



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

August is the time we enjoy all that Monterrey Bay has to offer. Long days, beautiful weather and lots of festivals and events. It is also the month we start gearing back up for fall activities. The two I want to mention are the Walk4Water and our Sunday School Kick off/Church Picnic.

Now is the time to register to walk or run in our third annual Walk4Water. This is one of my favorite events, because we are making a tangible difference in people's lives, simply by enjoying a walk around a lovely lake. On September 9th at 9:00am (Registration at 8:00) we will walk with our friends from local churches as we raise money for composting latrines. According to inhabitat.com, 40% of the people in the world do not have access to toilets; this includes the 81 families of the El Pilar region in El Salvador. Last year we raised enough money to build 20 toilets in the community around El Pilar. This year we hope to raise \$16,800 to build 30 more composting latrines for these families and train the people in their use and maintenance.

Having access to clean water and bathroom facilities is something we take for granted, but it will be a true blessing for the families who do not have them. You can help make this blessing happen. You can go to <http://walk4waterscas.com> and register to walk. Then ask your family and friends to sponsor you. I have posted information on my Facebook page and people have sponsored me from all over the country. Or you can sponsor one of the many walkers from St. Andrew. We will gladly accept your donation and walk with pride as together we are serving Christ in real and tangible ways. You can donate online, or in person at church. You can make checks payable to SCaS, or to St. Andrew with "walk" in the memo.

Santa Cruz al Salvador continues to partner with people in these two communities through education, relationship and working towards clean water.

Then on September 17 we will have our Sunday School Kick Off and Church Picnic. Children and adults will resume their educational activities that day. Nursery care will also return from a break. See Susan's article on the study of A New Kind of Christianity by Brian McLaren. It is an insightful book and I hope you will consider joining us in this study, 9:00 on Sunday mornings. Of course, we will joyfully welcome back the choir, looking forward to hearing all the musical blessings they share with the congregation each week.

Summer is a great time for picnics! I hope you will plan to join us for the Church Picnic following worship on September 17th. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided and we ask everyone to bring a side dish or a dessert to share. This is a perfect time to invite your neighbor to church to share a meal and meet some of your church friends. Hope you will join us for wonderful food and fellowship.

If you really like picnics, Thrivent Financial is hosting one for area churches on Sunday August 13 from 1-4 at Harvey West Park. Several of our partners in ministry have a relationship with this group who offer funding for charitable activities. Thrivent has provided funding for the food for our Walk4Water several years running now. There will be tug-of-war, music and other picnic fun. Please RSVP at the church office if you would like to attend.

Let's continue to enjoy our beautiful place.

Anne



Please pray for these members and friends:

Bob Bell Doré Corder
Shirley Coleman Lyle Silldorf
Helen Cooke Judy Smith

Jan Hunter (*Peg Ogg's daughter*)
Andrea (*Dee St. Clair's daughter*)
Dusty Filey
Kathy & Andrew Sears (*Al Cheney's daughter and son-in-law*)
Louise (*June Ray's daughter*)
Steve and Denny (*Edie Rittue's nephews*)
Ashworth Family
Ottem Family
Schmida Family



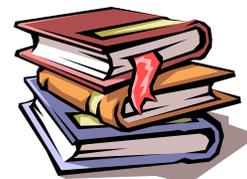
Prayer for the World

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

Lord, in this time when the world is becoming a more divisive place, let us as a Church endeavor to repeat the call of faith, hope and love to the world and work to ensure global justice for all, regardless of ethnicity, gender religion or country of origin. Remind us that we are all, brothers and sisters alike, created in the image of God.

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Susan Mahan



Hubler Hall
9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Sunday.

On September 17, the Adult Education class will begin its programming year by continuing to read and discuss the book *A New Kind of Christian: A Tale of Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey*, Book I by Brian D. McLaren.

This book is easy reading but each chapter contains questions of faith that we all struggle with AND great answers. We will be starting with Chapter 7 for September 17. One important guiding question for the chapter is if the Bible is the only foundation for our faith?

Join the class at any time. We are a friendly group. Copies of the book are available on Amazon.

