



SAINT FRANCIS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN

2018 Annual Report

PRESENTED AT THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2019

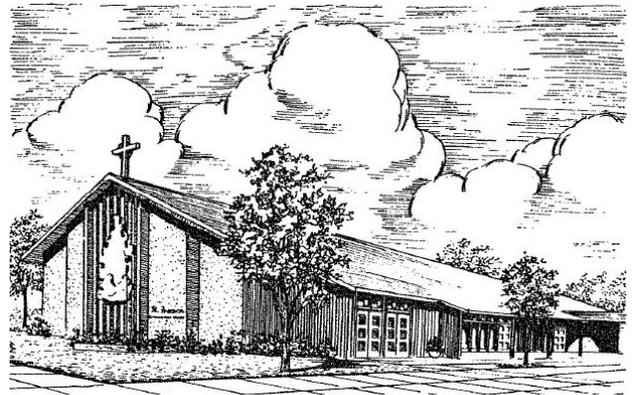
RECTOR'S REPORT

THE REV. MALY HUGHES

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I give God thanks for having completed my sixth year as your rector. What a joy and blessing each and every day has been for me.

We welcomed many new faces to St. Francis during the last year but we also saw quite a few members relocate to other places and some longtime members who left this world for the next (Joy Baker, Bettie Homer, Louisa Lim, Grace Johnston, Virginia Holderman, Harry Hall and Fred Smith). There were a few new babies in 2018 so we had five baptisms. The most reliable count shows that we added 21 family units (18 in 2017) to our roles and have approximately 94 youth and children. Our average Sunday worship attendance held steady at 156 even in the midst of closing the church and moving into the parish hall for worship. For the most part, everyone appears to be comfortable with our temporary space.

The "Next 75 Years" Capital Campaign was a great success and with the help of an anonymous donor we were able to meet the goal of \$945,000 and more at 103%. We have successfully raised nearly \$1,000,000 in pledged donations payable over a three-year period. All of these pledges are from the faithful people of St. Francis and some who were formerly connected to St. Francis but have moved away. The summer was spent remodeling the parish hall from top to bottom; a new roof was put on the office wing, parish hall wing and chapel. It was not in the plans to remodel the downstairs (Undercroft) where the children gather on Sunday mornings. However, because of malicious vandalism the basement was flooded with water. Insurance covered the extensive damage



(\$130,000) and we now have a remodeled downstairs. We added a new office and conference room from the large library space. The church was closed to worship on October 28, 2018 and we began worshipping in the parish hall at that point. Kelly Castellon and Joe Head chaired a fruitful campaign. Joe is the building coordinator since that is his line of work. His expertise is so valuable to us and he spends a great deal of time at the church, meeting with me and the contractor, Scott Walker of Walker Construction of Gilroy, CA. Joe is ALWAYS ready and willing to answer the call, whatever it may be – a true saint. A good deal of my time continues to be spent on this project but as the work is moving along (officially started the church demolition on January 2, 2019) this will require less and less time. The campus remodeling is indeed a very exciting project....it is a dream come true because it is really happening.

This year we reorganized the staff by changing responsibilities and adding a new position. Katherine+, who has served this parish faithfully as associate priest for twenty years was due for a change in responsibilities. The vestry had always

hoped someone would step up to be responsible for our communication tools (weekly email blasts and the website, etc). Katherine+ was the perfect fit for this role since she has a great technical ability, and a fresh eye for designing material. In addition, Katherine was given the responsibility of developing lay ministries and outreach as well as sharing more in the priestly ministry with me. She received this change with a great deal of grace. It is not easy to change courses when you have been doing the same thing for many years. She has risen to the task in a wonderful way and I am so grateful that she was willing to take a new path in ministry. Removing the communication tasks from Carrie Maietta, Parish Administrator, allows her to focus more on the day to day operations of an active facility and scheduling all of those who request rental space.

Kimbra Ong was hired to fill Katherine's previous role of Director of Children and Family Ministries. Kimbra, who has been a member of the parish for years, grew up in Louisiana as an active youth in The Episcopal Church; served as a youth leader in Oregon; and has a great deal of training in Godly Play. She is able to focus solely on the ministry of children and their families. We can see the children participating more on Sunday mornings and they have a special seat in the front row. Kimbra has introduced a new program, Faith-Full Families, as well.

