

The TIE

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR... REV. BARBARA PERONTEAU



The month of October brings with it a bag full of treats. No tricks and no scary stuff.

It's all about the treats.

The first Sunday of October is when we as a Church Congregation are taking some time out of the ordinary to remember our friend and companion on the journey, Dorothy Trotter, who entered the Church Triumphant in July. As Dorothy's family didn't want a church service, it seems empty and hollow not to remember, honor, and celebrate one of our own. We will do just that on October 2 during our regular Sunday morning church service at 10 am.

Our church-wide Neighbors in Need Offering will also be collected that day. This year one-third of the offerings will go to the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds will go to the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.

The first Sunday in October is also the day we celebrate World Communion Sunday when we are with awareness and intention in and with

communion with all the people around the world uniting with one another with one bread as one body.

The third Sunday of October is when we Bless the Animals, remembering our own responsibility for the care and stewardship of the land, water, and all the flora and fauna. It will be a day to celebrate all of creation, including our pets. Details of how all that happens will follow in the coming days. Bring your pet; be it a dog or cat, a goldfish or Gopher snake, or simply a picture of a current pet or a pet that has crossed the Rainbow Bridge and is waiting for you. Your pet will be blessed.

October 23, I will not be here. Rev. Kristy Denham will be the supply preacher that day.

The month ends with a Celebration of the Reformation on October 30. The title of the sermon that day is called "Anfechtung." Anfechtung is a German word that describes something along the lines of fear, anxiety, distress, and a very troubled soul. Then multiply that by a hundred. Anfechtung cuts deep into very core of our being. Martin Luther experienced this very profound spiritual shakeup around 1520. I believe that in this very personal and life-changing event in the very center of Martin Luther's being is where the Reformation began. It is in this moment Martin Luther met his God and began questioning every single doctrine of the church. It is also in these same moments of "Anfechtung," and as Soren Kierkegaard might call "angst," in the core of our being where we too, meet our God and the gift of Grace.

May Grace and Peace follow you all month long,

Pr. Barbara K. Peronteau



**Sunday, October 16
10 AM**

**Bring your pet, on a
leash, in a cage, or
bring a picture**

Everyone is welcome!

**First Congregational Church of
San Rafael
8 North San Pedro Road**

PICTURES FROM THE INSTALLATION



PRAYER PARTNERS

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



September 25 - October 1
Mim and Scott Faraci, Sam,
Ben, and Emma

October 2 - 8
Anice Flesh

October 9 - 15
Louis Frost, Khamia and
Melanic

October 16 - 22
Megan Fuller, Elizabeth and Will

October 23 - October 29
Judy Girard

October 30 - November 5
Lynn Grant

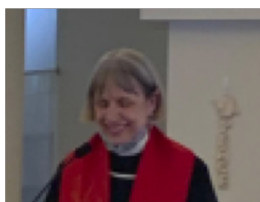
THANK YOU! GRACIAS! MERCI! **from Rev. Barbara K Peronteau**

As I ask on Sunday mornings, “How have you seen God at work in your life this week,” I have an answer for that. For me, my God moment, was the whole Installation event on Sunday, September 11. I hope it was a God moment for each of you as well.

Not only was the Spirit present in the whole event, including bringing such lovely weather, but the Spirit was also at work in all the many moving parts that made the whole day a God event. I can only respond with awe and gratitude.



I saw the Spirit at work, or was it play, as the people gathered bringing with them their love and support for not only me, but also for First Congregational Church of San Rafael. I wasn't expecting conference presence, so it was a pleasant surprise to see Rev. Davena Jones, Associate Conference Minister of the NCNC in attendance. I saw the Spirit at play during the clergy procession at the beginning of the service. I love clergy processions especially when the liturgical color of the day is red. I saw the Spirit at work as Caryl Hodges lead us through the service and was humbled during Rev. Andy Lang's recorded message. Many thanks go to Bob Spofford for making that happen.



