

# The Franciscan



## The Bishop's Committee

## From our Vicar... October 2016



### • Bishop and Rector •

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### Why Church?

In Eugene Peterson's book, *Practicing Resurrection*, he further elaborates on the book of Ephesians from chapter 2: 11-22. In it, he addresses what Paul writes as he speaks about what the church is.

Indeed, we are fortunate at St. Francis. We have a lovely church building and sanctuary. We are blessed by five and half acres of restful and appealing landscape. We are not in an overcrowded urban area, sandwiched between one building and another. We have space, and contributions of the Labyrinth, Rose Garden and Biblical Garden continue to nourish our souls.

However, according to Paul as he is writing to the community in Ephesus, all these things are NOT what church is. Even all the good things that happen inside the church, the music, the preaching, the liturgy, the Eucharist, are NOT what church is.

I like to think of these things as setting the stage, inviting us into church, helping us to be receptive and ready to receive church.

Here's how Peterson describes Paul's writing about what church is. "Remember what that transition was like when you crossed the threshold into church, the transition from exclusion to inclusion? Remember the surprise of being an insider to God and his revelation after being an outsider? Remember this well.."

Peterson explains that all the "doing" of church is caught up in function, like the idea of creating the atmosphere around an event that is about to take place. What church is, *is* that event. "We do not create the church. It *is*. We enter and participate in what is given to us. There is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Most of what the church *is*, not all, is invisible."

Church is both what we see and what we don't see. We can't see the ascension of Jesus. We can't see the descent of the Holy Spirit. We can't see sins washed away. We can't see the birth of a soul. We can't see the river of life.

But we can participate and show up to welcome it happening. We can be together as a community and enter in with expectancy that Jesus is there. We can hold out our empty hands and receive bread for life and know that God has filled us.

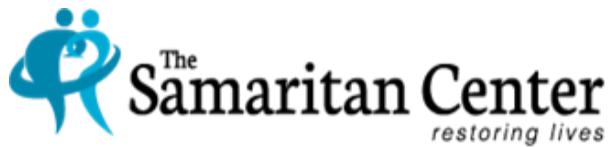
Paul says church is not just a place but a live, dynamic, foot-on-the-ground place of hospitality where we are welcomed as participants with Jesus. It is a place where we are set apart and God makes Godself known to us personally, in our language, in our circumstances, in Word, and in Sacrament.

That's practicing resurrection and living into being and experiencing church.



Published monthly by St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church 280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065  
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**Volunteer Appreciation Day,  
November 6,**

the Samaritan Center is in need of donations of Desserts. There will be a silent auction and are looking for donations of gift baskets. Suggested that 2 or more people go together and make up gift baskets. (example: Starbucks card with coffee pot, cups &/or coffees, snacks, etc. Movie tickets with dinner gift card, popcorn, candy, etc.)



**The Low-Down on  
the Formation Class  
“Life, Stress and the  
Gospel”**

4 sessions, with an optional 5<sup>th</sup> (if attendees desire), conducted on two tracks.

**Track A – First and Third  
Wednesday Evenings.**

Held in the Sunday School Room, 6:30-8 pm, BYO Dinner. September 21, October 5 and 19 November 2

*\*November 16, optional*

**Track B – Sundays following  
coffee hour, 12:15-1:30 pm**  
Held in the Fellowship Hall, light “Baja Fresh” lunch provided.  
September 25, October 9, 16, 23  
*\*November 6, optional*

The atmosphere is intended to be informal and enjoyable. Out of respect for your time the sessions will begin and end promptly on time.

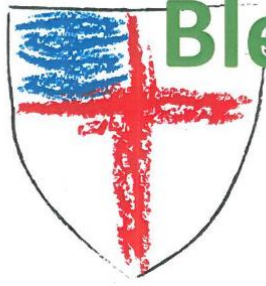
You may bring your own Bible, or Bibles will be available.

You may wish to take notes. You may BYO or paper and pencils will be available.

