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## Rector, Staff, and Officers Reports

### Rector's Annual Report

Submitted by: Fr. Raymond Hess III

This year has been focused on discernment about the future of St. Mary's and my ministry as Rector. We started the year knowing that we could not sustain our finances without some changes. In the first half of the year, we explored all the options we could imagine, including having me retire with the Pension Fund and remain at St. Mary's part-time (as we did in 2010) and finding another organization to rent our facilities during the week. The Pension Fund turned down our request to have me retire in place, and we could not find any major renters for our space. By mid-year, it was clear that our options were dwindling. After discussion with the bishop and his assistant Canon Britt, I decided to retire from full-time ministry at the end of the year. Beginning in July, our parish has been preparing for this.

In the late spring and summer, we had a series of all-parish meetings on Sundays to discuss our future plans. We formed several task groups to make plans for increasing our income, reducing our expenses, doing better promotion to the larger community about our parish, and developing our outreach programs. In the early summer, we invited all parishioners to take the CatScan, an excellent parish survey. Based on feedback from the survey, we started a worship and music focus group to explore how to improve our worship, especially for the 10 a.m. Sunday service. Over the fall season, we have incorporated some positive changes to that service. Our music director Steve Corey left St. Mary's in mid-year to take another position, and we have done a good job with recorded music while we look for a new accompanist. We have put into place an excellent Worship Team with Lynn Holman, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, and Julie Vice. They will work with the new Priest in Charge and with the music accompanist in the new year. I am very thankful that we have such capable lay leadership for our worship and music ministries.

A major new worship ministry over the past year has been the development of the CommUnity service on Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. Julie Vice started this new ministry in the fall of 2011, with the goal of reaching out to people who are new to the Episcopal Church or who enjoy less formal contemporary worship. The CommUnity ministry received a grant from the Congregational Vitalization Committee of the diocese during the year, and has used this money to purchase equipment so that the ministry can go "on the road" to other locations. CommUnity led worship for the Bishop's Conference and for two other churches during the year. Those who attend CommUnity have also led in outreach through the Trunk or Treat event, coat drive, and Christmas giving.

With the good work of the task groups and excellent oversight by our treasurer Susi Jacobo-Vice, our church finances stabilized over the second half of the year. After using a lot of reserves to help pay our bills in the first part of the year, we have not used any reserves over the last part of 2012 (through November). With the reduced staff expenses for 2013 due to having a half-time Priest in Charge, we should be able to have a balanced budget next year and start to put money back into reserves. We have been greatly helped this year by strong fund raising through two flea markets, the fireworks booth, and running the parking at the Western Festival. I appreciate the hard and faithful work in our fundraising over the past few years by Rod Pugh (fireworks) and Eva Moredock (flea market).

We again had some wonderful community events this year. We had another fun Kids Kamp in July with the theme this year of *Finding the Son*, based on the movie *Finding Nemo*. About half of the participants in Kids Kamp were from the larger community. Our fund raisers (fireworks booth and flea markets) brought many people to our church facility. We had the Fiesta again in August with the children's group

doing Mexican folk dancing. In October, we had the animal blessing and the Trunk or Treat events which again drew many people from the community to our parish site.

Through the year, we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As part of this celebration, we did the helpful planning work with our CatScan, had the various task groups described above, and prayers each Sunday for our parish. This celebration culminated with the visit in August by our bishop to celebrate St. Mary's Day. We had several other wonderful parish gatherings through the year – the Annual Meeting Dinner, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, the Seder Dinner on Palm Sunday evening, and the Oktoberfest Dinner in late September.

We had a new adult formation program this year, Financial Peace University, with a class in the first part of the year and another one this fall. This Christian financial management program has helped many individuals and will have a positive impact on our parish giving as more people practice sound personal financial principles. We also had another excellent course on interfaith understanding with Father Tom Bonacci, as well as two special music programs by Phil Ryder and his daughter. We continued our regular Sunday Adult Forum classes each week, with a variety of Bible study and other topics.

Our children's and youth ministries were led very ably again this year by Barbara Nill. I thank Barbara and all our adult helpers for Sunday School and youth ministry. Our group of children and youth is small, but we have excellent programs for them. As I mentioned above, we had a wonderful Kids Kamp again this summer.

Our buildings and grounds have been cared for under the leadership of my wife Deborah, with many work days and continued weeding and pruning to maintain our grounds. Our sextons Randy Lee and David Langston have been a huge help in taking care of our physical space.

In conclusion, I want to thank the leadership staff and volunteers with whom I work all the time: our parish secretary Lori Hill, our child care provider Maria Yearwood, assistant clergy Roy Coloma and Ray Potter, and wardens Mary Ann Renzi and Scott Siers. You have done a wonderful job for our parish!

It feels strange to write my last annual report for St. Mary's as your Rector. I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to serve you for five and a half years. Our motto is *Opening Hearts and Minds to All*, and my heart has been touched by your love and care. I wish all of you God's love, peace, and blessings in the years to come!

In Jesus' love,  
Father Ray



## **Senior Warden's Annual Report**

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

Saint Mary's began 2012 filled with joy and excitement as we began a yearlong celebration of our twenty-fifth anniversary serving the Elk Grove and South Sacramento communities. Our Vestry also began the year with that same joy and excitement as we immediately realized that the 2012 Vestry was a very unique group that was devoted and committed to Saint Mary's and was very willing to serve our church whenever and where needed. No one could have realized, when we began the year filled with hope, expectations and joy, that we would end the year with changes that none of us would have ever wanted or ever anticipated. As the year began unfolding, your Vestry realized that we needed to

address our finances. We held Parish meetings, we made adjustments to our expenses, we considered financial options, we talked to the Diocese and financial advisers. The only viable option was for our beloved Priest, Father Raymond Hess, to retire.

We are still a wonderful Parish. We still have a fantastic Vestry that is dedicated and committed to Saint Mary's. We still have a tremendous congregation who is determined to work to make Saint Mary's the very best Parish in the diocese. As we began the year of 2012, we could not have imagined just how the year would end.

We are a Parish that celebrates together. We celebrated the ministry of Father Raymond Hess. We will celebrate the arrival of our Priest-in-Charge. We will celebrate the blessings of our Lord.

As we enter into 2013 we are confident that with the help and guidance of our Lord, that we will be led to new and marvelous ministries within our Church and our community.