The dance of the Spirit continued with The Rev. Dr. Susan Strouse reading scripture and the Rev. Dr. Stephen Ohnsman delivering the sermon with humor, purpose, and his own intense style. I am grateful that as I went through the planning in the early stages my mind kept coming back to Pastor Steve. I shrugged him off thinking he is way back in

Reading, Pennsylvania. It's too far. How would we make this work? I went through another list of possible speakers. Every time the Spirit kept tapping me on the shoulder. Call Steve. We can make this happen. I'm glad I listened to the Spirit. Steve was awesome and amazing. Thank you, Pastor Steve!



Then came the reason we were there, the Installation. For sure the Spirit was dancing with delight on that day when the Pastor from Tiburon Community Congregational Church acting in his role as Moderator of the Golden Gate Association Installed me as your pastor. We followed that up by sharing the presence of Christ with the gathered body of Christ, the Church. Thank you to Annie, Caran, Caryl, and Jackie for being the communion assistants. You made it happen.

Also truly inspiring was the playing of Gerry Grosz, our Music Director. There were two songs I had to stop singing or I would have burst into uncontrollable tears. The Spirit continued to inspire as the choir sang their anthem. Many thanks to each of the choir members for their time, talents, and contribution that added so much to the day.

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As the service continued, I noticed a light breeze began to pick up. Was it just a breeze? How could it be anything else than the presence of God? The Spirit didn't stop when the church service ended. The Spirit continued as the reception began and the people continued the celebration. Thank you, Cathi Fuller, Lucinda Ray, Jackie Fuller, Julie Dowling, and Milagro who, together, helped the day to be the perfect day it was.

Speaking of perfect, when I first began envisioning the day in my mind's eye I thought of a Baroque or possibly a jazz quartet. Instead, Jerry made the day even more perfect with his jazz trio. Their music was indeed perfectly lovely and helped make the day the perfect day it was.



Thanks also goes to David Knopf for setting up the chairs with Damien, for putting up the sunshades in the courtyard, doing the electronics, and setting out the flag and pennants down by the sign.

Gratitude also goes to all the many levels of power who pulled the right levers to make the day happen. This was a day that celebrated First Congregational Church of San Rafael. Thanks to each of you, you made the day happen! That's how the Spirit works.

MORE GRATITUDE from Rev. Barbara K Peronteau

After the reception following the Installation Service on September 11, I was handed a bag of gifts. There were some chocolates, and some specialty crackers.

There were also some oil for anointing and healing and a book stand I will use for communion. The color goes well with the altar. There was also a new communion set for home communion for when I make those home and hospital visits. The last time I received a Communion set was as an ordination gift 34 years ago. I am very grateful for the new one.

I was also given a plant that now adorns my office at the church. Even though the chocolate is long gone by now, I will cherish all the gifts I received as well as each of you. Thank you.





***We will be worshipping at 10 AM inside the sanctuary.
The service will also be available streaming on YouTube (see next page).***

Below are the scripture readings from the Revised Common Lectionary for September. 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.

October 2

17th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sun., Neighbors in Need Offering, Celebrating Dorothy Trotter

Lamentations 1:1-6. 3:19-26 or Psalm 137
or

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 and Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14 and Luke 17:5-10

October 9

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1-12 and Psalm 66:1-12
or

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c and Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15 and Luke 17:11-19

October 16

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Blessing of the Animals

Jeremiah 31:27-34 and Psalm 119:97-104
or

Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 and Luke 18:1-8

October 23

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32 and Psalm 65
or

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 and Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 and Luke 18:9-14

October 30

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 1:1-7; 5:1-2 Ephesians 2:8-9
Galatians 2:16-21 2 Corinthians 5:18-21
Luke 17:20-21

ZOOM MEETINGS LET US GATHER TOGETHER SAFELY

We are also providing our Sunday worship service streaming on YouTube at 10 a.m. You can use either your computer, your cell phone, or your tablet. See the Trustees Report below.

