

Everything Under the Sun....



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Colleen Beery shared recently a ritual of gathering stones from the places we go on travels during the summer. In the fall when we all bring together our own individual stone and varied waters to the altar, we create something natural and beautiful.

When I watch how FCC San Rafael moves within its community, I think of the passage from the third chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together.

As I write this I am celebrating the first day of our Pilgrim Park Summer Camp, where we had fourteen children and counting. The children come from a variety of places—India, Mexico, El Salvador, Korea, the United States, Africa. Gathered together they create something beautiful and new. We learn so much from watching their enthusiasm, creativity, friendships, inquisitive natures, laughter, and smarts. When we gather them together with the teachers and the volunteers, the parents and the church members, the beauty grows as I see each express his or her individual gifts and in turn bless the other.

We gather each Sunday as a congregation and then go out to work collaboratively with the REST Shelter Dinners and Homeward Bound, the Marin

Interfaith Council and Pilgrim Park, the Marin County Food Bank and Ritter Center. We break bread together with other churches in an Multicultural Food Fair and then send supplies to Every Dollar Feeds Kids in Cuernavaca, Mexico. I see our stones gathering together and then casting away again in an ever-widening web that expands and contracts like the ripples from many stones dropped into a pond at once. We bless and are blessed continuously.

At our first Youth Event this summer, Lynn Grant spoke to the youth about how good it felt to break bread with the homeless women at the REST Shelter Dinner, and how she was inspired in her work by the scripture, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40). She spoke of how we find Jesus in each other when we serve.



Indeed, the more we gather our stones together in different circles, the more we find Jesus in each other. When we begin to see God in all things, we know we are on the right path.

This month I am remembering how I came to FCC San Rafael for the first time one year ago. As I have spent time with you and served with you, moving through so many of the circles, it has been a blessing to see God in so many places. I look forward to seeing you all when we gather our stones together on August 23, so that we might share where we have seen God on our journeys.

Blessings, *Pastor Tracy*

PASTOR TRACY ON VACATION DURING JULY

Pastor Tracy will be on vacation from July 7-July 22. **In her absence, Rev. Faune Towery will be available for pastoral needs and emergencies.** You can contact her at (510) 684-6986.

*A time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing (Ecclesiastes 3:5)*

As you travel far and wide this summer, we invite you to bring back a stone, water, small piece of wood, or other small natural object from wherever you find yourself. When we reunite we will gather all of the stones together in a special healing service on Sunday, August 23.



MEET TAD HOPP

Tad Hopp is the administrator of our new program, the Pilgrim Park Summer Camp, which began on June 29. He will also be preaching on July 12, while Pastor Tracy is on vacation. You can read more about Tad's background and activities with our church this summer on pages 3 and 6 of this newsletter.

PRAYER PARTNERS

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



June 28 - July 4

David and Debra Smith,
Ben, Amy, and Bonnie

July 5 - 11

Annie Song-Hill

July 12 - 18

Hilary Spaulding and Bruce Weir

July 19 - 25

Bob and Sue Spofford

July 26 - August 1

Jean Starkweather

August 2 - August 8

Tessa and Colin Templeman

August 9 - August 15

Rev. Faune Towery and Luis
Valdivia

August 16 - August 22

Patty Trosclair

August 23 - August 29

Dorothy Trotter

August 30 - September 5

Colleen Trudeau



Come and Worship with us!

July 5 Mark 6:14-29

The story of Salome and John the Baptist is one of the most dramatic and engaging stories in the gospels, depicted in art, film and literature throughout centuries. How could a dancing girl at a party end in such a gruesome tragedy? Clues buried in the text tell a tale of politics, lust, corruption, and vice—all true events in history. But can we find hope in this sordid tale?

July 12 Amos 7:10-15.2

Please welcome special **Guest Preacher Tad Hopp**, while Pastor Tracy is on vacation. Hopp comes to us with a wealth of experience in working with youth and directing summer programs. He has completed his Master of Divinity and is pursuing ordination through the Presbyterian Church. This summer he is working at the San Francisco Night Ministry and also serving as the Program Administrator for our Pilgrim Park Summer Camp. Please join us to hear Mr. Hopp's message, *Courage to Speak*.

July 19 Corinthians 5:11-17

Please welcome special **Guest Preacher Yani Davis**, while Pastor Tracy is on vacation. Yani Davis is entering her second year at San Francisco Theological Seminary. She is pursuing ordination through the Presbyterian Church. An accomplished musician, Ms. Davis was recently a featured performer of Christian Hip-Hop at Rhythms of Faith in the Millennial Generation. She will be preaching about the Gospel According to Nina Simone: *A New Dawn, A New Day*.

