

St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

Love, Grow & Share With Us

The

Lighthouse

November 2013

From Dr. B

Friends in Christ,

I wish to offer special thanks to Dr. Harold Englund, whose well-researched and insightful articles have been beautifully supplementing my sermon series on the Heidelberg Catechism. Thank you Harold!

Dr Englund's article, below, offers interesting and important historical background to the Catechism and one of its authors, Zacharius Ursinus. It also reminds us that promises made to God – and kept – are some of the most powerful mechanisms that move the world. Enjoy this adventuresome romp down history's lane, and be impressed at all that God can do!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. B". The signature is fluid and cursive.

FOCUS ON THE WORLD, by Harold Englund

God used more than one man to write the Heidelberg Catechism. Young Zacharius Ursinus was its theologian. But Caspar Olevianus, outstanding preacher, was in on it too. He was born in 1536, which made him two years younger than Ursinus. He was born in Trier, where the Moselle River flows between Germany and Belgium. Trier, the oldest city north of the Alps, was founded by the Emperor Caesar Augustus in 15B.C. Its cathedral claimed to have the seamless robe of Christ, for which Roman soldiers gambled at the cross.

Caspar's father was a merchant, fairly wealthy, a member of the city council and its treasurer. His mother was a godly woman who had great influence on her family. Trier was a Roman Catholic city, and remained such in spite of the German Reformation. While he was attending a Catholic School, an aged priest once said to him, "Never forget that salvation and comfort are to be found only in Christ's perfect work." These words he never forgot.

In 1550, when he was 14 years old, Caspar finished his studies at Trier. His grandfather then offered to support his studies in France if Caspar would study law. It was in France that Caspar made a conversion to the Reformed Faith. French Huguenots were Calvinists who were forced to meet secretly because of persecution by king and church. Caspar became acquainted with them, was persuaded that their understanding of Christian Faith was true, and he attended some of their secret meetings.

FOCUS ON THE WORLD, by Harold Englund (continued)

One experience changed his life. Walking one day with a friend, a prince from Germany, along the river which ran by Bourges, Caspar and his friend were invited to cross the river in a boat with other students. Caspar declined, because the students were drunk, but his friend accepted the offer. In midstream, the students began rocking the boat, and it overturned. Caspar dived into the water to save his friend, but he was unable to do so in the swift current. He was in danger of drowning also. At that point, he promised that if God would spare his life, he would preach the gospel in Trier.



Caspar Olevianus

After completing his studies in France, Caspar returned to Trier, not yet to preach, but to practice law. Restless with law, he travelled to Geneva to talk with Calvin. He spent two years there, meeting such Reformation leaders as Theodore Beza, Henry Bullinger, and William Farel. He studied under Calvin, learned Hebrew, mastered theology, and was helped in the art of preaching. Calvin published the last edition of his Institutes. In 1559, the Protestants held their first Synod in Paris. John Knox returned to Scotland to establish the Presbyterian Church there. And Caspar Olevianus returned to Trier.

Mindful of his vow, he began to preach. He preached in German, and the people responded with enthusiasm. The Elector of the region, Archbishop John, came with soldiers to Trier to stop Olevianus. He threw the young man into jail, cut off food from Trier and cut off the city's water supply. John won the city back to the Catholic Church. And young Caspar Olevianus, just 26 years old, moved to Heidelberg to join with Ursinus, and soon the Heidelberg Catechism was finished. And now their Heidelberg Catechism belongs to us as well!

"Radical Faithfulness"

**The 12th Annual Santa Barbara Mission
Conference takes place
January 24-25, 2014**

The 2014 conference will cover a wide range of mission interests: local, global, and much more!



**St. Andrew's 54th Birthday Celebration at
coffee hour on
Sunday, November 24th.**

At its October meeting, your Session:

- Heard a report about the Chinle Mission Trip from some of the missionaries who went on the trip to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Chinle, AZ.
- Heard a report from The Property Exploration Team (PET) about negotiations and terms of an offer from the The Oak Creek Company to purchase and subdivide approximately 1 acre of vacant church land. Session approved and accepted the terms of a written Purchase Agreement which includes conditions for Congregational and Presbytery approval.
- Scheduled a second Congregational Informational Meeting on the property sale (not a formal vote) for Sunday, November 24th at 11:15AM in the Sanctuary. Jeff Nelson and Jason Nelson from The Oak Creek Company will be present along with the PET to provide information and answer questions.
- Approved Seeway Tanzania orphanage as one of the gift giving opportunity offerings at the Alternative Christmas Mart.
- Reviewed the financial report from the Treasurer.
- Heard about a proposed Yoga class, and approved a free trial and subsequent classes
- Heard about and discussed ideas for Weekend of Caring, December 7 – 8.
- Set the annual meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, January 26, 2014. Purposes: Annual Reports received, 2014 budget presented, approval of Pastor's Terms of Call.
- Approved authorizing the Presbyterian Women to sell the Legacy Christmas CD (\$15 each) with proceeds designated for the mission of Living Waters of the World and PW (PCUSA) Birthday offering recipients.
- Approved Vieja Valley School designating St. Andrew's (Morgan Hall and Sanctuary) as an alternative site for emergency evacuation.

