

March 2020

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

***Dated Material***

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## *Tidings*

*The Newsletter of Woodside Road United Methodist Church*

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Rev. Katie Goetz

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### **April 2020**

April Tidings articles are due by March 15.

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

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Dear Friends,

As we step into the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 26th, we will be stepping into a season of prayer. Through the stories of Hannah, Jonah, Jesus, and others in our Bibles we will pray prayers of thanksgiving, intercession, and lament. We will experience prayer through song, the psalms, and different prayer actions. We will acknowledge that sometimes prayer is easy and sometimes stepping into conversation with God challenges us. We will remember that Jesus' disciples asked him how to pray and he gave them what we call "The Lord's Prayer" and that the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Rome that when we don't know what to pray, "the Spirit pleads our case with unexpressed groans."

There is a lot that's been written and said about prayer. Meister Eckhart, who lived in what's now Germany in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, wrote that if the only prayer you pray is, "Thank you" that would be enough. Modern day writer Anne Lamott wrote a book called *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. You may have learned at some point in time to pray ACTS – adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication. We can also pray with our bodies. A couple of years ago we created a canvas labyrinth which allows us to walk our prayers as we journey to and from the center of the path. Other folks might pray through walking in nature or doing yoga. For some folks prayer has to be spoken aloud, while for others prayer is best done in silence. Another monk, Brother Lawrence, wrote about washing dishes, doing otherwise mundane chores, for the glory of God. I have to admit that while sometimes in the quiet of summer mornings when I hang laundry outside to dry, I can see how I'm connected to God through my chores, but I certainly haven't mastered this one yet.

Since prayer is something we can practice anytime, anywhere I want to suggest a couple of practices that you might want to try on your own this Lenten season. The first is called "The Examen" and it was created by Ignatius of Loyola as a tool of reflection and discernment. At any time, but likely at the end of the day, take a few moments, maybe light a candle, and reflect on the past 24 hours. Remember that God loves you completely, breathing in God's love for you and breathing out God's love for the world. As you breath in and out God's love bring to mind the moment of the day for which you were most grateful, or the moment you would most want to relive, or the moment when you were most able to receive and give love. Rest in this moment. Take time to be grateful. Now, bring to mind the moment in your day when you were least grateful or when you were least able to give and receive love. What made it so difficult? Don't try and fix it or beat yourself up for it. Know that God loves you just as you are and God was with you in this moment, just like in the moment for which you are grateful. Give thanks for what you have experienced, and as you feel led journal about it or share with someone your experience.

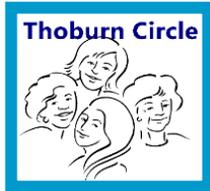
Another way to pray is to personalize scripture. This is a way to hear anew from the Bible what God might be saying to you. Select a scripture (some suggestions Joshua 1:9, Isaiah 43:1-4, Isaiah 55:1-3, Jeremiah 1:4-8, but this list is by no means exhaustive) and read it as though it is written to you. For example, in Isaiah 55 God invites everyone who is thirsty to come and drink and those who are hungry to come and eat. Could you read this scripture as though it were written to you, "*Your Name*, come to the water! When you have no money, come, buy food and eat! Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk! Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy? *Your Name*, listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts. *Your Name*, listen and come to me; listen, and you will live." Again, this is an opportunity to rest in God's presence. And it might take you away from Isaiah's words to somewhere else, and that's okay. It's a conversation with God and a journey you are on together.

Our Lenten journeys will begin on Ash Wednesday and continue for 40 days, not including Sundays, until Easter. During this time we will pray and worship, eat and sing together. This will, I pray, be a season of us drawing closer to God and closer to one another that we might find ways to share Jesus with the world around us.

See you in church,



## United Methodist Women



Thoburn Circle plans to meet on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Monday at 12 noon in Watters Hall. We will be hoping to turn in our pledge cards and discuss current activities in our community.

We were able to take fourteen personal care bags to the Service League in February thanks to Craig Barr for securing the items and setting up the table for us. We always need deodorant, toothpaste, combs, toothbrushes, razors, soap and washcloths.

Please let Helen know if you are unable to attend.

Helen Lomas

## Finance Committee

### Financial Facts

1/31/20	
Income as of 01/31/20	\$16,425
Expense as of 01/31/20	<u>\$14,294</u>
Difference	\$ 2,131

### 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.



### Western Jurisdiction UMW is "Calling u"

Join us at the 2020 "Calling u" Western Jurisdiction UMW Quadrennial Event **April 17-19, in Tempe AZ.**

There will be opportunities for service, spiritual care, social action, networking, leadership development, and enrichment. Speakers will include Prof. Katharine Hayhoe, Deaconess Molly James-Vickery, UMW President Shannon Priddy, and Former UMW CEO Harriet Jane Olsen.

