

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS REV. BARBARA PERONTEAU



The Microscope and the Telescope

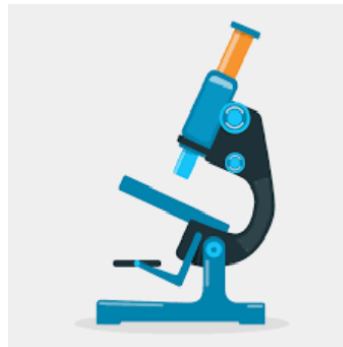
In case you haven't been by the Pastor's office lately, I rearranged the furniture and did some decorating to make the space more inviting. Please come by sometime. My door is always open. While moving things around we found new items and things that were long lost and forgotten. Oh! There it is! We've been looking for that! Or what is that and why do we still have that? There's a story behind every piece of paper and every item large and small.

Two items that remain in the office are a microscope and a telescope. Other than my high school science class I've never seen a microscope and a telescope in the same room, let alone a pastor's office. A thought crossed my mind in silence. David Knopf verbalized the thought. "A microscope and a telescope. That about sums up what the pastor does."

Indeed! My Call Agreement describes my call as a Designated-Term Pastor for "the purpose of transitional leadership during a season of change." This "season of change" reminds me of young crocuses poking their heads out from the life-giving Spring snow. (Pardon me for the eastern reference.)

First Congregational Church, along with all the other churches, synagogues, mosques, and other faith groups are just coming out of our Covid pandemic lockdown. We're all poking our heads out into a new season of change.

As we move into a new season, where Jesus makes all things new, this pastor will look closely with her new microscope at every jot and tittle, and standing on the balcony with my new telescope, take the long view, while I watch the dance.



NOTES FROM YOUR MODERATOR



Welcome to Rev. Barbara Peronteau

On May 15, Rev. Barbara Peronteau, the candidate selected by the Interim Search Committee as our next minister, was the guest preacher. Following worship, there was a congregational meeting, and Rev. Peronteau was presented to the congregation as a proposed 'Designated Term' pastor. After a series of questions, initially asked of Rev. Peronteau, and a follow-up group of questions and comments from the congregation, Rev. Peronteau was selected unanimously by the congregation to serve as our pastor for an 18-month time period.

A Designated Term Pastor is someone that is selected for a determined length of time, during which the church has a chance to examine itself and reflect on who we are and what we need going forward. Barbara Peronteau has had extensive experience in working with churches during transition periods. At the end of the 18 months, the term can be extended, the contract can be ended, or the designated term can be shifted into a settled pastor.

We look forward to this time with Pastor Barbara!

I'd like to give a special thanks to the search committee comprised of Lynn Grant, Cathy Fuller, and Jackie Dema for their diligent work in searching and finding an outstanding choice for our church.

Thanks to Rev. Kristi Denham

I would also like to take this time to thank Rev. Kristi Denham for acting as our emergency response minister during this time of search. We are very fortunate to have Rev. Kristi and thank her for her service.



Services During the Summer

We are looking at having some more outdoor services, including providing a removable overhead cover to protect us from the heat of the summer. The Board of Ministry and the Board of Trustees will keep you informed.

Louis Frost, Moderator

PRAYER PARTNERS

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



May 29 - June 4

Colleen Trudeau

June 5 - 11

James "Trip" True

June 12 - 18

Denise Walker

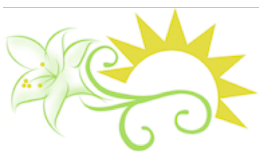
June 19 - 24

Bruce Weir

June 25 - July 2

Lise Adams

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.

The service will also be available simultaneously at 10 AM on Zoom.

Rev. Peronteau's Notes on the Scripture Selections

All scripture suggestions are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). Beginning with the Second Sunday after Pentecost (June 19) the RCL gives us the option of two scripture lessons and a Psalm from the Hebrew Testament. The first option is called "semi-continuous." The lessons in the Hebrew Testament will follow each other, but not right after each other, as you can see. The second option is called "complimentary" or "paired." This option is more thematic with the Epistle and Gospel. The note in my calendar suggests picking one, "semi-continuous" or "complimentary" and then stick with that through the entire Season after Pentecost or what is also known as Ordinary Time. For your own personal devotions I suggest both.

