



The Redwoods Log

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

From The Rev. Stephanie Ryder

Grace and Peace to Redwoods Presbyterian Church!

I am so very grateful to be serving as your pastor, and am more convinced than ever of God's providence over our lives. It occurred to me this month that I wish I had pursued my path of ministry earlier in my life, and then I realized that God's timing is always perfect. God has been preparing me for this position, and all of the different experiences in my life up until now have been leading me to, and priming me for, this occasion. I appreciate the many varied aspects and responsibilities of the role of pastor – learning, teaching, visiting, preparing; leading groups and meeting individually; being creative and business-minded; singing, praying, seeking, finding. I remember Nancy asking me at my welcome party when I began as an intern what I most looked forward to in the position, and that I said, “the relationships.” That continues to be my favorite part of the job.

One of the most interesting surprises of my new job is that I have had to deal repeatedly with the topic of money. For example, October is Stewardship month and the lectionary texts have been centering on the theme of money. The Thought for the Week on the Sacredise website says,

"The Bible has a lot to say about money and how we use it. Our bank statements and budgets are important spiritual documents that reveal a lot about our priorities and our level of commitment to the principles of God's Reign. This week the readings challenge us to recognize that the material blessings we enjoy are not just given to us, but are given through us to share with others. As we grow in obedience to the values and mission of God's Reign, we inevitably find ourselves becoming increasingly compassionate and generous, and we discover that whatever measure of wealth we possess can make a significant contribution to building God's Dream among us.

"It's important to realize that our use of money is rooted in our attitude toward it. When we work to develop the Christ-like attitudes of humility, contentment, simplicity and love, we will automatically see our money not as an end in itself, or a source of security and happiness, but as a means to the end of building community, of seeking to spread blessing and sufficiency as widely as possible, and of manifesting the life of Jesus in our world."

As we consider our pledge this month, let us prayerfully consider the importance of Redwoods Church in our lives, and our dream of its impact on future generations. God has clearly provisioned Redwoods for the past 120 years. Let us move forward with hope, faithfulness, and responsibility into the next 120.

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Malachi 3:10

Yours In Christ, Stephanie

Sundays in October

- October 2: Peacemaking/World Communion Sunday
- October 9: Blessing of the Animals
- October 16: Guest preacher Rev. Keenan Kelsey
- October 23: Stewardship pledges due
- October 30: Compassionate Kids in worship

Music Notes

From Denise Wharmby

Music Director

What a lovely first few weeks this has been!

Thank you all for making me feel extremely welcomed here at the Redwoods. It has been a pleasure to serve on Sundays and during the week with choir and bell choir rehearsals and I look forward to getting to know you all more in the coming months.

On that note, please know that all are welcome to come and sing along with current members of the choir - all voices, all ages.

We meet Thursday evenings from 7:30 - 8:30 in the choir rehearsal room. We start with vocal warm ups, sing through some hymns, learn an anthem, and generally 'tune up'! The more the merrier! Just bring your voice and your spirit.

Bells are ringing too. Look forward to hearing some lovely contributions in service soon.

To October and beyond!

Musically, **Denise**

Facilities Notes

From Chair Clay Wiens

The Facilities Committee has continued its efforts to make sure that our facilities are in good shape for our new tenant, North Bridge Academy, which has now added a new science teacher.

Redwoods is pleased that Mark Biglieri, formerly of REAL School, will continue on in his Room 3 as the new NBA science teacher.

NBA's staff, 15 students and their parents have complimented the improved and refreshed bathrooms downstairs and the new red paint on all the interior doors.

At the request of two of the tenant groups who use the downstairs meeting Room 7, the Facilities Committee also needed to add a light over the stairs to the courtyard because the old pole light no longer illuminated the stairs.

The problem appeared to be the pole lamp's sensor and because it is original to the church and very old, it has not yet been determined if it can be fixed.

On behalf of our congregation, I would like to again thank Jim Gorder for his time and generosity in making these improvements possible.

We are also indebted to Jim for recommending Gilberto Espinoza, also known as Felix Handyman, as the right person to fill the role of the church "handyman," for those jobs that were formerly done by our wonderful former custodian Ed Vorous.

