

## The TIE

### THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR... REV. BARBARA PERONTEAU



I'm looking at the "Marin Magazine" reminding me of all the stuff that's going on in February. There's a lecture by Fran Lebowitz on February 1st at the Sydney Goldstein Theater. On the 3rd is an Edwardian Ball. It's described as, "A fully immersive party devoted to the delights and attire of another era celebrates with a Revival theme, ballroom dancing, stage shows and absinthe cocktails for the adults in the crowd, through February 4." I've read it three times and I'm still not sure what exactly it means. Sounds like fun though. In case you missed the Chinese Lunar New Year, you still have a chance to celebrate with the San Francisco Symphony on February 5.

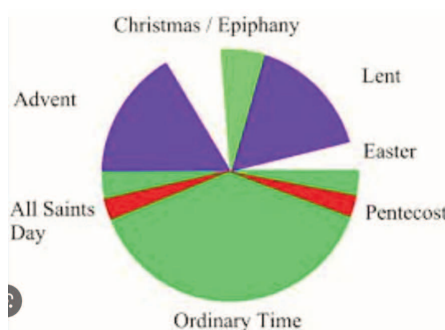
Hey wait! What about Ground Hog Day? There's nothing on the Marin calendar about the great weather prognosticator Punxsutawney Phil. I can see Marin having its own Ground Hog, Marin Maria. She

pokes her head up out of the ground and says, "Yep, it's Spring. Go forth and enjoy."

February 4 brings a SF Giants Fan Fest to Oracle Park. A sure sign of Spring is when the pitchers and catchers report for Spring Training. Is Spring Training capitalized? Sure it is. Who needs a Ground Hog when you have pitchers and catchers reporting for Spring Training!?

Honorable mention is Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, and the Super Bowl. This last week in January will determine who will play in the Super Bowl on Feb 12th. Our household is split between Eagle fans and 49er fans.

I find it interesting that Mardi Gras is mentioned in the blurb but nowhere in the list of activities. In Southeast Pennsylvania the Germans are celebrating the night before Lent with a tasteless, heavy yeast-raised potato cake thing in the shape of a doughnut called a Fastnacht. Maybe you've heard of it. I actually ate one, one time. I've had my fill. I find it interesting that while the French are out wildly celebrating the night before Lent, the Germans are eating yucky Fastnachts. The idea, though, is to use up all the fat and sugar before Lent. Lent is a time of serious reflection. No fat. No sugar. No GMOs either for that matter.



The calendar in the "Marin Magazine" tells me I am on a different schedule. One that revolves around the seasons of the Church. Currently we are in "Ordinary Time." Once we are in the season of Lent, we won't return to Ordinary Time until after the Day of Pentecost.

In the meantime, February 5th brings us a day of Sacramental Presence and our Congregational Meeting followed by a potluck. The following week, February 12th, the new officers will be installed. On February 19th we celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus. What does that even mean, anyway?

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with the Imposition of Ashes. Service begins at 5:30 pm. This day is why the French celebrate Mardi Gras, and the Germans eat Fastnachts. As you can see, I have a different calendar of events than the “Marin Magazine.” As fun as all that might sound, by following the rhythm of the Church calendar we are brought closer to the life of Jesus Christ.

Peace and Shalom, *Pastor Barbara*

## REMEMBERING LISE ADAMS



We are mourning the loss of our faithful choir member, Lise Adams, who died unexpectedly on January 30, 2023. We will miss her beautiful voice and smile.



