

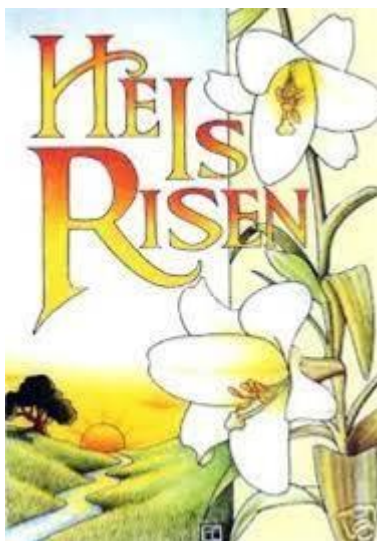
Golden Nugget

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

A Word from the Pastor

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." **2 Corinthians 5:14-21 (NIV)**

We have once again found ourselves in one of the most joyous seasons of the year, the Easter season. Holy Week, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, is quite possibly my favorite time of the Christian calendar. It certainly is the most important week that this world has ever known, and I enjoy remembering and reflecting upon all that Jesus accomplished for us during this week



all those centuries ago. Of course, that includes remembering and reflecting upon the pain, suffering, and death that He endured on our behalf on Good Friday, a most solemn and somber occasion as we recount how our Savior was brutalized and killed. Good Friday is a powerful and emotional day for all of us who believe in Christ.

The thing that makes Good Friday bearable, however, is the knowledge that Easter Sunday is right around the corner; Easter Sunday with all of its joyful and exuberant celebration of the fact that the grave could not hold Jesus Christ, our King. The sorrow of Good Friday is replaced with the glory and pure joy of Easter Sunday. Death has lost its victory, it has lost its sting; Satan and hell have been defeated! Hallelujah! What an amazing work Jesus completed on our behalf on Resurrection Sunday! And that's what I want us to think about now, exactly what Jesus accomplished on our behalf when He arose victorious over sin and death.

April 2021

First, let's consider what Paul means when he writes, "One died for all, and therefore all died." What Paul is saying here is that Jesus died for all who would place their faith in Him, He died for our sins, He died as the punishment and sacrifice for our sinfulness. Therefore, when we place our faith in Him and accept Him as our Lord and Savior, it is as if we have died right there alongside Him; because His death was the penalty for our sin, when we place our faith in Him, our sins are immediately forgiven and washed away. We are, as Paul says in this passage, a new creation; our old, sinful selves are dead and we are born again to new life in Christ. It is a statement of the substitutionary nature of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection; He paid the penalty of death and won victory over it on our behalf so that we could know eternal life in God's Kingdom.

Second, let us consider what Paul means when He talks about God reconciling us to Himself through Christ and giving us a ministry of reconciliation. This is the whole enchilada when it comes to the purpose of Jesus' death and resurrection; He did it so that we might be reconciled to God.

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See "Word from the Pastor"

GOLDEN NUGGET

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"Church of the 49ers"
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209-532-2441
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Office Hours:
Tuesday through Friday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Worship Services in Sanctuary:
8:30 and 10:30 am Sundays,
masks and social distancing required

STAFF

Rev. Keith Reid, Pastor
Rev. Lee Warford, Assistant Pastor
Deb Johnson, Office Administrator
Karla Reid, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Carolyn Sylva, Accompanist
Steve Engle-Borda, Sound Tech

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Church of the 49ers,
where God is the gold. We serve
and worship God in spirit and in the
truth of the scriptures. We live by faith
and will be known by our love
for others and our voice of hope.

CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY January 1 through February 28, 2021 (exclusive of other income/expenses)

	Budget	Actual	Difference Over/(Under)
Income	\$17,725	\$15,303	(\$2,422)
Expense	\$17,629	\$15,943	(\$1,686)

Mortgage Balance as of February 28: \$160,361.99
Minimum required Mortgage Payment: \$2,236.41
Addtl. principal paid through February 28: \$225.00

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders 2020-2021

Buildings & Grounds: Co-Chairs Leslie Davis and Sharon Poff
Christian Education: Pastor Keith Reid and Karla Reid
Fellowship: Deb Handy, with Leslie Davis as liaison to Session*
Finance & Stewardship: Jim Brandt
History: Tom Kimura
Missions: Pastor Keith Reid, interim
Personnel: Dean Cunningham
Special Projects: Larry Lincoln
Welcome & Evangelism: Tom Kimura
Worship: Ken Minett

*When a committee is not chaired by an Elder, an Elder is assigned to act as liaison to Session.

