



## **Blood, Sweat, and Tears**

**Blood:** We had a very successful blood drive on Saturday, August 24! We were fully booked with donors thanks to our folks getting the word out. Special thanks to Clyde Vaughn for getting the event into the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

**Sweat:** Our small but mighty group of volunteers did a wonderful job of setting up, staffing, and then resetting the sanctuary once it was all done.

**Tears:** Our gratitude is unending for the folks who gave up an hour of their time on Saturday to donate this life saving gift. Cathy Jo and I were manning the recovery/snack table, and we both got a little weepy when we thought about how blood transfusions have impacted our lives.



The Red Cross did an amazing job of coaching us thru our first blood drive, and their staff was absolutely lovely. The girls working the event were so professional and caring and were stunned that we made lunch for them. Thanks Hazel and Diane for making that happen. One of the girls told me “no one does this” to which I responded “We’re Methodist, we do food!”.

The community feedback was so positive, and although I was thinking this was a one-off, I think we need to consider how to do this quarterly. A lot of us may not be physically capable of helping out, but I’m hoping we can think outside the box and make it happen despite that.

Blessings and gratitude,  
Jana

## **Order your jams and support Aptos UMC!**

As many of you know, I love to make jams and preserves, and that I donate all of the proceeds to the church. I would like to offer you the opportunity to pre-order your jams now. They are \$8 each. And remember, all proceeds will be donated to support our Church. To order, contact me at 332-1695 or [sgvaughn@comcast.net](mailto:sgvaughn@comcast.net).

Here’s what I have available:

**Ginger Pear Preserves**  
**Strawberry Chipotle Jam**  
**Strawberry Balsamic Jam**  
**Apricot Preserves**  
**Apple Butter**  
**Pear Honey**

**Cherry Preserves**  
**Plum Jam**  
**Olallieberry Jam**  
**Candied Jalapenos**  
**Lemon Marmalade**



I encourage you to place your order as early as possible so you are sure to get what you want before I run out. Once you have placed your order, you can arrange a convenient time to pick it up from my home or I can bring it to church.

Sheila Vaughn

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

***“But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”***

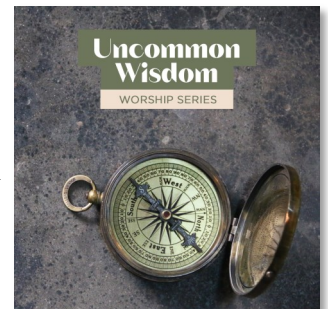
**John 4:23 NRSVUE**

Greetings Church Family,

Summer is winding down, and life is settling into a more normal pace. It is always a blessing to come into church on Sunday morning and see so many familiar faces, along with some new friends. Our regular fellowship warms my heart and fills my soul. Thank you all for your presence and for your love.

On the morning of our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary service, we began our current series, Worship with Rejoicing. Over the past six weeks, we have taken a closer look at the stories of David and Solomon, and examined how they incorporated worship into their lives. Each week we focused on a different part of our own worship liturgy: Gathering, Call to Worship, Confession, Scripture Reading, Prayers of the People, Benediction. In all we recognized the influences of our faith traditions alongside contemporary expressions and applications.

But of course the end of the service is just the beginning of our work in the world. How can we maintain that Sunday attitude of worship throughout the rest of the week? In September we will explore passages from the wisdom literature books of Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Esther. In a society whose success strategies often appear to be exploitation, violence, and smear campaigns, these verses will show us another path to the good life. These passages might comfort or challenge us in strange ways that we haven't necessarily come to expect from biblical texts. I hope you will join us as we seek to understand these texts and challenge ourselves to let them speak truth to our realities today.



I look forward to our journey together, and pray that the love of God will surround you and keep you now and always.

***“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”***

**Colossians 3:16 NRSVUE**

Grace and Peace be with you all,  
Pastor Gabe



Join us for in-person worship in our Sanctuary every Sunday at 10 AM.

We are now livestreaming on YouTube.  YouTube

To watch live click [HERE](#), or go to <https://www.youtube.com/@aptosumc/streams>.

In addition to watching worship live, recordings of services will be available there.

Please also subscribe to our YouTube channel: @aptosumc

Online giving is available on our website by clicking on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or by clicking [here](#).

## Small Group Meetings

Small Groups are open to anyone. If you have questions about any of the groups, please contact Pastor Gabe.

- **Blaney Group** - Sunday at 11:15 AM in the Youth Room
- **PACT** - every other Monday at 10 AM (*September 9 & 23*)  
<https://zoom.us/j/97895982359?pwd=dURlM09lZlZI4V2pLN3ByZkxwT1pHQOT09>  
Meeting ID **978 9598 2359** Passcode **813515**
- **Alive Now** - Tuesday at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall
- **Upper Room** - Thursday at 7 PM  
<https://zoom.us/j/94925380499?pwd=OGNpaHc4VmZ2OFhiczVML2M2ME5Ddz09>  
Meeting ID **974 1046 9403** Passcode **935450**
- **Scott Group** - Friday at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall



### Hiroshi Goto Memorial Service August 17



## Church and Society

In the month of September, we look forward to a **Harvest Potluck luncheon on Sunday, September 15**. It will be a pizza party! We will celebrate the harvesting of the vegetables and spices grown within our community garden and enjoy similar ones on the pizzas presented that day. We will be serving both vegetarian and vegetable and meat pizzas.

