



THE LIGHTHOUSE

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019



Dear St. Andrew's Community,

I'm now entering my eighth month of service here, and I can report that our mission study process is nearing its final stages. We are doing the final edits on a draft report that describes our history, present situation, results of the survey, and at least three possible futures. We will submit this to session by September 1, so the elders can review. When that is done, we will share with everyone else and schedule times for small and large group discussions. The Mission Study team has been a stimulating and sharp group to work with: Michelle Hertig (chair), Dana Monk, Ann Padden-Rubin, Kirk Grier and John Doner. This will not be a generic, predictable piece, but something done with courage and creativity. I look forward to hearing your responses.

As we move into the fall, I will begin a three-month series on the book of Exodus. Exodus and Genesis are my two favorite books in the Old Testament, and my appreciation for them has only grown over the years of study, teaching and preaching. We will encounter some famous passages – the infant Moses being set in a basket on a river by his fearful mother, the fugitive Moses at the burning bush, the confrontations with Pharaoh, the escape at Passover, the deliverance at the Red Sea, the mutterings in the wilderness, the giving of the Ten Commandments, and the creation of the golden calf. This is about a people on a journey, which seemed to me an appropriate theme for St. Andrew's as it seeks a new pastor and direction. Exodus also is rich with meaning for our contemporary challenges: the place of civil disobedience, the pain of oppressed people, the call to speak truth to power, a natural world threatened by human actions, the challenges of living in community, and the human need for boundaries and laws. And in Exodus we will see patterns and themes that show up dramatically in Jesus' life and ministry, helping illuminate what he meant in his own time and what he means to us now. So I hope you'll come along with me on this adventure, which will include some Sunday morning adult studies as well as the experience in worship.

Our shared journey continues into the fall, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of it with you.

Steve

SESSION NEWS

News from Session Meeting on August 20 [there was no Session meeting in July]:

August 20

- Heard a report from Interim Pastor Steve Jacobsen about his ministry tasks over the last month and participation in community and Presbytery activities.
- Received and accepted the Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2019.
- Approved Session and Deacons' representatives to complete the membership of the Nominating Committee: Don Vickers, Dana Monk and Barbara Eschbach. Also nominated Don Vickers to fill a recent vacancy on Session. Election to take place at Special Congregational meeting on Sunday, August 25 at 10:30AM, after worship in the Sanctuary.
- Discussed possible options for having the church parking lot repaved using information provided by CBT Team.
- Reviewed the August 17 Summer Leadership training program for Deacons and Session members.
- Heard an update on the Mission Study/Transitional Process from Pastor Jacobsen.
- Selected Dana Monk and Mona Wise as Ruling Elder Commissioners to attend the September 21 Presbytery Meeting in Summerland.
- Appointed Nancy Russo as Session coordinator for the required Sexual Harassment Training program for St. Andrew's employees.
- Received the Report of the 2017-2018 Audit from the Finance Committee.
- Approved a request from the Mission Committee that the Peace & Global Witness Offering be received on Worldwide Communion Sunday, October 6, 2019.
- Approved a proposal from the Endowment Committee for funding a Lecture Series by John Dominic Crossan in February 2020.
- Initiated discussion regarding the Fall Stewardship program.
- Considered several candidates to replace Diana Lee as chair of the Worship & Music Committee as she ends her time on Session and expressed gratitude and appreciation to Diana for her six years on Session.

Susan Arnold, Clerk of Session

Our Mission Statement

We worship Jesus Christ together consistent with Reformed/Presbyterian tradition, while:

- ❖ Learning God's Word and spreading the Gospel
- ❖ Supporting each member of our Church family
- ❖ Caring for others through mission and service throughout our community and the world
- ❖ Openly affirming all forms of diversity in leadership, worship and ministry

Our Vision Statement

As God calls us and equips us by the Holy Spirit, we strive to:

- ❖ Be a loving, connected family-in-faith of all ages
- ❖ Affirm Christ's teaching as the source of spiritual nourishment
- ❖ Grow in discipleship, leadership and service
- ❖ Share the joy of God's love with all

Adult Education News

SAVE THE DATES!

February 21 & 22, 2020

The Adult Education Committee has invited **John Dominic Crossan** to speak to us on February 21 & 22 of next year. He is an Irish American biblical scholar with two-year post-doctoral diplomas in exegesis from Rome's *Pontifical Biblical Institute* and in archeology from Jerusalem's *École Biblique*. He has been a mendicant friar and a catholic priest, a co-Chair of the Jesus Seminar, and a President of the Society of Biblical Literature. His focus, whether scholarly or popular, whether in books, videos, or lectures, is on the historical Jesus as the norm and criterion for the entire Christian Bible. His reconstructed Jesus incarnates nonviolent resistance to the Romanization of his Jewish homeland and the Herodian commercialization of his Galilean lake as present program and future hope of a transformed world and transfigured earth. Professor Crossan's method is to situate biblical texts within the reconstructed matrix of their own genre and purpose, their own time and place, and to hear them accurately *for then* before accepting or rejecting them *for now*.

