

# THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA SEPTEMBER 2010



The annual Stone Church "Worship and Picnic in the Park" was a huge success, as usual! (more photos, page 7)

## WHY BECOME A PRESBYTERIAN?

by Rev. Dr. Ken Henry



New Member Classes: 11 am, Sept. 26, Oct. 3 & 10, in Ken's office

Over the past twenty years, I have taught many new member classes. In my office, on retreat, in someone's home, through sermons and newsletter articles, and on Sunday mornings after worship, I've attempted to answer the question, "Why become a Presbyterian?"

In our *Book of Order*, a book used for governance in the Presbyterian Church (USA), it states:

*One becomes an active member of the church through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and acceptance of his Lordship in all of life. Baptism and a public profession of faith in Jesus as Lord are the visible signs of entrance into the active membership of the church. (G-5.0100)*

Okay ... at the very least, becoming Presbyterian has something to do with becoming aware of God and Jesus Christ working in and through us, so much so that we dare to tell others through our actions and words.

So essentially, as I see it, becoming a Presbyterian means God in Christ Jesus reaching out to us, rather than the other way around. And because God continues to reach out, to touch our lives, and to shape us, we are compelled to explore and pursue the spiritual life within a community of faith.

I remember as a youth, learning how and when to pray out loud in groups. Standing in a circle, holding hands, a leader said to us, "When you feel your heart beating, it's your turn to talk to God."

In other words, prayer, taken in this light, isn't always a matter of deciding if and when to pray, but rather prayer is about paying attention to one's pounding heart and, when becoming aware of the heart's yearning for God, allowing the words to flow.

For me, becoming a Presbyterian, and/or furthering our commitment

to any community of faith, is really no different from learning how to pray. If the idea of deepening your spiritual life by becoming a member at Stone Church causes your heart to pound, then I would say, "It's time!" Again, from the *Book of Order*:

*A faithful member accepts Christ's call to ... take part in the common life and worship of a particular church ... to demonstrate a new quality of life within and through the church ... and to work in the world for peace, justice, freedom and human fulfillment. (G-5.0102b,f,i)*

Yes, if any of these words of invitation light a fire within you, then I would say, "It's definitely time!"

Of course, whether you feel ready to join the church or not, all are welcome to these new member classes. For three consecutive Sundays, in a small group setting, we'll talk about Presbyterianism and life at Stone Church, but these classes are also for exploring your questions and getting to know the pastor.

May you continue to follow your heart and discover God's call for your life. Hope to see you in class.

Blessings, Ken

## A NEW CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS: WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

by Mary Jo Blazek,

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Fall is coming! Sunday, Sept. 12, is the kickoff for the new Church School year.

On that day, we will celebrate Heifer International. All summer long, the children have been learning about how Heifer helps people around the world, under the loving guidance of Rosaleen Zisch and her group of adult angel volunteers.

This month, Stone Church children will send to Heifer the sum of \$590.60, which was collected over this past year.

The bulk of the funds is from recyclables that our *Dumpster Diver*, Fred Gropuso, collected during the year. Fred has now turned that job over to our new recycling guru, Derk Johnson.

I cannot express enough our appreciation for Fred's many years of commitment to the environment, to our congregation, and to the children of Stone. We welcome Derk as he continues in Fred's footsteps.

Heifer International is the ongoing mission project for the Church School. The children are encouraged to bring quarters to church to add to the quarter tower, which is all donated to Heifer.

Starting Sept. 12, the children will attend Worship with their parents, then leave for their classrooms after the Children's Message.

Children ages 4 years - Kindergarten will meet in the preschool room. Children in 1st through 5th grades will meet in the Fireside Room. Release time is 10:50 am to allow parents time to enjoy Coffee Fellowship and to allow children ample time for their lessons.

We are always looking for helpers in Church School. If you would like a rewarding and fun-filled mission, please contact me about how you can help.

A training class for middle/high schoolers who want to help with Church School will be held Sept. 26, from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm, in the preschool room.

This is going to be an exciting and joyful year! Remember - guests are always welcomed.

Contact Mary Jo Blazek at the Church Office.