June 5 Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9

Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21

Gathered and Scattered

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

John 14:8-17 (25-27)

June 12 Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Romans 5:1-5

Wisdom Calls

Psalm 8

John 16:12-15

June 19 Second Sunday after Pentecost In God's Presence

1st Kings 19:1-4, (5-7) 8-15a

OR

Isaiah 65:1-9

Galatians 3:23-29

Psalm 42 and 43

Psalm 22:19-28

Luke:26-39

June 26 Third Sunday after Pentecost Pick up the Mantle

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

OR

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

Psalm 16

Luke 9:51-62

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

JUNE 8: The Board of Ministry will meet on **Wednesday**, June 8, at 12:10.

June 21: The Board of Trustees meeting will be on **Tuesday**, June 17, at 7 PM.

June 22: The Church Council meeting will be on Wednesday, June 22.



TRUSTEE'S REPORT

New keys

The last week of May we re-keyed all the locks in the church. We learned, from a Pilgrim Park theft, that our keys may have become compromised, so the Trustees decided it would be prudent to redo our door locks. If you need a key, you can sign out for a new key with Amy in the office or contact David.

Pastor's office refreshening

Thanks to Jackie, Caren, Lynn, and Cathi for helping to clean, reorganize, and de-clutter Pastor Barbara's office.

COVID test kits

The church has received 3 large boxes of Covid-19 antibody test kits. The kits will be available after church in the narthex and during the week in the office. If you are concerned about possible exposure or symptoms, feel free to take some for yourself or for someone you care about.

Note that due to the recent increase in Covid we need to be extra cautious. Extra testing can help reduce the spread. Wearing masks, eating and socializing outside, opening windows, keeping distance, and staying home if symptomatic or significantly exposed are still necessary as well.

BOARD OF MINISTRY REPORT

Worship

Board of Ministry has been trying some variations in the Order of Worship. We appreciate your feedback on changes or ideas you may have to make our services more worshipful and meaningful, please communicate with your Ministry Team (Cathi, Charles, Cindi, Jackie and of course Gerry and Pastor Barbara)



Some recent adjustments include:

The ringing of the Tibetan bowl at the beginning of the service helps us to signal that the time of worship has begun, starting with a silent reflection on the “thought for the day” and listening to the piano prelude.

We have been taking the offering during the last hymn, as most members have been giving their pledges through PayPal. Feel free to bless the plate (to represent all the gifts we give throughout the week) in a silent thought or gesture as it passes.

Amy is printing the following less familiar but more inclusive version of The Lord’s Prayer in the bulletin so you can recite it if you choose. We introduced this version on Earth Day Sunday as we liked how it connected us to all our Earth’s “kin.” However, as always we invite you to speak “whatever version is most meaningful to you” in whatever language means the most to you. Here is a copy of the Earth Day version:

The Prayer Jesus Taught
Holy One, our Mother and Father
Let your name be revered.
Let your kin-dom come,
Let your will be done on earth as it is in the heavens.
Give us today the bread we need for today.
And forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory
Now and forever.
Amen.

What we shared during Worship in May

Pastor Nichola Torbett led our worship on May 8th, preaching a thought-provoking sermon on “The Scarred Sacred”, and we pondered Christ in John’s vision as both Lamb and Shepherd.

Pastor Barbara Peronteau preached on May 15th on “God is still Speaking” and called us to “New Beginnings.” We followed the time of worship with a Congregational Meeting including a time of questions and answers offered by Pastor Barbara. We then held a vote with unanimously positive results. Thus, we offered and a “Call,” inviting Pastor Barbara to a Pastorship at FCCSR for a “Designated Term” of 18 months. A lovely luncheon and time to get acquainted followed in the Courtyard. Thank you to Val for ordering and delivering the delicious sandwiches, Louis for Moderating the meeting and to all who helped with set up and clean up!