The program will consist of four lectures on Friday Night, Saturday morning and early afternoon. The title is:

The Meaning & Challenge of Resurrection (Human Evolution and Christian Faith)

(Based on & expanded from his book: *Resurrecting Easter: How the West Lost and the East Kept the Original Easter Vision*, 2018)

Lecture 1 (Fri 7:30-9:00pm): Jesus' Life as Challenge to Galilean Romanization

Lecture 2 (Sat 9:00-10:30am): Jesus' Execution for Nonviolent Revolution against Imperial Violence

Lecture 3 (Sat 11:00-12:30pm): Jesus' Individual Resurrection in Western Christianity

Lecture 4 (Sat 1:30-3:00pm): Jesus' Universal Resurrection in Eastern Christianity

The Fall Program for Adult Education is currently under construction and will be announced in the weekly bulletin as it is finalized.

NOVEL BOOK GROUP FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

The next Book Club is Saturday, September 14, at 10:00AM in the Vos room. We will be discussing Billy Lynn's Long Half-time Walk by Ben Fountain.

The October book will be The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead. We will meet Saturday, October 12, at 10:00AM. All are welcome!



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS UPDATE



Recent activity from the B&G team:

- Sixteen cushions were purchased to replace the worn-out ones on the chairs and settees in the Window Room.
- The roof leaks in the sanctuary have been repaired. There have been leaks into the ceiling and wall during heavy rains. Previously, the tile on the crest of the church roof was removed and proper caps installed.
- The old plumbing left after the removal of the inoperative water fountain in the kitchen has been removed and the wall repaired.
- The outer campus was mowed, hopefully for the last time this season. The growth came back rapidly after the last mowing in May.
- The overhead lights have been uncomfortable for the choir. The lights prevent them from seeing the choir director as well as blinding them from the glare. We found turning off a certain light switch solves the problem.
- A battery-operated blower has been purchased to clear the debris from the walks and the Memorial Garden. Volunteers have been secured each Sunday to use them before service.

Respectfully submitted,

Merlyn Cummings for the Buildings and Grounds team (Linda Gunther, Bud Lemkuil, Jeff Nelson and Freddie Villa)

2019 Presbytery Meetings:

Saturday, September 21, 9:30AM - Summerland
Tuesday, November 12, 2:00PM - Newbury Park (Monte Vista Pres.)

2020 Presbytery Meetings:

Saturday, February 8, 9:30AM
Saturday, May 16, 9:30AM
Saturday, September 19, 9:30AM
Tuesday, November 10, 2:00PM



Meditation for SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

YOUR CLEAR LIGHT OF TRUTH

Send out your light and your truth! PSALM 43:3

"During those times when I want to celebrate your nearness, Lord, why do you sometimes seem so distant?

When I try so hard to create happiness, why do I lose so much joy?

In this world in which you are the light, why is there so much darkness?

And when I want so much to experience your goodness, why does evil show up at my doorstep? May I learn anew that I cannot work my way into your presence. Remind me that I cannot buy my way into your favor. Help me understand that I cannot reach you by taking shortcuts through darkness. And teach me again that I cannot build walls high enough to protect myself from evil.

I want to follow your clear light of truth, reach your holy mountain, and praise you for being King of kings and Lord of lords."

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 - Nancy Doner
 02 - Carol Lefley
 03 - Julie Sommers
 05 - Shirley Guenthart
 05 - Caroline Willsie
 06 - Cal Thomas
 08 - Karen Noffz
 11 - Sunny Kennedy
 11 - Emma Voigt
 17 - Michelle Hertig
 23 - Sara Vickers
 24 - Nina Chamberlain
 24 - Anna Kirk
 24 - Justin Russo
 26 - Sandy Thoits
 27 - Barbara Brashears
 29 - Ellen Clark
 29 - Karen Wootton



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

04 - Dayle Rinker
 05 - Mona Wise
 07 - Marion Jeffries
 09 - David Bohn
 09 - Bud Lemkuil
 11 - Peggy Sue Lemkuil
 20 - Amanda Kirk
 23 - Charlie Henry
 24 - Bob Rice
 28 - Ann Padden-Rubin
 29 - Roger Wells



PRESBYTERY OF SANTA BARBARA JOB OPENING

Greetings Presbytery Friends,

The Presbytery is actively seeking a person for the part-time Bookkeeper position in the Presbytery office. This position is a budgeted position and is currently open. Please share this information with your church or others who may be interested. Interested parties are asked to contact Sandy Thoits, Presbytery Stated Clerk, at stated-clerk@sbpres.org.

Thank you for helping to spread the word about this opening. Blessings!

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

September 1 - October 6 has been declared as A Season of Peace. At the end of this season we will receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering which has been expanded to include all efforts to work toward justice and reconciliation among all peoples.

The receipts of this offering are to be shared by the local church (25%), the presbytery/synod (25%), and the Presbyterian Mission Agency (50%). The projects supported may vary widely to include care for military personnel, veterans, and their families, efforts to combat human trafficking, response to immigration issues, or addressing gun violence.

