

Music Box

MARCH 16, 2014

HEARTSTRINGS

Laura Burian, violin **Marj Ingram-Viales**, guitar
Mike Osgood, mandolin **Rick Chelew**, bass
Paulette Lynch, hammered dulcimer
Melinda Coffey Armstead, organ

Prelude for Saint Patrick's Day

Butterfly
Planxty Hewlett
Paddy's & Tommy's
Reconciliation / Joys of Quebec/ LaBastringue
Teabag Blues
Blarney Pilgrim/ Staten Island
Crested Hens
Soldier's Joy/ Redhaired Boy

The actual Saint Patrick lived during AD 385-461. They say he used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish. This led to the display of shamrocks, the wearing of green clothing, and the general entitlement to adult beverages, even though the day may fall within Lent. It is immensely popular, for reasons we can only guess at. When March 17 falls within Holy Week, as it did in 1940 and again in 2008, the Irish Catholic Church moves the religious celebration to another date. There never seems to be a serious objection in Ireland, as it means that year there are TWO St. Patrick's days, March 17 still being available for secular observance. Unfortunately the next occurrence will not be until the year 2160. The day was declared a public holiday in Ireland in 1903. A few years later, the United Kingdom passed a law closing pubs and bars when drinking got out of hand. The law was repealed in the 1970s when it was pointed out that the reason for the law: "drinking got out of hand," viewed by a reasonable person, makes no sense. The shortest St. Patrick's Day parade in the world is in Dripsey, Cork, Ireland: one hundred yards, between the village's two pubs. Not everybody in the parade actually makes it to the second pub, but no stigma attaches to those who make a serious effort but fall short. Or even to those who are able to walk the distance, but in the wrong direction.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



Painless and Economical

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money — here's what to do, Send an email to the office at: cift@mbay.net and ask Sherry to put you on the list. You will receive it early every week!

Church in the Forest
at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School
3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach
P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953

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Monday morning, March 10, 2014

Dear Members and Friends,

William Blake coined the phrase, “mind-forged manacles,” in his poem “London.” It describes the mind’s reluctance to accept or incorporate new ideas or insights. Example: the elephant is trained by tethering him to a tree with an enormous chain; all his efforts to free himself are futile. Giving up, he thereafter can be tethered to a small stake which he could easily break except that his mind has been manacled.

The power of mind-forged manacle is nowhere seen more brilliantly than in the story of Moses and the liberation of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt. Moses achieved the physical release of the Hebrews from Egypt, but the physical release of the slaves was small potatoes compared to the mental release of the slave mentality. It was harder to erase the mental tapes the Hebrews had formed while slaves in Egypt.

Physically liberated, they remained mentally enslaved. They actually frequently longed for the old place of oppression (“We remember the leeks, the garlic and now all we have is this boring manna!”) They gave Moses a really hard time. When Moses was off talking with God, they had an orgy. Weeping, complaining, bawling, rebelling they reached the promised land. Spies were sent into the land and they returned telling of the richness of the land, but ten of the twelve spies told of fearsome giants. Instead of recalling God’s active assistance in their lives, they broke out bawling and wanted to return to Egypt and slavery. God saw he had a bigger job than first thought so he shipped them back into the desert ‘til all the old slave tape carriers bit the dust and people unencumbered by the slave tapes could take leadership.

We’ve all picked up mental tapes of ourselves—many of which imprison us in mediocrity. Could be we were brought up in negative homes and we think of ourselves as little people. Complaining, blaming others we refuse the responsibility that is uniquely ours. Jesus came to liberate us, to tell us that God has crammed us with resources, but so

often we mimic the former slaves preferring dependency and the blame game. Jesus’ vision for us is as sons and daughters of God giving us a new sense of responsibility and a refusal to pass the buck. Jesus tries to show us how a real adult responds to life and to free us from our mind forged manacles of inadequacy.

See you in church,



Charles C. Anker

— LENTEN STUDY —

Wednesday, March 12, 3- 6 pm

(stop by for ten minutes or more)

*Self-Directed Meditation, **Multi-purpose Room***

Focus: Encountering God through Contemplation, Psalm 139

*Group Study, **Sanctuary, 5:30-6:15 pm***

The Bible and Handel’s Messiah “Behold The Lamb of God”— “All We Like Sheep” John 1:29-42 and Isaiah 53

Light refreshments and conversation follows with
the Rev. Ken Feske

Calendar

Sunday, March 16, 2014 — Honoring St. Patrick’s Day

8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Charles Anker. 2 Samuel chapters 20–23 and 1 Kings chapters 1–2. The Later Years of David’s Rule.

9:15 AM **Music Prelude**

9:30 AM **Morning Prayer**

Passages Isaiah 42:10-16; Psalm 121; John 3:1-17

Lector Dick Crowell

Crucifer Cynthia Perry

Flowers Jim Hicks and Kathryn Lawrence

Cookies Michele & Bob Axley and Judy & Bob Fletcher

Altar Care Martha Jordan and Leonora Branca

Ushers Sandy and Bob Rice

Sermon The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title “Under Cover of Darkness”

Wednesday, March 10, 2014 — Lenten Study, Multi-purpose room