

# THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA

JUNE/JULY 2015



## WE'RE ALL SO SAD TO SEE YOU GO ...

Into that file labeled, "All good things must come to an end, but that doesn't mean we have to like it," we reluctantly place our fond memories of three families who are leaving Stone Church.

All have good reasons ... they are "off to pastures" that are ...

- \* *Greener* - Katherine Webb Calhoun (pictured with husband, Steven, middle right) has just retired to Dunedin, Florida.
- \* *Hotter* - Ashley and Roland Neufeld, plus children Soren, Kara, and Jenson (pictured top right), are moving to Folsom to be closer to family.
- \* *Cheesier* - Stephania ter Hark, Rodolphe Verhaegen, and daughters Josephine and Louisa (pictured top left) are moving to Switzerland, where Rod has a new job in Zurich.

In their too-brief time among us, they all did many things.

Katherine was an Elder for three years, serving as chair of the Membership and Communication and Worship committees and helping to shape our new member classes. She was a member of the Handbell Choir and served for a few meetings as Clerk of Session.

Stephania, who was born in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and Rod, who is from Belgium, moved to San José from Zurich and joined Stone in 2012 with Josephine. Shortly thereafter, Louisa was born. Stephania, who is a Certified Compassion Cultivation Teacher, was a Stephen Minister at Stone. Rod served on the StoneWorks committee and played one of Jesus' disciples in our recent Maundy Thursday service. He was officially *Americanized* - and has the certificate to prove it - at a Stanford football game this past October.

The Neufelds joined us as a couple in 2007, but are leaving as a clan of five. Ashley and Roland each served as Elders. Ashley served on the StoneWorks, Stewardship, and Health Ministries committees, which she chaired, and Roland served on the Personnel and Administration, Fellowship and Renewal, and Stewardship committees, which he chaired. Ashley also *rained fire and brimstone* upon us one Sunday in a sermon. Jenson, who signed Rod Verhaegen's *Americanization* certificate, was a faithful dishwasher in the kitchen (bottom right), and he and both his siblings



*Editor's Note: I'll really miss my dishwashing buddy!*

faithfully attended all Stewardship committee meetings.

We wish them all the very best in their journeys and ask that they take care of the parts of our hearts that leave with them.

*Parting is such sweet sorrow.*

*-Romeo and Juliet, Act 2, Scene 2*



The Stone Church Youth Group recently led our Worship Service with energy and enthusiasm and love!

## STONE'S YOUTH GROUP WILL BE TRAVELING TO CHICAGO FOR MISSION TRIP

*Irene says, "Keep us  
in your prayers!"*

The 2015 Stone Church Youth Mission Team is heading to Chicago, from July 5 to July 11.

We will stay at Fourth Presbyterian Church in downtown Chicago, and we will serve homeless shelters, urban gardens, women's and children's

shelters, and more, in the surrounding areas.

Kathleen Oliver and I [Rev. Irene Pak] will serve as the team's leaders.

Youth team members include Emma Brand, Julia Lohman, Ben McDaid, Madison McManus,

Aaron McNelis, Elle Nilson, and Olivia Van Den Bosch.

Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare to go - and while we are there!

Prayer partners are welcome!

- Rev. Irene Pak

## SESSION REVIEWS TENTATIVE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2015-2016

The election of a new class of Ruling Elders and Deacons, which is the purpose of the annual congregational meeting at the end of May, affected much of the business that Session dealt with at its May 19 monthly meeting.

All incoming Ruling Elders, who will form the Class of 2018 because they serve three-year terms, will attend an Elder retreat June 6 that will prepare them for the new Stone Church activity year to begin in the fall. Terms of Ruling Elders and Deacons in the Class of 2015 end on June 30, and terms of the Class of 2018 begin July 1. All Elders and Deacons will hold a joint meeting in July.

Ruling Elders (those actively serving on Session) chair and serve on all ten of Stone's standing committees. The Personnel and Administration Committee, currently chaired by outgoing Ruling Elder Rhonda Lakatos, presented its proposed Elder assignments for 2015-16, based on the slate of candidates presented

by the Nominating Committee. It is common for Ruling Elders to be moved among committees during their terms.

