

Fresh Start plays role in rebuilding of diocese

Fresh Start was officially kicked off on Friday, February 26, and Saturday, February 27, at the Fresh Start Clergy Conference in Hanford.

A national facilitator from the Diocese of East Tennessee, Lynn Schmissrauter, was invited to introduce Fresh Start to the active clergy in our diocese. Also attending was the Ven. Rick Cluett from CREDO Institute, Inc., headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, who is overseeing many wellness projects for our diocese. The Church Pension Group has approved a grant to CREDO to work with Cluett, deputy to the presiding bishop for



pastoral assistance to reorganizing dioceses, on several wellness projects for the four reorganizing dioceses (San Joaquin, Pittsburgh, Fort Worth and Quincy). Our local lay facilitators were also invited to participate in this kick-off event.

Our diocese continues to evolve, and each mission, parish and church within the diocese continues to evolve. The many stages of change that we have experienced may give us a better understanding of what we need and want in our parish, but how to achieve those goals may often feel unattainable. Each parish priest now has the outline and overview of how Fresh Start can be a valuable resource for him or her to draw upon and now has the opportunity to participate in Fresh Start by inviting facilitators—clergy, lay or both—who will guide the priest through particular modules that are applicable to his or her particular needs. This valuable resource can assist in goal achievement by offering guidance to clergy and lay leaders when calling upon new clergy leadership, formulating your specific values, or helping you to understand certain behaviors of a congregation while also honoring the ministry of all leaders, **To Page B**

IN MEMORIAM

The Rev. Marlin Leonard Bowman

THE REV. MARLIN Leonard Bowman, vicar of St. Clare of Assisi in Avery, died on Sunday, February 7, 2010, of complications following surgery.

Fr. Marlin had served in Avery since 2000, when he came here following his retirement. Under his leadership, St. Clare's developed a reputation as a place of "liturgical splendor" filled with old and new ceremonial and decorative items. Many traditions of historical significance were established during Fr. Marlin's time at St. Clare's.

Fr. Marlin was ordained deacon on June 29, 1958, and priest on February 21, 1959, both in the Diocese of California. He served at churches in New York state for many years and was a chaplain at John F. Kennedy Airport from 1968 to 1985.

A memorial service is planned for Thursday, April 8, at 11 A.M. at St. Clare's, with the Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb, bishop of San Joaquin, celebrating.

Fr. Marlin was born on May 30, 1930. He leaves a sister, a brother, and many nieces and nephews.

Remembrances may be sent to St. Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 278, Avery, CA 05224. □



The Rev. Marlin Bowman with a frontal from Peru, woven and sewn by Peruvian women. One of many unusual and beautiful items Fr. Marlin brought to St. Clare's, the frontal depicts the story of Jesus' life in 15 different pictures.

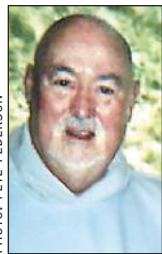


PHOTO: PETE PEDERSON

Celebrating Marlin

By the Rev. Vanessa Glass, honorary vicar, St. Clare's, Avery

THE REV. MARLIN Bowman peacefully died on the 5th Sunday of Epiphany. The liturgical date and the lectionary are important markers for me and are intertwined in my mind and

heart as I reflect on Marlin's priesthood and his devotion to the church. The lectionary for the 5th Sunday of Epiphany included the reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah when Isaiah receives his call in the temple in Jerusalem and has a wild vision of God's flowing robe filling the temple and the seraphs calling to one another, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." When Marlin celebrated the Eucharist he embodied his deep love of the liturgy. I imagine him now among this great choir of angels and archangels singing,

"Holy, holy, holy." May we also raise our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the life and ministry of God's faithful servant, Marlin. Go in peace, dear friend.

The Rev. Vanessa Glass is an associate pastor at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. □

Many thanks to Remain Episcopal...

...for its sponsorship of this issue of *Episcopal Life San Joaquin* and also for its help in financing the editor's attendance at the annual Episcopal Communicators' conference being held in Salem, Massachusetts, March 17-20, 2010.