Send your articles and Family News items for the May 2021 issue of the *Golden Nugget* by April 25 to Leslie Davis at davisgold@gmail.com or call her at 532-6604.

Deacon Officers 2020-2021

Moderator:
Rosie McCarthy
Vice Moderator:
Sheri Pendleton
Treasurer: Jim Lashbrook
Asst. Treasurer: Vi Morgado
Secretary: Denella Kimura

Deacon Committees 2020-2021

Memorials: Chair Margie Fooshee, Pat Lincoln, Marijean Davis, Susie Porte
Communion: Chair Marijean Davis
Contact homebound parishioners for Communion: Doreen Bass
Deacon Fund: Chair Jim Lashbrook, Vi Morgado, Susie Porte, Gwen Harris, Margie Fooshee
Grief Booklet Coordinator: Chair Jim Lashbrook, Denella Kimura
Interfaith: Chair Vi Morgado, Rosie McCarthy
Worship Liaison: Dana Avila
Session Liaison: Sheri Pendleton
Prayer Chain (email and phone): Rosie McCarthy

49er Family News

Rejoicing

Ben Wright and Julia Polson were married on March 12 in Jackson, Mississippi. The nuptials were live-streamed for those who couldn't attend.

Jenni and Bob Lertora welcomed their first baby on March 10, 2021: Anthony John Lertora, 5 lbs. 15 oz., 18 in., and thriving. Proud grandparents are Sylvia and Mark Constable and Kim and Tony Lertora, and great-grandparents are Louise Lertora and Ken Minett and Pirkko and Dick Dyer.

Happy Anniversary!

Jon Whited and Suzanne Williamson
8 years on April 13

April Calendar

Trusting that Tuolumne County will remain in the Covid-19 orange tier, worship services will be held at 8:30 and 10:30 am in the sanctuary. Masks and social distancing required.

April 6, 8:30 am: Prayer Group in CE Room 2
April 7, 10 am: Men's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 8, 2 pm: Women's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 10, 8 am: Men's Breakfast Fellowship at
Papa's New Roost Restaurant (no-host)
April 11, 9:30 am: Deacons in CE Room 2
April 12, 10 am: Buildings & Grounds Cmte. in Faith Hall
April 13, 8:30 am: Prayer Group in CE Room 2
April 13, 2:00 pm: Missions Committee in CE Room 2
April 14, 10 am: Men's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 15, 2 pm: Women's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 18, 10 am: Congregational Meeting in Faith Hall
April 20, 8:30 am: Prayer Group in CE Room 2
April 20, 1 pm: Finance Committee in Office
April 21, 10 am: Men's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 22, 2 pm: Women's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 27, 8:30 am: Prayer Group in CE Room 2
April 28, 10 am: Men's Bible Study in Faith Hall
April 28, 2 pm: Session in Faith Hall
April 29, 2 pm: Women's Bible Study in Faith Hall

April Birthdays

*Happy birthday to you,
Happy birthday to you.
May the Lord bless you
And keep you,
Your whole life through.*

April 2 Janet Russell
April 4 Janet Atkinson
April 7 Diane Brandt
April 16 Marilyn Williams
April 19 Lee Warford
April 20 Harriet Durnall
April 21 Nora Neves
April 22 Lynne Higgins
April 29 Micaela Wardlow
April 30 Sierra Bickell

Session Highlights—March 24, 2021

Session voted to not hold a Maundy Thursday service, and to have Pastor Keith conduct a Good Friday service in Faith Hall.

