

The Piper

August 2023



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A Message from Father Martin

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dear Friends,

It is August! I am eager to enjoy this Summer month in such a beautiful place (which will hopefully be not TOO hot). And I am eager for the Fall season at St. Andrew's

We will begin on Sunday, September 10 with a **Parish Open House: 10 am worship** followed by an **Ice Cream Social. A speaker in the early afternoon on the history** of the San Lorenzo Valley and St. Andrew's place in the story, and a **concert in the Church** at 3 pm with a variety of musicians being organized by our wonderful Jesse McMilan.

Then on Sunday, September 24, we will have an **Alcoholism and Addiction Awareness Sunday** with a special speaker in church and information available at refreshment time about alcohol and drug treatment.

Alcoholism is a major pastoral issue in our society which we don't talk much about. It is a disease, not a moral failing, for which there is treatment. It should not be an occasion for shame, though it often is.

On Sunday, October 1, we will observe the Feast of St. Francis with our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service – outdoors, weather permitting.

October will also include **an event involving eating** (chili cook-off?) to which we gather together and invite friends and neighbors. We will also offer our popular **Halloween ministry** to our neighborhood.

November will include **All Saints Sunday**, our **Bishop's Visitation** on November 12, a Celtic Festival including the **Kirking of the Tartans**, and an **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** at St. Andrew's on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

More details on all these will come out later this Fall. Exciting times at St. Andrew's!

Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, spoke at two large events this Summer on the same Scripture text: 1 John 4:7-8. The first was the Episcopal Youth Event. The second was July's church-wide gathering "Its all about Love: a Festival for the Jesus Movement". Here is part of what he said:

*Before I retire, I want to get every Episcopalian, or most of them, or a goodly number of them, or the few and the proud—anyway, get as many Episcopalians as I can to know at least one verse of Scripture. Just one. And "Jesus wept" does not count. Right? Just one. And so I came up with one. And here it is. It's from first John, the epistle, first John chapter four, verses seven and eight. But I'm just going to give you one part of that. The text, it says, "**Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God. And those who love are born of God and know God. Those who do not love do not know God**"—and here it is—"because God is love."*

You hear what we just said? God is love. Not love is God. That's a whole other ... no, no. God is love. That is the most succinct, precise, clear theological statement of the nature and the being of God. It doesn't get any better than that. God is love. And I've got to tell you, if God is love, it really is all about love. If God is love, you and I were made by the hand of love. If God is love, this world is made by the hands of love. And that means we were made to love and to be loved and to give love. And we will find our lives when we live in the love of God.

You can find the whole sermon at <https://redeemer-kenmore.org/2023/07/10/presiding-bishop-michael-curry-delivers-opening-sermon-at-its-all-about-love-festival/>

I encourage us all to reflect on this Scripture and God might be calling St. Andrew's to serve here in the San Lorenzo Valley. Consider also Bishop Curry's words on our Episcopal Church's website: "*Being a Christian is not essentially about joining a church or being a nice person, but about following in the footsteps of Jesus, taking his teachings seriously, letting his Spirit take the lead in our lives, and in so doing helping to change the world from our nightmare into God's dream.*"

May I also encourage you to explore all that is on our Episcopal Church's website at www.Episcopalchurch.org

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BROCCOLI CHICKEN CASSEROLE

From Sue Roe's cousin, Joan Williams

2 packages of frozen chopped broccoli, cooked and drained.
(I use an equivalent amount of fresh broccoli.)

4 chicken breasts, cooked, boned, skinned, and cut in bite sized pieces. (Or buy the ones that are already boneless and skinless.)

Combine: 2 cans Campbell's cream of chicken soup, 1 cup of mayonnaise (not Miracle Whip), 1 teas. curry power, and 1 teas. lemon juice.

Top with ½ cup of grated cheddar cheese. Then top with 2/3 cup Pepperidge Farms herb seasoned stuffing mix (or a similar stuffing mix).

Grease a 13 X 9 inch pan. Add broccoli, chicken and soup mixture in layers.

Cover with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

HeeHeeHee!!!

