



The Redwoods Log

March 2016 - Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832 www.redwoodspres.org

From The Rev. Dr. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

Last month I wrote, “The biggest consciousness for me at this time is feeling the loss of members who were so present and faithful in the church—Kitty Prosser, Margaret Erwin and Barbara Slusher. Their death leaves a gaping hole in our community. How can we continue without their smiles, stories and activities?”

I am still in mourning and I guess you are too. There is much to miss and much to celebrate in their wonderful lives. Individually and collectively, these three women gave so much to both church and community.”

I added that we had just heard that long-time member, Shirley Brady, had died. We just had her memorial service and in it, we heard what a wonderful neighbor she and her husband, Leo, were in their close-knit Larkspur neighborhood. Neighbors came from near and far to celebrate Shirley’s life.

Since then, we received the news that Ed Elliot and Dick Judd had died. Like the others, they were long-time and active members.

Before I arrived on the scene in 2008, the church compiled a book that contained the church’s history, mission, vision, list of pastors and all kinds of articles. Ed compiled the history. He also served in many other capacities at the church. He was a lovely, gentle man with a great sense of humor. He spent his final years at the Redwoods in Mill Valley.

The hardest thing for Dick in the last year was living without his recently-deceased wife, Marian, who was spirited, happy, an incredible storyteller and a dedicated Giants fan. Dick was a renaissance man. He was our music director and maestro at the organ for 40 years, a flower arranger, banner maker (he made the superb “He is Risen” banner we hang every Easter at the church), gardener and teacher/administrator. He was the Principal of Wade Thomas School in San Anselmo when our daughter, Anna, attended during our seminary days in the early eighties. He even enjoyed the Giants games (I think). The last time I saw Dick and Marian together, they were watching a Giants game in their TV room. When I entered, a smiling Marian greeted me with a wave of her Giants fan towel.

The stories of our lives: We all have our unique stories and it is a blessing to hear the fuller versions of these when we celebrate the lives of these folks in memorial services. I asked a member of the church what she thought of when thinking about these deaths and others (we know who they are), she said, “It’s the passing of an era.”

God blessed us with the lives of faithfulness and commitment of these members, God blesses us with those who remain, and God will bless us as we add new members to our church community. As new people join us, the church will continue to grow and go from strength to strength.

In the meantime, we continue our Lenten journey and look forward to the full expression of the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday.

Peace and blessings, Cornel

Community Formation

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder
Pastoral Associate**

Greetings from your Pastoral Associate!

The Tuesday morning Bible study on the Holy Spirit is going well. It is enriching and affirming to hear the ways that the Holy Spirit is present and moving in the lives of our group members.

In John 14:15-26, Jesus in his last days tells his disciples that though he will soon no longer be with them, they will not be left alone without any support or help: God will send another Advocate, the Spirit of truth, who will be called alongside to help and comfort them.

In this season of Lent, take some time to consider how the Advocate, the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit, is with you. How and when can you turn to the Advocate for help, guidance and comfort? How is the Holy Spirit present in our church? I witness it daily in this faithful and loving community at Redwoods Church.

The Compassionate Kids continues to meet on Friday afternoons, 3:30-4:30 pm, to learn about and discuss the Bible stories. The Compassionate Kids will be joining us in 10 am worship on Palm Sunday, March 20. Please welcome them and their families as they sing, pray and worship with us on this special Sunday.

I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

John 14:25-26

Blessings, **Stephanie**

Music Notes

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder
Music Director**

Glad Tidings from your Music Director!

I am especially glad that the responses I received from last month's article, regarding omitting music in worship for Lent, were unanimously negative! I am grateful that this is not a tradition we uphold in our church, though it is indeed interesting to consider how music-less worship would impact us. Please be assured that we will be continuing with music throughout Lent and onward!

The Bell Choir has been practicing and is planning to play during worship, Sunday, March 6 at 10 am. We look forward to ringing and rejoicing with you!

Thank you to our choir members who have been able and willing to sing solos into the microphone so beautifully during recent Sundays. We are grateful for the Jack Forster Memorial Hymnals that contain such beautiful new songs that lend themselves to solos.

The hymnal also contains many songs/hymns with chords and lends itself easily to the guitar. We are so grateful for Polly's beautiful guitar playing to accompany us. It adds so much joy, depth, soul and spirit!

We hope that you all will be able to attend the memorial for Dick Judd on Saturday, March 19 at 2 pm. There will certainly be plenty of special music honoring our beloved Minister of Music Emeritus. He will be so greatly missed here at Redwoods.

