

amazing

IN YOUR LIFE | IN OUR COMMUNITY | IN THE WORLD

Grace

A monthly publication for members and friends of Grace Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek, California

June/July 2019

“What Is ‘Real’?”

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

-1 Corinthians 13: 12

The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are.

-Carl Jung

As an Interim Pastor, I keep finding myself moving into other people's offices. They always say that it's my office, but I look around the room and think that this place still feels like it belongs to the last pastor. I know how pastors like to furnish their offices with items and pictures that reflect their personalities, their theologies, their travels and their families. Each office is unique, telling you who the pastor is and what he/she is like.

During my last pastorate I had two works of art on the wall that I enjoyed looking at each day. One was a print by Damon Rodrigues, a member of one of my churches. It depicted a farmer's market in Brentwood, California. The other was an oil painting by a local artist, Kanna Aoki, showing a food truck in Seattle. I have them hanging in my bedroom at home.

As I sit and admire the two paintings, I think about how they are similar and how they are different. Both have good composition and both use vivid colors. Both are simple everyday scenes, and both are about food (maybe I'm hungry?). They are both about the same size and are simply framed. About the only real difference is that one is a print and the other is an oil painting. Is that an important difference?

It is an important difference to museums and galleries, who disdain prints and only display the original works of art. To these institutions, if you cannot get up close and see the actual brushstrokes of the artist, then the artwork is not really art; it is not really “real.” Original works fetch much higher prices than prints (this makes sense, since one original painting can produce hundreds of prints). The idea is that only in the presence of the original work can one experience the aura or the essence of the artist himself.

However, nowadays the science of printmaking has advanced considerably, so that you have to look closely to see the difference between the print and the “real” painting. If you were collecting art in hopes of selling it later at a profit, then you need to buy the original work. But if you are buying art because you like it, a print will serve just fine. I could have bought the original painting from Damon, but I liked the way the colors showed up in the print. When I look at my two works of art, I don't care whether one is a print or not: I like them both.

For a Christian, the process of becoming “real” or authentic, has nothing to do with how we are made. It has to do with how we grow. Are we pretending to be what we are not, because we worry how others will react? Do we express what we truly feel inside, or do we put on a show? Most importantly, do we truly love our neighbor, or do we grumble about him as soon as he walks away?

In the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul talks about the nature of love. Love that is real, love that is genuine is focused on what is good for the one we love, not on what is easy for us. When we were children, our love focused on what we could receive. As adults, however, we “put away childish things.” In this lifetime we will never fully know what it means to love. We see love as if we were looking into a primitive mirror: dim and wavy, like our reflection yet not perfect. We will fully understand one day, when we see Jesus face-to-face. When we look into that face that was once crowned with thorns, we will know what real love is.

In the end, it is not what we put on our walls or whether we collect original oils or prints that matters. What is real is determined by looking in our hearts.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tom

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 AM Sanctuary

11:00 AM Fellowship Time

gracepreschurchwc@gmail.com
gracewc.org

PASTORS AND STAFF:

Interim Pastor: Rev. Tom Waddell

Assoc. Pastor/Music Director

Karen Hastings-Flegel

Pastors Emeriti

Charie Reid and Robert Williams

Parish Associate: Diana Barkley

Office Manager: Judy Williams

Treasurer: Linda Neyer

Asst. Treasurer: Geri Rentz

Financial Scty: Jennifer Wallace

Headshot Photos: Carol King

**All Articles must be submitted
by July 19
to be included in the next issue.**



June 2019 Upcoming Sunday Worship 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary

June 2 “Soon and Not So Soon”; Acts 1: 4-11

CALL TO MEETING Sun. June 2, 11 a.m.

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church has called a **special Congregational Meeting, for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee**, for Sunday, June 2, 2019 after Sunday worship. Please plan to be here for this brief, important meeting.

June 9 “A New Wind”; Acts 2: 1-21

June 16 “To the Last of the Apostles”; Acts 9: 1-9

June 23 “Light in the Depths”; Luke 8: 26-30

New Members’ Exploration Class June 23, 11:30 in the Sanctuary

Please join pastor Tom and Grace elders and explore what it means to be Presbyterian and a member of Grace Church. Your inquiries are welcome and we hope to see you there.

June 30 Guest Preacher to be announced.

July Sermons to be announced.

Home Communion Training for Elders and Deacons

On Saturday, June 1 at 2:00 in the Fireside Room, Grace Church will hold a training for current and past Elders and Deacons interested in serving Communion to people who are homebound. (This was an idea that was initially suggested by Pastors Emeriti Bob and Charie, greeted with enthusiasm at the March 3 after-church meeting, and voted on by Session.) Having teams of two church officers visiting homebound people and serving them Communion will significantly expand and improve our pastoral care to the congregation. Questions? Just talk to Pastor Karen call her at 325-7742, or email (korgan81@yahoo.com).



