

THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA

SEPTEMBER 2011



WELCOME TO JOHN ANEY, SEMINARY INTERN

John Aney, a seminarian at the Pacific School of Religion, will be interning at Stone Church from September 2011 through May 2012.

John says, "I truly feel blessed to be part of the Stone Church community. I am looking forward to working with the fantastic, energetic, innovative congregation at Stone."

A native Oregonian, John was raised Presbyterian. He is also an accomplished semi-professional actor and director, which may



be apparent after spending some time with him!

John and his wife Mary have lived in the Bay Area for 12 years, now residing in Sunnyvale. They have previously lived in Indiana (for graduate school), Seattle, and Moscow, Russia. They have two children, Will, 8, and Sasha, 4, and are members of Foothills United Church of Christ in Los Altos.

We would like to extend a most gracious and heartfelt welcome to John!



photo by Dan Raby

The annual church picnic was a huge bunch of fun, as usual! For more delightful pictures, please see page 7.

EXTENDED COMMUNION: A TENDER MINISTRY OF GRACE

by Rev. Dr. David McCreath



One of the oldest traditions in Christian worship is carrying portions of the Lord's Supper to persons unable to attend worship, whether from illness, handicap, or other infirmity. It is a *tender ministry* to persons who, for any of

a variety of reasons, are restricted to home, hospital, or other facility. For many years, it was called *home communion*.

At Stone Church, as the communion elements are prepared, pieces of bread and cups of grape juice are placed in small wooden boxes, wrapped in a white cloth, and placed at one end of the communion table. Two-person teams of Elders and Deacons, at the conclusion of our communion service, take these boxes to persons unable to attend church.

The practice of home communion at Stone Church is undergoing a few changes.

The first change is a different *name*. A few years ago, the Office of Worship, a part of the General Assembly offices in Louisville, Kentucky, changed the name of the ministry to *extended communion*, representing that we *extend* the

Lord's Table to include those who cannot be physically present.

The second change is the addition of a *prayer* near the end of our communion service, in which the pastor offers a blessing for the elements being carried to homes and other agencies. This prayer also commissions the Deacon-Elder teams.

It is our hope that these two changes will help our congregation feel more connected to the distant folks, including them in private prayers, as well.

The Health Ministries Committee, along with Ken Henry and David McCreath, will offer an adult education class on extended communion on Sept. 25. All persons interested in knowing more about the meaning and procedures of extended communion are invited to attend.

The goal of the class is to enlarge extended communion as a *tender ministry of grace* at Stone Church.

MIDDLE SCHOOL "EVENTFUL" FELLOWSHIP KICKS OFF WITH FOOD & GAMES WITH KEN & JOHN!

**Middle
School
2011-12**

Calling all Middle Schoolers: come and join us for an exciting night of *Food and Games* to kick off the beginning of our new church season, on Sunday, Sept. 25, starting at 5 pm.

Ken Henry and John Aney (Stone's new seminary intern) will lead the games.

We will also brainstorm about this year's program - yes, you will get to vote on our calendar of events.

Our theme this year will be:

Your beauty should consist of your true inner self, the ageless beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit that is so precious to God. [1 Peter 3:4]

Then, at 6:30 pm, we will invite our parents to join us for dinner, which will consist of a *Potato-and-Salad Bar*, giving you the chance to be very "creative eaters."

We hope you will join us!

For more information, please contact Rosaleen Zisch.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN STONE CHURCH?

Have you been thinking about joining Stone Church?

Then, come hear everything you would ever want to know about what it means to be a *Presbyterian* and about *Stone Church!*

The next New Member Class is slated for Sunday, Sept. 11, from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm, in the Church Library (in the Lincoln House). A light lunch will be served.

For more information, please contact Katherine Webb Calhoon.

WELCOME BACK! COME TO THE MEET, GREET & EAT POTLUCK!

The kids are back in Church School, the choir is regaling us, the bells are ringing - it's time to celebrate the return of fall activities at Stone Church!

The Fellowship and Renewal Committee is sponsoring a potluck, following Worship, on Sept. 25.

