



*Now may the Lord of peace himself
give you peace at all times and in every way.
The Lord be with all of you.*

2nd Thessalonians 3: 16

Bridges: Part 1

*"I will always remember—when the stars fell down around me and
Lifted me up above the George Washington Bridge."*

—Faith Ringgold—

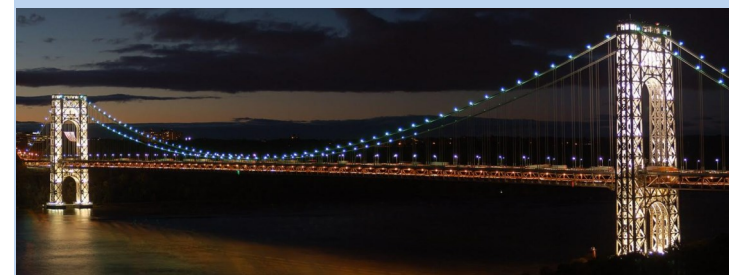


Faith Ringgold

Faith Ringgold is an American painter, writer, mixed media sculptor, narrative quilter, performance artist, and activist who was born in Harlem, NY in 1930. Over the last month I have been discovering her work and came across the quote that I highlighted in the introduction. There is something about her words that viscerally taps into that part of me that still lights up whenever I think about crossing the George Washington Bridge. Ironically, this famous suspension bridge was completed 91 years ago when Faith Ringgold was but an infant with its anchoring cables boring into the borough that Faith called home.



My experience with this venerable structure was formed as I spent the first part of my life traveling up and down Interstate 95 between Connecticut and Maryland. Nothing topped the anticipatory feeling when nearing the bridge from the New York side. There is a brief underground highway section that transverses a slender part of Manhattan Island between the Harlem and Hudson rivers. Near the end of this shadowed journey, there is something absolutely magical when emerging from the dark, and having my pupil adjusting eyes take in the luminous majesty of the crisscrossing steel that make



up the exposed truss work of the bridges' towers. Like ancient Rhodes, cars traveled between its colossal metal legs which appeared like pillars that extended into the heavens. To this day, whether washed by sunlight, or blanketed by the night sky, the George Washington Bridge is cathedral-like, evoking the feelings of being lifted amongst floating stars.

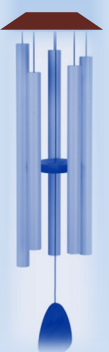
Because our family often traveled during the holidays, one of the enduring features in my memory of the GWB is seeing a gigantic flag suspended from its massive girders. Since the late 1940's, the bridge has flown the world's largest free-flying American flag, measuring at 90 feet long, 60 feet wide. It is unfurled on national holidays like Memorial Day and especially on Independence Day. Because of this, I have often juxtaposed the magic of crossing the George Washington Bridge with the promise of this country as symbolized by the flag.



As we approach the Fourth of July holiday, I am reminded of the Declaration of Independence. I am moved by its words from the introduction when it reads, "When in the Course of human events..." to its inspired preamble:

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are
created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator
with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are
Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness*

(Continued Page 2)



(continued from page 1)

These noble aspirations, encoded in the bones of this country’s founding documents, has not always been true for everyone. That is why I marry the “Declaration” with the preamble of the Constitution that says, “*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union...*” This wording of “*more perfect*” means that the work of forming this nation is ongoing and ever-perfecting. This also means that it is our responsibility to keep struggling to ensure that this nation fulfills its noble promise for all its people. To me, this is not just a matter of my civic duty, this is a matter of faith. We are undoubtedly called to continue to grow in what it means to be Christ-like or disciples of love. In like manner, I believe that we are also called to work for the realization of a world that reflects God’s hope for our society; a world defined by love and liberation, justice and joy. In practice, this faith commission is actualized in the places we live, our homes, communities, and indeed, our country.

