

April 2019

Woodside Road United Methodist Church
2000 Woodside Road
Redwood City, CA 94061

Dated Material

Tidings

The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church

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April 2019

May Tidings articles are due by April 15.

May Tidings will be available on the last Sunday in April.

Dear Friends,

This week we find ourselves at the mid-point of our Lenten journey. For the last three weeks we journeyed in worship with John Wesley as he built a house of grace. Grace that invites us into relationship with God, grace that assures us that loved by God, grace that moves us towards transformation, making ever more room in our hearts for love of God and love of neighbor on our journey to Christian perfection. Now that the house is built, we'll continue the journey looking at the nuts and bolts of our faith, the things that make our homes (faith) beautiful, and on Palm Sunday explore the hospitality of Holy Week.

During Holy Week we have two weekday services this year! On Holy/Maundy Thursday we will worship in the chapel at 7pm. On Good Friday we will worship in Watters Hall at Noon with Templo La Luz. During this worship service we will hear the “Seven Last Words” of Jesus. These are the things that the different evangelists recorded Jesus saying from the cross. They aren’t actually words, they’re phrases. I am looking for folks who’d like to share 2-3 minute reflections on these phrases. Let me know if you’re interested. Of course, on April 3rd we’ll have a noontime service at First Church, UCC and on April 10th, we’ll be in Watters Hall.

These times of shared worship during Lent ground me. They remind me that being a follower of Jesus Christ is work that takes place in community and that the Christian community stretches across time and space and denomination. As followers of Jesus when we come together we grow in faith, in love, in service, and community. We can learn from one another’s traditions and insights, practices and beliefs. When we practice worship and fellowship in a different style or a different place we are reminded that Jesus calls on us to draw the circle wide. From the beginning there has been more than one way to be a Christian, remember the early church had a huge controversy about whether or not folks had to become Jewish in order to become Christian. And that’s still true today. There is more than one way to follow Jesus, and for that I’m grateful.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read some bits and pieces following the General Conference that took place last month. There are opportunities throughout the Bay Area in April to hear from the Bishop and other church leaders. We’re sharing part of the Western Jurisdiction leadership team’s response. And part of our own statement of welcome and affirmation is reprinted in this newsletter as well (it’s also on the back of the bulletin each week and on our website if you want to look more closely). Four months from now (!) Rev. Izzy Alvaran is scheduled to preach while I head with the youth to Sierra Service Project on July 28th. Izzy is the Western Jurisdiction coordinator for the Reconciling Ministries Network. He was originally going to preach last summer, but had to reschedule due to a family commitment.

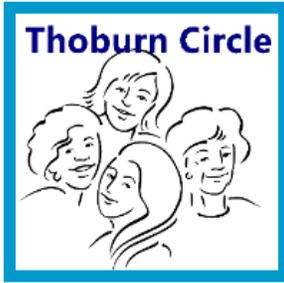
Following Jesus can be messy, challenging work. But it is work that is also full of grace, community, and love. It’s a journey best taken together; we need each other as we travel this path of discipleship. As we reach this mid-point of Lent, I am grateful to be on this journey with you, with our Christian siblings here in Redwood City, and with those who claim the name of Christ the world over.

See you in church,

Katie



United Methodist Women



Members: Bev Barr, Evelyn Berk, Carole Clarke, Betty Kibbe, Helen Lomas, Jean Massing, Helen Marin and Mary Nelson.

Thoburn Members Absent: Alice Allen, Jane Day, Anne Hinton, Mary Marchini and Elizabeth Prasad.

The ladies met at noon on March 4, 2019 in Watters Hall for lunch and social gathering. Betty was our hostess with a St. Patrick's Day theme.

We received thank you letters from UMCOR, Service League and Salvation Army for our contributions. Evelyn stated that we have \$58.61 in our Sunshine Bank and Bev added that we have \$100 in our Service League account for items for the personal care bags.

Jean Massing will be our hostess for April 1st meeting.

Fifteen personal care bags were packed for Bev to take to the Service League.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Helen Lomas

Finance Committee:

Financial Facts

Income as of 2/28/19 \$40,516
Expenses as of 2/28/19 32,508
Positive \$8,008

DEPENDABILITY

If we are accountable to God, can God depend on us? We think of ourselves as dependable, but how does God judge us? It is required of us to be faithful stewards. A faithful person is a dependable person. Dependability is a key concept in Christian stewardship. Our motivation for dependability is love and gratitude to God.

