

CANTERBURY TALES

MARCH 2023

Vicar

The Rev. Sharon Sheffield

Bishop's Committee

Allen Stout, *Bishop's Warden*

Shelley Arnold, *People's Warden*

Andrea Utzman, *Clerk*

Lynne Richmond, *Minutes*

Secretary

Lance Brooks, *Treasurer*

John Mitchell, *Bookkeeper*

Jane Gordon-Topper

Camelia Jolly

Jeremy Richmond

Sue Williams

Minister of Music & Organist

Editor of Canterbury Tales

William Henderson

Associate Organist

& Webmaster

Marc Skuster

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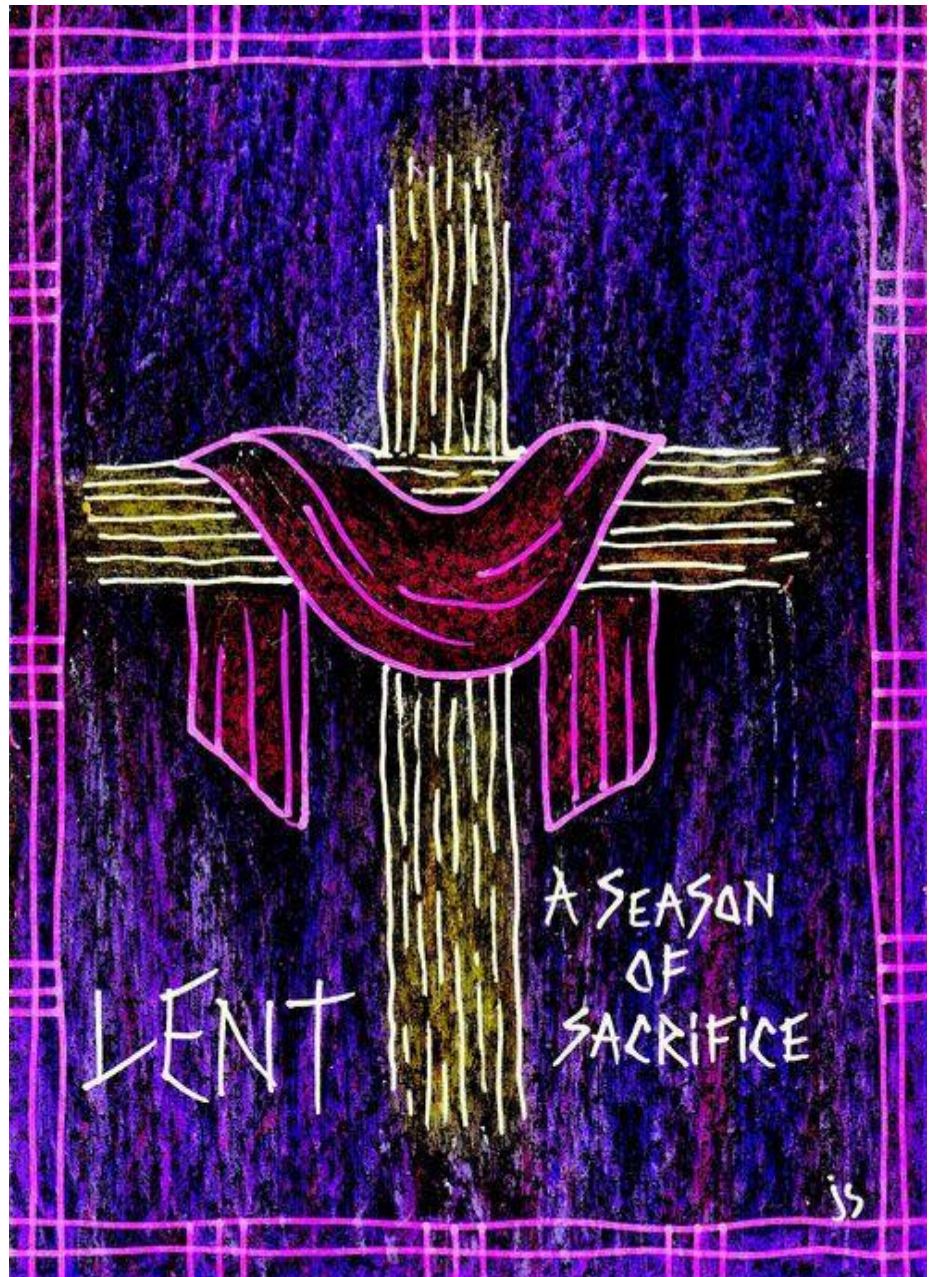
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Bishop's Warden Report

2022 is now behind us, the annual report has been submitted, and the only remaining major activity for 2022 is the financial audit that we hope to complete in the Spring. In addition to our continued recovery from Covid protocols and sharing in the many activities we shared during the year, we also had at least three major accomplishments during 2022:

1. We tented the buildings to eliminate our resident termites.
2. We redesigned the church's website and implemented a new logo
3. We continued our online outreach as both a mission activity, and as a way to possibly grow our congregation beyond our present geographic borders.

