

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS REV. JEFFREY COCHRAN-CARNEY



Father's Day Reflections

Father's Day is coming soon, and I have found myself being extra nostalgic lately. Like Mother's Day, Father's Day will be different this year. No worship service to attend and seeing my son sitting in the third row with a smile for everyone he meets. No Sunday brunch. No gathering with friends. This is also the first Father's Day I'll be spending without at least one boy present. Due to safety concerns about flying, they are staying put.

I was scrolling through Facebook late one night and the usual parade of memories popped up – Jackson's graduation; Josh's choir performance at Princeton University; and pictures of when we were all gathered for Father's Day a few years ago.

Then, in a serendipitous manner, the next

Facebook link featured James Taylor and his son Ben playing the guitar together and singing "Moon River." At that moment, all of my Father's Day memories came together.

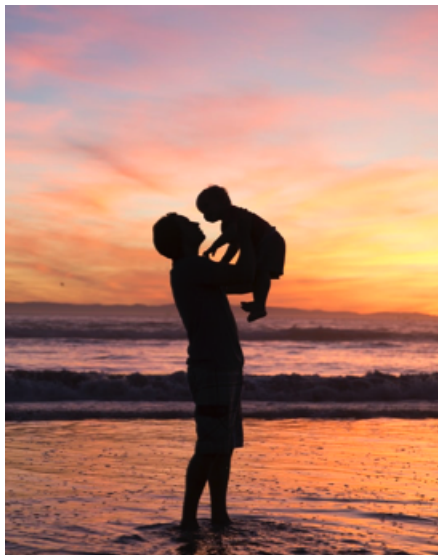
I remember singing that song to my sons and trying to get them to go back to sleep at 2 AM. The words always stuck with me:

Two drifters, off to see the world,

There's such a lot of world to see . . .

We're after the same rainbow's end,
waitin' 'round the bend.

My huckleberry friend, moon river,
and me.



At the time, the song made we dream about their future and what it might hold. I dreamed of where they would go and what they would see. I cherished the anticipation of sharing some of those things together. Now twenty-five years later, I look back with tremendous pride and gratitude for the fine young men they have become, and I hope the world still holds a few more things waitin' 'round the bend that we can experience together.

There was something about James and his son playing together that captured so many memories I have had with our boys

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over the years. It was the perfect metaphor. It was poignant, bittersweet, yet hopeful.

There is pride in every father's eye when he makes music with a son or daughter. So for my boys and all the memories we have made over the years, this song's for you. Let's hope there will be a few more, and next year, let's make a date to be together for Father's Day. Maybe I'll even get out my guitar and we'll sing a few. Love from your dad.

Blessings,
Pastor Jeffrey

MOON RIVER as performed by James and Ben Taylor
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FDG1lbdz6-M>



zoom



ZOOM MEETINGS LET US GATHER TOGETHER SAFELY on Sundays at 10 AM

We have moved our weekly Zoom meeting to Sunday mornings, so members of the congregation can gather together for "Coffee Hour" via a video meeting tool called Zoom. We can see one another, talk to each other, and share our experiences of the past several weeks. It is like being in a room together, but safely. Most people find it easy to do. Give it a try! Pastor Jeffrey sends out instructions about how to join beforehand. You can use either your computer, your cell phone, your tablet, or even just call in from your land line.

JUNE EXPANDED AGAPE TEAM

Agape - Providing compassionate connection to our church community through words of encouragement, cards, calls, and visits.

Our Agape leader for June is Charles Little (415-342-2720) with **all** the Agape team members participating: Cathi Fuller, Annie Song-Hill, Jim Turner, Amy Kaufman, Jackie Dema, Denise Walker, Tessa Templeman, Anice Flesh, Caran Cuneo, and David Knopf.



PRAYER PARTNERS

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



May 31 - June 6

Michael Chan

June 7 - 13

Jaime Cline and Michael Meehan, Taylor, Jacob, Michael, and Tristan

June 14 - 20

Caran Cuneo

June 21 - 27

Anne Dannecker

June 28 - July 4

Bob De Haan and Nancy Sangster De Haan



Come and **Worship**



with us!
virtually, that is

Pastor Jeffrey is providing a complete worship service via email every Sunday, including music, prayers, and a video of the scripture and sermon. Check your email on Sunday morn-

June 7 The Importance of Liminality

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Sirach 24:1-9 (Apocrypha)

According to Richard Rohr, “Liminal space is where we are betwixt and between, having left one room or stage of life but not yet entered the next.” The ability to embrace the unknown and face an uncertain future may be an important part of spiritual growth. The ancients thought wisdom and enlightenment was often born in liminal spaces or thresholds. From sources as varied as the Bible, St. Brigid, and Richard Rohr, discover the importance of liminality and how it can address the current times in which we live.

