



# *The Redwoods LOG*

*Redwoods Presbyterian Church, 110 Magnolia Avenue,  
Larkspur, CA 415-924-4832 [www.redwoodspres.org](http://www.redwoodspres.org)*

October 2017

## **From Rev. Stephanie Ryder**

Grace and Peace to Redwoods Presbyterian Church!

October is an exciting month at Redwoods. This month marks the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone. It is usually celebrated the last Sunday in October, when in 1517 Martin Luther published his “95 Theses,” a critique of the sale of indulgences and corruption in the church.

The change the Reformers believed was needed was in the interest of preservation and restoration of a more authentic faith – *ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda*, or “the church reformed and always being reformed.” John Calvin countered the charge from church authorities that the Reformers were “innovating,” stating that their intent was to restore the church to its true nature through attention to Scripture and respect for theology.

There have been many recent publications about the current “reformation” of the church; one, in particular, is Brian McLaren’s *The Great Spiritual Migration*. McLaren encourages Christians to trust and embrace the powerful new movements that are reshaping the church, and to avoid indulging in worry and nostalgia. He explores three shifts happening in the church:

- 1) Spiritual: Christians are being called to a way of life defined by love rather than a list of beliefs.
- 2) Theological: Christians are embracing the image of a renewing Spirit at work in our world for the common good – a nonviolent God of liberation rather than a violent God of domination.
- 3) Missional: Christians are spiritual activists dedicated to healing the planet, building peace, overcoming poverty and injustice, and collaborating with other faiths to ensure a better future for all – an organizing rather than organized religion.

McLaren’s thesis reminds me of the Reformers’ intention: “To help Christianity become more Christian.”

We will be exploring some of these ideas on future Sundays. I look forward to moving with you into the next quincennial (500 years) of Reformation, embracing a new phase of Christianity, as we turn back to our roots and open ourselves to the possibilities of how God is calling us to re-form.

Blessings,

Stephanie

*“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

~Matthew 11:29-30

## Music Notes Denise Wharmby

Hi All!

So good to be back with both bell and vocal choirs beginning a brand new year of ringing and singing! If you are even a teensy bit interested in exercising your musical talents, I invite you to please come to one (or both) choir rehearsals, join in or just listen to the music – it's a fun, and relaxing way to spend a couple of hours a week!

Bells meet on Tuesdays at the new time of 10:30-11:30am. If you've never lifted a bell before, it's easy. We give you a bell note to play here and there to get you started, nothing complicated or too challenging! It's truly a highlight of my week.

Choir meets on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:30pm. We are small but select and have a good time with warm-ups for the voice, rehearsals of the hymns and the anthem for the week. Then we meet again Sunday morning at 9:15am to run through the anthem before service.

This IS an activity for the faint hearted, so please come!! Try it out!! Otherwise you'll never know what you've been missing.

No pressure though. It's all about contributing what we can, and sharing who we are and knowing what fits our schedules and being a part of this great community of people.

So – Happy October! See you all soon.

Musically,

*Denise*

## Deacons Corner

As Stephanie shared in her sermon last month, our church family is not only blessed with many talents but inspired by love to share them. We celebrate the return of many members from summer travels, and we long for the company of those who cannot be with us right now. The Deacons want to be a source of comfort and help, and we encourage all to ask when there is a need – your requests give us opportunities to walk with Jesus and do God's work. And when there is nothing to do, know that we are praying for healing, peace, strength and joy. We praise God for the gifts of friendship and wait with great expectancy for the time we will all be together in fellowship again.

Much Love from Your Deacons.

*Tani Girton*



Come to a special worship service from 10-11:00am on Sunday, October 8 celebrating the beauty of God's creation in animals, with the opportunity to bring your animals and pets for a special blessing.

We invite those whose animals are not able to be at the service to bring a photograph or other memento to be blessed.

## October Mouse



Homecoming was celebrated September 10 with many friends and members in attendance. Many thanks to Nancy Rademacher, Polly Gorder and crew for arranging the traditional salad luncheon which is always a special treat.

Both choirs are back in the swing of things. We are hoping for new members to join in singing and ringing!

In September we were delighted to have Cornel and Suellen visiting. Also wonderful to see Marjorie Egger along with son Steve and wife Stacey attending. So nice to have Mark Larsen and friend Susan visiting from Maine where they live on a boat.

Congratulations to both Maisie and Jim Campbell and Jim and Polly Gorder wedding anniversary celebrations on August 23. The Campbell's celebrated 59 years and the Gorder's 58. Also congratulations to Sharon and Dan MacQuarrie celebrating their 57 year anniversary this past September 11.

The Fall season for Compassionate Kids began September 13. It is always a joy and special blessing having their participation in worship the last Sunday of each month.