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

Oct. 4: The Board of Ministry will meet on **Tuesday**, October 4, at 12 noon.

Oct. 6: Book study continues on **Thursday**, Oct. 6, at 7 PM and continues on Thursday evenings.

Oct. 18: The Board of Trustees meeting will be on **Tuesday**, Oct. 18, at 7 PM.



BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S REPORT

What Are Your Top 10?

Late Night TV has made the Top 10 List famous (or infamous). You don't have to be a Letterman, Colbert, or Kimmel to make a list. Make your own list of the top reasons for being involved with First Congregational Church of San Rafael? What are your top 10?

This Fall we will reconsider and freshen our ideas about who we are and where we are going. **On Sunday, October 30, we will be developing our own Top 10 list.** This will form the basis of how we will plan for the future, build our budget, ask for pledges, and organize our time together. If you can't make it that Sunday, send your own Top 10 list to the church at Office@fccsanrafael.org.

FCC Now Live on You-Tube

We broadcast live Sunday mornings on You-Tube. Our channel address is:

- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbqlXLjsBEmjdGuoOKnOyKA>
- Then click on videos->live
- Subscribe and each week you will get a direct link.

We will also post a direct link each week in the What's Happening? email.

The whole service unedited will be available for a few days; then an edited version to include just the sermon will be posted.

If you are having trouble getting connected, email Knopf.david@gmail.com



BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING - OCTOBER 2



In 2022, Neighbors in Need “Behold” offering is focused on economic justice.

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM).

Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

This special UCC offering is part of World Communion Sunday, October 2nd.

Please make your check to FCC San Rafael, and mark Neighbors in Need on the memo field. Thank you for your generous contribution!

REMEMBER THE MARIN FOOD BANK

Please help us stock the pantry at the Marin Food Bank. October starts the season of giving, so please continue to bring in non-perishable food items - peanut butter, canned goods, rice, cereal, canned meat. Please deposit them in our Food Bank barrel.

We intend to make another delivery to our local food bank for neighbors in Marin who continue to struggle with food insecurity.

Thank you for your generous support!



BOARD OF MINISTRY REPORT

Special September Happenings:

- The Reverend Barbara Peronteau and The Reverend Kristi Denman joined our First Congregational Church membership.
- September 11 Installation

A glorious celebration for the Installation of Pastor Barbara commenced at 2 pm on a beautiful golden afternoon with a promenade of clergy leading Pastor Barbara into the sanctuary, bedecked in crimson colors. A meaningful worship service that included a vibrant sermon by the Rev. Stephen Ohnsman, the UCC liturgy of Installation led by our FCC Moderator, Louis Frost and UCC Golden Gate Association Moderator, David Gregory and with participation by congregants, supporting clergy and of course, Pastor Barbara to confirm her installation into the United Church of Christ Golden Gate.



The Board of Ministry is grateful for the many skillful hands and voices and open hearts that did so much behind the scenes as well as the sharing of talents during the worship and community time, as well as to each one who participated whole-heartedly.

- for the thoughtful and prayerful planning,
- worship bulletins with printed hymns creation, printing and collating,
- the preparations and participation in the music, the readings, the communion setup and serving,
- the special music during the service and the live music following,
- the recording and sound system set ups and monitoring and photography,
- table and chair set and put away, ice lugging,
- the budget approvals, check writing, garden spiffing up
- the shopping, food cooking, ordering, preparation and serving
- reception decorating, set up and clean up
- even taking out garbage, organizing recycling and sprucing up bathroom cleanliness level (I think that is the equivalent to washing disciples' feet duties!).
- We are grateful for our church family.

Sunday, 10am October 2: Service of Thanksgiving for Dorothy Trotter

Come Worship and share in celebrating Dorothy's life as beloved, loving and long-serving FCC family member.