Davison Hogan has stepped up to lead the youth (6th-12th grades). Currently this is an unpaid position although he spends many hours a week planning and participating in youth events. In addition, Davison is building a Young Adult Community/Ministry to reach out to that age of our community. He has also been accepted by the bishop to begin the discernment process towards ordination.

A new position was created, Director of Music and Spiritual Formation. Because of Michael Burroughs extensive experience and education in music, theology and liturgy he was the perfect person to fill that position. He serves as organist/pianist and works with Kristina Nakagawa, choir director, to choose music that best glorifies God through music. He puts a great deal of time into everything you hear and sing on Sunday mornings. Michael works with me to create innovative liturgy and was largely responsible for the set-up in the parish hall for our worship. Michael challenges me in my "somewhat" conservative and traditional approach to worship. He has taught me a great deal and I

have finally moved to the left of center in understanding not only how we worship but how we "might" worship. Michael also hosts an adult formation class, Sacred Conversations, on Sunday mornings at 9:05 am. We will be offering a Sunday evening service, soup supper and program (for all ages) during Lent. Notice the change will be from the usual Wednesday night to Sunday late afternoon. Michael's plan is to add a permanent Sunday evening service and class to hopefully include a new group of people who don't find Sunday morning worship to be an option. We will start this beginning in Lent.

My involvement in the ministry of the diocese continues to be active. I was again elected Secretary of Convention/Diocese; Vocations Secretary for the Commission on Ministry; a member of the Bishop's Council of Advice; and served as a deputy from El Camino Real to the General Convention in July 2018 (Austin, Texas). Locally I have been serving on the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Death Review team. This is a committee of law enforcement agencies, family services, lawyers and clergy put together by the District Attorney's office. The mission is to review the results of domestic violence and the signs that could be noticed before fatal violence occurs.

The theme of our annual pledge campaign this year was "Transforming Generosity." We hosted the annual Harvest Dinner BBQ on October 7th. Our speakers were Joe Head and Kelly Castellon, capital campaign co-chairs.

On December 1st we hosted members of the diocese and the Rt. Rev. Rachel Treewek, Bishop of the Diocese of Gloucester (England) and Julie Fay, Director of Spiritual Formation. Gloucester is the El Camino Real companion diocese and our sister parish in Bourton-on-the-Water is within that diocese. They were here visiting throughout the diocese. Julie Fay was our preacher on Sunday, December 2nd. It was a wonderful gift to have them with us.

Outreach to the community continues in several ways. We share our facilities with 21 twelve-step groups, 10 non-profits, three exercise workshops, the diocese and a Girl Scout and Boy Scout troop. The Wolf-Pack ministry continues. This popular program allows us to hand out packets of water and snacks to those in need and something to hand to those asking for money on the streets. Thanks to George Jewett and Kimbra Ong

for purchasing the supplies and coordinating the preparing of the packs. Thank you to Kimbra Ong for organizing the Casserole Crusade which supports families in time of need. In February we opened our doors for the second time to the women of Village House Women's Shelter. Again, we served as a day-time warming station while the Willow Glen Methodist Church hosted them overnight. Many people from St. Francis and other parishes volunteered and extended generous hospitality to our guests. A big thanks to Brian Kolb, Kelly Castellon, Cindy Newberry, Anne Dunham, Leah Tedeschi and Chris Peacock for their tireless leadership and passion to this much needed ministry.

I know we all give thanks for Carrie Maietta, our parish administrator, for everything she does for the parish. She continues to be a gift from God and a true friend to us all. A big thank you to Sarah Clark our bookkeeper and Beth McKone our treasurer. Beth has a good head for finances and somehow in the midst of her very busy work schedule she stays on top of the parish finances.