## **Junior Warden's Annual Report**

Submitted by: Scott Siers

Dear St. Mary's,

As I reflect on my first year on the vestry and as your junior warden, it has been quite year of change. This year has been nothing like I expected. There are several key themes for the year but it has been amazing watching God working in our midst. It has been a year of change and while change can be scary at times, it can also help us to experience new things, to grow and to help us explore our own gifts.

The first theme of the year has getting more involved. Being on the Vestry also brings with it a responsibility to get more involved. Not only are there vestry meetings and other leadership meetings, but also a need to interact with more people in the congregation. But as I explored new things, I found I wanted to be involved in even more things and spend more time with my church family. Of all the new things I have tried this year, my favorite one has to be CommUnity. Each vestry tries to attend all of the services to get installed and make sure people know who you are. I couldn't make the CommUnity service on the designated week and absent-mindedly missed a promised make-up. But I finally made it to CommUnity not knowing what to expect. As a member of the 7:30 service where music is not a part of the service, I don't know most of the songs in the Hymnal. But to my delight, there is a lot of contemporary music I listen to on the radio with a very casual attitude of making a joyful noise. Now, my entire family frequently attends. Destiny even recites the readings and added a new flavor to the "God is Good" dismissal. Another thing new was Youth Group. We built the planter box for the Youth Group Garden and grew tomatoes, zucchini and peppers although the eggplant and the watermelon didn't do very well. I took my daughter and her friend from school to the Sacramento Zoo as well as helped serve pancakes with the Kids at Shrove Tuesday and dinner to the Financial Peace University class. For those parishioners who are thinking about getting more involved, I say "JUMP IN!"

The second theme of the year has been increased communication. When I was on the vestry last time, we had vestry reports giving a feel for some of the issues the vestry was working on. I missed them when not on the vestry. It is not meant as a substitute for attending, but will give people who are unable to go to the meetings regular updates from the leadership. Your vestry has restarted these

reports and when Father Ray started thinking about the idea of retirement, we held several meetings with the entire congregation to keep everyone informed on what was going on and give people a voice to tell us how they are feeling and ask questions. We didn't have all of the answers, but I think getting in front of people helped us talk about the issues and ease some of the fear of change. I remember preparing my first presentation and having no clue how everyone reacted. After initially absorbing the news, I saw the congregation come together to address the challenge. We responded to the challenge of a supplementary pledge drive in an amazing way. And while Father Ray did ultimately decide to retire, I am proud of the way we banded together to truly "Move Forward."

As I look towards the next year, we still have challenges as a congregation. We have to decide on our next leader (Priest-in-charge), we have to figure out our land and building plans for the future, we have to rebuild our finances and find people to replace all of the things that Father Ray and Deb did. But I look forward to tackling these and other challenges with my family. I also look forward to what God has in store for our parish. I look forward to spending more time with my church family, growing deeper in the love of Christ. Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving you. God IS Good, All the Time. And All the Time, God is Good (and Awesome!)

Yours in Christ,  
Scott Siers, Junior Warden



## **Annual Report of the Vestry for 2012**

Submitted by: Debbie Langston, Clerk of the Vestry

The Vestry serves as representatives of the Parish in matters concerning church property and relations of the Parish to its clergy. I have experienced first-hand the deep commitment, dedication, devotion, and determination this Vestry has shown during this most difficult year. Vestry members work tirelessly, using much of their personal time off, to ensure St. Mary's members are kept abreast of all aspects of each of the issues facing the church. Concurrently, the Vestry has been working very hard to facilitate a successful movement forward to recruit a Priest-in-Charge that will meet the needs of St. Mary's and who will walk forward with us in our new journey.

A valuable lesson the Vestry received in Father Ray's teaching related to "Holy Currencies", a Cycle of Blessing as relates to creating sustainable missional ministries. The elements include: the Currency of Time and Place; the Currency of Gracious Leadership; the Currency of Relationship; Currency of Wellness; Currency of Truth; and Currency of money. Each element relates to the other, and if any of these are not functioning, the church cannot be a sustainable missional ministry. The Vestry is acutely aware of these elements as applies to St. Mary's and is working to ensure all components, with special emphasis on nurturing relationships, meld together for the benefit of the Parish.

Positive changes are in progress as the church prepares for Father Ray's departure and will be referenced in other reports.

Please be assured that this Vestry and its incoming members for 2013 have the best interests of you and the church in their guidance and decision-making as we move forward.

I would personally like to acknowledge the leadership of your Vestry Wardens, Mary Ann Renzi and Scott Siers. They have done a magnificent job in their tasks of addressing the most difficult challenges of the Church. No two people could have done it so well. I am in awe of their abilities and thankless persistence to keeping the church and its members moving forward in a positive manner.

Respectfully,

Debbie Langston  
Clerk of the Vestry



**Notes from the Treasurer**  
Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

We started 2012 knowing we would need to tap into our Reserve Funds. Our 2012 Budget had Expenses higher than our estimated Income. To meet those expenses we noted that \$24,000 in Reserve Funds would need to be used to cover Expenses.

At the end of 2012 we had only used \$14,900 of the estimated \$24,000. However we also managed to put \$6,800 INTO reserves, leaving a net decrease in Reserves of only \$8,100. As we head into 2013 we start the year with \$26,100 in the Reserve Fund.

Based on our 2013 Budget, we should be able to add an additional \$24,100 into the Reserve Fund. Bringing our total Reserve Fund to approximately \$50,200 by the end of 2013; this will be a healthy amount to have on hand to cover any unexpected expenses.

As was reported at our Parish Meetings, the Diocese recommends we have approximately 1/3 of our Annual Budget in Reserve Funds.