**Register before January 31** for best pricing.

**Get more information at** [elcaminorealumw.org](http://elcaminorealumw.org):

- Event registration
- Hotel reservations (if you need an accessible room, you're encouraged to register early)
- Scholarships
- Info on the speakers
- Enrichment and Ubuntu opportunities

**Need a roommate?** If you are planning to attend and wish to share a room, but are still looking for a roommate. please contact ECRDUMW President K Stone to reach others in the same situation.



**Ash Wednesday Dinner and Worship**

**February 26th @ 6pm**

We will gather in Watters Hall for a shared meal, worship, and learning about Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. Join us as we reflect on this season where we “pay attention to how we live. We think about the choices we make every day. We ask hard questions: Does what we say and do make the world a better place? Or not? Does how we live make God happy? Or sad? Is there anything we need to change?” There will be opportunities to receive the imposition of ashes, communion, and share in creative expressions of worship.

**Mid-Week Lent Series**

We will gather in Watters Hall with First Church, UCC on Wednesdays during Lent. These services begin with a time of shared worship followed by a meal together.

**Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> @ noon**, Rev. Warren Dale leading

**Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> @ noon**, Rev. Katie Goetz leading

**Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm**, Rev. Katie Goetz leading (this service will follow a dinner church model similar to Ash Wednesday)

**Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @ noon**, Rev. Katie Goetz leading

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> @ noon**, Rev. Warren Dale leading

**Opportunity for Service**

**We are looking for folks to help teach Sunday school.**

Curriculum is provided. Staff, teachers, youth leaders, and other folks working with children and youth need to complete “Safe Gatherings” training. This on-line training helps to protect our young people, you, and the church. Email Katie (katiemgoetz@gmail.com) for the weblink. Once you do this, you’re good to go for the next three years!

**Fellowship Time Sign Ups Available**

We can use help with Fellowship Time on March 29<sup>th</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>, and in the month of May. Thank you to everyone who has served so far this year! Your hospitality is appreciated by your church community.

**Mission: It’s Possible Team**

On **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** we will gather with churches from around the Bay District (San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda, and Marin Counties) for a time of training and discernment around creating our Ministry Action Plan. Please let Katie know if you want to be a part of this opportunity. (Note: we are still waiting for the district to announce the location of this event.)

**The Addams Family @ Woodside High School**

Our own sound tech Dominic is Lurch in *The Addams Family* at Woodside High School. The show runs March 13, 14, 15 (2pm matinee), 20, and 21, evening shows are at 7:30pm. Katie and her family will be at the Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> show (the matinee happens to be at the same time as the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby). Whether after church on the 15<sup>th</sup> or for one of the evening shows, let’s support Dominic and the Woodside High School Drama Department.



<b>Tina Petelo</b>	<b>March 1</b>
<b>Cathy Taylor</b>	<b>March 10</b>
<b>Mark Pense</b>	<b>March 11</b>
<b>Nigel Blackwood-Chirchir</b>	<b>March 12</b>
<b>Jane Day</b>	<b>March 12</b>
<b>Luisa Serkes</b>	<b>March 13</b>
<b>Jane Petelo</b>	<b>March 19</b>
<b>Elenoa Petelo</b>	<b>March 25</b>
<b>Scott Pense</b>	<b>March 28</b>

<b>March 2020</b>						
<p>1</p> <p>10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Thoburn Circle</b></p>  <p><b>Noon</b> <b>Watters Hall</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Mid-Week Lenten Service &amp; Meal Watters Hall</p>	<p>5</p>  <p><b>7:30 pm</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>8 am</b> Trustees</p> <p><b>9 am</b> Workday</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:30 Worship 11:45 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Mid-Week Lenten Service &amp; Meal Watters Hall</p>	<p>12</p>  <p><b>7:30 pm</b></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>3 pm</b> Finance Committee</p> <p><b>3:30 pm</b> Ad Council</p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>6 pm</b> Mid-Week Lenten Service &amp; Meal Watters Hall</p>	<p>19</p>  <p><b>7:30 pm</b></p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Noon</b> Mid-Week Lenten Service &amp; Meal Watters Hall</p>	<p>26</p>  <p><b>7:30 pm</b></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10:30 Worship 10:45 Sun Sch 11:45 UMYF 11:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:45 Adult Spiritual Formation</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				