First Congregational Church of Berkeley • United Church of Christ • Berkeley, California

Oct. 27 & Nov. 3, 2019 • Vol. 73 • No. 21

OCTOBER 27, 2019 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Luke 7:37-50

9:30 & 11:00

Come Be A We" Sign-Up Fair, Hall of Entrance

10:00

Worship, Jane Arc, Emerging Leader, preaching; Amar Khalsa, musician; Elizabeth Forsyth, organist; Derek Tam, director of music, *Sanctuary*Musical Highlights, "Exsultate Justi" ("Praise the Lord") by Lodovico da Viadana, Sanctuary Choir

11:15

After Party, Terrace

11:45

Learning Hour panel discussion on homelessness, facilitated by Ron Elsdon, *Loper Chapel*

NOVEMBER 3, 2019 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Luke 19:1-10

10:00

Worship, Molly Baskette, preaching; Amar Khalsa, musician; Elizabeth Forsyth, organist; Derek Tam, director of music, Sanctuary Musical Highlights, Barrelhouse Jazz Band, various pieces

11:15

After Party, Terrace

11:45

Ministry Meetings, see Calendar on pg.4 for room locations

Preaching Schedule

Sun., Nov. 10, Kit Novotny

Sun., Nov. 17, Art Meets Life Sunday: Elbe Spurling

Sun., Nov. 24, Kit Novotny

"Come Be A We" Sign-Up Fair this Sunday!

You are invited to grow in intimacy as the weird and wonderful Body of Christ by signing up for a variety of fun and rewarding volunteer opportunities at our church! Come to our "Come Be a We" Sign-Up Fair before (9:30-10 am) and after church (11-11:45 am) in the Hall of Entrance this Sun., Oct. 27, and learn about many meaningful ministries that could use your participation in order to become even more successful!

Opportunities range in commitment from low-key one-offs (like greeting visitors on a Sunday morning or at our Day of the Dead event!), to adding your name to one of our "sub lists" (for our Sunday School Teacher/Youth Leader teams or Sunday soup makers), to joining a new team (like Disability Empowerment or E-(vangelism) Team). Come find out where your greatest passion meets our church's greatest needs. Many hands make for light and joyful giving back, with more connection and purpose for all. Hope to see you there!

Learning Hour this Sun., Oct. 27 on Homelessness

This Sun., Oct. 27, the Learning Hour will feature a panel discussion about homelessness. Panelists include M.A. Sempari of the Berkeley Food & Housing Project, Brian Bob of Covenant House, Sally Hindman of Youth Spirit Artworks, and FCCB's Moe Wright. We will explore the reality of homelessness in our community and approaches for the future. It will be facilitated by Ron Elsdon of the Justice & Service Ministry.

Discover First Church

Bring your curiosity and questions about First Church on **Sun.**, **Oct. 27** at **11:45 am, Durant House** (behind the parking kiosk in the lot behind the church) where we will have lunch and consider what membership means in a relaxed environment. Childcare provided.

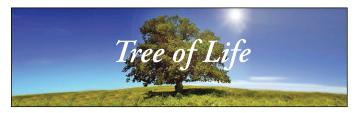
For those deciding to become members, there will be a festive sweet-and-savory crepe dinner at **Kathy Helliesen's** home on **Sat., Nov. 2**, and joining will be on **Sun., Nov. 10**. Contact a minister (510/848-3696, **reverendmolly@gmail.com** or **reverendkit@gmail.com**) or **Kathy Helliesen** if you have any questions or to let us know you are coming. Or, just show up!

Resonance Concert: Beethoven at 250

Get a head start on celebrating the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth! On Fri., Nov. 1 at 8 pm in the Sanctuary, acclaimed Seattle-based violinist Ingrid Matthews ("one of the lights on early music's international circuit" — San Francisco Chronicle) and fortepianist Derek

Tam come together for an evening of the composer's most cherished works, performed on period instruments.





Prayers of healing for **Larana McVay's** daughter **Amy**, who is undergoing cancer treatment.

