

MESSENGER



The Psalm of Myrna

*When I was young and much too shy –
My God insisted, “Do, speak, go, and try! You
will survive!”*

*When circumstances felt intimidating –
The Spirit urged, “You can do it. Try your best!
Be a doer!”*

*When I was rebellious and didn't follow the
expected path –
My God sent freedom, and filled me with
peace, love, and joy at last.*

*When bitterness took over – I wasn't treated
fairly –
The Spirit whispered, “Be better, not bitter!
Just wait!” And it was good.*

*When my mind was full of confusion –
My God sent enlightened ones and books to
guide my direction.*

*When uncertainties came along my life's
path –
My being became a prayer. God led me
safely through the darkness.*

*I will forever sing praises and turn cartwheels
of joy.
For God is the strength of my life.
I am saved from myself.
Praise God!*

—Myrna Farraj—

A NOTE from Pastor Matt

Vision, Discovery, Community, and Renewed Spirit



Rev. Dr. Matt Paul
is the head
pastor at St. Andrew

Dear Friends in Christ,

On July 21, I celebrated the 20th anniversary of my ordination, and to mark the occasion I attended a session meeting! How appropriate, right? Such is the nature of ministry that the work of Christ and his church does not stop. Although we may pause from time to time, our calling is to continue along the course set before us, looking to Jesus as our guide and trusting in the Holy Spirit to empower us for whatever God has in store

for us. Fulfilling this call is something we do together as the body of Christ.

As I paused to consider my ordination and where it has taken me over these last twenty years, my heart was filled with memories of all the people with whom I have had the joy of sharing in the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. There are countless saints who have provided encouragement, wisdom, accountability, and spiritual and emotional support over the years. Some have found their eternal rest in God, some are near, some are far, yet together they form the chorus of the great cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12) that stirs my soul and urges me on to year twenty-one and beyond.

Speaking of the 21st year of my ordination, I want to share with you the goals and expectations I have for the coming year. These are from my performance goals that have been approved by session, and will shape much my work over the next twelve months. As I mentioned earlier, ministry is always shared, so accomplishing these goals will require a team effort with our

leadership and you.

The first goal involves leadership development. Together with the session, I want to examine our organizational structure to ensure that it best serves the needs of St. Andrew as we prepare to move into a new facility in a new neighborhood. Have we allocated resources consistently with our vision? Do our ministry teams have what they need to succeed in carrying out their work?

The second goal involves visioning for the future. The purpose here is to discern who we are and who God is calling us to be; and to answer the question: *How are we going to get there?* From this process we will develop concrete steps to help us live into our purpose as the body of Christ, living in Christ's love and serving as Christ served.

The final goal has to do with building relationships at St. Andrew and with our community. The last several years at St. Andrew have been emotionally and spiritually challenging. This has taken a toll on relationships, and, in some cases, caused an erosion of trust in one another. My prayer for this goal is that we work together to restore relationships, deepen our connections to one another and to the ministry of Christ, and that we begin forming new relationships with the community God has called us to serve.

While these are ambitious goals, I can't wait to get started on them . . . together. May my 21st year of ordained ministry and the 59th year of St. Andrew's be filled with vision, discovery, community, and renewed spirit to carry out all that God has for us.

Godspeed,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

June 23, 2016 Session Highlights

- Chris Donelson provided an update on the *With Our Eyes on Christ* campaign.
- Jack Prall provided an update on the building project.
- Harry Hoyt and Karen Bartel joined the meeting as representatives from the Presbytery of East Iowa. Harry reported that a previous meeting with building and finance team members from St. Andrew was productive in catching the presbytery up with the status of the building project.
- Session approved a motion to list the remaining surplus land at Camp Cardinal (west of the church building, north and south of Gathering Place Lane) with Bill Wittig. Session also appointed Dan Steele and Kelly Lamb from the Finance Team to work with Bill and the church's attorney to review land sale offers and present recommendations to session.
- After receiving a report from the Finance Team updating the status of securing a bank loan, elders requested a workshop meeting with Finance, Camp Cardinal Building Team, and the Capital Campaign Team to discuss loan options and scenarios. The Finance Team will facilitate the meeting not later than July 15.
- Deb Wretman, Personnel Team chair, facilitated a discussion of the Head of Staff performance evaluation. Session approved performance goals for the Head of Staff, in spirit, pending clarifying revisions.

