

St. Clement's Episcopal Church 2376 Zinfandel Drive Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

A Veteran Friendly Congergation

A Song to Sing!

It's (still) the beginning of a new year, and most of us are (still) thinking of changes we'd like to make in our lives. I'm thinking of changes we'd like to make in our parish. St. Clement's has wonderful people and a big heart. We have great music, good preaching (so I'm told), and beautiful liturgy. We have people of all ages, and many ethnicities. They don't show up all at once, but they do show up periodically. And we are *almost* at the pledge level to enter boldly into 2012. We balance our budget, year by year.

You surely noticed that all the above statements were framed in the positive. I could have just as easily talked from the negative view, pointing out what we do not have. You would read it, and nod to yourselves, and say, yes, we're slowly dying. So, if a few or several people are worrying along these lines, let's just name it. Are you ready to die? That would be an appropriate organizational response when we believe our collective work is done. However, I think we have a lot more work to do.

I just returned from a very intensive week of study at CDSP (our Episcopal seminary in Berkeley "Church Divinity School of the Pacific"). I informed the parish last spring that I have enrolled in a degree program called Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Development, jointly offered by two seminaries – Seabury-Western in Chicago and CDSP. It is a three year (minimum) program with on-site courses, reading and electronic interaction among a cohort of eight parish priests who are supporting and challenging each other along the way. I am paying for this on my own, and using my two weeks and \$450 allowance for Continuing Education that is provided in our annual budget. Believe me, the tuition, travel and lodging costs are MUCH higher.

Why would I be doing such a program at this time in my life? The simplest answer is because I love you. Do I have to say more? I suppose I should.

St. Clement's has been a caring community throughout its fifty years. Each decade has had its highlights. We've continued

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that trajectory in the important work we've done together in the six-and-a-half years I've served as your pastor. The way our church looks now is light years from the dowdy appearance it used to present to the world.

Physical changes are important, and we have to pay for them (have you contributed to the effort?), but they don't substitute for the reason we are Church in this community.

So, let's remind ourselves why St. Clement's is here in Rancho Cordova. It's **not** because we have the prettiest sanctuary, or the biggest Sunday School. It's not because we are the holiest or have the most meaningful liturgy. St. Clement's is Church, and not the only church, in this community because we believe that together we can serve God in the world. We serve God, we make God's love alive around us. We do this every day, everywhere. If we don't, we shouldn't be here. But as long as we do, we have work ahead.

At our Annual Meeting January 29 we will elect a new slate of Vestry members. Then in February these new leaders will gather for an intensive, though brief, planning retreat to present to you - the Church - goals and intentions for the coming year. Our focus at that retreat will be grounded in what we do best at St. Clement's - our strengths over the years. When you ask questions about what is best, and look for what is best, that is what you see: the best! Every organization can cite problems, but what matters is looking for successes. That's what we're going to do. We're going to build on what we have done best and what we do best. We're going to listen to everyone's ideas about what we are best at.

Going off to classes for a week was an interruption in my life. It was also an opportunity for great inspiration, and February 22 I received many inspirations.

Here is one that I find apropos of our life at St. Clement's. Whether we are shrinking or growing is not the question we need to ask. What we should ask is what we are called to do and to be. Consider the songbird. He sings not because he has an answer to life's questions but because he has a song. I think we have a song to sing. Will you join me in singing it?

May the love of Jesus set us free to sing!

Pastor Christine +

Bible Readings

for the month

Revised Common Lectionary Year A

February 5

Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany Isaiah 40:21-31

PSALM: 147:1-12,21c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

February 12

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

2 Kings 5: 1-14 PSALM: 30

1 Corinthians 9: 24-27

Mark 1: 40-45

February 19

The Last Sunday after the **Epiphany** (Quinquagesima) 2 Kings 2:1-12 PSALM: 50: 1-6 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 Mark 9: 2-9

Ash Wednesday Joel 2:1-2,12-17 Psalm 103 2 Corinthians 5; 20b-6:10 Matthew 6: 1-6,16-21