## PRAYER PARTNERS

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



### January 29 - February 4

Ray and Jean O’Leary

### February 5 - 11

Barbara Peronteau and  
Susan Strouse

### February 12 - 18

Milagro Ramirez

### February 19 - 25

Greg and Sher Ripley

### February 26 - March 4

Val and Ralph Sherer



# Come and *Worship* with us!

***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.

## **February 5**

Isaiah 58:1-12

and

Psalm 112:1-10

or

I Corinthians 2: 1-12 (13-16 and

Matthew 5:13-20

## **February 12**

Deuteronomy 30: 15-30

and

Psalm 119:1-8

or

Acts 10:34-43

and

Matthew 3:21-37

## **February 19**

Exodus 24:12-18

and

Psalm 2 or 99

or

2 Peter 1:1-21

and

Matthew 17:1-9

## **Transfiguration Sunday**

## **February 22 5:30 PM**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 3:1-7

and

Isaiah 51:1-179

or

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

and

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

## **Ash Wednesday**

## **February 26**

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

and

Psalm 32

or

Romans 5:12-19

and

Matthew 4:1-11

## **First Sunday in Lent**



## 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 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**

## SUNDAY WORSHIP IS NOW LIVE ON YOU TUBE

We broadcast live Sunday mornings on YouTube. 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](mailto:Knopf.david@gmail.com)

## MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS -- VIA ZOOM

**Feb. 13:** The Board of Ministry will meet on **Monday**, Feb 13, at 7:15 PM

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

**Feb. ?:** The date of the next Church Council meeting will be announced.



## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: FEB. 22 AT 5:30 PM



**Lent** begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. We will offer an intimate and reflective service at 5:30 PM as an opportunity to prepare our hearts for the Lenten season.

Pastor Barbara will offer ashes and blessings as we remember our mortality, that we are made from the earth and are infinitely worthy as the earth itself.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S REPORT

### Highlights of the Trustees Annual Report

**Finances**—Although we anticipated ending the year with a deficit, we ended the year with a small surplus. Our costs were down because we relied on supply pastors for several months. Also, we received more general fund donations than were pledged. With a full staff, our expenses will be up for 2023.

**Facility**--Our facility has returned to active use by renters including two churches, 4H, the Threshold Choir, Acqua Montessori Preschool, a Yoga group, Toastmasters, and returning in March, Food Anonymous. The church also makes our Community Room available to the AARP Tax Assistance Program during tax season.

In addition to general upkeep of our 60+ year old facility, one of our challenges related to our facility will be dealing with the leaking roof in the Community Room. We also anticipate polishing our on-line virtual "facility" on the web and You Tube.

**Faculty**—Our staff has stabilized this year. After Pastor Jeffrey Cochran-Carney resigned due to health problems in February, we heard from old and new friends as supply preachers for several months. We are grateful Rev. Kristi Denham could provide some temporary pastoral support to the congregation.

In May Rev. Barbara Peronteau began as our pastor. She serves as a stabilizing and energizing presence in a "Designated Term" pastorate for at least 18 months. We are also pleased to have Gerry Grosz join us as Music Director, adding a jazz touch and wide experience with church music. Amy Powell continues with her calm and unflappable mastery of office managing. Damian Zilches continues to provide cleaning and janitorial services usually very late at night or very early in the morning.

Thanks to Louis Frost, Caryl Hodges, Michael Meehen, Val Sherer, and Bob Spofford, for serving on the Board.

David Knopf, Chair, Board of Trustees

### **Substitute Needed While Office Manager to Takes Medical Leave**

Amy Powell, our office manager, will have a long-postponed elective surgery beginning February 24. Her doctor anticipates her needing 4-6 weeks off. Although impossible to replace, the Trustees would like to hire a part time substitute to produce and print the bulletins, send out the weekly email "What's Happening," and keep on top of email, voice mail, and snail mail. If you know somebody who would be capable and interested in an approximately 5-10 hour a week job, please speak to David Knopf or Pastor Barbara.

### **NEXT TRUSTEES MEETING**

Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 PM, on Zoom.

This will be Mardi Gras night, but the Trustees will still take care of business!



## ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The congregation met in the sanctuary following worship on Sunday, February 5, for our Annual Meeting.