To be the body of Christ, living in Christ's love, serving as Christ served.

Community Happenings

Births, Baptisms, Deaths, Membership

John Dane, father of Jim Dane, died on July 7.

St. Andrew welcomed Jacqueline Lavelly and Kyle Bernard into membership on July 21.

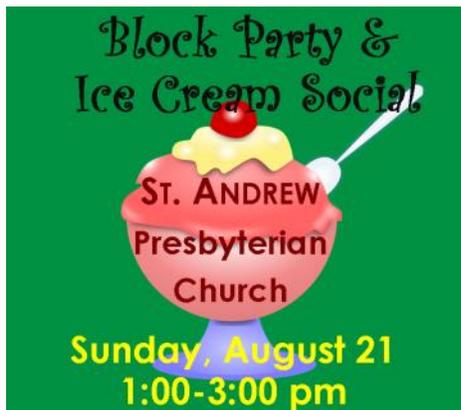
Connection Card Quotes

Other Events & Items of Interest

Block Party & Ice Cream Social

Since we're new to the North Campus neighborhood, we think it's a good idea to get to know our new neighbors. So we are inviting folks who live near the North Campus building to a Block Party & Ice Cream Social.

Please plan on attending and bring your friends and neighbors along! The event will be from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on Sunday, August 21.



Bible Study Time Change

We will now be meeting at 10:00 am instead of 9:30 on Wednesdays at Melrose Meadows (350 Dublin Drive). This is a study of the upcoming Sunday lectionary passages with either Pastor Matt or Pastor Kyle. All are welcome to participate.

Dear People on the Move...

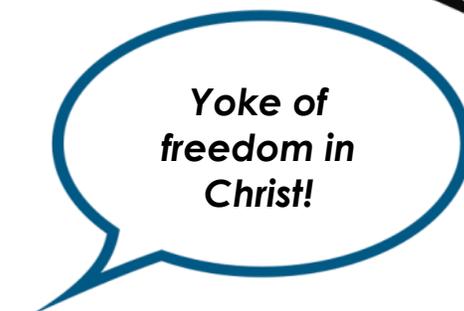
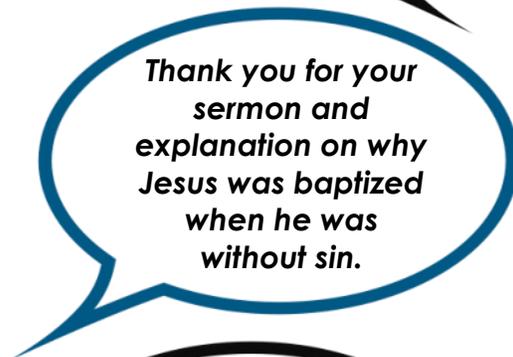
Even with the move to the North Campus the Deacons ARE still receiving food pantry donations! Look for the tan fabric bins just inside the building's entryway. Donations are collected several times each month by a Deacon and distributed to the local (North Liberty, Coralville, and Iowa City) food pantries. Many thanks for your continued support!



St. Andrew & Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity Partnership Update



Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity (IVHFH) is moving forward with the Interfaith Build that St. Andrew is supporting. Available days start in mid-July and go into October. Many thanks to the St. Andrew members who have already volunteered to work as group on Wednesday, August 10 and Saturday, August 20, for both the morning and evening shifts. If you are interested in volunteering, there's still time to sign up. Please contact Becka Simpson at b.yucuis@gmail.com or 319/936.6939.



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Capital Campaign Team Update

by Chris Donelson & Marylu Watkins

As an update on the *With Our Eyes on Christ* capital campaign, we want to offer a list of topics for your personal and corporate prayer. Recently on Sundays in church, we have been reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians. As Pastor Kyle explained in the first sermon of the series, many of Paul's letters begin with a prayer of thanksgiving. When we review Colossians 1, Paul also prays for the knowledge of God's will and the forgiveness of sins. Following this example, we invite you to pray for our church community, as Paul prayed for the Colossians. We pray with our eyes on Christ . . .