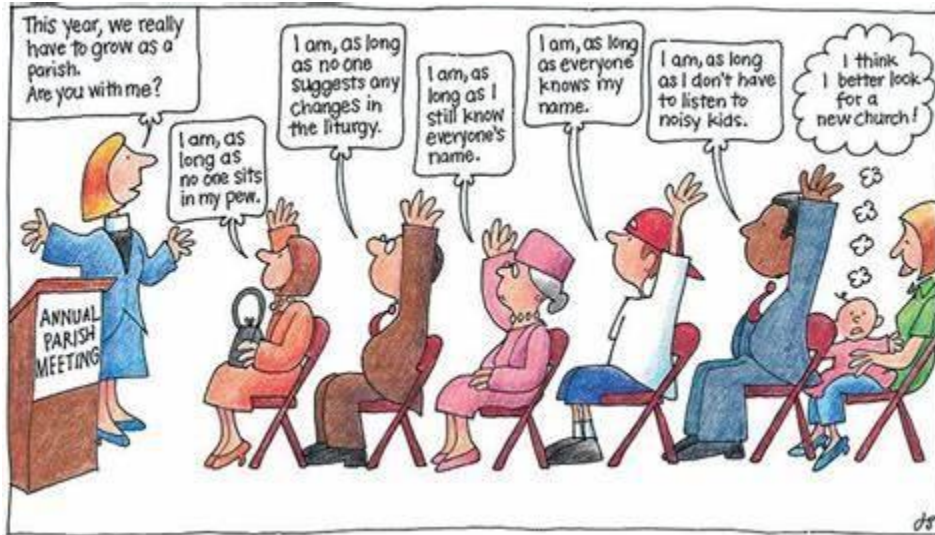
But 2023 is now upon us, and we can turn our attention toward the next steps in our shared lives – as we worship, study, and have fellowship together. Those steps will include:

1. Continuing the process of stabilizing and improving our buildings and grounds. We have major roofing work to do this year, and a list of other repairs and improvements that we hope to tackle as soon as possible.
2. Continuing to grow our online ministry and outreach – to include upgrading our audiovisual and streaming capabilities.
3. Continuing to support important local groups who need a home for their meetings and activities. This includes a variety of AA groups, local theater groups, and others. These opportunities are not only fundraising opportunities for us, but are also ways in which we can fulfill our mission of helping those in need, and building the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.
4. We will have a **Mutual Ministry Review (MMR)** – probably in June – where we will review our status and activities as a mission church in the Diocese of Los Angeles.
5. We are implementing a “**Raise the Roof**” process by which fellowship, mission and fundraising activities can be proposed by any member of the congregation so that we will have a full calendar, make maximum use of our facilities, and provide lots of fun and meaningful things to do together.
6. We are implementing a **capital campaign to raise \$22,000** to pay for the critical roofing repairs that have been postponed for so long. While this seems like a lot, we have already raised \$7,000 toward this effort, and expect to raise the remainder before the end of the year.
7. And, to the extent that each member is comfortable, to continue to work to return to pre-pandemic styles of worship.

If you have any other ideas that you would like to suggest, please let me, People's Warden Shelley Arnold, or another member of the Bishop's Committee. Or, feel free to join us at a Committee meeting to discuss your idea directly.

Allen Stout
Bishop's Warden

News from Our Annual Meeting



SUE WILLIAMS

was elected to the Bishop's Committee for a three-year term.

JANE GORDON-TOPPER

has been appointed by the Bishop's Committee for a one-year term.

The Delegate to Convention is

SHELLEY ARNOLD,

and the alternates are

LINDA MCNEELEY, ALLEN STOUT, AND MIKE SHEFFIELD.

A balanced budget was presented and approved.

Copies of the Annual Meeting booklet containing all the reports are available in the church office.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER RECAP



A huge round of applause to
**Cynthia Riley, Patrick Riley,
Andrea Utzman, Mike Utzman,
and Jacob Utzman**
for planning and preparing our
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

We had a great evening, with
almost sixty people from St. Thomas, St.
Gregory's, and Eureka Montessori in attendance.
And we made \$690, which was more than our
budget prediction. Great work, everyone!



Spring Forward!!!

Daylight Savings Time begins

Sunday, March 12.

Be sure to set your clocks forward before you go to bed on March 11

Please Join Us for Our Lenten Offerings

BOOK STUDY

“When Did We See You?”

