

# The Messenger

First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove



2019

Sunday Worship  
9:30 am

11832 Euclid Street  
Garden Grove, CA  
92840

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## *Pastor Cynthia's Reflections*

### **GRATITUDE AND GOODBYE**

by Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney



I want you to know how grateful I am that I have had the privilege of being the Transitional Pastor of such a wonderful, faithful, compassionate, and loving congregation for the past 15 months. God called me here to walk with you in this season of discernment. In the midst of much change in the world, Orange County, and our neighborhood since FPCGG started, there are constants of meaningful worship, faithful discipleship, deep friendships, commitment to spiritual growth, and serving neighbors near and far.

As I prepare to move to Northern California and begin my new ministry as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in San Rafael, I have many emotions. I will miss you. I am sad to leave you even though I am looking forward to my new call.

Here are a few things I see:

**You care deeply about one another.** You show genuine caring for one another. It never was solely my responsibility as the pastor to provide care and support. You pray for one another. You offer help like meals, rides, visits, cards, calls and prayers.

**You bring authentic joy** and hope to people in the congregation and community. That comes through in worship services, the Shower Ministry, and activities.

**You have committed leaders and helpers.** God may be calling you to serve as an Elder or Deacon or work alongside the Session and Board of Deacons. Talk with Rev. Jack Loo or Nominating Committee Chair Elaine Eads. I also see people in the church able and willing to lead worship and organize events.

(continued, page 2)

**The Messenger** is published monthly to inform members and friends of church news, upcoming events, and "food for thought".

**Deadline** for contributions is the **10th** of each month.

Contributions are subject to editing with regard to subject matter, space requirements, and *timely* submission. The Editors and Staff appreciate your kind and thoughtful cooperation.

For weekly updates, please come to Worship Service each Sunday morning to receive your copy of the Bulletin with announcements.



**Worship begins at 9:30 am**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3  
COMMUNION**

**“Don’t Touch the Brakes”  
Matthew 16:13-19**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
GUEST PREACHER  
Rev. Margery McIntosh**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT  
“Too Big for Human Hands”  
Matthew 17:14-20**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
“Kindergarten Lessons”  
Matthew 18:1-14**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
“Mend What Is Broken”  
Matthew 18:15-20**

Rev. Jack Loo, Pulpit Supply

***Pastor Cynthia's Reflections***  
(continued from page 1)

**You like to eat together!** This is true of most churches, but clearly people here enjoy eating together, whether treats after worship, all-church lunches, men's and women's luncheons, book club, or special outings.

**You have a sense of humor about life, faith, and church.** That is a sign of a healthy church! You appreciate humor in worship, sermons, and events. This humor flows because people have found the joy of new life in Christ and a welcoming church home.

**You have an excellent staff.** Denise, Marilyn, Mike and Tom all use their gifts and skills to help the church reflect Christ's love seven days a week.

**You are wondering about the future of the church.** God will guide you into the next chapter. We can trust in God's goodness and love. The answers are not clear yet. Rev. Jack Loo and Los Ranchos Presbytery staff will be resources for you. Take part in the conversations about what is next and how you can work together.

So I invite you to:

- Recommit to being in worship often.
- Celebrate what God is doing now in FPCGG and be involved.
- Pray for the church as you discern where God is leading.

Thank you and thank God for bringing us together.

Grace and  
peace,  
***Cynthia***





## SAYING THANK YOU AND GOODBYE TO TRANSITIONAL PASTOR CYNTHIA COCHRAN-CARNEY

Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney came to First Presbyterian Church Garden Grove as a Temporary Pastor on November 20, 2017, became our Transitional Pastor on May 21, 2018, and has just accepted a new call to become Head of Staff at San Rafael First Presbyterian Church.

FPCGG said an official goodbye after her final sermon on February 24, 2019. Following a memorable video presentation picturing our many and varied times together, the congregation moved to the Choir Room for a taste of celebratory cake and some last moments of sharing.



Above: Cynthia and her husband Rev. Jeffrey Cochran-Carney as they sang "You're the Only One" during the Offertory. Right: Cynthia and Jeffrey in the Choir Room before the cake was cut.

