

# Shared Life

The Monthly Newsletter of Old First Presbyterian Church

April 2015

Church Website: [oldfirst.org](http://oldfirst.org)

Church Photostream: [www.flickr.com/photos/oldfirst](http://www.flickr.com/photos/oldfirst)

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## MAGGI'S MUSINGS

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Easter Greetings to all! This April, I hear the echo of Easter joy ringing in my ears:

*Christ is Risen. Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!*

I am happy and thankful to announce that Larry Marietta will join our staff as our new music director. He begins officially on Easter Sunday, April 5. You can find a brief biography of Larry below. Special thanks go to the members of the music director search committee: George Becker, Dan Joraanstad, Jeanne Kirkwood, Philip Pollock and Lori Yamauchi.

Also, many of you have heard about our pulpit exchange with St. Andrew's East Parish Church in Glasgow this summer. One person asked "How will you pack that big pulpit? Not going to be carry-on for sure." Thank goodness we are only sending the pastors across the sea. The term pulpit exchange comes from the fact our two churches will "exchange" pastors, who will then preach in each other's churches for a set time.

In our case, the Reverend Barbara Quigley will come from Glasgow to San Francisco for six weeks and I will go to St. Andrew's. Basically, we will exchange jobs, homes, experiences and congregations. The hope is that both the churches and the pastors will learn from each other, will experience what it means to a person of faith, a Christian, a Presbyterian in another culture, and will perhaps also see our churches and ministries through new eyes. As I read a bit about St. Andrew's East Parish and its history I find myself intrigued and excited about what our two unique historic urban parishes might learn and share this summer. I expect you will too. Learn more about Barbara's church in her description of St. Andrew's East beginning on page 2 of this edition of *Shared Life*.

Peace,  
Maggi

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## LARRY MARIETTA APPOINTED AS MUSIC DIRECTOR

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Larry H. Marietta, who has been our interim music director, officially begins as Old First's music director on Easter Sunday, April 5. Larry has had a long and distinguished career as a professional musician in the San Francisco Bay Area and previously in Pennsylvania. He has over forty-five years of church experience, as an organist and director of music. He has also conducted multiple community choral groups, currently as conductor of San Francisco City Chorus since 1997 and of Bella Musica since 2014. He has taught voice, as well as lectured at colleges and universities. Larry has also performed as accompanist for many distinguished professional singers and under several renowned conductors. Larry received his Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from West Virginia University and his Master of Fine Arts in Conducting at Carnegie Mellon University. Old First is very fortunate to have Larry as our music director, and we look forward to his continuing to enrich our worship services and experience with wonderful music both through the choir and organ.

## **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

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### **Maundy Thursday Worship, April 2, 6:30 pm**

A simple communion service recalling Christ's last supper with his friends on the eve of his arrest. Bring your "thirty pieces of silver" – they will be part of our liturgy and our offering; they will be given to those who have experienced "betrayal."

### **Good Friday, Tenebrae Service, April 3, 8:00 pm**

We continue our journey with a service of readings and growing darkness recalling Christ's crucifixion.

## **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5**

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### **Pancake Breakfast, 9:00 am,**

Be sure to start Easter by attending our Easter Pancake Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Feast on pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee and tea before heading upstairs for a celebratory Easter service. Serving begins at 9:00 am and continues until 10:15 am. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Deacons and the Community Building Committee. See you there.

### **Organ and Vocal Music Prelude, 10:40 am**

Old First Presbyterian Church's music director, Larry Marietta and other musicians will increase our praise with a prelude consisting of organ music and vocal solos prior to our worship service at 11:00 am.

### **OGHS Offering at Easter Worship, 11:00 am**

We will celebrate the Christ's resurrection on Sunday, April 5, with exceptional music and a garden of spring flowers. We will also gather this year's One Great Hour of Sharing offering at the service. Remember to bring you "fish boxes!"

### **Easter Coffee Hour, After Worship**

Let's make coffee hour this Easter truly an Old First occasion by adding to the usual baked fare by bringing extra treats to share. Baked treats, candy, nuts... all - and more - are welcome.

## **ST ANDREW'S EAST PARISH CHURCH, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND**

### **BY THE REVEREND BARBARA QUIGLEY, MINISTER**

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**The Buildings** As the city of Glasgow expanded east at the end of the nineteenth century, the United Free Church of Scotland erected a new church and parish: Glasgow St Andrew's. They employed the young architect James Salmon Jnr to design the new church which was built in 1899. By 1904 the congregation had outgrown the small church and a new 1,000 seat church was built using the existing church as hall space. With the union of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church of Scotland in 1929, St Andrew's United Free Church became St Andrew's East Church of Scotland.

