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Rector, Staff, and Officers Reports

Rector's Annual Report

Submitted by: Fr. David Howell

State of the Congregation

It all began with a joyful call to St. Mary's Episcopal Church. June was a time to get to know the church and its people with lovely receptions that were held at different homes.

August brought the celebration of a new ministry, a lot work, but a wonderful outpouring of effort and love from the people at St. Mary's. Canon Anthony Guillen hopes to be with us again. The bishop seemed very pleased with the evening.

St. Mary's is a hard working congregation. It has many wonderful activities like its Seder supper, Flea markets, Fireworks booth, Trunk-or-Treat, Oktoberfest, and other gatherings. Also, there are its Holy Spirit potlucks (i.e., whatever food is collected is what the Lord intended☺). Additionally, there are St. Mary's outreaches to the homeless, children in need, pregnant mothers and more.

At St. Mary's, we are richly blessed by the ongoing ministries and witness of our fantastic associates: Fr. Coloma, Fr. Howdy and Fr. Potter. Through them and Rev. Anne Slakey (I am working on her status), the worship at St. Mary's continues with the best interest of the congregation in mind.

Our office staff is very dedicated. Lori has been above excellent in helping with my transition to St. Mary's. Randy dedicates his time, talent and treasure to help our church and its ground to look its best. It is a blessing to be surrounded with such faithfulness.

Sadly, in 2013, St. Mary's had its share of funerals (a moment of silence). It has been a special blessing to see the baptisms come our way starting with All Saints Sunday. Moreover, we do have people interested in confirmation for this coming Spring. In 2014, may ministry grow and abound within these walls.

CommUnity is one of the reasons I was so thrilled to interview with St. Mary's... a contemporary service with great possibilities and aspirations. Thank you, Julie! Please join us for the monthly Communion service with... yes, it has a Holy Spirit potluck following.

Along with CommUnity, there are Evening Prayer services, Bible Studies, Adult Forum and Senior Lunches. Furthermore, let's not forget our Music Ministry and Worship teams, Kids Kamp, Sunday School and our Nursery ministries. Additionally, Youth Group is active again along with a resurrection of St. Mary's Committee on Ministry plus we have our new Prayer Shawl ministry. There is much happening here at St. Mary's.

For me in 2013, there was one area of timidity: Stewardship. Now, who would not want to give to such a great church! So, hopefully, in 2014, we can overcome any fears there.

Other hopes: I would like to see altar guild return. Also, since we have a multicultural community, I would like to see our diversity reinforced and promoted.

Senior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

This year's Vestry was presented with momentous challenges. Our, Rector, Father Raymond Hess, retired in December of 2012. The terms of three vestry member's expired in January of 2013. In February, Canon Britt met with our Vestry as we began the process of calling a Priest in Charge. Our Associate Priests, Vestry and leadership came together with one mind; that of making Saint Mary's the best that it could be during the interim period.

Any interim period in the life of a congregation presents major challenges, ours was no exception. At our Vestry Retreat we concentrated on ways to address our financial shortfalls, our commitment to stewardship, and procedures to address the pastoral needs of our Parish family. We wanted new members to feel welcome, offer pathways to meet others, and become involved in our parish life. We also, developed committees who were very careful to address who we are and what strengths would be valuable in our new Priest.

Shortly after we called Father David, the Vestry again, came together to further discuss and plan parish programs. We evaluated our current programs, our Sunday and weekday services, our stewardship and financial health. We feel we have taken many forward steps, and are planning to continue on this path.

I am here to tell you that by the grace of God, and by your prayers, and by your service, Saint Mary's has called Father David Howell to be our Priest in Charge and is again on the path leading to a healthy, alive and vibrant Parish.



Junior Warden's Annual Report

Submitted by: Scott Siers

I once again thank St. Mary's for entrusting in me the opportunity to serve as your Junior Warden. As we start 2014, I started to reflect on the difference from 1 year ago. A year ago, we were celebrating Father Ray's retirement but working hard on the process to call a priest in charge. There was an anxiety in the air, the leadership of the church was being stretched to the max to fill in for Father Ray's departure, and the finances were not looking good. What a difference a year makes! With a focus on "moving forward" or "adelante!", we have found a wonderful new Priest-in-charge, Father David Howell, and he has infused a new energy into the congregation. By moving to a ½ time Priest and watching our spending, we ended the year being able to sock away money into our reserve fund and we are growing again!

Before getting into the details of the year, I want to thank our outgoing Vestry members. Mary Ann has been a steadfast and faithful Senior Warden and we worked really well together. Mark has also been a faithful member and his opinions and understanding of the history of St Mary's were very helpful, particularly in dealing with the land issues. And finally I wanted to thank Lynn, who stepped in at the beginning of the year to fill a 1 year term. She opened her home for our 2nd Vestry retreat. The Vestry worked very well together to do the business of the church. I wanted to give a special thank you to Susi, our treasurer and Lois our Clerk. Susi has an amazing attention to detail, gives remarkably concise and

yet detailed financial reports and makes understanding the complicated church finances much easier. Lois is efficient and keeps our meeting on task with clear actions of what we need to do. She is also able to get out the minutes in only a couple of days so your vestry can give summary reports of the meeting at the following services. Thanks to the rest of your Vestry, to Julie, Paula, David and Dalise for their participation, unique insight and willingness to listen to all views before deciding issues. Thank you to the entire vestry and officers for the openness, honesty, laughter, sharing and prayerful work of the church! Vestry meetings aren't always the most exciting meetings but you made the 3 hours fun and effective.

The first order of business for the year was calling a priest in charge. At the end of the year, we had put together a parish profile. This year, we got candidates from the Diocesan Office of the Bishop. We learned about them, interviewed them and worked with the Bishop to call Father David. He started on Father's Day and has been our leader for the 2nd half of the year. He has learned the ropes of the way we do things while providing a fresh perspective. He has infused a new energy into the congregation that I love to see. We are restarting the youth group under the leadership of Father David and Jake Konkel. We had a bowling event in November and plan a Laser Tag event in January. Baptisms, Confirmations and other signs of activity are happening. We were blessed to have Father Howdy Hartzog become a new associate at St Mary's and Reverend Anne Slakey, a consistent supply priest to become part of the St. Mary's family. Father David also has brought communion to CommUnity! New people are coming and liking what they see at St. Mary's, a welcoming place to all.

Another big order of business was dealing with our East Property. There is a long history of our east and west properties. In 2007, the diocese sold the west property with the proceeds planned to be put towards St. Mary's building plans. We also took on a loan for \$238,000 on the East property with plans to build on the center and east parcel. Right afterwards we lost about 1/3 of our congregation making building impossible. Since then, the Diocese wanted to use the west proceeds for other building projects and the east loan has been deferred 2 times since our finances could not support it. We worked with the Diocese to secure a new loan on the East property. They cut the principle in half (The \$238,000 assessment was inflated due to the housing bubble), will give us a 0% interest and cut the term to 15 years. Our first payment towards this loan will happen in January 2014. We are still working on the West property proceeds.

The next order of business was the finances. Last year, we had communicated that after several years of deficit budget, the reserves had reached a critical level and we were worried the reserves would run out by the end of the 2012. We finished 2012 with around 26k or about 2 months of reserve. A healthy number is 6+ months. By cutting expenses related to the priest (due to half time and working only half the year), we were able to pass a balanced budget, without gimmicks, for the first time since losing all of the people. Even with the additional loan payment this year, 2014 will be our second balanced budget in a row!! And we were able to add over \$50,000 to the reserve fund getting us back to the healthy 6 month mark. This has allowed us to deal with several maintenance issues like fixing the cracked sidewalk to prevent more people from tripping, removing dead trees that could fall on the church, fixing the broken water pump and HVAC and getting the Noah Room door fixed making the church more secure. All these things were possible because we got on a solid financial footing this year!

Another exciting event this year that started was opening the church facility to the community! Earlier in the year, Mama Bootcamp, a group of women looking to get fit and healthy, were holding there workout sessions in a park next to one of the trainers houses, using the house for bathroom facilities. They were looking for a new venue. In October, they started working out Monday and Wednesday on the patio of the church and using our facility and it has been a blessing for both of us. Mama Bootcamp gets upgraded facilities with the potential to be indoors on cold or rainy days. St Mary's gets nominal rent as well as exposure to the public and a presence at the church in the evening. They are already planning to expand to a 3rd evening I look forward to a continued relationship with the ladies!!

Lastly, I wanted to thank the congregation for their continued support of volunteerism. In addition to the big fund raising events (Flea Market, Fireworks and the Western Festival), you also stepped up to help with the many events that happened during the year including the installation of Father David, Victor Anderson's funeral, various Community events like Trunk or Treat, Easter, Christmas, Cleanup days, etc. It takes many people to make St. Mary's a warm and welcoming place and I thank you for your hard work.

As we move into 2014 with a renewed excitement, I really want to get a plan to move back to a full time Rector at St. Mary's. In order to do this, we need to continue to grow. We need to serve the community of Elk Grove and South Sacramento. We must continue to move forward, remembering to work for the glory of God. Thank you once again and may God bless St. Mary's in 2014 and beyond.



Annual Report of the Vestry for 2013

Submitted by: Lois Anderson, Clerk of the Vestry

Your Vestry, those people you elected to make the business decisions of St. Mary's, have had a very busy year. We started January with the retirement of Fr. Ray and our first Vestry meeting without a rector. Business continued as usual with needed church repairs and the next step in the calling process - the Vestry was about to get the names! It was decided to wait until after the new Vestry members came on so all could proceed together in the search process. By March, a name had been selected, the candidate accepted and the process of getting the paperwork complete and approved by the Diocese. At the Seder Dinner on Palm Sunday, we had our first opportunity to meet Fr. David and his family. Now plans for his first service, small, in home, group meetings for him to get to know the parishioners, and his installation needed to be developed and accomplished. And they were! What a wonderful service, on the front lawn with so many visiting friends and clergy and wonderful food both before and after! What a way to welcome a new spiritual leader amongst us.

During this time, the Vestry was also working on what to do with the East property. It was decided it is essential for us to retain it and negotiations with the Diocese began. The final result, after a full year of reports, meetings, phone calls and more, the loan amount was cut in half, the interest reduced to 0% and the term cut to 15 years and we are keeping the property. The payment on the loan begins in January 2014. Still need to sign the final documents to make it official, but this issue which has involved much Vestry time over many years, is finally resolved.

The Vestry was very happy to accept the application of Fr. Howdy Hartzog as an associate priest here at St. Mary's. We are so fortunate to have three associates serving at our church. To celebrate, we decided to have a special service to celebrate their ministry.

Numerous repairs were addressed this year: a new water pump, a new heating/cooling unit, repairing outdoor lighting, removing a dead tree, repairing the sidewalk, finishing the cabinets in the sanctuary, and replacing the doors in the Noah room to name a few of the major ones.

The unfinished business, which will continue with the new Vestry, is to bring us up to date with the Diocesan required licenses of our lay members and returning to a year round Stewardship campaign. This Vestry learned how to work well together and have fun while doing it. They were all hard workers who followed through with what they took on; a true credit to St. Mary's!

Notes from the Treasurer
Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

The 2013 St. Mary's Budget was based on us transitioning from a Full-Time Rector to a Part-Time Priest in Charge. This transition would allow us to have surplus funds, thus allowing us to fulfill a goal to increase our Reserve Fund.