June 14 Virtual Pulpit Exchange (Rev. Cochran-Carney)

A Time of Disorientation – Lessons from the Psalms: 1, 88, and 30

How would you describe this season of the global pandemic and weeks of staying at home to help flatten the curve? One way to see this season is through the Psalms. Cynthia Cochran-Carney will explore Psalms of disorientation and how these ancient poems offer spiritual guidance for the living of these days.

June 21 Abraham and Sarah Laughed:

Reflections on Being a Father Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Pastor Jeffrey shares personal reflections on fatherhood and explores lessons from Abraham and Sarah as they become parents in their old age.

June 28 You Are Welcome

Deuteronomy 10:19-22; Hebrews 13:1-2; Matthew 10:40-42

Two of the most ancient and essential biblical mandates are to welcome the stranger and show hospitality to others. From churches to society at large, we are called to welcome others. As Hebrews reminds, “In welcoming the stranger, you may be entertaining angels without knowing it.”

CELEBRATE OUR GRADUATES!

May 20, 2020, Will Godbey graduated from Cal State Long Beach with a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing.

May 25, 2019, Blair Ripley graduated from The University of San Diego with a Bachelor of Arts Business degree in Finance.



In June, our Terra Linda High School seniors will be graduating. Congratulations to **Josie Hill** and to **Jacob, Michael, Taylor and Tristan Cline-Meehan!**

Congratulations to each of you in this celebration of years of study, knowing that you have had a very different last few months than classes before you, and your graduation ceremonies have been devoid of “Pomp and Circumstance.” Our prayers and loving wishes abound for wonderful adventures and fulfillment in your next steps into the future.



PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF OUR CHURCH THROUGH YOUR PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS

Thanks to all our members and friends who have continued to keep up with their pledges. We especially want to thank the members who have sent their complete 2020 pledge. Our expenses do continue so this helps us keep on track.

You have 2 options:

Option 1

Use PayPal. Go to fccsanrafael.org. On the home page, you will see the words GIVING ONLINE. Click on this and you will end up on a screen with a PayPal logo. Click on it and you'll see a place to enter your pledge or offering amount. You can use a credit card or your PayPal account. You have the option to do a monthly donation this way as well. For your first time donating this way, Val Sherer will be happy to email you confirmation that she received your donation.



Option 2

You can mail a check to the church. Deposits will be made less frequently until we resume Sunday services, so don't panic if your check is not cashed as quickly as usual.



Feel free to email Val with any questions.

Val Sherer, Financial Secretary

valpub@yahoo.com

MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS -- VIA ZOOM



JUNE 9: The Board of Ministry meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9, at 11 AM.

JUNE 16: The Board of Trustees meeting will be on Tuesday, June 16, at 7 PM.

JUNE 24: The Church Council meeting will be on Wednesday, June 24, at 5 PM.



BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS

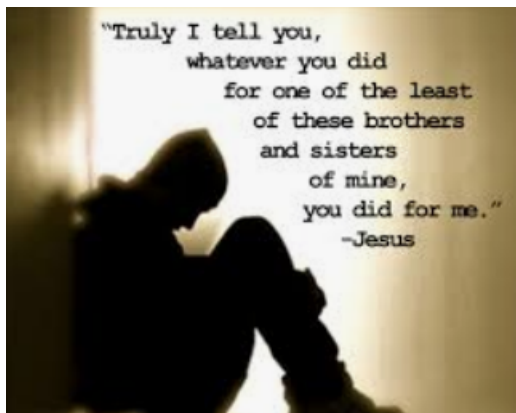


MISSION BOARD URGENT NEED - CAN YOU HELP?

"...the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you ...a stranger and welcome you, or ...sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' Matthew 25:37-40 (ESV)

As you know, the One Great Hour of Sharing offering was put on hold this past March because of the Shelter in Place orders. Last year, our congregation generously supported the OGHS international effort. This year, the Immigrant Support work in our local community continues—now more important than ever—because we know the financial impact of the coronavirus on our immigrant neighbors has been devastating.

Annie Song-Hill is active as our representative to the Marin Interfaith Council and the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity and has provided information about this need.



And now, the Mission Board needs your help. A special interfaith request has been made for financial support to provide temporary housing assistance for immigrant detainees. These individuals are eligible for release from confinement in an effort to reduce the detainee population and the spread of the coronavirus. We have also been asked to support the Canal Alliance client support fund (which allows needy families impacted by COVID19 to apply for financial support for food, rent, and other needs).

We are hoping the congregation of FCC San Rafael can raise money for these two projects. As you may remember, support for our immigrant neighbors was one of the top areas of focus for our church in our Strategic Plan. The cost to host a temporarily released ICE detainee for two weeks is approximately \$1,300. If you received a stimulus check from the federal government from the paycheck protection act and feel you could share a portion of that check, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please give generously as the need is urgent and local. **You can make your checks to FCC of San Rafael and indicate Immigrant Support in the memo field.** You can mail the check with your June pledge.

