

KENSINGTON PRESS

JUNE-JULY 2019

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends in Christ:

By now, almost all of you will have received my letter announcing my intention to retire in October, along with the Session's follow-up letter explaining the Presbyterian pastoral transition process. At the Session meeting at which I made the announcement, Bob Conover, the Mission Presbyterian and Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of the Redwoods (the regional governing body of Presbyterian congregations on the Northern California Coast), gave many and repeated reassurances about the process. He also reminded us that "October is tomorrow," meaning that the time will fly. That already seems to be the case. The end of the school year is upon us; soon people will take off for summer vacations; and in a blink of an eye it will be time for school to start again. Then - wham! - October!

With this in mind, I'm creating a short list of priorities. High on my list is the overall health of the church during the time of transition. Times of change and transition tend to cause anxiety, and people don't function at their best when they are anxious. The Session and the deacons are reading and discussing a short book called *Healthy Congregations* by Peter Steinke. Steinke borrows from family systems theory, and

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friends and colleagues,

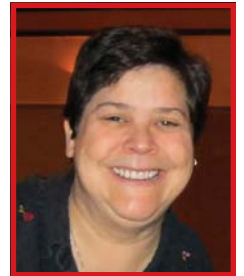
This is the last regular issue of the **Kensington Press** for which I will be the Editor. Nine years ago, I took on the challenge, following the illness of the previous editor, Diane Fairchild. It has been my great privilege to serve, working alongside staff and other contributors to bring a quality publication ten times a year, available in print and web.

I am forever grateful for all the people who through all these years have supported and contributed to this effort. The following is a list of contributors, with the most sincere apologies for anyone I have left out:

The first person on my list is my partner in life and ministry, Anne Towler. I couldn't do half of what I do without her encouragement and support. Joanna Magee, Kathleen McCalla (*In Memoriam*, other church information, proofreading, and production); Frank Ferguson, Barbara Shindelus (mailing); Joanne Whitt (probably 75-80% of all content); Richard Schlobohm (90% of all photos); Martha Olsen Joyce (proofreading, web posting, Connections, Communications, Nominating Committee, substitute Editor, etc.); Audrey Mahler, Joy Snyder, Bond Francisco, and many others (other photos); Diana Bell (Letters from Associate Pastor, Family Ministries); Heather Gordon, Patrick O'Connor, Molly Morris, Heather Grantham, Rebecca Conant (Family Ministries pages); Christopher Schilling, Dan Robertson, Eunjoo Choi, Sharon LeClaire (interns); Martha Spears (Older Adult ministries); Linda Price, Robin Truitt, Martha Wall, Bob Friestad, Daniel Canosa, Lucy Arnold (music news), Mary Waetjen, Libby Davis, Vivian Volz, (new members, Connections, and other sections); Royce Truex, Doug Olds, Asma Eschen, Barbara Rothkrug, Ron Vestal, Walt Davis, Joy Snyder, Lisa Cosby, Jillian Robinson, Peter Anderson (Church and Society); Maureen Kalbus (Women's Retreat, Flower Guild, Theatre Outings); Maragret Melsh, David Jones, Laurie Buntain, Patrick Mitchell, (Resources, Capital Campaign, Annual Giving Campaigns); Robin Sparks (personnel); Erica Heath, Jim Cunningham, (Sunday Seminars); Jo Gross, Lauren Swalberg, Life Stories Writing Group (Poets and Prophets, Lagniappe); Alice Graham (Worship, Session News); Joan Flood (AP Nominating Committee); Patty Sanders (Pedal for Protein).

I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of those who are no longer on this plane of existence (dearly missed): Nan Harle (who always held me to the highest standard), Betty Stott, and the always affable Carl Basore.

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RSVP for June 2nd: End-of-the-school year Youth & Family Dinner

Youth and their parents and families are invited for potluck dinner at the Conants' home on Sunday, June 2. We'll celebrate the end of the school year and discuss what we want to see next year.

Please RSVP to Rebecca Conant.