My eyes still sparkle whenever I see pictures of the George Washington Bridge. It reminds me of the magic and promise of this country, and the work we are stilled called to do. It remains on my bucket list to walk across the GWB as I have the Golden Gate and Brooklyn bridges. Further, as I think about this present moment in our country’s history, I find myself drawing on metaphors about bridges. From Isaac Newton to Martin Luther King Jr, many have expressed the notion that it is much better to build bridges than walls. I think that that is good advice for understanding and reconciliation especially at a time when there is so much division. Maybe this idea is best epitomized by the fictional character King T’Challa from Wakanda who once said, “*...in times of crisis, the wise build bridges, while the foolish build barriers. We must find a way to look after one another as if we were one single tribe.*”

Ironically enough, on the verge of celebrating Independence, Day, I’ll let a king have the final word. Happy July,
Pastor Mahsea Evans



Chadwick Boseman
in the role of King T’Challa

Thoughts From Weekend Retreat

On the last weekend of June, I attended the Changemakers Retreat with the clergy and fellows associated with the program. It was held at the Mercy Center in Burlingame which is a Catholic retreat center just south of San Francisco. Though this retreat was more of an orientation, filled with multiple sessions, I did get the opportunity to get away. On the vast grounds, there was a tree that attracted my attention. During one of the breaks, I sat by that tree and eventually noticed the Bay-swept breeze, the chirping of birds, and the how the light played between the leaves. Mostly, I took note how my breath slowed, and how everything in that moment felt, “simple.”



As we go into the busyness of the Summer, I encourage you to find the time to appreciate the type of stillness that helps you to connect to the wonder and miracle of life. Sit among the trees, take a moment for breath, and give yourself that gift.

Pastor Mahsea Evans



See poem by Mary Oliver on page 3



Mary Oliver



When I Am Among the Trees

When I am among the trees,
especially the willows and the honey locust,
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,
they give off such hints of gladness.
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.
I am so distant from the hope of myself,
in which I have goodness, and discernment,
and never hurry through the world
but walk slowly, and bow often.
Around me the trees stir in their leaves
and call out, “Stay awhile.”
The light flows from their branches.
And they call again, “It’s simple,” they say,
“and you too have come
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled
with light, and to shine.”
-Mary Oliver-



Congratulations! Juel Kincheloe
On Her High School Graduation!

Juel May Kincheloe has been a member of our church since April 2008. She volunteered for most of our events; Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving. Juel volunteered for Vacation Bible School where she worked with the younger kids in music and crafts. Juel also sang in the choir. She is a wonderful asset to our church and hopefully will continue to join us for services when she is in town. Juel graduated from Del Norte High School on June 17, 2022 and will continue her educational journey at California Polytechnic University Humboldt where she will pursue environmental studies.

Submitted by Connie Witherow
Juel’s very proud grandmother!





**Ordination
Celebration Party
for Pastor Mahsea
Saturday, July 9th
11:00 AM**

**A potluck meal with
main entrees provided.**

Potluck assignments:

A-G – salad; H-R - side dish; S-Z - dessert



*Meet Louisiana's Finest
—Mildred Batiste—
She's a Blessing to our
community as
she greets us with a big
smile and fancy hats and
strengthens us by
the sharing of her
steadfast faith!*

Submitted by Don Harris



Thank you! Thank you!

To Peggy and Ledell Banks of "Do You Mind If I Smoke"
We at First Church Roseville give you our heartfelt thanks for the
Awesome Father's Day Barbecue!

We don't mind at all if you smoke. You can do it here anytime.
Your food was way beyond delicious, a special treat for all of us.
Everything, the ribs, chicken, brisket, potato salad,
corn bread, and "mac-n-cheese" was fantastic.

You are heavenly cooks!

*The Members of First Church Roseville
Give You Our Thanks!!!!*

"Women United In Faith"

(aka United Methodist Women or UMW)

Twelve women attended our first "Gathering for Brunch" where we enjoyed talking together and reconnecting with many we hadn't seen in 2 years. We enjoyed eating chili egg bake with salsa, fresh fruit, croissant bread followed by Mexican Wedding Cookies for dessert. Our guest speaker was Alma Caravarin. She shared her "story" of being an "illegal" alien here in the US when her parents came to the US to get medical treatment for her brother that they were unable to receive in Mexico and her hopes for a better life in the future for others like her. Alma's story touched our hearts and inspired us to want to participate to establish God's beloved community for all. We will not meet in July and August but will have a second "Gathering For Brunch" in September, Enjoy your Summer. Nancy Bray

3 C's Invite



Hello All,

We will not be meeting during July and August but will resume on September 1st at a new starting time of 11:00 AM. We will continue meeting on the first and third Thursdays of each month.

We have many materials, threads, sewing machines, sergers, yarns and supplies, almost anything you can imagine. We currently are making travel pillows for the homeless. We are open to suggestions and ideas for crafts to sell at our fall and Christmas bake and craft sales. Our money goes for church needs or helps in the community.

Please come and join us. Have a beautiful Summer!

