

Nov. 26, 2017 • Vol. 71 • No. 43

### 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*James 1:2-8*

**10:00**

**Worship**, Emerging Leader Loi Almeron, preacher; Amar Khalsa & Elizabeth Forsyth, musicians, *Sanctuary Musical Highlights*, "Simple Gifts," arr. Mark Schweizer (after Johann Pachelbel's Canon in D), Sanctuary Choir, Elizabeth Forsyth, piano

**11:15**

**After Party**, Courtyard

**11:45**

**Learning Hour**, Process Theology, Part 2, led by Christina Hutchins, *Loper Chapel*

### Process Theology, Part 2 this Sunday

Alfred North Whitehead wrote, "Process is the becoming of experience." **Process Theology** describes a world view formed around the ongoing "becoming" rather than the "being" of God, humanity and the universe. Come for **Part 2** of an introduction to **Process Theology** presented by **Christina Hutchins** at the **Learning Hour** this **Sun., Nov. 26, 11:45 am, Loper Chapel**.

**Christina Hutchins** is a member of FCCB, a UCC minister and former professor at Pacific School of Religion. Her primary vocation is as a poet, and she has published several volumes of poetry.

### Affordable Housing Conversations: Durant House & Open Space

As the congregation continues to discern whether to building affordable housing on the First Church campus, **The Affordable Housing Subcommittee** of the **Blue Sky Team** is hosting a series of a conversations on some of the individual issues that have been raised.

On **Sun., Dec. 10**, the conversation will be about **Durant House and open space**. An affordable housing project could affect Durant House (would it be torn down or moved to another spot?) and the playground right next to Durant House that is used by East Bay School for Boys and the church.

The meeting will take place at **11:45 am** in the **Sanctuary**.

### Preaching Schedule

December 3 — Molly Baskette

December 10 — Marvin K. White

### Marvin K. White to Lead Second "Workshop" and to Preach

**Marvin K. White**, First Church's **Public Theologian in Residence**, will lead his second "**workshop**" on **Sun., Dec. 3** at **11:45 am** in the **Sanctuary** and will preach on **Sun., Dec. 10** during the 10 am worship service.



Marvin is serving in this special role through 2017-2018. His "workshops" are a combination of contemplation, writing and reflection and include his unique take on faith and theology.

Marvin is doing four pairs of workshop leading and preaching on consecutive Sundays. Additional dates will be **Feb. 11 & 18**, and **April 15 & 22**.

### Advent Retreat

Come immerse yourself in the Advent theme of "Watch" at the **Advent Retreat** on **Sat., Dec. 9, 9:30 am–3:30 pm** in **Loper Chapel**. It will be a day of gentle yoga and meditation in the Sanctuary with **Kit Novotny**; journaling, poetry and free time; lunch; small group conversation and a closing ritual of lessons and carols. **Rachel Bauman** will also be leading.

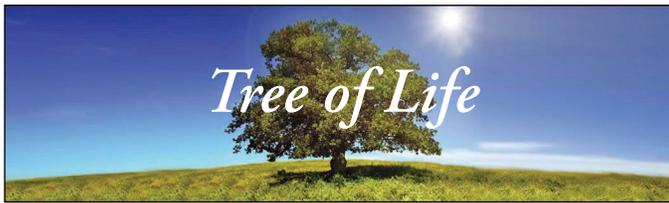
This retreat will be a wonderful opportunity to take a break from the busy-ness of the season and simply wait in the beauty and the darkness for the coming of the light.

The cost is \$25, which includes lunch. Scholarships available. Contact **Rev. Kit** for more information ([knovotny@fccb.org](mailto:knovotny@fccb.org)).

### Hanging of the Greens

Join **Phil Porter** on **Sat., Dec. 2** at **9:30 am**, the day before Advent begins, for the **Hanging of the Greens** and help put up the trees, decorate the pews, haul down the Advent wreath and its stand, hang the Christmas bunting on the front of the balcony and put up the Advent banners. Treats will be on hand, and there will be some activities for younger kids. The tasks are generally done by early afternoon. Come for a bit, or for the whole time.





Prayers for **Kathy & Bob Helliessen**, Kathy's sister **Carolyn Munch** and family in the death of Kathy's brother-in-law **Paul Munch** on Wed., Nov. 15.

