

Shared Life

The Monthly Newsletter of Old First Presbyterian Church

October 2016

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Pastor Henderson's Return

World Communion Sunday

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Fall Potluck Luncheon - Sunday, October 2

Pastor Henderson Returns to Old First

Our pastor, the Reverend Maggi Henderson, returns to Old First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 2, when she will lead worship and preach. She has been on sabbatical since summer and we welcome her back and pray that she has been refreshed in body, mind and spirit.

Worship Committee Art Project for World Communion Sunday

This summer the worship committee has been working on some art projects to help us interpret World Communion for our worship this October 2. One of our inspirations comes from Lamentations 1: 1-6, a lectionary reading of the day. This really expresses a deep sorrow felt by many for the world's sufferings.

We also want to show God's sovereignty and the worlds' desired unity. The symbols we selected to carry out these themes include a globe, tears, praying hands and open hands. Several artists are preparing pieces with these themes. Cindy Burt, who has sewn many expressive banners in the past, is making a wall hanging and altar cloth. New to us, Kurt Schwartzman is working on a couple of possibilities, a reredos painting or something to be hung from the ceiling.

As of this writing all projects are works in progress. So, you will have to check out the sanctuary on October 2 to see what finally emerges! —Linda Reyder for the Worship Committee: Hsiaochien Chuang, Linda Reyder, Chris Burt, Cindy Burt, Lori Yamauchi, AnnieScott Rogers

Peace and Global Witness Offering

This month, congregations throughout the Presbyterian Church (USA) will receive the annual Peace and Global Witness Offering. This offering works both locally around the world to transform cultures of violence into communities of peace.

Fifty percent of the offering funds the PC(USA)'s Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, which advocates for active, nonviolent solutions to conflict, supports international peacemakers and holds conferences. For example, the PC(USA) is working to spread God's peace and grace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to address attitudes of racism and violence and prevention of gun violence in the U.S.

Since peace begins in our homes and communities, 25% of the offering will be used by Old First for local peacemaking. This year, our Mission Committee decided unanimously to donate Old First's share of the offering to the International Rescue Committee, whose Oakland office resettles approximately 75 families, or 450 refugees, per year in Bay Area communities.

Our San Francisco Presbytery will use the remaining 25% of the offering to support local peacemaking efforts. One of these is the Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church Peace Camp, in the City of Richmond. The Peace Camp provides tools to enable children to find peace within themselves, their families and the community. Christian educators provide Richmond children resources such as prayer, mediation, art, storytelling, writing, teambuilding and knowledge of peacemakers through history.

Old First's Peace and Global Witness Offering will be on World Communion Sunday, October 2. Our generosity will help further God's peace and grace in local neighborhoods and in areas of unrest, violence and discord around the world. –Bill Campbell

Fall Potluck “Ready for Hawai‘i?”

You can get a taste of the islands by attending the October 2nd potluck in the Fellowship Hall following worship. Entree will be a tasty Hawaiian pork recipe made by island native Riley Kramar. As usual, it also will feature a dazzling array of menu items designed to please any and all palates. Everyone is invited. Those attending are asked to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. However, as always, if you cannot bring a dish to share, a small donation will suffice. It's always a great time and sure to please! –Betty Voris

Upcoming Events

A Night to Celebrate: Doris Krauss SeniorCenter FunRaiser, Saturday, October 1

Lots of music, sing-a-long, exhibits, music, food, fruit punch, fine wine, fun and fellowship and a brand new Silent Auction! Oh, and did I mention music?

It's an opportunity to participate in one of Old First's most active programs and meet some of the seniors we serve every Monday. It's also a chance to just have a lot of fun. The FunRaiser starts at an early hour of 5 pm (After all, it does honor seniors) and should be over in time for you to enjoy a late show, dinner or an early bedtime.

You can purchase your tickets this month at any coffee hour following worship. Don't wait until the last minute. As you are standing at the door, you might miss some of the early wine - or music!! Want information? You can ask Cindy Burt, Randy Smith, Sally Spencer or Betty Voris, all members of the Senior Center Commission.

