



# THE CURATE



April 2011



## Rector's Corner

### Where is God when you need Him?

As I write this article, Japan is still reeling from one of the greatest disasters of our time. As of this morning, the Japanese government announced that more than 18,000 people have died as a result of the earthquake and tsunami. All of us watched with horror the pictures of huge waves of ocean water sweeping away everything in sight – cars, houses, boats, and many, many people. On top of all of this is the nuclear meltdown of four reactors that were left without cooling after the giant wave hit. We are now witnessing the human misery that follows. The area around Sendai is without power, food, and safe drinking water. Radioactive contamination is now being found in the food supply including milk. I have been impressed with how the Japanese people have reacted to this tragedy with grace and calm standing patiently, without complaint in long lines to get emergency relief supplies. I saw one news clip where a reporter was interviewing refugees inside a shelter, and a man whose home had been swept away offered the reporter some food. Much different from the images that we remember from New Orleans and Katrina.

I believe that we know why this natural disaster happened. All of the major television networks have found experts to tell us that it was the shifting of the earth's tectonic plates that caused the

earthquake which in turn created the massive tidal wave. The question that many people are asking is, "Why did God allow this to happen?" Fundamentalist preachers have been quick to say that this God's judgment on heathen Japan. Remember when Pat Robertson said that Hurricane Katrina was God's punishment on this country because of abortion and Haiti was being punished for what he called a "pact with the devil?" There was a video circulating on YouTube for a while with a young girl praising God for creating the tsunami in Japan. In my opinion, these views of God's involvement in natural disasters are not scriptural.

Luke 13:1-5: <sup>1</sup> Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish." In Jesus day, most people believed that there was a direct correlation between sins committed and God's judgment. Jesus cites two incidents about which we have no historical knowledge as examples. He tells them that they can't assume that God caused the disasters. Jesus is telling his followers to quit worrying about God's motives and focus on their own. Jesus is giving his

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**St. Philip's Episcopal Church**  
106 East Crawford



**Rector's Corner Continued**

disciples the reality of life. It is not the timing or cause of death that is the most important; the important thing to realize that we all will die, and without Jesus, we will perish.

Can we completely know the mind of God? The prophet Isaiah says: <sup>8</sup> *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.* <sup>9</sup> *"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.* God created the earth and is all-powerful, so it follows that He can control nature. He turned back the waters of the Red Sea so that the Israelites could pass through. Maybe He does prevent some natural disasters today. We wouldn't know it if He did. From Romans 8:28: *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him...* God can bring good out of the most horrible disaster. The tsunami is bringing the Japanese closer together, and giving Christians an opportunity to bring the love of God to them. As I mentioned earlier, the Japanese are a good example of how a nation should react to a major tragedy. This disaster shows us just how fragile life is. There are any number of scenarios that could create a disaster like the one in Japan in the U.S. We should never assume that our way of life will continue for ever and ever. Our times are in God's hands, and we are blessed. Our greatest blessing and comfort in time of need is this: *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Yours in Christ,

Ted +

## St. Mary's Guild

St.

*Marian Raney*

Mary's Guild would like to thank everyone for the fantastic support of our Spaghetti Lunch. Ladies and (Tommy, Mark and Ted) thank you so much for all the work and support, it was a blessing!!! Marian April 18th meeting open to eve-

## Treasurer's Report

*Norwood Brenneke*

	<i>March</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	53,716.38	39,994.82
<b>Total Income</b>	16,578.80	52,085.90
<b>Total Expenses</b>	23,521.98	43,251.38
<b>Ending Balance</b>	43,233.38	43,233.38

## Altar Guild

*Beverly Beck*

Our thanks to all who participated in the preparation for the Altar Guild Lenten Lunch at St. Philips on March 15: Francis Williams, Cathy Summers, Tome Nell Gregg, Becky Meyers, Mary Kolstad, Julie Law, Joann Evans, Nancy Waggoner, Martha Styner, Barbara Kolstad, Kathryn Fagalde and Marilee Rogers. Thanks also to the ladies who set up and took down table settings for the Lenten Lunch: Inez Smith, Barbara Kolstad, Merry Blackwell and Kathryn Wardlaw. All the ladies worked very hard and did a marvelous job.

We continue to need more members. Pamela Grimes is a fabulous addition to our membership. She has Altar Guild experience at her former Church prior to joining us at St. Philips, and we are very happy to have her with us.

## DOK

*Kathleen Smith*

DOK will meet on Thursday, April 14, at 5:30 pm in the Parlor. Kathleen Smith is handling the prayer list until the end of May. Please send requests and updates to her.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to actively place shawls. We welcome anyone who would like to participate.



