



## St. Clement's Episcopal Church

2376 Zinfandel Drive

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

*A Veteran Friendly Congregation*

*See us on the web @[www.saint-clements.com](http://www.saint-clements.com)*

# The Anchor

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Diocese of Northern California

June 2013

### ***Those unending questions...***

It has been asked for millennia. Why do bad things happen to good people? Books have been written on the subject, good books, but they don't relieve our grief when bad things happen to good people again, and again.

How do we make sense of lives lost in natural disasters? The recent tornado in Moore, Oklahoma killed 24 people and wiped out a whole city. Did the residents do something collectively to deserve this?

How do we make sense of unnatural disasters? Wars are the biggest killers – of both combatants and the innocent “collateral damage.” Terrorism is now collecting big numbers of deaths. And then there are mass shootings by deranged individuals who had access to guns. I'm all for the right to own a gun, but buying one should not be as easy as it is now (with no ownership database and unlimited internet sales).

Those of us who have been participating in The Bible Challenge are by now all too familiar with the wanton violence in the Hebrew Bible. It seems as if human life was not terribly precious in those days. Kings would be gruesomely slaughtered by their rivals, often half or whole brothers. In other cases, God arranged the killing because the person had “done evil” in the Lord's sight.

Our faith ancestors in the Eastern Mediterranean lands possessed amazingly developed cultures in some respects. Yet, their moralities tended to the very black and white. The saving grace is that the God they described was amenable to fervent argument – or prayer, or repentance - as to why he should NOT destroy as he planned. It's nice to think that one can change God's mind.

So, I don't think we can look to the Hebrew Bible (the Old Testament) for an answer to why bad things happen to good people. Bad things happened all the time! Our Jewish brothers and sisters find plenty of compassion and guidance in the Hebrew Bible. My father, although he never acknowledged being Jewish, was born to a Jewish mother. Because of that heritage I have great appreciation for Jewish insights. But, because I was raised as a Christian, I look more to the words and life of Jesus, and the writings of the New Testament.

Here is what I find. There is mystery in the union between Jesus and God. That mystery is not off-putting, but rather inviting. Can I be part of it, too? Yes I can, says the Bible. It doesn't require that I do good works. It requires that I *love*. Sometimes we find it hard to love. But that is the one commandment that Jesus emphasized: we must love ourselves, we must love each other, we must love the stranger, we must live with love in our hearts.

Doesn't it follow that if we love, as Jesus loved, we should not be burdened with "bad things" – like disease, death, persecution, loss of loved ones, and so on? Well, no. Here's where our faith has to take a deep breath. Bear with me a few sentences.

There are some statements by Jesus that persecution will come but "not a hair of your head" will be lost – or, not one of you will be lost. Obviously, as time went on, the disciples of "the Way" experienced losses. Furthermore, Jesus did not reappear with them again as they expected. Adjustments were required in the followers' thinking. Could it be that Jesus was talking about something else?

I think Jesus was always talking and teaching in two timeframes. He promised eternal life to those who followed him. But even more, he offered a way to live a holy and compassionate life in this physical world. That is where I think we find an answer to the question about bad things happening to good people.

In Jesus' day medical knowledge was skimpy at best. Newborns and young children died with great frequency, and so it was important to have many offspring. Maybe one of them could take care of you in your old age, should you be lucky enough to live so long. In our day, the death of a child is not common, because medical care is so far advanced. When a baby or a child dies, we are confused. We ask the age-old question.

Our first child, Nicky, was born with a defective heart. He had attentive medical care (every week a doctor's appointment) and many surgeries. He died at the age of 10-1/2 months. I was 24 years old at the time. Perhaps I should have asked God WHY? It actually didn't occur to me. I believed then, and still do, that all life is an accidental miracle – a gift of the Holy Spirit.

But these gifts do not have set lifespans attached. I still celebrate the gift of that son, 45 years later. And I pray that you celebrate life's gifts, regardless of how long the gift lasted. That was one thing I learned early on: the value of a life does not depend on its length.