## Introduction to Mental Health Promotion Seminars

First Church Member **Kerrie Hein** will provide an introduction to the **Mental Health Promotion Seminars**, a six-part **Adult Education** series that will be offered monthly starting in January. Come and learn about this exciting program on **Sun., Dec. 3, 11:45 am–1 pm** in **Durant House**.

## Food Pantry Needs Our Help!

Please consider making a **tax-deductible dollar donation** of any size to the **Berkeley Food Pantry** during this Thanksgiving season. Donate by check (payable to **Berkeley Food Pantry** and mail to 1600 Sacramento Street, Berkeley 94702 or bring to the “Donate Food Here” area in the Hall of Entrance on Sunday mornings) or online at [www.berkeleyfoodpantry.org/donate](http://www.berkeleyfoodpantry.org/donate).

## New Resonance Concert — Mya Byrne

**Resonance** presents poet, award-winning folk-Americana performer, songwriter, and activist **Mya Byrne** on **Fri., Dec. 8 at 8 pm** in **Loper Chapel**. Mya regularly plays at festival and club stages across the country, and her writing has been published in numerous outlets. She is a founding member of the Bay Area Trans Writers Workshop and was most recently published in *The James Franco Review*. Purchase tickets online at <https://goo.gl/n7ChUK>: \$25 general/\$20 seniors/\$15 students, kids under 18, First Church members.



## THE CARILLON

Margaret Copeland, Editor  
Phil Porter, Minister of Art & Communication  
Weekly deadline: 9 am Friday  
Email submissions to: [mcopeland@fcb.org](mailto:mcopeland@fcb.org)

*All submissions are subject to editing.*

First Congregational Church of Berkeley  
United Church of Christ  
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704  
510/848-3696

## The View from Here

**Phil Porter**  
**Minister of Art & Communication**



Chinh and I share a cute, red, Toyota Yaris. We live in downtown Oakland at 23rd Street and Telegraph in a building without a garage. Our little block has about 40 parking spots on its two sides. The near side has five metered spots, the rest of the block is 8-hour parking. The far side also has five metered spots, the rest is four-hour parking (which means you can't leave it there all day, and, technically, you can't even move it to another spot in the 4-hour zone).

We also have night street sweeping on alternate sides of the street, so it is illegal to park on one side or another almost every night from 3–5 am. (This forces us to do that funny day/time computation because you have to think about the “don't park here on Thursday” on Wednesday, which, like time zone math, I'm really bad at.) We parking-compete with commuters, the folks who eat, drink and make merry in our trendy neighborhood and the construction workers remodeling a big building on our block.

Needless to say, we think about parking a lot. When I come home, the first words out of Chinh's mouth are not, “Welcome home, honey!” but “Did you park on the right side of the street?” We have to be out at 6 or 6:30 in the morning to grab a spot on the 8-hour side. When Chinh goes away, I have to rev my parking brain into high gear in order to avoid the \$66 parking tickets.

When I go places, I prefer ones where I know I can park easily. Although I have friends who successfully pray to the parking goddess, she doesn't seem to be taking care of me (lack of faith, I'm sure).

But oddly, this View is only tangentially about parking. It's really about cars. I confess that I am a “car offender” (thanks, Nate M., for confessing that first in the parking meeting!). I love my little car. I use it willy-nilly. I drive when I could take public transit. Need a doodad from Home Depot? Off we go! I expect car convenience. Although I will gladly share the road with bikes, I unthinkingly think of cyclists as riding on “car roads” rather than that I'm driving my car on a “bike road.”

I have done some things right, car-wise. Chinh and I have one car, not two. I actually drive very little because of where I live and work (my commute for my “other” job is down 12 stairs). I do take BART and buses on occasion.

But cars are *awful* for the environment. Just *awful*. And the challenge of parking is really, at its root, a car problem. I should be doing more about my car-ness. Dang.

## UCC Mental Health Network Blog

The **UCC Mental Health Network (MHN)** now has a weekly blog called “The Journey.” The posts are written by members of the MHN and explore mental health and addiction through the lens of our Christian faith and how they affect our lives and how spirituality supports our journey. Everyone who is living with a mental health or addiction disorder, or who has a loved one who is affected by these conditions, is on a journey. The blog serves to connect with each other and share ways to travel the path of hope and wholeness.

Visit the **MHN website** ([mbn-ucc.org](http://mbn-ucc.org)) to see the weekly blog. On the site, you can also subscribe to “The Journey” and have the posts emailed to you.

