



The Redwoods Log

September 2014 - Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832 www.redwoodspres.org

From The Rev. Dr. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

“See, I am making all things new.” (Rev. 21:5). The sense of newness in the Book of Revelation reflects on similar passages in Isaiah and it has a futuristic ring to it. One can interpret it in the light of God’s continual renewal of the church.

God is doing a new thing here at Redwoods.

A year ago, I never thought that we would begin the New Year with the addition of a new pastor in a quarter-time capacity and me continuing in a halftime capacity to enhance the ministry of the church and help the budget.

With much prayer and dialogue with Stephanie Ryder and the Session, the Spirit moved in and among us.

God is indeed making all things new at Redwoods. It is a risk and a discovery. How will we do with reduced time and expanded pastoral staff? We will do our best. I will continue as your pastor in all the ways I have been albeit with a 20-week work schedule (of course, this is minimum and a guideline. I can see additional hours but I will do my best to be truly half-time).

Stephanie will continue as a Minister of Music and be “Pastoral Associate for Community Formation and Family Ministry.” We have written a job description and she will develop the position as she goes along working an additional ten hours a week.

This is how I envision our week from September 1.

I shall preach two Sundays in the month, mostly the first and second Sundays. Stephanie will preach mostly on the third Sunday of each month. The Rev. Dan White or Faith McClellan or guest preachers will preach on the fourth Sunday. Stephanie and I will lead café-style services on the fifth Sundays.

My weekly breakdown will be Monday (eight hours from home working on my sermon and worship bulletin and two Mondays TBD), Tuesday and Wednesday (four-and-half hours each day, approximately 10:00–2:30 pm) and Sunday (three hours). I shall be on call for emergencies 24/7.

The prayer support group and spirit and work support group have ceased. I will get in the groove of the latest work configuration and plan another kind of support group, biblical, theological or prayer. Stephanie will continue to facilitate the Tuesday morning Bible study. She will develop her ministry and write a monthly column for the LOG on community formation and family ministry.

The changes are to bless and build the church. Please keep us in your prayers. Thank you for being such a wonderful church. The pastoral, music and office staffs are here to support you in your ministry. We are in dynamic partnership with you and we look forward to our new ministry together.

Peace and blessings, Cornel

September Church Mouse



Hope you all have had a wonderful summer! Many Redwoods members and friends have enjoyed traveling!

Helen Morita, along with her children and grandchildren, spent a special week at Dillon Beach. She said the cousins had a fun time together. We are very thankful of Helen's announcement that she is free of cancer!

Joyce Wells traveled to New Orleans for her annual "Ninety-Niners" gathering. The Ninety-Niners, aka the International Organization of Women Aviators, have a museum in Oklahoma City that our intrepid Melissa Gill recently visited. Melissa said it was amazing to see photos of the first President Amelia Earhart and also of 34th President Joyce Wells (1994-96)!

Karen Carmody spent three weeks visiting her family in Twin Falls, Idaho. She went ziplining over the Snake River, quite an adventure, and then on to Montana to visit friends. The Gorders' sons and families visited here and at their cabin in Tahoe. The Putzis were away on their annual trip to Canada.

Barbara Slusher was also adventurous, camping at McCloud—a family tradition for 60 years! Diane Forster camped with some of her family in Graeagle. Son Tom is the new fire chief for the area. Grandson Chris is a firefighter engineer in Red Bluff.

Jan and Blaise Salas spent a week in Santa Cruz. Jan was really looking forward to their annual family gathering.

Our seminary intern, Stephanie Ryder, originally from Connecticut, traveled with her husband and sons to Boston and Nantucket to visit family and friends. They rode bikes, swam in the Atlantic, ate lobster rolls and visited Fenway Park. Stephanie then went to Southern California to celebrate her grandma's 93rd birthday!

Georgene Gmahling enjoyed playing the clavichord while Stephanie was away. She discovered all the different sounds you can play.

Did you know that Dan White, our parish associate, is coaching a co-ed softball team at San Quentin? He says it's been a good experience for everyone. Nice to have Dan preaching while Cornel and Suellen were traveling to Oregon and down the coast for a memorable vacation. Cornel even had a chance to assist at a very small church as he was traveling.

Have you noticed the new recycling containers in the kitchen? Many thanks to Nancy Rademacher for supplying them. Now you know which is the right one! Check out the beautiful paint job on the benches in the patio and the new light fixtures in the hall. Many thanks to Clay Wiens and Ed Vorous for their time and talents!

