

Pip's Squeak

June 5, 2016

"I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plumb line..." Isaiah 28:17a

The prophet Isaiah challenged the people of Israel to make choices for God's justice and righteousness...for years the people chose selfish ways. Eventually they returned to God, and they returned home to the Promised Land, again.

The United States of America became a land where God's justice and righteousness are allowed to flourish—for ALL GOD'S CHILDREN. Our vision survived the Civil War. Leaders of the mid-twentieth century took bold action to raise the consciousness of the wider population to the truth that not all were being treated as equals. The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., led a movement which was firmly grounded in God's vision of justice for all: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." One day, we will get there, and in the meantime, King urged us to "come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself, a society that can live with its conscience."

We are at an historic time again in 21st C. America. Leaders fight over how we are to achieve justice and righteousness for all. What are we called to do, right here, right now? Our leadership at St. Philip's are people filled with hearts of love and compassion for those who have little or nothing. We are humble people ourselves, who seek "strength in numbers" (as my favorite National Basketball Team, The Golden State Warriors, exemplifies!) We do what we can, and seek to be trained to do more. To that end we invite individuals to participate in trainings specifically geared toward listening to one another and our neighbors, then finding common concerns for which we can take action to improve our positive effect to live into the life Jesus showed us, loving God, loving our neighbors.

Please read what our Senior Warden, Lori Kintz writes, giving details regarding these summer trainings offered by Communities Organized for Relational Power In Action. In addition to her descriptions there is another training on Thursday July 7, 6:30-8:30 on "Inequality in Our Region", held at the United Methodist Church, 229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, which will include an introductory conversation on "technology and community organizing" with UCSC professor, Christopher Benner. I am making every effort to attend that session, and invite you to ride along with me. "All that we do, let us do it for you, our God, our loving Creator..."
Peace to you in Christ, *Pastor Mary*

2016
Congratulations

TODAY WE CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES
AND THOSE MOVING UP IN SCHOOL.
PRAYERS OF CONGRATULATIONS!

Plan to share a yummy cake and conversation
with them following the 10:00 Service!

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Leadership Training

Philippians 2:4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

If you are interested in learning more about local democracy following St. Philip's participation in COPA's Spring Assembly, please think about attending the **COPA Democracy Institute on Monday, June 6th, 6:30-8:30pm at 1st United Methodist Church**, 229 Stanford St., Watsonville. This training series will spend time discussing and working on the skills and habits that make local democracy work. This training will be geared towards new leaders, but should also be an opportunity for experienced leaders to sharpen their skills. On June 6th, we will dig into the art of the "House Meeting" – a tool that has been used for decades to find new leaders and surface the concerns around which we organize. Lori Kintz from our COPA team will be attending. Lori can be contacted at lori@kintz.net or 828-881-6660 with any questions. Please join us, this is a great way to learn more!

You also won't want to miss this one:

Thursday, July 7th 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Democracy Institute: Inequality in our Region - 1st United Methodist Church, 229 Stanford Street, Watsonville



Recap of Diocesan Spring Conference

Pastor Mary, Bill Dolby, Pastor Lucretia Mann, and Lori Kintz attended our spring Diocesan Conference, "Living Room Conversations" at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salinas on Saturday, May 21. A large crowd of 75 – representing 25 congregations in the Diocese of El Camino Real – gathered at the conference, which was hosted by the Diocesan Partnership Commission. The conference addressed the increasing divisions within our society, across the nation, and within our communities and churches. Joan Blades, co-founder of Living Room Conversations, and Lewis Brown Griggs led conference attendees through the "ground rules": listening, reconciling, appreciating differences, and identifying common goals and shared values. Then attendees were turned loose to engage in their own small group conversations during the late morning and early afternoon. The topics for the small group conversations (Homelessness; Immigration and the Refugee Crisis; Social Equity – What is the Church's Role; and Talking Politics) were determined by "Living Room Conversations" held within parishes; St. Philip's had our conversation on March 24th.

We were also given the materials to host living room conversations within our own church. If you want to know more, contact one of the attendees. -- Lori Kintz

This Week: June 5 - 11

TODAY! Celebrating Grads
Wed., 10:30, **Theology Book Gp**, Sct
Thu., 5 pm, **Food Pantry**, Foyer
Fri., 10:30, **Meditation**, Sanctuary
Sat., 5 pm, **Overnight Guests**, PH

SAVE THE DATE

June 11 **Youth Beach Bon Fire**
June 12 **Parish Picnic/Pool Party**
June 13 **Living with God**
July 1 **St. Philip's Variety Show**



Now Forming
All are welcome!

Our Fellowship Dinners are getting under way, but we're finding that people who want to participate have difficulty making the dates we suggested. If you would like to participate let us know and we will place you in groups, no more than 3 family units, then you will contact one another to arrange the dinners beginning in June & July. Please indicate whether or not you prefer having children/teens present and we will organize you accordingly.

Interested? **RSVP by Wednesday, June 8th** to Nancy Connor, nancy@toadski.com or 831-336-9337.

Note: There will be one Sunday option for sure: Pastor Mary is hosting a group which will be kid-friendly and will be held on a Sunday at an early evening time frame.



June 11- Kick Off Summer Bonfire
at Twin Lakes Beach 3-8:30pm

Bring ***old homework*** to burn (no books, plastics) & ***snack*** to share
Hot dogs and s'mores provided.

June 12- See you at the pool party!

PERMISSION SLIPS NEEDED FROM EACH YOUTH FOR ALL ACTIVITIES!!
Check your email or ask Charise.

How to stay in the loop?
Email, Facebook, Texts...
check with Charise.

Save the date:
Sept. 23-25
Big Sur Campout

Don't miss the St. Philip's 2016 Pool Party!

Save the date: June 12th, 12-3pm

At Hidden Glen Neighborhood Pool + BBQ area

214 Spreading Oak Drive, Scotts Valley 95066

Hamburgers/Hot dogs provided—bring sides to share



Let's Have Some Fun!

Summer Variety Show
Friday 1st July, 7pm

You are invited to an evening of entertainment at St. Philip's. Admission will be free of charge with a free will offering to support our music ministries.

To make it happen, **we need performers!** So, time to dust off your party pieces, which may be music, drama, dance, comedy, or any other talent you would like to share with us. Please let me know your name, item title (s) and running time(s) by Friday 17th June at the latest so I can put the program together.

We will also need helpers to serve refreshments and make cakes for a bake sale during the intermission.

Contact Sue Morris, at morris5@sky.com or 831-325-9330

Episcopalians #WearOrange
to Raise Call for Action Against Gun Violence

Pastor Mary is wearing orange today to support reducing gun violence in our communities. Bishops United Against Gun Violence (Episcopal) has urged all Episcopalians to join the movement by wearing hunter orange every June 2, and to advocate for gun safety. Bishop Mary has invited clergy to consider joining the movement by wearing an orange stole on Sunday, June 5. *see the current Along the King's Highway for details, <http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=99ebbaf4cee8d012c9edafe60&id=e46c2a47fb>*

The Bishop's
Annual Appeal

Over the past three years, thanks to Bishop's Appeal donors, our diocese has enhanced its support to parishes in the form of clergy transition consultations, strategic and financial planning, leadership training, congregational development, communications consulting, educational assistance, and more. *For more information see the brochure on the burl table in the foyer.*

To donate, use the envelopes on the burl table or go to realepiscopal.org/