

# Shared Life

The Monthly Newsletter of Old First Presbyterian Church

April 2018

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

Church Telephone: 415-776-5552

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## Holy Week

### **Palm Sunday, March 25**

11:00 am Worship with Palms

### **Maundy Thursday, March 29**

6:00 pm Deniers, Doubters, Betrayers All:”

Communion for Maundy Thursday

*The people of St. Luke's Episcopal Church will join us for worship at Old First.*

### **Good Friday, March 30**

8:00 pm Tenebrae Service: A Service of Readings and Growing  
Darkness Recalling the Crucifixion

*We will recall Christ's betrayal and Crucifixion.*

### **Christ's Resurrection!**

### **Easter Sunday, April 1**

9:00-10:30 am Pancake Breakfast

10:30 am Prelude with Organ and Voice

11:00 am Joyful Easter Worship

*We will proclaim Christ's resurrection and victory over death.*

*We will give thanks with our One Great Hour of Sharing offering.*

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**Easter Pancake Breakfast, April 1, 9:00 am to 10:30 am**

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The ever-popular Easter Pancake Breakfast will be held on April 1 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, and fresh fruit will be served. It will be sponsored by the Community Building Committee and the Board of Deacons.

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**OGHS Offering at Easter Worship, April 1, 11:00 am**

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Give Generously to the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering Easter morning April 1st and beyond. One of the ministries it supports is Church World Service who works with congregations to welcome more than 7,000 refugees to the U.S. every year.

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**Memorial Service for Mary Lou Wilson, April 7, 2:00 pm**

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We will witness to the resurrection and remember Old First member Mary Lou Wilson on Saturday, April 7, at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

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**Reimagine End of Life, April 16 through 22**

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“Reimagine End of Life Week” is April 16 through 22 in San Francisco. This event is co-sponsored by the San Francisco Interfaith Council, the Department of Aging and Adult Services Palliative Care Work Group, and “Reimagine End of Life.” There will be hundreds of events all over the city: workshops, art, music, dinners, and lectures. Take a look and plan to attend and share your information with the church. For more information visit the “Reimagine End of Life” website: <https://letsreimagine.org/san-francisco/>

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**All-Church Read: *Life's Last Gift*, by Charlie Garfield**

**Discussions at OFPC: April 15 and 29, 12:30 pm**

**Meet-the-Author at Books, Inc., April 18, 7:00 pm**

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Old First is offering two discussion sessions on *Life's Last Gift* by Charlie Garfield on two Sundays, April 15 and 29. We will meet in the Munro Room after coffee hour. It would be helpful if you have read some of the book, but it won't be necessary. If you would like to host a discussion during the daytime or evening on a weekday, just speak to Pastor Maggi.

You can also hear Dr. Garfield speak at Books, Inc. at Opera Plaza (Van Ness and Golden Gate Avenues) on Wednesday, April 18, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Dr. Garfield will be part of panel with Kelsey Crowe, PhD, author of *There Is No Good Card for This*, and Megan Devine, author of *It's OK That You're Not OK*, who will discuss grief and dying, and also ways to find peace, refuge and support through the process.

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**WinterFaith Shelter Walk 2018, Sunday, May 6**

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Many of us have been looking for a way to make a difference in homelessness and you can walk your way to give others hope. You could walk in the San Francisco Interfaith Council's WinterFaith Shelter Walk on Sunday afternoon, May 6 at Lake Merced. The Interfaith Council, in collaboration with the City and County of San Francisco, operates the Interfaith Winter Shelter. (Some of our members also cook a meal for the shelter each year.) This year Mission Bay Community Church has invited us to join their team, so we Presbyterians can walk together. Pastor Maggi will cover a \$50 pledge to the first person from Old First who would like to walk and get the ball rolling! Walkers can ask for sponsors on Sunday, April 29, and Sunday, May 6, at coffee hour. Just let Maggi know you are walking. To register, donate or find more information, visit the Interfaith Council's website: <http://winterfaithshelterwalk.dojiggy.com/ng/>

### **Our Pastor: Maggi from Piedmont**

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Pastor Maggi was featured on the cover of *The Messenger*, the monthly newsletter from her childhood church, Piedmont Community Church. You may have seen one of their folks following Pastor Maggi around our church in January. Take a look at the article on Piedmont Community Church's website:

<https://www.piedmontchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/FEBRUARY-MESSENGER-FINAL-1.pdf>

### **Being a Good Neighbor-Old First Adopts Two Storm Drains. Drain Dedication on April 22 Earth Day, Following Coffee Hour**

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There are many ways to care for your neighbors and adopt a drain is the latest way Old First Presbyterian is caring for those that live and work near the church. Anyone can come to the church, get the cleaning supplies and take care of "our drains." There are at least two other people in the church who are drain adopters in their neighbors. Maybe there are more? Join us for a brief drain dedication-see where the supplies are and learn how you can help. Check out the website below and watch a quick video about the program.