Sandy Thoits, Clerk of Session

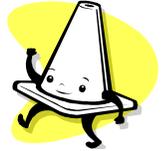
2013 Presbytery Meetings

Tuesday, November 12 –
Carpinteria Community

2014 Presbytery Meetings

February 8, 9a.m. central location





PET (Property Exploration Team)

On October 15th our Session approved the potential sale of 1.1 acres of church property to the Oak Creek Co., subject to final approval by our congregation and the Presbytery. This is the piece of land east of our parking lot; it runs from Auhay Drive on the north to the property line at the south-east corner of our site. The potential sale will require the Oak Creek Company to obtain a 'lot split' from the County of Santa Barbara, leaving the church with approx. 4.15 acres, which holds our sanctuary, Morgan Hall, Preschool and children's education facilities, and our parking lot. Jeff and Jason Nelson are the principals of the Oak Creek Company and have many years of experience consulting and working with professional planners within the County planning department and the S.B. County Planning Commission. We will also be contacting and confirming details with P.I.L.P., the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, which holds our mortgage. The Property Exploration Team (PET) and Session are committed to proceeding prayerfully as we proceed along the slow but straightforward journey to the conclusion of this intricate process.

For some background to the current status, it was in January of 2013 that Session was struggling with a looming large deficit in our 2013 budget. As a partial long term solution it was suggested that the unused and unutilized portion of our property east of our parking facility could potentially be sold and developed into several home sites, and provide funds until our economy became more stabilized. Since that January Session meeting, contacts have been made with the Santa Barbara County Planning Department and discussions with many firms and businesses in the land development business, for the purpose of determining the value of this land. Thereafter, three proposals for purchase and development were received, and our Session approved the creation of the Property Exploration Team to review, analyze, and examine the proposals and business experiences of their principals. After many meetings by the Team, with and without the developers, the Team zeroed in on the Oak Creek Co. Following negotiations with the Oak Creek Co., which included advice from legal counsel, we believe we have a good, fair agreement for the complete transaction.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the upcoming Congregational Informational Meeting on Sunday, November 24th at 11:15AM in the Sanctuary. No formal vote will be taken. This is an opportunity to meet Jeff Nelson and Jason Nelson from The Oak Creek Company, who will be present along with the PET to provide information and answer questions.

When the parcel map is completed and approved by the County, in approximately 12 to 18 months, the sale will be completed with the prospect of our church operating within normal budgetary restraints on an annual basis. Additionally, it will provide a splendid opportunity for St. Andrew's to participate and get involved in mission and out-reach programs our church has not been financially able to handle in recent years.

Tom Brashears, PET Chairperson

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING

On the property sale (not a formal vote) Sunday,
November 24th at 11:15AM in the Sanctuary.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESCHOOL NEWS



November will hold time for family gatherings. Our parent meeting and potluck on Wednesday, November 6th will be a time for parents to enjoy good food and fellowship. We will also have our 9th annual craft show for our fundraiser that evening. We have made projects with the children's art, and have them on sale to benefit our program.

We will end the month by having our traditional friendship soup together as a school family. On Monday, November 25th we will make a meal together and then sit down, children and parents, to enjoy the food our hands have made. Praise God for our school family.

May your November be a month of cherished moments with your family and friends.

God Bless You, Cindy



The Novel Book Group is reading "The Husband's Secret," by Liane Moriarty for our November 9, 2013 meeting. We meet in the Vos Room at 10:00 a.m. Come and join us to find out his secret.

BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED IN NOVEMBER

- 04 - John Chaves
- 05 - Chris Putman
- 07 - Matthew Wilson,
Tana Thomas,
John Rubin,
Margaret Knauss
- 08 - Luke Wilson,
Tom Weisenburger,
Diana Lee,
Martial Keyzer,
- 09 - Jessica DiMizio
- 10 - Arlene Douglas
- 13 - Wendy Gonzalez
- 14 - Diana Villanueva
- 17 - Bob McWilliams
- 20 - Cecilia Putman
- 23 - Wendy Keyzer
- 26 - Maggie Varner,
Fred Walters
- 27 - David Sommers
- 29 - Margaret Siadal
- 30 - Brian Wise

Meditation for November

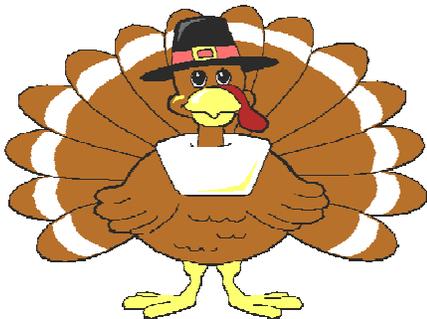
*Lord, behold our family here assembled.
We thank you for this place in which we dwell,
for the love that unites us,
for the peace accorded us this day,
for the hope with which we expect the morrow,
for the health, the work, the food and the bright skies that make our lives delightful,
for our friends in all parts of the earth.
Amen.*

Robert Louis Stevenson



Dear St. Andrews Congregation,

November has come, the time for being thankful. We have a lot to be thankful for: Jesus our savior and salvation, our wonderful church community, and of course the end of Halloween! Alright, maybe that last one just applies to people living in Isla Vista. October was fun, with lots of big things happening in PYF. PYF started out the month doing something nice for their college predecessors, writing letters and packing cookies to send to college students! Next was the Lock-In, it was a night full of excitement, bonding and devotion. Highlights included: the ID card devotional focusing on the body of Christ, and exciting games and free time in fellowship hall, ending out the night with some movies and discussion. Finally PYF ended October with a Halloween themed PYF with pumpkin carving. Everyone's creations came out wonderfully! October is over, but November promises to be chock full of fun and adventure! With a Retreat and Youth Leading Worship both on the agenda, plan on it being busy but exciting.



