

Shared Life

The Monthly Newsletter of Old First Presbyterian Church

June 2015

Church Website: oldfirst.org

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

Old First Concerts: www.oldfirstconcerts.org

MAGGI'S MUSINGS

Our pulpit exchange begins Sunday, July 5, and continues through Sunday, August 7. As many of you already know, this summer Old First Presbyterian Church is exchanging pastors with St. Andrews's East Parish Church in Glasgow, Scotland. The minister of St. Andrew's East, the Reverend Barbara Quigley, is coming to Old First Presbyterian Church to take my role in worship, preaching and pastoral duties, while I go to Glasgow and take on hers at St. Andrew's East. Barbara and her daughter came to worship at Old First a few back and that began the conversation. A pulpit exchange has long been a tradition in many churches but it is a new experience for Old First and for me. It's a unique gift for both churches and pastors. Really, I get the chance to live and work in Scotland (the homeland of American Presbyterianism) and she gets to live in work in our fabulous San Francisco and serve in this place of deep roots made up of folks who seek to serve Christ in the city. The hope and expectation is that the churches and the pastors will learn from the each other and will all be richer for the experience.

To practical details: I will fly to Glasgow after worship on Sunday, June 28, and will spend a few days with Barbara. She will then introduce me to the in's and out's of St Andrew's and I will tell her about Old First. A few days later she will fly to San Francisco and preach her first sermon on July 5. In the latter half of August we will both take two weeks of vacation. I will return from Glasgow on August 24. Barbara and I will have a few days together before she flies home to Scotland. My first Sunday back in the pulpit will be August 28.

Please pray for me as I get ready to go to Glasgow and while I am away. I am excited but am also, admittedly, a bit anxious. To go to a place where I know no one and to a totally new church is an adventure. I am really looking forward to learning from and sharing with the people of St. Andrews East. And I know you will be welcoming and hospitable to Barbara, and will delight in experiencing something new. Read more about her in her note below to get a sense of what a gift she will be to Old First.

Peace, Pastor Maggi

GREETINGS FROM BARBARA QUIGLEY

MINISTER OF ST. ANDREW'S EAST PARISH CHURCH, GLASGOW

Barbara Quigley will be exchanging roles with our Pastor Henderson during July and August this summer. In her greetings below she introduces herself.

I am getting really excited about coming to Old First Presbyterian Church for the summer. Let me introduce myself; I am Barbara (never anything else) a Scots Presbyterian which, with my name, is a bit strange. Quigley is an Irish Catholic name and the reason I am not Roman Catholic is to do with the Great War (1914-1918) and I'll tell you about that later. The reason I was born in Yorkshire in the North of England and not Scotland, is to do with the Second World

War (1939-45) and I'll tell you about that later. The reason I'm Presbyterian is to do with an almighty row I had with the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1975 and I'll tell you about that later.

I studied Theology at the University of St Andrews and at Duke University in North Carolina. I studied Education at Birmingham University and History at Open/Dundee University.

I have been minister of Glasgow: St Andrew's East for four years. Before that I taught Religion and Philosophy and History in the High School of Dundee, the second oldest school in Scotland and the school attended by the Scottish patriot William Wallace. (Ever seen the film 'Braveheart'?) At 'the High' I specialised in teaching Medical Ethics. Whilst in Dundee I also ran a couple of churches on a part time basis.

My first church was New Stevenston: Wrangholm Kirk in North Lanarkshire just outside Glasgow. This was an area of coal mining and then steel making. When I went there in 1979 I was one of the first women ordained by the Church of Scotland (about 12th or 13th) so I was very much a novelty and had to forge my own way as a 26 year old woman. It had its up and downs. Some male colleagues wouldn't allow me anywhere near their churches whilst others treated me as simply another minister. I don't know if I did ministry any different from the men, I just did it.

Whilst in New Stevenston I met and married the new Methodist minister in the village. David Firth and I have been married for 27 years and have one daughter Eilidh now 25. David is now Methodist minister in Carlisle, the last city in England before you get to the Scottish border. It's about 90 minutes away from Glasgow. He enjoys hillwalking in the Lake District and for his 60th birthday he took up distance running. He will not be coming to San Francisco; he will be looking after Angus our rescue dog who enjoys chasing seagulls and shouting at squirrels.

Eilidh is a freelance musician playing fiddle and teaching traditional Scottish Music as well as violin and piano. Her band, Barluath (pronounced bar loo ah), has just released its second album. Check them out at www.barluath.com. Eilidh will be with me for the end of my stay with you, for a holiday before taking up a scholarship to go to Valley of the Moon fiddle camp in California again.

