



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

"The miracle is not to walk on water but on the earth." *Thich Nhat Hanh*

We are living in the glow of Easter; the glory of the Lord shines in our hearts and brightens our day. We live in the miracle of the resurrection and the joy of new birth.

With Easter so early this year, April will be filled with sermons on the resurrection and the celebration of Earth Day. A time of focusing on this beautiful God-given creation and all the blessings it bestows. It will also be a time when flowers and trees, long dormant, will soon spring into bloom. Our Spring Tea on April 16 is a celebration of all that is good in this season and the joy of vocal music with Dulce Suono. Listening to this a cappella ensemble from Cabrillo will make your soul sing. All are invited to the concert at 1:00. This is sure to be an absolute feast for your ears.

Considering these two spiritual ideas, our resurrection and rebirth of the earth, I turned to a Barbara Brown Taylor book, *An Altar in the World*. There she writes about the Practice of Walking the Earth, of being grounded in the present, in tune with creation, finding a sense beyond our five senses to guide us. She tells of the Buddhist monk who wrote the opening quote and how he teaches walking meditation, contemplating the very act of walking, being intentional about the movement of walking. "First the bare heel extends over the earth, coming down so slowly that not even a dry leaf is displaced. Then the arch begins its long descent, laying itself down like a cat. Finally the toes arrive, beginning with the small one and ending with the big. Imperceptibly, the arrival

turns into departure as one heel rises and the other heel comes down." (pg. 60) Even to those who could not walk he would teach walking meditation by observing other walkers. Watching the other walkers, they would sometimes lose track of whose foot is in the air.

She continues, "Sometimes we do not know what we know until it comes to us through the soles of our feet, the embrace of a tender lover, or the kindness of a stranger. Touching the truth with our minds alone is not enough. We are made to touch it with our bodies. I think this is why Christian tradition clings to the reality of the resurrection, even when no one can explain it to anyone else's satisfaction. The immortality of the soul is much easier to conceive than the resurrection of the body. What? You mean a stopped heart suddenly starts again? You mean a dead body gets up with a growling stomach? No, I mean God loves bodies. I mean that in some way, that defies all understanding, God means to welcome risen bodies, and not just disembodied souls to heaven's banquet table. The resurrection of the dead is the radical insistence that *matter* matters to God." (pg. 62)

You matter to God. How you walk this earth matters to God. Even with limited mobility you have the ability to meditate on your movement in the world. You also have God's promise of limitless movement in the life to come.

St. Augustine wrote in Latin, "Solviture ambulando" which means, "It is solved by walking." What is "it"? If you want to find out, then you will have to do your own walking.

Peace of Christ be with you,

Handwritten signature of Anne in blue ink.

HEART LINE

Please pray for these members and friends.



Shirley Ashworth	Clare Pelich
Helen Cooke	Nez Phister
Shirley Coleman	Lyle Silldorff
Lois Holcomb	Judy Smith
Peg Ogg	Dick Yeo

David Beach (*former member*)
Pam Derry (*Mary Zimmer's friend*)
Steve Glaum (*Dorothy's son*)
Tim Dietrich (*Marsha Gonzales' son*)
Jan Hunter (*Peg Ogg's daughter*)
Andrea (*Dee St. Clair's daughter*)
Flynn and family (*Dee Hamil's grandson*)

Prayer For The World

(Each month we will be offering a prayer from the Mission Yearbook. These prayers address current concerns for our world.)

Eternal God, in the midst of a world that simply won't stop, or even slow, its relentless changing, grant us a deep and abiding sense of your sovereign power and steadfast presence in our lives. May we walk the way that is set before us in faithfulness to our calling in Jesus. We particularly ask your benevolence for our veterans, for protection of the unborn from the Zika virus, and for refugees.



Bible Study

"Come to the Waters"

Our monthly Bible Study will take place on Monday, April 25 at 1:00pm. We will be studying Lesson 8.

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Susan Mahan



Hubler Hall

9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Sundays.

For the month of April, the Adult Education class will be discussing the history of religion in America. We will be looking at the "Mainline" denominations, the conservative right, the liberal groups, the New Age and cults.

