



The Redwoods Log

April 2017 - Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832 www.redwoodspres.org

From Rev. Stephanie Ryder

Grace and Peace to Redwoods Presbyterian Church!

As we enter April this year, we also enter the final week of Lent and Holy Week.

Paul summons the early church and its members to remember the work of Christ in Philippians 2:4-8: *Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.*

In a book entitled, *A Way other than Our Own: Devotions for Lent*, author Walter Brueggemann reflects on this passage -- that Jesus made himself vulnerable in human form and became obedient because of his passion for God's will for him, which collided with the will and purpose of the Roman Empire and the Jewish religious authorities who conspired with the empire. Jesus is crucified because the empire cannot tolerate such a transformative, subversive force set loose in the world.

As Christians venture from Palm Sunday to Easter through the Thursday arrest and Friday execution and long Saturday wait in the void, Brueggemann encourages us to imagine changing and renewing our minds, altering our opinions concerning self and neighbor and the world. The new mind of Christ is emptying our need to control and our anxious passion for security. As our minds change, we come to new freedom -- Easter freedom -- unburdened and fearless, freed for the interest of the neighbor. We worship Jesus who was dead and is alive, who was humbled and is exalted, and we replicate his life in our own lives.

This freedom is exemplified in our tradition at Redwoods of the "Flowering of the Cross" on Easter Sunday. The rugged cross, a symbol of death, darkness, pain and hopelessness is transformed into something beautiful, new and alive in celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. Together, we transform the cross to help make Easter a celebration of new life, a new life of freedom, beauty, and hope.

I look forward to journeying with you the walk to the cross and beyond.

Blessings, **Stephanie**

Note: Our beloved office administrator, Mari Robinson, has resigned. Please have interested applicants for the part-time position contact me at stephryder1@gmail.com or 415-992-2411.

Music Notes

From Denise Wharmby, Music Director

"Spring is sprung, The grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is.....?"

Singing happily at the Redwoods, that's where! I would like to invite anyone who is even slightly intrigued to find out if there is a singer, waiting in the wings of their soul, and in need of a little help to burst forth, to come talk to me after service any Sunday.

I'd like to offer a 'New singer- Find your voice!' orientation soon. Stay tuned for a date.

During April, look forward to hearing our wonderful bell choir ringing in service at Easter, and a reminder that the Marin Girls Chorus will present a free concert here on Sunday, April 2 at 4 pm. Please come and enjoy the singing of lovely young voices.

Yours Musically, **Denise**

Membership/Fellowship

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Our committee would like to share some upcoming events! We hope to see you at our Saturday breakfast on April 8, a week earlier due to Easter. Our speaker, Sumita Davis, a friend of Bonnie Kaiser, is originally from Nepal and has visited many times, most recently in 2015 after the devastating earthquake. She will share information about the country, its people and personal stories. The light potluck breakfast is at 9:30 am; the program from 10-11 am.

On Maundy Thursday, April 13, Redwoods will host a soup supper at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall with St Andrews Presbyterian Church, with a service following. All are welcome.

On Easter Sunday, April 16, please join us for our 10 am worship service and for a special Easter coffee hour at 11 am, along with an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Please invite your friends as well. Easter is a joyful time at Redwoods Church and a wonderful time to include visitors.

We'd like to welcome new member Katie Zwarg and the Green family. Katie was born in Yuba City, the youngest of five children, and raised in San Luis Obispo, where she attended First Presbyterian. After college, she worked as a chemist and met Jason Green. They left their jobs, traveled the world for two years and married in Antarctica. Katie later went to law school and has worked as an attorney for the past 15 years. Katie and Jason have lived in the Bay Area for nine years, the last six in Larkspur, and are the parents of two adorable boys, Tyler, age 5 and Ryan, 1 1/2. We warmly welcome Katie and her family to our congregation. Easter blessings to all! **Nancy**

Mission Outreach Committee

From Co-Chair Jan Salas

Last November we participated in the Samaritan's Purse project to fill shoeboxes with gifts to send to children around the globe. Over 10 million shoeboxes worldwide were delivered to children in 104 countries. If you'd like to see young recipients smiling, a newsletter is on display in Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to all who participated.

