
The Witness

St Stephen's
Episcopal Church 

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, San Luis Obispo, California

Volume 21 Issue 2

Welcoming Worshiping Working

February 2017

Explore San Luis Obispo's Response to the Homeless Dilemma St. Stephen's February 150th Celebration Wednesday Feb 15 at 5:30 PM at the Church

Icy winds this winter remind us how much the warm breath of kindness is needed by the homeless among us. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church offers a free opportunity for you to explore "San Luis Obispo's Response to the Homeless Dilemma 1968 to 2017 and Beyond" led by those who help the homeless, Wednesday Feb. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the church.

St. Stephen's is celebrating 150 years of Social Action serving the community this year. A warm meal following the speakers will be shared with our guests who are hosted at the church during February in our Ramsden Hall as the overflow shelter for CAPSLO, the Community Action Partnership in February.

Speakers include long-time volunteers Mary Parker from People's Kitchen, Grace Macintosh from CAPSLO, Judy Lewis and Lisa Wallander from Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless (ICH).

Mary Parker, long-time People's Kitchen advocate recently wrote: "Prior to the creation of the People's Kitchen, hungry people were looking in dumpsters for survival food and sharing the food with others who were hungry, homeless, and/or unemployed. Local citizens took this concept of sharing and began serving a noon meal in Mitchell Park. By the end of 1983 there were 22 different organizations participating in serving the meal. The People's Kitchen formed a Board of Directors and became a non-profit organization. The board made a commitment to serve a hot noon meal prepared and served by volunteers every day of the year."

People's Kitchen has never missed serving that noon meal in more than 30 years. It operates with no city, county, state or federal funding. It is purely a volunteer effort and has never needed to have a fund raiser," wrote Tom Norwood. Today 42 groups, including St. Stephen's, participate in serving a noon meal to the hungry. More than 25,000 meals are served each year according to Parker. People don't have to be homeless to be hungry.

Thanks to the extraordinary effort of many volunteers the Prado Day Center began operation Sept. 15, 1997. It provides a spacious indoor eating area, a multipurpose room with restrooms, showers, a laundry, a lounge, a playroom for children, and offices for staff and social service providers. People's Kitchen joined other community agencies there.

The following year San Luis Obispo received a special achievement award for the Center from the California Healthy

Cities and Communities organization. It was one of five communities in the state to be honored. In 1999 the City was one of five recipients nationwide to receive a City Livability Program Award for the Prado Day Center from the United States Conference of Mayors. Other honors have followed. Volunteers are always welcome. Details: www.ststephensslo.org/150th.

Help Wanted: Docents

"do-cent: a person who leads guided tours, especially through a museum or art gallery." St. Stephen's isn't a museum or art gallery, but with our long history we do have museum worthy pieces, as well as beautiful stained glass windows and other artworks. As part of our 150th Anniversary, we're beginning a docent program to give occasional tours of our wonderful building. We've connected with the fellow who does walking tours of San Luis Obispo and he'll be happy to add a stop at St. Stephen's to his "Victorian Era" tour in February and his "Victorian Christmas" tour in December. We also plan to give tours in conjunction with some of our 150th Anniversary events and possibly schedule a regular monthly or quarterly tour. If you'd like to share the historic wonder of our Carpenter Gothic gem with curious folks in SLO, please consider joining our docent team. **Contact Kathleen, kapenington@netscape.net, 805-546-0880**

TEEN CLASS PAGE

Teen Class Reflections on Salvation

Where do we see the Salvation in San Luis Obispo, Christ in the presence of all SLO peoples, Christ as a revelation in SLO as a glory to the people?

Luke 2:30-32

I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

Upcoming Teen Events & Activities

FEBRUARY

Plan and prep Valentines Party and Birthday Party for homeless kids sheltered in Ramsden Hall.

Feb. 5 - Souper Bowl of Caring food drive collection

Feb. 13 - 8:15 am, serve coffee, and treats to families coming to Grandmothers' House

Presidents' Weekend
Bowling at Cal Poly

MARCH

March 7 - First Sunday of Lent, Change Ring at 10 am service

Coffee Hour one of the Sundays

APRIL

April 9 - Palm Sunday, fill plastic eggs For Easter Egg Hunt

April 16 - Easter, Change Ring, Easter Egg Hunt for younger kids

Always Present

- Isabelle Preston

Jesus is always present in the world, but many people don't notice because they are thinking of other things or their hearts aren't open to God. But sometimes we feel Jesus and God with us without a reason to explain, but we just know. It could be a rainbow in a storm, selflessness in a moment of greed, or just a feeling of peace.



