

THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA AUGUST 2010



WHAT WE FOUND AT THE HEAD OF THE HOLLA'

by Rev. Dr. Ken Henry

We went to a land where mountains rise and fall,
where coal lies deep and shallow,
where mountains are flattened into grassy savannahs,
and waterways fill with mud, catfish, carp, and bass.

We went to a place where one Walmart can bankrupt a town,
where there is no shortage of storefront signs that read, "For Rent,"
where out of 436 rural counties of similar size and population
and ranked in terms of "well-being,"
Perry County ranks 435th.¹

We went to a place where poverty *taint gettin'* out soon,
a place where young and old men descend into darkness,
where wives and girlfriends never tell them
how worried they truly are.

Yes, we *set out right yonder* to a spot in the American landscape,
where a vine called Kudzu can grow 18 inches in a day
(At least, that's what they tell y'all!),
where NASCAR and moonshine are first cousins,
and the heat of the sun will stick to your skin, sure as certain.

A land where a house of worship can be driven by every half mile:
Baptist, Presbyterian, Baptist,
Church of God, Baptist, Pentecostal,
and Baptist.

A place where pride and shame mix with humble hospitality,
and most folks will treat you *jes like kin*.

A land where Jesus sits in an old wooden *cheer*
on a porch at the *head of the holla'*
while God's love roams among green Kentucky hills.

¹ This statistic is based on the Well-Being Index. The Gallup Group obtains completed interviews from 1,000 US adults nationally, seven days a week, excluding only major holidays. Based on their response, individuals and communities receive an overall well-being composite score and a score in each of six sub-indices including life evaluation, emotional health, physical health, healthy behavior, work environment and basic access.



Seven dedicated Stone Church members [from top left: Ken Henry, Donald Foster, Judi Kaiser, a youth member, Kate Wheatley, Karen Scott, Don Skipwith] recently traveled to Hazard, Kentucky, to help with new construction and home renovation projects for this "rich land with poor people." From Don Skipwith: "What I brought back with me from Appalachia was a true sense of community."

SOW THE WORD: “GREEN” VCS 2010

by Mary Jo Blazek,
Children’s Ministry Coordinator

Sow the Word, an environmentally focused Vacation Church School program, inspired us to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world, as we practice the stewardship of creation. The Biblical focal point was the *Parable of the Sower*. We explored how to continually grow in God’s love, while caring for the precious gift of Earth.

We used the practices of *recycle, reuse, and reduce* to honor Stone Church’s commitment to being *green*. Each day, the children began in the Sanctuary

where they heard Buckwheat and Lily (our seed puppet friend) talk about the spotlight of the day. They heard the *Parable of the Sower* from Luke’s Gospel and sang praises with their joyful voices.

Then, they were off to many fun centers: *Crafts* where they used their creativity making treasures from reusable junk, *World and Science* where they learned about the environment, and *Community Garden* where they learned firsthand what the Bible meant by preparing the soil.

Next, they were off to games that often got wet and wild.

Highlights of the week were worm composting, electric car rides, grass seed heads, solar stuff, oil spill clean

up, live chickens, and of course the homemade bread.

Our mission project that week was twofold. We collected 15 large bags of clean, usable clothing for InnVision and 120 pounds of canned food for Second Harvest Food Bank. The children brought their donations daily, adding their clothes to the reuse tree sculpture and using their canned food to design the *Garden of Generosity* set up in the narthex.

The following Sunday, the children shared their songs and experiences with the congregation at a special VCS service.

Our adult volunteers were awesome, and the children were a delight. Can’t wait until next year!



WORSHIP AND PICNIC AT HISTORY PARK, AUG. 22

Join us for *Fun in the Sun* at Stone’s annual *Worship and Picnic in the Park*, at History Park, on Sunday, Aug. 22, beginning at 10 am.

This fun and festive annual tradition starts with an outdoor Worship service – surrounded by the beauty of nature – followed by a delicious picnic. Fun and games for all ages rounds out the day.

This is the perfect opportunity to introduce your friends and relatives to Stone Church, in a relaxed setting – so bring everyone along!

The only other thing to bring is a side dish or dessert to share. Our wonderful Stone Church chefs will be grilling the main course, which is always a gourmet treat.