### RECENT WORSHIP GUEST MUSICIANS



Pictured at left are Pastor Cynthia Cochran-Carney and her nephew Brendan Rief. They sang "Seek Ye First" during the Offertory on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Pictured below are members of the Calvary Church Choir and Director Helen Weed; they graciously served as guest musicians at FPCGG worship on Sunday morning, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Helen Weed also spoke about her experiences as Chancel Choir Director and Youth Choir Director here (remember the "Sounds of Love" summer choir tours and all the marvelous musical performances!). Helen grew to Christian maturity at FPCGG, and her parents Bruce and Cecile Weed are long-standing members.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME**  
starts **March 10, 2019**,  
moving the clock ahead one hour.  
The official start time is 2 am,  
so most people will "spring forward"  
before they go to bed Saturday night.  
**If you forget to "spring forward,"**  
**you may be LATE for worship!**



### **Take Note!**

by Marilyn N. Stiltz, Music Director, FPCGG



### **A PRELUDE**

A Short Quiz: Fill in the blanks. 5 points for each correct answer.

1. When does the Sunday Service begin? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Enjoy the \_\_\_ S \_\_\_ and open up to the S \_\_\_\_\_ around us.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_ decides what the Prelude will be.

*Answer: 1. When you wake up Sunday Morning*

I have no idea why a Sanctuary is a holy place, but... it is. In every church where I've played, the air simply feels different in the space of worship. You probably haven't noticed, but before every service, I say a short prayer that the music which I play will enrich your worship experience.

When I wake up on Sunday morning, I am mindful of the responsibility placed on me. I want to look professional, yet welcoming. I review the rehearsal strategies that I'll use during choir rehearsal. I wonder if I'll see the butterfly on the wall or not. I pray that some manifestation of the Holy Trinity will work through me during service. That is my goal. This begins with the Prelude.

*2. Answer: MUSIC / SPIRIT.*

The purpose of the Prelude is to guide the congregation in centering and focusing on the vast greatness of God. It is 5 minutes of cleansing, putting aside worldly strife, and preparing for enlightenment, fellowship. I am not playing to provide a short concert, or showcase virtuosity, but rather, to guide you who are in the pews.

*Answer: 3. PIANIST*

It takes me about 45 minutes (usually on Saturday) to select the Prelude, plus an additional 30 - 45 minutes to practice it. When I graduated from college (Bachelor Music Ed. Organ/Church Music) I was an elitist; all music that I was able to choose would be from the great old [(and very dead) composers - Bach, Brahms, Walcha, Vivaldi, etc.] I avoided "religious" music, because I wanted to enlighten and educate whichever church where I was playing.

Over the years, my focus has changed. Now, I strive for connectivity, continuity. I take time to read the scripture passages, ponder the sermon topic, and try to find music which fits. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Cynthia's last Sunday with FPCGG, I played arrangements of two hymns: "He Leadeth Me" and "Forward in His Name". I considered "Exodus" but didn't find an arrangement that I liked.

Other considerations in selecting the Prelude each week are: arrangements of any of the service music; I like to provide a hint of what's to come. If a hymn is new, or less familiar, I like to play it during the Prelude, to get a sense of the song into your ears. I also look at world / atmospheric / local events (Patriotic? Rain Down? Once in a while (very rarely), I'll play part of the choir anthem! More on that in a couple of months.

Some Sunday, when you're feeling quiet, or a bit low, I invite you to focus on God's love during the Prelude; that is where I am when I'm playing the piano at 9:25 am.

**Next month: Take Note! The Praise / Gathering Songs**



## YOUNG-AT-HEART MUSEUM OUTING SUNDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>

Grab a friend and join our Young-At-Heart journey into Orange County history at **1:30 pm, Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**, as we tour Stanley Ranch Museum and Historical Village, 12174 Euclid St., Garden Grove. Parking is conveniently on site. Allow 1-2 hours to walk the grounds and tour 17 historic buildings for a suggested \$5 donation. Please contact Joan Mildenstein, coordinator, (714.539.1034), so that she can tell our tour guide how many of us to expect.

