

CANTERBURY TALES

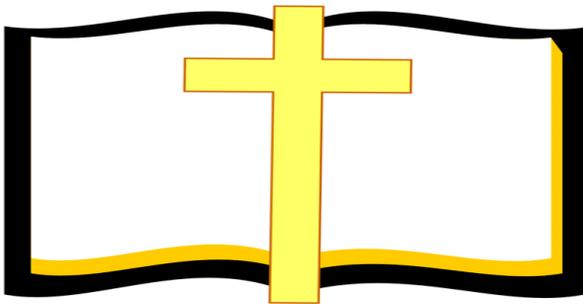
∞ JULY 2018 ∞

A Window on Our Vicar's Recent Continuing Christian Education Experience Advanced Degree Program, 2018

By The Reverend Timothy True

As many of you know, I was away June 11-29 in Sewanee, Tennessee, engaged in a program of study that will culminate in a Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.) degree in preaching. The program meets for three intensive weeks of study each summer for four summers, followed by a thesis/project in the fifth summer. Lots of reading and studying surround these three weeks, with assigned readings going out on April 1 and assignments due on Sept. 1 each year (leaving the remainder of the year for the priests who attend to focus on things like Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Easter). In this month's newsletter I offer a window into my first two weeks with this program, journal style.

Monday, June 11. Long day! Left the house at 5am, caught a non-stop flight, Tori (daughter) picked me up from the airport, and still missed orientation! Why aren't they more accommodating for west coasters? Oh, well, good thing I was a seminarian here. Should be able to figure things out okay. Not totally excited about the sleeping and eating situation—college dorm and dining hall. Oh, to be young again and not wake up with an aching back!



Wednesday, June 13. My daily obligations begin at noon with a Eucharist, followed by lunch and classes, ending at 5:30. Had to order three more books; and too many handouts! I read every spare minute of the day between last night and this morning, finishing at 11:53am—seven minutes to spare. More intense than I thought! Hope it's not this bad every day. On the other hand, I'm loving my courses: Preaching the Parables; and Exploring Biblical Images of God. Parables asked us to come up with a simile and develop it into a metaphor. Wasn't quite sure what to do, so I took a stab:

You see it everywhere:

Whether in the far-off north, where great shelves of ice groan, crack, and finally fall into the boiling river below;

Whether here in Sewanee, where the buds, raging with arboreal hormones, abruptly burst into blossoms; and the grass grows gray to green overnight, like so much stubble;

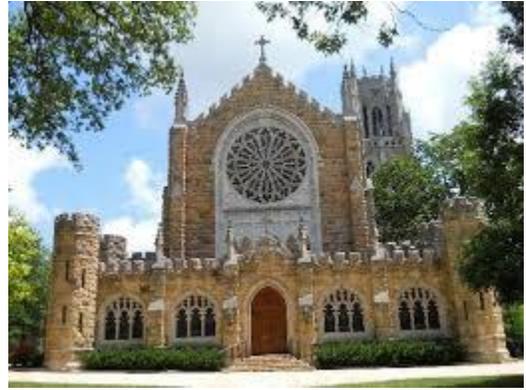
Or whether down on the dry Sonora, where, even in the parched shimmer, ocotillo don dazzling décor and saguaros try on tuxedos and prom dresses; bees buzz, birds sing, lizards dance—

You see it everywhere:

Spring is adolescence.

Thursday, June 14. Wow! Read my metaphor aloud to the class. When I'd finished, the professor said, "Nice."
(Continued Page 2)

Then, after a brief pause, he asked the class, “Why don’t we use language like this in our preaching?” A half-hour’s discussion ensued. Glad I could be of help, professor. In the Image class, I had to declare today an obscure image of God from the Bible I’d like to develop in a project. There’s a verse in Zephaniah where God sings (3:17); and another in Job where the morning stars are said to sing together. How about God as musician?



Sunday, June 17. Father’s Day. Really missing my family and St. Thomas. Took a long hike around part of the Perimeter Trail. Felt nostalgic as I passed Lake Cheston, where we used to walk the dog regularly and take the family for a swim day. It didn’t help that a few dads were hanging out with their kids. Humid day. The rains soon came and cooled me off. Face-timed Holly and the kids at home, then walked down to Shenanigans and spent some time with Tori while she worked. Caught up on work too.