Reports were presented by Pastor Barbara Peronteau, Moderator Louis Frost, Mission Board Chair Caran Cuneo, Ministry Board Chair Cathi Fuller, Trustees Board Chair David Knopf, and Treasurer Caryl Hodges. Louis Frost also reported on the successful year for Every Dollar Feeds Kids.

After a review of the proposed church budget for 2023, the upcoming year, the congregation voted unanimously to accept the budget as presented.

A new slate of officers was also elected unanimously, with Lynn Grant volunteering to fill the empty position of Council-at-Large member.

### 2023 Church Council

Moderator: Caran Cuneo

Vice Moderator: Louis Frost

Treasurer: Caryl Hodges

Financial/Pledge Secretary: Val Sherer

Clerk/Recorder: Cecil Sherrod

Council-at-Large: Lynn Grant

Board of Ministry: Louis Frost and Cathi Fuller

Board of Mission: Lucinda Ray

Board of Trustees: David Knopf

Golden Gate Association Representative: Kristi Denham

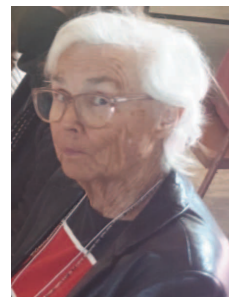


### 2023 Boards

**Board of Ministry:** Louis Frost and Cathi Fuller, chairs. Charles Little, Tessa Templeman, Jackie Dema, Gerry Grosz, Rev. Barbara Peronteau

**Board of Mission:** Lucinda Ray, chair. Cathi Fuller, Megan Fuller, Lynn Grant, Judy Girard

**Board of Trustees:** David Knopf, chair. Caryl Hodges, Bob Spofford, Val Sherer



The meeting was followed by a delicious pot luck lunch!





## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING COMING UP IN MARCH

The One Great Hour of Sharing, which will be received in March, supports partners in countries with ministries that fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response.

Your gifts help organizations confront food insecurity and hunger. OGHS partners with others to provide immediate aid to those affected by disasters, poverty, or fleeing conflict—providing food, water, shelter, and companionship during times of distress. Your dollars support soup kitchens and food pantries. OGHS shows up when people are in crisis.



In addition, your financial gifts enable the building (and rebuilding) of structures and processes that make a difference for the future, providing education and helping hands for long-term improvements.

OGHS is YOUR reach into the world, working in partnership with people we will never meet to transform lives for generations to come.

### REMEMBER THE MARIN FOOD BANK



Please keep helping us stock the pantry at the Marin Food Bank. 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. Remember that people need food all year round!

Thank you for your generous support!

# BOARD OF MINISTRY REPORT

## Worship In February

### February 4 - Annual Meeting

**February 22 - Lent** begins on Ash Wednesday February 22nd. We will offer an intimate and reflective service at 5:30 PM as an opportunity to prepare our hearts for the Lenten season.

Pastor Barbara will offer ashes and blessings as we remember our mortality, that we are made from the earth and are infinitely worthy as the earth itself.



### St. Valentine's Day

It is thought that the day is most likely named for a priest imprisoned and killed by the Roman emperor around February of year 270. According to legend, the priest left a farewell letter signed "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended (and healed from blindness according to some stories).

Many profound letters have been written by other prisoners of conscience from jail. Best known to us are the Apostle Paul, the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Archbishop Tutu had this to say about love: "We tend to think love is a feeling, but it is not.

"Love is an action; love is something we do for others."

...May our Valentines be acts of love.

**Next meeting: Monday, February 13, 2023 7:15 on Zoom**

**Here are some monthly Highlights in 2022** (Thank you Ministry Team and all those who make our worship together possible and meaningful!):

**JANUARY:** New Ministry Team met: Rev. Jeffrey Cochran Carney (until March) & Rev. Barbara Peronteau (since June), Jackie Dema, Cathi Fuller, Gerry Grosz, Charles Little & Cyndi Siroky.