MEN’S CLUB Meets 10 AM in the Library on Friday, 6/14

Just as military academies prepare officers for the various armed forces, so do seminaries equip leaders to be pastors for congregations. Grace men will host six of our folk who have participated as students at six seminaries nation wide. Bob Flegel-Princeton, Jay Kim-McCormick, Charie Reid-Austin, Tom Waddell-Fuller, Karen Hastings-Flegel-Pacific School of Religion, Bob Williams-San Francisco. Each will reflect on the strengths of their school. What was best? What could have been improved?



As Grace seeks our next pastor, this information may help us in the selection process.

An optional no-host lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant. Contact Bob Williams if you have any questions: 925-935-7377

Earth Care Corner

by Karen Hastings-Flegel

Many thanks to Grace Cooperative Preschool for the special Earth Day presentation in church on April 28. The children’s singing was lovely, enthusiastic, and even included coordinated motions! Expert piano accompaniment was provided by Lavenia Black.

Have you seen the amazing “TED Talk” video of 16-year-old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg? This wise autistic girl asks why the world’s citizens do not act to reverse global warming while we still can? Why is the climate change crisis not at the forefront of media reports and conversations, as a world war would be? Greta Thunberg, having observed the effects of global warming in her country, skipped school for several weeks and went on strike in front of the national Capitol building to raise awareness of the urgency of climate change action. It is easy to feel as if our individual actions do not amount to



much, but combined with those of others, they can have tremendous impact.

Fun Creation Fact: The closest relative to an elephant shrew is an elephant, not a shrew!

Nominating Committee News

by Rosalyn Cannelora

The Congregational Nominating Committee has received many thoughtful and enlightening responses for the Pastoral Nominating Committee. **We would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all of you who responded. You are our heroes.** It was very encouraging to read the wealth of experience and passion that led folks to apply.

As of the printing of this newsletter we are very close to finalizing our slate. By the time you get your GITW copy, we will have selected our final slate to present to the congregation. First, we must present this slate to Session so that they can call a Congregational Meeting. Then you will vote. Nominations may be taken from the floor but the nominee must give written consent or, if present give verbal consent. We will then present our elected slate to the Presbytery.

Again, we thank you profusely for your commitment to Grace and the evidence of your faith in our future as a vital presence here in the community. We continue to lift all of you up in prayer, always asking God to guide us to do His will.



Summer Schedule

Many of our regular activities will be on break for the summer months. Stay tuned for Summer surprises including....

Expanded Fellowship with lunch some Sundays including Sunday, July 7th to celebrate Independence Day.

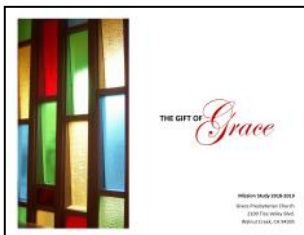
**Ice cream Social August 4 — Save the date
Enjoy a special guest musician.**

RFOG Social in late Summer.

Homecoming Celebration in September.

Dates to be announced in the Sunday bulletin and through Constant Contact. (If your email is not included in Constant Contact, please let the office know so you can be added.)

If you didn't get a **Mission Study Booklet** in May and would like to have one, they are available in the office for pickup.



Facilities Campaign

The annual campaign to improve our campus will be held in August this year. The fund-raising goal has been set at \$10,000. Proceeds will go towards a new heating system to replace the antiquated one in the Preschool rooms.

Dear Members and Friends of Grace Church,

For Summer, the calendar has been combined into a two month format for both June and July. In August, w
All church activities appear on the calendar, but events for most other organizations such as Boy Scouts, SUBU
calendar. However, those groups are still meeting on campus. If you have any questions about these meetings,

Standing Ovations, Summer Camp is meeting on the campus beginning on June 10. They use the entire ca
7:30 to 5:30 PM until August 19.

JUNE

Saturday, June 1

2PM Elders/Deacons Home
Communion Training—F

Sunday, June 2

9AM Choir Warmup—S
9AM Witness & Ministry—C
10AM Worship —S
11:00 Fellowship—F

Monday, June 3

10AM Quilters—F
10AM Prayers for Grace—S
3-9 Standing Ovations O, F

Tuesday, June 4

Wednesday, June 5

11:15 Grief Support Group—O

Thursday, June 6

3PM Discipleship—C
6PM Bell Choir—S
7PM Chancel Choir —S
7:45 AA—F

Friday, June 7

Saturday, June 8

Sunday, June 9

9AM Choir Warmup—S
10AM Worship—S
11 AM Fellowship—F
12:30 Deacons' Meeting

Monday, June 10

10AM Needlers—F
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, June 11

10AM Esther Circle—F

Wednesday, June 12

11:15 Grief Support Group—C
12PM Business—C

Thursday, June 13

10AM ATC Bible Study—L
1PM Worship & Ed. —C
5:15 Choir Dinner—F
6:30 Bell Choir—S