Remain Episcopal was formed in 2003 by concerned people who did not want the Diocese of San Joaquin to separate from the Episcopal Church. Over the years, Remain Episcopal has provided many opportunities for like-minded members of the diocese to gather, to strengthen their relationships, and to be enriched by an "Ethos Education Series."

Remain Episcopal was instrumental in the reshaping of the diocese in early 2008 and many of its founders and early members have been active and involved in the larger church as well.

Another event hosted by Remain Episcopal is being planned for Saturday, May 1, in Ridgecrest. Details will be announced soon.

Remain Episcopal welcomes donations, which may be sent to treasurer Richard Jennings, 2067 W. Alluvial, Fresno, CA 93711.

Marshall Johnston currently serves as president of Remain Episcopal.

If you are interested in being a benefactor of this newspaper, please contact the diocesan office. Contact information is on Page B. □

In the presence of our Lord

THROUGHOUT THE LENTEN Season many parishes have the devotion of "Walking the Way of the Cross" with Jesus. In walking the Stations of the Cross, the faithful worshippers walk with Jesus, spiritually, contemplating the various events that happened as our Lord walked the road to Calvary for our salvation.

Another old tradition is to have a brief devotional service at the end of the Stations honoring the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ **To Page B**



The Rev. John Shumaker gives the blessing at the conclusion of Stations and Benediction during Lent 2009.



INSIDE

■ Susan Ohanneson, director of the diocesan altar guild, has called a meeting of the board for Saturday, March 13, at Holy Family, Fresno. **Page B**

Board of diocesan altar guild to meet March 13

SUSAN OHANNESON ANNOUNCES that the board of the diocesan altar guild will meet on Saturday, March 13, 2010, from 10 A.M. to noon at Holy Family Episcopal Church in Fresno.

Coffee will be served and following the meeting, participants will gather at a restaurant for lunch.

As director of the altar guild of the Diocese of San Joaquin, Susan attended the triennial meeting of the national altar guild in Anaheim last July, where this photo was taken.

Please RSVP to Susan at 66-391-8735 or sko355@aol.com. □



Susan Ohanneson

PHOTO: DORIS HALL

IN MEMORIAM



Hal Strickler

HALFORD ORVILLE STRICKLER, better known as Hal, was born April 7, 1921, in Illinois, and died January 29, 2010, in Fresno, California.

Hal served as diocesan treasurer

in the 1970s and 1980s, and also as the treasurer for the ECCO project. A lifelong Episcopalian, he was a member of St. Columba's Episcopal Church in Fresno.

He leaves two nieces and four nephews.

A memorial service was held at St. Columba's on February 5. The Rev. Fletcher Davis, a former rector of St. Columba's now retired in the Diocese of Olympia, officiated and preached. □

Fresh Start

FROM PAGE A

lay and ordained. Fresh Start has been developed to support clergy and congregations navigating through critical periods of transition.

Fresh Start will have a significant role in the wellness project titled Strength for the Journey. As your Strength for the Journey coordinator for the Diocese of San Joaquin, I look forward to each congregation taking this exciting next step in our process to rebuild a healthy diocese. —Lori Brown, Bakersfield

In the presence of our Lord

FROM PAGE A

in the Holy Eucharist. The Blessed Sacrament is taken from the tabernacle and placed in a monstrance for all to see, hymns are sung and prayers are prayed honoring our Lord; the service concludes with the blessing (benediction) of the congregation with the Blessed Sacrament.

Saint Matthew's Church in San Andreas offers "Stations & Benediction" as a Lenten devotional opportunity every Friday at 6 P.M. throughout Lent. □

Thank you

To all these people who sent an extra gift with their subscription to Episcopal Life San Joaquin

Anne Bennonghoven
Fr. Marlin L. Bowman
Faye Choate
Fr. Rev. Paul Colbert
Sharon L. Dahlin
Ruth and Richard Diekman
Charles P. Doud
Jan Dunlap and Cindy Smith
Nancy and Dennis Fitzgerald
Bob and Marj Geiszler

