



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

A Veteran Friendly Congregation

The Anchor

Published By St. Clement's Episcopal Church

September 2012 Diocese of Northern California

Life's Surprises

What I will remember about the summer of 2012 is not the beautiful pictures we took on our vacation to (fill in the blank). We didn't go on vacation, although I spent a week as chaplain at Camp Noel Porter, with David and Shadow as companions in my off-duty hours. No, what I will remember is the stewpot of excitement and anxiety that accompanies any event involving medical attention. We've had three different family members rushed to emergency rooms since early May. The outcomes are varied: some great, some optimistic, some incredibly challenging.

It has been an interesting time to be a priest. My pledge and my calling is to be a prayerful mainstay and presence for YOU and your loved ones whenever these sorts of challenges arise. I take that commitment with utmost seriousness. I truly want to be with you to celebrate your joys and grieve your losses. But with members of my own immediate family, some of whom do NOT share my belief in a God who cares what happens to them, I am sometimes at a loss. Do I insist on praying publicly with them or just do it privately? Do I ask them if they would like to pray? (The answer is always no.)

This has come up more than once this summer. So, *I* prayed about what to do. As usual, that helped! I think praying always does. The solution I came up with was to say something like this to such family members for whom this situation applies: "I am an Episcopal priest, and I pray for people. I am already praying for you, but I would like to offer to say a few prayers together." Then I stop and wait. Of course, I'm waiting for their permission. But I'm also waiting on God's permission, and it comes. Someone in the room says OK. I don't think any non-believer was ever damaged by prayer, but such a person might have been offended, and a family relationship strained if prayer were imposed upon them.

Now, in the example above I spoke from my own position as a priest, but anyone could say something like, 'I believe in God's power of healing and would you mind if I said a prayer for you?'

Here I am a priest and I am beset by timidity and respect for the religious views of others of all faiths – and non faiths. I feel it

puts me in a powerless position. At a class I attended recently, the students – all priests – were asked what kind of God we believed in. Is our God powerful – or not? It’s a good question, because we have been taught that the God of the Hebrew Bible punished those who disobeyed him and rewarded those who were steadfast in worship. Many of us have been reading through the entire Bible this year on The Bible Challenge, and we have real qualms with the violent and vengeful tactics of these ancient stories. Yet, that God of the Israelites had tender qualities, too.

One of the chief lessons of the Bible – all parts of it – is that those who are least “worthy” by virtue of character or skill are often put in charge of tremendous tasks. And they succeed, with God’s help! So, is our God powerful or not?

Some people, including ancient Israelites, believe that illness is punishment for sin. I *absolutely* do not agree with that! Bad things happen to bad people. However, bad things happen to good people, too. Bad things happen to totally innocent people. Why?

This is not my final thought on the matter, but it seems to me that the experience of being alive brings with it many random trajectories, like a video game with multiple options. You go with life path A, and you are rewarded early on and then get bored. You choose life path B, and you struggle with finding an identity and purpose, but maybe you persevere because you have acquired family responsibilities, and in time hit your stride. You choose life path C and a different set of circumstances applies. And, of course, there are many forks in our paths; none is a straight line from birth to death – at a ripe old age.

Each of us confronts life’s unexpected surprises all the time. Some are pleasant – even beyond our dreams. Some represent our worst fears. And in between these surprises we live our lives. May God help each one of us!

With faith,

Pastor Christine +

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

Bible Readings

for the month

Revised Common Lectionary
Year B

September 2

Fourteenth Sunday After
Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

PSALM 45:1-2,7-10

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

September 9

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23

PSALM 125

James 2:1-10(11-13),14-17

Mark 7:24-37

September 16

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Proverbs 1:20-33

PSALM 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

September 23

Seventeenth Sunday After
Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31

PSALM 1

James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

September 30

Eighteenth Sunday After
Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22

PSALM 124

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

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Saturdays	Thrift Store open 9:00-1:00pm
Fridays	Bible Study 10:30am
Sundays	Bible Study 9:00am
September 3	Labor Day
September 8	Founder's Day Picnic 12:00noon-3:00pm Daughters of the King 10:00am
September 13	Lunch Bunch 12 noon
September 14	Choir Retreat
September 15	Lay Ministry Workshop 9:00-3:00 St. Michael's, Carmichael
September 16	Choir Returns

Birthdays and Anniversaries

September 7	Debbie Nichols
September 8	Irv White
September 9	Addison Quarles James Patterson Christine Leigh-Taylor
September 10	Jim Wash
September 11	Harry Shippy
September 14	Muriel Murray
September 15	Bill Murray Chris Wash
September 17	Heather King
September 20	Barbara Patterson
September 21	Stephen Soulman
September 24	Gerred Smith
September 25	Gina Polana
September 26	Juliana Wells
September 27	Chuck Maxson