A congregational meeting will be held at 10:00 am on April 18 between the two worship services (we missed our annual Congregational Meeting in January). Covenant partners (members) will vote on the following: Bylaw changes to reduce the number of Elders required from 9 to 7, and to clarify wording describing qualifications for Clerk of Session. Also, the 2021 nominating committee members will be appointed for the purpose of selecting a slate of Elders and Deacons for terms beginning July 1, 2021.

Session voted to move worship services back into the sanctuary beginning Easter Sunday, providing Covid-19 numbers continue to improve in our county. We will continue to conduct two services, with social-distancing and masks required. Also, the Nursery and Sunday School for children will re-open in CE1 and CE2 respectively—with Covid protocols in place.

Karla Reid was approved for the paid position of Director of Children's Ministries.

Session approved the hiring of Les West to repair/paint sanctuary and CE building exteriors.

Diane Brandt, Clerk of Session

Word from the Pastor

Continued from Page 1

A reconciliation is the restoration of a broken relationship. When Adam and Eve committed the original sin, they fractured humanity's relationship with God, they drove a wedge between us and our Father. This relationship remained fractured in very real and tangible ways throughout early world history, such as in the fact that a large, thick veil was placed in front of the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle and temple to separate the people from God. But, when Jesus came onto the scene, when He defeated sin and death in His crucifixion and resurrection, He repaired and restored our broken relationship with the Father; He is the glue that holds us to God; and, my friends, Gorilla Glue has nothing on Jesus!

Third, let us consider what Paul is telling us when He writes that "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." What Paul is saying here is that, in Jesus' crucifixion, God took all of our sins and placed them upon Jesus as the substitutionary sacrifice for our sinfulness; then, in Jesus' resurrection, God credited Jesus' righteousness to us. So, in the work of Good Friday and Easter Sunday, we have a transaction taking place whereby Jesus took our sins upon Himself and placed His righteousness upon us so that, when God looks at us, His believers, He doesn't see our sinfulness; rather, He sees His Son's righteousness.

And, finally, let us consider what Paul tells us that all of this means for us; what we are supposed to DO in light of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection on our behalf. First, Paul tells us that Christ died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. Paul is telling us here that, once

we accept Christ as our Savior, we are called to no longer live for ourselves, but to live for Christ. This means that we no longer focus on our own personal wants, whims, and desires, on living life on our own terms; rather, we focus on what God is calling us to do, where He is calling us to go, on living life on His terms. It means that we faithfully and lovingly serve others, care for others just as Jesus did.

Second, Paul tells us that we are called to be Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. Paul is telling us here that, just as ambassadors serve a King in a foreign country, we are called to serve THE King in this world. Ambassadors do not speak for themselves, they do not share their own opinions and ideas; rather he is sent as a representative of the king to deliver the king's message. And that is exactly what we are called to do and be; we are called to be Christ's representatives on this earth delivering the message of the saving work that He accomplished in His death and resurrection. We are called, as Paul says, to implore people on Christ's behalf to be reconciled to God through faith in Jesus Christ and His victory over sin and death.

Jesus died for YOU, He arose on the third day for YOU. But, he also died and rose on the third day for the woman working the register at the grocery store, for the man walking his dog down the street, for the children playing basketball in the driveway, for the homeless, drug-addicted and abused. These people all need to know the work that Jesus accomplished on Good Friday and Easter Sunday some 2,000 years ago. So, this Easter season, I implore you, as Christ's ambassadors, go and tell them about Jesus, go and tell them the deep love that He has for them, a love so deep that He willingly died for them and then rose victorious on the third day; share all of this wonderful news with

everyone because, if you don't, who will?

May the blessings of the Father and the peace of the Son be with you,

Pastor Keith

Sermons and Scripture

Pastor Keith is beginning a new sermon series April 11, called "The God of Daniel: The Sovereign God of Exiles."

Listed below for each Sunday are the scripture verses each sermon is based on, and other verses.

If you have email and want to listen/watch the weekly YouTube videos of our sermons, contact Pastor Keith at ktreid84@gmail.com to receive his Sunday emails with the link.

