

THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA NOVEMBER 2010



FIRST NIGHT: A NEW WORSHIP EXPERIENCE AT STONE

by Ken Henry and Aimee Moiso

Presbyterians constantly seek new and creative ways to express God's *Good News* to the world: adapting to new times, new needs, and new directions, and to God's new movements among us. As it says in Isaiah 43:19:

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

A new thing is coming to Stone Church: *First Night*.

First (on the first Sunday of the month) Night (at 6 pm) is a new Worship service that will be joyfully reverent, prayerfully engaged, and something intentionally *different*.

How will it be different? It will meet in the Fireside Room, for

starters. The chairs might not face forward, and they might change arrangement from month to month. There won't be choral anthems or liturgical robes. There might be conversation rather than a sermon. There might be candles in the fireplace, or a dinner table set in the center of the room.

There will certainly be fellowship, music, prayer, and the sharing of Scripture. There will be comfort and challenge, rest and fun, inspiration and balm. There will be fellowship and friendship (and there will be *childcare*).

And all of this will transpire in a very casual atmosphere.

We hope *you* will be there, as well – everyone is welcome!



Join Rev. Aimee Moiso, *Director of Ecumenical and Interfaith Ministries* at Santa Clara University, coordinator and leader of the newly formed First Night band and planning team, for the *very first* First Night, on Sunday, Nov. 7, at 6 pm, in the Fireside Room.

To follow us on Facebook, search for "First Night at Stone Church."



A GLORIOUS DAY OF CELEBRATION

by Kate Wheatley

Sunday, Nov. 21, will be a special day in the history of Stone Church – a day you won't want to miss.

The Worship Committee has chosen this day to celebrate the musical talents of our beloved organist, Joyce Rhodes, for forty years of service to Stone Church, as well as to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the installation of the Schoenstein pipe organ, which was especially designed for our sanctuary.

In the morning Worship service, we will rejoice in exploring the many ways our 25-year-old organ has added, and continues to add, to the service. Janice Goertz will take the children up to the organ console, explaining how it is used in Worship. Much of the service will celebrate the organ and honor those who saw the need for this instrument that so beautifully accentuates the church's magnificent acoustics.

At 3 pm, Joyce will provide an organ concert: a unique opportunity to hear Joyce's musical talents and to listen as the sounds of the organ fill our beautiful sanctuary.

(continued on page 4)

OF SEEDS AND SONGS!

by Mary Jo Blazek,
Children's Ministry Coordinator

The Church School is excited about two programs involving *Seeds and Songs!*

Sow the Word

This past summer, the children at Stone enjoyed a wonderful program during Vacation Church School.

The theme of the program was *Sow the Word*, and it emphasized caring for God's world and the environment.

On Sunday mornings in October, the children have continued the work they started by creating a garden near the back patio. Each week, they have completed a step in preparing, planting, and caring for a winter garden, guided by our own master gardener, Caryl Westerberg. They used a method called *lasagna* or *layered gardening*, in which the foundation is layered using mulch and coffee grounds.

A spiritual lesson went along with each week's gardening task, and our harvest will be shared with our congregation and community.

Let them come ... and get dirty!

Praise God With Joyful Voices

You may have seen the verse, *Praise God With Joyful Voices*, on the hallway bulletin board and wondered what it was all about.

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
To sing praises to your name,
O Most High. - Psalm 92:1*

Here at Stone Church, we are known for our fabulous choir and music. Now, we are adding an exciting music program, which will include our children on Sunday mornings, as well.

If you have musical talents you would like to share with our children, please contact me at the church office.



Everyone enjoys gardening with master gardener, Caryl Westerberg!



MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCOVERS THAT KIDNAPPING IS FUN – REALLY!

Waking up Middle School kids at 7 am, on a Saturday morning, to take them to church might be considered cruel and unusual punishment, but we did have fun!

We really got to know everyone's true personalities, including advisors,

at the annual *Middle School Kidnap Breakfast*. The *Witch* was Rosaleen, and the *Pirate* was Kathleen. We're still trying to interpret Steve's costume!

Next up is our beach trip and then our annual retreat at Cutting Edge Ranch in Morgan Hill.

This is an *eventful year*, and our theme (*Jesus' words in Luke 11:9*),
*So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you;
Search, and you will find;
Knock, and the door will be opened for you.*
will draw us even closer to God.

