

# Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School • 3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach • P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953  
831.624.1374 • email: citf@mbay.net • www.churchintheforest.org

Monday morning, January 15, 2018

Dear Friends,

In a remarkable [study](#) of 3000 American teenagers, published in 2005, professors at the University of North Carolina documented that teens think of God as an impersonal being—largely uninvolved and undemanding, who occasionally can be called upon, not so much to change anything, but simply to make us feel better. Indeed, the authors concluded that the God of these teenagers was like a “cosmic therapist,” who only wants us to be happy.

Is this just teenage faith? No, this is the faith of the Secular Age! How did we get here? How did our Secular Age settle for this indifferent, uninvolved, Impersonal God?

In week two of our sermon series on Mark’s Gospel, “Walk in Wonder,” we’ll face a crucial spiritual challenge of our Secular Age: do we believe in an impersonal God that seems “plausible” to a scientific worldview? Or do we believe in a personal God that is powerful and worthy of our prayers?

See you Sunday!



Joanne Swenson

The Reverend Joanne Swenson, Th.D.

*Small Groups are gatherings where CitF members and friends can explore faith and deepen fellowship.*

- The *Small Group Bible Study* is held each **Sunday at 8:30 AM** in the Multipurpose Room.
- *The Men’s Small Group* gathers **January 18, 10–11:30 AM** in the Multipurpose Room, currently studying the Book of Romans.
- The new *Women’s Small Group*, “*Sisters in the Forest*,” will meet on **January 25, 12 noon–1:15 PM**, at the home of Linda Mackie: 3110 Bird Rock Rd., Pebble Beach (Brown bag lunches welcome!). Need directions? Call Linda at 831-372-1501.
- A *Women’s Bible Study Small Group* will be forming soon, to meet alternate **Thursdays 10–11:30 AM**, at local homes. Interested? Contact Pastor Joanne.



## Church in the Forest

invites you to



### Shrove Tuesday — Mardi Gras

**Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 5:30 pm, Douglas Hall**  
**Featuring a DJ — Dress in costume to be eligible to win the**  
**GRAND PRIZE of DINNER FOR TWO**  
**at Casanova in Carmel!**

**More fun prizes offered throughout the evening.**

**\$20 per person includes catered appetizers and beverages.**  
**RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board at church or**  
**by contacting Sherry at citf@mbay.net or 624-1374**

**Wine and music sponsorships available!**

**Ash Wednesday Service, February 14, 6:00 pm**

#### Calendar

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 21, 2018 — Third Sunday after Epiphany</b>
	<b>Reception of New Members</b>
<b>8:30 AM</b>	Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Reverend Ken Feske. Topic: Mark 1: 16–20
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>Chapel Concertino</b>
<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Passages</b>	Isaiah 55: 8–11; Psalm 27 (selected passages); Mark 1: 16–20
<b>Lector</b>	Dennis Riley
<b>Crucifer</b>	Rae Janzen
<b>Cookies</b>	Leslie Buck
<b>Flowers</b>	??
<b>Ushers</b>	Wim & Tonneke van der Linden
<b>Altar Care</b>	Martha Jordan, Linda Mackie, and Sandy Rice
<b>Sermon</b>	The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.
<b>Title</b>	“Wonder Walks Among Us: A Sermon Series for Epiphany” This Sunday: “A Personal God: Implausible or Powerful?”

**Music Box**

JANUARY 21, 2018

**Solmaaz Adeli, mezzo-soprano  
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ**

*CHAPEL CONCERTINO*

Precious Lord, Take My Hand ..... Thomas Dorsey/George Allen  
If I Can Help Somebody ..... Alma Bazel Androzzo  
Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child..... traditional  
arr. Lawrence Brown  
Wade in the Water ..... traditional  
arr. Mark Hayes

Deep River ..... traditional  
arr. H. T. Burleigh

Lord, Revive Us ..... from The Revivalist, 1868, arr. Gilbert Martin

African-American spirituals arose from the religious experience of Africans and their descendants in the United States, a result of the interaction of music and religion of Africa with music and religion of Europe. The spiritual “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” for example, would have puzzled the tribes and families left behind in Africa.

It has been claimed by some sources that “Wade in the Water” (which we hear today) contains code to escaping slaves, strategy to leave dry land and go through water to throw bloodhounds off the track. Also that “Canaan” refers to Canada.

*Melinda Coffey Armstead*



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**Address service requested**

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