February 26

First Sunday in Lent Genesis 9:8-17 PSALM: 25: 1-9 1 Peter 3: 18-22 Mark 1: 9-15

Contacts

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Coffee Hour Hospitality					
Deidra White	361-1226				
Kitchen Supplies					
Sherry Stults	638-2284				

2012 Vestry

The composition of the vestry for 2012 will be detrmined at the January 29 annual meeting

Peoples Warden	363-4435
Harry Shippy, Clerk	631-0640
Kathleen Gallagher	
Treasurer	362-8053
Sharon Burke-Polana	481-0225
Randy Grimwood	458-8196
Irv White	361-1226

At a Glance

Thrift Store open 9-1
Bible Study 7:00pm
Parish hall
Bible Study 10:30am
Saralu Metven's home
Lunch Bunch 12 noon
Anchor Deadline
Shrove Tuesday
Ash Wednesday
Services at noon and
6:00pm
Congregational
Leadership Workshop

Birthdays and Anniversaries

February 1	Sharon Burke-Polana
February 9	Bill Bell
	Jenniffer Yee
February 10	Marj Heineke
February 18	Sera Benesh
February 25	Lupe Bennett
February 28	David Weber

Clergy and Lay Eucharist Visits

Please call the church office (635-5282) or send an e-mail to the church (st.clements@hotmail.com) if you would like communion brought to you or a family member.

The Rev. Christine Leigh-Taylor, Rector Harry Shippy, Editor The Anchor

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Please email your news and photographs to st.clements@hotmail.com or shippyharry@yahoo.com Deadline for articles is the 15th of the month. Articles are subject to editing. Check us out on Facebook!

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	Lay Ministr	ay Ministry Schedule Feb	February 2012	
	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
	5th Sunday After	6th Sunday After	Last Sunday After	First Sunday in
	the Epiphany	the Epiphany	the Epiphany	Lent
Altar Guild	Irene Grant	Debbi Honeycutt	Jennifer Yee	Deidra White
	Phyllis Rayburn	Len Honeycutt	Phylis Rayburn	Kara Magdaleno
Ushers	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood
8:00 a.m.				
Ushers	Pam Quarles	Ray Stults	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
10:00 a.m.		Sherry Stults		
Acolytes	Chris Wash	Jim Wash	Harry Shippy	Janelle Fallan
8:00 a.m.				
Acolytes				
10:00 a.m.	Debbie Popp	Debbi Honeycutt	Kathleen Gallagher	Debbi Honeycutt
Lectors	Harry Shippy	Ken Dunham	Chris Wash	Jim Wash
8:00 a.m.				
Lectors	Muriel Murray	Pam quarles	Mike Chapman	Quintilla Wells
10:00 a.m.	Bobbie Keill	Sarah Moridi	Len Honeyoutt	Mike Chapman
Intercessors				
8:00a.m.	Saralu Methven	Chris Wash	Ken Dunham	Harry Shippy
10:00 a.m.	Bill Murray	Len Honeycutt	Irv White	Mike Chapman
E.M. (Chalice)				
8:00a.m.	Chris Wash	Jim Wash	Harry Shippy	Janelle Fallan
E.M.(Chalice)	Bobbie Keill	Muriel Murray	In White	Muriel Murray
10:00 a.m.	Debbi Honeycutt	Len Honeycutt	Diedra White	Debbi Honeycutt
Coffee Hour		Phyllis Rayburn	Jim & Chris Wash	Irene Grant
8:00 a.m.	Harry Shippy	Mary Norsweather		Randy Grimwood
Coffee Hour				Kathleen Gallagher
10:00a.m.	Carrol Cartwright	Bobbie Keill	Terry Sandhoff	Betty Chapman
Counters	Debbi Honeycutt	Bill Murray	Sherry Stults	Len Honeycutt
	Sharon Burke-Polana	Ray Stults	Guido Polana	Stephen Soulman
PIE				
8:00 & 10:00	Muriel Murray	Debbi Honeycutt	Betty Chapman	Mickey Boughton

Black History Month

Maybe someday we won't need to be reminded that people of many ethnicities have made the United States the world leader that it is today. Perhaps there will come a time when American History taught at all grade levels includes the significant contributions of those who were not part of the white majority of our past. For now, however, as we grow into our destiny as a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious nation, it is important to recognize the roles that leaders of all backgrounds have played in our history.

