

Grapevine

Worship God. Equip Disciples. Love and Serve the World.

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body and we all belong to each other.
Romans 12:4-5

Scripture claims that God is unknowable, unfathomable, beyond our understanding. And yet scripture also declares that we are made in God's image. When you hold those two truths together, you end up with a beautiful implication about the church. Each person bears a different facet of God's being; one is faithful, another generous, another is committed to justice. Just as each person might reflect a different aspect of God's image, each one of us has come to know God in different ways. One has a story to tell of God's faithful presence in hard times, another knows that God cares for the poor. It follows that the more we come to know and enjoy each other, the better we come to know God. God is more fully known when we spend time together as the church, the body of Christ.

The reason for this is clear. God has created us to be in relationship, not in isolation. We are compelled to seek unity and remain in fellowship, both as a way to deepen our faith and as a witness to the world of the Holy Spirit's power to create joyful community. This is a particular challenge these days, as so many things divide us. But as we engage in conversation with someone, especially someone who holds a different viewpoint than we do, we can seek the image of God in that person. That can turn a fight into a spiritual friendship!

These kinds of deep spiritual friendships aren't forged through small talk. Often, we're inclined to avoid controversial topics, from fear that it would break our relationship with another person. But we only catch these holy glimpses of God's image in another when we dig down to talk about things that are important to us. The most fertile ground for this kind of knowing is the tender and vulnerable stories we have to share. This takes courage and a sense of hospitality. Courageous conversations begin with simple questions and the curiosity and respect to truly listen. We create space for this when we carry a sense of care and gentleness as we spend time with each other.

That's the kind of community we're working to foster at this year's Summer Arts Camp. The theme, *"I've been meaning to ask..."* carries a message of thoughtfulness. It says, "You've been on my mind, and I want to know more about you." It's a starting point; one that feels familiar and inviting. Who knows what God will reveal as we spend some time together, getting to know one another better and looking for glimpses of the image of God in each other!

With you in ministry,
Rev. Lynn Stone

This Month at YLPC

Upcoming Meetings:

Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.
 Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m.
 August 3-5 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 Saturday, August 7 & 21 @ 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday, August 8 @ 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday, August 8 @ 11:00 a.m.
 Monday, August 9 @ 4:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, August 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, August 11 @ 9:30 a.m.
 Wednesday, August 11 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, August 11 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, August 17 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, August 18 @ 9:00 a.m.
 Thursday, August 28 @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service
 Chair Yoga
 Summer Arts Camp
 Men's Group at Polly's Pies
 Deacon Sliders after Worship
 Single Ladies Brunch at Jimmy's
 Caregiver's Meeting
 Worship Committee
 Mission Committee
 Stewardship Committee
 Deacons' Meeting
 Session Meeting
 Lights of Los Ranchos by Zoom
 TLC Bible study

August Birthdays

Lynn Melton	8/07
Barbara Irvin	8/10
Janet Thorson	8/14
Evan Sun	8/15
Dorothy Latter	8/17
Carter Hitt	8/18
Greg Wilson	8/18
Midge Kittredge	8/19
John Lauderdale	8/26
Hallie Nicholson	8/27
Kathleen Julian	8/29
Isabelle Park	8/31



Summer Arts Camp August 3-5, 2021 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Classes and activities for adults and youth.
 \$50 pp or \$150 max per family.
 Boxed dinners included.
ylpc.org to register

June 2021 Financial Report

OPERATING FUND Summary Results: Through June, we expected to receive \$166,398 and actually received \$227,676. Also through June, we expected to spend \$256,371 and actually spent \$229,339.

	Operating	Mtg. Reduction	Total
Cash Position	\$ 624,645	\$ 33,578	\$ 658,224
Less: Restricted Funds*	\$ 271,391	\$ -	\$ 271,391
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 353,254	\$ 33,578	\$ 386,833

* Restricted funds are restricted to use for a specific purpose. These include designated gifts, program reserves, payables, reserves for building maintenance, and reserves for unspent program budget.

MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND Through June, we have received contributions of \$45,200 and paid \$12,989 in principal. The current mortgage balance is \$158,727.