Before beginning the service, our pastor read aloud a note he'd been handed moments earlier. "It says here that I should announce that there will be no B.S. tomorrow morning," he said. He tucked the piece of paper into a pocket and added, "I'm hoping they mean 'Bible Study.'"

ON THE SCHEDULE

Join us at 10 am on Sundays

Watch the sermon on the St. Andrew's Facebook page.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join in on the Upcoming Church Activities!!

Weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays from 11 am to 12 Noon in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome – no background required. We will begin with Luke's Gospel. There will **not** be Bible Study on August 8 or 15.

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee has been meeting regularly to explore organizations and programs that St. Andrew's may support during the next year. We welcome your recommendations on any non-profit organizations that might benefit from our donation and involvement. If you would be interested in attending the meetings or becoming a member of the committee, please reach out to Joan McVey or Susan Greer.

Fundraising Committee

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the fundraising committee that will plan fundraising activities throughout the year. We are coming into the time of year that we traditionally host activities – we appreciate your interest and involvement. Please let Rochelle or Susan know if you can be a part of this important activity.

2023 Vestry Members

Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden	Sara Hector
John Woolliscroft, Junior Warden	Steve Lafever
Susan Greer, Clerk of the Vestry	Sue Roe
Cindy Garay	

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please forward them to any of the Vestry members. Vestry meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

A Message from Father Martin (continued)

You may have noticed that the roof on the one-story section of our parish house is being replaced. Junior Warden John Woolliscroft has guided this decision, which was approved by our Vestry for \$15,000 plus repairs as needed to the plywood underneath. Vents are also being added.

The Vestry received good news in July - \$13,000 will be received from the diocese in two installments this year from the interest accrued from the sale of the St. Mark's Church property in Santa Clara. The Vestry will decide in August how to use these unexpected funds. It has been proposed to allocate 5% for outreach and put the balance towards the roof repairs (saving our limited reserves for future emergencies).

By the way, St. Andrew's most recent Financial Reports are being posted in the Parish Hall.

Rochelle Kelly, who coordinates our Eucharistic Ministers ('EMs') and Lectors (readers) on Sundays announced last week that we could use more participants in these worship ministries. Please see Rochelle or me if you are interested. Training is offered.

Our Tuesday Bible Study has been going very well, with 10-12 persons each week. (Come when you can - no background required, and Bibles are available. Bring friends.) We continue to read through Luke's Gospel and consider how it relates to our own daily lives. (We will not meet on Tuesday, August 8 due to family medical appointments and August 15 because Eve and I have all our grandchildren coming to town that week.)

That is the news. See you in Church!

Yours in Christ,

Martin+

Notes from the Garden

Judyth Suttle, Garden Guild



Frequently asked question: what are those strange Dr Seuss looking plants in the garden bed at the base of the Parish Hall stairs? The ones with woolly leaves and tall spikes of yellow flowers?

They are Mullein, and they love this hot dry weather we're having this summer. Initially transplanted from Garden Guild volunteer Ellen's home garden, they have self-seeded this year and multiplied. They are a medicinal plant used for thousands of years, generally to manage respiratory disorders. In American folk medicine they have been used as a tea (made from the dry leaf) to relieve issues like sore throat, cough, colds, hoarseness and bronchitis. The tea is also used to ease digestive complaints and joint pain.

Feel free to pick some leaf and try drying at home (or you can find the dried leaf in the bulk section at Wild Roots). (Caution: use sparingly at first to be sure you don't have an allergy to it.)

Next month we'll talk about Hollyhocks, another medicinal plant.

Trip Report from Sharon Fishel

The first week of July this year I made a trip to Chajul, Guatemala. This is a village of about 50,000 indigenous people in the rugged mountains of Guatemala. This community experienced devastation and genocide in a 36year civil war that ended in 1993. 93% of the families live in poverty, 60% are illiterate.

A friend of mine and her organization built the only public library in this community and built a school that opened in 2022. I am very impressed with both the school and the library and committed to support this effort to raise the quality of life for this community. I came home recognizing how lucky I am to have been born in our country and grateful to have met some folks whose lives are so different from mine but who are loving and generous of spirit. I will leave some flyers in the parish hall for those who are interested in supporting this effort.