Worship begins at 10 am at History Park with the picnic immediately following. Signup during Coffee Fellowship in August. Maps and directions will be available at the sign-up table.

For more information, contact Katherine Webb Calhoon or Roland Neufeld.

THE STONE NEWS, PAGE 2

FAMILY CAMP IS BACK, AUG. 13-15

Join your church family on Aug. 13 - 15 for a fun and relaxing weekend of camping in the redwoods at Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

Activities include campfire entertainment, children’s crafts, hikes, and a Sunday Worship service.

The cost is \$45 per adult and \$35 per child, which includes the campsite and meals from Friday dinner to Sunday breakfast.

We have reserved a 50-person group campsite, so space is limited.

For more information, contact Brian Sailor.

FEED YOUR MIND, TAKE ACTION, END HUNGER

Feed your mind, take action, end hunger is the theme of the Global Education Kits from Heifer International we are using this summer with our multi-age Church School on Sundays.

Not only are we traveling around the world to look at animals that make a difference in people’s lives, we are also learning about other projects Heifer supports, such as teaching families to take care of their soil to increase their crop production and helping them to build safe, sturdy homes.

9.2 million families around the globe have been helped over the years. We are seeing DVDs about these people, reading stories, and connecting this to the lessons that Jesus teaches us in the Bible. Visit us anytime!

- Rosaleen Zisch

ADULT ED LOOKS AT JOHN MUIR, RESILIENT CHILDREN, HISTORIC JESUS

Fascinating and varied Adult Education classes are held every Sunday morning at 11:15 am in the Fireside Room. All are welcome!

Aug. 1 and 15: Conclusion of Summer Lecture Series: American Landmarks of Faith

This beautiful, historical series explores America's rich tapestry of religious beliefs by visiting the places where these faiths took root and grew. Discover how each place has made a significant contribution to America's past and present. Each class is self-contained; join us when you are in town.

Aug. 1 - Methodist Camp Meetings
Aug. 15 - Heritage of African-American Worship

Aug. 8: StoneWorks presents: "Stop Torture," with Gerald Grey

Aug. 29: "John Muir and the Conversion of America's Last Untamed Tribe," with Dan Henry

When America's greatest naturalist, John Muir, went to Alaska in 1879, he visited the "most warlike Indians" remaining on the continent. His short, simple sermon proved to be the linchpin in the conversion of the Chilkat Tlingits to Christianity. This momentous meeting transformed Muir's view of Native Americans and forever altered Chilkat culture.

Ken Henry's brother, Dr. Daniel Lee Henry, is a Frontier Rhetorician, an honored writer, and founder of the Alaska Native Oratory Society.

Sept. 12: "Raising Resilient Children in a Stressful World," with Dawn Pream

Parents need fine-tuned stress management skills to successfully guide

children through the rough waters of childhood and into their adult lives. Dawn Charron Pream discusses techniques to support children in learning appropriate and healthy coping skills to survive today's hectic world.

Sept. 19: Endowment Education: "You Can Influence Stone Church's Ministry"

Sept. 26, Oct. 3: "The Historic Jesus and His Resurrection, a Postmodern Perspective," with Tom Sheenan

Tom Sheenan, Professor of Religion at Stanford University, presents an unusual (and perhaps controversial) postmodern approach to understanding the historic Jesus and His resurrection.

There are no classes on Aug. 22 (picnic) or Sept. 5 (Labor Day). For more information, contact Pat Magee.

STILL LOTS OF GOOD READING IN THE LIBRARY AS THE SUMMER BEGINS TO WANE

August seems like another January - a month looking in two directions - back to the summer slipping away and forward to all the regular business of life.

Many of our new books do the same: evoking vacations, picnics and gardening, on one hand, and serious school, family, religious, social and political matters, on the other. Enjoy the facet you choose!

- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator



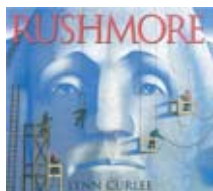
New for our younger members:

Carl's Summer Vacation by Alexandra Day (ReadAloud Day)

The Story of the Super Skunk by Janet Grundman (J Gru)



Teddy Bears' Picnic Cookbook by Abigail Darling & Alexandra Day (J 641.5 Dar)



Rushmore by Lynn Curlee (YA 736 Cur)

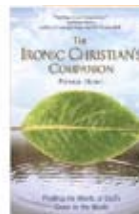
Being Bullied by Joy Berry (J Berry Collection 306 Ber)



Behind the Attic Wall by Sylvia Cassedy (YA Cas)

New on our adult side:

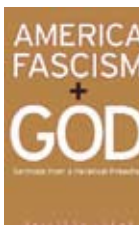
The Ironic Christian's Companion by Patrick Henry (234 Hen)



The Active Life: Wisdom for Work, Creativity & Caring by Parker Palmer (248.8 Pal), given by

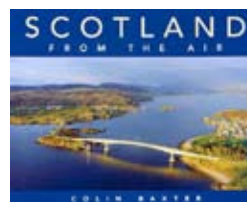
Rebecca Kuiken

American Fascism + God by Davidson Loehr (261.7 Loe)



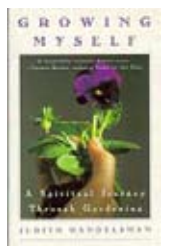
Grassroots Philanthropy: Field Notes of a Maverick Grantmaker by Bill Somerville (658.1 Som)

Scotland from the Air by Colin Baxter (941 Bax)



In our special sections:

Growing Myself: A Spiritual Journey Through Gardening by Judith Handelsman (Ecol 635 Han)



Help Your Child with a Foreign Language (Berlitz) by Opal Dunn (Fam 372 Dun)

Workshop



Feeding Your Kids Right by Children's Television Workshop (Fam Par 649 Chi)



A Feminist Ethic of Risk by Sharon Welch (Soc Iss 241 Wel), given by Rebecca Kuiken

19 Peacemaking Studies by Presbyterian Peacemaking Program (Soc Iss Peace 327 Pre), given by David McCreath



Save Three Lives: A Plan for Famine Prevention by Robert Rodale (Soc Iss Hunger 338 Rod)

STONEWORKS "GOOD WORKS" NEVER CEASE, EVEN IN THE SUMMER MONTHS

Even during the lazy days of summer, the StoneWorks committee has many new and exciting projects to report!

And look for more great things from StoneWorks in the months to come.

Help Bring Produce to Others

Valley Medical Center (East Clinic) has teamed with Second Harvest Food Bank to bring fresh fruits and vegetables to families in need, via the "Produce Mobile." Several volunteers from Stone Church have joined the efforts, on the second Saturday of each month, to help distribute a variety of produce - watermelon, peaches, tomatoes, and lettuce just to name a few - at the clinic site.

June 12 was the debut of the project, and approximately 250 families were served. July 10 was our second event, and approximately 175 families received produce. The recipients are so appreciative. For many, fresh fruit and vegetables are either unavailable at their local market or cost-prohibitive. Volunteers are always welcome! You'll have a great time.

For more information, contact Ashley Neufeld.

Support Local Hotel Workers

On Sun., Sept. 5, Chuck Rawlings, Executive Director, Santa Clara County Council of Churches, will speak about local labor issues, particularly those of hotel workers, in a *Minute for Mission*. Mr. Rawlings will be in the Social Hall after church, and you can show your support for local laborers. We're hopeful some hotel workers will also worship with us that morning.

Look for "Environmental Bullets"

Check out the "Environmental Bullets" in future bulletins for great suggestions and ideas for protecting our awesome environment!

Shopping with InnVision Children

Do you enjoy shopping? Do you enjoy making a child's day? Then put this event in your calendar: our annual shopping trip with children (ages 5-18) from InnVision (www.innvision.org) on Saturday, Sept. 25.

InnVision - a San Jose shelter for families fleeing domestic violence, or who have fallen on hard times and lost their homes - is partnering with Stone Church to provide gift cards for clothes - and some fun - for these children in need. After we shop, we'll enjoy a festive breakfast together at the store. This year, we will be taking 25 children and will need approximately 23 volunteers, most to shop, some to drive the children to and from the store.

Last year, the coordinator at InnVision said, "The children were thrilled to experience the wonder of 'all about me' time ... it is a rarity in their world. The kind and loving hearts of the Stone Church congregation volunteers are appreciated more than you know."

Come join us and give the gift of "all about me" time to these youngsters.

