

May, 2020

Still Speaking ...

A newsletter from the Community Church of Atascadero



**Community Church
Of Atascadero**

United Church of Christ

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**Virtual Worship
10 am Sunday**

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Cell phone (805) 470-9486

Pastor's Office Hours:

by appointment

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Marth Thomson, Office Administrator

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As I Ponder...

*Anxiety weighs down the human heart, but a good word cheers it up. Proverbs
12:25*

I keep asking people how they are doing. Sometimes I get the standard response, *Fine*. Sometimes I get a few details of things that are going on, e.g. *Been doing a lot of gardening*. Sometimes no response at all. Maybe it's just me, but I feel anxious. There's the generalized anxiety of the course of the pandemic. I know epidemics don't hit everywhere at once with the same ferocity. So, *what is ahead for SLO County?* The conflict is increasing between those agitating to open things back up and those who believe Shelter-at-Home is helping lessen contagion. I feel anxious that people eager to "get the economy moving again" won't (*don't?*) practice physical distancing or wear masks, which could then open the door to a virus eager to make itself at home.

Then there's my anxiety that shows up in my dreams where I am hosting Zoom meetings. The details keep going around in my head like a hamster on a wheel. I awaken rather tired and no more inspired. My anxious feelings also arise when I ponder what church will look like when we meet again. *How close can we get? Can we have fellowship after worship? What about hugs?!?* And then there's the rather unreasonable anxiety that pops up (as though anxieties tend to be reasonable) of not having the right answer, or any answer, of what to do next, how to handle the present—the anxiety of inadequacy. (*At least I can smile at the ridiculousness of that one and know that a few of you might relate.*)

I just came across the proverb above this morning. My heart certainly feels weighed down. I long for a "good word" to cheer me! And yet I wonder if the cheering happens from *receiving* a good word? Or from *offering* one? I wonder if *giving* a good word becomes transformative simply in the process of looking at what is good?

So, what good word might I offer you today? Perhaps it is simply that in the midst of my (many) anxieties I still experience amazing beauty and am periodically overcome by the goodness (Godness) exhibited by people all around our country and all around the world in the midst of these times. And it fills my heart in ways that reduce the intensity of my own fears. Thanks be to God

Gratefully yours... heather

WORSHIP

We continue to meet for Sunday worship! Yes, it's a little different to log in for worship rather than walk into the sanctuary. And yes, it's a little different to see each other plastered across our screens like Hollywood Squares on steroids. And yes, it's a little different to learn to mute ourselves during prayer time. And yet, we continue to gather as a community—worshipping together, warmly greeting each other, sharing our joys and concerns, eager to make a positive difference in the world around us. We miss meeting together in person, yet there is a depth of intimacy fills our spirits. And the Spirit continues to be palpable in the midst!

Each Sunday we will begin worship at 10:00 am. The “meeting room” will be open by 9:50. Come, let us worship together!

KEEPING CONNECTED

Many within our congregation do not use email or have access to online communication. We have set up a system for communication where someone with email is matched with a non-email person and telephone them to share information. If you do not have email and have not received a phone call, please contact Marth Thomson or Pastor Heather to ensure you are in the loop. Thank you.

Zoom Links

We continue to meet virtually. If you join via the internet (computer or smartphone), you simply need to click on the internet link. If you are joining with your telephone (audio only), dial (1) 669 900 9128 (long distance charges may apply) and then, when asked, enter the Meeting ID.

EVENT	INTERNET LINK	MEETING ID
Sunday Worship	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/937257009	937 257 009
Midweek Fellowship	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/271718366	271 718 366
Kids Connect (Sundays)	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84402299870?pwd=V2FncVZVZ29GVFRjZjYyeDZQM3pnUT09	844 0229 9870 PASSWORD: 001535

If you need assistance with connecting by Zoom, please contact Candice Hubbard at 805-602-8153 who will try to help you join us.

BOC MINISTRY REPORT

See's Candy fundraiser was because See's Candy Company closed because of the Covid-19. Please contact Brenda regarding deposits paid.

"Fire at the May's House"

We would like to thank you all for your support when you are going through your own difficulties as well. The kindness and love we have received is humbling and overwhelming!! There are no words we can say that can ever express how much your care has meant to us! The calls, your financial help, and just knowing you are there, has helped to keep us sane. The fire was devastating! Not just the fire itself but the smoke and water damage inside the house. We have a better understanding of what a fire can do! The type of cleaning that has to take place is just unbelievable! Words don't seem enough but it is what we have! Thank you so much for everything!! Truly a wonderful Church Family!

With Love and appreciation,
Brenda and David May

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 - Russell Britton
2 - Shirley Osibin
4 - Bob & MaryJane McConville anniversary

5 - Carolyn Mitchell
11- Nancy Boydston
15- Kent Kenney
20 - Jim Carlisle
21 - Stew Thomson

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
3 10 am Worship online	4	5	6 3pm Fellowship online	7	8	9
10 10 am Worship online	11	12	13 Echo Meal Please contact Celia, help needed 3pm Fellowship online	14	15	16
17 10 am Worship online	18	19	20 3pm Fellowship online	21	22	23
24 10 am Worship online	25	26	27 3pm Fellowship online	28	29	30

Pastor Heather's drop-in hours cancelled until further notice.