We expected to Increase the Reserve Fund by \$24,100. We operated the entire year without a paid Music Accompanist. And since Fr. David did not arrive at St. Mary's until the middle of June, we were actually able add some additional funds to the Reserve Fund.

At the end of 2013, St. Mary's had a Reserve Fund with a balance of \$84,700, which was an increase of \$58,600 during 2013.

In addition we also completed some much needed repairs and work. Such as repairing the exterior lights, sidewalk, tree removal, stump removal, and door lock repairs. We also started two larger projects, a new pump for the well and a new heating system for the Sanctuary. While both these projects have been completed, they were not invoiced in 2013 and they will be paid for in 2014.

Starting in January 2014, St. Mary's will start making payments to the Diocese towards the repayment of the loan for the East Parcel. The Diocese recently agreed to cut the loan balance in half and reduce the interest rate to zero. We will be making monthly installments of \$661.38 for the next 15 years.



Pledge Report for 2014 and 2013

2014	
\$ 83,400	Budgeted Pledge Income
\$ 94,256	Actual Pledge Amount
39	Number of Pledges
\$ 2,417	Average Pledge Amount

2013	
\$120,000	Budgeted Pledge Income
\$120,756	Actual Pledge Amount
47	Number of Pledges
\$ 2,569	Average Pledge Amount

Treasurer Annual Report
Submitted by: Susi Jacobo- Vice

	2013 Budget	2013 Actual
Budgeted Income:		
Pledges	\$ 119,000	\$ 109,867
Givers of Record / Plate	\$ 10,000	\$ 14,582
Fundraising/Scrip	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,203
Rental Income	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,820
Total Income	\$ 142,700	\$ 136,472

Budgeted Expenses:		
Adult Formation	\$ 250	\$ -
Advertising	\$ 300	\$ 250
Apportionment	\$ 15,600	\$ 9,013
Building & Grounds	\$ 1,400	\$ 3,225
Child & Youth Formation	\$ 100	\$ 87
CommUnity	\$ 2,000	\$ 558
Convention	\$ 250	\$ -
Equipment Lease	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,691
Growth & Opportunity	\$ 200	\$ 40
Hospitality Expense	\$ 400	\$ 326
Insurance & Taxes	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,223
Music/Video Resources	\$ 750	\$ 624
Office Expense	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,328
Outreach	\$ 500	
Payroll Expense	\$ 68,250	\$ 34,763
Rector Funds	\$ 3,300	\$ 428
Scholarship	\$ 500	\$ -
Supply Clergy	\$ 5,500	\$ 7,801
Telephone & DSL	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,080
Utilities	\$ 5,300	\$ 5,007
Worship	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,024
Total Expense	\$ 118,600	\$ 75,470

Net Deficit/Excess	\$ 24,100	\$ 61,003
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Non Budget Income	\$ -	\$ 23,842
Designated Funds Used	\$ -	\$ 12,933
Reserve Funds Used	\$ -	\$ -

Non Budget Expenses	\$ -	\$ 20,260
Moved to Reserve Fund	\$ 24,100	\$ 58,600
Moved to Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ 18,314
Moved to Building Funds	\$ -	\$ 22

Net Cash Flow	\$ -	\$ 582
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2014 Budget

Income	Pledges	\$	83,400
	Plate/Giver of Record	\$	26,000
	Scrip/Fundraising	\$	10,000
	Rental Income	\$	3,600
	Total Income	\$	123,000
Expenses	<i>(Non-Payroll)</i>		
	Adult Formation	\$	250
	Advertising	\$	300
	Apportionment	\$	14,100
	Building & Grounds	\$	1,500
	Child & Youth Formation	\$	100
	CommUnity	\$	2,000
	Convention	\$	250
	Diocesan Requirements	\$	700
	Equipment Lease	\$	1,700
	Growth & Opportunity	\$	200
	Hospitality	\$	400
	Insurance & Taxes	\$	5,400
	Music/Video Resources	\$	750
	Office Expenses	\$	4,200
	Outreach	\$	500
	Rector Funds	\$	3,300
	Scholarship	\$	500
	Supply Clergy	\$	8,000
	Telephone & DSL	\$	2,100
	Utilities	\$	5,500
	Worship/Altar Supplies	\$	1,000
	Total Non-Payroll Expenses	\$	52,750
	<i>(Payroll)</i>		
	Payroll – Accompanist	\$	8,000
	Payroll – Nursery Staff	\$	3,000
	Payroll – Office Staff	\$	9,600
	Payroll – Rector	\$	32,000
	Payroll – Rector Insurance	\$	240
	Payroll – Rector Pension	\$	5,760
	Payroll Processing Fees	\$	600
	Payroll Taxes	\$	1,590
	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$	500
	Total Payroll Expenses	\$	61,290
Totals	Total Expenses	\$	114,040
	Net Income/(Loss)	\$	8,960
	Debt Reduction	\$	7,944
	Move to Savings	\$	1,016

Savings & Investments Summary

	12/31/2012	12/31/2013
Building Funds		
Smith Barney	\$ 55,800	\$ 55,757
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 3,074	\$ 5,160
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 10,077	\$ 8,006
Patelco CU Checking	\$ 2	\$ -
	<u>\$ 68,953</u>	<u>\$ 68,923</u>
Designated Funds/Memorial Money		
Patelco CU Savings	\$ 39,797	\$ 101,942
Patelco CU CDs	\$ 11,595	\$ 13,431
Discretionary Fund	\$ 1,036	\$ 1,578
Patelco Credit Union Checking	\$ 109	\$ 691
	<u>\$ 52,537</u>	<u>\$ 117,642</u>
Total Checking, Savings, CDs	<u><u>\$ 121,490</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 186,565</u></u>



Average Sunday Attendance

2013	68.6
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
26th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2013

The meeting opened with prayer at 11:35 a.m.

Election: Voting instructions were provided by Jr. Warden, Scott Siers. The polls are now open and will close in one hour.