- Rosaleen Zisch



ADULT STUDY TOPICS: CHRISTIAN LANGUAGE, CONFLICT RESOLUTION, SABBATH

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!

Oct. 31 - Nov. 14: Speaking Christian: Redeeming Christian Language

As a continuation of the Henrietta Perdue Lectures, featuring Marcus Borg (held Oct. 22-23), Adult Study presents a three-week discussion class, as follows:

- * Oct. 31: Beyond Literalism
- * Nov. 7: Beyond Christian Convention to Intention and Practice
- * Nov. 14: Beyond Cultural Convention to Alternative Values and Community

Dec. 5: A Divided House: Faith-Based Conversation on Conflict Resolution, with Ken Henry

A faith-based conversation on conflict resolution in the church, home, and nation, led by Ken Henry.

Dec. 12, 19: Sabbath, with David McCreath

Jan. 9: Helping Aging Family Members

A special presentation by the Health Ministry Committee.

Jan. 16, 23: Nelson Mandela and the Making of a New Nation

Adult Study will explore the remarkable story of how Nelson Mandela almost single-handedly created the new multi-racial

country of South Africa and kept it from becoming a bloodbath.

We will read the book, *Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation*, and, on Sunday evening, Jan. 16, see the movie, *Invictus*.

There are no Adult Study classes on:

- * Nov. 21, Celebration of Joyce Rhodes' 40 years as organist
- * Nov. 28, Thanksgiving weekend
- * Dec. 26, Christmas weekend
- * Jan. 2, New Year's Day weekend
- * Jan. 30, Annual Congregational Meeting

For more information about Stone's Adult Education program, please contact Pat Magee, Chair, Adult Study Subcommittee.

NEW BOOKS ON "DEADLY VIRTUES," "WRONG STUFF," "MAGIC EYES," AND MORE!

We hope you'll come soon to visit our library! It's accessible on Sundays after Worship through the back door of Lincoln House. Browsing through both rooms of our collection, you'll find wonderful books for all ages. Please also notice the two book carts in the Social Hall. We try to keep them filled with interesting selections.

- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator

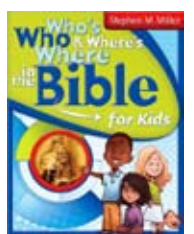
New for our younger members:



One by Kathryn Otoshi (Read Aloud Oto)



Arthur's Honey Bear by Lillian Hoban (1st Bks Hob)



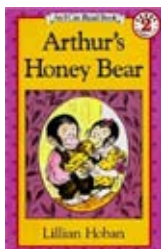
Who's Where in the Bible for Kids by Stephen Miller (J 220.2 Mil)



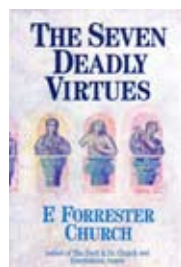
Stage Fright by James Howe (YA How)



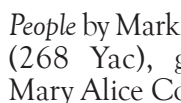
Magic Eye III by N.E. Thing Enterprises (J 741 NET)



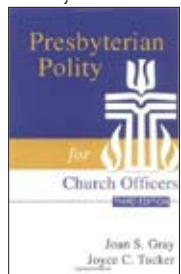
On the adult side:



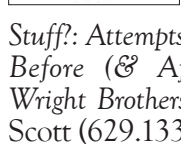
The Seven Deadly Virtues by F. Forrester Church (236 Chu)



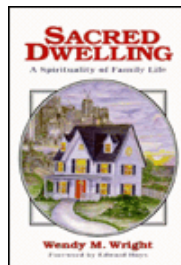
Contemplative Youth Ministry: Practicing the Presence of Jesus with Young People by Mark Yaconelli (268 Yac), given by Mary Alice Collins



Presbyterian Polity for Church Officers by Joan Gray and Joyce Tucker (285 Gra), given by Walter Hudson



The Wrong Stuff?: Attempts at Flight Before (& After) the Wright Brothers by Phil Scott (629.133 Sco)

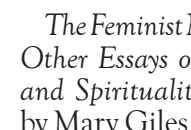


Sacred Dwelling: A Spirituality of Family Life by Wendy Wright (Fam-Rel 249 Wri), given by Rebecca Kuiken

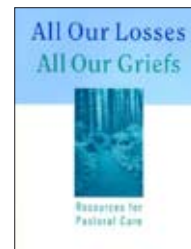
In our adult special sections (cont.):



