

Incarnation Notes

Aug ♦ Sep ♦ Oct 2010 ♦ volume 137 ♦ issue 4



Important message regarding the newsletter that you hold in your hand!

This will be the last newsletter to be sent via the US Postal Service unless you do not have access to a computer. Budget considerations and the process now required by the Post Office make preparation for mailing very time consuming. Thus, we are now going to an email-only newsletter system, unless you do not have access to email and can only receive the newsletter by US Postal Mail delivery. Call the Church Office (707-579-2604) with questions or concerns.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!

Fr. Matthew Lawrence

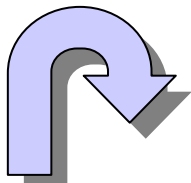


The Church of the Incarnation

A Jubilee Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of

INDEX

From the Rector	2
Outreach.....	3-5
Pastoral Care	5-6
Fall Line-up.....	7



**Fall / Spring
Worship schedule**
returns with three
Sunday services
8:00 am, 9:15 am
and 11:15 am on
Sept. 12, 2010

Please complete the form below, and mail it to the Church Office:

Church of the Incarnation

Attn: Claire

550 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

1. Are you able to receive the newsletter by email from now on?

YES! Email: _____

NO! I do not have access to a computer or email, and **MUST** receive the newsletter by US Postal Delivery.

2. Do you actually read the newsletter?

YES! I read the newsletter and would to continue to do so if received by email or snail mail.

NO! I just never read it. You can take me off your mailing list.

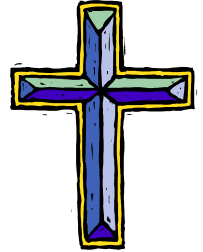
NAME _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Letter from the Rector

It was a perfect day at the football-happy University of Michigan. The smothering August humidity had finally lifted, and by ten that morning the golden sun was in its full glory against a deep blue sky. It seemed that God himself was a Michigan fan, painting the heavens with the school's colors - Maize and Blue.

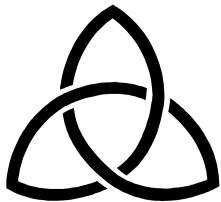
That morning I was sitting in the middle of the university's central campus, soaking up the sun and talking to students about God, religion, and Canterbury House - the campus ministry I led. I was handing out flyers that said "Heretics Welcome" in big letters. As I had hoped, this got their attention.



From my flyers, they learned that at Canterbury House, everyone was welcome, even the skeptics and the unbelievers. I wanted these bright students to know that they would not be shunned for having challenging questions.

Along came a young man with a very thick neck – I thought he might be a football player. He was wearing a t-shirt with a graphic picture of Jesus on the cross, bleeding profusely. Beneath the image were the words, "For You."

The young man took one of my flyers and walked along while he read it. Then he stopped, turned around and headed toward me. "What does this mean, 'Heretics Welcome,'" he said, waving the flyer in my face. As I started to explain he waved his hand: "Just tell me," he said. "Do you believe that Jesus is God?"



"Well," I said, "yes, he's the second Person of the Trinity. Is that what you mean?"

"It's a simple question," he replied, his face growing red. "Is Jesus *God*?"

Now I was getting curious about his fierceness. "What do you *mean* by God," I asked.

He looked momentarily confused. What's going on in there, I wondered. What *does* it mean to say, "Jesus is God?" Why is it such a burning question for this young man?

After a moment he handed me back the flyer. "Dude," he said, walking away, "if you don't know, then never mind."

I was surprised, and saddened, that he gave up on me so easily. And I thought about all those prayers we say for the unity of the church. How could we ever become one when we had such a hard time just listening to one another. Will we ever understand one another, I wondered? Are we even worshiping the same God?

Almighty God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee...

Handwritten signature of Fr. Matt.



Worship Services

*** Summer Schedule ***

May 30—Sept. 5

.....Sunday

*Nursery Care during all services
Coffee Hour after each service*

8 a.m.
Holy Communion

10:00 a.m.
*Holy Communion,
With Music*

.....Daily

**8:00 a.m. (weekdays except
Wednesday)**
Morning Prayer Service

.....Wednesday

12:10 p.m.
Holy Eucharist & Healing

**There will be no Sunday
School during the Summer**



**St. Andrew's
in-the-Redwoods**

20329 Hwy 116,
Monte Rio, CA 95462
(707) 865-0834

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays at 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

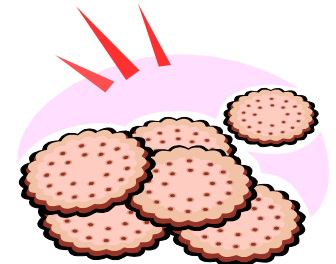
FOOD MINISTRY

Tuesdays - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, REALLY!

