



THE CARILLON

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

SEPTEMBER 11, 2005 VOL. 62, NO. 1

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome Sunday!

Something Special Happens. . . Every Sunday!

8:30

Lectionary Bible Study, Durant House Porch.

10:00

Worship in the Large Assembly. Patricia de Jong preaching "Far Beyond Our Imagining." Genesis 50:15-21 and Matthew 18:21-35. Larry Marietta, Music Program Director. Chancel Choir.

11:30

Ice Cream Social. Small Assembly.

11:30

Second Hour: "Faces of the Enemy" with Sam Keen. Large Assembly.

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Welcome Home!

Worship Celebration. 10 a.m. in the Large Assembly. Patricia de Jong preaching. Chancel Choir with Larry Marietta, Music Program Director.

Does God Have a Big Toe? Children's Program

Our Sunday morning program for children begins on Sunday, September 11. This is the 4th year of the *Growing in Spirit* curriculum developed collaboratively by parents, teachers, and staff. The first unit this fall, entitled, "Does God have a Big Toe?" explores the nature of God through biblical and experiential exploration. The second unit, "Diving In: The Bible and You" will continue to explore the central Bible stories in our faith. All lessons are age appropriate and each class operates as a small community. Classes are offered for children from pre-school through 12th grade during worship. There will also be childcare as always for infants and toddlers. Each class will have a team of dedicated volunteer teachers who will provide consistent and safe environments for our children and many guest teachers will be invited to visit classes sharing music, special activities, and expertise. We are so grateful for the energy and support of these volunteers and want to encourage everyone to make our children feel welcome in our congregation.

FCCB's Annual Ice Cream Social in the Cloister

It's almost time for FCCB's annual Ice Cream Social! Enjoy seeing old friends and new as we celebrate Welcoming Sunday on September 11. Please join us after worship in the Cloister (near the bell) to indulge in a scoop or two of ice cream with all the fixin's.

If you'd like to help set up, scoop, or clean up (with plenty of sampling), contact Nancy Hughes (nhughes956@aol.com) or Louise Halsey (lbhalsey@yahoo.com).



Second Hour "Faces of the Enemy"

Sam Keen, author of *To a Dancing God*, *Fire in the Belly*, *Learning to Fly*, and many others, will join us on the fourth anniversary of 9/11 for Second Hour; 11:30 in the Large Assembly. His topic will be very appropriate for the date; he will discuss the new edition of his influential book, *Faces of the Enemy*. In this work, Keen analyses propaganda and shows how we dehumanize the enemy, to our mutual detriment. Joseph Campbell called *Faces of the Enemy* "an essential document of our time."



Tree of Life

Nancy Hughes and Chris Knowdell were married on Saturday, September 3 at First Congregational Church of Oakland. Patricia de Jong officiated.

Preparing for Elder Care (for yourself or others)

Do you have an aging parent? Do you want to be prepared for a medical emergency for yourself or a loved one? Well, this seminar is for you.

Helping a loved one can be challenging and even overwhelming if you have to assist during a crisis situation. Being prepared will mean that you can focus your time on your loved one rather than the paper work associated with a long term illness or sudden emergency.

Join Julie Rodriguez Jones and Brian Thiessen, on October 1 at 9:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. in the Small Assembly. They will share with you what you need to do and paperwork that you need to gather. Specific guidance and handouts will be provided which were developed with Brian Thiessen, FCCB member and attorney. Please RSVP to the church office 510-848-3696 by Wednesday, September 28 with the number attending or sign up after church the next two Sundays.

NOTE: This is a home game day at Cal so 15 parking spaces have been reserved for the seminar. Please car pool! A donation of \$10 is recommended for lunch and the materials provided

Questions? Feel free to e-mail Julie at juliejones@artfromthesoul.com or call her at 775-425-6821 or Charlotte Russell at 510-848-3696 x.21 after September 19.

THE CARILLON

Phyllis Tenney Editor

Weekly Deadline: 9 a.m. Friday

Email Submissions and Subscriptions to:
info@fccb.org or Fax to 510.848.8207

All submissions are subject to editing.

The View from Here

Patricia de Jong
Senior Minister



I had intended to use this "View from Here" to welcome you back to church and to feature some of the wonderful activities and programs of FCCB's fall schedule. Instead I find myself, like many of you, caught in the throws of grief and lament following in the wake of the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. I write on Labor Day, from the dry arid land of Sonoma as I am listening to news of as many as 10,000 dead in New Orleans alone as a result of the storm and the terrible aftermath.