July 26 Matthew 17:1-13

When we read the Transfiguration of Jesus, we not only find symbolism and references to the Old Testament, but also very human reactions to an extraordinary event. We will explore both the deep mysticism as well as the hilarity that results when ancient collides with modern and human meets divine.



Come and Worship with us!

August 2 Matthew 6:1-15

The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) is something that we recite every Sunday, but how well do we really know it? Why do we pray, and what are we praying for? We will explore the cultural and socio-historical origins of the different versions (trespasses vs. sins vs. debts) and look at possibilities for contemporary translation in our own modern context.

August 9 Matthew 13:1-13

The Parable of the Sower is a familiar tale with powerful implications for our modern era where churches and denominations are in decline. This simple story is actually rich with timeless wisdom that can be applied today in progressive churches. When we look at the reasons behind both church decline and growth in our modern era, we can learn practical lessons for maximizing our own efforts to welcome new people and build community.

August 16 Genesis 19:1-11, 24-26, 30-38

The story of Sodom and Gomorrah is often used to justify the disenfranchisement and abuse of our lesbian and gay brothers and sisters. Consistently mistranslated, taken out of context and misinterpreted, it often leaves us with disturbing questions about the nature of abuse and why God allows it. However, when we put this passage back into its proper literary and linguistic context, we find that it actually paints God as a champion of the oppressed and gives a message of hope and redemption for people in even the most dire of circumstances.

August 23 2 Kings 5:1-14

Please join us for a special healing service with stations for cleansing, forgiveness, letting go, anointing and prayer. We will explore the story of the Healing of Naaman the leper, whose fiery characters and deep symbolism teaches us the power not only of faith, but also of changed attitudes.

August 30 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

We will be looking into a passage that has frequently been used to dehumanize the LGBT community. It is also one of the most consistently misinterpreted, misunderstood and mistranslated passages about same-sex relationships in the Bible. Join us as we take a strange and sometimes hilarious jaunt through history as we explore the translation of this passage. When put back into its proper linguistic and historical context, we find it has a much more positive and inclusive message than we have been led to believe.

News About Kids



JUNE YOUTH EVENT: FUN AND SERVICE-FILLED

Six youth spent two hours learning the connection between scripture, service, and spiritual growth on Sunday, June 28. Lynn Grant was our guest speaker and taught the kids about the REST Shelter Dinner Program and Homeward Bound.

She shared how the parable of the sheep and the goats, of Matthew 25, inspired her, especially when Jesus tells his disciples, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” The group then helped to load up all of the towels collected on Towel Sunday for delivery to Homeward Bound.



Tristan, Pastor Tracy, Michael, Faye, Taylor, Rosemary, Marcus

Next, the kids moved to the kitchen to prepare several dishes for the REST Shelter Dinner the following evening. With help from Charles Little, Pastor Tracy, and Claudette Perkins, six youth (Marcus, Taylor, Tristan, Michael, Rosemary, Faye) prepared four crockpots full of hand-rolled meatballs in sweet and sour sauce, two crockpots of buttered peas with pearl onions, a yellow sheetcake and pan of frosted brownies.

When the kids were considering the decorations for the desserts (which involved six different colors of frosting AND sprinkles), they all agreed on one thing: their desire to convey their prayer for the happiness of the women who would be sheltered that evening. So on the top of the cake and brownies, they wrote a single word: "HAPPY." Special thanks to Marcus, Taylor, Tristan, Michael, Rosemary, Faye, and to Lucinda Ray who provided all of the ingredients and recipe for the meatballs and sauce.



MORE News About Kids

PILGRIM PARK SUMMER CAMP OPENS

The Pilgrim Park Summer Camp began on June 29, with 14 students and counting! Sponsored by Pilgrim Park and our congregation, the goal is to beat the achievement gap in Marin County. For six weeks, from June 29 - August 7, we will be piloting a dynamic program to help students retain what they learned during the previous school year and give them a leg up on the next.

Students are learning complex academic subjects presented in a fun, hands-on camp format. Session topics include biology, chemistry, mathematics, painting, problem solving, theatre, Spanish, business development, music, and scarf juggling. Camp runs from 9 to 11 AM Mondays - Fridays, with two subjects presented each day.



Sara Danielson teaches math

Bob De Haan's class learns about business by setting up a greeting card company.

Program Administrator Tad Hopp has done a wonderful job of organizing teachers, students, volunteers, supplies, registration forms, background screenings, scheduling, and getting us off the ground barely a week after he started.