Pentecost Offering On June 9, 2019

Who was the first person to teach you about Jesus?
Who was the first person to show you how to honor God with your life? Who helped you open the doors to a new understanding of God and faith? When did these things happen?

For many of us, they happened during our childhood. They happened at home, at Sunday School, at church, at camp, or, perhaps through mission trips or experiences of service.

We probably don't need a study to tell us that a foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood, the first third of life, helps ensure lifelong faith and service—but yet studies do show this to be true. Psalm 71 testifies to this same truth. Verse 17 says "O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds." The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life.

During Pentecost, we celebrate that the Holy Spirit has opened the doors to faith in Jesus Christ. Just as many of us were nurtured in faith during our youth, we give to support these ministries and offer ourselves in service to the faith formation of other youth and young adults. We join with the Spirit and the whole church, so that the generations to come will still proclaim God's wondrous deeds. Won't you join in your support? If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

This year, the Pentecost Offering will be taken on June 9th.

Family Sunday Takes a Break

Since February 2018, we've been designating the third Sunday of the month as Family Sunday. "Everybody's Sermon" served as the primary proclamation of the Word, and all worshipers were invited to do something child-friendly: sometimes a craft, sometimes something involving movement around the sanctuary. We made prayer bead bracelets and prayer flags. We celebrated the Church's birthday on Pentecost with balloons, and gave St. Patrick's Day blessings with small stones painted with shamrocks. We wrote the names of the people who were our teachers and guides on butcher paper, and made lists of the difference between what we want and what we need. The children (and sometimes the adults, as well) usually left with a memento of the lesson: a compass to remind them that church is like a moral compass; bubbles to remind us of God's presence in awe and joy; gratitude jars for practicing gratitude. Music on Family Sunday was less traditional: less organ, more piano; a rock band one Sunday, Firefly on several occasions and a ukulele band another Sunday.

Family Sunday grew out of our congregation's Next Level initiative. It's increasingly difficult for families to attend worship every Sunday because of sports, music, dance, tutors and other commitments. The Next Level consultant suggested that perhaps the families could commit to being in church at least one Sunday, a special Family Sunday designed with families in mind. Unlike other Next Level projects (our new website, new greeter protocols, the new member dinner, etc.) however, Family Sunday never caught on. Families did not attend worship on Family Sundays with greater frequency than other Sundays. At the same time, Family Sunday required much, much more preparation than the other Sundays of the month.

Last year, we suspended Family Sunday during the school summer break, and we will do so again this summer. But given the amount of effort required to create Family Sundays and the fact that it hasn't caught on with families, Family Sunday will go on hiatus indefinitely. An interim pastor will be appointed to begin in October. It will be up to that interim pastor, or perhaps even the called and installed pastor, working with the Worship Committee, to decide whether and in what form Family Sunday might work for our congregation.

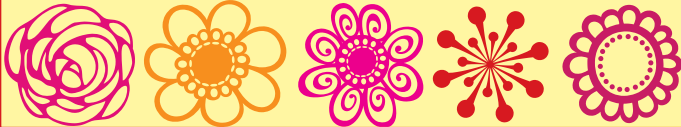
TTFN!*

*Quoth Tigger: "Ta-ta for now!"

MISSION STUDY 2019

Help Frame the Search for a New Pastor

The Mission Study Team invites you to an all-church workshop in Duncan Hall on June 2 following worship. This is an important opportunity to lend your voice to our vision and priorities as a community, and help frame our search for a new pastor. We'll finish no later than 1pm, and lunch will be provided.



Summer Choir Begins June 16

Have you ever wished you could sing with the choir, but you can't make Thursday evening rehearsals? The Summer Choir is your chance! Show up Sunday mornings at 9:00am to learn and rehearse the morning's anthem. Make a joyful noise!

HIGH NOTES



Andy Reago & Chrissy McClarren [CC BY 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>)]

...from the Choir

On Saturday June 1 (8 pm) and Sunday June 2 (during worship), the chancel choir and orchestra, led by Daniel Canosa, will present Dan Forrest's **Requiem for the Living**. Come hear us! Here are some info from the composer's website.