Photo by Isabelle Preston

Where Do You See Jesus?

- Isabelle Preston

Jesus is present in the world and in all people, so we interviewed members about where they see and feel Jesus around them. Where do you see Jesus?

"In families, community organizations, and the beauty outdoors."
- Lynn H.

"In people praying."
- Age 6

"In the Senior Center and Mitchell Park with the homeless."
- Doris H.

"When kindness is shown between parents and kids."
- Robin and Mike D.

"In pictures of Jesus on the wall."
- Age 7

"Working with the Altar Guild."
- Kathy G.

"In the people around me."
- Kathleen P.

"In the mountains around SLO."
- Jean W.

"In the Bible stories."
- Nicole K.

"In the people I care for in the nursing homes and hospice."
- Berkeley J.

Word Scramble

- Isabelle Preston

If our hearts are open, we can feel God and Jesus in the most unexpected things. If your brain is open, you can see a new word in the scrambled letters. Unscramble the letters to make a word. The letters in the circles make a new word.

DORL	○	—	—	—
ODG	—	○	—	—
VEHANE	—	—	○	—
SUJSE	—	○	—	—

Please Support our Food Drive!

January 29 & February 5



Scriptures for February

February 5, 2017

Isaiah 58:1-9a
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

February 12, 2017

Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

February 19, 2017

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
Psalm 119:33-40
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

February 26, 2017

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

VESTRY MEMBERS

Ian Delinger	Rector
Bud Zeuschner	Sr. Warden
Bruno Giberti	
Lynn Hollister	
Jim Murphy	
Carole Merrill	
Doris Highland	
Clarke Lewis	
Shannon Larrabee	
Bill Walter	
Chris Arndt	Sexton
Katie Arndt	Treasurer
Linda Zeuschner	Clerk

St. Stephen's kicked off its 150th anniversary celebration with "Celebrating the Visual Arts" on January 6 and 7

Friday night was in conjunction with Artsobispo's citywide "Art after Dark".

Saturday we were on our own from 9am- 5 pm, but despite the rain the turn out was quite enthusiastic.

The artists who generously gave of their time and talent were:

Chris Anderson - blown glass; Carol Astaire - painting; Melissa Campbell - stained glass; Bruno Gilberti - architecture (lecture only); Bob Gordon - floral design; Gina Hafemeister and Patricia Martin- weaving; Crissa Hewitt - metal design; Barry Lundgren - wood design; Tom Meinhold - photography; and Bob Nichols - ceramics.

The Art Talks on Saturday, January 7, well-presented and well-received, were given by: Crissa Hewitt- metal design; Bob Gordon- floral design; Melissa Campbell - painted glass; Bruno Gilberti - church architecture; Tom Meinhold- photography

Many parishioners helped in various stages of the planning, preparation, and presentation of the event. Our thanks go to our very own artists: Carol Astaire, Gina Hafemeister, Tom Meinhold, and Bruno Giberti.

Lynn Hollister researched and organized in a lovely display many of our vessels and sanctuary sets.

Fr. Ian directed the publicity and attended Friday night to give opening remarks to an enthusiastic group.

Those who helped with setting up were parishioners and friends of the parish: Jim Murphy, Andy Harp, David Hafemeister, Janna Urschel, daughter of Jennifer Sayre, designed the brochures to hand to attendees with schedule of the events, biographies of the artists, and a map of the campus.

Altar guild was the sponsoring group for the event, so food was overseen by Diane Levison (who made a tasty hot mulled cider for the stormy night) and delicious items were donated by Katie Arndt, Nancy Foran, Carolyn Platt, Pam Myers, and Dianne Long.

Volunteer hosts who helped direct visitors and represent the parish were Lynn Hollister, Lynn Weich, Gail Taylor, Doris Highland, Kathleen Pennington, Nancy Foran, Carolyn Platt, Sophia Agbo, Dianne Long, and Jean Wright.

At the end of it all, Lee Hollister joined in with Kathleen Pennington, Andy Harp and David Hafemeister to roll the tables about again and put all back in tip top shape.

How wonderful to have the opportunity to work together for such a positive event.

Special thanks particularly to Gina Hafemeister who not only was present throughout as an exhibiting artist, but also acted as co-chairman, contacting artists (many times) and making decisions (often last minute: like where to put the ceramics and weaving when the Shire Room flooded) and was a steadying hand throughout the many month process.

And what wonderful activities we at St. Stephen's have ahead of us for the remainder of the year!