Friday, June 14

9:30 Susanna Circle—F
10AM Men's Club—L

Saturday, June 15

9-12:30 Parkinson's Breakout—O
9AM Parkinson's Mting—S, F, L

Sunday, June 16

9AM Bell Choir Warmup—S
10AM Worship—S
11:00 AM Fellowship—F

Monday, June 17

10AM Quilters—S
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, June 18

Wednesday, June 19

11:15 Grief Support Group—C
4PM Session Exec.—C

Thursday, June 20

1:30 Database Meeting—C

Friday, June 21

Saturday, June 22

Sunday, June 23

10AM Worship—S
11AM Fellowship—F

Monday, June 24

10AM Needlers—L
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, June 25

Wednesday, June 26

11:15 Grief Support Group—C
7PM Session Meeting—L

Thursday, June 27

Friday, June 28

Saturday, June 29

Sunday, June 30

10AM Worship—S

JULY

Monday, July 1

10AM Quilters—F
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, July 2

Wednesday, July 3

11:15 Grief Support Group—O
3PM Discipleship—C

Thursday, July 4

Holiday — Office Closed

Friday, July 5

Holiday — Office Closed

Saturday, July 6

Sunday, July 7

9AM Witness & Ministry—C
10AM Worship—S
11AM Enhanced
Fellowship to
celebrate Independence
Day.



Monday, July 8

10AM Needlers—F
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, July 9

Wednesday, July 10

11:15 Grief Support Gro
12PM Business—C

Thursday, July 11

10AM ATC Bible Study—
9AM Witness & Ministry

Friday, July 12

Saturday, July 13

Sunday, July 14

10AM Worship—S
11:00 AM Fellowship—F

Monday, July 15

10AM Quilters—S
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, July 16

Wednesday, July 17

11:15 Grief Support Gro
4PM Session Exec.—C

Thursday, July 18

Friday, July 19

Saturday, July 20

9-12:30 Parkinson's—O
9-10 Parkinson's—S, F, L

Sunday, July 21

10AM Worship—S
11AM Fellowship 7:30 A

ve will resume the usual format.
UD and AA do not appear on this
please email or call the office.
ampus Monday through Friday,

Monday, July 22

10AM Needlers—L
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

Tuesday, July 23

Wednesday, July 24

11:15 Grief Support Group—C
7PM Session Meeting—L

Thursday, July 25

GITW Folding—F

Friday, July 26

Saturday, July 27

Sunday, July 28

10AM Worship—S
11 AM Fellowship—F

Monday, July 29

10AM Quilters—F
10AM Prayers for Grace—S

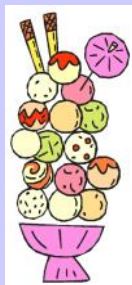
Tuesday, July 30

Wednesday, July 31

11:15 Grief Support Group—C

Save the Date:

Hymn Sing
and
Ice Cream
Social
3PM Sunday,
August 4



Kenny Han and Angie Shin were welcomed to our congregation by Pastor Tom Waddell during worship services on Easter Sunday, April 21. Their sponsors are Julie and Jay Kim.

Kenny was born and raised in South Korea. He grew up in the Presbyterian Church, which, according to Kenny, is prevalent in South Korea.

He moved to the United States in 1976 to study. Kenny earned a master's degree at the University of Washington in Seattle, and then attended the University of Utah in Salt Lake, earning a doctorate in metallurgical engineering. During his career, Kenny worked as a research scientist for Battelle Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio.

After retiring, Kenny moved to Seattle, where he enjoyed his hobbies, including singing and playing the guitar. He sang in the church choir of the Korean Brotherhood Church of Seattle for two years. Kenny met Angie in a guitar/singing circle in Seattle and they are now engaged to be married.

Kenny wanted to move to Walnut Creek to be closer to his daughter, Jean, who lives in Emeryville. Soon after settling in Rossmoor, Kenny and Angie looked for a Presbyterian Church -- and nearby Grace was easy to find. They are both pleased to be new members at Grace.

Angie was also born and raised in South Korea. After graduating from high school, she studied at the Creative Writing School for Poetry in Seoul.

In 1990, Angie immigrated with her family to New York City, where they owned and operated a dry cleaning business for ten years. Angie has two children, Gihye and Andrew.

After retiring, Angie moved to Washington State, living in several cities before settling in Seattle. There she pursued her hobbies -- singing, playing the guitar, writing, and sketching. At Seattle Lord's Lantern Church, she sang with a small group during worship services, while accompanying them on the guitar. Angie has published a collection of her poems in Korean, which has been translated in part into English.

