



# The Redwoods Log

May 2016 - 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,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your care, love, support and encouraging words to Suellen and me in these days and weeks following my retirement announcement to you.

Although there is a whirl of various feelings, we hope that these final months together will be meaningful and a way to connect with God in fresh and enlivening ways.

We cannot reiterate enough what a joy and privilege it has been for Suellen's membership here and my serving with you as your pastor these past eight years.

God has richly blessed this church and I trust will continue to bless you with vitality and growth. While we shall be away for a year or so post September, please know that you will be constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

I have informed the presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) of my retirement and they will send a delegation to meet with the session to discuss your future. I might moderate this meeting and will participate only if called upon for information but I will not be party to the decision for the future.

Our denomination and presbytery works well with smaller churches and are working in wonderful and creative ways for the ministries of the churches they meet with. The session is called and able to serve the church in the best possible way in their relationship with the presbytery and COM. I trust them all implicitly.

For us, we can pray and trust the process and know that God has your best interest in mind.

I go, knowing that you all are in good hands, and I look forward to your going from strength to strength.

I date myself when I speak of "good vibes." However, I think there is an excellent vibe in the church and that makes me happy. The overall feeling of the church is joyous (one of the fruits of the Spirit – Galatians 5:22) and we, the staff, which includes pastoral associate, Rev. Stephanie Ryder; office administrator, Mari Robinson; and our back-up pastoral associate, Rev, Dan White, will continue to care and support you throughout this time.

Thank God and thank you all for being the wonderful people you are.

Peace and blessings,  
Cornel

P.S. Please mark your calendars for Redwoods' 120th anniversary celebration on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12. Please see Nancy Rademacher's Membership and Fellowship column on page four for details about this momentous event.

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## Community Formation

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder  
Pastoral Associate**

Greetings from your Pastoral Associate!

I encourage us all to pay attention and bring awareness to the Holy Spirit in our midst as Redwoods Church goes through a monumental transition with Cornel's announcement of his retirement at the end of August. I specifically offer up extreme gratitude to Cornel for his support and guidance of this church, and to Suellen as well. I pray that the Holy Spirit continues to lift and enliven them and the ministry of this community.

Last month, we published three of the Holy Spirit-themed cinquain poems written in the Tuesday Bible study. Here are three more:

Spirit  
Holy, power  
All knowing wisdom  
Accessible always to us  
Here

Spirit  
Flowing freedom  
Moving in me and you  
Coming from God to be with us  
Always

Spirit  
Blowing Knowing  
Coming Waiting Going  
Outside swaying treetops leaning  
Peaceful

I pray that these poems resonate with you in the coming months of transition with Cornel's retirement.

The Compassionate Kids group will participate in the 18th annual Marin CROP Hunger Walk on June 12 at 1:30 pm. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. The walk begins at First Presbyterian Church, San Rafael at 1510 Fifth Street, and continues for three miles through the downtown to raise funds and increase awareness of hunger.

The goal is to raise \$18,000 to benefit the international aid organization, Church World Service, and three local service organizations: the San Francisco/Marin Food Bank, St. Vincent de Paul free dining room in San Rafael, and the Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy. Please let me know if you would like to join us for this important community service project.

*If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.*

Isaiah 58:10

Blessings, **Stephanie**

## Music Notes

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder  
Music Director**

Glad Tidings from your Music Director!

I am grateful for the musicians in this blessed place! Music is such an important part of our ministry, as it centers hearts, minds and souls upon God. I am in the process of developing a list of musicians to play for our Sunday services when I am unable. Please let me know if there are any musicians you would recommend for our Sunday worship services. I am grateful for those who have stepped forward and made themselves known and available to us in the past. I look forward to inviting new and fresh and spirit-inspired music to our services.

The bells are learning new music for an upcoming Sunday service in June. We look forward to sharing the beautiful sounds of the bells with you.

Continuous thanks to our choir members who sing so graciously and generously for us each Sunday!

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

Psalms 100:1-3

Peace, **Stephanie**

## May Church Mouse



The Mouse hopes you are enjoying this lovely spring weather along with Redwood's many activities!

Our Easter celebration began with a breakfast of delicious crepes created by Ed Vorous and John Girton. They were a big hit—hope this becomes an annual tradition! The worship service was lovely, with the flowering of the cross and special music by Rev. Ann Jefferson. Later the children had fun at the egg hunt coordinated by Molly Rademacher. Blessings to all who helped with the glorious Easter service.