**MARK  
YOUR CALENDAR**

Vicar’s Community Event  
Sunday, November 13

Thanksgiving Community  
Interfaith Service  
Tuesday, November 22



# Blessing of the Animals

Service: October 2, 10:15 AM

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**

280 Royal Ave, Simi Valley

stfrancischurchofsimi.org

**Everyone  
Welcome**



Food  
Ice Cream Sundae Bar  
Arts & Crafts  
Bouncy House  
Face Painting  
Grange Livestock Group  
Pet Adoptions  
Petting Zoo  
Music

**Free  
to all**

Please bring  
pets in carriers  
or on leashes

**Donations  
welcome**

**OCTOBER 2**

**is St. Francis Feast Day  
where we celebrate**

## **THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS.**

We are excited to once again, offer a Family Fun Day with food, bouncy house, animals, petting zoo, games, arts and crafts and more!

It is an occasion for us to be grateful for all that St. Francis means to us as a community and as a church. We will be sharing our service with the United Church of Christ next door, and offering this event to the community.

Service will be outside, starting at 10:15 and fun and fellowship will be from 12:00 – 2:00.

Would you consider making a contribution for the blessing of the animals?

Opportunities include contributing to the Petting Zoo and Pony Rides, the bouncy house, or for the food. If you wish to make a specific donation, just put your check in the offering plate on Sunday with BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS in the Memo.

**This will be a unique service! Please invite all of your friends!**





## **Community Program Ralphs Grocery Store**

St. Francis has 2 household supporters who shopped at **Ralphs** between **6-1-2016** and **8-31-2016** (Cycle 16, Qtr 4) have contributed to St. Francis receiving **\$39.05** total donation. St. Francis will be receiving a Kroger check in this amount within 30 days from 9-21-2016.

If you have any questions or to sign up, even if you don't shop at Ralphs every week every time you go you can still help, please

email [community.programs@ralphs.com](mailto:community.programs@ralphs.com) or visit our website at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com). NPO #80992

Thank you for your continued support of your local Ralphs store.

Seasons come and go  
But God's love is like  
the sun,  
Constantly shining.

Diantha Ain



## **Womens' Retreat 2017**

Calling all women of St. Francis! Our next retreat is scheduled for the first weekend in March 2017.

Mark your calendar for March 3 -5 to join us for a relaxing, inspirational, fun-filled weekend. There are many women from St. Francis (and friends and family) who have joined us in the past and have returned to partake of the time away to relax and rejuvenate.

We will be returning to La Casa de Maria in Montecito; the property is beautiful and there is lots of free time to explore the grounds and all of its features.

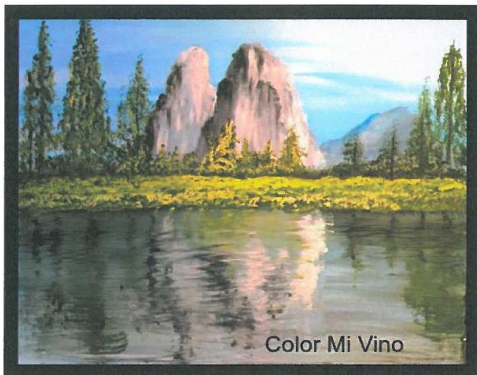
Friday night dinner is provided as well as 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. More information will be provided as we get closer to the retreat date or you can ask Pat Udell, Kathy Butler or Carol Greene if you would like more specifics.

The cost will be \$265.00 for the entire weekend, including lodging(3 women per room) and all of the meals.

We will have a sign up sheet starting in October and you can secure a spot by providing a \$100.00 deposit.

The remainder of the balance will not need to be paid until February. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Paint for a Purpose



Friday, October 7th

7:00-9:00 PM

## Color Mi VINO

2955 B-2 Cochran St. Simi Valley

805-285-2842

Join Us and help benefit The Samaritan Center

- \$35 per person which includes all paint supplies, canvas, and instruction.
- 2 hour instruction including great music, bar filled with Premium Wines/Beer/nonalcoholic drinks for Purchase
- 35% of Ticket Sales goes to benefit The Samaritan Center
- Buy your tickets @ [www.colormivino.com](http://www.colormivino.com)



### Parish Prayer Needs:

**Please keep the Perry Family in prayer.**

**Music Program:** Pray for more regular singers.

**Healing:** Jean, Braydon (baby born with half a heart), Hank, Fr. Steve, Al, Mary, Rich, Yvonne, VanNessa, Dee, Jeff, Jim,

Jan, David, Margie, Jan, Lee, Trish, Sue, the wife of Wayne, Tony, Mark, Michele, Eric, Louise, Jean, Tony, Bob & family, Edith, Rana, Howard, Mary, Donna, J.D. Frances B., Patrick, Margaret.

