

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR... REV. BARBARA PERONTEAU



How are you doing?

I wonder about the health of my spirituality these days. You know, my relationship with God. With my thumb on the pulse of my being I wonder what the diagnosis is with my connection with the Divine, the Holy Other, the Source and Ground of my Being. I'm feeling the hurt. I wonder how you are doing.

We've taken quite a hit this last week. When we woke up on Thursday morning life wasn't the same as when we went to bed Wednesday night. Our world wasn't only shaken, or even stirred, things had changed overnight. I wonder about my spirituality. I also wonder about yours.

Sometimes life can change in the blink of an eye whether it's decision from Washington D.C. or Sacramento. Life can also change slowly over time. There are a lot of things that can affect our spiritual

equilibrium such as politics, our own health, or the health of someone we love. Let's put natural disasters on that list too. Name it. There are a lot of things in life that can batter and bruise our spirituality. Our spirituality can also grow and mature because of adverse actions that shake the foundations of our soul and the very core of our being.

It's okay to be angry, frustrated, depressed, despondent, confused, and feeling helpless. Or whatever else you might be feeling because of what you're going through. It's okay. Give yourself permission to take what you are carrying and come before God. God actually loves that, when we bring our baggage when we come for a visit with God. You don't have to be perfect and joyful and emotionally balanced all the time. We call that Grace.

Find a quiet place in your home. It could be your favorite chair, the kitchen table, or the chair on the deck outside underneath the lemon tree. You could come to the church during the week and sit in a pew, or stand in front of the altar, or sit in our lovely courtyard. Regardless of where, or when, tell God all about. Then wait for our Still Speaking God to respond. Even if you simply feel Holy Presence, sometimes it's enough to know that God is always present.

Peace and Holiness,

Pr. Barbara K. Peronteau



PASTOR BARBARA'S INSTALLATION SEPTEMBER 11

On September 11, at 2 PM, we will have a Celebration of Installation for Pastor Barbara.

Why, might you ask? Well, I'm glad you asked.

Not to get all ecclesiastical on you, but on May 15, I was called to be your Pastor for a Designated Term, which in our case, is for 18 months. A Designated Term is a Called position which gets to celebrate the covenant between me as your pastor, you, the people of First Congregational Church of San Rafael, and the Golden Gate Association. The Conference will also have a part in the service on September 11. Refreshments will follow the service.

This is a big deal in our life together, at First Congregational, in the life of the Golden Gate Association, and the Northern California Nevada Conference that will have ripples throughout the larger Church.

Please plan to be here on Sunday, September 11, at 2 PM, for the Installation of your pastor, Rev. Barbara K. Peronteau.

LOOKING AHEAD AT THE CALENDAR

Summer is upon us. It's time to have some Summer Fun in the Summer Sun. There are plans to make, trips to take, and memories to share. Have a wonderful time. Enjoy yourselves. That's what summer is for.

In the meantime, back at the Church, life goes on...

- July 3 is the Celebration of Holy Communion
- July 24 is Backpack Sunday
- July 28 Book Study begins
- August 7 is the Celebration of Holy Communion
- August 7 Picnic on Lynn Grant's Porch at 1 PM
- August 14 is Pillow Sunday.
- September 11 is Welcome Back Sunday at 10 AM



PRAYER PARTNERS

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



June 25 - July 2

Lise Adams

July 3 - 9

Barbara Alexander

July 10 - 16

Kelly Anderson

July 17 - 23

Christine and Bob Bandettini

July 24- 30

Paul and Marcy Burks

July 31 - August 6

Eric and Cara Caindec

August 7 - 13

Elaine Corvello

August 14 - 20

Caran Cuneo

August 21 - 27

Anne Dannecker

August 28 - September 3

Bob De Hann and Nancy

Sangster-De Hann



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

Below are the scripture readings from the Revised Common Lectionary for July and August.

****See page 5** of this issue of the TIE for more information about the Lectionary!

The first set of readings from the Old Testament and Psalms is called semi-continuous. These readings loosely follow each other for several weeks.

The second set of Old Testament and Psalm readings is called complimentary (paired). In this set of readings, the connection to the Epistle and Gospel is a more obvious.