Tuesday, June 19. Preached in chapel today. Decided to try something a little different: simply told a story—no summary, nor moral, no explanation, just the story (connected to the readings). The response was very encouraging. Thinking I might try this at home some time. Also took a class field trip to a pottery studio in Chattanooga, contemplating potter imagery in a first-hand experiential way.

Thursday, June 21. Another class field trip today, this time to a winery. Thinking I’d be disappointed (what could a Tennessee winery offer next to Temecula?), it turned out to be a very pleasant evening, with the sun setting between spectacular cumulus clouds on this longest day of the year, drinking wine (maybe not the best I’ve ever tasted) and discussing vintner and vineyard imagery—a bona fide Bible study—with clergy from around the country. (My new friend) Fred sent his wife a picture from his phone. Her response: “Of course!”

Saturday, June 23. Another hike today, rainy and slick—and snakey! Saw a copperhead slithering away from me as fast as it could go under the circumstances. Later, turned in my research statement for my Image class project. After interviewing the University Choirmaster and reading up on Pythagoras, music of the spheres, and jazz improvisation, decided to focus my image specifically on God as Choirmaster. As part of my project, I will need to turn this image into a sermon. Planning to preach this on the Sunday I get back to Temecula.

So then, I hope you enjoyed this window. Even more, I hope my continuing education has direct, positive impact on our ministry together.



A mission of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, St. Thomas is a “pet-friendly” church that cares deeply for our beloved pets. We work with local senior citizens to provide food for their pets and support the Animal Friends of the Valleys. We also hold a blessing for the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, and welcome well-behaved pets to attend

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP—July Meeting Postponed to Monday August 6

Meets in the St. Benedict Conference room. The group is reading *Rightly Divided Answers to Frequently Asked Questions* by Pastor Ricky Kurth of the Berean Bible Society. Please come and share your views and interests. This informal group meets on the first Monday of the month and is open to anyone interested in lively discussions on diverse subjects. Please call or email Bill Liesman asiabill@aol.com for more info or to get a copy of the Kurth book.

VICTUALS WITH THE VICAR—Saturday, July 7 at 7:00 PM

At the home of Jean and Pete Hicks in Lake Elsinore—Limited to the first six people to sign up in the Narthex.

CONFIRMATION CLASS—Sundays July 8-August 26

Call the office or email Fr. Tim at vicar@episcopalchurchtemecula.org for more info.

MEN OF ST. THOMAS (MoST) – Saturday, July 14 at 8:00 AM

MoST is an informal fellowship that meets each second Saturday of the month at 8:00 am in Julian Hall for a potluck breakfast, brief Bible Study, and sometimes assisting afterwards with maintenance and property projects at the church. All are welcome including friends and neighbors. The emphasis is on fellowship. Come join the fun!

BEANIES FOR KIDS—Monday July 16, from 7-9 PM

At Barbara Bundy's home. Contact Barbara at bjbundy@verizon.net

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING—Thursday, July 19 at 6:30 PM

All Congregation members are welcome to non-executive portion of the meeting. In St. Benedict Conference Room.

EPISCOPAL NIGHT AT THE PADRES—Friday, July 27

Contact Lee Eisenhut 360-903-2763 for tickets and details

Volunteers Needed

We need adult and teenage volunteers for our Nursery. This would be once a month at the 10:15 AM service. If you are interested, please see Tom Reid or contact him at treid44@bellsouth.net.

Report Misconduct

As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe haven for everyone, our diocese trains people in the prevention of misconduct and encourages all to report misconduct. All reported incidences are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly and confidentially. If you believe you have experienced misconduct of any kind, please contact John Seitman, jseitman@pacbell.net, 858-793-4555.

S. Thomas' Spring Fling

CHURCH PICNIC



Saturday, June 9 St. Thomas held their annual Church Picnic in the Reflection Courtyard. About 50 people tucked in to hamburgers, hot dogs, and a delicious array of sides while enjoying the beautiful Temecula sunshine.

Special thanks to Peter Hicks for shopping for the event, Peter Mandery and MOST for setting up, Chef Brian, and to Tom and Susan Reid for games for the kids.