**For Comfort:** George and the Schneider family. Suzanne Mudge and family. Conti Family. Janet, Patricia and family. Barbara Haryn.

## **Members and News**

### **ECW**

### **Episcopal Church Women**



The ECW will be going on a tour of the Hillside Orphanage in Pasadena in the springtime, possibly March or April. . Anyone interested in joining us, please contact Sylvia Moya, 522-2897.

There will not be an ECW meeting in October but will resume in November on the 1st Friday of every month in the church at 6:30. We would love to have you join us.

Sylvia Moya



### **DOK**

### **Daughter of the King**

DOK is making Pocket Prayer Cloths. These are another way to access prayer and comfort. They are small enough to fit into a pocket or purse, and can be taken to the hospital or carried for constant comfort.

These can be found in a basket in the Narthex.

### **Library News**



### **Library: Book of the Month**

#### Home By Another Way

by Barbara Brown Taylor is the book of the month for September. It is a collection of sermons, each complete with a Bible verse from which the sermon was drawn. It begins with Advent and ends with Pentecost. It is perfect for those of us who like to dip into books. I sometimes read a whole section and other times read just one section. It was often a perfect "end of day" reading.

Wishing you great reading!

### **BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY**

**MONDAYS from 12 - 2 pm**



Come one Come all – Back to Bible Study as we reflect on the Lectionary Readings for Sunday and learn more about the Scriptures with David Kitch. Bring your bag lunch and enjoy a couple of hours, from 12:00 – 2:00 in the Clare Room, enriching our understanding of the teachings of the life of Jesus.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>
<b>2 Pentecost 20</b>  <b>10:15 am</b> <b>Blessing of the</b> <b>Animals and</b> <b>Family Fun</b> <b>Day</b> 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>3</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  12 pm Brown Bag  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>4</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>5</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6:30 pm Formation Class Sun. School Rm 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>6</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> Office Closed  7pm <b>Color Mi</b> <b>Vino</b> <b>Fundraiser</b> <b>for Sam Ctr.</b>  8 pm AA Church	<b>8</b>
<b>9 Pentecost 21</b> 10 am 10:15 am Eucharist with Music & Sunday School  12:15 pm Formation Class  6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>10</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  12 pm Brown Bag  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>11</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  6:30 pm Men's Group  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>12</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 12:30 pm Sam Center Brd Mtg 7-8 pm Lectio Divina, Dharmaraj 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>13</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA Church	<b>15</b>
<b>16 Pentecost 22</b> 10:15 Eucharist with Music & Sunday School Belize Collection Noon BC Meeting 11:15 am Hi/College Bible Class 12:15 pm Formation Class 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>17</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 12 pm Brown Bag  <b>Franciscan Articles Due</b>  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>18</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>19</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 6:30 pm Formation Class Sun. School Rm 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>20</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA Church	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Pentecost 23</b> 10:15 Eucharist with Music & Sunday School Recycling 12:15 pm Formation Class 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>24</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 12 pm Brown Bag  8 pm Men's AA PH	<b>25</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs.  7 pm AA Clare Rm 8 pm Women's AA PH	<b>26</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs 10 am Healing & Eucharist Service 7-8 pm Lectio Divina, Dharmaraj 7:30 pm Men's AA PH	<b>27</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> Office Closed  8 pm AA Church	<b>29</b>
<b>30 Pentecost 24</b> 10:15 Eucharist with Music & Sunday School Recycling 11:30 am Formation Class 6:30 Men's AA PH	<b>31</b> <b>All Hallow's Eve</b> 9am-2pm Office Hrs. 12 pm Brown Bag  8 pm Men's AA PH					



## NEW OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED THROUGH ST. FRANCIS



Want to be involved with the Samaritan Center?? Renee McGuire is heading up a Tutoring Program offered to all who need help in computer skills, literacy, and empowering clients to get on their feet. As well, Joe Zepf has been part of a Men's Mentoring Program offering everything from help in filling out forms, to a listening ear. Talk with Renee or Joe about the various opportunities that are available as we partner our mission and ministry with the Samaritan Center. <http://thesamaritancenterofsimivalley.org/>

Our church members have asked what useful items **The Samaritan Center** can use the most. All shelf-stable goods are helpful, as well as cleaning products and trash bags. In particular, the Kitchen is always in need for the following for daily lunches given to clients:

- **Juice or any Beverages in Pouches**
- **Jelly (grape, strawberry, any kind for sandwiches)**
- **Peanut Butter**
- **Lunch Bags**

**Update of Needs for the Samaritan Center. . .** Back Packs. Men's Jeans and larger men's tennis shoes. Eggs, Milk, Trash bags: tall kitchen size and 45 gallon; napkins, aluminum foil, Styrofoam soup bowls, ammonia, bleach and tube socks for men and toilet paper.

