



NEWS & VIEWS from the Pulpit & Pews

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Bragg, CA

Dan Fowler, Pastor

Martha Lopez, Commissioned
Lay Pastor

Sid Long, Newsletter

Roger Thornburn, Webmaster

Pastor's Column "NEW LIFE"

I have just spent the afternoon getting myself ready for the memorial service for Marlin Coke Kohr. It is a difficult job at times as minister, for we spend a lot of time saying good bye to folks as we perform their memorial services. Since I came here in January of 2003, I have done close to 70 memorial services, each one of them special, and some more gut wrenching than others. If all we were doing was grieving a loss and saying goodbye, those 70 services would be draining and hopeless.

And yet, there is so much more to a memorial service than our grieving and sorrow, and it all is thanks to a stone that was rolled away and an empty tomb. Because Christ rose from the dead, death does not have the final say. Because Christ rose from the dead, there is hope in every memorial service that happens here or at a graveside. Because Christ rose from the dead, there is new life- life eternal for the deceased, and new life in the hope of heaven. A memorial doesn't end with a dark sanctuary in silence. It ends with hope, all thanks to Christ, who suffered, died and rose to break the bonds of death. Because Christ rose from the dead, memorial services are hope filled.

So give thanks this Easter for all that Christ has done for us—for new life, for life eternal, and for a stubborn hope which stands against death. As the poet Anne Weems wrote in her poem, "And the Glory":

"The silence breaks into morning.

That one star lights the world.

The lily springs to life and not even Solomon...

Let it begin with singing and never end!

Oh, angels, quit your lamenting!

Oh pilgrims, upon your knees in tearful prayer, RISE UP and take your hearts and run!

We who were no people are named anew God's people,

For he who was no more is forevermore!"

Alleluia! Amen.

With Hope in the promise of new life,

OUR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN from *Jacque Moore*

March 3, 2016 1:30 Christine Stone, Chairman

Eastern Orthodox Religions by Christine Stone

March 17, 2016 1:30 Julee Estes, Chairman

Wear your green and bring a Keepsake. I know we have done this before, but can you remember what you brought last time? I can't! This is a fun and interesting program and one for sharing of yourself.

April 2, 2016 Jacquelin Moore, and DeAnn Payne Chairmen

Spring Blossom Tea April 2, at 1:00. See attached flier and watch the bulletin board. Invite your friends.

No meeting on April 7

April 21, 2016 Jacquelin Moore, Chairman

It is hoped we will have a speaker from Project Sanctuary which is a very important program here in our area. More to follow in the bulletin.



Community Easter Dinner

Submitted by Kathy Orsi

Our Easter dinner is one of the community's favorite events of the year. For years, many have enjoyed coming to the church for a good meal and fun company, while others are thrilled to have their Easter dinner delivered to them. This event, held on a very special day, has brightened Easter Sunday for years. The reason this dinner has been so successful is the hard work put out by so many of our church members.

Planning is already underway so please be thinking of how you can offer your time, talent or treasure. We will be looking for someone to distribute flyers around town around the second week of March; we'll need help with prep and set up the day before the event; serving food, bussing tables and delivery people the day of the dinner, as well as the not so glamorous job of clean up.....just to name a few. While each of these positions are important, by breaking it down into the various tasks, it lightens the load on everyone.

It is a lot of work to put this dinner on but I think if you ask the people who have volunteered in the past, you will find that the work is rewarded by not only the gratitude of the community but the fun they had working with all of the other volunteers.

Watch for the sign up sheets on the bulletin board soon at church or you can contact me at 964-2758 in the evenings or by email: korsi@mcn.org. Thank you!



SOUPS & SMALL GROUPS

We will meet at 6:00 p.m. for homemade soup and bread, followed by small group discussion on the Bible passages for the following Sunday. Soups and Small Groups meets March 2, 9, and 16.

BRING A FRIEND TO WORSHIP

On Sunday, March 13, we'll have a wonderful festival choir to sing God's praises. This is a great time to invite a friend or neighbor to join us in worship! And don't forget to spring forward and move you clocks up!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME,,,,,,,,,
MOVE YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE
HOUR ON SUNDAY, MARCH 13th



NEW MEMBER CLASSES OFFERED

Pastor Dan is offering new member classes to anyone who is interested in learning more about our church. Classes will be offered each Sunday in March, except for Easter Sunday, March 27. For more information, please contact Dan at 964-2316(wk), 972-6378(cell) dfower@mcn.org

The Allan Petker Choral Workshop is on March 12 & 13. We need folks to help with food for the Continental Breakfast and lunch. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We appreciate your help. Then the reward is having a wonderful choir sing on Sunday morning. Thank you!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



PALM SUNDAY- **March 20**. Please bring your children and youth. We will have them wave palm branches to honor Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The choir will be singing. Afterwards we will have a celebration to honor Bill and Pat De Bruyn's 70th wedding anniversary!

