



The Redwoods Log

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

From The Rev. Dr. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

The following is my talk on the floor of the Redwoods Presbytery meeting on May 17 on my being “honorably retired.” My retirement date of August 31 was noted.

“Thank you. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a pastor – fulltime, part time, interim, and temporary supply in churches in Florida, New York and California – mostly in Redwoods Presbytery – for 31 years.

“Both Suellen and I will retire this summer and we hope to be more relaxed as we re-invent ourselves. I am 68 years old and have an entire, new life ahead of me – of us.

“Thanks to all the presbyteries and churches I have served and a special thanks for my latest pastorate, Redwoods Presbyterian in Larkspur. They are an amazing group of people.

“I thank especially my wife Suellen who has been the best spouse any pastor could hope for. I cannot imagine ministry without her love, prayers and support.

“Thank you all and may God continue to bless you in your respective churches, agencies and institutions and may God bless Redwoods Presbytery, the Presbyterian Church (USA), all church denominations and religious communities, and God’s beautiful earth.

“Yung Me* was asked what she would preach for her first sermon. I have thought about my last sermon. The theme will be ‘thanksgiving; giving thanks’. Amen.”

The presbytery stood up energetically and applauded. Thereafter, Suellen said a few words, as did the Beverly Brewster (Pastor of Sleepy Hollow PC), Jan Reynolds (Pastor of First PC, San Rafael and former intern at Redwoods), Ani Lelea (Clerk of Session at Redwoods PC), Stephanie Ryder (Pastoral Associate at Redwoods PC), Bob Conover (Mission Presbyter) and David Moon-Wainwright (Pastor of Community PC, Calistoga). I concluded, saying I was overwhelmed and floating on a cloud.

I saw that I was on the docket the morning of the meeting. I thought I would be “honorably retired” at the September presbytery meeting. We had just returned from the California Marriage and Family Therapists Conference in Los Angeles and had I waited until the morning to go over the docket. It was too late to email all the members of the church. Still, the occasion was very meaningful and moving.

God bless you and peace,
Cornel

*Yung Me Morris will be ordained and installed as pastor at Heritage PC in Benicia

P.S. I encourage you to join us in celebrating Redwoods’ 120th anniversary celebration on Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12. Please see page 5 for details.

Community Formation

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder
Pastoral Associate**

Greetings from your Pastoral Associate!
As is the case with most "Junes"—and this one no different—the season brings both wrapping up and ramping up. That is, as year-long programs come to a close, we have a surge of energy in reflection, anticipation and celebration.

Our Compassionate Kids' spring session will conclude on June 8. It has been an inspiring group with outrageously insightful questions, observations and participant interactions. This session, it was especially helpful to have RPC youth member, Aidan Kim, as our assistant. He brought a mature, wise and compassionate presence. Thank you, Aidan, for being a great role model. Thank you, also, to Debbie Lundberg and Diane Forster for helping each week for the past two years of this program. Your kindness and hospitality are greatly appreciated.

The Compassionate Kids will join us in worship on Sunday, June 12, and that afternoon at 1:30 pm, help address issues of poverty and hunger by taking part in the CROP walk. To participate and/or donate to this important community service project, please contact me or the church office.

Our Tuesday morning Bible study, "The Spirit Comes," concluded serendipitously with Pentecost, the Christian celebration of the birth of the Church, when the Holy Spirit was poured out for all (Acts 2). It was a beautiful and enriching study. Below are the final two cinquain poems by Bible study members:

Spirit
White, whisper
Living, breathing, loving
Always with me
God

Spirit
Joyous, helpful
Soothing, leading, guiding
Never forsaking, always there
Comfort

May the continual presence of the Holy Spirit be with you.
Peace, **Stephanie**

I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
(Acts 2:17, quoting Joel 2:28)

Music Notes

**From Rev. Stephanie Ryder
Music Director**

June promises to deliver a lively selection of music at Redwoods!

On June 5, we will be graced with the music of Heather Creighton. Heather has taught piano at Old Dominion University and New England Conservatory, where she received her Masters degree in Piano. She was the principal pianist for the Marin Symphony for more than 20 years. We are delighted that she plays with us on Sundays. I will be in Seattle officiating a wedding on this day, and will be with you in spirit.

On June 12, our Compassionate Kids will be singing along with our choir. It will be a special day as we also celebrate the 120th anniversary of Redwoods Presbyterian Church!

