



### Don't Forget . . . the Food Ministry!

We are continuing to collect cans and boxed items for Interfaith Ministries.

Unfortunately, the giving has been down this past year. We would like to ask you to donate any food items you can.

They are put in the basket at the back of the church. The basket is then brought up to the Altar along with the offering every Sunday and is blessed with our offerings.

Many, many thanks to Robert & Sharon Neller for all their faithful work bagging and bringing the donations into Interfaith Ministries.

### + Christian Symbols +



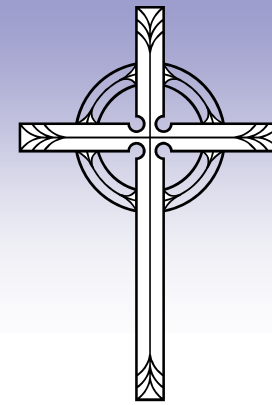
#### Alpha Mu Omega

The Greek letters that begin the words "yesterday," "today" and "forever" remind us of Jesus' constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we know it. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord's "steadfast love endures forever" (e.g., Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What a reassuring message when life seems troublesome and fleeting!

*from the Newsletter Newsletter*

**Answer to Bible Quiz: D**  
(See Matthew 28:16-20.)

Jesus, Our Savior  
Anglican Church  
3330 Oakdale Rd.  
Modesto, CA 95355



# The Savior's Voice

Volume 6, No. 2

February 2014

*"Let us have faith that right makes might,  
and in that faith let us to the end dare to  
do our duty as we understand it."*

*—Abraham Lincoln*  
*from the Newsletter Newsletter*



### Inside this Issue...

- Church Staff ..... 2
- Bishop's Committee ..... 2
- Altar Guild ..... 2
- Welcome ..... 2
- From the Vicar ..... 3
- Note from the Bishop ..... 4
- Report from Dr. Gratian ..... 4
- Recycling Project Update ..... 4
- Church Phone Service Changed ..... 5
- Good News! ..... 5
- Prime Shine Tickets ..... 5
- Diocesan Calendar ..... 5
- The Kid's Page ..... 6
- Computer Ministry ..... 7
- Dates to Remember ..... 7
- Bible Studies ..... 7
- Bible Quiz ..... 7
- Prayer Circle ..... 7
- Birthdays & Anniversaries ..... 7
- Food Ministry ..... 8
- Christian Symbols ..... 8



### Outreach Update by Helen Merrick

Outreach has been a real challenge for our church for awhile. New people come and go, old faces comes and go and now I feel we need some input from our family for new ideas on how to increase our numbers.

Maybe we can do that by having a questionnaire filled out before we break for coffee hour. Give some ideas such as a Saturday Friendship luncheon with some activities, gift drawings and games.

Please help our church grow!

### Sunday School Report



Stories and crafts galore! The group of kids are enjoying Sundays revisiting the teachings of Jesus and how to always look to God when in need.

Furthermore, thanks to Liz, the kids enjoy making crafts with the older kids helping the younger kids.



The Rt. Rev. R. Duncan, Archbishop, ACNA  
 The Rt. Rev. Eric Menees ..... Bishop  
 ..... Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin  
 The Rev. Woodrow Gubuan ..... Vicar  
 The Rev. Canon Thomas M. Foster...  
 ..... Vicar Emeritus  
 The Rev. Hugh Cooke ..... Deacon  
 Mary Scott ..... Secretary  
 Sarah Pine ..... Sexton

### Bishop's Committee

Fr. Woodrow Gubuan ..... Vicar  
 Chris May ..... Bishop's Warden/Treasurer  
 ..... Junior Warden  
 Mary Scott ..... Clerk  
 Liz Basham            Helen Merrick  
 Larry Beyers         Velmer Reeh  
 Pamela Jordan        Seth Simas

*The Bishop's Committee meets the second Sunday of every month following the Sunday service.*

- ✚ Sunday School - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
- ✚ Nursery - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
- ✚ Church Service - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.



**Altar Guild Directress**  
 Corinne Golden

**ALTAR GUILD Members:**  
 Liz Basham            Helen Merrick  
 Jan Miller             Sharol Terrill

#### Auxiliary members:

Betty Hill             Jo Anne Mitchell  
 Margaret Moore     Neal Mitchell  
 Jeannette Gooch    Joan Court

Editor ..... Fr. Woodrow Gubuan  
 Design & Format ..... Mary Scott



## Welcome to Jesus, Our Savior

### Healing

As I enter into a quiet time in the silence, all "worry thoughts" slip away. I give thanks that divine love created me and is continually healing me.