July 3 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 5:1-14	and	Psalms 30
or		
Isaiah 66:10-14	and	Psalms 66:1-9
Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16	and	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17	and	Psalms 82
or		
Deuteronomy 30:9-14	and	Psalms 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14	and	Luke 10:25- 37

July 17 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12	and	Psalms 52
or		
Genesis 18:1-10a	and	Psalms 138
Colossians 1:15-28	and	Luke 10:38-42



July 24 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10 a nd Psalm 85
or
Genesis 18:20-32 and Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19) and Luke 11:1-13

July 31 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11 and Psalm 107:1-9, 43
or
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 and Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11 and Luke 12:13-21

August 7 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 and Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
or
Genesis 15:1-6 and Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews:1-3, 8-16 and Luke 12:32-40

August 14 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 15:1-7 and Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
or
Jeremiah 23:23-29 and Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2 and Luke 12:49-56

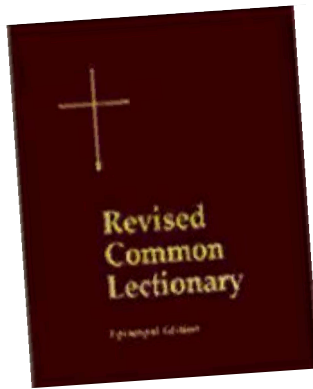
August 21 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:1-10 and Psalm 71:1-6
or
Isaiah 58:9b-14 and Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29 and Luke 13:10-17

August 28 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4-13 and Psalm 81:1, 10-16
or
Proverbs 25:6-7 and Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1, 7-14

THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY: WHAT IS IT?



The word “lectionary” is from the Latin meaning “to read.” The Revised Common Lectionary is a series of Scripture readings that encourage and bring light and understanding to the Christian faith. The lectionary consists of a reading from the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible), a Psalm, an Epistle (or a reading from Acts and/or Revelation), and a Gospel lesson. The Revised Common Lectionary of 1994 was a revision of the Common Lectionary of 1983, which itself was a revision of the COCU (Consultation on Church Union) Lectionary of 1974.

The Christian Year begins on the First day of Advent, which is four weeks before Christmas. This could fall on the last Sunday of November or the first Sunday of December. The Lectionary begins in Advent reminding us of the hope and anticipation of the birth of Jesus. From Advent through the Season of Easter, the lectionary takes us through the life of Jesus up to and including the death and resurrection. During the long season after Pentecost, we learn about more about the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus.

By using the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (with John thrown in at various times) on a three-year rotation, the Lectionary also connects us to the life and teachings of Jesus, the Church Year, and the Christian Faith.

Although not obligated, most Main-Line denominations such as the United Church of Christ and our sister Church the Disciples of Christ, most Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians,

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

July 12: The Board of Ministry will meet on **Tuesday**, July 12, at 12 noon.

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

July 28: Book study begins on Thursday, July 28, at 7 PM and continues each Thursday evening in August.



BOARD OF MINISTRY REPORT

Pride Sunday June 26th

We celebrated the joy of being uniquely and perfectly created by our God of Love. Our worship and Pastor Barbara's sermon recognized our sorrow and anger at the injustices we witness; we must "keep our focus ahead" to where we live in hope of Christ's vision of a world of justice and kindness and we act by following the one great law of "loving our neighbor."



The special music, "Simple Song of Peace" was performed by the choir was movingly enhanced by the Signing interpreting shared by Caryl Hodges. We enjoyed a picnic lunch and fellowship time following worship in the beauty of our Courtyard on a "perfect" summer day. A huge thank you to Lucinda, Caran, Megan, and Cathi for the varied and abundant individually wrapped and carefully prepared sandwiches and to all who helped with set up and clean up!



The following litany was read while colored candles were lit during our Pride Sunday worship:



The Colors of the Rainbow

We light the Red Candle of Life. The color of blood shed by so many before us for being who they were...For those who gave their blood, life force and passion that we may have Life Abundant.

We light the Orange Candle of Healing. That despite being shamed, bullied, abused and harmed in body, mind and spirit the warmth of Healing offers the embrace of affirming love and life renewed for all.

We light the Yellow candle of Sunlight. For those seeking full equality, equity, civil rights, medical rights, employment opportunities, a seat at the table, total respect, and full humanity we celebrate your new ideas. The Sun rises and a new day dawns.

We light the Green candle of Nature. Like the color of eternal, creative, and energetic growth...that will never fade.

We light the Blue candle of Serenity and Harmony, the color of the ocean's depths and sign of our integrity and authenticity bringing calm for the journey and peace for the soul.

We light the Purple candle of the Spirit. A Spirit that soars taking us to a place of freedom and liberation not yet achieved but deeply hoped for. The Spirit of Hope that keeps the dream alive.