In addition, I want to thank the senior warden Renee Nichols, junior warden Chris Peacock, who each served two years, and all of the vestry members; Robin Biesterveld and the altar guild for always being ready to respond to the liturgical needs of the parish (even when the rector gets unorganized) and especially during the transition time; the flower guild led by Lisa Smith and Yvonne Head for the magnificent weekly arrangements for the church and chapel; the bread bakers who faithfully provide us with delicious communion bread each week; to Debbi Santina for keeping the prayer chain flowing with updates each day and for sending out the birthday cards throughout the year;

to the prayer warriors for their constant prayers for us all; to the Parish Life team organized by Donna Jewett; to the ushers and greeters, Eucharistic servers and visitors; lectors; Bill Johnston and the acolytes; those who have hosted coffee hour after the 8:00 and 10:15 am services; members of the chancel and junior choirs; Helmuth Litfin and the hand-bell ringers; the CYF parents who organize events for intergenerational fellowship; to the Sunday School teachers who help form our children each week; Melinda Dobbs and Carol Wells for their direction and planning of the weddings and funerals that take place at St. Francis; Dick Wells, Steve Homer, Dan Biesterveld and Bob Zeroun for their help with the columbarium at funerals; to George Jewett for representing us on the Santa Maria Urban Ministry (SMUM) board; the money counters; our nursery care givers, Carin and Alyssa; and everyone else who is committed to ministry at St. Francis, including Allan Hughes, Michael Maietta and Joe Head, Jr. "JJ," who take care of a multitude of issues in this facility saving us lots of money.

Also, I would like to acknowledge our clergy team: Katherine Doar, Stephenie Cooper and John Avery Palmer. We are so blessed with outstanding clergy. And last, but not least, thank you to the staff I work side by side with each day: Carrie, Michael, Katherine, Kristina, Kimbra and Ken. We have an amazing team.

God has blessed us so that we may be a blessing to others – let us begin the new year with great joy and gratitude.

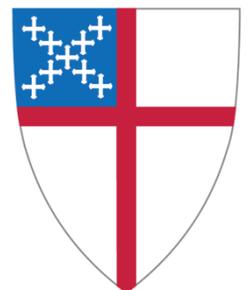
Maly+

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

RENEE NICHOLS

For those of you who are not familiar with me, I've been attending St. Francis for 20 years. I am a cradle Episcopalian who loves our flavor of Christianity and my St. Francis family. I raised my two boys at St. Francis (now aged 19 and 22). I have fond memories of teaching them in Sunday School, accompanying them on the Sierra Service Project trips, and watching them acolyte. Who knows if church will be a part of their future, but I have introduced them to Christ and given them a solid Christian foundation. Their church of the future might be on a mountaintop versus in the four walls of an actual church building. But I'm okay

with that because they know Jesus, are good and kind people in the world, and their inner light shines out and positively affects those around them. I wonder how our lives would be different if I did not raise my children at St. Francis? A parent wishes nothing more for their children than to live a happy, independent life filled with lots of love and joy, not sorrow. But, as we all know, this seldom happens. Life throws us curve balls that we can't always catch. Sometimes



we find ourselves alone in a very dark place. But we at St. Francis know that none of us is ever truly alone, and we take comfort in knowing that Christ always walks by our side. But not everyone knows or feels this presence and comfort because it wasn't taught to them. By providing my children with a solid Christian foundation at St. Francis, I hope they will always be able to dig deep in dark times and rely on Christ. When faced with a difficult life challenge, I am hopeful they will remember their Sunday School days and ask themselves "what would Jesus do?" Maybe this all sounds hokey to you, but I bet a lot of parents reading this feel the same.

2018 was a thrilling year for us highlighted by our ability to raise 100% of the funds needed for the "The Next 75 Years" capital campaign to improve the campus and enhance our worship space for generations to come. Especially exciting was an anonymous donor who created a matching gift opportunity. This helped us bring our campaign over the home stretch. Thank you to that generous donor, contributing \$130,000.

2018 also brought us new faces on the staff – Kimbra Ong (Director of Children and Family Ministry) and Michael Burroughs (Director of Music and Spiritual Life). What this means is St. Francis is a growing and thriving church. I can't tell you how happy I am on Sunday to see so many unfamiliar faces. I especially love seeing all the young, wiggly children in the front row. They get an up close and personal experience in church and feel welcomed and a part of the service. This is not the old St. Francis I knew when my children were a bit noisy and unruly and we got some stares. I wouldn't dare sit in the front row with my young boys. Thank goodness those days are over. The energy the children bring to the worship fills me with happiness and joy because I know they are learning and growing in their own faith. In a blink of an eye they will also be out in the world on their own and shining their lights for all to see.