Session has directed the Finance Team to work with Two Rivers Bank to secure an up-to \$6 million loan. The initial loan will be a construction loan we expect to start using in October or November to pay for progress on the building construction. Sometime next spring, when construction is finished, the loan will roll over into a long-term mortgage loan. The final amount of the mortgage loan may be less than \$6 million, but that depends on the sale of the three parcels of land adjacent to the new building.

St. Andrew has received several letters of intent from developers interested in buying the three parcels adjacent to the new building. The details of the offers are confidential while they are being negotiated. Land sales require approval from session, the congregation, and the



Presbytery of East Iowa. It will take some time to move the process forward.

Two Rivers has requested a number of contingencies prior to agreeing to the loan. These include 1) a formal appraisal of the land and building as designed, 2) an outside accounting review of church income over the last year, and 3) an outside project accountant responsible for loan money dispersed for construction of the building. Session has hired RSM McGladrey, a local accounting firm, to provide the outside accounting.

Apex Construction continues to make progress at the building site. Recent work includes managing waterways, building sewer lines, waterproofing the foundation walls and adding insulation. Additional progress depends on weather conditions and the availability of steel for delivery. At our current construction pace, we hope to be in the building by May 1, 2017.

We anticipate providing more updates as we receive additional pledges and gifts to the capital campaign fund. Our current total pledged amount is \$1.37 million from 140 individuals or families.

The many ministries of our church continue in our temporary Coralville space. Summer has been an important time of fellowship among our children, volunteers and staff. We know that this year of transition is a year of transformation, preparing us spiritually and physically for God's work in our community.

We love to hear your questions and feedback. As always, you can find us in person on Sunday mornings or in writing at WithOurEyesOnChrist@saintandrewic.org.

July 22 Update from Apex Construction

Work completed this week:

- All foundation walls are completed and lower walls are back-filled to floor subgrade
- Water proofing is 30% completed on tall foundation walls
- Sanitary sewer line is stubbed into building
- Some structural steel has been delivered to site
- Masonry work has started on elevator shaft

Site Work:

- Finish grading is in progress along Camp Cardinal Road
- Sanitary sewer line and manholes are being installed, work is about 50% complete

- Electrical transformer has been installed and permanent underground power lines are installed.
- Site grading continues on north parking area and roadway as weather permits

Work projected for next week:

- Continue grading of north parking lot
- Continue sanitary line install
- Masonry work on elevator shaft
- Layout interior footings for column lines in preparation for anchor bolt placement
- Partial backfill on tall walls as weather conditions permit

To be the body of Christ, living in Christ's love, serving as Christ served.

Her Being Became a Prayer

by Sarah Dyck

Many St. Andrew members may know Myrna Farraj as a worship leader, a Stephen Minister, as Miriam in this year's VBS skits, a member of the prayer team, a knitter of prayer shawls, and a writer of prose and poetry.

If you know Myrna – you realize she is one of the last people who would want to be the subject of a personal article. When I approached her, she first said, “no” until I explained that I wanted to write about her faith development and daily practice of walking, singing, reciting scripture, and praying that keeps her connected to God. (See Myrna's essay, *Morning Has Broken*, on page 7).

Myrna can't pinpoint a year or date when she assumed a faith in God. “I've always had faith,” she says. “God has forever been an important part of my life. I knew I could call on God if I couldn't get my mother's or someone else's attention. God was always there to listen to me.”

Life started in rural Iowa and eventually she became an elementary school teacher and later got a Master of Arts in counseling to spend many years teaching and counseling kids. “I was in one of the first Stephen Ministry classes led by Betty Oglesby. I knew the counseling part – but wanted to see how counseling could be used from a spiritual perspective.”

Myrna does not separate the secular from the spiritual. She sees her life as a journey with God. When she was writing her book, *My Heart is Singing: A Memoir*, it became apparent how God had been leading her. “I realized God had led me in the path where I found my spouse in life. After college graduation I was dissatisfied and didn't want to go the normal route of teaching in a big city with my friends as was expected - and so ended up teaching in a girls' school in Amman, Jordan. As I did not feel super successful in that position I moved the second year into working at a refugee camp in Jericho. It was in Jericho where I got to know the Farraj family and met John when he came home from college. If I hadn't been through each of these steps, I wouldn't have met him. I truly believe that was God's plan.”

