

## The TIE



**From our pastor,**  
Rev. Elisabeth Middelberg

### **Mitakuye Oyasin: All My Relations**

And so, we moved from October into November observing what is called ‘Hallowed Time.’ Hallowed time starts on Thursday October 31 and lasts through November 2. It is believed that during these three days the souls of the departed are most active and that our world and their world come close together. We say that the veil is thin at this time, which provides us with an opportunity to come a little closer and to hang out with our saints, with the departed, to honor and to remember them.

During this time of remembrance, we're invited to reflect on a profound truth

captured in the indigenous prayer "Mitakuye Oyasin" (Mee-tah-koo-yay Oy-yah-seen), which means “All My Relations.”

This prayer, included in rituals of indigenous peoples around the world, offers us a worldview that challenges our culture's emphasis on the “self-made” individual. It acknowledges something different and deeper: we are profoundly connected not just to each other, but to the natural world around us, to the Holy One, to our ancestors, and even to those still to come.

When we take time to remember those who have touched our lives, we begin to see how their spirits and gifts are woven into the very fabric of who we are. Perhaps it's the encouragement of a friend that still echoes in difficult moments, or the courage of ancestors who risked everything so we could walk freely today. As poet Maya Angelou reminds us, when we remember great souls, “our senses, restored, never to be the same, whisper to us. They existed. They existed. We can be. Be and be better. For they existed.”

We carry them with us. We are their voices, their hands, and their hearts. The lives they



lived hold us steady. Their words remind us and call us back to ourselves. Their courage and love evoke our own. In honoring our relationships—past and present—we restore our senses and bring more of ourselves forward as we walk the path set before us.

Our beings are deeply embedded in this world, and the world is deeply embedded in each one of us. What a loss it would be not to know ourselves as part of this greater whole.



Marcia McFee in her poem “We Fall Back” reflects on these days of “Hallowed Time.”

Today we fall back. Not just with our clocks  
That usher in the darker days of winter  
But also, we fall back upon our memories  
Of loved ones gone from this realm,  
We fall back upon the emptiness  
That we still sometimes feel at their absence  
We fall back upon our gratefulness  
that such a cloud of witnesses paved the way for us  
We fall back upon our faith  
That just as the Holy walked with them  
So too the Holy walks with us  
And today, let us fall back into the arms of loved ones  
Still with us, and remember to tell them  
Just how much they mean to us.  
Today let us fall back into the ever-present arms of the Holy One,  
Remembering to say: Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
Mee-tah-koo-yay Oy-yah-seen. We honor all of our relationships  
Amen and amen.

*Pastor Elisabeth*

## **PRAYER PARTNERS**

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



**October 26 - November 1**  
Ed Briggs

**November 2 - 8**  
Cara and Eric Caindec

**November 9 - 15**  
Caran Cuneo

**November 16 - 22**  
Anne Dannecker

**November 23 - 29**  
Bob De Haan and Nancy Sangster-  
De Haan

**November 30 - December 6**  
Jackie Dema

# Come and Worship with us!



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

<b>November 2</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>All Saints Day</b> Luke 18:1-8
<b>November 9</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Veteran's Day</b> Rev. Elizabeth Conway preaching
<b>November 16</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Zacchaeus Called Down</b> Luke 19:1-10 <b>Mission Moment: Megan Fuller</b>
<b>November 23</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>
<b>November 30</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>First Sunday in Advent</b> John the Baptist World AIDS Day

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME  
ENDS!**

**SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK  
ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY  
NIGHT, NOV. 1**