**Summer comes to Simi Valley**, our homeless population needs our help to stay safe from sunburn and heat-related illness. Please consider donating some of the following to the Samaritan Center for its clients:

Hats: baseball-style or sun-hat style; Lip balm with SPF protection; Sunblock: travel-size or large for the center; Refillable water bottles

Your donations go directly to feed the needs of our community. Donations can be brought to church or left at the Sam Center kitchen door. Thank you so much



### RECYCLING AT ST FRANCIS

Please bring in your Recycling on the **last Sunday of the month** and we'll put those cans and bottles to good use! Our efforts will help support the needs of a family in our community and will be appreciated. See what glass and metal can do? So mark your calendars now with a big "R" for recycling at the end of the month. Thank you ahead of time for all your contributions!



### St. Francis Coffee Hour Schedule

#### October 2016

	2	9	16	23	30
10am	DOK				

#### November 2016

	6	13	20	27	
10am					

**Our coffee hour is a tradition of spending a few minutes together after our worship to connect and say hello to each other. All are invited because the "feeling of belonging" is for everyone to enjoy! It's a blessing to host this time to refresh ourselves before we return to the "busyness" of the world.**



# October 2016 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Oct. 2	Oct. 9	Oct. 16	Oct. 23	Oct. 30
<b>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Joy C.	Tom B.	Ginny M.	Shantel K.	Susan S.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)		Kathy B.	Dan J.	Ken S.	Grace R.
LEM (Chalice)	David K. David S.	Tom & Kathy B.	Jan J. David S.	Rob & Kristen W.	Esther & Brainerd D.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Grace Andrew	Emma Rachel Esther	Emma Rachel Esther	Brenda Grace	Brian Wesley Andrew
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	David S. Jr. Tony F.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Joe Z.
Altar Guild	Ginny K.	Kathy B.	Megan A.	Joy C.	Megan A.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D	Tom & Kathy B.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Jan J.	Tom & Kathy B.
Vestry Counters	Kathy T. Amy R.	Susan S. Tom B.	Kathy B. Cathy G.	Scott E. Amy B.	Kathy T. Vicky B.

**If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled – please make arrangements with someone else to substitute for you. Please contact the church office to inform them of the changes. Thank you!**

# November 2016 Schedule for Holy Ministry

	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	Nov. 27	Dec. 4
<b>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</b>					
Lector (O.T./Psalm)	Joy C.	Ginny M.	Susan S..	Tom B.	Shantel K.
Lector (Epistle/P.O.P)	Esther D.	Ken S.	Grace R.	Kathy B.	Dan J.
LEM (Chalice)	David K. David S.	Jan J. David S.	Rob & Kristen W.	Tom & Kathy B.	Brainerd & Esther D.
Acolyte & Crucifer	Grace Andrew	Emma Rachel Esther	Emma Rachel Esther	Brian Wesley Andrew	Brenda Grace
Usher / Greeters	Tony F. Rebecca S.	Tony F. Rebecca S.	David S. Jr. Tony F.	Joe Z.	Tony F. Rebecca S.
Altar Guild	Megan A.	Teri M.	Ginny K.	Joy C.	Megan A.
Home Communion	Brainerd & Esther D	Jan J.	Brainerd & Esther D.	Tom & Kathy B.	Jan J.
Vestry Counters	Amy B. Tom B.	Kathy T. Susan S.	Scott E. Amy R.	Susan S. Vicky B.	Kathy T. Susan S.

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# *the* Franciscan

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church  
280 Royal Avenue, Simi Valley CA 93065

## Newsletter – October 2016

TO:

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#### **Sunday Service:**

- **Eucharist with Music**  
**10:15 am**

#### **Wednesdays**

- **10 am Healing Service**