Where: Kohl's Department Store, Santa Clara

When: Sat., Sept 25, 7 - 9:30 am

Signups: Begin in late August during Coffee Fellowship

For more information, contact Alice McNelis or Alison van Diggelen.

Sacred Heart Donations

Fred Groppuso reports that June Food Donations for Sacred Heart totalled 13 bags of food weighing 87.5 pounds. Other recent donations for Sacred Heart included 5 bags of toiletries, 31 bags of clothes, 2 bags of shoes, 4 egg cartons, 2 bags of grocery bags, 1 bedspread and sheets, and 1 box of children's books.

Our Dear "Dumpster Diver" Retires

With this last report, Fred Groppuso has announced he is retiring from his many tasks around Stone Church. Those jobs now need to be taken over by others. Yes, that's right - **others!** Fred may have been able to handle all these tasks, but his shoes are just too big to fill. Would you like to:

- ◆ Take food collected on Communion Sunday to Sacred Heart at First and Alma Streets?
- ◆ Take recyclable cans and bottles, collected at Stone, to a Recycle Center, and change the proceeds into quarters for the children's Heifer quarter tower?
- ◆ Take old cell phones, donated by Stone members, to Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence?
- ◆ Take used batteries, brought in by Stone members, to Orchard Supply Hardware?

Perhaps some young people are looking for a project? Or maybe you have the time and want to take on one or more of these very worthwhile tasks?

For more information, contact Maureen Ryan.

- articles contributed by Maureen Ryan, Maureen Chandler & Alison van Diggelen



HIGH SCHOOL GROUP HAS PRODUCTIVE WORKTRIP

The High School Group would like to thank Stone Church for supporting their recent worktrip to Zephyr Point.

Your donations to the donut and cookie fundraisers enabled them to build 150 feet of fencing and a large deck, paint the decks of six cabins, and dig almost forty holes for trees and shrubs. They shared these projects with a youth group from Yuba City.

The kids worked tirelessly - taking no breaks except for lunch. And they all helped cook and clean up.

The evening program took care of itself. On at least three evenings, they started and ran their own Bible sessions. Bible interpretation from several Bibles was the main theme. We should all be proud of them!

- Lawrence Summers

August and the dog days of summer! Excuse me, I'm off to the beach to cool off.

While we have been on vacation - well, most of us - it is time to start planning for the work and the pleasure ahead.

This will start with our *August Brunch*, on the 21st, which is always a good time to catch up with everyone after summer hiatus, so come and enjoy.

Stories of Faith, a compilation of memories from our members - past and present - is now in print and will be available this month. This book proj-

ect was inspired and started a year ago by Claudia Hamm.

We continue to receive coupons. This month, the emphasis is on healthy snacks for our children, including Nature Valley granola bars. Save Mart and Lucky continue their support of schools with SMART cards, which contribute 1.5% of your total receipts to the program.

Bible Study with the Rev. Marge Palmer resumes on Aug. 26, and begins a study of the *Book of the Revelation of John*. Rev. Marge always has inspiring presentations, and this is open to everyone.

Fair Trade Sales of coffee, etc., will be Sunday, Aug. 15 (3rd Sun.) as usual.

PW Schedule for Aug./Sept.:

Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am, Aug. 10, Taiwan Restaurant

Coordinating Team, 9:30 am, Aug. 12, Social Hall

Fair Trade Sales, 10:30 am, Aug. 15, Social Hall

Book Group II, 2:30 pm, Aug. 16
August Brunch, 9 am, Aug. 21, Social Hall

Book Group I, 1 pm, Aug. 23, Liz Shandera's home, reading *Stones into Schools* by Greg Mortensen

Focus Group, 9:30 am, Aug. 25, Liz Shandera's home

Bible Study with the Rev. Marge Palmer, 9:30 am, Aug. 26, Church Library

PrayerShawlMinistry, 4pm, Aug. 26, Fireside Room

Amethyst Circle, 1 pm, Sept. 1

Emerald Circle, 9:30 am, Sept. 2

Sapphire Circle, 7:30 pm, Sept. 14

- Catherine Amos



MEET RETURNING MEMBER, PAMELAH LANDERS

Stone Church is very happy to welcome back a "child of our church," Pamela Landers. Here is a little biographical information about her, in her own words.

