**The Visitor – September Addendum**

**OUR CHURCH HISTORY**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO 170**

Our church was founded on October 28, 1849, at the height of the Gold Rush. This means that next month we will be celebrating our one hundred and seventieth anniversary! Here are some highlights of our long history:

Our original church building, the Baltimore Chapel, floated into the middle of 7th Street during the flood of January 1850, but was put back on its foundation after the waters had subsided. Then, in 1852, a new church building was burned down during the devastating fire that destroyed much of Sacramento. Over the years First Church has occupied several different buildings; for a look at these, go to the Terrace Room and see the framed collection of watercolors by Frances Burt. We eventually moved to our present building in 1925. This was a daring move at the time, when many people viewed the 21st and J location as being in the boondocks. Not only that, but many considered the $200,000 cost to be exorbitant. Converted to today’s dollars, that would be about three million.

There’s so much more information to be shared, some of which will be in the October Visitor. In the meantime if you have questions or information to share, please click here: [Contact Joan Haug-West](mailto:joanhaugwest@comcast.net?subject=Our%20Church%20History)

**SANCTUARY SYMBOLS**

  While sitting in our Sanctuary, have you noticed that you are surrounded by symbols? These include not only several types of crosses but also many other symbolic elements. If you would like to learn more, you are invited to join Joan Haug-West in the **Sanctuary at noon on Sunday, September 29**, for a brief presentation. There may be some surprises, including the identification of several Roman Catholic elements!