**Treasurer Annual Report**  
Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

	2012 Budget	2012 Actual	
<b>Budgeted Income:</b>			
Pledges	\$ 130,000	\$ 134,964	
Givers of Record / Plate	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,068	
Fundraising/Scrip	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,394	
Rental Income	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,850	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 152,700</b>	<b>\$ 160,275</b>	
<b>Budgeted Expenses:</b>			
Adult Formation	\$ 250	\$ 133	
Advertising	\$ 300	\$ 156	
Apportionment	\$ 28,500	\$ 29,253	
Building & Grounds	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,568	
Child & Youth Formation	\$ 100	\$ 111	
Convention	\$ 180	\$ 180	
Equipment Lease	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,734	
Growth & Opportunity	\$ 100	\$ 59	
Hospitality Expense	\$ 400	\$ 281	
Insurance & Taxes	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,094	
Music/Video Resources	\$ 750	\$ 623	
Office Expense	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,624	
Payroll Expense	\$ 120,922	\$ 114,628	
Rector Funds	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,869	
Supply Clergy	\$ 1,350	\$ 743	
Supply Music Director	\$ 1,200	\$ 400	
Telephone & DSL	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,049	
Utilities	\$ 5,300	\$ 5,123	
Worship	\$ 1,000	\$ 858	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 177,852</b>	<b>\$ 171,484</b>	
<b>Net Deficit/Excess</b>	<b>\$ (25,152)</b>	<b>\$ (11,209)</b>	
Non Budget Income	\$ -	\$ 20,222	(+)
Designated Funds Used		\$ 14,050	(+)
Reserve Funds Used	\$ 24,000	\$ 8,100	(+)
Non Budget Expenses	\$ -	\$ 18,196	(-)
Moved to Sabbatical Fund	\$ 500	\$ 500	(-)
Moved to Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ 11,259	(-)
Moved to Building Funds	\$ -	\$ 1,195	(-)
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>\$ (1,652)</b>	<b>\$ 13</b>	

		<b>2013 Budget</b>		
<b>Income</b>	Pledges	\$	119,000	
	Plate/Giver of Record	\$	10,000	
	Scrip/Fundraising	\$	11,000	
	Rental Income	\$	2,700	
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>142,700</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>	<i>(Non-Payroll)</i>			
	Adult Formation	\$	250	
	Advertising	\$	300	
	Apportionment	\$	15,600	
	Building & Grounds	\$	1,400	
	Child & Youth Formation	\$	100	
	CommUnity	\$	2,000	
	Convention	\$	250	
	Equipment Lease	\$	1,700	
	Growth & Opportunity	\$	200	
	Hospitality	\$	400	
	Insurance & Taxes	\$	5,200	
	Music/Video Resources	\$	750	
	Office Expenses	\$	4,000	
	Outreach	\$	500	
	Rector Funds	\$	3,300	
	Scholarship	\$	500	
	Supply Clergy	\$	5,500	
	Telephone & DSL	\$	2,100	
	Utilities	\$	5,300	
	Worship/Altar Supplies	\$	1,000	
	<b>Total Non-Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>50,350</b>	
		<i>(Payroll)</i>		
		Payroll – Accompanist	\$	8,000
		Payroll – Nursery Staff	\$	3,000
	Payroll – Office Staff	\$	9,600	
	Payroll – Rector	\$	32,000	
	Payroll – Rector Insurance	\$	7,200	
	Payroll – Rector Pension	\$	5,760	
	Payroll Processing Fees	\$	600	
	Payroll Taxes	\$	1,590	
	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$	500	
	<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>68,250</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	Total Expenses	\$	118,600	
	Net Income/(Loss)	\$	24,100	
	Move to Savings	\$	24,100	

## Savings & Investments Summary

	12/31/2011	12/31/2012
<b>Building Funds</b>		
Smith Barney	\$ 55,795	\$ 55,800
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 4,744	\$ 3,074
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 10,062	\$ 10,077
Patelco CU Checking	\$ 1	\$ 2
	\$ 70,602	\$ 68,953
<b>Designated Funds/Memorial Money</b>		
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 51,082	\$ 39,797
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 10,700	\$ 11,595
Discretionary Fund	\$ 1,618	\$ 1,036
Patelco Credit Union Checking	\$ 96	\$ 109
	\$ 63,497	\$ 52,537
<b>Total Checking, Savings, CDs</b>	<b>\$ 134,099</b>	<b>\$ 121,490</b>



## Pledge Report for 2013 and 2012

### 2013

\$120,000	Budgeted Pledge Income
\$120,756	Actual Pledge Amount
47	Number of Pledges
\$ 2,569	Average Pledge Amount

### 2012

\$130,000	Budgeted Pledge Income
\$118,910	Actual Pledge Amount
47	Number of Pledges
\$ 2,530	Average Pledge Amount

## Average Sunday Attendance

2012	81.2
2011	86.8
2010	88.8
2009	86.8
2008	111.6
2007	112.5
2006	98.7
2005	108.1
2004	118.7
2003	141.3
2002	139.9
2001	131.3
2000	139.0
1999	137.0
1998	135.0



## SAINT MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES January 29, 2012

Opening prayer led by Fr. Ray at 5:38 pm

### **Election:**

Voting Instructions given by Fr. Ray. The three candidates were introduced.

**Nominations for Vestry** - Julie Vice, Paula Sink, and Scott Siers. There being no nominations from the floor, it was moved by Lynn Holman seconded by Mark Voskuil that nominations for vestry be closed. Motion carried.

**Nominations for Delegate to the Convention** –Julie Vice, Deb Hess, Dorothy Stoppelmann, and Ben Timmons. Nominations from the floor – none. There being no further nominations, Scott Anderson moved that nominations be closed, Doreen Dutton seconded. Motion carried. Poles were declared open at 5:45pm and ballots were distributed.

### **Dinner:**

Blessing of food by Fr. Ray. Delicious spaghetti dinner served by Fellowship Committee. The new St. Mary's Annual Meeting Band also entertained us during the feast.

### **Business Meeting:**

Election declared closed after one hour.

Motion to accept the minutes from last year was made by Scott Anderson and seconded by Scott Siers. Motion carried.

**Treasurer - Susi Jacobo-Vice:** Fr. Ray introduced our treasurer and praised her efforts on our behalf.

**Highlights** – We did not bring in as much as we hoped. We had to dip into the reserve to meet expenses. We were also able to move money back into reserves. Because of this we actually used only a little of

the reserve funds. We had a net decrease of \$13,000 for the year. Our budget for next year is also under funded. It will take all of our reserve to meet the budget. We are hoping for increased income during the year.

**Finance Committee:** Fr. Ray gave a special recognition and thanks to Paul Merrill for his years as serving as the chair of the finance committee as he has submitted his resignation. Fr. Ray also presented the ramifications for next year if we cannot meet our budget. He also encouraged all to consider attending the program we are offering “Financial Peace University” in the fall.

