

# THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA

APRIL 2007



*The Rev. Dr.  
Ken Henry  
and his family*

## PNC Selects the Rev. Dr. Ken Henry as Candidate for Pastor

Kenneth Donald Henry of Eugene, Oregon, has been selected by Stone Church's Pastor Nominating Committee as candidate to become our next pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Henry, who has served as pastor of three Presbyterian Churches and is currently assistant professor of rhetoric and homiletics (preaching) at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, will preach his candidating sermon at our Easter Sunday service, 9:30 am, April 8. The congregation will meet to approve his call immediately following the service.

"I am looking forward to talking with you over the coming years," Ken said in a message to the congregation recently mailed to members. "I love to write, cook, preach, watch movies, listen to a good story, hike, juggle, spend time with my family, talk theology over a cup of coffee, and walk along the beach. Most of all, I like to watch the Spirit of God shape and move people to care and reach

out to others in both great and small ways."

Ken, his wife Heather, and their daughters Madeline, 12, and Katie, 17, will be guests of the congregation at a reception and question-and-answer session Saturday, April 7. The 4-6 pm event will begin in the Social Hall where you can meet the Henrys individually over finger food - everyone is requested to bring some - before we move to the Sanctuary where Ken will answer questions.

Ken grew up in Beaverton, Oregon, just outside Portland, and was a junior high English teacher and coach following his graduation from Western Oregon State College in 1984. He entered Princeton Theological Seminary in 1987 and received his Master of Divinity from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1988. For the next four years he served Trinity Presbyterian in Santa Cruz as pastor. In 1992 he began an eight-year tenure as pastor of Cascades

Presbyterian in Vancouver, Wash. He received the Doctor of Ministry in Christian Nurture from Austin Theological Seminary in 1999.

After serving as pastor and head of staff of Central Presbyterian in Eugene, he moved to Northwest Christian College.

If the congregation approves Ken's call, he will begin his ministry at Stone on June 25, following completion of the spring term at Northwest, and preach his first regular sermon July 1. Heather, Madeline, and Katie will remain in Eugene the next academic year so that Katie can graduate from her high school.

### APRIL EVENTS

PLEASE SEE PAGE 3 FOR

HOLY WEEK EVENTS (4/1 - 8)

4/21 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT PAGE 6

4/22 BOOK EXCHANGE PAGE 6

4/29 CROP WALK PAGE 4

## Miriam's Column

VCS Theme & New Resource Library

**SAVE THE DATE! - June 18-22, 2007 - GALILEE BY-THE-SEA**

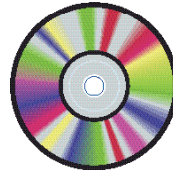
Our Vacation Church School program will transform our church into a seaside village in Galilee. Each day, we will become part of history as we see, hear, touch, and even taste what it was like to live in Bible times. We will explore authentic marketplace shops, visit the Synagogue (a favorite of last year's program), play games, witness real-life dramas in the center of town, dance and sing lively Bible songs, and sample savory food, as we discover more about life when Jesus walked the earth.



Registration details will be provided in next month's *The Stone News*! If you have questions or want to volunteer to help, contact VCS Director, Janice Goertz.

### New Resources for All Church Groups, Individuals, or Families

Stone Church has a membership in the *Northern Calif. Ecumenical Media Resource Center*, which is open to anyone in our congregation. This is a *co-op library* of media for Christian Education, mission, and personal growth. We've used their media for adult and children's education classes, but the resource center's 3000 videos and CDs could be used for any group, individual, or family.



For instance, Soul Feast groups, Family Clusters, and other small

groups could choose from single pieces or studies that come with a video or DVD and participant's and leader's guides. Programs are on a wide range of topics such as Bible studies, character development, Jesus, prayer, church history, grief, suicide, mission, worship, and prayer, just to name a few. The resource center has children's videos, as well as youth-oriented programs that could be used at home by families - a great way to share Christian values.

The church office has a copy of the catalog, or go to [www.gbmg-umc.org/emrc](http://www.gbmg-umc.org/emrc). Call 378-2532 to reserve something or stop at the center, located in the Campbell United Methodist Church near Hamilton and Winchester Blvd. The staff look forward to helping you find just the right media for your needs.