As I finish my second vestry term with this annual meeting, the one concern I want to share with the congregation is our annual income. As an Episcopal Church, we have no money coming from anywhere to assist us. Our sole existence depends upon each and every one of us. In fact, we even have an obligation to financially support our El Camino Real Diocese under Bishop Mary's leadership. While I'm so excited to see the outpouring of financial support for our capital campaign, I am concerned about our day-to-day

operations and expenses. We are a faith-based organization – not a for-profit business. But, just like a business, we have expenses which must be paid (salaries, utilities, maintenance, program costs, etc.).

As of this writing, we have not raised enough in 2019 pledges to sustain our current expenses. This can only go on for so long, and then we must cut. I've seen St. Francis in lean times, and it's not uplifting. My preference is to be a part of something which is alive and growing and reaching out beyond our walls to live out our Christian mission. In order to do this, we need both more pledges and higher pledges. Our 2019 average pledge to date is \$3,205. Our median pledge is \$7,700. Our lowest pledge is \$200, and our highest pledge is \$15,600. Sixty-six percent of our pledges are below the average pledge. These are not sustaining numbers for a congregation our size. Money is an uncomfortable topic, especially in a church environment. Giving is something that comes from our hearts through thoughtful prayer. I realize we have never published pledge statistics in the past. Many parishioners truly do not know where to start with their pledge and have asked for more guidance. So I publish these numbers in the spirit of wanting to provide the requested guidance. At the same time, I know we have parishioners either without jobs, in jobs that don't pay a living wage for Silicon Valley, are stretched very thin due to rent or mortgage payments, or are retired and on a fixed income. We are instructed to live by example and give back of our time, talents and gifts. Giving of our time and talents for some is the best they can do right now, and that's perfectly fine. **There is no shame or guilt involved in this message, only factual data.** The Biblical tithe is 10%. I'll be honest, I do not meet that. But I do stretch myself financially for St. Francis because I have a deep commitment to give back what has been given to me. That's my personal choice. Please prayerfully consider if you can make a pledge for the first time or increase your pledge. If this is not the year to do that because of personal circumstances, that's more than understandable.

Thank you for being my brothers and sisters in Christ and making St. Francis your spiritual home. Thank you for giving of your generous time, talents and gifts to further Christ's message outside our walls. I look forward to continuing my walk with Christ in 2019, with all of you by my side. Let's show this crazy world what it means to be a Christian through our daily words and actions.

Renee

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

KELLY CASTELLON & JOE HEAD

It is our great pleasure to say that the Next 75: A Capital Campaign for St. Francis has been a resounding success. As of January 1, we were able to use the entire matching funds available to us through an anonymous gift, raising a grand total of \$962,046. That's nearly \$1 million dollars, and a more than 35% growth over what our initial feasibility study showed we could raise. Most importantly 80% of our congregation pledged to the capital campaign. You all have shown an incredible willingness to invest in our future, to show future generations of Franciscans you love, care for, and believe in them already. The next phase is two parts: construction and ensuring that pledges are



received. Please make your pledge payments and let us know if you have questions about stock gifts, or if you need to make payments at irregular intervals. Also, if any are able to get payments in sooner, it will help our cash flow as we move through the construction phase.

EDECR REPORT Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real

TERRY KRIVAN

St. Francis is among forty-one parishes between Palo Alto and San Luis Obispo comprising EDECR, headquartered in Salinas. Don't miss a visit to our diocesan headquarters in a marvelously restored Victorian house, down the street from the Steinbeck house.

Our diocese has benefitted from the remarkable and dynamic leadership of Bishop Mary-Gray Reeves for 12 years. We will soon celebrate her accomplishments and elect our next bishop.

Today, our parishes are engaging in new ways with their neighborhoods. Our new Curator for Emerging Communities, Kelsey Davis, is helping us engage in becoming the church that does not yet exist, meeting people where they are.

Thank you to St. Francis parishioners who have been inspired to support the work of the diocese through the Bishop's Annual Appeal. The *Real Episcopal* magazine, mailed to you three times per year, communicates initiatives throughout the diocese made possible through your support.