We are saddened by our beloved Marian Judd's (Mrs. Mouse Spouse's) passing. Many fond memories of her will be with us always. Our heartfelt prayers are with Dick and all the family. Dick was recently hospitalized for diverticulitis and is now happy to be home with daughter Liza while they plan for Marian's memorial service on September 17.

Marian's time with Hospice reminded Dick of former Redwoods members, the Meisters, who told Redwoods about this fledgling British organization during Joys and Concerns one Sunday in the late 60's, just after they returned from a trip to England. (Hospice didn't become popular in the US until the late 70's.) Dick called the Meisters in Davis and learned that Carl has passed away and Dorothy is now under care from a Hospice-type organization.

Happy news! Sal & Diana Newton have a new daughter, Juliana. She was born July 25, weighing 7 lbs.15 oz. Now Hunter has a baby sister and Diane Forster has a beautiful great grand-daughter, her fifth!

Mark Larsen was in Canaan, NH and saw Ginny (Cunningham) Crittenden. The Cunninghams were longtime members of Redwoods and lived on Palm Hill. Ginny and Dave send their love to all members of the Redwoods community.

See you next month and so long for now!

Mr. Mouse & Spouse (in memorium)

Music Notes

**From Stephanie Ryder
Interim Music Director**

Glad Tidings from your Interim Music Director!

It was a lovely summer of music with special musical guests: the St. Patrick's trio with our own Polly Gorder; Georgene Gmahling on the Clavinova and a special duet with Marilyn Sutherland; Redwoods Family Band playing for our café-style worship; soloist Selin Holder; and Georgene Gmahling playing the clavinova the last two weeks of August.

All through the summer, the choir enjoyed a well-deserved lightened rehearsal schedule, though they still showed up and sang beautifully on Sundays!

We are looking forward to resuming our weekly bell rehearsals on Tuesday, September 9 from 9—10 am, and weekly choir rehearsals on Thursday, September 11 from 7:30—8:30 pm. We will be tuning up for a lively fall program!

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.* Psalm 100:1-2

Stephanie

A Note from your Former Intern

From Stephanie Ryder, SFTS Graduate

Deepest thanks and appreciation for the glorious celebration after worship on Sunday, August 17!

I was greatly touched by the outpouring of love made evident by your presence, cards and overwhelmingly generous gifts. The cake was one of the most beautiful I have ever seen! Thank you for the special efforts in making it such a delicious and lovely event.

I was honored to be part of Redwoods Presbyterian Church as an intern, and am so grateful to be continuing in ministry with this warm and wonderful community!

Blessings,
Stephanie

Community Formation Corner

**From Stephanie Ryder
Pastoral Associate**

I write this column with excitement as I anticipate my new position as Pastoral Associate of Community Formation and Family Ministry here at Redwoods Presbyterian Church, beginning September 1.

God gave us a giant wink when REAL School approached the church looking for space to continue their mission serving middle school youth in Southern Marin. The directors of the school, Marilyn and Mark, have been busy moving into rooms 3, 5 and 6 in preparation of the first day of school for their nine students on September 2. We have been greatly blessed by the beautification of the courtyard and the dynamic energy of their presence. We warmly welcome them and look forward to opportunities for collaboration. Please feel free to visit their website at realschoolmarin.org and we will keep you posted about occasions to meet and greet our new residents.

Our after-school children's program, Redwoods Bible Study and Music, will be starting on Friday, September 26, from 3:30—4:30 pm. We will be using the brand new fall curriculum from the PC(USA), *We Believe*. The focus of the study is God's presence and faithfulness in the lives everyday people. The program will be open to children from kindergarten – 5th grade.

Adult Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, September 9 at 10:30 am, with the 18-week N.T. Wright study of *Romans*. This will be a follow-up to our fruitful study last year of *Acts*. Additionally, I was recently made aware of an intriguing eight-week bible study entitled *Forgiveness*, which the group may decide to begin either before or after the *Romans* study. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend!

Jesus answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

Stephanie

Membership/Fellowship Committee News

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Fall is in the air. Most students and teachers are back to school and entrenched in the new school year, and folks are winding their way back home after summer vacations.

We will be celebrating Homecoming Sunday at Redwoods on Sunday, September 7. As has been our tradition, we will be having a barbeque lunch following worship and hope many of you can attend. David Barnett has once again agreed to be our grill master. The Membership/Fellowship committee will provide burgers (beef and veggie), all the trimmings, dessert and drinks. Please bring a salad to share, if you are able to. We will also be giving special recognition to long time members of the church that day so please mark your calendars. Please invite family, friends and neighbors to this festive event.