In her retirement, walking, praying, reciting scripture, and singing

hymns has become so part of who she is, she even describes her being as a prayer. “It has given me peace, that's the big one.” She says when asked how this discipline has affected her life. “It has made me healthy and starts my day out great. How can you have a bad day if you start it out with God by praying and walking?”

In the book *The Disciple Making Church*, author Rev. Glenn McDonald asks folks to think about who is their Barnabas (a person or people who have trained them in faith) and who is their

Timothy (the ones they train once they are trained). For Myrna, books, more than people, have been her Barnabas. But, there was a person from her past that had an impact on teaching her what a life of faith looks like. “Every once in a while I meet someone, and I think – this person is a true follower of Jesus. I see it in the unconditional love they give. When I was a counselor at Lemme Elementary School, there was a teacher who lived his faith. You just felt that he was a Christ-like person.” Myrna also credits her Tuesday Morning Small Group with helping her along her faith journey. “We feel connected and mean so much to each other.”

How does Myrna know when she sees someone who is a true Jesus follower? “You can tell – they are a genuine person. There's nothing fake about them. You feel their total acceptance. It's an almost child-like acceptance.” Delving deeper, Myrna asks a question. “Don't you think that is how Jesus was?

He asked questions back rather than gave someone a sermon. That's how he taught. He took people where they were and wanted people to think things through. That's how he interacted with people.”

As for her Timothies, “I hope I am an example such that others can see Christ's love in me.”



Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV)

To be the body of Christ, living in Christ's love, serving as Christ served.

Morning Has Broken

by Myrna Farraj



For me the best time of the day happens early. Since I'm not a good late sleeper, I'm up drinking tea, reading the *Gazette*, and completing the puzzles before anyone else thinks of getting out of bed. It depends on the time of the year that daylight makes it appearance that I'm ready to head out on my morning walk. It might be any time between 5:00 am or after 7:30 am.

Every other day I use our sons' weight-lifting bench that we kept. That may take 10 minutes of my time and then off I go, out the door with my cell phone in my back pocket. That's a promise my family requested. They allow me out on my own in the wee hours of the morning – but the compromise is I must have the phone with me.

Today - I don't lift weights. I go out the front door, up the street to turn west on Melrose and down to Camp Cardinal Boulevard. On the boulevard I travel past the future St. Andrew location where construction is beginning - but nothing is happening, as it's early. Picking up speed, I hike on: down hills and up hills, along the curving street. As I started out at 5:15 not many cars pass me. Not much activity out here it seems. A rabbit is sitting on the walk ahead, trying to decide what to do about me upsetting her time away from the nest. At the last second she hops back into the side growth giving me my space to pass.

Soon my hands are full of small papers, bottles, bubble wrap and sticky stuff – but I feel good. I have this thing about not liking to see garbage along my path. I'll manage the load until I reach the Tom Harkin Trailhead where I can dump it and wash my hands at the fountain.

As I travel I am singing my morning songs. I begin with *Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me*. From that favorite I move into my morning prayers. I love the Prayer of Jabez from the Old Testament, I Chronicles 4:9.

Oh, that you would bless me this day indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain to myself or others.

That's my prayer, but I extend it: enlarge my vision, enlarge my heart to love, accept and forgive, enlarge my mind to discern and make good decisions, enlarge my health so that I stay useful and independent.



After my personal prayer I go through prayers for each member of my family and friends that I have on my heart. Singing *The Lord's Prayer* and the *Doxology* follows the personal prayers. All the time I'm enjoying the changing surroundings. I see that the Queen Anne's Lace is making her royalty known. Much growth has sprung up - at least another inch since yesterday. The rain has done its job.

After I dump the garbage I collected, I start through the woods on the Clear Creek Trail. Here I sing, *Oh, Lord, My God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds thy hands have made*. I'm hearing the wrens' choruses and other birds' chirpings, and I can't wait to get to the line *When through the woods and forest glades I wander – And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees*. A lone deer crosses in front of me. I'm cautious as I pass. There may be more following and although they don't frighten me – I don't want to be in their path as they go by.