Don and Doris Hall
Fr. Mark and Susan Hall
Jeni-Ann Kren
Janice and William Latham
John and Edyth Ledbetter
Al and Dee Lingo
Joan Natoli
Dan Odenweller
Richard Olson
W. David Phillips

Robert A. Ramsay
Fr. John Shumaker
John & Beryl Simkins
K. B. Tweed
JE Van Matre
Fred and Donna Weals
Mary Webb
Juanita Weber

Subscription requests for *Episcopal Life San Joaquin* should be sent to the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin, 1528 Oakdale Rd., Modesto, CA 95355. A fee of \$25 is suggested. If you want to receive the paper, we want you on our mailing list. Let us know. The paper is published monthly and comes wrapped around *Episcopal News Monthly*.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Just a few weeks ago we gathered in our places of worship to commemorate Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. We were invited to keep a Holy Lent to prepare for the great celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter. We confessed our sins and committed ourselves to undertake forty days of special prayers, works of mercy, Bible reading or fasting. The goal behind all these good works is to assist us in putting aside our everyday lives and to put ourselves in a place where the renewing of God's Holy Spirit can make us new people, Easter people who know God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I urge you to use this time of Lent to review your life. Review the call to ministry that you received at Baptism. Put aside those things in your life that come between you



and God. Do not judge your Lenten discipline by giving something up. Judge your Lenten preparation by doing those things that will bring you closer to God through Jesus. This is the goal for any Lenten activity.

Will giving this thing up or taking on this action bring to us a deeper faith in Jesus? Will they open us more fully to the Holy Spirit? Will they make us more conscious of the presence of God in creation? Will they help us to see the face of Jesus in our brothers and sisters? Will we be more able to express our Christian faith in our community?

Lent is not an end in itself. It is a means by which we are to see and know the Resurrected Christ and to make Him known in the World.

In peace,

† Jerry Lamb
Bishop of San Joaquin

Bishop Lamb's 2010 Calendar

AS VISITATIONS ARE scheduled they will be added to the calendar, which is posted on the diocesan website, diosanjoaquin.org, and will be published regularly in *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*.

Bishop in Diocese March 27 to April 11

Saturday, March 27	Chrism Mass at Holy Family, Fresno
Sunday, March 28, Palm Sunday	St. Anne's, Stockton
Saturday, April 3, Easter Vigil	St. Paul's, Modesto, Regional Confirmations
Sunday, April 4, Easter Day	St. Matthew's, San Andreas
Thursday, April 8	Memorial service for the Rev. Marlin Bowman in Avery
Saturday, April 10	Joint Standing Committee/Diocesan Council
Sunday, April 11, Easter II	St. Raphael's, Oakhurst/Holy Trinity, Madera

Bishop in Diocese May 22 to June 6

Sunday May 23, Pentecost	St. John's, Lodi
Sunday, May 30	Christ the King, Riverbank
Saturday, June 5	Joint Standing Committee/Diocesan Council
Sunday, June 6, Trinity Sunday	St. Clare's, Avery

Bishop in Diocese August 14 to August 30

Sunday, August 15	St. Paul's, Modesto
Saturday, August 21	Joint Standing Committee/Diocesan Council
Sunday, August 22	St. Sherrian's, Kernville/All Souls, Ridgecrest
Sunday, August 29	St. Andrew's, Taft

During September Bishop Lamb will be at Fallen Leaf Lake

Sunday, October 3	St. John's, Tulare
-------------------	--------------------

Bishop in Diocese October 9 to October 31

Saturday, October 9	Joint Standing Committee/Diocesan Council
Sunday, October 10	Grace, Bakersfield
Sunday, October 17	St. Nicholas, Atwater/Merced
Friday-Saturday, October 22-23	Diocesan Convention
Sunday, October 24	Holy Family, Fresno
Sunday, October 31	The Church of the Saviour, Hanford

Bishop in Diocese December 4 to December 19

Sunday, December 5	
Saturday, December 11	Joint Standing Committee/Diocesan Council

Women's retreat being rescheduled

THE REV. KATHRYN Galicia of St. Francis', Turlock, announces that the retreat planned for late May for the women of San Joaquin, to be led by the Rev. Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, is being rescheduled for later in the year. Notification of the new dates will be made as soon as they have been decided.