April 4

Easter Sunday, Communion

Old Testament: Jonah 1:17-2:10
Sermon: Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20

April 11

NT: Romans 13:1-7
Sermon: Daniel 1:1-7

April 18

NT: Revelation 2:8-11
Sermon: Daniel 1:8-21

April 25—Rev Janet Russell preaching

NT: Revelation 22:6-10
Sermon: Daniel 2:1-23

Visit churchofthe49ers.com to listen to past sermons. The audio includes the Scripture verses being read and goes right into the sermon.

From Allen Graham, Missionary

Hello Church of the 49ers family! Happy Easter weekend! Thank you so much for your prayers in March.

It has been a very busy month and God has been showing our radio team a great deal about how He is at work through the ministry. All of us have been calling our donors to thank them for their support and partnership with us. It has given us many moments to laugh with them and sometimes even cry with them as we hear their stories.

Mónica told us: My mother died of COVID a few days ago, but your radio is a voice of encouragement and hope. I can even *hear* Mayra's smile. (Mayra is the announcer for our morning program. How cool that Mónica could *hear* a smile on the radio. I love it!)

Raquel told us that she has problems in her uterus and the doctors say it has to be removed. However, she has no children and God has promised her an inheritance. She is asking God to speak clearly to her. She is grateful for the prayers, messages, and music that she hears on the radio.

Please be praying for our on-air and support teams as we share Christ by radio. It has been one year since the pandemic began and many of our listeners lost loved ones. The grief hits once

again. Pray as we encourage our listeners to **live with hope**.

Please pray for the runoff presidential elections on April 11. As I mentioned last month, the elections are causing a lot of anger and division in the country. Please pray for God's peace to come over Ecuador and its people.

Thank you for praying for the team at CCFM in Cape Town, South Africa. Remember? I did a virtual training with them as they prepared for their sharathon last week. They did not meet their goal, but were very encouraged by the interaction with their listeners. Please pray especially for Wesley George, the station manager. Wesley suffered a heart attack the week before sharathon. He is doing well, but still needs more time to fully recover.

We suffered damage to our Guayaquil transmitter in late February and have not been operating at full power. With a local broadcast engineer, we have been analyzing the transmitter module by module to locate the exact problem so we can effect repairs. We were able to do that this past Tuesday and will now order the parts from the manufacturer in Maine. Please pray that they will arrive quickly.



Allen at transmitter site

Ecuador has gone into a 30-day period of heavier restrictions. No one can be outside their homes from 8 pm to 5 am. COVID cases have been rising over the last few weeks so these measures were taken to combat the situation. Please pray for protection for our team and me.

Thank you for praying and for your financial gifts for my ministry through Reach Beyond and HCJB2 in Ecuador. Many blessings to you this Easter season. Together we serve a risen Christ!

Allen

Interfaith News

Interfaith is preparing a schedule for when we can once again offer "inside services." With that in mind, if you would like to become a new volunteer for Interfaith Community Social Services, or come back as a "returning volunteer," please let me know so I can get the information to the people setting up schedules. Also, you can call Interfaith at 532-0905 and ask for



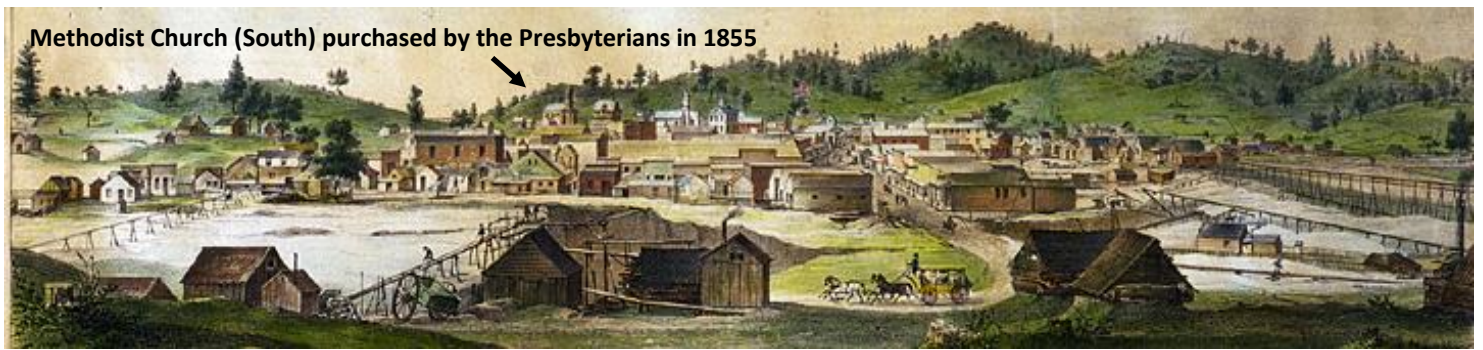
bring it to church (let me know which service you will be attending).

