

## GUEST PREACHERS DURING APRIL

### APRIL 3 - Rev. Brian Adkins

Rev. Brian Adkins is an elder in the United Methodist Church. He has worked for many years for the full-inclusion of LGBTQ folks in the life of the church. For the past decade he has served congregations in the East Bay.

He is currently in between appointments in parish ministry and is working as a program coordinator at the Spahr Center, Marin County's LGBTQ Center.



### APRIL 10 and APRIL 17 - Rev. Julianne Stokstad

For Easter week services, we welcome back Rev. Julianne Stokstad, who was our pastor from 2004 through 2008.

Among the careers she has had before and since serving as our pastor, she was a biology teacher, she served in prison ministries, and served as a spiritual counselor and retreat leader. She has travelled extensively and, with her husband, Bob, is currently a devoted grandparent.



### APRIL 24 - Rev. Kristi Denham

Rev. Kristi Denham did her ministry internship with First Congregational Church of San Rafael, where she helped establish the Marin Interfaith Youth Outreach Center. She served as Associate Pastor in Atlanta, Georgia, and moved from Atlanta back to California in 1999 to serve as Pastor of the Congregational Church of Belmont until her retirement in 2019. She is a trained liturgical dancer, has a passion for working with children and youth and a lifetime of commitment to social justice, especially racial and economic justice.



## WORSHIPPING SAFELY DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL

Worship will be at 10 AM, inside the sanctuary, during the month of April. In case there are any changes, please check your email, as we will be following the county's guidance. Here are the safety protocols will be following until further notice:

- All will be required to wear masks with the exception of the minister and the liturgist when they are speaking.
- Full vaccination will be required including booster shot.
- The first two rows of pews will not be occupied.

The service will also be live on Zoom.



### REPORT FROM THE INTERIM SEARCH COMMITTEE

There is a small, but active committee working on finding an intentional interim pastor.

Committee members are Cathi Fuller, Jackie Dema, and Lynn Grant. So far we have contacted NCNC Conference Associate Pastor Davena Jones for her help. There is a Job Opportunity site that might

be the place for us. In the meantime, we are contacting our connections at other UCC churches. You never know who might know a pastor that is available. Keep us and our work in your prayers, please.

Lynn Grant

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE MINISTER

We are grateful that Rev. Kristi Denham has agreed to serve as our Emergency Response Minister during the next few months as we wait for our interim pastor. You can contact her for pastoral needs either by phone (650-218-3126) or by email: [revkristi@aol.com](mailto:revkristi@aol.com)



### PRAYER PARTNERS

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



**March 27 - April 2**

Cecil Sherrod

**April 3 - 9**

Cyndi Siroky

**April 10 - 16**

Debra Smith

**April 17 - 23**

Annie Song-Hill

**April 24 - 30**

Hilary Spaulding

# *Come and* **Worship** with us!



***We will be worshipping at 10 AM inside the sanctuary and for as long as it is safe to do so.***

***Check your email on Saturday and Sunday mornings.  
The service will also be available simultaneously at 10 AM on Zoom.***

**April 3      5th Sunday in Lent - The Resurrection of Lazarus**  
**Guest preacher: Rev. Brian Adkins**

**April 10    Palm Sunday**  
**Guest preacher: Rev. Julianne Stokstad**



**April 15    Good Friday**  
**12 noon to 3 PM**  
Scripture and recorded music  
Meditation Walk in the Courtyard



**April 17    Easter Sunday**  
**Guest preacher: Rev. Julianne Stokstad**



**April 24    Celebration of Earth Day**  
**Guest preacher: Rev. Kristi Denham**  
An Earth Day celebration will be held in the courtyard  
followed by some planting of trees.



## ZOOM MEETINGS LET US GATHER TOGETHER SAFELY

We are also providing our Sunday worship service simultaneously at 10 a.m. on Zoom You can use either your computer, your cell phone, your tablet, or even just call in from your land line.

### Link to join all church Zoom meetings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2011092691?pwd=c2V0RXEvWXF4STNNSTlxbWFFTENuZz09>

Meeting ID: ID: 201 109 2691

Password: FCCSR!

Call in number 1-669-900-6833



## MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS -- VIA ZOOM

**APRIL 6:** The Board of Ministry will meet on **Wednesday**, April 6, at noon. Please note the change of day.

**APRIL 19:** The Board of Trustees meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19, at 7 PM.

**APRIL 27:** The Church Council meeting will be on Wednesday, April 27,



## MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR EASTER



If you wish to purchase flowers to beautify the sanctuary on Easter, please fill out the cards in the Sunday bulletin or leave a message for the church office. You can purchase an Easter lily or a spring bulb—in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one—for gracing our church sanctuary on Easter.

Lilies: \$10. Bulbs: \$5.

## SPIFF UP THE CHURCH DAY SATURDAY, APRIL 9 9AM TO NOON



Let's get the church sparkling for Easter! Come join the fun on Saturday, April 9th, 9-12 A.M.

