

## Everything Under the Sun....



Dear Friends,

As I write this, I find myself overwhelmed by the blessings happening all around me and by the movements of the Holy Spirit. I sit here in my office surrounded by boxes of Legos, tubs of pots, pans and cooking utensils, bags of costumes, piles of electronic keyboards, a gigantic Weber barbeque, all the ingredients necessary to make rockets, and piles of children's literature – all of the supplies from all of our activities involving youth. Earlier today our courtyard was filled with children studying Chemistry and Creative Writing and Phonics, playing games and eating watermelon.

I spent the past week at the Northern California Nevada Conference Annual Gathering in Sonoma. When I returned home on Sunday afternoon, one of my neighbors ran after me as I got out of my car. She said, "I've been looking for your car for the past few days because I don't know which apartment you are in! I wanted to give you this!" Then she handed me a note that she had written to put on my car inviting me to dinner so that she can tell me about all the teachers she knows and various

funding sources for our Academic Summer Program next year. I was so surprised that I gave her a hug and told her she totally made my day.

As we move through the next six weeks, I am seeing signs of the Holy Spirit everywhere. Our Member-in-Discernment Hilary Spaulding will be discerning her call to ministry and blessing our congregation by preaching twice. Our youth have completed their Our Whole Lives (OWL) year-long course and want to continue to build relationships with the youth from our neighboring Unitarian Universalist congregation.

The ladies of Pilgrim Park have returned this summer to coordinate classroom helpers, snacks, and make a focused outreach effort to invite youth outside of Pilgrim Park to attend the Academic Summer Program. We have no fewer than four pre-med students from Dominican University coming to teach Chemistry, Physics, and Engineering this summer.

SUMMER  
EVENTS

After the recent shootings in Orlando, I reached out to the local Pride association in San Rafael, and they invited me to attend a meeting this week so that they could get to know me better. We have had several newcomers in the past few weeks, and at least three are interested in returning.

Friends, the Spirit is moving. People are hearing about our church, and hearing about what we do in the community. Barriers are breaking down and relationships are building up. I ask that you pray with me that God will continue to open doors in this community, and that the Holy Spirit will continue to open our mouths to share the Good News with our neighbors.

Blessings, *Pastor Tracy*



## VACATION FOR PASTOR TRACY

Pastor Tracy will be on vacation for three weeks this summer. She will be gone for three Sundays, August 7, 14, and 21. During those weeks, we will host three guest preachers. See pages 4 and 8 for more details.

If pastoral care needs arise in Pastor Tracy's absence, please contact David Knopf.

## PRAYER CHAIN RETREAT - JULY 9

All members of the prayer chain, and all interested in the prayer chain, are cordially invited to join us for a meditative and restorative morning of prayer and fellowship on July 9, from 10 AM until noon (sharp). Light refreshments will be provided. Please bring finger foods to share.



The group will meet at the home of Jamie Cline, 11 Northview Ct., San Rafael. There is limited parking, so please carpool if you can. You may have to park a few houses away, but there is ample parking along North San Pedro Road.

For more information, please contact Jamie Cline (415 858-5722).

## PRAYER PARTNERS

*Please remember the following members of our church family in prayer. Pray for their welfare and growth in faith and discipleship.*

### June 26 - July 2

Joan and Russell Roane

### July 31 - August 6

Debra Smith

### July 3 - 9

Melanie Sakskul and David

### August 7 - 12

Annie Song

### July 10 - 16

Marie Saldana

### August 14 - 20

Hilary Spaulding and Bruce Weir

### July 17 - 23

Val and Ralph Sherer

### August 21 - 27

Sue and Bob Spofford

### July 24 - 30

Cyndi Siroky, Chris, Brandon and Joshua

### August 28 - Sept. 3

Tessa and Colin Templeman







# *Come and Worship*

**w i t h u s !**

**August 7      Luke 12:22-34**

**Guest Preacher Hilary Spaulding**

Please join us as Hilary preaches on Luke 12:22-34, "Do Not Worry."