"A Requiem, at its core, is a prayer for rest- traditionally, for the deceased. The five movements of Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*, (2013), however, form a narrative just as much for the living, and their own struggle with pain and sorrow, as for the dead. The opening movement sets the traditional *Introit* and *Kyrie* texts—pleas for rest and mercy—using ever-increasing elaborations on a simple three-note descending motive. The second movement, instead of the traditional *Dies Irae*, sets Scriptural texts that speak of the turmoil and sorrow which face humanity, while yet invoking musical and textual allusions to the *Dies Irae*. This movement juxtaposes aggressive rhythmic gestures with long, floating melodic lines, including quotes of the *Kyrie* from the first movement. The *Agnus Dei* is performed next (a departure from the usual liturgical order) as a plea for deliverance and peace; the *Sanctus*, following it, becomes a response to this redemption. The *Sanctus* offers three different glimpses of the "heavens and earth, full of Thy glory", all of which develop the same musical motive: an ethereal opening section inspired by images of space from the Hubble Space Telescope, a stirring middle section inspired by images of our own planet as viewed from the International Space Station, and a closing section which brings the listener down to Earth, where cities teem with the energy of humanity. The *Lux Aeterna*, which then closes the work portrays light, peace, and rest—for both the deceased and the living."

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SAN ANSELMO

CHANCEL CHOIR, SOLOISTS,
AND ORCHESTRA,
DANIEL CANOSA,
DIRECTOR

Present

REQUIEM
for the
LIVING

DAN FORREST

HARP CONCERTO "CLAROSCURO"
CHRISTOPHER PRATORIOUS (II MVT)

OBLIVION
ASTOR PIAZZOLLA

SATURDAY, JUNE 1 AT 8PM (FREE WILL OFFERING)
SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10AM

CONNECTIONS



Second Saturday Women's Breakfast June 8th, 9:00am Speaker: Margaret Melsh

All women of any age are invited to the Second Saturday Women's Breakfast in the Fireside Room at 9:00am on Saturday, June 8th. Breakfast is "simple potluck." Bring something simple to share, but not too much, because we're women and we'll end up with too much food. Think simple and minimal clean up: store-bought fruit breads, bakery-made scones, a warmed up frozen quiche, a fruit or cheese plate. Coffee and tea is provided. Elder, choir member, disaster response expert and organizer par excellence Margaret Melsh will share her life story.

**"Live all of your life.
Understand it, see it, appreciate it.
And have fun."**

~ Joss Whedon

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Save the Date in 2020!

The 26th Annual Women's Retreat: Friday, May 1st, from 4pm through 4pm, Saturday, May 2nd, at the Ralston White Retreat, in Mill Valley. Details as they emerge...

FLOWER GUILD

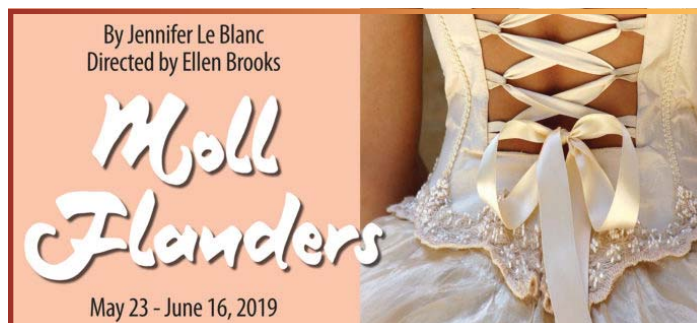
Creative Opportunity

Would you like to be involved in the Flower Guild, creating beautiful arrangements for church services, one Sunday a month? If so, Flower Guild members would love to hear from you! They will happily lead a workshop on flower arranging and how the Flower Guild works.

