

The *SP* *ter's* PRESS

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

October 2015



A Letter from Pastor Larry



Greetings:

Greetings to My Brothers
and Sisters in Christ:

Do you think your perspective matters? Does your perspective dictate how you see things?

In church, I have a pretty special perspective. I see many sitting in the same spot week after week then I see some of you being tricky and moving around. Where you sit can have a great influence on your insight as you worship. Those that sit in the back get to see the back of a lot of heads. Those toward the front have a different view.

I wonder what would happen if one Sunday everyone would sit somewhere other than where they normally sit. I wonder if the earth would stop on its axis. Probably not.

But I know your perspective would definitely change. You would see things differently. You would hear things differently. You would sit next to folks that you haven't sat with for a while.

Your perspective can have a big effect not only in the church but in your life as well. Step back and intentionally look up, look left, look right, look all around in a familiar area. I would wager that you will see something new.

Stop and close your eyes and listen carefully. What would you hear? Would you hear the wind blowing through the trees? How many different birds would hear?

You see, we can get so caught up in our daily routine that we don't take time to enjoy all of God's creation. He has given us the earth to take care of and enjoy.

Change your perspective today. It may be one of the best things you have done in a long time.

Shalom

Pastor Larry

PS: A couple of weeks ago I sent out an email to most of the men of the church about starting a men's ministry group. The response was overwhelmingly positive. We will have a short formation meeting this Sunday October 4th in Anderson Hall. Come join us as we build the group. We will be doing some fun stuff and just hang out and be guys. Please see Pastor Larry for more info.

October Happenings

Kids' Care leaders for each Sunday are listed by that Sunday's Worship Service below.

Thurs, Oct 1 9:00a – Yard Sale
Fri, Oct 2 9:00a – Yard Sale
Sun, Oct 4 9:15a – Sunday Bible Study
10:30a – Worship Service
(Sabrina and Jane)
Tues, Oct 6 10:30a – Presbyterian Woman
Tues, Oct 6 4:30p – Bible Study-
Anna Hadrava's home
Wed, Oct 7 4:30p – Bible Study-
Potters House
6:00p – Choir Practice
Sun, Oct 11 9:15a – Sunday Bible Study
10:30a – Worship Service
(Peggy and Anna)
12:00p – Fellowship Luncheon
Tues, Oct 13 4:30p – Bible Study-
Anna Hadrava's home
6:00p – Christian Ed Meeting
Wed, Oct 14 4:30p – Bible Study-
Potters House
6:00p – Choir Practice
Thurs, Oct 15 4:30p-7p – Fellowship Dinner
(Chicken)
Sat, Oct 17 10:30a – Bread of Life
Sun, Oct 18 9:15a – Sunday Bible Study
10:30a – Worship Service
(Hillary and Matt)
12:00p – Session Meeting
Tues, Oct 20 4:30p – Bible Study-
Anna Hadrava's home
Wed, Oct 21 4:30p – Bible Study-
Potters House
6:00p – Choir Practice
Sun, Oct 25 9:15a – Sunday Bible Study
10:30a – Worship Service
(Amy and Sandi)
12p – Worship Committee Meeting
Tues, Oct 27 4:30p – Bible Study-
Anna Hadrava's home
Wed, Oct 28 4:30p – Bible Study-
Potters House



Committee News

Session

- Future session meetings are scheduled the 3rd Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be October 18th after worship service.

Presbyterian Women

- The women are holding a fundraiser by selling tickets for a chance to win one of the following: a blue and white quilted tree skirt (on display in the Potter's House), a crocheted afghan and a table runner. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. See Sandi Carle, Pat Janowski, Beverly Wainwright or Leslie Mullins for more details. They also meet on 1st Tues of the month.



- The Oct Fellowship luncheon is on the 11th after worship. Bring a side dish to share.

- PW meetings are the 2nd Tues of the month. This month it is Oct 6 @ 10:30 am. The first 30 minutes is a bible study and the meeting is the last 30 minutes.

Building & Grounds

- The 1.8 Acres next door to the Potter's House is available.

Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship

- At the last session meeting, the idea of sending care packages and letters to our deployed military personnel was discussed. This will be a ministry for all of us to participate in. This is still in the planning stages – stay tuned for more info. In the meantime see Frank or Sabrina Crosby.



- Youth Fundraiser **Yard Sale** is scheduled for Thurs & Fri, **Oct 1 & 2**.

Christian Ed

- Sunday School groups are encouraged for all ages. Adult Bible Study is currently discussing Revelation. The children's groups are split as follows: Pre-K - K, 1st – 3rd, 4th – 5th, and Youth 6th+.

Worship Committee

- Join one of our small group bible studies. This is a 6 week class on "The Parables of Jesus". One group will meet on Tuesdays at 4:30p at Anna Hadrava's House (239 E. Buffalo Bluff Rd #158, Satsuma # 386-559-7244) and another group will meet on Wednesdays at 4:30 lead by Ginger Knox at the Potter's House.
- There will be a Night of Bluegrass Music coming in the near future.