Clay

Compassionate Kids

From Rev. Stephanie Ryder

It is not too late to start this program for K-7 graders which meets on Wednesdays at 3:30-4:30 pm on the following dates: October 26, and November 2, 9, 16, 30 and December 11. We learn ways to create peace, tolerance, kindness and empathy through Bible stories, art, music and participation in the CROP Walk and REST shelter meals. Contact me for more information.
Peace, **Stephanie**

Peacemaking Prayer

"O, God,
to those who hunger
give bread,
and to those who have bread
give hunger for justice. Amen."

"Justice and Peace Shall Kiss: Praying Throughout The Year."
Published by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

Debbie Lundberg

October Church Mouse

Fall is here and members and friends are returning from their summer vacations.



The Girton family drove to Oregon along the beautiful coast to Portland. Later they spent eight days at the beach in Michigan and five days in Colorado. The Gorders had a special trip to Maine where they especially enjoyed Booth Bay Harbor.

The Rademachers camped in beautiful Glacier Park, a popular place, with Karen Carmody enjoying Glacier Park as well, as a participant in a friend's wedding. Happy to have the Putzi's back from their annual stay in Canada.

Cornel's retirement party was very special. He and Suellen were given a warm send off with good food, a song sung in their honor and even a surf board as decoration. Mari Robinson gave Cornel a very clever book of all the bulletin covers he created during his eight years here. Nancy Rademacher presented a lovely professionally printed album with warm wishes and photos from members and friends. We will miss the Barnetts.

We are truly blessed to have Stephanie Ryder for our new pastor, who knows this church so well. We also warmly welcome our new music director, Denise Wharmby, leading the chancel and handbell choirs with her special talents.

Session and Deacons are back on schedule as well as committees, Bible Study and the Compassionate Kids afternoon program. Stephanie tells us that the CK will be taking part in the worship service once a month.

Stephanie also announced we will once again have a Blessing of the Animals at worship on October 9. For certain, the church Mouse and her companion will attend!

Changes have also occurred this summer downstairs. A new tenant, North Bridge Academy, a school for children with Dyslexia, moved into the lower down-

stairs Rooms 2 and 4 under the sanctuary and Room 5 below the hallway. Former REAL School teacher Mark Biglieri continues to teach Science in Room 3, but now he is teaching for North Bridge Academy.

Former REAL School head Marilyn Englander has decided to spend the next year writing a book. Her departure from Room 6 has allowed the Redwoods' Sunday School to return to "Irene's room," also below the hallway, where the Compassionate Kids meet as well. So nice to have a separate room to gather.

We are happy to have Sharon and Dan MacQuarrie back at Redwoods from Montana and to have Sharon singing in the choir. Mark Larsen was back from Boston to attend his 50th Redwood High School reunion. So nice he came to visit us too!

Debbie Lundberg is walking on cloud nine since her announcement to become a grandmother next year. A baby boy is due March 1, 2017 and the happy parents-to-be are Eric and Gina Lundberg.

Our friend and member Beth Benz has moved from her home in Corte Madera to Sunrise Senior Living in San Rafael. To keep her company she has her two cats.

Georgene Gmahling has finally moved from her large apartment at the Tamalpais up one floor to a smaller place. She is very happy to have Marilyn Sutherland as her next door neighbor! They have been long time friends and Georgene counts this move as a blessing.

We are very sorry Maisie Campbell suffered a bad fall breaking her hip, wrist and thumb. Even after having surgery, with her wonderful sense of humor, she kept the nurses at Kaiser in a cheerful mood. She is now at Professional Healthcare in Terra Linda and welcomes visitors and cards (but no phone calls please).

Earlier this summer Maisie had a tree fall on her while walking in east Corte Madera. But before that happened she road and partly drove the SF Ducks-Mobile through the city and eventually in the water. At least she had some fun this summer! We pray for Maisie's healing and look forward to having her back at Redwoods.

The Mouse

Membership/Fellowship Committee News From Chair Nancy Rademacher

Fall greetings from the Membership/Fellowship committee!

We have resumed the Saturday breakfasts and are pleased to invite you to the next one on Saturday, October 15. Following is a wonderful description provided by the presenters:

Christmas in a Shoebox

A flurry of activity begins in November, when thousands of churches participate in Operation Christmas Child, a global mission to spread the gift and message of Jesus Christ to children worldwide. After packing shoeboxes with their church over the last few years, Sibylla and Ruben Ortiz traveled to Los Angeles to see what happens after one million boxes leave churches and converge in a real-life "elf workshop." The massive assembly line to process the boxes is powered by Samaritan's Purse and thousands of volunteers who embody the spirit of Christmas. Come hear about the experience and get inspired to pack a shoebox.