Prayers for **Constance Dixon-Sorogane** after the sentencing of her niece for the murder of her niece's father, Constance's brother.

Prayers for **Julia & Lulu Madore** on the death of Julia's father last week.

Congratulations to **Kelly Colwell** on her upcoming **Ecclesiastical Council**. All are invited to attend on **Sat. Nov. 9, 9–11 am** in **Loper Chapel**. Kelly will present briefly on her ordination paper and then those attending will be invited to ask her questions. A light continental breakfast will be served. To view Kelly's ordination paper, go to **http://bit.ly/20xjxJg**.

Sign up to hold babies **Sasha** and **Maia** and help **Emma S** and **Shay** at **firstchurchberkeley.org/team-emma**.

Continued prayers for Margie Coates.

Congregational Meeting on Sun., Nov. 3

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sun., Nov. 3 to discuss and vote on a new charge for the Blue Fire Committee beyond its original task of overseeing the design and reconstruction of Pilgrim Hall.

THE CARILLON

Margaret Copeland, Editor Ben McKnight, Communications Specialist Deadline: Three weeks before event Email submissions to: mcopeland@fccb.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

Jane Arc *Emerging Leader*

It feels like just a short time ago I came to this church, afraid of being in a church again and at a pretty low point in my own life. But this is my third October with this great big



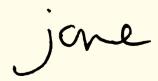
family of people, and I find myself looking forward to planning Advent with the worship team (can you believe it's almost time?) and growing into this opportunity I have as an Emerging Leader.

It has been such a blessing to grow with the community: getting to know everyone individually first, and then getting involved with church ministries and coming to understand the church as this weird and wonderful body of Christ that we all embody.

Jay Johnson, a professor at Pacific School of Religion, writes that there is an ecstasy in coming to know people, in breaking bread with them. I find in the moments that might appear most fraught—when we have a difficult meeting as a congregation, when feedback is constructive, but corrective, when something goes wrong and perhaps an ankle gets twisted playing pool noodle soccer—that I feel the presence of God the most, in grace, in love, and understanding. These things are celebrations of who we are, rising to support each other. If we didn't have these moments, would we really know each other fully? Would we appreciate the easy times?

I get the sense that we as a community are in a period of transition. We have a vision of where we're going and what we want to be, but we haven't yet traveled this road. We know what we want and who we want to be, but it is the journey that shapes us into the people and the community we will become. With each day serving those with housing insecurity, every meeting about what our new construction will look like and how it will operate, as people graduate from youth group and new young people come to us, we are becoming the church we envision.

There is so much constructive, creative energy in the process of transition. As we look forward to the time ahead of us, I think of the times I get to look out at everyone from the Chancel, and wonder which people I might get to know better, and what new faces will appear in our midst. There are little gaps in the pews that seem like opportunities, places for new people to have a home, new relationships to be made. From where I sit, I cannot help but be excited about the future, growth, and change.



Day of the Dead Altar

There will be a **Day of the Dead** altar in the **Sanctuary** for worship for the next two **Sundays**, **Oct. 27 & Nov. 3**. You are invited to bring a picture of a loved one or pet who has passed away to share on the altar.



Nov. 10 Learning Hour — "The Resurrected Mind"

On Sun., Nov. 10 at 11:45 am in Loper Chapel, join the Mental Health Ministry as we read aloud the sermon by Rev. Timothy Ahrens titled "The Resurrected Mind." This is part of a series of sermons on mental illness. Our discussion of the sermon will continue the path of living into our covenant as a Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged (WISE) Congregation for Mental Health.

Save the Date for the Women's Retreat

March 13-14, 2020 Ralston White Retreat Center Mill Valley, CA

Earthquake Drill Tips

Thank you to all who participated in the **earthquake drill** that took place during worship on Sun., Oct. 20. It went well! **A few reminders:** in a significant earthquake, please remember to get underneath a pew or lie down on the pew, face down, covering your head and neck. Also, stay away from windows, and if you can't find a table or a pew to lie under, stand with your back against an interior wall. Also, don't leave the building for fear of falling debris.

