

Pip's Squeak

September 10, 2017

"...where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."
(Matt. 18:20b)

Dear People of God,

Did you know that when Matthew's gospel tells us of Jesus' promise to be present when "2 or 3 gather in my name," it is in the context of a full process of reconciliation between disagreeing believers? Sunday's gospel story and sermon will explore the details of how this is done - a process that Christians and all the world could use to bring about peace and reconciliation.

Each Sunday in our worship we invite people to share the peace as part of our reconciling work. As Morgan Clark, a Master of Divinity student at Asbury Theological Seminary, writes:

Having made peace with God, the congregation is now instructed to reconcile with each other before taking communion together. The Table of the Lord is a meal eaten among family, friends, and sometimes with people who agree-to-disagree and pray together. Because of this, the passing of the peace is not a nicety or passive moment; it is a bold act of declaring our reconciliation as children of God. This is not easy. Healing wounds, hurts and broken relationships is a difficult task, but it is the task of the Cross. Each time we make peace with each other, we point to that triumph of love. Not only have we been reconciled to God; we have been reconciled to each other.

If we are to be a people of peace, our daily lives must be marked with this peace. There is nothing particularly special about this peace, but then again, there is something profoundly significant about it as well. Choosing the peace of Christ comes in the most normal moments of a day through the most common ways, but it points to the extraordinary power of the gospel, the story of God reconciling his people to himself and to each other. When you make peace with someone, you tell this story. Morgan Clark, 1.12.17, seedbed.com/why-pass-peace/

Peace to you in Christ,
Pastor Mary & Jim Blessing



This Week: Sep. 10 - 16

Today: **Pool Party & BBQ!**
Mon., 10 AM, **2nd Monday Book Club**,
Wed., 10 AM, **Theology Book Group**
Sat., **Overnight Shelter Group**

Save the Date

Sep. 24, **Paradoxy** Discussion
Sep. 27, **Vestry**
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**
Dec. 1 & 2, **No Room at the Inn**

↓ **TODAY** ↓



All Parish Pool Party & BBQ!

Today!

12 - 4PM

Hidden Glen Pool

214 Spreading Oak Drive, Scotts Valley

\$\$ Donations are
welcome for the burgers

**Please bring a salad, dessert, or side dish to share.
Don't forget your swim suit & towel!**



Theology Book Group - Wed., Sept 13th

Theology Book Group is reconvening on Wednesday, September 13th, 10 - 11:30 AM. All are welcome as we read and reflect upon books chosen by participants. Look for this session's book title in next week's Pip or contact Pastor Mary at pastor.stphilips.sv@gmail.com.

All are welcome!

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 so we can redeem them and support our ministries! Put them in the marked container in the foyer. Thanks! *Jane Ellis*

Check the containers: CA CRVs only



30th Anniversary Celebration:

On Sunday, November 19th we will 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. If you would like to help with planning our worship and celebration, please contact Lori Kintz at lori@kintz.net or 828-551-6660 or contact Pastor Mary.

Children, Youth & Families Events:

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., Nov. 5, 2017: **Halloween Candy Tithe** (Helper needed)
Sun., Nov. 12, 2017: **Sunday School Kid's Vision: Strategic Planning Part 2**
Fri., Dec. 1, 2017: **No Room at the Inn Friday Gala**, Childcare available
Sat., Dec. 2, 2017: **No Room at the Inn Family Activities**

Santa Cruz County Episcopal Churches Collaborate On Youth Ministry

Fall 2017 Calvary Episcopal, Santa Cruz, St. John's, Aptos and St. Philip's, Scotts Valley are initiating a shared ministry program among our Middle and High School members. All Saints, Watsonville and St. Andrew's, Ben Lomond are invited to participate, also.

It will be a multi-faceted effort of Fun, Faith and Fellowship for students in 6th - 12th Grade. At present the clergy and lay leaders of the churches are organizing the fellowship, worship, faith formation and service projects. We are also applying for grants to hire a half-time Regional Youth Mentor (RYM) to work with all the churches. St. Philip's is also seeking our own youth mentoring leadership to bring support to our teens Sunday mornings. Please see Pastor Mary if you are interested in serving in this way.

Proposed Schedule Fall 2017:

Sunday Sept. 24, 4-6pm, St. Philip's Hosts BBQ/pool "Kick-off"
Friday, Sept. 29, 6-8pm, St. Philip's Game Night with dessert (all ages)
Sunday, Oct. 1, 4pm--St. John's "Faith Formation" & "Feast at 5"
Sunday, Oct 15, 4pm--Calvary Episcopal, Santa Cruz--Faith Formation
Sun., Oct 29, 4pm--St. Philip's "Día De Los Muertos" bi-lingual worship/feast
Sunday, Nov 5, 4pm--St. John's, Aptos, Faith Formation & "Feast at 5"
Sunday, Nov.19, 4pm- Calvary Episcopal, Santa Cruz "Faith Formation"
Friday, Dec. 1, 5-8pm, St. Philip's Service Project Fundraiser for Homeless
Sunday, Dec. 3, 4pm--St. John's Aptos, "Faith Formation" & "Feast at 5"
Friday, Dec. 15: Christmas Party, possible "Las Posadas"

Hurricane Harvey ~ How to Help

episcopalrelief.org/stories/hurricane-harvey-2017-what-can-i-do-to-help

Kid's Marketplace Coming on October 8th!

Do you know a budding baker, farmer, crafter or maker? Would you like to support and encourage our kids, and fit in some early Christmas shopping at the same time?

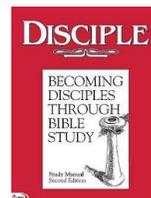
Our first-ever **Kid's Marketplace** is an opportunity for kids from St. Philip's and the DLC to show off their maker skills, and for other kids and adults to support them by buying their wares.

Here are some possibilities for your young maker:

- fresh-baked cookies, scones, or cakes;
- hand-made jewelry;
- greeting cards or paintings;
- DIY body products such as lotion or soap;
- home-grown food such as fresh eggs, tomatoes, peppers, corn, etc.

Kid's Marketplace will happen immediately following the 10 AM service on October 8th, during coffee hour in the Parish Hall. Participating kids will donate 10% of what they make to either St. Philip's Compassion Ministry (which supports our homeless shelter program) or to the County of Santa Cruz Animal Shelter.

If you are interested in having a table at the **Kid's Marketplace**, or if you have questions, please contact Susan Ortmeyer at [562-761-0697](tel:562-761-0697) or susanortmeyer@gmail.com.



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. Please contact Pastor Mary if you have any interest at all. **Sign up on the sign-up sheet on foyer bulleting board.**