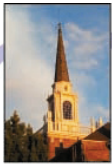


FCCB THE CARILLON



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

January 18, 2009 • Vol. 65 • No. 3

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SUNDAY

8:45

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

10:00

Worship, Patricia de Jong preaching,
Larry Marietta, Music Director

11:15

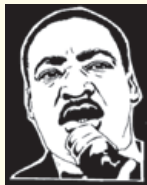
Fellowship Hour, Small Assembly

11:30

Second Hour, Identity Town Hall
Meeting, Large Assembly

4:30 & 6:00

Winthrop & YES youth programs



www.fccb.org

- Read about FCCB joining the countdown against torture on January 11
- See what's coming up at Authors & Ideas @ FCCB
- Find out about the immigration immersion trip to Tijuana in March

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We Can Balance the FCCB Budget...

...with a little additional help! Did you attend our **Town Hall Meeting** last Sunday? FCCB's **Stewardship Team** was there. The news was mixed. On the one hand, keeping all expenses flat except a projected cost of living increase for church staff, we expect a \$52,000 budget deficit for 2009. Pledges and contributions for 2009 so far are \$640,000; our pledge goal was \$710,000. On the other hand, we heard that if everyone increased their pledge by \$250, we would balance the church budget; if others who haven't yet pledged did the same, we'd have a surplus!

Nick Kuklulan took the mic and shared his confidence in the "spirit of this place." Our spirit and generosity, he said, will see us through. The Stewardship Team wholeheartedly agrees! As we wait with hope for President-elect Obama to begin his work on the myriad challenges facing our nation and the world, we also have wondrous hope and confidence in the work FCCB will do at home and in the world. We echo Team Obama's sentiment — Yes We Can!

If you haven't pledged yet, or if you can see your way to pledging an additional \$250, please send your pledge via email, phone message, or mail to **Carmelle Knudsen**. Thank you for all that you bring. We are many times blessed by your pledge, spirit, talents, and time.

With confidence in God and each other,

*The FCCB Stewardship Team:
Joanne Brown, Chair, Milton Fujii,
Co-chair, Pat de Jong, Adam Blons,
Paul Hoy, Ken Iha, Carmelle Knudsen,
Rod Mackenzie, Phil Porter, Sharon Paik*

Identity Town Meeting—Part I

This **Sunday, January 18**, is part one of two Town Meetings that are part of the **Identity Study Process**. This Sunday, we will discuss the culture of FCCB. *What are FCCB members like? What are the things that most of us have in common and what are the ways we are different?* The goals of this discussion are to appreciate the commonalities and diversity in our congregation and work towards defining a list of key values. The **Diversity Ministry Team** is facilitating the meeting and the data from it will be incorporated into the **Identity Study Process**. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Childcare for all ages will be available. The next Town Meeting will be on **Sunday, February 1**, when the **Identity Study Team** will share the results of the identity survey and lead the discussion on strengthening our sense of identity and communicating who we are to the wider community more clearly.

Upcoming "Second Hours"

JANUARY 18

Identity Town Meeting—Part I

The first of two **Identity Town Meetings**, the **Diversity Ministry Team** will lead a discussion of the culture of this church.

JANUARY 25

Two Lawyers' Perspectives on Proposition 8 & the California Supreme Court

Margie Allen and Bob Stumpf will preside.

FEBRUARY 1

Identity Town Meeting—Part II

The **Identity Study Team** will share the results of the Study.



Ruth Newman, beloved member of FCCB, died peacefully on Tuesday morning, January 13. She was 91. We extend prayers to her family and friends.

Prayers for **Alice Rodriguez**, and **Judy Barker**.

Prayers for **Will Ward** who is in the hospital after a fall.

Congratulations to **Sam Gatto Louie** who married **Angela Agleham** on December 19, 2008.

