



October 2021 THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BELMONT

751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont CA 94002 • 650-593-4547 • CCB@ccbmont.org • www.CCBelmont.org



CCB promised to take Bob and Ella Mae out to the ballgame for his 100th birthday and, on Sept. 7, we did just that. A limo picked them up at their house, delivered them to Oracle Park where they met 30 others from CCB, watched the Giants beat the Dodgers and listened to a crowd of thousands (many of them wearing Dodger blue) sing Happy Birthday to Bob! More photos on Page 3.

Trains of Thought

You're invited back into the full life of CCB

By Pastor Sally Train
Interim/ Bridge Minister

Welcome back!

The last six weeks has been a whirlwind of getting reacquainted with this wonderful church, catching up on the changes that occurred in the last year and a half, and jumping into worship planning. It has been delightful! I have truly felt "Welcomed back."

Now I would like to offer all of you a "Welcome back" into the full life of the church.

Your Church Council recently made a difficult but wise decision to require anyone who attends in-person worship to show proof of full Covid vaccination (if they are eligible to receive a vaccination.)

People wear masks and maintain social

distance. The windows are open for good air flow. We have done everything we can to ensure people's safety and comfort. We would like to welcome you back to the sanctuary on Sunday mornings and hope you feel comfortable coming.



Rev. Sally Train

Community is important. As a church, we need to be together. If you have been worshipping on-line, consider coming back to the sanctuary. We would rejoice in seeing you.

Welcome back!

The Pop-Up Chocolate Shop will open Oct. 9, followed by eight weeks of the online Chocolate Fest store. Volunteers are

needed before, during and after. Welcome back to the fun of working with friends for a good cause.

Blessing of the Animals is on Oct. 10. It is the perfect opportunity to invite friends or neighbors to bring their pets and join you for worship. A warm welcome to others is a priceless gift in this time of isolation.

All Saints Sunday is Oct. 31. We will remember with gratitude those who completed their earthly life since March 2020. We will welcome their loved ones into our sacred space believing that it will bring comfort and healing.

Welcome back to full participation in the church!

Welcome back to spiritual community!

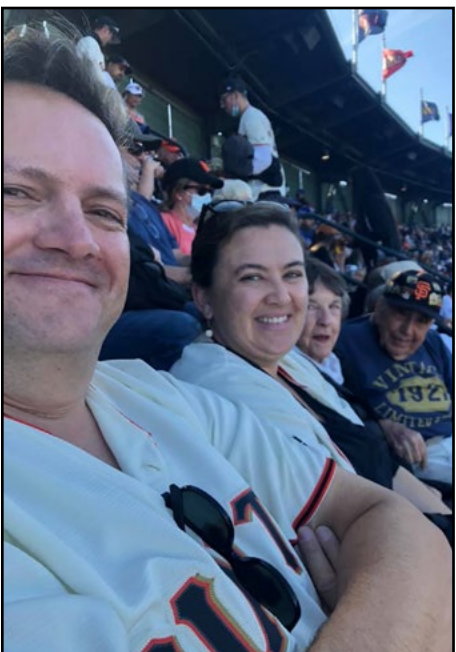
Welcome back to being the church!

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



Happy 100th Birthday, Bob!

What a day it was for Bob and Ella Mae! During the fifth inning, the Giants organization sent a videographer to our section to photograph Bob and the CCB crowd. Then in the ninth inning they showed the video on the Oracle Park scoreboard with the caption “Happy 100th Birthday, Bob!” Absolutely spontaneously, the CCB section and the sections on either side started singing Happy Birthday to Bob. After the game, as the Donovans walked to the elevator, waited for the elevator and then made their way through the crowd to the waiting limo, fans in Dodger Blue and Giants Orange stopped to say “Happy Birthday, Bob!”



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

Pop-up and online shapes for Chocolate Fest

By Micki Carter

Chocolate Fest 2021 needs a corp of volunteers this year when CCB launches its Pop-up Chocolate Shop Oct. 9 and its online Chocolate Fest store through Nov. 28.

The usual three-session chocolate-tasting event, now in its 38th year, will defer to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis again this year and opt for a safer way to showcase our Chocolate Fest partners, both in-person and online.

