

I am pleased to announce that we have very successfully completed our youth and children's ministry search. I am even more excited that we have done so by calling a team to this critical area of our growth and mission as a congregation.

As 3/4 time Associate Rector for Youth and Family Ministries we have called the Rev. Shari Young. Shari is a native of Southern California and studied at UCLA and has a degree in education and human development from Pacific Oaks College in Pasadena.



She then trained for three years in the Rinzai tradition of Zen Buddhism. She has an M.Div. from Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley. She has served as the chaplain of the Cathedral School for Boys in San Francisco, and Associate Rector at St. James, San Francisco, where she had responsibility for growing their youth and children's programs. She has also served as vicar and interim at St. Aidan's, Bolinas. In addition to interfaith involvement in Buddhist Christian dialogue she has chaired the Bay Area Millennium Development Goals effort.

She and her husband Bob Hartnett, a rock & roll video director, live in Tiburon and their son Matty attends Del Mar Middle School. Shari is already familiar not only with the community but with the parish since she is a regular attender of the Thursday morning Contemplative Prayer Group. Beginning work July 1, Shari will bring a calm, mature presence to this ministry and to our transition process.

In addition I am pleased to have called Stephen R. Smith as 1/4 time Youth Minister with special responsibility for middle school and high school youth ministries. Stephen was raised in the Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill, here in the Diocese of California, and is familiar with Diocesan Camps and Conferences and Youth Activities throughout the diocese. He graduated in 2007 from UC Davis with a double major in Psychology and History. His summers were spent as Teen Director and Athletic Director at Lair of the Bear, UC Alumni Family Camp in Pinecrest. During and post college Steve worked in a residential centers for children in Davis and Peru. He has also worked as a family support counselor at Seneca Center in San Francisco and currently is Project Assistant in a study at UCSF on ADHD and effective interventions with children.



Steve lives in San Francisco and looks forward to beginning with our youth group at workcamp June 12 and to exploring a vocation in youth ministry at St. Stephen's.

I am confident that with this team we have the strongest possible approach to continuing our distinguished youth ministries at St. Stephen's. I hope you'll join me in welcoming them.  
Jim+