UMC Stewardship



Birthdays

Jean Massing	April 7
Kirmala Dayal	April 8
William Petelo	April 13
Kashwan Reddy	April 14
Evelyn Weaver	April 14
Carole Clarke	April 16
Anne Hinton	April 18
Joe Palumbo	April 21
Teri Folau	April 26
Elaine Stern	April 28

Anniversaries

Rebecca & Kashwan Reddy	April 11
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Lent and Easter at Woodside Road UMC

Wednesday, April 3rd @ Noon

Mid-Week Service and Lunch
First Church, UCC (1155 Broadway)

Wednesday, April 10th @ Noon

Mid-Week Service and Lunch
Watters Hall

Thursday, April 18th at 7pm

Maundy/Holy Thursday Worship
Chapel

Friday, April 19th @ Noon

Good Friday Worship with
Templo La Luz
"Seven Last Words"
Watters Hall

Sunday, April 21st @10:30am



Easter Sunday Worship
Sanctuary
Easter Egg Hunt to follow

Housing: Past and Future Impacts

Come hear our own **Diana Reddy** speak at the League of Women Voters presentation on **Wednesday, April 10th at the downtown Redwood City Library**. The program begins at **6:30pm**. As the League of Women Voters website says, "We live in a very prosperous area - Silicon Valley - but prosperity has brought its own challenge of an imbalance in housing. How do we move forward to improve and secure housing for everyone in our communities?"

Safe Gatherings

Thank you to the members and friends of Woodside Road United Methodist Church who have completed their Safe Gatherings training. This training program covers material that volunteers and staff working with young people and vulnerable adults need to know in order to keep children, the church, and themselves safe. If you haven't completed Safe Gatherings, and are interested in working with our children or youth, please let Katie know. She'll make sure you get the link.

Post General Conference Episcopal Visits

Some of us were able to attend the presentation by Bishop Minerva Carcaño at Los Altos United Methodist Church in early March. There are four more (relatively) local visits scheduled for the month of April:

Sunday, April 7th @2:30pm
Epworth UMC, Berkeley

Tuesday, April 16th @6:30pm
First UMC, San Leandro

Sunday, April 28th @2:30pm
Korean UMC of the Silicon Valley, San Jose

Sunday, April 28th @7pm
Temple UMC, San Francisco

Western Jurisdiction Response to General Conference

There have been a variety of responses to General Conference over the past month.

As the people of Woodside Road United Methodist Church we continue to affirm:

That all people are children of God and of sacred worth

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.

The leadership team of the Western Jurisdiction put out this response:

A Statement by the Western Jurisdiction Leadership Team

Trusting in the Author of Life

who understands the blessings of diversity we fail to comprehend,

Inspired by the nonconforming Christ

who teaches us to defy oppression in all its forms, and,

Guided by the Holy Spirit

who continually leads us by grace into abundant life,

We, laity and clergy, of the Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church,

as one body, deeply saddened and greatly harmed by the rending actions of the 2019 General Conference, reaffirm our commitment to a radically hospitable church in two converging ways.

I.

As United Methodists, we must resist injustice and insist that the Church repent of the exclusionary principles of the Traditional Plan.

We remain committed to the connectional ministry of The United Methodist Church and to working for an open and inclusive Church for all God's people. We understand that the unity God intends for us binds us not by uniformity, but by love, for God is love. Ever obedient to Christ's commandment to such radical love and extravagant hospitality, we cannot comply with the actions of the 2019 General Conference.

Instead, we will celebrate the fullness of God's creation in all its differences. In this moment we especially celebrate the lay and clergy leadership of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual children of God. And we will maintain the rights for our clergy and local churches to serve all people, which includes honoring the covenant of marriage for couples of all identities and orientations.

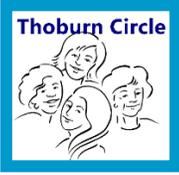
II.

Grounded in our Wesleyan heritage, we will foster a new movement to gather the energy of inclusive United Methodists throughout our global connection.

God calls us to recognize that a "new thing" is being born—a new expression of what it means for the Church to be truly inclusive. As we continue to search for ways to serve with integrity within The United Methodist Church, we offer our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness to the emerging movement, seeking to join others in realizing the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons today.

As we begin to develop this new thing, we divest from institutional patterns that perpetuate racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, and other structural sins. We remember that injustice anywhere threatens justice everywhere, and seek to deepen our understanding of the intersections of suffering and hope. We strive to center voices from the margins in this new thing that God is doing. We will carefully follow more leaders who are people of color, young people, and our LGBTQIA+ siblings as we pursue God's "way in the wilderness" (Isaiah 43:19).

April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  Noon Watters Hall	2	3 Lenten Worship & Lunch Noon First UCC	4	5	6
7 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship) 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	8	9	10 Lenten Worship & Lunch Noon Watters Hall	11  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	12	13
14 10:30 Family Worship 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	15	16 3:00 Finance 3:30 Ad Council	17	18 7:00 pm Maundy/ Holy Thursday Worship Chapel	19 Noon Watters Hall Good Friday Worship with TLL Seven Last Words	20
21 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship Easter Egg Hunt	22	23	24	25  Choir Practice 7:30 pm	26	27
28 10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45-1:30 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation	29	30				