May the Light of the Rainbow dispel the darkness of fear and hate bringing each of us to a place of celebration, life and love.

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COMING IN JULY

July 12 The next meeting of the Board of Ministry team: Tuesday, July 12th at Noon on Zoom.

July 28 Bible Study Starting Thursdays at 7 PM on Zoom beginning July 28th.

“Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like ever-flowing stream.” Amos 5:24. Among “Good Trouble” makers were “The Prophets” of the Old Testament. Join us in a study of AMOS, a simple shepherd sent to call out against injustice and the promise of God’s grace. See the next page for more details.

July 31 We will have a Guest Pastor, Rev. Julianne Stokstad, leading worship as Pr. Barbara will be out of town.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

September 11 Welcome Back Sunday 10 AM:

Bring yourself and a friend for worship and fellowship time while enjoying ice cream bars and popsicles in the Courtyard following worship.

September 11 Installation of Pastor Barbara 2 PM: Pr. Barbara will be formally “installed” as our Pastor. The ceremony is led by Golden Gate UCC Leadership and will be followed by a reception where you can offer congratulations and meet other leaders and members of our affiliated Golden Gate UCC CONFERENCE.

COMING IN OCTOBER

The Blessing of the Animals service will be held in The Courtyard and our animal family members will receive blessings either live or if they prefer to be represented by their photo.

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 by call or email for the prayer chain if you have concerns, joys or needs that need support from your church family.

HELP WANTED for Community Time

Thank you to Jackie and Caran who have been making coffee and bringing treats for sharing at our Community Time!

PLEASE let Amy Powers in the church office know if you can volunteer to bring a simple treat to share and/ or make coffee once in a while for our Community Time after worship.



BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S REPORT



Budget Update

With most of our renters back, steady pledging, and some reduced expenses, our budget is on track at this the half-way point in the year.

We expected to have spent about \$85,000 so far this year but have spent about \$62,000. This is primarily due to paying only for a supply preacher for 3 months, but the figure also does not include our benevolence giving, which is usually sent out at the end of the year. Utility expenses were up about \$1600. We have also had some significant sewer maintenance and plumbing expenses. Our tree removal and pruning expenses were partially offset by an anonymous gift.

Our pledge income has been on track, with several members having already made their annual donation. Our rental income is a little above expectations due to the Real Life Church paying a little more rent for some extra meetings and retreats. Several 12-step groups have still not returned.

With inflation and now a regular pastor and musician (even though both are part-time), we expect next year to be more challenging financially.



Call for Imagination before Budget Planning

Members of the Mission, Ministry, and Trustees Boards, as well as members of the congregation, should be thinking NOW about special projects for next year. Think bigger--- Bell tower? Vamos Mexico Mission Trip? Homeless Shelter? Immigrant Family Sponsorship? Music Festival Extravaganza? Easter Orchestra? Holy Grounds Café? Or maybe just some more flower pots? All these take imagination, involvement, and planning even before we talk money. We begin working on the 2023 budget in August.



COMING SOON to a You-tube source near you!

FCCSR soon will be accessible on You-tube. We are beginning to post sermons on You-tube, but still have a few bugs to work out to make the experience smooth. We hope eventually to be able to stream live services on You-Tube as well as on Zoom. The advantage of You-tube is generally better sound, automatic recording, and the ability to promote to a wider audience. You can currently hear many of the sermons on an a clear audio recording accessible anytime on our website www.fccsanrafael.org.

Check out our initial video attempts at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbqlXLjsBEmjdGuoOKnOykA>

AARP TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AT OUR CHURCH HELPS MANY

We received this letter from the AARP Tax Assistance Program. The tax assistance program uses our Community Room in the late winter. Nice to know we had a part in getting more than \$31,000 to low-income folks!

June 24, 2022

To the Board of Trustees, First Congregational Church

I am writing to thank you for your support of our program during the 2022 tax season. We greatly appreciated your willingness to help and your flexibility in providing us a workspace.

Our volunteers at the Church prepared 203 tax returns this year for local residents. Although this is fewer than we typically prepared pre-pandemic, we had fewer tax preparers available this year, and were open two days per week rather than three. The ample space you provided us allowed us to have plenty of room for taxpayers to wait, while enabling us to safely distance our tax preparers. Our taxpayers (and we) are especially grateful to you for making the space available on Saturdays. We have no other site in the County that provides this, and it means that many of our working folks can get their taxes done without missing work. It was especially helpful to West Marin taxpayers who formerly came to our special tax day held at Pt. Reyes, which we were unable to hold this year. Many were able to get to our site on a Saturday.