You may join this study at anytime along the way. It will be interesting and informative. Contact Susan Mahan for questions, comments or topics you would like to cover. stmahan181@gmail.com. (cell) 831-320-6422

Letters

To the Caring St. Andrew Church Family

Thank you so much for all your notes, phone calls, transportation, wonderful meals and especially your prayers. This has been a challenging time and I appreciate all of your caring ways so much. Our church might be small but it is mighty in its caring ways. I do feel our church represents the Body of Christ.

Gratefully,
Shirley Ashworth

Ever Wonder about Revelation?

Pastor Anne

Eastertide is the season following the resurrection and time of exploring new life. So this year we will have a sermon series on Revelation as we consider what this often misunderstood book has to say about our new life with Christ. Starting April 3 and running through May 1 (except April 10, when Karla Norton will be preaching on another topic), we will be diving into the symbols and mystery of Revelation. There are 22 chapters in this book and I ask that you read through it sometime during the month- so that is less than a chapter a day. Let's see what God will reveal to you through this the final book of scripture. See you in church!!!

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sally Griffin and Marian Langdon

From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook

Kayla Mueller's Legacy Remembered

As a college student, Kayla Mueller was involved with United Christian Ministries, an ecumenical campus group with strong ties to the PC(USA). She volunteered in Guatemala, where she impressed Presbyterian mission workers with her deep level of commitment to addressing the systemic issues of poverty. Later she traveled to Israel, India and Palestinian territories where she solidified her human rights stance. In December 2012 she went to the Turkey-Syria border to provide aid to Syrian refugees. She also learned spiritual customs from Syrians who cared about justice, compassion and feeding the poor. On August 3, 2013, Mueller and a friend visited a Doctors Without Borders hospital in Aleppo to repair the hospital's internet connection. They were taken captive the next day on their way to the bus station. It was spring 2014 before anyone officially heard from her again, in a letter she sent out through released captives. An excerpt reads: "I have surrendered myself to our creator [because] literally, there was no one else. By God and by your prayers I have felt tenderly cradled in freefall." On Feb 10, 2015, The Islamic State informed Mueller's family that she had died. President Obama said she epitomized all that is good in our world.

Mission Lunch, Feb. 28

The lunch highlighting the January trip of the delegation to El Salvador was a resounding success. Many of those who attended the lunch were friends from other Santa Cruz al Salvador member churches and friends of St. Andrew. Over \$1,400 was donated, and after expenses for the pupusas and assistance in the kitchen, the net receipts exceeded \$1,200 making this the best attended and most successful mission lunch in years.

Thanks to all who participated in the set-up, the program, the food and the fun of this event.

Hygiene Products For the Homeless

Since September, members of the Outreach Committee, under the guidance of Dee St. Clair, have been distributing hygiene products through Manna Ministries. Every Saturday at noon, about twenty homeless men and women who stay in the Aptos area are provided a hot lunch through this local ministry. Our St. Andrew team has been committed to helping the struggling group who may be marginally employed or are dealing with emotional or physical challenges, or may have just had bad luck. Each Saturday, one or two of us distribute the basic products of cleanliness in the Resurrection parking lot where the meal is served. The group has been very grateful for the aid in preserving their health and dignity. If any of you would like to help us in providing these **travel-size products**, the following would be appreciated:

Deodorant, shampoo, sanitizers- wipes or liquid, razors and shaving cream are especially needed.

Also requested are hair conditioner, lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes, small bars of soap and suntan lotion. We also appreciate donations towards the purchase of these items.

(Note: St. Andrew also participated in the March Chili Cook-Off to raise money to provide showers for this group of homeless folks. See article on page 4.)

Santa Cruz al Salvador

Save the Date: May 15, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Wine tasting at the Bargetto Winery. Tickets will be available in April and May for this SCaS-sponsored event. Further details will be available in the May newsletter.

MUSIC CAMP 2016

Registration is open for our 8th annual summer camp. Spread the word! Camp will be **July 18-22** followed by a celebration concert during worship on July 24. All information and registration is on our website:

www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org.



ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Discussion with Parents of Young Children

On Sunday, January 24, parents with young children and members of the Enrichment committee - whose charge it is to oversee St Andrew's church school program - gathered to discuss a vision to grow our children's ministry. Approximately 25 attended.

In answer to the question "What would you like to see in St Andrew's youth program?" Parents offered the following insights:

- More kids
- Same teachers all year long
- Strong youth leaders
- Outside activities
- Children's choir
- Children choir on Communion Sunday
- Opportunities for older children to mentor younger ones
- Simple things for children to do during worship... candle lighting, Lord's Prayer, etc.

To accomplish these ideas the group recommends: Hiring a young adult or college age leader who would: teach Sunday School in coordination with parent volunteers, do the children's sermon and communicate with parents.

Adding three-year-olds to the group, asking grandparents to bring their grandchildren, encouraging parents to invite their child's friends, organizing a children's choir that would practice on Communion Sunday then inviting them back into church for communion.

The Enrichment Committee, in coordination with Session, will devise a plan to implement as many of these ideas as possible. The personnel committee will soon post a job description and interview possible candidates for youth leader. If you have someone to recommend, please let the office know.

NURTURE NEWS

Cathy Zimel and Gwen Yeo

Great Chili Cook-off

Thanks so much to all of you who worked on and supported St. Andrew's contribution to the GREAT CHILI COOK-OFF March 18. For those of you who weren't able to go, it was great fun! We are most indebted to Carla and Eric who not only supplied the recipe and did the cooking but bought really cute chili necklaces and glasses to handout to tasters/customers. I am sure that didn't influence their votes, but we did land second prize in the most votes for best chili. We also won Best Spirit Award, which was, I'm sure, due to the chili tokens Eric handed out and the really cute chili costume Carla wore, topped with a rakish chili hat, the cute chili balloon and table decorations Janet provided, and the spirited dancing by Carla. Thanks so much to Janet, Dee and Anne for their chopping and help cooking and cleaning and transporting the chili, and to Pam and Carolyn S. for their help serving and bringing cookies. All in all--it was a great success--10 churches brought their chili and around 350 tickets were sold. We raised an amazing \$10,000 for the homeless in our community, hoping to build showers.

Thanks to all.

Spring Tea, April 16

Coming, Saturday, April 16, the ever popular St. Andrew Spring Tea! We invite everyone (men, women, the young and the "older") to meet in Hubler Hall at 11:30, for a special afternoon.

After enjoying tea and special savory and sweet treats, we will adjourn to the sanctuary for a performance by *Il Dolce Suono*. This wonderful singing group, run by students, is a choral ensemble comprised of music majors from Cabrillo College.

Everyone is encouraged to join in fellowship and great music.



One Great Hour of Sharing

The amount of our offering for One Great Hour of Sharing totaled \$935.55. Your generosity and caring helps people in need locally, nationally and globally through The Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and The Self-Development of People program.

Kathy Gleaton, Director

The Board, families and teachers would like to invite you to visit the preschool any Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 9:30am and 1:00pm to experience our education program.

Come talk to our parents and students. Observe how our curriculum weaves between play and intellectual support. Sit through sharing and listen to 3-5 year olds as they demonstrate their public speaking skills. Stay long enough to hear their peers ask them questions. Watch how the children are mastering conflict resolution. Witness how, with team work, a city built out of blocks appears or a prehistoric habitat takes over the sand box. See how vital a family-centered approach is for children when the relationship with families and those who work with their children are intertwined.

The families and children at St. Andrew Preschool are the future of our community. Please come and meet them. See what all the laughter is about.

Free Cartridges

Free, Free, Free!

Can you use Hewlett Packard 901 ink cartridges? Call David Allshouse or see if after church for the super secret code if you can use them – 2 tricolor and 1 black available to a good home!

Inspirations, Reflections

PHOTOS OF ST. ANDREW CHURCH LIFE

Mission Luncheon



CHILI COOK-OFF OR THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS!