By Jennifer Sayer



Dear SLO Deanery,

Welcome to 2017! I write my article this month with some trepidation as I am concerned about what will have transpired by the time you read it. As you may have heard, there is a lot of controversy at the moment regarding a white supremacist who has been invited by the Cal Poly Republicans to speak on campus. There have also been several disturbing / derogatory flyers posted in classrooms, promoting white supremacy, attacking women and gender studies students, and

mocking the lgbtq community. These flyers have created a climate of hostility, suspicion, and mistrust that has a lot of students frightened.

We are hoping that Canterbury's presence and support can make a difference to these students in the coming days and weeks, and we ask for your prayers as we resist this latest wave of hate speech on campus. The Cal Poly administration has, unfortunately, been slow to respond, and the Mustang Daily likewise has been slow to report on this story. I hope, therefore, to be able to follow up in March with some better news about how things turned out.

Our Canterbury Shire program continues to be strong and vibrant, and we have built a strong foundation on which to grow this year. The next major event for us is the Province VIII Campus Ministry Gathering at UC Davis, set for March 31st - April 2nd. This event is still in the planning stages, but our students are excited about attending and being a part of the larger Episcopal Campus Ministry community here in the western U.S.

I suppose all of this means that there is always hope and expectation, even in the midst of uncertainty and difficult circumstances. Our role is to be a non-anxious and supportive presence to those who are suffering, and to proclaim the Gospel at all times, using words when necessary. May our words and actions continue to foster an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation for our students and young adults.

Yours, in Christ,
Berkeley

2017 BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW RETREAT

On February 10-12, 2017 the Brotherhood of St. Andrew will meet at Mt. Calvary Retreat House in Santa Barbara for our 2017 gathering from 4 pm on Friday until noon on Sunday. This really is a chance for the men of the parish to move away from our organized, sometimes hectic life and spend a short weekend in the quiet confines of the retreat house and gardens. Fr. Lyle Grojean will be our retreat leader for five, one hour sessions. The options for the rest of the time are attending the several services in the chapel, reading, walking around the gardens, resting in your private room, or walking the labyrinth. We have four (4) spaces remaining. Please join us in our spiritual journey. We will car pool from the church. Call Bob Levison at 544-6486 for more information.



General Information

The Witness is a monthly newsletter published by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, San Luis Obispo, CA to provide information about the parish to the congregation. Subscriptions are free to anyone. Send request along with your name and mailing address to the church office. Donations to help offset distribution costs are appreciated. Make checks payable to St. Stephen's.

The Church's e-mail address is: office@ststephensslo.org

The Witness Editor is Chris Kellett. Contribution of articles is encouraged. Please e-mail submissions to the editor at witness@ststephensslo.org

The deadline for emailed submission of articles is Monday following the Vestry meeting. Call or email editor with any questions. © Copyright 2017 by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. All rights reserved.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1344 Nipomo St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3935



Groundhog Day and Candlemas

Groundhog Day is the same day as The Presentation of Christ in the Temple or Candlemas. The recent liturgical revisions in the Church of England have emphasized Candlemas and consider it the end of the Christmas season.



In both celebrations, a big hoopla is made. Groundhog day celebrations in Punxsutawney, PA have people from all over the world fussing over a small rodent. In Candlemas, we find Simeon finally able to rest in peace having seen the Messiah. One celebration points toward spring; the other celebration points towards Salvation. Sure, maybe there's a tenuous link, but not really. It would be nice if the global attention paid to a small groundhog could be paid to the Savior of the World!

So...what goes in in our "temple", St Stephen's? Through Annual Report, you will be aware of the vast majority of ministries that go on. However, it's the smaller elements of our care for one another that you may not know about: Prayer and remembrance.

Over the past few months, a few people have brought to my attention that it's not completely clear how one can ask for prayers or remember loved ones. It made me realize that communities often go about doing things as if everyone has always known the rules.

Prayer Intentions

It is the role of the Church, as individuals and corporately, to pray for those in need and to give thanks for the goodness of God. To offer a prayer intention, you can scribble a name or cause in the Prayers of the People binder at the back of church, with the Ushers. The Prayers are written out as they are to be read on Sunday mornings; simply write your intention under the relevant petition. It will be included with the existing ones, typed up into the prayers the following week, and remain on the list for 4-6 weeks.

Memorials through Candles and Flowers

You will notice that the flowers and candles on Sunday mornings are given in memory of loved ones. If you wish to remember your loved ones in this way, you can sign up on the sheets in the Parish Hall, or contact a member of the Altar Guild. Choose the Sunday you would like to have your loved ones remembered (or an anniversary, birthday or other commemoration), and give a check or cash to Katie Arndt for the appropriate amount (I don't have that figure here at the airport as I head off on vacation!).