The 203 returns we prepared brought in a total of \$31,213 in Earned Income Credit to lower income taxpayers in our area. Of all returns we prepared, 59% had a primary taxpayer over the age of 60.

The five sites in our Marin District completed a total of 1210 returns this year, or 62% of the 1948 completed in our last full tax season. This compares well with the National figure of 51% of the last full season....

While I hope that next year we are able to return to a more "normal" setup, I am very happy with what we were able to accomplish this tax season. We truly could not have done this without your support.

With sincere gratitude,

Debbi Greitzer
District Coordinator
AARP Tax-aide of Marin



BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



BACKPACK SUNDAY - JULY 24

This is our annual gathering of school supplies for the Ritter Center kids. Please bring your donations to church on July 24, as they will be distributed to the kids at Ritter Center in early August, because the school start dates are early. Here's what is needed:

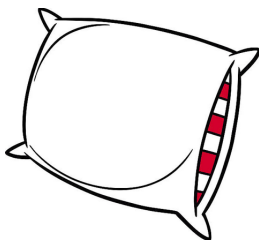
- New backpacks (boys and girls, high need for elementary school)
- Binders (small/large) and binder paper
- Tabbed dividers and zip pouches
- Pencils (#2/colored), pens, and erasers
- Glue sticks and index cards
- Rulers, staplers, and small scissors
- Markers, crayons, and highlighters
- Pocket folders 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.

PILLOW SUNDAY - AUGUST 14



Pillow Sunday will be held on August 14. We collect bedding each year as our contribution to Homeward Bound of Marin. This year the Homeward Bound Staff chose pillows. Who doesn't enjoy a clean, comfy pillow?

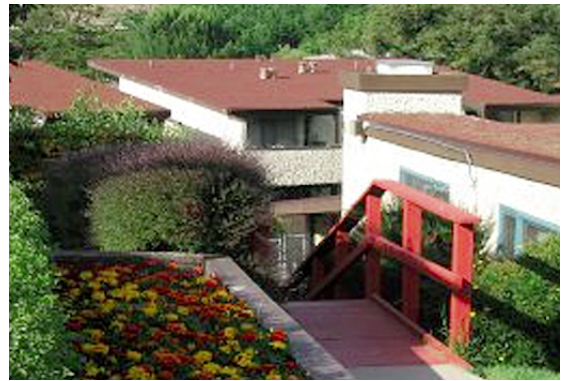
Homeward Bound is in the process of building a new building that will house homeless veterans, in Novato, adjacent to the current campus. This new facility will add 24 small apartments to the 12 beds now at New Beginnings.

You might like to think of the pillow donation as a "Thank You" to the veterans in your life.

We are letting you know about Pillow Sunday early in the summer, so you will have time to shop for the best pillows at the best price. Please note the date, August 14, on your calendar. But don't worry, there will be reminders from your Mission Board.

PILGRIM PARK NEWS

Board Activities -- At a recent board meeting, the board heard management reports on current operations (on budget), the proposed budget for next year (approved) and negotiations for an age 0-3 childcare center in the previous Head Start space. The board approved a residents/church picnic later this summer. The tentative date is Saturday, August 13.

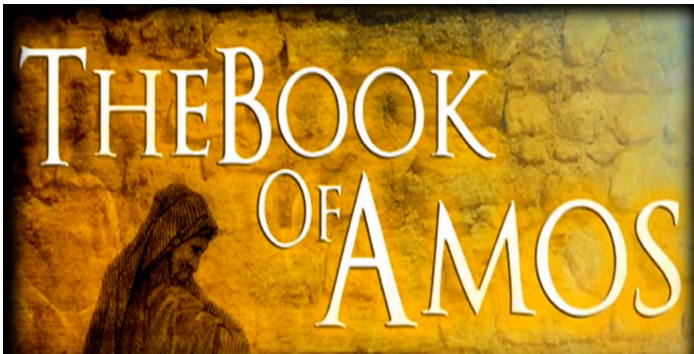


Paving -- With the acceptance by San Rafael of the paving, that project is finished.

Tenants -- There have been four births at Pilgrim Park this year. We have one vacancy. As usual, one vacancy results in several internal moves, as management attempts to reduce over and under housed residents. For example, a long time resident (currently in a two-bedroom unit) will move into the one-bedroom vacated unit, now that their adult son has moved to pursue employment in another city.