≡ Daylight Saving Time Ends ≡  
Set your clocks back one hour



## 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=c2V0RXEvdWxkF4STNNSTlxbWFFTENuZz09>

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



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

**Nov. 6:** The Board of Trustees will meet on **Thursday, Nov. 6** at 7:00 PM.

**Nov. 11:** The Board of Ministry will meet on **Tuesday, Nov. 11** at 11:45 AM.

**Nov. 19:** The Church Council will meet on **Wednesday, Nov. 19** at 6 PM.



**KINDNESS — PASS IT ON!**

*Make a new friend*

## THE INTERIM PROCESS -- HERE ARE THE NEXT STEPS:

- We appoint an Interim Search Committee to locate and recommend an interim pastor  
**The Interim Search Committee is Louis Frost, Megan Fuller, and David Santschi.**
- We hire an Interim Pastor **Rev. Elisabeth Middelberg began on March 17, 2024.**
- We appoint a Search Committee **The Search Committee is Caran Cuneo, David Santschi, Annie Song-Hill, Lucinda Ray, and Cathi Fuller.**
- We update our church's website and engage the congregation through surveys to better represent who we are.
- We create our Church Profile, a description of our church to be read by potential pastors
- The Search Committee will consider all potential candidates
- The Search Committee will select possible candidates
- The Search Committee will interview these candidates
- One candidate will be recommended to the congregation
- The congregation will have an opportunity to meet the candidate
- We will vote on the recommended candidate
- We will join in worship to install our new pastor

## CANDY-MAKING PARTY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30



Don't miss the annual candy-making party on the Sunday after Thanksgiving at the home of Lucinda Ray and Charles Little, 754 Bantam Way, Petaluma.

It will be held on Sunday, November 30, at about 12:30. We will start with a simple soup and bread lunch.

People bring the ingredients and help make the delicious toffee. Others watch and offer advice.

If you would like to come, Lucinda will have a sign-up list in worship where you can indicate what you can bring (butter, sugar, chocolate chips, pecans, cookie sheets, heavy pots, candy thermometers, etc.).

Men and women are equally welcome!



## BOARD OF MISSION MISSION MATTERS



### SAVE THE DATE NEXT STREET CHAPLAINCY DINNER - DECEMBER 9



The Board of Mission has committed to helping prepare and serve dinner for those in need four times this year. On Tuesday, December 9, a group of us will volunteer at the Street Chaplaincy dinner at the First Presbyterian Church in San Rafael. We need to be there from 4 - 7 PM.

It costs about \$250 dollars to purchase the groceries for each meal. We feed about 80 people. So where does the money come from? The Board of Mission is using money from The Pilgrim Hill Fund, which was created two decades ago by our church as a special fund for mission in our community.



We also need you to save lightly used warm coats, scarves, boots, gloves, mittens, gloves, and sweaters that we donate to those who come to the dinner.

We will need about 7 volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal. Please contact Lucinda Ray if you can help. [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com)

### PLEASE CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THE FOOD BANK

Please continue to bring in non-perishable food items - coffee, tea bags, cooking oil, boxed milk, peanut butter, canned goods, rice, cereal, canned meat are especially welcome. Sugar and flour are also needed.

Please deposit them in our Food Bank barrel in the Narthex.



## 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.



### Agape Team

The Agape Team provides "compassionate connection to our church community through words of encouragement, cards, phone calls, home visits, and other support as needed. Leave a message in the church office or contact Jackie Dema or Cathi Fuller if you have a request. If you need a visit or other support, please leave a message in the office, or let Pastor Elisabeth know for more urgent matters.

**Prayer Chain** E-mail either Julie Dowling [isabella1472@comcast.net](mailto:isabella1472@comcast.net) or Annie Song-Hill [asonghill@gmail.com](mailto:asonghill@gmail.com) if you have a prayer request you would like included in the prayer chain.

**Tuesdays at 5 PM** Meditation continues every Tuesdays at 5 PM. Tell Elisabeth if you wish to join by Zoom or need a ride if you cannot attend in person.

**Worship:** The Choir is back weekly performing inspiring music. Lovely to have recent addition of Jean and Dick adding their voices. Feel free to applaud enthusiastically if you are led to do so.

