

Tidings

The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church

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April 2017

May Tidings articles are due by April 17
May Tidings will be available April 30

Dear Friends,

If you have been able to join us in worship this Lenten season, you know that we are journeying day by day through Mark's gospel and his description of the events of Holy Week. As April approaches we will be remembering Maundy Thursday on April 2nd and Good Friday on April 9th. Both of these worship services will involve extended readings from Mark's gospel: on April 2nd we will read most of Mark 14 and on the ninth we will read most of Mark 15. If you would like to participate in either of these worship services as a reader, please let me know. If you'd like to participate in the worship service by coloring, the Stations of the Cross coloring sheets that the kids have been working on will continue to be available as well!

Along with these extended readings the order of worship and to some extent the content of these services will be different from what we typically do on Sunday mornings. We will not have a hymn sing on either of these Sundays (we also won't have one on Easter, but rest assured the hymn sing will return on April 23rd). I'm also asking you to submit announcements to either me (katiemgoetz@gmail.com) or the church office (wrumc@prodigy.net) ahead of time so we can print them in the bulletin instead of sharing them verbally in the service. Thursday and Friday of Holy Week are two of the most sacred days in our Christian year, and my hope and prayer is that by centering in on Mark's gospel we will experience the final days of Jesus' life more deeply.

Following Jesus this closely through the last days of his life is a new experience for me. I've never focused in on one week of Jesus' life over the course of six weeks. My hope and my prayer is that as we move toward the fifth and sixth Sundays of Lent, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we are able to discover more completely what it means to be followers of Jesus. My hope and my prayer is that by walking this closely with Jesus through the Last Supper, praying in the garden, the trial before Pilate, and the crucifixion we discover what it means to give our lives completely over to God – traveling the path God would have us travel rather than the path we'd choose for ourselves, and recognizing that God goes with us every step of the way.

All of this, of course, leads us to Easter Sunday. On Easter we celebrate God's "No!" to sin and death and God's "Yes!" to grace, new life, and the freedom that following Jesus brings. We will celebrate God's "Yes!" through scripture and song, through prayer and preaching. I hope you will join us as we celebrate how sin, death, and the powers of this world don't have the final word – God does!

See you in church,

Katie



By Helen Lomas

Members: Alice Allen, Cassie Allen, Carole Clarke, Anne Hinton, Bev Barr, Helen Lomas, Mary Marchini, Helen Marin, Jean Massing and Mary Nelson.

Absent: Barbara Fleenor, Betty Kibbe and Elizabeth Prasad.

On March 6, 2017, ten members of the Thoburn UMW Circle met at twelve noon for our meeting. Mary Marchini was our hostess and served a St. Patrick's Day cake and fruit for dessert. Helen read a poem about spring.

Our prayers were for Barbara who had a fall and is recovering at home, Betty Kibbe who is not feeling well and Evelyn Berk who is also recovering from a fall.

The rummage sale for the youth made almost \$1500 dollars with the help of many hands who worked on Saturday, Sunday evening and Monday. The left over items were distributed to various local organizations.

There was a concern about whose responsibility was it to send information to families regarding memorial donations so that they can send thank you notes. Item to be discussed at Ad Council.

Each member spoke about events that have occurred in their lives since we last met.

We packaged 20 personal care bags for Bev to deliver to the San Mateo Service League in Redwood City.

Evelyn Berk and Jean Massing will be our hostesses on April 3rd at 12 noon.

The meeting adjourned at 2 PM.



Financial Status as 2/28/17

Income of **\$33,335**

Expenditures of **\$31,018**

Difference of **\$2,317**



STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

As Christians we give thanks for the many blessings in our lives.

We are prayerful people who acknowledge God as the source of our most precious gifts of time, talents and treasures. In our silent reflection, prayer before meals, at worship and other times, we acknowledge God as Father, God as Lord, God as Spirit who inspires and energizes us.

Howard Macway



Life Line Screening

Woodside Road United Methodist Church

Tuesday, May 24, 2017.

Pre-registration is required.