- Kelly Castellon – member of Bishop's Council of Advice.
- Joe Head - Chair of Bishop's Search Committee; Chair of Finance Committee.
- The Rev. Maly Hughes - Secretary of the Diocese; Vocations Secretary for Commission on Ministry; Deputy to General Convention.
- The Rev. Katherine Doar -VP of Standing Committee; member of Commission on Youth and Children.
- Terry Krivan - Chair of Bishop's Council of Advice.
- Cristine Mincheff - member of Board of Trustees; member of Transition Committee for the Bishop Election.



ALTAR GUILD REPORT

ROBIN BIESTERVELD

The Altar Guild is currently under the leadership of Robin Biesterveld. Robin is grateful for the continued support, assistance and infinite patience shown to her by all members of the team. Serving on Altar Guild are Jennifer Watkins, Anne Dunham,

Pam Lowe, Suzanne Hastings, Janet Karzmark, Robin Biesterveld, and Sherrill and John Avery Palmer. They are a small but mighty group. The Altar Guild has six bread bakers who provide all of St. Francis' Holy Communion bread needs. The St.

Francis Bread Baking Team members are Carol Wells, Robin Johnston, Sherrill Palmer, Anne Dunham, Terry Krivan and Gale Hazen. This year with the church renovation underway Altar Guild was challenged to empty the church sacristy. We spent many hours decluttering and reorganizing both sacristies, and are currently operating out of the chapel sacristy for our services. Altar Guild would like to thank the rector and Katherine+ for cheerfully answering our numerous questions during this reorganizing process. And they give special thanks to Carrie Maietta for her artistry with

fabrics on the temporary altar in the temporary worship space. They eagerly await completion of the renovation in order to move back into the newly remodeled church. Their work is quiet and behind the scenes, but also sacred and integral to the worship experience at St. Francis. They work closely and have come to rely on one another. This gives them a community within the community of St. Francis. The team is blessed and honored to serve the St. Francis family. Parishioners who feel a calling to serve in this capacity are invited to speak to any member of the Altar Guild. They welcome new members.

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT

JOE HEAD

Most of the activity of a Building and Grounds nature have taken place in 2018 in the context of the renovation of our campus and church through the NEXT 75 YEARS campaign. And that will continue in 2019. With the water vandalism in the Undercroft (basement) area completely covered by insurance, we were able to fully repair the damaged walls and replace the flooring throughout. The other unplanned event was the failure of major limbs of the trees adjacent to the street and sidewalk on both Pine and Newport. The large limbs that broke and fell to the areas below could have endangered persons and property. An arborist was retained to evaluate the health of the trees. A major pruning was required to assure the safety of everything below. This was at a cost of \$7,000.

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT

MICHAEL BURROUGHS & KRISTINA NAKAGAWA

In the last year, we have worked to increase the variety of music found in the liturgy. The bishop gave us permission to use a variety of sources for hymns with contemporary words that are often used with familiar tunes. For the first time we had a service of music and poetry for an hour on Christmas Eve that was well attended. Working with Kimbra Ong and Kristina Nakagawa, a regular series of youth services were scheduled in which children/youth take over as many roles as possible. As we moved into the parish hall for services, we experimented with several configurations until landing on the current one - which we are still tweaking.

Music during Worship

The music program at St. Francis continues to flourish. We have three levels of choirs: junior (ages preschool-elementary), teen (ages junior high-high school), and adult. The adult choir sings nearly every Sunday of the church year except for the summer months. The junior and teen choirs sing in church on average of once per month, specifically on major feast days. We continue to

employ 2-4 college students as section leaders in the adult choir.

In February, the adult choir participated in the Santa Clara Deanery concert, held at St. Jude's in Cupertino.

Nearly 200 singers joined together to sing a movement from Handel's Messiah and the Faure Requiem. Our own Kristina Nakagawa served as the conductor for the mass choir. Extra music was added for Lent, and we expanded the program with a number of paid soloists for our Palm Sunday, Easter Vigil, and Easter morning services.

We had two visiting choral organizations in church with us as well: the Bay Area Classical Harmonies (BACH) choir, and Resounding Achord. In the winter the children and youth produced a Lessons and Carols Pageant, featuring readers and singers of all ages. The adult and handbell choirs



prepared advanced anthems for Christmas Eve, and additional singers were brought in for 10:00 pm pre-service music and 11:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

We look forward to continuing to enrich the worship experience at St. Francis by adding Evensong to the worship calendar. We are excited to create more opportunities for performers in the new worship space in 2019.

