood, so expect some "characters" to be waiting on you! We'll include the usual pancakes (plain, blueberry) along with coffee, juice, ham and sausage. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship and pre-Lent festivity.

Later in the month, we will be observing the 30-Hour Famine, a fundraising event for World Vision, a group that has been in the news for their work in Africa and during recent disasters in Kenya, Uganda and Bangladesh. We spend the thirty hours (Friday noon through Saturday at 6:00 pm) fasting, studying the Word, watching movies, doing some community service, and worshipping together. We typically spend a night overnight at the church. We'll be seeking pledges and donations, all for World Vision, in the second half of February.

St. John's Small Groups

The season of Lent is fast approaching. Participation with a small group could provide an excellent Lenten discipline. Scan the highlights to find a group that could match your interests and time commitments.

Women of Faith Study Group meets the first and third Thursdays, at 9:00 am, at the home of Barbara Jones. The February study will continue 1 Kings. While studying Kings, the group is also reading *A Wing and A Prayer*, by Bishop Katharine Jefferts-Schori. For more information, please call Barbara Jones, 368-6361, or Gretchen Nelson, 369-3952.

Study Group II meets at the church on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 9:15 am. The study which began in January is *When the Heart Waits*, by Sue Monk Kidd. It's not too late to join this study. Please call me for further information.

Cursillo Reunion Groups meet on Mondays at noon year-round. The men's group contact is Frank Pegg, 369-9610; the women's group contact is Marilyn Cook, 334-3197. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

St. Margaret's Group is reading *First Light*, by Sue Monk Kidd. Meetings are the first and third Mondays at 7:00 pm. New participants are always welcome. Please call Claire Lima, 334-4047, for information and location.

Yoga for Christians groups meet Monday mornings at 9:30 am and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the church. Please call Patsy Gorczyca, 367-1812, for details and when attending for the first time.

Singles Supper Club will not meet during February. Sara Heberle, 368-5744, is the coordinator for this group.

Green Piece is an opportunity for self-selected involvement. The churchyard garden is divided into plots for maintenance. February would be an excellent time to select an area and/or join along with others in a previously chosen spot. Please call Rich Shook on his cell phone, 327-8406, for information.

The Bridge Tournament play for 2007-2008 is under way. Please keep current with the schedule. For information contact Sara Heberle, 368-5744, or me.

Men's Barbeque Group meets on alternate months for a time of fellowship and nurture. Contact John Ledbetter for information, 368-0865.

Reminder: New groups may be formed whenever interest and leadership is identified.

Ruth Diekman, 369-2938
Small Groups Coordinator



Ash Wednesday



February 6
7:30am • 12pm • 7pm

Message From The Senior Warden

Appreciation and thanks go out to Robin and Randy Knutson for the fantastic Organ Concert on January 6. Thanks also to the Pete Kregel family for making the concert possible. Like the Unique Boutique, this St. John's activity was a tremendous success as outreach to the community of Lodi. At the concert, and days later, I ran across many people in the community who attended and who had many complimentary things to say about our hospitality, our building, and of course the quality of the performances. The full house and the tremendous Lodi News Sentinel article are the kind of positives that St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church is all about. Well done, St. John's.

Another positive that happened at the close of December is the giving spirit that is alive and well at St. John's. The operating fund received several special offerings that amounted to over \$13,000. The building fund received a special offering gift of \$75,000! These special gifts have helped keep both the operating and building fund accounts healthy with all obligations paid current. **Thanks** to those who gave a special offering and **thanks** to all of you who have **faithfully** kept up your financial commitments to St. John's.

As you know from the Congregational Survey, your Search Committee is hard at work. They are tabulating the results of your input to develop a St. John's Parish Profile which will be used by the committee and your vestry in calling a new rector. From a timing standpoint your vestry feels the Search Committee is on target in the overall process. This time of being "on our own" and having Father Basil's help is a healthy exercise in finding out who we are and what our expectations are in a new rector. Thank you for your patience and valued input in the process. St. John's is moving forward in a positive way.

Continue your prayers for Fathers Basil, Ray, Eric, and Tony. Also continue your prayers for St. John's Search Committee, Vestry, Wardens, Administrative team and all volunteers. And finally pray that we remain focused on our mission of "celebrating and extending the love of Christ from within the Episcopal tradition."

