

Pip's Squeak

June 4, 2017

"...I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh..." (Acts 17:b)

St. Peter proclaims to all in Jerusalem that this amazing phenomenon of everyone gathered being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit is a fulfillment of prophecy. This prophecy was a palpable presence of God with a "sound like the rush of a violent wind" infusing them with power as if there were "tongues of fire resting upon each of them". Whew! What an exciting moment in the lives of those present over 2000 years ago in Jerusalem, and what an exciting moment this can be for all of us who seek the power of God's Holy Spirit to fill our lives, that we may go forward, sent by the Spirit to proclaim the peace of God in Christ Jesus.

This Sunday, June 4, we remember the Pentecost moment by wearing red and filling our space with festive balloons and so much more! We will also center our worship on celebrating those who are graduating from high school and college. We have an unusually high number of young people graduating this year, and want to give them a tremendous send-off celebration to honor their hard work. Part of that celebration includes the prayerful support of St. Philip's congregation, whom these students have known along their journey of faith. They have blessed us with their involvement here. We have done all in our power to guide them in finding God's presence in their lives. Our theology includes the belief that by their baptism each received at least one spiritual gift which can be applied to whatever endeavors they may pursue in college, or in their chosen path beyond. Just as the first disciples of Christ did not know where the Spirit would lead them, so will some of these find themselves going where the Spirit leads and be surprised. We pray wherever they go they will remain rooted in our faith as they spread their branches throughout the world. For now we take time to celebrate!

Those graduating from college are Olivia Gonzalez, Jessica Granger-Jones, and Andrew Olivier; from high school are Asha Allott, Ian Gallagher, Jon Granger-Jones, Tony Heinz, Jenny Johnston, Chelsea Kintz, Brett McEwan, Toni Mills, Seth O'Brien, and Ross Vaughn; from eighth grade Connor Munro.

Following our service we will have a Self-serve Taco Bar and cake! Yum! Please won't you join us for this special occasion?

Peace to you in Christ, *Pastor Mary & Jim Blessing*

We plan to run a special page in our PIP with photos of the graduates after they actually have their ceremonies!

This Week: June 4 - 10

Today: It's Pentecost ~ Wear Red!

Bible Study, 9 AM, Room #2

Graduation Celebration, 10 AM Service

Coffee Hour, after 10 AM service, Parish Hall

Taco Bar Lunch, after 10 AM Service—All are invited!

COPA Civic Academy, Watsonville

Mon., 6:30 PM, **COPA Affordable Housing Team Meeting**, Aptos

Wed., 10 AM, **Theology Book Group**

Fri., 10:30 AM, **Meditation**, Sanctuary

Fri., 7 PM, **New Ministry Celebration**, St. John's, Aptos

Sat., **Overnight Shelter Group**

Save the Date

Sunday, June 11, **Summer Program for Children & Youth begins**

Mon., June 12, 10 AM, **2nd Monday Book Club**, Sanctuary

Sun., June 25, **Paradox**, after 10 AM service, Community Room

Sun., June 25, 3 PM, **COPA Leaders Meeting**, Castroville

Wed., June 28, 7 PM, **Vestry**, Sanctuary

July 9, **Rogation Festive Fellowship w/ DLC**

July 24-28, **Vacation Bible School**, San Agustin Church

Oct. 1, **Blessing of the Animals**

Nov. 19, **30th Anniversary Celebration**

Ways to Support St. Philip's

- ⇒ Pledge (Annual Giving) to St. Philip's
- ⇒ General Fund Donation
- ⇒ Clergy Discretionary Fund Donation
- ⇒ Altar Guild Flowers Donation
- ⇒ Support the Food Pantry with a Donation
- ⇒ Support our Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
- ⇒ Support our Compassion Ministry
- ⇒ Make a donation in our "Sundae Sunday" during prayers
- ⇒ Make a gift to our Building Fund
- ⇒ Make a gift to our Landscaping Fund
- ⇒ Give a Memorial Gift
- ⇒ Give a Special Gift
- ⇒ The Giving Tree
- ⇒ Time - come work in a ministry at St. Philip's

30th Anniversary Celebration

Save the date of Sunday, November 19th for us to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of St. Philip's, which was founded on November 3, 1987. Bishop Mary will be joining us as we celebrate the past and look forward to the future.

