

# KENSINGTON PRESS

MARCH 2010

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN ANSELMO

*An Inclusive Community*

## from the pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Last night was a Session meeting, and along with the usual committee reports and action items we began looking in depth at the 2009 Mission Study Report. Copies of this beautifully written report are available in the church office, an electronic version is available by email, or you can check a copy out of the church library.

The report was presented to Session last month, and based on the recommendations of the Mission Study Team, Session decided to proceed with a search for a new associate pastor for families, children and youth. The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee was elected at the annual meeting on January 31, and is already deep into preparing a Church Information Form – that's sort of like the church's resume; it's the document that describes our congregation, the position to be filled and the qualities which that person should possess.

The Mission Study Team added an important caveat to their recommendation that we call an associate pastor: we are, as we have been the last couple of times we have initiated an associate pastor search, on the cusp of being a large enough congregation to support two pastors. Session proceeded with something of a "leap of faith," knowing that the development of a thriving family ministry depends on this leap.

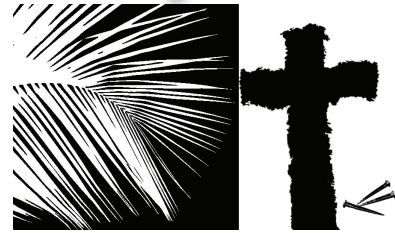
At the same time, Session is taking the Mission Study Report seriously. Our congregation is blessed with committed people, vibrant activity and a huge collective heart for local and global mission – for doing God's work bringing peace, justice and healing in God's world. Our environmental focus during Lent, tree planting in Afghanistan, olive harvesting and planting in Palestine, Katrina rebuilding, the rotating winter shelter, the Marin Food Bank offering, the Centsability offering, Together We Serve Sunday – we are out there responding to God's call. At the same time, we watch the neighborhood and the culture around us grow less and less interested in organized religion. We live in the age of "spiritual but not religious," what I call "the church of the walk in the woods."

Session will be meeting after Easter for a day-long retreat focusing on the Mission Study Report and, generally, our future. I invite your prayers for the work we will do together, but also your insights.

Together We Serve,

Joanne Whitt

## Holy Week



**Palm/Passion Sunday** March 28th,  
10:00 AM

Children's Processional

**Maundy Thursday** April 1st  
7:30 PM

Service of Tenebrae

*(Read more about this very special service on page 2)*

**Good Friday** April 2nd  
12:00 PM-3:00 PM

Service of the Seven Last Words of Christ

*With guest preachers Laurie Garrett-Cobibna,*

*Scott Clark, Lisa Larges,*

*Laird Stewart, Sam Alexander,*

*Leslie Veen, and Tici Truly.*

**Easter Sunday** April 4th  
8:00 & 10:00 AM

The Resurrection of the Lord, and  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

**Easter Egg Hunt** April 4th  
*Following immediately after the second service.*



## Worship

Maundy Thursday Worship  
Service of Tenebrae  
Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday is the holy day falling on the Thursday before Easter, commemorating the last supper. In the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus introduced what we call “the Lord’s Supper,” or communion, at a Passover meal celebrated in an upper room the night he was arrested. In John’s gospel, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, telling them, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35) Maundy Thursday takes its name from these verses; the Latin word *mandatum* means “command.”

Our worship on Maundy Thursday includes music by the choir, celebration of the Lord’s Supper and a tenebrae ceremony. The word “tenebrae” literally means “darkness” or “shadows.” The tenebrae service dates back to a 4th century Holy Week observance in which the lights in the church are extinguished one by one as the service proceeds. In this dramatic worship experience, the mental, spiritual and physical anguish of Jesus are proclaimed as he moved toward his death. The readings begin the last supper and conclude with Jesus’ being taken away to be crucified after he has been condemned by Pilate. When all the lights in the sanctuary have been extinguished, a chime is tolled 33 times; once for each year of Jesus’ life. The service concludes with the congregation’s moving in silence and relative darkness from the sanctuary to the memorial garden for communion, to remind us of the Garden of Gethsemane. Worshipers leave in silence.

