



# May 2022 THE MESSENGER

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



This Easter we had perhaps the most beautiful flower cross ever on our altar, surrounded by the dedicated Easter lilies. It was equally lovely to see so many filling the pews and a front yard full of children searching for Easter eggs. See Pages 4 and 5 for more photos.

## Trains of Thought Back to (Sunday) school — and BCE needs help!

By Pastor Sally Train

Just as the academic school year is winding down, our Sunday School is starting up! (Hopefully!)

We were overjoyed to see so many lovely children on Easter Sunday hunting for eggs, attending Sunday School, and enjoying a healthy snack/lunch on the veranda after worship. Our hope is that some will return and make Sunday School a part of their weekly routine. We need to be ready to welcome them.



Rev. Sally Train

As a church, there are few things more important than a vibrant Sunday School program designed to teach the faith to the next generation and to enfold the children in a loving community. This is central to the mission of the church.

Our vision is “To be a safe place for spiritual growth.” The state guidelines now dictate that to be a safe place for children, there must be two adults – over the age of 18 - in every classroom.

So, it is going to take all of us to step up and take our turn helping out with Sunday School – either preparing a lesson or just being the second adult in the room. It is not something we can just leave to the Board of Christian Education to handle on their own.

We have worked long and hard to clarify a vision and have a lot of great ideas about projects we would like to do to help our church grow. But truly, nothing is nothing is

See Trains of Thought, Page 6

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

## Moderator's Report

# CCB is experiencing renewal of enthusiasm this spring

By Danielle Chamberlin

Spring has sprung and, with the change of season, it feels like there is a sense of renewed energy at CCB.

In April a wonderful series of events brought us together.

Our youth kicked off the activity with a field trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium on April 9. Twelve of us ventured down to beautiful Monterey for the opening day of their new exhibit, Into the Deep. The youth and the adults really enjoyed the ocean life both up-close and in the wild offshore. (See photos on Page 8.)

On April 14, CCB hosted a joint Maundy Thursday service with three other churches: Island United, Congregational Church of San Mateo, and First Church of Redwood City. Huge thanks and congratulations go to Elizabeth Mye and Rev. Sally Train for coordinating a beautifully moving service along with the music ministers and pastors of the other churches.

The music was stunning, and having the four pastors read the story as told in the Gospel of Luke really brought it to life. If you missed it, you can watch the recording [here](#).

It was heartwarming to see the Sanctuary filled on Easter and to bring back many of our beloved traditions, including our Easter Egg hunt! We were also delighted to revive our “caterpillar” tradition. We sent four families home with caterpillars to raise into butterflies in remembrance of the true meaning of Easter.

Meanwhile, the work of the church is proceeding as well. Three of the seven *Love Your Church* projects selected at Annual Meeting have already kicked off and started discussions: Solar Project, Prayer Box and Medical Debt Relief.

Meanwhile, CCB Council has been hard at work polishing our Local Church Profile, which has really come together with “one voice” from those who put work into it.

We are very proud of how the Summary Ministry Description has emerged, and we are happy to share it with you here as the

culmination of a lot of hard work!

“The Congregational Church of Belmont seeks to create safe spaces for spiritual growth within our community. We pursue this mission through our key ministries — our youth, social action and music, by creating a Sunday worship experience open to all, and by optimizing the use of our biggest tangible asset, our historic building.

“To fulfill this mission, we need a leader who will help us shape what church means for 21st Century, post-pandemic, Silicon Valley — a community in need of spiritual safe havens, but full of folks who may or may not have been raised in a mainline Protestant tradition.

“We love our music program and want to continue to embrace music of all genres as one of our greatest gifts and sources of spiritual renewal and healing.

“We want to leverage our building to create connections to benefit our local community.

“Families are key to our church: We need a leader to help sustain our youth ministry and rebuild our children’s program, which has tapered off during the pandemic. The ideal candidate will be willing to dig into the work of the church and pitch in as necessary.

