



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Responding in Faith

Do you remember seeing the phrase "We Respond in Faith?" Maybe you have noticed it as one of the four bold headings within our worship bulletin:

We Gather in God's Name

We Proclaim God's Word

We Respond in Faith

We Live to Serve

Our Response in Faith comes after hearing God's word read and preached. It is not a response to a sermon, but rather to our love of God, and our love received by God through Jesus Christ. Our response includes two things: Affirmation of Faith and Giving our Gifts to God. On the first Sunday of the month, we respond with our monetary gifts and then join together at Christ's Communion table. We are called to affirm, to give, to commune as a way of bearing witness to the power Jesus has in our lives.

Soon you will receive a letter asking you to pray and reflect on the power Jesus has in your life. Then it is up to you to respond in faith. Respond to the love we feel in worship as we glorify God together. Respond in faith helping the homeless in our community live in dignity with showers and hygiene products. Respond in faith providing food to the hungry through Second Harvest. Respond in faith touching the hearts of the foster children with handmade CASA stockings. Respond in faith offering sanitation and water needs to people living in El Salvador. I am so proud of our little church and all the big things we are doing in Christ's name. Your generosity has made all of this possible. Thank you!

When I think and pray about what I give to St. Andrew I start with the biblical teaching of sharing 10% with God before I even look at my other bills.

I must admit I don't always get there. But I do try. When I did the math, I discovered I was a bit low.

So this year I get to increase my commitment to our church by \$20/month to get back to my goal of tithing. I give as an act of faith. I give responding to God's love. I give as a way of saying thank you to God for all the blessings in my life.

I invite you to think and pray about what you want to give to God through this church. Please look at this with new eyes, as a reflection of your love for God. I know you love God, much like you love a dear friend. Have you ever given a gift to a dear friend? You enjoy the process of finding the perfect gift. But you don't give the same gift every year. As you pray about your commitment to St. Andrew, think of it as a time of selecting the perfect gift for God. You are reflecting on what God would like and showing your gratitude to God.

And just like you can now have your gift delivered to a friend's door, you can also have your gift to God delivered to the church. You do this by setting up bill pay online, which will make regular payments to our church. I have my bank send my contribution check every month, so the commitment to the church gets made first. If you wish to have more information please visit our website www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org/giving/. Of course you can still hand deliver your gift to church on Sunday, by placing it in the offering plate.

St. Andrew is rich in faith, in service, in love, in talent, in life experience, in care for one another and in financial capability. Let us each respond in faith in making our commitment to God.

Blessings,

Anne

HEART LINE

Please pray for these members and friends.



Helen Cooke	Clare Pelich
Shirley Coleman	Nez Phister
Paul Fuelling	Lyle Silldorff
Lois Holcomb	Judy Smith

David Beach (*former member*)
Steve Glaum (*Dorothy's son*)
Tim Dietrich (*Marsha Gonzales' son*)
Jan Hunter (*Peg Ogg's daughter*)
Andrea (*Dee St. Clair's daughter*)
Holly Edwards Duby
Hamil Family
Allen 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.)

God of all nations, thank you for providing bridges between all people with your love. Amen

Swords into Plowshares

From the Presbyterian Mission Yearbook

The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta collected guns from their communities and took them to a local artist and blacksmith. He forged them into a pump that can lift water from wells. It calls attention to gun violence and is the centerpiece of a fund-raising effort aimed at purchasing African-made pumps that will be used in Malawi, where many people lack access to safe drinking water.

ADULT EDUCATION

Dr. Susan Mahan



Hubler Hall

9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Sunday.

For the month of October Adult Education will continue reading *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus Borg.

October 2: Chapters 6 & 7
October 9: Chapters 8 & 9
October 16: Chapters 10 & 11
October 23: A concluding discussion

This is a well-written book which describes both traditional church beliefs and living the Christian life and an emerging modern approach which solves many problems of disbelief for younger people.

Join us at any time. The book is available at Amazon Books online. (amazon.com) If you need help getting the book or have any other questions please contact Susan Mahan at 831-320-6422 or stmahan181@gmail.com.

We are a friendly group learning together.



SESSION NEWS

Eileen Mihm

On September 20, Session met in Hubler Hall.

After opening prayer, we discussed building use for space on our campus.

We approved the minutes from the August Session meeting and the August Deacons' meeting. Committee chairs reported on their meetings and upcoming events.

Action items approved by the Session are:

- Anne's vacation from October 10 to 16, 2016.
- The use of Intinction for Communion on January 1, 2017 when Jane Odell will preach.
- Anyone signing up for flowers in memory of a loved one on an orchid Sunday will pay \$20 (instead of \$35).
- Rename the Charlie Cheddar Egg project to Glaum Allen Egg Harvest.



FALL BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will take place on October 24 at 1 p.m. We will be studying Lesson Two "According to Matthew" from the book *Who Is Jesus*.

GUEST PREACHER

Valerie Weirauch, a candidate under the care of the presbytery, will be preaching at St. Andrew on October 2 as part of her final tasks before being ready to receive a call. Receiving preachers into our pulpit is part of our connectional system of the PCUSA. Valerie is a project manager at Agilent Technologies. She has attended seminary while working full time and interning at Sunnyvale Church.