Black History Month was the inspiration of Dr. Carter G. Woodson in the early 20th century. Woodson's parents were former slaves, and he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines. He finally enrolled in high school at age twenty. He graduated within two years and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. The scholar was disturbed to find in his studies that history books largely ignored the black American population-and when blacks did figure into the picture, it was generally in ways that reflected the inferior social position they were assigned at the time.

So, here's a little history quiz. Who was the first African American elected to the United States Senate, and when? The answer is on page six(next page).

Adult Lenten Program

We will be offering our Lenten program at coffee hour after each service on Sundays. The goal is to involve as many worshippers as possible. This is a new way of doing Lenten study, so we would appreciate your feedback.

Bible Study

Tuesday 7:00pm in the parish hall Friday 10:30am Saralu Metvens home

Shrove Tuesday Dinner February 21

If Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, and it does, that means Shrove Tuesday is our last (traditional) chance to eat foods that many people do without during the six weeks of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. At St. Clement's we'll gather at 6 pm in the Parish Hall for a yummy dinner. What is your pleasure? Pancakes or lasagna or....? And we'll have a new edition of Pastor Christine's Shrove Tuesday Trivia Game.

Ash Wednesday Services & Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services on Wednesday, February 22 at 12 noon and 6 pm.

Why observe Lent? Is it a season of deprivation only? Is it an archaic practice that has no relevance in modern life?

We know that a little discipline goes a long way toward making us more productive. It also makes us more receptive to divine inspiration. So, during Lent, we are invited to pace ourselves a little more intentionally to behave in ways that we know are God-given. We exercise that wobbly muscle called will power to honor a power higher than us. We do it because we know that we get rusty and we need to go to the spiritual gym for regular work-outs. That is what Lent is about. Whether you want to give something up or take something on, this is a perfect time to be supported in your effort by your sisters and brothers in Christ. I invite you to a holy Lent.

Do you have a will? Have you remembered the Church in your will?

Answer to Black History Month Quiz

Hiram Revels, born September 27, 1827 in Fayetteville, N.C. Born a free black, Revels worked as a barber and as a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. During the Civil War he helped recruit two regiments of African American troops in Maryland and served as the chaplain of a black regiment. After the war he moved to Natchez, Miss., where he was elected an alderman (1868) and a Republican state senator (1870). In 1870 Revels was elected as the first African American member of the United States Senate. A few senators objected, arguing that Revels had not been a U.S. citizen for the nine previous years, a requirement for serving in the Senate—African Americans had only technically become citizens four years earlier, after the passage of the 1866 Civil Rights Act. But this ploy to keep him out of the Senate failed—the Senate voted 48 to 8 in favor of Revels. Revels served as senator from Feb. 25, 1870, to March 4, 1871. (His term was an abbreviated one because he was elected to complete the term vacated ten years earlier by Jefferson Davis, who left the Senate to become the president of the Confederacy.) After the Senate, Revels served as the president of a black college and returned to the ministry. He died January 16, 1901.

It's Empty Bowls Time Again!

Empty Bowls is River City Food Bank's biggest fund-raiser; last year more than 1,100 people attended, bringing in \$106,000, 96% of which directly funded food programs. This year they hope to raise more than \$125,000 to help meet the growing need in our community.

The dates for the 9th annual Empty Bowls are Monday, March 5th for a soup dinner and Tuesday, March 6th, 2012 for lunch seatings at either 11:30 am or 12:30 pm. The dinner is \$60 and the lunch is \$30. All guests get to choose a handmade bowl, donated by professional potters, glass artists, wood turners, and area students, to take home with them as a reminder of the many in our community that are hungry and face an empty bowl each day.

Get a group together for this worthwhile and delicious event. To purchase tickets go to Rivercityfoodbank.org.

