

October 2019

First Congregational Church of
San Rafael

The TIE

TRAINS OF THOUGHT by REV. SALLY TRAIN

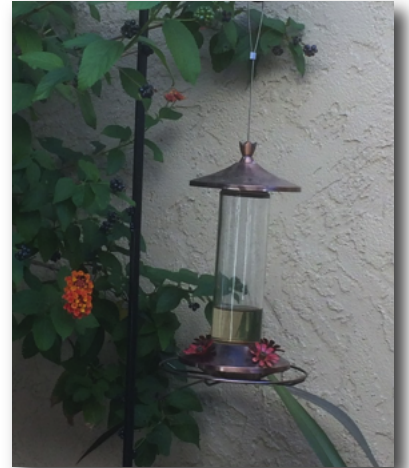


October 4 is the Feast of St. Francis celebrating that well loved monk and the namesake of San Francisco. St. Francis is known for many things, one of which was his love for animals and his ability to communicate with them. He tamed a ferocious wolf and preached to the sparrows. It is in his memory and spirit that, every year, we bless the animals in our lives.

I wish I were St. Francis. I wish I could communicate with the birds who frequent my patio!

My living room looks out on a beautiful patio in which we have planted a Firecracker Bush with vibrant yellow and orange blossoms. Right next to it hangs my hummingbird feeder, which is filled at all times with fresh sugar-water. I love to watch the hummingbirds as they hover at the feeder, drinking in the solution until they can drink no more, and then streaking off at lightening speed. I imagine they are on the ultimate sugar high, joyfully buzzing through the air.

Lately one hummingbird has begun perching in the Firecracker Bush most of the day. If another hummer approaches the feeder, he swoops out of the bush and attacks the intruder. With their long sharp bills, it is like watching a fencing match in fast motion.



I wish I were St. Francis. If I were, I would explain to my resident hummingbird that in truth he does not need to protect his food supply. There is plenty for everyone. Whenever the feeder gets low, I refill it. Truly the supply is endless.

I wish I were St. Francis. If I were, I would explain to my nation that in truth we do not need to be so protective of our prosperity. There is plenty for everyone, if we just work intelligently and learn to share. God's bounty is unlimited. Truly the supply is endless. We just have to open our hearts and minds to divine wisdom and the ideas and opportunities will freely flow to us. God's love can never run dry.

Jesus says, "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sew nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" Matthew 6: 25-26



SAVE THE DATE OCTOBER 27

There will be a **VERY IMPORTANT** worship service on Sunday, October 27.

The Search Committee has asked the candidate for our next settled pastor to preach, and a congregational meeting will follow. **We need everyone to attend on that day and vote, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend!**

OCTOBER AGAPE TEAM

The Care Team has renamed itself the Agape Team.

Agape (Ancient Greek ἀγάπη, agapē) is a Greco-Christian term referring to love, "the highest form of love, charity" and "the love of God for man and of man for God". ... Within Christianity, agape is considered to be the love originating from God or Christ for humankind.

The Agape Team for October is headed by Jackie Dema (415 446-0125) with Val Sherer, Denise Walker, and Tessa Templeman.



PRAYER PARTNERS

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



Sept. 30 - October 5

Ann Jolly

Oct. 6 - 12

Amy Kaufman, Sean and Allison

Oct. 13 - 19

David Knopf and Cathi Fuller,
Rachael and Rebecca

Oct. 20 - 26

Jill Krippendorf

Oct. 27 - Nov. 2

Charles Little and Lucinda Ray



Come and Worship

w i t h u s !

**October 6 World Communion Sunday
Neighbors in Need Offering
Board of Ministry meets after worship**

October 13

October 20 Board of Mission meets after worship

**October 27 Candidating Sunday
Congregational Meeting after worship**

The candidate for Settled Pastor will preach.
The service will be followed by meeting of the whole congregation, where
we will vote. See also pages 2 and 5 of this issue of the TIE.



EVERY SUNDAY: 10-11:15 AM
Church School and Child Care



BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING OCT. 6

On Sunday, October 6, we will receive your offering for Neighbors in Need. Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering that supports UCC ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Most of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support, through grants, a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

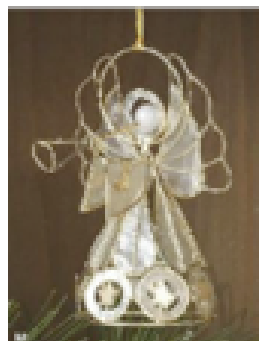
One-third of Neighbors in Need funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry, which represents the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

Our church, FCC San Rafael, has a long tradition of strongly supporting this offering. Please give generously.

SAVE THE DATE **HOLIDAY SHOPPING PARTY** **NOVEMBER 16 AND 17**

The Board of Mission is hosting this holiday event featuring items from SERRV, a nonprofit organization with long-term connections with disadvantaged artisans in 25 countries worldwide. So the gifts you buy will give twice! Once to the artisan who created it, since 90% of the purchase price goes to them. And then again when you give your purchase to a friend or family member.



