PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR GRAND RE-OPENING

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 10:00 A.M.

WE WILL MEET SAFELY, OUTDOORS, IN PERSON!

- Live worship, live music, live preaching.
- Bring your own camp chair if you have one, or we will provide one.
- Masks will be required.
- Socially distanced, outdoor, safe worship area.
- Aptos weather is tricky: wear layers, sunglasses and a hat.

SERVICES WILL STILL BE OFFERED ON ZOOM
Greetings Church Family,

As we prepare to resume in-person gathering, I am overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from our members. So many have worked behind the scenes to ensure that we have a smooth and safe return.

We have endured a long period of social distancing. One of the hardest things to deal with has been the isolation from those we love. Our hearts have been aching and our spirits have been tested.

But now we begin to emerge on the other side of this trial. And we are returning as stronger and more resilient people. We made it through this, and that shared experience bonds us as we eagerly anticipate seeing each other again.

Even as we return, there will be difficulties. We are committed to the principle of “Do No Harm”. We will exercise an abundance of caution to protect our most vulnerable members. We will refrain from touching, even though we yearn to hold each other tight. We will don our masks, even as we long to see the wide smiles on everyone’s faces. But if the last year has shown us anything, it’s that we can rise to meet any challenge that confronts us.

I look forward with great joy to the times we have ahead of us, and the wonderful work we will do together. May the precious gift of our community of faith nurture your mind, body, and soul, amen.

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:24-25, NRSV

Grace, Peace, and Blessings,
Pastor Gabe

In-Person Worship Reminders

Bring a device to view the bulletin.
Limited paper copies will be available. There will be no screen or hymnals.

Bring your own portable chair, and dress for the weather.
A chair will be provided if unable to bring your own.

Masks are required.

Worship will still be offered live on Zoom.
https://zoom.us/j/95070443590?pwd=SE5BdW5CbpFNXkzbGlsc1V1enQ3UT09
Video and audio recordings of worship services are available Monday on our website under the ‘Worship Library’ tab.
Finance Update

Aptos United Methodist Church finances continue to be of concern, but April has brought encouraging signs of fiscal improvement. Eight families/individuals have paid their entire pledge in advance for the year, and a total of 46 families/individuals now are providing financial support. This means that we’re moving closer to meeting the pledge income budgeted for 2021: $160,000 for the year/$13,350 each month. Thank you to everyone who has continued to support Aptos UMC during the pandemic. First quarter finance statements have been mailed to members. In addition, the Easter offering totaled $1,785, and this will go into the General Fund to help meet current expenses.

The church has received official notification from Comerica Bank that the loan received from the federal government has been converted to a grant that does not need to be repaid. This is because the church has continued to pay its employees throughout the pandemic.

We are looking forward to May when we can gather together for outdoor worship services. An offering plate will be provided so that people can give directly and not have to mail in their giving. We are so grateful that our members have continued to support Aptos UMC throughout its closing and now its reopening. We look forward to new programs and challenges as we move ahead.

Anne Scott, Finance Chair

May Special Offering

May 30 - Peace with Justice

Though we have no scheduled Mission activities at the present time, due to the suspension of much of our past work due to COVID restrictions, there are still many ways that you personally can become involved in the community through volunteering. Here are some opportunities to consider:

- **The Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County**: Need for volunteers in the Stay Connected program (a friendly voice for seniors), the Grocery Shopper program, and Vaccine Clinic volunteers. Learn more by visiting www.scvolunteercenter.org or calling 831-427-5070.
- **Second Harvest Food Bank**: Contact Joel Salinas at 831-232-8141 or visit www.thefoodbank.org/volunteer.
- **Grey Bears**: Call 831-479-1055 or visit www.greybears.org.

All of the above serve seniors in our community. Seniors comprise a target group for Aptos UMC. Later this year we hope to develop teams from our Church who can respond to one or more of these organizations as a group. Meanwhile, see if there is a need out there which particularly calls you to respond, and then invite others from our community to join you!

“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:4

Joyce Rodgers
Missions Chair
PACT Offers Doctor Rides

Aptos UMC’s Pastoral Assistance Care Team (PACT) has started a service to assist church members who need rides to the doctor. If you are unable to drive yourself to your doctor appointment, you may call Anne Scott at 831-688-8709 and she will arrange a ride for you. Please call several days in advance so that she may find a driver close to you. However, do call in an emergency if you suddenly cannot drive or your regular driver can’t take you the day of your appointment.