**August 14      Luke 9:51-62**

**Guest Preacher Todd Whitley**

Todd Whitley is a second-year MDiv student at Pacific School of Religion. He is from Texas where he is a member of Cathedral of Hope UCC and guided the churches' associated social justice organization before beginning seminary. Todd is a father of four, grandfather of two, and partner to Miguel Atkins who introduced him to the UCC. Following the way of Jesus requires us to grapple with some challenging ways of thinking and being in the world. Todd will use the narrative of Jesus' experience and his responses to would-be followers back then with our experiences today and contemplate how we might meet these same challenges in his sermon, "You Want Me to do What?"

**August 21      Luke 13:10-17**

**Guest Preacher Sonny Graves**

Sonny Graves is a recent graduate of the Pacific School of Religion, and pursuing ordination in the United Church of Christ. He has served as a chaplain in various institutions and community groups, and is currently an intern at First Congregational Church of Berkeley. He believes in the creative miracles of God and Christ in our souls and relationships that empower us to build a more just and joyful world together. When he's not in the pulpit he delights in unexpected friendships, all his godchildren, country two step dancing, poetry, and the trails of the east bay regional park district. Please join us as Sonny explores the story of Jesus healing on the Sabbath.

**August 28      Philippians 4:1-7 and 1 Peter 5:1-11**

**Healing Service**

The Bible has many passages that discuss God's response to our burdens and worries. Come join us as we explore two letters from Paul to two different communities that were exceedingly anxious. There will be different stations for interactive, tactile prayer and an opportunity to cast our burdens on God.

# ACADEMIC SUMMER PROGRAM

## JUNE 20 - JULY 29



Creative Writing

The Summer Academic Program, hosted by the First Congregational Church of San Rafael, with a grant from Pilgrim Park, is off to an exciting start. As of June 23, a total 41 students have registered. Because of the differing schedules of the families involved, average attendance is between 20 and 30 kids per day.

We have an exciting curriculum this year, including multiple chemistry classes, computer programming, biology, mathematics, code-breaking treasure hunts, drama, art, music, cooking, and more. This year we will have two tracks for our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) classes - one for elementary students and one for middle-school aged youth. Becca Rhodes, our Administrator for the summer is coordinating the details of the program, including supplies, teachers, volunteers, and requests. If you have any questions, please feel free to call her. AND, you are invited to a final celebration from 9 AM -12 noon on July 29!

Becca Rhodes  
academicsummerprogramfcsr@gmail.com  
c: 214-632-9235

We have an exciting curriculum this year, including multiple chemistry classes, computer programming, biology, mathematics, code-



Elementary Chemistry  
Studying atoms



Engineering  
Building Bridges and Buildings



Middle School Chemistry  
Making molecules of candy



Piano Lessons



## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



### BACKPACK SUNDAY, JULY 31

This is our annual gathering of school supplies for the Ritter Center kids. Please bring your donations to church on July 31, as they will be distributed to the kids at Ritter Center in early August, because the school start dates are early. Here's what is needed:

- New backpacks (boys and girls, high need for elementary school)
- Binders (small/large) and binder paper
- Tabbed dividers and zip pouches
- Pencils (#2/colored), pens, and erasers
- Glue sticks and index cards
- Rulers, staplers, and small scissors
- Markers, crayons, and highlighters
- Pocket folders and spiral one-subject notebooks
- Calculators (especially graphing calculators such as TI-83)
- Geometry drafting sets



There is always a GREAT NEED for department store gift cards and cash donations

→**TIP:** You may want to cut out this list for your purse or pocket.

### SUCCESSFUL CROP WALK ... AND YOUR DONATION IS STILL WELCOME

The Marin CROP Hunger walk collected over \$14,000 on Sunday, June 12, which includes on-line and in-person contributions. We are also assured that many people hadn't collected from all their team members and that more will be coming in.

The spirit of the event was also very positive! We had several new teams participating, including more youth groups, more dogs on leash! The new route down 4th street seemed to be a big success, as well. Not only was it more pleasant for the walkers, but the walk also got lots of visibility and positive comments.