Help Rebuild our Church in Haiti

It has been two years since a powerful earthquake hit Haiti and wrought incredible devastation in that already struggling country. Among the destruction was the Episcopal Cathedral Complex in Port-au-Prince, the capital. Holy Trinity Cathedral completely dissolved into rubble, as were many other buildings that served as the heartbeat of the community. The Episcopal Church has pledged to raise money to rebuild the Cathedral, and every diocese is involved in the effort.

Our Diocese of Northern California is mounting a campaign to raise \$100,000 by this Easter. The goal is to encourage every person to "buy a brick" for \$10.00, so that the Cathedral can be rebuilt, "brick by brick." This is NOT literally the way the cathedral will be re-constructed, as that would leave it vulnerable to another disaster.

The Bishop of Haiti says that the generosity of the whole church will do more than raise up bricks and cement; it will raise the hopes of a people who have lost so much of their earthly habitation.

We will see some photos of Haiti and the Cathedral, before and after the earthquake at our Shrove Tuesday dinner, February 21. Greg Voetsch is chairing our parish participation in the rebuild Haiti campaign; Greg went to Haiti about ten years ago and has his first-hand impressions of living conditions there.

Did you know that the Diocese of Haiti is the largest diocese in the Episcopal Church with 90,000 Episcopalians, served by thirty priests? In addition to churches, the diocese has provided national leadership in the areas of health care, education and development. The Cathedral Complex has also served as Haiti's cultural center, housing the music school, the nation's orchestra as well as many of the nation's artists who sold their works through the Cathedral shop. Much of this capacity to lead and serve has been destroyed by the 2010 earthquake. Rebuild our Church in Haiti is the first phase of the rebuilding process.

February 2012

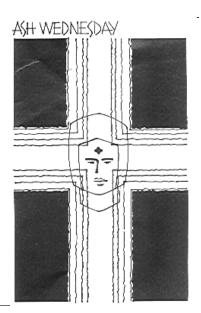
St. Clement's Episcopal Church						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
,	•		1	2	3	. 4
				Lunch Bunch	Bible Study	
				12noon	10:30am	
						Thrift Shop
						9:00-1:00
						NA:10:00am
						AA:7:00pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	
	-	Bible study			Bible Study	Daughter's of
B:00-10:00 am	off	7:00 pm			10:30am	The King: 10:00
						Thrift Shop
						9:00-1:00
						NA:10:00am
AA:6:30pm			AA:6:00pm			AA:7:00pm
12	13			16		18
	-	Bible study	Anchor		Bible Study 10:30am	
8:00-10:00 am	OII	7:00pm	Deadline		10:30am	Their Chan
						Thrift Shop 9:00-1:00
						NA:10:00am
AA:6:30pm			AA:6:00pm			AA:7:00pm
19	20	21	лл.о.оорш 22	23	24	_
		Bible study	Ash Wednesday	2.0	Bible Study	Congregational
-	-	7:00pm	Service 12:00		10:30am	leadership
		Shrove Tuesday				Thrift Shop
		dinner 6:00pm				9:00-1:00
						NA:10:00am
AA:6:30pm			AA:6:00pm			AA:7:00pm
26	27	28				
	-	Bible study				
B:00-10:00 am	off	7:00 pm				
AA:6:30pm			AA:6:00pm			

FEBRUARY 2012

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 A.M. RITE I HOLY EUCHARIST 10:00 A.M. RITE II HOLY EUCHARIST

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING EACH SERVICE



The Anchor

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February 2012
First Class
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Congregational Leadership Workshop - Feb. 25 (Sat.)

This annual workshop, offered in each deanery, provides wonderful opportunities to learn and grow. This year the location for our area is St. John's, Roseville. If you haven't seen their new church, you are in for a treat. The time is 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. including lunch. The focus is on change in the congregation. But there are other workshops, too. Check out the schedule at www.norcalepiscopal.org. Pastor Christine will be attending, and can provide rides

Lunch Bunch - Feb. 2

We continue our monthly healing service and fellowship lunch on Thursday, February 2. Please join us for this informal time of worship and eating. A call to the office is very helpful in planning how much food to prepare.