What can we do in such a time as this?

The most useful thing we can do right now is send money. We are sending our contributions through the United Church of Christ who is supporting Church World Service. Please make your check out to FCCB and mark it "Katrina Relief." All of the money will go to relief, since CWS is set up to handle disaster relief. Our national church has already sent relief dollars to Church World Service and I am sure that all our 6,000 member churches will be sending relief dollars in the next days, weeks and months. Check out our UCC website www.ucc.org for updated news.

Our Ministry of Outreach, Mission and Service is actively involved in forming a program response to this tragedy. Come to church on Sunday to learn more about our plans and how we can continue to be involved as individuals and as a congregation. If there is anyone in the congregation who has the skills and the time to work on disaster relief, I'd like to hear from you immediately.

This week I will meet with other Sather Gate pastors and we will also check in with BOCA (Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action) to see what can be done to help families who may need new homes and new lives. We are also in touch with Mills College and CAL to see if there is a way we can help students who have been displaced.

Pray. Pray for the babies, children, families, all who have lost their homes, their livelihood, their neighborhoods and their towns. Pray for those who are involved in the aftermath and the clean-up, that they may be given courage and strength in the midst of death and devastation. Pray for the poor and the underclass that have had very little and now have lost everything. Pray for our leaders, especially Congress and President Bush, that aid to rebuild and restore the lost cities and the brokenhearted may flow like milk and honey upon scarred land and lives.

This Welcome Sunday, we worship God who is with us in our sorrow and the world's suffering. In such a time as this, we remember that God is our companion along the way, the Holy One who binds up the wounds of the world and whose strength is our only refuge. Come to pray, sing and lament, but most of all, come to worship God of all Hope beyond our hope.

Welcome Home.

Robby Helliesen: The Process of Art and Life

Katharine Kunst

Robby Helliesen, our next guest artist in the Sunburst Gallery, spent Labor Day weekend at Burning Man, an annual countercultural extravaganza held in the Nevada desert.

He went there to make art, to be part of Camp Cacti, to rub soothing aloe vera on sunburned bodies (he is a certified massage therapist), and I would imagine to have a great time. Robby knows that his art and life go hand in hand. As he says "Art is an ongoing process...along with my life."

It started back in early elementary school making volcanoes (12 x 6 inches) and dinosaurs out of clay. Because he was not all that focused on school work, his teachers gave his imagination free reign in the art realm. His college experience at Sonoma State as a Fine Arts major was greatly influenced by Bob Nugent, his painting teacher. Nugent coached him to find his own self-expression, his own way of interpreting an assignment, and in the process Robby developed his own form of modern impressionism or what he calls "metaphysical landscapes."

His show in the Sunburst Gallery which opens after worship on Sunday, September 11, with a reception, is perfectly timed. His most recent work is a series of pieces about 9/11. He juxtaposes startling images using mixed media (wallpaper and black and white pictures). Please join us for light refreshments and art which may surprise and shock. Just like life.

Staff Meditation

Every week at staff meeting the church staff begins with a reading and reflection on scripture. This week we centered on Micah 6:8.

"God has told you what is good; and what is it that the Lord asks of you? Only to act justly, to love loyalty, to walk wisely with your God."

New English Bible

Confirmation Classes begin October 8

"Why are there so many different religions? Why should I go to church?"

These are the kind of questions that get addressed in confirmation class. Designed for youth ages 13 and up, the class will meet twice a month at church on Sundays from 12 noon to 1:30 pm, and three Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm, until Confirmation Sunday which is May 14.. The first class begins October 8.

Each participant will be assigned a mentor from our congregation. The class will include experiences like serving in a soup kitchen, attending worship services that are radically different from FCCB, and meeting interesting people from our church. There will also be time for discussion of the big questions religions try to answer.

Rev. Adam Blons will teach the class. For more information and to sign up, contact Adam or Mary-Ellis Adams, Family Ministry Coordinator, at the church.

FCCB at Solano Stroll September 11

FCCB will be represented again at this year's 31st annual Solano Ave. Stroll. Join FCCB members and friends at our information table to talk with interested "strollers" about our Progressive Christian community with its many offerings and events.

