

Music Box

— MAY 24, 2015 — PENTECOST —

I Cantori di Carmel
Dr. Sal Ferrantelli, Director
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ

- Wie Melodien zieht es mir Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
- Du bist wie eine Blume.....Sal Ferrantelli
- The Road Not Taken (from Frostiana)..... Randall Thompson
(1899-1984)
- Wedding Song from Poniky and Dancing Song
from Medzibrod Bela Bartok (1881-1945)
(sung in Hungarian)
- Earth Song..... Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)

- Sure on this Shining Night..... Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

- Allegro in G G. F. Handel (16585-1759)

Lord, the air smells good today,
 straight from the mysteries
 within the inner courts of God.
 A grace like new clothes
 thrown across the garden,
 free medicine for everybody.
 The trees in their prayer, the birds in praise,
 the first blue violets kneeling.
 Whatever came from Being is caught up in being,
 drunkenly forgetting the way back.

—Rumi



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 citf@mbay.net and ask Kay to put you in the list. You will receive it early every week!

Church in the Forest
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Church in the Forest

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Monday morning, May 18, 2015

What is Pentecost?

Pentecost (“the fiftieth [day]”) is the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks, a prominent feast in the calendar of ancient Israel celebrating the giving of the Law on Sinai. This feast is still celebrated in Judaism. Later, in the Christian liturgical year, it became a feast commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, as described in Acts 2:1–31. For this reason, Pentecost is sometimes described by some Christians today as the “Birthday of the Church.”

Pentecost can also refer to the whole fifty (50) days between Easter and Pentecost. The feast is also called White Sunday, or Whitsunday, especially in England, where the following Monday was traditionally a public holiday. Pentecost is celebrated fifty days (i.e. 49 days with the first day counted, seven weeks) after Easter Sunday, hence its name. Pentecost falls on the tenth day after Ascension Thursday (which falls 40 days after Easter).

Why acknowledge and celebrate Pentecost?

Pentecost is a dramatic moment in the liturgical year when the Spirit of God, “afame with his fire,” fills the universe and tells of a new heaven and a new earth. Fifty days after Easter, the Spirit showers down on the apostles, signifying the birth of the Church. Pentecost Sunday inaugurates a season of joy, hope, and mission, a time when the Church comes “alive with a new breath.”

Pentecost is a season of spiritual energy and dynamism. Pentecost is the season when we are called to witness to the ends of the earth, no matter the political, cultural or religious obstacles that might compromise our spiritual integrity. We might be impelled to speak out in the name of truth and justice, equity and peace.

Pentecost is the coming of the Spirit of God into the world. It is the celebration of the breaking through the boundaries of time and space and opening the whole world for the re-creating power of love. Pentecost is freedom, the freedom of the Spirit to blow where it wants.

PASTOR SEARCH QUESTIONNAIRES

The Pastor Search Committee would like to express its appreciation to the congregation for its responses to the survey questionnaire. As promised, we are summarizing these responses as best we can within the limited space of the weekly newsletter. Uppermost in the seventy plus respondent views was an almost universal expression that the Church is a warm, open, loving place of worship. Primary credit for this feeling is given to the leadership and staff of our Church.

Our questionnaire results demonstrated preference for a mature, well-educated, senior pastor who incorporates all of the qualities cited: humor, compassion, open-mindedness and charisma. Desire for intellectually inspiring sermons received virtually one hundred percent acclaim while interest in pastoral care was also a very strong preference. Though not a significant focus, community outreach was seen as a means to increase membership, the latter being a primary concern. Sermon styles were mixed choices while most viewed our present traditional worship service as desirable. Most often cited as reasons for maintaining membership were our ministers, the music, and the very friendly congregation. With thankfulness to all of our respondents we will incorporate these preferences in our process.

Calendar

Sunday, May 24, 2015 — Pentecost — wear red!

8:30 AM Bible Study in Douglas Hall with the Rev. Ken Feske.

“Supper for 5,000” (Matthew 14:1-21)

9:15 AM Music Prelude

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Acts 2: 1-6, 12-21; Psalm 20: 1-7; John 15: 26-16:1 and 7-15

Lector Bob Mulford

Crucifer Leslie Mulford

Flowers Jim & Sharon Chibidakis

Cookies No Fellowship today due to Stevenson graduation

Altar Care Martha Jordan

Ushers Sandy and Bob Rice

Sermon the Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

Title “Spirit is Everything”

Sunday, May 31, 2015 — New Members received and luncheon for them at the Manse after the service.

Tuesday, June 2, Small Study Group at Ruth Gleisner’s 10:15-11:30.
Ken Feske leading, “The Power of Blessing,” Luke 2: 21-40