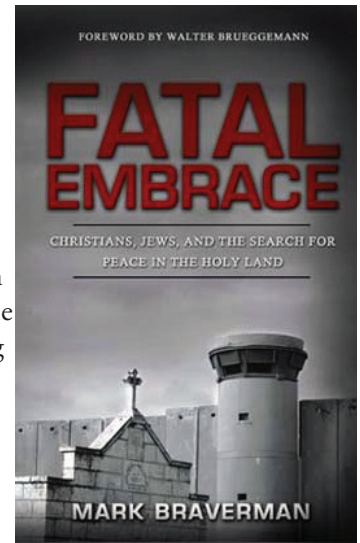


Christ in Gethsemane  
by Michael D. Obrien  
<http://bennettcarnahan.wordpress.com/2008/11/>

Introducing Our Guest Preacher for Sunday, March 7

Dr. Mark Braverman is a Jewish American with deep family roots in the Holy Land. Trained as a clinical psychologist, Braverman now devotes himself full-time to the cause for peace in historic Palestine. In his work he focuses on the role of religious beliefs and theology in the current discourse on Israel/Palestine and on the issue of interfaith relations. Braverman is a co-founder of *Friends of Tent of Nations North America*. He serves on the advisory board of *Friends of Sabeel North America* and the *Board of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions-USA*. He lives in Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Braverman is a speaker at the *Sabeel Conference*, March 5-6. He is particularly concerned about how the Jewish quest for safety and empowerment and the Christian endeavor to atone for centuries of anti-Semitism have combined to suppress the conversations needed to bring about a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land. His new book, **Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land**, charts Braverman’s journey as an American Jew struggling with the difficult realities of modern Israel. Vividly describing the spiritual and psychological forces driving the discourse, Braverman turns to the prophets’ cry for justice and Jesus’ transformative ministry to show the way forward. For more information, visit [www.markbraverman.org](http://www.markbraverman.org).



At 11:30 in Duncan Hall the congregation will have the chance to meet Mark Braverman and discuss his sermon, his recent book, and his life vocation as peacemaker.

### Adult Education

The Earth Gospel Series continues through the end of March, the last session being Palm Sunday, March 28th.

## Children, Youth and Families

For Parents of Younger Children:

We will have our First Sundays Gathering on March 7th. Continuing our topic of Temperament, we will have a guest presenter, to be announced. *(note: this information was not available prior to the publication deadline)*

As usual, lunch in Duncan Hall and childcare will be provided. We will be done with our program between 12:30 and 1 PM. Please contact Carl Carter for more information: Carl Carter ccarter919@gmail.com



### Potluck Supper and Auction

You can help a youth go to Mississippi to continue the work after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, and you can help a youth go to the 2010 Youth Triennium to learn with over 6000 other Presbyterian Youth from all over this country and guests from all over the world to explore their faith, grow in Presbyterian connections, and come home excited about the ministry and mission of their home church. All you have to do is eat and bid.

On Sunday, March 28, 2010, we will have a potluck supper at 5 p.m. in Duncan Hall. After supper, the youth will auction off services to the highest bidder. The youth and some supportive adults are offering services such as 3 hours of babysitting, 2 hours of dog walking, 2 hours of yard work, a prepared dessert for your family, 2 hours of tutoring for elementary age children, and more. Come support our youth in their mission and service projects, and for the joy of being part of this welcoming community.

**Summer Camp 2010**  
A week at the Woods lasts a lifetime

**Camps for all ages**  
Find out more and register online

The advertisement features a large central photograph of a diverse group of children and youth cheering with their arms raised. To the right of this main image are three smaller, vertically stacked photographs showing children in various outdoor camp settings, including one wearing a yellow hat.