Special thanks go to the Pilgrim Park Board of Directors who contributed \$4000 toward the program expenses, and to the First Congregational Church of San Rafael Council and Mission Board for contributing \$5000 from the Pilgrim Hill Fund to hire our Program Administrator.

Special thanks also to all of the teachers and volunteers who are donating their time, talents, classroom supplies and snacks: Mary and Oak Dowling, Bob De Haan, Denise Kruger-Case, Sara Danielson, Hilary Spaulding, Bruce Weir, Colleen Beery, Lucinda Ray, Charles Little, Michelle Park, Milagro Ramirez, Marcus Perkins, Brenda Vasquez, Claudette Perkins, Gloria Falen, Debi Geller, Ellie Borrmann, Caryl Hodges, Brittney Pino, Irma, and Pastor Tracy Barnowe.



Bruce Weir has his chemistry class (outfitted in safety goggles) explore chemical bonds by holding hands in groups.

To donate to this program, please make your check out to FCC San Rafael and write on the memo line: Pilgrim Park Summer Program, or donate electronically at <http://fccsanrafael.org/online-giving/> **If you would like to teach or volunteer**, please contact Tad Hopp, Program Administrator, at thopp84@gmail.com

KIDS! UPCOMING EVENTS

*** * * CHURCH SCHOOL CONTINUES ALL SUMMER * * ***

Summer Sunday School is usually mellow with quiet games and crafts, often led by members of the church who give the regular Sunday School teachers a break. That will happen this year as well, but the group will also consider several stories which are mostly from our church curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*.



AUGUST 8-9: Youth Overnight - for grades 6 and up

Please join us for an overnight of fun and service on Saturday, August 8, at 5 PM. We will assemble the backpacks for low-income youth and then enjoy a fun backyard campout at the home of David Knopf and Cathi Fuller.

The group is invited to come to church the next morning in their pajamas for a lively service. For more information, please contact David Knopf at knopf.david@gmail.com



SEPTEMBER 12-13: Annual All Church Retreat - all ages

At the beautiful Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma. Please join us for a fun and meditative weekend on 1700 acres of forest, grassland, pond, and rolling hills. Activities include games, nature walks, crafts, folk dancing, meditations, campfire and songs, worship, chocolate cake, and plenty of free time. See page 14 of this newsletter for more details.

OCTOBER 6: At the church from 4 - 6 PM - kids of all ages

This event is a planning session for Children's Sabbath (Sunday, October 18), a day when we celebrate the children in our church. The children will be leading all aspects of the worship service on October 18, so the afternoon of October 6 will be devoted to preparing for that service. Please join us to pick scripture, write prayers, choose music, plan communion, and practice the roles that each of the youth will play. Special guest speaker Pastor Tracy Barnowe will join us. All are welcome. Please come with your ideas! For more information, please contact David Knopf at knopf.david@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 14: Food Bank Field Trip - for grades 6 and up

On Saturday, November 14, from 7:30 AM to 10 AM, please join us for a special trip to assist with the local Marin County Food bank at Anthem Church next door. Come and learn what happens to all of the nonperishable food that we collect, and then work hands-on with its distribution to those in need. We will meet in the Sanctuary at 7:15 AM and walk to Anthem together. For more information, please contact David Knopf at knopf.david@gmail.com

DECEMBER 6: At the church from 4 - 6 PM - kids of all ages

Please join us for a fun evening of frivolity as we decorate the sanctuary and Christmas tree and prepare boxes of gifts for families in need through the Ritter Center.





BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



BACKPACK SUNDAY - AUGUST 2

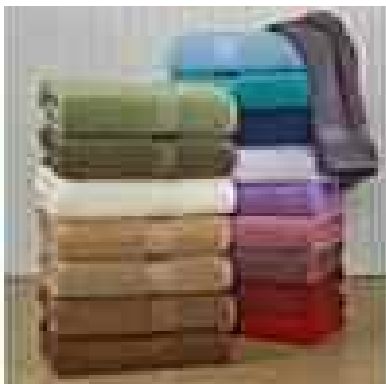
This is our annual gathering of school supplies for the Ritter Center kids. Please bring your donations to church on Aug. 2 as they will be distributed to the kids at Ritter Center on Aug. 10, because the school start dates are early. Here's what is needed:

- 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.



TOWEL SUNDAY NETS 70 TOWELS

The Board of Mission of our church has tallied and delivered the towels that were contributed on Sunday, June 28, approximately 65-70. Homeward Bound said the timing couldn't have been better. Towels will be distributed between New Beginnings at Hamilton and Mill Street (emergency facility). Dominique, who received the towels could not have been more thrilled.

