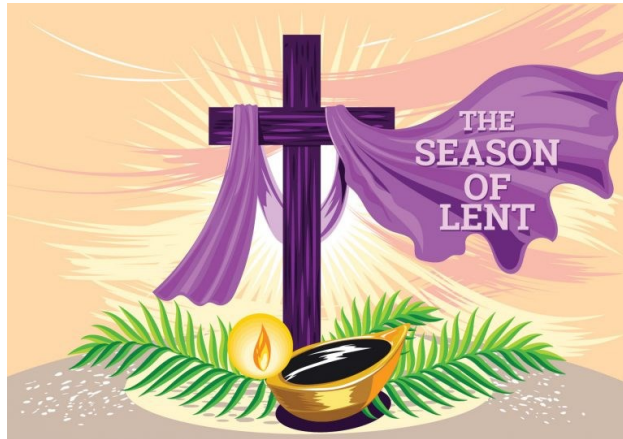


# The Piper

## February 2024



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## **A Message from Father Martin**

Lord, you bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal (Easter) feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 379)

Dear Friends,

Our Lenten season for spiritual refreshment and renewal is early this year. Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent – will be on Wednesday, February 14. (Yes, that is also Valentine’s Day.) We will offer two services of Ashes and Holy Communion – at 12 Noon and 7:00 pm. To make a good beginning for our Lenten “fast”, all are invited to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 13, 5:00 to 6:30 pm in our Parish Hall. Thank you to Cathy Newfield and all who have signed up to help.

We will offer a Lenten Supper and Discussion series on from 5:00 to 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings: February 21; 28, March 6, 13; 20. Please sign up to bring a simple main course or salad or bread. Our theme will be Hope: according to the Bible, in our personal lives, relationships, church and nation. Invite friends and neighbors. I have ordered devotional booklets to be picked up hopefully on the First Sunday in Lent (February 18). This year we will have copies of Forward Day by Day for each household to use.

On a different topic, we had a good Annual Meeting on January 21. Please pick up your updated Parish Directory and Annual Meeting Reports if you have not done so already. Sheryl Mello, Judyth Suttle and John Woolliscroft were elected to the Vestry. Rochelle Kelly was confirmed as Vestry Delegate to Diocesan Convention. 2023 Financial Reports and our 2024 Parish Budget were received and discussed. Parish activities for 2024 were discussed – see Rochelle’s article in this Piper. And I announced the appointment of Rochelle Kelly as Senior Warden for 2024.

In thinking of our own spiritual growth and renewal and that of our St. Andrew’s parish community, remember with me Jesus’ parable of the seed growing secretly (Mark 4:26-29): “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

We do what we can to nurture our spiritual lives and to remember Jesus's Way of Love – prayer, Bible, worship, serving, resting, caring for others. And we trust that God's Spirit will move and grow in our lives as we do so. Similarly, we worship and serve, welcome one another and enjoy the Grace of the Lord here through St. Andrew's, and we trust that God will bring the harvest that God seeks to bring through us.

May God bless us all with a holy and uplifting Lenten season.

Yours in Christ,  
Martin+

### **Prayer Team**

We have an active prayer team at St. Andrews led by Sue Roe. When a prayer concern is made known to Sue, she sends it out to the group so they can be praying for you. Please contact Sue if you would like some prayers. Also, if you would like to be one of the pray-ers, let Sue know and she will be happy to add you to the group.



Please contact Sue at Phone 562-243-4080, or by

### **Outreach Committee**

If you know of or support a non-profit organization and would like it to be considered for a grant from St. Andrew's, please provide information on its programs to the Outreach Committee. The members of the committee are Susan Greer, Joan McVay, and Ray Rischpater. We are also looking for additional committee members, so if you are interested, please contact Susan, Joan, or Ray. The committee meets after Bible Study, generally on the 3rd Tuesday.

### **St. Andrew's Vestry Members**

Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden	Cindy Garay
Susan Greer	Sara Hector
Sheryl Mello	Judyth Suttle
John Woolliscroft	

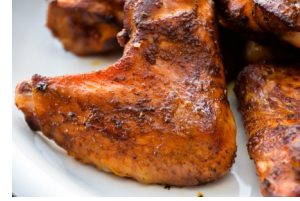
If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please forward them to any of the Vestry members. Vestry meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

# Garden of Eatin'

This recipe came to me from my son Greg. Simple and yummy! Sue Roe

## **Apricot Chicken**

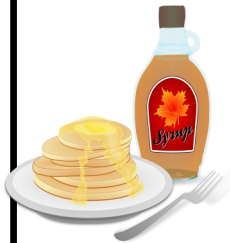
Combine one bottle of Russian salad dressing, one jar of apricot jam, and one packet of onion mix. Place 6-8 boneless, skinless chicken breasts in a baking dish, and pour the dressing mixture over them. Bake at 300 degrees for 1-1/2 hours.



## **Poetry Writing Workshop**

Emmanuel Williams will be leading a workshop writing love poems appropriate for Valentine's Day.

