

## *Preparing for our new pastor...*

**Saturday, August 9**



On August 9th, there will be one of our traditional “clean-up” days. We need volunteers to spruce up, clean, and dust the Pastor’s office, to get it ready for painting. We want to create a welcoming space for Pastor Tracy to meet with our community.

**Monday, August 18**



Pastor Tracy’s first official work day begins Monday, August 18th. She will be greeted and welcomed by our moderator, David Knopf. On this day he will give her the keys to start her on her way. She will be ready to begin her ministry as our pastor.

She has ambitious plans, one of which is to meet with each member of our congregation soon after her arrival!

So be sure to inform Eric Rowe, our office assistant, of any changes in your contact information, as soon as possible. Pastor Tracy would like to start meeting with church members during her first week. Look for the announcements in the Sunday bulletins and the What’s Happening emails regarding the logistics of this impressive endeavor!

**Wednesday, August 20**

On August 20th, the third week of the month, the Board of Ministry, will be having our first



meeting with Pastor Tracy. All are welcome to attend this meeting and/or join the Ministry Team. The start time will be sometime after 9 AM but before 3 PM. Again, check What’s

Happening and Sunday bulletins for the specific time.

**Sunday, August 24**

August 24th, Pastor Tracy presides as our new pastor for Sunday services. Festivities marking this event will be forthcoming from the Church Council and the Board of Ministry.

A blessing of all students returning to school will definitely be a part of this first Sunday service.

**The Near Future. . .**

There will be an official commissioning and blessing of Pastor Tracy as our church leader. To be determined by the Council and supported by the Board of Ministry.

## AUGUST 3 —A FOND FAREWELL TO PASTOR KEN BARNES

(Depending on when you are reading this copy of the August 2014 TIE, this event is either in the future or in the past.)

On Sunday, August 3, the congregation of First Congregational Church of San Rafael celebrates the excellent interim ministry of our pastor, Ken Barnes. In true FCC style, the day includes joy and sadness, food and festivities, and moments we'll remember for a long time.

We all want to say a huge THANK YOU to him for his ministry with us and wish him well on his next adventures.



### WHO'S PREACHING IN AUGUST?

August 3	Rev. Ken Barnes
August 10	Rev. Faune Towery
August 17	Guest Preacher from Pacific School of Religion
August 24	Rev. Tracy Barnowe
August 31	Rev. Tracy Barnowe

### PRAYER PARTNERS

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



**July 26-August 2**  
Shane Barreras

**August 3-9**  
Colleen Beery

**August 10-16**  
Paul and Marcy Burks

**August 17-23**  
Cara and Eric Caindec, Conrad and Kai

**August 24-30**  
Ann Dannecker

**August 31-September 6**  
Bob De Haan and Nancy Sangster-De Haan

## WALKER CREEK RANCH RETREAT - SEPTEMBER 13 and 14



The last day to sign up and reserve your place at the fabulous church retreat is SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2014!

Contact MARY DOWLING 456-7251, email her at [maryrpt@comcast.net](mailto:maryrpt@comcast.net) or see her at church.

**Retreat Theme: LOVE IS....**

### RETREAT SCHEDULE AND DETAILS

Arrive between 1:00 and 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 13.  
Official activities begin at 3:00 PM.

**Activities include:**

games, crafts, nature walks, folk dancing, meditations,  
campfire singing, Sunday worship service, chocolate cake,  
. . . .and lots of free time.

**Meals include:**

Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch.

Check out is after lunch on Sunday, October 27 around 1pm

**Lodging choices are:**

**1. Camping/tent:** Bring your own tent, towels, sleeping bags, pillows; share central bath house.

**2. Economy cabins:** Dorm style with bunk beds. Carpeting and heating. Bring your own towels, sleeping bags/sheets/blankets.  
Share central bath house.

**3. Semi-private lodge:** 2-5 persons per room. Bathrooms down the hall. Linens, pillow, towel blankets provided.

**4. Day Use:** Saturday dinner and activities.

Driving directions and final schedule will be available the week before the camp.

Walker Creek Ranch Retreat and Conference Center  
**Check out website at: [www. WalkerCreekRanch.org](http://www.WalkerCreekRanch.org)**



## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



### AUGUST 3 — BACKPACK SUNDAY

New backpacks  
Binders  
Binder paper  
Pocket folders  
Spiral one-subject notebooks  
Tabbed dividers  
Zip pouches  
Markers  
Crayons  
Highlighters  
Pencils (#2 and/or colored)  
Pens  
Erasers  
Glue Sticks  
Index Card  
Rulers  
Staplers  
Small scissors  
Calculators (especially graphing: TI-83)  
Geometry drafting sets



Backpack Sunday will be August 3, 2014. This annual donation, sponsored by the Board of Mission, provides backpacks and school supplies to local children from grades K through 12. Most working poor and low-income families in Marin County spend the majority of their income for rent and have little left for basic necessities such as clothing, food, healthcare, and education. Many low-income families in Marin County participate in this program, and the need has tripled since 2003.