1956 was the first year I started attending Stone Church with my parents, June and Tab Tablak. Having moved to Willow Glen from Campbell, Stone became a regular Sunday event for all of the Tablaks.

Growing up through church school and very active junior and senior high school programs at Stone, I learned about leadership skills, taking risks to sing and speak publicly, participating in many groups as a team member, and socializing with others my age, as well as adults, with great comfort.

After going off to UC Davis, I moved back to San Jose and reconnected with Stone as I worked in the electronics industry. Serving as an elder for three years in my 20s brought a new level of education about church functioning and how to get decisions made under Presbyterian law. I continued to work in



the electronics industry for 20 years, and most of that time was involved in the church. However, after Don Whitney died in 1991, I stopped attending services at Stone for many years.

I'm sure searching for a larger understanding of God and my relationship with God and spirituality was part of that. It was also the year I started learning about

Hand Analysis and have been reading hands for 19 years using this science-based, non-predictive system that helps people identify their Life Purpose.

The other thread of my life has been music. In second grade, I sang my first duet in the Sanctuary as part of the children's choir and have been performing solos, duets, and quartets ever since.

In 1992, that love of music found me starting the Fun Times Singers choir, which I directed for 7-1/2 years. I'm now directing the Serendipity Choir, and we sing at churches around the Bay Area twice a month.

- Pamela Landers

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR STONE STEWARDS

Do you know someone who is a good steward of Stone Church?

Stewardship means much more than just our monetary pledges - it also includes giving of our time!

The Stewardship Committee is seeking nominations of people to be recognized as *Stone Stewards*, those unsung - and too frequently unknown! - heroes who quietly volunteer so generously to help others, keep the church running, or just make life at Stone Church better in some substantial way.

Nominees must be unpaid volunteers and need not be members. The Stewardship Committee will choose one Stone Steward to be honored approximately every other month.

Please send all nominations, along with the reasons you feel your nominee should be a *Stone Steward of the Month*, to Guy Lohman.

Want to help foster stewardship? Contact Guy or Michele Chandler. Thanks!

MARCUS BORG ON “SPEAKING CHRISTIAN: RECLAIMING CHRISTIAN LANGUAGE”

Marcus Borg, world-renowned Biblical scholar and author, returns to Stone Church, Oct. 22-23. His lectures, part of the *Henrietta Perdue Memorial Lectures* series, will explore how important Christian words have lost their meaning and power over the centuries and how their rich, illuminating, and powerful meanings can be redeemed.

Speaking Christian: Reclaiming Christian Language is the Friday evening overview lecture. Three lectures on Saturday expand and explore this topic further:

(1) *Beyond Literalism to a Historical and Metaphorical Interpretation of Christian Language* – Literalism flattens the meaning of Biblical and Christian language, often making it incredible. Dr. Borg explores the richness of Christian language about God and Jesus.



(2) *Beyond Christian Convention to Intention and Practice* – Until half a century ago, a cultural expectation in most parts of the US assumed everyone would be part of a religious community. As a result, many people were church members for reasons of convention. That expectation has disappeared. So what does it mean that churches will soon be made up of only intentional and practicing Christians?

(3) *Beyond Cultural Convention to Alternative Values and Community* – The common Christianity of the recent past assumed that Christian values and American cultural values were more or less the same. What does it mean to be an American Christian in a time when the wedding of Christianity and dominant American values has become increasingly problematic?

Tickets will be available during Coffee Fellowship from Sept. 12 until the lectures. Tickets will also be available at the church office and at the event. Cost: \$20 for the Friday night, \$30 for all three Saturday lectures, or \$40 for the complete program. Reduced student prices: \$10 Friday, \$20 Saturday, \$25 complete program. Child care is available, but must be requested at least two weeks in advance.

Contact Pat Magee, Chair, Adult Ed Subcommittee, for more information.



FALL SERMON SERIES: JOURNEYS

Rev. Dr. Ken Henry has created a fall sermon series, *Journeys*, which he describes below:

“In worship and through the sermon, we will focus on different aspects of the Christian journey. What is a spiritual journey? How does one journey toward God? And then, how do we go forward when the journey ahead appears difficult or, perhaps, without clear direction?”

