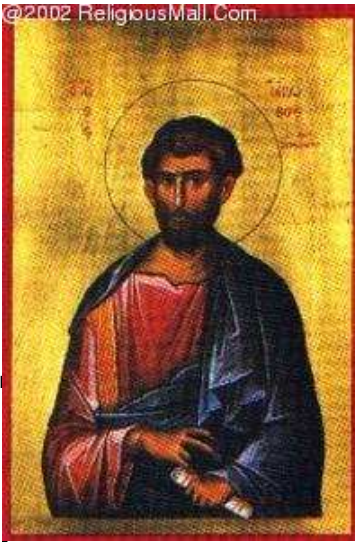


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The St James' Beacon

Come Wonder, Be Wonderful



June 2010



St James Parish

(831) 375-8476

www.saintjamesmonterey.org

Directory

Rector— *Fr. Jeff Kohn*

gfkohn@redshift.com

Deacon— *Martha Buck*

MBCCG@aol.com

Music Director—*Heidi Toy*

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Monthly Newsletter

Editor: *Fr. Jeff Kohn*

Published by: *Larry Anderson*

News – Comments - Letters –
or Photographs

Please send to church office or

Fr. Jeff's Commentary:

I've been reading a book about the Trickster figure in mythologies around the world, the Native American Coyote, the Greek Hermes, the Chinese Monkey, the Nigerian Eshu, all of whom are contradictory characters. They are seen as the sources of creativity and civilization, but they are also associated with rule breaking, with a great deal of foolishness thrown in. When Jesus is portrayed as a clown, as he is in the musical *Godspell*, or in any of Stu Schlegel's or Tom Woodward's "bright Sunday" sermons, he is being associated with the Trickster of mythology.

Tricksters are usually encountered on the road or in a far off city, in foreign territory where we're not at home and certainly not in charge. The trickster is an opening between the sacred and profane, between mortals and immortals. Hermes is the messenger of the Olympian gods. The Trickster then is very important to any spirituality, and reminds us that when we open to that aspect of life we become as vulnerable as we are blessed.

The book that I'm reading, *Trickster Makes This World* by Lewis Hyde, has a chapter devoted to the Trickster's involvement in what he calls "the lucky find." Here "by chance" some kind of treasure comes our way. Hyde writes about the composer John Cage, who created his music by throwing coins and using divination tools that he hoped would remove his personal influence from his work. Both Cage and Hyde believe that, as strange as it may sound to our ears at first, the music thus created gets us closer to the world the way it really is, without

the biased filters of attachment and aversion through which we impose our own likeness on our experience.

It's been said that "life is what happens while you're making other plans," and I believe the one doing the planning is the one I call God. We all tell ourselves stories about the way we want our life and the world to go. Sometimes the story works out and sometimes it doesn't. But the real subtext of life is the story under the story, the life we're living out for God, not ourselves. That's always working out, and in the "lucky finds" and the "chance" occurrences of life we get a glimpse of it.

For most of my ministry I've read, and gone to workshops, and done all sorts of things to come up with plans and programs that would work to help the churches I served. I've had good ideas and sometimes they've worked out. But in the last five or so years I've tried to let go of my ideas, and focus on discerning what God is actually doing at, to, for, and with Saint James in the subtext and under-story. I've seen things develop easily and naturally that all my prior efforts could never bring about. And I've seen ministry blossom in ways I never would have thought of. Such befriending of the Trickster can be pretty ego deflating. But I feel its brought us closer to God and closer to fulfilling God's call to us. Maybe it's just chance, but that's fine by me.



Worship

Sunday: 8:00 AM Rite I Eucharist

Wednesday: 10:AM Rite I Healing Eucharist

10:00 AM Rite II Eucharist

Fourth Sunday Rite II with celebration music

2008 Vestry

Senior Warden—
Robin Robinson
Junior Warden—
Bev Anderson

Beverly Anderson
Kim Evert
Cathy Gordon
Ellie Clarkson
Stan Cook
Nick Hovick
Rob Eaton
Heidi Sullivan
Erika Crispelle

Treasurer—Liz
Williams
Vestry Clerk—Cathy
Gordon
Diocesan Liaison
Contact — Beverly
Anderson

Women's Retreat:

Attached to this Newsletter is the announcement and reservation form for the ECW annual Mary Lou Thompson Women's retreat at Villa Maria Del Mar in Santa Cruz.

The Reverend Jerry Drino will be the retreat leader with the theme of

The Sacred Path

"Understanding the Journey and Resources of our Soul as We Confront Changes and Challenges in our Life."

Contact Bev Anderson for further information.

Tel: 899-3345 or Email:
bev.larry@comcast.net

Men's Breakfast:

June 5th is the date for the next men's breakfast get-together. Larry Anderson will be providing the main dish and Chris Sacra is bringing a special Amish sausage. The rest of the meal will be potluck. Breakfast at 8:00 am.

Women's Book Group:

For the month of June the ladies decided to meet for dinner and a movie. The Date and time to be decided. Those interested in joining them should contact Phyllis Meurer.

Book Review

By Rachel Mueller

THE BLUE SWEATER

by Jacqueline Novogratz

"An inspiring book by a remarkable woman."
People Magazine.

"A visionary book...devoted to providing opportunity to poor people in all countries in an interconnected world."
Deepak Chopra, *San Francisco Chronicle*

It started with a blue sweater. A sweater that Jacqueline gave away to the Goodwill in high school, she found it eight years later on a young boy in Kigali, Rwanda where she had come to help establish a microfinance institution for poor women. This book tells the personal journey of Jacqueline beginning in her twenties when she dreamed of changing the world and went to Africa, to her growing pragmatism in her forties when she established a nonprofit organization called the Acumen Fund. The book is not just her story but the stories of many African women and others she meets along the way, educating her about the human capacity to overcome enormous obstacles. She comes to realize how we are all alike in our most fundamental ways, and that what is most important is our individual and shared sense of dignity.

