

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR... REV. BARBARA PERONTEAU



Holy Week

April begins with a triumphant entry into Jerusalem as Jesus rides into town on a donkey.

We know this day as Palm Sunday. I have options though. This day can also focus on the passion and suffering of Jesus. The way I see it though, by celebrating the day as Passion Sunday, the thunder of Palm Sunday is taken away and we coopt Good Friday. And so, with palms and joy we begin the celebration of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is actually an alternative to the imperial entry of Pontius Pilate through the main gates of the city. But more about this on Palm Sunday. The people were all there to celebrate the Passover. Understanding the Passover is the key to understanding Holy Week and the resulting resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As the week continues, Jesus will overturn

the tables at the temple. His anger is directed at the culture and also toward the temple authorities who have corrupted the worship of God and have forsaken the God of Deliverance for the gods of power and greed by caving to the demands of Rome.

Through the week, the tables will turn on Jesus as well. By Thursday, Jesus and his disciples will meet in an upper room one last time. They gather to celebrate Israel's Exodus out of Pharaoh's oppressive bondage. We call this night Maundy Thursday. It's where we get the words "mandate" and "commandment." The commandment being to "love one another as I have loved you." Even as Jesus washes his disciple's feet and shares the Passover Meal with them, the mechanisms of betrayal, denial, and desertion have already been set in motion.

Speaking of feet, this is not the only congregation who is reluctant to have their feet washed.

For Jesus and all the people of his time, their feet were what got them through life. Their feet could be sore, disfigured, bloody, or terribly callused. Our feet tell us where we've been and, as the song says, the troubles we've seen. On that night Jesus washes our troubles, our woes, and the calluses of our life. That's where we meet Jesus.

It hurts me when my friends don't understand Jesus, thinking Jesus is the cause of today's



oppression, racism, misogyny, queerphobia, and joy of guns. That's just very bad theology. What I want my friends to know is the same forces of betrayal, arrest, trial, and crucifixion of Jesus are the same forces banning books, censoring speech, and discriminatory legislation. Jesus goes to the cross because he is sent there, not by God, but by human hubris, greed, pride, and quest for power. speech, and discriminatory legislation. Jesus goes to the cross because he is sent there, not by God, but by human hubris, greed, pride, and quest for power.

On Friday Jesus dies. According to John 19:36 none of Jesus bones were broken. This is why you will never hear me say, "the body of Christ is broken for you." The bread is broken (and shared) not a broken body.

Never-the-less, Jesus goes to the cross. Condemned by those who were threatened. Crucified by those with authority to do so. And so, in solidarity with the masses Jesus dies on the Cross. God gets mad. The earth shakes, the moon turns red, the day goes dark. The human race has failed to listen to the Son of God. The way I read it; the crucifixion was not part of God's end game. After God's anger on Friday at the death of God's only begotten Son, God decides to take matters into God's own hands.

We don't see it. We see what is, but not how it happened. Mary Magdalene sees a stone that's been rolled away. She has a conversation with a risen Christ. Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved sees an empty tomb. In the darkness of a tomb God creates new and renewed life. We never see it happen.

Holy Week ends with a resurrection where God not only raises Jesus to the right hand of God, which Martin Luther says is, "nowhere and everywhere," all of humanity is raised too. It is at the partaking of the bread and cup that we too, here and now, are taken to that same right hand of God, where Jesus is. Through the bread and the cup, we are given the joys of new life and of Christ himself. Just like at the Last Supper.

Come share the rollercoaster ride of Holy Week. The pain of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and the emptiness of Saturday, are the only way Easter morning has any meaning at all.



Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! *Pastor Barbara*

PRAYER PARTNERS

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



March 26 - April 1

Bob and Sue Spofford

April 2 - 8

Tessa and Colin
Templeman

April 9 - 15

Patty Trosclair

April 16 - 22

Colleen Trudeau

April 23 - 29

James "Trip" True

April 30 - May 6

Denise Walker

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.

April 2

Psalm 118

and

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11



April 6

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Maundy Thursday

and Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

or

and John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 9

Jeremiah 31:1-6

Colossians 3:1-9

Easter Sunday

and Psalm 118

or

and John 20:1-18



April 16

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

1 Peter 1:3-9

Second Sunday of Easter

and Psalm 16

or

and John 20:19-31

April 23

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Peter 1:17-23

Third Sunday of Easter

and Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

or

and Luke 24:13-25

April 30

Acts 2:42-47

1 Peter 2:19-25

Fourth Sunday of Easter

and Psalm 23

or

and John 10:1-10



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

MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS -- VIA ZOOM

Apr. 4: The Board of Ministry will meet on **Tuesday**, April 4, at noon.

