

**Music Box**

— MAY 27, 2012 —

**Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano and organ**

*Prelude for “The Greatest Generation”*

The Marines’ Hymn, the wild blue Yonder, Caisson Song Anchors Aweigh, Sentimental Journey, Til We Meet Again, Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree, Moonlight Serenade, I’ll See You in My Dreams, Bless ‘em All, It’s a Lovely Day Tomorrow, For All We Know, Now Is the Hour, We’ll Meet Again, I’ll Be Seeing You, You’ll Never Know, Comin’ In On a Wing and a Prayer, Side By Side

Prelude on “Melita” ..... John Dykes, arr. by Roger Wilson  
(Eternal Father, Strong to Save)

God Bless America .....Irving Berlin (1888-1989)

“Oh, we ain’t got a barrel of money, maybe we’re ragged and funny, but we’ll travel along, singin’ a song, side by side. Don’t know what’s comin’ tomorrow, maybe it’s trouble and sorrow, but we’ll travel the road, sharin’ our load, side by side.”

—Harry Woods (1927)

As a “Navy Brat” (my Dad joined the Navy at age 16 and became a submariner in the Pacific Fleet) I learned our family history through the indelible stories told by my mother and grandmother. People were often identified by their connections with the great wars that form the backbone of our nation’s history. Great-great-great-etc... uncles in the Revolutionary War, at the Alamo, the Civil War, WWI, and of greatest personal importance, WWII. On the frequent automobile migrations we made from east to west coasts and back, we would often sing. Picture four kids, two adults, a Siamese cat, snacks, luggage, bedding, stifling heat, no air conditioning and no radio. And (though you may find this hard to believe) after eight hours, open conflict was not that uncommon. “Quit it! Mom, make him stop. I didn’t do anything. Yes you did, no I didn’t, she started it.” Then, “If you kids don’t behave you’re going to get out and walk.” Singing was a pleasant way to ease tension and pass the time remembering “the olden days” before we were born, brought to life by songs of separation, longing, courage and hope; of brave men who risked, and often gave, everything; of brave women left behind to work and hold family life together until Dad came home and we were once more “Side by Side.”

*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 [citf@mbay.net](mailto: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 21, 2012

Dear members and friends,

This coming Sunday is both the celebration of Pentecost in accordance with the Ecclesiastical Calendar, when we think of the Great Spirit of the universe working on our behalf and it is also Memorial Day Weekend, when we think of and give thanks for the spirit of protection and care that many have given in the form of laying down their lives for their nation, family and friends. With that in mind, here are some thoughts for us to ponder:

Nikos Kazantzakis gives us a disturbing and beautiful story in his book, *The Last Temptation of Christ*. There is an unforgettable scene between Jesus and John. They are sitting high above the Jordan in the hollow of a rock, where they have been arguing all night long about what to do with the world. John's face is hard and decisive. From time to time his arms go up and down as though he were chopping something apart. Jesus' face, in contrast, is hesitant and tame. His eyes are full of compassion. "Isn't love enough?" Jesus asks. "No," John answers angrily. "The tree is rotten. God called me and gave me the ax, which I then placed at the roots of the tree. I did my duty. Now you do yours; take the ax and strike!" Jesus says, "If I were fire, I would burn. If I were a woodcutter, I would strike; but I am a heart, and I love."

The divine fire was kindled on Pentecost Day. In the fire of the Spirit that invaded the hearts of people that day, there was also an answer to the question raised by suffering. The disciples had suffered. Their leader had suffered. He died a terrible death. He shocked them by coming back from the grave. Then he left a

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second time. His followers were brokenhearted, wondering how they were going to live with such a crushing blow. The wind and fire and Spirit were the answer. It is still the same on this day of remembrance and Spirit.

See you in church,



William B. Rolland

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Annual General Meeting of the Congregation this Sunday following the morning service.

Chanticleer, America's A Cappella Pride and Joy Since 1978, "Mission Road" Concert series will perform at the Carmel Mission on June 7th. For details and ticketing information call: 415-392-4400 or visit [www.chanticleer.org](http://www.chanticleer.org)

## Calendar

**Sunday, May 27, 2012**

**8:30 AM** Bible Study with Charles Anker. Topic: 1 Peter 2: 18-25  
The Duty of Christians as Servants

**9:15 AM** Music Prelude

**9:30 AM** Morning Prayer

**Passages** Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Psalm 20: 1-9; John 15: 26, 27 16:4-15

**Lector** Theo Fowler

**Crucifer** Vicki Spranza

**Flowers** Trudie McEwen

**Cookies** No coffee hour due to Stevenson graduation

**Altar Care** Martha Jordan

**Ushers** Wim and Tonneke van der Linden

**Sermon** The Rev. Dr. William B. Rolland

**Title** Spirit is everything!

**Today, 3:00 PM,** Stevenson School Graduation

**Sunday, June 3,** Trinity Sunday—**Annual Meeting of the Congregation**