



# The Redwoods Log

*April 2012 Redwoods Presbyterian Church 110 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832*

## From The Rev. Cornel Barnett

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this towards the end of Lent and we continue to walk with Jesus as he approaches the cross on which he will die.

Our reflections have been on death and what contributes to death in our world. It's not a happy subject but it stretches us and heightens our expectations for Easter. From the darkness, we think of light. From despair, we see hope. From brokenness, we find healing. From death, we reach towards life.

These glimmers of resurrection are amazingly reassuring. In Christ, darkness, despair, brokenness and death do not have the last word. The final word is life! O happy day!

It is in resurrection consciousness that I write this letter. I feel that new life is here. I feel the upsurge of the spirit. God is doing new things. I feel a new wind and I think it's about growth and health of the church. We are reaping the fruits of our years together.

Is it the new carpet, roof and landscape, the renovated rooms downstairs, our dynamic administrator and our lively new musician? Is it the constant faith and work of the amazing members of this church? Is it the elevation of the gospel and mission in and through the church? Is it fellowship events, our care, our stewardship and education/spiritual events?

Yes, yes and yes. It is all of these things and more. The spirit is alive and well here, and in our catching the spirit, we are on an upward swing. I'm grateful.

In my last letter, I said I would interact more with the community at large. This is what has happened since then: With Melissa Gill, I visited the new Twin Cities Police Station and met with Officer Sean Smith who gave us an excellent tour of the station. I attended the Boy Scouts Pack 43 Committee in the Larkspur Room at Hall Middle School to promote Scout Sunday which is set for April 29. Redwoods Presbyterian Church is the charter organization for Pack 43 which comprises 50 boy scouts in six dens, of which four meet in our building. I enjoyed a luncheon gathering with the city leaders of Corte Madera for a "State of the Town Address."

In March, the Marin Girls Chorus sang in our sanctuary as a benefit for our church and I publicly welcomed them. On April 29 at 4 pm, the Marin Interfaith Task Force on the Americas is holding a fund-raising concert and reception at our church featuring a popular East Bay group, the La Pena Community Chorus, and I'll offer a welcome.

All these interchanges have been lively and rewarding.

May you know personally God's gift of life to you this Easter and may we know the meaning of resurrection for the life of our church.

Peace and blessings,

Cornel

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## April Church Mouse



### Greetings from Mr. Mouse and Spouse!

The Mouse is out, and the Mouse Spouse is out with him! So, a “Mini Mouse” assistant has helped Mouse Spouse with this month’s column. Mini Mouse has quite a bit to say about Mouse and Mouse Spouse.

Dick Judd had a fall and some surgery and now holds the record at Marin General for the amount of fluid removed from a hematoma—2 liters! He has been rehabbing at the Greenbrae Care Center. Marian says he is in good spirits and that it is a good thing that they both have a sense of humor about all their “interesting adventures” of the past month.

In between physical and occupational therapy, Dick and Marian have enjoyed visits from son Lew and from daughter Lisa and grandson AJ, who have since returned to Colorado. During one visit, AJ gave Dick lessons on the clarinet given to him by Redwoods upon his retirement, which was lots of fun for both of them. Then Dick found a piano to play while AJ played the clarinet and many of the Center’s residents came and listened. (Bravo Dick!)

Mouse Spouse, who luckily recovered from her “little sciatica problem” just in time to join Mr. Mouse on his adventures, was quite apologetic for not having been “in the loop” in March. Nevertheless, she has heard quite a few things, and notes that this is a month for babies and youth!

Sal and Diana Newton’s new baby Hunter Louis, born on February 12, made his debut appearance at Redwoods and was introduced in worship on March 18. That made great grandmother, Diane Forster, proud.

Klara Larsen’s great granddaughter (and Mark Larsen’s granddaughter) was born on March 21 at Newtown-Wellesley Hospital. Sophie is a 6 lb. 5 oz. beauty with strawberry blond hair and blue eyes.

Debbie Lundberg traveled to Los Angeles on March 22 to visit her sister Pat, and her niece and nephew and his family. Debbie especially enjoyed being with Lauren, a sweet and happy 15 month old.

The Holder family’s lively twins, Kaylen and Sean, have enchanted the congregation at recent services they’ve attended with parents, Selin and Kenneth.

Molly Rademacher, now quite a role model for our Sunday School youth, wowed the Saturday Breakfast with a great talk about her year teaching in France.

Along with our pastor Cornel, intern Faith McClellan, office administrator and bird watercolorist Mari Robinson, and poet Alan Edmonson, have moved and inspired many at the Lenten Spiritual Practices Series.