In the 1950s with the "Tell Scotland" campaign and the Billy Graham rallies St Andrews East was full to bursting. The men of the congregation pulled together to build a new hall on the site to accommodate the expanding congregation. There were youth groups, badminton clubs, Boys' Brigade, Brownies and Guides, Young Woman's Group and Woman's Guild. The place was jumping.

The 1970-90s saw the rapid decline of church attendance in Scotland. St Andrew's East felt the change very severely. By 1990 the congregation was in decline. The congregation was rattling around in a building far too big for its needs. When the church ceiling fell in, the difficult decision was made to sell the building – it is now 13 apartments – and return to the original church. The new hall had become a health hazard and was demolished.

By 2002 the original St Andrews United Free Church building designed by James Salmon Jnr was renovated and made fit for purpose in the twenty first century. There is 120 seater hall/church, a meeting room for 24 and the usual offices plus a garden. It's small but perfectly formed.

**The Parish** St Andrews East Parish has changed over the years. As Glasgow expanded it was the place to be for young families. Accommodation was provided in Tenements and the population density was very high. Over the years the density of population has halved and what were family apartments are now single person dwellings.

Glasgow had a policy of moving problem families into the area and the parish became part of the notorious East End of “No Mean City” fame. The old image of the East End of Glasgow is far removed from the reality of life today. As housing costs spiral in the favoured West End people are discovering that the East End is more affordable. The East End is becoming ‘gentrified’ with street cafes, delicatessens, artisan brewery, loft living and artist studios.

There are still some issues left over from the old policy of moving in problem families. We are dealing with an increasingly elderly population, alcohol and substance misuse, dementia, immigrant workers from other parts of Europe, asylum seekers often from Africa or the Middle East.

**The Congregation** Most of the congregation won’t see 60 again. They are mainly older but act their shoe size and not their age. The leadership is older and very stable and extremely loyal. As a congregation they are ‘up’ for anything; leading worship, visiting Israel/Palestine, commitment to Fairtrade and Developing World issues. Volunteers are always there. “We’ve never done that, let’s give it a go!”

A new group was formed specifically as a place where elderly and alone people could meet. The Granary has been described as a ‘youth group for the over 80s’ it works in tandem with the local care home and a number of clients are dealing with dementia. The Granary is funded by and large by the Church of Scotland and is staffed by volunteers from the congregation. They do a magnificent and often challenging job.

**The Manse** The Manse is situated in a Victorian Terrace one mile from the church; again the architect was James Salmon Jnr. It has the requisite four bedrooms and three public rooms. However this does not tell the full story. It has a back stair for the maid to her quarters. (Sadly the maid is long gone!) The rooms are huge with high ceilings and beautiful cornicing. There is access to a communal garden. This is a hidden gem populated by professional people, artists, film makers, musicians, and writers. Even the people of Glasgow don’t know of this conservation area with its ‘A’ listed architectural buildings.

At one time there was a preponderance of manses in the area [it became nicknamed ‘Ministers’ Row] The Manse for St Andrews East is the last one, as churches have united and manses become more modern and cheaper to maintain.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Rev Maggi Henderson and know we will enjoy her time with us. We’ve never done this before, let’s give it a go!

Barbara Quigley

#### **WEEKEND CLOSURES OF VAN NESS AVENUE (GEARY TO POST) IN APRIL**

One block of Van Ness Avenue – that between Geary and Post Streets – will be closed for construction on two weekends in April and May: Friday through Sunday, April 10-12 and April 21-26. Plan extra time driving or using transit to get to Old First Presbyterian Church’s weekend events on these dates, as traffic will be routed around this one block.

This same block will also be closed during the late nights from April 6 through April 9. Additionally, there will be one more weekend of full closure in fall: September 5 to 7, 2015.

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE OUR FAITH**

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### **For the Bible Tells Me So: Erwin Barron on Christian Ethics in the Modern World Sundays, April 19 thru May 3**

Christians say they make their moral decisions based on the Bible. But is that really true? How do we decide what the right things to do are as Christians in the modern world? Erwin Barron will lead a discussion of just such Christian decision making and ethics on three Sundays of the Easter Season: April 19 and 26, and May 3. Sessions will last from 12:30-1:30 pm and take place in the Munro Room. You are invited to bring a sandwich and join us for an interesting discussion. We will use case studies to examine what tools we use to decide on the best behavior as Christians.