Nominations for Vestry: Dalise Gada, David Gleason, and Lynn Holman are the three Vestry member nominees; no additional nominations from the floor.

Nominations for Delegates to the Convention: Kathy Lawler, Dorothy Stoppelman, Julie Vice, and Alternate Scott Siers are the nominees; no additional nominations from the floor.

Lunch:

Father Ray Potter led the blessing of the food, which was sponsored by the Youth group.

Business Meeting:

The Election was declared closed at 12:37.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from last year's Annual Meeting by Lois Anderson and seconded by Susi Jacobo-Vice. Motion carried.

Junior Warden – Scott Siers

Highlights: The Church had a busy year with the following events held in 2012:

- January – Blessing of the Time Pieces, Financial Peace University (FPU) Class #1, Annual Meeting
- February – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Lent started
- March – Photo Directories, Lenten Retreat, Youth built planter boxes
- April - Seder Supper, Holy Week, Youth Sunday
- May – Western Festival fundraiser, Magnificat, Cat Scan Survey
- June – Flea Market fundraiser, Pugh Open House, Letter to the congregation, Parish Meeting #1
- July – Fireworks booth fundraiser, Kids Kamp, Kids Spree
- August – Fiesta, Bishop Beisner visit
- September – Octoberfest, Newcomers Class
- October – Flea Market fundraiser, FPU Class #2, Blessing of the Animals, Trunk or Treat, Senior trip to Apple Hill, Youth visited the Zoo
- November – Thanksgiving baskets, Youth Outreach Project
- December – Hess' Open House, CommUnity Coat Drive concludes and coats are passed out to homeless/needy, Senior Outreach for pregnancy center, Christmas Pageant, Father Ray/Deb's last Sunday
- January 2013, Father Ray's retirement party

Scott also **remembered the passing of several St. Mary's parishioners**, as follows: Mary Lou Evans, Ted Hanson, David and Mary Ann Grafft, Bob Holman, Sammye Morrow, and Tom Cobb.

Scott also **described the journey the Vestry and Congregation took in 2012** as the Church's fiscal situation and Father Ray's retirement plans evolved. The Church has made it through this very difficult year still standing and ready to move forward in a positive manner.

Scott provided an update for the **Financial Peace University** classes, which teaches building financial health, paying off debt, and overall how to handle money God's way. The first class was 13 weeks long; the second was 9 weeks long; another will begin after Lent. A preview of the class will be provided prior to the next session. We have had four graduating families.

Scott's theme for this year is "Moving Forward" and he's finding that volunteerism is where the need is to help in that journey. For example, we need Chairpersons for the July 4 Fireworks booth and the Flea Market. These fundraising events bring in much needed revenue for the Church and also foster relationships with the community. Also, we need a volunteer to fill the Chair position on the Buildings and Grounds Committee, recently vacated by Deborah Hess.

Treasurer – Susi-Jacobo-Vice

Highlights – Susi reviewed the 2012 Fiscal Report, as presented in the Annual Report. We began 2012 having to tap into the \$24,000 Reserve Funds to cover expenses for the church. During the year, we tightened our belts, additional pledges were made, and we are now able to meet our monthly expenses with some extra to put into the Reserve Fund. It is hoped that one day we will again be able to retain a full time Rector. Susi also went over the projected 2013 Budget figures, also in the Annual Report. The \$11,000 indicated in Fundraising is dependent upon whether or not the July 4 Fireworks Booth and Flea Markets occur.

Youth – Barbara Nill

Highlights – Barbara thanked the Youth group for their outstanding participation with various projects within the Church, as well as participating in church services and fellowship events. The group has been "listening to the spirit" and acting in fun, creative, and positive ways fulfilling Christian faith. The group is small, but mighty.

Kids Kamp – Lois Anderson

Highlights - Kids Kamp is St. Mary's version of a Vacation Bible School; i.e. is Bible based. Each year, the theme is based on a Disney movie and the kids are taught values, self-worth, and how to treat others. Without so many from the congregation assisting in this event, we would not have this opportunity to reach out to the youth of this community.

Senior Warden – Mary Ann Renzi

Highlights: Mary Ann thanked the congregation for joining the meeting this day, and also for pulling together and helping St. Mary's get on the right path to being a healthy and alive church! When the news evolved about the financial state of the church and Father Ray's retirement, the Vestry immediately convened specific focus groups to address some of the issues facing the church, and monthly parish meetings were held.

Mary Ann thanked Scott for his assistance through this difficult year. She complimented the Vestry Treasurer's outstanding efforts through the year as well, and thanked outgoing Vestry member, Eva Moredock, and Clerk of the Vestry, Debbie Langston, for their contributions. In closing, Mary Ann thanked everyone in the congregation for their help through the year.

Looking ahead to 2013 – the PIC Process: Mary Ann provided information on the search for a Priest-In-Charge (PIC) which entailed completing a portfolio (what our church is about and what we need), posting job announcements across the Diocese (Jan. 20 final filing date), and on Jan. 29, the Vestry will meet with Canon Britt and Kay Rohde to receive the names of candidates to interview. The Vestry will proceed with the interview process.

Announcement of Election Results: Dalise Gada, David Gleason, and Lynn Holman were elected to Vestry. Delegates to the Convention are Kathy Lawler, Dorothy Stoppelman, Julie Vice, and Alternate Scott Siers.

Closing prayer was provided by Father Coloma at 1:00 p.m. with a brief meeting of the new Vestry to follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Langston, Clerk of the Vestry



Music Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Kathy Lawler

The Music Ministry had a year of rebuilding. The choir has grown over the year with regular participation of Lois Anderson, Julie Vice, Eva Moredock, Karen Lawler and Lexi Hill. The children attending the 10 AM service assist with percussion after Sunday School each week. All together we work to support the prayer of the community through music.

