

St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

Love, Grow & Share With Us

The

Lighthouse

November 2011

From Dr. B:



Dear friends,

As we arrive at the end of our Stewardship emphasis, I offer special thanks to our Sunday "Stewardship Sharers" who enriched our worship services in October. Paul and Susan Zink, Nevin Chamberlain, Bob Parsons and Diana Lee were candid and thoughtful in their comments about giving and sacrificial living. I was moved by each of their presentations in very different ways. I was struck by the variety of means God uses to get our attention and call us into service. Kudos to those individuals who vulnerably put themselves on the line to encourage and challenge us with their stories.

Also a special thank you to Scott Eschbach who, as Treasurer, at a recent session retreat, led the elders present in a stewardship/giving exercise that was brilliant in its creativity and enlightening in its content. Scott and Barbara also opened their home for the event and provided all the food. Thank you so much!

We now move from Stewardship to Thanksgiving and Advent, which is very appropriate, as we wait to celebrate God's gift of his Son, a sacrifice that we don't deserve but was given in love. Advent is a time of hopeful expectation, as we wait with anticipation for that joining of heaven and earth that Christmas accomplishes. This year we will celebrate, for the twenty-fifth year, the Outdoor Living Nativity. We will then set to rest this tradition that has served St. Andrew's and our community so well (see related article on page 5). We will have a chance to thank all of those who have contributed so mightily to this event over the years during a worship service of recognition in December.

As we move into this season of hope, my prayer for all of us is that we will encounter anew the Prince of Peace and Light of the world – and see him reflected in the faces around us.

Shalom,
Dr. B

Follow Dr. Becker's online blog at:
<http://churchandchess.tumblr.com/>

SESSION NEWS

At its October meeting, your Session:

- Discussed and approved moving forward to establish a revised timeline and plan for ordination and installation of church officers, pursuant to the new Book of Order, which will include a period of study and preparation after election and prior to ordination and installation.
- Approved the formation of a Manual of Operations & Bylaws Team to research and draft a proposed Manual of Operations for Session pursuant to G-3.0106 of the Book of Order, and recommend revisions to the Bylaws. Team members: Scott Eschbach (Treasurer), Pam Polan (Deacon) and Sandy Thoits (Clerk of Session).
- Set the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 10:30AM in the Sanctuary. Purposes: Annual Reports received, 2012 Budget presented, approval of Pastor's Terms of Call, approval of amendments to the Bylaws.
- Discussed training for communion servers (elders and deacons) and the possibility of purchasing an additional hand held microphone for the sanctuary sound system.
- Approved going forward with the performance of the 25th Annual Outdoor Living Nativity on 2 nights (December 21 and 22), in recognition and celebration of its 25-year history with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and as the final year for performance of the Outdoor Living Nativity.
- Approved the request from the Llamada Finale church for additional use of Morgan Hall for music rehearsal.
- Reviewed the program from the Session retreat on Saturday, October 8th.

Sandy Thoits, Clerk

Notice of Congregational Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 10:30AM in the Sanctuary. Purposes: Annual Reports received, 2012 Budget presented, approval of Pastor's Terms of Call, approval of amendments to the Bylaws.

2012 Presbytery Meetings

February 11, 9a.m. El Montecito

May 5

September 22

October 30



FOCUS ON THE WORLD, by Harold Englund

Years ago I made a startling discovery which many ministers have shared: that at a memorial service of someone who had carried major responsibilities in life, his or her adult children often sat in stunned surprise when I listed the parent's accomplishments, from a fact sheet supplied by a corporate office.

This leads me to a comment that may be useful: We all need to leave some intelligible record of what we've done in life, for our children and grandchildren, if nobody else.

I recall chats with some of you, and I have listened wide-eyed at your stories, your challenges faced, your results. And I've wondered: is this written down someplace? It really should be.

Every life is filled with anecdotal riches. There are forks in the road, major decisions that lead you off in new directions, serendipities that could never have been predicted, war decisions that dropped you down in strange places, and jobs tackled that all added up to your life story. Even single conversations may have changed your life. Our kids know some of our stories, but much has never been shared. I dare say our grandchildren know very little indeed. Must they wait for a memorial service to see your life entire and whole?

One place to start is to make a systematic collection of all the photographs you took over the years. Enid has furnished our two sons with a photographic record of their early life with us – our homes, their playmates, our neighborhoods, churches, vacations. But on family history, it's the earliest material that is the hardest to collect with accuracy.