Thanks to everyone who contributed!

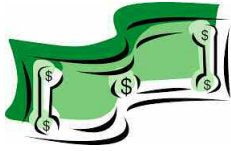
FINAL R.E.S.T. DINNER FOR THIS SUMMER - JULY 13

The REST program is continuing as a pilot program this summer. Our Mission Board has agreed to host **the Monday meal on July 13**. These are meals for homeless women in Marin County at the Women's Winter Shelter Program in San Rafael. Officially called Marin REST, which stands for Rotating Emergency Shelter Team, this is a program of the St. Vincent dePaul Society.

Our congregation has been a faithful and important participant in this program for five or six winters during the winter season. This new pilot program will take place this coming summer. Contact Sue Spofford if you would like to provide a meat, vegetable, or dessert dish, or help set up or clean up.



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.



INCOME UP, GOALS EXCEEDED BUT YOUR HELP IS STILL NEEDED



At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, our Treasurer reported that our income and pledges are up significantly over previous years. We are also on target for the goals we adopted at our Congregational Annual Meeting in February. Here is a review of our goals and how we are meeting them:

- 1. Worship God, Celebrate the Sacraments:** We are hosting dynamic worship services, tackling tough topics and challenging pieces of scripture. Attendance is up and new people are visiting often and returning regularly. We are enjoying special Sundays, such as honoring graduates, Pride Sunday, Veterans, Blessing of the Animals, and Children's Sabbath.
- 2. Preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ:** Our Sunday School is growing, and we are launching a new Youth Program with monthly meetings for grades 6 and up (see page 7). Children are participating in the worship services as readers, communion servers, greeters, and musicians. We have hosted two Bible Study series this year on social justices issues within our current ministries and race relations, and we begin a third in August.
- 3. Extend the Heritage of the Christian Faith:** New people are visiting regularly, and many are staying. Two growth workshops are scheduled this fall on Newcomer Retention and Interpersonal Outreach. We have hosted multiple events bringing members of the community in our doors.
- 4. Realize the Unity of All Churches in Christ:** We continue our efforts with the Marin Interfaith Center in the areas of homelessness, the education achievement gap in Marin County, and collaboration with many faith traditions. We are helping extend the REST Shelter Dinner Program during the summer with three additional dates. We will be collaborating with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin on hosting the Our Whole Lives sexuality education course for our middle and high school students this fall. At the Food Fair sponsored by Every Dollar Feeds Kids, we worked with three other churches to raise money to feed hungry children in Cuernavaca, Mexico.
- 5. Strive for Righteousness, Justice and Peace in our Common Life:** We have enjoyed growth in faith and fellowship through our Bible study classes. The Golden Girls meet monthly, the Pastor and many church members visit shut-ins and those in crisis, and we enjoy special get-togethers such as the Twelfth Party, Walker Creek Retreat, and the coffee hour every Sunday after worship.

6. Render Loving Service for the Betterment of the People in our Community and the World: We support the REST Program, Ritter Center, Homeward Bound, and five annual offerings through the United Church of Christ. We have expanded our Homework Club into a six-week academic Summer Camp, serving fourteen children, more than twice the attendance of the Homework Club. (**NOTE:** this grant is outside of our annual budget, and is co-funded by the Pilgrim Park Board and the Pilgrim Hill Fund (see page 7). We are continuing our Sacred Conversation on Race that we began in the spring with the Remembering Selma Photographic presentation, Bible Study on Race Relations, Movie Night featuring Selma, and the upcoming performance Cops & Robbers on August 15.



Halfway through the year, we are meeting or exceeding our goals in every area of our Vision.