So don't hesitate. The Fellowship Hall at Old First is the Place to be on October 1! We'll see you there! -Betty Voris

Old First Retreat at Mt. Hermon, October 14-16

Being Church in the Digital Age: Connecting with Connected People

How does the church connect with a world that is connected to and through their phones? The internet, mobile devices and social media are central means by which people are developing relationships. Can Christians develop the tools to reach this population, which includes our very own children? Over these few days we will look at how we as Christians can better live out our calling in this changed and changing world. Our individual and corporate ability to harness the power of social connectivity is key to the future of Christianity. Can we thrive as we engage in this new relational landscape?

Our speaker Ralph Watkins, comes highly recommended by last year's Rodger Nishioka. Ralph is the Peachtree Associate Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth at Columbia Seminary. His work there focuses on building bridges between young adults and the church in order to develop future leaders for the twenty-first century. As a scholar, professional photographer, pastor, television host, filmmaker, and sought after speaker and workshop leader Professor Watkins has over 250 publications and conference presentations to his credit.

We will join with Calvary Presbyterian Church and Burlingame Presbyterian Church. There will be two nights lodging in a beautiful and tranquil setting in the redwoods. There will be six delicious meals. There will be opportunities for fellowship, singing, worship, play, and meeting other Presbyterians. –Cindy Burt

Information regarding cost and registration will be found in the brochures available during the coffee hour in Fellowship Hall. Scholarships are available.

“The Muslim Next Door,” Covenant Presbyterian Church, Saturday, October 22

Old First is co-hosting a special event and discussion with Sumbul Ali-Karamali called "The Muslim Next Door: Know Your Neighbor". Please plan to attend. The event will be taking place on Saturday, October 22, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 321 Taraval Street in San Francisco.

Many of us do not personally know any Muslims who can answer questions we have. Ms. Ali-Karamali wrote her book, *The Muslim Next Door: the Qur-an, the Media, and that Veil Thing* to provide academic, cultural and personal information from a reliable source in a warm and relevant context.

She will present and discuss with us the topics that are most confusing, most interesting and most wondered about by Western non-Muslims by using stories, anecdotes, and concrete facts about what Muslims believe, practice, differ, agree, argue about, condemn, and condone.

Sumbul Ali-Karamali is an American Muslim mom and former lawyer who grew up in a suburb of Los Angeles. In addition to her degree in English from Stanford and her law degree from University of California at Davis, she has a degree in Islamic law from the University of School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Through her books, essays, and lectures, she answers questions on Islam and Muslims, both from within her tradition and from an academic perspective. She serves on the board of trustees of a nonprofit educational institution that teaches environmental education to children and youth. She also serves on the steering committee of Women in Islamic Spirituality and Equality (WISE), an initiative dedicated to mobilizing a movement for social justice.

Bring an open mind and join with your neighboring Presbyterians to discover new insights and meet the Muslim next door. Light refreshments will follow the program. –Lori Yamauchi

Ballot Measure Discussion with Betty Voris, October 23

Sunday, October 23, 12:30 pm - Betty Voris will review the 26 ballot measures on the San Francisco ballot in November's election. Please join Betty for this informative session to help you understand the ballot measures and engage in a lively discussion. – Lori Yamauchi

Photo Directory: Time to Smile for OFPC, October 23 and 30

It has been a number of years since Old First has published a Church Photo Directory. Our congregation changes, so it is always helpful to match a name to a face.

In the last 2 weeks of October a classroom will be converted into a studio so that photographs can be taken on Sundays. The sign up schedule will be available in October for taking your photos on Sundays, October 23 and 30, between 9:30 am and 10:30 am and between 12:30 pm and 1:30pm.

Our own Kim Pham will be the photographer. If you want prints Kim will email you the digital files so you can have them printed.

We encourage everyone who worships at Old First or receives Shared Life to sign up.

–Christopher Burt

International Rescue Committee Global Foods Fundraiser, October 24

At “Food Stories: From Burma to the Bay,” the International Rescue Committee will celebrate the global cuisines that IRC clients bring to our neighborhoods. The event will be Monday, October 24, 2016, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at SOMArts, 934 Brannon Street. Join IRC supporters and sample delicious appetizers inspired by the home countries of refugee families and prepared by talented local chefs.

The event will include music, drinks and a fund-a-need auction that further supports the refugees and asylees that the IRC serves. There also will be a special exhibit that tells the stories of refugee children and their parents, in their own words. To purchase tickets online or learn more, go to www.rescue.org/event/food-stories-burma-bay. –Bill Campbell

August Meeting Session Report

Elders had an active meeting on August 23.