PACT members will serve as drivers, and other church members are invited to call Anne and volunteer to drive. This is a church mission service that is needed to assist our older members who have medical issues. We hope that it’s something that our members will find helpful and that they will use as needed.

Small Group Meetings

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

- **Blaney Group** - Sunday at 11:15 AM on campus
- **PACT** - Monday at 10:00 AM
  [https://zoom.us/j/97895982359?pwd=dURlM091ZXI4V2pLN3ByZkxwT1pHQT09](https://zoom.us/j/97895982359?pwd=dURlM091ZXI4V2pLN3ByZkxwT1pHQT09)
- **Alive Now** - Tuesday at 10 AM on campus
- **Upper Room** - Wednesday at 7 PM
  [https://zoom.us/j/94925380499?pwd=OGNpaHc4VmZ2OFhiczVML2M2ME5Ddz09](https://zoom.us/j/94925380499?pwd=OGNpaHc4VmZ2OFhiczVML2M2ME5Ddz09)
- **Scott Group** - Friday at 10 AM
  [https://zoom.us/j/92663145267?pwd=bU9aeW90ekRvVFhTZEJxdTZOTjJMMUT09](https://zoom.us/j/92663145267?pwd=bU9aeW90ekRvVFhTZEJxdTZOTjJMMUT09)

A huge “Thank You” to everyone who contributed toward the Easter Flowers.

We received a total of $730! I am astounded at your generosity. Not only did we have enough money to cover the cost of the flowers, but there was also enough to pay for repairs to the irrigation system so we can keep them looking good, and a little left over for future plant purchases. Be sure to take a look when we meet in person for our first outdoor service on May 2nd. And please thank Mike Proffitt and his band of helpers for all their hard work. Bless you all!  ~ Lee
**Birthdays**

1. Jenna Wafford  
2. Connie Moore  
3. Jenny Lewis  
4. Kathleen Cook  
5. Zane Ota  
6. Burt Rodgers  
7. Mykal Philbin  
8. Molly Hucklebridge  
9. Mike Proffitt  
10. Barbara Coy-Bulicz  
11. Kathleen Hoaglund  
12. Clyde Vaughn  
13. Sydney Ota  
14. Amanda Favorite  
15. Allison Ota  
16. Doug Sampson  
17. Kate Sutherland  
18. Maya Harvey  
19. Lee MacDonell  
20. John Green  
21. Mark Hucklebridge  
22. Paul Moody  
23. Dan Rossi

**Anniversaries**

15. Joe & Lee MacDonell  
19. Jim & Carol Williamson  
23. Jay & Bridget Parr  
25. Barbara & Linda Sizelove-Secola

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**In Our Thoughts & Prayers**

Mike and Marion Proffitt on the death of Mike’s brother Ron.  
The family and friends of Natasha Wist on her death on April 19.  
Forrest Willcox

**Homebound:** LaVern Radeleff, Lollie Starbuck, Ruth Nichols

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**County of Santa Cruz COVID-19 Vaccine Information**

For vaccine information including up-to-date healthcare system information and countywide distribution plans, CLICK HERE: [https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome/Vaccine.aspx](https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome/Vaccine.aspx)

Homebound (or know someone who is homebound) and need the vaccine? Please complete the survey at the above link to help Public Health in planning for homebound vaccination efforts. This survey can be completed by the individuals who are homebound, or on behalf of another individual. Homebound individuals can also call or text Community Bridges’ Bridges to Access Vaccination Helpline at (831) 219-8607 for support in filling out the survey. Leave your name, phone number, age and zip code, and Community Bridges’ staff will call back within 48 hours.

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**THE UPPER ROOM**

Print and PDF (electronic file) versions of the May/June issue are available. Please contact the office if you would like either of these provided to you. A Spanish version is also available in PDF format.
Aptos Community United Methodist Church
“The Church Worth Finding”

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship
at 10 AM on Zoom

Deadline for
June Tide
Friday, May 21

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 campus of Aptos UMC is currently closed. Email, phone messages, and mail are still being received. To contact the office, email messages are recommended for a more timely response.

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