Children at Pilgrim Park and Ritter Center will be receiving these school supplies from our church. Your donations will help local children start school with the confidence that comes from being prepared with the necessary tools.

There is always a GREAT NEED for department store gift cards as well. Please put gift cards inside clearly marked envelopes, so they don't get misplaced.

Children all over the county thank you!



## PILGRIM PARK NEWS

**FLAG DAY 2014** was special for Pilgrim Park. After a multi-month effort, we raised the Stars and Stripes over Pilgrim Park.



**Preparation:** Last year the Board agreed that we needed a flagpole. That decision set in motion many steps and many folks, including Francisco Galindo, our jack of all trades maintenance expert who keeps the place running; Nancy Smith, who oversees everything; Barbara Brown, our architect who is always willing to help; Margie Rollman; and Bob De Haan, who loves these kinds of projects. Barbara found a used, but bent flag pole in storage in Sausalito at a wooden boat shop and convinced the owner to donate it to us. Francisco then took charge of straightening the solid wooden, 30 foot pole, refinishing it to a gleaming gloss white, and erecting it. Nancy blessed the location and beamed as the project came together. Margie found the bronze eagle on the top and the other hardware. Bob, with the help of his stepson, designed the foundation (four feet down and full of concrete and steel) and helped Francisco arrange for a 65-pound stainless steel bracket to hold the pole upright and firmly on the foundation. In case of an earthquake, hug the pole; it's not going anywhere.

A side benefit of acquiring the pole triggered the interest of a *SF Chronicle* reporter to investigate Pilgrim Park and write the great article for the Marin supplement.

**June 14 Flag Raising Event:** Residents and some church members assembled to honor the veterans present who raised the flag. Veterans from the British Merchant Marine in WWII, the Korean War (army, the U. S. Air Force, the Navy and the South Korean Army) helped Rick Taylor, a resident and Vietnam veteran with three Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star and a special commendation for bravery, raise the flag while "Stars and Stripes Forever" played. The flag will fly 24/7 as two spot lights will illumine it at night. As we honored a South Korean veteran, the SF counsel general of South Korea sent his greetings in a framed statement and requested we fly his country's flag with Old Glory on the anniversary of the invasion by the North, which we did. This was a glorious event followed by a picnic lunch, featuring sausages grilled on our new barbecue.

### OTHER PILGRIM PARK NEWS

**Two New Decks:** A contractor is putting the finishing touches on two new second story decks. The partial wall surrounding the decks was badly rotted. We have three more to do.

**Pilgrim Park's Financial Condition:** Our fiscal year ends on June 30. Although the annual audit will not be complete for several months, Bob De Haan reports that Pilgrim Park remains in excellent financial condition with adequate reserves. There were no significant deviations from budget last year. The Board recently adopted a conservative budget for next year that shows a positive cash flow and that anticipates more deck work and more sewer replacement.

Bob De Haan is at Pilgrim Park most Tuesday mornings. Please stop by for any questions you have or to just have some coffee and goodies in a cool place. The De Haan center is air conditioned.

## A FAVORITE HYMN. . .

### AMAZING GRACE

by John Newton (1775-1807)

Amazing grace! (how sweet the sound)  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears reliev'd;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believ'd!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promis'd good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease;  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.



## COMMUNION TABLE DECORATION

The Co-chairs of the Board of Ministry, Cathi Fuller and Hilary Spaulding, would like to thank Annie Song-Hill, Lynn Grant, Julie Dowling, Mary Dowling, Jackie Dema, and Patty Trosclair for sharing with us their inspired talents in designing décor for the communion table on Sundays for the months of May, June and July! The Board of Ministry is so grateful to them for sharing this opportunity to express creativity.

If you would be interested in sharing your artistic gifts in the upcoming months of August, September and October, please contact Hilary Spaulding, at 415.215-5769, or [hilary.spaulding@gmail.com](mailto:hilary.spaulding@gmail.com), or sign-up in the community room after Sunday services. If you would like to share this undertaking with another person or donate decorations for others to make use of, that would also be welcomed. Thank you.



. . . . from the magazine *This England*, submitted by Denise Walker

“Our forefathers were not content to learn about their Christian religion from the scriptures and prayer books, or from long and often complicated sermons. They wanted to sing about it too. They wanted to express their simple joy at finding God’s love by singing about it with a variety of sacred choruses, many of which they and learned as children.” Here is the story behind one famous hymn.

“Amazing Grace” was written in 1779 by John Newton, a former slave ship captain whose experience in a near shipwreck caused his conversion to Christianity and his decision to become an abolitionist. Later, as an Anglican minister, he wrote this hymn about his transformative ship-board experience.

## MOVIE NIGHT AUGUST 22 – ADAM

Asperger's syndrome is a very high-functioning form of autism. People with Asperger's are often brilliant. (Urban legend has it that both Einstein and Mozart were "Aspies.") However they are also extremely literal and have great difficulty decoding the emotional signals that govern human interaction.

Adam is a young man with Asperger's. He has great talent for science and technology, but he's having trouble learning to live alone after the death of his father. Beth is a school teacher suffering from a string of rotten boyfriends and an over-protective father. She moves into the apartment upstairs from Adam, and things start to take the expected course.