Subject to the election, the committee assignments are tentatively:

- ✦ **Budget & Finance**  
Sandi Lococo, 2018, chair  
David Wilson, 2018
- ✦ **Buildings & Grounds**  
Chris Lee, 2017, chair  
Meredith Wright, 2016
- ✦ **Christian Education**  
Bob Cole, 2017, chair  
Dhar Blackwood, 2016  
Kathleen Oliver, 2018
- ✦ **Health Ministries**  
Joy Cox, 2016, chair
- ✦ **Membership & Communication**  
Carrie Giorgianni, 2016, chair  
Danielle Gustafson, 2017  
Bill Raby-Brown, 2017
- ✦ **Nominating**  
Larry Olmstead, 2016, chair
- ✦ **Personnel & Administration**  
Stephen Stock, 2017, chair  
Brad Tips, 2018

- ✦ **Stewardship**  
Jody Meacham, 2016, chair  
Julia Roberts, 2018
- ✦ **StoneWorks**  
Nick Hurley, 2017, chair  
Derk Johnson, 2018
- ✦ **Worship**  
Kathy Stark, 2018, chair  
Kathleen O'Brien, 2016

A request from StoneWorks to receive a special offering on Sunday, June 7, for Nepal earthquake relief was unanimously approved.

Two other committee motions were discussed and sent back to their committees for more work:

- ✦ A painted design for the arch above the doorway leading from the narthex into the sanctuary, proposed by the Worship Committee, and
- ✦ A revision to the term limits for co-opted committee members, proposed by Personnel & Administration.

- Jody Meacham, Ruling Elder

# ADULT STUDY TAKES US ON PAUL'S TRAVELS AND TEACHES US TO WRITE PSALMS

Adult Education classes meet on Sunday after Worship, in the Fireside Room, from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm. Childcare is available in the Nursery.

There is no class on May 31 (Congregational Meeting).



**June 7, 14, 21:**  
**“Paul’s Missionary Travels in Asia Minor,”**  
 with Pat Magee

Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan

on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul’s footsteps through Asia Minor (western Turkey).

We will discuss the message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle’s radical relevance for today.

- ✦ June 7: Differences between Jesus and Paul
- ✦ June 14: Paul’s Character and Vocation
- ✦ June 21: Theology and Legacy

*Editor’s Note: This series started on May 24, with the topic, “Living in the Roman Empire.”*



**July 12, 19, 26:**  
**“Psalm Writing as a Spiritual Act,”**  
 with Rev. Dr. Ken Henry

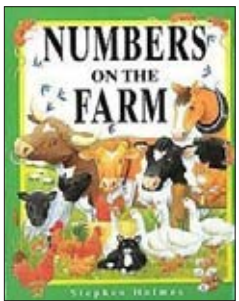
This is a writing class. Over the course of three Sundays, participants will be given a rhetorical approach to the Psalms. We will explore different genres of prayer, poetry, praise, and lament.

But remember – this is a writing class. We will have a chance to write prayers and share our work with others in the class.

## LIBRARY HAS GREAT SUMMER READS ON WEDDINGS, WALKING, WRITING & MORE!

Enjoy reading as you celebrate special events and summer!

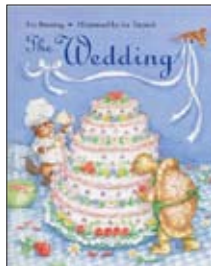
- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator



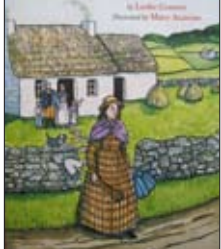
**For our younger members**

*Numbers on the Farm* by Stephen Holmes (1st Bks Hol), given by Paulette Dudley

*The Wedding* by Eve Bunting (J Bun)

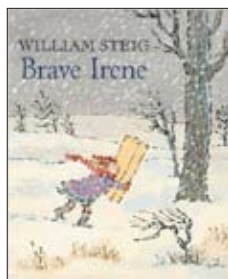


*Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel*



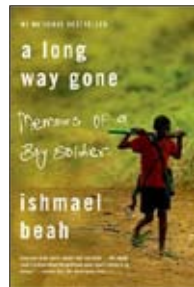
*Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel* by Leslie Connor (J Con)

