



Spring, 2021

ALL THINGS NEWS

Church Office 479 Pacific Street Suite C, Monterey 93940

Phone: (831) 641-7527

ATN CALENDAR

Worship

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday

After Worship Zoom

- After Worship

Devotionals

— 9-9:45 a.m. M-W-F

Pursuit of Racial Righteousness

- 1st & 3rd Thursday
7—8:00 p.m.

ATN Kids Zoom

- K-2 Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.
- Grades 3-5 4:00 p.m.

Women's Book Club

- 3rd Thursday of the month 7-8:30 p.m.



A MESSAGE FROM JUSTIN

It's easy to underestimate the importance of stories. I once read there have been societies who have existed without the wheel, but none have existed without stories. In many ways, faith in Jesus could be described as asking God to walk with us so our story becomes a part of His great story.

Here, in this newsletter, we are celebrating the stories of how God is moving among us as a community. We are practicing the discipline of remembering in order to give thanks and consider how to move forward together. May you be blessed with these stories! - Justin

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Here are some thoughts on participating in Communion at home with the regular 1st Sunday of the month practice. Holy Communion is a sacrament, an event that invites us into the very presence of the Living God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There is an unexplainable mystery we will never understand on this side of Heaven. **That God is present with all who come in faith to His Table.**

The bread and cup are not the actual body and blood

of Jesus, but they are symbols that remind us that Jesus died on the cross so that all people could be forgiven and live with Him forever.

But they are more than just reminders! God promises to connect our spirits to Jesus' spirit when we eat and drink this meal. We typically do this together when we are gathered at church, but since we cannot do that right now, we will do it at home, knowing that God's spirit is wherever we are!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: Paul & Joan Spjut

Paul leads ATN's Phone Care ministry, while Joan leads our Salt and Light Ministries. They are an important part of the success of All Things New. We appreciate their faithful spirit, beautiful smiles and wealth of knowledge.

Paul was born in Minnesota; Joan in Nebraska. Both attended Covenant Churches faithfully which laid the foundation for their strong relationships with Jesus.

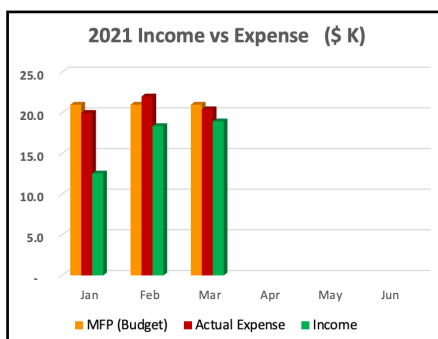
Joan was an elementary teacher and very involved in the Covenant activities. When they served as missionaries in Ecuador, they were able to flourish with "Survival Spanish" and grew to love the people of Ecuador.

They have two grown children, Dana and David. Paul enjoys walking, golf, meeting people, visiting new places, discovering God's work and presence in our world and in other's lives. Joan also enjoys walking as well as visiting senior citizens and offering her help.

Joan shared her mission statement for life which is beautiful and meaningful: "God's creation speaks to me of His greatness and goodness; music stirs my soul and spirit; reading the Bible brings me understanding, insight, correction, comfort, and motivation to continue to grow spiritually. God's forever family both challenges and encourages me to lean into making His Kingdom come here on earth and to live as an example of God's presence; it also fills me with hope for the future."



DOLLARS & SENSE



As you can see, our giving is not quite meeting our expenses. We are asking those in our family who are able to consider increasing your offering so that we will not have to resort to spending any reserves.

Our Ministry Financial Plan (budget) for 2021 averages \$21K per month, which is about the same as 2020. But in 2021 we won't have the additional income of \$44,500 (PPP Loan and the Denomination support) received in 2020. Without making up this shortfall, fixed expenses such as salaries, insurance, rent, office and internet expenses consumes most of our income, leaving very little for discretionary ministry expenses.

Living through over a year of Covid has been a challenge and we are grateful for you who have faithfully supported ATN through this season. In this stressful time for our region and our economy, some of you are barely able to pay for food and rent or mortgage, so we understand that you are giving what you are able. But, if you are able we appreciate you prayerfully considering your giving, as together we seek to walk with our Lord Christ Jesus.



ATN KIDS

Each month in ATNKids, our ATNKids toddlers and preschoolers focus on one of three Basic Truths: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever. This Spring, we are doing that through these themes:

April - **Fly a Kite:** God's love is big.

May - **Jump Jump:** God's way is perfect.

June - **Press Play:** I can trust God.

We want our elementary schoolers (both in the K-2 group and in Grades 3-5) to understand three more Essential Truths: I can make the wise choice, I can trust God no matter what, and I should treat others the way I want to be treated. This Spring, our themes are these:

April - **Reconnect:** Build the Bridge

May - **5K:** Run the Race

June - **Press Play:** Get in the mix.

Pastor Janet and volunteers assemble and deliver a monthly a fun packages to each of our ATNKids. These fun packages are also great ways to invite neighbors and friends into what we're doing! If you know of a family who you'd like to "invite to church", contact atnkids@allthingsnew.church and we'll get one or more to you to give out!

KID'S TALK

What did Jesus do for us on Easter?

"He made the Easter bunny!" - Katherine, age 6

"He died for our sins and forgave our sins." - Mateo, age 10

"He came back to life for us from the tomb." - Ezra, age 8

"Well... when he hides Easter eggs, he makes us pretty happy!" - Charlotte, age 5

"He died for His people and He rose from the dead after three days." - Evelyn, age 6