Handbell Choir Report (Helmuth Litfin)
The Handbell Choir, first led by Mary Mackenzie and now Helmuth Litfin, played their own solo

pieces, and also collaborated with the choir and organ. They began this year with ten ringers and played during services with the choir during Easter, Advent and Christmas Eve services. As many have heard, the four octaves of handbells were stolen in early January, and they are currently looking to borrow a set until the St. Francis bells are replaced. They will resume rehearsals once they do get bells again,. They are currently seeking more ringers – at least three or four more. This will allow them to work on more complex music. No experience is necessary. They will teach you how to ring, so please join them. Contact the director, Helmuth Litfin, if you are interested.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

MICHAEL BURROUGHS

Adult formation is now called Sacred Conversations. In May we began three-week series' of classes. This turned into an ongoing series starting with the last book by Bishop John Shelby Spong. Also covered were works by Bart Ehrman and other scholars. The class meets most Sunday mornings at 9:05 am with a regular attendance of 10-15 participants.

A weekly Wednesday morning Bible Study led by the Rev. Jerry Drino is open to everyone.

Plans are underway to offer more formation opportunities outside of the traditional approach of Sunday mornings.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH REPORT

THE REV. KATHERINE DOAR

As the new Director of Community Development and Outreach, the ministry is to empower the members of St. Francis to share the Love of Christ with each other, our neighbors and our world. By developing better communication, wider connections and deeper caring we can be a reconciling presence in Willow Glen and beyond. 2018 has been a year of transition, learning and making change.

The summer and early fall was focused on some core events in the life of this community including Vacation Bible School, the Sierra Service Project mission trip, Summer Sunday Formation (Kid's Camp/TNT) and the All-Parish and Big Sur campouts. Through these ministries we reached both within and beyond our walls to over 200 children and youth and families in our Willow Glen neighborhood and traveled as far as the United States border to deepen our understanding of the injustices of our time and to work together for their transformation.

The remainder of the year primarily was to work on the acquisition of technical knowledge and best practices and the development of new tools to re-



imagine our communications infrastructure. A strategy was developed that uses high impact and lower resource intensive media to create engaging, beautiful and simple communications to express the faith and life of St. Francis within our community and beyond. A new website was unveiled in August which is the result of more than a year of planning and hours of hard work by Carrie Maietta to complete the conversion.

We have continued to shape and develop what is the linchpin of our outward facing presence with the strategic use of web banners to share our St. Francis story with each other and the world. Internally we transitioned to paperless

announcements supported by a redesigned and streamlined weekly email. Advent and Christmas focused on invitation as we challenged ourselves to share the riches of our seasonal worship and community life through Facebook events, invitation postcards and welcome materials. Webinars and e-Conferences continue to stretch and grow understanding and challenges us to tap into new modes of sharing our story.

St. Francis has undergone a significant transition in the life of our community with the move of our worship space. Lay servers and acolyte scheduling, formerly done by Jennifer Watkins and Robin Biesterveld for many years, now comes under this ministry. Work has been to streamline and integrate the scheduling process by using cloud-based tools, support both teams through the transition to our new worship space and ultimately open up both of these ministries to new participation.

Outreach is already a core, vibrant and thriving part of the ministry that works intergenerationally to impact our neighbors in crisis and need. Our outreach goal is to assist local and global organizations to improve the lives of those in need, especially helping the homeless, hungry, poor,

those in crisis and the oppressed. In 2018 we doubled our commitment to Village House, served in partnership with Santa Maria Urban Mission, Willow Glen Cares, One Warm Coat, Sierra Service Project, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Pajama Project and cared for people in crisis through our food pantry, Wolf Packs and emergency aid for fire victims.

Within the life of our community support has been given to Davison Hogan in the building of a Young Adult Community and to Renee Nichols in the gathering of a Women's Spiritual Journey Group. Additionally, I serve in the life of our diocese as a member of the Standing Committee whose main work for 2018 has been the oversight and guiding of the process for the selection of the next bishop. As you can imagine it was and continues to be a busy year on this front.

We have a wealth of gifts given by all ages in leadership and service. I feel blessed by you all as we engage together in a lifelong journey of putting our faith in action.