Bob De Haan

BOOK STUDY BEGINS JULY 28



The Roots of Social Justice

The world in which we now live is much like the one in the middle of the eighth century BCE in what is now present day Israel. Nations were invading other nations. The rich were getting richer and squeezing the poor and the voiceless. The empires were co-opting the Jewish religion for greed and power.

The prophet Amos is widely considered the earliest of the prophetic writings being written somewhere between 760 - 750 BCE. In the middle of the big power grab, Amos speaks the truth of God to two powerful kings; King Uzziah of Judah (the southern kingdom) and King Jeroboam II of Israel (the northern kingdom). Both Kings ruled for 40 years.

Amos is speaking truth to power. What could God possibly have to say through the prophetic witness of Amos, a mere shepherd from Tekoa, and—what's all that got to do with us?

Well, I'm glad you asked. Please join Pastor Barbara on Thursdays on Zoom, beginning July 28 at 7 pm, as she leads us through the book of Amos.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 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 7, beginning at 1 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. Bring picnic plates, cups and utensils for your own family if you can. 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. Bring life jackets for kids, please!

CONSORT CHORALE 27th Annual Summer Concert

LIGHT!

Allan Petker, Artistic Director and Conductor

Dr Jennaya Robison, Guest Conductor

CHORAL CONCERT AUGUST 14

Lucinda Ray and Jeff Paul, our former Music Director, are in this fabulous choral concert. Small orchestra, great music, and a reception following the concert. Tickets are \$20.

TICKETS



Sunday, August 14, 2022 7:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church
72 Kensington Road
San Anselmo, California

Be musically illuminated! "Light" is the theme of our 27th Summer Concert. We selected the theme of "Light" because it carries a message of optimism that is especially needed as we emerge from a pandemic that forced choral singing into silence. We believe our program which includes compositions by Bach, Brahms, Vaughan Williams, Hagenberg, Esenvalds, and many more, will brighten your day.

www.consortchorale.org/concert-tickets/

JULY BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



1 — Dorothy Trotter
3 — Jack Intrater
5 — Saba Dempsey
6 — Cyndi Siroky
26 — Tristan Cline-Meehan
Michael Cline-Meehan
Jacob Cline-Meehan
Taylor Cline-Meehan
27 — Louis Frost
29 — Catherine Hills

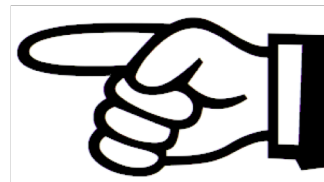
6 — Jamie Cline
6 — Audrey Hills
12 — Rebecca Knopf
13 — Allison Kaufman
17 — Helen MacLam
19 — Emma Intrater
19 — Melanie Sakskul
22 — Amy Smith
24 — Jacob Dempsey
27 — David Knopf
28 — Judy Girard



If god can make a bug's
bottom light up to
decorate the night sky,
imagine all he can do
in your life!

TIE DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER 2022 Issue - Mon., AUGUST 22

The deadline for articles and news for the September 2022 issue of The TIE is Monday, August 22nd. Please email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com by Monday, the 22nd.



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 JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM - PRIDE SUNDAY	27	28	29	30	July 1	2
3  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	4  Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	11	12  Board of Ministry Meetings 12 noon via ZOOM	13	14	15	16
17  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	18	19  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	20	21	22	23
24 Parents' Day 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	25	26	27	28  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	29	30
31  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	1	2	3	4  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	5	6

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 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	August 1 2	3	4  7 pm - 8 pm BOOK STUDY - AMOS	5	6	
7  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM 1 pm - 3 pm  Summer PICNIC on Lynn Grant's PORCH	8 9	10 11  7 pm - 8 pm BOOK STUDY - AMOS	12 13	19 20	26 27	3 4
14  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM 10 am - 11 am PILLOW SUNDAY	15 16  7 pm - 8 pm BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	17 18  7 pm - 8 pm BOOK STUDY - AMOS	24 25  7 pm - 8 pm BOOK STUDY - AMOS	31 30	1 2	3 4
21  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM 5 pm  TIE Deadline for JULY/AUGUST 2022 Issue	22 23	24 25	31 30	1 2	3 4	3 4
28  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on Zoom at 10 AM	29 30	31 30	1 2	3 4	3 4	3 4

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