Clergy and Lay Eucharist Visits

Please call the church office(635-5282) or send an e-mail to the church . 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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Ministry to Returning Veterans

by Terry Sandhoff

Last year, the Vestry enthusiastically endorsed a proposal to start a veteran's ministry here at St. Clement's. We decided to join forces with Care for the Troops, an Episcopal organization based in Georgia. We became registered as a Veteran Friendly Congregation, and began prayer lists for our military families, helped Blue Star Moms prepare care packages to be sent overseas, and provided wash cloths for the 2011 Sacramento Stand Down. It has now been a year and we are ready to take the next step, becoming an active Lead Congregation.

The need to have more congregations involved is greater than ever. There are hundreds of thousands of troops who will be returning to the States from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. For the most part, the general population does not understand what these men and women will be experiencing here on their home soil after their deployment. Faith organizations are in the perfect position to help them with the reintegration process. But first, all of us need to learn how to help, and this can be done through various workshops.

Recently, I addressed the Southeast Deanery (ours) about the need for a Returning Veterans Ministry throughout our Diocese. The idea was well received and a team of six individuals from throughout our Deanery coalesced to start up this new ministry. Susan Wahlstrom, R.N. from Health Ministries offered our team the opportunity to present a workshop to the Superior Deanery at All Saints Church in Redding on August 18th. As a result of that successful presentation, five different churches in that area say they want to start their own ministries for Returning Veterans. We'll be supporting them.

The workshop introduces attendees to 'Military Culture,' describes Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain

Injury (TBI) and other post war disorders frequently seen in our returning veterans. Finally, it addresses how congregations can help our veterans and their families as they strive to regain their lives after returning from the combat zone.

I am excited about Pastor Christine asking me to present this workshop to St. Clement's in the near future. It can be done in one hour, although discussion could extend that time. The presentation material will also be sent to Care for the Troops. The hope is that we will be able to take this workshop "on the road" and introduce the concept to congregations of all faiths here locally and throughout Northern California. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more or attending the workshop.

Lunch Bunch moves to the SECOND Thursday, Sept. 13

Most of the Lunch Bunch regulars are willing to move our monthly noon healing service and fellowship lunch to the second Thursday of each month (instead of the first). This may accommodate a few folks who might like to join us but have a conflict on first Thursdays. We're in our seventh year of Lunch Bunch, and different people come all the time. It is casual and friendly, a real joy. Also, rides can be arranged if you call the office ahead of time. Do we have an inspired cook for September 13? Let Pastor Christine know if it is YOU.

Family Promise Dinner now Thursday, September 6

On Thursday, Sept. 6 a group from St. Clement's will prepare the evening meal for two-three families staying at Grace Lutheran Church in the Family Promise program. If you would like to help please contact Pastor Christine. Groceries will be paid by the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Family Promise of Sacramento is entirely supported by local donations.



Total Ministry Development Group Fall Gathering

Total Ministry is an often misunderstood term. It doesn't suggest that a congregation is too small or too poor to have a full-time priest. What it does promote is the ministry of all the baptized, not leaving all the work of ministry to the ordained, but claiming it for each person. It has been said that Total Ministry is like turning the church inside out.

The Rev. Kay Rohde is the new diocesan Ministry Development Coordinator. She and the Total Ministry Development Group have announced their Fall Gathering at St. John's, Marysville September 21-22. The program begins with dinner Friday night and continues to 3:30 pm Saturday. The cost is \$35 for all meals and materials, but overnight is each participant's responsibility. It would be a very good idea for a team of two to three people from St. Clement's to attend. If you are interested, please speak to Pastor Christine. We could even pay for it!

Lay Ministry Workshops September 15

Want to become a Eucharistic Minister or Visitor, a Catechist, Preacher, or Evangelist? How about honing your social networking skills or learning about spiritual direction? There are workshops on these ministries – and more – at the Lay Ministries Workshop on Saturday, September 15 at St. Michael's, Carmichael. The program day begins with continental breakfast at 9 am and it ends at 3 pm. Lunch, snacks and all materials are provided with a \$20 registration fee. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged so the organizers know how much to prepare. Get a group together and register on one sheet. A detailed agenda is posted in the Parish Hall.