## Secret and Not-So-Secret Santas for the Unhoused

Do you long to make a meaningful and loving contribution to one of our many neighbors sleeping in shelter or outside in Berkeley this holiday season?

We have two very straightforward and moving opportunities we need captains for:

- **Organizing the collection of helpful items** to fill stockings to be handed out to folks sleeping rough on **Christmas Eve**, at our **6 pm Christmas in the Cloisters** worship service
- **Organize a Secret Santa project** pairing FCCB folks with the 36 men sleeping at Berkeley Food and Housing Project’s men’s shelter. As the shelter coordinator said, “At Christmas, everyone wants to help kids — but homeless men need attention, too.”

Both projects are time-limited and would make you feel *awesome*. Let **Rev. Molly** know if you are ready to captain either project by emailing her at [reverendmolly@gmail.com](mailto:reverendmolly@gmail.com).

### Save the Date!

**Women’s Retreat** at Ralston White Center, Mill Valley, **Feb. 9-10, 2018**

## Advent Theme: WATCH

It’s been a rough year. The new year can’t come soon enough — and it is. The Christian church recognizes Advent as the beginning of the new year and new life, the time of gestation when God is ready to break in and be with us.

We’ve been on high alert for so long. We might be getting sleepy — it’s only human. But Jesus told us to keep watch. What are the signs and wonders that God is here, or approaching? Where is light breaking through the mist and gloom? As we enter Advent and approach Christmas, in Sunday sermons, testimonies and an Advent day-long retreat, we’ll stay up and watch together for the inbreaking of the Divine.

## A Sneak Peak at Christmas Eve!

This year **Christmas Eve** is on a Sunday, so some folks are already asking what the Sunday schedule will look like on **December 24**.

A **Contemplative Service** will be held at our regular Sunday morning time of **10 am**. Come for an opportunity for extended quiet prayer and music. Children of all ages will bake Christmas cookies with **Carolyn Ash** in **Durant House** and the nursery will be open.

**Three services** will be held in the evening. An **All-Ages Christmas Eve** service will be held in the **Sanctuary** at **4 pm**. This relatively short service will be full of singing and pageantry. Everyone gets to dress up and participate if they choose! At **6 pm**, for the second year, **Christmas Eve in the Cloister** will take place outside of the main entrance to the church. We’ll share the evening with our unhoused neighbors and mark some of the more “down to earth” aspects of Jesus’ birth story. At **10 pm** a **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be held in the **Sanctuary** will **special music** beginning at **9:30 pm**.

### Sunday Video

View the video from the **Sun., Nov. 19** 10 am service at: [www.fccb.org/live-sunday-morning-webcasts](http://www.fccb.org/live-sunday-morning-webcasts).

## Did You Know...?

...that besides finding current **post-fire rebuilding news** on the News page on the church website, in the *eCarillon* and the online *Carillon*, you can find **all current and past stories related to the fire and its aftermath** on one page? To get to this page, go to [www.firstchurchberkeley.org/post-fire-news](http://www.firstchurchberkeley.org/post-fire-news), or you can go to the **home page** and click on the “**Post-Fire Rebuilding News**” image in the slideshow or on the link in the navigation list on the right side (shown here circled in yellow.)



## Disability Empowerment Team at First Church

Come one, come all! You are warmly invited to “get your disability pride Access to All (A2A) on”! Join First Church’s inaugural **Disability Empowerment Team** meeting on **Thurs., Dec. 7, 5:30-6:45 pm** in **Durant House**. For more information, contact **Rev. Kit** at [knovotny@fccb.org](mailto:knovotny@fccb.org). All are welcome!



## Coming Up!

### Hanging of the Greens

Sat., Dec. 2, 9:30 am, Sanctuary

### Marvin K. White’s “Workshop”

Sun., Dec. 3, 11:45 am, Sanctuary

### Companionship Training with Rev. Craig Rennebohm

Sat., Jan. 20, 2018, 10 am, Sanctuary

# THE CARILLON

(USPS 354-370)  
Established 1947

Published weekly except between Christmas and New Year's and biweekly in July and August by First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704-2201. Telephone 510/848-3696. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **The Carillon**, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704-2201.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT BERKELEY, CA

## Deckers Christmas Party

Come to the **Deckers Christmas Party** on **Fri., Dec. 8, 6:30 pm** at the home of **Bob and Kathy Helliesen**. RSVP to **Kathy and Bob** and let them know what you would like to bring to the potluck. All are welcome!