**FEBRUARY:** We welcomed Gerry Grosz as our "Music Director" & are grateful for his gifts. We especially enjoyed his Jazz and Gospel music for Black History/ African Heritage Month.

On Feb 27th we celebrated Pastor Jeffrey's Ministry and Retirement with Courtyard worship (first time live since before Christmas) followed by food, fellowship, music & remembrances.

**MARCH, April, May:** We welcomed a wealth of wonderful guest preachers: Rev. Kristi Denham (3/6), Rev. Elisabeth Middleberg (3/13), Kim Williams (3/20), Garrett House (3/27), Rev. Brian Adkin (4/3), Rev. Julianne Stokstad (Palm Sunday & Easter), Pr. K Denham (4/24 & 5/1), Rev. Nichola Torbett (5/8), Rev. Barbara Peronteau (5/15)





**MAY:** Rev. Kristi Denham led us in worship (May 1st) Invitation to Breakfast on the Shore with Jesus followed by a “Breakfast” of bagels and lox for the courtyard Community Time.

On May 15th, Rev. Barbara Peronteau preached on “God is Still Speaking” followed by a Congregational Meeting (and picnic lunch), deciding to call her as a “Designated Term Pastor”.

**JUNE:** For Pride Sunday (6/26) we embraced our Beautiful Human Diversity and reaffirmed our commitment to be “Open and Affirming.” The “Simple Song of Peace,” performed by the choir was movingly enhanced by the Signing of Caryl Hodges. A courtyard picnic lunch followed.

**SUMMER:** On New Members Sunday, Revs. Barbara Peronteau and Kristi Denman joined our FCC Congregation. For fun, Pilgrim Park Picnic pleasure and boats and banter at Lynn Grant’s Bay.

**SEPTEMBER:** We celebrated Pastor Barbara’s Installation (Sept.11) into the UCC Golden Gate Conference: sermon by the Rev. Ohnsman, the UCC Liturgy by GGA Moderator Rev. Gregory and FCC Moderator Louis Frost with participation by congregants, supporting clergy and of course, Pastor Barbara. Great Jazz, lots of food and fellowship were enjoyed afterwards.

**OCTOBER:** A Memorial Service of Thanksgiving for Dorothy Trotter was celebrated. Blessing of Animals went live again (in the Courtyard) with thanks to Caryl Hodges for all she contributed!

**NOVEMBER:** On Nov. 27th, AIDS Remembrance Sunday we received the of Advent message of Hope when Julie Dowling shared her inspiring story.

**DECEMBER:** The Christmas Story was shared in scriptures, carols and a four-part pageant through Advent and culminated with two Christmas Eve services and a Christmas Day worship service. We renewed some traditions such as sharing the “Holy Family” travels to our “posada” homes, filling the sanctuary with memorial Poinsettias and delivering them to those unable to attend.

**Next Board of Ministry Team Meeting:** Monday, February 13, at 7:15 PM, on Zoom.

## NEWS FROM THE DEMPSEY FAMILY

We had a full year of international travel, it was exciting and tiring at the same time. We are now back in San Pancho, Mexico for 3 months. It is lovely to feel grounded in such a familiar place and to have predictable days..... until we get itchy feet again.

We were in Kenya for Christmas last year 2022, It was a real treat for mum to have her children and grandchildren at Marich Pass appreciating the space that she and Dad created. My sister from the UK and her family were there as were my brother and family from Austin. The boys had a lot of cousin time.

I am sending out the school update for 2022 a little late .We appreciate the support you have given towards the school, it has made a massive impact. Thank you again, hopefully someday you can visit in person.

Sending you all love and hugs, Saba, T.J., Sam, Jacob, and Ben

### Oron Primary School

West Pokot Kenya

Every year, the Ministry of Education randomly chooses schools in various districts around the country for surprise visits. They visited our school in November 2022 and made positive remarks about the amount of space the children have and where it is set. Of course they also suggested enhancements to meet the government regulations.