**The Blessing of the Animals
will be October 7
at the 10 AM service.**

Lay Ministry Schedule St. Clement's Church September 2012

	SUNDAY Sept 2 14th Sunday after Pentecost	SUNDAY Sept 9 15th Sunday after Pentecost	SUNDAY Sept 16 18th Sunday after Pentecost	SUNDAY Sept 23 17th Sunday after Pentecost	SUNDAY Sept 30 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Altar Guild	Deidra White Kara Magdaleno	Irene Grant Phyllis Rayburn	Debbi Honeycutt Len Honeycutt	Jennifer Yee Stephen Souلمان	Deidra White Kara Magdaleno
Ushers 8:00 a.m.	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood	Randy Grimwood
Ushers 10:00 a.m.	Pam Quarles	Ray & Sherry Stults	Bill Murray	Bill Murray	Kent Ransom
Acolytes 8:00 a.m.	Chris Wash	Janelle Fallan	Harry Shippy	Jim Wash	Chris Wash
Acolytes 10:00 a.m.	Debbie Popp	Debbi Honeycutt	Kathleen Gallagher	Debbi Honeycutt	Debbi Honeycutt
Lectors 8:00 a.m.	Harry Shippy	Ken Dunham	Chris Wash	Janelle Fallan	Jim Wash
Lectors 10:00 a.m.	Muriel Murray Kent Ransom	Bobbie Keill Chuck Maxxon	David Bridges Mike Chaoman	Bill Murray Kent Ransom	Pam Quarles Muriel Murray
Intercessors 8:00a.m.	Jim Wash	Harry Shippy	Janelle Fallan	Ken Dunham	Saralu Methven
10:00 a.m.	Bill Murray	Mike Chapman	Chuck Maxxon	Bobbie Keill	Muriel Murray
E.M. (Chalice) 8:00a.m.	Chris Wash	Janelle Fallan	Harry Shippy	Jim Wash	Chris Wash
E.M.(Chalice) 10:00 a.m.	Deidra White	Sharon Burke-Polana	Debbie Popp	Bobbie Keill	Muriel Murray
Coffee Hour 8:00 a.m.	Harry Shippy	Mary Norsweather Phyllis Rayburn	Jim & Chris Wash	Irene Grant Randy Grimwood	Janelle Fallan Ken Dunham
Coffee Hour 10:00a.m.	Terly Sandhoff	Marla Bridges Bobbie Keill	Betty Chapman Kathleen Gallagher	Carol Cartwright	Pam Quarles
Counters	Kent Ransom Sherry Stults	Ray Stults Harry Shippy	Sharon Burke-Polana Muriel Murray	Kent Ransom Guido Polana	Mickey Boughton Stephen Souلمان Bill Murray
PIE 8:00 & 10:00a.m.	Debbi Honeycutt	Betty Chapman	Mickey Boughton	Muriel Murray	Debbi Honeycutt

St Clement's Episcopal Church September 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 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 Bible Study 9:00 AA6:30pm	Labor Day Rector's Day Off		AA 6:00 pm	Family Promise Dinner	Bible Study 10:30am	Thrift Store open 9:am – 1:00pm Daut of the King 10:00am Founder's Day NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am Bible Study 9:00 AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off		AA 6:00 pm	Lunch Bunch 12:00noon	Bible Study 10:30am	Thrift Store open 9:00am – 1:00pm NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm Anchor Deadline Lay Ministry Workshop
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am Bible Study 9:00 AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off		AA 6:00 pm		Bible Study 10:30am	Thrift Store open 9:00am – 1:00pm NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am Bible Study 9:00 AA6:30pm	Rector's Day Off		AA 6:00 pm		Bible Study 10:30am	Thrift Store open 9:00am – 1:00pm NA 10:00 am AA 7:00 pm
30						
Eucharist 8:00&10:00am Bible Study 9:00 AA6:30pm						

Blessing of the Animals October 7 10:00am

Daughters of the King gave LOTS of Diapers

In August our St. Clement's group (Maranatha Chapter) of the Daughters of the King donated 771 disposable diapers to the St. John's Shelter for Women and Children. The Shelter folks were ecstatic, because diapers of various sizes are always needed. The service project was so successful that the Daughters decided they'd probably do the same thing next year. If you would like to learn more about the Daughters of the King (DOK), a national organization for church women to encourage prayer, study and service, speak to Debbi Honeycutt.

SEPTEMBER 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

St. Clement's Episcopal Church

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September 2012

First Class

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

RETURN POSTAGE GURANTEED



The Amazing Founder's Day Picnic is Coming!

Saturday, September 8 from 12:00noon to 3:00pm

The hot dogs will be grillin' and the sodas chillin'. A whole lot of tasty treats are going to be available,too – according to the sign-ups. This will be a day to skip dinner!

Bring your kids. We'll have some games and activities for all ages, and a craft table,too. There will be tables under the trees and out on the lawn, and maybe even a pick=up band. What would YOU like to do at the picnic?