

APTOS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 20, 2026 ~ 10 AM Worship

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

STRIVING SIDE BY SIDE



Gabe House, Pastor

Daniel Goldsmith, Music Director

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Articles for the October issue of The Tide are due. Please email your information to the office at office@aptosumc.org.

A Celebration of Life for Marcia Burns will be held Saturday, October 10 at 10 AM at Corralitos Community Church, 26 Browns Valley Road, Corralitos. All who knew and loved Marcia are welcome.

Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Jillian Holmberg

Our **Usher:** Jillian Holmberg

Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins

Our **Coffee Volunteer:** Diane McElroy

Our **Altar Flowers:** Given by Kate Sutherland

This Week:

Monday, 9/21: PACT 10 AM

Tuesday, 9/22: Alive Now 10 AM, Upper Room Group 7 PM

Friday, 9/25: Scott Group 10 AM

Coming Up:

Sunday, 10/4: World Communion Sunday

Aptos UMC sends out a weekly email blast on Saturdays. If you would like to be added to the email list, contact the office at office@aptosumc.org. *If you've given us your email address and aren't receiving the emails, please check your junk or spam folder.*

Online giving is available. Go to aptosumc.org and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button or scan this code using your smartphone.



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, contact the church office.

Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Call To Worship

In times of busyness and stress when we feel surrounded by challenges on all sides...

We gather to learn to strive side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.

In times of joy and rest when we feel the goodness of God's provision and abundance deep in our bones...

We gather to learn to strive side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.

In times of conflict and distress when we feel just how hard it is to live in unity together...

We gather to learn to strive side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.

Disciples of Christ, come, let us worship God who empowers us to press on...

As we learn to strive side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel. Amen.

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Mighty God, we enter your presence with thanksgiving and hope. You have formed us as your people. You join us on the journey of life through valleys, upon mountains, and on the plains. We set our attention and seek your wisdom, encouragement, and grace. Reveal your will and display your glory among your people as we worship your holy name. Amen.

Announcements

Opening Hymn #547

"O Church of God, United"

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture

Philippians 1:21-30

Sermon

"Striving Side by Side"

Pastor Gabe

Hymn #2175

"Together We Serve"

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

It seems we cannot decide, Cloud of Glory.

We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs.

We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, home.

We believe that the gospel can transform lives (at least, for those who need it - not us).

Forgive us, Presence of Peace.

Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace.

Instead of continual complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting.

Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,

to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Doxology #94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #2153

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

Benediction

Postlude

Philippians 1:21-30 NRSVue

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.