MIDDLE SCHOOL  
NEWS FLASH !!  
LOOK FOR YOUR EVITE  
TO OUR FALL KICKOFF  
AND OUR  
YEARLY CALENDAR.  
QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT  
ROSALEEN ZISCH

## MARCUS BORG ON "SPEAKING CHRISTIAN: RECLAIMING CHRISTIAN LANGUAGE"

Marcus Borg, world-renowned Biblical scholar and author, returns as *Henrietta Perdue Memorial Lecturer*, Oct. 22-23. Dr. Borg will discuss 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: (1) *Beyond Literalism to a Historical and Metaphorical Interpretation of Christian Language*, (2) *Beyond Christian*



*Convention to Intention and Practice*, and (3) *Beyond Cultural Convention to Alternative Values and Community*.

Tickets are available during Coffee Fellowship, in the church office, and at the event. Cost: \$20 for 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 Study Subcommittee, for more information.

## HAZARD GROUP SHARES COMPELLING MOVIE, "STRANGER WITH A CAMERA"

The Hazard Mission Trip group will share the movie, *Stranger with a Camera*, at 7 pm, Friday, Sept. 17. The group was privileged to meet filmmaker Elizabeth Barret while on their trip.

This film is a moving exploration of events in which a local landlord, who

resented the presence of filmmakers on his property, shot and killed a photographer, in part because of his anger over media images of Appalachia that had become icons of the nation's *War on Poverty*. But more than just chronicling these events, the film also

invites a provocative discussion on the broader topic of ethics.

In addition to showing and leading a dialogue about the movie, the mission group will also share some *Tanglewood Pie* and discuss their own experiences in Hazard. - Donald Foster





# ADULT STUDY HAS CLASSES ON PARENTING, GAY/LESBIAN ORDINATION, AND MORE

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

Spend just an hour of your week to learn something new and inspiring!

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

Parents need fine-tuned stress management skills to successfully guide children through the rough waters of childhood and into their adult lives.

Dawn Charron Priedium discusses techniques to support children in learning appropriate and healthy coping skills to survive today's hectic world.

The nursery will be available during this class. Older children will go on an adventure hike with Ken Henry.

## Sept. 19: Endowment Education: "Thinking about Tomorrow" (see page 6)

## 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.

## Oct. 10 & 24: "Ordination of Gays & Lesbians: Past, Present & Future" with Jody Meacham and Pat Magee

Jody Meacham and Pat Magee present the history of the struggle for ordination of gays and lesbians within the Presbyterian Church, USA.

The pioneering leadership of Stone Church, with the *Covenant of Dissent and Support* (1998), will also be discussed.

## Oct. 31: "Speaking Christian: Redeeming Christian Language"

The Henrietta Perdue Lecture Series, featuring Marcus Borg on *Speaking Christian*, will be held Oct. 22 - 23 (see article, page 2).

Adult Study presents a three-week discussion class to expand on these lecture topics.

There are no Adult Study classes on Sept. 5 (Labor Day) or Oct. 17 (Consecration Sunday).

For more information, contact Pat Magee, Chair, Adult Study Subcommittee.

# CHURCH LIBRARY: "LINNEA IN MONET'S GARDEN" REVIEWED, MORE BOOKS ADDED

This month, Sue Evans provides a review of a wonderful book, *Linnea in Monet's Garden*.

And as always, we invite you to enjoy all of the books in our library.

- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator

## Book Review: "Linnea in Monet's Garden" by Sue Evans

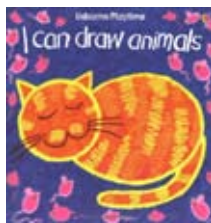
*Linnea in Monet's Garden*, by Christine Bjork (YA Biog MONET), is a delightful story that will be enjoyed by middle-schoolers up through adults. Linnea and her neighbor, Mr. Bloom, take a trip to Paris so they can visit museums and Monet's home - with the famous water lily pond and Japanese bridge.

Linnea describes many flowers and the pink house in which Monet and his large family of eight children lived.

The pictures and drawings in the book are lovely. I learned some interesting things about Monet and his masterpieces and his family members.



**New for our younger members:**  
*The Raccoon Next Door: Getting Along with Urban Wildlife* by Gary Bogue (YA 591.7 Bog)



*I Can Draw Animals* by Ray Gibson (1st Bks 743 Gib)



*Children's Bible Dictionary* by Debbie Butcher (J220.3 But)



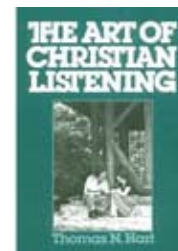
**New on our adult side:**  
*Congregational Fitness: Healthy Practices for Layfolk* by Denise Goodman (254Goo)



*Come Unto Me: Rethinking the Sacraments for Children* by Elizabeth Caldwell (265Cal), given by Rebecca Kuiken

