

# Tidings

The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church

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## April 2016

May Tidings articles are due by April 13

May Tidings will be available April 24

Christ is Risen!

Happy Easter! For those of you reading this at church on Sunday morning it is a joy to worship with you on this holiest of Christian holidays. For those of you reading this at home, Happy Easter, and I hope to see you soon.

With our celebration today we begin the season of Easter which lasts for the next fifty days. This season concludes with Pentecost on May 15th when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to Jesus' first disciples and followers and the birthday of the Church. In between now and then we will be telling the story of how the early Church grew and the disciples who made that growth possible. We will be reading stories from the Book of Acts in worship. These stories will include Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus and Peter's vision that helped the early Church expand its mission to Gentiles (non-Jews). We will also hear the stories of Tabitha whose "life overflowed with good works" and Lydia an early Gentile convert to Christianity. All of these stories remind us of the new life that is possible for people, families, and communities when Jesus is the central part of one's daily life.

Outside of worship this is the season for talking about growth and new life here at Woodside Road United Methodist Church and how it is that Jesus is a central part of all that we do. As I wrote last month, on Monday, April 18th at 7:30pm and on Wednesday, April 20th at 10am we will host two Town Hall style meetings. The agenda for these meetings reflect our mission statement: How are we seeking God, and where can we go deeper? How are we welcoming all, and where can we go deeper? How are we loving and serving our neighbors, and where can we go deeper? These are brainstorming sessions and there are no wrong answers. I have my own ideas about how to answer these questions, but I'm convinced your ideas will be more interesting than mine! (If childcare would be helpful to you please let me know)

We don't seek out growth and new life for the sake of growth and new life. We seek these things out because that's what Jesus did and that's what Jesus encouraged his first disciples to do as well. In John's gospel Jesus says that he came that people might have abundant life – which I think is a lot like growth and new life. When we live abundant lives our faith deepens, our commitment to service increases, and our practices of hospitality grow.

I look forward to this season of Easter and all of the ways that we will celebrate Christ's resurrection and the promise of new life in our midst!

See you in church,

*Katie*



By Helen Lomas

**Members:** Alice Allen, Cassie Allen, Bev Barr, Carole Clarke, Barbara Fleenor, Anne Hinton, Betty Kibbe, Helen Lomas, Mary Marchini, Helen Marin, Jean

Massing and Mary Nelson.

**Absent:** Geneva Anderson, Evelyn Berk, Doris Bogart, Elizabeth Prasad.

Carole Clarke was our hostess on March 7, 2016 with a St. Patrick's Day theme. Jean Massing will be hostess on Monday April 4th.

Helen Marin read information off the internet regarding food safety issues, particularly food grown in US but shipped to China for processing before being returned to US with labels saying "food grown in US". Be aware of the small print on your packages and the changes in the food industry. Bev read a devotion for our meeting.

**Business:** On April 9, 2016, there will be a "Social Justice Event" from 8am till 1pm in Sacramento. Featured issues for action will be "Immigration and Human Trafficking". Pastor Katie Goetz has offered to present a program in May. Our members suggested topics such as the church year calendar or the controversy regarding Saint Luke. We are still interested in having a speaker from the Service League of San Mateo County regarding their programs and perhaps a visit to Hope House sometime.

A Lenten Program was prepared by Mary Nelson that provided information about the customs of the Lenten season and therefore led to lively discussions. "Fat Tuesday", Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday, forty days of Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Holy Friday, and signs of the cross were some of the topics that were presented. We were encouraged to read the four gospels in the next few weeks and continue our discussions next month. We closed with prayers for Geneva Anderson who is transitioning from her present life into the hands of God. Her family is surrounding her at this time. Prayers were offered for Evelyn, Doris and Elizabeth to get well. Twenty personal care bags were packed for the Service League and Bev Barr will take them down to their office following our meeting. We thank Bev and her son, Craig, for setting up the room each month. The meeting adjourned at 2 pm.



**A STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:**

The Scripture calls each of us to a deeper awareness of the wonders of God's blessings, the gifts, that He has showered on us in great an abundance, and to the challenge to use those gifts and talents creatively and responsibly.

-Howard Macway



Geneva Anderson passed away on Saturday, March 19, 2016. A memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary, Saturday, April 2 at 10:00am. A reception will follow in Watters Hall.



**APRIL**

Jean Massing	April 7
Kirmala Dayal	April 8
Rebecca & Kashwan Reddy (A)	April 11
William Petelo	April 13
Kashwan Reddy	April 14
Carole Clarke	April 16
Greg & Nancy Brown (A)	April 17
Anne Hinton	April 18
Joe Palumbo	April 21
Teri Folau	April 26
Elaine Stern	April 28

**MAY**

Elijah Folau	May 2
Kristin Nelson	May 2
Rosa Pissani	May 4
Gwen Farey	May 8
Lisette Fletcher	May 8
Nico Guarino	May 18
Galen Leach Taylor	May 24
Greg Brown	May 28
Roger Stern	May 29
Penisimani (Ben) Folau	May 31
Rachel Petelo	May 31

# APRIL 2016

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  Geneva Anderson Memorial 10am
<b>3</b> 10:30 Worship Rev Geoff Browning preaching 10:45 Sunday School 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship Katie Away ----	<b>4</b>  Thoburn Circle   12-2pm Watters Hall ----	<b>5</b>  ----	<b>6</b>  ----	<b>7</b>  Choir Practice 7:30pm  ----	<b>8</b>  ----	<b>9</b>  -->
<b>10</b> 10:30 Family Worship 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Trustess 6:15pm Choir Practice 7:30pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship	<b>18</b>  Town Hall Meeting 7:30pm	<b>19</b>  2:30 Finance 3:30pm Ad Council	<b>20</b>  Town Hall Meeting 10am	<b>21</b>  Choir Practice 7:30pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  Choir Practice 7:30pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>