



# The Redwoods Log

May 2014 - Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832 [www.redwoodspress.org](http://www.redwoodspress.org)

From The Rev. Dr. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

It has been two and a half years since our dear friend and faithful member, Jack Forster, left us to be with God in heaven. His friends and family contributed to a fund in his memory and his wife, Diane, chose to use a portion of the fund to buy the outstanding new hymnal of our denomination called, *Glory to God – Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs*, for our congregation.

To remember Jack, his name will appear at the beginning of each book. The Session approved a motion to this effect at their April meeting.

The hymnal has been billed as “a new hymnal for a growing church.” It contains 853 hymns, psalms and spiritual songs. Over 300 songs have guitar chords printed in the pew edition.

There is music covering all major historical and contemporary genres including approximately 35 African American/Gospel hymns. There are many older hymns, contemporary praise songs and global music. In addition, there are more than 20 songs from the Taize community. The book also contains 48 pages of liturgical resources.

The current hymnals have been in the sanctuary for about 25 years. We expect the new hymnal to be in our pews for at least 30 years.

After viewing the new hymnal (borrowed from the seminary), our interim music director, Stephanie, Diane and I thought it would be a great addition to the church.

The number of hymnals was determined by Diane and Cornel’s count for the pews, choir loft, pulpit area, choir room, staff use and one for Diane’s home.

A service of dedication of the hymnals will take place during a morning worship service at a date to be decided after the books have arrived and bookplates affixed.

This is a wonderful way to remember Jack. Thank you, Diane!

***The Session suggested that members who wanted to purchase personal copies of the hymnal could let Mari in the church office know and we could order them in the same shipment. They are \$20 each.***

What will we do with the current hymnals? We can offer them to other churches (churches in our presbytery are already doing this) or take them home.

Peace and blessings, Cornel

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# May Church Mouse

## From the Intrepid Mr. Mouse and Spouse!



Spring has sprung! It is lovely to see the church surrounded by brightly blooming azaleas!

So nice to see Selin Holder and also Faith McClellan at worship recently. Bonnie Kaiser brought her friend Agnes visiting from Scotland. Kitty Prosser and Jennifer are back with us. Jennifer is getting so tall! Have you noticed the increase in children at worship? Carrie Kim and her children, Aidan and Olivia, are among our newcomers.

It's vacation time for some members of Redwoods. Seems like France is THE place to visit right now. Ed Vorous is visiting the Netherlands, Rome and Paris. Bonnie Kaiser and husband are cruising the Seine River. And Eric Rademacher and his girlfriend Erica are in Brittany, the French Alps and Paris. On this side of the Atlantic, Margie Egger and son, Steve, are visiting family and friends in North Carolina, and the Putzis met up with family in balmy Palm Springs. Happy trails to all!

Sadly, Melissa Gill was our liturgist for the last time in April. She has moved to Norman, Oklahoma where she grew up. It's also home of the University of Oklahoma. Melissa will return for Zack's graduation from Redwood High School on June 12. After worship on Sunday, June 15, she is hosting a farewell party in Fellowship Hall for all her friends in the church and outside it. We will miss Melissa and Zach's presence at Redwoods but our best wishes and blessings go with them. Latest news is that Melissa found a driver to haul her 20 foot trailer to Oklahoma, which allowed her to travel by train!

It was fun to see Debbie Lundberg wearing one of her special hats for "Two Cents a Meal" and in recognition of April Fool's Day! Barbara Slusher found the hat at the thrift shop where she works. We miss seeing Barbara in the kitchen on Sunday mornings. We hope she'll be back soon. Good helper June Bellen has taken her place temporarily.

It was a real joy to have Dick Judd playing the organ and leading us in hymn singing once again! He was filling in for Stephanie while she preached an inspiring sermon on April 6.

Daughter Lisa and family will be visiting Mr. Mouse and Spouse for Easter! Spouse Marian is glad the Giants are doing so well and she hopes to leave Kentfield Rehab soon so she can watch the games at home. Mr. Mouse Dick is looking forward to that too!

So long for now!

**Mr. Mouse & "Wobbly Walker"**

## Mission Outreach

### Committee News

**From Chair Debbie Lundberg**

#### **CROP Walk—The March March**

On a beautiful sunny and mild day last March, Maisie Campell, Jenny Garcia, Jim and Polly Gorder, Debbie Lundberg and Molly and Nancy Rademacher joined with hundreds of other walkers carrying signs and wearing CROP T-shirts to traverse a 3-mile course starting at First Presbyterian Church of San Rafael.

Why did we do this? We walked to end hunger one step at a time! Thus far, Redwoods members and friends have contributed over \$500 in support of this effort and our funds this year will be doubled by the Feinstein Foundation. A quarter of all money raised will be shared locally with the Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy, St. Vincent De Paul Society of Marin and the San Francisco/Marin Food Bank. A big thank you to the walkers, supporters and all who prayed for us.