## Older Adults

March Movie Madness

The Older Adult Committee invites you to our first afternoon at the movies for 2010. We will gather in the **Fireside Room** on **Saturday, March 20th at 2:00pm**. Our featured film will be Disney Pixar's **Up**. This movie is currently nominated for an academy award for best picture.

**Up** is the wonderfully uplifting story of Carl Fredericksen. Carl is a 78 year-old man who ties thousands of helium balloons to his house and sets out to fulfill his lifelong dream to see South America. He soon learns he is not alone. Russell, an 8 year-old wilderness scout trying to earn a merit badge for helping the elderly, is a stowaway. Together they have the adventure of a lifetime and Carl learns that life's biggest adventures are not always the ones you set out for.

Please plan on joining us for an afternoon of adventure on March 20th. Admission is free, but we ask you to bring a donation for the food bank barrel. Refreshments will be provided. Watch the bulletin for signups or call Martha Spears at 459-0267 to reserve your spot.



[http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2009/05/29/arts/29up\\_600.jpg](http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2009/05/29/arts/29up_600.jpg)

## Westminster Woods Summer Camp

Registration Now Open

Westminster Woods is now accepting online registrations for summer camps for children and youth from grades 2-12. Check out their website for information on the various camps and dates at [www.westminsterwoods.org](http://www.westminsterwoods.org). If you register before April 1, 2010 and enter the church partner code (WWC2010), you will receive an instant \$20 savings and receive your Summer Camp t-shirt ahead of time. Please also remember that we also provide camperships for those who need some financial support. If you are interested in a campership, please contact Kevin at 415-456-3713

## Notes from Nan

### AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE HISTORY!

Write down the events of your life so far to share with your family, your friends, or just for your own enjoyment. Everyone, young or old, has a story to tell, and none of us is a professional writer in the Life Stories group. We may write about a neighbor who was special, a lifetime of making Christmas gingerbread houses, or childhood games. If recent happenings in the world move us, we might write our feelings about those, too. Anything goes!

Come, listen, try it out, if you like; see if this group is for you. Life Stories meets the second Tuesday of each month, from 10:00 a.m.-noon, in the church library. Phil Gross is our convener and you may call him at 453-5364 if you have questions.

THE CHURCH LIBRARY has a sale cart with books to suit various tastes. Mostly, these are books, fiction and non-fiction, that have been given to us and are either duplicates of volumes already on the shelves, or those that don't work in a small library such as ours. If you haven't checked the cart lately, you may be surprised at the good buys that are there for "A Buck a Book."

The library is generally closed during the week (except for meetings), but please take some time Sunday morning to look. If you find something to buy, you will need to give your dollars directly to librarian, Nan Harle (456-4008), as the lovely locked cash box made by Merritt Robinson that used to be on the cart has, unfortunately, gone missing. Since the box was checked frequently, not much cash was lost, but if anyone has any ideas about the box, please let Nan know.

### STEWARDSHIP OF SELF

The **Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC)**, elected at the annual Congregational Meeting January 31, is already hard at work to find someone wonderful to serve our church in that capacity. That means that the main emphasis for the Congregational Nominating Committee now shifts to finding committed, enthusiastic church officers, deacons and elders, to be elected May 2 for a three year term.

**Deacons** are sometimes called the heart of the congregation, assisting those who have needs, such as transportation to worship, Food for Friends. They provide receptions for memorial services, assist pastors in serving communion to shut-ins. They are there if you need a visit, a poinsettia at Christmas, and much more. Deacons serve on Session committees and teams and join with elders at the annual Officers' Retreat. They meet regularly on the first Tuesday of the month, with

occasional special meetings. Call Al Flood (457-5623) or Lauren Swalberg (257-8918), Co-moderators, with your questions. **Session** is the governing board of the church, with oversight of worship, mission, finances, church school, personnel, church facilities, programs for youth and adults, etc. Elders plan and implement these activities in cooperation with staff. Each elder serves on one of the committees of Session. Session meetings are held regularly on the fourth Tuesday of the month, with other meetings scheduled infrequently as needed. Elders attend the annual Officers' Retreat (see above) with the deacons, an enriching time of worship, study, fellowship and fun! Call Jean Holm (456-2117), Clerk of Session, with your questions.