Palm Sunday evening- Join us for a multi church worship service at 1st Baptist church, beginning at 5:00 p.m. This is a service of praise and prayer.



MAUNDY(Holy) THURSDAY SERVICE-Thursday, **March 24**. 7:00 p.m. Receive communion as we remember Jesus' last supper with the disciples. There will be special music, and the choir will sing an anthem as well.

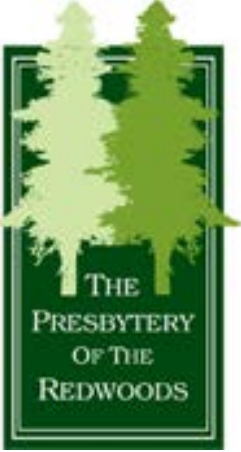


EASTER SUNDAY- Sunday, **March 27**. Bring a flower form home as we decorate the Easter cross, symbolizing new life in Christ. Choir will sing. New members will join. Then come back and join us in service of the Risen Christ for our 19th annual Community Easter Dinner from 4:00-5:30.

IN OUR CHURCH FOYER, A DELIGHTFUL EASTER BULLETIN BOARD FROM ISABEL ROGERSON



PRESBYTERY REPORT - FEBRUARY 5, 2016



Pastor Dan, Rosamond Fowler, Abby Fowler and I attended the Presbytery meeting held at the Cove Presbyterian Church in Santa Rosa.

The meeting began with a wonderful worship service. During the service members of presbytery brought forward their mission pledges. Our session has not submitted one yet. Power Point was used exclusively for the hymns - there were no hymn books in the pews - only Bibles. The sermon was "Is Christianity Just a Crutch" by Elder Russell Johnston.

The meeting began with the report of Bob Conover, Mission Presbyter/State Clerk which was a written report only. This consisted of actions taken yearly regarding imbalance of pastor/elder commissioners which is 2 elders for each pastor; permission granted to those pastors, elders, etc. to serve the Lord's supper; the roster of previous members of the Permanent Judicial Commission for the past 6 years, The 2016 meetings for presbytery are: May 17, Petaluma; September 17, Mendocino; the retreat at Westminster Woods, November 11-12. The Rev. Daniel Link was installed as the pastor of the Arcata & Bayside congregations on Sept. 27 2015 and the administrative commission was dismissed with appreciation.

Patti Sanders of the Hunger Task Force reported on the Pedal for Protein which raised \$33,643. The combined income with 2 cts. a Meal was \$61,662. Grants were given to eight food banks in our Presbytery totaling \$28,645 with \$1,000 going to The Homeless Garden Project in Santa Cruz and \$5,000 donated to Valley Fire Relief in Lake County. The new name for 2 cts. a Meal is Cents-Ability. The income for 2 cts. was up nearly \$4,000 from last year and 34 churches plus donations at presbytery meetings made it possible to provide 28 grants totaling \$30,000. Ryan Althaus, one of the P4P riders from Santa Cruz is going to ride from there to Portland in mid-June to G.A. The task force also sold fair trade Equal Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate at the meeting.

Presbytery Council presented the 2016 proposed mission budget which was approved. If anyone would like to look at presbytery's budget, see me.

Following lunch we broke into several groups for Presbytery Missional Conversation. There was silent meditation & prayer followed by scripture from Jeremiah 29:4-7 and 2 questions to consider. My group had a great discussion.

The Review Committee presented from the First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo 3 overtures to send to General Assembly.

I HAVE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THESE 3 OVERTURES FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO READ THEM.

14a - 2016 overture calling for RE/MAX Corporation to Cease Selling Property in West Bank Settlements. This overture : Calls for RE/MAX to cut its ties with franchises involved in the sale or rental of settlement properties in the occupied West Bank. Urges members of the Re/MAX network in the United States not refer clients to agents and brokers who are involved in the sale or rental of settlement properties in the occupied West Bank. Urges Presbyterians to take actions

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PRESBYTERY REPORT, continued

such as contacting local RE/MAX franchises or corporate headquarters or participating in petition campaigns to pressure RE/MAX to cut its ties with franchises involved in the sale or rental of settlement properties in the occupied West Bank. The vote on this was 58 yes 14 no.