If you are interested in sharing your creative gifts, please contact Maureen Kalbus: maureenkalbus@comcast.net



THEATRE OUTINGS



Theatre Outing on Sunday June 9th, 2:00pm "Moll Flanders"

You are warmly invited to join theatregoers at 2:00pm in the **Barn Theatre** at the Marin Art and Garden Center, Ross, on June 9th, to frolic through the colorful adventures of Moll Flanders. Adapted by Jennifer Le Blanc from Daniel Defoe's eponymous 1722 novel, this lively morality tale depicts the bawdy story of an independent, spirited woman, making her way through a man's world, in seventeenth century England.

Sign up in Duncan Hall beginning May 19th or contact Maureen Kalbus, maureenkalbus@comcast.net or (415) 444-0302, to secure a group rate ticket. [\$22 for twelve or more people]

WORSHIP

Late Summer Sermon Series: The Six Great Ends of the Church

In Part Two of our Presbyterian constitution, the **Book of Order**, we audaciously claim that the Church has six great ends:

1. The proclamation of the Gospel for the salvation of humankind.
2. The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God.
3. The preservation of the truth.
4. The maintenance of divine worship.
5. The promotion of social righteousness.
6. The exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world.

~**Book of Order** (2017-19), F-1.0304

These six great ends were crafted in the early 20th century to guide the vision and mission of the Presbyterian Church. During late July and throughout August, we'll explore these six great ends in worship, and discuss how they apply to the Church in the 21st century—and to our church, in particular. Looking them over, I have many questions:

- What do we mean by "the Gospel"?
- What does "salvation" mean? Does it only have to do with what happens after we die, or might it mean something more about our lives here and now?
- Who are "the children of God"?
- How do we "preserve" the truth when people disagree about what the truth is?
- What makes worship "divine"?
- What is "social righteousness"?
- How does a church go about exhibiting the kingdom of heaven to the world, here and now?

I'd love to hear your questions, as well. If you have questions about these six great ends, please email me or write me a note:

joannehitt@togetherweserve.org.

"The church is God saying: 'I'm throwing a banquet, and all these mismatched, messed-up people are invited. Here, have some wine.'"

~Rachel Held Evans, *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* (2015)

SUNDAY SEMINARS

Sunday Seminar, June 9: Pastoral Transitions

On Pentecost Sunday, June 9, the Mission Presbyter and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the Redwoods, the Rev. Dr. Robert Conover, Ph.D., will serve as our guest preacher. After worship, Bob will answer your questions about pastoral transitions, interim pastors, the pastoral search process and Presbyterian requirements. Bring your questions to the Sanctuary at 11:30 following coffee hour.

WORSHIP & THE ARTS

Pentecost Installation Arrives One Week Early

Due to scheduling conflicts, I have had to schedule the liturgical art installation for Pentecost one week early, on June 2nd. So when you come to worship on Sunday, June 2nd, you can enjoy a feast for the visual and aural senses. All in praise to God, the source of life and creativity.

I am looking for some helpers, if you are available on May 27 and/or 28 and want to know more, contact me: marievi@comcast.net. ~Virginia Thibaux

CHURCH & SOCIETY

Top 10 solutions to climate change

Total gigatons of CO2-equivalent emissions that could be reduced by 2050

SOLUTION		PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO		DRAWDOWN SCENARIO		OPTIMUM SCENARIO
Refrigerant Management	1	89.74	2	96.49	3	96.49
Wind Turbines (Onshore)	2	84.60	1	146.50	1	139.31
Reduced Food Waste	3	70.53	4	83.03	4	92.89
Plant-Rich Diet	4	66.11	5	78.65	5	87.86
Tropical Forests	5	61.23	3	89.00	2	105.60
Educating Girls	6	59.60	7	59.60	8	59.60
Family Planning	7	59.60	8	59.60	9	59.60
Solar Farms	8	36.90	6	64.60	7	60.48
Silvopasture	9	31.19	9	47.50	6	63.81
Rooftop Solar	10	24.60	10	43.10	13	40.34

Source: Project Drawdown

Vox

KP CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted: A copy of each of the First Presbyterian San Anselmo Annual Reports for 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999. Why? To complete our archival collection of annual reports. How? Just drop it off in the church office to Joanna Magee.

