



Trains of Thought Pastor Sally says 'Farewell' but not 'Goodbye' to CCB

By Rev. Sally Train

The last three months have passed so quickly! And so joyfully! I feel privileged to have walked with you through this transitional time. What a loving church! What a wonderful group of spiritually grounded, emotionally mature people! What talented musicians and creative teachers!



Rev. Sally Train

I want to thank you for welcoming me so warmly and for responding to my sermons and ideas so thoughtfully. I want to thank you for supporting me in so many ways – financially, emotionally, and spiritually.

I want to thank you for trusting me to be your minister for this short time and allowing me into your hearts and souls.

I will be sad to leave, but at the same time I know that everything has unfolded precisely as it should. I am so happy to know that I am leaving you in good hands, with an experienced and passionate Interim Minister who can lead you through your visioning process.

I often say, "I am Mary Poppins. I come when I am needed, and I leave when my work is done." My work here is done. I leave with a heart full of love, full of good memories, and full of cherished friends.

I wish to leave you with two final hopes:

1. I hope you will all participate in the Visioning work with listening ears, open



That's Danielle Chamberlin on a ladder in Jane Fernald's orange tree, picking oranges for jam-making. More photos and an article appear on Page 3.

minds, loving hearts, and free spirits. I hope you will truly endeavor to discern God's call to this church. It can and should be a transformative time for you as individuals and for the church as a whole. May God bless your journey.

2. I hope you will continue to strengthen your connection to the United Church of Christ and the Northern California Nevada Conference.

I hope you will send Rev. Clement and at least one lay delegate and one Youth Steward to the Annual Gathering of the Conference. That gathering takes place June 18-20 and registration is open now. It is held at Sonoma State University, which is quite convenient. I always attend and hope to see some of you there. It is a wonderful place for reunions, catch-up lunches, and shared celebrations.

The conference website is NCNCUCC.

org. If you wish to receive the conference newsletter you can go to that website and click on "Contact Us." It will take you to a sign-up sheet where you can input your information and begin receiving the newsletter by email. It is usually full of interesting articles and announcements of upcoming events. I highly recommend subscribing.

UCC.org is the website for the United Church of Christ. You may wish to visit it now and then to see what the national church is up to. You may be surprised at the ministries they do. We truly are part of an amazing denomination.

We are the church – all of us together. We are held in a circle so much larger than ourselves. The connection will always be there.

I leave you with my love. I leave with your love in my heart. I trust that I will see you all again. Blessings, Sally

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation valuing everyone's race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, class, physical and mental abilities.



Becky Chamberlin, Micki Carter and Carolina Gray peeled and pared the oranges for the jam with assistance from Sarah Brown, Kendall House and Cassie Gray. Danielle Chamberlin kept the process moving at the stove.

Jam-making the first step in trip fundraising

This is the presentation that Robin made to the congregation in February about the Youth Mission Trip.

By Robin Linares

As you may or may not be aware, several youth from the congregation will be going on a Mission Trip in the first week of August to the U.S./ Mexico border, at Imperial Beach, just south of San Diego.

Imperial Beach is home to Friendship Park that bridges the U.S. and Mexico border, the Tijuana River Estuary, which carries runoff from both countries, and the San Ysidro border crossing, the busiest border crossing in the world.

Our service and learning will be focused around the issues of immigration, wealth inequality and the environment. Our goal when we return is to share our experiences with the congregation.

We will be staying in the neighborhood where we will be serving. We will also

be traveling one day to visit Tijuana and a refugee camp within Mexico.

Half of our service work will be with homeowners and half with community based organizations. We will be working on a variety of maintenance projects, like painting and building fences along with other miscellaneous projects.

This is where we ask you all, the congregation, for your support. We will be fundraising for our trip from now until we leave.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- To start off, there are envelopes in the pews that can be used to make a donation for this cause.
- The older youth will be making jam today from oranges donated by Jane Fernald. These will be available for purchase at a later date.
- If anyone else has trees with an overabundance of fruit, the youth can come and help take them off your hands.

• Sunday March 15 is Pi(e) Day, featuring a variety of pies to bid on as well as pies to order for future delivery.

We hope everybody here as a congregation will help us reach this goal for the youth to have this great opportunity. Thank you all in advance for your support.

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The youth who are taking part in the Mission Trip include Robin, Cassie and Carolina Gray, Andrew Altorfer, Wesley Thornhill, Kendall House, Becky Chamberlin and Caitlyn White.

Mary Beth Gray and Greg Thornhill will serve as adult volunteers for the trip. Micki Carter is serving as point person with assistance from Danielle Chamberlin.

The group got a boost for their fundraising efforts when Mike Venturino found a box with \$170 in wrapped coins while cleaning out the church office. It went right into the Mission Trip account!

To go to the Congregational Church of Belmont web site, click on [CCB](#).



The worker bees of CCB were transforming the apartment into a home away from home for Pastor Elizabeth Clement who will be moving in the first week in March. Greg Thornhill and Garrett House painted all the walls and ceilings, and Maura Whitmore took the lead keeping the rest of the troops in line, ordering new kitchen flooring and a refrigerator. Among the other “transformers” were Mike Venturino, Joe Sutor, Chris March, Linda Howard, Danielle and Steve Chamberlin, Irene Hall, Henry and Andrew Altorfer, Micki Carter and many others who snuck in and out unnoticed. Thank you all!

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A glimpse into the life of Pastor Elizabeth

The Messenger asked the Rev. Elizabeth Clement to tell us a little about herself before she arrives to lead us through the interim process next month. Here are her words.

Tell us a little about yourself. Where you were reared, your family, where you call home?