An attempt will be made to minimize our environmental impacts with this potluck. **Compostable plates** will be available to fill with pizza and salad. Even though the compostable plates once used must be thrown in the regular trash, they nevertheless break down in the landfill much more quickly than regular paper plates and are, therefore, to be preferred by we who care for the environment. The compostable plates are made of sugarcane and in their decomposition actually enhance the compost.



We will be asking folks to bring a salad, or dessert, or a six-pack or two of sodas to go with the pizzas. Remember the suggestion given last month for beverages? It is important to **choose aluminum cans or real mugs over plastic bottles or throw-away cups**. Aluminum doesn't shed microcontaminants as does plastic, and aluminum can be recycled repeatedly. Therefore, we are asking for those donating canned soda beverages to provide them in aluminum cans. Water will also be available for those who do not like soda, however, we ask that you use a reusable cup or mug or personal water bottle for the water. In so doing, we again are conscious of limiting our impact on the environment.

We remind you that a resolution passed at General Conference in 2024 urged us as United Methodists to play a role in sustainability by reducing our use of plastic, especially single-use plastic, and practicing this within our own church community by using recyclable materials and recycling. Hence, our efforts for this potluck will be to comply with that resolution.

Also in September, we will host the Aptos Circle of Village Santa Cruz, a group supporting seniors within our community, on Wednesday, September 4 at 1 PM. This is open to any senior in our church who is interested.

*We thank Thee then, O Father,  
For all things bright and good,  
The seedtime and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food.  
Accept the gifts we offer  
For all Thy love imparts,  
And what Thou most desirest—  
Our humble, thankful hearts.*

From *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*, an old German hymn

Joyce Rodgers  
Church and Society/Missions/Green Team



### Birthdays

- 2 Jean Beebe
- 4 Elsie Staley
- 6 Sara Rossi
- 7 Patricia Files
- 8 Andy Lewis
- 9 Caroline Carney
- 13 Linda Theiring  
Jim Williamson  
Jeanne Grimes
- 16 Jonathan Treffkorn
- 17 Bob Williams
- 18 Rob Holmberg
- 20 Marion Proffitt
- 26 Marty Nichols  
Riley Nichols
- 30 Bill Fennell

### Anniversaries

- 2 Georgia & Charlie Mackh
- 7 Jane & Steve Green
- 8 Teresa & Skip Fehr
- 14 Barbara & Edward Bulicz
- 15 Jenna & Orey Wafford
- 18 Susan Cooper & Lan Dyson
- 24 Boyd Brown & Helene Milner
- 30 Michele & Dan Rossi

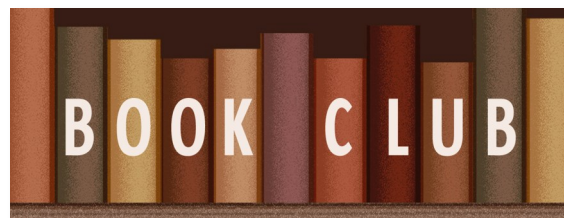
### **Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate**

Every first Sunday of the month Laurel and Bob Blaney offer coffee and chocolate from Equal Exchange for sale.



### **You are invited to join our Prayer Team.**

The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To **join** the Prayer Team or **submit** a prayer request, please contact the church office.



### **Book Club**

#### **September 18:** *The Women* by Kristin Hannah

The Book Club meets at 1:30 PM on the third Wednesday of every month in the Youth Room. *Anyone is welcome to attend.* For more information, please contact Barbara Coy-Bulicz at 689-9772 or [bcoybulicz@gmail.com](mailto:bcoybulicz@gmail.com).

## **Online Giving**

To give online, go to [www.aptosumc.org](http://www.aptosumc.org) and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or click [HERE](#).

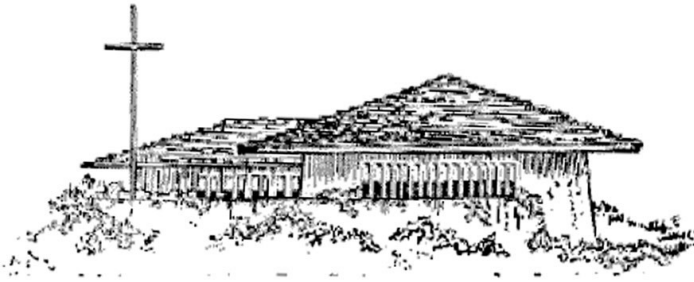
Or, scan this code using your smartphone:

- For iPhone (iOS 11 or later): Launch the Camera app, frame the QR code, and tap the notification at the top of the screen.
- For Android devices: You'll need to download a third-party app, such as QR Code Reader.



Creating an account online is not necessary unless you would like to set up a recurring payment or if you would like to save your payment information for future transactions.

Contact the church office ([office@aptosumc.org](mailto:office@aptosumc.org) or 831-688-2210) if you have any questions or need assistance.



## **Aptos Community United Methodist Church**

*"The Church Worth Finding"*

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003

831.688.2210

[www.aptosumc.org](http://www.aptosumc.org)

### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Sunday Worship at 10 AM in person  
and livestreamed on YouTube**

*YouTube channel: @aptosumc*

<p><b>Deadline for October Tide</b> Friday, September 20</p>
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*The Tide* is published monthly by Aptos United Methodist Church. Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of *all persons*, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities.

We affirm our denomination's motto – ***Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.***

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 2:30 PM.

## **Church Staff**

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