Call 866.964.9087

Stroke/Carotid Artery, Atrial Fibrillation, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Arterial Disease, and Osteoporosis Some financial scholarships available.

Reconciling Ministries Statement

Following Worship on March 5th we affirmed the Reconciling Ministries Statement. This is our public statement that we welcome and include in the life of the church all people regardless of any category including, and especially, sexual orientation or gender identity. We are now in the process of joining the Reconciling Ministries Network. The statement (printed below) is available for you to sign before we submit it. We will also take a congregation photo for the Reconciling Ministries Network on April 2nd (weather permitting). If you want to be a part of the picture please join us in front of the Sanctuary following worship.

Woodside Road United Methodist Church joyfully embraces God's acceptance and love of all people:

- We affirm that all people are children of God and of sacred worth.
- We affirm Jesus' welcome and the full participation in the church of everyone regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnic background, immigration status, economic status, family make-up, physical or mental abilities, and any other means people use to categorize or discriminate.
- We affirm that as Jesus' disciples we will live out his call to radical love.
- We affirm our call to create a community of joy and laughter in times of celebration and support and nurture in times of struggle.

Adult Spiritual Formation

The study *Plenty Good Room* continues on Sunday mornings following worship. This study based on African American spirituals brings together scripture, song, and personal reflection and experience. Everyone is welcome! We meet in the library after folks have had time to grab a bite to eat and a cup of coffee. This study continues through April 9th.

Beginning on April 23rd we will explore Anne Lamott's new book *Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy*. This book is scheduled to be published April 4th, so the exact structure of the study is still to be determined. As always, everyone is welcome to join in after worship on Sundays.

Special Worship Services in May

In May we have the opportunity to welcome two special guests to our Sunday morning worship service:

On May 7th Dr. Robert Frager, Imam of the Jerrahi Mosque of Redwood City, will speak in the worship service about Islam. Dr. Frager has been practicing Sufi Islam since 1981. Members of his congregation will also be present with us to teach us about and lead us in their prayer practice. Please come join us for what promises to be a rich multi-religious worship experience.

On May 14th Michael Harris will once again share with us his inspirational music ministry. Since it is Mother's Day he will be sharing with us about how his mom and his aunt shaped his journey with God. In addition to being a powerful story teller and talented musician, Michael Harris is also the son-in-law of Helen Lomas. We look forward to worshipping with you on Mother's Day as Michael shares his story with us.



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
Jose Mauricio Rendon III	May 17
Nico Guarino	May 18
Greg Brown	May 28
Roger Stern	May 29
Penisimani (Ben) Folau	May 31
Rachel Petelo	May 31

If you do not see your name listed, it's because we don't have your birthday or anniversary information. Please let the church office know your information so that we may correct it.



Education News

EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT!



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 16. All children 10 and younger are invited. Bring your friends and relatives! We'll gather at the church doors on the Alameda side at 10am.

It's fun for adults to watch, and they can help "guard" the sidewalks.

Easter worship begins at 10:30am, and families are warmly invited to participate. There will be special "busy bags" for children. Rebekah Corrales is our Nursery Attendant, and preschoolers are always welcome in the nursery.

UMYF Update



Our youth will participate in a Sierra Service Project (SSP) July 9-15, where they will help a low income community near San Diego. SSP projects are work weeks to help communities with projects like cleaning,

painting, refurbishing etc. There will be youth from other churches there also. You can learn about SSP at the website sierraserviceproject.org.

Our teens have been fundraising for this trip since December and are very grateful to all who have supported that. In December they sold See's candy and then they sponsored a big rummage sale in February. So far they have about 3/4 of the cost for their trip, and will do at least one more fundraiser, in May. They hope to rent a van so they can travel together.

Sunday School News



Cathy Taylor is the very creative teacher of a wonderful class for children pre-K through grade 5. During Lent they are learning about the Easter story. The class will not meet on Palm and Easter Sundays, April 9 and 16;

instead children are invited to stay in worship with their families those days.

After Easter their class will resume its regular schedule – children will come to worship with their families at 10:30 and leave for Sunday School after the Youth Moments, except on Second Sundays. The class meets in rooms 5-6.



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