“And we need a charismatic leader who will lead an engaging worship service that speaks to the needs of our community and is consistent with our progressive, Open and Affirming theology.”

## Looking for a room to rent

CCB has received this call for help:

“I’m a 74-year-old woman. I’ve lived in the Bay Area my entire life. I worked at Stanford University for 22 years until Covid hit in 2020. I’ve been unable to go back to work at Stanford.

“I’ve exhausted all accrued savings to pay rent for my apartment. I’m now living on Social Security, and I can afford \$600 per month for rent.”

If you know of a room that might be available for this woman, please let Lea know at [Office@CCBelmont.org](mailto:Office@CCBelmont.org).



Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette

## Real Good Church author to visit CCB on May 15

By Danielle Chamberlin

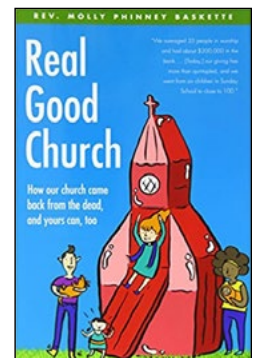
Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette, lead pastor of First Church Berkeley UCC and author of *Real Good Church: How Our Church Came Back From the Dead, and Yours Can, Too*, will join us Sunday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m.

She will share her wisdom and the experience of her successful church revitalization with us as we continue to engage our own church growth process.

With her we will have a discussion about people’s hopes and dreams, start to put some Belmont flesh onto the bones of the concepts in the book, and chart a course.

We can even do a tour of the church and audit it as we go — both to affirm what’s working and note priorities to tackle soon (low-hanging fruit) so that the congregation can have some wins to generate more energy for bigger enterprises.

This will be an opportunity you don’t want to miss! A healthy lunch will be shared.



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



**Oh, my, it's really Easter!**



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# CCB Calendar for May 2022

1 Sun	9AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Worship Preparation
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train/Seeing the Light
	11:30AM - 1:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
5 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
8 Sun	9AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Worship Preparation
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train/To Love as He Loved
	11:30AM - 1:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
12 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
15 Sun	9AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Worship Preparation
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train/Voice of the Shepherd
	11:30AM - 1:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
	1:30PM - 3:30PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Meeting with Rev. Molly Baskette
	3:30PM - 4:30PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Peninsula Multifaith Coalition Youth Meeting
19 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
21 Sat	9AM - 3PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Barbara Todd Memorial Service
22 Sun	9AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Worship Preparation
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train/Alone With the Spirit
	11:30AM - 1:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour
23 Mon	7PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Off-site events	Council Meeting
24 Tue	1:30PM - 3:30PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Meeting with Rev. Baskette
26 Thu	7:30PM - 9PM ✉	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Choir practice
29 Sun	9:00AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Sandwich-making for Open Cathedral
	9AM - 10:30AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Worship Preparation
	10:30AM - 12:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Worship	Sunday worship with Pastor Sally Train/The Amazing Power of Praise
	11:30AM - 1:00PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Events	Coffee Hour

## Trains of Thought

### Continued from Page One

more important than the foundational work of welcoming young families and providing age-appropriate spiritual instruction for their

children.

If you are asked to help with Sunday School, please say, “YES!” You will need to complete an on-line class on Mandated Reporting and be fingerprinted at a Live Scan location. Both are easy and just take

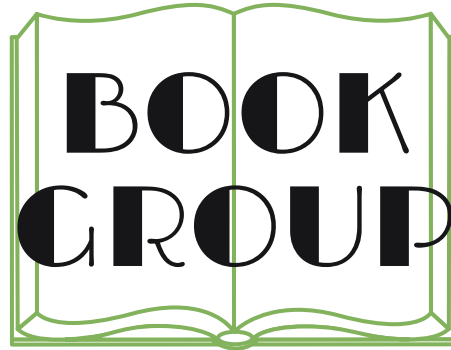
a little time. This is just one of the ways we live into our vision of being a safe place for spiritual growth.

“Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them...” or ignore them, or turn them away.

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

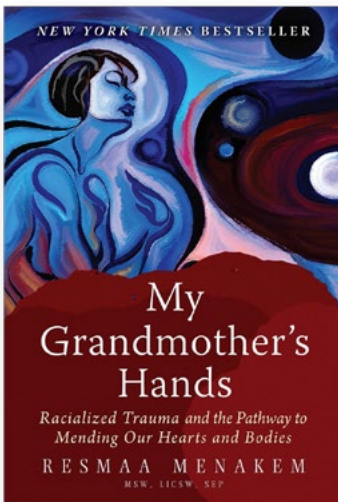


Peninsula Multifaith Coalition  
invites you to our monthly



**Tuesday, May 10 • 7-8:30 pm**

***My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and  
the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies*  
by Resmaa Menakem**



In this groundbreaking book, therapist Resmaa Menakem examines the damage caused by racism in America from the perspective of trauma and body-centered psychology. The body is where our instincts reside and where we fight, flee, or freeze, and it endures the trauma inflicted by the ills that plague society. Menakem argues this destruction will continue until Americans learn to heal the generational anguish of white supremacy, which is deeply embedded in all our bodies.

RSVP to [revkristi@aol.com](mailto:revkristi@aol.com)  
for the Zoom link

# Applying laws of physics to Easter egg dying

By Linda Howard

Is it possible to mix science and the mysterious beauty of the Easter celebration? It happened this past Easter during the activities with children and youth.

On April 16, several adults and teens met to dye eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt the next day, Easter Sunday. About seven dozen eggs were dunked in dye and decorated.

With many hands at work there were bound to be a few mishaps with dropped eggs; that was to be expected. What wasn't expected was one of the dropped eggs turned out to be raw!

By this time they were all colored. Which one of the beautifully colored eggs were raw? The raw eggs needed to be culled from rest of the colored eggs. The question of "How do you tell if an egg is raw or hard-boiled" was Googled, and the participants started spinning eggs and learning a lesson in physics.

While the two eggs look and feel the same, there is a big difference in what's inside. When you spin the hard-boiled egg, the inside is solid and moves together; the egg will continue in a smooth spinning motion.

However, when you spin the raw egg, the fluid inside moves around and causes the egg to wobble. When slightly touched the raw egg will continue to spin for a few seconds more.

Touching stops the shell but the fluid inside the egg continues to move, which causes the egg to remain spinning.

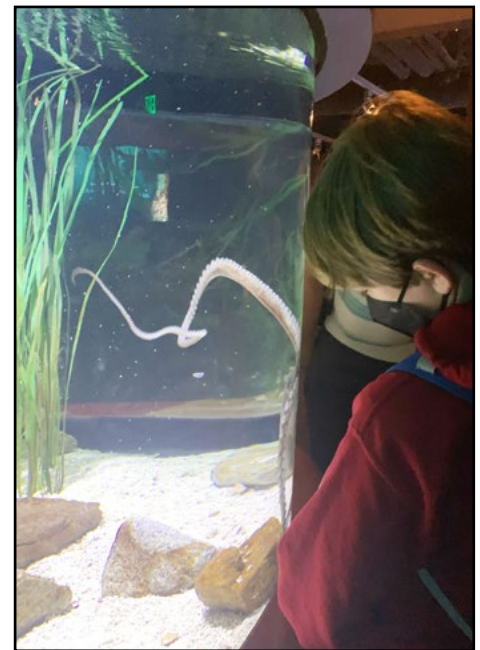
The raw egg's resistance to stopping spinning is an example of inertia. Inertia is the tendency of an object to resist a change in motion. The inertia of the raw egg is greater than the inertia of the hard-boiled egg. The centrifugal force of the hard-boiled egg is greater than the raw egg because insides are solid and moving together resulting in a smooth spinning motion.

