



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Six women from St. Andrew Church joined 20 women from Westminster Presbyterian Church at Mt. Hermon Conference Center for three days of reflection and rest. We met new people and enjoyed fabulous food that other people cooked. Courtney, Lorena and I explored the trails through the redwood trees with the ropes course and zip line over head. We discovered beautiful waterfalls and hit some dead ends, but chatted and walked for two hours during our free afternoon. Then I took a nap and read; pure bliss. *Living Fully in Grace* was our theme. Women shared amazing moments of grace in their lives. I shifted from grace being my primary adjective of God, to grace being an essential part of our human interaction when living in the Spirit. I hope more women will join us next year! (See picture on page 5)

Rev. Irene Pak Lee from Stone Church helped to navigate our topic. She mentioned her husband works for Dictionary.com, so I turned there, contemplating the fullness of the resurrection. One definition I found is "a rising again, as from decay, disuse; revival." As we just marked the beginning of spring we are seeing this revival of new life from dormant or disuse all around us; the surprise of a daffodil, the birds chirping with the sunrise, the buds on the trees. We also have a revival of activities, more walks on the beach and enjoying the outdoors.

Resurrection for us as Christians means so much more than revival. We unite with our risen Lord through faith and hope because our God brought Jesus back to life. The darkness of death was overcome with the victory of new life. Soon we will celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, share his last meal on Maundy

Thursday, grieve with him on Good Friday. But grief and death are no match for God. God resurrects Jesus. God resurrects Jesus from the tomb, from the places of disuse in our lives, from the decay and disbelief that can creep into our souls. In these dark places we need the light of love, the light of hope, the light of grace to shine. The quote I took away from the women's retreat is this, "Grace is most needed and best understood in the midst of sin, suffering and brokenness. Only grace makes us alive."

Sit with that. In your pain, your illness, your loss, you need and want your God, your loving and caring God. But often that is when we feel isolated and alone. God is love, but it is the grace of God, the willingness to give when we don't deserve it, the promise to be with us no matter what, that helps our flawed human selves to feel and know God's grace. Feel and know God's love. Then we come alive again. We are resurrected in hope, we are resurrected in faith.

On Easter we bear witness to the resurrection of Christ from the dead. I pray that as we sense that new life pouring over us, as we see God's world coming back to life, as we live in the new life we have in Christ, we also claim our new life in God's abundant and full loving grace.

Anne

Holy Week

- Palm Sunday, April 9** children sing in worship
- Maundy Thursday, April 13** 6 p.m. soup
(let office know if you can bring soup)
7 p.m. Communion and Tenebrae Service
- Easter Sunday, April 16** 10:30 worship
Easter Egg Hunt for the children during
Sunday school
Continental Breakfast following worship





HEART LINE

Please pray for these members and friends.

Doré Corder	Lois Holcomb
Helen Cooke	Jane Odell
Shirley Coleman	Bunny Schmida
Paul Fuelling	Lyle Silldorff
Dorothy Glaum	Judy Smith

David Beach *(former member)*
 Jan Hunter *(Peg Ogg's daughter)*
 Andrea *(Dee St. Clair's daughter)*
 Holly Edwards Duby
 Hamil Family
 Allen Family
 Holcomb Family
 Glaum Family
 Ottem Family



Prayer for the World

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

Merciful God, thank you for Armenian people who have clung to you and to the hope of the resurrection. Strengthen all souls who trust in you, and deliver the persecuted wherever they may be. We long to see this brutal world made new. Lord Jesus, by your grace, may we love as you have loved us. And may all of creation and all peoples bring you praise!

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Susan Mahan

Hubler Hall

9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Sunday.



In April, we will look into the fundamentals of the Christian Ethical Life: the Bible, the history, the Reformation and Contemporary Times. Classes for April 2 and 9 will continue discussing the fundamentals of Christian personal morality and public ethics. We will be looking at some interesting principles and how to make good decisions. Class will not meet on Easter Sunday.

On April 23 and 30, Adult Education will take up the topic of the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus and study different conceptions of afterlife in other religions.