Coming Soon

Congregational Meeting:

We will be a congregational meeting on October 11th for the purpose of electing church officers. Please plan to attend.

WOW!!!

The Sept Fish Dinner raised **\$872.00**. A HUGE thank you to all that helped. The cookshed was PACKED with men. And two of our younger youth were amazing helpers, cleaning tables and getting orders together: Jaiden Michael and Tucker Eubanks!

Octobers Chicken Dinner will be on Thurs. Oct 15 @ 4:30-7:30pm!

Annual Bonfire and Pumpkin Carving Night



October 23rd from 6 – 9pm. Games, Pumpkin carving contest, Stone Soup, bonfire, s'mores, and horseback riding!

- Bring your own pumpkin to carve (and carving tools if you have them – we always need extra). You will get to take it back home with you when you leave.
- Also bring a can of vegetables (green beans, potatoes, corn, etc) for Stone Soup!
- This is a time for the entire church! If you want to join us, please do. It's not only for the kids. Stay as long or as little as you want.
- Church Family, please bring in some individually wrapped candy to make goody bags for the kids. Candy can be left in the Potter's House.
- Invite a friend, or two!! For more info ask Mrs. Amy (386-937-2956)

New Members Class:

New member classes will start in November (exact dates TBD). This is a great time to make the decision to make SMPC your church home.

Already a member but want to know more about Presbyterian beliefs and doctrines? This is a great time to come and learn more.

Check us out on the web!! SanMateoPres.com

Do you know the weekly sermons and bible verses are online?

That's right, they are! So, if you are out of town or want to share a particular message with a friend, visit our website @ SanMateoPres.com. To find the sermon archives, click on "About Us" then "Sermon Archives".

Youth Dinner Night

The youth enjoyed a dinner night organized by Susie Smith. They had a fried shrimp, coleslaw, mashed potatoes, green beans and cheese grits. After dinner they played several games.

The attendees as pictured below: front row: David Smith, Hunter Poupore, Tanner Smith, Logan Siprell, Colby Poupore. Back row: Dailah Davis, Kallie Johnson, Hannah Stoudt, Jordan Bishop, Kyndal Sweat, Dillon Diana, Mrs. Susie Smith, Christina Ayala.



Newsletter Information

Please send in any announcements, information or photos, etc., to Leah Hadrava or Amy Poupore so we can include it in the next newsletter.

Who's Who of SMPC

Have you ever wondered whom to contact for what? Below is a list of the folks that help keep SMPC running smoothly week in and week out.

Larry Hadrava

Pastor
smpcpastorlarry@gmail.com
904-476-9398

poupores513@gmail.com
386-937-2956

- contact with any Sunday school, youth or children's program related inquiries

Tommy Smith

Elder, Building & Grounds Chairman
smith3@bellsouth.net
386-972-2901
- contact for building/grounds concerns and for reservations of the facilities for any events/meetings

Sabrina Crosby

Elder, Clerk of Session
crosbys@flaglerschools.com
386-972-9021

Bill Futch

Elder, Stewardship & Finance Chairman
billfutch1950@gmail.com
386-530-0054

Marge Voorhis

Prayer Warrior Leader
marge.voorhis@gmail.com
386-649-6796
- contact for any prayer cards, prayer or visit requests

Frank Crosby

Elder, Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship Chairman
orangepicker16@yahoo.com
386-937-6374

Andi Wells

Bulletin updates
finktoes@yahoo.com
386-937-1184
- contact for anything to be included in the bulletins (announcements, birthdays, anniversaries, events, etc)

Lynwood Timberlake

Elder, Worship Committee Chairman
ltimberl@yahoo.com
386-546-2186
- contact for any worship service related questions/comments

Lulu Gail Griffis

Choir Director
lgparish@yahoo.com
386-972-3250

Janie Register

Elder, Treasurer
jgigi6_2000@yahoo.com
386-546-9988
- contact with any financial inquiries

Leah Hadrava

leahyh123@gmail.com
- contact for newsletter information

Amy Poupore

Elder, Christian Ed Chairman

Helen Preston

- for any flowers that you would like placed in the sanctuary

DEVOTIONAL THE QUILT

As I faced my Maker at last judgement, I knelt before the Lord along with the other souls. Before each of us laid our lives, like the squares of a quilt. An angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.

But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I was faced with in everyday life. I saw hardships that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.



I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color and all the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own

life and was disheartened. My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty like binding air.

Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of the truth ...The others rose, each in turn, holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been.

My angel looked upon me, and nodded for me to rise. My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness and death, and false accusations that took from me my world as I knew it.

I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I had spent many lonely nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up

to ridicule, which I endured painfully: each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.

And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it had been. I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light. An awe-filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with eyes opened wide.

Then I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, The Face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with love and warmth in his eyes. He said: "Every time you gave over your life to me, it became my life, my hardships, and my struggles. Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let me shine thru, until there was more of me than there was of you."

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN -

