



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

The Space of Faith

Summer is almost here! My sons are taking their finals, the weather is getting warm, and I just got back from a vacation in sunny Florida. We spent a week in Cocoa Beach, enjoying the long white beaches and some fruity drinks. We canceled our plans to go to Universal because I pulled a back muscle and spent some relaxing days recuperating. But we did make it to the Kennedy Space Center! What an interesting place. Even though we shared our day with thousands of 5th graders who got in free that week, we marveled at the science, rockets and ingenuity embedded in space flight. Seeing the command center for a launch and reenactment of the communication and dependency between Command center and the crew, was fascinating. Then there was the largest one story building in the world where they assemble the rockets for launch. I was inspired by the determination and hope woven throughout the process and the human perseverance shown through mission setbacks and failures.

I loved seeing the Space Shuttle Atlantis up close and personal. Did you know it was a twelve-year process to get from the idea of shuttle flight to its reality? (It was a year and a half delay just to get the glue right for the heat shields). Enterprise was the first. I was tickled by the Star Trek nod. It was followed by Columbia, Challenger, Discovery, Atlantis and Endeavor. On the Atlantis, you could see each one of the individual heat shields unique and vital for mission success. Lee told me each one is numbered and especially designed to protect that small part of the shuttle. Many shields were the size of a slice of bread. It was amazing how each one of them worked together to protect the craft during re-entry.

Of course, celebrating the success of these missions also meant honoring the losses. I was taken back to where I was when the Challenger suddenly exploded shortly after takeoff. I was riding the bus to work in San Francisco when the seven crew members died. I bet you remember when you heard about that tragedy. I was also reminded of the loss of Columbia upon re-entry after a long mission. Standing there in the shadow of the Atlantis Space Shuttle, in awe of its accomplishments, I felt the pain of all the other losses.

Our St. Andrew family has also experienced several losses. One was after the long flight with Bunny's journey with her health. Soon after came the sudden loss of Shirley that no one saw coming. We grieve the losses, and we hold on to the hope of our faith; the promise of the resurrection. Our faith gets us through these hard times. Jesus walks with us on our journey on this world and beyond. We are so grateful that we have the love of God in the midst of all of this. We also carry on in the faith, continue being the hands and feet of Christ in our hurting and broken world, because that is our purpose as God's children, and ultimately our mission as Christians.

In a way, we are each like a unique heat shield, working together to get to the desired destination of sharing the love of Jesus with people in our community. Each one of us is perfect and designed to share in this mission of Christ.

Musings continued on page 2

Our success is dependent on each one of us doing our part to make this mission a reality. If you are wondering what your mission is, I ask you to pray about it. Seek God's wisdom and counsel on how you fit into this mission. Maybe you help with serving the homeless, teaching our children, sharing your faith with a coworker, or singing in the choir. Maybe you invite a friend to church. Maybe God is calling you to a new mission. God is doing so much in the world and it is our job to discover it and witness the Holy Spirit working. God is the command center and we are the crew on this journey to share Christ's love.

If you want to explore innovative ways of serving I invite you to stop by and share with me your vision; be a pioneer of faith in new ways in our community. I would love to hear your ideas and maybe together we can share Christ's love in exciting and brighter ways.

Our Outreach committee has come up with a new opportunity for our youth to be of service. This will be a great way for them to explore more mission activities. During the summer months when students have more time on their hands, we are inviting you to partner up with mission projects. We know students in Junior High and High School need community service hours, and we are offering ways to meet those requirements. Here are four ways you can serve:

- help with purchasing and delivering food to the homeless who are recuperating after a time in the hospital. You would partner with a church member to deliver food to the Recuperative Care Center on a Thursday morning.
- work in the gardens of the church, helping the gardening team keep our campus beautiful.
- help provide hygiene products to the men and women in our community living without shelter. This would be on a Saturday morning.
- help pick up and deliver eggs to our church; all of the proceeds go to Second Harvest Food Bank serving so many in our community.

Speak with Gwen Yeo or Janet Maack if you would like to participate in one or several of these service opportunities. At the end of the summer, I will write you a letter for your hours worked.

