



The Redwoods Log

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

From The Rev. Dr. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ. The good news at the outset of this month is that the Presbytery of Redwoods has approved that “Stephanie Ryder be ordained to the part-time position of Parish Associate for Community Formation and Family Ministry at Redwoods Presbyterian Church in Larkspur.”

The chair of the Committee of Ministry gave our Session permission to change the title to “Pastoral Associate for Community Formation and Family Ministry.” The Session moved and approved this at the last Session meeting.

All is in order. Stephanie is now our pastoral associate. She began this position at the beginning of September as a staff member and will continue this role as an ordained pastor after her official ordination here at Redwoods on November 30 at 3:00 pm.

We look forward to that great day and I congratulate Stephanie and the Session for our travels to Napa and Arcata and solid representations for the wisdom and appropriateness of this ordination. Stephanie was examined on the floor of the presbytery after reading her statement of faith and she was not questioned at all on her faith. It was sound and solidly stated.

The questions picked up on other aspects of her statement and biography, especially how she would apply those aspects to her life and ministry. For instance, her biography stated that “prior to attending San Francisco Theological Seminary, Stephanie taught piano, guitar and band groups from her home, and spent many years as a drama therapist working in various schools, hospitals and treatment centers in the Bay Area.”

The question was something like, “How will you apply these wonderful aspects of your life and work to your ministry?” This gave Stephanie an opportunity to highlight our “Compassionate Kids” program, which is a continuation and change of day and emphasis of our afterschool program begun by Suellen Barnett, Melissa Gill, Molly Rademacher, Jan Salas, Diane Forster and Stephanie last year.

Stephanie said she would include music and drama in our children’s program. The program is explained in more detail inside this LOG. Before I sign off, I would like to thank Stephanie for coming up with such a wonderful name for the program.

Compassion is a very significant Christian and spiritual concept and if we creatively nurture compassionate kids we will make great strides in affirming the Gospel of Jesus Christ for our children and community.

God bless Stephanie and the program and God bless you all as we move into Halloween.

Cordially in Christ, Cornel

October Church Mouse



So nice to have Faith McClellan preaching while

Cornel was recuperating from knee surgery. John Girton's hernia operation was at the same hospital in San Francisco. We are thankful both are doing well. We are also happy to have had native son and now Bostonian Mark Larsen worshiping with us recently.

Some lucky folks are traveling this Fall. The Gorders are heading to England and then on a boat trip down the Danube River in eastern Europe. Joyce Wells and friend Joe went to Montreal, Canada and boarded a small ship to cruise the St. Lawrence, down the Erie Canal to the Hudson River to New York. The Bellens spent a restful and fun week in Hawaii. The Putzi's have returned from Canada after a nice vacation this summer. When they left Montreal snow was scraped off their plane.

Karen Carmody just returned from an exciting and very interesting tour of Czechoslovakia, Slovakia and Hungary. She visited beautiful churches and learned about the Jewish culture.

Debbie Lundberg delighted us once again on the first Sunday of the month with a charming hat to remind us of the two cents a meal program. She also served popcorn in Fellowship Hall in observance of National Popcorn Day. Plus it was Grandparents Day! Sal and Diana Newton surprised Grandma Diane Forster by attending church with six week old Julianna along with brother Hunter.

Congratulations to Stephanie who received confirmation for her ordination to be held at Redwoods Church on November 30 at 3 pm. We can't say enough good things about Stephanie. What a blessing she is for our congregation! We were also very happy to have Stephanie's friend and colleague, Rev. Ann Jefferson, sharing her musical talents at worship when Stephanie preached.

Our Parish Associate, Dan White, became a grandfather! He and Becky's son and wife have a new son, Lucas, born August 16 weighing 8 lbs.1 oz. Dan must be looking forward to playing baseball with Lucas!

Congratulations and blessings to the White family!

Diane Forster recently sang "Happy Birthday" via phone to member Jackie Palmer, who celebrated her 94th birthday on September 11. For those who don't know Jackie, she was a long time teacher in the Larkspur-Corte Madera School district. She is living with son, Ron, and family in Sonoma.