*Brave Irene* by William Steig (J Ste), given with thanks to Irene



and the youth for a well-done Youth Sunday

*What Is a Plant?* by Bobbie Kalman (J 580 Kal)



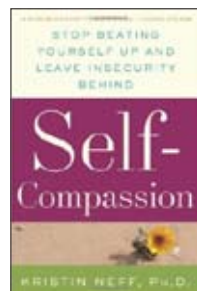
*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah (YA Biog Beah)

*Oranges* by Zack Rogow (J 634 Rog)



Zack Rogow

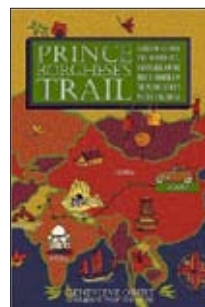
**Additions to our regular adult collection**



*Self-Compassion: The Proven Power of Being Kind to Yourself* by Kristin Neff (158.1 Nef)

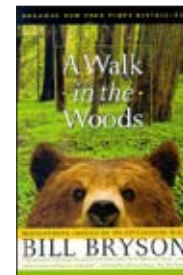
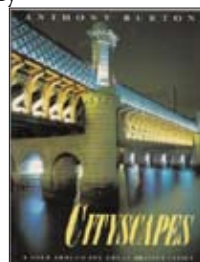
*Psalms* by Ernesto Cardenal (223 Car)

*Prince Borghese’s Trail: 10,000 Miles over Two Continents* by



Anthony Burton (914.1), given by Brad Bauer

Genevieve Obert (796 Obe), given by the Roberts-Frohlich family



*A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson (917 Bry), given by the Whitesel family

**New to our special collections**

*Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit* by Parker Palmer (Soc Iss 320 Pal)

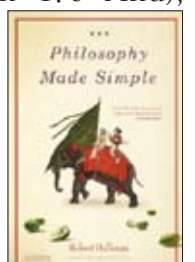
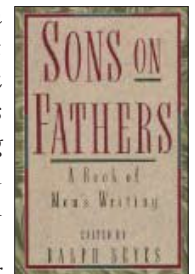
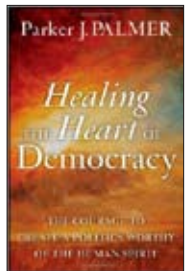
*Letter to a Christian Nation* by Sam Harris (Soc Iss 277.3 Har)

*Sons on Fathers: A Book of Men’s Writing* edited by Ralph Keyes (Fam 306.8 Key)



*A Year by the Sea: Thoughts of an Unfinished Woman* by Joan Anderson (Women 170 And), given by Claudia Hamm

*Philosophy Made Simple* by Robert Hellenga (Fic Hel), given by the Whitesel family





## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

*Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God ... He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms ...*  
- Isaiah 40:1,11a

This passage from Isaiah is the theme of the 2015 PW Birthday Offering, for which there are two recipients:

- ♥ Bethesda Christian Community Center, in Barranquilla, Colombia – a project of sister churches Oxford Presbyterian Church, in Ohio, and Seventh Presbyterian Church, in Colombia
- ♥ “Breaking Free: Empowering Victims of Sexual Human Trafficking, Prostitution, and Addiction,” in Memphis, Tennessee – a project of The Community of St. Therese of Lisieux (CSTL)

The offering will be collected at the PW Picnic in June. If you are unable to attend, please leave a donation in the PW box in the church office.

### PW Annual Luncheon, June 13

All women of Stone Church are invited to Jan Keifer’s lovely backyard, on June 13, at noon, for our Annual Luncheon (a salad potluck) and Installation of Officers for 2015-2016.

We invite the Santa Clara Valley Public Health Nurses to join us. They will tell us about their program and leave with layette items and Target giftcards to give to their patients, some of whom do not have even a blanket in which to bring their baby home.

Come hear about their program and celebrate the Birthday Offering.

### More PW Summer Events

Summer events continue with the Lunch Bunch on Tuesdays, June 9 and July 14, at 11:30 am, at the Taiwan Restaurant (1306 Lincoln Ave.). This is a great opportunity to meet other women and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Book Group I meets June 22 and July 27, at Hazel James’ home. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets June 27 and July 25, at Linda Hagan’s. Fair Trade Sales (coffee, tea, cocoas, and a variety of chocolate bars) are on June 14 and July 12.