Baking goodies is a hobby and good therapy; when the going gets tough I like to cook up a storm. Not wanting to eat all that stuff myself, one or two pieces being enough, I decided to bring a couple cakes to the coffee hour after the Sunday 8:00 A.M. Eucharist to see what would happen. Those 8:00 A.M. folks and early arrivals are definitely on the seafood diet. If they see it, they eat it! I felt great pleasure to see that the goodies were enjoyed and destroyed before they had a chance to go stale.

At some point during this last unusually long, cold and wet winter, some strangers started showing up for the goodies and a dry warm place to sit in the early morning hours after services. At first there were about three souls. Then the group gradually grew to half a dozen. The strangers started showing up before the service, when the gate was opened, to get in a dry warm place in anticipation of a cup of hot coffee and something sweet to eat; so I decided to put a portion of the food out for the strangers before the service.



As the word spread among the strangers and the congregation, the little endeavor increased. The group of strangers, most of whom weren't strangers any more, sometimes swelled to as many as twenty. Parishioners got involved. Folks brought food, offered suggestions and pitched in.

It all flows now due to Barbara Avery's calm presence. As the first to arrive, she often opens the gate, and everyone troops behind her to Farlander Hall, where she stays during the service. Carolyn and Ron Rausch offer welcoming smiles and delicious goodies, which have been a great blessing. Marti Kennedy has taken the initiative to bring healthier food, and has taken the time to get to know some of the folks. My partner, Roger Bucholtz, makes coffee, schleps food and talks to our visitors. In my mind we're not primarily providers of coffee and cake, but purveyors of love and acceptance.

I decided this was a happy accident. We were privileged to have an opportunity to show forth God's love to the strangers among us.

As I listen to the rhythm of the scriptural readings proclaiming God loved us first, I feel encouraged to continue. When we feel God's unconditional love isn't it easy to joyfully share our coffee, food and shelter?



Bob Gebhart

Incarnation Vestry

Rector's Warden:
Linelle Lane

Parish Warden:
Glen Kennedy

Clerk:
Peggy Zimmerman

Treasurer:
John Nykamp

Term Ending 2011
Liza Brickey
Linelle Lane
Gene Mendez
Leslie Benjamin
Peggy Zimmerman

Term Ending 2012
Glen Kennedy
Chris Landin
Ron Rausch
Marion Zipperle

Term Ending 2013
Jerry Slaby
David Jasper
Diane Schoenrock
Barbara Avery



Outreach Expenditures in 2010

A Report by the Outreach Commission
By: **Stephanie Blair**

The Outreach Commission is a volunteer group at the Church of the Incarnation whose objective is to make a positive Christian impact on the world around us. Its members consider appeals for funding of various charitable matters, and make recommendations to the vestry as to which donations would be the best use of our Church's financial resources. Donations are made on YOUR behalf, as members of the Church of the Incarnation, so we thought we should tell you what we have advised vestry to do in your name since the beginning of this year.

Most of the money in the Outreach account comes from Heavenly Treasures, so please keep shopping at Heavenly Treasures! Occasionally the Church receives a donation directed to be used for outreach purposes, and that money is put into the Outreach account as well.

This year, the Outreach Commission has recommended that vestry give the following amounts of money to the following groups (all recommendations have been approved):

- \$2,500 to the Living Room
- \$1,000 to Episcopal Relief & Development for Haiti
- \$750 to the Educational Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the country of Sierra Leone. This school is founded and run by a former student of fellow Church member Martha Peterson when she was in the Peace Corps.
- \$1,000 to the Diocese of Northern California-Honduras Summer Camp. Two missionaries from our parish, Carla Baldasari and Jose Ramirez, are working for a few weeks this summer at the camp which serves needy children in Honduras.
- \$450 to St. Andrew's in the Redwoods to pay for a part-time janitor for six months
- \$400 to the Youth Group to help offset the cost of all pancake breakfasts in 2010



The above list does not show all monies spent on outreach by the Church; the above list only entails donations which were considered and recommended by the Commission to the vestry. The guidelines the Outreach Commission follows for making recommendations are:

- * Whether our intervention will make a critical difference - a positive Christian impact and witness that builds the Body of Christ.
- * 'Building quality of life' programs have priority over 'saving' programs.
- * There is an opportunity for the hands-on involvement of our parishioners as well as financial support.
- * Programs must have a realistic and attainable goal.
- * Programs have a potential for ongoing continuity and growth over a period of time.