Thank you for your generous donation. God bless you and yours. Stay safe and be well.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL from our Moderator

Our Church Council met last week on Zoom. I want to let you know about some of the discussions we had.

We, of course, are very concerned about when the church may reopen. We feel that reopening will continue to be in the future, perhaps mid summer. This is based on the information from our state and county officials, as well as from good common sense. The virus is still alive and continuing to infect people. Pastor Jeffrey will continue to do an excellent job of providing the worship service every Sunday.



On that note some of our experts in technology will be planning to make it possible to have recorded services, as well as live-streaming service in real time, when we are back in our sanctuary. That will be available to all who can connect via the Internet. So if you feel unwell, or just plain out of strength and sorts, you will be able to worship at home.

We are sadly aware that our choir will not be singing together for many months. The choir members and Jeff will work on plans for music for our "Back in church" services. They are also exploring ways to sing "together" via merging individual recordings.

Our financial picture is not great. This is due primarily to lack of rental income. However our members are doing a great job of keeping up with pledging. Thank every one of you!

Here are several websites chosen from many we have been reading. The first one, from the Wisconsin Council of Churches, is one Pastor Jeffrey feels is very thorough.

<https://www.wichurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>

The next two are for articles about singing, an activity that presents significant problems in church.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/05/07/church-reopen-sing-masks-service/>

<https://www.pressherald.com/2020/05/09/choirs-may-have-to-remain-silent-long-after-society-reopens/?fbclid=IwAR3ycu5iI8sZNocLDnpLDywyJNtfgnXkAu4ZVePCkZmx2b06noVXbcSQQAo#>

The question of reopening is a topic of much discussion throughout the worship world.

Lynn Grant, Moderator

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

What are some new ways of thinking about God?

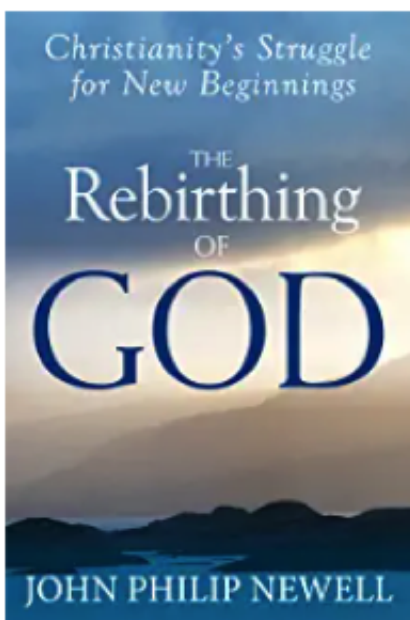
What are the ways we can reinvent ourselves as a church to reach others, especially in an age of Pandemic?

Join us on Thursdays from 1–2 PM starting June 4 for a lively discussion of *The Rebirthing of God* by John Philip Newell. .

For questions or more information contact Pastor Jeffrey.

To purchase a copy of the book, you might consider supporting a local bookstore. You can order the book from Copperfields (415) 524-2800, and they offer curbside pickup. 850 4th St, San Rafael, CA 9490. Copperfield's also has bookstores in Novato and Petaluma.

It is also available online.





UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Memorial Day weekend the State of California and the CDC both released guidelines for reopening churches. The Trustees are working on finding ways to implement these for our congregation and our renters.

The guidelines emphasize increased disinfectant cleaning, structuring social distance of 6 feet, masks, and handwashing. Certain church activities such as singing, responsive readings, communion, and passing the peace all need to be re-thought to reduce risk. Meeting outside while the weather is nice will help reduce risk over inside gatherings. Also, congregations such as ours with mostly over 60 year-olds will need to be particularly cautious.

It should be noted that several congregations meeting during this outbreak have been "hotspots" for spreading the virus.

We expect our renting churches, being younger, will be able to start before we are able to..

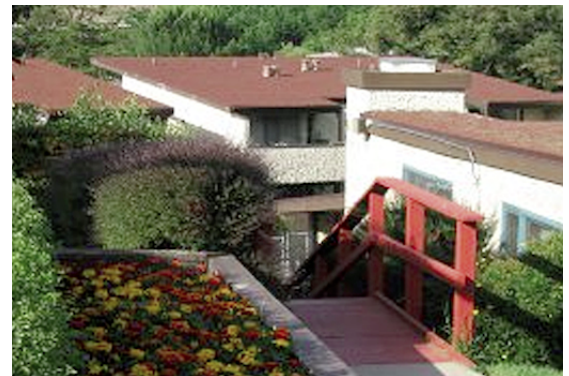
Whenever we re-start, we will continue making available key elements of the service on-line for those unable, or not yet ready, to attend.