Cathie or Barbara. If you are new, you will need to fill out an information form. If you like, I would be glad to get the form and

We are still accepting donations on Tuesdays - Fridays between 10 am and 12 noon. After that, place items in the drop container on outside of premises.

I am always available by phone to answer any questions you may have or take suggestions for services you would like for Interfaith to provide. My number is 209-532-4358.

Vi Morgado, Interfaith Liaison



Methodist Church (South) purchased by the Presbyterians in 1855

John and Ellen Brodt

By Dick Dyer, Church Historian

Columbia looking north from Kennebec Hill, circa 1855

This narrative features the Brodts—from East to West to East—their Great Adventure. Their lives, tragedies and triumphs, have enabled us to consider them influential pioneers for ministers of the historic Church of the 49ers.

In Old Tuolumne colorful Columbia was perhaps the most spectacular gold rush camp of the southern Mother Lode. Its landscape was exceptional, offering resources for a diverse population—plants, animals, people. The undulating hills of the lower Sierra Nevada mountains harbored fertile flat lands of meadows with bulbs, wild flowers, grasslands and forests. In the beginning, waterways enriched the area now known as Columbia and also surrounding camps: Whimtown, Yankee Hill, Knickerbocker Flat, Morman Camp, Squabbletown and other sites where available gold deposits awaited ambitious prospectors. Newspaper articles reported that gold led to rapid growth in the early 1850s—500 houses, 150 businesses and at least 5,000 residents. Before long, the original canvas shelters and log cabins were replaced with clapboard dwellings, brick stores, and church sanctuaries with Catholic and Methodist worshipers. The public “good” confronted the “bad” in saloons, fandango houses, and hurdy-gurdy taverns. Nevertheless, by the mid-fifties tidy houses and flourishing gardens indicated that Columbia had deservedly become “The Gem of the Southern Mines.”

The pioneer days were not a semi-illiterate frontier of Easterners speculating on a bonanza in the undeveloped American West. Many arrivals were educated—men and women—who ultimately provided a foundation for a New California. This included pastors and ministers of the historic Church of the 49ers.

The early fifties for Columbia’s residents was a time when only a few visiting preachers and lay ministers conducted services with small gatherings. The first organized churches were the Catholic Church in central Columbia and the Methodist Church at the community plaza. Rev. Long is considered to be the first resident minister in the mining camp; he supervised the building of the Methodist sanctuary in 1852. A characterization of Pastor Long by folklorist G. Ezra Dane is interesting. “He had a long face, and long whiskers, and a long black coat, and legs so long that they say when he rode in on his mule he had his spurs fastened at the calf. The longest thing about him, though, was his sermons.” Church Historian Dorothea L. Jones’ manuscript has the final word about this yarn: “Dane’s tall tale is “...a good story, rather than history.” Hmmm!

The miners at neighboring Springfield camp were thought to be the first in the southern mines to erect a place of worship before a gambling saloon. In the diary of Clementine Brainard, she

described residents from Columbia walking to Springfield during the winter in late 1853 to join other worshipers and a lay minister for a special prayer meeting. At the door of a Christian family’s house, “... each one knelt down and prayed in secret as he entered the house....” Such prayer meetings were common at the various camps in the early fifties.