- They approved the Senior Center October 1 “Fun Raiser,” and they moved to appoint Bill Campbell and Lori Yamauchi delegates to the September 27 Presbytery Meeting.
- After careful and compassionate discussion it was moved to post a “No Trespassing” sign recommended by the SF Police Department along with an additional sign identifying helpful services and resources for homeless individuals.
- The Mission Committee reported that the We Choose Welcome posters had been placed on bulletin boards in the neighborhood, and announced that the Peace And Global Witness Making Offering will be received on October 2.
- The Operations Committee reported that current projects include installation of the stained glass window in the Columbarium, seismic safety upgrade to the baptismal font and roof inspection to determine cause of blistering in the balcony.
- It was announced that proceeds from the Ice Cream Social will go to the We Choose Welcome effort.
- The Worship Committee reported that distribution of “The Presbyterian Outlook,” notes from the 2016 General Assembly in Portland, will be distributed.
- The Christian Education committee announced An Islam talk at Covenant Presbyterian Church on October 22, the All-Church Retreat on October 15-16, a ballot measures discussion on October 23, and that six youths are participating in confirmation class.

–Tom Culp, Clerk of Session

Statements of Faith by New OFPC Deacons and Elders

The deacons and elders installed in spring of this year have agreed to share their personal written statements of faith.

Riley Kramar, Deacon, Class of 2019

I believe in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost. I accept Jesus as my Savior, my teacher and my Role Model. I believe in the teachings of Jesus and of the Bible.

I pledge my support to the church. I also pledge to share my talents with the church for the continued growth of the church. I am also encouraged to see and learn the talents that my fellow brothers and sisters share with the church.

I believe the role of Christians in this world is to act as close to the teachings of Christ and scripture as they are able - to be the brother and sister to all we come into contact with, but also to those whom we do not come into contact, to radiate and reflect the love of Christ through our actions. I am committed to my own personal sense of purpose in this world - to live a life of action, generosity, love, openness and a willingness to help my fellow.

Emily Olson, Deacon, Class of 2019

I believe in one God, the God of Abraham and creator of heaven and earth. He is a personal God, interested in having a relationship with His people. I believe in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully human. He is my savior, comforter, and guide, having died for my sins and the sins of the world. The third aspect of this Triune God, is the Holy Spirit who guides, interprets and provides insight and wisdom in my life.

I believe in the importance of the Church as God's instrument in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, and in providing places of worship, teaching of Holy Scripture and serving community and world.

Old First Church Columbarium's Original Vision Completed

That beautiful space just inside the Van Ness entrance is Old First's columbarium. It contains niches for the inurnment of ashes, with plaques to memorialize each life, and also plaques placed in memory of those who are buried, or whose ashes were scattered, elsewhere. All the artwork in the columbarium is part of the permanent art of the church, and complements all other artwork.

The newest piece of art, a stained-glass window featuring a field of lilies, was recently installed in the viewing area above the Columbarium chamber. This window will be dedicated in a brief ceremony to be held immediately following worship on Sunday, October 30. The window completes the original vision of the Columbarium and enhances all the other art in this part of the church. The design for the window was commissioned a decade ago by Steve Taber from David Forte.

The columbarium (not a public facility) is for members and former members, pastors and former pastors, assistants, associates, interims, and parish associates; and staff and former staff members of Old First or its affiliated ministries. The Columbarium Ministry Team members are Tracy Clagett, Bill Feister, Bob Fleming, Linda Reyder, Mary Russell and Steve Taber.