An MBA from Stanford University with multiple awards and honors, Jacqueline has become a friend, at least in my mind. I couldn't put the book down.
Rachel

OUTREACH CORNER

By Rachel Mueller

Lynn Paduck brought to the attention of the Outreach Committee a group called the Southern Poverty Law Center, a group fighting hate and hate groups and teaching tolerance and seeking justice. This center and its supporters dream of a day when violence and hatred are replaced with peace, respect, and understanding. Hate groups are categorized as Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi, White Nationalist, Racist Skinhead, Christian Identity, neo-Confederate, Black Separatist and General Hate according to the SPLC literature. They also have put together a very useful booklet on the "Ten Ways to Fight Hate" – a community's response guide. If anyone is interested in learning more about SPLC, check out the literature on the back table. *Thank you, Lynn for bringing this to our attention.*

AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES

Keep your eyes open and check the back table of the church for the next several Sundays because sometime in the month of June we will have crafts and jewelry from the African Team Ministries once again. As you will recall, the proceeds from these art items go to support the Anglican Church in East Africa. There will be a basket to leave your check in, or you can put your check in the Collection Plate made out to African Team Ministries. Take a look. You might find a gift or two.

Rachel Mueller for the Outreach Committee

Happy Birthday!

June

Mary Ann Pryce – 6
Michael Devine - 5

A Fitting Image for Memorial Day:

This is a beautiful photo of a giant American flag in Arizona. The photo is authentic, UN-Touched and was taken on regular Kodak 35mm film. The person who took the picture couldn't believe the image created by the sun's rays. Nice of them to share it with the world!



Kathy Mao's Graduation:



May 2010

Dear Kathy,

Congratulations!

Your academic accomplishments have always made us proud even more so; completing your Master's degree in NYU is a major accomplishment. Continue to pursue your professional dream will instill you with further immense pleasure and satisfaction.

We are aware how much you have struggled to be successful, even though we were not there. Your independence, self-reliance and determination have always amazed us. You are in our hearts and high spirits.

We all have lots of challenges in our lives. But face them and overcome them just as you have done in the past. Please do not lose this drive to attain high values, professionalism and excellence.

With cherished love, Mom & Dad

A Fund Raising Opportunity:

The church recently received an Email from a graduate student regarding a survey she is involved in regarding opinions from the area about the unexploded ordinance at Ft. Ord. Those interested in taking this survey will find the letter from Aimee Rowe regarding this fund raising activity on the church back table.

From: Aimee Rowe, UNC Research
[<mailto:ftordresearch@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2010 2:16 PM
To: Aimee Rowe, UNC Research
Subject: Ft. Ord Community Research Project

Hello,

I'm a graduate student at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and am writing to you today as part of a team researching the Fort Ord area in Monterey. We are interested in community perception of the risk of the unexploded ordnances at the Fort and as part of the research are conducting a survey about this issue. We offer a payment in exchange for taking the survey, so community groups and schools can use this as an easy fund-raising opportunity.

More specifically, the professor with whom I work, Dr. Jackie MacDonald-Gibson, has done a fair amount of research about the unexploded ordnances at Fort Ord over the past several years.

...we have designed an extensive survey to give to people living in the Fort Ord area and are looking for volunteers to take the survey. In return, each participant will receive \$30 for their time, with the opportunity to donate the funds to their community organization. Community leaders are also offered reports of the research findings. We plan to have the surveys in both English and Spanish.

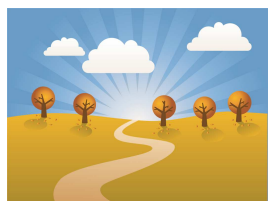
Aimee L. Rowe
M.S.P.H. Candidate, 2011
Department of Environmental Sciences & Engineering
Gillings School of Global Public Health
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
ftordresearch@gmail.com
Phone: 951-315-9592

Mary Lou Thompson Retreat

Sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women of El Camino Real

September 14 & 15, 2010

Plan to arrive at 3:00 PM on Tuesday and depart after lunch and Closing Session Wednesday



Villa Maria Del Mar
2-1918 East Cliff Drive, Santa Cruz

Retreat Theme: **“The Sacred Path”**

“Understanding the journey and resources of our soul as we confront changes and challenges in our life.”

Retreat Leader: **The Reverend Jerry Drino**

Priest, spiritual director, teacher, inter-cultural consultant and trainer and currently Executive Director of Hope with Sudan.

Jerry has worked with various Christian spiritualities and parallel traditions for over forty years of his priesthood. His deep interest in Celtic Spirituality began in the early 70's and continued to inform much of his preaching, teaching and retreat work.

RESERVATIONS: Include the retreat program, three meals, and overnight room at Villa Maria Del Mar -- Costs: \$120 for a Shared Room / \$130 Private Room/ Day only (includes lunch) \$45

Send your check (made out to Episcopal Church Women) by **August 27, 2010** to:

Wanda Bryan, ECW
378 El Portal Way
San Jose, CA 95123
Phone: (408) 226-5593 Email: wandadon@earthlink.net

Bev Anderson, bev.larry@comcast.net ph 831-899-3345

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RESERVATIONS: MARY LOU THOMPSON RETREAT ---Please mail with check.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Church _____
Room Preference: Shared Room _____ Private Room _____ Day Only _____