My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you; my soul also, which you have rescued. Psalm 71:23

Grace and Peace, **Stephanie**

Earth Prayers

From Helen Morita

Please call me by my true names, so I can wake up,
And so the door of my heart can be left open, the door of compassion. Thich Nhat Hanh

March Church Mouse

Spring season is upon us. The blooming trees and flowers are beautiful! We are blessed to live in such a desirable place. Redwoods Church members are aware of many blessings as we attempt to carry on despite our recent losses of beloved church members.



We mourn the recent loss of our dear friend Dick Judd who died on February 3. He was the Director of Music for 40 years leading the chancel and bell choirs. His organ music, church concerts and musicals, floral arranging, and banner creation were just a few of his talents and will be remembered always. The memorial service for Dick will take place Saturday March 19 at 2 pm.

Long time friend and faithful member Ed Elliott died on February 2. Ed served as elder, deacon and treasurer and was also a member of the bell choir and walking group. He wrote several clever songs about Redwoods Church. We will miss his wonderful sense of humor. We hold the families and friends of our dearly departed in our hearts and prayers.

Ani Lelea had a nice surprise recently when son Jeffrey told her he became a member of the Board of Westminster Woods. For those who are not familiar with Westminster Woods, it has long been associated with our Presbytery for summer camping programs and retreats. Jeffrey used to be a counselor years ago and hasn't been there for ten years. Congratulations Jeffrey! Exciting news and congratulations to Mollie Rademacher who was hired as an English teacher at the French Lycee Francais de San Francisco School. Way to go, Molly!

On "Souper Bowl" Sunday, February 7, we were treated to delicious soup prepared by Jan Salas. Jan drove from her home in Santa Cruz in the early morning to cook and serve after cans of soup and dollars were donated. Many thanks to Jan for her good works! Debbie Lundberg was the "Lady in Red" spreading her festive cheer for "2 Cents a Meal" Sunday. We look forward to Debbie's clever hats on the first Sunday of each month!

On Valentines Day, Georgene Gmahling gave her four children a special book that their dad, George, had written, along with lovely cards. Sharon MacQuarrie prepared a special breakfast for grandson Christopher that included New Orleans style beignets and a Valentine fruit salad. Sounds yummy!

Recently, Good Samaritan Jane Purkey was mistaken for a "bag lady" in Larkspur. She walks daily collecting litter along the way, and a gentleman at the bus top gave her some flattened cans. She took it all in good stride.

The mystery is solved about Joyce Well's recent month's trip. In celebration of friend Joe's 90th birthday, Joyce and Joe went on a cruise from Barbados to Brazil with five stops across to Africa and with five stops ending in Capetown. We hope to hear more about her wonderful adventure!

The Mouse

Mission Outreach News From Co-Chair Jan Salas

Updates on Past Events *Souperbowl of Caring*

On Super Bowl Sunday in February, Redwoods participated in the 26th Annual Souperbowl of Caring Sunday. After worship, we enjoyed lentil soup while donating \$80 and 20 cans of soup to the San Francisco/Marin Food Bank. As part of this nationwide program, we join those who have to date given almost \$8 million dollars in food and cash to local food banks throughout the United States.

Alternative Christmas Faire

Last November and December, Faire tables showcased Bread for the World, Church World Services, EcoViva hand crafted items, Equal Exchange fair trade goods. Faith in Practice, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project and the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

The Mission/Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in and made the faire possible. We especially remember Margaret Erwin, who collected donations in the library. Because of everyone's generous participation, we donated \$3627 to the agencies above to continue their vital work. **Jan**

Mission Outreach News From Co-Chair Jan Salas

Upcoming Events

One Great Hour of Sharing

Donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing provide food, clean water, disaster relief and a path toward self-improvement for people in the greatest need. At Redwoods Presbyterian Church, we participate in this special offering during the joyous Easter season.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) has sponsored "One Great Hour of Sharing" since 1949, when a broadcast appeal to help areas devastated in World War II resulted in over 75,000 churches offering relief. Today, One Great Hour of Sharing helps support the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger and Self Development of People programs. (For more info, see www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/specialofferings/one-great-hour-sharing-offering.)

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

The U.S. Congress plays a critical role in setting the policies and funding levels that enable our government to do its part in improving nutrition and health among mothers and children globally.