Telling Stories of Faith, by Presbyterian Women of Stone Church (Women 248 Pre), given by Stone Church PW



The Feminist Mystic and Other Essays on Women and Spirituality, edited by Mary Giles (Women 305.4 Gil), given by Rebecca Kuiken



All Our Losses, All Our Grievances: Resources for Pastoral Care by Kenneth R. Mitchell and Herbert Anderson (Spec Needs-D 253 Mit), given by Rebecca Kuiken



The Grace that Keeps this World by Tom Bailey (F Bai)

Total Recall by Sara Paretsky (F Par)



STONEWORKS SPONSORS STONE CHURCH SHOPPING TRIP WITH INNVISION KIDS

Thanks to the generosity of Stone Church, one little ten-year-old boy who lives at InnVision (San José's shelter for homeless families) is now actually looking forward to "school picture day," rather than dreading it.

He was among eighteen children from InnVision who met an enthusiastic group of shoppers from Stone at the Kohl's Department Store in Santa Clara for an early morning of shopping, fun, and bonding over clothing choices, on Saturday, Sept. 25.

Alice McNelis did an awesome job of pairing each child with a suitable shopper or shopping couple. And Kohl's employees showed up extra-early to assist in finding that perfect pair of size 8 jeans, that snug jacket, or that sparkly pair of rubber boots with "princesses" adorning the sides.

All of the children soon had a cart full of practical clothing, including essentials like socks and underwear, and some even had a few dollars to



spare for that special item for Christmas parties. Kohl's also gave 10% off the already very discounted clothing and waived the sales tax, so the gift cards from the StoneWorks Committee went even further.

One of the Kohl's employees bought a stuffed animal – an adorable Eeyore – for each child and handed them out after everyone had consumed a delicious breakfast of fruit, homemade muffins, and donuts.

We offer many, many thanks to all of the enthusiastic volunteers and their loyal friends.

We also extend thanks to the Kohl's coordinator and staff and InnVision's dedicated staff.

And a special thanks goes to Alice McNelis for energetically and calmly organizing this event.

If you have never joined us, and would like to know more about this important local mission project, please contact either Alison van Diggelen or Alice McNelis.

- Alison van Diggelen

Donations for Sacred Heart in October

Communion Sunday Food Donations

Sue Evans reports that she took 113-1/2 pounds of food to Sacred Heart in October. Thank you for remembering to bring food each Communion Sunday.

Other Donations

Karen Scott reports that she took the following donations to Sacred Heart in October:

- ♥ 36 bags of clothes
- ♥ 25 bags of toiletries
- ♥ 4 bags of bedding
- ♥ 8 bath towels
- ♥ 3 2011 calendars
- ♥ egg cartons and paper bags

A GLORIOUS DAY OF CELEBRATION

by Kate Wheatley

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The Deacons will host a reception in the Social Hall following the concert.

The Worship Committee is looking forward to this glorious day, and we invite you to come and celebrate!

A freewill offering will be collected, at the concert, for special music programs at Stone.

If you will need childcare during the concert, please contact Kate Wheatley by Nov. 17.

November brings with it so many memories – mainly, of course, of those “over the river and through the woods” gatherings for Thanksgiving – that some holidays can get rather overlooked. The eleventh was once known as “Armistice

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Day,” until WWII made that obsolete.

Now, it is “Veterans’ Day,” so let us remember all those who have gone before and those still serving our nation today.

PW’s Thank Offering luncheon will be held in the Social Hall on Nov. 20 at noon. Our speaker will be the direc-



tor of Emmaus House in Hollister, which was a recipient of a Thank Offering grant.

If you would like to make a gift from the list of needed items, she will be more than happy to receive it. The suggested donation for the luncheon is \$5. (For more information, see the related article on page 6.)

Come to the PW in the Presbytery Fall Gathering at Sunnyvale Presbyterian at noon on Nov. 6 for good (healthy) food, for sister-ship, and to hear from

a participant in the exchange with Navajo members in the Dakotas.

Fair Trade Christmas Gift Basket orders will be taken through Nov. 14. They come in three sizes to accommodate differently sized appetites. Sally Magee and her helpers are experts in making beautiful presentations for your gifts and will display samples at their table. (For more information, see the related article on page 8.)

Book Group I meets the fourth Monday of each month at 1 pm. It is a small group, which has recently lost some members, and would like to have more interested women join the reading of and conversation about selected books. Please contact Carolyn Clendenning for more details.