The Mouse team will continue to follow Arizona Diamondback Conrad Schmidt, Herb and LaVerne Schmidt’s grandson, who is now at Spring training. You’ll be hearing more about him in upcoming LOGs.

Mouse Spouse had one last recommendation for the Mouse this month. She said, “What is it the British say? “Let them know we are carrying on.” It is good to know that Mouse and Mouse Spouse are carrying on with great spirit and we all look forward to their full return to the Mouse next month!

**Mr. Mouse and Spouse (with Mini Mouse)**

## April Happy Birthdays

### From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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

4 – Richard Judd, 12 – Nancy Rademacher, 17 – Barbara Slusher and 24 – Frank Wood.

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

**Polly**

## March Choir News

**From Music Director  
Barbara Bacon-Shaw**

It must be that spring is in the air—our Christmas tree is no longer in evidence in the family room! As we go to press in late March, here in Marin we are enjoying the final days of beautiful rain and long nights. As a Midwesterner, I love the inclement weather—it reminds me of my home state of Michigan!

I do hope you're enjoying the variety of music during the worship services. As you have undoubtedly noticed, I have been adding new music along with old favorites, so that each service has a little of both. In addition to choosing music for its important liturgical themes and meaningful words, I've also tried to offer different tempos and temperaments—fast, slow, happy, sad—in short, I'm trying to get it all in there!

The Parke Kurtz Memorial Bell Choir continues to practice every Tuesday morning at 9:30 am, and they did a wonderful job at their March 18 concert playing for the "Celebrating the Gifts of Women" service.

The next bell choir performance will be on Easter Sunday. This worship service will have some truly wonderful music. Not only will the bell choir perform, we will also have the wonderful tenor, Michael Nurge, who sang for Redwoods on Christmas Eve, again sing his heart out for us on Easter.

The Redwoods choir also continues its practices on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. We work on music for 4-6 weeks in advance, and we always have many wonderful songs to practice. Come out and join us at any time if you have an interest in either the choir or the bell choir.

I still keep very busy outside Redwoods with many groups and my private students—I now have 40!  
See you in the aisles of Redwoods! **Barbara**

## A Word from your Intern

**From SFTS Intern  
Faith McClellan**

I think there is something to the saying, "time flies when you're having fun." It's been seven months since I began my internship and I know that I would not have the confidence that I have now to move forward in my call to become a teaching elder were it not for your encouragement. It is my honor and my pleasure to serve you.

I'd like to share with you some of what I have been up to over the last few months so you know that your support has not been in vain.

Every Tuesday morning, I've met with the Bible Study group to discuss this year's study, "*Confessing the Beatitudes*." This close-knit group discusses how the Beatitudes relate to our lives and our local and global community. Part of the study includes writing our own confession, which will be shared with the whole church at an upcoming worship service.

I am learning a lot about the children of Redwoods by spending time with them in Sunday school once a month. My time with the "younger church" during worship has also helped me to see how pivotal it is to adapt sermons for young minds.

Last Sunday, I preached my fifth sermon in worship, which I consider to be an important accomplishment, since most interns only get to preach three times during their internship experience.

Finally, during Lent, I led two prayer practices: *Nurturing the Spirit through Ignatian Imagination Prayer*, and *Nurturing the Spirit through Partnering Prayer*.

These last seven months have been filled with much excitement and growth. There is never a dull moment! I look forward to your continued partnership with me in the months ahead! Many Blessings, **Faith**

## Membership/Fellowship Committee News

**From Chair Nancy Rademacher**

March was a busy month for Membership/Fellowship activities! The five Wednesday Lenten suppers and spiritual practice programs were well attended and meaningful, and each of the hearty homemade soup and salad suppers were declared “scrumptious.”

During March, we also had an impromptu and enjoyable outing that began with dinner at DJ’s Chinese Restaurant followed by a short jaunt to the Lark Theater to hear comedian Will Durst.

We rounded out the month of March with a lively and fun corned beef and cabbage dinner and a sing-along, a wonderful evening of music and fellowship. We thank our master chef Gabriele Putzi and the artistic Georgene and George Gmahling for making the evening such a success.

April brings us to the culmination of Lent and to the Holy Week worship services on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

The Membership/Fellowship committee cordially invites you and your family and friends to Redwoods festive Easter celebration that includes breakfast on Easter morning at 9 am before the 10 am worship service and a fun Easter egg hunt immediately following worship for all children in attendance.