**Junior Warden’s Report – Barbara Nill:** Barbara has served three years as junior warden. She presented her experiences and enjoyment of being a part of the vestry. Being open to God’s work inside you leads to a wonderful life experience. She encouraged everyone to attend classes and workshops offered by the Diocese. She also encouraged everyone to search inside themselves and volunteer to serve on ministries that they feel called to. Involvement makes you part of the family. She also presented thank you notes to those who worked so hard on rebuilding the classrooms. Thank you to John Stoppelmann, David Langston, Randy Lee, and John Hill for their wonderful efforts.

**Senior Warden’s Report – Eva Moredock:** Happy Birthday St. Marys!! Eva thanked everyone who helped her during her year as Senior Warden. She presented a special thank you gift to Barbara Nill for her wonder collaboration throughout the year. The children were called forwarded and given a gift for their work providing the entertainment for us tonight.

**Thanksgivings – Father Ray:** Thank you Mary Ann Renzi and all those who worked on the dinner for this annual meeting. Thank you and recognition to Fr. Roy and Fr. Ray for their assistance throughout the year. Gifts were presented to the outgoing vestry – Barbara Nill, Ben Timmons and Rod Pugh (who had to step down due to work conflicts.) Recognition and gifts were also presented to Eva Moredock and Barbara Nill for serving as Senior and Junior wardens. Thank you to Susi Jacobo Vice and Debbie Langston for serving as officers of the church. They will continue in these positions for the next year. Thank you to Steve Corey, our new music minister, for music. A very special thank you to Lori Hill who is our parish secretary and also has wonderful skills with graphics and videos. Maria Yearwood has served in our nursery for around 21 years. Her dedication is so appreciated. Thank you to the Audio Visual team: Rod Pugh, John Stoppelmann, Ben Timmons, Susi Jacobo Vice, and Josh Scott. Thank you to Deborah Hess for serving as head of buildings and grounds. Julie Vice for her vision and drive in creating and celebrating at our new Saturday evening service called CommUnity. We have received a grant from the Diocese to aid in this ministry. Special thanks were given to all ministry chairs: Barbara Nill as head of youth ministries; Mary Ann Renzi as head of fellowship; Paul Merrill as head of finance committee; Lois Anderson as head of newcomer ministries; John Stoppelmann as head of renovations and new building committee; Lynn Holman head of worship ministries; Rod Pugh as head of fireworks sales; Eva Moredock as head of our new Flea Market; Rav Williams as head of the bicycle group; Pat Young as head of our prayer chain; Paula Sink as head of our senior group; and Lois Anderson as coordinator of our fellowship dinner groups.

**Rectors Award:** Special recognition for serving above and beyond. Our two sextons, Randy Lee and David Langston were awarded the special medallion this year. They have given so much of their time and talent to keep us in repair this year.

**Looking ahead to 2012:** This is our 25<sup>th</sup> year and we will be doing special things all year long to celebrate this year. We have a new logo for the year that Roberta Merrill originally designed and Lori Hill modified for this special year. We will be creating a new photo directory in March. We will be doing a survey of the entire parish in March to help us develop who we are and what we are to develop plans for the coming years. Sunday August 26 will be when we celebrate the actual birthday of our church. Bishop Beisner will be with us to celebrate and help us celebrate.

**Announcement of Election Results and New Senior Warden:** Scott Siers, Julie Vice and Paula Sink were elected to vestry. Delegates to convention are: Julie Vice and Dorothy Stoppelmann. Alternates to convention are: Deborah Hess and Ben Timmons. The Senior Warden for next year is Mary Ann Renzi.

We closed with St. Mary's band and singers leading us in a great rendition of "Happy Birthday".

Closing prayer and closed at 7:45 pm with a brief vestry meeting of new vestry following.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lois B. Anderson, on behalf of Debbie Langston, Clerk of the Vestry



### **Music Ministries Annual Report**

Submitted by: Kathy Lawler

The Music Ministry has had a year of transitions. Participation in the choir dwindled over the early part of the year. Our music director, Steve Corey, moved on from St. Mary's to new opportunities over the summer. Music was also one of the topics considered by the Music and Worship Focus group. Fr. Ray and the Worship team found itself with no music leadership and good feedback from the parish about music at about the same time! Paula Sink, Lois Anderson, Lynn Holman, Julie Vice, Kathy Lawler and Karen Lawler all participated in music planning and presentation for the 10:00 service to help bridge the gap. This included our joyful celebration of the 25th Anniversary of St. Mary's in August.

As part of the development of the current Worship team, Kathy Lawler offered to be the volunteer Coordinator of Music. She began that role in November. As such, she is leading the choir, selecting music and participating as a part of the Worship team that supports worship at St. Mary's. The choir has re-formed and is having regular practices. We are in the process of finding an accompanist to support the music ministries at St. Mary's. This support will include both CommUnity and the 10:00 Sunday morning service. It's a time of moving forward for the Music Ministry. Everyone is invited to join us on the journey. We'd love to have new folks with us as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

## Ministries and Organizations Reports

### Buildings and Grounds Annual Report

Submitted by: Deborah Hess

These are some of the activities/projects that were completed. Many of these activities have been completed by our sextons Randy Lee and David Langston.

- Weekly putting the garbage cans out and returning them to the church
- Watering of the garden on the west side of the entrance
- Basic repairs to the buildings, replacing window and door glass, fixing doors, replacement of lights, etc.
- Tree removal
- Special requests like assembling the Christmas tree, and getting and returning items to the storage area
- Weeding and up keep of the entrance gardens, raking, weed eating the "hill" and ditch areas, tree trimming and debris pick up monthly as possible

In addition, each week volunteers clean and stock the restrooms and the inside of the church building. Other volunteers buy and stock paper and fellowship supplies. And still others mow the huge lawn areas of the property.

I thank the many volunteers who have come and help on the Saturday work days and/or during the twice yearly all parish work days. We were usually a small, but mighty group.

Even though I am no longer present with you, please know that my prayers will continue. My hope is that someone will feel the call to head up this committee and anyone who loves to work either outside in the gardens or the buildings will join the committee or just spend time weeding for me!!!