When CROP began in 1947 (under the wing of Church World Service, which was founded in 1946), CROP was an acronym for the Christian Rural Overseas Program. Its primary mission was to help Mid-west farm families share their grain with hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. Today, the Church World Service organizes CROP Hunger Walks as interfaith hunger education and fund-raising events toward the goal of ending hunger in the United States as well as abroad.

**Debbie**

## Music Notes

**From Stephanie Ryder**  
**Interim Music Director**

Greetings from your Interim Music Director!  
April was a month for special music at Redwoods! On Easter, we were blessed with Devon Lawrence and her father Garrett playing and singing for us. Devon, a senior at Tam High, began playing piano at age 6, writing songs at age 13, and is now performing from 7-9 pm every Thursday at Benissimo's!

We look forward to our handbell choir playing in service again on Sunday, May 25, and, of course, the sanctuary choir will be uplifting us with their glorious singing all the other Sundays in May. Peace,

**Stephanie**

## A Word from your Intern

**From SFTS Intern**  
**Stephanie Ryder**

Glad Tidings from your SFTS Intern!  
April was filled with God's grace and blessings. The Lenten suppers and "Creative Writing as a Spiritual Practice" groups were well attended and fruitful, with wonderfully rich reflection and sharing. Our weekly Bible study continued engaging discussions as well.

I very much appreciated my preaching opportunities on April 6 and 27. We are so grateful to have Dick Judd back at the organ filling the sanctuary with beautiful music on the Sundays I preach. I look forward to being in the pulpit again on May 11, Mother's Day. That day will include some special talks from some of our members!

Blessings,  
**Stephanie**

## Membership/Fellowship Committee News

**From Chair Nancy Rademacher**

Warm greetings from the Membership/Fellowship committee.

The May breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 17 and will feature our own John Girton and Ed Vorous who will be presenting a baking demonstration on

how to make croissants. Both John and Ed attended a cooking school in San Francisco recently and they have offered to share this experience with us. I can't imagine anything better than fresh, homemade croissants! We will meet in the kitchen instead of the library for this event. The potluck, continental breakfast begins at 9:30 am with the program from 10-11 am.

I know we are all feeling a big hole in our community with the absence of Melissa Gill. As most of you know, Melissa moved back to her home town, Norman, Oklahoma, in April. However, she will be returning to Marin for Zach's graduation from Redwood on June 12 and we are planning a party following worship on June 15 to give Melissa a proper send off. She will be inviting friends outside the church as well as those of us in the congregation. So please mark your calendars for this special event.

The summer is fast approaching. We are hoping to organize a theater outing sometime during the summer and will be serving lemonade again at the Twin Cities' Fourth of July parade. We are also planning to attend another play at Masquers' Theatre in Point Richmond in September and the Barnett's have graciously invited us to come to their home afterwards for a post theater party. Stay tuned for more details on all these upcoming events.

Blessings to all of you, **Nancy**

## Deacons Update

**From Deacon Maisie Campbell**

In April, the deacons discussed ways to better serve our members who are no longer physically able to make it to church, but who still want to stay connected. We felt that music can be a great healer and that to "keep a song in your heart" is a good idea both in and out of church!

To that end, we agreed that Deacon moderator and guitarist Polly Gorder and some deacon/choir members would make visits, likely on a Sunday afternoon, to sing a few hymns with homebound members, and then end with prayer. The deacons will request permission to visit members and members can also request visits via Polly or any Deacon.

Keep a Song in Your Heart! **Maisie**

## Quiet Corner

From Cornel Barnett

### Lectio Divina

I wrote about “devotional experiencing” in the January LOG and said it was similar to *Lectio Divina* and that I would write about the latter in a later LOG. I wanted to cover the “big three” of prayer, meditation and contemplation” first. With that accomplished, I now turn to *Lectio Divina*.

*Lectio Divina*, a Latin term, means “divine reading.” It describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. The method described here is adapted from an article in the Carmelite Order website [www.ocarm.org/en/](http://www.ocarm.org/en/).

In the 12th century, a Carthusian monk called Guigo described the stages, which he saw as essential to the practice of *Lectio Divina*. There are various ways of practicing *Lectio Divina* either individually or in groups but Guigo’s description remains fundamental.

The first stage is *lectio* (reading) where we read the Word of God, slowly and reflectively so that it sinks into us.

The second stage is *meditatio* (reflection) where we think about the text we have chosen and ruminate upon it so that we take from it what God wants to give us.

The third stage is *oratio* (response) where we leave our thinking aside and simply let our hearts speak to God.