We welcome back Denise Wharmby on Father's Day, June 19. Denise played for us on Mother's Day last month. The congregation was overjoyed with her musical gifts and grateful for the Offertory song that her daughter presented. Denise was the former Marin Girls Chorus teacher, and has worked professionally around the world as a singer and pianist. She is from Tasmania, Australia, and moved to Marin in 1999. We are thankful to have her return to Redwoods this month.

The Parke Kurtz Memorial Handbell Choir will be playing on June 26. This will be our "season closer" as both the bell choir and chancel choirs will be taking a summer sabbatical in July and August—a well-deserved and necessary rest for our singers and ringers, who meet weekly all year to prepare and provide music for our Sunday services.

Blessings, **Stephanie**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. (Psalm 98:4-5)

June Church Mouse



This month's Mouse is written by a long-time Redwoods Mouseketeer who is stepping up to help The Mouse while she is on vacation. As a special treat, Mouseketeer brings you two kinds of news for June. The first is present day news from members and friends, and the second is a quick look back at past Mouse news items in recognition of Redwoods 120th Anniversary Celebration on June 11-12. Mouseketeer hopes you enjoy looking back along with her!

Lots of Redwoods' folks will be traveling this month. Rev. Stephanie Ryder's son, Brooks, will be heading for Europe with four friends and a pocket full of train tickets to London, Amsterdam, Berlin, Prague and Barcelona. (The Mouseketeer would love to slip into a pocket and travel with this group!) Brooks' brother, Charlie, will be back home from Cal Poly this summer to work as a real estate intern.

Alan Edmonson and Anna Barnett will be off to Dallas, Texas to visit Alan's daughter, Claire, and family, and to hike and explore the Carlsbad Caverns. Ed Vorous will be vacationing with friends on their 400 acre Texas ranch...yahoo! Karen Carmody is off on a Baltic cruise with a friend and will visit Stockholm.

And that's not all! Margie Egger and son, Jay, will be visiting family in the East. Diane Forster is off experiencing a life-long dream of cruising the River Seine from Paris...ooh la la! Nathan Girton is excited to be part of a special group of competitive athletes.

In May, Rev. Cornel Barnett and wife, Suellen, attended the annual California Marriage and Family Therapist's Conference in Los Angeles. They spent a night at Pismo Beach on the way home.

Finally, we share Bob and June Bellen's joy at being happily ensconced in their new apartment—way to go!

Now it is time for the Mouseketeer to twist her graying whiskers and peer into some yellowed Mouse columns from the turn of the century!

As 2000 drew to a close, activity picked up at a frantic pace. The Rory Littles—Jan, Robert, Patrick and Andrea—and the Rademachers—Nancy, Molly and Eric—had a busy day at church, the San Quentin Children's Christmas party and caroling for shut-ins. Deacons Barbara Linse and Wayne Slemp organized the San Quentin event.

Fellow carolers Dick and Irene Kohler and grandchildren Dana and Matthew Hunn, Jack and Marilyn Sutherland, Ann Barncut, Klara and Frank Larsen, James Holmes and Rev. Judith Ray brought cheer to the homes of Naydeen Wesel, Ruby Carter, Willi Fitch, Lillian Radon, Shirley Tiger and Millie Morse.

Later...Families on the go this summer included Hal Wells to Sun River while Joyce completed an airplane race...Debbie Lundberg received the prestigious Gold Oak Award from Neil Cummins P.T.A...

Dr. Gene Morita, Clinical Professor of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine at UCSF Mt. Zion Hospital was the proud recipient of the Faculty Teacher of the Year Award...the Fujiwara's were happy to be back on Oahu...and Jim and Polly Gorder had to hit the tornado shelter while visiting family in Kansas...

Finally, George Gmahling sported a Bay to Breakers t-shirt for walking the 7.5-mile course with Don and Donna Gould. George's Spouse (your Mouseketeer) did not get a t-shirt for driving to pick up the bedraggled trio!

Hope you enjoyed this little foray into the past. Your Mouseketeer just heard the mousetrap click—hope it's her favorite Tillamook cheese! That's '30' for now.

**The Mouseketeer
aka the Mouse of Years Past!**

Facilities Notes

From Chair Clay Wiens

The Facilities Committee invites you to join us on Saturday, June 4 from 9 am-noon as we clean the sanctuary, kitchen, library and Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be available. Please RSVP to Clay Wiens, 415-461-6424 or cwiens@pennbrookins.com. **Clay**

Membership/Fellowship Committee News

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Summer has arrived! The Membership/Fellowship Committee wishes Redwoods' members and friends a safe, happy and healthy summer.