If you are catching up and have questions contact Susan Mahan at [831-320-6422](tel:831-320-6422) or stmahan181@gmail.com.



IN MEMORIAM

Bunny Schmida
April 13, 2017

Service and Reception following
September 9, 2017 at 2 p.m.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Pam Arnsberger, Marian Langdon

From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook

The Presbyterian Peacemaking program announced in June, 2017, the list of this year's International Peacemakers. They will be available to speak at schools, churches, community organization, seminaries and Presbytery. Sixteen individuals were invited this year. Among the speakers are Ebun James DeKam who will discuss the impact the ebola virus had on his country and how the church responded to this major health crisis. There are two speakers who will discuss human trafficking issues, one in Africa, but the other right here in the U.S. along the Mexican border. Alla Soroka will discuss working with the street children in the Ukraine in a time of occupation by Russian forces. Others will speak on broader issues such as climate change and poverty from countries as varied as the Philippines, Myanmar, Italy, Sri Lanka and Venezuela.

The goal of this effort is to increase interest in working with global partners on peace and justice issues. Particularly in this year with the role of immigrants and their contribution to American society so frequently in the press, these speakers demonstrate the church's commitment to a diverse world.

For more information go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/>.

Walk4Water: See Anne's article describing our 3rd annual 5K walk/run Walk4Water. This project has been funding composting latrines in the rural area of El Pilar. During the month of August, please sign up to be a walker or runner and you will have sheets to get sponsors. For \$1/kilometer, \$2/kilometer etc. If you can't participate directly, sponsor a friend who is planning to. Either is a great way to help with our Santa Cruz al Salvador mission. Thank you.

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Cathy Zimel

This year's **Annual Men's Breakfast** was attended by 42 hungry men. They left Hubler Hall fully satisfied because of Lyle's exceptional pancakes, in addition to fluffy scrambled Glaum eggs, crispy bacon, fresh fruit, juice and steamy cups of coffee. A good time was had by all attendees, including the Nurture Committee cooks and servers.



Our **Annual Progressive Dinner** was another event that saw many new and longtime members. This year the appetizers were served at the home of Ralph and Marsha Gonzales and the scrumptious desserts were served at the home of Lou and Janet Maack. While the appetizers were very substantial and filling, everyone made sure they left plenty of room for the divine desserts!





Bible Study

There is no Bible Study for the month of August. Studies will resume in September on the fourth Monday of the month, September 25. We will be studying from Cloud of Witnesses. The Community of Christ in Hebrews by Melissa Bane Sevier. Sign up in the office by August 25 & order your book, cost \$10



STOCKING PROJECT UPDATE

Deadra St. Clair

By the end of the day July 30th, the CASA Christmas Stocking Project will be well underway. We are cutting out the stockings and assembling the kits on that day. On this busy day, Nicole and Jacob Meschi will be taking inventory of our accumulated items and begin purchasing what is still needed. At the start of August, the kits will be distributed and the stockings will be ready to be sewn.

More Pictures from the Progressive Dinner



Two members are eager to learn how to embroider names on the stockings. We, the two Dees (St. Clair and Hamil), are organizing classes in embroidery, hopefully starting the week of August 21. If you are interested, please contact one of us.

At this point, monetary donations will help defray expenses.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Chris L
Louis M
John N
Parker M
Mary M
Lorena R
Ken B
Carla C
Doris C
Lyle S
Lois H
Patsy S
Wilma G
Ray S
Greg A
Jada A
Coty C
Stephanie M



Kathy Gleaton, Director

2017-2018 marks the preschools 50th year!

We kicked off the celebration by Marching in Aptos' July 4th Shortest Parade! Our parade marchers were decked out in Red, White and Blue while carrying signs and balloons marking our 50th year.

A big thank you went out to the Aptos chamber of Commerce for donating parade t-shirts to our children!!

We not only let spectators know we are the only non-profit co-operative preschool in Santa Cruz County the parade judges learned we are San Francisco Giants fans when we sang "Take Me Out to The Ball Game" at the judges' station. Which must have been the deciding factor for the preschool won 1st place for "School Theme"!

Have a safe and happy summer and we look forward to being back at school September 6th.