The final stage of *Lectio Divina* is *contemplatio* (rest) where we let go not only of our own ideas, plans and meditations but also of our holy words and thoughts. We simply rest in the Word of God. We listen at the deepest level of our being to God who speaks within us with a still small voice. As we listen, transformation comes gradually from within.

This transformation will have a profound effect on the way we live, and the way we live is the test of the authenticity of our prayer. We must take what we read in the Word of God into our daily lives.

*Lectio Divina* may involve discussing the implications of the Word of God for daily life but it cannot be reduced to this. The movement of the prayer is towards silence. If an individual or group is comfortable with silence, more time may be spent resting in the Word.

For past “Quiet Corner” Log articles, visit [www.redwoodspres.org](http://www.redwoodspres.org). God bless you in your prayers and action.

Cornel

## Earth Prayers

From Helen Morita

This lovely song prayer is from *Earth Prayers from Around the World* edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon.

### Thule Eskimo Song

Day arises  
From its sleep,  
Day wakes up  
With the dawning light.  
Also you must arise,  
Also you must awake  
Together with the day which comes.

Helen

## Happy Birthdays!

From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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

2 – Georgene Gmahling

7 – Patrick Little ('95)

Add your name to our birthday list by contacting [office@redwoodspres.org](mailto:office@redwoodspres.org) or at 924-4832.

Polly

# May 2014

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue   | Wed                           | Thu  | Fri | Sat                               |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------|--|-----|-----------------------------------|
|  |   |   |                               | 1<br><br>7:30 Choir                            | 2   | 3                                 |
| 4 <i>Holy Communion</i><br><br>9:15 Choir<br>10:00 Worship<br>10:15 Children's Education<br>11:00 Fellowship<br>11:15 Deacons<br>11:15 Mission Outreach Cmte | 5   | 6<br><br>9:00 Bell Choir<br>10:30 Bible Study Support Group                                     | 7                             | 8<br><br>7:30 Choir                            | 9   | 10                                |
| 11<br><br>9:15 Choir<br>10:00 Worship<br>10:15 Children's Education<br>11:00 Fellowship<br>11:15 Membership Fellowship Committee<br>12:00 Mill Street        | 12  | 13<br><br>9:00 Bell Choir<br>10:30 Bible Study Support Group                                    | 14                            | 15<br><br>7:30 Choir                           | 16  | 17<br><br>9:00 Saturday Breakfast |
| 18 <i>Birthday Sunday</i><br><br>9:15 Choir<br>10:00 Worship<br>10:15 Children's Education<br>11:00 Fellowship   | 19  | 20<br><br>9:00 Bell Choir<br>10:00 Presbytery Meeting, Ukiah<br>10:30 Bible Study Support Group | 21<br><br><i>LOG Deadline</i> | 22<br><br>7:30 Choir                           | 23  | 24<br><br>SFTS Graduation         |
| 25<br><br>9:15 Choir<br>10:00 Worship<br>10:15 Children's Education<br>11:00 Fellowship<br>11:15 Prayer Support Group  | 26 <i>Memorial Day</i><br><br>Office Closed | 27<br><br>9:00 Bell Choir<br>10:30 Bible Study Support Group                                    | 28                            | 29<br><br><i>LOG Mailing</i><br><br>7:30 Choir | 30  | 31                                |

Redwoods Presbyterian Church  
110 Magnolia Avenue  
Larkspur, California 94939

## Helping Hands in April – Thank you so much!



### Mill Street Shelter Meals

Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Margie Egger, Margaret Erwin,  
Diane Forster, Iris Giacotto, Polly & Jim Gorder,  
Debbie Lundberg, Nancy Rademacher, Ed Vorous, Joyce Wells

### Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

- |               |  |               |  |
|---------------|--|---------------|--|
| <b>Apr 6</b>  | Melissa Gill (L), Suellen Barnett (G)<br>Tani Girton (U), Iris Giacotto (U),   | <b>May 4</b>  | Nancy Rademacher (L), Ed Vorous (G)<br>Margie Egger (U), Suellen Barnett (U) |
| <b>Apr 13</b> | Alan Edmonson (L), Marjorie Egger (G)<br>Melissa Gill (U), Debbie Lundberg (U) | <b>May 11</b> | Ani Lelea (L), Debbie Lundberg (G)<br>Iris Giacotto (U)                      |
| <b>Apr 20</b> | Debbie Lundberg (L), Clay Wiens (G)<br>Tani Girton (U)                         | <b>May 18</b> | Ed Vorous (L), June Bellen (G)<br>Debbie Lundberg (U), June Bellen (U)       |
| <b>Apr 27</b> | Tani Girton (L), Barbara Slusher (G),<br>Ani Lelea (U), Clay Wiens (U)         | <b>May 25</b> | Anna Barnett (L), Bonnie Kaiser (G),<br>Clay Wiens (U), Margie Egger (U)     |