In order to meet the requirements of the Ministry of Education, we have to:

- Repurpose an existing building to accommodate a new classroom for the 7th graders. With time and budget, we will continue to build a new block that would have 2 more classrooms.
- build extra toilets both at the dorms and in the school compound
- add a patio to an existing classroom block.
- install electricity into the school compound as the solar panels are effective but dim. This is a costly project but one we will prioritize when more pressing projects are finished.
- The dormitories will need to have fire exit doors which will mean knocking out part of the wall in two dormitories. We were also asked to install new windows without grates.

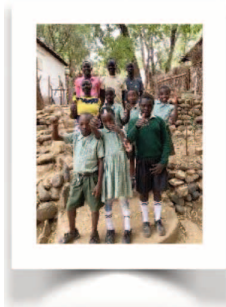


- Some of the pupils are fee paying and we encourage this, depending on the family financial situation. Your donations have been instrumental amongst many things it also helps families cover the educational needs, in some cases a hundred percent. This allows the children to have a safe place to be with three hot meals a day, clean water for bathing and laundry, a bed and a good education. This in turn gives many caring parents/carers peace of mind to focus on other pressing demands in their lives including finding employment, managing poor

health or struggles of their loved ones. It is not easy choosing who to support when many families ask for assistance but we have to do our due diligence and prioritize the families that could use help the most.

- The current food price hikes have severely affected local people, many of whom seek a hand to mouth existence working poorly paid jobs. Thankfully, the school garden has been a valuable resource to adding to school meals. The garden consists of tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, kale and other indigenous greens. As corn and beans is a staple in the local diet, we hope to plant these as well. We have set aside some land for this, but need access to abundant water supplies.

- The school library that we started two years ago is a popular place with the school children and well used. We will need to buy new books (almost new books), puzzles and stationery. I hope to send 2 or 3 gently used computers or tablets to help the teachers with their lessons and to give the older grades the opportunity to learn some basic computer skills.



On behalf of Oron primary school community, we want to thank you for all the support you have given us. You have truly blessed people who otherwise would have gone under the Radar during a time when things are tough globally.

If you are not already committed to supporting others causes at this time and would like to make contributions towards the community at the Oron primary school, any amount that you can give would make a big difference. All contributions go to the school 100% without a processing fee.

Again this year, Mtelo Ministries has agreed to process the donations and send you tax receipts.

Please make your donation through  
<https://www.mteloministries.org/donate/>

Please specify the country: **Kenya**

Under designated funds, please label: **Oron Primary school.**

Mtelo Charity 501(3)c number is **20-36220639**

If you prefer to wire a donation:

Mtelo Ministries

Routing Number **122016066**

Account number **401553185**

City National Bank

100 Oceangate

Unit 350

Long Beach, CA 90802



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

6 — Ralph Sherer  
11 — Samuel Dempsey  
25 — Rachael Knopf



## TIE DEADLINE for MARCH 2023 issue - Mon., Feb. 20

The deadline for articles and news for the March 2023 issue of The TIE is Monday, February 20. Please email your articles to [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com) by Monday, February 20.



### **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](mailto:barbareau433@yahoo.com)

### **Amy Powers – Office Manager**

Monday 11 AM- 2 PM

Wednesday and Thursday 10 AM - 2 PM













You can contact Amy by phone or email any time.

Office Phone: 415-479-2747

Email: [office@fccsanrafael.org](mailto:office@fccsanrafael.org)



# FCC Calendar FEBRUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>29</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>February 1</b>	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM 11 am - 1 pm  Annual Meeting and Pot Luck	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  Lincoln's Birthday 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>13</b> 7:15 am  Board of Ministry Meeting 12 noon via ZOOM	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>20</b>  Presidents' Day 5 am  THE Deadline for MARCH 2023 issue	<b>21</b> 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room 7 pm - 8 pm  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM	<b>22</b> 5:30 pm  Ash Wednesday Service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</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).