We know you are busy, but if you are called by a member of the Nominating Committee and asked to be a deacon or an elder, please give it prayerful thought, ask questions, talk it over with family and friends. The church needs the support of all of us.

Please call us with your questions or with any suggestions you have for someone we should be thinking about as a church officer. Scott Clark (457-1565), Suzanne Crouch (455-0808), Nan Harle (Chair 456-4008), Phil Heinecke (453-9148), Jennifer Holm (456-2117), Herman Waetjen (456-8783)

### A Fond Farewell

Dear Members and Friends,

As some of you know, many transitions came my way in early December: a phone interview with a former employer and an offer for a position. That meant relocating to San Diego.

My purpose in writing [...] is for a collective "thank you." So many of you upheld me in prayer, gave words of encouragement, your friendship, and your fellowship - all that you shared with me for more than three years.

Co-leading the Wholeness and Healing services during that period will always be a memory that is close to my heart.

Thank you for your hospitality and for becoming for me, my spiritual community. I will always love you.

God's blessings as – Together We Serve,  
Dorothy Crockett

### Save the Date:

Women's Annual Spring Retreat  
Friday, April 30th—Saturday, May 1st

*Please see the special insert for registration and details about the retreat.*

## Buildings and Grounds

### Duncan Hall Kitchen Remodel Dedication Ceremony

After the worship service on **May 2nd** there will be a ceremony in Duncan Hall to dedicate the completed remodeling of the kitchen. Please come and join us for a time of celebration and refreshments.

Over the past fifteen years the Duncan Hall kitchen had slowly deteriorated. The dishwasher was broken and beyond repair, the linoleum floor was peeling, the ceiling tiles were falling down, the kitchen cabinet doors were worn and dingy, and the stove was rusty and in need of repair. The kitchen was over 50 years old, and looked its age.

But now the kitchen has been transformed into a fully functioning, well lit, warm and inviting food preparation area with a new dishwasher, floor, ceiling, windows, refinished cabinets, a refurbished stove, a new pantry, and some new countertops.

The cost estimate for the new kitchen was around \$60,000. But the budget for the kitchen remodel was \$25,000. How do you get a \$60,000 kitchen for \$25,000? You rely on the free, donated labor of Tom Lannert, our church sexton. Tom had a passionate desire to remodel the kitchen and offered to donate his time and his construction, carpentry, and cabinet making skills to make it happen. He framed and installed the new windows, built out the pantry, made new doors for the kitchen cabinets, repaired the walls, and made the dozens of repairs needed to bring the remodeled kitchen to life.

Our Duncan Hall kitchen dedication ceremony will also be a time to thank Tom Lannert for his skillful work and time donated to the kitchen remodel projects. We will also honor Frank Schellings, whose vision of a new Duncan Hall kitchen helped guide this project. Money from the Frank Schellings memorial fund dedicated to remodeling the kitchen was used to partially fund the new kitchen.

### Here are 12 Rules You Can Live By:

1. If you open it...close it.
2. If you turn it on...turn it off.
3. If you unlock it...lock it.
4. If you move it...put it back.
5. If it belongs to someone else and you want it...get permission.
6. If you don't know how to operate it...leave it alone.
7. If you borrow it...return it.
8. If you use it...take care of it.
9. If you break it...repair it.
10. If you can't fix it...call someone who can.
11. If you mess it up...clean it up.
12. If you can brighten someone's day...say it.

*~ Thanks to Tom Lannert for this contribution!*

## Church and Society

### One Great Hour of Sharing—Where Does It Go?

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) to share God's love with people experiencing need. Where does it go? It is distributed in approximately equal amounts to three agencies: PHP (Presbyterian Hunger Program), PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) and SDOP (Self-Development of People). The money that goes to PHP is particularly important to us in the Presbytery of the Redwoods because it is from PHP that we are able to fund the stipend of Patty Sanders, our Hunger Action Enabler. Among the many other things she does, Patty chairs the Marin Hunger (CROP) Walk, which is coming up on March 21st.