In the meantime, you may enjoy Barbara's meditations on her website, www.geraniumfarm.org. □

EpiscopalLifeSANJOAQUIN

Episcopal Life San Joaquin is a publication of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin, 1528 Oakdale Rd., Modesto, CA 95355 Phone: 209-576-0104; Fax: 209-576-0114

Editor: Doris Hall, ddhhaall@aol.com;
dhall@diosanjoaquin.org
Art Director: Molly Ruttan-Moffat

Visit our website:
www.diosanjoaquin.org

Be a part of *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*! Please send your stories, photos, information, letters, or announcements by the 5th day of each month for inclusion in the following month's edition of *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*. Our mailing address is: Editor, *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*, 1528 Oakdale Rd., Modesto, CA 95355, or E-mail: dhall@diosanjoaquin.org

Why we love the Episcopal Church

The following is reprinted from a brochure titled "Historic and Relevant: Why We Love the Episcopal Church," written by the Rev. Rick Matters, S.T.M. The remainder of the text will be published in the April issue of Episcopal Life San Joaquin. Fr. Matters is rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Carmel, California. He is a former rector of St. John's, Lodi.

WE ARE THANKFUL to be Episcopalians because our Church addresses social and moral issues critical to the contemporary world, and we courageously confront and publicly debate these relevant issues.

Diversity and Inclusiveness

In the Episcopal Church we relish our diversity and treasure our inclusiveness, because it reflects a strong faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Bound to one another through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are noted for our mutual respect and tolerance. At the same time, we are solidly rooted in the teachings that define the Christian faith, such as the Holy Trinity and the full humanity and divinity of Jesus Christ. As the Church has throughout its history, we question, agree, and disagree on how we understand these teachings. However, we embrace the historic faith handed down to us, and while doing so we affirm ethical positions that evolve to meet the moral demands of a changing world.

Healthy Disagreement

Our courage to address relevant but contentious topics has resulted in healthy disagreement. Church history relates many significant disagreements among believers. As we review that history, we perceive that the Church has been most faithful when it has disagreed in a spirit of mutual respect. Such respectful disagreement relies on trust that the Holy Spirit will lead us to a deepening faithfulness. On the other hand, the Church has shown itself less faithful—and sometimes even bereft of the Gospel—when members condemn, persecute,

torture, or even kill one another. A sign of our faithfulness is not that we all agree but, rather, that we love each other.

Practicing our Faith

Debating and taking stands on social and moral issues in the spirit of love and respect is a way of practicing our faith. Shouldn't a dynamic and relevant Church expect to disagree as it is challenged by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed? We show courage and faith by addressing, rather than fearfully avoiding, social issues. We take our faith seriously by courageously providing moral leadership. In doing so, we open ourselves to the love of Christ in ways that are both challenging and rewarding.

Gospel Consistency & the Unfolding of the Christian Experience

Ours is a revealed faith in which there is a profound consistency about how we are to respond to the Gospel. This historically revealed faith continues to be handed down from generation to generation. Our faith centers on encountering the risen Lord through the Holy Spirit: Jesus is the epiphany—revelation—of God.

God Faithfully Meets Us in Changing Circumstances

By faith we relate to the person of Jesus Christ. At the same time, God faithfully meets us in the changing circumstances of the world. Biblical moral standards direct us as we respond with conviction and thanksgiving to God's living presence. The unfolding quality of the Christian experience is most evident in those significant points of our history in which disagreement abounded and the Church articulated deeper understandings, such as during the early Church councils and during the Reformation. Episcopalians seek to balance historic continuity and the unfolding implications of the Gospel. □

To be concluded next month

United Thank Offering celebrates 120 years

By Anne Benninghoven,
diocesan UTO coordinator

BEGINNING IN 1889, with an offering of \$2,188.64, the United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church helped to build a church in Anvik, Alaska. Since that time, UTO has channeled its mission "to enlarge the circle of thankful people" into grant awards that support the work of the church in all dioceses.