Nine of our faithful chocolatiers will offer their products for purchase in a Pop-up Chocolate Shop from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Dining Room of the church, which will be decked out in its usual Chocolate Fest finery.

When the Pop-up Shop closes, Chocolate Fest fans will be invited to shop [here](#) for their holiday chocolate gifts then — and until Nov. 28, using the Chocolate Fest online shopping site. It won't be live until then.

The popular Chocolate Fest silent auction will be featured as well, but this time it will be online [here](#). If you have anything you'd like to donate to the Silent Auction, you can enter it on the site yourself or let Danielle Chamberlin know. And please invite your friends to participate by sending the link to them.

The Pop-up Chocolate Shop and the online site will again offer our partners the opportunity to connect with Chocolate Fest fans until we can return to our usual chocolate-tasting format. Here's a list of the participating partners:

- 3D Candies
- CocoTutti
- Charlotte's Truffles
- Jade Chocolates
- Javier Confectionery
- Ladle & Leaf



The graphic features a purple background with a cluster of various chocolates on the left. The text is in a dark brown color. The main title 'Chocolate Fest Pop-up Shop' is in a large, elegant script font. Below it, the date and time 'Saturday, October 9, 10 a.m -4 p.m.' and the location '751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont (Vaccinated and masked.)' are in a smaller, sans-serif font. A paragraph of text describes the event as a one-day in-person shopping opportunity for favorite chocolates from local partners, with an online option available until Thanksgiving. At the bottom, the website 'ChocolateFestofBelmont.org' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

Just one day to shop in person for favorite chocolates from our Chocolate Fest partners. After October 9, you can shop online and pick up at the church until Thanksgiving.

ChocolateFestofBelmont.org

- NeoCocoa
- Preston's Candies
- The Xocolate Bar

A portion of our proceeds once again will benefit the community through organizations like Samaritan House and Second Harvest.

We will ask that our in-person shoppers at the Pop-up Chocolate Shop be vaccinated and masked; others are of course welcome to use the online shopping site.

Look for more details at [ChocolateFestofBelmont.org](#); Eventbrite invitations have already gone out. We are asking for RSVPs so we know to how many to expect although there is no door charge for the Pop-Up Shop.

We will be needing CCB volunteers for the Pop-up Chocolate Shop to handle a variety of tasks including decorating the Dining Room, setting up the shop and staffing it on Oct. 9, handling the logistics of the silent auction and clean up.

For the online shopping site, volunteers are needed to pick up product, sort inventory

Chocolate Fest 2021 website snapshots

- [Volunteer to work \(Pop-up Shop or Online Store\)](#)
- [Pop-up Shop tickets](#)
- [Online Auction \(donate or bid and share with friends\)](#)
- [Online store \(shopping after 4 p.m. Oct. 9 through Nov. 28\)](#)
- [Overview](#)

and fill orders. We will be using the old Al-Anon office across from the laundry in the CCB basement for stocking inventory and filling orders.

If you're willing to help with either the Pop-up Shop or the online store, please sign up [here](#).

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

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct. 10, at 10:30 a.m.



Congregational Church of Belmont

751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

Bring the animal companions in your life — furry, feathered or scaly — and join us in the Sanctuary for a lively worship service.

In the spirit of St. Francis, each animal will receive an individual blessing, a prayer for its family, and a treat. If you cannot bring your beloved animal, bring a picture!

We ask that your pet be on a leash or in a carrier or cage. Human animals must show proof of Covid vaccination.

We look forward to seeing you and your animal friends.



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The CCB Youth Group performed a skit called “The Gossip Zone” as part of worship on Sept. 19 when Pastor Sally focused on the power of language. The skit, written by Dave McClellan, was directed by Karen Byrnes and produced by Danielle Chamberlin. The actors include Steve, Alice and Rebecca Chamberlin, Sarah Brown, Kendall House, Andrew Altorfer and Tracey Brown. If you missed it or had a difficult time hearing it in the Sanctuary, you can watch it [here](#). The skit starts at about 47 minutes on the live-stream.

CCB now requires in-person visitors to show proof of Covid vaccinations

CCB is now requiring everyone who attends worship or any CCB in-person event to be vaccinated.

The Church Council adopted this policy in an effort to make the church as safe as possible for those who choose to be together in community.