Our coupon and S.H.A.R.E.S. programs continue to grow. Many of you who cannot participate in other ways are helping. Remember that even one coupon or receipt makes a difference. (Jan Keifer reports that the K. R. Smith school really needs updated copying machines.) Coupons may be placed in the box found on the library cart on Sunday mornings or given to Dorothy Stevens. Schools receive 1.5% of your totals from Lucky and Save Mart receipts.

PW Schedule for November:

Amethyst Circle, 1 pm, Nov. 3, Church Library

Emerald Circle, 9:30 am, Nov. 4, Diana Lim’s home

PW in the Presbytery Fall Gathering, noon, Nov. 6, Sunnyvale Pres.

Sapphire Circle, 7:30 pm, Nov. 8 Sara Holtzapple’s home

Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am, Nov. 9, Taiwan Restaurant

Coordinating Team, 9:30 am, Nov. 11, Social Hall

Fair Trade Sales & Christmas Basket Orders, 10:30 am, Nov. 14, Social Hall

Book Group II, 2:30 pm, Nov. 15, Betty Spicher’s home, reading *Ladder of Years* by Anne Tyler

Focus Group, 9:30 am, Nov. 17, Bea Groppuso’s home

Bible Study with the Rev. Marge Palmer, 9:30 am, Nov. 18, Church Library. Topic: Lesson 3 of the Book of Revelation.

Thank Offering Luncheon, noon, Nov. 20, Social Hall

Book Group I, 1 pm, Nov. 22, Hazel James’ home, reading *Wesley the Owl* by Stacey O’Brien

Prayer Shawl Ministry – please contact Janice Goertz for date.

- 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 Mission Team Worktrip, November 5-7

The Men’s Mission Team is planning a work trip, Nov. 5-7, to Westminster Woods.



There’s always plenty of room, and all men are welcome to participate.

To sign up for the worktrip, or for more information, contact Leland Wong.

Men’s Book Club Travels “Way South” on Nov. 15

The Men’s Book Group will travel south (*way south*) on Nov. 15, with the autobiographical story of Dr. Jerri Nielsen.

Ice Bound: A Doctor’s Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole is Dr. Nielsen’s story of self-treatment and evacuation from Antarctica following her discovery of breast cancer.

The group will meet in the home of Bob James, beginning at 7:30 pm.

All men of the church are welcome to attend.

- David McCreath

WAKE UP ... REDUX ... WITH JOHN ... AND KEN HENRY!

Last January and February, Ken Henry led a Thursday morning discussion class through the first half of the Gospel of John.



Ken now plans to complete this study – chapters 10 through 21 – beginning on Jan. 13.

Plan to join this lively group (yes, even at this early hour!) in the Church Library at 6:30 am on Thursdays.

And of course, wake-up coffee will be provided!



EXPERIENCE ADVENT IN DEPTH

As a counterpoint to the frenetic activity of Advent, consider the meditation service modeled after those held in the community of Taizé, France. A framework for stillness is provided by the candlelit sanctuary, and by chants, silence and scripture. Participants often come with concerns about health or about relationships. Or participants may simply want the experience of going deep into prayer.

Advent services begin on Tuesday, Nov. 30, and continue Dec. 7, 14 and 21. Music begins at 6:30 pm, with the service time from 6:45 to 7:30 pm. - Alice Thorn

“GRACE ABOUNDS” AT ANNUAL PW “THANK OFFERING” LUNCHEON



The Presbyterian Women of Stone Church are holding their annual *Thank Offering Luncheon* on Nov. 20 at noon. This year's theme is 2 Corinthians 4:15, and this year's speaker is MaryLou Caffelt, Director of Emmaus House, a home for battered women and children in Hollister. PW awarded a *Thank Offering* grant to Emmaus House two years ago. Come and enjoy a soup lunch and hear about this fine organization's growth and service.

The *Thank Offering* is a PW offering collected in the fall of each year that gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. The offering funds projects such as agricultural development, childcare, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elder care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns.

RSVP to Hazel James.

SESSION DISCUSSES HOME COMMUNION, CONTRACTS, AND FUNDRAISING

In a lively regular meeting on Oct. 19, the Session held a number of discussions about the many functions of Stone Church.

