

Music Box

JANUARY 24, 2016

Taelen Thomas, poetical showman
Robert Armstead, bass-baritone
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ

A Robert Burns Celebration (b. Jan. 25, 1759 - d. July 21, 1796)

Nellie Kirkpatrick, My Love Is Like A Red, Red Rose,
The Belles of Mauchline, Green Grow the Rushes, The Louse,
A Man's A Man For All That, Comin' Through the Rye,
Loch Lomand, Auld Lang Syne

Brother James' Air James Leith MacBeth Bain (1840-1925;
Psalm 23, Scottish Psalter (1650) arr. Douglas Wagner

Scotland the Brave - Waterloo Hornpipetraditional

Robert Burns was the most celebrated poet not only of Scotland, but all of Great Britain. He was a peasant farmer with a powerful gift of expression, a finely-honed impatience with social injustice, and a lack of gender uncertainty so conspicuous he would have been hung by his testament to male chauvinism had he been born 200 years later. "The sweetest hours that e're I spend are spent among the lasses, O" speaks to us from the center of his guiding interest.

Still, it must have seemed like the right way to behave at the time and he did nothing by halves. He had at least three illegitimate children, dozens of serious love affairs, and one marriage. But this intensity did not seem to interfere with his poetic creativity: indeed some have suggested a positive correlation. (Coleridge said: "Burns preached from his own errors.") Perhaps the most famous song bearing his words is "Auld Lang Syne," literally meaning "Old Long Since," for which Burns wrote the third and fourth verses. It is most often sung on New Year's Eve in an advanced state of relaxation, so you hardly ever get beyond the first verse. Here is the third:

We twa hae run about the braes, And pu'd the gowans fine;
But we've wander'd mony a weary fit, Sin' Auld Lang Syne.
You might well wonder what it means, and it is not noticeably less intelligible than the fourth verse. Telling you that "pu'd the gowans" means "pulled the daisies" may help. Then again, it may not.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



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Monday morning, January 18, 2016

Dear Members and Friends,

I just returned home after attending, along with others from Stevenson School, the Martin Luther King gathering at the Oldemeyer Center in Seaside. I was going to also walk in the March of Honor, which took place earlier in the morning, but couldn't clear my calendar for that.

The place was full and the program included greetings from Sam Farr, U.S. Representative for California's 20th congressional district, along with other state dignitaries. The main speaker was the dynamic Mayor Karen Freeman of Gary, Indiana. She concluded her brilliant speech with a personal story about her inauguration, which was a dinner-dance occasion. She had an outfit that she thought was stunning, and a month before had ordered a wonderful pair of shoes that set the whole outfit off. They arrived and she was thrilled with her purchase, so she put them in her closet for the big event.

On the day of the inauguration she brought them out and discovered that they were too small, but she squeezed her feet into them and her husband told her that she looked outstanding—but it was the “standing” that was the problem for four straight hours! She was in agony and, after what seemed like an eternity, had to take her “killer” shoes off. What were people going to think? Then she told the audience, “therein lay the lesson.” There are times when we have a job to do, take off your shoes and get on with it! That is applicable to church and everything we attempt.

See you in Church



William B. Rolland

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please contact the church office if you would like to order pledge envelopes. Having them the previous year does not ensure having them this year!

Save the Date: Second Annual **Robert Burns Supper** on **Sunday, January 24, 2016**, at Quail Lodge. www.quaillodge.com

Also Concert: **Saturday January 30, at 2:30 pm.** “Chopin and Yeats” in Carmel Valley with Taelen Thomas, poetical showman of Carmel, and Melinda Coffey Armstead, pianist, in the Hidden Valley Opera Barn. Admission \$15. For more information call (831) 659-3115.

Sign-ups? We would love your help with our services: lay reader, crucifer, usher, flower donator, and the ever-popular cookie purveyor. Please stop by the bulletin board at church and sign your “John Hancock” to become instantly popular. We have a dearth of sign-ups this month!

Calendar

Sunday January 24, 2016 — Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

8:30 AM Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room with the Rev. Ken Feske
—*Hosea 4-11*

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19:7-14; *Luke 4:14-21*

Lector Don Daly

Crucifer Cynthia Perry

Flowers Dennis & Marie Riley

Cookies Linda Banner

Ushers Jack Davis & Linda Banner

Altar Care Sandy Rice & Martha Jordan

Sermon the Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title “The Measure of Greatness”

Sunday, January 31, 2016 — Semi-annual meeting of the Congregation to approve the budget for 2016 right after church.

Saturday, February 6, 2016 — Memorial service for Richard Zahm at **2:00 pm**. Please note change in time.

* **Feel free to wear your tartan this Sunday in celebration of Robert Burns**