We hope you will be able to join us for all of these services—Palm Sunday, Good Friday and our full morning celebrating Christ’s resurrection on Easter.

Please also plan to join us on April 22 at 2 pm to see Ross Valley Players in *The Twentieth Century-Comedy*, described as a great screwball comedy in all its romantic Art Deco glory. We will have a light lunch

at the church beforehand and will arrange carpooling to the theater. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall as we will be purchasing tickets in advance.

The Membership/Fellowship Committee continues to work on ways to make Redwoods Church more visible to the community and to attract visitors and we are open to your suggestions.

We also appreciate the sincere welcome our congregation provides to newcomers. Since we are likely to have many visitors on Easter Sunday, this is a great time to continue our tradition of a warm welcome to all.

Wishing you and your families a blessed Easter,

**Nancy**

## Prayer Chain News

**From Chair Marilyn Sutherland**

As many of you know, Redwoods has a Prayer Chain that is used to inform its members about concerns that impact the lives of congregants and friends, so that the Prayer Chain members can all pray for them.

For example, when there is an illness, a hospitalization or a death in the family, one of the most important ways to support an individual and/or family is to engage members and friends in the congregation in the ministry of prayer. We all know how very important prayer is in our lives and it is the honor and pleasure of the Prayer Chain members to pray on behalf of others.

The chain may be activated by contacting our pastor, Cornel Barnett, who then informs the chair and from there on, the ‘chain’ progresses. The prayer chain is in the process of being updated and all who are involved will be informed of changes. If anyone is interested in serving on the prayer chair, please contact me immediately.

Blessings, **Marilyn**

## Mission Outreach Committee News From Chair Debbie Lundberg

### One Great Hour Of Sharing – “One” – A Short Story

For several years I had the privilege of working with first graders as a class room assistant. One day the teacher asked me to read a story to the students about numbers. I loved to read to them, as they were such enthusiastic listeners. However, having never read this particular book before little did I know I was in for a surprise.

I knew I was in trouble from the first page which said: “When is one not one?” “Yikes,” I thought to myself this seems to be a somewhat difficult concept for first graders, but I continued reading that there were many times one wasn’t one, for example, one baseball team didn’t have just one team member nor did a family have just one member or a classroom just one student. Strangely enough, the kids caught on right away.

What does this have to do with One Great Hour Of Sharing? Well OGHS is another example of a time when one isn’t just one. It is lots and lots and lots as eight denominations currently participate in this offering. Moreover, the offering has been received not one year but each year from year number one, which was 1949, when not just one church participated but more than 75,000! Awesome!

So . . . you are one, I am one, and we are many who so generously support One Great Hour Of Sharing. Take a minute to read information about how funds are used if you like—there is material in Fellowship Hall. As the One Great Hour of Sharing byline states: it is for “Sharing Resources and Changing Lives” indeed. May it be so!

We will receive this offering during the worship service on Easter Sunday, April 8.

### A Reminder

Sunday, April 29 is the date of this year’s Marin Hunger Walk also known as the “Ending Hunger One-Step-at-a-Time CROP Hunger Walk.”

The event is jointly sponsored by the Marin Interfaith Council and Church World Service. There will be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall posted on April 1 for those who wish to join the walk and/or support walkers. Please see the information booklets in Fellowship Hall.

We look forward to walking the walking with you!

**Debbie**

## Membership/Fellowship Committee News From Member Debbie Lundberg

### March Breakfast

Merci Beaucoup, Mademoiselle, Molly Rademacher for the delightful program you presented at the March 17 Saturday Breakfast.

After hearing about your most recent experiences in France and seeing your enchanting pictures, we were all ready to pack our bags and head out for France!

You gave us a real sense of your experiences in Tours, the surrounding Loire Valley, the many chateaux, Paris and much more.

Plus, the spinach and goat cheese Quiche Lorraine that you made was delicious and gave us a true taste of France.

Yours was a truly well thought out and planned presentation and the time and effort you put into preparing for the talk was obvious in the program.

So again, Mademoiselle Molly – Thank You!

**Debbie**

## Counseling Corner

**From Suellen Barnett, MA, LMFT**

*“Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”* Isaiah 40:31

*“Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”* I Corinthians 15:57-58

### **Carpe Diem – Seize the Day!**

We are almost one quarter through this “New Year” 2012! How are we doing on all our plans for the year—plans for completing a project, finding a new job, eating nutritionally, exercising daily, etc.?