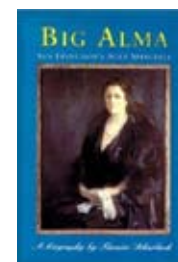
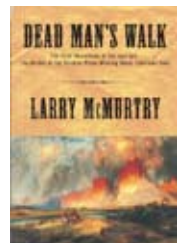


*The Invisible Partners: How the Male & Female in Each of Us Affects our Relationships* by John Sanford (302.3 San)



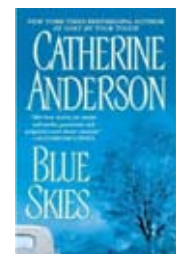
**In our special sections:**  
*The Art of Christian Listening* by Thomas Hart (Spec Needs 248.8 Har), given by Rebecca Kuiken

*Dead Man's Walk* by Larry McMurry (Fic McM)



*Big Alma: San Francisco's Alma Spreckels* by Bernice Scharlach (Biog SPRECKELS)

*A Life on the Edge: Memoirs of Everest and Beyond* by Jim Whittaker (Biog WHITTAKER)



*Blue Skies* by Catherine Anderson (Lg Print Fic And)

*When Teenagers Work: The Psychological & Social Costs of Adolescent Employment* by Ellen Greenberger & Laurence Steinberg (Fam-Teen 331 Gre)



# STONERWORKS IS BUSY AS EVER HELPING OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

StoneWorks continues to provide many opportunities for us to help others here and throughout the world.

## Helping Pakistanis Affected by Flood

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding to the worst flooding in Pakistan's history, which has left about 1.5 million homeless and has caused the deaths of more than 1,600.

With thousands still living in makeshift shelters and still trying to recover from previous disasters, food and shelter are the most urgent needs:

- \* Food packages are being distributed directly to affected families.
- \* Shelter kits include winterized tents and plastic sheets.
- \* Health care, through mobile health units, includes patient examinations, providing essential drugs and prenatal care.
- \* Nutritional needs & status of children under 5 are being assessed.

And here is how you can help:

- ♥ GIVE - On the secure PCUSA website ([pcusa.org/pda](http://pcusa.org/pda)), follow the links from the Pakistan article to *Donate Now* or send a check to: Presbyterian Church (USA)  
PO Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700  
Put "DR000038 - Pakistan" on your check to designate it for this effort.
- ♥ ACT - Stay informed and share information about this need with others. Sign up to receive *PDA Rapid Information Network* email notices to alert you of additional needs (also at the above website).
- ♥ PRAY - Lift up in prayer those displaced from their homes by flooding, those in need of basic supplies, and those providing assistance. Pray that weather conditions improve so relief supplies can be delivered.

## 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 ([innvision.org](http://innvision.org)) on Saturday, Sept. 25.

InnVision is a San José shelter for families fleeing domestic violence or who have fallen on hard times and lost their homes.



Carolyn Clendenning and her grandson were among the 11 Stone members who distributed lots of fresh, nutritious food to 1,231 individuals (for 1,038 family members), as part of the "Second Harvest Produce Mobile" project, on Aug. 14.

These children in need will be given gift cards for clothes - and some fun. 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:** During Coffee Fellowship

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

## Focus El Salvador

*Voices on the Border* staff who advise and lead South Bay Sanctuary's work in El Salvador will be speakers at an Oct. 24 event in Palo Alto. Roddy Hughes, Executive Director of *Voices*, and Rosie Ramsey, In-Country Director, have inspired hundreds with their vision, leadership of delegations, and counsel about how we can make a difference in the lives of Salvadorans. They supervise the implementation of projects, funded through South Bay Sanctuary, in the Lower Lempa region of El Salvador.

Plan to hear them at 4 pm, Oct. 24, at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. Many Stone members know about the challenges in Central America firsthand because of their participation in the past six delegations of South Bay Sanctuary.

Now is the time to consider joining the March 2011 Delegation, as Roddy and Rosie will meet with those interested on Oct. 23, and it will be the only chance to meet these savvy leaders in our area before the Delegation. You can also speak with Stone members, Chris Nilson or Dale Bracey.

Reservations are required for the Oct. 24 event, as it includes a Salvadoran pupusa and enchilada dinner. - Dale Bracey

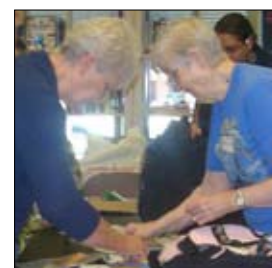
## Sacred Heart "Pack-a-Back Day"

Stone had many wonderful volunteers at Sacred Heart's annual *Pack-a-Back Day*, on Aug. 7.