COMMUNICATIONS

Life After the Kensington Press

by Martha Olson Joyce

Starting in July, we want you to know about other channels for getting the word out about church happenings, upcoming events, and the things that matter to the life of this congregation.

Here's how:

- **Weekly Friday Email:** Submissions due on Wednesday to Joanna in the church office. Please indicate "Friday email" in your subject line. The Friday email is a great way to communicate:
 - Upcoming events and outings
 - Sign-up requests, Opportunity Corner
 - Worship-related announcements
 - "Read more" links to a news article posted on the website.
- **Sunday Bulletin:** Submissions due on Wednesday to Joanna. Please indicate "Bulletin" in your subject line. We'll be considering ways to expand the format of the bulletin through tip-in sheets to communicate important events or news that need a bit more space than a few lines in the back section.
- **Website:** Submit to Martha Joyce anytime. Please indicate "Website" in your subject line. We've created a News page...similar to what you might see in a digital newspaper – a title, a brief synopsis, and "read more" to see the entire article and any pictures.
- **Facebook:** For matters that pertain to our wider community, Joanne Whitt maintains our Facebook presence. These can also include a "read more" link to larger content on our website.
- **Special Emails:** Talk to Martha Joyce. Programs such as the Women's Retreat or a Mission Trip – which may require more detailed instructions or a form – may be better served with a dedicated email or potentially a mailing, depending on the audience.

We'll be having more conversations with Session and others about this transition over the next weeks and months. You will undoubtedly have questions and suggestions, which we welcome. Contact Martha Olsen Joyce: marols@leapgroup.com.

And please thank our KP team—Virginia, Frank Ferguson, Barbara Shindelus, and Joanna Magee the next time you see them for what has been a labor of love for many years.



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The following article is excerpted from the website of an organization known as **No More Deaths • No Más Muertes** (forms.nomoredeaths.org), is a humanitarian organization based in southern Arizona. Their mission is to end death and suffering in the Mexico-US borderlands through civil initiative: people of conscience working openly and in community to uphold fundamental human rights. Their work embraces the Faith-Based Principles for Immigration Reform. Thanks to Peter Anderson, who brought our attention to this organization. Link to page: <https://bit.ly/2YHLP5h>. Read it in full.

Faith-Based Principles for Immigration Reform

In March 2004, a Multi-Faith Border Conference was held in Tucson, Arizona. There **No More Deaths** presented its principles for immigration reform and the opportunity for involvement in its first desert-aid campaign that coming summer. On April 19, Arizona Interfaith Network pastors and leaders joined Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson and many other faith representatives on the lawn of the Arizona Capitol Building to urge the government to enact these principles.

Preamble: We come together as communities of faith and people of conscience to express our indignation and sadness over the continued death of hundreds of migrants attempting to cross the US-Mexico border each year. We believe that such death and suffering diminish us all. We share a faith and a moral imperative that transcends borders, celebrates the contributions immigrant peoples bring, and compels us to build relationships that are grounded in justice and love. As religious leaders from numerous and diverse faith traditions, we set forth the following principles by which immigration policy is to be comprehensively reformed. We believe that using these principles—listed from the most imminent threat to life to the deepest systemic policy problems—will significantly reduce, if not eliminate, deaths in the desert borderlands.

1. Recognize that the current Militarized Border Enforcement Strategy is an ill-conceived policy.
2. Address the status of undocumented persons currently living in the US.
3. Make family unity and reunification the cornerstone of the US immigration system.
4. Allow workers and their families to enter the US to live and work in a safe, legal, orderly, and humane manner through an Employment-Focused immigration program.
5. Recognize that root causes of migration lie in environmental, economic, and trade inequities.

The following letter was posted on the PCUSA.org website on May 20, 2019, and can be found at this link: <https://bit.ly/2LZ8tEP>

As abortion debate grows, Stated Clerk reminds church of General Assembly policy Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Friends,

There is growing and widespread concern in the wake of Alabama's recent anti-abortion legislation, which, if implemented, will have the effect of almost total prohibition of any such procedure and remove from the pregnant woman and her attendant physician any choice in the matter whatsoever.