We ask you to bring a dish to share, as well as, continuing with our *Going Green* theme, your own plates, utensils, beverage containers, and napkins.

To sign up, please look for Claudia Grohitzer during Coffee Fellowship, on Sept. 4, 11, and 18. For more information, please contact Katherine Webb Calhoon.



Can't you do anything with these guys, Mary?!

PAYING DOWN RENOVATION LOAN IS KEY TO "MOVING FORWARD"

In 2004, Stone Church renovated our physical facilities, funded by a major capital campaign.

Because of the congregation's generosity, this effort was successful, and, for six years, we have enjoyed our updated Christian Education wing, Social Hall and kitchen, nursery, rest-rooms, and Lincoln House offices. However, more remains to be done.

The outstanding balance on our renovation loan is approximately

\$350,000, and we must use \$108,000 of our annual operating budget to pay the principal and interest on this loan.

This financial situation prevents us from *moving forward* to meet other needs. The lighting in the sanctuary must be improved. Our furnaces need to be repaired or replaced.

Most importantly, the level of activity at Stone requires that we provide relief for Ken Henry by calling an Associate Pastor.

We plan to significantly reduce the loan through a two-year capital campaign, raising at least \$200,000.

In early September, you will receive an informational letter, to be followed by a call from a member of our campaign committee.

Will you join us in this effort? Please prayerfully consider what you can pledge.

For more information, please contact campaign co-chairs Mel Goertz and Pat Magee.

ADULT STUDY: MEET NEW INTERN JOHN ANEY, LEARN ABOUT CRISES & FAITH

Stone Church offers fascinating and varied Adult Study classes on Sunday mornings at 11:15 in the Fireside Room. Childcare is provided.

All are welcome!

Sept. 11: Intro to Church School & Adult Study Classes for School Year

We will preview the variety of educational programs to be presented during the coming school year.

Sept. 18: A Conversation with John Aney, Stone's Seminary Intern

John Aney, Stone's new seminary intern, will be preaching this morning. He joins the Adult Study class to discuss his sermon and his reasons for becoming a Presbyterian minister (see related article, page 1).

Sept. 25: Extended Communion Training Class with Ken and David

This training class, sponsored by Health Ministries, is primarily for Elders and Deacons who have the honor of *extending communion* to those who cannot attend worship on Sundays.

Ken Henry and David McCreath will lead the class (see David's article, page 1).

Oct. 2, 9, 16: Crises and the Journey of Faith with Dr. John Van Hagen

Dr. John Van Hagen is a psychologist in San Francisco and consultant to the San Francisco Archdiocesan Tribunal and St. Patrick's Seminary.

For the past eight years, Dr. Van Hagen has had an ongoing dialog with Tom Sheehan of Stanford's Department of Religious Studies, regarding

recent research on the historical Jesus and its implications for a believing community. Lecture topics include:

- * Oct. 2: The Jewish Crisis of Faith
- * Oct. 9: The Christian Crisis of Faith
- * Oct. 16: The Humanist Crisis of Faith

Oct. 23: Envision San Jose 2040 with Kim Walesh, Chief Strategist

Kim Walesh is the Chief Strategist for the City of San José. She will speak about the *Draft 2040 Plan*, which will guide the city's continued growth through the year 2040.

There are no classes on Sept. 4 (Labor Day Weekend) or Oct. 30 (Consecration Sunday). For more information about any of these classes, please contact Pat Magee, Chair, Adult Study Sub-Committee.

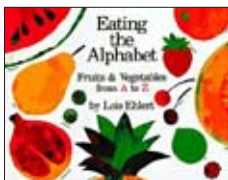
DISCOVER GREAT BOOKS ON THE "RHYTHMS OF LIFE" IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!

The book titles this month suggest many *rhythms of life* – eating, feeling, thanking, recovering, fusing, raising, grieving, letting go – as well as the ideas of search, challenge, and adventure.

Happy reading to you!