As of June 20, our church had raised \$1730, which was just a little behind the Christian Science Church in San Rafael which had raised \$1900 You can still ask anyone around you for a donation of any size. Checks can be made out to CWS/CROP, and it's still easy to donate on-line. These are the

steps: 1. Go to the MARIN CROP HUNGER WALK website:

[www.crophungerwalk.org/sanrafaelca/](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/sanrafaelca/) 2. Choose a recipient. Click "Donate" either to one of our Walkers or to our Team, the First Congregational Church San Rafael. And finally, 3) select a donation amount, and click on a payment method.

Remember, your donations address local hunger as well as international catastrophic events. Every little bit helps. Please speak to Sue Spofford if you have questions or more contributions.

# NEWS ABOUT KIDS



**Monday, June 20 - Friday, July 29 - Academic Summer Program Begins.** All of you are invited to participate as teachers or classroom aides according to your comfort level.

**Friday, July 29 - Academic Summer Program Celebration - 9 AM - 12 Noon.** Please plan to come celebrate with the kids!

**Wednesday, August 24, 2016 - Homework Club Resumes** at 4:00 PM in the Oak Room.

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 21 PICNIC AND PADDLING

SUMMERTIME FUN

You are invited to our summer First Congregational Church of San Rafael family picnic on the dock (or on the couch) at Lynn Grant's home.

**When:** After church on Sunday, August 21st from noon to 4 pm

**Where:** Lynn Grant's patio in Bel Marin Keyes, Novato

**What to bring:** Potluck picnic foods such as salads, breads, desserts and cold cuts. Bring picnic plates, cups and utensils for your own family if you can. If you forget, come anyway; there will be extra dishes on hand as back-up.

**AND Bring a friend!**

**What to wear:** Comfortable clothes (a bathing suit and towel if you want to swim from the dock) so you can take a turn rowing in the canoe, kayak or paddle boat. Bring life jackets for your kids, please!



## WALKER CREEK RANCH RETREAT TAKES A YEAR OFF

Because of many busy and conflicting schedules this fall, the Church Retreat originally scheduled for September will not take place this year.

Mary and Judy commented, "It's been a great run, but it's time to take a break. We thank you for your participation, your support, and your laughter during these past retreats. We feel truly blessed."



## NEWS FROM PILGRIM PARK

### Tenant News

We are sad to see Rick Taylor moving out after 38 years. Rick initially was our maintenance man, but for only a few years. Rick's dedication in flying the American Flag and asking why PP didn't have a proper flag pole prompted us to finally install one. Now, "Old Glory" proudly flies continually as it is lighted at night. Rick's health had deteriorated to the point where he decided to move to Colorado to live near his sister. Both Rick and his father served our country in the Armed Services. Rick was a decorated veteran of Vietnam. His dad, Jack, as a Naval Aviator flew 51 missions in the Pacific during WW II and is credited with sinking a ship.

Miss Jones, a long time resident and NOW wheel chair bound, will finally in July get an ADA compliant apartment. She is scheduled to temporarily move out on July 5. She should be able to move back in early August to a like-new apartment.



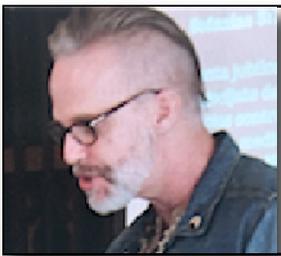
### Construction Developments

By the time you read this, our roof top solar system will be functioning to reduce PP's electricity costs by 80%. And, we will have new roofs on 9 of the 17 buildings that comprise PP. Although installing solar cells on them prompted us to renew the roofs, we're glad we did. We discovered much water damage to the sheathing and roof joists that had not yet manifested itself to leaks in the living spaces. Thus, the contractor, among other repairs, replaced numerous sheets of plywood sheathing and sistered up many partially damaged joists. We also corrected the various roofing design defects that were responsible for the small leaks.

This summer, we are replacing all of the exterior floodlights with LED lights. The existing lights had come to the end of their lives and were failing, some even falling over the second story fascia. Plus, we are replacing about 250 plants at the corner of Merrydale and North San Pedro that had provided food for the resident gophers and moles. The new plants are in gopher proof wire baskets.