God bless,  
Miriam Kishi,  
Christian Education Associate

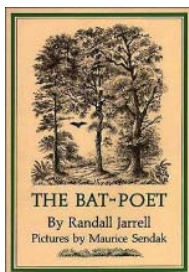
## Calendars and New Books in the Library

As usual, many attractive new calendars have been left in the library. To date, 67 have been delivered to Sacred Heart, and others have found homes with Stone Church folks. Thanks for sharing your abundance!

Look for new books on our cart in the Social Hall! And visit the library on Sundays after worship - we'll try to have a volunteer available each 2nd and 4th Sunday until at least 11 am.

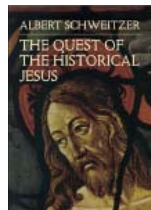
- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator

Mini-Review by Elizabeth Shandera: *The Bat-Poet* by Randall Jarrell, with pictures by Maurice Sendak (Read-Aloud J Jar)



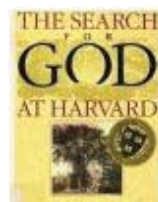
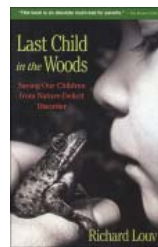
This poetic book is meant to be read out loud, even to older children capable of reading. They will keep enjoying it and buy it for their children. The adult reader will enjoy it as much as the listening child. It has deep underlayers of truth.

### New Books for Adults:



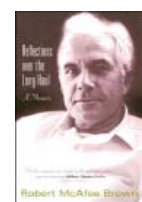
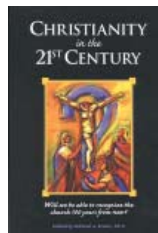
*The Quest of the Historical Jesus*, the classic by Albert Schweitzer (232.9 Sch), given by Catherine Amos

*Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv (Ecol 144.4 Lou), given by Virginia Holtz

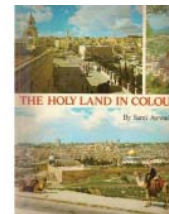


*The Search for God at Harvard* by Ari Goldman (291.09 Gol), given by Rebecca Kuiken

*Christianity in the 21st Century* edit. by Deborah Brown (230 Bro)

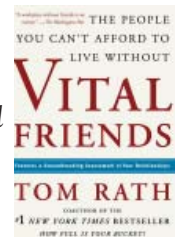


*Reflections over the Long Haul: A Memoir* by Robert McAfee Brown (Biog Brown), given by Dale & Barbara Bracey



*The Holy Land in Colour* by Sami Awwad (956.9 Aww)

*Vital Friends: The People You Can't Afford to Live Without* by Tom Rath (302 Rat)



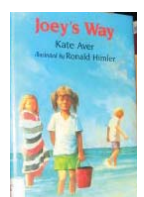
*Crafts to Celebrate the Seasons* by Mary Engelbreit (741.6 Eng)

### New Books for Young Folks:



*The Curse of the Blue Figurine* by John Bellairs (YA Bel)

*Joey's Way* by Kate Aver (J Ave)



*Edward Loses His Teddy Bear* by Michaela Morgan (1st Books Mor)

## Marge's Column

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

Dear Friends,

We are about to observe Holy Week, the days leading up to Easter Sunday. We begin with the Taizé Service on Tuesday evening, and on Maundy Thursday, we will gather for a soup supper in the Social Hall followed by Holy Communion around the tables. The Sanctuary will be open on Good Friday from noon to 3 pm for quiet meditation and prayer with music every hour and half hour. Most of us would probably just as soon skip Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Maundy Thursday reminds us of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples before his crucifixion, and Good Friday commemorates the day that he died on the cross. Couldn't we just enjoy the beauty and joy of Easter without thinking of those sad and tragic moments of Jesus' life?

The Canadian theologian Douglas John Hall speaks to that question with these words: "It is the propensity of religion to avoid suffering: to have light

without darkness, vision without trust and risk, hope without an ongoing dialog with despair - in short, Easter without Good Friday." Although we may be tempted to avoid the reality of the cross, for us to fully understand and appreciate the deepest meaning of Easter, we need to be aware of Jesus' incredible suffering and sacrifice that preceded the day of resurrection.