BART Shooting Response

If you are outraged by the shooting of **Oscar Grant** by the BART Police then please consider taking action. Here is what you can do. Contact **BART Director Carole Ward Allen** and demand that 1) the officers involved be fully prosecuted; 2) there be an independent investigation of the shooting that includes a review of training and hiring practices; and 3) BART establish an independent residents' review board for the police. Call her at 510/464-6095 or email the BART Directors at BoardofDirectors@bart.gov. These ideas come from **Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago**.

— *Adam Blons*

Women Voices Retreat, Feb. 6-7

Registration for the **Women's Voices Retreat, A Woman's Perspective: Common Sense Spirituality** at the White Retreat in Mill Valley, will begin at **Fellowship Hour on Sunday, January 18**.



*Ralston White
Retreat Center,
Mill Valley*

Phil Porter will be in Australia until January 30.

THE CARILLON

Margaret Copeland, *Editor*
Phil Porter, *Minister of Art & Communication*
Weekly deadline: 9 am Friday
Email submissions to: mcpeland@fccb.org
or fax to 510/848-8207

All submissions are subject to editing.

The View from Here

Patricia de Jong
Senior Minister



This New Year already promises to be an eventful one. As Israel responds to Gaza's rockets and the conflict continues, we find ourselves praying in a personal way for peace. Seventeen of us who are related to FCCB are planning to head to the Middle East in early February for a trip combining the sights and politics of the Holy Land. We've been planning this trip for about a year and a half and we were hopeful (as always) that things would be relatively peaceful in the region. As of this writing, we are still planning on making the pilgrimage, but we are monitoring the situation with the touring company and the State Department every day. On Sunday evening, we shared a potluck dinner with friends at Temple Beth-El who will be making the journey as well. Our Jewish and Christian hearts were beating as one as we prayed for peace, shared a common meal and anticipated our travels to this tumultuous region.

William Sloane Coffin preached that peace in this region seems a weary way off. As we watch this latest round of bombings and mutual retaliation, we might want to shrug our shoulders and give up any hope of peace in the Middle East. But Coffin believed that to give up on peace is to give up on God.

I recall growing up with the Berlin Wall and thinking that it would never come down, at least not in my lifetime. I participated in anti-apartheid activism for a decade, believing that justice might never roll down in South Africa. But both of these impossible dreams became a liberating reality. It took not only the hard work and sacrifices of many, but the steady prayers and active attention of the world's citizens.

Our congregation has been looking outward toward the world lately with renewed conviction. Could it be because we realize the depth of pain, conflict and violence in our world must be addressed through our active prayers and steady willingness to engage with the issues of our time? We must never give up our hope for an end to conflicts and warring factions. To give up on the Middle East would be giving up on the power of God to make all things new. Jesus said that the peace we long to achieve is not the peace that the world gives, but the peace that arises from the longing in the hearts of the people of God.

Peace be with you — Shalom aleichem — Salaam 'alaykum

UCC Identity Seminars

How do we operate as the UCC and what does it mean to be a member? We are congregational, yet covenantal. Associations ordain and commission ministers, yet we do so on behalf of the whole UCC. We're 52 years old as a denomination, yet there are UCC churches more than 300 years old. We affirm freedom of conscience in all our theology, yet we acknowledge Jesus Christ as head of the church.

To learn more, raise questions, understand and expand UCC Identity, plan to take part in the upcoming UCC Identity Seminars. *All laypersons and clergy are welcome!* NCNC ministers attending the Seminars can claim the hours for life-long learning requirements.

UCC Identity Seminar 1: Ministry in the UCC: Most everything you ever wanted to know about the processes of authorization for ministry, standards for accountability, expectations of authorized ministers. **Saturday, February 7, Eden UCC**, 21455 Birch St, Hayward. Lunch will be provided with an offering for the cost.

UCC Identity Seminary 2: UCC History. **Saturday, March 21, 10 am–4 pm, Orinda Community UCC**, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. This Seminar will be part of **Church Day**. See the *February-March Pacific* for more info.

UCC Identity Seminar 3: UCC Polity. How we're organized; how we do things. Date and time to be arranged, **Asilomar, Pacific Grove.**

UCC Identity Seminar 4: UCC Theologies/UCC Theologizing. 10 am–4 pm, date and location to be arranged; in the **Central Valley.**

To register, email office@ncnccucc.org or phone **Joy Davis** at 510/247-8995.