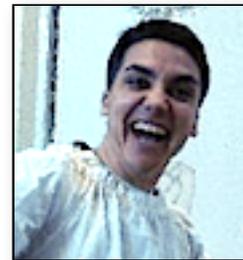
Bob De Haan

## GUEST PREACHERS IN AUGUST



**AUGUST 14** Todd Whitley is a second-year MDiv student at Pacific School of Religion. He is from Texas where he is a member of Cathedral of Hope UCC and guided the churches' associated social justice organization before beginning seminary. Todd is a father of four, grandfather of two, and partner to Miguel Atkins who introduced him to the UCC.

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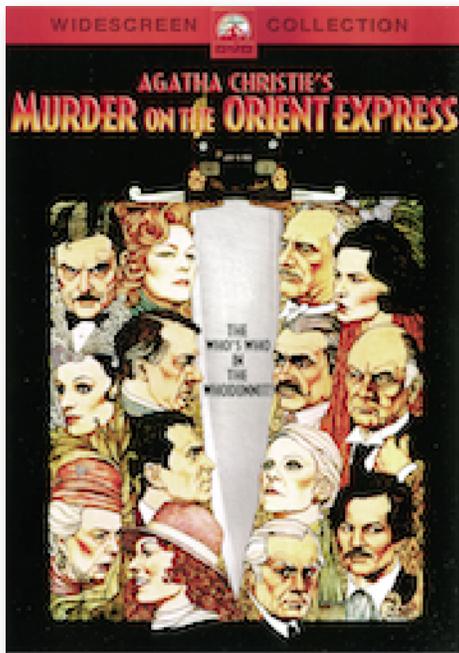
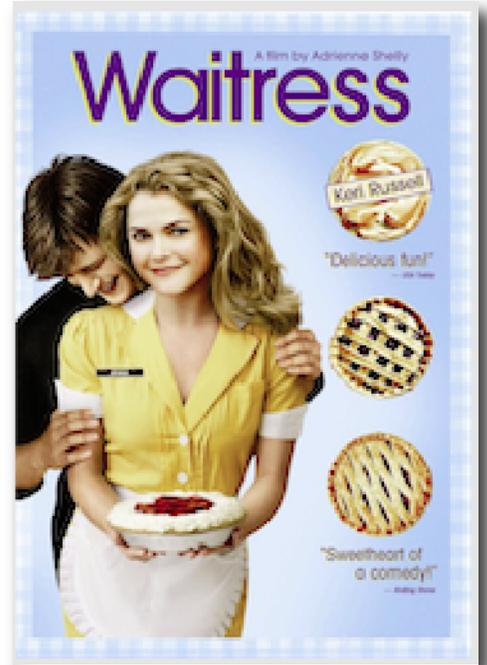
## SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS

### **JULY 22**      **WAITRESS** **AUGUST 26**    **MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS**

Summer is the time for lightweight, fun movies, and we have two perfect examples of “summer” films (with a little substance) picked for July and August.

**July 22 – *Waitress*** This was the audience favorite at the 2007 Sundance festival. It enjoyed modest success at the box office that year, but then burst back on the scene in 2016 as a hit Broadway musical. It’s a romantic comedy, but with the twist that it’s set in a blue-collar world that is presented with affection and respect

At the center of the story is Jenna (Keri Russell), a waitress in the small-town south, trapped in a marriage to a man she loathes and treated crudely by a grouchy boss. The bright spots in her life are her two long-suffering fellow waitresses and her talent for baking wildly creative, fabulous pies. When she finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, complications abound. But it all ends well (it’s a comedy, after all.)



### **August 26 – *Murder on the Orient Express***

In 1974 Director Sidney Lumet assembled an all-star cast of “suspects” – Lauren Bacall, Ingrid Bergman, Sean Connery, Vanessa Redgrave, John Gielgud, and more – and turned them loose to chew the scenery in a snowbound luxury train while the unflappable Hercule Poirot (Albert Finney) tries to deduce who killed the American millionaire.