Ellen Augusta Sears was born April 22, 1834 in Richford, Vermont—a “pretty child” with an inclination toward the engaging outdoors. Her education was at a teachers’ academy; she received her certificate at age sixteen. After her father (Alden Sears) joined the gold-hungry forty-niners in Columbia, she was invited to be his housekeeper and teach at one of the first schools in the thriving mining camp. She reached San Francisco on June 29, 1855 and traveled to Columbia where she joined her father at the Gold Hill house he had constructed. Near their house across the community plaza was a small church; later after it became a Presbyterian church, Ellen reminisced about its pastor, Rev. Brodt. He was “...a very bright, wide-awake preacher....”

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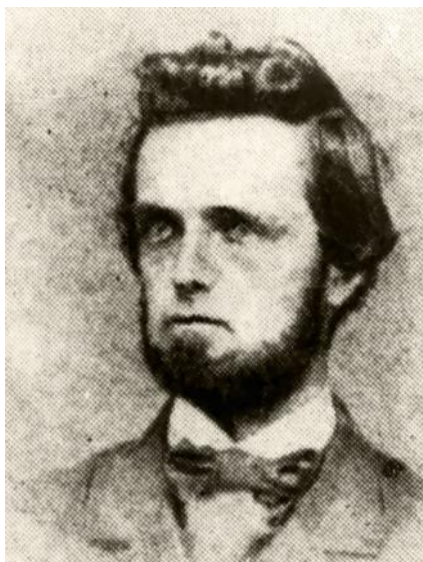
First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † “Church of the 49ers”

The Brodts

Continued from Page 6

John Henry Brodt was born June 2, 1827 in Troy, New York. After completing his seminary education on June 29, 1854, he became an ordained Presbyterian minister. The Home Missionary Society agreed to provide financial support for his ministry after his calling led him to California. In November he met with a small group of concerned Columbia Christians to assist in establishing a church in the growing mining camp. On December 19, 1854, Rev. John Henry Brodt became the official pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia—beginning his twelve years in California. The dynamic pastor of the 49ers provided distinction and substance for the church, establishing precedence for worship today. The following year, arrangements were completed to purchase the original Methodist church at the community plaza. *(A few church historians believe the genesis of the Presbyterian church was actually February 1854 when Sonora Presbyterian pastor Rev. Silas S. Harmon announced in the local newspaper he would hold monthly worship services in the Columbia Methodist Church.)* Nevertheless, Rev. Brodt's short pastorate was impressive—membership increased, plans to enhance the impaired sanctuary were made, and biblically-based sermons were given. Additionally, the popular young pastor was noted for his "...gift of extemporaneous speaking."

In the meantime, Ellen was a popular newcomer as she settled into a community with very few women. Eighteen young companions called on her to participate in exciting social events—household visits, dances, picnics, church socials, carriage rides. Soon thereafter a change occurred when Rev. John Brodt "came calling" at the Sears home. From the first his "enthusiasm" and "fine looks" captured Ellen's attention. Also,



Rev. John Henry Brodt, first pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia December 19, 1854—September 30, 1855

as pastor of the nearby church and secretary of the Columbia Water Company, he received a comfortable annual income of \$1,800. At his town lot, he had a plan for a modern house with a fruitful garden—a "place for peace and quiet." Ellen always considered a garden to be her Gold Mine. After a short courtship, the young couple was married by Rev. Laurentine Hamilton in the Presbyterian Church with an overflowing audience of friends and family.

During the national struggle about slavery, tension erupted in the Mother Lode camps. "Richmond," the editor of the *Union Democrat*, was inclined to support the Secessionists in various newspaper articles. At the same time, the *Columbia Times* adamantly called attention to the righteousness of the Unionists. Even local pastors became overly involved. Rev. Silas Harmon (Sonora Presbyterian Church) was criticized for "courting the Southern party" while Rev. John Brodt supported the Unionists. As a military solution appeared likely, young miners eagerly volunteered for "The Tuolumne Rangers" who were organized and eventually garrisoned at

Fort Humboldt in northern California. A few southern sympathizers departed to join the Confederacy in the East. It was not the best of times in Old Tuolumne.