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00pm

Larkin Hall, St. Thomas

*please let Mother Sharon know if you are coming,
so you can get the readings ahead of time.*

+ + +

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

&

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

THURSDAYS IN LENT

6:00-8:00PM

ST. GREGORY'S

+ + +

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS IN LENT

12:00 NOON

ST. THOMAS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

APRIL 2

Palm Sunday Liturgy & Eucharist

8:00 & 10:15am

Palm Sunday Bake Sale

9:00-noon

APRIL 6

Maundy Thursday Eucharist & Foot Washing

St. Thomas 7:00pm

APRIL 6-7

Overnight Vigil

St. Thomas 9:00pm-10:00am

APRIL 7

Good Friday “Stations of the Crosswalk”

from St. Thomas to St. Gregory’s

beginning at 12-noon

APRIL 7

Good Friday Liturgy

St. Gregory’s, 7:00pm

April 8

Easter Vigil, 7:30pm

April 9

Easter Sunday Festive Eucharist, 8:00 & 10:15am

The Long Beach Chorale
Presents
Palm Sunday Weekend Concerts
THE LONG BEACH CHORALE & CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
presents
the Faure Requiem, along with works by J.S. Bach and Shawn Kirchner
Saturday, April 1 at 7pm, and Sunday, April 2 at 4pm.
GRACE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3955 N. Studebaker Rd., Long Beach
Tickets are available at <https://longbeachchorale.org/join-us/#tickets>.

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St. Thomas' Community Project for March 2023

March is Women's History Month. To help a local organization which has been helping women since 1977, we will be collecting items for the Women's Shelter of Long Beach (WSLB).

Their mission is to assist women and children who are victims of domestic violence. They provide shelter, a 24-hour Hotline, counseling, classes, and other social services like legal aid and health information.

We have been asked to collect items for their shelter. They need:

Body Wash, Shampoo, Hair Conditioner (16-ounce liquid bottles only)

Toothpaste

Deodorant

Paper Towels

They will also accept gift cards from places such as Walmart, Target, CVS, or Rite Aid. If you want to donate cards, **please let Mother Sharon know** – we don't want to give the gift card scammers any ideas!

There will be a collection box in the narthex during the month of March. Please put your items, except for gift cards, in the box. Please give the gift cards to Mother Sharon so they can be locked away until the items are delivered at the end of March.

Let's see what St. Thomas is able to do to assist the Women's Shelter of Long Beach.

Thank you!!



Birthdays

Allyson Shaw 3/3

Kaylee Garvin 3/3

Jane Gordon-Topper 3/8

Eric Almanza 3/11

Hazel Bellak 3/14

David Heatherly 3/17

Sharon Sheffield 3/26



The world, especially the people of the United States, and for peace all over the world and wherever there is oppression or trouble.

Serving in the Armed Forces at home and around the world: members of the U.S. Army: **Adam** and Boston; the U.S. Marine Corps: Sean, Adelangel and Jesse; the U.S. Air Force: Jordan, Joshua and Carlos; the U.S. Navy: **Jonathan**; and the U.S. Coast Guard: **Jennifer** and Corey.

The protection and guidance of Parishioners and Friends: Bertha, Ariana, Alyssa, Ana, Joe, Deb, Erin and her family, Joey and his mothers Beth and Jan, Penny and her family, Chris and his family, Daniel, Sandra, Sue, Josef, Brandon, Michaela, Rosie, Nathan, Jan, Paul, Jason, Analisa, Gayle's doctor, Shannon, June, and Jim.

The healing of Parishioners and friends: **Karen, Liz, Carlene, Samantha, Patrick, Becky, Allyson, Bert, Allen, Joanne, Rosie, Jim, Bill,** Linda M., Diana, Suzanne, Ana, Joe, Rae Ann, Kathy, Lindy, Linda O., Gingi, Becky, Dawna, Michael, Ginger, Deb, Lisa, Kathryn, Nancy, Earl, Pat, Chuck, Ellie, Nick, Asgeir and Rosa, Joshua, Joyce, Donna, Bob F., Linda, Beverly, Paige, Billie, Eric, Doris, Diane, Joan, June, Tori, Rachel, Pat, Lynn, Jane, Fran, Laura, Claire, Lance, Sabrina, Susan, Karen, Jared, Marguerite, Scott, Charlie, Gwen, Jean, Jeff, Lee, Audra, Sean, Geri, Karin, Jim L., Sue, Lu, Richard, Cindy, Daniel, Carolyn, Kim, Jason, Jennie, Lorretta, Bob, Pam, Gayle, Lori, Lynne, Barbara, Jan, Nancy W., Stefan, and Jordyn, and support for all families and friends caring for loved ones, especially Tami and Mark, the people of Ukraine, India, Vietnam, Peru, Nigeria, Haiti, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Myanmar and all parishioners and friends with health problems.

Homebound and Special Needs: **Karen, Samantha** and the homeless, the poor and the unemployed, affordable housing for families, the end of COVID-19, Ebola, AIDS, and Cancer in the world, and for those suffering from mental illness.

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