Inauguration Viewing on TV at FCCB

On **Tuesday, January 20**, starting at **9 am** in the **Library**, come watch history be made as President-elect **Barack Obama** is sworn into office.

FCCB Annual Meeting February 8

It's not too soon to sign up for the **134th FCCB Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 8**, following worship service. We'll have a time of warm fellowship while we review the past twelve months and prepare for the upcoming year by electing leaders for our church council, ministries and committees. Lunch will be served by our youth as a fundraiser for work camp. All are welcome and childcare will be provided. Reserve your place by signing up during **Fellowship Hour** on **January 18 and 25, and February 1**, or by calling the church office by **February 4**.

Vox Dilecti Debut Concert

Vox Dilecti, the chamber choir of the San Francisco City Chorus, will present its East Bay debut concert, *In an English Cathedral*, in the **Sanctuary** on **Sunday, January 25 at 3 pm**. The program features anthems by Vaughan Williams, Parry, Bairstow and Sumsion, plus grand organ works by the same composers. Larry Marietta conducts and John Walko plays the organ. FREE tickets for all FCCB members and friends will be available in the **Large Assembly** following worship on **Sundays, January 18 and 25**.

Coming Up!

Authors & Ideas @ FCCB (all start at 7:30 pm)

- Wed., Jan. 21, Dacher Keltner
- Tues, Jan. 27, Dalton Conley
- Wed., Jan. 28, Luke Bergmann

Congregational Meeting to Vote on 2009 Budget

Saturday, January 25, 11 am

One-Day New Member Class

Saturday, January 31, 10 am–3 pm

Identity Town Meeting — Part 2

Sunday, February 1, 11:30 am

Women's Voices Retreat

Friday and Saturday, February 6–7

FCCB Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 8, 11:30 am

More news at www.fccb.org

Did You Know...?

... that on **Monday, January 19**, in honor of **Martin Luther King Jr.'s** birthday and **President-elect Barack Obama**, there will be a celebration in Berkeley called "*A Walk for Change*" starting at **10 am** at **Jefferson Elementary School** and ending at **Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School**?

... that on **Thursday, January 8**, FCCB member **Deidra Jow** was the lead interviewee for a piece entitled "*Employment Seekers Flood Job Centers*" on KGO Channel 7 News. You can see the video here: <http://labclocal.go.com/kgol/video?id=6595972>

... that former Browne Barr intern **Deris Rice** and **Pat de Jong's** nephew, **Stephen John de Jong Jr.**, are serving in Iraq for a year? Deris is serving as an Army chaplain, and Stephen is in the Army.

Cooking for YEAH

Almost the entire **4th- and 5th-grade Sunday School** class plus several parents (about 15 in all), cooked a full dinner for **YEAH** (Youth Emergency Assistance Hostel). **Judy Norberg** and **Diana Brenum**, who cook regularly for YEAH, helped organize the production of little hands, which went amazingly smoothly. A full meal for 30 was prepared in a little over 2 hours!



Alex Cassendino, Hannah Press, Jamaica Perrier-Morris, and Meghan Crebbin-Coates carefully cut up apples for the Apple Cake

THE CARILLON

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PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT BERKELEY, CA

Bits and Pieces

New Member Class

There will be a one-day **New Member Class** on **Saturday, January 31, 10–3 pm**, in **Durant Main**. Come meet with our ministers and staff, and learn more about the UCC and FCCB. There will be time for questions, and getting to know one another. **Joining Sunday** will be **February 8**. Lunch will be provided, and childcare upon request.

We would love for you to join us. For more information, contact one of the Ministers or **Kathy Helliesen**.

2030s Planning Potluck

The **2030@FCCB** (for those in their 20s and 30s) is having a **Mid-Year Planning Potluck** on **February 10 at 6:30 pm** in the **Plymouth Assembly**. Please bring a dish of your choice. Contact **Adelina Canez** for more information.