The next Saturday breakfast will be held on September 27. Our speaker will be Marijke Fakasiieike from the California Council of Churches with a presentation on the "Covered California" health exchange. The exchange is already operational, and the California Council of Churches is one of the 48 recipients of major grant funding to help with sign-ups for health care coverage through the exchange.

Marijke will offer us basic information on how the new health care exchange operates, how to obtain subsidies and supports for the costs of individual and family health care, how to obtain enrollment assistance during the Open Enrollment period starting October 1 through the end of next December 2014, and will answer our questions. This should be a very informative program so please join us. We welcome attendees from the wider community as well, so please pass the word. The light potluck breakfast is from 9:30—10 am with the program from 10—11 am

A group of us have signed up for a theater outing to Masquers' Theatre in Point Richmond to see Kurt Weill's *Berlin to Broadway* on Sunday afternoon, September 14. Cornel and Suellen have once again gra-

ciously invited us to their home afterwards to a post theater party. There has been a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall but if you haven't yet signed up and would like to attend, please let either Cornel or Nancy know as soon as possible. There will be a light lunch prior to the play and we will be arranging carpools.

Peace and blessing to all, **Nancy**

Endowment News

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

The Presbyterian Foundation has a lovely statement describing endowment and giving plans that I want to share with you:

"Endowment gifts are theological statements which demonstrate one's belief that we are never ultimately proprietors, owners, but only stewards, lifetime guardians entrusted by God to use wisely what God has placed in our hands.

When an individual creates an endowment gift for the church during or beyond their lifetime, it declares to the present and future generations the importance of our faith and trust in God.

We have each drawn water from wells we have not dug; we have sat under shade trees we did not plant and we each have a wonderful opportunity to provide the means for the church to have a strong and empowering ministry for generations to come."

As we have asked in the past, please prayerfully consider a gift, either now or through your will or living trust. Each donation, no matter the size, will facilitate the future viability of Redwoods Presbyterian Church and its mission and vision. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Nancy

Please consider including:
Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 94939
Tax ID No. 94-1347047
among the beneficiaries of your estate plan.

Mission Outreach News

From Chair Debbie Lundberg and Member Jan Salas

Peacemaking Offering

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

John 14: 27

On October 5, World Communion Sunday, Redwoods members and friends will participate in the Peacemaking Offering, one of four special offerings of the denomination. Each October, we celebrate the possibility of peace in our world as we join with all other Presbyterians to offer our gifts.

Peacemaking offerings support peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level. Gifts from congregations are divided as follows:

- 25 percent is retained by congregations for support of their own peacemaking ministry;
- 25 percent is used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts; and
- 50 percent is forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the PC(USA).

Online gifts are used at the General Assembly level.

Some of the programs supported by PC(USA) include: "A Student Led Program of Peace" (anti-bullying), "Fostering Christian Understanding and Ministry" (International Program), "United to End Violence Against Women," and "Bringing Hope with Clean Water." Visit www.pcusa.org for further details

The Mission/Outreach Committee will determine where to send our local portion of the offering. In past years we have contributed to the Center for Domestic Peace, Spectrum, Court Appointed Special Advocates and many others. There are many agencies working toward fostering and supporting peace in all aspects of life in Marin. **Jan**

Bread for the World— Have Faith, End Hunger

This October we will again participate in the Bread for the World Offering of Letters, with a focus on reform to U.S. food aid. For many decades, the US has been a global leader in humanitarian aid. Our federal gov-

ernment often sends assistance in the form of food aid. We now have an opportunity to reform the programs involved in food aid to ensure the funds are used more effectively and efficiently.

Many of the government's practices in the food aid programs date back to the 1950's and reforms to the program would expand benefits to 17 million more people each year, at no additional cost. We believe we can change policy and ensure continued, improved assistance to hungry people around the world.

On October 26, Redwoods will gather our letters for blessings and dedications. In the next edition of the LOG we will provide the sample letter for our legislators. There is also more information and a sample letter on www.bread.org/ol/2014/act-now/. The Mission/Outreach Committee thanks you for your support of Bread for the World and their work to end hunger.

Jan

Box Tops For Education

It's that time again - another school year beginning!

A reminder that we continue to participate in the Box Tops For Education Program which was introduced to Redwoods by Melissa Gill last year.

Since 1996, the Box Tops for Education program has helped schools across America earn cash for the things they need. It's completely free and only takes a few minutes. Over 80,000 K-8 schools participate in this program.