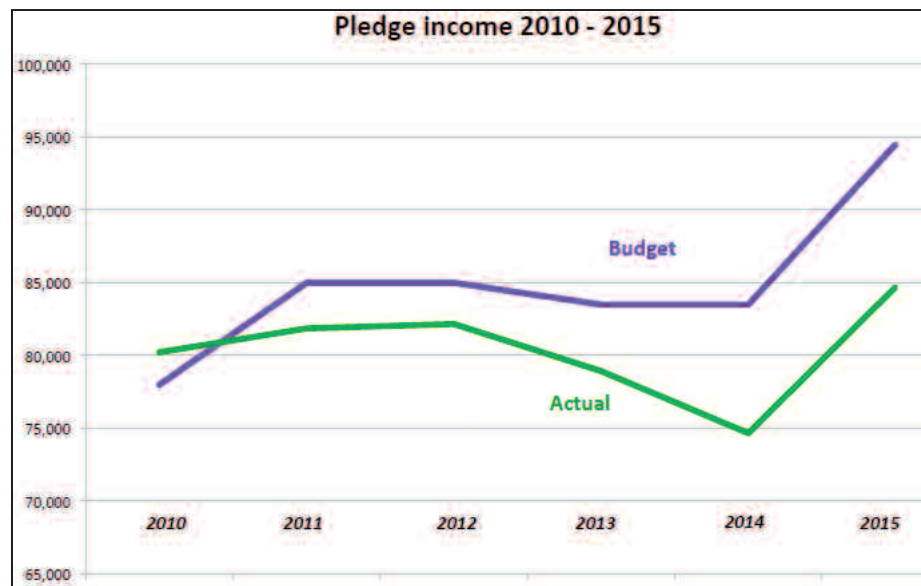
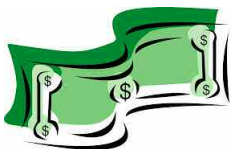
However, we are slightly short of the budget we agreed on at the Annual Meeting in February. After a strong start at the beginning of the year, our donations have waned slightly. If we continue on our current track, we will have raised more than last year but will come up about \$10,000 short of our budget by the end of the year.



- Some folks have turned in their pledge forms for the year and have been generously donating toward them. To those, we thank you!
- Some have not turned in pledges, but have been generously donating on a regular basis—to those, we thank you and ask you to please take the time to fill out a pledge form for our planning purposes.
- To those who have not filled out a pledge form or who have not been keeping up with their pledges, please remember that you can change your pledge at any time, but for our planning purposes it is really helpful to have accurate numbers and consistency. We urge you to fill out a pledge form and give generously.

In order to make our budget by the end of the year, we will need an additional \$250 per family (about \$41 per month) between now and December.

We ask that you prayerfully consider what you can joyfully give to support our Vision and ministries.



PILGRIM PARK NEWS

May 10, Mother's Day - About 50 Pilgrim Park ladies and girls and their friends celebrated Mother's Day with food, music and dancing.

June 18, 2015 - Pilgrim Park Board Meeting Notes

- Heard that 2014/15 operating results were better than budgeted for the first 11 months.
- Approved the 2015/16 budget.
- Approved a capital replacement budget of \$170,000.
- Heard a presentation on solar electricity generating for common areas from a representation of Solarcraft.
- Heard management's report on community activities, including Food Bank and bread deliveries, upgrades to the computers in the John Starkweather Computer Center, recycling, the celebratory ice cream social, Dominican nurses and nutritional visits, etc.
- Heard an update on our continuing sewer problems. The bottom line is that when they fail, we fix them. In this case we found a defective patch under the parking lot from 1970 as well as a studio's sewers that have failed.
- Discussed the regular inspection of the structural integrity of the three unreconstructed decks and several landings. All appear to be in excellent condition.
- The community garden adjacent to the church is thriving again.



The biannual Pilgrim Park/church picnic will be in August – Date to be confirmed.

Bob De Haan

VOLUNTEERS NEED FOR PILGRIM PARK SUMMER CAMP



We are still in need of volunteers for our Pilgrim Park Summer Camp. Would you like to volunteer to assist our capable teachers for an hour or two (or more!) any time between 9 and 11 AM Monday through Friday over the next five weeks? If so, please contact our Summer Camp Administrator, Tad Hopp (thopp84@gmail.com), and let him know when you would like to volunteer.

Subjects you could potentially assist with include: Chemistry, Math, Biology, Spanish, and many others! We always need more volunteers so please consider helping out with this important program!

LIVE THEATER IN OUR SANCTUARY - SAT. AUG. 15

COPS AND ROBBERS



This remarkable performance begins at 8 PM. Come, experience, and discuss The Piper's revolutionary play, *Cops and Robbers* as directed by Ami Zins and Lew Levinson, a sharp look at the dysfunctional relationship between law enforcement, the media, and the Black community.

Centered on an officer involved shooting, writer/performer The Piper takes the viewer on an emotionally charged ride with unexpected twists and turns. He seamlessly travels through 17 characters, each with his own convictions, logic, and prejudices. *Cops and Robbers* takes no prisoners and challenges views to question all preconceived notions of "right" and "wrong."