The National UTO Committee is made up of nine provincial representatives and three members at large. This committee yearly reviews approximately 200 work project applications, and for the year 2009 was able to fund 63 well-documented mission needs. Projects included are: educational seminars, partial funding of transportation vans and kitchen equipment in three American Indian Reservations; funding of kitchen renovations to support community food programs and outreach

ministries in the United States; partial funding of the construction of community centers, women's microcredit loan centers and water treatment centers in Central Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

More than two million dollars has been raised in each of the last three years through UTO Blue Box offerings. Daily prayers of thanksgiving strengthen our personal relationship with God. Our shared offerings of prayer and coins in the Blue Box give witness to our communal life in Christ and allow us to participate in the wider Christian community.

We look forward to the spring Ingathering of Blue Box monies at the end of May 2010. Please contact Anne Benninghoven, diocesan UTO coordinator, at 6552 N. Garden Ave., Fresno, CA 93710, phone 559-299-0774, or abenninghoven@att.net for further information or requests for UTO materials. □

SPOTLIGHT

Update on Sisters of St. Margaret in Haiti

The Rev. Connor Lynn of St. Anne's, Stockton, sent this information about the Sisters of St. Margaret in Haiti, from the website www.ssmbos.com.

SR. MARIE MARGARET, Sr. Marie Therese and the two pre-postulants remain camped out on the soccer field at College St. Pierre, along with Bishop Duracin, some members of the diocesan staff, and about three thousand other people. Sister Marjorie Raphael is in Cange [a small remote village in the Central Plateau of Haiti] where daily living is far less stressful. We have not been able to make contact with Sr. Marie Margaret for the past week. We have spoken to the Bishop who assures us that the Sisters are well.

A generous Associate has offered the Sisters a house for temporary refuge, but at present [late January] they have not moved from the field. We have been deeply touched by the outpouring of prayer and concern for the Sisters' welfare. Many have donated funds and many people have also written touching notes which we are saving for the Sisters

in Haiti once they are in a position to read them. A special account has been set up at the Boston Convent for the Sisters in Haiti. The funds received will be used to restore and re-establish the mission of the Society of St. Margaret in Haiti. Initially, some of these donations may provide respite care for the Sisters once they are able to move to more beneficial living quarters.

Among our contacts within the Episcopal Church we hear talk of rebuilding, but it is far too soon to be able to say in any detail what the plans might be. What we can say is that the ministry that has been is continuing and will continue. We pray for a stronger and renewed presence of the Society of St. Margaret in Haiti in the coming months and years.

You will find information about donating material goods to the people of Haiti on the Sisters of St. Margaret website.

Fr. Lynn, now retired, was rector of St. Anne's, Stockton, in the early 1980s. His last parish was St. Mary's in West Los Angeles. □

FEATURE

Kathleen West tells us about herself

By the Rev. Kathleen West

I AM A priest currently living in Modesto and serving as a volunteer associate priest at St. Paul's, Modesto. My husband is Ira West, who is a retired teacher.

We came to the Diocese of San Joaquin from Utah, where I had served as rector of St. Mary's, Provo, for three years.

I was born in Los Angeles in Good Samaritan Hospital, an Episcopal hospital, on Valentine's Day 1955. I love hearts.

I was raised in Glendale with one brother and one sister. Our devout family went to the Presbyterian Church—to Sunday School, church, and the evening service every Sunday. We read the Bible, my dad told us Bible stories, and we prayed together as a family.

I went to Westmont College, an evangelical Christian college in Santa Barbara, and majored in modern languages, Spanish and English. I had one semester in England during my senior year and visited Canterbury Cathedral and other cathedrals. I was bitten by the Anglican bug but did not quite realize it.

Later I got a teaching credential from Occidental College. Not too long after that I was teaching in a large inner-city high school in the Los Angeles Unified School District and I met Ira. We were both teaching English as a second language. He was and is Jewish,



The Rev. Kathleen West

non-practicing in terms of going to temple but practicing in terms of ethics and commitments. We got married in a park in Glendale on a gorgeous day in December 1979. The minister was a former theology professor from Westmont. My parents came although they could not understand why I had gone from wanting to be a Wycliffe Bible translator, a missionary linguist, to marrying a non-Christian. The short answer is that Ira and I share all of the same basic values. Surprise, surprise. Justice and mercy!

