

Pip's Squeak

May 28, 2017

"...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8b)

Dear People of St. Philip's,

Jesus told his disciples that they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit, and then become his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Surely we have seen the unfolding of the power of God's Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ even as we sometimes struggle to discern what God would have us do in our time in our place these thousands of years later.

Some of us feel we are being challenged in our efforts to fulfill God's mission to be a light to the world filled with darkness and uncertainty. Yet we know we must carry on, encouraging one another in the hope that one day the love of God through Jesus Christ will indeed rule the hearts of all. And we cannot do it alone.

Each and every one of us is called to use what resources we have, material, emotional, and spiritual, to work in relationship with others who seek to witness to Christ's power to overcome evil with good. No person, lay or ordained, can presume to use gifts of the Holy Spirit alone. We need each other. God's church has provided a safe container in which to share our unique gifts for good. Together we become One Body of Christ, strong enough to take on the wiles of this world.

This "container" of the Body of Christ here at St. Philip's has been a safe haven for many young people who grew up here, learning life lessons centered in the love and inclusivity professed by our "Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement." On Sunday, June 4, at our 10:00 AM Service, over a dozen of those young people we have had the pleasure to know throughout the years will be celebrating their graduations from eighth grade, high school and college. We will say special prayers of blessing over them as they move on to the next phase of their young lives, going out into the world as ambassadors for a way of being Christian that is centered on caring for others, "doing unto others as we would have them to do us." Some of these students have already graduated and others will be graduating soon. In all cases we invite you to participate with us as we honor them during the service and celebrate with a "Taco Bar Luncheon" following the 10:00 am Service. (Want to help work the taco bar? Contact Alejandra, 831-431-9371 or Pastor Mary, 831-438-4360.)

These graduating students will be the next batch of young ones to go out into the world to be witnesses to Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. Many of us who have watched them grow into their young adult lives are confident that our world will be strengthened for the good because of their leadership. Please won't you join us and their families in giving them a warm St. Philip's blessing?

Peace to you in Christ,

Pastor Mary and Jim Blessing



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This Week: May 28 - June 3

Today, 11:30, **Paradoxy Discussion**
Wed., 10 AM, **Theology Book Group**
Wed., 6 PM, **CYF Meeting**
Fri., 10:30 AM, **Meditation**, Sanctuary

Save the Date

June 4, **Pentecost Celebration**
June 28, **Vestry**
July 9, **Festive Fellowship w/ DLC**

Today! Room 1, Community Room

Paradoxy: Creating Christian Community Beyond Us and Them
Sunday, May 28, after the 10am service. **Bring your own bag lunch**

Directory updates:

Clive Ellis - cliveellis47@gmail.com

Jane Ellis - dragonsinger47@gmail.com

Remove our home phone number, as we rarely answer or check messages.

May 26 - June 4

Louden Nelson
Community Theater



2:00 PM on May 27 &

28, June 3 & 4

7:00 PM on May 26, 27, 28, June 2 & 3

Come out this weekend and support our very own Rylee Messer

Wed., May 31, 6 PM, Parish Hall: Fall Children & Youth Planning Meeting

All families are invited for pizza and brainstorming.

Babysitter available if needed. Contact Jon Neff, 310-529-6514

COPA Organizes Central Coast:

Copa Civic Academy: Your Family's Immigration Story

Sunday, June 4, 2017, 2:00 PM, At 1st UMC of Watsonville

Affordable Housing Team

Mon., June 05 at 06:30 PM

Resurrection Church in Aptos, CA

COPA Leaders Meeting

Sun., June 25 at 3 PM

IBEW Hall Castroville

Celebration of a New Ministry: the Rev. Tracy Wells Miller

Friday, June 9th, 7:00 PM, St. John the Baptist, Aptos

RSVP by June 1, please, to sjbaptos@gmail.com