"I like living in the Bay Area," said Angie. "I'm happy here. I also like the people of Grace Church. They are very kind. Grace feels comfortable -- like home."

If you have not already met Kenny and Angie, please take the time to introduce yourself and welcome them personally to Grace.



Contra Costa Interfaith Coalition News Summer Update

First, a big thank you for the bedding donated this past month – and especially for marking the size of the sheets! Beds that CCIC donates to those moving into permanent housing always include a mattress pad and two sets of sheets and blankets. (We don't get many new mattress pads donated, so those are purchased with monetary donations.)

Second, an appeal to check your cupboards for drinking glasses, fry pans and sauce pans to compliment the kitchen kits given to new households. You may bring these small sized items to the church office. CCIC representative, Bev Williams, to whom donations are delivered, is always amazed and thankful for the donations coming from Grace members and friends.

CCIC continues to be supportive of many agencies throughout the county, guided by the social workers who help with their clients' needs. Permanent housing is basic to families' success and we are part of the process. God loves you and you are doing something about it.

Sharon Lyons, CCIC Representative

Keep Us in the Loop

The Congregational Care team at Grace strives to visit, either in person or by phone shut-ins and those recovering from illness and injury. Karen and her team bring Home Communion, make social visits and phone calls. In the church office our team which includes several volunteers aim to keep our membership records up to date, including addresses, phone numbers, emails and particulars of what is happening with our members and friends. **We rely on you to keep us in the loop of what is happening in your life. It is our goal to be a support system for all who need us.**



Please remember to include Grace Church on your list of people to notify if there is a change in your residence or health so we can be there for you and keep our records up to date.

Thank you for your incredible generosity in helping to raise \$15,257 for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This is an increase from last year! Kudos!

In Memory

Madeline (Peggy) Peifer
May 31, 1920 to January, 2019
No memorial service

Treasurer's Q&A June 2019

By Linda Neyer



Question: What are Dedicated Accounts and what do they mean in our financial statements?

Answer: Dedicated Accounts represent funds donated for the following purposes:

- **Unrestricted** - If an individual donates money but never specifies on what or how the church can use the funds, these funds have no restrictions and are therefore classified as "unrestricted". Our Session and/or Business Committee determines how these funds will be used.
- **Temporarily Restricted** - If an individual donates money that are to be spent, not held, on a specific project, these funds are restricted for their specific purpose. For example, music, flowers, landscape, buildings and grounds, mission, special offerings, etc.
- **Permanently Restricted (Endowments)** - A permanently restricted fund invests the gift and then uses the interest earned to fund specific purposes designated by the donor. The funds are deposited into an endowment fund that supports specific projects or Grace church in general. Our EBIC policy provides guidance on how we manage these funds.

Food Bank News

"June is busting out all over, all over the meadows and the hills."

Summer is here! Let's give thanks for the beautiful days by remembering the food barrel at Grace!

Pat Devine-Cummings, Deacon



Congratulations Graduates

Luc Bergera, grandson of Ann Bergera, will graduate June 2, from The College Preparatory School, Oakland. He will enter the University of Chicago as a freshman this September. His grandma is proud of him, but sad to see him go!

Jeremy Flegel, son of Bob Flegel and Karen Hastings-Flegel received his Bachelor of Music degree in Songwriting (with a minor in music production and engineering) from Berklee College of Music in Boston on May 11.



Karen rode the famous Swan Boats while in Boston.

Family Camp May 2019

I hope some of you remember Elena Lass and her appreciation for camp and conference experiences for all ages. I remember my daughter's sharing the camp counselor role with Elena at Westminster Woods many years ago.

Elena left money to the church to be used to assist with camping expenses. Through the years it has enabled adults and children to participate in a variety of camp and conferences. Early in May, 66 people from Grace Preschool (31 adults and 35 children from 1 to 12 years) spent the weekend at Westminster Woods. Elena's funds helped with a portion of their



expenses. Families shared meals, singing, swimming, craft activities, and the natural beauty of this special part of God's

world. I think Elena would be pleased.



by Marlene Hall



Grace Presbyterian Church
2100 Tice Valley Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Sunday Worship at 10 AM
www.gracewc.org
June/July 2019

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WELCOME STATEMENT

*We welcome and
celebrate all who join us*

—the young and the old,
the rich and the poor,
the gay and the straight,
the strong and the weak,
the meek and the brave—
and though we are
different one from
another, we are united
in loving and praising God
and in loving each other.

Summer Schedule

Sunday, July 7th to celebrate Independence Day.
Special Songs and stories worship with lunch at
Fellowship Time. Please rsvp for fellowship.

Ice cream Social August 4 — 3:00 pm
Enjoy multi-talented guest musician, Barbara Hamm.
Barbara is a Music Director, Pianist, Hymn Writer,
Singer and Professor!

Homecoming Celebration in September.