As Presbyterians, we are part of a church that has wrestled with this issue for decades, guided by actions of our General Assemblies on the matter. Perhaps the most important action was taken by the 195th General Assembly (1983), which addressed abortion in the context of the plight of women who had limited access to medical care during pregnancy, or who did not feel they had the resources to raise a child.

At the center of that approach was the effort to respond to the 1973 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court referred to as *Roe v. Wade*. It provided a legal framework to guide those trying to make responsible decisions regarding the possible termination of a pregnancy and it affirmed in the strongest terms the constitutional right of a pregnant woman to decide procedures and outcomes that involved her own body.

Some of the most recent state decisions on abortion are clearly designed to take those rights away, and it is inevitable that the issue will return to the current U.S. Supreme Court for sorting out in relation to *Roe v. Wade*. In the meantime, we, as Presbyterians, can be guided by the actions of our General Assembly, which called on us to support the decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

It is important to note the content of the *Roe v. Wade* decision since it is not a blanket endorsement of abortion as is sometimes implied by opponents. The summary below describes the decision itself and reflects the Court's commitment to the woman's right to control



the decision in the early stages of pregnancy but places some restraints toward the end of the pregnancy.

The Court settled on the three trimesters of pregnancy as the framework to resolve the problem. During the first trimester, when it was believed that the procedure was safer than childbirth, the Court ruled that the government could place no restriction on a woman's ability to choose to abort a pregnancy other than minimal medical safeguards

such as requiring a licensed physician to perform the procedure. After the first trimester, the Court ruled that evidence of increasing risks to the mother's health gave the state a compelling interest, and that it could enact medical regulations on the procedure so long as they

were reasonable and "narrowly tailored" to protecting mothers' health. At the level of medical science available in the early 1970s, the beginning of the third trimester was normally considered to be the point at which a fetus became viable. Therefore, the Court ruled that, from the beginning of the third trimester on through the rest of a pregnancy, the state had a compelling interest in protecting prenatal life and could legally prohibit all abortions except where necessary to protect the mother's life or health. [Nowak, John E.; Rotunda, Ronald D. (2012). *Treatise on Constitutional Law: Substance and Procedure* (5th ed.). Eagan, Minnesota: West Thomson/Reuters, §18.29(b)(i)]

As this matter grows in prominence in the news and possibly within our church communities, may we all be mindful of both the integrity of women and physicians who are at the center of the controversy and may we be more responsible in nurturing the life that is already among us.

In the faith we share,

Reverend Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

WORSHIP

Worship in June 2019

June 2 **Spring Choir Concert**
"Requiem for the Living"

Dan Forrest, Composer
Matthew 11:28-30

A service of mostly music featuring the Chancel Choir, soloists and orchestra, led by our Director of Music, Daniel Canosa.

June 9 Communion
The Day of Pentecost
"The Unbearable Ecstasy
of Washing Your Socks"

Acts 2:1-21

The Rev. Dr. Robert Conover, Ph.D., preaching

June 16 **Trinity Sunday**
"Grazing on Ashes"

Isaiah 44:9-20

The Rev. Douglas Olds, preaching

June 23 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
"Our Abode in the Spirit"

Genesis 1:1-4

The Rev. Douglas Olds, preaching

June 30 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
"Picking Up the Mantle"

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

Worship in July 2019

July 7 Communion
4th Sunday after Pentecost
"Pack Light"

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

July 14 5th Sunday after Pentecost
"A Good Samaritan"

Luke 10:25-37

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

July 21 6th Sunday after Pentecost
"The Six Great Ends of the Church:
1. The Proclamation of the Gospel for the
Salvation of Humankind"

Matthew 28:16-20

Mark 1:14-20

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

July 28 7th Sunday after Pentecost
"The Six Great Ends of the Church:
2. The Shelter, Nurture and Spiritual
Fellowship of the Children of God"

John 21:15-19

The Rev. Scott Clark, preaching

In Memoriam

Grace Esther Ferguson

November 16, 1929–May 2, 2019

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

~Philippians 4:4-7

Pastoral absence

Pastor Whitt will be on vacation from June 7 through 20, and from July 22 through August 2. In her absence, the Rev. Douglas Olds, Parish Associate, will offer pastoral care. Doug Olds also will be out of town from July 25 through August 11. The Rev. Scott Clark will preach on Sunday, July 28, and a substitute to provide pastoral care is being arranged for the week of July 25 through August 2.



