

Shared Life

The Monthly Newsletter of Old First Presbyterian Church

October 2012

Church Website: oldfirst.org

Church Photostream: www.flickr.com/photos/oldfirst

Old First Concerts: www.oldfirstconcerts.org

YOUR PLEDGE DOLLARS AT WORK

The San Francisco Night Ministry, by Barry Clagett

Old First Presbyterian Church has supported the San Francisco Night Ministry for at least thirty years that I know of as a part of the church benevolence ministry and by providing church members who have been crisis line counselors or Night Ministry governing board members. Roger Lindahl, Phil Pollock and Carol Carter were board members for many years and Roger was President. Betsy Chiao and Linda Reyder have been crisis line counselors. Mary Russell has long been a Night Ministry supporter in her role on the Mission Committee. I am a crisis line counselor and board member at present.

My work with the Night Ministry has been a continually rewarding experience for fifteen years. This work follows Jesus' teachings to help people in need regardless of who they are. It is satisfying because it provides the opportunity to help people in all kinds of distress. It seems like there are an infinite variety of concerns. Frequently telephone friendships develop with callers and we talk many times over the years. Each night after I go off duty I feel like I've done something really worthwhile.

Mission

The San Francisco Night Ministry provides middle-of-the-night compassionate, non-judgmental pastoral care, counseling, referral and crisis intervention to anyone in any kind of distress. Through our crisis telephone line staffed by trained volunteer crisis line counselors and through person-to-person encounters with clergy on the streets, this ministry is available every night of the year from 10 pm to 4 am. When requested, the Night Minister will meet anyone, in person, anywhere in San Francisco. Calls to the Night Ministry Crisis Line come from the entire Bay Area and beyond. Everyone is eligible for assistance regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, life style, social or economic status, religion or no religion. The Night Ministry also provides an open-air worship service which includes preaching, praying, singing and Holy Communion each Sunday at 2 pm at Leavenworth and McAllister near United Nations Plaza.

Crisis Line Counseling

Crisis line counselors take calls from 10 pm to 2 am. Like the Night Ministers on the streets, they listen, talk with callers, share resources and offer referrals as appropriate. A live answering service takes calls from 2 am to 4 am and refers them directly to the Night Minister on duty. All contacts, by telephone or on the streets, are confidential. Crisis line counselors are carefully selected, screened and thoroughly trained. They may volunteer for one or more nights a month.

The Night Ministry seeks mature, sensitive crisis line counselors who are emotionally capable of dealing with the diverse problems encountered on the phone. Their ministry is as rewarding as that of the Night Minister on the street. There will be a meeting for potential Crisis Line Counselors Nov. 9, 2012 at 6:00 pm. Contact Brother Jude Hill: judehillssf@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

World Communion, Peacemaking Offering, Heritage Sunday, Pastor's Return, October 7

Next Sunday we will observe World Communion Sunday, gather our Peacemaking Offering, enjoy a Heritage Sunday Potluck luncheon, and welcome our pastor, the Reverend Maggi Henderson back from her sabbatical.

World Communion Sunday

On October 7 we will join in World Communion Sunday, a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. The tradition originated in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in 1933, was adopted throughout the US Presbyterian Church in 1936, and subsequently spread to other denominations. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) endorsed World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide.

Peacemaking Offering

One of the annual special offerings in the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Peacemaking Offering is received every year on World Communion Sunday. This offering is divided; 25% is retained by each local congregation for a project of their choosing, 25% is used by synods and presbyteries, and 50% is used by the General Assembly, all to support peace in some way in many places. Local congregations have used this offering to support veterans and women's shelters. The General Assembly has prepared many more materials on the subject available to congregations, as well as support for peaceful efforts in very *unpeaceful* areas of the world.

Heritage Sunday Potluck

October 7 will be a Sunday to tout your heritage. Whether you come from Mississippi or London, from Norway or New York, the Philippines or Korea, bring a dish that best represents your heritage. As usual, if you don't cook, you can make a donation instead. Also, we are looking for table centerpieces that reflect your heritage. Got some Norwegian trolls or English bobbies or a replica of the St. Louis arch? Email bpvoris@comcast.net and let her know the items you would love to bring.

Pastor Returns to Old First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 7, also marks the return of our pastor, the Reverend Maggi Henderson, to our worship services after her sabbatical. Please welcome her back after worship.

SF Night Ministry Fall Gala, October 20

The annual fall fundraiser for the San Francisco Night Ministry will be held October 20, 5:30 pm at St. Mark's Square. Information and tickets can be found at www.sfnightministry.org/gala.

Organ Concert, October 27

Marie Louise Langlais is the widow of the late organist, composer (and student of Marcel Dupre) Jean Langlais, who served as *organiste-titulaire* at the Basilica of Sainte-Clotilde at Paris from 1945 until 1988. The late Kenneth Matthews, who served Old First Presbyterian Church as music director for a decade, studied with Langlais. She will play this concert in tribute to the memory of Ken.

