



# THE REDWOODS LOG

SUMMER ISSUE: July & August 2023

Dear Redwoods,

It is July already, and we are looking forward to welcoming back our Pastor, Stephanie, on July 17<sup>th</sup>. We will have a welcome-home party during Fellowship on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, which is her return to the pulpit. Stephanie and Bill will doubtlessly have tales to share, as will we. Our own Sabbatical time has been rich indeed, if for no other reason than we made it through!

Sabbatical treasures for me include *two* Earth Day celebrations, intimacy within the Bible Study group, and a good response to our series on prayer. Including in our prayer series was: pray ceaselessly, highlighting the Breath Prayer; prayers of healing, distinguishing cure from healing; prayers of lament, realizing that lament leads us into the arms of God; and prayers of intercession, praying for one another and for the world. We celebrated a lively Pentecost, with the reminder that just as the disciples were transformed and sent out, so we are sent out. Prayers for justice compel us to act for justice. We examined prayer in worship, and we embraced prayers of joy and gratitude. And after our Saturday Breakfast, we experienced a walking prayer with an outdoor Labyrinth walk. This was particularly gratifying.

Another highlight was Honor a Friend Sunday. We will plan to do it again. Gathering for communion up front in a semi-circle up front is also something we will do again, as many commented on the pleasure and intimacy.

Let's give a special shout-out to Aranda Dill, who handled the breakdown of the church computer with spirit and determination. She had her partner bring her home laptop to church so she could complete the bulletins for that Sunday. Hooray for our stalwart office manager!

I have several more Sundays as your Sabbatical Pastor. I hope the words "honor and privilege" have not lost their power, because my service here has been both for me. I know you all better and love you all even better.

Go in peace, live in love. See you at church!

Blessings,  
Keenan Kelsey, Sabbatical Pastor

---

**Worship is every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

For those unable to attend the Sunday service in person, the live stream link is available at 9:55 a.m.

[Click here for the YouTube live stream \(if viewing the LOG online\)](#)

The link is also available by going to the 'Join us' page on our website at [www.redwoodspres.org](http://www.redwoodspres.org)

Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Contact the church office at [office@redwoodpres.org](mailto:office@redwoodpres.org) to inquire about joining the study. All are welcome!



## Sabbatical Worship in July

(Rev. Keenan Kelsey preaching, unless otherwise noted)

During Sabbatical, our worship theme is Seasons of Prayer. On Sundays that don't have a guest preacher, we will dive into types of prayer, reasons for prayer, ways to pray, and prayer in the Bible. Prayer exercises can be taken home and prayer activities will be available during fellowship.

### July 2

- Prayers of Confession and Forgiveness; Prayer Postures
- Birthday Sunday

### July 9

- Guest Preacher Holy Communion

### July 16

- Telling Our Story
- Prayers of WOW and Thanksgiving

## Fourth of July Parade: Lemonade Stand



Please show the Larkspur/Corte Madera community what a warm, friendly and vibrant group we are by helping serve lemonade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. This has been a tradition at Redwoods Church for many years, as most of you know. All are invited to join us for fun, comradery and a prime spot to watch the parade. Those that have participated in the past know what a wonderful way this is to spread the joy and spirit of our church.

We plan to gather around 10:00 am for set up and start making lemonade (from frozen) with the parade beginning at 10:30 am. Feel free to come whenever it is convenient. Magnolia and Tamalpais Avenues and Doherty Drive will be closed to traffic at 10:00 am. See you on the 4<sup>th</sup>!

Nancy Rademacher  
and the Member/Fellowship Committee

## Oakley Dexter Is Honored

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Oakley Dexter was honored at a huge celebration party in Dixon, at the Olde Vets Hall, in honor of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A group of his fellow veterans, who had been stationed at Fort Travis, organized the event to celebrate the “sacrifices and servanthood that Mr. Dexter has done from an early age and even until this day... we want to celebrate him and honor him for his dedication to the community and this country.” As the event formed, the group expanded to other veterans, active-duty personnel from Travis Air Force Base, Boy Scouts, and civilians. In May, they showed their respect, love, and concern by clearing overgrown trees and shrubs on his property.