Ken Henry led a review of *Home Communion*, underlining its purpose of bringing this central sacrament to folks who are physically unable to be in Worship on Sunday mornings. A number of Session members shared their experiences, in each case telling about the connections made, sometimes with people they did not know. These anecdotes emphasized the idea that serving communion is true ministry.

Ken read a letter from a pastor at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI (PCUSA), where youth had found the write-up about Stone Church in the *PCUSA Mission Year Book* and had prayed for our ministry.

Session heard about the resignation of Claudia Hoagland as office manager. She has served the church for three years.

Personnel & Administration Committee has wrestled with a Session policy on contracts, trying to tighten up the process to give oversight whenever a financial commitment is made in the name of the church. One element is that a church officer must be the signer of any contract over \$1,000; unauthorized individuals cannot make commitments in the name of the church. Furthermore, all such contracts must be in writing.

P & A also initiated a discussion about *fundraising* in the church, asking Session to work on defining the term - differentiating between events that have *another purpose* (for example, the Thanksgiving Dinner, a *Fellowship* event) and events that *benefit* a cause or group. Susan Bedolla asked committees to consider volunteer hours versus dollar return and potential danger of volunteer burnout. Another question concerned possible donor fatigue, as well as the relationship of fundraisers to the yearly Stewardship drive. - Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session

BUDGET AND FINANCE PRESENTS STONE'S FINANCIAL POSITION, REMINDS US TO RETURN PLEDGE CARDS

For the first nine months of the year, Stone Church's financial position is slightly ahead of budgeted income and a bit below budgeted expense. This accounts for a current cash position of about \$26,000 ahead of our budget going into the last quarter of the year.

In September, we had a cash deficit of about \$19,000 against a budgeted deficit of about \$13,000. The budgeted deficit for September reflects historical timing of pledge payments. The larger-than-expected cash deficit for September was due

to payments disbursed in September for expenses accrued throughout the year for Per Capita assessments (September payment of \$4,900) and the Children's Clothing Drive (September payment of \$3,000).

If you haven't returned your 2011 pledge card, please remember to return it to the office or put it in the offering plate. It will be helpful if you can return your pledge by Sunday, Nov. 7, as the Budget Review Committee begins its work on the 2011 budget on Monday, Nov. 8. Thanks! - David Jaffer

	Annual Budget	Income & Expense September	Budget to Date	Income & Expense YTD
Income	\$487,358	\$37,364	\$372,492	\$384,833
Expense	\$487,358	\$56,642	\$366,664	\$358,990
Cash Flow	---	(\$19,279)	\$ 5,828	\$ 25,843

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING AT STONE CHURCH! HERE ARE JUST A FEW PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANY RECENT ACTIVITIES!



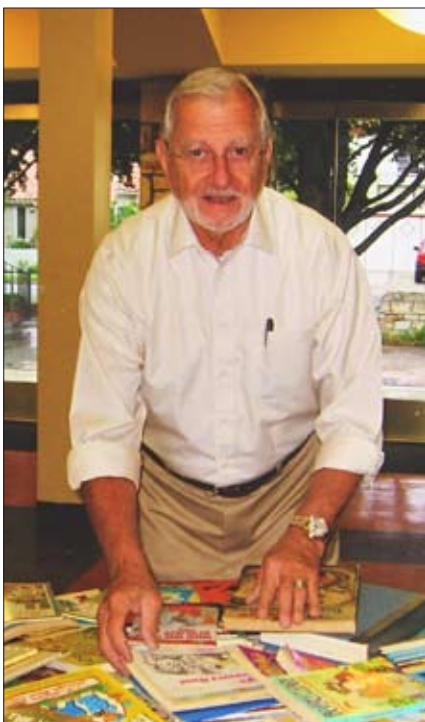
Everyone was enthralled by the great displays at Rally Sunday.



Gail Chaid and Michelle Vasquez collected blankets at a recent Blanket Drive for Sacred Heart. (Who is that nice looking man in the background?)



Art Holtz and Steve Nelson take a quick coffee break at a recent Church Workday.



