

Pip's Squeak

August 27, 2017

.. in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith...there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:25, 28)

Dear people of St. Philip's,

There are so many ways we are being called, as Christians, to live into our faith these days. Can we truly acknowledge that Jesus Christ and the founders of our faith understood that in Christ we are all equal, there is no difference, as Paul tells the people of Galatia? Some have interpreted that to mean that only if a person professes to be a Christian can they be seen as equal. Others have said that Jesus intended us to understand that the God of love and mercy is God of all, whether they profess their faith in Jesus Christ or not. I believe, at minimum, that those of us who do follow in the way of Jesus Christ are to be people who recognize ALL PERSONS as created from the same loving God, and are therefore equal, whether or not they acknowledge God the Creator. So it is not just how the person views themselves, it is how we view them—as it were—through God's eyes of love and acceptance.

Episcopalians are working hard to respond and reflect upon how to manage current racial tensions throughout our country. Former St. Philip's Youth Mentor, Samantha Haycock, now Chaplain at University of Arkansas, and Children's Ministries Coordinator of All Saints, Pasadena, Kelly.... created a webinar to have a conversation amongst white Americans who seek to dismantle racism. They were very intentional about having a separate white person's conversation from a black person's conversation. They also made the decision to focus upon the problem of white supremacy, and discuss head-on how we might deal with this particular phenomenon in our culture. You can participate in this conversation by clicking on the link below which has the recorded version of this webinar. It is sponsored by FORMA: The Episcopal Network for Christian Formation.

https://zoom.us/recording/play/_d2qR4zrClQWPw0q-9PpY7I4OmFieu8UTUmJ2uFAOcIGTLckQoCPoBKndFjrJjOt



Additionally, this Sunday, August 27, at the 9:00 Bible Study time, preacher Bill Dolby will lead a "Living Room Conversation" on how we are affected by racism as Bishop Mary has suggested we do in our local

context. This topic may also be included in our discussions at the *Paradox* book group, Sunday at 11:30. Please let us know how you might want to engage in authentic discussions on these difficult conversations. Meanwhile we pray St. Philip's can continue to grow into our vision that "whoever you are, where ever you are on your journey of faith you are welcome here."

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

This Week: August 27 - Sep. 2

All Ages Sunday School: 10-11 AM
(No Theology Book Group till Sept)
Fri., 10:30, **Bible Study**, Brookdale
Sat., **Overnight Shelter Group**

Today 9am Bible Study:
Living Room Conversation on Racism

Save the Date

Sep. 7, **Wings Training**
Sep. 9, **Deanery Meeting at St. Philip's**
Sep. 10, **Pool Party & BBQ**
Sep. 29, **Game Night & Desserts**
Oct. 1, **Blessing of the Animals**
Oct. 8, **Kid's Marketplace**
Oct. 14, **Kids' Night**, feed Shelter Guests
Nov. 5, **Halloween Candy Tithe**
Nov. 19, **30th Anniversary**

Recycle for St. Philip's

If you do not redeem your bottles and cans with CRV value, please consider bringing them to St. Philip's instead of your recycling bin, so we can redeem them and support our ministries! Thank you! *Jane Ellis*



All Parish Pool Party & BBQ!

**Sunday, Sept. 10th,
12 - 4PM**

Hidden Glen Pool

(*Pastor Mary's neighborhood pool*)

Summer Discoveries Sunday School Ends this Week!

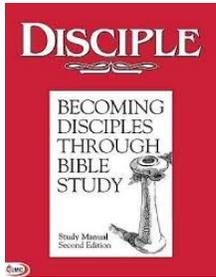
Our final session of "Animals/Creatures/Gardens of the Bible" for our *One Room School House* Sunday school will end August 27. Pastor Mary Blessing will be leading the children and youth in a final overview, sharing some of our favorite things! Hope you will be there to share with us!

Sunday, **September 3**, we will have an all ages church service with music leadership by Shelley Phillips.

On Sunday, **September 10**, we will return to the various classroom distribution by grade level. Coordinator Courtney Messer is developing a Fall schedule and will send that information out to everyone within the next week.

Meanwhile, the Episcopal Churches of Santa Cruz County are in the process of developing a **shared youth ministry** among the churches for the tween/teens, 6th grade to 12th grade. Please stay tuned for details on that ministry as the weeks unfold.





DISCIPLES: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

DISCIPLES is a program of disciplined Bible study aimed at developing strong Christian leaders.

This Adult Christian formation class is rooted in learning what the Bible teaches, cover-to-cover.

Pastor Mary Blessing leading, with assistants. Pastor

Mary and Jim have led this Bible study at two previous churches. We find the personal growth that comes through getting to know God's Word better and how to apply it to one's every day life is extraordinarily fruitful.

We will do the "FastTrak" version of DISCIPLES, for busy people: 24 weeks, about an hour each week (with snacks and a little "schmooze" time before and after). Pastor Mary is willing to lead more than one session if there is demand--but the day and time will be determined not only by her schedule but also by the participants.

There is a strong "Spiritual Gift Discernment" component to DISCIPLES. We are looking forward to exploring what gifts God has given us, as well as what we are called to do with those spiritual gifts in this place at this time!

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 8:00 & 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 TO ALL EVENTS!!

St. Philip's is pleased to have pianist Sam (Samantha) Allott as our music leader for Sunday, August 27, at the 10am service. She will also be on our pianists rotation for the near future. Sam is owner/teacher for LITTLE MOZARTS 4 FUN, piano studio for children. Little Mozarts is now registering for Fall piano. Ages 2½ - 5 Kiddy Keys and 5-7yrs Little Mozart Majors. Call Sam Allott to register your child: 831-439-9125.



Church Office will be closed

Mondays, August 28 and September 4

We are seeking volunteers to answer the phones on Mondays 12-2pm until Mid-December. Call church office if interested, [831-438-4360](tel:831-438-4360).

Our own Bill Hall is in need of housekeeping help. He wishes to hire someone for one day a week. No driving or errands required. Just housework. If you are interested, please call Bill. He is listed in the directory, or you can call the office or get his number off the foyer bulletin board.



A St. Philip's neighbor, Mary Bjerke (Norwegian name, "j" sounds like "y"), is looking for someone **to help drive her to appointments**, doctor's office, grocery shopping, etc. She is in a wheelchair, but can move from her chair to the car on her own. Need to use your car to drive her around. 4-6 hours a week at \$12.00 per hour. For phone number, call church office or find the ad on the foyer bulletin board.

A special thank you to the Dauksa family, Linas, Asta, Violeta and Tomas for contributing protective Eclipse Safety Viewing glasses to St. Philip's. Many of us enjoyed seeing the eclipse, partial or total, through these glasses. The Dauksa family are dear friends of the Messer Family; Violeta and Tomas often come to St. Philip's in addition to their usual attendance at San Agustin's Catholic Community. What a joy it is for all that we share in the care of one another's children!