But this isn't a fairy-tale. The challenges of real life are very present, and the sensitive story of how these two real people deal with those challenges is far more rewarding and memorable than any expectable summer rom-com. *Adam* stars Hugh Dancy and Rose Byrne. It won the Alfred P. Sloan Prize at Sundance.

*"Adam is more about growth and courage than it is about love. It's about being able to take a step even when that step may feel like walking off the edge of an abyss. [Adam] is an affirmation that it's still possible to find smart movies about one of the most basic aspects of the human experience: falling in love."*

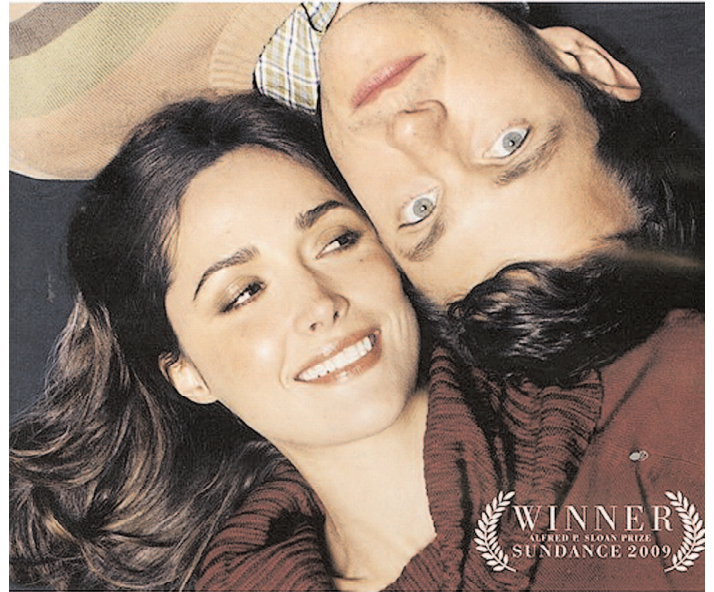
James Berardinelli– *ReelViews.com*

**7 PM Friday, August 22nd in the De Haan Center at Pilgrim Park**

*Links to the trailer and complete review are on the FCCSR website.*

# Adam

Hugh Dancy Rose Byrne



A story about  
two strangers.  
One a little stranger  
than the other...



### **WORK DAY — August 9**

On August 9th, there will be one of our traditional “clean-up” days. We need volunteers to spruce up, clean, and dust the Pastor’s office, to get it ready for painting. We want to create a welcoming space for Pastor Tracy to meet with our community.

### **GOLDEN GALS — August 12**

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



### **BOARD OF MINISTRY — August 20**

Board of Ministry members and anyone interested please join us for the next Board of Ministry Meeting on Wednesday, August 20, at a time to be announced. All are welcome to attend. See page one of this newsletter for more details.

### **MEN’S GROUP — August 23**



Join us for an hour or so of fellowship and wide-ranging conversation. Our next meeting will be **8:30 AM on Saturday, August 23**, in the De Haan Community Center in Pilgrim Park. Please bring a breakfast pastry for yourself and one other person. We’ll take care of the coffee.

### **ON-CALL PASTORAL CARE**

REV. FAUNE TOWERY will be providing on-call ministerial care for the spiritual needs of our congregation members and friends between August 9, 2014 and August 18, 2014.

Please contact her on her cell phone at 510-684-6986.





## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

11 — Elizabeth Ganz  
11 — Gaia Girard  
12 — Rebecca Knopf  
13 — Allison Kaufman  
19 — Melanie Saksul  
22 — Amy Smith  
24 — Jakob Dempsey  
27 — David Knopf  
28 — Judy Girard



## TIE DEADLINE for the September Issue - Mon., AUG. 25

The deadline for articles and news for the September issue of The 28th is Monday, August 25th. Please have all articles for the September issue at the church office by Sunday, Aug. 24th. Or, email your articles to [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com).



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

### Rev. Tracy Barnowe – *Pastor*














Our new pastor's office hours are yet to be determined. She will begin on Monday, August 18, and specific days and times will be available later in August on the web site.

### Eric Rowe – *Office Manager*

Tuesday 3:30 – 5:30 PM  
Friday 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Office Phone: 415-479-2747



# FCC Calendar AUGUST 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>27</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 2 pm  2 pm LUN. IN L.H. & R.H. CEMETERY - Normal of Life Center	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>August 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10 am  10 am Backpack Sunday	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9 am - 2 pm  Clean-up Crew Church's Bazaar Day
<b>10</b> 10 am  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10 am  10 am Golden Gate month a message	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10 am  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>18</b>  10 am Spec. Tracy Barrow's First Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  10 am Board of Ministry	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7 am - 8 pm  7 am - 8 pm Movie Night - "Believe"	<b>23</b> 8:30 am  8:30 am Men's Social
<b>24</b> 10 am  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am Spec. Tracy Barrow's First Sunday	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10 am  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care	<b>1</b> Labor Day	<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).