Volunteers are needed to help staff the table in 1 to 2 hour increments from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you're able to join us for an hour or two, please contact Andy Young at ayoung0452@sbcglobal.net.

Qi Gong

This 1700 year-old Chinese health practice (pronounced "Chi Gung") combines a gentle, flowing movement, meditation, and acupressure self-massage to help you in your quest for healing and vitality. Instructor Judy Timmel is starting a new session of Qi Gong classes in Durant House, Wednesday, September 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. Come and see the complete 64-movement form, participate in some energizing warm-up exercises, and sample some delicious Chinese green tea. The first class is free to first-timers and people at all levels of fitness are encouraged to attend. The cost is \$11/week; the complete series consists of 18 weeks. Judy is a certified Qi Gong. For more information please call Judy at 510-601-6521 or email her at jtimmel@gmail.com.

Letter from Genet

Genet Kiflogzhi was a childcare worker at our church for seven years. She resigned this summer to take her daughter to a Catholic church like she was raised in in Ethiopia.

She was presented with a quilt at the July 17 service in recognition of her work here. In the letter below, she refers to Birtukan Beyenssa, who has been providing childcare here for over 10 years.

Dear Everyone at the church,

I hope my life is like a patchwork quilt. When I grew up as a child I had a broken heart because of the war. My Grandma, she woke my brother and me up at 5 o'clock in the morning to go to church. I want to share with my daughter and my son how I learned in the church to take communion. I learned by the Italian nun when I was eight years old.

Birtukan and I we get along together all these years. She has been good in my life. She wanted to help me to work in the church. When I saw the sanctuary I said, "Wow, this place is good to be married in." After three years my wish came true. I was married in the church. The church is a special place. I am lucky to work at the church with the angel kids, to hold them, see them crawl and walk and talk. I hope my life is attached like a quilt. Thank you so much. The quilt means a lot to me. I love all the people at the church.

Love,

Genet and family

Common Hope Guatemala

Annis and Nick Kukulán are organizing a group of volunteers to participate in the Common Hope community service program in Guatemala. Annis and Nick participated in 2004 with great support from FCCB. Adam Blons also participated in 1999. Common Hope is an organization that provides a wide range of community service with a strong focus on education for youth, health and shelter, and many self-help opportunities. The volunteer program is scheduled for April 18-27, 2006. Our goal is to organize our group of committed volunteers by October 1, 2005.

We will be holding an orientation session September 15, 7:30 p.m. at our home, 50 York Drive, Piedmont. Please call us if you are interested in attending. The Common Hope web site is www.commonhope.org

Caz Sept 24-25 All Church Family Camp

Have more fun and more relaxation and more good conversation and more good food than you can imagine! Help plan a spirit-lifting outdoor worship service.

Get more information and sign up after church on Sunday.

Camp Cazadero FCCB Family Camp, September 24-25.



Brewsters Celebrate Haiti

The Brewsters fellowship group will have a Haitian potluck dinner on Friday, September 16, at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy Haitian food and learn more about Haiti as well as the UCC church in West Oakland. Call Susan or Bruce Stangeland for more information.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday September 11

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

8:30 a.m., Durant House Porch
WORSHIP

10 a.m., Large Assembly

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

11:30 a.m., Cloister

SECOND HOUR: FACES OF THE ENEMY

11:30 a.m., Large Assembly

Monday 12

STAFF MEETING

1 p.m., Durant House

DANCELECTIC

4 p.m., Small Assembly

Tuesday 13

CELLAR THRIFT SHOP PRICING DAY

8 a.m., Downstairs, Pilgrim Hall

MINISTRY OF OUTREACH MISSION SERVICE

7:30 p.m., North Room

Wednesday 14

CELLAR THRIFT SHOP: OPEN

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Downstairs, Pilgrim Hall

DAYAN QI GONG

6 p.m., Durant House

TEACH US TO PRAY

6 p.m., Hall of Entrance

TAOIST TAI CHI

6:45 p.m., North Room

PROGRESSIVE MORAL ACTION FORUM

7:30 p.m., Library

Thursday 15

DANCELECTIC

4 p.m., Small Assembly

CAMPUS MINISTRY GRAD GROUP

5 p.m., McLean Lounge

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

7:30 p.m., Durant House

Friday 16

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

7:30 p.m., Durant House



No matter who you are,
no matter where you are
on life's journey,
you are welcome here!

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