Thanks, also, to Virginia and Joel Patton for organizing the successful event that brought us together as a church family.





St. Thomas
SPRING
Fling



Employee Spotlight

Meet Doria Lore, Administrative Assistant

(Editor's note: Recently hired Administrative Assistant Doria Lore introduces herself and discusses her faith journey. Be sure to greet her and introduce yourself if you visit the church office from 9-2 Monday-Friday)



First of all, I want everyone to know how honored and delighted I am to have been chosen as the Administrative Assistant for St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church. From the first time I checked out the website to learn about the church and “What We Believe,” to reading issues of the Canterbury Tales, and listening to Father Tim’s sermons, I knew this was the place where I wanted to work, worship, and serve. Not to mention that that the Church is a Pet-Friendly Mission. The atmosphere is warm and friendly and I truly see the Spirit of Christ in everyone I have met here. I want to give a special shout out to all the office volunteers, and to Brian Hopley who have been so kind and helpful to me as I am learning to navigate my job.

I was born in San Diego, CA. I met my husband Frank at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla, CA where we both worked. Frank and I have been married since November 1981. We are owned by two long-haired Mini-Dachshunds, Gracie and Baylee.

My working life has consisted of being a Medical Office Manager for Surgical practices, working in the medical marketing field and I was Clerk of the Board of Directors at the San Diego Country Water Authority (SDCWA) for twelve years. SDCWA has 36 board members representing 24 member agencies. I truly learned the meaning of the phrase “Whiskey is for drinking and Water is for fighting over” during my SDCWA years.

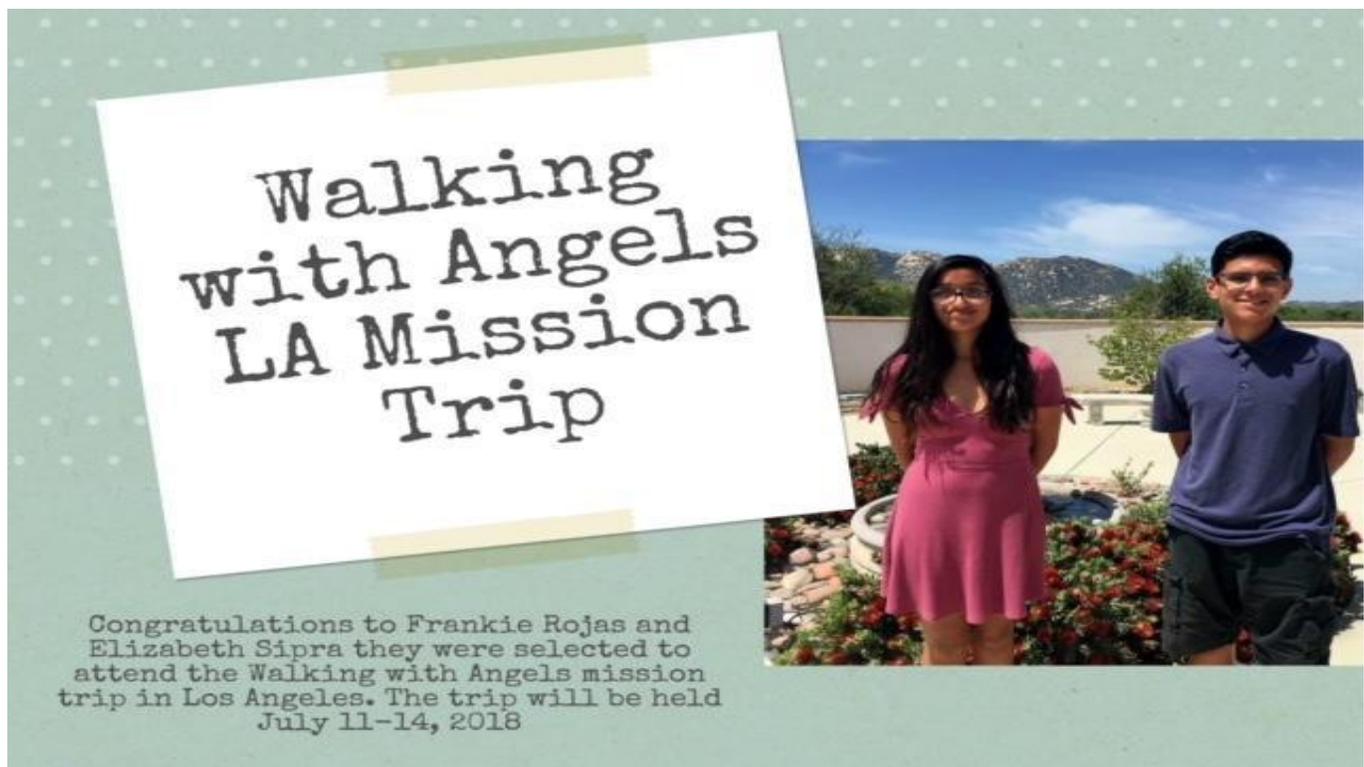
After working full-time for 34 years I decided to “retire” from SDCWA to spend more time with my husband and my dogs. Frank and I sold our home in the Mission Bay area and moved to Fallbrook. We did a variety of volunteer work, feeding the poor and homeless at Brother Benno’s in Oceanside, and
(Continued page 7)