Join us at any time. Bring your thoughts and questions. For more information, please contact Susan Mahan at 831-320-6422 or stmahan181@gmail.com.



IN MEMORIAM

Clare Pelich

February 27, 2017
No service planned

Nez Phister

March 7, 2017
Celebration of Life at St. Andrew
was held on March 24.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sally Griffin, Marian Langdon, Janet Maack, Gwen Yeo

From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook

Armenia

Pokr Vedi village is home to 3000 souls, Christians nestled in the valley of Noah's Mount Ararat between Turkey, Russia and Iran. Residents of the Armenian village still remember ancestors brutally exiled and annihilated by the Ottomans 100 years ago—a horror still unrecognized by Turkey, whose closed border lies just a few miles away. Even the young Republic of Armenia is a miracle of survival. Just 25 years ago these villagers lived off the Soviet state and have struggled to provide for their families ever since. For the last several years, the Jinishian Memorial Program has helped these villagers form an agricultural cooperative to share equipment, technology, marketing tools and the vision not merely to survive but to move from communism to community.

Santa Cruz al Salvador Wine Tasting Event

On April 29 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Santa Cruz al Salvador will hold a wine tasting at Bargetto Winery as a fundraiser. Ticket prices are \$35 if pre-purchased and \$45 at the door.



Each member church has been assigned a gift basket for a drawing at the wine tasting. Ours is a gardening theme. If you have any new garden tools you'd like to donate, or if you wish to make a small money donation toward purchases for the basket, please see Marian Langdon or Karla Norton. Checks made to Santa Cruz al Salvador are fully tax-deductible.

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Cathy Zimel

Nurture is planning to have a luncheon to celebrate spring. This will be replacing our usual Spring Tea. We are still working on the arrangements for the entertainment. Watch for an announcement in the church bulletin. Everyone (men as well as women) is encouraged to join in this special afternoon.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

No Fooling!

Don Adkins



The annual church spring cleaning will take place on **Saturday, April 1** beginning at **9:00 a.m.** Bring your towels, squeegees, buckets and snacks to share. Be prepared to do your favorite tasks if you are a returning participant. If you are new to this, show up and we will put you to work along with the veterans. This event should be finished by noon at the latest. If you have any questions, contact the church office.

TWO NEW ELDERS

There will be a congregational meeting on April 9 to elect two new elders to fill vacancies.



Bible Study

The lesson for this month is Lesson 8: Galatians. It will be held at 1 p.m. on April 24, the fourth Monday of the month.



SESSION NEWS

Eileen Mihm

On March 21, Session opened with prayer, approved minutes from previous meetings, reviewed the Pastor's report and heard reports from the committees.

Action items approved by the Session are:

- To approve the February 21, 2017 Session Meeting minutes.
- To approve the February 22, 2017 Deacons' Meeting minutes.
- To approve serving Communion at our Maundy Thursday service on April 13.
- To approve adding a \$100 fee to the rent for Iglesia de Dios to cover their change from using Hubler Hall to using the sanctuary for their monthly fasting service.
- To approve asking Iglesia de Dios to put away their equipment between Sunday and their Wednesday evening service. Session is concerned about security as well as logistics for others wanting to use the sanctuary.

Confirmation of Five New Members

The congregation welcomed five new young people to our congregation during the service on March 19. Colman Beech, Emerson Beech, Jacob Meschi, Daisy Russo and Sadie Willoughby joined St. Andrew following the Service of Confirmation and Commissioning. In addition, all five were actively part of the service itself. Jacob and Emerson led the children's sermon, Daisy the call to worship, Colman the prayers for the people, and Daisy and Sadie gave the confirmation reflection. Daisy wrote a Statement of Faith, and Jacob and Colman helped with the offertory .

Following the service, all five young people were at the doors outside to greet us and be greeted. Nicole Meschi, Jacob's mother, provided delicious cupcakes enjoyed during the coffee hour. It was a memorable morning for everyone.