As I relax into God's loving presence, any physical or emotional pain is replaced with an encompassing sense of joy that surpasses all understanding. I take a moment to focus on each part of the body, feeling all tensions evaporating, knowing that complete restoration is taking place.

Slowly, gently coming back to an awareness of my surroundings, I feel both relaxed and refreshed. I understand that God is enfolding me in unconditional love and acceptance I affirm what I know is true; Divine love heals and restores me. I am alive, alert and enthusiastic about life.

*"He grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised."*

*Romans 4:20-21*

Sincerely,  
 Beverly Burke  
 Welcoming Committee



**Altar Flowers** The 2014 Flower Chart is now ready for sign-ups for Altar flowers. The cost for flowers is \$30 per Sunday. See Liz Basham if you have any questions.



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** 15th of every month.

Please e-mail your submissions to Mary at [mlscott9@pacbell.net](mailto:mlscott9@pacbell.net) or call 529-7606.

Church phone number ..... (209) 551-5279  
 Fr. Woodrow Gubuan ..... (209) 482-2454

[www.JesusOurSaviorAnglicanChurch.com](http://www.JesusOurSaviorAnglicanChurch.com)



## Second Chance Computer Refurbishing Ministry

We currently have 3 students on a waiting list for a computer, but unfortunately, they have not returned our calls that we have a refurbished computer for them. Mary calls them twice and leaves a message. If she doesn't hear back from them within 3-4 days, then she calls the next name on the list.

We plan to stockpile another set of computers and will hold another give-away for students this spring.

If you know of a relative, friend or business who has old computers that are no longer in use, please give us a call.

The hard drive on the computers are scrubbed and new free software (Linux) is installed. If the system is unable to be fixed, parts can still be taken from them to use. The parts that can't be used are brought in for recycle.

Please continue to help us spread the word to receive more donated computers & monitors. They will receive a technology donation receipt for tax purposes. Thanks for all your support!

### Dates to remember

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday ..... February 2
- Valentine's Day ..... February 14
- Presidents Day ..... February 17

### Bible Studies



- ✚ Bible Study - Thursday at 11:00 a.m.
- ✚ Confirmation/Baptism Class - Saturday at 3:00 p.m.
- ✚ Catechism - Sunday at 9:00 a.m.



### Bible Quiz

One theme of Epiphany is to share the Gospel with others and lead them to faith. To whom did Jesus say, "Go therefore and make disciples"?

- A. Peter, James and John (his "inner circle")
- B. The women at the empty tomb
- C. A crowd, beside the Sea of Galilee
- D. The 11 disciples (Judas had committed suicide)

*Answer on page 8 from the Newsletter Newsletter*



- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ○ Karen T.           | ○ Evan W.       |
| ○ Gabriella          | ○ John          |
| ○ Betty H.           | ○ Lucille       |
| ○ Maxine M.          | ○ Art & Jane E. |
| ○ Carlton McC.       | ○ Nancy B.      |
| ○ Fr. Bill & Shirley | ○ Marjorie M.   |
| ○ Dave & Michelle    | ○ Ruby H.       |
| ○ Rob & Lori         | ○ Gwen H.       |
| ○ Darlene A.         | ○ Eva B.        |
| ○ Gloria W.          | ○ Jean R.       |
| ○ Pamela J.          | ○ Mrs. Seeks    |
| ○ Eiden              | ○ JoAnne M.     |
| ○ Rachel             | ○ Jennifer      |
| ○ Wendy              | ○ Molly H.      |
| ○ Sam A.             | ○ Corinne       |
| ○ Cayden Michael     | ○ Don & Ruby    |
| ○ Joan C.            | ○ Gillian       |
| ○ Kennedy R.         | ○ Kay K.        |
| ○ Janet M.           | ○ Gregory M.    |
| ○ Haley B.           | ○ Ruth G.       |
| ○ Phil R.            | ○ Myles P.      |
| ○ Wicher Family      | ○ Terri & Marty |
| ○ Rashel S.          | ○ Lucille       |
| ○ Kay K.             | ○ Helen M.      |
| ○ Sandra B.          |                 |

If you have a name to add to the prayer list, please call the church at 551-5279.