The 25% remaining with St. Andrew's will be sent to the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence in Washington, D.C. This is a lobby which studies ways that gun laws can be strengthened and advocates to our nation's lawmakers.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be received on Worldwide Communion Sunday when Christian churches of many denominations will celebrate the peaceful teaching and example given to us by Jesus.



DEADLINE FOR 2019

November/December

NEWSLETTER

Please submit articles and photos by Tuesday, Oct. 22

HELP WANTED

A person or persons willing to plan and manage the **Alternate Christmas Mart** this December. Please contact Mona Wise.

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH AUDIO & VISUALS

We are in need of volunteers to run the audio and visuals at the 9:30am Sunday service at St. Andrew's. Training will be provided. If you can help (for audio), please contact Dave Sommers at sommers@silcom.com or 805-708-7108 or Michael Padden-Rubin at michaelpadden@hotmail.com or 805-682-7891, or (for visuals): Sandy Thoits at sthoits@gmail.com

Thank you!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Merlyn Cummings

Birthplace: On a farm in NE Iowa

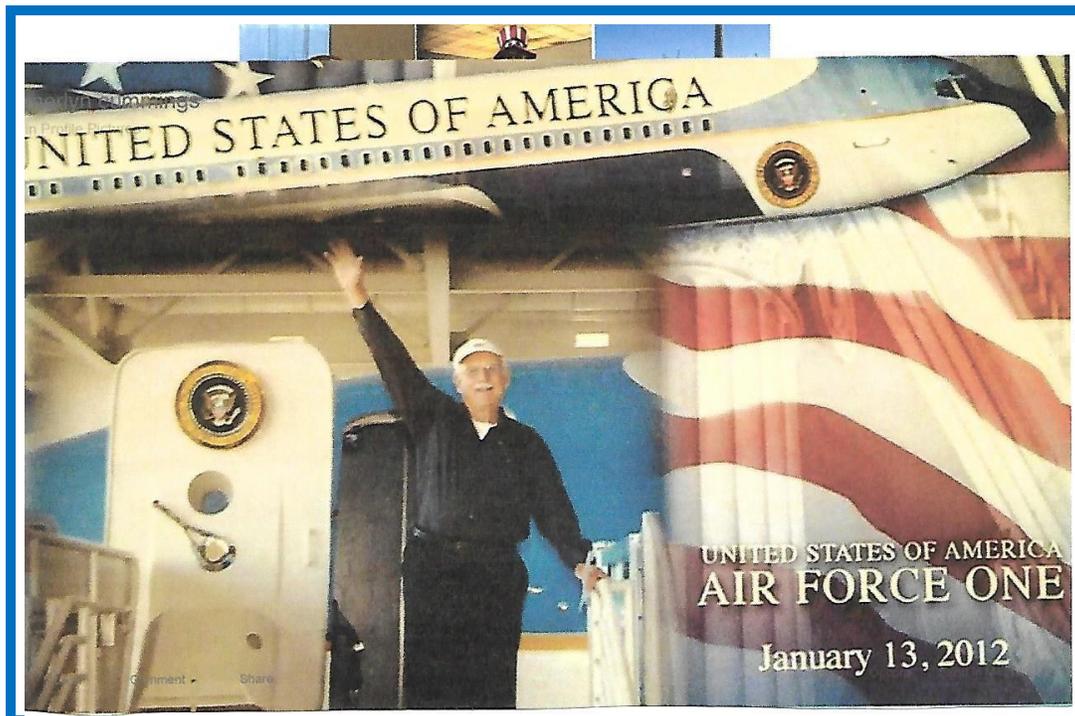
Places lived: Iowa, Fort Campbell, KY., Fort Meade, MD., Santa Barbara, CA.

Favorite job(s): Teaching and real estate sales

Most inspirational quote from scripture: John 3:16 "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Favorite thing about St. Andrew's: The church services, the messages, the music, and the friendly members of the congregation.

Something interesting we don't know about you: I like planning and completing projects, especially involving working with wood in my shop.





PRESCHOOL CORNER

Happy September to all of you! I hope your summer was full of great family and friend activities.

It is time for back to school and getting to know new preschoolers along with their families. We will have 18 returning students, along with 14 new students joining us this year. Patty and I are visiting all the families in their homes, allowing the children to see us in their own environment. We hope this will make a more successful transition into the school environment

We will have our traditional Open House on Wednesday, September 4, from 10:00AM to 12:00PM. We will be giving tours to the parents who will meet staff and will also have activities for the children to begin their exploration of their school. Our first Parent Meeting will also be that evening at 7:00PM. During this meeting, we will go over our philosophy and how the parents will be fitting into our school. We look forward to making these children feel safe and loved in our environment.

Our first day of school will be Thursday, September 5, from 8:30AM – 1:30PM. We look forward to a new school year as we continue to provide an environment where the children can discover knowledge, friendships, and God's love in the world around us.

We will have our 2nd annual Fall Fundraiser on Saturday, October 26th this year. We will have silent auction items, carnival and pumpkin patch. We hope to have pony rides and a petting zoo. I will let you know if there are some donations toward the festival that the church members could help us with by putting a sign-up sheet in the narthex closer to the festival. Thank you so much for helping support our preschool!

Fondly,

Cindy

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