Motivation for all these efforts is the key – it’s one of the most important assets a person can have en route to accomplishing goals. It’s something we need on a daily basis. Without some kind of motivation, our thoughts and plans for reaching our goals will dissipate and fade rapidly. We will be looking for reasons or rather, excuses, not to continue with our plans.

So how can we stay motivated to reach those goals – whatever they may be? Some say, visualize into the future - close your eyes and see yourself accomplishing whatever your goal is. See yourself looking fitter and healthier, completing that poem or book or sweater or sitting behind your desk at that new job.

Another suggestion is to get more organized – a clean, tidy well-organized home, office and life is needed for the motivated mind. (Sometimes organization in itself is difficult!).

Place motivations in your home and office – symbols, signs, notes and objects. They remind us of our goals and dreams.

Sharing goals with a close friend can be a motivational factor. Each can – gently – remind the other of

what each is trying to accomplish. Setting small but clear deadlines can also be helpful. St. Expeditus is called on by our Catholic friends to help when rapid results are needed, so I’ve called on him sometimes when I need to get more motivated about something.

God is behind us in all our plans – large or small – and we also have a family of friends here at Redwoods who will pray for us at any time. God bless you in all your endeavors this year! **Suellen**

## Ecology Corner

**From Helen Morita**

This prayer comes from the (Catholic) Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Conservation Center.

### **Lord, Give Us Light and Strength to Be Good Stewards**

Lord, give us light and strength to know your will, to make it our own, and to live it in our lives.

You desire justice for all  
Enable us to uphold the rights of others:  
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance  
or corrupted by fear or favor.

Guide us by your wisdom, support us by your power,  
for you are God, sharing the glory of Father and Son.

Help us to be good stewards of the treasures of your creation; living persons, animals, and plants, the lands and the seas.

As we gather in your name may we temper justice with love, so that all our decisions may be pleasing to you, and earn the reward promised to good and faithful servants.

You live and reign with the Father and the Son,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <i>Holy Week</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Holy Communion</i>  9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:15 Mission Outreach	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <i>Maundy Thursday</i>  7:30 Choir	<b>6</b> <i>Good Friday</i> 8:30 Walking Group  7:00 Good Friday Service	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i> <i>Bell Choir in Worship</i> 9:00 Breakfast 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:00 Egg Hunt 12:00 Mill Street	<b>9</b> 7:00 Spirit and Work Group	<b>10</b> 10:30 Bible Study  7:00 Deacons	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30 Walking Group	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Birthday Sunday</i>  9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study  7:00 Session	<b>18</b> LOG Deadline	<b>19</b>  7:30 Choir	<b>20</b> 8:30 Walking Group	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education 11:15 Lunch Theater Group	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study  7:00 Membership/Fellowship Committee	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> LOG Mailing  7:30 Choir	<b>27</b> 8:30 Walking Group	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Education	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:00 Bell Choir 10:30 Bible Study				

Redwoods Presbyterian Church  
110 Magnolia Avenue  
Larkspur, California 94939

## Helping Hands in March – Thank you so much!



### Mill Street Shelter Meals

Suellen Barnett, June Bellen, Marjorie & Jim Egger, Margaret Erwin, Diane Forster, Melissa Gill, Polly & Jim Gorder, Marian & Dick Judd, Jolyne Liberati, Debbie Lundberg, Kitty Prosser, Nancy Rademacher, Joyce Wells

### Liturgists

Suellen Barnett, Melissa Gill, Debbie Lundberg,  
Faith McClellan, Nancy Rademacher

### Greeters

Anne Benezra, June Bellen, Iris Giacotto

### Ushers

June Bellen, Marjorie Egger, John Girton,  
Ani Lelea, Debbie Lundberg,  
Nancy Rademacher, Jan Salas, Clay Wiens

### Coffee Hour

Suellen & Cornel Barnett, June Bellen,  
Marjorie & Jim Egger, Margaret Erwin, Lori Wood

### April Helping Hands

**April 1**—Melissa Gill (L), Kitty Prosser (G),  
Iris Giacotto (U), John Girton (U)

**April 8**—Debbie Lundberg (L), Marion Judd (G),  
Ani Lelea (U), Gabrielle Putzi (U)

**April 15**—Faith McClellan (L), June Bellen (G),  
Tani Girton (U), Lori Wood (U)

**April 22**—Joyce Wells (L), Marjorie Egger (G),  
Elein Phipps (U), Clay Wiens (U)

**April 29**—Cub Scouts Pack 43 (L), Ani Lelea &  
Cub Scouts Pack 43 (G),  
Jan Salas (U), Debbie Lundberg (U)