The Garden Grove Historical Society owns and maintains this impressive museum snugly tucked in amongst modern track housing just south of the church. The Stanley Ranch Museum and Historical Village consists of a 2-acre plot packed with 17 historic buildings, some replicas and others original. Each building is uniquely themed with accompanying artifacts. Many of these structures and relics date back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Our tour will likely begin with the beautiful Ware-Stanley House, which was built in 1891 by Edward G. Ware. The porch was restored to its original state, complete with its charming gingerbread trim, after having been a bathroom for much of the 1900's. The house was passed on through the generations. Its most noted occupant and owner was Agnes Ware Stanley. Agnes was well known for being a highly educated woman for the times. The home is filled with many of the family's belongings, including a hot-coal-heated foot warmer and a vacuum cleaner (the user pumped the handle to produce suction at the base), a nifty antique "fridge" featuring a spigot on its side to pour cold water (melted from the ice blocks in the icebox), and a 124-year-old pump organ which can still be played.

Another impressive building is the Fire Station, a replica of the station originally located on Garden Grove Boulevard. The station is a one-story building with a garage, office, and accommodations for the firemen. The building displays old firemen suits, outmoded fire control artifacts, and an original fire hose, which is slung within a small tower, as it would have been for drying. The Fire Station provides shelter for a magnificent 1926 La France fire truck. The Garden Grove Fireman's Association maintains the truck, which is still drivable to this day, but only by the firemen.

The Disney Garage is likely the most famous structure on the property, particularly with Disney fans. The one-car garage sat behind the home of Walt Disney's uncle and was the first workplace where Disney practiced animation starting back in 1923. A group called the "Friends of Walt Disney" donated the garage to the Garden Grove Historical Society in 1984. It is now filled with a collection of Disney memorabilia and animation-related apparatuses, including an antique film projector.

The Barber Shop and Electric Shoe Shop structure features a collection of barber tools and electric shoe manufacturing machinery used by the former owners of the building. The building also displays dental equipment and medical devices, including a few items belonging to Garden Grove's long-time physician Dr. Violette. Other buildings to be visited are the General Store, Schoolhouse, Post Office, Schnittger House, and Emerson Hall.



**SUNDAY, MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>, YOUNG-AT-HEART THEATER OUTING  
TO ENJOY OLD ACQUAINTANCE AT WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE**

Westminster Community Playhouse, 7272 Maple Street, Westminster, CA 92683, features a community theatre experience in an intimate U-shaped 125 seat setting — not a bad seat in the house! Free parking is close and plentiful. This Sunday matinee begins at 2:00 pm; tickets are \$15 each; strive to arrive at least 15 minutes early!

*Old Acquaintance* by John van Druten is a Hollywood classic that tackles the boundaries of friendship and the true meaning behind the word “frenemy”. The dramedy is about two childhood best friends who, as adults, are now dealing with success and love on their own terms. Both become well-known authors, but when they get a chance to reunite, their simmering professional rivalry tests their manners and friendship.



FPCGG friends will plan to carpool to Westminster to enjoy the drama. We have reserved 25 tickets for this event, to be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets can be secured with a check made out to First Presbyterian Church or exact cash. Gather your friends and share the fun!

Contact Wayne and Sharon Wolfe at home phone (714.540.2746) or Wayne’s cell at (714.342.4331) or email at [wayashar@aol.com](mailto:wayashar@aol.com).

**Group Outing**

**FINANCIAL NEWS**

by Administrative Ministry



Here are the numbers!

Commitments and Regular Giving Income as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019:

YTD 2019 Actual	\$ 7,209.00
YTD 2019 Anticipated	<u>\$ 7,043.00</u>
YTD Difference	\$ 166.00

Thank you for fulfilled commitments!

Financial Update as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, for total income and expenses:

YTD 2019 Income	\$ 22,894.39
YTD 2019 Expense	<u>\$ 19,549.46</u>
YTD Difference	\$ 3,344.93

Ahead as we begin!

Your Session is diligently striving to keep expenses reasonable. As this new year begins, we pray that God will continue to bless our ministries as we give generously beyond ourselves — our time, our energies, and our financial resources.



## FPCGG LADIES AND GENTLEMEN ENJOY SEPARATE MONTHLY LUNCHES!

The guys started the tradition of meeting once a month to share lunch and talk informally about those topics they enjoy. They had such a good time that the gals decided to copy their play book and have their own lunch, at the same time. This month the two groups are experimenting with meeting in the same room, just at separate tables, at Oggi's, at the intersection of Chapman Avenue and Harbor Blvd. in

Garden Grove. The meeting date is the third Friday of the month at 11:30 am. We order from the menu when all have arrived. **Strive to be on time!** Oggi's will provide individual checks for each diner.