FROM THE TRUSTEES

Improving the acoustics in the Community Room

The new panels to improve the sound in the Community Room will be installed during the month of October. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this project!



Landscaping Under Way at the Entrance

Please notice and appreciate the new landscaping at the right (train side) of the entrance to our church from San Pedro road. Pilgrim Park has provided this lovely new look. The right side of the entrance will follow later in the fall. We are looking for several people to participate in the planting of new plants. Stay tuned.



The Search Committee has selected a candidate to present to the congregation on Sunday, October 27. Please read the item on page 2 of the TIE. And most important, be sure to attend worship on Sunday, October 27, to hear the candidate preach. Then stay for the congregational meeting following worship. You will also have an opportunity to meet the candidate informally during that weekend.

THE INTERIM PROCESS HERE ARE THE NEXT STEPS

- ☒ We appoint an Interim Search Committee to locate and recommend an interim pastor
- ☒ We hire an Interim Pastor - **Rev. Sally Train began November 8, 2017.**
- ☒ We appoint a Search Committee -
**Megan Fuller, David Knopf, Alana Intrater, Anice Flesh,
Michael Meehan, Helen MacLam, Annie Song-Hill, Oak Dowling**
- ☒ We create our Church Profile, a description of our church to be read by potential pastors
- ☒ The Search Committee will consider all potential candidates
- ☒ The Search Committee will select possible candidates
- ☒ The Search Committee will interview these candidates
- ☒ One candidate will be recommended to the congregation
- ☒ The congregation will have an opportunity to meet the candidate
- ☐ We will vote on the recommended candidate
- ☐ We will join in worship to install our new pastor

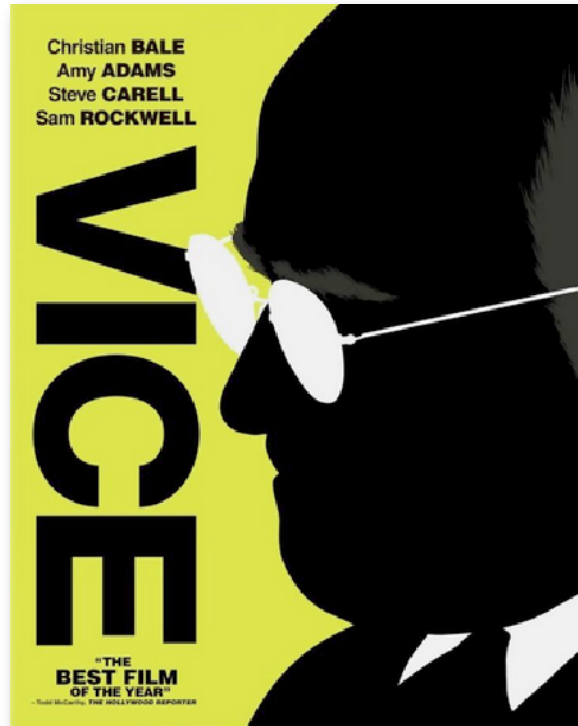
OCTOBER 25 MOVIE NIGHT - VICE

Continuing our year of alternating new flicks and classics, our October movie is the 2018 Oscar-nominated portrait of Dick Cheney, possibly the most divisive character in latter day American politics.

Writer-Director Adam McKay (*The Big Short*) offers something to offend people of every political persuasion. For lefties, he shows us a side of Cheney that is human and, in an odd way, likable. For true believers on the right, he shows a naked cynicism behind Cheney's every move that will be deeply disappointing.

And, the film is full of laugh-out-loud funny moments.

Vice stars Christian Bale as Dick Cheney, Amy Adams as his wife Lynne, Steve Carell as Donald Rumsfeld and Sam Rockwell as George W. Bush. It was nominated for eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture.



"*Vice* is more ambitious political satire...Because it's about real people, real politicians and real deranged ambitions, and it places much of the blame for today's geopolitical ills...directly at their door. Oh, and it's also very funny."

Kevin Maher, *The Times* (London)

7 PM Friday October 2 in the De Haan Center at Pilgrim Park

Trailers and links to reviews of *Vice* are on the FCCSR website.

MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS

OCTOBER 6: The Board of Ministry meeting will be on Sunday, October 6 after worship.

OCTOBER 15: The Board of Trustees meeting will be on Tuesday, October 15 at 7 PM in the Plum Room.

OCTOBER 20: The Board of Mission meeting will be on Sunday, September 8, in the Oak Room.