As Sacred Heart's Matt King said, "Your service today helped ensure that more than 1,650 children will have a great start to the school year, the first and most important step to a life of self-sufficiency."



**Above:** Guy Lohman and his daughter listen to instructions at the start of *Pack-a-Back Day*.



**Left:** Lea Lawrence & Sally Magee perform "quality control" on the backpacks.

## "Dumpster Diver" Jobs Already Filled!

Stone members have already stepped up to fill our wonderful *Dumpster Diver* Fred Groppuso's shoes:

- ♥ **Sue Evans:** Weighing and taking the Communion Sunday food donations to Sacred Heart.
- ♥ **Derk Johnson:** Taking recyclables to Recycle Center, changing proceeds into quarters, giving quarters to children for Heifer tower.
- ♥ **Charlotte Dickson:** Taking old cell phones to Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence.
- ♥ **Maureen Ryan:** Taking used batteries to Orchard Supply Hardware.

- Maureen Ryan, StoneWorks Chair



Summer is over, so we gear up for another interesting year. Isn't it also interesting that Labor Day starts the month?

The August brunch was a wonderful event. We learned more about Sacred Heart's programs, which

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

benefit so many in our community.

It is heartening to see how many Stone Church members volunteer there.

Have you seen the book, *Telling Stories of Faith*? This a compilation of memories from our members past and present. A few copies are still available (see the article below).



By the time you read this, it will be too late to register for the *Horizons Bible Study Day*, with lunch included, at San Francisco Theological Seminary on Sept. 11. However, if you are willing to take your lunch, you can probably still hear the Rev. Dr. Barbara R. Rossing, author of this year's study on Revelation.

Scholarships have been awarded for this year. Congratulations to all of our recipients who are showing such dedication to their educations. First installments are coming from Stone's PW treasury, while the second are coming from the Hudspeth Trust. (See the related article on page 8.)

Many companies are offering double coupons during their *back to school* promotions. This gives us a chance to double our contributions to the schools we support.

Coupons may be placed in the box on the library cart on Sunday mornings or given to Dorothy Stevens. Don't forget the 1.5% from Lucky and Save Mart receipts.

If you do not have a S.H.A.R.E.S. card, just put your receipts in the box. One of our more enterprising members even picks up discards from others' purchases for us.

Here's the PW schedule for September:

**Amethyst Circle**, 1 pm, Sept. 1, Church Library

**Emerald Circle**, 9:30 am, Sept. 2, Carolyn Clendenning's home

**Coordinating Team**, 9:30 am, Sept. 9, Social Hall

**Sapphire Circle**, 7:30 pm, Sept. 13, Joyce Summers' home

**Lunch Bunch**, 11:30 am, Sept. 14, Taiwan Restaurant

**Fair Trade Sales**, 10:30 am, Sept. 19, Social Hall

**Book Group II**, 2:30 pm, Sept. 20, Rhonda Lakatos' home, reading *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford

**Focus Group**, 9:30 am, Sept. 22, Liz Shandera's home

**Bible Study with the Rev. Marge Palmer**, 9:30 am, Sept. 23, Church Library. This study of the Book of Revelation is open to everyone. The Rev. Marge is *thankfully* on the mend, so she can be with us.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**, 4 pm, Sept. 23, Fireside Room. This group does more than just shawls - come and learn what else you can contribute. Men are welcome.

**Book Group I**, 1 pm, Sept. 27, Liz Shandera's home, reading *Stones into Schools* by Greg Mortensen

- Catherine Amos

The Men's Ministry of Stone Church includes a mission work team, a book group, and a flying group.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

For more information about any of these activities, contact Parish Associate David McCreath.

### Men's Semi-Annual Book Sale to Benefit Mission Projects, Oct. 24

The Men's Semi-Annual Book Sale to support Stone Church mission projects will be held in the Social Hall on Oct. 24, following



Worship. This is a time both to contribute your gently used books and to stock up for your late fall and winter reading.

Come and browse - you are sure to find interesting books to stimulate your imagination.

### Men's Mission Team Worktrip

The Men's Mission Team is planning a worktrip to Zephyr Point Conference Center. (At press time, the date was still bring determined.)

There is always plenty of room, and all men are welcome to come. To sign up, or for more information, contact Leland Wong.