### **New Opportunity with Jeanne Choy Tate: “It’s Not Your Parents’ Church Anymore!”**

Do you sometimes feel as if society is changing around you faster than you can keep up?

- Are you puzzled by the impact of these changes on the church?
- How has your own faith changed over time?

These are questions I would like to talk over with a gathering of friends. I am particularly interested in how my faith has changed as I have aged and how that impacts my relationship with the church.

If these questions interest you, how about coming to a series of dinner conversations (2 or 3) at our home over the next couple of months? If you are interested, let me know and I will try to find dates that work for most people. Participating in an on-line conversation is also a possibility.

Here’s an example:

*The minute the congregation starts reciting the creed, I either start arguing with it in my head, parsing individual phrases and wondering if I do in fact “believe” them, or I zone out and stop listening.... I find myself saying, “no,” “maybe,” and “it depends....” They don’t live in my world, where I go for a jog with a Buddhist-Jew at six o’clock in the morning, have breakfast with my agnostic husband, converse with my Muslim friends over e-mail, talk to a Benedictine spiritual director, and plan a trip to visit a santuario in rural Mexico.—Amy Frykholm*

For more information contact me, Jeanne Choy Tate by phone (415-282-2990) or via E-mail (choytate@gmail.com).

## **THANK-YOU FROM THE FAIR-TRADE COFFEE PROJECT**

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Together we have voiced our support for fair wages to the field workers in coffee, tea and cocoa growing around the world and promoted means of living for Palestinian small farmers on the West Bank. We express our thanks to the generous “consumers” from our congregation, who have helped small farmers and supported the Peace and Justice Mission of the church. Most importantly, fair trade awareness has been successfully planted at OFPC after a decade of commitment. The time has now come for us to redirect our energy to tackle other mission projects. With this thought, we phased out our fair-trade products with the clearance sale on Palm Sunday.

The Fair-Trade Coffee Project was carried out faithfully for more than a decade by OFPC Peace & Justice volunteers. Special thanks for their time and work go to Pat Devine-Cummings, Forrest Cummings, Dee Christiansen, Betsy and Ted Chiao, Mary Russell, Logan Donaldson, Dianne Middleton, Horngsheng Tu and Hsiaochien Chuang, Dick Meimban and all the loyal consumers we collected over the years. Thank you all for your love and support!

## **MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **OFPC Staffs Interfaith Food Pantry, April 11**

Old First Presbyterian Church provides volunteers for the Interfaith Food Pantry on Saturday, April 11. Come help unload the truck, bring food inside, distribute and clean up later. Contact Dana Nojima or send an E-mail to [foodpantry@oldfirst.org](mailto:foodpantry@oldfirst.org), if you can help.

### **Stop Hunger Now, April 25**

On Saturday, April 25, Old First will again participate in **Stop Hunger Now** to assemble 10,000 packages with sufficient ingredients to make several meals. Specific details will be forthcoming, but the location will be the Presbyterian Church in Chinatown.

**Stop Hunger Now** distributes food and other life-saving aid to vulnerable children and families around the world, and works to help end world hunger. We package and ship meals to feed people in need through community-supported meal-packaging programs that engage half a million volunteers a year.

Since we were founded in 1998, we have provided over 140 million meals in 51 countries. This year, we will package 45 million meals, and ship over \$9 million in donated aid, mainly vitamins and medical supplies. We continually strive to be good stewards of the contributions we receive. In 2013, we carefully managed administrative and fundraising costs, allowing us to invest 88.5% of expenses in our programs.

We will work together with members and friends of Chinatown Presbyterian Church and Christ United Presbyterian Church (both in San Francisco) as well as First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo. E-mail Pastor Maggi by April 20, if you can join in this effort to **Stop Hunger Now**.

### **Logan Donaldson on Post-Katrina Mission Trip, April 26**

Support Logan Donaldson on a mission trip to New Orleans with **Project Homecoming** this summer. Logan is joining youth from First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo on a mission trip that continues New Orleans' recovery from 2005's Hurricane Katrina. Both prayers and financial support will be needed.