Coffee Hour

Some of you like to serve your brothers and sisters in concrete, physical ways. Hosting Coffee Hour is a fun and very social way to do that. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall, or you can contact Liz Frost or Roxanna Shaheen. They will guide you through what you need to bring, what time to be at church to set up, who is available to help you, how much fun you can make Coffee Hour, and when to know when all is cleaned up and it's OK to close up shop (usually the last one out).

A Visit with The Rector

Sometimes a person indicates that they would like to see me, but know I am "very busy". My primary responsibility is the care of the good people of St Stephen's!! I am always ready to meet parishioners one-to-one or in groups, in my office, in your home, or out for coffee or a glass of wine. You can always catch me when you see me...as long as you see me put the date into my calendar, or call or email me. We can talk about the more serious issues of your life, the good times that you are experiencing, and everything in between. Home Communion can be arranged in the same way. Don't be shy! I am YOUR Rector, and I have Care of Souls at St Stephen's.

If you are not in church and want to inquire about any of these, you can always call the office at [805-543-7212](tel:805-543-7212) or email office@stephensslo.org to offer any of those.

A large part of becoming a stronger Church Family is caring for and sharing with one another. It's easy to do if you know how it's done! All of these offerings as a Church Family, given to the Glory of God in memory or thanksgiving of our loved ones, are akin to Simeon praising Jesus as He was presented in The Temple. Simeon and others would have brought their prayers and possibly gifts to honor the Christ Child, whether, like Simeon, they knew Him to be The Messiah or not. I am sure similar offerings are made to Punxsutawney Phil...but we all know that's a bit weird!

The Rev Ian M Delinger
Rector

Hands-On Stewardship at St. Stephen's!

THANK YOU TO Doris Highland, Bob Levison, Kathleen Pennington, Lynn Hollister, Alison Preston and Gail Taylor for teaching Sunday School classes in January.

THANK YOU TO the Teen Class and Hospitality Committee for hosting a Coffee Hour in January.

THANK YOU TO Jennifer Sayre who was the head organizer for the Celebration of Visual Arts, the first in the celebrations of St. Stephen's 150th Anniversary.

THANK YOU TO St. Stephen's artists and parishioners who participated in the Celebration of Visual Arts giving demonstrations, talks and being hosts greeting visitors.

THANK YOU TO the retiring Vestry members – Gail Taylor, Robert Misson and Liz Frost – for their years of dedicated service.

Life is uncertain, eat dessert first! And do good in the process

St. Stephen's has joined Mama Ganache Artisan Chocolate in Project Hope and Fairness: an effort to eliminate poverty in African cocoa-farming villages. While fair trade chocolate returns 1-4 cents of the dollar to African farmers, it is 7.5 cents through Project Hope and Fairness.



The three bar set made by Mama Ganache on its San Luis premises are from beans of Ivory Coast and Tanzania, representing East and West Africa, which produces over 75% of the world's cocoa beans. The Ivorian beans contribute a roasty flavor, with a hint of coconut, and the Tanzanian beans add fruitiness. The three-pack includes 1 oz. bars of each bittersweet (dark chocolate), bitter-sweet with raspberries, and bitter-sweet with English toffee.

75 cents from each \$10 three-pack goes to build mini chocolate factories in Ivory Coast. St. Stephen's is excited to add this project as part of its 150th anniversary celebration. The bars will be for sale at coffee hour and in the office. What wonderful gifts these make! (see page 8 also)
By Jennifer Sayre

The Brotherhood of St Andrew

St. Stephen's Brotherhood of St. Andrew would be pleased if you would join us for our monthly breakfast in Ramsden Hall. The Brothers Collect states; "Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence...."

Please join with Al Williams, Tom Coverdale, Jack Jones, Bob Levison, Eric Fisher, Jim Murphy, Chris Arndt, Jim Gates, Mike Carroll, Ivan Cliff, Bud Zeuschner, Fr. Lyle Grosjean, Ed Garner, and Robert Misson at our monthly meeting. We meet at St. Stephen's on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Ramsden Hall at 8:00 am for breakfast, fellowship, prayer, discussion and intercessions. Peace of the Lord,
Bob Levison



February BIRTHDAYS

- 4th Opal Rich
- 5th Fred Tarwater
- 6th Lynn Wiech
Karla Gibson
- 9th Eric Fisher
- 11th Frances Edwards
- 12th Al Williams
- 16th Kathleen Pennington
- 18th Frances Robertson
- 20th Peter Agbo
- 23rd Bud Zeuschner
- 25th Christina Bearce
- 28th Ann Patry



February ANNIVERSARIES

- 14th Fred and Carol Astaire, Jr.

