

Easter, 2004



From the Rector:

This short edition of the Patter includes my Easter letter with the schedule for Holy Week and Easter on the back. You will also find important dates for youth and family activities. You will find prayer and birthday lists, as well as the Sunday schedules, in the Patter you received earlier in March. The deadline for the May Patter is April 20th. The staff and I, together with our Worship Commission, are planning very meaningful Holy Week and Easter services. I hope you will help us to make a profound witness to the love of Christ working in our lives and at All Saints by simply making it your priority to join with your fellow parishioners as we welcome the larger community to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

The most powerful spiritual gift we have is our presence. To be present in relationships, and with our faith community, is to express our faith in a God who is “with us” always. At All Saints, only about 35% of our parishioners are present on a given Sunday. That indicates that being present is not our highest priority on Sundays. Can you imagine what a powerful worship experience it would be if we were able to increase Sunday attendance to an average of 70%? It would feel as though the church had doubled in size, but in reality we would only be exercising the gift of presence. I hope that those of you who fall into the 35% category or less will resolve to make your presence with us your gift to the Body of Christ. Holy Week and Easter is a very good time to turn over that new leaf and make worship a priority in your life. You will be blessed, and so will your church and the community we serve.

With love in Christ at Easter,

Youth and Education News

Jenni Walker, Director 624-3883 #20, jenni@thirdplanetdesign.net

I pray that your Lent is being filled with God’s quiet presence... and that Easter brings us all deep renewal and fresh joy!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHANGES

Beginning in April, Sunday school will begin at 10:30 in order to give teachers a fuller time with students.

PARENTS: please bring children to their room before the opening procession into the 10:30 service. Godly Play: ages 3-7 in the upstairs classroom, Rite 13 ages 11-13 downstairs in the youth room, **Spirit Arts class (age 8-10) will be held in the classroom attached to the nursery beginning the first Sunday in April.**

We also continue to invite adults to discern whether they are being called to a teaching ministry with our children. Great curriculum, training and support provided! **YOU ARE NEEDED**-once a month and substitutes welcome...

EASTER

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place between the 9:15 and 11:00 services at 10:40 in the patios (upstairs for toddlers, downstairs up to age 12). **WE NEED PLASTIC EGGS AND CANDY!** Just bring these to the office-Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Mark your calendars now for June 14-18th- and let Jenni know if you would like to help or be on the team! Theme and details TBA soon.

CONFIRMATION -April 14-June 2nd Wednesday afternoons (schedule may change based on participant needs), Confirmation will be June 6th at the 5:30 service. Youth Confirmation classes are for eighth grades and up-a chance to explore God, the church, and their place in it all! There will be a weekly class (parent’s to attend the first one), a

small retreat one Saturday morning TBA, and a strong recommendation to attend either a New Beginnings or Happening retreat. Our approach to Confirmation at All Saints church is to generate lively interactions and processes that welcome and inspire young people into a life-long journey of Faith within a community of Faith. Led by Jenni Walker with Clergy. Parents and parishioners are encouraged to support and participate in this “Soul-tending” and conversation. We seek to empower young people in seeing God’s presence and meaning for their lives through the exploration of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason, as well as through their own and other’s experiences and gifts. We design sessions to be relevant to the specific youth who are participating. Questions, doubts, and inclusive perspectives will be explored. While our expectation and hope is that the participants will say “Yes!” to their life in Christ and choose to be confirmed at this time, each person’s final decision will be respected. A full syllabus is available- and please don’t hesitate to call Jenni (number above) with questions! (Chaplain. Wendy Howe also offers confirmation class to 5-8th grades- contact her at All Saints Day School, 624-9171)

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS (mark your calendars-watch for details!):

-April 30th-May 2nd (overnight) New Beginnings (6-9th grades): Similar to Happenings, except for middle school. A fun-filled experience for younger teens...a chance play games, go swimming, make new friends AND reflect on their lives and God at this special time of life. Held at Mt. Hermon in the Santa Cruz mountains. Registration **Deadline: April 5th!**

-July 5-10 Rock N’ Water: An awesome river-rafting, rock-climbing, faith-building, life-changing experience for youth and their adults! Takes place on the American River – and in your heart! Fantastic! **DEADLINE NOW**

-July 20-25 Provincial Youth Event: For a delegation of High School Students at Concordia College in Portland Oregon. Mega-Youth Event that happens once every three years! Contact Jan Wood 484-1749 to apply to the delegation and contact Charlotte to learn what it’s all about (she’s on the Design Team!) **DEADLINE NOW**

-July 25-31 Venture Out Urban Mission Camp: This is an outreach adventure for everyone in 6th-12th grades right now! We engage in community service; take advantage of city fun (like Raging Waters and the Tech); ride the bus and walk everywhere; think outside the box; have a terrific week!