Apr. 5: The Board of Mission will meet on **Wednesday**, April 5, at 1:00 PM

Apr. 26: The Church Council meeting will be on Wednesday, April 26 at 5 PM.

Apr. 27: The Board of Trustees meeting will be on **Thursday**, April 27, at 7 PM.





BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S REPORT

THANKS!

Special thanks to the Real Life Church for extra help polishing the church and grounds on Saturday, April 1. They cleaned windows, vacuumed, mopped, scraped, weeded, swept, and scrubbed to help us get ready for Easter.

ABOUT OUR RENTERS

If you have been at church on a Tuesday, you might have heard the rehearsal of one of the groups renting our church space. The Threshold Choir sings for people in hospital and home situations, often on referral from one of the hospice organizations. The rehearsals often have 20-30 singers, although they usually sing in smaller groups for people. They sound amazing and deeply spiritual.

TAX HELP ON TUESDAYS

AARP is again providing tax filing assistance for free on Tuesdays, 10-2, in the Community Room.

CATCH US LIVE, OR STREAM WHENEVER

Can't make it to church? Don't miss out. Our services are now live on *YouTube* on Sundays at 10 AM. You can see the entire service for a few days. After that, we continue to make sermons available. We also hope to make available soon special choir anthems. Here is the address: <https://youtube.com/@firstcongregationalo5835>

THANKS TO THE TRUSTEES FOR THE SIGN CELEBRATING 130 YEARS AS A CONGREGATION!



NEXT Trustees meeting will be Thursday, April 27, 7:00

A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS



MIC Interfaith Prayer Breakfast 2023: A Fundraiser to benefit the Marin Interfaith Council

Annual interfaith celebration of the National Day of Prayer

When

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at
8:00 - 10:00 AM PDT

[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Congregation Kol Shofar
215 Blackfield Dr.
Tiburon, CA 94920

Contact

Esmeralda Flores
Marin Interfaith Council
415-456-6957
programs@marinifc.org

Please join us **Wed. May 3rd from 8-10 am** at Congregation Kol Shofar (215 Blackfield Dr., Tiburon) for the 24th Annual interfaith celebration of the National Day of Prayer. Come be in in community, celebrate our different faiths, as we hear from three spiritual leaders.

We will provide a delicious breakfast with vegetarian and gluten free options, coffee & tea.

Please register in advance below by April 26th for catering purposes.

Guest Speakers:



Jane Spahr



Naomi Weiss



CJ Dunford



BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING WOW!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

What a generous congregation! Our offering on March 19 was \$1585. Thank you so much for your contributions.

One Great Hour of Sharing is the refugee, relief and development special mission offering of the UCC. OGHS is at work all around the year, all around the world—sharing resources and changing lives. And this church helped!



BOARD OF MISSION UPCOMING EVENTS

Mission Moment April 16

On Sunday, April 16, we will welcome Jacqui Salyer, from Habitat for Humanity to speak during a Mission Moment in worship. Come and learn more about Habitat for Humanity.

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

On Sunday, May 21, after worship, you are invited to participate in writing and sending letters to our Senators and our Representative in Washington. The focus for the letters this year is building a healthy, equitable, and sustainable food system via the farm bill. Look for more details in the May issue of The TIE.

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

The Board of Ministry Team's key role in the church is to coordinate with the Pastor and Music Director in providing meaningful worship services throughout the liturgical year. We address the spiritual life of the church through the following areas: welcome and outreach, worship and prayer, fellowship, and education.



Celebrated in March

We enjoyed discussing the lectionary scripture for the week and how Wendell Berry's Sabbath poems illustrated some of the themes, challenges or moments of grace for us. "How can we open our hearts to grief in the world around us, including grief over the destruction of creation?"

130 Year Anniversary of FCC of San Rafael:

We celebrated with fellowship and tasty food at a traditional potluck on March 26 following worship. Photos documenting memorable occasions through the decades were displayed, questions about FCC were asked (winners took home the pansies decorating our tables). **Go to the next page to see pictures!**

Here are some of the questions (and Answers):

What year was FCCSR founded? (1893)

From which church congregation did we depart to become our own congregation of FCCSR? (First Presbyterian Church)

What year was FCCSR founded? (hint we are celebrating 130 years)

Who was our first woman moderator? And in what year? (Barbara Miller, in 1970)

Which Member of our congregation crafted our sanctuary cross? (Bob De Haan)

Name a non-profit started by FCC. (Pilgrim Park Foundation, Every Dollar Feeds Kids)

Name a talent that has been shared during worship by a congregant that surprised you.

