

### SOME THOUGHTS

#### ABOUT AGAPE MEALS:

"Sister Margaret Basso, a spiritual retreat leader, once said, 'When the bread is broken open for us, that is Eucharist. When we break ourselves open to each other, that is also Eucharist.'

Perhaps that is why something remarkable happens when people sit down to eat together. We share food and conversation. We become a part of each other's lives. We break ourselves open to one another.

We don't know a great deal about the early Christian "Agape Meal" (also referred to as a Love Feast). But, in the letter of Jude (in the scriptures) we find a reference to love feasts. The writer, in verse 12, admonishes a group of Christians for abusing the meals. These people were called to care for others, but they only fed themselves.

We are called, by this passage, and by thousands of other verses of scripture to care for others.

From the first Pauline letter to the Corinthians, we learn that communion was celebrated in the early Church in connection with a common meal."

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### YOUTH SUNDAY: AGAPE MEAL

Prelude Brad Przedpelski  
 Jubilation Ringers

#### SETTING THE TABLE

**LEADER:** On the table we set symbols to remind us of God's promises to us:

**LEADER:** Candles to remind us that Jesus says, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

**PEOPLE:** We come to share our food and our lives.

**LEADER:** Bread, a symbol to remind us of God's love, Jesus says, "I am the bread of life. The bread that I will give is myself for the life of the world."

**PEOPLE:** We come to break bread together and open ourselves to each other.

**LEADER:** The cup is a symbol of our gratitude, as the Psalmist says "my cup runs over."

**People:** As we share our food, we give thanks for this abundance, and we remember those who do not have enough.

**LEADER:** The fruit symbolizes the "fruit of the spirit" and the abundance of God's love, patience, kindness, and generosity.

**All:** May the food and companionship we share, nourish our bodies, hearts and minds. Amen.

#### BLESSING THE MEAL

Invocation Katie Vigilante

"All My Days" Youth Choir

Scripture Readings  
Acts 2, John 6, & 1 Corinthians 11

"One Bread One Body" Canticles

Children's Story / Skit Youth Illuminators

#### EATING TOGETHER

Passing the Peace / Joys / Concerns

Pastoral Prayer Haley Coates

Offering

"If You Only Had Faith" Youth Choir  
"Si Tuvieras Fe"

#### TABLE TALK

"What Does Communion Mean to You?" Video

Sermonettes Mariah Dalton, Rosemary Walter, & Clara Mooney

Communion

"I'll Fly Away" Vinny Caravano, Katie Vigilante, & Rosemary Walter

#### THE COMMISSION

Commissioning Service for Youth Service Teams

Benediction

### "SI TUVIERAS FE"

"If you only had faith just like a little seed of mustard" this is what Jesus has said.

You would be able to tell the mountains 'move away, move away!'

Y las montañas se moverá  
Se moverá"

WORD & MUSIC: Jorge Lockward / Pablo Sosa  
Spanish Caribbean Pentecostal Chorus

### THE TABLE OF LIFE:

Come to the Table of Life, groaning under its bounty, and partake of the feast laid out for you: Come to the Table of Life and lay down your illusions of scarcity. The Provider of the feast is ever-present, ready to replenish your plate & refill your goblet.

Come to the Table of Life and peel off your armor, piece by piece. Let your pace slow and your heart soften. There is nothing to protect, nothing to defend; your seat at the table cannot be earned or taken away.

Join the company of prodigal sons and daughters as they enter the banquet hall and marvel, speechless, at the utter grace in all that lies before them.