**The March plan is to have lunch on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 am.** If you plan to join one of the groups, please contact the designated person to make reservations by Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, so that the restaurant can plan enough seating. If you need a ride or can give a ride, please let them know so they can match you together.

Ladies, please call Joan Mildenstein at 714.539.1034 to reserve your spot.  
Gentlemen, please contact Wayne Wolfe at (714.342.4331) or wayashar@aol.com.

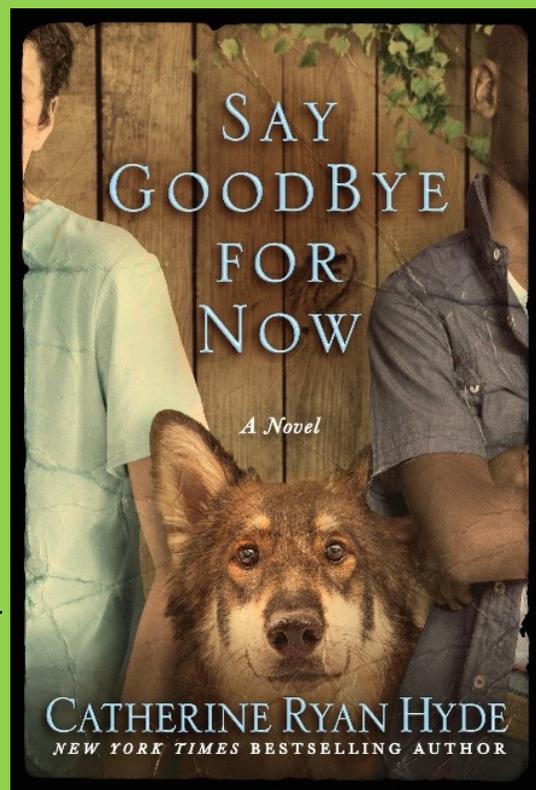
Lunch will be at Oggi's Pizza and Brewing Company, 12362 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove (714.534.3599). **Let us get together to share enjoyable Christian fellowship!  
Come—and bring a friend!**

## READ WHAT REALLY MAKES A FAMILY!

Join the March reading journey with the FPCGG Book Club as this month they tackle master storyteller Catherine Ryan Hyde's *Say Goodbye For Now*. Hyde interweaves a story of highly charged topics: a heartbreaking, forbidden love in the 1950's-60's of South Texas; untraditional families; racial tension; animals; and the chance meetings of four unique souls drawn together by an unbreakable bond whose lives will be enriched by one another. Experience when love plays a part in letting go, when saying, "*Goodbye For Now*" may not be forever, but "...until we meet again".

Won't you join the challenge to read *Say Goodbye For Now* and then come to share your perceptions with the group who will gather around a table in the back room at Marie Callender's at 13252 Brookhurst in Garden Grove on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm. Couples and singles choose from the menu (possibility including a sinfully-delicious piece of pie), and share ideas of other good books to read and interesting conversation on a whole range of interests.

Direct your questions and RSVP to: Joan Mildenstein, (714.539.1034).





## WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR CHURCH?

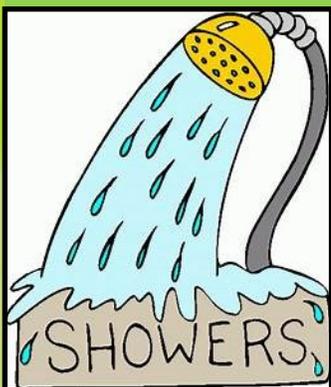
by Transition Team Members Sharon and Wayne Wolfe

FPCGG is officially without a contracted pastor as of March 1<sup>st</sup> because Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney has accepted a new full-time call in San Rafael. Therefore, we are currently being shepherded in the pastor-seeking process by Rev. Forrest Claassen, Los Ranchos Presbytery Co-Executive and Stated Clerk for Governance and Congregational Leadership, and Rev. Jack Loo, FPCGG liaison to the Los Ranchos Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM). Both Forrest and Jack attended our last Session Meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 10<sup>th</sup>. FPCGG's need for a pastor will be discussed at the COM meeting the first full week of March. Stay tuned for further details after COM has determined them.