In His Service and love,

Deborah Hess



### Renovation of Building Annual Report.

Submitted by: John Stoppelmann

After completing the major renovations of the portables in 2011, the renovation of the church continued. Only 2 items got completed on the church renovation, the doors have been built for the cabinets in the front, but still need to be lacquered. I thank Dave Langston for building these doors. The 2<sup>nd</sup> project was the enhancement of the front of the church by constructing a cross. The cross was installed on Easter vigil. The cross is made from Walnut, maple and Cherry. The cross is mounted on a piece of alder plywood.

## CommUnity Saturday Service

Submitted by: Julie Vice

It's hard to believe that CommUnity has been up and going for nearly 15 months. We have been very busy and feel that we are living into our vision. Thanks to the \$5000 Grant from the Congregation Vitalization Committee of the diocese, we were able to purchase the necessary equipment, including screen, sound board, speakers, and laptop to be able to create a worship experience anywhere we have one power source. Now, with all the equipment and the experience using it, we are ready to take CommUnity into the community and have been starting to do this!

### **So, what have we accomplished so far?**

CommUnity started one year ago, on the weekend honoring the ten year memorial of the horrific events of 9/11. We started with an average of 5 to 6 people attending each Saturday evening and have doubled that number with an average attendance of 10 to 13. We also have two families that do not attend any other services, but have begun to attend CommUnity regularly. Because of the design of the service, and the no pressure style, attendance is mix and match with only "regular" attendees. This means that the increase is larger than the numbers show.

CommUnity has also been involved in promoting a new style of service at many levels and locations. CommUnity was blessed to be invited to lead morning worship at the Bishop's Conference. This was so much fun and the excitement of the youth watching us set up made it natural that we involved them in that worship time. This energy carried over when Trinity-Sutter Creek's Youth Group took one of the songs we used and made their own video to it. We received a copy of their video and used it in our service!!

CommUnity has repeatedly expressed a desire to worship with others in other places and to assist other congregations in starting something similar if they are interested. This is why CommUnity was happy to lead a workshop at the Lay Ministries Workshops held for the Deanery. We had a small group but a group very interested in learning how to engage worship in a new and dynamic way.

CommUnity has also visited two fellow parishes, St. Francis in Fair Oaks and St. Matthew's in Sacramento. These were two very different communities. When we worshipped with St. Francis it was on a Sunday morning and we had 56 parishioners attend. At St. Matthew's, we had a Sunday afternoon service in their parish hall with 17 people attending. Both groups of people seemed to really enjoy our worship and St. Matthew's would even like to have us return.

CommUnity has also made it a point to be a visible presence of St. Mary's. CommUnity has taken the service music and videos outside on the front lawn during the past two Flea Markets that we have held. This has been a great way to promote what we are doing and talk to people who may have questions. During the first Flea Market, we had a gentlemen from a Christian band in Redding come and we invited him to get his guitar and we played a few songs live. What a great experience for everyone there.

CommUnity has also been very active on Facebook. We believe that there are people who may never step foot inside a church but still need the love and healing of our amazing Lord and Savior, Jesus. We currently have 72 likes and have an average of 100-120 people talking about us weekly and reach between 700-1200 people a week. We did actually reach over 4000 people one week!! On Facebook, we post many of the videos used during the services, we also post the weekly challenges and some of the MAD (Make A Difference) Moments. It would be possible to get most of the pieces on the page. We will be looking in the near future to determine if it is possible to Skype or YouTube our services, allowing for more people to have access to God's Amazing Love in the Sacramento area or across the country.

Last but certainly not of least importance, Community has been active with in-gatherings and outreach. CommUnity has sponsored a coat drive for two years. Last year, we collected 100 coats, mittens, socks, and hats. This year, we collected an amazing 128 coats. We also had five people take the coats out into the community and pass them out. We were able to personally hand out 65 coats and then we took the additional 63 coats to St. Matthew's to have them pass them out from their clothes closet.

CommUnity sponsored a collection of food for the River City Food Bank. We collected enough food to actually win the contest for tickets to the Pumpkin patch. St. Mary's is such an awesome congregation and they have participated in all our activities with great joy and abundance whenever we provide the opportunity.

CommUnity sponsored an Adopt-A-Family this year and we were able to collect all the families "needs" and also their "wants". This was put together by one of the members of CommUnity and gathered within a week's notice. CommUnity also assisted in transporting another family's gifts home.

CommUnity also sponsored the First Annual Trunk-Or-Treat. This was an ALL FREE event for the greater community and it was amazing. We had 84 children and their families that attended from as far away as West Sacramento and Natomas. We are planning to do this again next year.

### **So, what do we have planned for the future?**

CommUnity will continue to look for avenues to spread God's Love by building bridges between those who believe and those who want to believe. CommUnity will look for creative ways to get outside the walls of our church and do services in another location, believing that this will reach people who may not be willing or able to walk in the doors.

CommUnity looks forward to being invited to lead other workshops and worship and will support other congregations if they desire to start something similar.

CommUnity will continue to actively participate in outreach for our community and find ways to promote ourselves as a place where all are welcome and where we will reach out to help if possible.

CommUnity will look into ways to live stream, YouTube, or Skype as a way to expand those who can receive the message and promote God's Kingdom, while continuing to use Facebook and other social media as much as possible.

CommUnity will continue to listen to God's call and move in the way what we are called.

God is Good!



### **Fireworks Sales Annual Report**

Thanks to all those who participated with the many tasks that needed to be done.

In 2012, St. Mary's earned \$5,585.63 on \$16,538.24 of sales, a 33.7% profit. In 2011, St. Mary's earned \$5,521.81 on \$17,012.81 of sales, a 32.5% profit.

## St. Mary's Flea Market Annual Report

Submitted by: Eva Moredock



The above words do not even begin to express how I feel about the Flea Market team and the endless volunteers that worked all of the Flea Market Events. If it were not for all of your endless time and dedication, the 2012 Flea Market would not have been such a success.

As the year before, the event was colorful with many tents, the smell of hot dogs and kettle corn in the air, and deals of a lifetime being made with the vendors. We were also blessed in October to have Strikes be part of this event. It was a thrill to see the joy on the faces of the community as they played virtual bowling.

CommUnity joined us again and their continued music and words of inspiration was the icing on the cake. CommUnity again held the service outside after the Flea Market Event. I was please to see people that had attended the event and met with CommUnity come back for the service that evening. GOD is truly good, all of the time!