As usual, the choir provided music for all of the major services through Lent, Holy Week and Easter as well as the 10 AM service each Sunday. We had our usual joyful celebration of Pentecost. We assisted the Kid's Kamp ministry with the music of the 10 AM Sunday service supporting the theme of the 'Being Part of the Story.' With the entire parish, we helped welcome Fr. David during his installation celebration in August. The year ended--and began--with Advent. We were delighted to share a very special Lessons and Carols in December with the entire choir and all of the children sharing a musical reflection on the holy mountain reading from Isaiah, led by all the children!

A special thanks goes to our former choir director, Shannon Castaneda for spending part of her vacation with St. Mary's and recording many pieces for the 10 AM and CommUnity services. Additional thanks to Julie Vice for arranging Shannon's visit with us.

The Music Ministry is on the move. We look forward to 2014 and sharing more prayer through song. 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

CommUnity Saturday Service

Submitted by: Julie Vice

It's hard to believe that CommUnity has been up and going for nearly 27 months. We have been very busy and feel that we are living into our vision. We were blessed again this year to get help from the Vitalization Committee of the Diocese, with another grant that allowed us to be able to purchase the trailer to haul our equipment and to purchase additional equipment that will allow us to do some projection and hopefully next summer we will begin to have "movie night" outside the church.

So, what have we accomplished so far?

CommUnity started just over two years ago. While we try really hard to not look at numbers as our success, it has been great to see the average attendance continue to increase and to have had a total increase in attendance of 24%...in 2012 we had a yearly attendance of 480 and this year we were up to 629!!! We would love to have more of you come and visit the service. (We are really not too scary!)

CommUnity continues to feel the call is to take our worship out into the CommUnity and while this past year was somewhat less adventuresome than I would have liked, we were still able to visit St. Matthew's and will continue to build that relationship and hopefully be able to do more at other locations this upcoming year. 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.

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 Flea Markets that St. Mary's has held. This has been a great way to promote what we are doing and talk to people who may have questions. We will continue to do what we can to be visible, including the recent decision to purchase hats (and beanies) with the CommUnity logo on them. This is just another way for people to see us and hopefully be inspired to come and see what our church is all about. If you are interested in a hat please let me know.

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. Last year at this time we had 72 "likes" and we currently have 142 "likes". That means that we are not just reaching double the people but also reach all the people who are connected to those additional 70 people!!! We will continue to look more seriously 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 the past three years. The first year, we collected 100 coats, mittens, socks, and hats. Last year, we collected 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. This year, we collected still more... we had collected a total of 293 pieces (coats, backpacks, mittens, socks, and gloves). This year we had 8 people who went to give them out and we were much more successful in handing them out with less than 50 items being taken to St. Matthew's.

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 again 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 short time and then had wonderful fellowship during the wrapping of all the gifts. Again, CommUnity feels it is very important when possible to actively engage others and we are lucky to be able to take the gifts to the family. They were so pleased and sent our church many blessings.

CommUnity also sponsored our 2nd Annual Trunk-or-Treat. This was an ALL FREE event for the greater community and it was amazing. We had 84 children the first year and well over 100 attend this year. CommUnity hopes next year to have more trunks for the kids to go around and get candy from. We were blessed to have Lori contact the Elk Grove School District and print flyers for us to send to the schools. This increased the number of children from our area who attended but we had children and their families that attended from as far away as West Sacramento and Natomas. We are planning to do this again next year.

Then the MOST EXCITING new thing that occurred this year, came about in the past couple of months, CommUnity started having Holy Communion on the last Saturday of every month. We have been very blessed to have the support of Father David for this. This allows for another opportunity to come and visit the service without missing out on communion for the weekend.

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 congregation 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....And Awesome!

Fireworks Sales Annual Report

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who participated with the many tasks needed to have a successful Fireworks Booth. You are ALL truly appreciated.

The Fireworks Booth is our biggest annual Fundraiser. Both our 2013 co-chairs have moved on from St. Mary's, thus we are looking for someone to take the lead on this for 2014. If you are interested, please see Fr. David or anyone of the Vestry members.

Sales Report:

In 2013, St. Mary's earned \$4,952.29 on \$15,967.51 of sales, a 31.0% profit.

In 2012, St. Mary's earned \$5,585.63 on \$16,538.24 of sales, a 33.8% profit.

St. Mary's Flea Market Annual Report

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

Both the Spring and Fall Flea Markets were fantastically successful events. Saint Mary's grossed over \$3,000 last year by opening our grounds to venders so they could sell their wares. It was a joy to see all of the dedicated venders and all the joyful buyers at Saint Mary's.

We could not have had such a successful event without all the wonderful members of Saint Mary's who helped to organize and work the day of the Flea Market. Thank you to those who advertised the event, marked and numbered the spaces, set up the Saint Mary's booth, arrived between 4:30 and 5:30 AM to check in venders and to help the venders find and set-up their booths. And, to return at the end of the day to help take down and clean-up the grounds.

It takes a church with enough yard space to host a Flea Market....
But it takes dedicated church members to make a Flea Market successful!

Blessings to you all.....

Buildings and Grounds Annual Report

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

- 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, making our door more secure, fixing doors, replacement of pump, replacement of lights, etc.
- 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
- All Parish Work Day

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.

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).

St. Mary's has celebrated communal Evening Prayer twice a month for several years, including 2013. We gather 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. 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 from the BCP. 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 Evening Prayer services in November we celebrated our remembrance of those who have died with a particular focus on those we lost from our St. Mary's family this past year.

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!



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 Lois Anderson. We wish to give a heartfelt thank you to Lois for hosting this bible study. This past year we studied 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 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 have lively discussions on what the scripture means to us. Please contact either Lois Anderson or Lynn Holman (facilitator) if you have questions or would like to join us in 2014. All are welcome; we would love to see you.