Redwoods folks were traveling around Easter, many by car. Sharon and Dan MacQuarrie had a long drive to their home near Missoula, Montana. Maisie and Jim Campbell drove to Chico to visit daughter, Laurie, and family. Jim and Polly Gorder drove to Monument, CO to visit son, Peter, and family. The Girton family spent a restful vacation in Hawaii. Nice to have Gabriele's sister, Angie, here from Canada.

We are grateful Suellen Barnett is recovering well from her recent hip surgery. She's even walking without a cane. Jan Salas's husband, Blaise, is recovering from recent knee surgery. Sorry to hear Stephanie and Bill Ryder's son, Brooks, was injured a couple of times playing lacrosse. On a happier note, Brooks will be attending University of Washington after graduation. Also, prayers for June and Bob Bellen, who are looking for a place to live, hopefully in the area.

At the April Saturday breakfast, James Holmes led a most interesting Larkspur history walk near the church. James talked about some of the older homes in the area with surprising and colorful stories from the past. Congratulations and best wishes to James on his recent retirement after 35 years as an attorney for the state Department of Insurance. He said he is now available for unskilled labor at Redwoods! Congratulations to Jeffrie Lelea receiving the 2015 Witness Advocate award from the Solano County DA's office. Also sister Leanne received honors for Peets Coffee Employee of the Year. Bet mom, Ani, is feeling very proud.

The latest news about our pastor Cornel's retirement, after eight years with us, has been received with mixed emotions. It is hard to write about the retirement of a beloved pastor. We have been blessed by Cornel's ministry, and our heartfelt prayers are with him, Suellen and family as they make the transition to begin a new chapter in their lives. With God's help, our congregation will embrace this time of transition and emerge even stronger in its dedication to serve others, both within the church and in the wider community. Prayers for Redwoods Presbyterian Church as we move forward together.

**The Mouse**

## Mission Outreach News From Co-Chair Jan Salas

On May 15, Pentecost Sunday, we will celebrate the spirit and receive the Pentecost offering, which is devoted to ministries that support children and youth.

The Mission Outreach Committee will donate 40% of the offering to local missions that help youth. The remainder will be used by the Presbyterian Church (USA) for three ministries: Young Adult Volunteers (25%) to provide opportunities for young adults to serve in communities around the world; Ministries with Youth (25%), to support youth leaders as messengers of God's word; and Children at Risk (10%) to offer safe havens and education for at-risk youth. See [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) for more information.

You are invited to join us in this very special offering!  
**Jan**

## Finance Committee Notes From Chair Jan Salas

With all the talk in the news these days about institutional "transparency," it is good to know that any member of Redwoods Presbyterian Church may find out everything there is to know about church finances by requesting the church office to provide copies of the church's current financial statements, i.e. the current balance sheet and/or profit and loss statements.

In addition, members are free to contact me, as the Finance Committee Chair, and I will be happy to answer any questions about our finances.  
**Jan**

## Membership/Fellowship Committee News

### From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Greetings from Membership/Fellowship!

On May 21, our Saturday breakfast will feature new member Eleanor Freed sharing her knowledge about nonverbal communication and images, topics of great professional interest for her. We are looking forward to learning more about this topic and more about Eleanor as well! Please join us at 9:30 am for a light potluck breakfast. The program is from 10-11am.

Does anyone like corned beef and cabbage? We may be a little past St. Patrick's Day, but we invite you to an Irish night at Redwoods at 6 pm, Friday, May 13. Besides the wonderful dinner, we will also be showing the movie, *Brooklyn*, whose actress was nominated for an Academy Awards this year. It is a delightful story about an Irish immigrant living in Brooklyn. Please mark your calendar for this fun event. Rumor has it that the Putzi's will be the chefs extraordinaire for the evening!

Looking ahead into June, we are planning a special birthday celebration for Redwoods Presbyterian Church. The church was founded in 1896 and we are soon to be 120 years old—amazing! At our Saturday Breakfast on June 11, we will have a special Redwoods history program. Our worship service the next day, Sunday, June 12, will also offer a celebration of this momentous anniversary. Please mark your calendars for this special occasion and watch for forthcoming details in the LOG and bulletins.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage anyone interested in helping us plan for our two significant upcoming events—our 120th Anniversary and the retirement celebration for our pastor, Cornel Barnett—to join us at our meetings, with the next on May 15 at 11:15 am, after the worship service. Every third Sunday of the month, June Bellen, Debbie Lundberg, Gabriele Putzi, Ed Vorous and I plan regular and special events, and are often joined by pastors Stephanie Ryder and Cornel Barnett. We would love to have you join us!