Why adopt a drain? In San Francisco, we have a combined sewer system that collects storm water and sewage in the same network of pipes. While the system is made to handle a significant amount of rainfall, in large rain storms when the system reaches capacity, some low-lying areas of the City, especially areas that used to be creeks or streams, can experience flooding and property damage. No sewer system, including ours, can be designed to manage all the storm water in all storms.

San Francisco's preventive operations and maintenance program includes inspecting, cleaning, repairing, and replacing aging sewers. Crews use specialized trucks and equipment to deep clean more than 5,000 of the City's 25,000+ catch basins each year, with a focus on low-lying areas of the city that are prone to flooding. The city also monitors weather forecasts carefully and when major storms are expected, it increases staffing and deploys strike teams to monitor areas prone to flooding, even at night and weekends. Keeping storm drains and catch basins clear of leaves and debris helps avoid flooding and enables storm water to drain properly. The city appreciates those who adopt drains to help keep the drains clear of leaves and debris, protect the environment and help minimize risk of flooding. Find a drain and sign up at this website:

[www.adoptadrain.sfwater.org](http://www.adoptadrain.sfwater.org)

### **OFPC Welcomes New Members**

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In March Old First Presbyterian Church welcomed Karyn Payne and Kurt Schwartzmann as new members. (Kurt is pictured here.) Greet them when you meet them at worship.

## Refugee Gift Card Drive

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Double Your Impact with Old First's Gift Card Drive for Refugees. Gift cards are what the International Rescue Committee's Oakland office says are most helpful today: \$25 or \$50 Target, Food Maxx and Safeway gift cards for refugees who are already here.

Many refugee families who have been in the U.S. a few years live in poverty. Gift cards put money directly in their pockets. After years of being denied freedom of choice, they can shop and buy what they need. Gift cards also can help them learn how to shop and to become educated consumers.

You can contribute gift cards or money to buy them, whichever works better for you. If you would like to have a record of your contribution for tax purposes, you will need to write a check. Either way, Old First will *match your contribution to double our impact* up to a total of \$2,000! Please bring your checks or gift cards to church on June 17 or June 24. If you write a check, be sure to put "Refugee Gift Cards" on the memo line.

Bill Campbell, Mission Committee

## SafeHouse Exercise/Music Room

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Old First member Jim Fagler recently received this note from SafeHouse:

*Hi Jim,*

*Thank you for meeting with us today and all of your work on the Ellis Remodel project. Please find an image of the new exercise/music room. Do let the donor [Old First] know the women are enjoying the space regularly and we all appreciate it.*

*Kindly,*

*Stacy Thompson, Operations Manager  
San Francisco SafeHouse*



San Francisco SafeHouse recently completed construction of their new multi-purpose room! This wonderful new space, sponsored by Old First Presbyterian Church, allows women a second community room to inhabit in the house. The room features a prominent exercise area, where SafeHouse women work on healthy workout habits with our volunteer Pilates and yoga instructors. In addition, there is a sitting area for relaxation and studying, as well as a section of the room devoted to musical instruments. To top it all off, they have added a donated wall-

mounted TV which can be viewed while exercising or relaxing on the couch. One of the great things about adding a new community space is that it allows residents to spread out evenly in the house without feeling crowded, which will allow the organization to add two additional beds to the program.