If you would like to know more about what the Outreach Commission does, or are interested in joining, please contact Bob Gebhart at bobgebhart@comcast.net or Stephanie Blair at StephChristel@gmail.com.

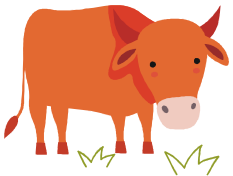
Outreach & Pastoral Care

GREEN VALLEY 4H CLUB BENEFITS THE LIVING ROOM

Hey! There's a Cow in Your Yard!

Catie Kunde and members of her Green Valley 4-H brought a beef heifer, dairy calves, sheep, goats and piglets to The Living Room on Tuesday, June 9, for the children and mothers at The Living Room to see and pet. While there, she presented a check for \$369.84 to TLR from bottles and cans collected from various 4-H events.

Debbie and Bob Grove of our parish were on hand to assuage the concerns of the little ones. "It will be a day to remember. The Living Room board and staff welcome the donation as well. A round of thanks was said by all."



Burbank School

(To be sung to "One Little Two Little Indians")

One little, two little, three reams of paper (When they are offering copy paper on a two for one sale)

Four little, five little, six long green pencils (or any color)

Seven, little, eight little, nine big pink erasers

Ten little happy Burbank students (and more)

Budgets will be really tight this year. These supplies will help the teachers so they won't have to pay as much themselves.

Please bring your donations to Farlander Hall. There is a bag for them near the Gift Shop. There are volunteers going to Burbank every week.

The students and staff thank you more than they can say.



Community of Hope

This fall, the pastoral care commission, *Incarnation Cares*, will offer "**Community of Hope**" training to members of our congregation. The mission of the Community of Hope is to create Christian communities of volunteer lay "chaplains," united in prayer, shaped by Benedictine spirituality and equipped for, and serving in, pastoral care ministries.

The training program consists of 14 sessions designed to ground us in Benedictine spirituality and equip us to serve as visitors to nursing homes, retirement homes, hospitals, and to persons shut-in due to illness or frailty. It is ideal for people who serve as Eucharistic Visitors, friendly visitors, outreach workers or as caregivers in other settings. The truth is though, that the training is of value to any of us who spend caring time with others—whether at our jobs or in our families. During the training participants go out two by two to visit persons in nursing homes; after the training each person will follow his or her own call to this ministry—perhaps visiting parishioners, perhaps in hospitals, nursing homes, at a work site or elsewhere.



Because the program is grounded in Benedictine spirituality and practice, each of the modules includes study and reflection on the relationship of the Rule of Benedict to the topic of the session. Each participant will formulate his or her own "rule of life." This is our fourth year of offering the Community of Hope. Previous years' class members are carrying out their ministries in a wide variety of settings, both formal and informal. The Community of Hope is a well conceived program and a spiritually enriching community.

The evening of the program (tentatively Thursday) will be decided later this summer. For questions and further information, please contact Jan Saucer or Pastor Gail at pastorgail@incarnation-sr.org



Summer greetings from your Pastoral Care team!!

After the great Summer Safety Fair, we are all ready to enjoy the wonderful summer activities safely and sanely.

Our Pastoral Care team is comprised of lay people, Fr Matt, Fr Ed and Pastor Gail, all working together for the good of our church family.

In her role as Health Ministries Coordinator, Pastor Gail continues to meet with many of us as she gathers information to help her access and implement new things for our church family. She is working together with Fr Matt as they visit many of the shut-ins and seniors in our congregation and invite them to participate in programs specifically set up for homebound congregants - *Senior Center Without Walls*, for example.

These visits not only cheer our members but they also let them know that they have not been forgotten by their church family. These visits also provide a good opportunity for evaluation of someone's home situation as well as physical and or emotional needs they may have, and to suggest community resources which may be available to them.

We are also in the process of organizing the team to make another round of friendly "check in" calls to all the parish again, probably sometime in September. Plans are also underway for another Community of Hope class to begin in the fall as well.



Community of Hope is an opportunity to learn to develop good listening skills and the art of being present with another person. It is based on the Rule of Benedict. Please, join us in this as we grow and learn together. More specific details will be forthcoming!