This year all three agencies are finding their resources strained by the magnitude of need resulting from the earthquake in Haiti. PDA was in action in less than 24 hours providing emergency disaster relief. PHP will follow immediate hunger relief with aid in restoration of food production operations in Haiti providing both materials and training help. SDOP will help Haitian people who are trying to start small businesses and new ways of being self-supporting—and this is in addition to the many other needs both nationally and internationally. Support for OGHS has never been more critically needed. First Church San Anselmo will be collecting our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Palm Sunday, March 28th.

### Haiti Tax Credit

To honor the American outpouring of response to the needs created by the January 12th earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Congress has passed and President Obama has signed a new law which will allow Americans to deduct their donations from their 2009 tax returns rather than waiting until next year.

Donations must have been made after January 11th and before March 1, 2010 and must have been sent to recognized American-based charities such as Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Unicef, Church World Service or the American Red Cross and must have been specifically designated for Haiti relief. Only cash contribution, including contributions made by text message, check, credit card or debit card are eligible for the deductions.

### Way to Go, Taylor Crouch!

Congratulations to Taylor for being selected by the Presbytery of the Redwoods as a **Youth Advisory Delegate (YAD)** to the 219th General Assembly! Each of the presbyteries gets to send a YAD to General Assembly, the biennial gathering of the Presbyterian Church(USA). YADs have voice and vote in committees and voice in plenary. Their votes in plenary are "advisory votes" to the commissioners.

## Worship in March and Holy Week

(Please refer to the calendar at the church office or on the website for a full listing of daily happenings: [www.togetherweserve.org/](http://www.togetherweserve.org/).)

March 3

*The Service for Wholeness and Healing*  
7:00 p.m., the Sanctuary  
(Quiet prayer, candlelight and Taizé music)

March 7

3rd Sunday in Lent

Communion  
**Tending the Tree**

Exodus 3:1-15

Luke 13:1-9

*Guest Preacher Mark Braverman*

March 14

4th Sunday in Lent

Communion

**Win/Win**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

*The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching*

March 21

5th Sunday in Lent

Communion

**New Things; New Thing**

John 12:1-8

Isaiah 43:16-21

*The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching*

March 28

Palm/Passion Sunday

Philippians 2:5-11 and Luke 19:28-40

**Singing Stones**

*The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan, preaching*

## Holy Week:

April 1

**Maundy Thursday**

*Service of Tenebrae with Communion*

7:30 p.m.

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**Modeling Love**

*The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan, preaching*

April 2

Good Friday

**Service of the Seven Last Words of Christ**

Noon to 3:00 p.m.

The Rev. Sam Alexander

Scott Clark, M.Div

The Rev. Laurie Garrett-Cobina,

The Rev. Lisa Larges

The Rev. Dr. Laird J. Stuart

The Rev. Tici Truly

The Rev. Leslie Veen

*(Worshippers may come and go during the three hour service)*

April 4

**Easter/Resurrection of the Lord**

8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

*Service for the Lord's Day*

Communion

**Look for the Living**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Luke 24:1-12

*The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching*

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## Creature Corner

*Thanks, Neill Whitman!*

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1103645/Meet-Jasmine-rescue-dog-surrogate-mother-50th-time.html#ixzz0h0lFYwHK>

### Meet Jasmine, the rescue dog who has become a surrogate mother for the 50th time

Jasmine, an abandoned greyhound, was brought to the Nuneaton and Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary by the police in 2003, having been found dumped in a garden shed.

She was cold, filthy and malnourished. It took a few weeks for her to fully trust staff at the centre but with tender loving care she was nursed back to full fitness.