For the present, Rev. Jack Loo has graciously agreed to take on emergency pastoral duties, several immediate planning tasks, and preach on Sunday mornings through the end of April. Pastor Jack will be in the pulpit each of those Sundays except for March 10<sup>th</sup>, when he had a prior commitment; Rev. Margery McIntosh has agreed to be our Guest Preacher on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

FPCGG is grateful to Rev. Jack Loo for the nine months he provided insightful sermons and continuity for worship before Pastor Cynthia accepted our invitation to be Temporary Pastor in November of 2017. Many of us are looking forward to worshipping under his leadership again. We trust that all of our worshipping community will be on hand to welcome Jack on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 9:30 am.

**“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,  
plans for your welfare ... to give you a future with hope.”  
(Jeremiah 29:11)**



## SHOWER PLUS MINISTRY STATISTICS FOR 4 WEEKS OF JANUARY 2019

(a total of 8 days)

**Total showers taken: 395** (duplicated individuals; approximately 50 unique individuals each day)

**Total breakfasts served: 456** (duplicated individuals; approximately 57 unique individuals daily)

**Number of participants who were new to us: 28** (unique individuals)

**Number of volunteer hours donated: 353** (a value of \$3,883.00,  
\$11.00 per hour, CA minimum wage)

**Bakery Donations from Costco: approximate value, 1,532.79**

**Food Finders, St. Jude's Hospital Fullerton, Donation: 610 lbs. of pre-cooked food**

## BREAD OF LIFE



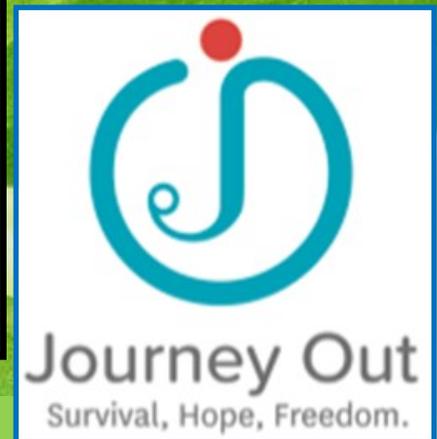
### BREAD OF LIFE DONATIONS

Non-perishable food items are collected monthly. These gifts are then shared with H.O.P.E., a Garden Grove organization which helps families who are hungry and hurting. Requested donations for March's Bread of Life program: **canned soup**  
Thank you for your generosity!



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

5 Diane Heng  
25 David Rice  
28 Tanner Kural



### “MUNCHIES FOR MISSION”

**March Focus: Journey Out (formerly Mary Magdalene Project)**  
by Outreach Ministry

After Sunday worship, as we gather in the Choir Room for fellowship, coffee and punch, we also may enjoy sweet treats from the “Munchies for Mission” table. Those goodies are donated each week; the binder with the upcoming calendar of volunteer sign-ups is on that table, along with a donations basket. Those cash donations (augmented by the Deacons’ Fund to reach \$150 monthly) are sent to a designated local nonprofit organization at the end of the month. In March, those “Munchies for Mission” moneys will be given to Journey Out.

Journey Out (formerly The Mary Magdalene Project) is a Los Angeles-based nonprofit leading the fight for the freedom and survival of all those whose lives have been destroyed by sex trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation. They’ve changed their name but not their mission. Their mission is to help victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking leave a life of abuse and violence, overcome their fears, and empower them to reach their full potential and achieve their goals.

A multi-faceted support system is provided for those who make the difficult journey out of an existence of abuse and violence. Journey Out provides the critical tools and support necessary for women to help them break free from commercial sexual exploitation and rebuild their lives. And, to ensure younger women and girls never enter the life, they provide diversion programs focused on knowledge and empowerment. Survival, Hope, Freedom, the three most basic and necessary steps: Survival is leaving the violence and abuse behind; Hope is believing there is a better (safer, healthier) way to live; Freedom is knowing you are in control of your life and your future.