If you still have brothers or sisters who are living, you might take a little tape recorder with you on your next visit and discuss "on tape" your shared memories of your childhood.

A few years ago, Enid's father, living in Victoria, B.C., took a university course in writing memoirs. He was in his 80's. Born in England, he came to Canada after serving in World War I. One Christmas, a parcel arrived from Dad for Enid, and a similar one arrived for her brother in London, Ontario. The Christmas gift was a bound copy of dad's memoirs. It was a labor of love, and the material was priceless. Only dad could have done it. And now he is no longer with us, having died while we were helping the church in South Africa.

Now if writing is "not your thing," how about keeping a big scrapbook, or a big file folder, in a special drawer, and into it go reports of things that make your life what it is, and photographs with the people in them named and each photo dated? Over the years, that simple collection will prove to be a precious possession. Then leave it in your will to the one you know will value it!

Sitting in church on Sundays, we enjoy seeing pictures on the screen of our children and young people and their activities. Then there are our art shows, our picnics, our Christmas Outdoor Pageant, our weekly services led by Brett. Should we not have a Church Archivist who could save and catalog so many pictures, programs, events, that make St. Andrew's history? Any volunteers?

Life is more than an obituary. Life is a story, your story. It's about your personal journey, full of human juices, laughter, tears, wins and losses, rewards and awards. For many of you it will read like a "gospel," a good news account of the love of God and your very unique response. Think about it! I will too!

FROM THE CHANCEL STEPS, by Julie Sommers

Advent is a great time for families. For the weeks before our celebration of Jesus' birth, there are so many opportunities to bring this season of the church year into your home and family life. The traditional themes of each week: hope, peace, joy and love can be the focus of your prayers, decorations, devotions and activities as you get ready to celebrate God With Us in the birth of Jesus.



Don't know how to get started with a focus like this?

The Children's Ministry Department has developed a one-page Advent-Christmas-Epiphany Calendar to help you mark the time. It will be sent home from Sunday School and available on the church website. It's the perfect size to stick on the fridge. There are ideas for each of the weeks of Advent and beyond. Short prayers remind you of each week's focus. The calendar lists all the church's opportunities for worship and celebration during the season. Take advantage of spending time with your family in worship.

The Saturday, December 3rd Advent Crafts/Dinner/Movie night is another way to begin Advent. At the end of the first week of Advent, we will gather at 4:30 in Morgan Hall for 90 minutes of crafts, including a simple way to create an Advent Wreath for your home. Other projects focus on gift-giving and decorations for your home. At 6pm, after the craft time, we will join in a shared supper. The dinner that evening will be pot luck, so there will be something for everyone. If you wish to stay for the movie, you can extend the fun. Come and enjoy this popular St. Andrew's tradition. The suggested donation for the crafts workshop is \$5 per person (\$15 max per family). There is an additional suggested donation of \$5 if you wish to purchase one of the 20 available Advent Wreath kits (Styrofoam circle, 5 candles & chenille stems to hold greenery in the Styrofoam).

Even though it seems as if our lives are bombarded with messages of "buy...hurry...buy" from Halloween to New Year's, it will be good to take a breath and choose some family times you can spend together either at your home or at your church, to focus on the real reason we celebrate and what OUR gift to Jesus might be this year. "Who's birthday is it, anyway?"

Are you looking for the monthly church calendar?

The calendar is now regularly updated and available on the church website at: <http://www.standrewspcusa.org/>

(Click on calendar at the top of the home page.)



HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH TEAM NEWS

OUTDOOR LIVING NATIVITY

THE 25TH AND FINAL OUTDOOR LIVING NATIVITY WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 21 AND 22, 7:30p.m.

Session voted on October 18th to make this a final and great performance of the Outdoor Living Nativity.

Pam Polan and Kathy VanSlyke will head up the team of OLN volunteers, so shake out your crowns and shepherd’s crooks and volunteer to make this St. Andrew’s tradition the best ever!