We will wash windows, swipe sills, polish pews, smite smudges, waste away weeds, guss up the garden, and generally freshen up our fabulous facility. We will be joined by a hard-working team from the Real Life Church, our most frequent renter. Don't miss it!





## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



### FCC RECEIVES THANKS FOR OUR SUPPORT

#### From Marin Interfaith Council

Thank you for your generous donation of \$200 on behalf of the First Congregational Church of San Rafael. We are very grateful for your donation. Because of your partnership, we are able to continue our work to promote interfaith collaboration and build a vibrant community founded on the principle that our differences makes us stronger. Thank you for believing in us and the work we do.

For more information about Marin Interfaith Council and our upcoming programs, visit [www.marinifc.org](http://www.marinifc.org).

### The United Church of Christ responds to Russian invasion



The Board of Mission has designated Palm Sunday, April 10, for our congregation's special relief appeal. Please bring your donation/check made payable to "FCC San Rafael," with **Ukraine relief fund** in the memo line.

The United Church of Christ is appealing for support for refugees who have fled Ukraine to neighboring countries and for elderly and other vulnerable people who

are displaced within Ukraine and unable to leave. As a member of the ACT Alliance, UCC support is being targeted to people most in need through humanitarian relief partners with a history of working in the region.

For example, Hungarian Interchurch Aid has been working along the Hungary-Ukraine border for years. It is focusing its war relief in Ukraine to two border cities. In a 10-day span early in the conflict, it trucked 278 metric tons of food and non-food items into Ukraine for relief efforts there.

"We have 24-hour-a-day help on the Ukrainian side for people waiting to cross," reported HIA communicators Daniel Fekete and Kristof Gancs. "The queue of cars waiting to cross into Hungary has at times reached 5-6 kilometers long. Some 200,000 refugees already have crossed into Hungary, and many more are expected.

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## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



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Gifts made to UCC Ukraine Relief Fund will provide shelter, food, and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people. It also will help refugees and asylum seekers from African, Middle Eastern and other countries who had sought refuge in Ukraine and now are twice displaced, as well as citizens of more than 125 other countries living in Ukraine.



Uniting in prayer, action, and giving, we stand as a people of faith in love and compassion with the people of Ukraine and all who are affected, and with our global partners who are welcoming those driven from their homes.

Please bring your donations on Palm Sunday, April 10.

### DON'T FORGET THE FOOD BANK



As we return to in-person worship services, remember to bring food items with you and deposit them in our Food Bank barrel.



In addition, please contribute here:

**<https://donate.sfmfoodbank.org/page/5009/donate/2>**

Or, send a check to:

SF-Marin Food Bank  
2550 Kerner Boulevard  
San Rafael, CA 94901

## PRAYER BREAKFAST MAY 11



You are invited to the 23rd Annual  
***Marin Interfaith Council Prayer  
Breakfast*** on May 11th, 2022 at  
8am at Congregation Kol Shofar

Prayer Breakfast speakers will be:

1. Rev. Bethany Nelson, Westminster Presbyterian Church Tiburon
2. Sidharth Kaw, Northbay Hindu Center
3. Rabbi Susan Leider, Congregation Kol Shofar

We will be carpooling from the church so if you are interested, see Caran Cuneo or Annie Song-Hill



## TRUSTEE'S REPORT

### **Spiff-Up-the-Church Day: Saturday, April 9**

Let's get the church sparkling for Easter! Come join the fun on Saturday, April 9th, 9-12 A.M..

We will wash windows, swipe sills, polish pews, smite smudges, waste away weeds, guss up the garden, and generally freshen up our fabulous facility. We will be joined by a hard-working team

from the Real Life Church, our most frequent renter.

### **AARP sponsors tax assistance at FCCSR**

Again this year the AARP helps people prepare and file their taxes at church on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10-2 in the Courtyard and Community Room. Trained volunteers guide people through the forms and are able to electronically file taxes on site. The church is offering use of the space and the service is free.

### **Join the Annual Gathering of our regional UCC Conference**

Consider attending the Annual Gathering of the Northern California and Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ. This will be a time to gather ideas and connect with other UCC churches. Although each church has a designated number of voting delegates, any interested member may register and attend the events. The conference will be held at Sonoma State University beginning on Friday, June 17, and continuing to Sunday, June 19. Interested? Contact moderator Louis Frost.

## BOARD OF MINISTRY REPORT

**In March**, we enjoyed reunion with Rev. Kristi Denham, who started her formal ministry as an Intern here at FCC. She has accepted the role of “Chaplain” until we call our Interim Pastor. Her contact information is on page 2 of this issue of the TIE.

We also had the joy of experiencing worship under the leadership of our Guest Pastors, Elisabeth Middelberg, Kim Williams, and Garrett House.



**Worship leadership in April** will be lead by guest pastors:

April 3rd Communion Sunday, Resurrection of Lazarus: Rev. Brian Adkins

April 10th Palm Sunday: Rev. Julianne Stokstad

April 17th Easter: Rev. Julianne Stokstad

April 24th Celebration of Earth Day: Rev. Kristi Denham

An Earth Day celebration will be held in the courtyard followed by some planting of trees.