By the mid fifties, Columbia's bonanza days were over; it had been memorable years of excitement in the mining camp. Although mining continued with occasional discoveries of valuable glory holes, Old Columbia would struggle as the gold and population slowly declined.

At the same time, Rev. Brodt's increasing throat problems (bronchitis?) affected his ministry; he decided to reduce his agony by accepting a less demanding position in San Francisco at *The Pacific*, a Christian newspaper. Unfortunately, this position lasted about one year after the newspaper ceased publication. At any rate, he always felt his calling was preaching. He accepted the pastorate of a Petaluma (California) church; alas, his leadership lasted only a few months due to community hardships. During the Civil War the Brodts relocated to a Marysville church. It was another challenge. Local Unionists and Secessionists violently confronted each other making his position untenable. It was time to "go home." On December 3, 1865, the family sailed from San Francisco, crossed the Isthmus of Panama and three weeks later reached New York. They reunited with East Coast relatives, developed new life-long friends, and sought a more traditional family life. However, the Grim Reaper seemed to follow in their footsteps—a third infant died, a daughter developed poliomyelitis, the throat problem continued, preaching positions were unpredictable. However, they remained optimistic and Ellen's good health kept her active in her beloved garden for almost eighty-eight years.

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See "The Brodts"**

First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † "Church of the 49ers"

The Brodts

Continued from Page 8

Rev. Brodt's persistent health problems affected his ministry at several churches, leading to his retirement in 1872 while living in Dansville, New York. John Henry Brodt died at age forty-eight on September 8, 1875. "His life peacefully left his aching body."

In New York City, the Union Theological Seminary's Necrology Report included, "Mr. Brodt...had a good presence, fine looks, a bright eye and clear full voice, and so was a very pleasing preacher." In 1922 Ellen Augusta Brodt once again became his loving companion as they resumed their "Great Adventure." Their daughter, Ellen Reeve, wrote, "There was something **inexpressibly beautiful**..." about their relationship.

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Dick Dyer, Church Historian

B & G "Wish List"

The Buildings & Grounds Committee feels it's not yet safe to host the usual Work Party, where we gather a group of volunteers together on one day to work to beautify the church (and fellowship together too). But there are plenty of small jobs that can be accomplished by one or two persons following safety protocols. Following is a short "wish list" of projects in case you're itching to get out of the house and do something different for a change, especially to support the church. If none of these appeal to you, contact me and I can suggest other tasks.

- Remove dirt/old clippings from the base of the wooden fence behind the sanctuary — to keep fence from rotting.
- Steam clean approximately 30 upholstered pew chairs located in the Lower Sanctuary and Sadie Nicholls Room (20 chairs in the CE building have already been cleaned and look SO much nicer).



- Reupholster three pastor's chairs in the sanctuary so they match the pew cushions.

Leslie Davis, Co-Chair Buildings & Grounds Committee

Death Could Not Hold Him

He bore the cost
The price for our
Sins
Mocked,
And ridiculed
A crown of
Thorns
Pierced his
Head,
Salvation's child
Now a man.

He bore the cost
Carrying the weight
Of the cross
To Golgotha
Broken
And bleeding
He carried the
Weight
Of our
Sin
On his
Shoulders.

Beaten and humiliated
Christ our savior
Bore the pain
Of the cross
Of hell
So we did not
Have to.
But on the
Third day
He rose
Death could
Not hold
Him,
The son of
Man,
The hope
Of mankind.

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March.30.2021

A Florida Court Sets Atheist Holy Day

In Florida an atheist created a case against Easter and Passover holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days. The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling, saying, "Your Honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur, and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no other holidays..."

The judge leaned forward in his chair, saying... "But you do. Your client, counselor, is woefully ignorant." The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is April's Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned..."

Shared by Darrol Davis

First Presbyterian Church

"Church of the 49ers"

11155 Jackson Street

Columbia, CA 95310



TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Address Service Requested

Cost-cutting Measure: For those of you who receive this newsletter through the US mail, please consider a donation of \$15 per year to cover printing and postage costs. Thanks!