2013 is here and I know whoever takes on this event will be blessed, as I have been, to see it come together.



### Tuesday Evening Prayer Service

Submitted by: Kathy Lawler

The Office—prayer of the people throughout the day—is an ancient and important part of the worship of the church. Much of the Book of Common Prayer is devoted to the various services that make up the daily Office. The focus in the BCP is on Morning and Evening prayer, with additional services included for Noonday, and Compline (night prayer).

For the past several years including 2012, St. Mary's has celebrated communal Evening Prayer twice a month. You will find the community gathered in prayer the first and third Tuesday evenings each month. The first Tuesday service is led by Lynn Holman and the one on the third Tuesday is led by Kathy Lawler. These prayer services are thematic and include the use of the seasons and holy days of the church year. Each prayer service is developed by Lynn and Kathy and no two months are the same. Lynn's prayer services use contemporary prayers, collects, canticles, poetry, creeds, readings, and reflections. Kathy's prayer services are more meditative and close adaptations of the order of Evening Prayer Rite II. Her services include the use of Taize and other forms of music.

Evening Prayer at St. Mary's has also been used as the setting for other communal services over the past year. During Lent, Lynn led an evening service for the Stations of the Cross. The Lenten Reconciliation service was led by Kathy within the context of Evening Prayer. During one of the Evening Prayer services in November we celebrated our remembrance of those who have died.

Lynn and Kathy invite you to come and experience evening prayer as you have never experienced it before. Come and be part of prayer that is ever ancient and ever new. Come and see!



## **Worship Ministries Annual Report**

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

### ***WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM***

During the last three months of the year St Mary's developed a new Worship Ministry Team that works closely with the Priest in development of the 10:00 a.m. worship service and special services for the various holy days and seasons of the church year. The team includes Kathy Lawler who is the Music Coordinator, Karen Lawler who is the Liturgy Coordinator, Julie Vice who is the Coordinator and Leader of the Saturday night CommUnity Service, and Lynn Holman who is the Worship Coordinator. These four volunteers and the Priest also work closely with Lori Hill the parish secretary. Another important member of the worship committee is Lois Anderson who provides her knowledge and her willingness to spend time researching anything the worship team is interested in learning more about.

### ***LAY PREACHERS AND LAY WORSHIP LEADERS***

This past year Kathy Lawler, Julie Vice, and Lynn Holman were in training with Father Ray Hess to become Lay Preachers and Lay Worship Leaders. At the end of the training they submitted letters to Father Ray and the Vestry requesting their support and approval to become licensed Lay Preachers and Lay Worship Leaders for St Mary's. The Vestry approved their request. The next step was for each to submit a letter to Barry Beisner, Bishop of the Northern California Diocese along with two sample homilies. All three were approved by the Bishop and are now licensed to be Lay Preachers and Lay Worship Leaders at St Mary's. Kathy, Julie, and Lynn now rotate on a three month cycle and each month the congregation hears one of them give the homily at the 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. service. On Saturday nights at the CommUnity Service each week Julie gives the homily; Lynn and Kathy occasionally will provide the homily at the Saturday night service. As Lay Worship Leader Julie leads the Saturday night CommUnity Service; Julie develops a theme for each service and then provides the prayers, readings, videos, and music to go with them. As Lay Worship Leaders Lynn and Kathy lead evening prayer services on the first and third Tuesday of the month. These prayer services are thematic and include the use of the seasons and holy days of the church year. Each prayer service is developed from scratch by Lynn and Kathy and no two months are the same.

### ***EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS***

We currently have 12 trained to administer the Consecrated Elements (wine and bread) at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist. Many of our Eucharistic Ministers attend our adult forum classes, quiet days and retreats to continue to broaden and deepen their spiritual growth. Our Eucharistic Ministers are also responsible for the duties of First Server. A special thank you to our current Eucharistic Ministers for their dedication in service to others, and for faithfully administering the Eucharist, they are at our 7:30 a.m. service Norm DeYoung, Butch Mosley, Scott Siers, Mary Ann Renzi, and Mark Voskuil. At our 10:00 a.m. they are Julie Vice, Ben Timmons, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, Lynn Holman, Mark Nill, and Paula Sink.

### ***EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS***

Our homebound parishioners, those in the hospital and in short/long term facilities are remembered in our prayers every Sunday. In addition to our prayers, and at their request, they are also visited by our Eucharistic Visitors. After the Sunday service the Eucharistic Visitor carries Communion to them, but more important, they carry our good wishes and remind those who cannot join us on Sunday's that they are not forgotten. This visitation ministry is at the heart of St. Mary's outreach efforts, a special thank you to Ben Timmons and Julie Vice. In December we added two new Eucharistic Visitors available to take communion and visit the homebound or those in other care facilities they are Paula Sink and Mary Ann Renzi.

### ***LECTORS/ INTERCESSORS***

Lectors assist in the worship services by reading the First and Second Lessons and lead the congregation in the Psalm appointed for the service. Intercessors assist in worship services by reading the Prayers of the People appointed for the service. A special thank you to our lectors and intercessors from the 7:30 a.m. service Diana Siers, Scott Siers, Butch Mosley, Mary Ann Renzi, Norm DeYoung, Debbie Langston, Michael Siers, Carl King, Judy Cullum, and Michael Taporco. At the 10:00 a.m. service they are Julie Vice, Harriett McKinnis, Mark Nill, Paula Sink, Lois Anderson, Lynn Holman, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, Ruth Carnie, Carol McElheney, Brenda Pfau, Rod Pugh, Mary Liz Pugh, Heidi Radisay, David Gleason, and Ben Timmons. At our Saturday night CommUnity Service we have many volunteers that step forward each week to read, they include Dorothy Stoppelmann, Lynn Holman, Paula Sink, David Gleason, Scott Siers, Diana Siers, and Destiny Siers.