Renowned as a master teacher, Mme. Langlais was appointed professor of organ at the Regional Conservatory of Paris (*conservatoire à rayonnement régional de Paris*) in 1988, and retired in the spring of 2011. Many of her students have been laureates in international organ and improvisation competitions. She has served on organ competition juries throughout Europe and Russia, and has performed and lectured around the world extensively.

OTHER NEWS

From Priscilla Yu and Lori Yamauchi

We thank the deacons for their generous donation of proceeds from the ice cream social held on September 9 to the Alberto Barrios Children's Library. The library is most honored to be recognized. The \$125 will be used in ways to significantly build the resources and enhance ways to develop the library's collection to support the children's Christian education program. We gratefully thank the deacons for their support and thoughtfulness.

Introducing Robert Anderson

Robert was accepted into membership of Old First Presbyterian Church on October 23, 2011 by reaffirmation of faith. He was born and was raised in Atlanta, Georgia. In high school he was a baseball pitcher on a team which had won the state championship the year before he was on it. He is still very interested in baseball. (He roots for the Atlanta Braves, however; but please forgive him.)

Robert graduated from Georgia State University in Atlanta. His degree is in journalism. Robert has worked in San Francisco for the US Department of Agriculture since January 1989. His place of work is in the new Federal Building at Seventh and Mission Streets. He rides to work from his Nob Hill apartment on the cable car. Robert sits on the left (pulpit) side of the Sanctuary. He has gray hair and a gray beard. Introduce yourself to him.

Presbytery News

The Presbytery of San Francisco has chosen the Reverend Jeff Hutcheson as the Presbytery Pastor for Mission and Vision. The title for this position was known as the Executive Presbyter before the recent changes in the Book of Order. Pastor Maggi Henderson was part of the search committee. Jeff will be installed during the Nov. 13 Presbytery meeting.

If you've ever wondered what the presbytery has done for us lately, here is news: The Presbytery of San Francisco made a grant of \$1,800 to Old First Presbyterian Church to be used for the Interfaith Food Pantry held on Saturdays. The grant will be used to purchase a greater variety of food to distribute each week.

Also, during the month of October, please bring canned soups, stews and chili to contribute to the San Francisco Food Bank. There is a barrel for food in the Narthex.

Betty Voris Birthday Celebration

Members of the congregation are invited to *75 Shades of Betty*. Join Betty Voris and her friends and family as she celebrates her 75th birthday on Monday, October 1, 6:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY: THE SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER, 2012

| Date | Day | 1 st Reading | Psalm | 2 nd Reading | Gospel Reading |
|--------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Oct 07 | Ordinary 27 | Job 1:1, 2:1-10 | Psalm 26 | Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 | Mark 10:2-16 |
| Oct 14 | Ordinary 28 | Job 23:1-9, 16-17 | Psalm 22:1-15 | Hebrews 4:12-16 | Mark 10:17-31 |
| Oct 21 | Ordinary 29 | Job 38:1-7 (34-41) | Psalm 104:1-8, 24, 35c | Hebrews 5:1-10 | Mark 10:35-45 |
| Oct 28 | Ordinary 30 | Job 42:1-6, 10-17 | Psalm 34:1-8, 19-23 | Hebrews 7:23-28 | Mark 10:46-52 |

OTHER DATES TO NOTE

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| Sunday | 10/07/12 | World Communion Sunday, Heritage Potluck |
| Sunday | 10/14/12 | Deacons' Meeting, Munro Room |
| Saturday | 10/15/12 | Presbyterian Women, Munro Room |
| Friday | 10/20/12 | Night Ministry Gala, St. Mark's Square, SF |
| Tuesday | 10/23/12 | Session Meeting, Munro Room |
| Saturday | 10/27/12 | Organ Concert, Marie-Louise Jaquet-Langlais |

The Officers of Old First Presbyterian Church**Session**

George Becker, personnel; Michael Berg, mission and giving; Chris Burt, worship; Pam Byers, community-building; Barry Clagett; finance, Saskia de Vries; worship, Bill Feister; Christian Education, Gregory Free; Treasurer, Jeanne Kirkwood; clerk of session, Mary Russell; mission and giving, Randy Smith, Steve Taber; operations, Betty Voris; community-building;

Board of Deacons

Nina Berg, communion clean up, flowers/memorial donations; Carol Carter, funding requests, communion cleanup; Samuel Cheng, Joy Crosser, Dan Joraanstad, co-moderator; Craig Kehne, coffee hour, communion clean-up; Diane Lewis, funding requests, cards; Harriet MacLean, memorial receptions and meals; Dana Nojima, co-moderator, merchandise sales; Leota Parker, Glen Potter, transportation; AnnieScott Rogers, deacons' prayer chain; Oliver Spencer, funding requests, special events; Sarah Taber, memorial receptions and meals; Horngsheng Tu, Technology