DEACON NEWS

Lorena Russo

As we welcome spring and continue moving through Lent, I wanted to greet you all on behalf of your board of Deacons, and as the new Deacon moderator. As many of you know, and some of you may not, the Deacons' duty is to care for our congregation. We check in with our neighborhood (the group of congregants seen to by any given Deacon) and provide support where it is needed, be it emotional, spiritual or physical. In more concrete terms, your Deacon may bring you a meal when you are sick, drive you to a doctor's appointment, send you a note, or give you a hug at worship. We also address specific needs in our faith community as they arise if collective action is required, and we arrange memorial services for those who have passed from this life to the next. The folks serving as Deacons are wonderful, warm, caring people: Edie Abendschan, Shirley Ashworth, Bob Bell, Dorothy Glaum, Marsha Gonzales, Sally Griffin, Dee Hamil, and Jackie Johnston. If you are not sure who your Deacon is, please contact me at the number or email below. If you need some help or extra support, please reach out to us and we will be here for you.

Thank you for the honor of serving in this capacity,

Lorena Russo
831-685-3164
jakenlor@cruzio.com



Preschool News



Kathy Gleaton, Director



We will dedicate our One Great Hour of Sharing offering on **Palm Sunday, April 9**. Your donation to the OGHS offering goes to:

The Presbyterian Hunger Program
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Self-Development of People

These are three successful programs that help people in need locally, nationally and globally.

The year is flying by. Enrollment for summer school and fall sessions has begun. Summer session will begin June 5 and run through July 7. We will decorate our trikes, bikes and scooters and ride them in the church parking lot, march in the Shortest Parade and thanks to Mother Nature, sail boats in bubble rivers! Summer school is open to children currently attending the preschool or children enrolled in the 2017-2018 school year.

If you know families whose children are between the ages of 2 years 6 months to 5 years 9 months old who are researching preschools, send them up our way. Children who attend our preschool are socially and academically ready for kindergarten, all the while having fun!

We follow Pajaro Valley School District holiday calendar. Our Spring Break is April 3-7. We then will be off Friday, April 14th.

Have a Peaceful Easter and enjoy your time with family and loved ones; time moves way too fast.

Note Newsletter Deadline!

Articles for the May newsletter must be submitted by April 15.



From the Women's Retreat
at Mount Hermon
Conference Center

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: 9 a.m. Adult Ed 10:30 a.m. Worship						1 9 a.m. - 12 Noon Church Spring Cleaning
2 Sunday Schedule Communion Lunch Cluster #1	3 9:30 am Nurture	4 7 pm Enrichment	5 3 pm Outreach	6	7	8
9 Sunday Schedule PALM SUNDAY	10 1 pm Operations	11	12	13 Maundy Thursday 6pm Soup Supper. 7pm Communion & Tenebrae Service	14	15
16 10:30 a.m. Worship EASTER SUNDAY	17	18 7 pm Session	19 11 am Deacons	20	21	22
23 Sunday Schedule	24 1 pm Bible Study - Lesson 8	25	26	27	28 10:30 am Adult Ed 1 pm Caregivers Circle	29 3pm-5pm Preschool Raffle and Potluck
30 Sunday Schedule						

Inspirations, Reflections

Pam Arsberger

For those of you who missed our annual mission lunch, the mission and outreach committee will use this space for the next few months to update you on our activities. We plan to do a series of brief stories about the many and various local, national and international efforts in which our congregation is involved.



This month we are highlighting the Allen/Glaum Egg Basket ministry. This is one of the longest standing missions of our church and one with which you are likely familiar. What you may not know is the details of that operation. The Glaum family donates two cases of egg flats each week. We pick them up on Thursday or Friday and bring them here to be stored till Sunday. Every other week two dozen eggs also go to the Recuperative Care mission. This ministry is a win-win situation! We get to purchase high quality organic eggs at far less than supermarket prices and 100% of the money goes to support Second Harvest Food Bank. Each year we donate about \$3000 to them from this mission.

As a church we share the responsibility for picking up the eggs and dropping off any that are not purchased. If you would like to 'adopt a month' to support this effort, talk to Pam Arnsberger or email her at suki1951@msn.com.