

Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School • 3152 Forest Lake Rd.
P. O. Box 1027 • Pebble Beach, CA 93953 • 831.624.1374
admin@churchintheforest.org • www.churchintheforest.org

Monday morning, December 3, 2018

Dear Friends,

Can you recall how your babies sang to themselves as they awoke? And some babies sing themselves to sleep! Here's a wonderful [video showing just that!](#) (Watch for 46 seconds, to the end!)


Singing begins in babyhood and extends to life's last stages. When visiting parishioners who are dying and seemingly unresponsive, I sing hymns to them. Sometimes they actually join in. They may be barely mouthing the words and tunes—but singing they are! And those caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's can attest that they frequently hum and sing to themselves.

We become who we are through singing—from dotting parents who sing to us; to romantic ballads that capture the intensity of first love; to the protest anthems that voice our outrage. A world of intimacy and identity is evoked by the power of singing.

This Sunday we'll consider Mary's acceptance of God's invitation to bear his son. How could Mary accept this frightening and unfathomable task? She had lived all her life in a love song with God.

If God seems distant to you, an abstract proposition, or even an intellectual error, you can find and fall in love with a personal God. Mary's love song will guide our way.

See you Sunday,



The Reverend Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.

Many thanks to all who have volunteered to help ring the Salvation Army bell at the Post Office this Advent season.

Calendar

Sunday December 9, 2018 — 2nd Sunday in Advent

9:00 AM Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Reverend Ken Feske. Topic: Luke 1: 26–35

9:45 AM Chapel Concertino

10:00 AM Morning Prayer

Passages Exodus 40: 1–2; 34–38; Psalm 89: 1–7; Luke 1: 26–35

Lector Bob Mulford **Crucifer** Rae Janzen

Fellowship Carle Mowell and Linda Banner

Flowers Lloyd Nattkemper

Ushers Jack Davis and Linda Banner

Altar Care Martha Jordan, Linda Hanel, Linda Mackie, Ruth Horn

Sermon The Reverend Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.

Title Sermon Series: *The Songs of Christmas*

This Sunday: “*A Love Song*”

SAVE THE DATE: *Chapel Christmas Decorating Party*, Join the fun on **Saturday, December 8, 11 AM.**

Mark your calendar: **Christmas Eve** concertino at **5:30 PM** and service at **6:00 PM**. **Christmas Day** concertino at **9:45 AM** and service at **10:00 AM**.

In this season of celebration, please celebrate God's work at our church by pledging your support for 2019. You can find pledge cards at church each Sunday. Please pray about your commitment and then complete the card, depositing it in the collection plate or mailing it to the church office. Your pledge enables us to plan for the coming year—salaries, music, fellowship gatherings, books, chapel decor, and more—the “more” God will reveal and your gift will enable!

SMALL GROUPS: *These are gatherings where CitF members and friends can explore faith and deepen fellowship.*

- The *Small Group Bible Study* is held **each Sunday at 9:00 AM** in the Multipurpose Room where the topic is the sermon Bible lesson of the day.
- The *Men's Small Group Bible Study* gathers **December 6, 10–11:30 AM** in the Multipurpose Room, studying the life of King David (1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings) with inspiration from the Eugene Peterson book, “Leap Over a Wall.”
- *Women's Bible Study* meets **in a new location December 20, 10:30 AM–12:00**, at **Crema**, 481 Lighthouse, Pacific Grove. Always free and newcomers welcome.
- *CitF Women's Small Groups* meet regularly for confidential sharing, accountability and prayer. Please contact **Pastor Joanne** for more information.
- The *Church in the Forest Book Club* resumes on **January 18, 5:30 PM** for wine, refreshments; **6 PM** discussion of Trevor Noah's bestseller, “Born a Crime.” 549 Hillcrest Ave, Pacific Grove.

Music Box

ADVENT II — DECEMBER 9, 2018

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

CHAPEL CONCERTINO FOR ADVENT II

My Favorite Things..... R. Rodgers & O. Hammerstein
The Christmas Song..... R. Wells & Mel Torme
Sweet Little Jesus Boy Robert MacGimsey
I Wonder as I Wander..... Appalachian carol; arr. John Jacob Niles
Little Star of Bethlehem..... Charles Ives; arr. Christopher J. Hoh
O Come, O Come, Emmanuelarr. Francesca Battistelli
Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich herFriedrich W. Zachau
(1663-1712)

Christmas hath a darkness
Brighter than the blazing noon;
Christmas hath a chilliness
Warmer than the heart of June;
Christmas hath a beauty
Lovelier than the world can show

—Christina Rossetti

Melinda Coffey Armstead



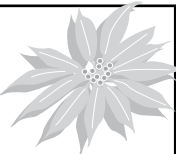
Church in the Forest

3152 Forest Lake Road, Pebble Beach
P.O.Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953

Address service requested

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

It's that time of year again! Please use this form to order a Poinsettia for our Christmas decorations. The cost is \$10 per plant and you may order more than one. Please fill out the order form below and return it with the appropriate amount. Donor:



In Memory of/ In Celebration of/ or Thanksgiving for (please circle):

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 28
Pebble Beach, CA
93953