

The Piper

September 2023



September



I trust in the Lord with all my heart;
and lean not unto my own understanding.
In all my ways I acknowledge Him, and
He shall direct my paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6

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*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.*

A Message from Father Martin

Dear Friends,

We have an exciting Fall Season ahead here at St. Andrew's.

Sunday, September 10 – Open House / Welcoming Sunday

Plan to attend (bring friends!) for Worship at 10 am followed by an Ice Cream Social. Then at 1:00 pm, Lisa Robinson, President of the Board of the San Lorenzo Valley Historical society, will give a talk in the Church (with slides) on **The History of the San Lorenzo Valley and St. Andrew's place in it.**

Sunday, September 24 – Alcoholism Awareness Sunday

Special guest John Wasielewski will speak during our 10 am worship and will have resources during refreshment time. (See more about John in this Piper.) Alcoholism is the major disease in our society that we never talk about. It is not a moral failing or a cause for shame but a treatable disease.

Sunday, October 1 – Blessing of the Animals

We will remember St. Francis of Assisi and bless pets outdoors, weather permitting. You are welcome to bring a photo of your pet if you prefer, or a photo of a pet no longer with you.

Sunday, October 15 – Chili Cook-off

After our 10 am worship. More information to come.

Sunday, November 12

Bishop Lucinda Ashby is coming to St. Andrew's on Sunday, November 12 for a Parish Visitation. A key part of a bishop's Visitation is to strengthen the ministries of the congregation through preaching and Confirmation / Reception / Reaffirmation of Baptismal vows. The Book of Common Prayer defines Confirmation as "the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop." (p. 860, see also p. 412)

There are four orders of ministry, which all stem from our baptismal promises: lay persons, bishops, priests, deacons (BCP. 855). Confirmation is a mature commitment to the responsibilities of baptism and a public affirmation of one's personal understanding and faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Confirmation service in the Book of Common Prayer speaks and prays of "renewing", "sending forth", "strengthening", "empowering", "sustaining", "continuing", "increasing", "being led by the Holy Spirit" in the service which God sets before each of us, daily, as baptized Christians in the world. Confirmation therefore is not an end goal, for which one studies and achieves competence. It is a beginning point or commissioning - entering into mature Christian ministry.

Introducing our Speaker for Alcoholism Awareness Sunday Sunday, September 24 – 10 am service

John Wasielewski is a certified Substance Use Disorder Certified Counselor (SUDCC) with a BA in Human Services. He works as an Intensive Outpatient Counselor for Sobriety Works in Santa Cruz, providing 3x weekly group counseling services for up to twelve clients per session. He has five years of personal recovery from Alcohol Use Disorder as well as five years of experience working as a counselor in the field of addiction treatment.

He began his journey in the field working at Janus of Santa Cruz as a counselor for DUI classes and quickly began taking on other roles such as case manager, IOP counselor, and eventually Residential Treatment Counselor. He joined Sobriety Works in late 2020 as an Admissions counselor and transitioned back to being a group counselor in January, 2023. He is trained in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), Trauma-Informed Care, and is a certified SMART Recovery Facilitator. John's long-term ambitions include getting his Master's degree and subsequent licensure in Clinical Social Work.

He is particularly excited to give this talk at St. Andrews Church as he went to preschool there and has very fond memories of the church during his upbringing. John struggled with alcohol and other drug use for several years after high school that resulted in lost friendships, family relationship strain, and a spiritual void that could only be filled by understanding that a force greater than himself could put him on the path to recovery.

He attended a residential treatment program in April 2018 that put him on the path to salvation. May 27th, 2018, is currently the date that John last drank alcohol, with hope and support from his higher power, he hopes that date will remain static so he can continue helping others who struggle with the same afflictions.

Mary Lou Thompson Retreat

September 21, 2023

Please Join the Episcopal Church Women for a weekend of relaxation and fellowship with the women and friends of the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Our annual Mary Lou Thompson Retreat will be on September 21-23, 2023 at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Baptista. This year's Theme is "The Way of the Earth; How Celtic and Indigenous Spirituality can contribute to our understanding of our faith journey today."

Our retreat leader will be Rev. Canon Jerry Drino, Canon Theologian of the Episcopal Church in Navajoland and Rector Emeritus of the former St. Philips of San Jose. Jerry has had over 60 years working with Indigenous and Celtic spirituality. His wealth of experience with original interpretations of God in our created world will be a gift to us as we dive deeper into the history and expression of these disciplines.

Contact Donna Seelbach at dsdonnaseelbach2@gmail.com to register.



St. Andrew's Birthdays

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 | |

October Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Judyth Suttle | 18 Jean Templeman |
| 3 Rick Garay | 21 Zeke Erdman |
| 6 Kerry LeRoux | 29 Steve Ruff |
| 16 Joey Katz | 30 Blaine Hammond |
| 18 Paul Balch | 31 Stephen Mello |

Glimpses of God's Dream

A VISIONING CONVERSATION
FOR THE DIOCESE OF EL CAMINO REAL

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

- 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
- Oct 1 — Susan Greer 207-624-2569
- Oct 8 — Jane Pomeroy
- Oct 15 — Ellen Terry
- Oct 22 — Janet Parske
- Oct 29 — Shirley Greenwood

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.