### Last Month:

**October 5:** We celebrated The Blessing of the Animals, always a favorite Sunday in the sunny Courtyard. Particular thanks to Pr. Elisabeth, Caryl Hodges, Gerry Grosz and David Knopf for planning, preparation and performance!



**Oct 12:** We celebrated World Communion Sunday, and Reverend Kevin Omi preached and inspired us with tales of how a SF Japanese congregation used their annual Mochi making for community building and as an expression of God's abundant caring. Our annual Neighbors In Need Collection was held.

**Oct. 19:** Reverend Dr. Jana Childers, Professor Emerita at San Francisco Theological Seminar preached on the Gospel of Luke story of the healing of the "Bent Double" woman and Jesus' deep compassion, God's Healing Love.



We also heard personal experiences from Val Sherer and Louis Frost about the history, visits and the importance of our financial support for **Every Dollar Feeds Kids** "EDFK", our FCCSR project that provides meals for the children in the ¡Vamos! school programs in Mexico. A Taco luncheon was held following the worship service. Thank you to Val, Megan, Louis, Cathy, David and all who helped plan, prepare, set up and clean up to make for a delightful festive luncheon and fundraiser for EDFK.

## In November

**November 2: All Saints Day** Feel free to bring a photo of loved ones or Inspirational mentors to share.

**November 4: Election Day.** Please Vote.

**November 9 Veterans' Day:** Please bring a photo or memento to be placed on the Sanctuary table to honor the Veterans in your family.

**November 23: Gratitude/ Thanksgiving Sunday.** We will have folk share and recognize the Volunteer work of members of the FCCSR community.  
Thanksgiving Day is November 27

**November 30: First Sunday in Advent**

**Next Board of Ministry meeting:** 11:45 on Zoom, **Tuesday, November 11**



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT



### Landscape Update

The landscaping of our property by N. San Pedro Road hit another delay. Because we will be increasing our water allotment from MMWD by adding recycled water, we have to reduce other water usage. They are requiring us to replace all five of our low flow toilets with ultra low flow models, and replace the downstairs kitchen dishwasher with a newer Energy Star model. We will also install flow restrictors on all faucets.

### Emergency Lights

The Fire Marshall inspected the church last month and found that our emergency lights in the Community Room were not working. We contacted Firemasters, who maintain our fire extinguishers. They discovered that all of our batteries in the Sanctuary need replacing as well, as do a couple of the lights. The batteries have not been renewed since our remodel more than 25 years ago. The Trustees also decided to add an emergency light in the downstairs hallway.

### November is Pledge Month

Support, committed community, inspiration during trouble times, and penny bubble gum! These are some of the reasons Julie Dowling, Annie Song-Hill, and Caryl Hodges gave when they pledged to support our church. Thanks to each of you for the inspiration.



You should receive a letter from the Trustees this month asking for your commitment to support the church in various ways. Please return these in the offering plate, to the church office, or to Va Sherer's box in the church office as soon as possible.

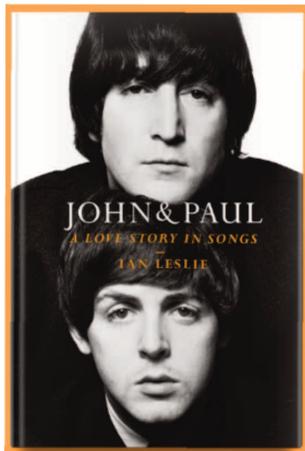
## ELDERS MEET ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

### Oh The Stories We Tell!

The fire alarms were ringing on all three floors of the Sorority House at Cal. Ed, who was in charge for the night, couldn't figure out how to turn them off. That story, in far more detail, was one of the things we learned, laughing hilariously, about Ed Briggs' time working his way through Berkeley in the 1960's.