By Rob Morrell

## SHOUT OUTS:

Thank you to:

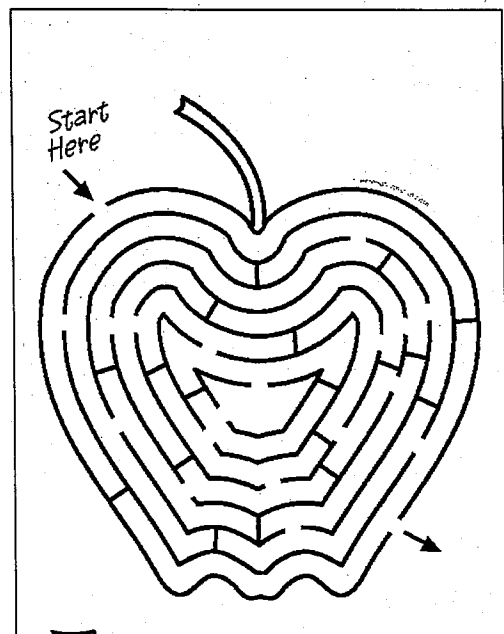
\***Casey Grispin** who did the art work for the Bulletin.

\***Ed Walter** who did the banners and Tshirt designs for our service today.

\***Vinny Caravano** made the video for the service (with help from **Julian Rupkey, Kelly Franks, Autumn Walter, Erin Mooney, Tucker MacMillan, & Casey Grispin**)

\***Haley Coates and Katie Vigilante** who wrote the prayers for our service today.

\***Caroline Irvin, Katie Hammond, Olivia Johanson, and Jane Johanson** for baking bread for our Agape Meal.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**On June 17** there will be a family worship service, with nursery care, and our 2 and 3 year-old class, but no Sunday school for older children.

**On June 24**, we will start our summer Sunday camp program, "Passport to Adventure" for children ages 4-12. This summer, we'll spend time in the air-conditioned computer lab, playing computer adventure games.

### SAVE-THE-DATE June 17th. Annual Church Picnic following 10:00 am worship:

Join us outside for picnic and children's activities (including a bouncy house!) for school age children and childcare for the younger ones.

Please RSVP to picnic@ccsnj.org and let us know how many adults, how many children, and if you will bring a fruit salad or dessert.

Cost \$10 per adult, \$5 per child over 5 years of age

**Yoga schedule for June and July:** On Mondays at 7pm there is an open class for **Adults and Youth** at Christ Church! All of the proceeds go to support our youth service projects in upstate New York and Nicaragua. We will have class on June 18th, 25th & July 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.

\*Notice that we will not have class on June 11th\*

**There will be NO YOUTH GROUP:** on June 10th, 17th or 24th.

The Call to Worship is from:  
"Liturgy for an Agape Meal"  
by Katie Cook

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT

### AGAPE MEALS:

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"They used the bread and cup that was already on the table, as Jesus did during the last supper before his death. We should encourage each other, now and then, to return the Lord's Supper to the tables where we eat together. And, as we share this meal, we should remember the ones outside our doors.

Agape is the New Testament word for the love God showed us in Christ, the love we share in Christ, and the love that is the reason for our meals together. Let us enter into communion with each other over this meal."

By Katie Cook

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

*We pray for the family of Terry Lyons who passed away last week, for Kohl Angelo recovering from surgery for a brain tumor, for Al McRae who is recovering from eye surgery, for Tina White's Aunt Jeannie who has cancer, for Tom Ponasuk's granddaughter, baby Emily, and for John Thompson, who is ill.*

*We are grateful for a successful and smooth surgery for Donna Fisk. We celebrate with Glassroots, the non-profit founded by Pat Ketting, which was featured on "Secret Millionaire" and for Patrice Compton appearing on the Dean's list this semester.*

## FUN FOOD FACTS:

\*It takes a ton of olives to produce about 50 gallons of Olive Oil.

\*It takes 12 honeybees to produce one tablespoon of honey.

\*Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.

\*Apples are made up of 25% air, which is why they float.

\*During a lifetime a person eats about 35 tons of food.

\*One bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of soda.

The flowers today are given by the O'Sullivan family in memory of our parents.  
"We remember them in our hearts."

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Associate Minister - The Rev. Caroline Dean  
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