St Stephen's Sexton Goes to New Heights for Us

No, Chris is not up there next to the Belfry for the view. He is checking out the condition of the belfry and the repairs that will soon be needed.



FEBRUARY 2017

Key: Ramsden Hall – RH; Boydston Room – BR; Library – L

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February Overflow Shelter – all month in Ramsden Hall			1 10:30 Women's Prayer - L 12:15 Morning Prayer 5:15 Choir Rehearsal	2	3 3:30 Children's Choir	4
5 Epiphany V 8am Holy Eucharist 9am Bible Study BR 10am Holy Eucharist Sunday School Souper Bowl Food Drive	6 3:30 – History Committee	7 10:00 Yoga - Chapel? 3:30 Handbell Choir 5:00 Centering Prayer	8 8am Brotherhood of St. Andrew's RH 10:30 Women's Prayer - L 12:15 Holy Eucharist 5:15 Choir Rehearsal	9 12:00 Altar Guild BR	10 Bro of St. Andrew's Men's retreat 3:30 Children's Choir	11 Bro of St. Andrew's Men's retreat
12 Epiphany VI 8am Holy Eucharist 9am Bible Study -L 10am Holy Eucharist & Sunday School	13	14 10:00 Yoga - Chapel? 3:30 Handbell Choir 5:00 Centering Prayer	15 10:30 Women's Prayer - L 12:15 Healing Service 6:30 – Adult Ed & 150 th Celebration Event: History of Helping with the Homeless	16 5:15 Choir Rehearsal	17 3:30 Children's Choir	18
19 Epiphany VII 8am Holy Eucharist 9am Bible Study BR 10am Holy Eucharist Sunday School 11.30am Vestry Meeting 2pm: Deanery at St. Barnabas	20 Witness Deadline	21 10:00 Yoga - Chapel? 3:30 Handbell Choir 5:00 Centering Prayer	22 10:30 Women's Prayer - L 12:15 Holy Eucharist 5:15 Choir Rehearsal	23	24 3:30 Children's Choir	25 9am: Vestry Retreat
26 Epiphany VIII 8am Holy Eucharist 9am Bible Study BR 10am Holy Eucharist & Sunday School	27	28 3:30 Handbell Choir 5:00 Centering Prayer	March 1 Ash Wednesday 12:15 Service 5:30 Service <i>Both with imposition of ashes</i>			

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

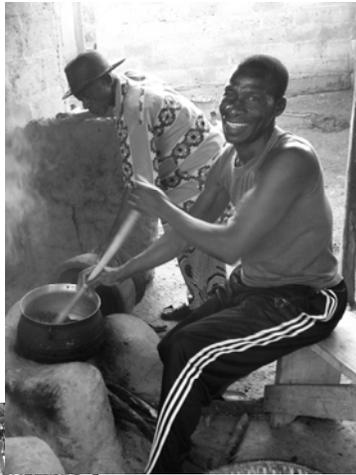
1344 Nipomo Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3935

Office: 805.543.7212 Ramsden Hall 805.543.7215 Fax 805.543.0744

office@ststephensslo.org http://ststephensslo.org

Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Coca farming in Africa for Project Hope and Fairness - Mama Ganache Artisan Chocolate (see page 6 for more information)



St. Stephen's Services

Sunday

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist without music
9:00 AM Bible Forum in Boydston Room
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II with music

Sunday School and Child Care available during 10:00 AM service

Tuesday

5:00 PM Centering Prayer

Wednesday

12:15 PM Holy Eucharist, Morning Prayer, or Healing Service

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM– 1:00 PM

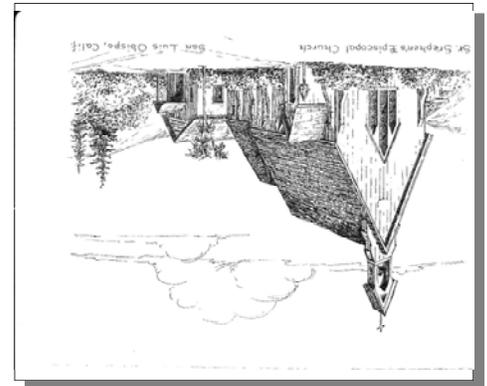
1344 Nipomo Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3935

Office: 805-543-7212

Fax: 805-543-0744

Email: office@ststephensslo.org

Website: <http://ststephensslo.org>



Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Permit No. 57

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1344 NIPOMO ST
SAN LUIS OBISPO CA 93401-3935

The Witness