Soon I'm through the woods and out along the University track where there is an amazing field of Black-eyed Susan and small white daisies blooming. More rabbits are out catching the first rays of sunshine that's appearing. It is a good day. I try out some of the scriptures I've memorized. I start with Psalm 23, a favorite. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.*



My life is blessed.

To be the body of Christ, living in Christ's love, serving as Christ served.

Children, Youth, & Families

Ministries for Children and Families

The buzz around here is all about how we will make the North Campus feel like home during this year of transition. The answer is that we will work hard to strengthen the relationships we have, build new friendships, and grow in our faith together.

We are, admittedly, learning as we go, and always listening to God's voice for direction and insight. Here is our plan:

Sunday School for all ages begins September 18. Children through 6th grade will meet downstairs. Students in junior high and high school and adults will meet upstairs. Plan to attend our Ministry Open House at 9:45 September 11 to see the spaces and hear more details.

spark is our ministry for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. Our year starts with a campout on Friday, September 16. People of all ages are invited to join us for a cook-out (location to be announced). Participants can go home after that, or camp overnight.

Our regular *spark* meetings begin Tuesday, Sept. 20, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm:

5:30-5:45: Gathering/games/activities

5:45-6:15: Supper for everyone

6:15-6:30: Campfire music

6:30-6:45: Family huddles

6:45-7:30 Programming for K-6, including Grace Notes (K-2 choir)



Watch for special events throughout the year that allow families to get together for more fun, learning, and serving.

As always, we need enthusiastic leaders to nurture our children. If you would like more information about teaching Sunday School (for a few weeks or longer) or about helping at *spark* (preparing meals, leading children, helping with music), email Heather at hwoodin@saintandrew-ic.org. No experience is needed, and nobody leads alone—we work together to support each other and serve as role models for our children.



Brothers And Sisters In Christ (BASIC) will kick off the regular ministry season on Wednesday, August 31 at 6:00 pm at the North Campus. BASIC is a vibrant junior high school ministry where we sing, study, do skits, participate in service projects, and much, much more. Come ready to eat some pizza (\$3.25) and start the new year. AND, as always, bring a friend or two!

Ministries for Youth

Eternally Trusting Christ (ETC) is an exhilarating senior high school ministry open to any high school student in the Iowa City area. We meet on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:30. Activities include competitions, singing, small group studies, skits, weekend retreats, mission projects, and much more. Our kick off to the 2016-2017 season is on Sunday, August 28. Hope to see you there, and, as always, bring a friend or two!



For more information about either of these two ministries or Jr High/Sr. High Sunday School, contact Randy Hausler at rhausler@saintandrew-ic.org.

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June 2016 General Fund Income & Expenses

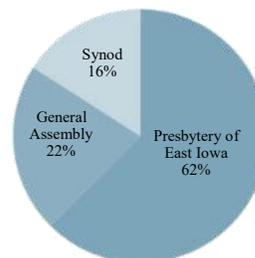
	Current Period	Year to Date	Annual Budget	Annual Percentage	Annual Difference
INCOME					
PLEDGES & IDENTIFIED GIFT	\$66,713.68	\$397,677.60	\$812,500.00	48.94%	-\$414,822.40
FACILITIES/OFFICE INCOME	0.00	80.00	0.00	0.00%	80.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	815.94	3,787.08	0.00	0.00%	3,787.08
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	0.00	242.44	0.00	0.00%	242.44
TOTAL INCOME	67,529.62	401,787.12	812,500.00	49.45%	-410,712.88
EXPENSES					
LAND	\$50.00	\$1,645.00	\$9,000.00	18.28%	-\$7,355.00
BUILDING	5,704.36	24,963.86	49,552.00	50.38%	-24,588.14
UTILITIES	760.07	11,121.34	29,318.00	37.93%	-18,196.66
EQUIPMENT, F & F	12.72	416.22	400.00	104.06%	16.22
VEHICLES	3,279.02	3,935.79	3,855.00	102.10%	80.79
CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MIN	457.61	1,313.61	11,875.00	11.06%	-10,561.39
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	169.99	885.10	1,650.00	53.64%	-764.90
MINISTRIES & MEMBERSHIP	570.58	3,820.41	7,750.00	49.30%	-3,929.59
MISSION	9,454.14	56,057.56	113,750.00	49.28%	-57,692.44
MUSIC	953.08	5,223.58	11,000.00	47.49%	-5,776.42
OFFICE EXPENSE	1,970.88	10,362.71	23,000.00	45.06%	-12,637.29
OPERATING EXPENSES	2,626.57	16,720.68	34,671.00	48.23%	-17,950.32
WORSHIP	52.69	2,330.31	3,126.00	74.55%	-795.69
YOUTH MINISTRIES	4,933.97	5,627.03	14,900.00	37.77%	-9,272.97
PERSONNEL	45,776.85	280,365.47	567,162.00	49.43%	-286,796.53
TOTAL EXPENSES	76,772.53	424,788.67	881,009.00	48.22%	-456,220.33
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	-\$9,242.91	-\$23,001.55	-\$68,509.00	33.57%	\$45,507.45