Worship Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Submitted by Karen Lawler, chair, worship committee

Liturgical Ministries

The goal of our worship ministries is to enable us as one community at St Mary's to praise, honor and glorify God. As the Body of Christ has many parts, so our liturgical life takes shape in a diversity of forms. Making this happen takes a labor of love by many people.

Worship Team

Our worship leadership team - Lynn Holman, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, and Julie Vice - that was installed in November 2012 continued to work on increasing the coordination between the three services for seasonal planning and special events. Also serving on our worship planning committee are Lois Anderson, Lori Hill and Diana Siers, who each offer their special gifts and perspective. We celebrated Lent-Easter with a progressive environment traveling from the desert to the new life of the resurrection garden. In Advent we explored our communal journey along the path of life to the fullness of God's kingdom. The worship team works closely with our priest in charge in planning the focus for the seasons of the church year, the Sunday 10 AM service, and special services throughout the year.

This year we have had several special celebrations which brought us together as a parish. In August we celebrated the beginning of Fr David's ministry as our priest-in-charge. In October, we celebrated the ministry of our associates. Each of these liturgies called on the special gifts and generosity of our liturgical ministers.

Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors

assist with the distribution of the consecrated wine and bread at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist and take communion to those who are unable to participate in our Sunday worship due to illness. In December we held a training for those renewing or seeking licenses for these ministries. We now have 16 people Licensed as Eucharistic Ministers and 3 Eucharistic Visitors. Many of our Eucharistic Ministers attend our adult forum classes, retreat days or other opportunities offered in the diocese for spiritual renewal and ongoing education. Much gratitude to our serving Eucharistic Ministers: Norm DeYoung, Butch Mosley, Scott Siers, Michael Siers, Mary Ann Renzi, Mark Voskuil, Julie Vice, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, Lynn Holman, Mark Nill, Paula Sink.

Lectors and Intercessors

proclaim the lessons during our worship services and lead the prayers of the people. We rely on their dedicated service to hear God's word proclaimed each week. A special thank you to Diana Siers, Scott Siers, Butch Mosley, Mary Ann Renzi, Norm DeYoung, Debbie Langston, Michael Siers, Carl King, Judy Cullum, Michael Taporco, Julie Vice, Harriett McKinnis, Mark Nill, Paula Sink, Lois Anderson, Lynn Holman, Kathy Lawler, Ruth Carnie, Carol McElheney, Mary Liz Pugh, David Gleason, Patti Mangabay, Dorothy Stoppelman, Destiny Siers. "

Greeters and Ushers

are the first face of our parish community extended to the newcomer. Their smiles, warm words of welcome, assistance in locating bulletins, restrooms or other needed resources say that we are a welcoming community. They collect the offerings of the people and present them at the altar. After the service, they go through the chairs and make sure the space is clean and in order for the next service. We rely on them to count our numbers and keep our communion procession in good order. Thanks to Mary Ann Renzi, Carl and Cely King, Mark Voskuil, Lincoln Tremble, Randy Lee, Destiny Siers, Jean Beach, Carol McElheney, Rod and Mary Liz Pugh, Ruth Carnie, Mark Nill, Sarian Wyse, David and Astra Gleason for their service.

Altar Volunteers

are a committed, dependable, and cooperative group of parish members who work together to prepare the altar, vessels, and vestments and sanctuary space 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: Mark Voskuil, Scott Siers, Butch Mosley, Norm DeYoung, Bruce Jackson, Michael Siers, Destiny Siers, Mary Ann Renzi, Paula Sink, Carol McElheney, Dalise Gada, Sarian Wyse, David and Astra Gleason. Thank you also to our dedicated bread bakers Irene Roltsch, Harriett McKinnis, and Carol McElheney, 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. Also, we wish to give a very big thank you to Mary Liz Pugh who launders all the linens for both services each week. A special thanks to Paula Sink who lovingly arranges the flowers in the sanctuary each week. Thanks too to those who lend their hands to preparing the sanctuary space for Christmas and Easter, especially to Scott Siers and Julie Vice who have hung the beautiful drapes by our cross when the seasons change.

Audiovisual

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 A/V technicians that keep our audiovisual system synchronized to our worship services. They are Susi Jacobo-Vice and David Gleason. Also we thank Lori Hill, our parish secretary, who puts the power point presentations together with wonderful visuals and graphics for the Sunday and holiday services, Susi-Jacobo-Vice who puts together media presentations for the Saturday CommUnity service and Bob Weil who carefully folds the bulletins for all of our services. We are particularly hoping to expand this ministry in 2014 so that David and Susi feel free to step away from the computer. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please see one of them or a member of the worship team.

Licensed Preachers and Licensed Worship Leaders

Our licensed preachers provided a great service to the parish this year, assisting in the preaching rotation on the second Sunday all throughout the interim period and into August. In addition to sharing generously of their gifts, this also enabled the parish to reduce the amount we spent on supply clergy during the interim. With the growth in our number of associates, our licensed preachers continue to serve on the second Sunday of the month, alternating which service they are preaching at. We thank Lynn Holman, Kathy Lawler and Julie Vice for their service. These same three serve as licensed worship leaders. Lynn and Kathy exercise this ministry primarily through leading evening prayer, which is discussed in another section of this report. Julie exercises her ministry through leading the Saturday evening CommUnity service, also discussed more fully in another section of this report. We are grateful for the manifold richness the sharing of their gifts brings to us as a community.

Our hope is that 2014 will continue to be a year of growth in liturgy and worship. Among our goals are continuing to strengthen the communication and coordination among our membership while retaining our diversity in approaches to worship. We hope to revitalize and reorganize the altar volunteer group and to expand our ministries so that people are serving in those areas they love and which provide spiritual nourishment and growth. If you are interested in exploring ministry in one of these areas, please see any member of the worship team.