On September 17 a special tribute was given to commemorate the Sewing Group's many years of service to the church. We are grateful to Jan Salas who created a lovely embroidered cross symbolizing the history. Look for it displayed in Fellowship Hall.

Our heartfelt prayers for our homebound members June Bellen, Maisie Campbell, Marjorie Egger and Marilyn Sutherland. We miss seeing them very much.



*Recently the Mouse hopped on the Smart Train from San Rafael to Santa Rosa. The scenery was lovely and so relaxing not having to drive. Don't pass up the chance to try it!*

*The Mouse*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 WORLD COMMUNION 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Fellowship 11:15 - Deacons 11:15 - Mission Outreach	2	3 9:00 - Bible Study 10:30 - Bell Choir	4	5 3:30pm - Compassionate Kids 7:30pm - Choir	6	7
8 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Fellowship 11:30 - Session 12:00 - Mill Street Meal Delivery 2:00 - Cabaret Ross Valley Players Light lunch prior	9 Columbus Day	10 9:00 - Bible Study 10:30 - Bell Choir	11 3:30pm - Compassionate Kids	12 7:30pm - Choir	13	14  Drama Play Shop for Adults* Noon-2:00pm
15 BIRTHDAY SUNDAY/ BREAD FOR THE WORLD 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Fellowship 11:15 - Membership/ Fellowship Guest Preacher Jeffrie Lele'a	16	17 9:00 - Bible Study 10:30 - Bell Choir	18 NOVEMBER LOG DEADLINE 3:30pm - Compassionate Kids	19 7:30pm - Choir	20	21 9:30 - Monthly Breakfast Program Light potluck breakfast 10-11:00 - Guest Speaker Rev. Stephanie Ryder Drama Play Shop for Adults* Noon-2:00pm
22 REFORMATION SUNDAY/ COMPASSIONATE KIDS 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Fellowship	23	24 9:00 - Bible Study 10:30 - Bell Choir	25 3:30pm - Compassionate Kids	26 NOVEMBER LOG MAILING 7:30pm - Choir	27	28 Drama Play Shop for Adults* Noon-2:00pm
29 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Fellowship Guest Preacher Keenan Kelsey	30	31 Halloween 9:00 - Bible Study 10:30 - Bell Choir	<b>OCTOBER</b>			

\*Drama Play Shop for Adults. Please email Sandra Rae Davies at [boocats19@yahoo.com](mailto:boocats19@yahoo.com) for more information on this 4-week improv playshop.

## Membership/Fellowship Committee

Please join the Membership/Fellowship committee on Sunday, October 8 at 2:00pm for the musical *Cabaret* at Ross Valley Players. It should be a wonderful performance with a live orchestra and directed by the beloved and talented James Dunn. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall, so please let us know as soon as possible if you are able to come. We will provide a light lunch beforehand for those attending and will carpool to the theater.

The October Saturday breakfast will be on October 21 with our pastor, amazing teacher and world traveler, Stephanie Ryder, informing us about her recent trip to the Holy Lands. A light potluck breakfast begins at 9:30am with the program from 10-11:00am

Thanks to all who attended Homecoming Sunday and the lunch afterwards. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and celebration. *Nancy Rademacher*

## Bread For The World

Bread For The World is Sunday, October 15 when we will join with people of faith across the country to pray to end hunger. We will celebrate the work of Bread For The World as they seek to change the conditions that allow hunger to persist.

*Mission Outreach Committee*



We are bereft for those who have lost loved ones and the thousands displaced by hurricanes.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) specializes in long-term recovery fueled by your generous gifts.

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P.O. Box 643700,

Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Or by visiting [www.presbyterianmission.org](http://www.presbyterianmission.org).



# Helping Hands in September – Thank you!

## Mill Street Meals

Karen Carmody, Joan Emerson, Diane Forster,  
Tani & John Girton, Polly & Jim Gorder,  
James Holmes, Ani Lelea, Debbie Lundberg,  
Sharon MacQuarrie, Nancy Rademacher,  
Joan Robinson, Stephanie Ryder, Joyce Wells.

## Coffee Hour

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – TBA  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Mission Outreach Committee  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Deacons  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Membership/Fellowship Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – TBA

A special  
thank you and  
blessings to all  
of the Liturgists,  
Greeters and  
Ushers during  
September.

## Liturgists, Greeters & Ushers October

1 Ani Lelea (L)  
8 Ginger Gmahling (L)  
15 Jan Salas (L)  
22 Compassionate Kids (L)  
29 Debbie Lundberg (L)

## Happy October Birthdays!

### From Deacons Moderator Polly Gorder

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  
29 – Bonnie Kaiser

Add your name and birth date to our list by contacting  
[office@redwoodspres.org](mailto:office@redwoodspres.org) or 415-924-4832. **Polly**