- Sept 15, 17-20 at 7pm to 9pm
- Sept 16 at 12pm to 3pm
- Sept 24-27 at 7pm to 9

There will be a music recording session in the church on Sept 24 at 1 pm.

Since we believe that there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism (Ephesians 4, & BCP p. 299), Confirmation in the Episcopal Church is not a declaration that the Episcopal Church is the best or only center of Christian ministry. Confirmation in the Episcopal Church simply means that one is ministering in and through this part of the Body of Christ. No one must denounce or repudiate their earlier ministries in another denomination, and those confirmed in other denominations which have the historic tradition of Sacramental Confirmation are "received" rather than re-confirmed. Those adults who were confirmed much earlier (as pre-teens perhaps) have the opportunity to 'Reaffirm their Baptismal Promises' and to receive the laying on of hands in blessing.

Therefore, I call each adult member of St. Andrew's to prayerfully consider if this is the time to present yourself for Confirmation / Reception / Reaffirmation. You are already in position to serve God and God's people through your family, work, community and congregational service. Is it now time to affirm and mark as your calling these ministries begun in Baptism and to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit through the apostolic authority of Christ's Church, represented by the Bishop?

Preparation will take place in September and October. Please call me so that meetings may be arranged.

Opportunities for Ministry (Help Needed)

Please see the invitations in this Piper to help with keeping up our gardens and grounds, with cleaning the Parish Hall occasionally, and to coordinate the annual Kirking of the Tartans / Celtic event.

Two diocesan events in September

Re-Homing Our Diocese Into Beloved Community Diocesan Workshop

A Day of Spiritual Inquiry into how we got here - the roots of White Supremacy and Christian Nationalism, and how we can use our insights to become more truly inclusive. Especially of the tribal nations who lived here long before Europeans came.

Led by the Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, V.P. of the General Convention House of Deputies and Rector, Trinity Episcopal, Everett, WA

Saturday, September 16, 2023, 10am-3pm: Saint Paul/San Pablo Episcopal Church, 1071 Pajaro Street, Salinas. Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee of The Diocese of El Camino Real. Cost: \$25 (includes lunch and refreshments) Register through the diocesan website. See Fr. Martin for more info.

Garden of Eatin'

This is perfect for this time of year when lots of apples are ripening.

One Bowl Apple Cake

Ingredients:

2 eggs
1-1/2 cups sugar (or a little less if you like)
2 heaping teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 cup canola oil
6 medium apples, diced
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, mix eggs, sugar, cinnamon, and oil. Peel and slice apples and add to mixture in bowl (coating as you go to keep apples from turning brown). Mix together the flour and baking soda. Add to ingredients in bowl and stir until all flour is absorbed by wet ingredients. Pour into a greased 9X13 cake pan. Bake for about 55 minutes. Check at 45 minutes. It may be done.

HeeHeeHee!!!

A little boy came home eating a big candy bar. Seeing the candy bar, his mother remembered he had already spent all his allowance money. Surprised, she asked him where he got it. "I bought it at the store with the dollar you gave me," he said. "But that dollar was for Sunday School," his mother replied. Smiling, the boy said, "I know, Mom, but the Pastor met me at the door and got me in for free!"

Wrong! 2016 attempted genocide of Rohingya in Myanmar, 2014 continuing attempt of genocide of the Uyghur people in China, and 2003 in the Sudan, 2002 in the Congo, 1996 in Zaire, 1992 Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the list goes on and on. I didn't even mention the Native Americans in our/their country. Currently in Egypt there are 18 Jews left. Twelve live in Alexandria. The synagogue in Alexandria was recently restored and three Jews attended the ceremony. The government keeps a watchful eye on them.

However, back to Joseph. One important lesson that I learned from his story is forgiveness and a family's love. I also learned how past mistakes can live with you until you resolve them. All through the story of Joseph was his desire to reconcile with his brothers, and his love of his family. Joseph named his two sons from his Egyptian wife Asenath, Manasseh (meaning to forget) and Ephraim (to be fruitful).

Both were Hebrew names. Both became leaders of tribes of Israel, both were eventually adopted by Jacob. When I read the story of Joseph, or when I have seen the musical, I am reminded at the end, that through forgiveness love triumphs, and it makes me feel good inside.

My wish in life, before He comes to take me away, is that I can find the strength to forgive those who have hurt me. I would hate to leave this world harboring negative feelings about others. In the meantime, I think I will see if Joseph, the musical, is playing somewhere close.

Steve Lafever



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.