### ***GREETERS/USHERS***

Thanks to the greeters/ushers everyone who comes through the doors on Sunday morning is met with a smile and a bulletin. They are the first "face" St Mary's guest's sees and they are our hand of welcome. They answer questions and act as a guide to Sunday School, Nursery, and Fellowship. They collect the offerings of the people and present them at the altar. At Communion time, we rely on them to direct us to the altar to receive the bread and wine from our Priests and Eucharistic Ministers. We often forget that they also take responsibility for putting the pews back in good order after the service, ready for the next service. A special thank you to our greeters/ushers at the 7:30 a.m. service Mary Ann Renzi, Richard and Shirley Lange, Carl and Cely King, Mark Voskuil, Lincoln Tremble, Randy Lee, and Destiny Siers. At our 10:00 a.m. service they are Jean Beach, Pat Young, Pat Picton, Carol McElheney, Espie Gonzalez, Rod and Mary Liz Pugh, Ruth Carnie, Mark Nill, Paula Sink, David and Astra Gleason.

### ***ALTAR VOLUNTEERS***

St Mary's Altar Volunteers are made up of committed, dependable, and cooperative parish members working together to prepare the altar, holy vessels, and liturgical vestments for worship. These volunteers work behind the scenes preparing the altar and church for the regular services, the holy days, and the great festivals of the church such as Christmas and Easter. A special thank you to the volunteers who set and clear the table each Sunday for our two services, they are for our 7:30 a.m. service Mark Voskuil, Scott Siers, Butch Mosley, Norm DeYoung, Bruce Jackson, Lita Abucay, Michael Siers, Destiny Siers, and Mary Ann Renzi. For our 10:00 a.m. service they are Paula Sink, Eva Moredock, Pat Young, Carol McElheney, Espie Gonzalez, David and Astra Gleason. Thank you also to our dedicated bread bakers Irene Roltsch and Harriett McKinnis, to Susi Jacobo-Vice who purchases our wine for us, and to Lois Anderson for her wonderful sewing abilities in mending and making new linens as needed. This year St Mary's was blessed to have Lois Anderson make two sets of banners (white and blue) that adorn each side of our new wood cross behind the altar. Lois spent many hours hand sewing sequins on the blue set of banners that will be used each Advent season. The new wood cross was a wonderful surprise and gift from John Stoppelmann. John spent numerous hours handcrafting this cross and presented it to the congregation at the Easter Vigil. Also, we wish to give a very big thank you to Mary Liz Pugh who launders all the linens for both services each week.

## **AUDIO-VISUAL**

At the Sunday 10:00 a.m. service, the 6:00 p.m. Saturday night service, and special holiday services we provide power point presentations. We wish to thank our soundboard technicians that keep our power point system synchronized to our worship services, they are Ben Timmons, Susi Jacobo-Vice, John Stoppelmann, Kathy Lawler, Rod Pugh and David Gleason. Also we thank Lori Hill our parish secretary Julie Vice, Susi-Jacobo-Vice, and John Stoppelmann who puts the power point presentations together with wonderful visuals and graphics for the Saturday and Sunday services.



## **Newcomer Ministry Annual Report**

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

The Newcomer Incorporation committee held three "Welcome Meetings" this year. The first followed our old format of dessert one week and class the next. Many people have found this difficult to schedule so we changed the format to include both the dessert welcome and a brief class into one evening. They were held on weekday evenings. Desserts and beverages were served and an opportunity for general conversation was offered. All who attended appeared to have a good time. Several families are now active members of the congregation. After someone has attended the classes, they are invited to be presented and introduced to the congregation. It is their choice and something the congregation enjoys.

It is wonderful for me to look back over the list of invitees and see that a number of people are now very active members of our church family - on Vestry, teaching, attending Bible study, and helping with fellowship events to name just a few. It is a joyous thing to watch a family grow!

Currently this committee consists of Lois Anderson and Pat Picton who has offered to do the phone calling. If anyone else is interested in the committee, please contact me. Help baking and welcoming is always encouraged and appreciated.



## **Fellowship Ministry Annual Report**

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

The Fellowship Committee has been very busy this year planning and coordinating fellowship events for the twenty-fifth anniversary of our Parish as well as tying events to a culture in keeping with our goal of celebrating diversity. We began our year with our Annual Meeting dinner. We celebrated Italian heritage with an Italian style dinner beginning with both red and white pasta and ending with beautiful, decadent and delicious cupcakes as Saint Mary's began the yearlong celebration of our twenty-fifth birthday. Our youth organized and cooked our annual and fun filled Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Oh, was everything delicious! We then enjoyed a great Lenten series included delicious soup luncheons or dinners. We finished the Lenten season with our annual Seder Dinner on Palm Sunday as we relived the events of the Old Testament and enjoy a kosher dinner with Jewish music played by the fabulous Detour band. What a fantastic time we all had as we celebrated Saint Mary's Day with a lively Mexican Fiesta on our front lawn. From the Sangria to the fish tacos and tamales to the lively band and the fantastic folkloric dance group.....what a great Saint Mary's celebration! We then moved to Germany to celebrate Oktoberfest. What a wonderful time everyone had eating sausage and dancing polkas to the tunes of the German band.

And Blessed are those on our Sunday morning Fellowship team. What a wonderfully dedicated group you are! We have sixteen people who unselfishly bring "goodies" and make coffee so we can all enjoy chatting with each other after worship.

Fellowship is an immensely important ministry in our Parish. It allows each of us to meet and greet each other in casual settings at parish events or after church on Sunday mornings. We then began to know each other better, care about each other, have compassion for each other, become committed to each other and are able to celebrate with each other.

And, what a wonderful Parish we become.....



### **Tuesday Evening Bible Study**

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

Tuesday evening bible study is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and is held in the home of Eva Moredock. We wish to give a heartfelt thank you to Eva for hosting this bible study. This past year saw us finish the Book of Acts and start the Gospel of John. This is an in-depth bible study where we delve into the customs of the people and the locales of the story. We discuss who was/were the individual(s) Jesus was speaking to and why. What was their background, and how do they fit into the story. We go line by line, verse by verse, and often reading the same passage in several different translations. Then we have lively discussions on what the scripture means to us. Please contact either Eva Moredock or Lynn Holman (facilitator) if you have questions or would like to join us in 2013. All are welcome; we would love to see you.



### **SMART Seniors Annual Report**

Submitted by: Paula Sink

The Senior Group made it through 2012. Where did the time go?