Sunday, 10 am October 16: The Blessing of Animals

During the month of October, the time of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi who was renowned for her his love of creation and creatures, churches around the globe celebrate with blessings of the animals. We will continue our own FCC tradition of inviting our friends, family and animal family members (live or by photo) to join us in the Courtyard where we shall worship the Creator, share our gratitude for creation and have a blessing of our animals. Following worship, treats for human and animal will be provided for a community time.



Sunday, October 23: Guest Preacher:

The Rev. Kristi Denham will lead worship

Sunday, October 30: What Are Your Top 10?

Bring your top reasons for being involved with First Congregational Church of San Rafael. See the Board of Trustees article on **page 6** of this TIE for more details.

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Prayer Retreat

Saturday, October 29, Noon - 2 PM

“The Thinning of the Veil”



In response to requests from a number of Prayer Chain and Agape Team members that we resume our in-person garden prayer retreat, we plan to meet together for inspiration, meditation and intercession in the Knopf garden (call Cathi if you need directions). All are welcome. Please RSVP to 415.479-4346

At the time of All Hallows' Eve and All Saints' Day, our theme is taken from the Celtic Christian tradition of All Saints' Day, as the season when “only the thinnest of veils separate the living from the dead. It is a time of intentional remembering of those we love and have love us in a way that they continue to be present in our lives.

From “Nativity Note” news from Cathedral Church of the Nativity in PA regarding All Saints' Day,

“...This way of remembering is called “Anamnesis,” it is the Greek word we use to describe the way we remember Jesus in the Eucharist. We remember in such a way with our hearts that we know Jesus is present. So it is I believe the way of remembering that is Love. Love that crosses all boundaries, and over which all obstacles are overcome!

Outline of the day:

- 12:00 - 12:45 Light brunch
- 12:45 - 1:10 Art project to music
- 1:10 - 1:30 Sharing “Saint” in our life or a “thinning of the veil” experience
(bring a photo, a memento, quote, memory to share about someone/thing special that has provided you with an experience of resurrecting Love)
- 1:30 - 1:45 Breathing and meditative prayer
- 1:45 - 2:00 Intercessory prayer (naming a person, a concern or a gratitude)
- 2:00 Closing circle

For reflection:

Thin Veil

Twilight whispers soft secrets
It is the poet's pondering
hour, where thin veil conceals
Mystery and showers us
with sweet incense from above
A breathed out benediction
reveals God's unfading love

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Next Board of Ministry Team Meeting October 4th at Noon on Zoom.

MORE PICTURES OF THE INSTALLATION



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



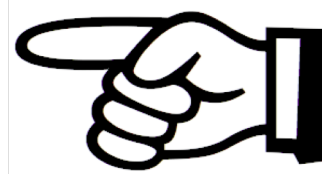
6 — Alan Miller
13 — Benjamin Dempsey
17 — Ann Dannecker
19 — Jean O'Leary
23 — Sher Ripley
25 — Tessa Templeman
25 — Deb Smith
31 — Bruce Weir

MORE PICTURES FROM THE INSTALLATION



TIE DEADLINE for NOVEMBER 2022 Issue - Mon., OCT. 24

The deadline for articles and news for the November 2022 issue of The TIE is Monday, October 24th. Please email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com by Monday, the 24th.



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 OCTOBER 2022

2 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM! 10 am - 11 am DOROTHY TROTTER CELEBRATION 10 am - 11 am WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY	3  12 pm Board of Ministry Meeting 12 noon via ZOOM	5	6 7 am - 8 am  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	7	8
9 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM!	10  Columbus Day	12	13 7 am - 8 am  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	14	15 Sweetest Day
16 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM! 10 am - 11 am  BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS	17	19 7 am - 8 am  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM!	20 7 am - 8 am  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	21	22
23 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM!	24 5 pm  TIE Deadline for OCTOBER 2022 issue	26	27 7 am - 8 am  BOOK STUDY - AMOS	28	29 12 pm - 2 pm  PRAYER RETREAT
30 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM!	31 Halloween	2	3	4	5

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.