The recent memorial service for Marian Judd was a loving tribute to her. Dan White's eulogy; the remembrances by family members; the beautiful music by son Lewis; singing by granddaughter Meredith Coomes; and organ music by husband Dick made the service very special. The lovely reception and a precious slide presentation of Marian's life was heart-warming. Marian will be dearly missed. Our special thoughts and prayers are with the Judd family.

Kurt Rademacher is a true hero! He successfully used the Heimlich Maneuver on June Bellen when a lodged piece of melon threatened her breathing at the Barnett post theater party on September 14. Bravo, Kurt!

Finally, in memorium to our wonderful Mouse Spouse Marian, we symbolically wave her rally rag for the Giants in the hope that post season they pass the Pirates for the No. 4 seed. **The Mouse**

Happy Birthdays!

From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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

- 3 – Ann Benezra
- 11 – Joyce Wells
- 17 – Salvatore Newton
- 21 – George Gmahling
- 21 – Robert Little ('91)
- 25 – Nathan Girton ('00)
- 29 – Bonnie Kaiser
- 30 – Ed Elliott

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

Community Formation Corner

**From Stephanie Ryder
Pastoral Associate**

Greetings from your Pastoral Associate!

We welcomed four new members to the adult Bible study on Tuesday mornings, for a total of 15 of us now studying *Forgiveness*. We meet in the library at 10:30-11:30 am. Tea and treats are provided. All are welcome to join us!

The new after school program began on Friday, September 26. As this goes to print, we are still accepting new students and hope for this to be a joyous time of fun and friendship!

The program is called *Compassionate Kids*, and will meet most Fridays, 3:30-4:30 pm, culminating in a performance at the Advent Concert on December 14. The program is open to children of all faiths, kindergarten through 5th grade. We will be using the PC (USA) curriculum, *We Believe*.

I want to thank you all so much for your prayers and encouragement during the ordination process these past six months. I appreciate so much those who have made special efforts on my behalf and even made long journeys to show their support.

I felt so calm and at peace on September 19, the day of the crucial meeting in Arcata. I felt your prayers and support. It all went very well and I am so pleased and humbled by the affirmative decision. The ordination ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, November 30 at 3pm here at Redwoods. I hope you will all be able to make it.

Meanwhile, my office hours are Thursday, 10am-noon in my beautiful new space in the music room, so please stop by to see me!

"Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken." Psalm 62: 1-2

Blessings~
Stephanie

Music Notes

**From Stephanie Ryder
Interim Music Director**

Glad Tidings from your Interim Music Director!

Fall is off to a good start! We are back to our regular weekly rehearsal schedule, though it has been somewhat light with some members taking the opportunity for Fall travels! We welcomed Ann Jefferson back on September 21 to play for the Sunday service. Bells will be played in service October 12. If you have an interest in joining the bell choir (rehearsals are Tuesdays, 9am-10am) or the adult choir (Thursdays 7:30-8:30), please contact me!

The music room is now also housing my office, and I appreciated the help of some of the choir members in clearing out the space, along with others who helped to haul old hymnals and unused music to Goodwill—they graciously accepted our offerings.

"Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts." Psalm 105:2

Peace~
Stephanie

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.

Oh God of all, at this time of our gradual awakening to the dangers we are imposing on our beautiful Earth, open the hearts and minds of all your children, that we may learn to nurture rather than destroy our planet.

Amen.

Lorraine R. Schmitz

Helen

Membership/Fellowship Committee News

From Chair Nancy Rademacher

What a busy and fun September we have had! We enjoyed a delicious and joyful Homecoming Sunday barbeque after a welcoming service. A huge thank you to our expert griller, David Barnett, who did a marvelous job cooking all the burgers. Thanks to everyone who helped with the set-up, clean-up, brought delicious salads and participated in this lively event.

Nineteen of us went to Masquer's Theatre in Point Richmond to enjoy an amazing production of Kurt Weill's music and a tribute to his life in Germany and the U.S. We most enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship at Cornel and Suellen's after the performance. The views were spectacular. Our sincere thanks to both of them for their generous hospitality.