My theology is pretty much left of mainstream (radical, liberal) though I'm no great shakes at theology, my love is mediaeval church history; I'm an historian not a theologian. My style of leading worship has become more relaxed over the years. It doesn't have to be perfect so long as it is a faithful witness by God's people. I love to include as many people as possible in leading worship which was a bit of a new thought for St Andrew's East when I arrived. They have taken to it and are so willing to offer what they can and are to God. At Advent 2014 we switched to the Narrative Lectionary. Having been round the Revised Common Lectionary since 1979 I needed something new. So far it seems to be leading people in their worship of God and understanding our place in God's world.

For hobbies I sing in the Community Choir of Scottish Opera and enjoy being out in the countryside. Five years ago I was finally diagnosed with Fibromyalgia so I have to behave myself and not overdo things, so no hillwalking but there is still plenty to see on low level trails.

Barbara Quigley, Minister

St. Andrew's East Parish Church, Glasgow

For more about St. Andrew's East, see Shared Life, April 2015.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Celebrating Old First's 166th Anniversary, June 7

On May 28 Old First Presbyterian Church turned 166 years old. Founded in 1849, the church had five homes before the present building. Join with us at our Anniversary Potluck on June 7 to celebrate another great year. The main course will be provided by the church. As usual, you may either contribute a side dish, a salad or a dessert to the potluck *or* make a modest cash donation. See you join the celebration.

Deadline for Combined July/August Issue of Shared Life, June 14

June 14 is the deadline for submission of news and articles for the combined July/August issue of *Shared Life*.

All Faiths' Day at Interfaith Food Pantry, June 20

On Saturday, June 20, members from all the sponsoring congregations will staff the Interfaith Food Pantry. Meet volunteers from our partner congregations while you unload the truck, bring food inside, distribute and clean up later. Contact Dana Nojima or foodpantry@oldfirst.org.

Jeanne Kirkwood in *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard, June 12-14

Old First Presbyterian Church member Jeanne Kirkwood appears in the role of Mrs. Drudge in Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound*, a one-act play to be performed at the Jewish Community Center June 12-14: Friday and Saturday are evening performances at 8:00 pm. Sunday, June 14, is a matinee at 2:00 pm – you can make it to church and the play! Call 415-292-1233 for tickets – only \$10.00, children under 12 are free.

SF Pride Day, June 28

This year Pride Day will be celebrated in San Francisco on Sunday, June 28. The annual parade kicks off at 10:30 a.m. at Market and Beale Streets and ends at Market and 8th Street in the civic Center. Note that preparation for the parade will include closure of some streets in the vicinity of the parade, so plan your trip to Old First Presbyterian Church appropriately.

AIDS Walk SF: Presbyterian Team, July 19

We are only a couple months away from AIDS Walk San Francisco. You can register for free at sf.aidswalk.net/presbyterians and help us qualify for a team table at the event. If you're already registered, please ask your friends to register too! Remember:

1. Families should register each family member separately.
2. You need not be in town, as "virtual walkers" are welcome.
3. You don't need to walk the 10 km, as we also have team members guard our team table while others walk.
4. Our team table can be used to store excess layers of clothing while walking and can also hold picnic food for before and after the walk.
5. There is no minimum donation, if by check/cash instead of credit card. Get sponsors at any amount and/or sponsor yourself.
6. Ask your sponsors to choose your name instead of choosing "General Team Donation."
7. Pets can register and get sponsors too!
8. Mark July 19 on your calendars!

Save the Date: Congregational Retreat, October 16-18

Mark your calendar for our 2015 congregational retreat the weekend of **October 16-18**. This will be an all-ages retreat with opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth, worship and fun for adults, children and youth.

The retreat will be at Mt. Hermon, the site of our 2012 retreat. Mt. Hermon is in the redwoods of the Santa Cruz Mountains near Monterey Bay. <http://www.mounthermon.org>

The retreat speaker will be Dr. Rodger Y. Nishioka of Columbia Theological Seminary. To quote Maggi Henderson, "He is stunning speaker. Anything he does I would go to."

Look for more details to come. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Nina, Berg, Bill Campbell, Jeanne Kirkwood or Glen Potter.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: THANKS, ALL!

Christian Education had an exciting and fruitful year. I want to thank Pastor Henderson and all who contributed to the Christian Education Program.

I want to thank especially the teachers from Old First who have volunteered their time and energy to conduct the Adult Christian Education sessions, offering stimulating topics and dialogue on a range of issues that have enriched and enhanced Christian growth. These teachers include Pastor Maggi Henderson, Parish Associate Pastor Erwin Barron, Jean Olson, Steve Taber, Andrea Segura Smith, Mary Russell, Brian Nichols, Diane Molberg, Betty Voris, Alfred Martin, George Becker, Bill Feister, and Elaine Lyford-Nojima. Please join me in applauding their good work.

Priscilla Yu, Chair
Christian Education Committee

THANK YOU, TELLERS!