After I got married to Ira, I no longer fit into the evangelical world. It wasn't until 1982, when we were living in Salinas, that I found the Episcopal Church. I became a part of St. Paul's, Salinas. I loved it. It was my spiritual home. People there were serious about their spiritual journeys, but they were not rigid in their theology. We had fun. The rector would always grab Ira and kiss him, so there was

Lenten traditions in diocese

Every church has its own Lenten traditions, lovingly maintained over the years. In this diocese, one of very long standing is the fish fry in Hanford and a relatively new one is the corned beef and cabbage dinner on St. Patrick's Day in San Andreas.

Hanford church members ready to fry fish again

CHURCH OF THE Saviour in Hanford will host the 42nd Lenten Fish Fry on Friday, March 12, 2010, at the church parish hall. Dining hours are between 5 and 7 P.M. If you cannot stay to eat, do stop by and "take out" our wonderful menu of Lemon Battered Fish with spicy tartar sauce, creamy coleslaw, and fries. A soft drink is included with each meal purchase. Pricing is \$15.00 for adults, \$8.00 for children 5-12 and no charge for children 5 and younger.

Proceeds from the Fish Fry will benefit the parish Church Preservation Fund. Baked goods will be available and will benefit the Episcopal Relief and Development fund for Haiti.

Tickets are available for pre-sale and at the door. All of our diocesan neighbors are welcome to join us for good eats and fun fellowship! Please call the church office at 559-584-7706, or Mike Handy at 559-901-9096 for additional information. Church of the Saviour is at 519 N. Douty Street.

'Irish Cats' quilt will be raffled March 13

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH Women of St. Matthew's in San Andreas gathered for an old fashioned quilting bee to help Sarah Locke finish the "Irish Cats" quilt scheduled to be raffled off at the third annual St. Pat's at St. Matt's dinner.

The corned beef and cabbage dinner will be held on March 13 at 5:00 P.M. at St. Matthew's. All money from the dinner and the raffle will go to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Last year's dinner and raffle raised enough for the ECW to purchase a \$500 sponsorship. □



Lorraine Crooks, Shelley Lindgren, Pat Lix, and Sarah Locke quilting away for St. Pat's at St. Matt's.

participating in interfaith prayer services, being on an interfaith panel for a Mormon "fireside" service, interacting with BYU students in many situations, and serving as president of the Utah Valley Ministerial Association.

I am greatly enjoying being a part of St. Paul's, Modesto, and being here in the continuing (resurrecting) Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin with Bishop Jerry Lamb. I am waiting for clear discernment of the next step in my journey of ministry, hoping for a position with pay. This might be here in San Joaquin, or a door might open in another diocese. Meanwhile, my husband and I are very happy in Modesto, and Julia, who is 20 now, is an artist, an ace on the computer, can sing, is a very good writer, and likes to listen to music. □

Kathleen West

FROM PAGE C

no question whether Ira was accepted or not. I loved the liturgy, weekly communion, and the seasons of the Church Year.

We adopted a baby girl, Julia, in 1989. Having her made me want to go back to Glendale, where I was from, and raise Julia among our extended family. We moved back in 1991. I got involved at All Saints, Pasadena. Being in that larger-than-life atmosphere got me back in touch with my old yearning to go to seminary or become a missionary, what we in the Episcopal Church call a vocation. I became an aspirant in 1993 and a postulant in 1996. I went to Claremont School of Theology and completed a master of divinity degree. I loved seminary.

I was ordained a deacon at All Saints, Pasadena in June of 1999, and a priest in January 2000 by the Rt. Rev. Frederick Borsch, also at All Saints.