Sunday, November 3, 6:00 – 8:00PM – PYF at the Church, Prayer Partners Game Night

Friday, November 8 – Sunday, November 10 – PYF Fall Retreat at Camp Ocean Pines

Sunday, November 17, 6:00 – 8:00PM – PYF at the Church

Sunday, November 24 – 9:00AM - Youth Sunday, Youth leading Worship- Please contact me if there is a performance, musical or otherwise that you would like to perform! **And then again at 4:00PM** - Advent Craft Workshop and Potluck

-David Adams
Youth Intern

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to be added to the weekly email list for PYF please contact David Adams at (562)-417-4021 or Davidadamsl.da@gmail.com

ST. ANDREW'S ADVENT WEEKEND OF CARING DECEMBER 7 - 8

- **Saturday, Dec. 7** – Community Service Day of Caring – Reaching out to help the needs of our local community. Opportunities offered for all ages – adults, seniors, families, teenagers and children, including Unity Shoppe 12:00PM
- **Sunday, Dec. 8** – 2nd Sunday in Advent – Choir Concert during worship. 10:30AM Alternative Christmas Mart. 2:00PM Presbyterian Women Tea, 6:00PM PYF Gingerbread Houses



**ADVENT CRAFT WORKSHOP
& POTLUCK SUPPER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24,
4-7P.M
EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA

On Sunday, December 8, at 2:00 in Morgan Hall, we will once again gather to enjoy the Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea. This annual event is a delightful way to kick off the Holiday Season and share fellowship with each other. Please mark your calendars for this special occasion. All women of St. Andrew's are invited. Anyone interested in being a hostess and/or bringing refreshments to share would be appreciated. If you plan to attend, Bev Ford will be taking sign-ups during Coffee Fellowship each Sunday in November.



ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIRE – CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Your Mission Team will be conducting the annual Alternative Gift Faire on December 8 and 15 immediately after the Sunday worship service. This event allows you to make a gift in honor of someone dear to you. We will provide you with a card you can give to that person so that he or she will know that a gift in his or her honor is helping someone in need this Christmas. This year you can contribute to a variety of worthy causes. With a contribution to World Church Service you can help poor rural families in developing countries achieve self-reliance with the use of seeds and tools, or you can have a huge impact on a family's health and food security by providing them with 50 baby chicks who will become egg-producing chickens, or you can provide blankets to persons in need of warmth after a disaster. With a contribution to the local Food Bank you can support that agency's backpack program that provides good nutritious food to schoolchildren who do not have enough to eat during the weekends. With a contribution to Transition House you can provide clothing and school supplies to local students who temporarily reside at that facility for the homeless. With a contribution to the Unite-to-Light project, you can provide solar powered lights for students and their families in Africa who lack electric power in their homes. The Unite-to-Light program was developed by our own John Bowers and others on the UCSB staff. This year we will also be sending solar lights to a Christian orphanage in Seeway, Tanzania near the town of Arusha. This is a Christian orphanage serving women and children of Arusah.

In December we will also receive the Christmas Joy Offering. This is one of four annual offerings sponsored by our national Presbyterian Church. Funds collected during the Christmas Joy Offering are used to provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and to enable deserving students to attend Presbyterian related racial ethnic colleges and schools. The several church related schools and colleges provide education to Blacks, Latinos and Native Americans who might not otherwise receive an education that can help bring them out of poverty.

When you do your Christmas shopping this year please think about helping out others who are in more need than we are by participating in both the Alternative Gift Faire and the Christmas Joy Offering.

ANGEL TREE

Once again there will be an Angel Christmas Tree (beginning Sunday, November 24) to benefit the families in Santa Barbara that cannot afford to buy Christmas gifts. Select an Angel off the tree in Morgan Hall, buy the gift listed on the Angel, return the gift unwrapped to St. Andrew's and the gifts will be delivered to the Christmas Unity Shoppe in Santa Barbara. Please pick your Angel from the tree and return the unwrapped gifts by **Sunday, December 18th**. This is a wonderful opportunity to include your children in the joy of giving to those who are less fortunate in terms of material possessions.



*Church Work Day Saturday,
November 16, 9a-12n*



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Dr. Brett Becker, Pastor

4575 Auhay Drive

Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Phone: 805-967-6327

Fax: 805-967-9530

Web: www.standrewspcusa.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/standrewssb



**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
4575 Auhay Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93110**