Did you know that every Sunday two people stay for an hour or more to count the money that comes in on Sundays and during the week? They are called... *The Tellers!* You would be amazed how many different details that go into this process! As the Pastor of Old First, I am thankful to all those who have made a commitment to help the church run well financially. We are blessed by our dependable tellers: Pam Sebastian, Jim Fagler, Bill Feister, Karen Bene, Diane Marrow, Gabby Beck-Engeser, Diane Marrow, Linda Ryder, Anne Scott Rogers, Ted Chiao, Horngsheng Tu, and Phil Pollack. You may see them counting in the office after church. Let them concentrate, but take a moment at another time to thank them for all their hard work.

Pastor Maggi

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK: THANK YOU!

Thanks go to all those that who collected pennies and gave to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter Sunday, April 5. Over \$2,700 has been collected. Funds from this offering have already found their way to relief work in Nepal.

HONOR OR MEMORIALIZE SOMEONE OR AN OCCASION BY SPONSORING COFFEE HOUR

Want a different way to honor or memorialize a friend or family member? Want to celebrate an occasion? Consider sponsoring an Old First coffee hour. This occasion is one the family and guests of Old First Presbyterian Church share every Sunday after worship. Coffee, tea and pastries are provided during that time and it costs the church \$50.00 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.

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE: A GIFT, A BLESSING, A CHALLENGE

What can be all three things in the title above? Lay leadership! Here at Old First we have a long tradition of members leading parts of the church service. It can be scary when you first look out at the congregation. Once started, it's an exciting and moving experience, unique to church services. I find it's a gift to have heard so many different voices sharing their faith in prayer and liturgy. And it's a blessing to be able to share and stretch your own faith practices.

As one lay liturgist says, "Being a lay liturgist at Old First is a privilege and a responsibility to lead worship and to give of yourself. Unlike leadership in the secular work environment, I find that worship leadership is not about putting on a performance that focuses on you, but it is about service that focuses on God."

You can choose to be the liturgist assisting Maggi with the service or to lead the prayers of the people. As liturgist you read the call to worship, confession, assurance of forgiveness, prayer for illumination (yours or one already written), and read the first reading. On communion days you may also assist at the table. Many people like to add a short prayer or comment before the various sections. However this is not absolutely necessary. You can choose to simply read from the bulletin.

When leading the prayers of the people, most chose to write their own prayers but you can also use prayers from other sources. Maggi has many resources she can share to inspire you. It's also possible to write a prayer and have someone else lead the prayer for you. Instructions are sent out each week. The church library and the pastor have reference books. The Worship Committee members can train or guide you.

Is God calling you to this special service to the church? If you're interested contact Cindy Burt, who schedules the prayers of the people volunteers, or AnnieScott Rogers, who introduces folks to the lay liturgist role, or any other member of the Worship Committee – Linda Reyder, Hsiaochien Chuang, Chris Burt, Lori Yamauchi – during coffee hour. We will be delighted to get you started.

For all who have shared of themselves by leading the prayers or being liturgist, the Worship Committee thanks you for your service.

Linda Reyder, Hsiaochien Chuang, Co-Chairs
Worship Committee

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY: THE SUNDAYS IN JUNE, 2015

Date	Day	1 st Reading	Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel Reading
June 7	Ordinary 10	Genesis 3:8-15	130	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
June 14	Ordinary 11	Ezekiel 17:22-24	92:1-4, 12-15	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17	Mark 4:26-34
June 21	Ordinary 12	Job 38:1-11	107:1-3, 23-32	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41
June 28	Ordinary 13	Lamentations 3:22-33	30	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-43

OTHER DATES TO NOTE

Sunday	June 7	Anniversary Potluck Luncheon, 12:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Sunday	June 14	Deacons Meeting, 12:30 pm, Munro Room
Saturday	June 20	All Faiths volunteer at the Interfaith Food Pantry
Saturday	June 20	Presbyterian Women, noon, Library
Tuesday	June 23	Session Meeting, 7:00 pm, Munro Room
Sunday	June 28	4 th Sunday Small Group 12:30 pm, Library

OFFICERS OF OLD FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Session

Christopher Burt, evangelism; Bill Campbell, mission and giving; Hsiaochien Chuang, worship; Gregory Free, treasurer; Kristi Hoerauf, finance; Harriet MacLean, personnel; Dana Nojima, operations; Jean Olson, clerk of session; Linda Reyder, worship; Steve Taber, planning; Betty Voris, community building; Priscilla Yu; Christian Education

Board of Deacons

Nina Berg, Cindy Burt, Samuel Cheng, Diane Molberg, Alfred Martin, Bryan Nichols, Mary Russell, Randy Smith, Sarah Taber, Jian Wang

DEADLINE FOR COMBINED JULY/AUGUST ISSUE OF *SHARED LIFE*: JUNE 14

June 14 is the deadline for submission of news and articles for the combined July/August issue of *Shared Life*.