We also started the Saturday breakfasts after a summer hiatus. The California Council of Churches gave a presentation on the "Covered California" health exchange. Open Enrollment is from November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015. Information is available if Fellowship Hall for those who couldn't attend.

The October breakfast will feature our new tenants from the Real School. The two founders/directors will be sharing information about the school, their philosophy and curriculum. It will be a great opportunity to get to know our new neighbors better and for them to get to know us. More details will be forthcoming in the "Happenings" in the Log, announcements in church and the website. Peace and blessing to all, **Nancy**

Mission Outreach News

From Chair Debbie Lundberg and Member Jan Salas

Bread for the World—Offering of Letters

The following is from the Bread for the World website, www.bread.org:

"For many decades, the United States has been a global leader economically, diplomatically, and militarily. The same is true in the humanitarian arena. Our federal government often sends assistance in the form of food aid. Now there is an opportunity to re-

form the federal government's food-aid programs so that funds are used more effectively and efficiently. It is time to update the government's 1950s practices to enable it to respond more flexibly and faster in a 21st century, globalized world. Changes to the food-aid programs would allow food aid to benefit 17 million more people each year — at no additional cost to U.S. taxpayers."

This year the members and friends of Redwoods Presbyterian Church will participate in the 2014 Offering of Letters. On October 19, we will gather in the library to prepare letters for our Senators Boxer and Feinstein. The Mission/Outreach Committee will have stationery, pre-addressed envelopes, stamps and all supplies for letters. On October 26, the letters will be dedicated during worship to forward to Washington DC. If you would like to write your letter at home, please feel free to use the sample letter below.

SAMPLE LETTER

U.S. food-aid policies can be more effective in helping people in times of crisis and in fostering long-term solutions to hunger.

I urge you to cosponsor S. 2421, the Food for Peace Reform Act of 2014. This bipartisan legislation, introduced by Senators Bob Corker and Chris Coons, reforms current food aid implementation to reach up to nine million additional people each year. The reforms will also result in nearly \$440 million in annual savings and allow the United States to reach those in need up to two months quicker than current practices.

Specifically, the legislation will allow more food purchases in or near the country where it is needed, reduce restrictions on transportation and cost of transportation, and eliminate the ineffective monetization of food aid.

These critical reforms to the U.S. food-aid program can benefit an additional 9 million people while making sure U.S. tax dollars are used wisely. God shows compassion for hungry people in the Bible. We can do our part by making these programs work better for hungry people today.

Together, we can work to end hunger."

Jan

October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> <i>Holy Communion</i> 9:00 Inquirers Class 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>10</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 9:00 Inquirers Class 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Worship/CE 12:00 Mill Street	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session	<i>15</i> LOG Deadline	<i>16</i> 7:30 Choir	<i>17</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>18</i> 9:30 Saturday Breakfast
<i>19</i> <i>Birthday Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Membership/Fellowship	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Fellowship	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Avenue
Larkspur, California 94939

Helping Hands in September – Thank you so much!



Mill Street Shelter Meals

Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Maisie Campbell, Diane Forster,
John & Tani Girton, Polly & Jim Gorder, James Holmes, Jolyne Liberati,
Debbie Lundberg, Nancy Rademacher, Ed Vorous, Joyce Wells

Coffee Hour June Bellen, Barbara Slusher, Membership/Fellowship Committee

Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers

- | | | | |
|----------------|---|---------------|---|
| Sept 7 | Suellen Barnett (L), Iris Giacotto (G)
Debbie Lundberg (U) | Oct 5 | Seline Holder (L), John Girton (G)
Debbie Lundberg (U) |
| Sept 14 | Ed Vorous (L), Nancy Rademacher (G)
Margie Egger (U) | Oct 12 | Jan Salas (L), Alan Edmonson (G)
Margie Egger (U) |
| Sept 21 | Anna Barnett (L), John Girton (G),
Iris Giacotto (U) | Oct 19 | Tani Girton (L), Ani Lelea (G),
Jan Salas (U) |
| Sept 28 | Margaret Erwin (L), Gabriele Putzi (G)
Suellen Barnett (U) | Oct 26 | Debbie Lundberg (L), Ed Vorous (G)
Ani Lelea (U) |