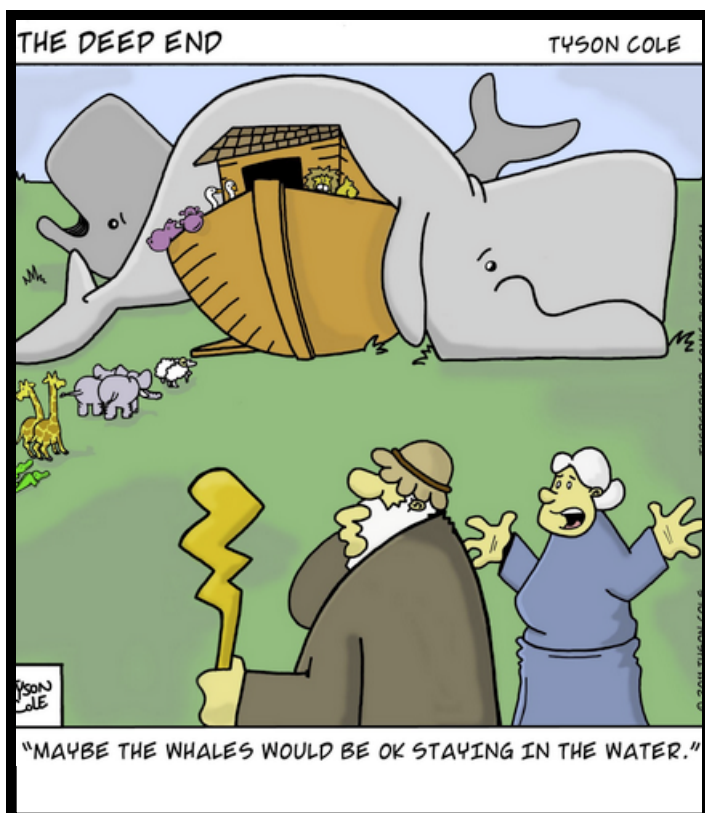
OCTOBER 23: The Church Council meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23, at 7 PM in the Plum Room.



22 UCC CONFERENCE MINISTERS CONVERGED IN WASHINGTON DC TO DEMAND HUMANE US IMMIGRATION POLICIES

Our UCC Conference Minister, Diane Weible, was one of those who attended. The group of 22, which came together quickly this summer, planned to ask Congress to stop funding policies that separate families. Dividing up to visit senators and representatives from the states they serve, UCC leaders instead encouraged law makers to adopt policies to welcome immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees and to invest in community-based alternatives to detention at the hands of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection. They also hand delivered letters from local constituents.

To make their point publicly, the UCC leaders reached out to immigrant brothers and sisters and ceremonially washed the feet of a few migrant leaders outside of the Capitol on Wednesday, Sept. 25. The foot washing, as practiced by Jesus in the Gospel of John, symbolizes the need for Congress to pass policies that serve, protect and welcome vulnerable communities. Immigrants who took part in the ceremony are people affected by the administrations inhumane policies.



WANTED: WELCOME BAG WIZARD



Pastor Sally has been creating and maintaining the Welcome Bags we give to first time visitors. This is a joyful way of making sure they leave with information about the church and a gift to remember us by. Would someone be willing to take over this simple but important ministry? Please see Pastor Sally.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

6 — Alan Miller
13 — Benjamin Dempsey
17 — Ann Dannecker
19 — Jean O'Leary
23 — Sher Ripley
25 — Tessa Templeman
25 — Deb Smith
31 — Bruce Weir



GOLDEN GALS — Tuesday, OCTOBER 8

The Golden Gals will meet on Tuesday, October 8, at 10 AM, at the home of Jean Nadell. Bring a bag lunch.



TIE DEADLINE for the November Issue - Mon., OCT. 27

The deadline for articles and news for the November 2019 issue of The TIE is Monday, October 28. Please have all articles for the July-August issue at the church office by Sunday, October 27. Or, email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Sally Train – *Interim Pastor*

Hours vary - Call for appointment

Phone (925) 216-9706

sallytrain@comcast.net

Amy Powers – *Office Manager*

Tuesday 11 AM- 2 PM

















Wednesday 9:30 AM - 2 PM

Thursday 9:30 AM - 2 PM

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

office@fccsanrafael.org

FCC Calendar October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care	30	October 1	2	3 7:40 pm  Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING 11:30 am Board of Ministry Meeting	7	8 10 am  Golden Girls monthly meeting	9	10 7:40 pm  Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care	14  Columbus Day	15 7 pm  Trustees Meeting 7 PM	16	17 7:40 pm  Choir Rehearsal	18	19 Sweetest Day
20 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 11:30 am Mission Board Meeting	21	22	23 7 pm  Church Council Meeting 7 PM	24 7:40 pm  Choir Rehearsal	25 7 pm  Movie Night: Vice De Haan Center Riform 8 pm	26
27 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 11 am Congregational Meeting - PLEASE ATTEND	28 5 pm  TIE Deadline for November 2019 issue	29	30	31 Halloween 7:40 pm  Choir Rehearsal	1	2

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.