

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, October 2, 2017

Dear Friends,

Considering Sunday night's deranged massacre in Las Vegas, the words of Psalm 103 (our text for this Sunday) ring with special power: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. The Psalmist goes on to celebrate God's forgiveness, healing, redemption, coronation of love and compassion, and satisfaction with the goodness of life.

Forgetfulness atrophies the muscles of praise and leaves them flabby and passive. Remembrance internalizes a history of grace and strengthens praise so we act in a renewing way.

Creator God, we come to you in confusion. Our minds argue with our hearts, and we are full of fear and questions. More than anything we need your blessed assurance. We ask that you be with the families of those involved in the tragedy of Sunday night's horror in Las Vegas. We are your children God, and we like things in neat packages. None of this makes sense, Lord. We invite your Holy Spirit to come and comfort us, find us mindful of your benefits, as well as those in Las Vegas. Be with your children, O God. Amen.

See you Sunday!



The Rev. Ken Feske

Consider making your relationship with Church in the Forest "official"! You don't have to give up membership in another church—just contact the office at citf@mbay.net (831-624-1374) and then come to church on **Sunday, October 8**, for a simple ritual of fellowship during the worship service. Plan on joining our leaders for a fun brunch following at the Pastor's Manse, 2912 Ransford Avenue, Pacific Grove.

Small Groups are gatherings where CitF members and new friends can explore questions of faith and deepen fellowship. These groups are open to visitors who wish to find out more and experience a meeting.

- The *Small Group Bible Study* meets every Sunday at **8:30 AM** in the Multi-purpose Room. This study will link with our new sermon series, using Eugene Peterson's *Psalms: Prayer of the Heart*. Purchase your book from **Ken** (KenFeske@comcast.net), or at your bookseller.
- The *Small Group Study* led by the **Rev. Ken Feske** meets on the **Tuesday, October 17, 10:15-11:30 am**.
- The *Men's Small Group*, led by **Bob Axley** and **John Thorbeck**, will meet **Thursday, October 5, 10-11:30 AM**, in the Multipurpose Room. Please contact **Bob Axley** for more information: rjaxley@aol.com or 214-384-1023
- A *Small Group* for those who are grieving, led by the **Rev. Dr. William Rolland**, our minister emeritus and an expert in grief counseling, will meet on **Thursday, October 5, 1:30-3:00 pm**. Please contact **Dr. Rolland** if you have any questions at wnbr727@gmail.com or call 831-229-2099.
- While our *Soul Sisters Small Group* is full, would you like to join *Soul Sisters II*? Please contact **Pastor Joanne** (Joanne@churchintheforest.org).

Missed a recent church service? Want to listen again to a sermon? Go to our podcasts: <http://churchintheforest.org/worship-service-podcast.html>

Calendar

Sunday	October 8, 2017 — Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	Reception of New Members
8:30 AM	Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske Topic: Psalm 103
9:15 AM	Chapel Concertino
9:30 AM	Morning Prayer
Passages	Isaiah 58: 8-12; Psalm 103; Matthew 15: 1-11
	Lector Dennis Riley
	Crucifer Marilyn Gorman
	Ushers Bob & Leslie Mulford
	Cookies Marilyn Webb
	Flowers Bob & Judy Fletcher
	Altar Care Andrea Thatcher and Shirley Temple
	Coffee Hour Hosts CitF Hospitality Team
Sermon	The Rev. Ken Feske
Title	"Real Spirituality ~ A Sermon Series on Psalms" This Sunday: "The Contours of Praise"

Music Box

OCTOBER 8, 2017

**David Gordon, voice & guitar
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano and organ**

CHAPEL CONCERTINO

- Snow on the WaterJoel Mabus (b. 1953)
- It's Almost Time.....David Wilcox (b. 1958)
- Give Yourself to Love..... Kate Wolf (1942-1986)
- Amazing Grace lyrics by John Newton (1725-1807)
- Why Walk When You Can FlyMary Chapin Carpenter (b. 1958)

While growing up in Pennsylvania, tenor David Gordon attended the John Deere Tractor Festival Parade as all reasonable people there did. He took accordion lessons for cultural growth, and would have become good enough to perform in the parade when he was older had he not seen his teacher riding on a flatbed truck in the festival, playing with the dignity peculiar to an accordion. Perversely (you know how young men are), he lost interest in the instrument and never went back for another lesson. He seemed satisfied instead to become a classical performing and recording vocal artist with a distinguished international reputation, a sort of consolation prize for not making it to the top on the accordion. For many years he was the featured tenor soloist with the Carmel Bach Festival, later becoming planner and dramaturge, which he still is. Almost three years ago, he and his wife Ginna moved from Carmel to Jacksonville, Oregon, where he now gives sellout performances of American vocal music, accompanying himself on guitar. Every summer he returns to Carmel to guide the Bach Festival programming, to act as dramaturge (he does the supertitles at the performances, translating from German, French and Italian to beautiful, charming English), and supervise and teach the Virginia Best Adams vocal master classes. He is absolutely without peer in his ability to coach a singer at ANY level gently and with humor and make him or her better in a single session. He is the author of two books: Carmel Impresarios—A cultural biography of Dene Denny and Hazel Watrous (2014), and The Little Bach Book (2017). He gives charming, intimate concerts into which he and his guitar softly weave songs, poetry, history and personal reflections, delicately laced with humor, sometimes self-deprecating, sometimes twisted, always warm. The Boston Globe described him as “stirringly poetic, singing with deep spirituality and glowing beauty.” And the Washington Post: “a model of style and charm, and a irresistible performer.” (That’s as may be, but you and I know that somewhere there is a disappointed accordion teacher, and I’m certainly glad I don’t have to carry that kind of guilt around.) If you think we are conspicuously privileged to have him sing here today, who am I to disagree.

Melinda Coffey Armstead



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Address service requested

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This past Sunday, Church in the Forest celebrated St. Francis Sunday with the Blessing of the Animals. Enjoy some pictures of the event! — Photos: Art Grater & Arlen Lackey