Well, in the winter months we had Hot Chocolate sales after each service. In March our winter trip was to Old Folsom. We met at the big candy store, Snook. Too bad we were too early to shop there as they didn't open till 11am. We leisurely walked the newly renovated street. They took out the middle of the street where there were beautiful trees for shade. Luckily we went there in winter and it was cool for us. We ate at a German restaurant. I guess we were early for that place too, as it seemed the service got better as time went on. We had plans to go with the senior group from St. Joseph's Church to go to the Women's History Museum for the "Women and Spirit" show. It was "Catholic Sisters in America". The St. Joe's group was unable to attend as a group but a few did join us. On April 5th we stuffed eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday. So many of our eggs had broken or were not returned to us from last Easter, some others provided more stuffed eggs for the hunt. In the summer, we went to a winery in Lodi. Wine tasting, lunch, and a tour made for a nice outing. It was a short drive to a nice winery. We had a lovely lunch while being serenaded by an old pipe organ! The owner of the winery bought the pipe organ from an old theater at it was being torn down. It had been used in the silent movies so it had many extra "bells and whistles".

We donated money for several children in "Child Spree". A couple of our members went and helped the children get the things they needed. October brought our annual Apple Hill trip. That day was cold and yucky. In December the seniors were very busy. First we put up the "giving tree" for the first Sunday of Advent. The congregation decorated it with 160 items. Everything from bowls and Sippy cups to handmade blankets! We had a stroller and portacrib donated by the seniors. The Pregnancy Alternative Center will greatly enjoy the items. We also held a "cookies by the pound" sale on December 16th. Our seniors and others just baked up a lot of different and delicious cookies and bars. At our last meeting of the year, we had a farewell lunch for Fr. Ray and Deb. We will miss them.

2013 looks to bring more outings, more fundraisers and many hours of fellowship. Since Easter is so early this year we need to get our plans together. We will, of course, have the Easter egg hunt and we have plans for an outing in late January.

All seniors are welcome. You don't even need to attend St. Mary's. You need only worship our Lord, believe in God and live by the Bible. We don't check if you are really over 55. If you are a young senior you are welcome to our lunch. We meet the first and third Thursdays at noon. Please join us!



### **Fellowship Dinner Groups Annual Report**

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

In 2012, we continued our Fellowship Dinner Groups. These are groups of 6-9 people who meet once monthly in one another's homes for dinner and fellowship with each contributing a part of the meal. Each group decides the day, time and date for the dinners. We plan to do two series each year, a spring and a fall series. The spring one had two groups. These were a little larger than normal and took longer to schedule their dinners. With everything going on at the church, we did not have any Fall groups. These groups are a fun way to get to know other members of the congregation. We plan to continue these in 2012 and the sig-up list is already out. It is a wonderful way to grow closer to other members of your St. Mary's family.



### **Children and Youth Formation Ministries Annual Report**

Submitted by: Barbara Nill

#### **Sunday School**

We are half way through our 2012/2013 Sunday school term and are continuing in our Weaving God's Promises curriculum Year 2. We sadly said good-bye to our friend and co-teacher Deborah Hess who has moved on with her husband, our rector, Fr. Ray Hess. We will miss her and we thank her for her dedication to our St. Mary's kids and her knowledge and experience as a teacher and faithful Christian. We continue in our exploration of our place in God's family, and continue to enjoy bringing the stories of God, Jesus' ministry, and our collective ministries, to the children in word, art, worship, and service. We have had a small but mighty number of students this past year and continue to recognize the challenge

families face in juggling the multiple activities, classes, and outings their children are involved in. We hope our Sunday school is a positive experience for their children and allows them to discover the Family of God at their own pace, in their own way. We thank the children and their families for the privilege of teaching them and hope they continue to teach us as well. Thanks to our wonderful teachers, Maria Yearwood, Brenda Pfau, Marian Metz, Deborah Hess, and myself, Barbara Nill for the commitment and energy you all bring to our St. Mary's children. We invite all children ages 3-12 to participate in our Sunday school program every Sunday morning from 9-9:45 in the education classrooms.

### **Youth Group**

Our youth group consists of Michael and Destiny Siers, and Jake, Luke, and Brock Pfau along with leadership and assistance from Scott and Diana Siers, and Brenda Pfau and myself, Barbara Nill. The youth group has participated in outings to the zoo for St. Francis' Day, has coordinated an outreach of hygiene products for newly housed homeless individuals along with Mary Liz Pugh, and helped with the Christmas pageant and other worship activities in the church at their respective services as LEM's, acolytes, and classroom assistants. Our youth are always looking for opportunities to serve. They made a garden for their Lenten project last year and provided fresh tomatoes and veggies to the congregation. They love to cook and will be providing food for the annual meeting and the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper just as they did last year. We ask the congregation to remember them in their prayers. The preteens and teen years are challenging for all and some extra prayer and support of our own St. Mary's youth is always welcomed and appreciated. We hope to continue to grow in number, ministry, and service for the coming year. Thank you to the children and their parents for their participation in our St. Mary's youth group.



## **Kids Kamp Annual Report**

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

Kids Kamp was held the third week in July, Monday through Friday mornings and welcomed 20 attendees and six youth helpers. This year we did not have a set fee, however we did ask for donations to help offset the expenses. With careful planning and limited spending, we pulled this off within our budget and have funds for next year.

The themes this year were based on The Disney movie "Finding Nemo". We have a different Bible based theme each day with a bible reading, story and three crafts that illustrate that theme. We also include games, snack (also theme based) and music. The final culmination is a special Sunday worship service where the campers are invited and included in the service. Our underwater theme, with large fish on the walls and jellyfish hanging from the rafters, was a wonderful ending to a very full week. We could not have done it without all the help of so many from the congregation: Elizabeth Stoppelmann, John Stoppelmann, Dorothy Stoppelmann, Betty Williams, Deb Hess, Paula Sink, Heide Radisay, Irene Roltsch, Jessica Bean, Wayne Crowder, Michael Siers, David Greene, Kate Stidham, Marian Metz, John Hill, Cathy Anderson, Lori Hill, and some parent volunteers. We were also very fortunate to have William Hedge run our music program, and, of course, Fr. Ray leading us all each day and working so hard to make each child's experience rewarding and fun. As you can see this programs involves a large part of the congregation and takes months of preparation but watching the kids getting involved and experiencing Jesus in their lives makes it all worthwhile. It is truly amazing to hear a table of boys discussing what we could be doing next year! This July will be "Toy Story" - Our Toy Story: called to play and share God's Love and learn about loving God and loving one another.