**ECW**

*Katherin Wardlaw*



ECW met on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, with a large attendance. Muriel Mizell hosted the meeting, with a beautiful Easter table and lovely treats. Meador Montgomery presented a slide show and discussion of the recent Honduras mission trip. Other team members, Pam Denson, Merry Blackwell, Jay Dietz, Ann Welty, and Father Ted discussed their unforgettable experiences in Honduras. Father Ted announced that another trip will be planned for next year. Following the presentation, program chairperson Beverly Beck presented a check to Fund for the Poor in honor of the mission team.

Beverly Beck presented a devotional that was illustrated by her painting of Mt. St. Michel, an island city off the coast of France. Named after St. Michael, this mystical city exemplifies the words expressed in Isaiah 44:22; i.e. "I have swept away your sins like a dissolving mist, and your transgressions are dispersed like clouds".

Hostesses for future ECW meetings volunteered. The hostesses for the rest of the year are the following:

- April 12 - Barbara Kolstad and Martha Hudson
- May 10 - Pam Denson and Maxine Barnett
- September 13 - Jeaneatte George and Mary Kolstad
- October 11 - Merry Blackwell
- November 8 - Kathy Stites and JoAnn Zartler
- December 13 - Ann Welty

On March 29th, Bishop Rayford High will be the speaker for our Lenten series. ECW will sponsor the luncheon, serving Fiesta chili as our main course, with homemade desserts made by ECW members. We look forward to Bishop High's visit, and will enjoy hosting the luncheon.

The Brochure Committee has been busy working on our 2011 brochure. Thanks go to Muriel Mizell, Martha Styner, and Jeannette George for their service in this detailed task.

The proposed budget was presented for 2011. Because of revenue derived from Fiesta, there is more opportunity for additional projects to receive funds. Members were asked to submit suggestions for providing funding to these projects. The Budget Committee will meet on April 4th to consider all budget suggestions.

Chairperson Ann Welty thanked everyone for their participation in the successful Fiesta fundraiser. A total of 859 people were served. Mrs. Welty announced that, upon Mary Kolstad's leaving the Fiesta Board, Muriel Mizell will be a new board member. Fiesta Board members will now serve two-year terms instead of the previous one-year term. Mary Kolstad joined Mrs. Welty in her thanks for the effort that everyone applied to the highly successful venture. She stated that by having the Fiesta on a Tuesday, there seemed to be increased participation.

Mary Kolstad, House Committee Chair, announced that the kitchen inventory now boasts 110 stemmed drinking glasses. She thanked Ann Davis and Cynthia Dickey for their donations that provided the glasses.

I wish to thank everyone who has so beautifully served in one of our projects.

The next meeting of ECW is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2011 with Barbara Kolstad and Martha Hudson as hostesses. Hope to see you all there!

**Fiesta Fundraiser**

Chairman Ann Welty and the Fiesta Board would like to heartedly thank the men who contributed so much to the success of Fiesta:

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Father Ted Welty | Leo Mizell     |
| Norwood Brenneke | Frank Polasek  |
| Sid Walton       | Bill Tatum     |
| Jerry Fagalde    | Curt Winkler   |
| Dan Raney        | Larry Hudson   |
| Nick Gouras      | Chris Kolstad  |
| Tommy Davis      | Mark Davis     |
| David Sullivan   | Billy Minton   |
| Charlie Nichols  | Michael Lucius |
| Chris Gouras     |                |

If you notice anyone we've forgotten, please notify the church office of any other men who helped so they can be recognized in the next Curate!

Pictures from the March ECW meeting



Bishop High was here for the Lenton Luncheon March 29th. Here are some pictures from that event.



Meador holding the paper with the "art work" of Honduran children



**Jimmy Blackwell**, who grew up at St. Philip's, is a graduate student at Stephen F. Austin University and is participating in a mission trip to Belize this summer. He is in the process of raising money for the trip and would appreciate any help that he can get from St. Philip's. He gave a brief presentation at the 10:00 service Sunday, March 27 th and plans to give another on his return. Any donations should be made directly to the Wesley Foundation at PO Box 4609 SFA, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. Please include a note that it is ear marked for Jimmy Blackwell. Thank you.





**2011 Easter Altar Flower Memorials and Thanksgivings**

To join in the tradition of adorning St. Philip's Episcopal Church with greens and flowers on Easter, please return the form below. Be sure to list those you are remembering or honoring in order for the names to appear in the service bulletin.