Having said that, Shirley C. Guthrie, a noted Presbyterian theologian adds to this by saying: "... the cross is an appropriate symbol for Christians only if it is an empty cross. The foundation, center and goal of the Christian faith is not suffering and death but new life, not tragedy but victory beyond tragedy. Christian faith is faith in a Suffering Servant who is and will be the risen Lord." That is the meaning of Easter, the belief that when death occurs, new life will spring forth because Jesus was willing to die on the cross for us, a belief that we will celebrate together on Easter Sunday. May Easter be a time of great joy for each of you and for our congregation! Faithfully yours,  
Marge Palmer, Pastor

## Sunday Adult Study

Stone Church offers stimulating, discussion-based adult study classes most Sundays from 11 am to noon in the Fireside Room. Please join us! (*There are no classes on Easter, April 8.*)

**April 1 (Palm Sunday): Communion Training for Grades 1-3 and Their Parents**

**April 15: Care and Support of People with Alzheimer's Disease**

An Alzheimer's Association speaker will present an overview of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, including what is normal memory loss, the ten warning signs of dementia, and types of dementia, and will describe services provided by the Association.

**April 22 - June 3: The Challenge of Science for Christianity in the 21st Century**

Modern science presents challenges to religion in general and Christianity in particular. The findings of science

refute classic tenets of Christianity, such as original sin, the fall from Paradise, the Virgin Birth, and the unity of the Gospels. American culture wars are largely based on tensions between the worldviews of science and traditional Christianity.

There are those who insist Christianity must change, accept new scientific truths and radically reinterpret its theology. Others say truth never changes, the Bible is the literal *Word of God*, and the modern worldview must be rejected. And some just ignore the issue, believing science during the week and embracing *old-time religion* on Sunday.

We will explore this critical issue on which the survival of Christianity in America may well depend.

**June 10: The Second Holy Land: A Pilgrimage through Turkey**

Join Pat and Sally Magee as they present a slide show summary of their 17-day trip through Turkey with New Testament scholars, Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.

- Pat Magee

## HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 1, 9:30 am,  
Palm Sunday Family Worship Service with Special Music from the Chancel Choir and Director Nancy Wait Kromm: Fauré *Requiem* (see article, pg 8)

Tuesday, April 3, 6:45-7:30 pm,  
Taizé Service (*The Sanctuary opens at 6:30 pm for music and meditation.*)

Thursday, April 5, 6 - 8 pm,  
Maundy Thursday Stone Soup Dinner and Communion Service (see article below)

Friday, April 6, noon - 3 pm,  
Good Friday Service, with Musical Offerings on the hour and half-hour

Saturday, April 7, 4 - 6 pm,  
Reception for Congregation to meet the Rev. Dr. Henry and his family

Sunday, April 8, 9:30 am,  
Easter Family Worship Service with the Rev. Dr. Henry's Candidacy Sermon, Congregational Meeting, and Reception

## Stone Soup, Communion on Maundy Thursday

Stone Church's Maundy Thursday Stone Soup dinner, with communion following, will be April 5, from 6 to 8 pm.

Church chefs will provide two large pots of broth (one with and one without meat) and, of course, the stones.

Please plan to bring bread, or a precooked soup ingredient (meat or vegetables) to add to the soups, and join us for an evening of fellowship and prayer.

Contact Maureen Searing for more information.

# Church & World Reminds us the Hungry Always Need Our Help

## South Bay CROP Hunger Walk

Did you know Stone Church is among the top 12 churches in the South Bay in funds raised for CROP?

Did you know Stone Church is among the top 12 churches in the South Bay in number of participating walkers?

Did you know Derk Johnson and Rod Thorn have, either together or solo, led this important function of Stone Church for many years?

Please join us as we show our concern for the hungry, both locally and globally. Second Harvest Food Bank and Sacred Heart Community Service (locally), and Church World Service (globally), all benefit from this gratifying event.



Rod and Derk are anxious for you to be part of the walkers this year and would love to have help with leading Stone's participation.

And if you can't walk, please sponsor a walker - they will start asking for donations on Palm Sunday.

**Date: Sunday, April 29, 2007**

**Place: Lincoln High School  
555 Dana Avenue  
San Jose**

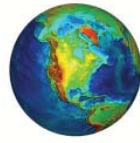
**Registration: 12:30 pm**

**Start: 1 pm**

**Distance: 1- and 5-mile routes in the gorgeous Rose Garden area**

## Planting to Help the Earth

How can what we plant and how we care for our yards affect the earth? Learn from your Stone Church



Master Gardeners at the Church & World Eco-Faithfulness exhibit on the patio at coffee hour on Sunday, April 22. Get tips about growing native and drought-tolerant plants, composting, organic garden care, planting for birds, bees and butterflies, and more. Take home helpful handouts. Celebrate Earth Day!