Pastor Barbara preached again on May 22nd. We were guided in discovering “What’s It Like” to encounter Jesus and be truly “seen” at the healing pools after waiting 38 years, to finally discover the God’s Healing Love.

We look forward to having Pastor Barbara with us, providing continuity in our worship leadership, fresh enthusiasm and bringing a message of gratitude for God's Love that inspires us to action as people of God.

Nurture and Community

Thank you to the "Spiff Up" the Pastor's Office team! And Pastor Barbara has already been arranging her office in a welcoming way.



Agape The Agape Team provides "compassionate connection to our church community through words of encouragement, cards, phone calls, home visits and other support as needed." Please contact the church office or Annie for the prayer chain if you have concerns, joys or needs that need support from your church family.

What's Coming in June

Watch your Weekly "What's Happening" or Sunday Bulletin Announcements for information about June Worship and events:

June 5th, Pentecost Sunday - Come celebrate our church's birthday and get "fired up" to be the church of Love in our world! (Wear red or white if you like.)

June 8th, Board of Ministry meeting - Wednesday, at 12:10 pm on Zoom.

June 26th, Pride Sunday - Celebrate the Beautiful Diversity of our Human Family... we reaffirm our commitment to be "Open and Affirming," where "All are welcome...". (Wear your rainbow colors if you like.)

For Reflection

The Flames of Love by Kimi Floyd Reisch, 2021

We light the flame of commitment,
To stand with and work to create change,
Until all know they are beloved.

We light the flame of survival,
Grateful for our lives,
Remembering in love those lost along the road.

We light the flame of change,
Committing to recenter toward love,
In hearts, in minds, in our world.

We light the flame of hope,
Loving each other, building community,
even when it is uncomfortable.

We light the flame of knowledge,
Following the path of justice,
Justice that is love embodied.

We light this flame of radical love.
To speak out for those who have been silenced.
Those who have been rejected for who they love.

Those who have been persecuted for who they are.
Those who have been bullied for daring to be bold.
Those who have been othered and forced into the margins.
Those who have been lonely.
Those who have been hurt.
Those who are still hurting.

We light this flame as
a people committed,
we are survivors.
we will change the world,
until no one lives without hope,
until no one lives without justice.
We light this flame and pledge that
In love, with love, and through love,
All things are possible.

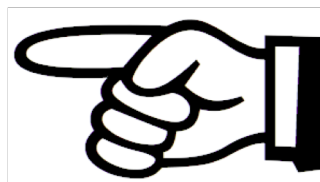
JUNE BIRTHDAYS



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

TIE DEADLINE for JULY-AUGUST 2022 Issue - Mon., June 27

The deadline for articles and news for the combined July/August 2022 issue of The TIE is Monday, June 27th. Please email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com by Monday, the 27th.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Rev. Barbara Peronteau – Pastor

Tues., Wed., Thurs., 10 AM - 2 PM

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

Cell Phone: 510-646-2372

Email: barbareau433@yahoo.com

Amy Powers – Office Manager

Monday 11 AM- 2 PM








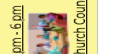


Thursday 10 AM - 2 PM

You can contact Amy by phone or email any time.

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

Email: office@fccsanrafael.org

FCC Calendar JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29  10 am - 11 am Worship Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	30  Memorial Day	31	June 1 2	3	4	
5  10 am - 11 am Worship Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM - PENTECOST	6	7	8  12:00 pm Board of Ministry Meeting 12 noon via ZOOM	9	10	11
12  10 am - 11 am Worship Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day  10 am - 11 am Worship Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	20	21  7 am - 8 am BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	22  5 am - 6 am Church Council Meeting via ZOOM	23	24	25
26  10 am - 11 am Worship Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM - PRIDE SUNDAY	27  5 am TIE Deadline for JULY/AUGUST 2022 Issue	28	29	30	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.