### Answer to Kids' Page

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 20 ..... "May        | 70 ..... even  |
| 4 ..... your         | 6 ..... as     |
| 29 ..... unflinching | 12 ..... we    |
| 7 ..... love         | 64 ..... put   |
| 1 ..... be           | 14 ..... our   |
| 28 ..... with        | 81 ..... hope  |
| 60 ..... us,         | 9 ..... in     |
| 40 ..... Lord,       | 24 ..... you." |



- |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| ☺ Glory Hernandez    | February 7  |
| ☺ Willy Gaa          | February 12 |
| ☺ Velmer Reeh        | February 12 |
| ☺ Jose Matulac       | February 18 |
| ☺ Genevieve Dimperio | February 19 |
| ☺ Marilyn Gaa        | February 19 |

*If you are not on the Birthday/Anniversary Chart, please let Mary Scott know.*



# The Kid's Page

## NEVER-ENDING GIFT

Seven days a week, remind someone special about God's love, the gift that truly keeps on giving.

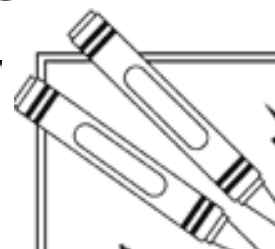


### What you need:

- Large plastic pill box with a compartment for each day
- Construction paper
- Craft glue
- Black permanent marker
- Heart stickers
- Scissors
- Bible
- Pencil
- 7 small treats (fish-shaped crackers, small candies, trail mix, etc.)

### What you do:

1. Glue paper onto the container. Write "God's Love" in permanent marker. Decorate with heart stickers.
2. Cut seven slips of paper. On each slip, write out one Bible verse about God's love. (Examples include Psalm 63:3; Psalm 100:5; John 3:16; John 15:12; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9.)
3. Fill each compartment with a different treat. Then place a folded slip atop each treat.
4. Give away the present. Tell the recipient to open the correct day for a week — and then refill the treats and verses and "regift" God's love to someone else.



# PUZZLE

## God's Love

We can't measure God's love for us. It starts before we're born and continues for eternity.

Directions: Down the left-hand column, spell out the name of each number. Then write the circled letters on the blank lines in the right-hand column. Read the words on the right, from top to bottom, to see what Psalm 33:22 (NIV) says about God's love.

20	_____	"M a _____
4	_____	y _____
99	_____	u _ f a _ l _ _ _ g
7	_____	l o _ _ _
1	_____	b _ _ _
28	_____	_____ h
60	_____	u _ _ _
40	_____	L _ _ _ d,
70	_____	_____
6	_____	a _ _ _
12	_____	_____
64	_____	p _ _ t
14	_____	_____
81	_____	_____ p _ _
9	_____	_____
24	_____	_____ ."

PSALM 33:22, NIV

Answer on page 7  
from the Newsletter Newsletter



## FROM the VICAR

### State of the Mission 2014

This article on the state of our Mission is to be read together with the other Committee articles in this issue of our Newsletter. In doing so, one will get a fairly good sense of what God is doing and accomplishing through our Church of Jesus Our Savior.

I will present our situation by describing the events of the past year 2013. In the process, I will offer some brief commentaries of our situation while pointing out some challenges for our future life and mission.

I will base my article on the descriptive elements of the early Christian community in Jerusalem as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles chapter 2: **"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. .... "All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds"** to all, as any had need. "Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home" and ate their food with glad and generous hearts.....

Our life as a church community expresses the elements of the life the early Church in these simple and tangible ways: **"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching ...."** refers to **Christian education for children and adults.** This includes our preaching and teaching together with our Sunday School, Thursday and Sunday Bible Study, Saturday Confirmation Class, and Catechism.

This is the area of our life as a teaching and learning community which presents a lot of challenges. We moved Sunday School from the old building to the library which was a good thing. But we still need to recruit more children and youth. Our bible study on the Bible Timeline on Sunday started well but did not end well. (Thanks to Audrey Foster for the several Sunday film presentations as a sequel to the Bible Timeline.) Our Thursday bible study needs to grow from the regular six participants. In like manner, our Saturday confirmation class (thanks to Fr. Tom for teaching it) needs more regular members.

We started with the introduction to the Catechism. Now published by the ACNA, we will institute a regular catechism schedule for all starting Lent.