Blessings, Rachel Tobler, Chair

Novel Book Group



The Novel Book Group is reading *The Commoner*, by John Schwartz. This is a novel about the royal family of Japan. We will meet on November 19, in the Vos Room at 10:00 a.m. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

A Prayer for November

*O thou who kindly dost provide
for every creature’s want,
we bless thee, God, of nature wide,
for all thy goodness lent.
And if it please thee, heavenly guide
may never worse be sent,
but whether granted or denied, Lord,
bless us with content.*

Robert Burns, 1701

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Will have a Christmas Tea on Friday, December 2nd at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church on La Colina Road, at 2p.m. All women are invited



ALZHEIMER’S WALK

Saturday, November 5, 9a.m. to 12noon (about 3miles), at the Santa Barbara Zoo. Join “Team St. Andrew’s” by signing up and/or donating after worship on Sunday morning. This is an all church community service event. Rick Lee is our official captain. Wear your “Firm in Our Faith, Full Sail into the Future” T-shirt.



The 2012 Santa Barbara
Mission Conference

First Presbyterian
Church

“Living the Word in
Today’s World”

Friday, January 20th 5:30-7p.m.
Registration and Reception

7:00-8:00p.m Conference

Saturday, January 21st

8:15 – 8:25a.m. Registration &
Coffee

8:45a.m. – 4p.m. Conference

Register online at:

www.sbmissionconference.org

Pre-registration fee: \$25
\$40 at the door

LIBRARY NEWS

We are missing two copies of: What
the Heck Do We Do Now? /Families
Facing Alzheimers - by John G.
Bloomer. If you have these books
please return them to the church
library.



*Church Work Day Saturday,
November 19, 9a-12n*

**DECEMBER ADVENT
WORKSHOP,
POTLUCK DINNER,
and MOVIE NIGHT
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3,
4:30p.m.
In Morgan Hall**



**MOVIE 7p.m.: “The Greatest
Christmas Pageant Ever”
There will be a \$5.00 charge for craft
supplies
\$15.00 maximum for each family
Advent Wreath Kits \$5**



Advent at St. Andrew's

November 27	Worship - Advent Wreath Begins
December 3	4:30 p.m. Christmas Family Crafts 6:00 p.m. Potluck Dinner 7:00 p.m. Movie – <i>The Greatest Christmas Pageant Ever</i>
December 4	9:30 a.m. Youth Sunday Worship Holy Communion Celebrated 2:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea in Morgan Hall
December 11	Children's Sunday Children's Nativity Pageant
December 18	Adult Choir Christmas Concert
December 21	Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. in Morgan Hall
December 21 & 22	25th Annual Outdoor Living Nativity 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. on the Church Lawn
December 24	Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
December 25	Christmas Day 9:30 a.m. Worship

All services are at 9:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted

PRESCHOOL NEWS

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

November curriculum will include a study of Native Americans. The Pre-K class will have a field trip to the museum at Cachuma Lake. We will change Room 3 into a Chumash Village. Come and see the children as they are investigating and exploring a different culture.

We will end the month by having our traditional community "snack." On Monday, November 21, we will make a meal together, set the table, and then sit down with our parents to enjoy the food our hands have prepared. Praise God for our school family.

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

God Bless You,
Cindy



BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED IN NOVEMBER

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 02 - Edward Carrillo,
Jane Hewitt | 11 - Paul Jillson |
| 04 - John Chaves | 12 - Dana Orr |
| 05 - Sarah Gilmour | 13 - Wendy Gonzalez |
| 07 - Matthew Wilson,
Tana Thomas,
John Rubin,
Margaret Knauss | 17 - Bob McWilliams |
| 08 - Luke Wilson,
Tom Weisenburger,
Diana Lee,
Martial Keyzer,
James Blascovich | 18 - Jennifer LeMert |
| 09 - Jessica DiMizio | 21 - Christian Edstrom |
| | 23 - Wendy Keyzer |
| | 26 - Fred Walters,
Maggie Varner |
| | 27 - David Sommers |
| | 28 - Liz Marshall-Smith |
| | 29 - Margaret Siadal |
| | 30 - Brian Wise |