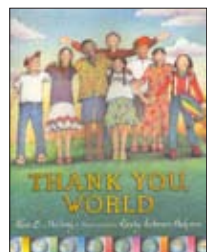
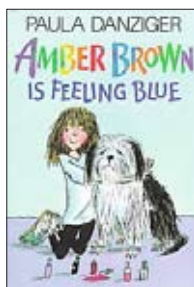
- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator

New for our younger members:



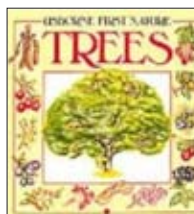
Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z by Lois Ehlert (1st Bks J Ehl)

Amber Brown Is Feeling Blue by Paula Danziger (J Dan)

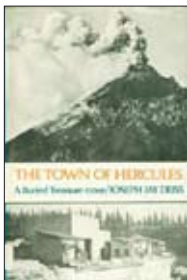


Thank You, World by Alice McGinty (J McG)

Trees by Ruth Thomson (J 582 Tho)



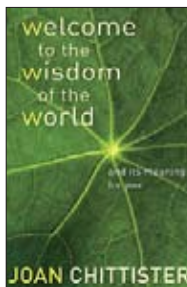
Wiggling Worms at Work by Wendy Pfeffer (J 592 Pfe)



The Town of Hercules: A Buried Treasure from 1800 to 1870 by Joseph Deiss (YA 937.7 Dei), given by Rosaleen Zisch

On the adult side:

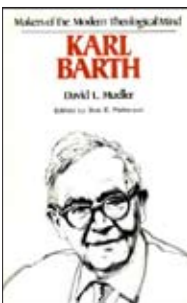
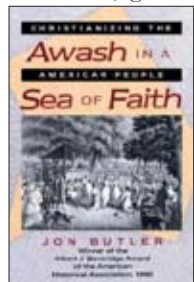
Recovering the Soul: A Scientific and Spiritual Search by Larry Dossey (153 Dos), given by Janice Goertz



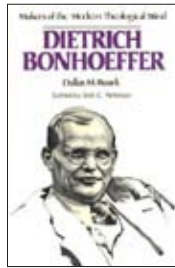
Welcome to the Wisdom of the World and Its Meaning for You by Joan Chittister (200 Chi), given by Bea and

Fred Groppuso

Awash in a Sea of Faith: Christianizing the American People by Jon Butler (200.9 But), given by Brad Bauer

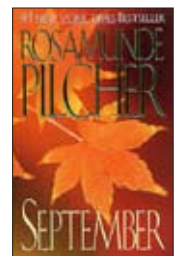
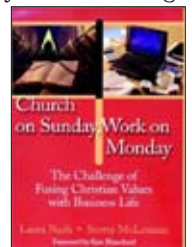


Karl Barth by David Mueller (230 Bar), given by Dulcie Janzen



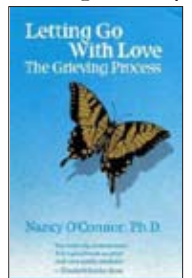
Dietrich Bonhoeffer by Dallas Roark (230 Bon), also from Dulcie Janzen

Church on Sunday, Work on Monday: The Challenge of Fusing Christian Values with Business Life by Laura Nash & Scotty McLennan (248.8 Nas)



September by Rosamunde Pilcher (F Pil), given by Chris Osborne

Letting Go with Love: The Grieving Process by Nancy O'Connor (Spec Needs-D 155.9 OCo), given by Rebecca Kuiken



Kids' Adventures Around San Francisco Bay by Elina Wong (Fam 917 Won)

Raising Self-Reliant Children in a Self-Indulgent World by Glenn & Nelsen (Fam-Par 649 Gle), given by Colleen Blackburn



STONERWORKS INVITES YOU TO COME AND CARE FOR OTHERS

StoneWorks extends a very special invitation to *everyone* interested in the dedicated and heartfelt mission work that is constantly ongoing at Stone Church.

Join us at our next meeting, on Tuesday, Sept. 6, downstairs in Room 1, at 7:30 pm.

In the meantime, at the right is a listing of some of the local mission opportunities in which you are warmly invited to participate.

And be sure to look for exciting news from StoneWorks next month - think national and global mission!