Thoughts from Steve



... and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

The story of Joseph in Genesis is one that I have read many times. I have also read the story written by Flavius Josephus (a Roman Jewish historian, 37AD). I have watched many movies made about Joseph and read a few of the many books written about his story. I also helped direct the musical Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat three times. This musical was the first one written by Andrew Lloyd Webber. He wrote it for church school performances. He followed this with another musical Jesus Christ Superstar which launched his career.

Joseph was the son of Jacob and Rachel and was Jacob's favorite son as he loved Rachel more than his other three wives. Benjamin was his other son from Rachel. In the story of Joseph, he is sold into slavery by jealous brothers, accused of rape, sent to prison in Egypt, interprets the Pharaoh's dreams, becomes governor of all of Egypt, given the name of Zaphnath-Paaneah and a wife Asenath who was the daughter of an Egyptian Priest. Scholars debate the translation of his Egyptian name. Jerome in translating the Vulgate Bible, calls him Salvator Mundi, savior of the world.

Joseph (Zaphnath-Paaneah) invites his father Jacob and sons to live in Egypt after pardoning his brothers for selling him. All is going great for Jacob and his family. Joseph dies. Over time fewer Pharaohs remember Joseph and began viewing the number of Israelites and their prosperity as a threat and eventually they are enslaved. 300 years pass until Moses leads them out of Egypt.

Moses is said to be the author of Genesis written circa 1400 BC. That is the Reader's Digest version of the story. The lessons of the Joseph story are many: forgiveness, hope, a fathers love enduring, brothers plagued by their wrongdoing, the eventual good that results for Jacob and his family, and God's ability to communicate through Joseph (the brothers didn't listen, the Pharaoh did).

History is full of rulers who fear groups that become strong. King Philip and Pope Clement eradicated the Knights Templar, Hitler tried to eradicate the Jews, the Spanish government killed 96% of the indigenous population of Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic), the Moriori genocide in New Zealand, Russian genocide of the Circassian population, Armenian genocide by the Ottoman empire, and many more. You think that was in the past, it can't happen today.

ON THE SCHEDULE

Join us at 10 am on Sundays

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

Weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays from 11 am to 12 Noon in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome – no background required. We are studying Luke's Gospel.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join in on the Upcoming Church Activities!!

Sunday, September 10 – Open House / Welcoming Sunday

Sunday, September 24 – Alcoholism Awareness Sunday

Sunday, October 1 – Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 15 – Chili Cook-off

Sunday, November 12 -- Bishop's Visitation

Saturday, September 16, 10am-3pm – Re-Homing Our Diocese Into Beloved Community Diocesan Workshop at Saint Paul/San Pablo Episcopal Church, 1071 Pajaro Street, Salinas.

September 21-23 – Our annual **Mary Lou Thompson Retreat** will be at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Baptista.

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee has been meeting regularly to explore organizations and programs that St. Andrew's may support this year and in future years. 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 McVay 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)

Episcopal Church Women - Mary Lou Thompson Retreat

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Contact Donna Seelbach at dsdonnaseelbach2@gmail.com to register.

May I close with a prayer for our stewardship of all creation (BCP p.259)

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

That is the news. See you in Church!

Yours in Christ,

Martin+

St. Andrew's Outreach

At the August Vestry meeting, the members voted unanimously to donate \$500 each to Valley Churches United and WINGS suicide prevention for the first quarter giving, and \$1000 to Episcopal Relief and Development for Maui fire relief operations for the second quarter giving. The Outreach Committee is considering other organizations for the third and fourth quarter giving. If you have any suggestions on organizations to be explored, please give the information to Susan Greer, Joan McVay, or Ray Rischpater.

Notes from the Garden

Judyth Suttle, Garden Guild



Will return in the October Piper!!!!

Volunteer Opportunities at St. Andrew's

There are many chores around the church to maintain it and keep it as beautiful as we would all like it to be. If you are able to help with any of the following, please let either Rochelle Kelly or John Woolliscroft know.

Gardening — Re-establishing the Garden Guild. Are you able to donate a couple of hours a week, raking, weeding, trimming, and following the advice of Judyth Suttle, our master gardener? Please contact Father Martin or Judyth if you are interested in joining the Garden Guild.

Cleaning — The Parish Hall needs to be swept and mopped every week, and the bathrooms washed up. It generally takes less than two hours a week to keep it up. A rotational calendar is being created; please add your name to the rotation.

Church Events — We need coordinators and/or helpers for our upcoming community events—

Open House/Welcoming Sunday is September 10. A sign up list is in the Parish Hall.

Paul Balch is the coordinator for the **Chili Cookoff** on October 15; a sign up list will be posted in the Parish Hall for helpers and chili cooks.

Cathy Newfield is the coordinator for **Halloween** on October 31; we will need candy and volunteers to hand out the candy.

Kirking of the Tartans/Celtic Celebration and Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held in November, and others not yet scheduled. Coordinators have not yet been identified; if you are interested, please let Father Martin know.

Everyone must work together if we are able to maintain our building and grounds and hold community events throughout the year. Please consider how you may contribute!!