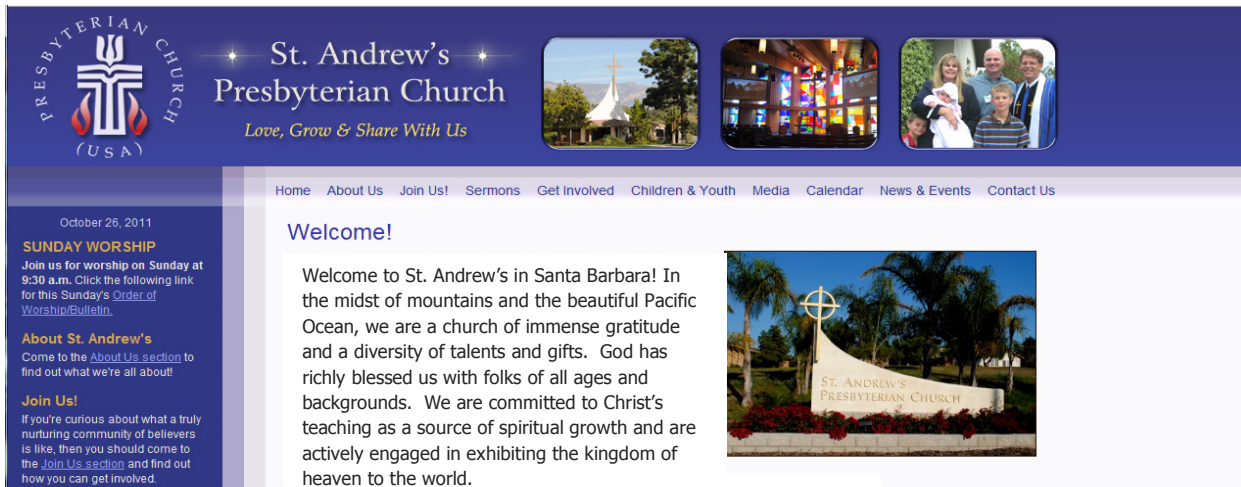


PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA

On Sunday, December 4, 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.

Bev Ford is taking sign ups and all women of St. Andrew's are invited. Also, anyone interested in being a hostess and/or bringing refreshments would be greatly appreciated. Please mark your calendars for this special event.





St. Andrew's has a new Website!

After months of planning, research, development, consultation and design work, the St. Andrew's "Web & Tech" Team is pleased to announce the launch of our new website in October 2011. We hope you will take time to explore the new site which offers feature rich content such as photo galleries, video sermons and podcasts, slideshows and our newest addition – a blog by our Pastor. The above screenshot captures the look of our "home" page with a sidebar for highlights and a navigation bar (top) which includes the following categories:

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Join Us!](#) [Sermons](#) [Get Involved](#) [Children & Youth](#) [Media](#) [Calendar](#) [News & Events](#) [Contact Us](#)

One of the primary reasons for making the change to a new website was the desire for increased functionality and the ability to be able to edit content by church staff and committee members. Our research phase included discussions with a company called "**Connected Word**" based in southern CA who offered a very attractive package specifically geared to assisting churches with building and maintaining their own sites. We began with one of their template designs and began adding content relevant to St. Andrew's needs. **Connected Word** provides the overarching technical structure, while we have the ability to embellish the site with ever-changing content. The site takes advantage of connectivity to **YouTube & Vimeo** for video content, **Facebook & Tumblr** for a social media presence and **Photobucket** for photo slideshows. You'll be able to check Calendar updates with ease (thanks to Margaret Siadal for updating the calendar), browse the church Library offerings (under Adult Education) learn about committee opportunities, check on upcoming events, have access to the Sunday worship bulletin & Newsletter (plus archives). We hope you'll enjoy browsing St. Andrew's online when time allows... and discovering all that it has to offer to our church community and beyond. Many thanks to our team of individuals who have contributed to develop this new website with dedicated envisioning! The website URL address is: <http://www.standrewspcusa.org/>

The St. Andrew's Web & Tech Team:

- **Sandy Thoits**
- **Lindy Moore**
- **Penny Sidoli**
- **John Doner**
- **Jessica DiMizio**
- **Dave Sommers**

Special thanks go to Dave, Sandy John & Jessica for their technology ministry on Sunday mornings during Worship!

Lindy Moore

PYF...



October Events



Family Games Night at the Church



Ordination and Pizza with First Pres. Youth Group



Broomball on the Ice with the First Pres. Youth Group



Clean the Closets for Charity



Halloween Costume Party & Pumpkin Carving

November Events and Dates

==> **Sunday, November 6th**: "Totally Teams" Family Night at the Church (with dinner). 6-8PM

==> **Sunday, November 13th**: At the Church with Dr. B (dinner provided). 6-8PM

==> **November 18-20th**: Fall Retreat at Camp Ocean Pines. The theme is "Focus on Fellowship and Service," led by Dr. B and Anita

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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