Katherine+

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRIES REPORT

KIMBRA ONG

Families & Young Children (birth to 11 yrs old)

On average we have 30 children in attendance between the Nursery (birth to 3 years), Godly Play (3 years through 3rd grade) and Connect (4th & 5th grade). To run these three programs we have two paid nursery workers, 12 Godly Play teachers and four Connect Teachers.

Some of our outreach programs from the year included making cards and cookies for the ladies at Village House, a pajama and book drive, and art packets for the children at Lucille Packard. We also spent time in fellowship with an outing to Happy Hollow, a family hike, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Beach Camp Out and Ladies Night Out along with Men's Night Out.

St. Francis also co-hosted Vacation Bible School with Willow Glen Methodist the last week in June. We had 31 families from St Francis participate. It was a wonderful week that was enriching for everyone involved.

The September kick off was delayed due to the vandalism that occurred over the summer. As much as the vandalism/flooding was a sad event, it did



give our basement a much-needed facelift. With the flooding, a quarter of the sheet rock had to be removed on several of the walls. All of the flooring had to be removed, several pieces of furniture were damaged and all of the rugs had to be replaced. It was expensive and tedious however the end result is a very fresh space that is updated and welcoming.

This fall a program called Faith Full Families was added. It is geared to young families that have children from birth to grade school. We met every other month at the church. During the time together we share a meal that everyone contributes

to, socialize to get to know one another, sing together and create some piece of tangible art. We have six families thus far who participate on a regular basis.

St. Francis is a rich community with much to offer and much to gain from everyone's involvement.

Youth Group (6th-12th)

The mission for our Youth Group program is to offer Sunday morning education and at least one additional event each month. These extra gatherings range from outreach to our community, service to our parish, and fellowship with each other. Every year with the Diocese of El Camino Real our youth have the opportunity to attend the Sierra Service Project (SSP). SSP is a week-long outreach program to people in lower economic areas of the West Coast. It is an enriching week of

selflessness and growth as the youth are asked to do a lot of things out of their comfort zone. All who experience SSP are truly blessed.

Some additional outreach events included hosting Easter Sunday Coffee hour, Teacher Appreciation Brunch, folding Palm Crosses and stuffing Easter Eggs for the parish Easter Egg Hunt, hosting a bake sale. The proceeds went to Christmas presents for Willow Glen Cares.

In the fall, we welcomed Davison Hogan to be the corner stone piece of this ministry. Davison attends as many events as possible including teaching Sunday School every other week. We are appreciative to all of our teachers that take the time to dedicate themselves to the Christian education of our youth.

FLOWER GUILD REPORT YVONNE HEAD & LISA SMITH

There is a place for everyone in Flower Guild, and they are always eager to add new members. Join the Flower Guild as a full member with a scheduled once a month arrangement as part of a team. Or, participate in special occasions twice a year — if you love to decorate for Christmas or work with beautiful spring Easter flowers, they have a ministry for you!



The Flower Guild is happy to report the addition of Rachelle Grabowski to the group, joining Yvonne Head, Melinda Dobbs, Donna Jewett, and Lisa Smith. Experience in floral arranging is not necessary as they will train you. If you are looking for a creative outlet, please join them.

VESTRY CANDIDATES CLASS OF 2022



DANA CHANDLER has been part of the St. Francis family for about 35 years. She was baptized and confirmed here and her children were baptized here. Dana helped with Sunday school when her children were young and once they were older, was able to join the choir. The music at St Francis has always been important to her and she is pleased to see the music ministry growing. Dana is able to bring an objective and constructive opinion to the vestry. The warm accepting atmosphere and the vibrant children and youth program make St. Francis an outstanding place.



DONNA JEWETT has been a member of St. Francis for 50 plus years. Her husband, George, joined St. Francis in 1982. They are the proud parents of two sons and one daughter; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They feel truly blessed by their family. Donna previously served on the vestry three times and also served as clerk of the vestry. She was on the vestry that called the current rector to S. Francis. In addition to teaching Sunday school she has served on numerous committees: Parish Life, Buildings and Grounds and Flower Guild, to name a few. She also served as Junior Warden. Donna is retired after 31 years in law enforcement, both as a sworn officer and as a civilian employee in the crime scene, fingerprint unit. Donna looks forward to serving another term in the vestry.