PILGRIM PARK NEWS

Pilgrim Park continues to do well.

The staff have adopted strict procedures to keep everyone safe. Food Bank food and Extra Food deliveries continue with social distancing procedures strictly followed. Several residents have lost their jobs. Fortunately, they are in Section 8 units, so the staff recertifies their income at the new level. Therefore, Pilgrim Park has not lost any rent. Pilgrim Park remains fully rented with a strong financial position.

Bob De Haan



CHURCH COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING JUNE 24

The Church Council will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, June 24, at 5 PM. Log in details will be sent closer to the meeting date.

MOVIE NIGHT - JUNE

Two More Binge-worthy TV Candidates

Someday soon our FCCSR Movie Night will return (even if we have to space the chairs six feet apart) but meanwhile, here are two more high-quality streaming series for your consideration:



Last Tango in Halifax (streaming on Netflix)

Halifax in this case is the original one – a small city in West Yorkshire – where, in the 1950s, two teenagers, Allen Buttershaw and Celia Dawson, were attracted to each other, but never managed to connect. Today, both widowed, they re-discover each other on Facebook, and marriage quickly ensues. It's all very sweet. Less sweet are the grown daughters that come attached to each. They are complex, fully-formed characters that we really want to like, but their talent for making spectacularly bad choices keeps getting in the way. "Last Tango" has won a slew of awards and kept British audiences enthralled for five seasons.

Upload (Streaming on Amazon)

This is a new comedy series from the team that created "The Office" and "Parks & Recreation." In the near future, computer science has created an alternative to death: when your body is about to give out, you can have your mind and memories digitally uploaded to the cloud and live out eternity in a virtual afterlife. These heavens are commercial products that vary widely in luxury and cost. The series isn't really science fiction. It's more about the crazy implications of this idea . . . like being able to participate in your own funeral via Zoom. . . Or, what happens if your wealthy girlfriend pays for your upload to a luxury resort, planning to join you there, but then falls out of love with you? Critics loved it, and Amazon has ordered a second season.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



4 — Nancy Sangster De Haan
7 — Sean Kaufman
27 — Amy Hodges Kaufman
28 — Randall MacKenzie
30 — Bob De Haan
30 — Christine Bandettini

GOLDEN GALS — Meeting postponed

The Golden Gals will not be meeting this month due to the Shelter in Place order but hope to do so some time in the future.



TIE DEADLINE for JULY 2020 Issue - Friday, June 26

The deadline for articles and news for the July 2020 issue of The TIE is Friday, June 26th. Please email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com by Friday, the 26th.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Both Amy and Jeffrey are working from home.

You can contact them via email

NOTE: Pastor Jeffrey's new email: fccsrpastor@gmail.com

Rev. Jeffrey Cochran-Carney – Pastor

Mondays and Thursdays 8 AM - 4 PM

Please call first for an appointment

Phone (908) 487-8855

fccsrpastor@gmail.com

Amy Powers – Office Manager

Tuesday 11 AM - 2 PM

Wednesday 10 AM - 2 PM

Thursday 10 AM - 2 PM

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

office@fccsanrafael.org

FCC Calendar JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 10 am - 11 am ZOOM Meeting: Virtual coffee hour! 10 am  Virtual Worship, Church School & Child Care	June 1	2	3	4 1 pm - 2 pm  Book Discussion on ZOOM: The Rebirthing of God	5	6 7 pm  Movie Night at home. See suggestions on page 8
7 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am ZOOM Meeting: Virtual coffee hour!	8	9 11 am - 12 pm  Board of Ministry Meeting 11AM via ZOOM	10	11 1 pm - 2 pm  Book Discussion on ZOOM: The Rebirthing of God	12	13 7 pm  Movie Night at home. See suggestions on page 8
14 Flag Day 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am ZOOM Meeting: Virtual coffee hour!	15	16 7 pm - 8 pm  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	17	18 1 pm - 2 pm  Book Discussion on ZOOM: The Rebirthing of God	19	20 7 pm  Movie Night at home. See suggestions on page 8
21 Father's Day 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am ZOOM Meeting: Virtual coffee hour!	22	23	24 5 pm - 6 pm  Church Council Meeting via ZOOM	25 1 pm - 2 pm  Book Discussion on ZOOM: The Rebirthing of God	26 5 pm  T.E. Deadline for July 2020. Issue	27 7 pm  Movie Night at home. See suggestions on page 8
28 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am ZOOM Meeting: Virtual coffee hour!	29	30	1	2 1 pm - 2 pm  Book Discussion on ZOOM: The Rebirthing of God	3	4  Independence Day 7 pm  Movie Night at home. See suggestions on page 8

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.