My first job was assistant rector at Trinity, Hollywood. I was there for two years. After that I had a series of other part-time jobs assisting in various parishes in the Diocese of Los Angeles. I am fluent in Spanish. At Trinity, we had Spanish services every Sunday at noon, attended by approximately 80 mostly Salvadoran people. I worked for a while as the Spanish-speaking priest at St. Paul's, Pomona, leading the noon service in Spanish there every Sunday.

Ministry in Utah was very challenging. Provo is 90 percent Mormon. Some of the most rewarding parts of that experience involved working with people coming into the Episcopal Church from the Mormon Church. I also did a lot of diplomatic-type ministry, such as

NEWS BRIEFS

■ Support for people of Haiti

The children of the church school at St. Anne's provided hotdogs, hamburgers, and baked goods (for a small fee) at the Fifth Sunday coffee hour, January 31. They also sold handmade Valentine's Day cards. They have designated the money they raised for the Haiti Fund. Generous amounts of money have come from almost all the churches in the diocese to be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development for the victims of the January earthquake in Haiti.

■ Outreach helps many

The Advent outreach drive at Grace Bakersfield netted \$1,500 which has been distributed to Food for the Poor, United Thank Offering, and the Heifer Project.

■ Reminder about honored women's luncheon

Women being honored by their church are being presented at a special luncheon on Saturday, March 6, at Holy Family Church in Fresno.

■ City council hopeful

Clint Olivier, a member of Holy Family, Fresno, has left his job as a reporter for a local television channel to become a candidate for a seat on the Fresno City Council. Clint is married to Alisha and has a son, Conrad, who played a shepherd in Holy Family's Christmas pageant.



Clint Olivier

■ Retired El Camino Real priest in Avery

We welcome the Rev. Jeff Craemer, retired priest from the Diocese of El Camino Real, who is keeping things going at St. Clare of Assisi in Avery since Fr. Marlin's death.

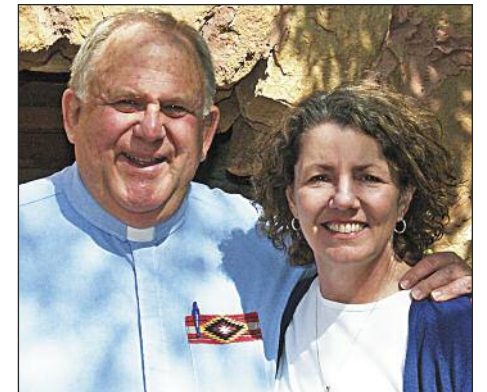
■ At Avery church

The Rev. Jeff Craemer, retired priest from the Diocese of El Camino Real, is conducting Sunday services at St. Clare of Assisi in Avery since Fr. Marlin's death. □

Grace Bakersfield and the Episcopal Church in Navajoland continue mutual ministry

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH in Bakersfield was delighted to welcome the Rev. Dick Snyder, administrator of Navajoland, and his wife, Debbie, on January 3, 2010. The Snyders' visit continued the relationship of mutual ministry between Grace and Navajoland. Fr. Snyder preached and later held a question and answer session. A special collection was taken, and Grace will be sending a donation of \$200 to Navajoland.

After Bishop Lamb's call to service and the resolution of support for Navajoland which was passed at the 2008 diocesan convention, parishioners from Grace extended a hand. Four parishioners—Frank Virga, Michael Treut-Virga, Sara Chan, and Jerry Pettiford, along with the Rev. Paul Colbert, vicar of Holy Trinity Mission in Madera—visited Navajoland to assess



The Rev. Dick Snyder and his wife, Debbie.

how Grace and the diocese could best help and learn from Native American Episcopalians in Navajoland.

The parishioners of Grace have developed a symbiotic relationship with Navajoland and look forward to a continuing relationship with its parishioners. □



PHOTO: DORIS HALL

The youth choir of Holy Family, Fresno, gave its premier performance at the January 31 ten o'clock service. Left to right in front are Gabby Guaglione, Sara Brown, Emma Boone, and Caroline Hirling; in back, Rozzie Hirling, Hannah Huyck, Erin Brown, and Elisabeth Hirling. The choir is under the direction of Clifford Badgley, Holy Family's choir master.