I hope this sermon series encourages us to explore our own spiritual walk, lending us strength for the journey!”

Sept. 12: *Making a Pilgrimage*;
Rev. Ken Henry, preaching

Sept. 19: *Pathways to Forgiveness*;
Rev. Ken Henry, preaching

Sept. 26: *Discerning Your Call Along the Way*;
Rev. Ken Henry preaching

Oct. 3: *Peace: A Lifelong Journey*;
Rev. Ken Henry, preaching

Oct 10: *The Journey Never Ends*;
Rev. Marge Palmer, preaching

SESSION HOLDS FIRST MEETING OF NEW CHURCH YEAR

The Session held their first regular meeting to include the class of 2013 on Tuesday, July 20, at 7:30 pm.

In his Pastor’s Report, Ken noted that, by mutual agreement, Dale Bracey will no longer serve as Parish Associate. Dale will continue as a Stephen Minister. Session is grateful for Dale’s work.

Parish Associate Marge Palmer is recovering from cracked ribs sustained when a VTA train braked suddenly. Session members expressed sympathy for Marge.

In a discussion of how to bring new leadership into the work of Stone Church, Susan Bedolla (Personnel & Administration Chair) described *co-opting* as a process for naming committee members. At the August Session meeting, committee chairs will share names for potential members. Chairs also agreed to bring lists of current committee members.

Susan also described a little of the process for deciding which Session members will chair or serve on which committees. Assignments are

based on a mix of what the Session member wants to do, that member’s skills, and the ability of particular members to work together on a given committee.

New Fellowship & Renewal Chair Katherine Webb Calhoon distributed the most important schedule of all: coffee servers for the coming year. *Coffee Fellowship* is a popular and useful gathering, but keeping it staffed takes everyone’s cooperation.

Budget and Finance Chair David Jaffer reported that the budget is in good shape, with giving a little ahead of schedule.

Steve Nelson, Buildings & Grounds Chair, made an urgent plea for the return of church master keys. Only one remains in the office; they cannot be duplicated.

For Christian Education, Deborah Crim said that emergency procedures are now in place for nursery attendants, in case of sudden illness or other unforeseen situations.

- Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session

NEW ASSIGNMENTS FOR SESSION AND DEACONS, AS OF JULY 1, 2010

As a new Church Year began July 1, 2010, and the Session and Board of Deacons have undergone changes in composition and assignments, here are the new roles for each member of these groups.

SESSION ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2010 - 2011

Committee	Function	Name
Budget & Finance	Chair, Corp. President	David Jaffer
Budget & Finance	Vice Chair, Corp. VP	Bruce Raby
Buildings & Grounds	Chair	Steve Nelson
Buildings & Grounds		Steven Graham
Buildings & Grounds		Kendall Searing
Christian Education	Chair	Jonathan Miller
Christian Education		Deborah Crim
Fellowship & Renewal	Chair	Katherine Webb Calhoon
Fellowship & Renewal		Roland Neufeld
Health Ministries	Chair	Alice Bailey
Health Ministries		Kathie Lloyd
Nominating	Chair	Maureen Chandler
Nominating		
Personnel & Administration	Chair	Susan Bedolla
Personnel & Administration		Brian Gustafson
Personnel & Administration	Clerk of Session, Corp. Sec.	Alice Thorn
Stewardship	Chair	Guy Lohman
Stewardship		Michele Chandler
StoneWorks	Chair	Maureen Ryan
StoneWorks		Gail Chaid
Worship	Chair	Kate Wheatley
Worship		Walter Roach
Worship		Derk Johnson

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2010 - 2011

Name	Assignment
Breuleux, Michael	Mid-winter Tea/Nominating Committee Representative
Casner, Norah	Spring Luncheon Assistant
Cledenning, Carolyn	Prayer Chain Assistant
Degan, Joyce	Greeter/Guestbook
Donald, Michael	Rides
Evans, Sue	Christmas Event Lead
Hudson, Mary-Ann	Spring Tea/Memorial Coordinator
Lakatos, Bill	Prayer Chain Lead
McKee, Mark	Visitation Coordinator
Meacham, Jody	Easter Egg Hunt
Moore, Kaye	Secretary
Pierce, Ann	Mid-winter Tea
Ribble, Bill	Mid-winter Tea
Ribble, Claire	Vice Moderator
Skipwith, Donald (Skip)	Moderator
Stark, Steve	Mid-winter Tea Assistant
Stutz, Ken	Spring Luncheon Lead
Summers, Joyce	Parent's Day Out
Weiss, Nancy	Christmas Event Assistant
Wright, Meredith	Holiday Flower Coordinator

College Conundrums

Please let the Editor know of any news of our college-bound members!