If you would like to learn more about the purchase of a columbarium niche or a plaque, please call the church office at 415-776-5552, to receive a copy of the printed guidelines, and if you wish to be contacted by a Columbarium Ministry Team member with further details. –Mary Russell

Worship Committee Says: Gracias, □□□□□□□□, Merci, ありがとう, Danke, Mahalo, Thanks

Worship committee is very thankful to all who helped make the sabbatical time now ending an exciting, happy and rewarding (a little challenging) period in the life of Old First. We were well served by the sabbatical committee of Jeanne Kirkwood, Lori Yamauchi, Dana Nojima, and Linda Reyder. Our two parish associates, Susan Ashton and Erwin Barron, stepped up to provide leadership and continuity, taking turns doing the announcements beginning the services, visiting folks, moderating session, and leading worship. Our office administrator, Brad Peterson, provided excellent support for the committee and all the guest preachers – Cal Chinn, Leslie Veen, Susan Ashton, John Kramer, Margaret Trezevant, Saskia deVries, Michael Pappas, and Keenan Kelsey (Keenan for each communion Sunday!). The liturgists – Betty Voris, Sidney Hollar, Michel Berg, Sandra Keyes, Mary Russell, Brain Nichols, Chuck Olson, Daniel Pearch, Bill Feister, Chris Burt, Bill Campbell, Riley Kramar, Linda Reyder – were asked to do a little extra this summer to help out the guest preachers and they all went the extra mile. Our choir director Larry Marietta was wonderful, providing comfort in the choice of many old favorite hymns, and freshness in the use of music this summer, notably the Family Choir, the responsive hymn sing, and the use of various vocal and instrumental soloists.

Some of my favorite sabbatical highlights include Keenan Kelsey's "Mary and Martha" dramatization, the service devoted to the Lord's Prayer, and Don Pender's bass oboe solos... I'm sure we can all think of many others.

Thanks again to all, and apologies to anyone inadvertently left out, so many people came together to make this a truly memorable time in our Shared Life. –Linda Reyder for the Worship Committee: Hsiaochien Chuang, Linda Reyder, Chris Burt, Cindy Burt, Lori Yamauchi, AnnieScott Rogers

Revised Common Lectionary for October, 2016

Date	Day	1st Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
2	20th Sunday after Pentecost	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	Psalm 37:1-9	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
9	21st Sunday after Pentecost	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c	Psalm 111	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
16	22nd Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 32:22-31	Psalm 121	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8
23	23rd Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22	Psalm 84:1-7	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14
30	24th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 1:10-18	Psalm 32:1-7	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	Luke 19:1-10

October Dates to Note

1	Saturday	OFPC hosts Interfaith Food Pantry, Senior Center FunRaiser, 1-5 pm
2	Sunday	Peace & Global Witness offering, Fall Potluck Luncheon
9	Sunday	Board of Deacons, 12:30 pm, Deadline for November Shared Life.
14–16	Friday–Sunday	OFPC Church Retreat
22	Saturday	“The Muslim Next Door,” Ms. Ali-Karamali, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1-3 pm
23	Sunday	Ballot Measures Review with Betty Voris, 12:30 pm
24	Monday	Food Stories: From Burma to the Bay, SOMArts, 934 Brannon Street, 7-9 pm
25	Tuesday	Session, 7:00 pm

Old First Officers

Session

Chris Burt, Community Building; Bill Campbell, Mission and Giving; Hsiaochien Chuang, Worship; Robin Currier, Personnel; Kristi Hoerauf, Finance; John Kramar, Planning; Harriet MacLean; Dana Nojima, Operations; Linda Reyder, Worship; Betty Voris, Community Building; Lori Yamauchi, Christian Education; Tom Culp, Clerk of Session; Greg Free, Treasurer;

Board of Deacons

Bryan Nichols, Moderator; Nina Berg, Cindy Burt, Riley Kramar, Alfred Martin, Emily Olson, Mary Russell, Randy Smith, Sarah Taber, Jian Wang

All Saints: Remembering the Saints of Old First

On the **Sunday, October 30**, the Sunday before All Saints' Day, we will remember church members, friends and loved ones who have died since All Saint's Day last year. To include someone's name in the remembrance, you can fill out the insert in the Sunday bulletins and place it in the offering plate, or you may inform the church office by E-mail (brad@oldfirst.org), by phone (415-776-5552), or by mail (1751 Sacramento St/SF CA 94109) using the form below. Let the church office know the person's name, birth and death dates, and relationship to you - no later than **Monday, October 24**.

First Name to Remember: _____

Relationship to Me: _____ (examples: my father, my friend)

Death Date: _____

Second Name to Remember: _____

Relationship to Me: _____ (examples: my mother, my neighbor)

Death Date: _____

Third Name to Remember: _____

Relationship to Me: _____ (examples: my cousin, my co-worker)

Death Date: _____

My Name: _____