### Box Tops for Education

Continue to save Box Tops for Education! We present them to the principal of Della Smith’s school at our August Brunch. See [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com) to get a complete list of eligible products.

### August Brunch – “Multi-Faith Panel: Shared Values Among Faiths”

Representatives from the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths will join in a “Multi-Faith Panel: Shared Values Among Faiths,” at our August 15 Brunch, from 9 am to noon, with great food and discussion on diversity toward a harmonious world.

### Prayers for Attendees of Churchwide Gathering and “Focus on the Future”

Please pray for those of us heading to the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, in Minneapolis, MN, June 18-21, and for those of us attending a retreat to “Focus on the Future,” facilitated by Jane Odell, on June 27, to explore ways to enhance new members’ interest and involvement.

### Women’s Gathering Place Needs Help with Lunches for Homeless Women

The “Women’s Gathering Place,” sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, 49 N. Fourth Street, is a place where a woman without a home can find the support of other women, connect to vital services, and find respite, spiritual renewal, and joy when there is nowhere else to go but the street.

On Mondays and Wednesdays at noon, the women are served a warm, hearty meal. This is often the only hot meal of the day for these women. Help is needed, so if you love to cook or just want to help maybe once a month or so, please contact Claudia Hamm or Karleen, Volunteer Coordinator ([womensgatheringplace.org](http://womensgatheringplace.org)).

### Summer Hiatus for Some Events

Bible Study, Book Group II, and Circles will resume in September.

The 2015-2016 *Horizons* Bible Study is *Come to the Waters*, by Judy Record Fletcher. If you need a study guide, please contact Sally Magee.

- Joyce Summers

## MEN’S MINISTRY



The Men’s Ministry of Stone Church includes a mission work team, a book group, a flying group, and wine- and beer-making groups.

For more information about any of these activities, please contact the Rev. Dr. David McCreath, Parish Associate.

### Men’s Book Group, June 15

The Men’s Book Group will meet on June 15, beginning at 7 pm. We will be selecting books for late summer and fall reading. The host is Bruce Raby.

### Photos from Men’s Breakfast on Saturday, May 9

The men enjoyed a delicious breakfast and an inspiring speaker on May 9. Thanks, Dan Raby, for these great pictures.



*A Prayer for Pentecost, by Rev. Dr. Ken Henry*



Breathe life into Dem Dry Bones  
(Based on Ezekiel 37:1-14)

O Hear the Word of the Lord!

Come from the four winds, O Breath.  
Come and revive your Church and its people.  
Breathe life into dem dry bones.

When we long for home;  
When home seems so far away;  
When we are changing homes  
or moving away;  
Breathe life into dem dry bones.

When we struggle with finances;  
When we worry about  
our children's futures;  
When we face difficult decisions  
about our health;  
Breathe life into dem dry bones.

When we wonder what tomorrow  
will bring;  
When someone we love relies on  
our strength to carry him or her;  
When the weight of life seems  
too hard to bear;  
Breathe life into dem dry bones.

Come from the four winds, O Breath.  
Come from the heavens, O Fire.  
Come from sky and cloud, O Rain.  
Renew the face of the Earth.  
Breathe life into dem bones,  
dem bones, dem dry bones.



*Mary Alice Collins, Karen Scott, Claudia Hamm, Donald Foster, and Laraine Pitcher gathered on May 22 to wish **Miriam Rowan** a very, very happy 94th birthday!*

## RECORDING ENTHUSIAST NEEDED!

Are you interested in letting others know about Stone Church? Are you also interested in working with audio recordings on your computer?

If so, Stone's audio-visual team could use your help. We're looking for someone to help edit and post recordings of our Worship services to our page at:

<https://archive.org/details/stonechurch>

This task requires less than an hour a week and can be done from the privacy of your own home (as long as you have a reliable internet connection).

If you would like to help, please contact Caryl Westerberg.