Peace and Blessings to All, **Nancy**

## Deacon's Corner

### From Deacon Helen Morita

Each month the Deacons offer a devotional before their meeting. April's devotional from Guideposts.org, is excerpted below as a special gift to all our members, each of whom have such special gifts to share with our church community.

### ***Working with Passion Every Day by Pablo Diaz***

"We all have gifts and a part to play in life. Do it with energy and enthusiasm. God will see."

When we work with passion, it makes a huge difference. Passion enhances the skills we bring to our workplace, ministry and community. It fuels our purpose in life.

Pope Julius II asked Michelangelo to paint a dozen figures in a small chapel in the Vatican before working on a magnificent papal sculpture. Michelangelo's passion was sculpture but he agreed and became fully committed to painting. He expanded the project from the Twelve Apostles to more than 400 figures and nine scenes from the book of Genesis. It took him four grueling years, on his back on a scaffold, painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. When asked why he was working so diligently on a dark corner that no one would ever see, Michelangelo replied, "God will see."

Everyone is called to do their part and use their gifts to make our world a better place. And when we do our part in the world with passion, even when others may not recognize or see it, we know that God will see it. What are you passionate about? How are you doing your part? Please share that passionate part of you with the rest of us in the world (and may we add, with Redwoods!)

"Lord, help me to do my part in building a better world with great passion."  
**Helen**

## Facilities Notes

### From Chair Clay Wiens

Just a brief reminder to all church users that to reduce fire risk, we are asking you to take a second when leaving the premises and close all doors you have opened. Thank you!

**Clay**

# May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1 Scout Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>4</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>5</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>8 Holy Communion</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Worship C/E 12:00 Mill Street	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>11</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>12</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>13</i> 6 pm Dinner and Movie Night	<i>14</i>
<i>15 Birthday Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Membership Fellowship Committee	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session	<i>18</i> LOG Deadline 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>19</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 9:30 Saturday Breakfast
<i>22</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>25</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>26</i> LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>29</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study			<i>Saturday, June 11</i> 9:30 Special Redwoods Presbyterian Church History Breakfast	<i>Sunday, June 12</i> 10:00 Special Worship Service Celebrating Redwoods 120th Birthday

Redwoods Presbyterian Church  
110 Magnolia Avenue  
Larkspur, California 94939



## Helping Hands in April – Thank you!

### Mill Street Meal

June Bellen, Maisie Campbell, Diane Forster, Tani & John Girton,  
Polly & Jim Gorder, Bonnie Kaiser, Carrie Kim,  
Jolyne Liberati, Debbie Lundberg, Nancy Rademacher,  
Ed Vorous, Joyce Wells, Katie Zwarg/Tyler & Ryan Green

### Coffee Hour

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

## Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

<b>April 3</b>	Bonnie Kaiser (L) Nancy Rademacher (G) Debbie Lundberg (U)	<b>May 1</b>	Ed Vorous (L) Carrie Kim(G) Iris Giacotto (U)	<b>May 22</b>	Debbie Lundberg (L) Clay Wiens (G) Carrie Kim (U)
<b>April 10</b>	Ani Lelea (L) Nancy Rademacher (G) Tani Girton (U)	<b>May 8</b>	Anna Barnett (L) June Bellen (G) Suellen Barnett (U)	<b>May 29</b>	Joyce Wells (L) Tani Girton (G) Anna Barnett (U) Alan Edmonson (U)
<b>April 17</b>	Clay Wiens (L) Bonnie Kaiser (G) Nancy Rademacher (U)	<b>May 15</b>	June Bellen (L) Nancy Rademacher (G) Clay Weins (U)		Thanks in advance to our liturgists, greeters and ushers for their service!
<b>April 24</b>	Nancy Rademacher (L) Carrie Kim (G) Ed Vorous (U)				

## Happy Birthday! From Deacons Moderator Tani Girton

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

May 2 – Georgene Gmahling and May 7 – Patrick Little ('95)

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