

The tter's PRESS

Monthly Newsletter of San Mateo Presbyterian Church, San Mateo, FL

October 2016

Letter from Pastor Don Mossa

• SHARING THE FAITH

As Fall has officially begun and there is now some easing of the constant 90+ degree temperatures of summer, we all move forward into our Fall schedules with Thursday Night Dinners, school, work, and family. But I wonder, how will we prepare ourselves for the next season with God?

Working through our sermon series on the Great Ends of the Church, I am hoping and have been praying that the Great Ends will be realized here in San Mateo. As a reminder, the Great Ends of the Church are:

- 1st, The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind
- 2nd- The Shelter, Nurture and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God
- 3rd- The Maintenance of Divine Worship
- 4th- The Preservation of the Truth
- 5th-The Promotion of Social Justice
- 6th, The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World.

My prayer is that San Mateo Presbyterian will aspire to be exemplars of God's Spirit through enacting even further these Great Ends. The fact is that as we go forward as a church body, together and as individuals, we will need to work at these "higher things of God," and use them in how we speak, think and act toward each other and toward the world.

Why is this so important, some might ask? Well, my answer is to remind all of us that the loving kindness that God has bestowed on our church, with all the individual and collective gifts that are truly apparent at San Mateo Church, might help us all to change. Ahhh...that word again, the "C" word, change. And why is change of the Spirit so important? Because God has a new plan for us all, and don't all of us want for our church that the way would be made clearer and safer for a strong and visionary, healthy and vital ministry, that will grow in the image of Jesus Christ? That's part of my daily prayers for San Mateo Church. And so the Great Ends of the Church and changing our outlook about who we are and what we need to be in the future becomes vitally important for making the next time in ministry...the next season with God, successful!

Most you know better than I that the last several years have been difficult for many in our churches, for our Presbytery, and for our denomination, and they have been difficult years for many reasons. But I believe that we at San Mateo are now on a trajectory moving in a better, stronger, more peaceful direction. I believe that the Great Ends of the San Mateo Church can start to change us all and be realized in everything we do. Let us take a stronger stand together for Jesus Christ. Let us be courageous enough to move out of our comfort zones and welcome the good changes that come our way and reflect the love of Jesus Christ!

Against the Great Ends of the Church as with the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, there are no prohibitions, Paul says in Galatians. There's nothing stopping us! Dear Lord, let them begin to blossom and to grow in our church!
Blessings,

Pastor Don

October Happenings

September 29 – Oct 1

The youth will be having a yard sale. Help is needed to set up and monitor during the sale.

Sunday 2 Communion Sunday
9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
10:30 a.m. worship service –

Finance Committee meeting after service. First one in a long time. Come be a part of this committee. Contact Tim Houghtaling 803-359-7362.

Tuesday 4

Presbyterian Women will meet in the Potter's House at 10:30 a.m. Sandi Carle is the contact 386-972-5177

Sunday 9
9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
Contact Candy Tilton 386-325-3553
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Fellowship lunch -.bring a dish to share.
Adopt-a-Soldier Packing at the fellowship lunch. Bring a sport type snack or vitamins.

October 9: Andie Wells is singing in the 3rd annual Awakening CWG at Grace Fellowship at 6 p.m.

Tuesday 11

Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Potter's House. Sabrina Crosby is the contact 386-972-9021

Christian Ed meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Potter's House. Amy Poupore is the contact 386-937-2956

Saturday 15 10:30 a.m. Bread of Life workday.
Contact Candy Tilton 386-325-3553

Sunday 16
9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Worship committee meeting after service.
Contact: Lynnwood 386-546-2186

Thursday 20

Dinner will be at the church. YEAH!!! You all come and invite a friend. CHICKEN this month. Help will be needed so come early.

Sunday 23
9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Saturday 29 – Pumpkinfest 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. see notes below in Christian Ed. Everyone invited!

Sunday30
9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

SAVE THE DATE

Special Music: November 13th - Woods and Bridges at 4:30 p.m. Watch for details next month.
LuluGail will start casting parts for the Christmas event. Contact her if interested in participating.

Committee News

Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship

- Next meeting will be Tuesday October 11 at 5:30 p.m. in the Potter's house. Sabrina Crosby is the contact 386-972-9021
- Bread of Life will be October 15. Candy Tilton is the contact.

- Adopt a Soldier packing will be during fellowship lunch on Sunday October 9th and will feature Sport snacks, ie power bars. We will also include blank Christmas / Thanksgiving / other holiday cards. November will be warm things. December will be sweets and hot beverages.

Christian Ed

Next meeting will be October 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Potter's House. Amy 386-937-2956

Pumpkinfest congregational event. Details: 7-930 pm. We will make stone soup and carve pumpkins! Bring a can of veggies and a pumpkin to carve. Also, any carving tools you have will be appreciated. We will have a bonfire with s'mores, scavenger hunt and some games too. Invite a friend (or several). Adults, little kids, big kids and kids at heart are all invited. Questions: ask Amy 386-937-2956 or Casey 386-325-6276.

Worship Committee

The next meeting will be Sunday 16th after worship services in the Potter's House.

The Book of Mark will be the small group bible study starting the week of September 19th. Currently, two small groups are slated to start: 1) Wednesday 4:30 p.m. in the Potter's house hosted by Ginger; 2) Thursday at 6:00 p.m. hosted by Houghtaling / Mullins at their residence – call for directions – 803-422-0532.

Devotional – Ready for a Change?

Our Daily Bread – September 13

Self-control is probably one of the hardest things to master. How often have we been defeated by a bad habit, a lousy attitude, or a wrong mindset? We make promises to improve. We ask someone to hold us accountable. But deep inside, we know that we don't have the will or the ability to change. We can talk, we can plan, we can read self help books, but we still find it difficult to overcome and control many of the things that are inside us!

Thankfully, God knows our weakness, and He also knows the remedy! The Bible says, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal 5:22-23). The only way to gain self-control is by allowing the Holy Spirit to control us.

In other words, our key focus is not *effort* but *surrender* – to live moment by moment submissively trusting in the Lord rather than in self. Paul says this is what it means to "walk by the Spirit" (v 16).

Are you ready for change? You can change, for God is in you. As you surrender control to Him, He will help you bear the fruit of His likeness.

I am in need, Lord, of Your power so that I might change and grow. I surrender myself to You. Please help me to understand how to be submissive to You that I might be filled with Your Spirit.

Treasurer's Report

January 1 - September 5, 2016

Receipts: \$38,967.18

Expenses: 49,059.11

Net Loss: \$10,091.93

Please Note:

* Receipts are usually less in summer months and we have been in transition since April.

* The new air unit we installed was \$9,300.