**February 7, 10 a.m.** in the Parish Hall



## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**February 13, 5—6:30 pm** in the Parish Hall

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

## **Lenten Supper and Discussion Series**

Wednesdays, February 21—March 30, 5—6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Bring a main dish, salad, or bread.

**Mountain Community Theater** will be using the Parish Hall Monday thru Thursday, January 27 to May 2, 6:30—9:30.

### ***Senior Warden's Message***

We had a wonderful Annual Meeting on January 21 st with lots of awesome ideas for St. Andrew's in the coming year. We brainstormed a list of events that are of interest. Of course, behind every event are coordinators and helpers to make sure it is successful. In the parish hall, there are flip chart pages posted on the wall for event sign-ups. The list includes a sign up for coordinators and helpers for each event. Those folks can then decide the date and plan for the event.

Please consider coordinating or helping with events. We will keep the sign-ups on the wall until the end of February. If there is no one signed up as coordinator, then the event will not be considered for 2024. Of course, we are flexible and if other event ideas come up during the year, or someone is able to be a coordinator after all, we could still consider having the event.

It is only through the dedication and energy of all of you, and the blessing of having Father Martin lead us, that we have survived Covid, losing our previous rector and the fires. Thanks so much for all you do for our small but mighty church in the Redwoods!

Peace and love to all.  
Rochelle Kelly  
Senior Warden



## St. Andrew's Birthdays

### February Birthdays



2 – Dena Robertson	13 – Ray Schmidt
3 – Yori Seeger	17 – Mike Leslie
4 – Rochelle Kelly	20 – Teresa Ruff
4 – Gene Kodner	24 – Angela Bauer
7 – Alexander Cadell	25 – Ralph LeRoux
10 – Paula Madonia	26 – Brett McPherson
13 – Tedd Parske	

### March Birthdays

4 Gina Carling	9 Elizabeth Forbes
4 Esben Seeger	16 Renee Katz
4 Hayden Seeger	16 Nia Woolliscroft
5 John Brough	24 Tom Spring
6 Sabrina Vall de Ruten	24 Gary McCormick
7 Clark McPherson	27 Steve Lafever
8 Aiden LeRoux	

#### Coffee Hour Organizers

Janet Parske (831) 246-1839 February 4  
Shirley Greenwood (831) 423-8290 February 11  
Barbara Banke (831) 345-2992 February 18  
Jennifer Kenned (831) 251-1471 February 25  
Rochelle Kelly (408) 691-2571 March 3  
Susan Greer (207) 624-2569 March 10  
Jane Pomeroy (408) 472-1586 March 17  
Eve Yabroff (253) 225-8683 March 24  
Ellen Terry (415) 516-9123 March 31

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.

#### HeeHeeHee!!!

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon: with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." And then finally, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

He sat down. The song leader then stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn # 365: "Shall We Gather at the River."



## ***Thoughts from a Member of the Parish***

I miss my sailboat. It was a 28 foot, Islander sloop made in California and designed by a famous yacht designer Robert Perry. For some reason that thought just popped into my head. I think it was the pictures I found this week of me sailing when I was a little younger. The boat, however, was easy to sail with all lines rigged aft, and I think I could still manage her on the bay here. In New England, the boats come out of the water and are stored in the shipyard. The water freezes in the winter which would damage the hull. The last sailing trip I made in that boat was from Mattapoisett, Massachusetts to Martha's Vineyard. That was so much fun. I do miss those days on the sea.

Youth is certainly wasted on the young. It has been raining. It has been raining. It has been raining. I suppose if it keeps up long enough to flood the west coast, I could have made it to my boat and anchored in the bay and reflect on why I am here. I don't think one ever knows just why we are put on this earth or what happens to all that thought and knowledge we have accumulated or why there is this desire to learn more. To what end? A hymn we will sing on February 4, is "You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord," and is based on Psalm 91. The chorus is one of my favorite messages. "And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

Sometimes I imagine God lifting me up on His wings and looking down at this beautiful planet. I think the problem comes as we get closer to the surface and see the things God's creations are doing to each other. I wish He could just take us all up on His wings and stay just far enough away to see the beauty created below us. I may never get a glimpse into the purpose I was put here. I know that I keep on learning, loving, and caring. Most importantly I have an empathy for those in the world. I think back.

I was in the third grade at Chandler Elementary school. I had no idea what deep feelings were. Who does at that age. Something happened one day. I was waiting for my grandmother to pick me up. My parents were divorced and we were living with our grandparents. I think it was just before Mother's day. Walking down the sidewalk was this younger boy. I knew who he was. He was a Navajo. He was carrying some flowers and a piece of paper he had drawn and I could see he word "Mom." There was a crack in the sidewalk, and he tripped. His flowers and paper fell on the ground. I was happy there weren't a lot of others around as they would have laughed at this. He had tears in his eyes. He bent down and picked up the flowers and paper. Nothing was damaged. His gift representing his love for his mother was saved, and he continued his journey down the street.