**"They devoted themselves .... to the breaking of bread and the prayers"** refers to **Faithful Sunday attendance.** It also includes the sacraments and group prayer endeavors. All these point to our life as a praying and worshipping community.

In terms of numbers, our average Sunday attendance is 41 holding to last year's average of 41. Every Thursday Eucharist has an average of six attendees. However, one area we excel as a church community is the prayer for and care of the sick, the shut ins and the absent. We have Beverly officially calling all members on behalf of the church. But practically everyone else signs a card, makes a call or a visit at one time or another. Add to this the clergy who makes an average of 16 visits a month. The challenges in this area of our life are: **internally:** the building up of small ministry and prayer groups (altar guild, acolytes, Sunday school, bible groups, Daughters of the King). And **externally:** to invite more and more people to the different opportunities of prayer and worship in our Church: like the Lenten and Holy Week observances, the Easter and Pentecost celebrations, the Advent preparations and the Christmas festivities. Of course there is designation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday every time it occurs — as FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY when we intentionally invite and bring at least one person to Church.

**"All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds"** to all, as any had need. "Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,....."

This refers first of all to **STEWARSHIP,** our hard earned but generous offerings and contributions for the life and ministry of our Church. The challenge in this area is to have more members that translate to more givers for the Church to

afford a fulltime vicar and staff, more programs and projects.

Additionally, there is the stewardship of our buildings and facilities. One can only recall the recent beautification projects: the Crosses and the signs, the stained glass windows and the gardens, the altar, the baptismal font, altar rails and vases, stations of the cross. Of course with the generous backing of Rick and Femie Gratian, we were able to fund all of these.

This is not all. What we lack in money, we abound in service and goodwill. Internally look at our **HOSPITALITY.** Thanks to Femie, Audrey, Sharon, Rachel, Ruth, Helen, Mary, Sarah, Seth and June, to name just a few, for the coffee hour, the potlucks and the monthly family nights, helping make us a friendly and hospitable community. Add to this the Altar Guild, the Acolytes, the Eucharistic Ministers, the Music in Charge, the Readers, the Sound Man, the Sunday School Teachers, the Nursery — of course the priests and the deacon.

Second of all, the abovementioned quotation refers also to **OUTREACH** — service to the larger community. This is the area of our life that must consider seriously. We need to expand on the work well done by Terry and Mary Scott on the Second Chance Computers; by Bob and Sharon Neller on the Food Basket; by Seth and Mary on the Recycle. We need to develop our Dial-a-Ride, our Meals on Wheels, our Pastoral Visitors.

Finally, I would like to offer some words of thanks to some people by name: Thank you Fr. Tom for your active involvement in the ministry, your guidance and generous support. Thank you Deacon Hugh for services in the altar and in the life of the church community and in the homes of the sick and shut-ins. Thank you Rick and Femie for this "house of God", for the music and the hospitality. Thank you Mary for all that you do in the office and beyond. As these persons transition out: thank you Claude for your service as Junior Warden; Chris for your services as Bishop's Warden and Treasurer; Larry for service in the Bishop's Committee.

Thank you All and that includes those who are so many to mention. The Lord bless you all and your loved ones.

*Prayer and Blessings*  
James H. Fisher



### Bishop's Note: Collect for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

This week's Collect goes back to basics, but they are the very basics that we must go back to again, and again, and again, because we mostly don't understand it - or believe it. I realize I shouldn't use such a broad generalization however twenty seven years of ministry and almost forty years as a Christian have taught me that, while we will often state that we believe that God really is in charge and "governs all things in heaven and earth," we don't really live in a way that demonstrates that understanding and belief. Equally, we too often don't live in a way that demonstrates a belief that God really does hear and answer all of our prayers.

What would our lives look like if we really lived with the sure and certain hope of God's being in charge? Well for one thing, we'd be a lot less anxious wouldn't we? Jesus said that we should not be anxious about our lives - what we will eat or what we will wear - that God provides for the lilies of the field and the birds of the air. (Luke 12:22-34) Jesus says that we should not be anxious about our lives, because our Father in heaven has already taken care of things. St. Paul makes a similar statement in his letter to the Philippians: "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 4:6)

I know that the anxieties I feel in my own life are often associated with really wondering if God can take care of things. Worries about providing for my family creep in sometimes, and yet time and time again my life experience teaches me that God always provides one way or another. Sometimes I'm anxious because I want both to honor God, and not to look foolish or embarrass the Diocese of San Joaquin or the Anglican Church in North America. That was true this past weekend when I gave the opening invocation at the Walk for Life West Coast. Speaking before 60,000 people was new for me and, if I'm honest, I was anxious - that anxiety was, in part, my not giving things over to Jesus and trusting that he's

in charge. Needless to say, he came through and I did not trip and fall on my face - physically or metaphorically.