-August 1-8 Sierra Service Project: This year’s service trip will be to Navajo land! SSP works with the people served to provide an extra hand (or seven) to do the work they’d like to accomplish. Youth from all over join in on these projects. For High School students. A Life-changer! **DEADLINE NOW**

Please call Jenni (624-3883 #20) about any of these events. Scholarships are usually available- just ask!

Vestry Highlights

On Saturday, March 20th, the vestry experienced a meaningful day in retreat at our Day School in Carmel Valley. Several important decisions were made, but most of all, they discussed the meaning of being spiritual leaders in Christian community with one another and the congregation. It was time well spent. The business matters included the following: Stan Ewig was elected Jr. Warden to replace Dennis Heinitz, who has resigned from the vestry. Other vestry members were appointed to commissions as follows: Barbara Bown, Worship; Brigga Cripe, Evangelism; Anna Doig, Membership Development; Dick Barratt, Buildings and Grounds; David Steinmann, Stewardship; Hans Lehmann, Outreach; Finance, Linda Stiehl and Ed Childs; Philip Wood, Treasurer, Anthony Healey, Sr. Warden. We hope that Meryl Dun will be able to continue as clerk. The Education and Pastoral Care Commissions became committees with staff leadership, and the Long-Range Planning Committee became a committee of the vestry. It was further decided not to appoint a replacement for Dennis, and to operate this year with eleven vestry members, allowing the parish to elect someone to fulfill his term at the next Annual Meeting.

PREPARING FOR THE PRE-TEEN YEARS

A Class for Parents of Middle Schoolers

By Mother Holly Hudson-Louis

What makes parenting preteens so exhilarating and frustrating?

In what ways does a preteens' physical, intellectual and emotional growth challenge us as adults facing our own "middle age"?

At mid-life (late 30's – 50's) we are faced with questions about whether we will thrive or decline as we grow older. Having a pre-teen in our home brings these questions up more quickly because teenagers are in a "thrive" mode. A parent might observe the teen changing physically, sexually, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually as the teen articulates his/her desire for more control and freedom, is detaching from us, de-idealizing us, and often are questioning his/her faith tradition. The purpose of this class is to identify and better understand what happens to us as people as we parent teens.

Parents (single or couples) of 5th – 8th graders are invited. Through presentations, group discussion and role-playing, and using recent material from a parent/teen study, we will explore new ways of living with pre-teens.

Sessions meet from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

in Grant Hall (across from the All Saints' offices.)

Monday, April 26th Session 1: What is happening to our pre-teens developmentally at this stage – what are we noticing?

Monday, May 3rd Session 2: What are these changes in our pre-teens triggering in us?
What feelings come up for us how are we managing them?

Monday, May 10th, Session 3: What do I do about all this? How can I thrive myself through my child's teen years?

Cost: \$30.00 for the three classes

Leader: *The Rev. Anne Swallow Gillis* is the parent of two teenagers and an ordained United Church of Christ minister. A certified pastoral counselor, she serves as Executive Director of Interfaith Pastoral Counseling of Monterey County. Founded in 1999, IPC/MC is a non-profit organization providing counseling for families, couples and individuals and educational programs that integrate the resources of spirituality and psychology.

To sign up please call The Rev. Holly Hudson-Louis at 624-3883 ex. 13
or write her at revhhl@mbay.net.

CRUISE THE MEXICAN RIVIERA IN OCTOBER

Those thirty five stalwarts who participated in the Alaska Cruise last August will attest to the tremendous experience that it was. Foremost, there was fellowship, then fabulous food, magnificent scenery and the knowledge that every person was making two hundred dollar for All Saints while we were having such a good time. And this year's cruise will be longer (eight nights instead of seven). It will be warmer, (Going south instead of north) and it will be less expensive by about five hundred dollars. In addition, the special rate we have negotiated is over six hundred dollars less than the cruise lines brochure rate. We have reserved sixteen balcony state rooms and three are already reserved. The enclosed brochure gives all details. For any further information, and to reserve your space call Tom Brown, 624-2685.

SHABBAT SHALOM PASSOVER MEAL AND PRESENTATION

Wednesday, March 31st, 6 p.m., Seccombe Hall

GOD'S PURPOSE IN PASSOVER IS FULFILLED IN MESSIAH

The Memorial days of the Lord – of which Passover is one - are like a tapestry woven by the hand of God, illustrating the plan of salvation that He has designed. Every Festival, including Sabbath, forms a complete picture of God's plan of redemption. They are specific appointments for Messiah, wherein, in each one, He will complete and fulfill certain works of the redemption.

The design of the Festivals is like a Messianic blueprint that reveals major aspects of the ministry of Jesus: but none foreshadows our redemption in Jesus Christ in such beautiful detail as the Passover. The rich Hebraic context of the Passover helps us to understand, in its fullness, God's revelation of the person, work, and mission of His Son.



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