Jinho "The Piper" Ferreira is a rapper, actor, and screenwriter from Oakland, California. He is one-third of Flipsyde, an alternative hip-hop band that has toured internationally with artists such as Snoop Dogg, The Black Eyed Peas, Akon, The Game, Busta Rhymes, and more. Flipsyde has written anthems for the 2006 Winter Olympics and the 2008 Summer Olympics. The band continues to enjoy several song placements in television, film, and sporting events. In 2009, Piper won the Creative Promise Award for screenwriter at the Tribeca Film Festival for his CIA thriller: *Walter's Boys*.

In the spring of 2010, Piper paid his way through a Bay Area law enforcement academy, eventually graduating in the top percentile and delivering the commencement speech. The paradox of being a member of the Black community and a hip-hop artist, while simultaneously working in Law Enforcement, served as the inspiration to write *Cops and Robbers*.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

PICNIC AND PADDLING

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.

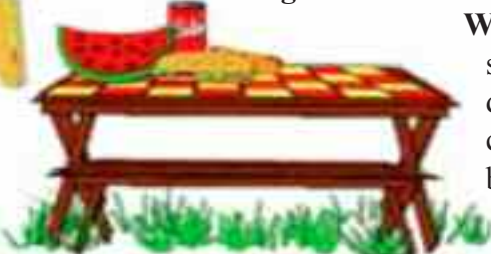
When: After church on Sunday, August 16th from 1 pm to 4 pm

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

What to bring: Potluck picnic foods such as salads, breads, desserts and cold cuts (relishes and drinks provided). Bring picnic plates, cups and utensils for your own family as we want to practice decreasing paper and plastic use (and then take them home for washing). 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. Life-vests will be available.

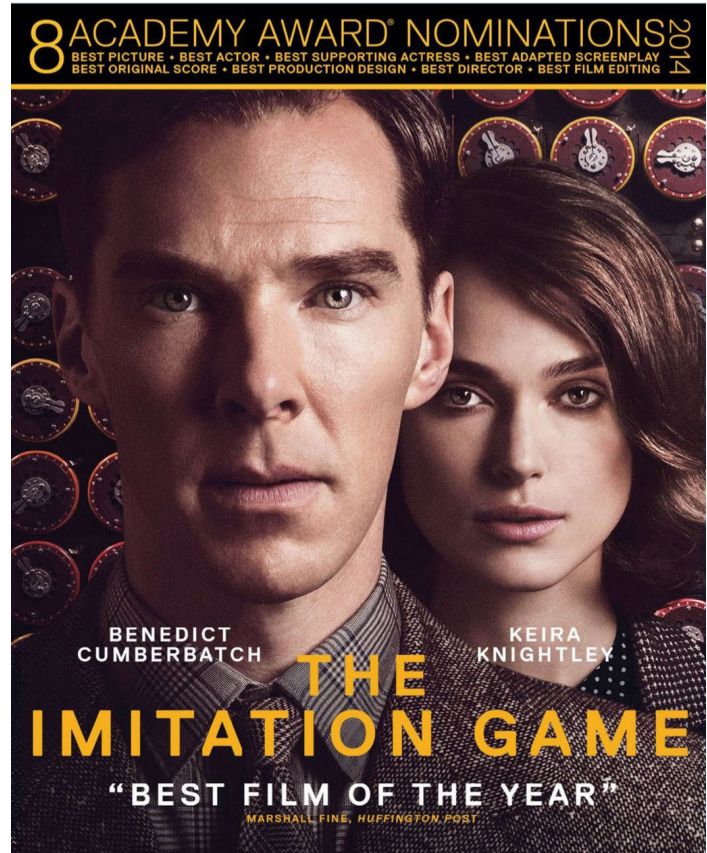


MOVIE NIGHT JULY 31 *THE IMITATION GAME* (no Movie Night in August)

Alan Turing is a towering figure in 20th century history who was virtually unknown in his own time. He conceived of and built the first working programmable computer. With that computer, he and his team broke the German “Enigma” code, which many feel did more to shorten WWII than any other technical achievement.

Shortly after the war, still unknown to the general public, he was hounded to his death by police in 1954 because of his homosexuality, which was still a crime in Britain. Finally, all this took place in the context of Turing’s perceptual and social handicaps, which are recognized today as high-functioning autism.

In the past 20 years, recognition of Turing’s unique talent and contributions has grown, culminating in this 2014 film. *The Imitation Game* was nominated for eight Oscars, including Best Actor for Benedict Cumberbatch as Turing and Best Supporting Actress for Keira Knightley as mathematician Joan Clarke, who fought her way through gender bias to become the only woman on Turing’s team.