**Project Homecoming** started from the support and work of the PC(USA). The project assists families whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Katrina and works with families to become homeowners by building new homes on abandoned or blighted properties. Project Homecoming not only builds houses, but also works to improve community spaces, such as local gardens. Learn more about the project at [www.projecthomecoming.net](http://www.projecthomecoming.net).

Watch for details about an event on Sunday, April 26, at coffee hour.

## **HONOR OR MEMORIALIZE SOMEONE OR SOME OCCASION BY SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR**

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Want a different way to honor or memorialize a friend or family member? Want to celebrate an occasion? Then consider sponsoring an Old First Coffee Hour. This occasion is one the family and guests of Old First share every Sunday after worship. Coffee, tea and pastries are provided during that time and it basically costs the church \$50 each week. A sponsorship saves that money so that it can be spent for mission giving or other church needs. Think about how special it will be for you to celebrate an occasion or a person and assist Old First as well. Sign up for coffee hour sponsorship. Sheets are on the bulletin board right outside the Munro Room in the downstairs hallway.

## **EDWARD II: FORMER LOMBARD STREET INN OFFERS LARKIN STREET YOUTH HOME AND HOPE**

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Twenty four young people who had no place to call home now have one at the corner of Scott and Lombard Streets. Along with a safe and stable home, the former Edward II Inn offers its new residents the best chance they have had to achieve their full potential in life.

Many of the residents are former foster youth. Some have mental health issues. None had a loving and supportive home. Each young person now has a lease to a one room apartment that includes a private bath and a refrigerator. In exchange, residents pay 30% of their income as rent. The facility includes a kitchen, a dining area, a class room, a recreation room, a laundry room, and on-site case management, education, employment and other services offered by Larkin Street Youth Services.

Community Housing Partnership, the developer and property manager, and Larkin Street, which provides program services, worked with the city, private investors and others to turn the 1914 building into a beautiful residence facility. Representative Nancy Pelosi and Mayor Ed Lee joined other officials, youth and other stakeholders at the March 11 grand opening.

Larkin Street's executive director, Sherilyn Adams, said that Edward II provides the young people the dignity and respect that they deserve. She expects that most will stay about 2 years. When they leave, Larkin Street's goal is that they will be self-sufficient, meaning they will be physically and emotionally well, with a place to live that they can afford, career-track employment and at least two years of post-secondary education.

## **RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE ALBERTO BARRIOS CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

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Visit the Alberto Barrios Children's Library and explore these new books!

Baker, Dori Grinenko. *The Barefoot Way*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press. 2012. **Faith**. All ages.

This story grew out of Dori Baker, a United Methodist minister, who experiences working with youths and young adults. This book invites older youth, writers young and old who have participated on a 21-day journey where they have encountered God in the most unexpected places. Through the twenty-one day field guide, you'll reflect with them on the realities of life.

Bromley, Anne C. *The Lunch Thief*. Gardiner, ME: Tilbury House. 2010. **Fiction**. Juvenile. This is a story of sharing and caring. Hunger is hidden, but hunger is here in America. Children are experiencing this threat every day. The Lunch Thief shows us that understanding what hunger can drive children to do and that kindness and understanding must be our response.

Carr, Simonetta. *John Knox*. Michigan: Reformation Heritage Books. 2014. **Biography**. Juvenile.

A dramatic story told by Simonetta Carr. The historical book will fascinate children of how a Scottish school boy grew to be a major leader of a powerful movement that transformed Scotland into one of the most important Protestant countries in the world. Carr explains how John Knox became a Protestant, a galley slave, a friend of John Calvin, and last, the leading preacher of the Scottish Reformation. Children from the ages of 7-12 will love reading this clear, concise biography with beautiful colored illustrations.

Foote, Ted V. Jr. and P. Alex Thornburg. *Being Disciples of Jesus in a Dot.Com World*. Louisville, Ky. Westminster John Knox Pres. 2003, 1<sup>st</sup> ed. **Church**. All ages.

The authors cleverly examine Christian discipleship in the postmodern world. With chapter titles such as "Is Post-Modernism Real or Are We Just Making it Up?" "Is God Eccentric or Comfortably Middle Class?" "How Much is Grace, or is it Just Cheap?" "What Would Jesus Drive?" and "Am I My Siblings' Keeper, or Are They the Weakest Links?" Foote and Thornburg engagingly enlighten theological topics. Includes study questions and leaders' guide.

Hubbard-Brown, Janet. *Joan of Arc: Religious and Military Leader*. New York: Chelsea House Pub. 2010. **Biography**. Juvenile.