### Men's Book Group, Sept. 20

The Men's Book Group will meet Sept. 20 to discuss *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, by Michael Pollan.

From a review: "It's a fascinating journey up and down the food chain, one that might change the way you read the label on a frozen dinner, dig into a steak or decide whether to buy organic eggs. You'll certainly never look at a Chicken McNugget the same way again."

The discussion will start at 7:30 pm, at the home of Art Holtz.

All men of the church are welcome to attend.



## "TELLING STORIES OF FAITH" GETS RAVE REVIEWS

I am pleased with the reception that the book, *Telling Stories of Faith*, has received.

This collection of stories was written by present Presbyterian Women and about past Presbyterian Women. Many of you have told me you read it straight through, discovering things you had not known before.

This book is the culmination of a one-year process that originated with the desire to preserve these stories before they were completely lost to us.

There are still some books available; please contact me to purchase one.

- Claudia Hamm  
(Books are \$10 each.)

## “THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW” AT STONE CHURCH

Several members and friends of Stone Church will discuss why they are *thinking about tomorrow* at Stone and the steps they are taking to bring their ideas to fruition. On Sunday, Sept. 19, come to the Adult Study hour, from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm, to hear about their dreams for our church. You may be surprised at the choices some folks are making, even during this difficult economic time.

What are *you* wishing could happen at Stone, that is, if you could influence decisions with your support for a program, plan, or project? You are part of the Stone community more than likely because you admire and/or are nourished by existing programs. Are there ways you would like to improve who we are and what we do?

Listening to stories from others may give you ideas to implement a strategy that will benefit Stone and give you possible tax advantages and/or additional income now.

If you have questions that could be addressed at this event, contact a member of the Endowment and Planned Giving Committee: Ruth McCreath, Gary Weiss, Dick Kistler, Kathie Lloyd, or Mel Goertz.

- Ruth McCreath

## PRESBYTERY OFFERS “SAFE CHURCH” TRAINING

The San José Presbytery is offering *Mandatory Reporter and Abuse/Misconduct Prevention Training* to support *Safe Church Practices in the Presbytery*.

This training is for Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, Elders, Deacons, and Youth and Children’s Ministry Directors and will be held this fall, as follows:

- \* Sept. 11, Foothill Pres., San José
  - \* Oct. 2, First Pres., Palo Alto
  - \* Nov. 6, Immanuel Pres., San José
- Each class runs from 10 am to 3 pm, and lunch is provided.

Please RSVP by contacting Natasha at the Presbytery office.

For more information, see:

[sanjoseby.org/SafeChurchPractices.htm](http://sanjoseby.org/SafeChurchPractices.htm)



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!”

## FALL SERMON SERIES: JOURNEYS

Here is the schedule for this fall sermon series:

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*

## SESSION FUNDS SIMPSON PORTRAIT RESTORATION, “ORGAN AND ORGANIST” CELEBRATION

At its regular meeting on Aug. 17, the Session took care of several business items:

(1) Approved funding to restore the portrait of founding pastor Tom Simpson. The portrait was embedded in the stonework wall of what is now the education wing and was removed for the remodeling. Due to years of having a cement backing, it was irrevocably damaged by mildew. Lyn Johnson found a restorer and shepherded the restoration to completion.

(2) Approved funding for a celebration of the 25-year anniversary of the installation of the Schoenstein pipe organ and the 40-year anniversary of Joyce Rhodes as organist (a remarkable achievement).

(3) Approved funding to replace a bulletin board on the wall between the Sanctuary and Social Hall.

Mel Goertz and David McCreath came to Session to talk about *Safe Church Practices*. This is an initiative from the Presbytery of San José to make the congregation aware of and trained in how to recognize and respond to

abuse of all types (including child and elder).

The emphasis on this issue emanates from a case in another church in the Presbytery, where a response was mishandled, leading to a lawsuit and substantial payment of damages by the Presbytery.

All active Elders and Deacons, pastors, and those who work with children must be trained. A larger goal is to have the congregation as a whole sensitive to and knowledgeable of issues. (See the related article on training opportunities to the left.)

Sheri Cunningham, representing Presbyterian Women, reported that PW gave out nine scholarships, of \$650 each, to Stone Church youth – a valuable contribution. (See the related article on page 8.)

Committee chairs met to discuss finding new committee members. New leadership is an ongoing concern of the Session. Stone’s long term vitality depends on each new generation coming forward.

- Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session





Stone Church Has Fun!