## February Session Meeting Report

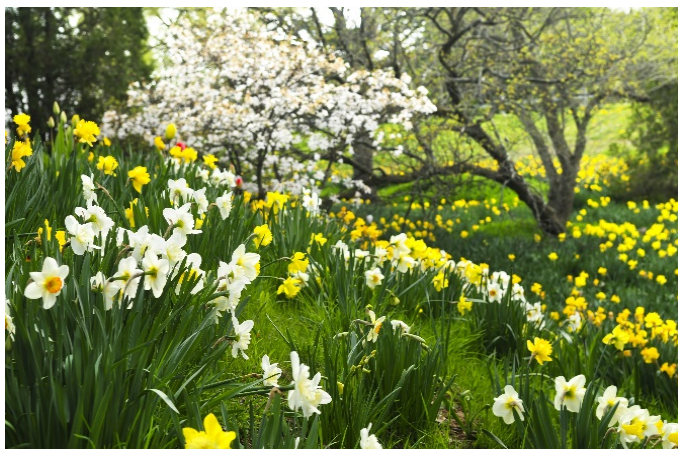
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- The Personnel Committee brought two motions before the group to amend the pastor's housing agreement concerning maintenance and to approve changes to the Personnel Handbook covering vacation benefits.
- Two written reports on the February 13 Presbytery Meeting were reviewed and discussed. It was noted that the next Western Region Presbytery Meeting will be on March 7, and Bill Campbell and Virginia Webb-Pekelnicky were commissioned to attend. Further it was noted that the next full Presbytery Meeting will be on Saturday, April 28 at Valley Presbyterian Church, Portola Valley where Dr. Tod Bolsinger, author of *Canoeing the Mountains* will speak. Bill Campbell, Linda Reyder and Priscilla Yu were elected commissioners and all elders, leaders and members were encouraged to attend to learn about becoming an adaptive congregation.
- The Christian Education Committee reported on the Lent Spiritual Practices discussion series. Publicity was encouraged and elders were asked to invite other members to attend.
- The Mission Committee reported on Using Old First benevolence funds to make matching grants, the February 7 Interfaith Welcome Benefit concert and the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter Sunday. There was motion from the committee requesting approval to have a drive for gift cards for refugees; the motion passed.
- The Community Building Committee announced that the next meal would be the Easter pancake breakfast on April 1.
- The Planning Committee mentioned that the Nominating Committee was working, that the Pneu Activities Group learning about adaptive challenges and change was effectively working, and that online giving was moving forward.
- The Finance Committee reported that a Church bookkeeper had not yet been hired.  
**[Note: Suggestions for a new bookkeeper may be given to either Greg Free or Kristi Hoerauf, members of the Finance Committee.]**
- The Operations Committee highlighted progress on signage updates, testing a new internet service, new lights installed on the chancel, new fixtures and sound system improvements in the Sanctuary.

Tom Culp, Clerk of Session

## The Daffodils by William Wordsworth, 1770–1850

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I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.

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**Prayers for Healing and Wholeness**

For James Uren for continued healing from a broken dominant left arm.

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**Prayers of Mourning**

For Mary Lou Wilson and those who mourn her death.

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**Dates to Remember**

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April 1	Sunday	Easter Sunday: Pancake Breakfast, 9:00-10:30 am Prelude with Organ and Voice, 10:30 am Worship, 11:00 am
April 2	Monday	Church Office Closed, DK Senior Center Closed Mission Committee, 6:30 pm
April 7	Saturday	Memorial Service for Mary Lou Wilson, 2:00 pm
April 8	Sunday	Deadline for June Issue of <i>Shared Life</i> Deacon's Meeting 12:30 pm
April 15	Sunday	Book Discussion <i>Life's Last Gift</i> , 12:30 pm
April 21	Saturday	Presbyterian Women, 12:00 noon
April 24	Tuesday	Session Meeting, 7:00 pm
April 28	Saturday	Saturday Community Dinner, 5:30 pm
April 29	Sunday	Book Discussion <i>Life's Last Gift</i> , 12:30 pm

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**OFPC Church Officers****Session****Class of 2018**

Chris Burt  
Kristi Hoerauf  
Dana Nojima

**Class of 2019**

Tom Culp, clerk of session  
Robin Currier  
John Kramar  
Lori Yamauchi  
Priscilla Yu

**Class of 2020**

Bill Campbell  
Hsiaochien Chuang  
Linda Reyder  
Daniel Pearch  
Virginia Webb-Pekelnicky

**Board of Deacons****Class of 2018**

Nina Berg  
Alfred Martin  
Randy Smith  
Sarah Taber

**Class of 2019**

Riley Kramar  
Mary Russell  
Emily Olson

**Class of 2020**

Beth Arnaoot  
Courtney Blake  
Cindy Burt  
Glen Potter  
Jian Wang