This is one new and exciting idea. I would love to hear about another way you see us meeting the needs of our community or inviting our neighbors to share in our family of faith. We are sure to travel to new heights and discover new things, when we listen to God and explore our mission of faith.

Anne



Please pray for these members and friends:

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

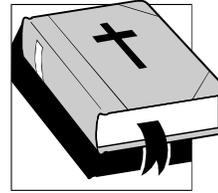
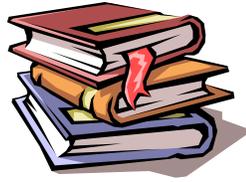
Virginia Baker
Jan Hunter (*Peg Ogg's daughter*)
Andrea (*Dee St. Clair's daughter*)
Dusty Filey
Kathy & Andrew Sears (*Al Cheney's daughter and son-in-law*)
Steve (*Edie Rittue's nephew*)
Ashworth Family
Ottem Family
Schmida Family

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Susan Mahan

Hubler Hall

9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Sunday.



Bible Study

Bible Study will resume in the fall. It will be a study of the Book of Hebrews, and the study guide is entitled *The Cloud of Witnesses*.

If you are interested, please contact the church office for time and date.

For June 4th and 11th, Adult Education will continue discussing the second eight chapters of *A New Kind of Christian, Book 1* by Brian D. McLaren. We are using the discussion questions in the book to guide us. You can jump in at any time.

June 11th will end our programming year. We will start classes in September. Meanwhile, please send us any ideas you have for topics to explore and books to share.

For more information, call or email Susan Mahan: [831-320-6422](tel:831-320-6422), stmahan181@gmail.com or my box in the church office.

WEDNESDAY SUMMER BIBLE DISCUSSIONS

Anne McAnelly

Have you ever wanted to discuss a Bible passage before you hear the sermon? Well you are in luck. I will be having a Bible gathering on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm most weeks during the summer. I will share some of what I have learned in my prep and you can share your questions about the text, or ways it relates to your life. I am hoping this will make preaching a more collaborative effort and give us a chance to be in God's word each week.

We will start on June 28 and go for six weeks during the summer. All are welcome, even if you have never been to a Bible study before. You do not need to commit to every week, please come when you are able.

On June 28th we will be looking at Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 and Romans 6:12:23. I will share with you the next week's passage through the bulletin and/or email. Looking forward to being in God's word with you!!



Embroidery Lessons Available

Please contact Dee St. Clair. Dee is looking for people to help embroider the children's names on the CASA stockings later in the year, and is willing to teach you how to do this now.

Class is also open to any youth who would also like to learn embroidery. I will also send an email to each of the youth to personally invite them after the newsletter goes out.

Thanks for your patience.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Marian Langdon

Santa Cruz al Salvador Wine Tasting Event Update

Marian Langdon

The thirteenth annual wine tasting fundraiser at Bargetto was very successful. Over 80 friends and family attended and enjoyed food, soft drinks and wine while being entertained by Barbara Lopez and her little band.

Members of St. Andrew and several businesses contributed to our lovely garden basket. The winning drawing ticket was held by a long-time supporter of Santa Cruz al Salvador and previous member of the SCaS Board, Judith Dunham. The photo below is of Judith and the garden basket with emcee Anne McAnelly holding the mike behind her.



FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION YEARBOOK

Dee St. Clair

The NEXT church national gathering concluded March 15 2017. It ended with a challenge to make 'America America Again'. Rev Paul Robert Jr., president of Johnson Smith Seminary, urges everyone to read Langston Hughes' "Let America Be America Again". This poem gives us much to consider. Rev Roberts hopes that we will take actions creating missions to improve our country to truly reflect the values our country was founded on.

Editor's note: We invite readers to read Langston Hughes' lengthy poem by using this link <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/let-america-be-america-again>



PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

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

Dear God,
Your blessings are always evident and give us the good pleasure of enjoying your presence. Continue to abide with us as we love and serve those in need. In Christ's service.

Amen.

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Cathy Zimel

Our **Spring Fling Luncheon** was attended by 36 people and they all gave us a "thumbs up". It was fun to have some time to really get to know members and their guests while enjoying a very tasty lunch of roll-up sandwiches, salad and cheesecake! Even though we didn't have the promised music from Il Dolce Suono, a good time was had by all!