## All Church Mission Project

On a Saturday in May (date to be determined), we will have a "hands-on" experience of working with one of the organizations our church supports. It is Church & World's way of acquainting us with a ministry with whom we have a relationship.

More details will be forthcoming in May's *The Stone News* and in church bulletins in late April.

## Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness

In March, Church & World voted to join the *Presbyterian Network to End Homelessness - a National Effort to Mobilize Churches*. We will be hearing from them on a regular basis, passing along what we can do to support this important issue, and challenging us to get more involved than we are presently. Stay tuned for more details.

## Reaching out to North Carolina

Church & World voted in March to contribute to a church-sponsored program in North Carolina that feeds hungry schoolchildren on weekends when they don't have access to free school meals.

Jody Meacham asked for the contribution after reading about the *Backpack Pals* program in his hometown newspaper. Pastor Steve Crews of the Church of God of Prophecy in Hamlet, NC, began the program



in which members of his congregation fill backpacks with nutritious snacks that are sent home on Friday afternoons with students identified by the county social services department.

"The story about Backpack Pals generated a lot of opposition from people unsympathetic to the poor," Jody said. "I saw it as an opportunity to set a Christian example and work with a conservative church to use the things we have in common to magnify our impact in the world."

Stone Church's contribution will feed three children at Fairview Heights Elementary School (Jody's alma mater) through the remaining school year.

- *Bea Groppuso, with contributors Rhonda Lakatos and Jody Meacham*

At its regular meeting on March 13, Session received a report from Mel Goertz on the Capital Campaign to pay for the renovation of the social hall, kitchen and Simpson education

## Session Beat

campain worksheet prepared by Pat Magee was shared with the Budget & Finance Committee; it indicates that of the \$1,460,722 originally pledged, some \$1,070,830 has been received. The expected total at the end of all pledging (including an extra two years for some) is \$1,374,887, which is \$85,835 less than was pledged.

Mel said it was normal for a Capital Campaign to have falloff; our falloff is less than some. He reminded Session the Capital Campaign does not pay off the total cost of the renovation project - loans carry the extra. The overall cost of the project was some \$2+ million, plus the cost of loans and interest.

Mary Johnson reported she has put together a task force on Health Ministries, as Session directed at its last meeting; she received a positive response from people she talked to. Session voted to co-opt these people to the Health Ministries Task Force: Alice Bailey, Mike Breuleux, Derk

Johnson, Jan Keifer, John Lococo, Bob Lowry, Joyce Summers, Fred Oliver, and Mary Johnson. Connie Pearson will be a resource, but not a formal member.

Jody Meacham reported on the events planned to get the congregation acquainted with pastor candidate Ken Henry. Marge Palmer reminded Session the congregational vote is only one step in this process. The Presbytery must also approve his call; that will likely be voted on at a Presbytery meeting on June 9 at Calvin Presbyterian Church, San Jose.

- *Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session*



# News from PW

“April showers bring May flowers” ... well, not in California. We are already seeing spring flowers blooming and trees greening; the April showers (and we need them!) will still be welcome so more gardens and trees may flourish.

Women from all over the Presbytery of San Jose are looking forward to the *Spiritual Nurture Retreat* on April 21 at Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church from 9 am to 2:30 pm. The Rev. Jan Butin will lead us in *Walking Together ... in a Sacred Space*. A simple lunch will be furnished. This is a great opportunity to meet our sisters from other groups, make new friends, and renew connections from previous gatherings.

There soon will be a new brochure in the pew racks for PW. Please let us know how you like it and any suggestions you may have for publicity.

Wasn't it fun to see the reactions to the Honorary Life Membership presentations? No one wears his/her pin with more pride than Mel Goertz (see photo, top right).

It is early, maybe, but if you do your calendar in advance, don't forget to note the June 7 picnic and the August 25 brunch. More on those events later.

Here is the PW Schedule for April:  
**Bible Study with Marge**, Thursday, March 22, 9:30 am, Conf. Rm./Lib.