Continued from Page 1

uses the Biblical metaphor of a congregation as a "body." Scripture uses the Body of Christ as a metaphor for the church thirty-seven times. The Apostle Paul wanted to make it clear that, like a body, the church is composed of many parts but functions as one. Just as a living organism is "healthy" if it can respond to a wide assortment of challenges without succumbing to disease, the same can be said of a church, the Body of Christ. Together, our church leaders will explore potential risks to congregational health, including infectious anxiety, rigidity, and excessive focus on clergy as opposed to mission. We'll also explore healthy responses (as opposed to reactions) to stressors. Our congregation is wonderfully healthy, but, keeping with Steinke's medical metaphor, even healthy people get vaccinations to stay that way!

A transition is a good time for the entire congregation to look at the reason we exist as a church. You will have an opportunity to contribute to the Mission Study - the document that seeks to answer the questions, "Who are we now, as a church? What do we seek to become?" and is required as a part of the transition process - on June 2nd following worship (lunch provided!). In addition, our late summer sermon series will explore the Six Great Ends of the Church, the statements developed by the Presbyterian Church in the early 20th century to guide our mission and vision.

Bob Conover will lead a Sunday Seminar to answer your process questions after worship on June 9. In the meantime, please consider the ways that you might participate in this exciting process, and please keep our entire congregation in your prayers as we move through this transition.

Together we serve,

Joanne



Continued from Page 1

My approach to each issue was a creative process, sometimes easy, often long hours, spent creating or finding just the right graphic or image to accompany the stories, sometimes writing the story, sometimes borrowing from other source material to support the content that was provided, so that each edition had just enough content to fill the right number of pages, producing something that was informative, intellectually stimulating, visually beautiful. By and large, I believe I succeeded.

It was time I gladly gave to the process, for me a vital ministry to this community, an opportunity to develop my skills, and an outlet for creativity. But it is also time I have increasingly begrudged. I have less enthusiasm for giving ten weekends a year for the KP, when I would more gladly spend time with grandchildren who are growing all too quickly. Too many hours of lost sleep to meet each deadline makes for a lifestyle that is unsustainable, and so the time has come to let go. In the words of the philosopher Pooh: "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Thank you dear readers and collaborators, you have made it all worthwhile!

Together we serve,

Virginia



72 Kensington Road
San Anselmo, CA 94960
415.456.3713
www.togetherweserve.org
mail@togetherweserve.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:00am
(Nursery Care)

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Rev. Doug Olds
Parish Associate
Laurie Buntain

Church Accountant

Daniel Canosa

Director of Music

Heather Gordon

Director of Youth Ministries and
Seminary Intern

Tom Lannert

Church Custodian

Joanna Magee

Office Administrator

Audrey Mahler

Sexton

Natsuko Murayama

Organist

Patrick O'Connor

Godly Play Teacher

Martha Spears

Coordinator of

Older Adult Ministries

Mary Wright Gillespie

Associate Pastor Emerita

Sally Johnson

Director of Music Emerita

KENSINGTON PRESS

Virginia Thibeaux

Editor

Joanna Magee

Production

Richard Schlobohm

Photographer

Frank Ferguson &

Barbara Shindelus

Mailing

I, the fiery life of divine wisdom,
I ignite the beauty of the plains,
I sparkle the waters,
I burn in the sun, and the moon, and the stars.
The earth which sustains humanity must not be injured,
it must not be destroyed.
The soul is a breath of living spirit,
that with excellent sensitivity,
permeates the entire body to give it life.
Just so, the breath of the air makes the earth fruitful.
Thus the air is the soul of the earth,
moistening it, greening it.
~ Hildegard of Bingen