Family Camping Trip

The recent Family Camping Trip to Big Basin Redwoods State Park was fun for all ages – some even got to relax! - photos: Julie Sailor



Worship and Picnic in the Park

Below are some wonderful pictures from the “food-and fun-filled” annual Worship and Picnic in the Park, at History Park, San José. - photos: Dan Raby



Summer Sing at Zephyr Point



Stone choir members **Bill Downes**, **Betty & Don D'Angelo**, and **Dan & Jean Raby** (pictured above) recently attended *Summer Sing*, “a time of renewal and re-tuning for those involved in worship and music,” at Zephyr Point.

Dr. Steven Wirth, a Presbyterian minister from Long Beach, led devotionals on the theme of *Living in the Light: In this time of darkness, we are the people who live in the light – the light of Christ; we collect Christ’s light in our dark world by listening to God’s Word, praying and celebrating God’s Word with joy.*

The choral group practiced and learned eleven pieces of music. Friendships were renewed, and new friends were made. With more than 150 voices, the sound was awesome.

This was the 11th year for Jean and Dan, and they hope to continue for years to come. Being with other choir



members and directors from all over is a rewarding and spiritual experience. They also hope more Stone choir members will join them in the future.

And just prior to *Summer Sing*, Jean was also at Zephyr to participate in the *Zephyr Point Handbell Conference*.

- article and photos by Dan Raby



## College Conundrums

**From Colin Fröhlich:** I'm getting ready to go to Medical School in Poland in the city of Lodz (pronounced *Wootsch* in Polish - kind of weird, I know). I'll be there for four years, and I'm really excited about it. I'm thinking about specializing in Ear, Nose, and Throat or Family Practice.

**From Stephanie Moffitt:** I have been in Ireland this summer doing a chemistry internship at Trinity College in Dublin. It was a great learning experience because not only did I learn more about academic research, but I also got to meet other interns from all over the world!

Please email Editor, *The Stone News*, with any news of our college-bound members and friends.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

The *Presbyterian Women of Stone Church* have again generously awarded our Stone Church college students with scholarships, partly from the Ruby Hudspeth Trust and, for the first time this year, partly from the PW Treasury. So, when you purchase PW fairly traded products, you are helping our college students with their education.

Here is a summary of these generous PW awards, from 1996-2010:

College scholarships	\$63,710 *
- paid to 33 students from 26 families,	
an average of \$1,931/student	
Help to three seminary students	\$3,750
Help to one vocational student	\$1,000**

\* From PW Trust, except \$2,925 from PW Treasury, for larger grants in 2010

\*\* Half from PW Trust, half from PW Treasury (Statistics courtesy of *Sue Williams*)

## THE ART AND TECHNOLOGY OF STORY TELLING

*Willow Glen in Motion's* first open house, *The Art and Technology of Story Telling*, is a dynamic, interactive workshop presented by storyteller and educator, Deborah T. Simon.

Ms. Simon is an education administration professional who is also a lecturer, writer, public speaker, child advocate, and minister who talks stories. She has recently published *Whispered Blessings: Stories That Inform, Illuminate, and Inspire*.

This free event will be held in the Willow Glen Library community room, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, on Sept. 29. For reservations, contact Willow Glen in Motion (288-7886, [wgnmotion.com/first\\_event/](http://wgnmotion.com/first_event/)).

## RABBI GITIN, GIVER OF "NER TAMID," HAS DIED



The Rabbi who gave Stone Church its *ner tamid* (usually translated as *eternal flame* or *eternal light*) has died at the age of 104.

Rabbi Joseph Gitin arrived in San José in 1950 as the city's only rabbi, serving Temple Emanu-El until 1976. He became friends with Tom

Simpson, Stone's organizing pastor, and, when the sanctuary was completed, gave the light to the church.

In Jewish tradition, the light is seen up front in synagogues, hanging over the ark that holds the Torah scrolls, the sacred scriptures consisting of the first five books of the Bible.

Rabbi Gitin fought for civil rights, including gay/lesbian rights, equal voting rights, and equal housing. In 1996, he received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Santa Clara University for "promoting interfaith dialogue and interracial cooperation."

- Alice Thorn (partly based on the *San José Mercury News* obituary)

## SACRED HEART DONATIONS

Karen Scott reports that recent donations for Sacred Heart included 23 bags of clothes, nine bags of toiletries, two pairs shoes, and two 2011 calendars. Thank you for your generosity!

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Ken Henry and Pat McDaid recently hiked at Olympic National Park.

PHOTO: PAT MCDAID