helping in an after school Children's Bible program. I helped run the Women's Ministry at a local church. I started praying to find a part-time job with meaning that provided a stable schedule. I saw the listing for St. Thomas, I studied the web site, I prayed, heard a "yes" and applied.

My faith journey began as a "nothing." I was raised in a household where there was no faith, no God, no belief, really nothing. I would look at a form in school where you had to check Jewish, Catholic or Protestant. There was no box for nothing. I asked a schoolmate what to do and she said "If you are not Jewish or Catholic then you are a Protestant, so check that box." I didn't know what that word meant but it sounded better to me than nothing.

My older sister Viane became a Born Again Christian during the Jesus Movement of the 1970's. This really horrified our Mother. Our Mother forbade Viane from attending campus Christian groups. Viane brought me to a Calvary Chapel in San Diego and I started reading the Bible for the first time. My sister and I were both adopted as babies. Our birth families had people of faith in them. We both know that there were people praying for us our entire lives and God was always calling us to Him.

When I was 19 I started praying to God to meet my birth Mother. It was a teen-age "God if you help me find my Birth Mother then I will know you are real and I will devote my life to you" type of prayer. My adoption was "private" and I had the name of my Mother. I found my Mother through the phone book and she and I became best friends. Along with finding my Mother the package deal included three more sisters. My family has expanded to 12 nieces and nephews and over 20 great-nieces and great-nephews. My Mother was a very faithful Catholic who had prayed for me my whole life. She worked at All Hallows Catholic Church in La Jolla as their Church Secretary for many years. My Mom is in Heaven now but I feel she is smiling down upon me as I now work at a church following in her footsteps. Yes, God did answer my prayer and I know He is real! I have tried to devote my life to Him. God has been so good to me!



Health Update

Key Preparations Contribute to Safe and Enjoyable Travel

With an excellent suggestion from our editor, this month's article is about Summer travels: its pleasures and, occasionally, its perils! When we leave home for a vacation, it is most important to consider where we are going, what we are going to be doing, and who are we going to be with. I essentially want to make a list of things for us to all remember.

1) Before leaving home, we should be certain we have all our medications that we are taking (including a list, plus drug allergies) and also certain medicines which would come in handy if needed. These include blood pressure and heart meds, insulin or other meds for diabetes, EpiPens for severe allergies, inhalers, antihistamines (which I think are always worthwhile to have with you), and even a small container of Motion sickness pills such as Dramamine.



2) Our G.I. tract is usually more sensitive when we travel, so carrying Pepto tablets, antidiarrheals, Tums, and fiber wafers always make good sense.

3) If we are leaving the country, be sure all immunizations are up to date and be aware of necessary immunizations or medications for possible illness in other areas of the world. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a website (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>) that addresses traveler immunization needs by foreign destination. Americans **don't think much** about malaria, trypanosomes, other parasites, hepatitis, Leishmaniasis, West Nile virus, rabies, or even measles. Our public health system is so good as opposed to other areas...something always to be grateful for.

4) Once on the way, remember to stop every 2 to 3 hours to walk for a few minutes if we are driving, and if we are flying to be certain that we walk around periodically and do foot and leg exercises to avoid possible deep vein

blockage. Drink plenty of water ☹️ (bottled probably is best), healthy snacks such as granola bars are easy to carry, and fruit is always a good choice.