JANET KARZMARK recently retired from her 40 year career in Mental Health, the last 25 years of which she spent as a self-employed Marriage and Family Therapist. She and her husband, Peter, have lived in San Jose for 30 years. She has one son who is finishing his PhD at UC Santa Cruz. She came to St. Francis in 2002 after some friends were talking about the pancake supper and she felt nostalgic for the church of her childhood. Janet was raised as an Episcopalian and was the first girl acolyte at her church in the early 70's. She has served on the Vestry twice, the first time with Michelle Peacock when Michelle was pregnant with Mary Charlotte and then again when the church was searching for Maly. She has been a member of the Altar Guild for many years and she belongs to a Covenant Group with three other St. Francis women who are very dear to her. Since her mother and sisters all live across the country, Janet thinks of St. Francis as her extended family here in San Jose.



NATHANIEL LIM The Lim family have been members of St. Francis since 1981. Nathaniel was active in the youth group prior to heading off to college. Returning in 1990 after working in New York City, he applied his business background to St. Francis' financial needs. Nathaniel helped acquire the first office desktop computers, installed the first parish accounting software, and migrated donation tracking from paper ledgers. He served as St. Francis' treasurer for eighteen years (1994-2011). During his tenure as treasurer, Nathaniel served on the vestry for a single term. During this time, he worked with the youth group. Together they ran the annual diocesan snow trip to Dodge Ridge (250+ participants).

Nathaniel and his wife King began teaching Sunday school several years ago. They have remained active with the youth group by organizing events and attending the Sierra Service Project with them each year. Nathaniel and King have a 14 year old son, Jonathan.



BARBARA RATCLIFFE became a member of St Francis in 2002 and served as a Sunday school teacher, co-chair of the Pastoral Care Committee and served eight years on the vestry. Her life is in transition as she has recently retired from being a full time hotel general manager, but she continues to provide advice on human resource issues for her former company. Barbara is a part time lecturer at San Jose State University. Although, she was born and raised in the United Kingdom she is thankful to have become a citizen of the United States of America in the year 2000. She married Bruce Ramskov in 2012. They have four adult children and also participate in caring for an aged parent. Barbara's prayer

for St Francis is that the members will continue to support and motivate each other to serve the parish, the community and all the family members. Although Barbara has served on the Vestry before, she is honored to join the group once more.



MARY VAN NOSTERN is a lifelong Episcopalian and was raised in the Episcopal church in the Midwest. In her youth she participated in the youth choir, taught vacation Bible school and was the first girl acolyte at two churches: Calvary Episcopal Church in Batavia, IL and later Holy Communion Episcopal Church in Lake Geneva, WI. Mary joined St. Francis in 2004 when her family moved to Cambrian Park. Prior to that she attended Trinity Cathedral, where she and Gene were married in 2000. While at St. Francis, Mary has participated in many parish life events, including summer picnics, 4th of July ice cream socials, Shrove Tuesday pancake suppers, garden and grounds cleanup days, and other events. In the past, she also served as the lay server scheduler for six years, as a vestry

member ~2007 – 2010 and she continues to serve as a chalice bearer and as a Village House volunteer. In her weekday life, Mary works for a software company that specializes in subscription billing, Zuora, in San Mateo where she heads up the Program Management Office for the Product & Technology teams.

DIOCESAN DELEGATES CANDIDATES

Janet Maich
Isabel Wright
Joe Head

Chris Peacock
Michael Burroughs
Davison Hogan

VESTRY

Marilyn Booth
Joe Head *
Jim Homer
Cindy Newberry
Renee Nichols (Sr. Warden)*

Tracey Parry
Chris Peacock (Jr. Warden)*
Jon Sarginger
Tom Stolarik

*Term ends in 2019

STAFF

The Rev. Maly Carswell Hughes, *Rector*
The Rev. Katherine Baginski Doar, *Associate Priest, Director of Community Development & Outreach*
The Rev. Stephenie Cooper, *Deacon*
The Rev. John Avery Palmer, *Deacon*
Michael Burroughs, *Organist, Director of Music and Spiritual Life*
Kristina Nakagawa, *Choir Director*
Kimbra Ong, *Director of Children & Family Ministry*
Carrie Maietta, *Parish Administrator*
Sarah Clark, *Bookkeeper*
Ken McFerrin, *Sexton*
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