(Caryl's signing, Mary's juggling, Oak's acting, Kristi's dancing, Julie's storytelling, Michael's preaching, David's directing, Sean's keyboard playing, 4 year old Jacob's singing Siyahamba acapella,)... there have been so many! Lots of memories emerged

Coming in April

Holy Week

April 2 - 10 AM: Palm Sunday: we will celebrate with palms and hymns of "Hosannas!"

April 6 - 5:30 PM: Maundy Thursday: A potluck soup supper will be followed by hand washing in the Narthex and a service of Communion in the Sanctuary.

Please sign up on Sunday or call Cathi if you are able to bring a soup or bread.

April 7 - 12-3 PM: Good Friday: A self-led meditation walk will be provided in The Courtyard. The Sanctuary will be open for individual prayer as well for those who prefer to sit and enjoy the meditative music.

April 9 - 10AM: Easter: An Easter Service of celebration of Christ's Resurrection will be held in the Sanctuary and recorded for Youtube. We will continue our tradition of filling the Sanctuary with memorial lilies and Flowering bulbs. We will fill the Cross with flowers from our spring gardens.

continued on the next page

If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily or spring bulb in memory or celebration of a loved one, please fill out the request form that will be in the bulletin in March. Lilies for \$10. And flowering plants \$5.



Community

Saturday, April 15th, 1 PM A **Memorial Celebration of Life** will be held for Analise “Lise” Adams. We are so grateful to her for sharing the gift of her beautiful voice with us in choir, supporting us from the pews and lifting us up with special music solos. Her warmth, generous heart and contagious laugh are deeply missed by our church family. We send prayers and condolences to family and friends.

Next Board of Ministry meeting: Tuesday, April 4 at noon on Zoom

PICTURES FROM OUR MARCH POTLUCK - ONE OF OUR CELEBRATIONS OF OUR CHURCH’S 130TH BIRTHDAY



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



3 — Bob Spofford
4 — Colleen Beery
9 — Bob Bandettini
10 — Scott Faraci
11 — Jill Krippendorf
24 — Lucinda Ray
26 — Michael Meehan

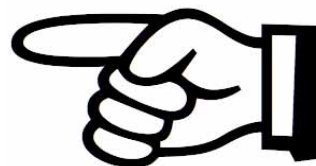
MEMORIAL CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR ANALISE (LISE) ADAMS — APRIL 15 - 1 PM



We are so grateful to her for sharing the gift of her beautiful voice with us in choir, supporting us from the pews and lifting us up with special music solos. Her warmth, generous heart and contagious laugh are deeply missed by our church family. Please come on Saturday, April 15, at 1 PM.

TIE DEADLINE for MAY 2023 issue - Mon., April 24

The deadline for articles and news for the May 2023 issue of The TIE is Monday, April 24. Please email your articles to lucindaray@aol.com by Monday, April 24.



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















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

FCC Calendar APRIL 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| 26  10 am - 11 am Worship, Church School & Child Care Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM | 27 | 28 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room | 29 | 30 | 31 April Fool's Day | |
| 2  10 am - 11 am Worship, Church School & Child Care Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM 10 am PALLI SUNDAY SERVICE | 3 | 4 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room 12 pm  Board of Ministry Meeting 12 noon via ZOOM | 5 1 pm - 2 pm  BOARD of MISSION Meeting on ZOOM | 6 5:30 pm  Maundy Thursday Soup Supper and Service | 7 12 pm - 3 pm  Good Friday Meditation | 8 |
| 9 Easter 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM 10 am EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE | 10 | 11 10 am - 2:30 pm AARP Tax help in the Community Room | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 1 pm  CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR LIFE ADAMS |
| 16  10 am - 11 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Earth Day |
| 23  10 am - 11 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM | 24 5 pm  TIE Deadline for MAY 2023 issue | 25 | 26 5 pm - 6 pm  Church Council Meeting via ZOOM | 27 7 pm - 8 pm  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM | 28 | 29 |
| 30  10 am - 11 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 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.