We will be gifting the young people at **YEAH! (Youth Engagement Advocacy and Housing)** with two movie tickets each, which we've done the past several years. These gifts have been greatly appreciated. This year there are 33 young people at YEAH, more than in past years, so please be as generous as you can. Give your contributions to **Annis Kukulian** at church or mail them to her (checks can be made out to Annis).

## Winthrop & YES News

### YES

- **Sun., Nov. 26** — Drumming Workshop, **11:30 am, Tower Room**
- **Sun., Dec. 3** — OWL session, **11:30 am-1 pm, Tower Room**

### Winthrop

- **Sun., Nov. 26** — Drumming Workshop, **11:30 am, Tower Room**
- **Fri., Dec. 1** — Friday Night Hangout, **7 pm**
- **Sun., Dec. 3** — Winthrop Confirmation Field Trip to City of Refuge, **12-4 pm**

## Bits and Pieces

### Benefit Concert for Churches of Santa Rosa Community

The Pacific Islander Asian American Ministries are holding two **benefit concerts** to raise funds for churches suffering from the wildfires in the Santa Rosa community: **Sat., Nov. 25** at **Chinese Congregational**

**Church** (21 Walter U Lum Pl, San Francisco), **2-4 pm**, \$10-15 & **Sat., Dec. 9, Berkeley Chinese Community Church** (2117 Acton St Berkeley), **2-4 pm**, \$10-15. For **will call tickets**, email [paamncnc@aol.com](mailto:paamncnc@aol.com) and include your name and number of tickets to reserve. You can also donate at <https://paamucc.org/donate> and note "Fundraiser."

### Choral Majority Singing Session

Join the **Choral Majority** on **Mon., Nov. 27, 7-9 pm** for a rapid response singing session in **Loper Chapel**. If you are interested in representing Choral Majority at public outreach events, this is the opportunity to learn core repertoire and develop your skills as song leaders.

For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/choralmajority](http://www.facebook.com/choralmajority).

### Chanukah Bazaar Sneak Preview, Pizza & Movie

Join **Congregation Beth El** for a sneak preview of the **Chanukah Bazaar**, **Cheeseboard pizza**, and a **movie** on **Sat., Dec. 2** at **6:30 pm**. They will be screening the Israeli comedy *Cupcakes*. The suggested donation is \$10.

The **Chanukah Bazaar** will be **Sun., Dec. 3, 11 am-4 pm** where you can shop for all your holiday gift needs.

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday November 26

#### SONGS OF THE SOUL REHEARSAL

9 am, Room #4, EBSB

#### WORSHIP

10 am, Sanctuary

#### AFTER PARTY

11:15 am, Courtyard

#### YES YOUTH GROUP

11:30 am, Tower Room

#### WINTHROP YOUTH GROUP

11:30 am, Tower Room

#### LEARNING HOUR: CHRISTINA HUTCHINS

11:45 am, Loper Chapel

### Tuesday 28

#### REV. MOLLY'S OFFICE HOURS

5:30-7 pm, Comal

2020 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

7 pm, Durant House Main

### Wednesday 29

#### BIBLE STUDY

7 pm, Durant House Main

### Thursday 30

#### BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

6:45 pm, Pillar Room

#### SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

7 pm, Loper Chapel

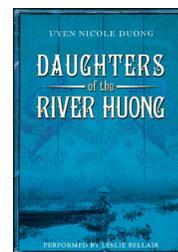
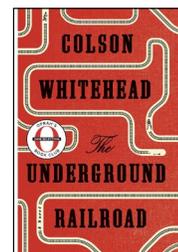
### Saturday December 2

#### HANGING OF THE GREENS

9:30, Sanctuary

## FCCB Book Group Gatherings

- **Fri., Dec. 8** — *The Underground Railroad* by **Colson Whitehead** at the home of **Melissa Moss**
- **Fri., Jan. 12** — We will share poetry of our own choosing at the home of **Helen Wadman**
- **Fri., Feb. 9** — *Daughters of the River Huong* by **Uyen Nicole Duong** at the home of **Mary-Ellis Adams**



**Young Adult News** For more info: [knovotny@fccb.org](mailto:knovotny@fccb.org)

- **Rev. Kit's Office Hours, Wed., Nov. 29, 11 am-12 pm**, Hal's Office Coffee, 1207 Solano Ave., Albany