This is not to say that this kind of faith is simply fatalistic. Far from it! Because we are believers in Jesus Christ, we know that he has given us ministries and responsibilities to represent him in a fallen and broken world. That means that we need to pick ourselves up and, in faith and the power of the Holy Spirit, head out to do what we are called to do. That's what I did this weekend - put one step before the other and trusted that God would cover it. And you know what? He did!

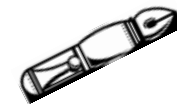
The second half of the Collect calls us to trust that God really does hear and answer our prayers - every one of them. Great sadness has come over me throughout the years when I've spoken to people in difficult times and they've responded, "Oh I haven't prayed about this...I couldn't bother God with such trivia," or "I save my prayers for the big things," or "God really doesn't answer individual prayer, he answers collective prayers." What sad statements these are, because they go contrary to the teaching of Jesus: "And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened." (Luke 11:9-10)

Some years ago I heard a pastor explain it this way: God hears and answers every prayer we offer. The answer is always one of three: "Yes," "No," or "Not yet." That really resonates with me, because I do see the result of prayer daily. That which has been broken down is risen up; that which is old has been made new; the sick are healed - the list can go on and on. The problem doesn't come when God answers our prayers with "Yes." The problem is when he answers our prayers with "No" or "Not yet."

My 13 year old son, when he asks for something and we say "No," has a habit of immediately responding: "Why not?" Expected, perhaps, of a 13 year old, but how often do we all do that with God? We pray for something, we don't see immediate results, and we say, "Why not, God...you must not really exist, or you don't care about me if you do." In fact, the contrary is true: God, like my wife and I when we say "No" to our son, has our best interests in mind when he says "No" or "Not yet" to us.

This Collect calls upon us to have faith, hope, and trust in God, with the understanding that he really is in charge and really does want to give us the very best. As Jesus said: "What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:11-13) And to that I say...AMEN!

*God Bless You All!  
Bishop Menees*



### Report from Dr. Gratian

➤ Many members of our congregation attended the Camp Taylor dinners to benefit children with heart disease. The elegant dinners were held at the Doubletree Hotel on February 1, 2014 as well as last February. It was a good opportunity for us to get together to help children throughout California and neighboring states have a camp experience structured to be safe for them.

➤ The front of our church was beautified with three crosses, a large flower box and stained glass windows. New signs have been installed.

➤ Our website is updated regularly with monthly newsletters provided by Mary Scott. There are many photos of church members and a video of Femie singing with the children and congregation. Anyone who Goggles "Anglican Modesto" or makes a similar web search will immediately find our church and be greeted with organ music as the page opens.

➤ We have an active music program with a repertoire of over 150 hymns. The digital recordings of organ music are played by John Keyes, Director of Music at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham England, who also gives concerts throughout Europe.

➤ Our bills are all paid on time.

➤ Weekly coffee hour and clean up.

Richard W. Gratian, M.D.



### Recycling Update

Keep up the good work! To date, our recycling efforts have brought in **\$93.61**.

**Thank you for only putting aluminum soda cans and plastic soda bottles in the recycle cans.** It makes the job much easier.

### Church Phone Service



In an effort to save money, we have recently changed the phone service from AT & T DSL to AT & T U-Verse.

This change will enable the church to have faster internet service, but it doesn't include long distance.

This change will save the church approximately 25%.

Many thanks to Larry and Robby Beyers for their assistance to the AT & T technician with the phone lines.



Congratulations to Fr. John & Amanda Roberts on the birth of their daughter. We would like to take up a collection for a gift for them. If you would like to contribute, please see Mary Scott or call the church at 551-5279.

### Prime Shine Car

#### Wash Tickets



These coupons never expire and the price of a car wash at Prime Shine is \$7.00.

See Seth Simas, Mary Scott or call the church to get a coupon!



### Diocesan Calendar

✠ February 15 - Diocesan Council

✠ February 17 - Diocesan Office CLOSED