Our annual **Men's Breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, June 10**. Besides enjoying a delicious hearty breakfast, we promise to also have an interesting program that will inspire.



A progressive dinner is also in the planning stages. We have had this type of event for the last few years and it is always well-attended. We will have one home for "hearty appetizers" and one home for dessert. This is planned for **Saturday, June 24** beginning in the late afternoon/evening. Watch for more information in the Sunday bulletin and emails. Signups will begin in early June.

ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Sally Griffin

The Enrichment Committee focuses on the worship service, adult and children's education, and the preschool. Our team members are Anne McAnelly, Carolyn Crocker, Susan Cummings, Donna Erickson, Carol Finchum, Shari Gallegos, Sally Griffin, Susan Mahan, and Eileen Mihm.

April is one of our busiest months to prepare for. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter are major events for our church family. Carolyn Crocker and Eileen Mihm worked with the children for a wonderful singing program on Palm Sunday. Maundy Thursday was our gathering for soup and bread prior to our evening candlelight service. And then Easter brought the Children's Easter egg hunt, our beautiful floral cross and sharing of food after the service. The committee appreciates the help of many in making this holiday season another success!

The changing of the Paraments and the Alternative Music Team is also part of our worship service commitment.

Dr. Susan Mahan is our Adult Education leader on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Currently she is collecting topics for consideration for next fall's classes. If you have never attended a class, please try to do so. She is so knowledgeable and the classes are very thought provoking and educational!

Sally Griffin is our liaison with the Pre-school. In April the parents organized their biggest fundraiser which was a raffle and auction. They raised about \$1800, of which people from the church contributed \$150 through their purchase of raffle tickets. (Our congregation came out quite well, securing a number of great items!) I attended the event as the church representative and it was heartening to see all these lovely parents working together and enjoying seeing their children interact over good food, a great band, and a common goal.

This has been a wonderful spring with our children's program. We had five older children

confirmed in March and we have enjoyed having them be more active in our Sunday school program. Besides singing Palm Sunday, the children have attended Sunday School with extra activities! In addition to the weekly Bible study, Shari Gallegos organized a pancake breakfast and last Sunday they planted flowers in the garden (by the BBQ area). Carolyn Crocker has attended the first 5-10 minutes of class to start them with some fun and up-beat songs they are learning.

Currently, we are building a team of those who will invest in our children. We are looking for commitments to teach two Sundays, twice a year. We would love to have you join the team and help build our program. Carol Finchum is the resource person and will make sure the teachers are equipped, have the help and the resources they need.

We are also looking for fun service projects we can bring the older children together to do. (Starting this summer!) If you are active or know of a program that is looking for volunteers, please contact Carol. We are excited to be of service and build our St. Andrew's Youth Team!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Sadie W
Abigail A
Chuck W
Julie A
Art L
Marian L
Judy Z
Marsha G
Ed M



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Dee H
Dee S
Helen C
Ralph G
Ralph G
Ryan M
Edie R
Emerson B
KloAnn C
Shirley C
Gene B
Bob C
Olin O
Everett O



Kathy Gleaton

The 2017-2018 school year marks 50 years of providing a preschool experience to the children and families of Santa Cruz County!

The following is an excerpt from a letter written by Dr. Robert Bowles to the preschool parents April 2006.

Fifty years ago, the pastor's wife of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of Aptos recognized a need in

our surrounding community for a quality preschool that served both children and their parents. With the support of her husband and the congregation, St Andrew Cooperative preschool became a reality.

Since 1967 there have been decades of academic research showing that the mission and philosophy they envisioned not only stood the test of time but is the model that early childhood educators are praising.

As a cooperative, the school educates the whole child. Our children and families are exposed to a social and economically diverse population. Through tolerance and nurturing we not only lay the foundation for academic success but social success as well.

It is a blessing that our community has a preschool that offers our families the gift of diversity. The word "diversity" is a buzzword in our culture but it is also a contributing feature in what our Preschool and our parents model for the formation of our children as people and as citizens.