John Ledbetter, Senior Warden





Holy Week and Easter Schedule

March 16 to March 23, 2008

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

8:30* and 10:30* am

Maundy Thursday

7:00 am • 12:10 • 7:00* pm

The Watch

8:00 pm Thursday to 7:00 am Friday

Good Friday

7:00 am

12:00 Ecumenical Service at First United Methodist

7:00* pm

Great Vigil of Easter

9:00 pm Saturday (with incense)

10:30 pm Easter Feast

Easter Day

8:30* and 10:30*

Egg Hunt Follows Both Services

Opportunities for Private Confession

Search Committee

The congregation is invited to participate in one of five scheduled cottage meetings (focus or small work groups) in February to identify the following:

1. Four of the most important goals for the parish and the four most important responsibilities of the position of rector.
2. The expectations of the new rector including relationship to goals, skills and personal attributes.
3. What the new rector can expect from the parish.

The meetings have been scheduled as follows:

Monday, February 4	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Sunday, February 10	2:00 to 4:00 pm
Wednesday, February 20	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Saturday, February 23	2:00 to 4:00 pm
Tuesday, February 26	7:00 to 9:00 pm

All meetings will be held in the Hospitality Room at St. John's and will begin promptly at the stated time.

All parishioners, age sixteen and over, are asked to participate in this last opportunity to advise the Search Committee of your goals for St. John's and for its next rector. A member of the committee will contact you on February 2 or 3 to ascertain which meeting you plan to attend.

As always we thank you for your prayers and wonderful responses.

Vanadeane Brooks



Notes From The Church Mouse

We grieve with the families of Bill Corell and Myrtice Mault. May they find peace in God's heavenly house.

Congratulations to our musical stars! Amanda Caritai made the All State Honor Band and celebrated with a performance on January 12.

Randy Knutson was the Imperial Commissioner in the opera Madame Butterfly. He had the honor of conducting the wedding of Madame Butterfly.

Congratulations to Lilian Adams on her baptism. Welcome to God's family.

Lenten Activities

The Lenten Soup and Supper program begins February 14 and runs through March 13; on Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

This year's Lenten book is *Pathways to God* by Robert F Morneau: 72pp, price \$10.00, books available at the church.

Our course this year runs for five successive Thursdays at 6.30 pm. The book we have chosen is subtitled – *Four Weeks on Faith, Hope and Charity*. The first of the five meetings will therefore be by way of introduction: it also happens to be Saint Valentine Day on February 14; so, if those more attached to romance are unable to make the first meeting, please do join in later. The course is open and all are welcome.

Baptism summons each Christian to a virtuous life. The author helps readers to answer that call more completely by reflecting on the three great theological virtues. His book is a month's worth of daily reflections on faith, hope and charity. Each week opens with a song or hymn, inviting readers to ponder upon and proclaim their faith. Each day concludes with a question and a prayer. He borrows thoughts from such diverse authors as George Herbert, Jessica Powers, Flannery O'Connor, Martin Marty, Saint Augustine, C.S. Lewis, Edgar Allan Poe and others.

Father Basil+

Compassion Ministry

"Lord, when I learn that someone is hurting, help me know what to do and to say; speak to my heart and give me compassion; let Your great love flow through me today." K. De Haan

The Compassion ministry continues to seek out ways to reach out to our parish, the community and further in our world. If you have thoughts on new ways that this ministry can help others, please let us know as we hope that this new year will have additional outreach to others.

Compassion had their first meeting in January to review the upcoming year. Details were solidified for the Cookies & Kisses sale on February 10. We still need more cookie bakers so if you would like to help with this important fundraiser, please contact Pat Fehling. All supplies will be provided to the bakers so you do not have to shop for anything! It will be a wonderful way to remember your loved ones with delicious home baked cookies.

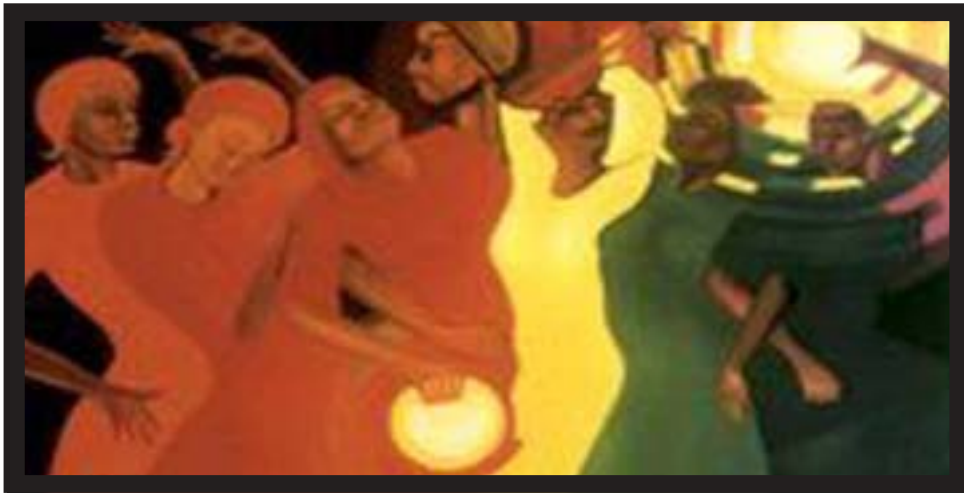
The cooking dates for the Salvation Army will be announced soon so please remember to volunteer for those in need during the year.