5) Be aware of fomites...Door knobs, faucet handles, menus, elevator buttons, hand rails, etc. Wash regularly using soap and water for 15 seconds or use hand sanitizers often which can easily be carried with you. And, avoid people who are coughing. It is OK to get up and move from one place to another.

6) Do not forget sun ☀️ protection with sunscreens and proper clothing, hats, etc. and always apply the sunscreen in advance; remember you can be burned badly on cloudy days! This goes for the mountains, the beach, swimming pools, or on the farm! Every time your skin turns red, you have a damaged it forever. By the way, those pills that sounded too **good to be true about sun protection don't work! I imagine that they will be banned totally soon.**

7) Check your motel/hotel room for molds, restaurants for cleanliness and an A rating sign, avoid blowing dirt and dust, and always try to exercise while you are away from home. And, if you are traveling with a pet, be sure that they particularly have water available.

8) Lastly, make a small emergency kit with Band-Aids of various sizes, antiseptic ointment such as Polysporin (avoid neomycin which commonly causes allergic reactions) a Cortisone cream, eye drops, and gauze pads, particularly if you have a history of nosebleeds.

There will always be something else to add to this list, but the trip should be fun, don't forget to take a lot of pictures, have a great time, and hopefully traveling will be problem free.

As always, your friendly, but retired, dermatologist.

Ed

St. Thomas Episcopal Preschool (STEP)



June graduation was a delightful and colorful day at STEP

Summer at S.T.E.P. Is off to a great start.

We provide faith based care and instruction for children ages 18 months-6 years.

Some of our summer weekly curriculum themes include God bless America, under the sea, bugs, treasure hunters, at the beach, and more. Come join the fun for a month, a week, or just a few days. Flexible schedules are available.

Enrollment continues for the fall - school year 2018-2019. STEP offers discounts for active military, Pechanga employees, hospital employees, St. Thomas parishioners, and siblings.

Come see our new toddler program. Chapel is held on Wednesday and Thursday. All school flag salute days are Tuesday and Friday. Coming this fall will be our new Spanish language and STEM activities.

Call or email our Director Darlene Karnes-Versteegh (951-302-8498 preschool@episcopalchurchtemecula.org) for more information and to schedule a visit.

St. Thomas' Stephen Ministry Training

Update from Our Stephen Minister and Trainer, Deb Mitchell



Stephen Ministry training is taking a short break during June and July. We met on June 20th for 6 hours, covering two sessions and will do the same on July 11th and 18th. Our studies have covered mental health resources, referrals for care receivers who need more help than we can provide, and support for those grieving. We will be researching many resources in Temecula, Riverside County and the Inland Empire at the local, county, and federal levels as well as familiarizing ourselves with Medicare, hospice, Addiction centers and Christian counselors. Regular Wednesday meetings will resume in August.

Music Events in July

From the Desk of Stephen Sturk, Director of Music

On Sundays in July we continue our observance of the 50th anniversary of the death of Canadian composer **Healey Willan** (1880-1968). We will continue singing Willan's congregational Mass setting, the *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena* (Mass of Saint Mary Magdalene), composed for the Toronto church where Willan worked for nearly 50 years.



Beginning in July we will introduce a **"Hymn of the Month"** at our 10:15 am Sunday worship. We will sing the selected hymn on all Sundays in the month—sometimes as an opening or closing hymn, and sometimes as a communion hymn. They will be mostly familiar hymns, but October will see the introduction of a hymn we have not sung before.

Here's the line-up:

JULY—Hymn 325, Let us break bread together

AUGUST—Hymn 671, Amazing grace

SEPTEMBER—Hymn 9 or 583 (same tune, different texts)

OCTOBER—Hymn 49, Come, let us with our Lord arise (this is the new one)

NOVEMBER—Hymn 705, As those of old their first fruits brought

Also, on July 8 we will be joined by our friend Warren Gref, French horn player extraordinaire. During his career, Warren has played horn in both the San Diego Symphony and the LA Philharmonic.



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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday

5:00pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Holy Eucharist

10:15am Children's
Chapel/Sunday School

Wednesday

7:00pm Evening Prayer