Deacons' Fund



The financial needs of our community have been particularly high as of late, and our Deacons' Fund is currently empty. Please consider making a donation to the fund by either putting cash or a check in the envelopes in the baskets during worship or by

bringing cash or a check into the church office. Thank you!



Per Capita

Per capita funding is how Presbyterians mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future. The total per capita amount for 2016 is \$33. The breakdown is as follows: **\$20.63 Presbytery**; **\$7.12 General Assembly**; **\$5.25 Synod**. Please remit \$33 for every confirmed member in your family. Thank you!

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Mission, Outreach, & Support (MOS)

Guatemala 2017 Fundraising Page

The screenshot shows the One Mission fundraising page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'One Mission' logo and links for 'Find a Fundraiser', 'Shop with Purpose', 'Fundraise with Us', and 'About Us'. Below that, the main heading is 'Supporting St. Andrew's 2017 Guatemala Mission Trips'. A progress bar shows '\$20.00 Raised' out of a '\$3,000.00 Goal'. A green 'SHOP NOW' button is on the right. On the left, there's a 'Share This Fundraiser!' section with social media icons and a URL: https://onemissionfundraising.com/fundraisers/st_andrew/?shopfor=39695. Below that is a 'Supporter List' section with one entry: 'Donation from Iowa July 16, 2016'. The main content area features the title 'ST. ANDREW'S 2017 GUATEMALA MISSION TRIPS' and a large photo of a young girl smiling.

As we told you in the [July Messenger](#), we are starting to plan and prepare our hearts for two more trips to San Juan, Guatemala in 2017. Karna Wieck will be leading a small group March 11-18, 2017 over spring break, and Kathi Anderson will be leading a group July 8-15, 2017. Both teams are headed back to assist our partner in mission, [Impacto Ministry](#). We are asking for support to help with the costs of projects while we are in Guatemala.

The two teams will be sharing meals with children at two locations (“Happy Tummies”) in San Juan and Panyebar. Happy Tummies is an after school ministry for malnourished elementary school children supported by Impacto Ministry currently serving about 64+ children and their families. Our teams will also help support a new program at the school in Panyebar and will be serving two “snack-meals” which includes nutrition drink, bread and peanut butter for 180+ children at the Panyebar school. Other projects will include ministering to the elderly and distributing shoes. While we are there we will make home visits to Happy Tummies children, Abuelitos (the elderly), and other families that Impacto may know need immediate help. Time is taken to talk with the families, to listen to their needs, concerns, fears, hopes, and then pray for them and their families. A small bag of food is taken in the home visits to leave in each home. The teams also raise funds to assist with costs for a medical clinic while they are there, support for a new library being built at the San Juan Happy Tummies location, or other building project needs while there. Project costs will include paying for a Guatemalan doctor at the clinic and hiring interpreters for each project the team works on.

One way to support the two teams and the people we will be serving is to purchase items from our new One Mission fundraising page. You will be able to purchase items that will remind you of our shared mission, and 40% of each purchase goes to St. Andrew to assist with the trip. Our goal is \$3,000. Simply go to https://onemissionfundraising.com/fundraisers/st_andrew/?shopfor=39695 and begin shopping. If you have questions, contact Karna Wiek at karnaw77@gmail.com. And, as always, thank you for your prayers and financial support!