Audio-Visual Ministry Annual Report

Ever wonder what the Audio-Visual Ministry is about? During the 10:00 am service, and most of the special services (Holy Week, Easter, Christmas, etc.) we run the PowerPoint Presentation and turn microphones on and off as needed.

We are currently looking for a few more people to help with this ministry. You are welcome to shadow Susi Jacobo-Vice or David Gleason during any one of the services to see if it something you might like to do.



Newcomer Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

The Newcomer Incorporation committee did not hold any meetings this year. With Fr. Ray retiring, using supply clergy for half of the year and then calling Fr. David for 1/2 time, I was not comfortable trying to introduce newcomers to the Episcopal Church. Hopefully, we can re-organize this important ministry in 2014.



Fellowship Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Mary Ann Renzi

The Fellowship Committee has been very busy this year planning and coordinating fellowship events throughout the year. This year began with a bitter sweet dinner honoring Father Ray Hess' retirement. This was followed in a few weeks by our 26th Annual Meeting. Barbara Nill and her committee royally fed us a delicious lasagna lunch. And this was followed in a few more weeks by our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner organized by Barbara Nill and Scott Siers. Our youth did a fabulous job flipping pancakes and cooking sausages. And this was followed in a few more weeks by our annual Seder Dinner where we relived the events of the Old Testament and enjoyed a kosher style dinner complete with traditional Seder songs. In June Father David Howell, our new Priest in charge began his ministry at Saint Mary's. We welcomed Father David and Linda with receptions in the homes of Lois Anderson, Kathy and Karen Lawler and Pat Picton to introduce him to all in our Parish. These receptions were followed in August by a Celebration of New Ministry officiated by Bishop Barry Beisner; 150 honored guests included Diocesan representatives, 27 clergy and our Parish family who enjoyed a delicious refreshments and Hors d'oeuvres after the ceremony. In mid-August the CommUnity service led by Julie Vice hosted Saint Mary's Day with a joyful celebration on the front lawn. We then moved to Germany to celebrate Oktoberfest. What a wonderful time everyone had eating sausages and dancing polkas to the tunes of the German band.

And, Blessed are those on our Sunday morning Fellowship team. What a wonderful, dedicated group you are! We thank Jean Beach, Judy Cullum, David and Astra Gleason, Carl and Cely King, Richard and Shirley Lange, Carol McElheney, Harriet McKinnis, Mary Ann Renzi, and Sarian Wyse. We have nine 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.....

SMART Seniors Annual Report

Submitted by: Paula Sink

Another year has passed and the seniors are still meeting and eating.

We ended 2012 as we began 2013, with the giving tree for the Alternatives Pregnancy Center. We gave over 160 different items, with lots of socks!

We only had one outing this year. Nothing seemed to work for us this year. We did have Fr. Tom Bonacci several times at our lunch after his morning lectures. We invited all who attended the lecture to join us for a lunch.

Our first outreach project for 2013 was Easter Baskets for the children of St. John's Shelter. We started out providing 60 empty baskets and asked the congregation to fill them with what they felt should be in an Easter basket for a child, wrap it in cellophane and ribbon, and return on Palm Sunday. All 60 were gone in less than 2 weeks. On Palm Sunday, 40 of the baskets came back along with 35 that others had purchased because ours were gone. The people at St. John's were very happy to have them. We are planning to do this again in 2014. Maybe the lost 20 will come back, filled and ready to distribute this year!!

On Maundy Thursday, the seniors gathered early, along with interested others to stuff plastic Easter Eggs for the hunt between services Easter morning. As usual it was fun for all involved.

In the fall, the Knitting and Crocheting Day Group began meeting just before our seniors meeting and most of the K & C's have joined our seniors meeting.

We sponsored the Thanksgiving baskets. This year we had 5 families that had Thanksgiving Dinner because St. Mary's cared.

In December we had our annual "cookies by the pound" sale. We use the money raised to purchase larger items for the pregnancy center.

Now we begin 2014 as we began 2013. The giving tree for the Alternative Pregnancy Center remained up through Epiphany 2014 and then was packed up to take to the center.. This year we had 180 items. There were many handmade blankets. We had sleepers and clothing, hats and socks. Again, St. Mary's has helped those women in need.

We have high hopes for more outreach and trips to interesting places. We have been trying to work a trip to the Sacramento Zoo and Daffodil Hill. Plus our annual trip to Apple Hill. If you are available on the first and third Thursday of the month at noon, please join us for the pot luck salad lunch. Officially one should be 55 years old, but we don't mind if you aren't that old or if you don't have grey hair. Just be happy in serving the Lord and using his creations to praise him and help others while having fun.

Adult Formation

Submitted by: Lynn Holman

The adult formation class meets on Sunday mornings between the 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. This past year we completed a bible study "First Persons". This study revolved around a Biblically-accurate story filled with details about life in First Century Palestine, and about individuals living in New Testament times who witnessed events in the life of Jesus. They included a shepherd boy who was at the birth cave, a magi's apprentice, a wine merchant who saw the baptism of Jesus, a fisherman who witnessed the call of Peter, Andrew, James, and John, the wine steward at Cana, the centurion at the cross, and others.

Our second bible study of the year was "Disciples and Other Sinners", this study revolved around a story of a single character in the life of Jesus; Peter, John the Baptist, Mary Magdalene, Mary Jesus' Mother, Joseph, Pilate, Caiaphas, Judas, Nicodemus, and others. In all, thirteen different Gospel characters were described in the Bible-based stories. We learned significant details about the individual characters, their motives, and lifestyles, as well as learning how the people lived and worked and worshiped. A primary impact that we came to understand the New Testament figures as real people living in the real world.