Although no representative from Redwoods could attend, we sent a “certificate of appreciation”.

The Redwoods Presbyterian Church, Larkspur, California

Salutes long-time member and local activist,

### Oakley Dexter

For his courageous, outgoing, persistent, faithful life.

We enfold him with love and gratitude.

He has motivated us with his wit and wonder.

He has inspired us with his abiding faith and trust in God.

He has encouraged us with his selfless service.

Oakley helped form who and what this church is today.

May God continue to hold and to bless Oakley.

We have certainly been blessed by his long and fruitful life.

## Shine Light on Examples of Community Preservation

Sometimes I think we are divided by a “me first” attitude. I, for one, have been very concerned with the lack of civility and missing realization that we are in this together.

Recently, I was talking to a neighbor who belongs to the Redwood Presbyterian Church in Larkspur. She told me how members of her church go to a convalescent home to meet with and give services to the residents there. She said it meant a lot to the residents.

I am writing this because it hit me that church members reaching out to an isolated community (regardless of religion) is a wonderful example of trying to preserve a sense of community that we are quickly losing.

Brenda Deluca,  
Corte Madera resident  
*From the Marin Independent Journal, June 24, 2023*



## Summer Poetry

*“Summer Love” by Deborah Ann Belka*

I love the summer’s rays,  
shinning from the sun  
the warmth of laughter  
with children having fun.

I love summer’s breezes,  
gently drifting in the air  
the sounds of pure delight  
when the weather is fair.

I love summer’s laziness,  
the strolls down the lane  
the sound of peacefulness  
upon summer’s gentle rain.

I love summer’s smells,  
fragrant with memories  
the happy thoughts wafting  
of BBQ’s, friends and families.

I love summertime,  
it’s smells, sights, its sounds  
I love that God blesses me  
when summer comes around!



## Call for Liturgists and Ushers

Every Sunday we have a greeter at the door to welcome you to church and a liturgist assisting the pastor with the worship service. The deacons are asking for more volunteers who might care to serve during the summer months. Also, anyone who can help with Coffee Hour on Sunday would be greatly appreciated. There is a sign-up list in Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Bonnie Kaiser or Diane Forster if you are interested. *(Call the church office for contact information at 415-924-4832.)*

Thank you from the Board of Deacons



## Presidio Chapel Concerts

Presidio Chapel Sunday Concerts presents Junko Kasahara in "French Impressionism" - music for piano by Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel, in the historic Presidio Chapel. RSVP for In-person or Live-stream to [presidiointerfaith@gmail.com](mailto:presidiointerfaith@gmail.com)



Presidio Chapel in San Francisco

Metered parking.  
Free admission (donations appreciated).  
Masks recommended.

**Event Date:**  
Sunday, August 13, 2023 - 12:15 pm

**Event Address:**  
Presidio Chapel  
130 Fisher Loop  
San Francisco, CA 94129

## “Make a Joyful Noise” Gospel Music Concert

Join the Lighthouse Singers Gospel Choir presenting traditional and contemporary gospel music under the direction of Dr. Steven Roberts in the glorious outdoor amphitheater at St. Columba's Episcopal Church and Retreat House! This spirited and uplifting concert will indeed bring us all together to "Make a Joyful Noise!" Tickets are \$20 and are available through the St Columba website, [www.stcolumbasinverness.org](http://www.stcolumbasinverness.org).

**Event Date:**  
Sunday, July 30, 2023 - 3:00 pm

**Event Address:**  
St Columba's Inverness  
12835 Sir Francis Drake  
Inverness, CA 94937



St. Columba Episcopal Church & Retreat House in Inverness



## Juneteenth and Beyond



On June 18th, we prayed for our black and brown sisters and brothers. We were marking Juneteenth, a relatively new federal holiday, which recognizes the day when enslaved African Americans were actually and fully emancipated.