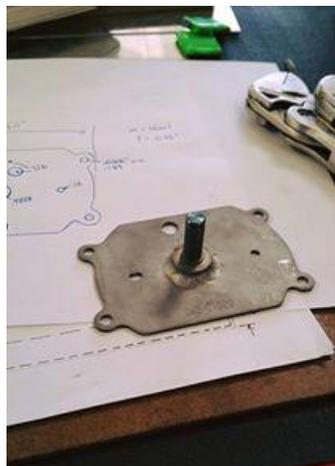
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Roberts Family News June 2016

Fair Dinkum

"Jisas i bekim tok bilong en olsem, "tru tumas mi tokim yu, sapos man i no kamap nuplea gen, em i no inap lukim kingdom bilong God." Jon 3:3. Buk Baibel Long Tok Pisin

Blurred lines appeared on the page... the press plate mount had broken again. Time to call the welder. I received a page to come to the maintenance office. As I walked in, I was handed a part and asked if I could repair it. Looking it over, I was fairly certain that it would not be a problem. "What do you need it for?" I asked. "It's for the local printing press. We are working on Scripture portions that are due to be delivered for a Scripture dedication. We've been running day and night, and now my guys are just standing around waiting." Trying to figure out the quality needed on the repair, I asked, "How strong does it need to be?" "Very. This part holds the part that impacts *claps hands together* the pages. So??? Can you have it done quickly?" **To be continued...**



Update| We are very excited about what God is doing here. We are looking forward to two new Bible dedications in the next few months and several Scripture portions will be available in several different languages. Thanks to you sending us, I am able to continue working out at the hanger keeping the airplanes and helicopters in top shape for the rugged use that they get. Elizabeth continues to work with the horses out at the pony club and is currently packing up the house for another move. Hopefully the last move for 3 years. Serenity and Lexi are almost finished with 1st grade and kindergarten. I (Andrew) have agreed to start working with the next up and coming 8th grade boys community group, both missionaries and nationals.

Cont.| "Yeah, I'll either have it welded up before the end of the day, or I'll make you a new one." I got right to work grinding out the cracked areas, removing the old welds, and re-machining the stem for proper fit. After 4 hours, it was finished. As I looked over this critical part of the printing press, which literally has a

direct impact on God's Word (pun intended), I remembered someone once mentioned that printed words are simply tattoos on dead trees. Another person said that trees look at books and smile knowing that there is life after death. The Bible says:

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." Hebrews 4:12 ESV

The tattoos that we give trees are not simply dead words on dead trees but are alive and active on trees which live on and are used by God to impact the hearts of those who flip through their pages. Fair dinkum.

Thank you to those who have an active hand in our Wycliffe ministry. Because of you, we have the opportunity to serve in Bible translation and work and live in a cross cultural community. Our neighbors are from Papua New Guinea (PNG), New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Mexico, Finland, Holland, Korea, United States and a few other places. Because of the cultural diversity we get to hear all sorts of vocabulary. One of my favorite new slang words is **Fair Dinkum**. It is Aussie slang for true, authentic or genuine. "I say to you, unless a bloke is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God, it's true mate, fair dinkum." A true strine speaker would probably translate it differently. —Andrew and Elizabeth Roberts

The Roberts are Wycliffe mission partners supported by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.



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One Spirit Gatherings: Now Every Second Sunday!

Interested in knowing more about St. Andrew, making connections, or becoming an active member? Join us for our *One Spirit Gathering*, now every



2nd Sunday of the month immediately after the 11 am worship service. At a *One Spirit Gathering* you will share a light lunch, learn more about our mission and ministries, and talk to our pastors and other St. Andrew leaders about life here at St. Andrew. Email Pastor Kyle at kotterbein@saintandrew-ic.org or call him at [319/400.7546](tel:3194007546).

❖ If you would like to start/stop receiving the *Messenger* electronically, please email the church office. Allow one week to process your request.

Our purpose is to be the body of Christ, living in Christ's love and serving as Christ served.

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
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office@saintandrew-ic.org
319/338.7523
Worship Times: 8:30 am + 11:00 am
Sunday School: 9:45 am

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