Susan Reining Feel free to contact Susan for more information.

Thank You!

Thanks so much for all the cards and calls and visits that supported me through the first phase of healing my leg! This week I am allowed to put a fraction of my weight on that leg as I use my walker. By July 18th I should be learning to walk again!

The love of this congregation has meant the world to me! Cathie Wierbick

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing and comfort.

For Healing and Comfort

Henrietta, Sara, Barbara, Christy, Kylie, Cathie, Connie, Marie, Hazel, Jerry, Sheraya, and Francis



Please submit request for prayers to prayers@firstumcroseville.org

For Bereavement

Mildred Batiste & family
Peggy and Ledell Banks
Johnathan, Dreamer & Family
Paul Woicicki & Family

HISTORICAL GLEANINGS

When you walk up the front walk to the church, have you ever looked at the outside of the sanctuary building and seen the corner stones placed there? On July 3, 1951 the State officers of the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Order presided on a Monday afternoon at the official cornerstone laying ceremony at Roseville First Methodist church. Those Masons who participated in the ceremony were Arthur Paulson, State Grand Master from Weaverville, Joseph Ruggero Acting Deputy Grand Master, Arthur Warren Senior Grand Warden and Arthur J. Kahn acting Junior Grand Warden, all from San Francisco. It is interesting to see that churches were so honored as to have cornerstones placed by Fraternal Groups. Please look at the markers that have been placed on the building at different times in history.

Phoebe Astill, Historian



JULY BIRTHDAYS

2ND BRIAN RIPLEY

6TH ANYA WALTHER

8TH MARIE MOODY

11TH JUEL KINCHELOE

14TH JANICE GATOR

GAIL PROVINE

16TH THOM KING

21ST JOHN FASSELL

29TH EJ THOMAS

31ST DENNIS BULL

July Birth Flowers

Delphinium, also known as larkspurs are one of the two birth flowers for July. The second birth flower for July is the water lily.

Water lilies mainly represent rebirth and enlightenment while delphiniums are said to symbolize joy, warmth and fun.



Agape Men's Group

For our June meeting the burning question of the day was to share a story about our father, and how he or another significant man has impacted our life. Experiences with fathers and an uncle were shared. A common theme was that we wished we could travel back in time in order to get to know our fathers better on a deeper level.

The Agape Group will not meet in July. It was decided that we would take a summer vacation---not really! On Saturday, July 9 2022, we will be joining Pastor Mahsea's Ordination Celebration. See you in August. Have a good summer---Stay Cool!

Dennis Bull

May Financial Report

Basic Monthly Statistics

Income May 2022: \$49,536.39

Expenses may. 2022: \$17,886.52

Net Income Feb. 2022: \$31,649.87

Basic Yearly Statistics 2022

YTD Income: \$103,857.41

YTD Expense: \$78,249.90

Net Income: \$25,607.51

Thank you for your continued financial support. It is very much appreciated.

June Worship Attendance

Total: 224 Average: 56

The Monday Feeding Program

for the homeless served 245 meals in June.



FIRST CHURCH ROSEVILLE TEAM LEADERS

Pastor—Mahsea Evans
Certified Lay Minister—Kathleen Mirtoni
Church Council Chair—Liz Harvey
Lay Leaders—Kathleen Mirtoni
Jan Sechrist
Ruth Ann Baker
Treasurer—Chris Handley
Financial Secretary—Elizabeth Harvey
Finance Team Chair—Dave Sechrist
Trustees President—Don Harris
Staff Parish Chair—Dennis Bull
Mission Outreach—Kathleen Mirtoni
Memorial—Susan Reining
Worship Team Leader—Nancy Bray
Congregational Care—Gail Provine
Music Director—John Handley
Communications—Kristi Kinzel
Lay Leadership Training—Kristi Kinzel

Email Contact Information:

Pastor:

mevans@firstumcroseville.org

Certified Lay Minister:

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Administrative Assistant:

cwitherow@firstumcroseville.org

Church Email:

firstumc@firstumcroseville.org

Prayer Requests:

prayers@firstumcroseville.org

Chimes Article Submissions:

chimes@firstumcroseville.org

Office Volunteer:

nbray@firstumcroseville.org



On 6/11/2022 the church received \$66.00 from redeemed cans and bottles.

Thanks for saving and bringing them to church on the second Saturday each month

Don Harris, Trustee President
**NEXT RECYCLE IS SATURDAY
July 9, 2022 9-11 AM**