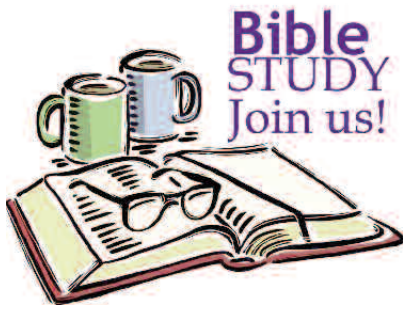


Friday July 31 at 7 PM in the De Haan Center at Pilgrim Park.

This is a superhero movie of the mind. Turing makes magic in his head. The beautiful wheels spin inside; that’s where he flies. The “action” here is Turing tinkering with his machine. Or simply thinking—which, as Cumberbatch portrays it, is adventure of the highest order.

Richard Corliss, TIME

You can view the trailer for *The Imitation Game* on the FCCSR website.



BIBLE STUDY BEGINS AUGUST 26 **Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 PM**

Please join us for a special eight-part series this fall, from August 26-October 14. The focus is **Reclaiming the Bible: Biblical Implications on Law and Society**, a critical study of the Bible's most controversial passages.

Throughout history and in recent months, many parts of the Bible have been used to justify laws and social policies that perpetuate continual abuse of and disenfranchisement of the LGBT community, the subjugation of women, sustained destruction of the environment, and fear-mongering around the devil and the end of times.

However, when we use critical scholarship to learn about the original language and socio-historical context, we can be surprised to find what a positive and inclusive message they have in today's time for today's people, regardless of faith background. Please bring a Bible if you have one, or borrow or purchase one (\$15) when you come. Please bring finger food to share.

WANT TO HELP WITH SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS BUT CAN'T MANAGE THE SHOPPING AND SCHLEPPING?



We all agree how important it is to have coffee hour and refreshments after worship. But not everyone is able to provide those refreshments, because of difficulties with shopping, carrying food, or doing the set up and clean up.

If you are able to contribute to the cost of purchasing the food, we may be able to match your contribution with a person who is happy to do the shopping and schlepping for you. Please contact Cindy Ray (707) 769-1997, and she will find partner for you.

ANNUAL CHURCH RETREAT - SAVE THE DATE!

WALKER CREEK RANCH RETREAT

Saturday and Sunday, September 12 and 13, 2015

"BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING"

Lower priced lodging available in bunk beds or tents.
(Semi private lodging also available as in past years)

Activities include:

Games, nature walks, crafts, folk dancing, meditations, campfire and songs, worship, chocolate cake, plenty of free time.



SIGN UP with Mary Dowling
AFTER CHURCH IN COMMUNITY ROOM

This is our 9th annual retreat!
Come play and pray with us.

DONATIONS to the church camp scholarship fund are gratefully appreciated.
See Mary Dowling or Judy Girard for details.



SEPTEMBER 20 - SAVE THE DATE INSTALLATION CELEBRATION FOR PASTOR TRACY

Put a big circle around Sunday afternoon, September 20, on your calendar. This is the date for Pastor Tracy's official installation as our pastor. Please make a special effort to attend and also to welcome the visiting pastors from surrounding churches who will be part of this important day in the life of our congregation.

AUGUST 16 - BOARD OF MINISTRY MEETING

Board of Ministry Meeting will be 11:30 AM, on Sunday, August 16th, in the Plum Room. All are welcome.



PASTOR TRACY TO LEAD CHURCH GROWTH WORKSHOPS AUG. 29 AND SEPT. 26

Our Pastor, Rev. Tracy Barnowe, is a recognized expert on church growth. For over 10 years she has consulted with churches and non-profits to create long-term and short-term revitalization plans that work.

Demand for these consultations have grown so much that this year that Rev. Barnowe is trying something new: Instead of consulting with one church at a time, she will be conducting two all-day Church Growth Workshops here in San Rafael for multiple teams from interested churches. The workshops will be held on August 29 and September 26.

In both workshops, the emphasis will be on practical techniques and live role-playing exercises.



If you know of churches who might be interested, they can find more information and registration forms on our church's web site.

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

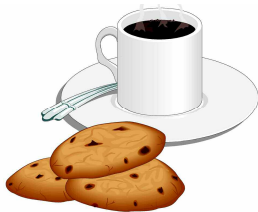
- 6 — Jamie Cline-Meehan
- 11 — Elizabeth Ganz
- 11 — Gaia Girard
- 12 — Rebecca Knopf
- 13 — Allison Kaufman
- 19 — Melanie Sakskul
- 22 — Amy Smith
- 24 — Jakob Dempsey
- 27 — David Knopf
- 28 — Judy Girard

GOLDEN GALS — July 14 and August 11

The Golden Gals will meet on Tuesday, June 9, and again on Tuesday, August 11, at 10 AM, at the home of Jean Nadell. Bring a bag lunch.