See page one of this issue of the TIE for more about our Guest Pastors

### Lenten Activities

#### **“Lent and the Poetry of Emily Dickinson (from Salt Project)”**

“...All you’ll need is your favorite Bible and a collection of Dickinson’s poems...”

Reflections and discussion group continues for the final Wednesday (April 6) on Zoom at 7PM. Any and all are welcome to attend the meeting as the discussion does not depend on prior sessions or even reading ahead. If you want materials, contact David for email copies or pickup hard copy from the church office.

**Lent “ Floriography” activities** (adapted from a Salt Project resource) will be delivered to families with youth for Easter week by Sunday School teachers.

### Easter Week

**Palm Sunday** at 10 AM: Worship with palm waving and inspiring music.

**Good Friday** from 12 noon to 3 PM:

Scripture and recorded music Meditation Walk in the Courtyard.

**Easter Sunday** at 10 AM Music and sermon celebrating the Resurrection.

Sunday, April 24th Worship:

#### **Flowers, flowers and more flowers!**

On Easter Sunday morning, we will be filling the cross with flowers at 9 AM, so please bring flowers from your garden early. Please, let Cathi know if you would like to come early to help fill the cross.

#### **Memorial flowers:**

Fill out the cards in the Sunday bulletin or leave a message for the church office if you wish to purchase an Easter lily or a spring bulb—in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one—for gracing our church sanctuary on Easter. Lilies \$10. Bulbs \$5.

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### **Nurture and outreach**

After Church April 3th: ALL are welcome to join others for lunch and an informal fellowship time on the patio of La Hacienda Restaurant.



**April 10th: Agape: Brief meeting to follow worship.** All are welcome. What has the “Agape” Team been doing? "Providing compassionate connection to our church community through words of encouragement, cards, phone calls, home visits and other support as needed."

agape,” agapē (from Greek), used in the New Testament, ... as the reciprocal love between God and humans made manifest in one's unselfish love of others. The Agape Team decided that word “Agape” sums up the motivation, ministry, and mission of our modern day discipleship. We also felt it implies the reciprocal gift we receive as a result of the interactions that occur through these visits with our wonderful members.

### **Prayer joys and concerns**

You can share your joys and concerns by filling out the prayer cards for prayer during Sunday worship. The cards are in the narthex.

During the week, you can email your prayer request to Annie Song-Hill, and she will include them on the Prayer Chain. If you have need of a visit or would like communion in your home, you may connect with Rev. Kristi Denham. (See page 2 for her contact information.)

**Next Board of Ministry Team Meeting** Wednesday, April 6th at Noon (Note day change) on the church Zoom site. You do not need to be a Ministry Team member to attend. If you have ideas to share that will enhance our worship or you want to see what we do, please join us on the church Zoom link.

### **For Reflection**

“It is the wind and the rain, O God, the cold and the storm that make this earth of Thine to blossom and bear its fruit. So in our lives it is storm and stress and hurt and suffering that make real men and women bring the world’s work to its highest perfection. Let us learn then in these growing years to respect the harder sterner aspects of life together with its joy and laughter, and to weave them all into the great web which hangs holy to the Lord.”

- W.E.B. Du Bois





## APRIL BIRTHDAYS



2 — Barbara Miller  
3 — Bob Spofford  
4 — Colleen Beery  
9 — Bob Bandettini  
10 — Scott Faraci  
11 — Jill Krippendorf  
14 — Hilary Spaulding  
24 — Lucinda Ray  
26 — Michael Meehan

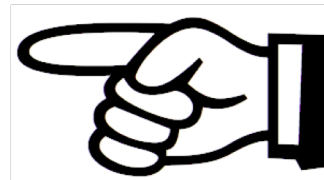
## GOLDEN GALS — Meeting postponed

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 MAY 2022 Issue - Mon., April 25

The deadline for articles and news for the May 2022 issue of The TIE is Monday, April 25th. Please email your articles to [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com) by Monday, the 25th.



## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Amy is working from home.**  
**You can contact her via email**

### **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](mailto:office@fccsanrafael.org)

### **Rev. Kristi Denham**

*Emergency Response Minister*

650-218-3126  
[revkristi@aol.com](mailto:revkristi@aol.com)

# FCC Calendar APRIL 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>27</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>April 1</b> April Fool's Day	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  12 noon Board of Ministry Meeting 12 noon via ZOOM	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9 am - 12 noon  SPIEE UP THE CHURCH
<b>10</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM 11 am AGAPE TEAM MEETING after worship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 12 noon - 3 pm  GOOD FRIDAY Meditation and Music	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Easter  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7 pm - 8 pm  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Earth Day	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	<b>25</b> 5 pm  THE Deadline for MAY 2022 Issue	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5 pm - 6 pm  Church Council Meeting via ZOOM	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</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).