**2011 Easter Offering**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Flowers given in loving memory of:**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Flowers given in thanksgiving for:**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_



# Upcoming Events

## Lenten Luncheon Series:

**Tuesday, April 5** – 12:00 Noon  
Mr. Tommy Bailey-Lay Minister,  
First Presbyterian Church

**Tuesday, April 12** – 12:00 Noon  
Rev. Roy Duncan  
Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church

## Holy Week Service Schedule

**Sunday, April 17 — Palm Sunday**  
Holy Eucharists at 7:30 and 10:00  
No Christian Education

**Monday, April 18**  
Holy Eucharist – 12:00 Noon

**Tuesday, April 19**  
Holy Eucharist – 12:00 Noon

**Wednesday, April 20**  
Holy Eucharist – 12:00 Noon  
Holy Eucharist with Healing – 5:30

**Thursday, April 21 — Maundy Thursday**  
6:30 PM – Foot washing & stripping of the altar

**Friday, April 22 — Good Friday**  
Holy Eucharist- 12:00 Noon  
Stations of the Cross will follow

**Saturday, April 23 — Easter Vigil**  
Holy Eucharist – 8:00 PM

**Sunday, April 24 — Easter Sunday**  
Holy Eucharists at 7:30 and 10:00  
No Christian Education

## Memorial Service:

There will be a Memorial Service for Elizabeth Jane Gibson at St. Philip's on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 2:00 pm. Elizabeth is the daughter of Jean Gouras Gibson and the niece of Maxine Barnette and Nick & Sharon Gouras

ECW is delighted to announce that Dan Gold, M.D. will present the program on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 9:30 A.M.. His subject will be his own conversion from Judaism to Christianity. All women of the Church are invited to come and bring a friend.

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**T h e   S w i m s u i t   L e s s o n**

Jon Holsten is a veteran police sergeant in Fort Collins, Colorado. He has successfully investigated and helped prosecute dozens of cases of child sexual assault cases. Jon is a recognized authority on child sexual abuse prevention and education. As a result of his work, Jon has written a children's book titled "The Swimsuit Lesson". It is a simple but effective way for parents to educate their children about the danger of sexual abuse. This is a hard cover book designed to be read to children age 3-7 by their parents and then to be passed on to other parents.

The Palestine Blankets and Bears organization have arranged for Jon Holsten to come here on April 14th to speak about the prevention of child sexual abuse and his book. He will be at St. Phillip's parish hall at 10:30 Thursday morning April 14th for a presentation, and with copies of his book available for purchase. Child care will be available. Jon will also be giving the same presentation at the Ben E. Keith center at 6PM that evening - no child care available. The program is approximately 45 minutes with 30 minutes afterwards for questions. Both presentations are free of charge.

Call Pam Denson with any questions 903-549-2022.

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UTO Ingathering will be on May 29<sup>th</sup>

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Christian Ed Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>4</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>5</b>  <b>Noon Lenten Lunch</b>	<b>6</b> 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Christian Ed Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>11</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>12</b> 9:30a ECW <b>6p Vestry Mtg Noon Lenten Lunch</b>	<b>13</b> 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>14</b> <b>5:30p DOK</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I 10a Euch Rite II	<b>18</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group <b>Noon service 6p St. Mary's Guild</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>Noon service</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Noon service</b> 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>21</b> <b>6:30p service</b> Foot washing & Stripping of altar	<b>22 Good Friday</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group <b>Noon Service</b> Stations of Cross To follow	<b>23 Easter Eve</b>  <b>8pm Easter Vigil</b>
<b>24</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I 10a Euch Rite II	<b>25</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>30</b>

March 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

May 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Birthdays

- |    |                  |    |                  |
|----|------------------|----|------------------|
| 6  | Frank George Jr. | 30 | Shirlee Padgette |
| 13 | Linda McDonald   | 30 | Katherin Wardlaw |
| 13 | John Raney       |    |                  |

## Anniversaries

- |    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 17 | Dan & Marian Raney          |
| 21 | Butch & Judy Bradly         |
| 24 | Mike Gorby & Carolyn Salter |
| 26 | Frank & Jeanette George     |

## Special Thanks

I want to thank Martha Polasek for her service as

Editor of the curate.

I hope I can maintain her standards

Tom Prater

# CHURCH INFORMATION

## St. Philip's Staff

## Parish Office Hours

Rector Ted Welty  
 Church Administrator Kelan Eckerman  
 Organist/Choirmaster Clarissa Delany  
 Sexton Chris Rogers

Sparky Kolstad (Senior Warden)  
 Curt Winkler (Junior Warden)  
 Norwood Brenneke (Treasurer)  
 Cynthia Dickey (Vestry Clerk)

Bob Blackwell Kay Chapman  
 Frank George David Sullivan  
 Marian Raney Martha Styner  
 Charlie Nichols Albert Holmes  
 Bob Beck Joann Evans

Monday -Thursday 9a-5p

Friday 9a-12p

*Closed Federal Holidays*

**Phone:** (903) 729-4214

**Rector:** [twelty4235@aol.com](mailto:twelty4235@aol.com)  
**Church:** [kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org](mailto:kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org)  
**Administrator:** [stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com](mailto:stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com)  
**Website:** [stphilipepiscopalchurch.org](http://stphilipepiscopalchurch.org)  
**Curate:** [tomprater@yahoo.com](mailto:tomprater@yahoo.com)

### St. Philip's Episcopal Church

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