From Greg Edwards: My freshman year at UC San Diego taught me a lot more than just about academics, but about what I want to do with my education. I am double majoring in math and physics and want to do some sort of research professionally.

One of the classes I most enjoyed was Honors Math, which covered linear algebra, differential forms, and vector calculus, over three quarters. It started with 38 students, who had all scored a perfect 5 on the AP Calculus BC Exam in high school; by the end of the year only 15 students were left. Because of the small class size, I got to know the professors very well. I also took a second math class, differential equations, during spring quarter, which completed lower division math requirements for my pure math major.

My physics classes (which were limited to those with that major) were more in depth than engineering physics classes. These more intensive classes actually provoked my interest in the subject. The other benefit was small class size, with only 40 physics majors in the freshman class last year.

Taking both Honors Math and Physics for Physics Majors courses confirmed my choice of this double major. Although I have always been interested in physics concepts, my mechanics and thermodynamics physics classes gave me a broader understanding and awareness of many interesting things going on in the field of physics.

And I was involved in more than academics. I played on an Ultimate Frisbee team with six other guys from my high school (Bellarmine) and a few from my dorm. We practiced twice a week and traveled to tournaments in Long Beach and Santa Barbara. I was on the "B" team, which didn't win often, and it didn't matter. My best friends at college were on the Ultimate Frisbee team.

Part of my college experience was living in a dorm and being in a triple with two guys I didn't know before.

As a sophomore next year, I will be living in a single room in an apartment suite with four of my best friends.

This summer I will take two classes at night at West Valley College to learn to program Java. I will also be working full time as an intern within sales operations at a software startup called ResponseLogix.

From Gordon Meacham: At the end of my freshman year, a friend told me about a theater company called *Studio 301*, UC Davis' only completely student-run-and-funded production company. Since I had enjoyed theater at Lincoln High School, I knew I needed to get involved with this group.

In *Macbeth*, the first production I auditioned for, I got the roles of Fleance, the son of Banquo, and Seyton, Macbeth's armor bearer. While I did not have a lot of stage time or lines, I was in two fight scenes with very large metal swords, which was quite fun.

The next play I did with *Studio 301* was David Lindsey-Abaire's *Fuddy Meers*. I played Millet, a fugitive with a split-personality disorder who was, himself, very friendly if not too bright; however, I also spoke through a sock puppet named Hinky Binky who inhabited my right hand and was considerably smarter and fouler-mouthed.

I was next in a UC Davis Theater Department show, *ThirdEye*, in which drama students produce their own works. I played the ghost of the main character's grandfather in a short parable called *Empty All the Boxes*.

After doing a film for the Student Health Center, my last play of the year was a role in the *Davis Musical Theater*



Gordon Meacham as Millet and Hinky Binky in "Fuddy Meers"

Company's production of Gershwin's *Crazy for You*, which just ended mid-July. I really appreciated that Mel and Janice Goertz came up to see it!

Next up are two summer school classes to prepare for a fall musical, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

The Stone Church of Willow Glen Presbyterian Church (USA)
1937 Lincoln Avenue
(corner of Clark Way & Lincoln)
San José, CA 95125-3499
phone: 408-269-1593
fax: 408-269-8412
www.stonechurch.org

Rev. Dr. Ken Henry, Pastor
Claudia Hoagland, Office Manager

The Stone News Staff:
June Tablak, Editor Emeritus,
Church Mouse
Emily Moak Meacham, Editor
Rhonda Lakatos, Pat Magee,
Jody Meacham, Fred Oliver,
Lizanne Oliver: Assistant Editors
Sylvia Snyder, Chief Photographer
Dan Raby, Ken Henry, Bill Ribble,
Lawrence Summers, Donald Foster,
Maureen Chandler, Don Skipwith,
Pamelah Landers: Adtl. Photos