Strategic Planning: Yes! We're Going to Do It

At the May Vestry meeting, the Strategic planning process was officially kicked off. Strategic planning helps define the Vision of the church; where are we going as we grow into the future. The strategic planning process is a cooperative effort of the vestry and a strategic planning group.

The strategic planning group will be comprised of 7-9 individuals representing the diverse stakeholders in the church including our current leadership, long time members, young families, youth, and users of our facilities. The strategic planning group and the vestry will start with an internal self-assessment and a survey of programs in the greater community this summer. We will start the processing of finding the long term Vision of St. Philip's this fall with group meetings and our 30th anniversary celebration on November 19, 2017.

We are looking for people interested in working on the strategic plan. If you have a passion for moving St. Philip's forward into the future, please contact me.

Gregory Kintz
Chair of the Strategic Planning Process

Fall Planning for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Team

We had a full house on Wednesday evening to begin planning our Christian Education calendar for the next school year for our children and youth. We enjoyed meeting over a casual pizza dinner, and had a full room of children watching a movie and doing homework while we planned. We had so much fun, we are going to do it again next month! Look for the date and join us! Contact Courtney Messer at 408-569-7724 or Jon Neff at 310-529-6514 with questions. Next month's meeting is June 21.

Stewardship Team

In the next few weeks, we will begin planning for our stewardship season. If you feel called to this ministry, we welcome your participation. Please contact Pastor Mary or Lori Kintz.

AFCSC, What's That, You Say?

I wanted to share with you an update from the *Association of Faith Communities of Santa Cruz County*. As you may know, Faith Community Shelter, who are our guests here at St. Philip's on Saturday nights, is run through AFCSC.

Debbie Bates, who manages the shelter, reports that the Shelter would be full once one additional person has been vetted. Five people have transferred to the Faith Community Shelter upon the closure of the Winter Shelter. Other initiatives that AFCSC is working on include talking to Gov. Brown regarding finding suitable state land that might accommodate an emergency shelter or camping facility; Socks for People in Need; Safe Spaces Parking Program; Tiny Houses Project; and Shared Housing Pilot Program.

Monthly Leadership Council Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church at 532 Center Street in the Parish Hall. I attend on behalf of St. Philip's; please join me if you would like to learn more.
Lori Kintz, Senior Warden

The Giving Tree: There are many items that can help make our ministries successful. Most are small and relatively inexpensive, but added together they take a big part of our annual budget. Some can be easily purchased while you are already shopping for other items, some might even be items you already have in a closet at home. Take a leaf from the Giving Tree on the window of the Sanctuary, procure the item and drop it back off in the office. Ask for a "Gift in Kind" form and get a statement for your tax return. We would be very grateful.

Oh, Yes, About Those Sanctuary Chairs...

As you may know, our Sanctuary chairs are in real need of re-upholstering. Many of the chairs are out of the sanctuary and in storage because the fabric has worn out, and the ones that are left in the Sanctuary are disintegrating at a fast pace. All together we have approximately 170 chairs. We would like to begin the project of re-upholstering them. There are many people who have expressed interest in helping and some have even volunteered to provide some funding. We are looking for a project manager to coordinate the whole process. Deciding on a budget, working with our treasurer to coordinate funding, deciding on and obtaining fabric, and gathering a work team to actually do the labor of upholstering. Possibly looking at ways to incorporate book storage of some sort on the chairs, or not. If you feel called to help with this important task for our worship, and if one of you feels especially called to manage this process, please contact Lori Kintz at seniorwarden@stphilip-sv.net.