♥ **Second Harvest/Valley Medical Center Produce Mobile East Valley Medical Clinic**
1883 McKee Road
Saturday, Sept. 10, 9-10:30 am:

At this event, which occurs every second Saturday of the month, fresh fruits and vegetables are distributed to families in need.

♥ **InnVision Children's Shopping Trip, Sept. or Oct. (date tbd)**

At this event, children from InnVision (a homeless shelter) get to pick out their own new clothes. (Note that the date will be set after a store has been confirmed.)

♥ **Commercial Street Inn "Meal-a-Month" Lunch, Saturday, Sept. 17:**

At this event, which occurs every third Saturday of the month, a hot lunch is provided for homeless mothers and children. Would your group, family, or friends like to volunteer?

♥ **Peacemaking Offering Sunday, Oct. 2:**

Look for a letter in your mail about this special offering.

For more information, or to sign-up for any of these events, please contact Maureen Chandler, Chair, StoneWorks.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS OCT. 30, WITH THEME, "SHARE THE CARE"

It's that time of year again ... almost. The time when we renew our commitment to Stone Church through our annual pledging.

This year, *Consecration Sunday* is Oct. 30 and will feature not only the usual luncheon for the entire congregation after Worship, but also a very exciting musical program.

This program will include the premier of an introit composed by Henry Mollicone, commissioned by Stone Church.

This year's pledging theme is *Share the Care*. Each Sunday in October, youth members of the congregation will share their reflections about what Stone means to them and how your gifts have helped them to grow spiritually through worship, mission, Christian Education, and fellowship.

Please plan to come *Share the Care* throughout October!

And sorry - but Jody will not be wearing the red dress this year!

- Guy Lohman

DONATE ONLINE TO STONE!

For your convenience, you can now make a donation to Stone from the Stewardship webpage at any time of the day or night using a credit card or PayPal.

It's easy and it's safe. Just go to Stone's website (www.stonechurch.org), and select *Church Life*, then *Stewardship*. You may need to scroll down to see the new area: *You may also make a single donation using PayPal or a Credit Card.*

Click the *Donate* button, enter the amount and purpose of your gift, then choose either PayPal or a credit card. [Note that PayPal takes 2.2% of the amount as a service fee, so you may want to adjust your gift accordingly.]

Kudos to Michael Wheatley and webmaster Rod Thorn for setting this up. And thank you for your unending generosity to Stone Church!

- Guy Lohman

SESSION REVIEWS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, APPROVES "BEATITUDE MASS" PRESENTATION

At its regular meeting on Aug. 16, the Session met with Mary Breuleux, Church Treasurer, for a review of the church's fund accounting system and Session responsibilities for making and tracking payments and vouchers. The Elders thanked Mary for her work.

The Session approved funding for a choir presentation, on Oct. 29, of Henry Mollicone's *Beatitude Mass*. The presentation will raise money for homeless charities to be chosen by StoneWorks. It was also agreed

to fund an introit to be composed by Mr. Mollicone for *Consecration Sunday*, Oct. 30 (see article, above).

The Session authorized consultation with an architect to determine possibilities for a permanent solution to the choir loft overcrowding. Members also heard from Steve Nelson that damage to the Sanctuary side doorway is not as severe as first thought and that repairs will be completed soon.

Guy Lohman reported that the Stone Church website now has an

online donation capability up and running (see article, above).

The Session is looking forward to the arrival of Pacific School of Religion seminarian John Aney as intern. His first Sunday will be Sept. 11 (see article, page 1).

After the regular Session meeting, committee chairs met for the process of co-opting new members to committees. Stone renews its leadership through church members' participation in committee work.

- Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session

“Heigh-Ho, Heigh-Ho, it’s off to work we go ...” Most of the youngsters are back in school, and for all the working women and men, summer vacations are over. It is the same for all of us “retired” folks who take up our program, and other volunteer, activities. Good to see everyone!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



We are pleased that we have been able to award eleven scholarships to our college students. The number of applicants is growing, just as our congregation is growing.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has been busy over the summer. They donated three shawls, three lap robes, two scarves, and twenty baby caps.

If you don’t know how to knit or need directions for their projects, they’ll be happy to help.