Every person Journey Out has served is not only an individual success story, but also an illustration of the contribution Journey Out makes to the fabric of the communities, and to the fast-growing movement to end sexual exploitation. Contact information: 7136 Haskell Ave Suite 125, Van Nuys, CA 91406; Tel: 818-988-4970; [info@journeyout.org](mailto:info@journeyout.org).

**UPCOMING FPCGG EVENTS, MARCH 2019 FORWARD**



Sunday	March 3	9:30 am	Rev. Jack Loo, preaching
Tuesday	March 5	12:00 noon	Outreach Ministry meeting
Wednesday	March 6		Ash Wednesday, Lent begins
Sunday	March 10		<b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</b>
		9:30 am	Rev. Margery McIntosh, preaching
		2:00 pm	<i>The Acquaintance</i> at Westminster Playhouse
Friday	March 15	11:30 am	Men's and Women's Luncheons, both meeting at Oggi's
Sunday	March 17	11:00 am	Deacons' Meeting scheduled
Tuesday	March 19	5:00 pm	FPCGG Book Club
Sunday	March 24	11:00 am	Session Meeting scheduled
Sunday	April 7	1:30 pm	Young-At-Heart Tour of Stanley Ranch
Sunday	May 19	2:00 pm	<i>South Pacific</i> at Westminster Playhouse
Wednesday	June 5	11:00 am	Young-At-Heart lunch/visit to Santa Ana Zoo
Saturday	July 20	2:00 pm	<i>Westside Story</i> at the GEM Theater, GG

**PLEASE HELP!**

**REQUEST FOR BLANK NOTECARDS**

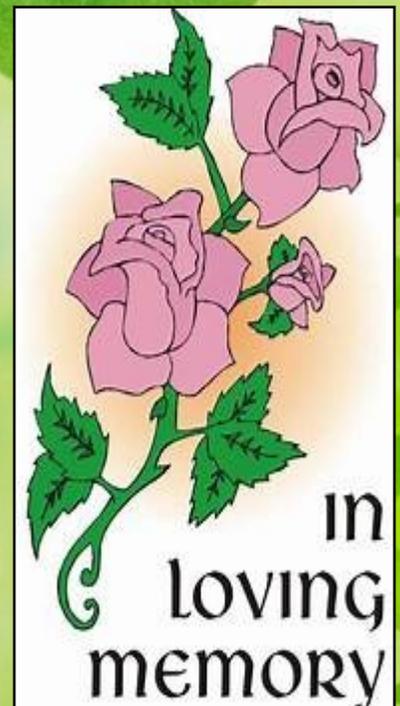
by Joan Mildenstein, Temporary Moderator, Board of Deacons



Your Deacons do a variety of things within our ministry of service to our church and community. One of them is to remember our homebound or shut-in members. We strive to write personal notes to them on a regular basis. Those notes are sent by first class mail; they greet our friends and also remind them of familiar activities which continue to happen surrounding their church. Unfortunately, we have run out of the attractive picture-cover, inside blank cards that we use. If you get any that you won't use through mailings, please consider donating them to us. You could place them in the Deacons' mail slot in the outer church office, or just hand them to me personally. Thank you very much!

Member Deloris Johnson died on January 19, 2019. Her church family celebrated with her at her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday last September. Deloris, a U.S. Navy widow with four young children, joined FPCGG in 1959. During her years with us, she was ordained and served faithfully as both an Elder and a Deacon. A Celebration of Life was held in the FPCGG Sanctuary on January 29<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Cynthia Cochran-Carney officiating. Internment was at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego.

Former member Eleanor Baker Daughtry died on January 23<sup>rd</sup>; she would have been 104 years old in July. Eleanor and her first husband David Baker joined FPCGG in 1955; they raised a son and daughter here. Eleanor was founding pastor Rev. Tom Gillespie's secretary for years, she was a member of the Building Committee in charge of the FPCGG Sanctuary dedicated in 1965, and an ordained Elder. Two years after Dave died in 1976, Eleanor married Walter Daughtry, who also joined FPCGG. After Walt died in 1996, Eleanor eventually decided to relocate to be closer to family and moved to San Mateo. A Celebration of Life and Resurrection was held February 16<sup>th</sup> at the First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame, California.



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**SONIA RICOTTI**