Photo Privacy & Publicity Preferences



As we prepare to launch our new website and undergo some communication shifts, we wanted to take

the opportunity to ask folks' preferences around photos, privacy, and publicity. In our age of digital communications, we want to do our absolute best to respect and protect folks' preferences. If you'd prefer not to have your (or your kids) photos featured on our website or social media, please let **Rev. Kit** know (reverendkit@gmail.com). We have a current policy of never pairing kids' photos with names. If you have questions, or you'd ever like an image removed, you can always contact our Communications Specialist **Ben McKnight** at communications@fccb.org. Thanks!

New Numbers from SF&A Stewardship Team!

Thanks to all who have already submitted commitment cards to be sustaining givers to First Church and help our church continue to thrive as a faith community and place of transformation. As of Sun., Oct. 20, the church has received 104 commitments totaling **\$514,045** for 2020. We are on our way to having the level of sustaining giving that will allow First Church's ministries and programs to continue into an exciting future, but we're not there yet! If you haven't yet submitted your sustaining giving commitment, we hope you will prayerfully consider making an ongoing financial contribution to First Church and submit your commitment card no later than Mon., Oct. 28. Commitment cards will be available in the Hall of Entrance during the coming weeks you can put it in the offering plate, or hand it to one of the ministers or Kit Dunbar, Business Manager. For detailed information on the "Come Be a We" Stewardship Program, visit the church website at http://bit.ly/2Mt2ntx.

— The SF&A Stewardship Team

Did You Know...?

...that many of the agencies we support through our Sunday plate offering also have volunteer opportunities? If you are interested in getting to know those in our neighborhood who use the Berkeley Food & Housing Project services and want information about how to volunteer with Berkeley Food and Housing, you can find the sign up table at the After Party on the Terrace? Mary Fujii will be there with more information. Contact Mary with any questions.

... that Molly's friend **Adam Hange**, a UCC pastor in Oregon and young dad, is coming to Pacific School of Religion to work on his DMin in January and is looking for a place to stay during that time, Jan. 6-13, 2020 to save money? Molly says "Adam is a really smart, kind person and I think you would enjoy hanging out with him if you have room!" Contact **Adam** at **adam@hillsboro-ucc.org**, if interested.

Save the Date for the Advent Retreat

Sat., Dec. 7, 9:30 am-3:30 pm First Church

The theme will be "What Are You Waiting For?"

Coming Up!

Resonance Concert

Fri., Nov. 1, 8 pm, Sanctuary

Day of the Dead Celebration

Sat., Nov. 2, 3 pm, Loper Chapel

Taizé Service

Wed., Nov. 13, 7 pm, Loper Chapel

Advent Retreat

Sat., Dec. 7, 9:30 am, First Church rooms

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New Co-Working Community Thursday Afternoons at Church

Do you work from home? Are you a student? Do you have a flexible daytime schedule for these or other reasons? Come join in the brand new

FCCB Co-Working Community hosted by Rowan Peterson and Sheryl Johnson! We're going to start out meeting in the **Tower**

Room at FCCB on

Thursdays, 1-4 pm. Tea and coffee and wifi and comfy seating and friendly (but mostly quiet!) co-workers provided. We will mostly be just working on our own things (i.e. reading, computer work, etc.) but we may take breaks for conversation, affirmation, stretching, etc. Can't come the whole time? No problem! Feel free to just drop in when you can.

Day of the Dead Celebration

Established 1947

USPS 354-370)

We will have our annual **Dia de los** Muertos Celebration in Loper Chapel and Pillar Room from 3-5 pm on Sat., Nov. 2. Come paint wooden skulls



and make Mexican tin art. Bring something to share for our altar that represents a loved one who has passed, a

grandparent, friend, or a beloved pet. We will gather at the altar for a time of sharing, remembrance, and prayer. There will be music and refreshments. Mexican attire encouraged! Everyone is welcome!