The potluck breakfast begins at 9:30 am with the program from 10-11 am. Don't miss this special presentation which will put us in the mood for the holidays.

Please join us for a homemade spaghetti dinner followed by a movie on Friday evening, October 21. Dinner will begin at 6 pm, prepared by the generous chefs extraordinaire, Robert and Gabriele Putzi. Following dinner we will show the movie, *Brooklyn*, about a young Irish immigrant who arrives in Brooklyn in the 1950's. It is a delightful movie which I'm sure some of you have seen but probably won't mind seeing again. It was nominated for three Academy Awards in 2016. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall, so please let us know if you will be able to attend.

Stay tuned for other upcoming events. We are planning another theater outing early next year and will be providing details soon.

Enjoy our glorious fall weather. Thanks be to God!
Blessings, **Nancy**

Mission Outreach Committee News From Co Chair Jan Salas

Work Together to Grow Peace

On World Communion Sunday, October 2, the members and friends of Redwoods church will participate in the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This is one of the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church.

Save the Date – November 27

Come and join us as we celebrate the season of Advent and prepare for the birth of Christ at the Alternative Christmas Faire, Sunday, November 27 at 11 am.

We will have several agencies with items on display. Each agency will have a sponsor at the table to answer questions about the work of the agency, and explain how the donation will be put to use. There will be delicious refreshments available as you browse the tables to learn about the work of the agencies.

Some of the agencies represented will be: Bread for the World, Church World Service, Habitat for Humanity and the Heifer Project. Each participant will be given information about the agency, an ornament to decorate the tree in Fellowship Hall, and a gift card for each donation. After the Faire, you can address the cards to friends and family to share the joy of the work for peace done by the agencies.

The Mission Outreach Committee will be providing further information in the weeks prior to the Faire, and please feel free to contact any Committee member with any questions.

This is an opportunity to set aside the commercialization of this sacred season, and focus on the true meaning of Christmas. We hope you will share this spirit with us and invite your family and friends to share it as well.

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i> <i>Holy Communion</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Deacons 11:15 Mission Outreach	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> <i>Blessing of the Animals</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 12:00 Mill Street Meal Delivery	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 9:30 Saturday Breakfast
<i>16</i> <i>Birthday Sunday</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Membership Fellowship Committee	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	<i>19</i> LOG Deadline	<i>20</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>21</i> 6:00 Spaghetti Dinner & Movie	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> <i>Stewardship Sunday</i> <i>/30</i> <i>Compassionate Kids</i> 9:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Ed 11:00 Fellowship	<i>24/31</i>	<i>25</i> 9:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Bible Study	<i>26</i> 3:30 Compassionate Kids	<i>27</i> LOG Mailing 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>

Redwoods Presbyterian Church
110 Magnolia Avenue
Larkspur, California 94939



Helping Hands in September – Thank you!

Mill Street Meal

June Bellen, Jim & Maisie Campbell, Diane Forster,
Polly & Jim Gorder, James Holmes, Bonnie Kaiser,
Jolyne Liberati, Debbie Lundberg, Jane Purkey,
Robert & Gabriele Putzi, Nancy Rademacher, 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

Sept 4	Nancy Rademacher (L) Maisie Campbell (U)	Oct 2	Ani Lelea (L)
Sept 11	Jan Salas (L) Clay Wiens (U)	Oct 9	Ginger Gmahling (L)
Sept 18	June Bellen (L) Debbie Lundberg (U)	Oct 16	Debbie Lundberg (L)
Sept 25	Polly Gorder (L) Iris Giacotto (U)	Oct 23	Bonnie Kaiser
		Oct 30	Compassionate Kids (L)

Happy Birthday!

From Deacons Moderator Tani Girton
Join the Deacons in wishing the following members
and friends a happy birthday this month:
3 – Ann Benezra, 9 – Carrie Kim,
11 – Joyce Wells, 17 – Salvatore Newton,
21 – Robert Little, 25 – Nathan Girton,
25 – Joan Robinson ('26), 29 – Bonnie Kaiser
Add your name and birth date to our list by con-
tacting office@redwoodspres.org or 415-924-4832.

Tani