

The Piper

January 2020



In this Issue

Rev. Rob's Corner	Pg 2
Bishop Consecration	Pg 2
Our Presiding Bishop-Rev. Curry	Pg 3
Thoughts from Uncle Steve	Pg 4
Angels in the Kitchen	Pg 7



Rev. Rob's Corner



Rev. Rob is on vacation until Jan 5th. If you have an urgent matter that requires Rob's attention please contact him by calling his cell phone. Or contact Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden if unable to contact Rev. Rob directly.



Bishop Consecration

On **Saturday, January 11, 2020**, the entire Church will gather for the ordination and consecration of the Rev. Lucinda Ashby as the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real. The event will be at [Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church](#) in Saratoga, California at 11:00 am.

[Visit the RSVP page here for reserving tickets.](#) While there isn't enough room for everyone to celebrate in-person in Saratoga, gatherings will also take place in deanery viewing parties that will livestream the event and feature communion and post-service receptions.

St. Andrew's of Ben Lomond is looking for someone to be part of the procession for the Consecration of the Bishop and carry our St. Andrew's banner. Please contact Rev. Rob if you can take this on.

Figure it out...

You want to send a valuable object to a friend securely. You have a box which can be fitted with multiple locks, and you have several locks and their corresponding keys. However, your friend does not have any keys to your locks, and if you send a key in an unlocked box, the key could be copied en route. How can you and your friend send the object securely? *Answer on page 7*

SAVE THE DATE

COMING
UP

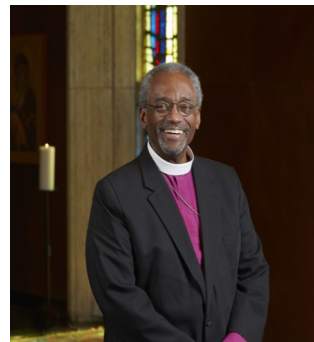
St. Andrew's Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26th following the one 930am service. We will be electing new Vestry members in addition to discussing our 2020 budget. Your input is important so please join us.

***"If it's not about love,
it's not about God."***

~ Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

"Being a Christian is not essentially about joining a church or being a nice person, but about following in the footsteps of Jesus, taking his teachings seriously, letting his Spirit take the lead in our lives, and in so doing helping to change the world from our nightmare into God's dream." — Michael Curry, *Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus*



The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry is Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church. He is the Chief Pastor and serves as President and Chief Executive Officer, and as Chair of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church.

Excerpt taken from the Episcopal Church website. Click on the [link](#) to learn more about our Presiding Bishop.

Thoughts from Uncle Steve

Many years ago I used to give talks and write articles authored by Uncle Steve's Storybook. Many of them were parodies with a Christian message. Since I am no longer writing as the Junior Warden -- I think I will revert to sending you thoughts from Uncle Steve.

I stumbled across a Church Building in Santa Cruz . I discovered that this "mission" gave food to the poor and homeless at the conclusion of their service. God and food. Both great offerings to the poor, the oppressed, the needy and others. I also discovered that this place receives funds from Abbotts Thrift Store. On the side of the building is a large mural with the words, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free. (Luke 4:18)

As I drove by this place, there was a man in the lot locking the gate. I stopped and asked him about the church. And he said they provide food and worship for the homeless. I asked about the church and was told they are non-denominational, but that they believe that the Bible is to be taken literally . . . every word just as it is. Then he added that they accept all people. I thought for a minute. I said, if you take the Bible literally, then you don't accept all people. He thought and then said, "Well ... we welcome all people. Accept was probably wrong."

The spirit of the Lord is upon me to preach the good news to the poor. Christianity to me means accepting all people. I don't think the Biblical Jesus looked out at the multitude and proclaimed love for a few. He proclaimed love for all! And so I find myself back on the soap-box of proclaiming God's love for all people with no qualifications. Christianity to me doesn't come with an application that can be denied if you don't check the right boxes. Christianity isn't like getting into college where you need a specific GPA and SAT score. Christianity welcomes all,

accepts all and tries to understand this messy condition we call life.

"In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea. With the glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me. As he died to make us holy let us LIVE to make all free, while God is marching on." Glory Glory Hallelujah. The spirit of the Lord is about loving one another! The spirit of the Lord is not about tolerance but understanding. It is about welcoming AND accepting all people. Our Lord said that whatever we do to the least of His Children, we do to Him. I cannot stress this enough. Bishop Curry says over and over again, "If it's not about Love it's not about Jesus." Glory Glory Hallelujah!

I am just happy that I belong to a church that not only proclaims the Gospel but puts that Gospel into practice. We accept all people. We do not practice the "if" kind of love. (I love you if you do this or that.) I wish all churches would put that unconditional love into practice. I wish all churches would accept all people. I wish . . . I am so thankful that the Episcopal Church stands as a beacon of light in this dark world signaling other denominations that it is by Love that the Gospel is spread.