The coupon lady, aka Dorothy Stevens, suggests focusing on General Mills cereals this month. We can also take advantage of many double-coupon offers.

Have you seen the Safeway ads about their program for supporting schools? Sounds as if they are getting serious about helping education.

PW Schedule for September

Emerald Circle, 9:30 am, Sept. 1, Diana Lim’s home

Amethyst Circle, 1 pm, Sept. 7, Church Library

Coordinating Team, 9:30 am, Sept. 8, Social Hall

Fair Trade Sales, 10:45 am, Sept. 11, Social Hall

Sapphire Circle, 7:30 pm, Sept. 12, Ida Raby’s home

Lunch Bunch, 11:30 am, Sept. 13, Taiwan Restaurant

Book Group II 2:30 pm, Sept. 19, Karen Scott’s home, discussing *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck.

Focus Group, 9:30 am, Sept. 21, Bea Groppuso’s home

Bible Study, 9:30 am, Sept. 22, *Confessing the Beatitudes, Lesson 2*, with the Rev. Marge Palmer

Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sept. 22, 4 pm, Fireside Room

Book Group I, 1 pm, Sept. 26, Hazel James’ home, discussing *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson

Special Reminder:

Horizons Bible Study Day at SFTS, Sept. 10. Registration closes on Sept. 2. Walk-ins are welcome, but you may need to bring your own lunch.

- Catherine Amos

The Men’s Ministry of Stone Church includes a mission work team, a book group, and a flying group. For more information about any of these activities, please contact Parish Associate David McCreath.



Flying Trip to Evergreen Aviation Museum, Sept./Oct.

Art Holtz and Bill Ribble are organizing a weekend/overnight flying trip to the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum at McMinnville, Oregon (near Portland) (www.evergreenmuseum.org/the-museum).

The tentative date is late September or early October. Transportation will be provided by private pilot Bill Ribble and his friends. The cost is estimated at \$250 - 300 per person.

All men of the church are welcome to come.

If you are interested, please contact Art Holtz.

Men’s Book Group to Select Books for Fall/Winter, Sept. 12

The Men’s Book Group will meet on Monday, Sept. 12, beginning at 7:30 pm.

The group will select books to be read during the fall and early winter.

All men of the church are welcome to attend. Come with suggestions of excellent books.

Art Holtz is the host for this month.

Fall Men’s Mission Trip to Westminster Woods, Sept. 16-20

Westminster Woods is the destination for the fall Men’s Mission Trip, Sept. 16 - 20.

Leland Wong wants to point out, to all men of the church, that it is fine to come for just a part of that time (maybe just the weekend), and as usual, no skills are required! The experts in the group will teach you everything you need to know.

For more information, or to sign up, please contact Leland Wong.

-Bill Ribble, Leland Wong, & David McCreath

“BRING YOUR TALENTS” TO STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

People often associate Stephen Ministry with the listening care provided to those experiencing common life crises, such as illness, loss, grief, and relationship issues. And Stephen Ministers are sometimes perceived as having extraordinary skills and an abundance of free time.



In reality, Stephen Ministers are active and dedicated people who make time in their busy schedules to attend training for fifty hours and then commit approximately ten hours each month to meet with their care receiver and attend supervision meetings.

Stephen Ministers make this commitment because they realize that others in our congregation and community need their distinctive training and experience and can benefit greatly from their confidential care.

Maybe you have thought about becoming a Stephen Minister, but have found reasons to postpone the decision. Please consider the talents you could bring to the program.

Applications are now being accepted for a training class starting in late September.

For more information, please contact Joan Peckham. - Judith Mohr

WE HAD LOTS OF FUN THIS SUMMER!



Jean and Dan Raby enjoyed several music events at Zephyr Point Conference Center this summer.

Jean started with a handbell workshop, then Dan joined her for the annual choral workshop, *Summer Sing*,

whose theme was *There is a Church Within Us*. They learned ten anthems, presenting them for the Worship service at Zephyr. With 150 singers in the choir, they said the sound was wonderfully spiritual.

Dan reflected, "As we spent time with the other singers, we considered the special ways we were all called to serve others. Think about how 'there is a church within you ...'"