Products such as Cheerios, Kleenex, Ziplock bags, Yoplait yogurt and many more have the Box Tops For Education coupons on the packages. Just clip the coupons and bring to church. We will have a collection box in Fellowship Hall.

Each coupon is worth ten cents to the school to be used in support of their educational program. Neil Cummins has a goal of \$9,000 this year. Wow!

I will try to bring a Box Top For Education product to each coffee hour and also will post a list of items taking part in the program.

Happy Clipping!

Debbie

Deacon's Corner Homebound Outreach

From Deacon Tani Girton

Over the summer, the Deacons outreach group visited with Marian Judd while she was under Hospice care. We had lovely visits that included singing songs from our Family Band repertoire with Polly Gorder playing the guitar, sharing homemade treats with the family (Dick especially liked the cookies and said they reminded him of cookies of his youth) and sharing stories and small talk.

All of us were uplifted by the experiences we have shared with the Judds and others. We look forward to visiting any church member who can't get out to church who would like a little fellowship!

To arrange a visit, usually on a Sunday afternoon, just give any deacon a call or you may also contact the church office and a deacon will return your call to arrange the visit.

Tani

Happy Birthdays!

From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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

- 7 – Bill Mills ('65)
- 8 – Alan Edmonson
- 11 – Jackie Palmer
- 19 – Blaise Salas
- 24 – Melissa Gill

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

Earth Prayers

From Helen Morita

The following prayer is taken from the wonderful book, *Earth Prayers from Around the World: 365 Prayers, poems and Invocations for Honoring the Earth*, edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon.

The author of this beautiful prayer is Helen Weaver.

Almighty God, who are mother and father to us all,
Look upon your planet Earth divided;
Help us to know that we are all your children;
That all nations belong to one great family,
And all of our religions lead to you.

Multiply our prayers in every land
Until the whole Earth becomes your congregation,
United in your love.
Sustain our vision of a peaceful future
And give us strength to work unceasingly
To make that vision real. Amen.

Helen

Missing a Family Heirloom?

From James Holmes

If anyone has forebears or relatives with the initials "FCG," then Redwoods has an old tray with those initials that may be yours!

This tray was one of several extras in the kitchen that were "de-commissioned" for use by the church during a recent clean up and we would like to find out if it is a family heirloom of a church member or friend.

If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me at 924-1402.

James

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Homecoming Sunday</i> <i>Holy Communion</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach 11:15 Homecoming	8	9 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	10	11 7:30 Choir	12	13
14 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Worship/CE 12:00 Mill Street	15	16 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session	17 2:00 Marian Judd Memorial Service LOG Deadline	18 7:30 Choir	19	20
21 <i>Birthday Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Membership/Fellowship	22	23 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	24	25 LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir	26 3:30 Bible Study & Music	27 9:30 Saturday Breakfast
28 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship	29	30 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study				

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Avenue
Larkspur, California 94939

Helping Hands in July/August – Thank you so much!



Mill Street Shelter Meals

June Bellen, Margaret Erwin, Diane Forster, Polly & Jim Gorder, James Holmes
Jolyne Liberati, Nancy Rademacher, Marilyn Sutherland, Ed Vorous, Joyce Wells

Coffee Hour Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Tani Girton, Membership/Fellowship Committee

Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|----------------|---|
| Jul 6 | Polly Gorder (L), Ani Lelea (G)
Debbie Lundberg (U) | Sept 7 | Suellen Barnett (L), Iris Giacotto (G)
Debbie Lundberg (U) |
| Jul 20 | Tani Girton (L), Debbie Lundberg (G)
Iris Giacotto (U) | Sept 14 | Ed Vorous (L), Nancy Rademacher (G)
Margie Egger (U) |
| Jul 27 | Nancy Rademacher (L), Beth Benz (G),
Clay Wiens (U) | Sept 21 | Anna Barnett (L), John Girton (G),
Iris Giacotto (U) |
| Aug 3 | Jan Salas (L), Ed Vorous (G)
Ani Lelea (U) | Sept 28 | Margaret Erwin (L), Gabriele Putzi (G)
Suellen Barnett (U) |
| Aug 17 | Clay Wiens (L), Bonnie Kaiser (G)
Jan Salas (U) | | |
| Aug 24 | Joyce Wells (L), Suellen Barnett (G),
Ed Vorous (U) | | |
| Aug 31 | Joyce Wells (L), Margie Egger (G),
Clay Wiens (U) | | |