This is an exciting story of a girl hearing voices to save France and she did. She followed orders of these voices and persuaded the crown Prince of France to let her lead an army to free the city of Orleans from the English. Joan encounters incredible struggles and achievements. Her real heroism was in the courtroom where she fought prejudices with the men, which ultimately led to her death—burned at the stake as a heretic. By 1920, four hundred years after her execution, the Roman Catholic Church recognized her as a Saint. This book is suited for middle age children. The author provides further resources, print references and Websites at the end of the book.

Lewis, Michael. *The Blind Side*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. 2007. **Biography**. All ages. “*The Blind Side* works on three levels. First, as a shrewd analysis of the NFL; second, as an exposé of the insanity of big-time college football recruiting; and, third, as a moving portrait of the positive effect that love, family, and education can have in reversing the path of a life that was destined to be lived unhappily and, most likely, end badly.” — Wes Lukowsky, *Booklist*.

Sasso, Sandy Eisenberg. *But God Remembered. Stories of Women from Creation to the Promised Land*. Woodstock, Vermont: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2008. **Old Testament, Women**. All ages.

Children of all ages and adults will enjoy reading this book. This is a volume that children will learn more about women in the Bible. Beautifully illustrated. These are stories overlooked by our culture. Women will enjoy reading this to reinforce their identity as seen in Biblical times.

Shulman, Polly. *The Grimm Legacy*. New York: G. P. Putnam’s Sons, 2010. **Fiction**. Juvenile. The author has created a fascinating story in Elizabeth, who is a lonely teen girl, with an unhappy home life. She finds by taking a job in the library she will meet and make new friends. Before long, she creates bonds of friendship with the workers. Elizabeth doesn’t know what will happen, but the reader will find Elizabeth to encounter the adventure of her life. The tale is one of fantasy, magic and mystery. Fans of fairy tales and Grimm stories will find delight in the author’s references. Suited for grades 6-9.

Slaughter, Mike. *A Different Kind of Christmas*. Nashville: Abingdon Press. 2012. **Holidays**. All ages.

The author shows us a different kind of Christmas, negating all that celebration of consumerism and bringing us back to what God is doing in the world through the birth of Jesus. Jesus comes to change the world through ordinary people. God is bringing a Christmas miracle. The book contains devotional readings, drawing you and your family into closer relationship with God as you journey through the Christmas season.

Telgemeier, Raina. *Sisters*. 2014. First edition. **Biography**. Juvenile. Sisters are about ordinary family conflict and what it means to be a family. The book is entirely graphic. This is a quick read book. Telgemeier uses her cartoon-style drawing, which is entirely dialogue. This is a story about Telgemeier’s relationship with her sister and ordinary family life, filled with conflicts, but that is life. The art is great with lots of humor.

**REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY: THE SUNDAYS IN APRIL, 2015**

Date	Day	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel Reading
April 2	Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14	116:1-2, 12-19	1 Cor. 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
April 3	Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	22:1-31	Hebrews 10:16-25 or 4:14-16, 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42
April 5	Easter Sunday	Isaiah 25:6-9	118:1-2, 14-24	1 Cor. 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43	John 2:13-22
April 12	Easter 2	Acts 4:32-35	133	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
April 19	Easter 3	Acts 3:12-19	4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
April 26	Easter 4	Acts 4:5-12	23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18

**DATES TO NOTE**

Thursday	April 2	Maundy Thursday Worship Service 6:30 pm, Sanctuary
Friday	April 3	Good Friday Tenebrae Service 8:00 pm, Sanctuary
Sunday	April 5	Pancake Breakfast 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall Organ and Vocal Music Prelude 10:40 am, Sanctuary Worship Service 11:00 am, Sanctuary
Saturday	April 11	Old First Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry
Sunday	April 12	Christian Education Committee, 9:30 am, Library Deacons Meeting, 12:30 pm, Munro Room Deadline for Contributions to May Edition of <i>Shared Life</i>
Saturday	April 18	Presbyterian Women, 12:00 noon, Library
Sunday	April 19	Worship with Installation of New Officers 11:00 am, Sanctuary
Sunday	April 26	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Small Group 12:30 pm, Library
Tuesday	April 28	Session 7:00 pm, Munro Room

**The Officers of Old First Presbyterian Church**

New officers – elders and deacons – will be ordained and installed on Sunday, April 19, at the 11:00 am worship service. Please be present to support these people in their call to serve Christ's church.