This year, the nonprofit Bread for the World will ask Congress to increase food aid from \$115 to \$230 million, to pass the Global Food Security Act and to push for similar commitments from other countries at this summer's International Nutrition for Growth Summit.

In early spring, members of Congress will make their funding requests to appropriators in the House of Representatives and Senate. This is the time when Bread for the World requests churches nationwide to write letters in support of these global health priorities.

In the upcoming month, please watch your weekly church bulletins to learn more about the Bread for the World Offering of Letters at Redwoods. We hope to join with other churches to encourage Congress to summon the political will to reform food aid so that the U.S. can provide humanitarian assistance in a more timely and effective way to fall within the critical 1,000 day window between birth and age three.

For more information, see www.bread.org/offering-letters.

Jan

Membership/Fellowship Committee News

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Spring blessings to all as we continue the season of Lent and approach Easter Sunday.

The Membership/Fellowship committee invites you to a light soup supper at 6:30 pm prior to the Wednesday evening Lenten series, which began February 17 and runs through March 16. Homemade soup will be provided by a member of the committee prior to the following Lenten programs:

- March 2—Faith and Green Investing (John Girton);
- March 9—Faith and Teaching (Anna Barnett, Alan Edmonson and Molly Rademacher)
- March 16—Spiritual Direction through Art (Mari Robinson).

Please come to the March 19 Saturday breakfast which will feature Erik Rademacher talking about his summer work with the U.S. Forest Service as well as living and working in France during the winters. The potluck breakfast begins at 9:30 am with the program from 10-11 am.

You are cordially invited to our annual Easter breakfast to be held between 9 and 10 am on March 27. This is a wonderful way to begin your Easter celebration and a perfect opportunity to invite family, friends and neighbors to join you. Following the worship service, there will be an Easter egg hunt for the children attending.

Have a blessed Easter, **Nancy**

Mill Street Thank You

From Deacon Ed Vorous

A special thanks to all who prepare and/or purchase food so faithfully each month for Mill Street. Our meals are very much appreciated!

The Mill Street clients were especially pleased this February when we delivered a special Valentine's cake!

Ed

March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>2</i> 6:30 Lenten Supper Series	<i>3</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>4</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> Holy Communion 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>9</i> 6:30 Lenten Supper Series	<i>10</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>11</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i> Daylight Savings Times Begins 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Worship C/E 12:00 Mill Street	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session	<i>16</i> LOG Deadline 6:30 Lenten Supper Series	<i>17</i> St. Patrick's Day	<i>18</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>19</i> 9:30 Saturday Breakfast 2:00 Dick Judd Memorial Service
<i>20</i> Passion/Palm Sunday Birthday Sunday 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Membership Fellowship Committee	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Maundy Thursday LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir	<i>25</i> Good Friday 7:00 Worship Service	<i>26</i> Easter Vigil
<i>27</i> Easter Sunday 9:00 Breakfast 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:00 Easter Egg Hunt	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Avenue
Larkspur, California 94939



Helping Hands in February – Thank you!

Mill Street Meal

Anna Barnett, Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Karen Carmody,
Alan Edmonson, Diane Forster, Tani & John Girton,
Polly & Jim Gorder, Bonnie Kaiser, Debbie Lundberg,
Gabriele and Robert Putzi, Nancy Rademacher, Ed Vorous

Coffee Hour

1st Sunday – Worship/Christian Education Committee
2nd Sunday – Mission Committee
3rd Sunday – Deacons
4th Sunday – Membership/Fellowship Committee
5th Sunday – June Bellen

Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

February 7	Ginger Gmahling (L) Clay Wiens (U)	March 6	Debbie Lundberg (L) Clay Wiens(G) Ed Vorous (U)	March 20	June Bellen (L) Ani Lelea (G) Iris Giacotto (U)
February 14	Nancy Rademacher (L) Suellen Barnett (U)	March 13	Jim Gorder (L) Carrie Kim (G) Debbie Lundberg (U)	March 27	Polly Gorder (L) Tani Girton (G) Nancy Rademacher (U)
February 21	Clay Wiens (L) Carrie Kim (U)				
February 28	Ed Vorous (L) Ani Lelia (U)				

Happy Birthday! From Deacons Moderator Tani Girton

Join the Deacons in wishing the following members and friends a happy birthday in March:

3 – LaVerne Schmidt, 16 – Marilyn Sutherland, and 25 – Ed Vorous

Add your name to our birthday list by contacting the office@redwoodspres.org or at 924-4832. **Tani**