The next Compassion meeting will be on February 7, at 6:30 pm, in the church to finalize the list of people baking cookies and review other plans for the year. Please stop by and contribute to our St. John's plans for reaching out to others.

Patricia A. Fehling
Compassion Leader

THE ARTS AT ST. JOHN'S
presents

TALISMAN



A CAPPELLA

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2008 AT 3PM

TICKETS: \$20 SENIORS: \$15

Children free with accompanying adult

Tickets available from St. John's or The Music Box, Lodi

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 369-3381

1055 S. LOWER SACRAMENTO ROAD, LODI

Designers Guild

The Designers Guild is privileged to be supported in so many ways by the parishioners at St. John's. The pages of contributors for memorials in the last bulletin shows their support in a very tangible way. The appreciation of our efforts does not seem to diminish, either. Critiques of our work have been very helpful and done with love and charity.

Our own critique of Christmas decorations at our last meeting revealed more work to be done. Although we had many more twinkling light for our trees, we were concerned with the inadequacy of our lighting system at St. John's and used too few. We will use a few more lights next year, more evenly distributed on our chosen trees.

We hope next year to include tall women or men in our Guild. Even though we have a reservoir and a pumping system for our tall vases, our members average 5 feet 1 inch and our vases tower above us.

We are presently pursuing a purchase of a "point and shoot" camera to visually record our arrangements and hangings. We need such documentation to display for customers that wish our services in memorials or weddings. Although we have some documentations, we need to keep a constant record for ourselves, to improve our work and share with similar designer groups in other parishes.

A committee has been formed from our Guild to design and seek to hire professional help to replace our "bounce back" kneeling cushions on the altar. We are afraid our kneeling parishioners may be propelled into the choir, flower arrangement or be injured. Wouldn't Easter be the perfect time for the new pillow initiation? These new kneelers will not preclude those done in needlepoint. We hope to accomplish such kneelers in the next two years. For both projects, one of our fundraisers will be necessary.

Our last arrangement session gave a trial to specially designed carts that can easily carry greens and flowers in water to the point of arrangement. Such transportation will keep the flowers fresh until we make our designs. Both Julie and Persis were the experimental scientists and agreed the device would do the job. Two more of these carts are purchased and ready for use.

Although we give thanks to our contributors, we must also remember the office staff, and Edyth's staff, who make certain that funds given are properly recorded and given proper identification.

Norma



Adornments for February 2008

February 3

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

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.

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

Joan Krack in loving memory of her son, Charles Pichetto, for his birthday, February 2.

February 10

Tony and Betty Ferrara in loving memory of her parents, Thomas and Uralia Gaines, and his parents, Philomena and Anthony Ferrara.

Trude Graves in loving memory of her husband's mother, Janice, for her birthday, February 10, and in celebration of her daughter Janice's birthday, also on February 10.

February 17

Diana and David 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.



Heads Up!

St. John's Garage Sale is in the planning stages for April. Watch for more details!

Helping Hands

A great big thank you to Kathy Girard and Donna Hoffman for providing assistance in January.

Our Helping Hands for the month of February will be Barbara Jones and Charlotte Rossen.

If you know of a family or individual who is in need of a meal, please call either Barbara, Charlotte or myself.

Donna Lind
Coordinator

Adornment of the Liturgy

The incorrect file was used in January's newsletter for the January Adornments; please accept my apologies. Below are the correct January 2008 Adornments.

January 6

Mary Ellen Beckman in loving memory of her husband, Kenneth, for his birthday, January 9.

January 13

Roxy and Steve Woodard in loving memory of her mother, Barbara Voss, for her birthday, January 17.

Mrs. Jack Brooks in loving memory of her husband's great aunt, Nellie Chester, for her birthday, January 18.

January 20

Corky and Karen Kuykendall in loving memory of their daughter, Angela Dawn Kuykendall, and granddaughter, Amanda Dawn Klaff, for their mutual birthdays, January 18.