Now it appears all the kindness and patience shown to her has rubbed off—for the rescue dog has become a surrogate mother for the 50th time.

Seven year-old Jasmine is currently caring for tiny Bramble, an 11-week-old roe deer fawn found semi-conscious in a nearby field.

She cuddles up to her to keep her warm, showers her with affection and makes sure nothing is matted in her fur. In short, the perfect foster mum.

But then again, she has had plenty of practice, having cared for five fox cubs, four badger cubs, 15 chicks, eight guinea pigs, two stray puppies and even 15 rabbits.

Geoff Grewcock, who runs the sanctuary, said: 'She simply dotes on the animals as if they were her own, it's incredible to see. 'She takes all the stress out of them and it helps them to not only feel close to her but to settle into their new surroundings.

*Continued on page 7*

## Upcoming Music Events

Saturday, March 13th, 7:30 PM

### Slavyanka

The Bay Area's own internationally acclaimed Men's Russian Chorus, will perform an a cappella choral concert: *Slavic Highlights* featuring new repertoire of sacred and folk music in the sanctuary. Tickets \$15 general, \$12 seniors and students.

Sunday March 14th at 7:30pm

### The Monteverdi Consort (Premier Concert)

#### *Vespers for the Feast of the Annunciation*

with music by Monteverdi and Lasso

Lindsey McLennan, soprano (*former student of Martha Wall, and current teacher for the Marin Girls Chorus*)

Miranda Mallard, soprano

Victoria Chang, alto

Eric Tuan, tenor

Nick Burdick, tenor

Robert Worth, bass

Sunday, March 28, 2:00 pm

### Classical Guitar Concert by Kevin Dee,

*local musician studying at Oberlin. Free*

Sunday, April 18, 4:00 PM

### The Ugandan Orphans Choir

We are excited and privileged to host this wonderful choir for a concert and a 3-day stay, April 18-20. The Ugandan Orphans Choir, under the ministry of Childcare Worldwide, is a group of ten children, ages 9-14, who sing, play their African drums and other instruments, dance traditional dances in colorful costumes, and sing praise songs they have learned in English. Their joy is infectious. They will also share with us about the needs of AIDS orphans in Uganda as well as demonstrate God's powerful hand at work there. This concert is not to be missed! Bring your friends! A freewill donation will be requested.



**Please Note:** We are looking for 3 host families for 3 nights, April 18-20. They need a smoke-free home, and 3 meals/day. Providing transportation to and from church is a plus, but not required. Please contact Cheryl Finley at 460-6945 to offer your home, or to get more details.

*...continued from page 6*

'As soon as an animal is brought in, she walks over takes a sniff or two and then licks and cuddles them.

'Jasmine was abused when she was younger, the police brought her to us after discovering her whimpering in a garden shed.

'She was very nervous around us, she was caked in mud and dust and very thin. It took a while but gradually she got used to us and has been at the centre ever since.

Bramble the fawn arrived at the centre two months ago after a dog walker came across her in a field dazed and confused.

Until she is old enough to be released back into the wild, she will continue to be cared for by Jasmine.

Geoff added: 'They are inseparable at the moment, Bramble walks between her legs and they keep kissing each other.

They walk together round the sanctuary. It's absolutely marvellous. It's a real treat to see them.

'It's very touching. Her maternal instincts take over all the time.'

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
OF SAN ANSELMO  
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ADULT STUDY

9:00 A.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

& SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A.M.

(NURSERY CARE)

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The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt

*Pastor and Head of Staff*

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan

*Interim Associate Pastor for Children,*

*Youth & Families*

The Rev. Beverly Brewster

*Parish Associate*

Mary Wright Gillespie

*Associate Pastor Emerita*

Sally Johnson

*Director of Music Emerita*

J. Carolyn Johnston

*Business Manager*

Tom Lannert

*Church Custodian*

Kathleen McCalla

*Office Administrator*

John Parfitt

*Organist*

Martha Spears

*Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries*

Martha Wall

*Director of Music*

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