- photos & story by Dan Raby

At right, Aimee Moiso and Hilleguus Faber met up in Haarlam in the Netherlands this summer. Aimee noted that Hilleguus gave her a great tour!



The Vivace Youth Chorus of San José held a *Summer Music Camp* at Stone Church this year.

In the pictures above, Peggy Spool (left), Stone's Children's Choir Director, is teaching an interesting musical lesson, while Mary Jo Blazek (right), Stone's Children's Ministry Coordinator, is teaching a creative art class.

This summer, Barbara Roberts and Rich Frohlich visited their son, Colin Frohlich, who is attending medical school in Łódź, Poland.

Barbara and Colin are pictured here at the Schönbrunn Palace, located in Vienna.





Stone Church Worship and Picnic in the Park, 2011



DINNER... AND OH, THE GOLF TOURNAMENT TOO!

Stone's Annual Golf Tournament will be held at the Villages Golf and Country Club on Saturday, Oct. 1, starting at noon.



But the golf tournament is becoming somewhat incidental – it's the dinner at 6 pm that folks like to attend – and you don't even have to play golf!

However, if you're in the *minority* and actually want to play, it's still a scramble format with *fun* prizes for the first and last place winners. The cost is \$75 (golf and cart included) which is \$5 less than the past few years – what a bargain!



Dinner options include chicken, fish, meat, or vegetarian; cost is about \$25 all inclusive (tax and tip).

So, be sure to invite your family and friends to join you for golf, dinner, or both on Oct. 1, at the Villages!

To sign up, look for Mike Donald, Matt Schroeder, and friends during Coffee Fellowship, on Sept. 18 and 25. They can answer questions and will have a dinner menu available. - Maureen Ryan

DREAMING OF SNOW? HELP PLAN STONE'S SKI AND SNOW TRIP



It's not too early to start planning winter activities!

Stone's Annual *Ski and Snow Trip* is set for Jan. 27-29, 2012, at Zephyr Point Conference Center.

If you've attended in the past, or are interested in attending in 2012, please join us for a planning session, on Friday, Sept. 16, at 7 pm, in the Social Hall.

Bring the kids, and tell us about the great fun you've had in the past. We'd also like to know about events you would like to see included in 2012.

June Tablak will lead the discussion, and dessert and coffee will be served.

For more information, please contact June Tablak.

TRAILWALKERS CONTINUE ON THE "MIGHTY GUADALUPE" IN SEPTEMBER



The Stone Church Trailwalkers will follow up from last month's interpretive walk on the *Lower* Guadalupe trail.

On Saturday, Sept. 17, we will explore the *Upper* Guadalupe trail, from the Chenoweth Light Rail Station to Almaden Lake Park.

Meet at 9 am in the parking lot at Chenoweth and Winfield, adjacent to the station – you're encouraged to take the light rail. We'll be done by noon.

For more information, please contact Katherine Webb Calhoun.



Another great picture from Stone's annual *Worship and Picnic in the Park!*

WHEN YOU HAVE A SPECIAL NEED, STONE CARES!

The Deacons' *Stone Cares* program is standing by to help!

If you need a ride to the doctor or a few meals to help out when you are ill, or if you have a special need – or if you want to alert *Stone Cares* to someone else in need – please contact the following people, in this order:

- ♥ Steve Stark (Deacon Leader)
- ♥ Bill Ribble (Deacon)
- ♥ Glenda Bowman (Volunteer)

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
 www.stonechurch.org
 Rev. Dr. Ken Henry, Pastor
 Jennifer Scott-Brand, Office Manager

The Stone News Staff:

June Tablak, Editor Emeritus
 Emily Moak Meacham, Editor
 Suzanne Wolf & June Tablak,
 Church Mouse
 Sylvia Snyder, Chief Photographer
Assistant Editors:
 Rhonda Lakatos, Pat Magee,
 Jody Meacham, Fred Oliver,
 Lizanne Oliver

Additional Photographs:

John Aney, Rich Frohlich, Jeff Mattan, Aimee Moiso, Dan Raby, Rod Thorn, Sue Williams