Nancy Hammond in loving memory of her husband, Jim, for his birthday, January 18.

Lucian and Cynthia Neely in loving memory of his mother, Lucy Neely, for her birthday, January 16.

January 27

John and Edyth Ledbetter in celebration of their 41st wedding anniversary, January 28.

Mrs. Jack Brooks in loving memory of Jack's father, Jack D. Brooks, for his birthday, January 23.



The same principle of "collected prayer" also applies when the time comes for the General Intercessions that precede the Offertory. The task of the leader is to announce the biddings so that the congregation responds by praying from the heart, usually in silence. Again, the pauses between each part are of the utmost importance. It is also important that each one present is disposed and ready to make that inner response. It is not the responsibility of the leader to do the praying on behalf of the congregation, neither should there be too much information in the biddings; the formulas in the Prayer Book are quite excellent and usually perfectly adequate. Remember God sees, hears and, above all, knows:

Trust God when dark doubts assail you;
Trust God when your faith is small;
Trust God, when to simply trust God
is the hardest thing of all.

Best wishes, Father Basil+

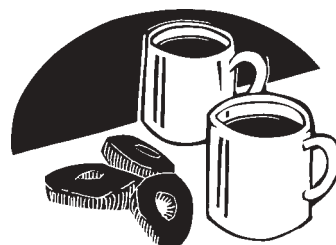


Coffee Hour

Our Coffee Hour schedule for January was great! I want to thank everyone who participated: Ann Marie Addler, our Altar Guild, Sperry Utz, Caroline and Tom Ramonda, our Vestry and Sara Heberle.

If you haven't signed up yet, please do so. If you would like to help, please call anyone in fellowship. We will be happy to assist you.

Happy New Year!
Kathy Girard





Message From The (Interim) Rector

Dear Friends,

Because Easter is early this year, so is Ash Wednesday and Lent. This is both a penitential season and, more important, an opportunity to draw closer to God. Because Lent originally meant Spring, perhaps we might restore its original meaning and purpose of growth and maturity in the faith?

We speak of God seeing, hearing, feeling, touching and knowing, as with senses familiar to us, and more besides. We ask God to watch over us, listen to our petitions or complaints, make himself tangible so that we might touch and feel his presence. We ask these things, not only for ourselves but also for those near and dear to us as well as for strangers, even those whom we may never actually meet. I want to ask the question: What do we understand when we hear the words, "Let us pray"? Is it simply a cue, so familiar, we miss it? Let's stop and think what it means.

The most important thing about the versicle "Let us pray" is the brief space of silence that follows the invitation. The significance of the pause becomes obvious when a further question is asked. Why is the main prayer of the day called a "Collect"? Well, it's called that because it "collects" together each and every thought, reflection, hope and request present in the hearts and minds collectively of all those present in the assembled congregation. The Collect might be said to unite us "heart and mind" as one voice before the Throne of Divine Grace. The word that we all say at the conclusion is "Amen;" which means "yes" or "so be it" and is the collective consent to the prayer itself.

The components of intercessory prayer are best remembered by the letters ACTS. They stand for Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving and Supplication. If you've not encountered that before you might like to make a note of it and remember it frequently as you formulate your own personal prayers. It may, for example, enable you to prayerfully prepare yourself before the service begins, perhaps read the collect in the Prayer Book, so that you are ready and waiting when the words "Let us pray" are heard. There is no better way of preparation than preparation; how many times does Scripture exhort us to be alert, stay awake, be ready? It really is an excellent recipe for being ready to respond in your heart when the time comes. And if the clergy do not pause after saying, "Let us pray," then I hope and trust you will complain and draw attention to the omission of that vitally important moment of silence and stillness, brief though it should be. Remember, it is then, in the stillness and in the silence, that God listens, hears and grants our request.



The Episcopal Church
of St. John the Baptist
1055 S. Lower Sacramento Rd.
Lodi, CA 95242

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lodi, CA
Permit No. 161

Address Service Requested



St. John's Newsletter

February 2008

The Rev. Raymond C. Knapp, *Rector Emeritus*
The Rev. Eric B. Yeoman, III, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Basil Matthews, *Interim Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Anthony J. Morello, *Associate Assisting Interim Priest*
Randy Knutson, *Lay Associate*
Robin Knutson, *Organist*
Michelle Hakala, *Editor*
Mandi Sager, *Nursery Care Provider*
Ramon and Camerina Barra, *Sextons*
Tel: (209) 369-3381 Fax: (209) 369-2381
Office hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
email: stjohnslodi@sbcglobal.net
www.stjohnsoflodi.org