Authors & Ideas Volunteers

Do you enjoy book readings? Consider volunteering at one of the upcoming **Authors & Ideas @ FCCB** events. This series is a wonderful outreach effort to the community at large and you can get into the events free. If interested, let **Louise Halsey** know (lhalsey@fccb.org) and she will pass on your name to Melissa Mytinger, who will be drawing on FCCB volunteers to help set up and collect money at the door.

Pancake Breakfast at FCCB

First Baptist Church of Berkeley cordially invites FCCB friends to their Pancake Breakfast, on **Sunday, January 18, at 11:30 am**, in **Plymouth Assembly**. Join them for this annual event, a benefit for the **Berkeley East Bay Humane Society** and **Alameda County Food Bank**.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday January 18

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION MINISTRIES
9:00 am, Sheepfold

2ND HOUR: IDENTITY TOWN MEETING
11:30 am, Large Assembly

CAROL CHOIR
11:30 am, Sheepfold Room

PILGRIM CHOIR
11:30 am, Mayflower Room

JIM BLOOM EXHIBIT
11:30 am, Sunburst Room

WINTHROP YOUTH GROUP
4:30 pm, Side Door Room

SONGS OF THE SOUL
6:00 pm, Durant House Main

YES (YOUTH EVERY SUNDAY)
6:00 pm, YES Room

Monday 19

"START WHERE YOU ARE" BUDDHIST MEDITATION CLASS
7:00 pm, McLean Lounge

Tuesday 20

CELLAR THRIFT SHOP PRICING DAY
9 am–12 pm, Cellar Thrift Shop

STAFF MEETING
12:00 pm, Durant House Main

TRANSITIONS CLASS
3:30 pm, Library

CONTEMPLATIVE LISTENING
7:00 pm, Library

CHURCH COUNCIL
7:30 pm, Durant House Main

Wednesday 21

CELLAR THRIFT SHOP OPEN
10:00 am–4:00 pm, Cellar Thrift Shop

AUTHORS & IDEAS @ FCCB: DACHER KELTNER with MICHAEL LEWIS
7:30 pm, Large Assembly

Thursday 22

YEAH MEAL PREP
12:00 pm, Large Kitchen

ADULT EDUCATION
6:00 pm, Sunburst Room

CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE
7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Friday 23

FRIDAY GROUP
10:00 am, Durant House Main

BRIDGE GROUP
1:00 pm, Durant House Main

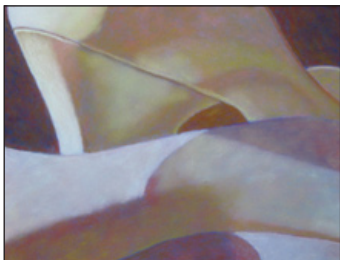
Saturday 24

CELLAR THRIFT SHOP OPEN
10:00 am–2:00 pm, Cellar Thrift Shop

IMMIGRATION/CAMPUS MINISTRY DINNER
5:00 pm, Large Assembly & Kitchen

White Shoes: An Exhibit by Jim Bloom

Jim Bloom has created a body of work around a pair of white leather high-heeled shoes he ran across in the Art



Building prop room at Contra Costa College in 2003. Please visit

the **Sunburst Room** following worship on **Sunday, January 18**, to view six of his gorgeous pastels and to enjoy light refreshments served at the opening reception.

Jim had a career as a research scientist at Armour Pharmaceutical in Illinois and then as a senior development scientist working on hemophilia drugs at Bayer Corp. in Berkeley. When he retired in 2003, he enrolled in a physical anthropology class at Contra Costa College which was taught in the Art Building. One day he wandered into an art room and immediately felt "at peace." Subsequently he has taken numerous art classes both at Contra Costa and at the Richmond Art Center and now assists his teachers. He says he has "filled up his life with art."

If you would like to have your work exhibited or know someone whose art needs to be shown, please get in touch with **Creative Arts Coordinator, Katharine Kunst**, at 510/528-8203.