The film was a box office smash, won three Oscars and, after 42 years, is still everybody’s choice for the best movie ever made from an Agatha Christie mystery. (Do you remember who did it?)

**7 PM Friday July 22 and August 26 in the De Haan Center at Pilgrim Park**

Trailers and links to reviews of both films are on the FCCSR website.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 — Dorothy Trotter
- 5 — Saba Dempsey
- 6 — Cyndi Siroky
- 26 — Tristan Cline-Meehan  
Michael Cline-Meehan  
Jacob Cline-Meehan  
Taylor Cline-Meehan
- 27 — Louis Frost



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 6 — Jamie Cline
- 6 — Audrey Barton
- 11 — Elizabeth Ganz
- 11 — Gaia Girard
- 12 — Rebecca Knopf
- 13 — Allison Kaufman
- 17 — Helen MacLam
- 19 — Melanie Sakskul
- 22 — Amy Smith
- 23 — Faye Barnowe
- 24 — Jakob Dempsey
- 27 — David Knopf
- 28 — Judy Girard

## GOLDEN GALS — Tuesdays: July 12 and August 9

The Golden Gals will meet on Tuesday, July 12 and Tuesday, August 9, at 10 AM, at the home of Jean Nadell. Bring a bag lunch.



## MEN'S GROUP — on summer vacation

The men's group will take some time off this summer and reconvene in the fall. Check the September issue of The TIE for more details!

## TIE DEADLINE for the September Issue - Monday, August 22

The deadline for articles and news for the September 2016 issue of The TIE is Monday, August 22. Please have all articles for the summer issue at the church office by Sunday, August 21. Or, email your articles to [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com).



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Rev. Tracy Barnowe** – *Pastor*

Tuesday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Available by appointment on other days

Cell Phone (510) 703-0108

[revtracybarnowe@gmail.com](mailto:revtracybarnowe@gmail.com)

**Gwendolyn Morgan** – *Office Manager*

Tuesday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Thursday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

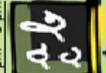
[office@fccsanrafael.org](mailto:office@fccsanrafael.org)

# FCC Calendar July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>26</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am Allow Sunday	<b>27</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>28</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>29</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>30</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>July 1</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>4</b>  Independence Day	<b>5</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>6</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>7</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>8</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>9</b> 10 am - 12 pm  Prayer Chain Retreat at home of Jamie Cline
<b>10</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>11</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>12</b> 9 am - 12 pm 10 am  Golden Girls' monthly meeting	<b>13</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>14</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>15</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 11:30 pm - 12:30 am Board of Mission Meeting	<b>18</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>19</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>20</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>21</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>22</b> 9 am - 12 pm Academic Summer Program 7 pm  Movie Night: "Widows De Hean Center Program." Park	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Parents Day 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>25</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>26</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>27</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>28</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program	<b>29</b> 9 am - 12 pm  Academic Summer Program Celebration	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am Backpack Sunday	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

This calendar is also available on the church's website in interactive form. There you can click on any event to see more details. Check it out at [www.FccSanRafael.org](http://www.FccSanRafael.org).

# FCC Calendar August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 8:00 am - 9:00 am Church School & Child Care 9:00 am - 10:00 am Back Sunday	<u>August 1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
 8:00 am - 9:00 am Church School & Child Care	<u>8</u>	10:00 am  Golden Gals' monthly meeting	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
 8:00 am - 9:00 am Church School & Child Care	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
 8:00 am - 9:00 am Church School & Child Care 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Music and Paddling at Lynn Grant's	<u>22</u> 5:00 pm  TIE Deadline for SEPTEMBER issue	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 4 pm - 5 pm  Homework Club	<u>25</u> 4 pm - 5 pm  Homework Club	<u>26</u> 7 pm  Movie Night 'Murder on the Orient Express' De Haan Center Pilgrim Park	<u>27</u>
 8:00 am - 9:00 am Church School & Child Care	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> 4 pm - 5 pm  Homework Club	<u>1</u> 4 pm - 5 pm  Homework Club	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

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