To return to my initial question, I believe that life is more accidental than managed. If we are paying attention,

# Bible Readings

for the month

Revised Common Lectionary  
Year C

## June 2

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 8:22-23,41-43

PSALM 96:1-9

Galatians 1:1-12

Luke 7:1-10

## June 9

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 17:17-24

PSALM: 30

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 7: 11-17

## June 16

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26-12:10,13-15

PSALM: 32

Galatians 2:15-21

Luke 7:36-8:3

## June 23

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:1-9

PSALM: 22:18-27,42 and 43

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

## June 30

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21

PSALM 16

Galatians 5:13-25

Luke 9:51-62



## Tennessee BBQ! Yum Yum - Check us out June 22nd

It all starts Friday night, June 21st when men of St. Clement's set out some fine cuts of beef and pork to be slow, slow roasted on the smoker. About noon the next day, Saturday, June 22nd, those delectable pieces of meat will be ready to eat. We'll have lunches for sale, to eat at tables on the lawn or to take away, and meat to buy for home use over the next few days (or to freeze for July 4th). It's all delicious. We'll also have some burgers and hot dogs to feed (for free) anyone who is homeless. Men, especially, are encouraged to contact David Bridges to help with the smoking and the serving, and the staying up at night! He envisions guitars, some refreshments, a few tents... Send David a note at davidbridges@comcast.net to get in on the fun. We'll need more help for the Saturday lunch. Watch for updated details.

Does anyone have access to a smoker? Otherwise, we'll be renting.

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we can use these accidentals constructively; otherwise, they will determine our destinies.

Among the accidents of life are being in the wrong place at the wrong time. That may cut short our lifespan, or put new restrictions on it. The real meat of our existence comes from what we do with these random inputs to our life journeys. If our leg is blown off by a bomb – at the Boston Marathon or from an IED in Afghanistan – how will we subsequently behave toward our fellow travelers on this uncertain path called life?

This may be an unsatisfactory answer to the initial question for some of you. For me, *this* life is my only chance to live according to Jesus's teachings. I can't wait for eternal life – or heaven – or life after death. It is now. I already know that life is unpredictable and accidental, so if I want to have any part in Jesus I've got to live it now. I've got to be as much like Jesus as I can ever be *right now*.  
In Christ,  
Pastor Christine +

## Lunch Bunch June 13th

Harry Shippy has volunteered to be our chef this month. The short service starts at 12 noon, with lunch at 12:30 pm. It is helpful to call the office to say YOU will be there.

## Armchair Travelers to Turkey – June 27th

Pastor Christine will share selected photos of her trip to western, central and southern Turkey this past April. We'll have a pot-luck dinner on Thursday, June 27 at 6 pm. Pastor Christine will bring a Moussaka (appreciated in both Greece and Turkey). You bring salads or other dishes. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex, but, as always, you can just come and enjoy!

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

## ***Coming Soon!*** **Cowboy Church July 20th**

Never heard of Cowboy Church? Well, you probably never went to Nashville, Tennessee. It's big there, and David Bridges thought we might like a taste of this cultural event that highlights country-style Christian music and informal worship. We plan to do it outside on Saturday evening, July 20. We are putting together our own country music band. If you play an instrument, and can learn some new tunes, please speak to David Bridges about this opportunity.

### ***Spring Tea - another Yum Yum***

Our Tea, organized by Victoria McKinney and held on Saturday, May 18, was a delightful and delicious event – and it was a fund-raiser for St. Clement's. Thanks to all who hosted and decorated beautifully-themed tables, who brought tasty treats, and who provided fellowship by being with us!

### **Camp Noel Porter – the summer of your dreams!**

It's time to sign up for a week of summer camp at our diocesan campground – Camp Noel Porter at Tahoe City, Lake Tahoe. Weeklong sessions are arranged by age. The schedule is posted in the Parish Hall. Scholarship help is available. Bring a friend!