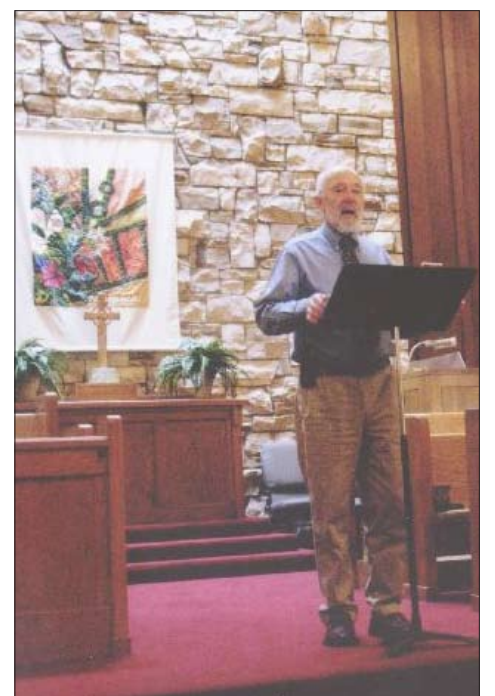
David McCreath organizes books at a recent Men's Book Club Sale.



From Bob James (pictured above at a celebration of his 90th birthday):

"I wish to thank Mary Jo Blazek and all the children, as well as Emily Meacham, for the special acknowledgement of my poem and my 90th birthday.

Also, thank you to Katherine Calhoon and my daughters, Susi Pixley and Sheri Cunningham, for the cake and reception after the service. Is it any wonder why I have remained a member of Stone Church for 60 years? Thank you all!"



Dr. Marcus Borg was recently Stone's Henrietta Perdue Memorial Lecturer, speaking eloquently on "Redeeming Christian Language."

STONE CHURCH FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER ... THE TRADITION CONTINUES

The Stone Church Family Thanksgiving tradition is already in the planning, as the Roach and Smith families (Walter, Debbie, Della, and progeny) take the lead in cooking a sumptuous feast in the Social Hall.

For several years now, the Roach and Smith families have been serving around 50 or so Stone Church members in a day of great Christian fellowship.

They start early, cooking dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, and turkey. There are always enough leftovers for everyone to take home. Those planning to attend are invited (but not required) to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share.

Dinner is served promptly at 2 pm, so plan to arrive well before that time.

A casual continental breakfast is served late morning for those who want to come early to help and to socialize.

You can sign-up during Coffee Fellowship in November to provide an approximate count for the turkeys. However, there is always plenty, so if the Spirit moves you to join on Thanksgiving Day, feel welcome to go ahead and drop in.

Come and join this year's fun day!

Contact Katherine Webb Calhoun for more information.

GREAT GOLF, GREAT WEATHER, AND A GREAT DINNER!

Leisurely riding through a park-like setting for four hours, seeing lots of wildlife along the way – so, occasionally the players had to hit a little white ball!

Yes, it was the Annual Stone Church Golf Tournament, and what a splendid day it was! On Saturday, Oct. 2, sixteen golfers played the Villages Golf Course in Evergreen.

Team members with the lowest score (Luck of the Draw!) were Matt & Mike Schroeder, Ken Henry, and Donald Foster. The team with the highest score (Maybe Next Year?) included Roberto Ramirez Sr., Bob



Ed Tablak

Ramirez Jr., Steve Graham, and Steve Leonard. Both teams were recognized with silly, but fun awards.

On designated holes, the woman with the longest drive (Emily Meacham) and the man closest to the pin (Jeff Tablak) were also recognized.

Once again, our good friend Gene Fasano of *Golf Heaven*, donated a putter for our drawing, and Matt Schroeder was the lucky winner. We are also grateful to Kevin Peyton and Roberto Ramirez for donating golf balls used for prizes.

And this year, 21 Stone members joined us for dinner in the Sunset room of the clubhouse for even more fellowship and a delicious dinner.

Many thanks to Maureen Ryan for organizing this fabulous event year after year. Come join us in 2011!



Rich Frohlich and Barbara Roberts

ATTENTION PARENTS! DEACONS' ANNUAL PARENTS' DAY OUT!



On Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 am to 2 pm, let the Deacons of Stone Church take your children off your hands for a few hours.

You'll have time for shopping, lunch or just relaxing while your children enjoy crafts, games, movies and lunch!

For kids 12 and under – reservations required – RSVP to Joyce Summers.

BEAUTIFUL FAIR TRADE CHRISTMAS BASKETS



Stone's Presbyterian Women are again offering Christmas Baskets, featuring fair trade coffee, tea, cocoa, and chocolate.

Each basket is custom-made, so you can choose the exact items. Orders can be placed through Sunday, Nov. 14, and delivery will start as soon as possible, ending Dec. 12.

Order forms are available in the church office, or contact Sally Magee or Diana Lim.

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