Preschoolers notice everything that goes on around them, and they assign value and meaning intuitively on the basis of that information as well as on what they are told. Our parents and their children are part of that learning experience; they demonstrate how people with different lives can get along. The Preschool world of microcosm of Christian, Jewish, Muslim and non-religious children and their families learning, playing and working together is providing children with an experiential learning model of how the world is supposed to work.

This part of our student's education is challenging. As a teacher and parent, it takes energy, intelligence, imagination and love to form the prejudices and fears or lack of these when children will grow up.

This is an important seed-planting time for little ones, thank you for letting the preschool continue the vision and model for the formation of our children as people and citizens.

Please join us July 4th while we celebrate our 50th year by marching in Aptos' Shortest Parade! The more the merrier!!!

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 winter shelter program and assistance to the Recuperative Care Center (RCC).

Gwen Yeo

One of the Outreach Committee's tasks is to help coordinate St. Andrew's commitment to try to make life better for people without housing in our area. Two of those are described below.

Recuperative Care Center. In 2014, when we consulted with the Volunteer Coordinator at the Homeless Service Center (HSC) to see what options there were for our service, she indicated that one of the needs was food for the residents of the relatively new Recuperative Care Center (RCC) to supplement the one meal a day at the HSC. Working with the RCC Coordinator, we agreed on priority items that would be nutritious for the recuperating residents. In March 2014 our volunteers began purchasing and delivering food for breakfast and lunch of the residents every two weeks. With experience, the food list has been revised as needed; it currently includes 4 gallons of milk, whole grain cereal, low fat yogurt, turkey, ham, and cheese, juice, whole wheat crackers, peanut butter, unsweetened applesauce, frozen waffles, butter, syrup, and sugar. Dorothy Glaum also donates several dozen eggs for the main HSC kitchen every two weeks, which are delivered by the volunteers bringing the RCC food.



Over more than three years St. Andrew has maintained the delivery every two weeks. The number of St. Andrew volunteers involved in the project has expanded to thirty-two different members of the church giving their time and resources to purchase and deliver the food to the RCC eighty-three times. Others have contributed to the fund to reimburse the volunteers for their purchase. The value of the food usually ranges between \$80 and \$100 per delivery. It could be estimated that the contributions have been worth approximately \$7500.

Our Outreach Committee currently has volunteers committed to purchasing and delivering the RCC food through July, 2017, and we will be recruiting volunteers for future months in June. We would be delighted to have new volunteers join us.

Winter Shelter. In collaboration with the Association of Faith Communities in the Santa Cruz area, St. Andrew has furnished team members to prepare salads and serve them with the casseroles to individuals who come to the VFW Hall for supper and to sleep during the winter months. Our teams of four to six members each have served nine different evenings for two and a half hours each; twenty-one individuals from St. Andrew have participated one or more times. Plans are being made for next winter, so we may be asking for volunteers to help again.

The Outreach Committee sends its sincere thanks to all the St. Andrew individuals who have contributed and volunteered to fulfill the mission to help those who are in need.

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: 10:30 a.m. Worship				1		2 1pm Caregivers Circle	3
4 Sunday Schedule Communion 9 a.m. Adult Ed	5	6 7 pm Enrichment	7 3 pm Outreach	8		9	10 8:30 am MEN'S BREAKFAST
PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PHOTOGRAPHY							
11 Sunday Schedule 9 a.m. Adult Ed Lunch Cluster # 1	12 9:30 Nurture 1 pm Operations	13	14	15		16	17
18 Sunday Schedule	19	20 7 pm Session	21 11 am Deacons	22		23	24 PROGRESSIVE DINNER - details to follow
25 Sunday Schedule PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PHOTO'S	26	27	28 1pm Bible gathering , see article for Bible verses to be studied	29		30 1pm Caregivers Circle	

July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: 10:30 a.m. Worship						1
2 Sunday Schedule Communion	3	4 7 pm Enrichment	5 1pm Bible gathering 3 pm Outreach	6	7	8
9 Sunday Schedule	10 1 pm Operations	11	12 1pm Bible gathering	13	14	15 8:30 am Showers for Homeless
16 Sunday Schedule	17	18 7 pm Session	19 11 am Deacons	20	21	22
23 Sunday Schedule	24	25	26 1pm Bible gathering	27	28 1pm Caregivers Circle	28