

# The Piper

## July 2025

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and  
where the Spirit of the Lord is,  
there is freedom.

2 Corinthians 3:17 NIV



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## **A Message from Father Martin**

Dear Friends,

With all the upheaval going on in Washington DC, and with the beautiful weather and landscapes around us, I am seeking to be thankful for all our blessings (beginning with the gift of life and of one another) and to remember that we cannot change, fix, or redeem everything that needs repair. The Serenity Prayer rings true:

**God, grant me the serenity to accept  
the things I cannot change,  
the courage to change the things I can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.**

This is not passivity! We are called in all ways and at all times to walk in Jesus' Way of Love, to be the Light of Christ, and to bear light and love for all others.

Last Sunday I shared a refrain from a recent song that reflects these two insights (from "The World is on Fire" by American Aquarium):

The load is heavy and the road is long  
And we've only begun to fight  
We just can't give in, we can't just give up  
We must go boldly into the darkness  
And be the light.

Our Presiding Bishop, Sean Rowe, made a statement on July 3 on the changing place of The Episcopal Church in these times of our nation. I commend it to you for your own reflection on our witness in this troubled world. You may not agree with all Bishop Rowe says, but if so, may it prompt your own further reflections. Here is the link: <https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2025/07/03/presiding-bishop-once-the-church-of-presidents-the-episcopal-church-must-now-be-an-engine-of-resistance/>

This month we are sending Susan Greer, who has been serving as our Senior Warden, off on pilgrimage, moving from here to where God will lead her. Susan has served among us so faithfully for many years, including as our Piper editor (she has graciously offered to continue this ministry from where she is) and in hospitality, Outreach chair, and other leadership roles. We pledge our prayers and look forward to continuing our community wherever she is led.

The Reverend Mary Lou McKenney will lead worship on July 13 and 20 while I am away on vacation. Our Tuesday Bible Study will be on break until July 29 when we will finish John's Gospel and then begin Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

May God's peace and love uphold and sustain you and all your household.

Yours in Christ, Martin+



This is a photo of St. Andrew's taken in 1899, the year it was built. From the UCSC Digital Archives, shared by our neighbor in the house in the foreground.

#### St. Andrew's Current Vestry Members

Susan Greer, Senior Warden

Sheryl Mello

John Woolliscroft, Junior Warden

Jane Pomeroy

Steve LaFever, Clerk

Ray Rischpater

Sara Hector

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please forward them to any of the Vestry members. Vestry meetings are usually held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

# Garden of



# Eatin'

## OLD FASHIONED BREAD PUDDING

2 beaten eggs  
about 1/4 cup sugar  
1 1/2 teas. vanilla  
1/2 teas. nutmeg  
1/2 teas. cinnamon  
4 cups scalded milk  
1/4 cup soft butter  
2 cups bread crumbs – any kind of bread cut small will do  
about 1/3 cup raisins



Combine first 5 ingredients. Add scalded milk and butter. Mix well. Add bread and raisins. Mix well. Pour into buttered baking dish. Set baking dish in a pan of hot water.

Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes or until a knife inserted in center comes out clean. Serve warm or cold.

### HeeHeeHee!!!

One Sunday morning, the priest saw little Davey staring up at the large plaque that hung in the church's foyer. The plaque was covered with names and small American flags were mounted on either side of it.

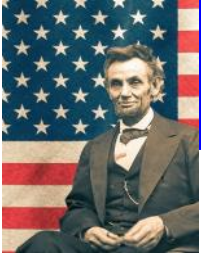
"Father Donovan," the boy asked, "what is this?"

"Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service," the priest explained. They stood together quietly, staring at the memorial plaque. Then little Davey softly asked, "Which service? The 9:30 or the 11:00?"

**ACA** (Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families) meets every Wednesday evening upstairs.

**LOSS (WINGS)** Associated with Suicide Prevention Services of the Central Coast, it is a support (not therapy) group for anyone who has lost someone to suicide, years ago or recently. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (please note this is a change in time) in the Parish Hall. The Facilitator is Dr. Joan McVay of St. Andrew's. For more information, contact Julie Cory at 831-246-8750.

## Thoughts from a Parish Member



With malice toward none, with charity for all . . . let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nations wounds. . . to do all which we may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural address 1865

It is difficult to write articles for the Piper these days. There is so much going on in this world that needs addressing; however, no matter what should be said about the myriad problems, there is no right answer. The Christian answer is ignored as too liberal which is unfortunate.