### ***Introducing Elsa Dooling***

Elsa is joining our staff as communications coordinator. She's looking at our website, Facebook page, the Anchor, and all the ways we get our message out to our parish and the community. Elsa will mostly work from home, so you may reach her, if needed, by e-mailing Pastor Christine.

We are still looking for someone to fill the Office Manager position.

## **Access Rights of Service Dogs and Service Dogs in Training**

Some of you may be wondering if St. Clement's itself is turning into a dog church. Rest assured; it is not. However, certified service dogs and service dogs in training – and their trainers/owners – have the legal right to enter and be in any facility that is open to the public. Furthermore, the trainers/owners have the right to NOT be questioned about the nature of the disability that benefits from a service dog. Some disabilities are internal. Please be careful about making assumptions regarding "ability" and "disability." A big part of being a "Veteran-Friendly Congregation" is welcoming the service dogs who help some of them feel comfortable at worship.

### **How can we strengthen St. Clement's?**

We invite people – you and me – to include St. Clement's in our legacy planning. I, Pastor Christine, have already done this. It's easy! But there are many ways to accomplish a gift to your parish, or another charitable institution. To learn more about how to do this, the Episcopal Foundation of Northern California, in cooperation with the Episcopal Church Foundation and the Capital Deanery are presenting a special workshop on Sunday, June 23 at Trinity Cathedral (from 2 to 4:30 pm) to make life planning instruments easy to understand. Nothing will be sold! It is all about strengthening our own congregations. I hope you will join me and the vestry in learning about these techniques.

### **At a Glance**

Saturdays	Thrift Store open 9-1
Tuesdays	Bible Study 7:00pm
June 8	Daughter's of the King 10:00am
June 9	Vestry 12:30
June 13	Lunch Bunch 12:00noon
June 15	Anchor Deadline
June 21-22	Tennessee BBQ Lunch All Night and 12-3:00 for lunch
June 27	Pot Luck Dinner

## Lay Ministry Schedule St. Clement's Church June 2013

	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
	Second Sunday after Pentecost	Third Sunday after Pentecost	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Altar Guild	Jennifer Yee Stephen Souلمان Randy Grimwood	Deidra White Kara Magdaleno Randy Grimwood	Father's Day Irene Grant Phyllis Rayburn Randy Grimwood	Debbi Honeycutt Len Honeycutt Randy Grimwood	Jennifer Yee Stephen Souلمان Randy Grimwood
Ushers 8:00 a.m.	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood
Ushers 10:00 a.m.	Kent Ransom	Ray & Sherry Stults	Pam Quarles	Jennifer Jones	Kent Ransom
Acolytes 8:00 a.m.	Chris Wash	Harry Shippy	Jim Wash	Janelle Fallan	Chris Wash
Acolytes 10:00 a.m.	Debbie Popp	Debbi Honeycutt	Debbie Popp	Debbi Honeycutt	Debbie Popp
Lectors 8:00 a.m.	Marj Heineke	Jim Wash	Chris Wash	Marj Heineke	Janelle Fallan
Lectors 10:00 a.m.	Bobbie Keill Kent Ransom	David Bridges Bobbie Keill	Chuck Maxson Pam Quarles	Kent Ransom David Bridges	Bill Murray Bobbie Keill
Intercessors 8:00a.m.	Harry Shippy	Janelle Fallan	Randy Grimwood	Chris Wash	Jim Wash
10:00 a.m.	Bill Murray	Ray Stults	David Bridges	Chuck Maxson	Bobbie Keill
E.M. (Chalice) 8:00a.m.	Chris Wash	Harry Shippy	Jim Wash	Janelle Fallan	Chris Wash
E.M.(Chalice) 10:00 a.m.	Sharon Burke-Polana	Debbi Honeycutt	Debbie Popp	Deidra White	Muriel Murray
Coffee Hour 8:00 a.m.	Harry Shippy	Mary Norsweather Phyllis Rayburn	Chris & Jim Wash	Irene Grant Randy Grimwood	Janelle Fallan Ken Dunham
Coffee Hour 10:00a.m.	Bobbie Keill	Marla Bridges	Terry Sandhoff	Debbie Popp	Sherry Stults
Counters	Ray Stults Harry Shippy	Sharon Burke-Polana Stephen Souلمان	Guido Polana Sherry Stults	Ray Stults Kent Ransom	Bill Murray Harry Shippy
PIE 8:00 & 10:00a.m.	Debbi Honeycutt	Mickey Boughton	HELP NEEDED	Debbi Honeycutt	Mickey Boughton