You can also find out more and donate to the school by going to the website; [Limitless Horizons Ixil](#) .

Sharon Fishel



An Update on the Seeger Family in Washington

The Seeger family: Dana and Yori, and their children Lyla, Hayden and Esben, who were a wonderful part of our Sunday services (four of them were baptized at last Easter) moved at the end of June to Poulsbo, WA. Fr. Martin visited them last week when he went North to see their oldest daughter and her family in Seattle. They are settling into their new home. Here are a few photos:





St. Andrew's Birthdays

August Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 14—Mark Carling | 26— Colin Whitby-Stevens |
| 14— Finn Katz | 27— Rob Carling |
| 15— Diane Dearing | 29— Jennifer Kennedy |
| 17— Shirley Greenwood | 30— Susan Greer |
| 18— Becky Rooks | 31— Father Martin Yabroff |

September Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 2 Dave Erdman | 7 Jim Roe |
| 3 Katherine McCormick | 13 Dustin Katz |
| 4 Diane McCormick | 13 Mary Jo Neish |
| 5 Delle Townsend | 26 Steven Rooks |
| 6 John Woolliscroft | |



On behalf of our Bishop, the Visioning Taskforce is leading an important guided conversation about our changing diocese, calling us to stretch our imaginations toward God's dream for our future in ministry and mission. Each conversation will last for 90 minutes and will include small group discussions.

You are invited to attend either a Zoom conversation or an in-person conversation on one of the following dates:

- Thursday, September 7, 7 p.m. via Zoom (limited to 20 participants)
- Saturday, September 9, 10 a.m., St. James, Paso Robles, in-person

Coffee Hour Organizer

- August 6—Susan Greer (207) 624-2569
- August 13—Jane Pomeroy (408) 472-1586
- August 20—Ellen Terry (415) 516-9123
- August 27—Shirley Greenwood 423-8290
- Sept 3—Barbara Banke 345-2992
- Sept 10—Eve Yabroff (253) 225-8683
- Sept 17—Jennifer Kennedy 251-1471
- Sept 24—Rochelle Kelly 408-691-2571

- If you are unable to serve on any date, please call someone else on the list and also call Sharon Fishel at 831-247-5572.

The Mountain Community Theater will be using the parish hall for rehearsals on the following dates. If you know of any conflicts, please let Sharon know.

- August 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10
- Aug 14, 15, 16, 17

Life, Perhaps?

Steve Lafever



Speak to me about life, he said. And so I spoke.
Life is complicated, how obvious you say
It had both positive and negative, how further obvious
Tell me something I don't know.

We enter life without experience
Without pain
Without love
Without feeling
We awake to the possibilities that might be

Experience shapes our responses
Pain helps us avoid things
Love in all its forms, eludes us
Feeling changes how we interact with the world

When others hurt, I sometimes feel that
There is an empathy in some of us
Empathy causes us to become vulnerable
and opens the way for pain

Life without regret isn't life at all
None of us is free from regret
Freedom is just another word for nothing left to lose
We all are left with something to lose in the end

Love comes and goes
Love can elate and at the same time hurt so much
In the end, some of us still find hope of a love
Others experience the loneliness of separation.

The twilight of my existence is near
I look for a cosmic end
Will all that I have been or learned mean anything
Perhaps I may come back better than a troublesome mosquito

It's not my fault that Noah saved two of them!

Episcopal News

For Episcopal Church resources, visit <https://episcopalchurch.org>. There are many options for self-study, including email notifications, videos, meditations. Visit www.realepiscopal.org to receive information on the Diocese of El Camino Real.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You



There is no longer Jew or Greek.
There is no longer slave nor free.
There is no longer male nor female
For all of you are one in Christ Jesus

Galatians 3:28

*Join us on Sundays at 10 am for worship services.
Videos of sermons are available on St. Andrew's
Facebook page.*

*Bible study on Tuesdays at 11 am. Join for study and
camaraderie.*