

Pip's Squeak

July 16, 2017

"The seed cast on good earth is the person who hears and takes in the Good News, and then produces a harvest beyond his wildest dreams." Matthew 13:23, The Message

Dear People of St. Philip's:

Last week we had a delightful time asking God's blessing upon the seeds our children planted and our property that is planted with God's love for our neighbors. (See pictures of our children's Summer Discovery seed wagon!)

This week we will explore the "Lavish Sower," scattering seeds wherever he goes, then allowing God to do the work of bringing the seed to fruition. One of the important ways God's, or Jesus', seeds of love can be nurtured is the care we take of our own way of being in the world.

Recently I was inspired by the reflections of Fr. Richard Rohr, Catholic priest and spiritual guide. He reminds us over and over again the importance of cultivating an inner life of contemplation which leads to action from a place of centered connection with God. Developing contemplative spiritual practices which lead us to put our faith into action is essential to creating good soil upon which the sower's seeds of goodness can grow. Our religion does make a difference in helping to shape the way we respond, caring for others or not. Can we exceed our "wildest dreams" as the spiritual seeds we plant today are nurtured in soil steeped in God's love?

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



HOMELESS PROJECT: Santa Cruz Connect, July 18, 10am-3pm

People in need of simple or special services, such as a haircut or how to get a California Driver's License, come to SANTA CRUZ BIBLE CHURCH...Churches, shelters, and other non-profit organizations will offer help. Pastor Mary and Pastor John from Mountain Bible on hand for counseling. Are there others of you who may wish to offer a helping hand?? Contact Pastor Mary for details.



This Week: July 16 - 22

Today: Noah's Ark in Sunday School
Today: Paradoxy 9 AM, Room #2
(No Theology Book Group till Sept)
Fri., 10:30, **Meditation**, Sanctuary
Sat., **Overnight Shelter Group**

Save the Date

July 26, **Vestry**
July 24-28, **Vacation Bible School**,
San Agustin Church
Aug. 4-6, **Annual Recovery Retreat**
Oct. 1, **Blessing of the Animals**
Nov. 19, **30th Anniversary**

Did you know that we don't have Self-Cleaning Bathrooms? So like we do on an airplane, we are to clean our sinks with the paper towel we used to dry our hands.

It's simple--everyone can do it!!



~ Bible Study Hour ~

The *Paradoxy* Book Group will meet from 9 to 9:50 in Room 2 for the next 4-6 weeks. Come discuss talking across significant differences!

Pastor Mary and Tina Grubbe will also hold monthly sessions the 4th Sunday of each month, 11:30-1, in Room 2.



Hey, music lovers of all ages! St. Philip's is in the process of creating a Director/Coordinator position for the Fall of 2017 in which we will ask our leader to emphasize familiar tunes we all know and love--so, in that effort, we invite EVERYONE of all ages to give us input: Can you please send your "Top 5 Faves" (favorite hymns or songs) to the church office stphilips.sv@gmail.com. Elizabeth Forbes and Pastor Mary will keep a log of all these favorites and our music and liturgy team will cull the list to find the most popular ones. Our guest musicians will play these for us throughout the summer, and when we get a new person on board we'll be all set to help that person know what we know, then we can build a music program from a solid base!

Children, Youth & Families Events:

Sun., September 10: Homecoming **BBQ and Pool Party**—noon-4pm
Fri., September 29: **Game Night** with Desserts
Sun., Oct. 1: **Blessing of the Animals** at both 8:00 and 10:00 am Services

Sun., October 8, 2017: **Kid's Marketplace**, following 10am service
Sat., October 14, 2017: Kid's Night **Cooking for our Shelter Guests**
Sun., Oct. 22, 2017: Sunday School- Kid's Vision: **Strategic Planning Part 1**
Sun., November 5, 2017: **Halloween Candy Tithe** (Helper needed)
Sun., Nov. 12, 2017: Sunday School- Kid's Vision: **Strategic Planning Part 2**

All Are Welcome! Invite your family and friends!