When President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, to free enslaved African Americans, it took time for word to spread. And even though the Proclamation was made effective through the Thirteenth Amendment, it could not be enforced in secessionist

states still under Confederate control.

It wasn't until more than two years later on June 19, 1865, that Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas, with 2,000 Union troops to proclaim that more than 250,000 still-enslaved Black people in the state were free. Free at last.

Thus, the name Juneteenth: a combination of "June" and "Nineteenth".

This day reminds us that the work for justice and liberty takes time, and it is far from done. The systemic injustices of our political system and the engrained prejudices of society still burden Black people in expansive and deep ways. It is incumbent on each of us, in the thrall of a God of Justice, to continue reckoning with racial injustice and the legacy of slavery in the United States; to keep our own hearts open, and lend our hands and voices toward acceptance, inclusion, and equal rights.

## City Council Meeting on Street Parking

Last month, The City of Larkspur was considering a permit for a new double driveway across the street from us. James Holmes alerted Rev. Keenan Kelsey to the permit meeting. Session hastened to write a letter of concern to the Council, citing all the ways this building is used, and how we can't afford to lose parking. James was at the meeting, and Nancy Rademacher spoke on behalf of Redwoods. The permit was granted, but with the assurance that only one parking place would be lost.

Bravo to our Clerk of Session!



**🎂 Birthdays 🎂**

Happy Birthday to our July and August birthday members and friends!



July 1	Suellen Barnett
July 11	Dan McQuarrie
July 12	Helen Caldwell
July 15	Dan Phipps
July 24	Nicole Webb
July 27	Gay Harris

August 8	Debbie Lundberg
August 10	Cornell Barnett
August 17	Erik Rademacher
August 24	Denise Wharmby
August 31	Ryan Green

**Thank You**

- ♥ Our immense gratitude to Rev. Keenan Kelsey for being our Sabbatical Pastor.
- ♥ Thank you to our guest musician Enid Alebi for providing music during our June 25<sup>th</sup> service!
- ♥ Thank you to our musicians: Music Director Denise Wharmby and the Parke Kurtz Bell Choir (Diane Forster, Debbie Lundberg, Gabrielle Putzi and Nancy Rademacher).
- ♥ We appreciate the help with the Sunday live-streaming by John Girton, Denise Wharmby and Liam Wallace.
- ♥ Much appreciation for our Sunday School teachers, Nathan Girton and Tani Girton.
- ♥ We thank our June Ushers: Gabriele Putzi, Clay Wiens and Bonnie Kaiser.
- ♥ And we thank our June Liturgists: Ginger Gmahling, Conrad Williams and Clay Wiens.
- ♥ We appreciate those who keep things running: Rev. Keenan Kelsey, Mark Chambers, Aranda Dill, the Deacons, Committee Chairs, and everyone who participates in the family of Redwoods Presbyterian Church.



## Calendar

<b>Sunday, July 2</b> <i>Birthday Sunday</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, July 4</b>	10:30 am	Lemonade Stand at the 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade
<b>Friday, July 7</b>	12:00 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, July 9</b> <i>Holy Communion</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, July 11</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, July 14</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, July 16</b>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, July 18</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, July 21</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, July 23</b>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, July 25</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, July 28</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, July 30</b>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, August 1</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, August 4</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, August 6</b> <i>Holy Communion</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, August 8</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, August 11</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, August 12</b>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, August 15</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, August 18</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, August 20</b> <i>Birthday Sunday</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, August 22</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study
<b>Friday, August 25</b>	12:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
<b>Sunday, August 27</b>	10:00 am 11:00 am	Worship Fellowship
<b>Tuesday, August 29</b>	10:30 am	Bible Study

Rev. Stephanie Ryder will return from Sabbatical on July 17 and Rev. Keenan Kelsey will be covering for pastoral care: (415) 218-7948; [keenan@comcast.net](mailto:keenan@comcast.net).

**Redwoods Presbyterian Church**

110 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA 94939 | (415) 924-4832 | [www.redwoodspres.org](http://www.redwoodspres.org)