Our prayers have also been answered! Pastor Gail received word that Incarnation has been awarded \$3500, a result of the grant Gail wrote to ECS. Grant writing is an important part of this position and Pastor Gail has excellent skills in this area. With the state of our present economic situation, this is a blessing, as they received requests for \$90,000, and the money we received was higher than the average amount awarded. Praise God!

Have a safe and wonderful summer and please, let Claire in the church office, Fr Matt, Pastor Gail or the monthly coordinators know of any Pastoral Care needs you may have.

Blessings and joy for the summer months ahead!

Jan Chaffin Saucer



Want to Hear an Alarming Thought???

Please heed the NO RIGHT TURN ON RED on College Avenue and Humbolt St. (both north and south.) If you are stopped by a policeman, your fine will be \$270. (The same as if you ran a red light!)



Check out this *fantastic Fall line-up!*



These are *save the date opportunities* you don't want to miss.

Sunday, September 5



Start your Fall with the Blessing of the Backpacks and the Fall Festival. Join us at 10 am for this unique service, with a special appearance from a Gospel Choir. Then, we party together with a BBQ and the return of the bouncy house and Velcro wall for fun and fellowship! Bring your friends!

Saturday, September 25

All those who are to be Confirmed when the Bishop comes on October 3 will participate in a Confirmation Retreat. Contact Fr. Matt (707-579-2604 ext. 102) with questions about the Confirmation process.

Saturday, October 2

An Evening of Gratitude: Celebrating our Ministries and Honoring Don & Maureen Green. We'll have a concert, complete with Organ Dedication, then a fabulous dinner together. The Bishop will be present for this extremely special occasion! There will be pizza and a movie for the kids. More info to come soon.



Sunday, October 3

The Bishop is visiting, don't miss this! 8 am service as usual, 10 am service with Confirmation. (The 9:15 and 11:15 services will combine forces for this one Sunday).

Sunday, October 10

Blessing of the Animals at the 9:15 service! Bring your animal family members for a blessing, join our menagerie! We will be worshipping outside, so bring something to keep warm in case it gets chilly.



Saturday, October 23

All-Parish Harvest Party (4 pm—7 pm). Join us for yummy snacks, pumpkin carving, a Day of the Dead altar, carnival games, and Sumo Wrestling – brought back by popular demand!

Sunday, October 31

All Hallow's Eve at the 9:15 service - come join us for a Discovery Sunday Extravaganza. All ages are encouraged to wear costumes (no vampires or anything to scary for our youngest members, please). Experience All Hallow's Eve like never before!



Church of the Incarnation

550 Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

707-579-2604 Phone
707-579-0228 FAX

www.incarnation-sr.org

Non Profit Organization

**U.S. Postage
PAID**

**PERMIT NO. 284
Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**Moving? Please notify
us of your new address,
phone, and e-mail.**



STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Barry Beisner, *Bishop of Northern California*

The Rev. Matthew Lawrence, *Rector*
e-mail: revml@incarnation-sr.org

Daphne Vernon, *Associate for Children & Youth Ministries*
e-mail: youthmin@incarnation-sr.org

The Rev. Pamela Moore, *Deacon*
e-mail: deacon@incarnation-sr.org

The Rev. Gail Cafferata, *Health Ministries Coordinator*
E-mail: pastorgail@incarnation-sr.org

The Rev. James Knutsen, *Assisting Clergy*

The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, *Assisting Clergy*

The Rev. Ed Howell, *Assisting Clergy*

The Rev. Patricia Moore, *Associate Rector Emerita*
Blog: www.ammapat.blogspot.com

Claire Frydenlund, *Office Coordinator*
e-mail: claire@incarnation-sr.org

Cindy May, *Volunteer Newsletter Editor*
e-mail: news@incarnation-sr.org

Melissa Craig-Morse / Carol Menke, *Music Directors*

Harold Julander / Leslie Dukes, *Organists*

Eric Ramsey / Ernie Gonzales, *Sextons*

Mitch Garcia, *Small Groups / Adult Spiritual Formation Consultant*
e-mail: smallgroups@incarnation-sr.org

St. Andrew's-In-the-Redwoods

20329 Highway 116 (PO Box 721)
Monte Rio, CA 95462 707.865.0834

The Rev. Linda Moore, *Priest-in-charge*
mission@standrews-redwoods.org