Why am I telling you this story? As I stood there watching this happen. I also had tears in my eyes. I was nine years old. But for some unexplainable reason, I felt compassion and empathy for this boy. I somehow knew what that gift represented to him and what it would mean for his mother. That was the moment in my life, that something inside me changed. I had been lifted up to be able to see and feel the meaning of care that transcended love. My grandmother picked me up a little later and I didn't say much on my way home. However, that gift I was given that day changed the way I looked at others. For that, I remain thankful.

"And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

From a page of my life – Steve LaFever

### ***Keep your fork!***

There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things 'in order,' she contacted her Pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.



She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order and the Pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

"There's one more thing," she said excitedly..

"What's that?" came the Pastor's reply.

"This is very important," the young woman continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand."

The Pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say.

"That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked.

"Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the Pastor.

The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me this story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, "Keep your fork." It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming .... like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!"

"So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder... "What's with the fork?" Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork ... the best is yet to come."

The Pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the cloak she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the Pastor heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled.



During his message, the Pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either.

He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. Cherish the time you have, and the memories you share. Being friends with someone is not an opportunity, but a sweet responsibility.

Share this to everyone you consider a FRIEND... and I'll bet this will be a message they do remember, every time they pick up a fork!

And just remember ... keep your fork!

**The BEST is yet to come!**

Shared by John Woolliscroft

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

The text "Happy Valentine's Day" is written in a red, cursive font. The word "Happy" is at the top, "Valentine's" is in the middle, and "Day" is at the bottom. There are two red hearts: one is positioned above the letter 'e' in "Valentine's", and the other is positioned below the letter 'y' in "Day".

Below is a list of potential events to be held at St. Andrew's in 2024 that were suggested at the Annual Meeting. There is a sign up list posted in the Parish Hall for the next month. If you have any additional ideas, please present them to Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden.

Please consider volunteering for an activity (or two or ...). If you are interested in helping with any of the events listed, please let Rochelle know. If there are no volunteers to act as coordinator or helper, the event will not be held.

Events being considered:

St. Patrick's Day Dinner – Vestry voted to hold this event on Saturday, 16 March..

“Kirking of the Tartan” – Celtic Celebration – will have greater appeal to the community if the Celtic aspect is emphasized. Hold in October/November timeframe. Needs to be planned well ahead to get dancers/music/speakers.

Chili Cook-Off – we are considering submitting the winning chili in the Santa Cruz Boardwalk Cook-Off.

Organ Concert initially scheduled as part of the Open House last fall. Jesse will coordinate; suggested a “keyboard” concert offering both organ and piano pieces. Ray Rischpater will assist Jesse in building a program, contacting other musicians, and identifying a date.

Golf event/tournament – Rochelle and Sharon will discuss possibilities. Joan offered to help obtain prizes.

Event for children and adults – joint activities, then separate, and return to final joint activity.

Nativity pageant as part of Christmas celebrations – for families. Adults can play roles as well as children.

After school activities – including a tutoring program.

Harvest Dinner. Persons “sponsor” a table with décor, tablesettings, etc. Hold at Thanksgiving time.

Lenten suppers—sign-up sheets are in the Parish Hall

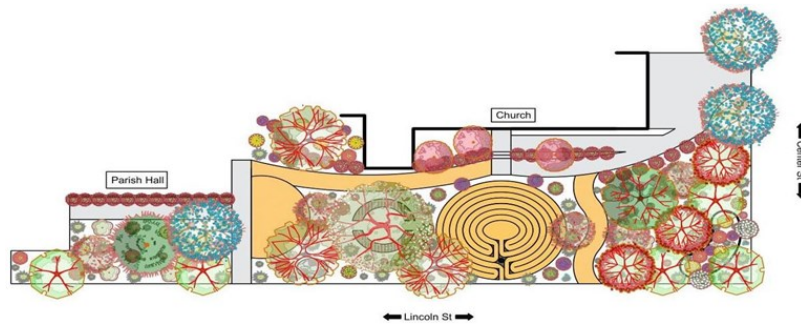
Seder in Easter season. Formerly held with rabbi officiating, Jewish traditional food.

Tea Party at Mother's Day and/or Christmas (Mary Woolliscroft will coordinate)

# Walking in Community, Growing in Spirit: A Labyrinth Garden in Downtown Santa Cruz

Open House Saturday, February 17, 2024,  
1 pm - 4 pm Calvary Parish Hall  
Cedar & Lincoln Streets

- Learn about the Labyrinth Garden coming in 2024 on the grounds of Calvary Episcopal Church at the corner of Lincoln and Center.
- Walk a temporary labyrinth.
- Hear about the landscape design and permaculture gardening from Terra Nova Ecological Landscaping.
- Explore labyrinth designs, uses, and draw/color your own.
- View displays about Calvary history and indigenous peoples.



For more information: [calvarysantacruz/index.php/donate](http://calvarysantacruz/index.php/donate) or email:  
[pbryan@calvarysantacruz.org](mailto:pbryan@calvarysantacruz.org) or  
phone: 831-423-8787



Join us for Eucharistic Services on Sundays at 10 a.m. and the social hour after. The sermon may be watched on St. Andrew's Facebook page, if you are not able to attend in person.