We finished the year with a study on the twelve disciples using the book "Twelve Ordinary Men". This study was about the men who journeyed with Jesus, how Jesus chose such ordinary men to be his inner circle and about their lives during Jesus lifetime. The second book used in this study was "The Twelve, the Lives of the Apostles after Calvary". This book covered the disciples' life after Jesus death and Pentecost. Where did they go, what they did, how they lived, their impact on the development of the early church, and how they died.

Adult Formation also invited Father Tom Bonacci back to St. Mary's to teach a class on "The Interfaith Jesus". This class began February 28th and continued once a month for five months, it was held at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Father Bonacci is a Passionist priest, ordained in 1972 in the Catholic Church. His specialty is the Interfaith Peace Project and teaching World Religions, and he has conducted hundreds of Scripture study programs throughout the Western United States including Oakland, Sacramento and San Francisco. He is currently at St. Ignatius Parish in Antioch. Topics of the classes included "The Religion of Jesus" part, 1, 2, and 3; and "The Interfaith Understanding of Jesus".



Fellowship Dinner Groups Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

In 2013, 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. For the spring one, enough people signed up that we were able to have two groups. For the Fall one, our numbers were reduced, so we had everyone in one group. These groups are a fun way to get to know other members of the congregation. We plan to continue these in 2014 and the sign-up list is already out. It is a wonderful way to grow closer to other members of your St. Mary's family.

Knitting and Crochet Ministry Annual Report

Submitted by: Mary Beth Voskuil

Our group meets several times throughout the month on the first and third Thursday 10-12:00 at the church and 2nd and 4th Wednesday 7-8:30. Check the church announcement and website for date/time changes. If you wish to receive emails and pattern ideas, please contact Mary Beth Voskuil Marybeth@surewest.net or Lori at the church.

We share projects ideas, make new friends, pray for the person who will be receiving the item (known or unknown), and most of all the love of the handicraft called knitting and crocheting.

Many of us have been making shawls, hats, mittens, booties, etc for many non-profit organizations such as Grammas Hugs and several hospitals in the community. At the present time, each person has picked a project, color and person to knit or crochet the item for. Many of the shawls are in the three stitch repeated pattern for the Trinity. Prayers for the recipient are worked into the piece.

Our goal is to have many shawls on reserve at the church for Father David and others to present to folks. At the present time, we have knitted over a dozen shawls for many different occasions from comfort during illness, personal loss, pre and post surgery care, hospice for individual and family, celebrations of baptism, birth of a child, house warming gift and many more reasons.

The presentation of the shawl is very inspiring. "It is comforting to think that we may be of help in ways that we don't even realize" (Rachel Naomi Remen M.D.) The shawls are draped over the person and prayers are read to them. The knitted or crochet piece is a soft, cozy colorful shawl to be wrapped in at times of need. Ladies and gentleman that have been involved with this wonderful ministry: Shirley Lange, Howdy and Frances Hartzog, Linda Coloma, Paula Sink, Joyce Weil, Carol McElheney, Lois Anderson, Astra Gleason, Dalise Gada, Karen Lawler, Kathy Lawler, Mary Beth Voskuil, Jeanne Beach, Robin Zoesch, and JoAnn Vice.



Children and Youth Formation Ministries Annual Report

Submitted by: Barbara Nill

The Sunday school class has been meeting since September and we have been serving 3-8 children each Sunday. We decided to go back to weekly classes this year and our three teachers, Maria Yearwood, Brenda Pfau, and Barbara Nill continue to love helping our children learn about God's love and hear the word of God in stories and lessons from the Bible. We continue to use the Weaving God's Promises curriculum and work to provide creative and fun lessons and activities to our young school age children. We have enjoyed working also with Fr. David and our worship ministry leaders as we try to find ways to incorporate our children into elements of Sunday worship. We had a wonderful Christmas pageant at the Christmas Eve family service and a Happy Birthday Jesus party afterwards. We look forward to the Lenten season, Easter and our family Easter egg hunt. We will continue to strive to provide a warm and caring environment for our children's ministry and invite all children and their families to join us.

Youth Group Annual Report

Submitted by Fr. David Howell

Youth Group... It's alive! Yes, Youth Group has been resurrected mainly due the enthusiastic support of our Scott Siers (Hey, anyone for bowling ball toss???), and his family. Also, we have a outstanding and dedicated Youth Group advisor, Jake Konkel (a native of Elk Grove and designated target for laser tag, etc.). We have had two events so far. Last event, the Pfau's showed their sharp-shooting expertise. February's gathering will be at the church with a special... yet to be developed, program by Jake. Yep, I imagine it will include food. Friends of our youth are invited, Destiny being our first group evangelist. Awesome, Destiny!



Kids Kamp Annual Report

Submitted by: Lois Anderson

Kids Kamp was held the third week in July, Monday through Friday mornings and welcomed 18 attendees and one youth helper. This year we continued with a free Kamp, and requesting donations to help offset the expenses. The response was wonderful! 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/Pixar movie "Toy Story". 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 Kampers are invited and included in the service. Even though the only Kampers who attended the worship service were our own, they did a wonderful job of leading the congregation in a marvelous rendition of "Walking in the Light of God"!

Our toy theme was illustrated with stuffed animals hanging from the ceiling and large Mr. Potato Heads (each one so very different) on the walls.

We could not have done it without all the help of so many from the congregation, Betty Williams, Deb Hess, Paula Sink, Heide Radisay, Irene Roltsch, , Kate Stidham, John Hill, Lori Hill, Susi Jacobo-Vice, Jared Anderson, Cathy Anderson (isn't the internet wonderful), Frances Hartzog, Karen Lawler and one youth leader Ethan Adams. We were also very fortunate to have Kathy Lawler run our music program, and, Fr. Howdy and Fr. David leading us all each day and working so hard to make each child's experience rewarding and fun. As you can see this program 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 have a parent come up to you at the end to tell you this was the best vacation Bible school they had ever experienced! This July will be "Racing Stripes" -We shall stay in the race to win the prize from our God.