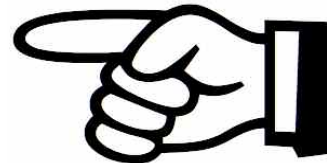
MEN'S GROUP — On a Saturday to be announced in July



After he recovers from the wedding of his youngest daughter to his wife's oldest son and some other extraordinary activities, Bob De Haan will attempt to schedule a meeting for the latter part of July – Date to be announced. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the community room at Pilgrim Park. Bring your favorite sweet roll. Coffee is provided. We normally meet for about two hours.

TIE DEADLINE for the September Issue - Mon., August 24

The deadline for articles and news for the September 2015 issue of The TIE is Monday, August 24. Please have all articles for the July/August issue at the church office by Sunday, August 23rd. Or, email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS





















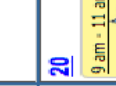
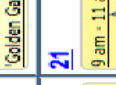
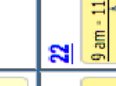
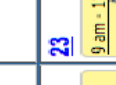
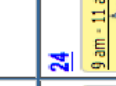






Rev. Tracy Barnowe – Pastor

Monday 9 AM - 1 PM
Wednesday 9 AM - 1 PM
Cell Phone (510) 703-0108
revtracybarnowe@gmail.com

Eric Rowe – Office Manager





















Monday 9 AM - 12:00
Tuesday 9 AM - 12:00
Friday 9 AM - 12:00
Office Phone: 415-479-2747
office@fccsanrafael.org

FCC Calendar JULY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 10 am Towel Sunday 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	29 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	30 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	July 1 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	2 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	3 9 am - 11 am Pilgrim Park Summer Camp 7 am  Movie Night: 'Angels in America'	4  Independence Day
5 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	6 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	7 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	8 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	9 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	10 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	11
12 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	13 9 am - 11 am Pilgrim Park Summer Camp 6 am  Women's Shelter Dinner	14 9 am - 11 am Pilgrim Park Summer Camp 10 am  'Golden Gals' monthly meeting	15 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	16 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	17 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	18
19 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	20 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	21 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	22 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	23 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	24 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	25
26 Parents Day 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	27 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	28 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	29 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	30 9 am - 11 am  Pilgrim Park Summer Camp	31 9 am - 11 am Pilgrim Park Summer Camp 7 am  Movie Night: 'The Imitation Game'	1

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.

FCC Calendar AUGUST 2015

<p>10 am</p>  <p>Backpack Sunday</p>	<p>9 am - 11 am</p>  <p>Pilgrim Park Summer Camp</p>	<p>9 am - 11 am</p>  <p>Pilgrim Park Summer Camp</p>	<p>9 am - 11 am</p>  <p>Pilgrim Park Summer Camp</p>	<p>9 am - 11 am</p>  <p>Pilgrim Park Summer Camp</p>	<p>9 am - 11 am</p>  <p>Pilgrim Park Summer Camp</p>	<p>5 pm</p>  <p>Youth Overnight Campout</p>
<p>9</p> <p>10 am</p>  <p>Worship, Church School & Child Care</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10 am</p>  <p>'Golden Gals' monthly meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8 pm</p>  <p>Cops and Robbers Live Theatre Performance in the Church Sanctuary</p>
<p>16</p> <p>10 am</p>  <p>Worship, Church School & Child Care</p> <p>11:30 am</p> <p>Board of Ministry Meeting - Plum Room</p> <p>1 pm - 4 pm</p>  <p>Picnic and Paddling Party</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4 pm - 5 pm</p>  <p>Homework Club - Oak Room</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>10 am</p> <p>Blessing of Students</p> <p>10 am</p>  <p>Worship, Church School & Child Care</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5 pm</p>  <p>TIE Deadline for September Issue</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4 pm - 5 pm</p> <p>Homework Club - Oak Room</p> <p>6 pm - 7:30 pm</p>  <p>Bible Study - Biblical Implications on Law and Society</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4 pm - 5 pm</p>  <p>Homework Club - Oak Room</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>  <p>Church Growth Workshop - see Church website for details</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10 am</p>  <p>Worship, Church School & Child Care</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4 pm - 5 pm</p> <p>Homework Club - Oak Room</p> <p>6 pm - 7:30 pm</p> <p>Bible Study - Biblical Implications on Law and Society</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4 pm - 5 pm</p>  <p>Homework Club - Oak Room</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

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