NESTING CONGREGATION

Exciting News!!! The Session is negotiating with Iglesia de Dios of Santa Cruz, a Church of God congregation, to worship here on our campus. They are a growing congregation seeking to use our sanctuary and two classrooms several times per week for worship and education. I attended one of their lively services and was warmly welcomed. I only understood every fifth word; my Spanish needs some work. But the praise and prayer were very moving. We will share more with you as we finalize the agreement. But if all goes well they will be worshipping here at the start of 2017. Please pray for this process and ministry.



Sunday School News

By Rachael Cash

Fall is here and I hope that the school year has started well for all of our families. This year is the one and only year all three of my kids will be in the same school. I am trying to be thankful for that but also adjusting to the new work load of three kids having homework. Juggling it all is something I struggle with but every school year feels like a new beginning and on the first day of school I am always just as excited as the kids to start. September 11th we kicked off our first Sunday school of the year. Thank you to all the families and teachers who supported this day. I hope to see those of you who missed our first day soon.

October 9th is our annual Church Picnic. This is a wonderful event for families to attend and a great time to invite a friend or bring the grandkids. There will be lots of great things to eat, games to play and a water balloon toss/fight so mark your calendars and plan to bring the whole family to this fun filled day.

We are still looking for teachers to fill in our 2017 calendar. If you can help, please let me know. Looking forward to seeing you all soon and Happy Fall!

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Marian Langdon

CASA

Stockings for the children are being completed. St. Andrew received a gift of holiday fabric and twenty beautifully sewn stockings to bring our total to sixty Christmas stockings.



Recuperative Care Center Ministry

RCC food deliveries have been scheduled through December. Please contact Gwen Yeo if you are interested in becoming part of this ministry or if you need a copy of slightly revised instructions.

Manna Ministries

St. Andrew joined other churches, already assisting at Resurrection Church for lunches and hygiene items, with a pilot project, beginning on September 10. From 8:30-12:00 every Saturday, homeless individuals will be able to have showers at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church. The next time St. Andrew is participating is November 5 for the requested 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. time frame. The program will be re-evaluated in December.

Glaum Egg Delivery

The Outreach Committee is seeking persons willing to bring Glaum eggs to church for Sunday pickup by parishioners. Pam Abendschan is spearheading this program, which used to be called the "Charlie Cheddar" fund. The new name is "Glaum Allen Egg Harvest".

Santa Cruz al Salvador (SCaS) 2017 Delegation

The planning for the 2017 **Delegation to El Salvador** is underway. It will take place from January 9-19 and sign-ups have been received from eleven persons planning to attend.

Shadowbrook Community Evening

SCaS has been given Tuesday, November 1 as the date for its participation in Shadowbrook's Community dinner. 30% of all proceeds will be donated to SCaS. Please make your reservations from October 4 on. When you arrive, let the waiter know you are with SCaS.

Walk 4 Water – September 10

On a cool September morning, perfect for walking or running, several dozen folks of all ages gathered at Pinto Lake County Park in Watsonville for the second annual Walk 4 Water. The W4W supports water projects in El Salvador under the aegis of Santa Cruz al Salvador. This year specifically, funds will go towards the construction, by local volunteers, of composting latrines in the rural area of El Pilar.

Walk 4 Water II was very successful. Everyone had a good time while raising over \$11,500 for the projects in El Salvador.



NURTURE NEWS

Cathy Zimel

Food, Fun And Fellowship

Immediately following worship on **October 9**, we will gather in Hubler Hall to share a meal together and celebrate the joy of being a part of this church family. Hamburgers, hotdogs, condiments and refreshments will be provided. **Please help by bringing a salad or dessert to share.**

So, mark your calendar, wear comfortable clothes, and plan to join us for food, fun and inter-generational fellowship. You will be glad you did!

Looking forward, Sign up for Lunch and Dinner Clusters will be Sunday, November 20. We are hoping to have a leader to coordinate each cluster.

Kathy Gleaton, Director



As adults it took time to get from here to there. We hurried through it; slept through it and even wasted it. Some adults think play-based preschools are a waste of time.

They walk into the classroom and see children having fun. We get messy. We enjoy hands-on experience with play dough, paint and anything else that is "gooey". You will see and hear children acting out their life experiences. They pretend they are shopping for groceries or taking care of "baby". They observe towers built out of blocks and see tears and hear crying because it was knocked down. Dinosaurs and Star Wars co-exist.

Outside they see children rolling around, digging, riding trikes, collecting treasures and just playing.

What these adults don't see is structured, intentional play-based learning. Tactile experiences strengthen their little hands while developing small muscles. Acting through dress-up or playing with cars, phones, groceries or blocks allow the children to try out their social behavioral skills through play. Large muscle groups are being developed through climbing, riding trikes and digging.

Math skills are being developed through understanding numbers, learning patterns and solving problems. We develop our language and listening skills through sharing.

We learn to ask questions, follow directions and make choices. Most importantly we learn to love, respect and listen to each other.

We don't waste time, we envelop it. This is the best time of our life.

October 31st you will see not only the children, but teachers and parents as well, dressed up as princesses, monsters, witches and goblins parading around the court yard and office continuing a tradition that has delighted children for centuries.

Inspirations, Reflections

Dear Readers,

Your poems, articles and photographs could have been here!