Note Newsletter Deadline! and News

Articles for the September newsletter must be submitted by August 15. Please email submissions to our new newsletter address:
staconnexions@gmail.com

Starting 2018 our goal is to no longer bulk mail the monthly *Connexions* newsletter. It will be available on our website and emailed to those who request it. Those without email will still receive a paper copy in the mail.



Joint St. Andrew/Methodist Church
Bell Choir June 25

Inspirations, Reflections

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 featuring the Manna Ministries.

Manna Ministries Reflections

Janet Maack

One of the many boots on the ground missions that the Outreach Committee is involved in is Manna Ministries. It's familiar to the St. Andrew congregation through Minute for Mission requests for travel size hygiene products for the homeless, but it's really so much more than providing necessary items for people in need. It is up close and personal interaction with the people in Aptos who, for various reasons, live mostly on the streets. They all have stories and lives that most residents of Aptos will never hear or be involved in.

Every Saturday, rain or shine, Trevor and his group of Manna volunteers from Shore Life bring and serve a meal to anywhere from as few as 5 to over 30 Mid-County homeless. The group of guests is comprised of mostly men, but the number of women, and sometimes children, showing up seems to be increasing.

Shore Life volunteers pull up in vans at Resurrection and set up in a matter of minutes. The guests say a prayer, fill up their tray sized plates with corn bread, chicken, vegies, rice or potatoes, even dessert and coffee, then sit down to eat and talk.

Since our St. Andrew involvement is hygiene, after they've finished eating and have put away their trash and empty trays, they come to us.

The homeless guests need shavers, shampoo and conditioner, hand sanitizer or wipes, deodorant, lip balm, sun screen, dental products, and lotion. They prefer travel size because many live out of backpacks.

But more important than providing hygiene products, we have an opportunity to meet and talk to the many homeless people in Aptos – the people who don't have convenient access to a big funded shelter. We've gotten to know faces, some names, and some stories of the people on the streets in Aptos.

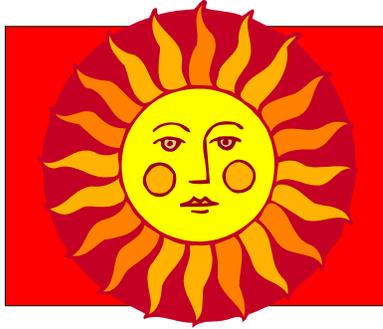
There are seven of us doing this on a rotation right now; all members of the Outreach Committee. We would love to have others. Commitment is less than 30 minutes on a Saturday at noon.

If you would like to be involved in this local and very necessary and appreciated mission, please contact Janet Maack.



August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: 10:30 a.m. Worship		1 7 pm Enrichment	2 1 pm Bible gathering - Rom. 9:1-5, Matt. 14:13-21 3 pm Outreach	3	4	5
6 Sunday Schedule Communion	7	8	9 1 pm Bible gathering - Rom. 10:5-15, Matt. 14:22-33	10	11	12
13 Sunday Schedule 9am - Sunday School Teacher Training	14 Youth Bowling Event at the Boardwalk 10:30-2 pm \$7 Carpooling from Church 1 pm Operations	15 6 pm joint Session & Deacons potluck & Meeting	16	17	18	19
20 Sunday Schedule	21	22	23	24	25 1 pm Caregivers Circle	26
27 Sunday Schedule	28 10 am Nurture	29	30	31	Walk4Water - September 9 8 am registration - 9 am walk FALL KICKOFF - Sept 17 Adult Education, Choir, Nursery, Sunday School resume & Annual Church Picnic	



AUGUST

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www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

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Dr. Don Adkins, Music Director
Dr. Susan Mahan, Adult Educator
Mrs. Sheila Burt, Office Manager
Mr. Mike Filey, Custodian

Newsletter Staff:

Editors: Irma Andrews, Sheila Burt, Marian Langdon,
Cathy Zimel and Judy Zscheile
Production: Sheila Burt, Dixie Gansel, Janet Maack, and
Judy Zscheile

Newsletter Deadline: All articles and items for the
newsletter are due in the church office the **15th day of
the month** prior to the month they will appear.

**Email newsletter articles to the following new
address:**

staconnexions@gmail.com