14b - Overture to Ask the PC(USA) to Divest from Fossil Fuel Companies. The overture asks the General Assembly to express its profound concern about the destructive effects of climate change on all God's creation.

The overture calls upon the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation to immediately stop any new investment in the top 200 fossil fuel companies and ensure that within 3 years none of its directly held or co-mingled assets includes holdings of either equities or corporate bonds in these companies. The vote was 53 yes 19 no.

14c - Commending for Study "The Human Impacts of No Israel-Palestine Peace Agreement Fact Sheet"

Recommendation:

1. Reaffirm the PC (USA) commitment to prepare and make available educational materials related to Israel-Palestine so Presbyterians can better discern the underlying issues and facts on the ground.
2. Receive "The Human Impacts of No Israel-Palestine Peace Agreement Fact Sheet and commend it for study as an educational tool for better understanding the obstacles to a peace agreement between Israel and Palestine.
3. Call upon both Israel and Palestine to cease hostile actions that are obstacles to a peace agreement.
4. Directs the Stated Clerk to communicate this action to all other PC((USA) councils and entities and invite and strongly encourage those groups and organizations to engage in constructive, peaceful and non-violent actions to bring about reconciliation between Christians, Jews and Muslims living in Israel-Palestine.

There was a heated discussion regarding this overture from presbyters both for and against this overture. The vote on this was 29 yes and 39 no.

Committee on Ministry acting on behalf of the presbytery approved the change in the terms of call for Deborah Haffner Hubbard, co-pastor of Grace Good Shepherd Church of McKinleyville and also acting on behalf of presbytery approved pastor salary supplements for 2016.

Installation date for Rev. Matt Davis, Mendocino Presbyterian Church will be on Sunday, February 21 at the Mendocino Church.

Report of the Committee on Mission Finance was a written report only. The committee reported the renewal of a Synod of the Pacific Loan with the First Presbyterian Church, San Anselmo, Nov. 2015.

The committee reported the lease approval between the First Presbyterian Church, Fairfield and the Kingdom Center Church, Fairfield, Dec. 2015 and the committee reported the renewal of a Synod of the Pacific Loan with the Presbyterian Church of the Roses, Santa Rosa, January 2016.

Lori Cole

Elder Commissioner

1946 WAS QUITE A YEAR from Jacque Moore & Sid Long

- The "bikini" debuted in Paris in 1946.
- Average Cost of new house **\$5,600.00**
- Average wages per year **\$2,500.00**
- Cost of a gallon of Gas **15 cents**
- Average Cost of a new car **\$1,120.00**
- Worlds First Electric Blanket **\$39.50**
- Men's Ties **\$1.50**
- Waterman's pen **\$8.95**
- Pat & Bill DeBruyn married!!!



Can you believe 70 years of marriage? They must have been two years old! On March 22, 2016 Pat and Bill DeBruyn will be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. **On Sunday, March 20th**, following Palm Sunday worship service, we will be having a special fellowship time honoring them. The entire church family and friends are invited to celebrate with Pat and Bill.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 DAVID HAUTALA
HELEN MARKEE
- 2 JESEE ESTES
- 3 IAN SANDERSON
- 7 BILL KELLER
- 8 GINNIE SIEWERT
LINDY PETERS
- 11 NORMAN MALLORY
- 19 KATHY ORSI
- 20 BUDDY BROWN
- 26 PATRICIA DeBRUYN
- 27 KAREN DUNLAP
- 29 KAREN BROWN
TARA ESTES

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 ISABEL ROGERSON
- 5 KAREN JONES
- 7 JULEE ESTES
- 20 ELAINE BALL
- 23 ABBY FOWLER

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 JEN & TIM ESTES - 1996
- 8 CARLETTA & FRED HOLLENBACK - 1952
- 19 MARTHA & OSCAR LOPEZ - 2008
- 22 NANCY & DONNIE POLLARD - 1978
- 24 VICKI & DAVID HAUTALA - 1965
- 30 JACQUE & MONTE MOORE - 1967

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 CAROL & BILL SUMMERS -1999
- 22 PAT & BILL DeBRUYN - 1946
- 29 CLAUDELLE & CHUCK VIGGERS -1996



MARLIN "COKE" KOHR
October 2, 1930 - January 18, 2016

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
SPRING BLOSSOM TEA

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Bragg

Saturday, April 2, 2016 1:00 PM

Entertainment by the

Fort Bragg High School Choir

Please come and enjoy fellowship,
food and entertainment

No Charge

RSVP if possible to Jacque
964-1671