Congregants only need to bring their vaccination cards or photos of them one time, and ushers will record that cards were shown.

Photos of vaccination cards can also be emailed to Lea at Office@ccbmont.org.

No permanent record of the cards will be maintained.

We will continue to require masking and social distancing at all in-person events, and windows and doors will be open at all times so bring a jacket or coat for your personal comfort.

As much of our socializing as we can will be done outdoors on the veranda.

We are also asking for all those who prepare food in the CCB kitchen to be masked and wear vinyl gloves. Signs have been posted in the kitchen and Dining Room.

At Coffee Hour, we are urging people to remain masked while they approach the food table and remove masks only when they move away.

Dark drapes installed in the Sanctuary to keep it cool in late afternoon

New drapes have been hung in the Sanctuary to keep the space cooler in the late afternoon.

Catedral da Familia, which uses the Sanctuary at 5 p.m. on Sundays, requested the window coverings, and the Trustees agreed to split the cost with them.

Maura Whitmore found drapes that suit the interior of the Sanctuary. They’ve been installed. She’s still looking for tie-backs that look good with our “golf club” sconces.

The drapes will stay open during CCB worship to allow for maximum air circulation.

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

CCB Calendar for October 2021

2 Sat	7:00PM - 9:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	CCB Youth Group Game Night on the Veranda
3 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	World Communion Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train: What Are Human Beings?
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
6 Wed	9AM - 10PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest prep
7 Thu	9AM - 10PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest prep
	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
8 Fri	9AM - 10PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest prep
9 Sat	9AM - 10PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest
10 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train: Blessing of the Animals
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
14 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
15 Fri	1:00PM - 4:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest pickup/Sanctuary and Narthex
16 Sat	3:30PM - 5:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	CCB Youth Group on the Veranda
17 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train: Time Management
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
21 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
22 Fri	1:00PM - 4:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest pickup/Sanctuary and Narthex
24 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train: A Vision of Love
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
25 Mon	7PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Off-site events	Council Meeting
28 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
29 Fri	1:00PM - 4:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Fest	Chocolate Fest pickup/Sanctuary and Narthex
30 Sat	3:30PM - 5:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	CCB Youth Group on the Veranda
31 Sun	9:00AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Sandwich-making for Open Cathedral
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	All Saints Day worship with Pastor Sally Train: Beyond Life

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



Mid-Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk *

WHAT is the CROP Hunger Walk?

Each year, our community comes together to raise money and awareness for hunger relief locally and around the world through the CROP Hunger Walk. Roughly 1,000 CROP Hunger Walks happen every year in the United States. Walkers ask family, neighbors, colleagues and places of worship to pledge dollars for their participation in a .6 mile, 1 mile, 3 miles, or 5 mile walk. Our steps symbolize the daily journey others must make for food and clean water.

WHEN?

The Mid-Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk will be held on **Sunday October 3, 2021** beginning at 2:00 pm. (Registration begins at 1:00 pm)
AND VIRTUAL August 1 – October 3, 2021!

WHERE?

Nealon Park, 800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025
AND VIRTUAL on the Mid-Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk Facebook page and Instagram page <https://www.facebook.com/midpencropwalk>

WHO gets the money?

One-fourth of the funds raised stays in our community to support local hunger and poverty fighting programs. This year's walk will support the work of **Ecumenical Hunger Program**. The remaining money is used by **Church World Service** to alleviate hunger in poor communities throughout the world. Donors can also allocate 75% of their donation to a cooperating U.S. based international relief agency, with 25% going to the **Ecumenical Hunger Program**.

WHO is helped?

In addition to assisting hungry families in our area, CROP helps families in the United States and around the world who are victims of disasters like Hurricane Sandy, the earthquake in Haiti, and refugees fleeing war or famine. CROP also supports development projects in the world's poorest communities - agricultural training, health clinics, micro-businesses, schools, and fresh water wells.

WHO should participate?

EVERYONE! CROP Hunger Walks are community events involving everyone who wants to fight hunger around the block and around the world. Our walk encourages teams and individuals from public and private schools, civic and cultural groups, area businesses, and all faith groups.

There is NO FEE to participate. All donations are helpful, but each walker is encouraged to raise \$100 or more.