FCCB Book Group

Upcoming FCCB Book Group meetings:

Fri., Nov. 15, at Helen Wadman's house: Valley of the Moon by Jack London. Contact the host with any questions.

Young Adult News

knovotny@fccb.org

- Fri., Oct. 25, 5:30-8:30 pm, Young Adults to Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak St., Oakland
- Mon., Oct. 28, 10-11 am, Rev. Kit's Office Hours, Peet's Coffee, 2124 Vine St., Berkeley

Deckers Planning Meeting

Don & Jane Stahlhut are hosting the annual Deckers Planning Meeting on Sat., Oct. 26 at 6 pm. Costumes are encouraged and some Halloween tricks may occur! Contact Jane to RSVP and let her know what you would like to bring for dinner!

YES & Winthrop News

sfread@fccb.org

YES & Winthrop

• Sun., Oct. 27, 11:45 am, *Tower* Room

YES

• Fri.-Sat., Nov. 1-2, YES Lock-In, Details forthcoming. RSVP by **Mon.**, Oct. 28 to sfread@fccb.org.

Winthrop

• Sun., Nov. 3, 11:45 am, Tower Room

Weekly Calendar Sunday October 27

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY 8:45 am, Room 5, EBSB **GREEN TEAM** 9 am, Room 7, EBSB "COME BE A WE" SIGN-UP FAIR 9:30 & 11 am, Hall of Entrance WORSHIP 10 am, Sanctuary AFTER PARTY 11:15 am, Terrace DISCOVER FIRST CHURCH 11:45 am, Durant House LEARNING HOUR: PANEL ON HOMELESSNESS 11:45 am, Loper Chapel GOSPEL CHOIR REHEARSAL 11:45 am, Sanctuary
YES & WINTHROP YOUTH GROUPS 11:45 am, Tower Room Wednesday 30 **BIBLE STUDY** ⁷ pm, Durant House **Thursday 31** CO-WORKING COMMUNITY 1 pm, Tower Room
BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL 7 pm, Loper Chapel **Friday November 1**

YES LOCK-IN 6:30 pm, Meet in the parking lot RESOÑANCE CONCERT: BEETHOVEN AT 250

8 pm, Sanctuary

7 pm, Pillar Room

Saturday 2
MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION SESSION 9 am, Durant House BUILD YOUR OWN THEOLOGY SERIES 9:30 am, Tower Room DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION 3 pm, Loper Chapel/Pillar Room

Sunday 3 E-TEAM! BREAKFAST MEETING

8:15 am, Room 5, EBSB WORSHIP

10 am, Sanctuary
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RE: BLUE FIRE 11 am, Sanctuary AFTER PARTY 11:15 am, Terrace

FIRST SUNDAY UKES REHEARSAL 11:15 am, Sanctuary MONTHLY MINISTRY MEÉTINGS AT 11:45 AM:

ADULT ED Bride's Room CF&I Loper Chapel FAMCHY Pillar Room JUSTICE & SERVICE Room 7, EBSB SF&A Room 5, EBSB **WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL LIFE** Sanctuary

WINTHROP YOUTH GROUP 11:45 am, Tower Room

Monday 4

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION 6 pm, Loper Chapel

Tuesday 5

REV. MOLLY'S OFFICE HOURS 9:15–10:30 am, 1951 Coffee Company 2410 Channing Way, Berkeley

Wednesday 6 OPEN CHAPEL & DINNER: STORY SLAM 7 pm, Loper Chapel

BIBLE STUDY 7 pm, Durant House

Thursday 7 CO-WORKING COMMUNITY 1 pm, Tower Room BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

pm, Pillar Room SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL

7 pm, Sanctuary Saturday 9

MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION SESSION

9 am, Durant House ECCLESIASTICAL COUNCIL: KELLY COLWELL 9 am, Loper Chapel BIRTHING A MAMA SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP 1 pm, Loper Chapel