Redwoods Presbyterian Church will be 120 years old this year! The church was founded in 1896 by two San Francisco Theological Seminary students and 36 local residents. I'm sure they would be proud of Redwoods today, especially all those who have been a part of the church and all that has been accomplished in those 120 years. In honor of this amazing anniversary, we are planning a special celebratory weekend..

On June 11, our monthly Saturday breakfast will feature a special showing of a short film on the building of the church. This film was recently discovered and transferred to a DVD so that we can all enjoy it. Diane Forster and James Holmes will also share their extensive personal knowledge about Redwoods over the years. The program should be quite informative and fun. The light potluck breakfast begins at 9:30 am with the program from 10-11 am.

The following day, the celebration will continue. Revs. Cornel Barnett and Dan White will preach a sermon on this special event in our worship service. After, we will enjoy a potluck salad luncheon that will also honor recent new members of the church. Please bring a favorite salad to share if you are able. The Membership/Fellowship committee will provide a special birthday cake and drinks. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite past members, friends and family. Help make this an unforgettable 120th birthday party!

The Fourth of July is fast approaching and we plan to continue our well-loved and fun tradition of serving lemonade to the community during the Twin Cities' parade. Many of us have been a part of this joyous outreach to the community in the past and we encourage anyone who would like to join in the fun to participate. We will be posting a sign-up sheet later in June. This is one of the best ways for us to be visible in the community and to show what a special place Redwoods Church is. So the more the merrier!

Stay tuned to a summer outing to Ross Valley Players at the Barn in Ross. Details will be forthcoming.

Peace and Blessings to All, **Nancy**

Deacon's Corner

From Deacon Carrie Kim

Each month the Deacons offer a devotional before their meeting. May's devotional was "Don't Be Afraid" by Rick Warren

"Even when you walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me" (Psalm 23:4 NLT, second edition).

What are the things you're worried about? The election? Your health? Your bills? Your kids? Are you worried about the future? The fact is there are lots of reasons to be afraid in today's world. But God's promise is that, even in your darkest valleys, he is walking beside you.

It's interesting to note that there are 365 verses in the Bible that say, "Fear not." God provided us with one "Fear not" message for every day of the year! Don't you think God is saying, "Get the message. Don't be afraid." It's interesting that almost every time God talks to someone in the Bible, the first thing he says is, "Don't be afraid!"

Why? Because our hurts and hang-ups can often cause us to think that God is out to get us, that all he wants to do is condemn us and punish us. But that simply isn't true. Jesus is proof of that.

When we understand God's grace and mercy, then we have no need to fear the future. God isn't trying to get even with you. Jesus has taken the penalty for everything you've ever done wrong or will do wrong. He paid for it on the cross. So, when a bad thing happens, you don't have to think, "God's getting even with me."

Instead, remember, *"Even when you walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me."*

Carrie

June 2016

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

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
 110 Magnolia Avenue
 Larkspur, California 94939



Helping Hands in May – Thank you!

Mill Street Meal

Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Diane Forster, Tani & John Girton,
 Polly & Jim Gorder, James Holmes, Carrie Kim,
 Debbie Lundberg, Mueller, Nancy Rademacher,
 Ed Vorous, Joyce Wells

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

May 1	Ed Vorous (L) Carrie Kim (G) Iris Giacotto (U)	May 22	Debbie Lundberg (L) Clay Wiens (G) Carrie Kim (U)	June 12	Suellen Barnett (L) June Bellen (G) Iris Giacotto (U)
May 8	Anna Barnett (L) June Bellen (G) Suellen Barnett (U)	May 29	Joyce Wells (L) Tani Girton (G) Anna Barnett (U) Alan Edmonson (U)	June 19	Ginger Gmahling (L) Clay Wiens (G) Nancy Rademacher (U)
May 15	June Bellen (L) Nancy Rademacher (G) Clay Wiens (U)	June 5	Tani Girton (L) Carrie Kim (G) Ani Lelea (U)	June 26	Jim Gorder (L) Carrie Kim (G) Debbie Lundberg (U)

Happy Birthday! From Deacons Moderator Tani Girton

Join the Deacons in wishing the following members and friends a happy birthday this month: 3 – June Bellen, 4 – Lillian Webb ('15),
 11 – Diane Newton, 11 – Oakley Dexter, 20 – Jan Salas, 21 – Iris Giacotto, 26 – Ann Barnecut, 30 – John Girton.

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