# St Clement's Episcopal Church June 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						Big Lawn Sale & Thrift Store open 9:00am – 1:00pm NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off	Bible Study 7:00pm	AA 6:00 pm			Thrift Store open 9:00-1:00pm Daut of the King 10:00am NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am AA6:30pm	Pastor Christine on Continuing Education in Chicago through 6/21	Bible Study 7:00pm	AA 6:00 pm	Lunch Bunch 12:00noon		Thrift Store open 9:00am – NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off	Bible Study 7:00pm	AA 6:00 pm		BBQ all night	Thrift Store open 9:00am Tennessee BBQ 12-3pm NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off	Bible Study 7:00pm	AA 6:00 pm			Thrift Store open 9:00am NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
30						



## Contacts

### Office Manager pro tem

Chris Wash 852-7224

### Music Minister

Carole Maxson 209- 795-5768

### Sexton

Randy Grimwood 458-8196

### Altar Guild

Debbi Honycutt 362-5170

### Anchor Editor

Harry Shippy 631-0640  
e-mail shippyharry@yahoo.com

### Daughters of the King

Debbi Honeycutt 362-5170

### Lay Ministry Coordinator

Bobbie Keill 852-6837

### Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Len Honeycutt 362-5170

### Parish Nurse

Helen Sheppard 635-1987

### P.I.E./Lectionary Bible Study

Betty Chapman 363-4435

### Prayer Tree

Mickey Boughton 635-8324

### Sunday School

Muriel Murray 967-5981

Sharon Burke-Polana 481-0225

### Ushers

Randy Grimwood 458-8196

### Coffee Hour Hospitality

Bobbie Keill 852-6837

### Kitchen Supplies

Sherry Stults 638-2284

## 2013 Vestry

Ray Stults, Sr. Warden	638-2284
Bobbie Keill, People's Warden	852-6837
Harry Shippy, Clerk	631-0640
Sharon Burke-Polana	481-0225
Kent Ransom, Treasurer	635-5751
Randy Grimwood	458-8196
Debbi Popp	635-3097
Ethel Bartmess	452-0783
Matt Suhar	400-4264
Terry Sandhoff	966-6549

## Our New E-mail Address

Starting off this month the parish will be converting our e-mail system from hotmail to mychurchwebsite. There are a lot of technical reasons for this (better e-mail distribution, clearer access to our address book, etc.) We will continue to check the old address, at least for a time. So don't be afraid. If you send something we'll get it. The new addresses are: Pastor Christine: pastor@saint-clements.com and the office at: info@saint-clements.com. Please note the "dash" in the address. It MUST be there for the message to go through.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 2	Cindy Long
June 4	Guido Polana Eric Weber
June 9	Kelby Knox
June 25	Phyllis Rayburn
June 27	Deidra White
June 28	Nancy Smith

### Anniversaries

June 23	Paul and Laurel Sunderman
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### Clergy and Lay Eucharist Visits

Please call the church office(635-5282) or send an e-mail to the church at info@saint-clements.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.

# JUNE 2013

## 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



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Rancho Cordova, CA. 95670

June 2013

First Class

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED



### *Coming Attractions*

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June 27	Pot Luck Dinner - Pastor Christine's pictures of Turkey 6:00pm