Atlanta, Ga., became our home when my husband, Arthur, came to work here in 1981. Mr. Clement is planning to retire soon after a career as a registered architect working as a technical consultant to owners on capital construction projects (to complete them on time and in budget).

We have two adult sons: young Arthur, who is a third year Ph.D. candidate at the University of Chicago (history of science), and Mitchell, Ph.D., who is a research scientist in San Diego (nuclear fusion). Both children were born in Atlanta, and our family grew amidst our large, extended families, including grandparents who lived across the street until recently.

Berkeley, Calif., is my birth home and where my two brothers, one sister and I lived across the street from our grandparents and nearby uncles, aunts and cousins, all of whom had come west after World War II.

My dad was the American Baptist equivalent of a conference minister, and my mother taught Christian Education at the seminary and was CE director at a large church in Oakland. They had met in seminary in New York. When my father accepted a call to the pastorate, the family moved first to Fresno and later to Santa Monica.

Since I left California for college, I have lived in Rochester, N.Y., New York City, Boston, Washington D.C., Paris, France, Columbia, S.C., Atlanta and Indian Rocks Beach, Fla. The list continues to grow. My next interim will be in Scotland...

How were you drawn to the ministry and why interim ministry in particular?

When I went to seminary in mid-life, I became the fourth generation in my family to train for church ministry. And, while I am the only ordained clergy of my siblings, we are all missionaries in one form or another. Church work, it would seem, is what we are made for. I may have been born in church and have found that I make the best sense of myself and the world in the context of congregation and Christian community. This



The Rev. Elizabeth Clement's first Sunday at CCB will be March 15.

is where I thrive.

I left a position with Atlanta's Olympic organizing committee — a job to die for — because it was killing me. In my five years with the bid committee, I had traveled the world with the Rev. Ambassador Andrew Young as his staff and interpreter (French and English). In observing and facilitating his ministry to the world, I began to feel the importance of a community of interpretation, a place to join the exploration of meaning and purpose for my life. A great many different congregations had served that need throughout my life and I found that, initially, in divinity school.

Because I have lived between and amongst many very different cultures, I have learned to love the particular blessings that each of them have. I'd considered cultural anthropology as a career but found that churches have a greater purpose while they provide just as many unique, diverse features to satisfy the need to rejoice in their differences. I also happen to know that my gifts for ministry show best in short spans.

What drew me to interim and transition ministry was a statement made by a friend upon leaving an exhibition of the works of the Impressionist artist, Monet. Our guide had drawn our attention again and again to the "unsettled spaces" in each painting. As we walked down the steps going out, Martine stopped and said, "Elizabeth, you're good in unsettled spaces."

I knew she was right and, not long after that, my training for and work in interim ministry began. (There are so many possibilities in unsettled spaces!)

Is there anything you would like us to know about you and how you do church?

How I do church is how I do community and family. Church is the company in which we discover our God and ourselves, and our place in the continuing life of the Creator, together.

In interim ministry together, we explore and attempt to discern who we are as a congregation of God's people and what role we have to play in God's work in the world in our very particular circumstances, now.

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New office admin Mario Delgado joins CCB

By Steve Chamberlin

Say hello to Mario Delgado, the church's new office administrator!

With Ron Evans retiring after many years of service in the church office, Mario will have big shoes to fill. Ron and Mario will be working together during a transition period to provide Mario with hands-on training for CCB's many and varied office responsibilities.

Mario will also be taking over most building rental duties. We have plenty of work to keep him busy.

Mario comes to CCB with extensive experience in administration, vendor management, communications and day-to-day building operations.

He was most recently at Sutter Health outside Sacramento, where he was the point person for all facility/building issues. Before that he was at Evernote's Redwood City headquarters, where he provided day-to-day administration, maintenance and operations support.

We're very excited to have him joining us. Don't hesitate to drop in any morning and introduce yourself.



Mario Delgado gets an introduction to the office routine from Ron Evans.

March 2020

March 2020			
1 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship
	3PM - 5PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Off-site events	Peninsula Multifaith Song Fest
2 Mon	7PM - 9PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Book Group
5 Thu	7:30PM - 9:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir rehearsal/Dining Room
8 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship/Goodbye to Pastor Sally
	1:30PM - 3PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Off-site events	Walking Group
12 Thu	7:30PM - 9:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir rehearsal/Dining Room
15 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Rev. Elizabeth Clement
16 Mon	7PM - 9PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Church Council
19 Thu	7:30PM - 9:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir rehearsal/Dining Room
22 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Rev. Elizabeth Clement
26 Thu	7:30PM - 9:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir rehearsal/Dining Room
29 Sun	9:00AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Sandwich-making for San Francisco Night Ministry
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Rev. Elizabeth Clement

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*The Joy of Music
Unites Us!*

Peninsula Multifaith Coalition
Presents our 7th Annual

Multifaith Song Fest

Sunday, March 1, 2020
3-5 p.m.

Peninsula Temple Sholom
1655 Sebastian Drive, Burlingame

CCB's Sanctu-
ary and Youth
Choirs will per-
form! Plan to
come and cheer
them on.

We'll share our choirs, our cantors, our chants, our songs!

A dessert reception provided by the PMC Liaisons
will follow the concert.



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California's Presidential Primary Election is Tuesday, March 3. Don't miss out on the chance to cast your vote for the candidate of your choice in the Presidential Primary or in the race for your Congressional representative, State Senator or State Assemblyperson. The ballot includes one proposition on school funding as well.



March 15 is Pi(e) Day and we celebrate with pies, of course. Bring a pie to be auctioned or bid on a pie. You can also buy a pie future for the day you want it! Funds will benefit the Youth Mission Trip to San Diego in August.

April Messenger deadline will be Monday, March 30



THE MESSENGER
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