That's the kind of story we hear about our FCCSR friends in our monthly Elders' meetings. You don't want to miss them. Join us to hear and share more memories from our pasts. The next meeting is on Tuesday evening, December 2, at 6:30 over the church's Zoom link. Be There or Be Square.



### BOOK CLUB - DECEMBER 11, 7:30 PM

We will be reading *John & Paul A Love Story in Songs*, by Ian Leslie. It is available from both the Sonoma County and Marin County libraries. The beginning of this review from *The Guardian* lets you know what a treat you are in for when you read it and we have a chance to discuss it:

“It is a strange and beguiling experience to find music you have had in your head since childhood reveal new and unsuspected shades of meaning 50 years later. Beatles songs aren't like most pop songs; instead of fading, they take on a richer colour and nuance, not least because new generations of fans inquire more deeply into what previous listeners

might have overlooked or simply misunderstood. One twist of the kaleidoscope and a song we thought we knew suddenly sounds even better than it did the first 100 times we heard it.

This is the effect of reading Ian Leslie's brilliant study of the Beatles' music, a book that offers not only a lesson in listening (again) but an enthralling narrative of friendship, creative genius and loss. At its centre is the songwriting partnership of John Lennon and Paul McCartney, and the unprecedented peaks the two of them scaled in remaking English popular music. You may find it impossible not to be awed by their achievement all over again. But Leslie also wants to challenge a myth about the pair. After the Beatles finally disbanded, a consensus formed that Paul was the straight man to John's rebel bohemian – vanilla against brimstone – which hardened into holy writ on Lennon's murder in 1980. McCartney's inadequate off-the-cuff response to the news (“it's a drag”) took some living down. Leslie lays to rest this old opposition, arguing that there was “no John without Paul, and vice versa”. Their collaboration was as tight and co-dependent as two climbers roped together on a mountain face.”



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

16 — Eckhard Mahl

### SAVE THE DATE! HOLIDAY CHORAL BY CANDLELIGHT DECEMBER 6 AND 7

#### Candlelight Choral Concert Marin Symphony Chamber Chorus

Saturday Dec. 6 at 7:30 PM

Sunday Dec. 7 at 4 PM

Mission San Rafael

\$41

This concert includes Lucinda Ray, Charles Little, Christina Schiffner Santschi, and David Santschi.



### TIE DEADLINE for DECEMBER 2025 - MON., NOV. 24

The deadline for articles and news for the December 2025 issue of The TIE is Monday, November 24. Please email your articles to [lucindaray@aol.com](mailto:lucindaray@aol.com) by Monday, November 24.



#### Rev. Elisabeth Middelberg

Thursday mornings

or by appointment

Phone: 707 280-0382

Email: [Elismid@yahoo.com](mailto:Elismid@yahoo.com)

#### Amy Powers – Office Manager

Monday and Thursday 10:30 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 **NOVEMBER** 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b>  Daylight Saving (End) 10 am Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM		<b>4</b> 5 am - 6 am  Meditation in the Sanctuary	<b>5</b> 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm  BOARD of MISSION Meeting on ZOOM	<b>6</b> 7 am - 8 am  BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING via ZOOM		
<b>9</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>10</b> Veterans Day 11:45 am  Board of Ministry Meeting TUES via ZOOM 5 am - 6 am  Meditation in the Sanctuary					
<b>16</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM		<b>18</b> 5 am - 6 am  Meditation in the Sanctuary	<b>19</b> 6 am - 7 am  Church Council Meeting via ZOOM			
<b>23</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM	<b>24</b> 5 am  TIE DEADLINE 5 PM			<b>27</b>  Thanksgiving Day		
<b>30</b> 10 am  Worship, Church School & Child Care 10 am - 11 am Our service is on YOUTUBE at 10 AM 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm  CANDY PARTY		<b>2</b> 5 am - 6 am  Meditation in the Sanctuary 6:30 am - 7:30 am  ELDERS MEETING ON ZOOM				<b>6</b> D

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).