*Scenes from a Recent Family Potluck at River Glen Park*

## VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL: “CLEAN WATER FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN,” JUNE 15 –19

*Clean Water for all God’s Children* is the theme of this year’s Vacation Church School, June 15-19.

In light of the recent threat of drought and water rationing, we decided to bring awareness to this issue.

The theme will not only address our immediate water problems, but give the children an insight into water issues globally.

Each day through crafts, games, stories, music, and snacks, the children will gain an understanding of the statement, “Jesus Christ is the living water for our bodies and our souls.”

Every day we will also learn about a child from another country and their water challenges.

Our mission project will be *Playpumps International*. This is a wonderful organization that provides villages with play structures that pump water out of the ground – for the whole village – when the children turn it around.

I believe that this is a project our children can understand; also it will reassure them of how very important we all are to each other – young and old alike.

Registration for Vacation Church School has begun and is open to

children in kindergarten through 5th grade, with youth helpers in the 6th grade and up. It will run each day from 8:45 am until noon, with a family event on Sunday, June 21, during the regular Worship service at 9:30 am.

A donation of \$40 per child or \$70 per family is requested. All youth helpers are asked to pay \$10 to cover T-shirts and snacks. All are welcome, so please invite your friends and neighbors.

*If you would like to enroll, would like more information, or would like to volunteer, please contact Mary Jo Blazek in the Church Office.*



*Stone Church Family Camp at Westminster Woods ... Everyone had a great time, including “John Muir” (aka Ken Henry)!*

# MORE GREAT PICTURES FROM STONE CHURCH FAMILY CAMP AT WESTMINSTER WOODS



## STONE TRAIL WALKERS PLAN SUMMER OUTINGS TO PULGAS RIDGE AND PICCHETTI RANCH



*The Trail Walkers had a wonderful time at Rancho San Antonio!*

Join the Stone Church Trail Walkers on Saturday, June 20, for an outing to Pulgas Ridge Open Space Preserve.

This is an approximately 4-mile hike with about a 400-foot change in elevation. Most of it is gentle with one short, steeper area. There is a lot of shade, but at the top, it is sunny with some great views. It will probably be too late for wild flowers. The preserve is located across Edgewood Road from the Edgewood County Park, which is known for spring wild-flower hikes.

We will leave Stone about 8:15 am and carpool to the preserve. Sign up at Coffee Fellowship on June 7 or 14.

Looking ahead: We will hike on July 18 at Picchetti Ranch, part of the midpeninsula regional open space district. The trail goes for about two miles through different landscapes: a seasonal pond that will probably be dry, meadow, and chaparral-covered hills. There are also views of the Stevens Creek Reservoir, and the trail ends at Stevens Creek. We will return on the same trail.

Picchetti Winery borders the preserve. After the hike, you may choose to partake of wine tasting (\$10 per person). If we buy a bottle of wine, we can use the picnic tables. We can extend our experience by packing our lunches and eating together.



Sign up at Coffee Fellowship on July 5 or 12.

For more information, please contact Mary-Ann Hudson or Rebecca Schroeder.

## HEALTH MINISTRY SHARES A "HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS" CHICKPEA SALAD

This mashed chickpea salad is healthy and delicious. It's great by itself, but we love it stuffed into pitas. Enjoy! - Ashley Neufeld

### Ingredients

- 1 (15 oz.) can chickpeas (garbanzo beans), drained and rinsed
- 2 stalks celery, chopped small
- 1/3 small apple, chopped small
- 1 medium carrot, shredded
- 1/4 cup red onion, chopped small
- 1/2 cup kale, de-stemmed and torn or chopped into small pieces
- 2 tablespoons cilantro
- 2 heaping tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic
- Juice of half a lemon

- 1 1/2 tablespoons sunflower seeds
- Salt and pepper

### Preparation

In a food processor, pulse the chickpeas a few times until they are blended, but the mixture still has chunks for texture. You can also mash them in a bowl with a potato masher.

Transfer to a bowl with the rest of the ingredients, and mix thoroughly until well combined. Adjust salt and pepper to our liking.

### Notes

- 🔪 Modified from the website, [theglowingfridge.com](http://theglowingfridge.com)
- 🔪 I double it for our family. The recipe, as is, serves two.

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