Moses asked God to soften the Pharaoh's heart, and when he wouldn't listen, he called plagues and other such calamities as found in the book of Exodus. At times I feel I am that voice out there crying out into an empty void. I am sure many of us have felt the same frustration. A story I heard was about this pious Rabbi who dutifully went to the Wailing Wall every day and prayed all day. He had done this for many years. A young journalist heard about him and went to Jerusalem (which in itself is not the smartest thing to do) and found the elderly Rabbi praying. She asked him what he prayed about all these years and his answer was clear. He prayed for world peace, He prayed we would love one another. He prayed our leaders would work together for a better world. After reciting his litany of prayers, he had impressed the young woman. She then asked what he felt after all these years. Sadly he look at her with tears and said, "I feel like I have been praying to a stone wall.."

Politics override Christian love. The ego games of leaders become the focus of decisions. I have been pondering a long time about why the crucifixion narrative in John's Gospel doesn't include Jesus saying, "Father, forgive them." As I look at the political games of the moment around the world, it's hard, if not impossible to say, "Father forgive them." It may also be meaningless. And when they came to this place called Golgotha, they crucified him and divided his garments by casting lots.

While John left out the words of forgiveness, he did leave us with a sobering truth: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life". Our hope is that the rest of the world catches up with our mission of love. When Dante wrote The Inferno, he put a sign over the gates of hell. "Abandon hope all who enter." I am here as a living witness to proclaim that we will not cross into that abyss! We will not lose hope.

Alexander Pope said that Love springs eternal. Michael Curry told us that if it's not about love, it's not about God. And St. Paul told us that after all is said and done, three things remain: faith, hope, and love. God is with us. His love will be the victory. We only need to listen, pray, and believe. If we didn't get the message that God sacrificed his Son for us, then we weren't listening. What goes on in this world is not about God. What goes on in this church and community and among us Christians is about God and his unconditional love for us all!

*(Continued on page 6)*

**Thoughts from a Parish Member** *(con't.)*

Well, I have shared my frustration. I hope my feelings aren't only my own. I do believe we are all tired of feeling like lone voices crying out in the wilderness of political self-conceit. We will make it through these dark times with hope in our hearts and love for all. In 1936, MGM produced a movie with Jeanette McDonald, Clark Gable, and Spencer Tracy. It was about the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. That earthquake and fire practically leveled the city. At the end of the movie, the survivors were in a camp on a hill overlooking the city, many singing "Nearer My God to Thee." A young man runs into the encampment yelling, "The fire is out." Everyone walks to the top of the hill to see. These hopeful people were singing loudly, Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, His truth is marching on. A new city was erected. A new Jerusalem. Our country, our God will find a way to also create a new Jerusalem here on earth. Don't give up hope!

Offered by Steve Lafever.

**Coffee Hour Organizers**

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE YUMMY THINGS YOU BRING US

I am updating the June listing as Shirley Greenwood is leaving us and others have moved or are away so this quarter's list goes from June through August. This is an updated list of folks who will bring Coffee Hour and the dates we anticipate they will bring it.

If you are unable to bring coffee hour, please call someone else on the list and also please let the office know so we can put the correct provider in the bulletin. Office Sharon Fishel 831-247-5572

Jennifer Kennedy	831-251-1471	July 6
Rochelle Kelly	408-691-2571	July 13
Jane Pomeroy	408-472-1586	July 20
Barbara Banke	831-345-2992	July 27
Eve Yabroff	253-225-8683	August 3
Emily Kjaergaard	408) 221-3830	Aug 10
Andrea Dubov a	831-291-2869	Aug 17
Jennifer Kennedy	831-251-1471	Aug 24
Rochelle Kelly	408-691-2571	Aug 31

# St. Andrew's Ministries



## *The Women's Circle*

Dear Friends,

The Women's Circle will meet on July 2 and July 16. Please bring your stories, your thoughts and hopes. And invite anyone you think would enjoy this time of sharing our lives.

Ann Moyer, 619-321-8596

## **Prayer Team**

We have an active prayer team at St. Andrew's led by Sue Roe. When a prayer concern is made known to Sue, she sends it out to the group so they can be praying for you. Please contact Sue if you would like some prayers.

Also, if you would like to be one of the pray-ers, let Sue know and she will be happy to add you to the group.

Please contact Sue at Phone 562-243-4080, or by email [suemhr@aol.com](mailto:suemhr@aol.com)

## **Outreach Committee**

If you know of or support a non-profit organization and would like it to be considered for a grant from St. Andrew's, please provide information on its programs to the Outreach Committee. The members of the committee are Susan Greer, Joan McVay, and Ray Rischpater. We are looking for additional committee members, so if you are interested, please contact Susan, Joan, or Ray. The committee meets after Bible Study, generally on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.





Join us for Worship Services on Sundays at 10 a.m. and the social hour after. The sermon may be watched on St. Andrew's Facebook page, if you are not able to attend in person.