**Amethyst Circle**, Wednesday, April 4, 1 pm, Conference Room/Library

**Emerald Circle**, Thursday, April 5, 9:30 am, Ruth White's home

**Sapphire Circle**, Monday, April 9, 7:30 pm, Sue Evan's home

**Focus Group**, Tuesday, April 3, 9:30 am, Elizabeth Shandera's home

**Book Group I**, Monday, April 16, 1 pm, Elizabeth Shandera's home, reading *The Tortilla Curtain* by T.C. Doyle

**Book Group II**, Monday, April 16, 2:30 pm, Alice Thorn's home, reading *Year of Wonders* by Geraldine Brooks

**Lunch Bunch**, Tues., April 10, 11:30 am, Taiwan Restaurant, Willow Glen

**Prayer Shawl Group I**, Tuesday, April 24, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room

**Prayer Shawl Group II**, Thursday, April 26, 4 pm, Fireside Room

- Catherine Amos



Photos from "Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday" Above: Presbyterian Women bestowed Honorary Life Memberships on (left to right) Mel Goertz, Janice Goertz, Tina Luebcke, and Emily Meacham. Below left: Beautiful banners in the Sanctuary made by Jeanette Rapp. Below right: Claudia Hamm with the "Presbyterian Women on the Move" display in the social hall.



## New Tax Laws for Cash Donations

As of January 1, 2007, the IRS has imposed another new rule that affects everyone who donates to churches and/or other charitable and non-profit organizations. All monies given must be recorded and receipted to be eligible as a tax deduction. This means those of us who donate to the church in cash must have a receipt, or the donation cannot be deducted.

The Budget & Finance Committee suggests you make cash donations by using the pew envelopes and print your name on the envelope. Cash donations given in this way will be confidentially credited to you by

the financial secretary, and you will receive a composite statement at the end of the calendar year that you can use for tax purposes.

We recognize this is an additional burden on those wishing to give cash, but we ask your indulgence and ask you not to let IRS rules interfere with your willingness to share from your treasure in support of our ministry and mission.

Please note that this new rule does not apply to those who write checks or have the auto-withdrawal service.

- Mel Goertz, B&F



## Family Movie Night

It's time again for Family Movie Night! On Saturday, April 21, at about 6 pm, the M&E committee will present a movie suitable for the whole family, *Fly Away Home*.

From *imdb.com*: *A family of orphaned geese who lost their way. A 14-year-old kid who will lead them home. To achieve the incredible, you have to attempt the impossible. A father and daughter decide to attempt to lead a flock of orphaned Canada Geese south by air.*

We'll provide childcare for younger children. Bring snacks or "movie food" to share ~ we'll spring for pizzas and popcorn! Contact Emily Meacham for more information.



*Fun and games at a Family Cluster dinner! Jean Raby, Catherine Edwards, Maureen Searing, and Ida Raby enjoy a serious game of cards after a delicious meal of corned beef and cabbage provided by Maureen. Dan Raby (who took the picture) said Catherine was a "charming hostess, for sure!" Sounds like a good time was had by all.*

## Book Exchange to Help Mission Projects

The Men's Book Club is hosting a different sort of book sale on Sunday, April 22, during coffee hour, and your participation is requested.

The club noticed that during book selection meetings, we exchanged unselected books among ourselves. Many books were of interest to our members, even though the club did not choose to read them. We thought other members might also have good reading material to share - fiction, nonfiction, children's, adult's, etc.

Here's how you can help: On the first three Sundays in April (1, 8, 15) bring to the social hall up to 10 books you think other members at Stone

would like to read *and* you don't want any longer. Please keep in mind that we are not trying to clean out your garage; we are looking for interesting reading material.

We will sort the books and put them out for sale on April 22. Prices will be \$1 per paperback, and \$2 per hardback, with three hardbacks for \$5. Unpurchased books will be donated to a local library.

Money raised will help fund the high school mission trip and other mission projects at Stone. This should be fun - bring your books and take home some good summer reading.

- Stephen Buckley



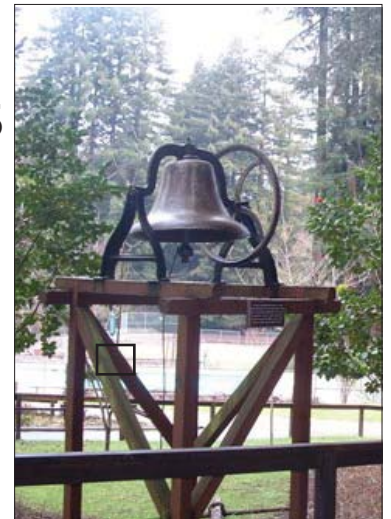
*Jean Raby (left) has now assembled quite a handbell choir (below).*

*We can't wait to hear their first performance!*

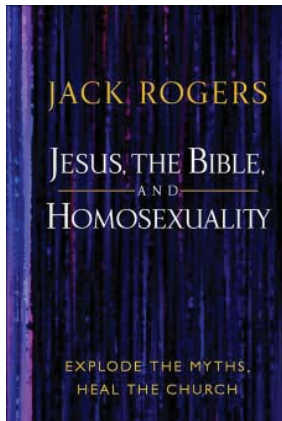


## Stone Camping Back at Mt. Cross

Stone Church is returning to Mt. Cross! We have reserved the group site for the weekend of August 10 - 12 for camping, hiking, swimming, and just plain old hangin' around. Look for more details at the sign-up table in the social hall after Easter, or contact Maureen Searing.