COST?

For more information, contact Mary Beth Train, 650-324-7346 – mbt3305@yahoo.com

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/menloparkca>

* Formerly San Francisco Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk

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

Social Action will double donations to Hunger Walk!

By Georgi LaBerge

Once again we have the opportunity to assist needy communities around the world and in our own backyard.

Funds raised through the Annual CROP Hunger Walk will provide food, clean water and information on nutrition, sanitation and sustainable farming practices to people in need.

And if you donate in church or on the CCB [donation site](#), the funds will be doubled by the Social Action Board of CCB.

The 2021 Walk will take place at Nealon Park, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park, on Sunday, Oct. 3. The event begins at 2 p.m.

This effort, sponsored by Church World Service and supported by CCB's Social Action Board, will raise funds and show solidarity with the many needy people who must walk miles for water, food, shelter and protection.

The Hunger Walk takes place on a tree-lined road in Menlo Park

Walkers may walk as little as a mile or as long as six miles. Whether you walk or not, you are asked to make a donation to help support hungry people locally and abroad. One fourth of the funds raised stays in our community to support the work of the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto.

You will find envelopes for your donations in the pews.

In addition to assisting hungry families in our area, CROP helps families around the world who are victims of disasters like Hurricane Sandy, the earthquake in Haiti, and refugees fleeing war or famine.

CROP also supports development projects in the world's poorest communities with agricultural training, health clinics, micro-businesses, schools and fresh water wells.

Please join in this worthy cause. Together, we can help ease hunger in our community and around the world.

Pi(e) Day proceeds to benefit Puente charity in Pescadero

A check for \$723 is on its way to Puente de la Costa Sur in Pescadero from the CCB Youth Group. Puente, which was founded by the Rev. Wendy Taylor, a former CCB pastor, serves the farmworkers of the Coastside.

The money represents the proceeds from this year's Pi(e) Day sale. Twenty-five pies, including Razzleberry, Key Lime, apricot, pear custard, pecan as well as New York cheesecake, were made and delivered during the sale.

More than 10 different pie-makers participated.

Keep an eye out for next year's sale which will launch on the Sunday closest to March 15, 2022.

Send photos of loved ones for All Saints Day

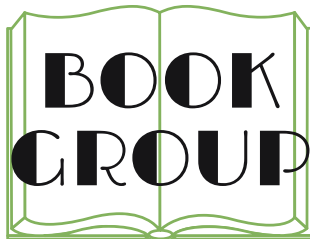
All Saints Sunday will be Oct. 31 this year.

You are invited to send in photos of loved ones who have passed since March 2020 when the pandemic changed everything.

Please send your photos to Lea at Office@ccbmont.org by Oct. 10. Lea will create a video of the photos which can be live-streamed as well as projected on the screen in the Sanctuary.



Peninsula Multifaith Coalition invites you to our monthly



Tuesday, Oct. 12 • 7-8:30 pm

"The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together"
by Heather McGhee

(Part II: We explored Part I in September)



Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a common root problem: racism. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out?

RSVP to revkristi@aol.com

We can cover the cost of the book, if needed

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

POSTCARD WRITING CAMPAIGN

Dear PMC Members and Friends,

As a continuation of our John Lewis "Summer of Good Trouble" and in conjunction with [Center for Common Ground/Reclaim Our Vote](#), we are doing a postcard writing campaign to encourage folks to vote in various elections around the country. Currently we are focused on voters in Virginia and want to send out postcards by mid-October.

If you are interested in helping us with this effort, please contact Diane Fahrner at fahrner2@comcast.net.

We'll send you postcards, stamps, mailing labels and a script to use on each card. You can make a party out of it and invite your friends to gather with you in person or over Zoom while you write and stamp the cards. Together we can make a difference by reminding folks to vote.

This work is sponsored by our Anti-Racism Committee and has support from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Warmly,
Rev. Kristi Denham
PMC Anti-Racism Committee



November Messenger deadline will be Monday, Oct. 25



**Chocolate Fest needs
your help at the Pop-up
Chocolate Shop
and online store!**

**Please click [here](#) to sign-up to take part
in this all-church fundraiser.
We are thrilled that we can finally work
together now that we're vaccinated!**

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