It's a New Year! St. Andrews is alive and more than surviving. An old familiar hymn says . . . "We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in His holy word. I will trust in the Lord Till I die. I'm gonna stay on the battlefield till I die. I'm gonna treat everybody right till I die"


We've come this far because we are doing the right thing. God watches over us as we proclaim the gospel to the poor, the friendless, the needy. It is like a battlefield and a constant fight to help others see the presence of God in all people while much of the world turns its back on those who don't believe as they do, who don't meet certain human-made and defined requirements. We are here by the grace of God to be of help to one another, to lift up each other, and to show God's love in all we say and do.

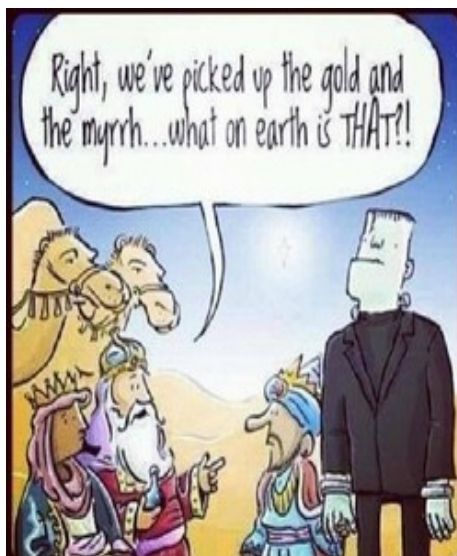
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YES INDEED!!! We have come this far by faith, trusting in His word. We will survive. Three things remain, faith, hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love! God's truth is marching on here at St. Andrews! Happy New Year -- 2020

January Birthdays

1	Kristen	Synder		10	Kim	Rooks
4	Alonzo	Landeros		11	Jamie	Butler
5	Nicki	Kearns		12	Sandra	Cadell
6	Sara	Hector		15	Larry	Laufenberg
6	Christopher	Mello		17	Sari	Mitchell
				19	Beth	Leslie



Answer from page 2—Put the valuable object into the box, secure it with one of your locks, and send the box to your friend. Your friend should then attach one of his own locks and return it. When you receive it again, remove your lock and send it back. Now your friend can unlock his own lock and retrieve the object.



Angel in the Kitchen
*Feel'n good when cook'n
Sharing the love of God
through your love of cooking*



Here are a couple of recipes from the cookie exchange last month.

Rosemary Butter Cookies-Sheryl Mello

1 cup butter	3/4 cup sugar
1 egg	1 tsp vanilla
2 1/2 cup flour	1 TBsp finely chopped rosemary
1/2 cup raw sugar	

Mix together butter and sugar. Mix in egg and vanilla. Mix in flour and rosemary. Bake at 375*. Drop teaspoon round into raw sugar to coat rounds. Bake 15-18 minutes, rotating in pan in the oven 1/2 way through. Yield approx 3 1/2 dozen cookies.

Spice Cookies-Sharon Fishel

3 1/3 cup flour	1 tsp baking powder	1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp nutmeg	1/2 tsp baking soda	1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp allspice	1/12 cup brown sugar	1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 cup soft butter	2 eggs	2 tsp vanilla

Cream together 1 cup soft butter , 1 1/2 cup brown sugar and 1/2 cup sugar. Add eggs and vanilla. Add dry ingredients. Wrap dough in 4 pieces and refrigerate for 4 hours. Roll out dough 1/8 inch thick and cut into shapes. Bake 10-12 minutes at 350*. Decorate if desired.

2020 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church -Stewardship Pledge Card
As a steward of all that God has given me, and in thanksgiving, I pledge the following amount to the Lord's work through St. Andrew's in the year 2020. All information provided is strictly confidential. Please make a copy for your records.

Last Name(s): _____ First

(s): _____

\$ _____ Weekly \$ _____ Monthly \$ _____ Quarterly

\$ _____ Annually \$ _____ One time gift

A Bequest to St. Andrew's-please contact Father Rob.

Check here if you wish to have your pledge charged to your credit card. Other payment options: PayPal or electronic bank transfer (no fees apply). *Contact the church office at 336-5994 or staoffice@sbcglobal.net to set up a credit card payment.*

Primary Phone #: _____

Secondary Phone #: _____

Primary

email: _____

Secondary

email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2020 St. Andrew's Pledge of Time and Talent

This is my total offering of time and talent: I wish to pledge to St. Andrew's a gift of Time () _____ hours/week () _____ hours/month. These are the areas of interest and talent that I wish to pledge my time.

() Altar Guild

() Eucharist/Intercessor/Lector

() Sunday School/Youth Program

() Fundraising

() Choir / Music

() Building and Grounds

() Gardening

() Other special interests: _____

() Finance

() Information/
Publicity/Website

() Adult Education

() Stewardship

() Vestry

() Outreach