On Easter Sunday we will join people across the world in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering in order to fund the denomination's hunger, disaster assistance and self-development of people programs. For more details of how the funds are used around the world visit www.pcusa.org. Help celebrate the Easter miracle with OGHS!

Through our Offering of Letters effort on May 20, we urge our elected officials in Congress to make funding decisions that put our country and the world on track to ending hunger by 2030. The Mission/Outreach Committee will provide writing materials, stamps, sample letters and support. Our letters will be blessed in worship on May 27 before we forward them to Washington DC. Please join us in our advocacy and prayer to end hunger in the world. **Jan**



Church Mouse

Redwoods is buzzing with the approach of Easter!

We are so thankful to hear that June Bellen is at home now and receiving immunotherapy treatment. Marjorie Egger is also back "home" at Aldersly skilled nursing unit during her continued recovery. June and Marjorie appreciate all the cards and prayers during their time of healing.

We're so sorry to hear about former intern Faith McClellan and her two brothers having to find new housing after their home was destroyed in the recent hurricane in New Orleans. Good news that Faith has submitted her personal information for a calling, with hope to return to California.

Marilyn Sutherland celebrated her birthday March 16 with a special visit by her grandson, John, and wife, Trina, and their two daughters who live in Vancouver, Canada. Stephanie's parents, Wyman and Gay Harris, recently visited the Maldives where Wyman scuba dives in the Indian Ocean and Gay enjoys snorkeling. An adventurous couple!

Embrace your faith! According to researchers who study longevity, those attending religious services once a week add between four and 14 years to their life expectancy.

See you in church!

The Mouse

Deacons Corner

From Deacon Gabriele Putzi

O Lord, open my eyes that I might see the needs of others;
open my ears that I may hear their cries;
open my heart so that they need not be without succor;
let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.
Show me where love and hope and faith are needed,
and use me to bring them to those places.
And so open my eyes and my ears that I may this coming day be able to do some work of peace for thee. Amen.

Alan Paton, *Life Prayers*

Gabriele

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> Communion 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:15 Children's Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach	3	4 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	5 3:30 Compassionate Kids	6 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	7	1 8 9:30 Saturday Breakfast
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Birthday Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:30 Session 12:00 Mill Street	10	11 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	12 3:30 Compassionate Kids	13 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 6:00 Maundy Thursday Supper/Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14	15
16 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 11:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Special Easter Coffee & Egg Hunt	17	18 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	19 3:30 Compassionate Kids LOG Deadline	20 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21	22
23 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship	24	25 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	26 3:30 Compassionate Kids	27 LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	28	29
30 <i>Compassionate Kids</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship	<i>May 1</i>	2 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal	3	4 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	5	6

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Avenue
Larkspur, California 94939



Helping Hands in March – Thank you!

Mill Street Meal

Karen Carmody, Joan Emerson, Diane Forster,
Tani & John Girton, Polly & Jim Gorder, Tyler Green,
James Holmes, Bonnie Kaiser, Jolyne Liberati,
Debbie Lundberg, Gabriele & Robert Putzi, Nancy Rademacher,
Joan Robinson, Stephanie Ryder, Joyce Wells, Katie Zwarg

Coffee Hour

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

Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

Mar 5	Jan Salas (L) Tani Girton (G/U)	Apr 2	Ani Lelea (L) Nancy Rademacher (G/U)
Mar 12	Polly Gorder (L) Ani Lelea (U) Gabriele Putzi (G)	Apr 9	Bonnie Kaiser (L) Debbie Lundberg (GU)
Mar 19	Katie Zwarg (L) Nancy Rademacher (G/U)	Apr 16	Jim Gorder (L) Robert Putzi (G/U)
Mar 26	Compassionate Kids (L) Clay Wiens (U/G)	Apr 23	Joyce Wells (L) Bonnie Kaiser (U/G)
		Apr 30	Compassionate Kids (L) Clay Wiens (G/U)

Happy Birthday!

From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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

11 – Stephanie Ryder
12 – Nancy Rademacher
24 – Frank Wood

Add your name and birth date to our list by contacting office@redwoodspres.org or 415-924-4832.

Polly