# Dr. Jack Rogers' Lectures Far Exceeded Expectations!



The January 23-24 lectures by Dr. Jack Rogers were wonderful in content and very successful financially. We had 133 attend the Friday evening lecture, and 88 attended the Saturday lecture series. Dr. Rogers also preached Sunday and led an Adult Study discussion, which 41 Stone Church members attended.

We sold 50 copies (of 50 purchased) of *Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality*, 10 copies (of 10 purchased) of *Claiming the Center*, and 8 copies (of 10 purchased) of *Reading the Bible and the Confessions the Presbyterian Way*. We have orders for 25 DVDs of his lectures.

While final numbers are not in, profit on the event was more than \$600. - Pat Magee



*The Chancel Choir stays busy – here they are adding to the fun on Fat Tuesday.*

*Be sure to join them on Palm Sunday for the Fauré Requiem (see article, page 8).*



# Chancel Choir, with Nancy Wait Kromm, to Perform Fauré Requiem, Palm Sunday

The Chancel Choir, under the direction of Nancy Wait Kromm, will perform the Fauré *Requiem* on Palm Sunday, April 1. Instrumentalists include Jerry Keifer and Andrew Edwards on cello and Holly Kane on violin. Special guests include Claudia Bloom, Goetz Leonhardt, Leroy Kromm, and Karen Thielen.

Here are a few notes on this truly inspirational and uplifting piece.

Gabriel Fauré was born in Pamiers, France, May 12, 1845, and died in Paris, November 4, 1924. He trained at the Ecole Niedermeyer (1854-65) as organist and choirmaster, coming under the influence of Saint-Saëns and his circle while working as a church musician (at Rennes, 1866-70; St. Sulpice, 1871-3; the Madeleine, from 1874).

There's no question that Gabriel Fauré's best known choral work is the

*Messe de Requiem*. Written between 1887 and 1890, the *Requiem* was written not for the death of his father, but as another experiment in Fauré's endless quest to write music that was new and different. Even so, the *Requiem* does convey his own personal feelings and attitudes about death. He said in 1902, "That's how I see death: as a joyful deliverance, an aspiration towards a happiness beyond the grave, rather than as a painful experience."

The work centers on the *Pie Jesu* for soprano solo, with two groups of three movements on either side. In all, the seven movements are: *Trois mouvements* and *Kyrie*, *Offertory*, *Sanctus*, *Pie Jesu*, *Agnus Dei*, *Libera me*, and *In Paradisum*.

Please join the choir on Palm Sunday, as they share this beautiful musical offering with you.

(Notes from *The Classical Music Pages*, [w3.rz-berlin.mpg.de/cmp/classmus.html](http://w3.rz-berlin.mpg.de/cmp/classmus.html))

*The Stone Church of Willow Glen  
Presbyterian USA  
1937 Lincoln Avenue  
(corner of Clark & Lincoln)  
San Jose, CA 95125-3499*

*Website: [www.stonechurch.org](http://www.stonechurch.org)*

*Church Office:  
Phone: 408-269-1593  
Fax: 408-269-8412*

*The Reverend Marge Palmer,  
Interim Pastor  
Miriam Kishi,  
Christian Education Associate  
Mary Jane (MJ) Nesbitt,  
Office Manager*

*The Stone News Staff:  
Emily Moak Meacham, Editor  
Pat Magee, Jody Meacham, Fred Oliver,  
Lizanne Oliver: Assistant Editors  
Sylvia Snyder, Chief Photographer  
Dan Raby: Additional Photos  
Catherine Amos, Fred Gardner,  
Dulcie Janzen, Jan Keifer, Jerry Keifer,  
Sylvia Snyder: Production*



**Please join us for the 30th Annual South Bay CROP Walk, 4/29**  
*... you don't want to miss Derk's headgear for 2007! (see page 4 for details)*