Eventually all eggs were dyed and creatively colored, and no one reported finding raw, gooey eggs during the Easter Egg Hunt.

Another opportunity to tie science and Easter together occurred during Sunday School. The children learned how the date of Easter is determined every year. Easter sometimes comes "late" and sometimes



**CCB youth enjoyed a field trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium on April 9. A group of 12 ventured down to Monterey for the opening day of their new exhibit, Into the Deep. The youth and the adults really enjoyed the ocean life both up-close and in the wild offshore.**



"early." Why is that?

Easter comes the Sunday after the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox (the first day of Spring). This year March 20 was the first day of spring. The next full moon after the Vernal Equinox was April 16. The next Sunday AFTER the full moon of April 16 was April 17. Therefore, Easter occurred on April 17 this year.

After this brief lunar lesson (The

kids' eyes were glazing over!), the lesson continued with a discussion and art activity explaining these events of Holy Week — Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Science and religion do not have to contradict or require proof of the validity of each other.

Each has a synchronicity and worthiness for our minds and souls.

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**PENINSULA MULTIFAITH COALITION**

# MULTIFAITH TEEN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Join us for our first meeting!



**SUNDAY, MAY 15 - 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM**  
**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BELMONT**  
**751 ALAMEDA DE LAS PULGAS**

We will get to know each other, discuss your vision for the group, and begin planning our next multifaith teen event!

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT JEN JACOBSON: 510-415-3607 [JENNJACOB@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JENNJACOB@GMAIL.COM)



CARL MONT HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

# SPRING

CONCERT SERIES

2022 



WEDNESDAY, MAY 11TH

STRING ORCHESTRA & CONCERT BAND

THURSDAY, MAY 12TH

JAZZ ENSEMBLES & JAZZ COMBOS

Live broadcast on KCEA 89.1 FM, streaming worldwide on KCEA.org

FRIDAY, MAY 13TH

SYMPHONIC BAND & SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Live broadcast on KCEA 89.1 FM, streaming worldwide on KCEA.org

TICKETS: [CARL MONT PERFORMING ARTS.LUDUS.COM](http://CARL MONT PERFORMING ARTS.LUDUS.COM)

ADULT: \$20 SENIOR: \$15 STUDENT: \$10 CHILD: \$5

TICKETS SOLD SEPARATELY FOR ENSEMBLES ON MAY 11TH AND MAY 13TH



CARL MONT PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
STARTING AT 7:00PM



## Remembering Barbara Todd at 11 a.m. May 21

We will remember our beloved Barbara Todd at a memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 21, in the CCB Sanctuary.

The service, conducted by Pastor Kristi Denham, will include music from the Sanctuary Choir. Barbara was a faithful alto in the choir even after she became ill.

A catered luncheon in the Dining Room will follow the service.

We would like to honor Barbara by displaying as much of her art as we can locate. If you have one of Barbara's paintings that you would be willing to loan us for her memorial, please email Micki Carter at [mickicartr@gmail.com](mailto:mickicartr@gmail.com).

We will need people willing to help with set-up and clean-up as well. Please let Micki know if you can help.

Please RSVP to Lea at [Office@CCBelmont.org](mailto:Office@CCBelmont.org) if you are planning to attend.

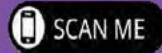
If you'd like to make a memorial donation to CCB in Barbara's honor, you can click [here](#). Note that the donation is in her memory on the memo line.



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<https://destinationscience.org/jobs>  
[Staffing@destinationscience.org](mailto:Staffing@destinationscience.org)



**June Messenger deadline will be Wednesday, May 25.**



United Church of Christ

751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont CA 94002 · [CCBelmont.org](http://CCBelmont.org)  
850 593 4547 · [Office@CCBelmont.org](mailto:Office@CCBelmont.org)

**Join us in the CCB Dining Room at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 29, to make PBJ sandwiches and a brown bag lunch for the homeless.**

**The lunches will be delivered to those who attend Open Cathedral's food distribution site in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.**

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