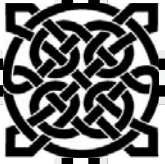


# THE STONE NEWS

STONE CHURCH OF WILLOW GLEN, PRESBYTERIAN USA

MAY 2007



*Rev. Dr. Ken Henry, with daughter Katie, speaks with Phil Curtis, Leland Wong and Michael Malone. The PNC (below) - Emily Mertens, Karen Scott, Maureen Ryan, Hilleguus Faber, Alice Bailey, Jerry Keifer, Alison van Diggelen, Jody Meacham & Donald Foster - are heartily thanked by Rev. Marge Palmer.*



## Congregation Unanimously Approves Rev. Dr. Ken Henry as Stone's New Pastor, Extends Heartfelt Gratitude to PNC

It could not have been a more glorious Easter at Stone Church.

Immediately following his candidating sermon, the congregation voted unanimously (by secret ballot) to approve the call of Rev. Dr. Kenneth Donald Henry to be our church's newest pastor.

The next, and final, step in Ken's call process is examination by the San Jose Presbytery on June 9, at 9 am, at Calvin Presbyterian in San Jose. Members of the congregation are invited and encouraged

to attend this Presbytery meeting to express support for Ken as he is examined on his statement of faith, and the Presbytery votes on his appointment.

Ken, currently a member of the Cascades Presbytery, was a member of the San Jose Presbytery when he was pastor of Trinity Presbyterian in Santa Cruz.

The congregation also dismissed, with deep gratitude, the Pastor Nominating Committee, which had been elected by the

congregation in April 2006 to find a successor to Rev. Art Mills.

Ken is scheduled to begin work Monday, June 25, and to preach his first sermon as pastor July 1, after completing his faculty responsibilities at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon.

To fulfill a family promise, Ken's wife Heather and daughters Katie and Madeline will join him in San Jose a year from now, after Katie completes her senior year of high school.

# Adult Study: Science v. Religion, Travelogue

Stone Church offers discussion-based adult study Sundays, 11 am to noon, in the Fireside Room.

Special drop-in classes will be offered Sunday mornings in the summer. Look for more detail in June's The Stone News.

## May 6 - June 3: The Challenge of Science for Christianity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Modern science presents challenges to religion in general and Christianity in particular. The findings of science refute classic tenets of Christianity, such as *Original Sin*, the *fall from Paradise*, the *Virgin Birth*, and the unity of the Gospels. The culture wars in American are largely based on tensions between the worldviews of science and traditional Christianity.

There are those who insist Christianity must change, accept new scientific truths and radically reinterpret its theology. Others say Truth never changes, the Bible is the literal Word of God, and the modern worldview must be rejected. Still others simply ignore the issue, believing science during the week, and embracing old time religion on Sunday.

We'll explore this critical issue on which the survival of Christianity in America may well depend.

## June 10: The Second Holy Land: A Pilgrimage through Turkey

Join Pat & Sally Magee for a slide show of their 17-day trip through Turkey with New Testament scholars, Marcus Borg & Dominic Crossan.

It's hard to miss our newly remodeled colorful nursery; even harder to miss is Debra Boston, our *Care for We Ones* dedicated Child Care Supervisor.

Debra, an experienced professional nanny with a degree in Early Childhood Development, loves serving Stone Church. She knows many of our children, some of whom, though way past nursery age, still visit her. We are blessed to have her to care for our children.

As a reminder, to schedule the nursery for a church event, please contact Debra directly two weeks ahead. This assures we have experienced volunteers or paid staff supervising our precious children.

- Rosaleen Zisch, CE Moderator

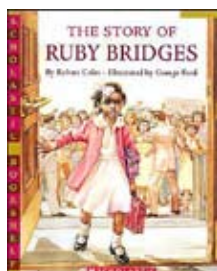
# Library Adds Many Fascinating Books – Come and See!

Celebrate spring with fresh new ideas and understanding. Enjoy our latest library additions.

Look for new books on our cart in the social hall! And visit the library on Sundays after worship. We'll try to have a volunteer available each 2nd and 4th Sunday until at least 11 am.

- Sue Williams, Library Coordinator

## New Books for Young Folks:



*The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles (J 974.4 Col), given by Mary-Ann Hudson

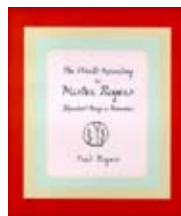
*Bear Child's Book of Hours* by Anne Rockwell (1st Books Roc)



*Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl* by Kate Waters (J 974.4 Wat)

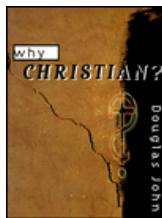
## New Books for Adults:

*The World According to Mister Rogers: Important Things to Remember* by Fred Rogers (170 Rog), given by Kate Williams



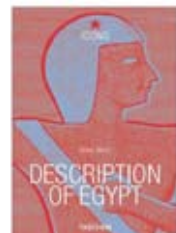
*The Death and Resurrection of the Beloved Son: The Transformation of Child Sacrifice in Judaism & Christianity* by Jon D. Levenson (220.6 Lev)

*Why Christian? For Those on the Edge of Faith* by Douglas John Hall (239 Hal)



*Cities*, compiled by John McGreevy (307 McG)

*Description of Egypt* by Gilles Neret (932 Ner)



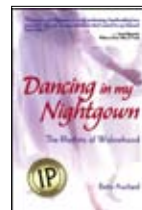
## New Items in Special Collections:

*Is this Heaven?*, sermon by Rev. Dr. Kenneth Henry at Stone Church, Easter 2007 (DVD #3A & B and video #39)



*Jesus, the Bible, and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church*, lectures by Dr. Jack Rogers at Stone Church, Feb 2007 (DVD #1 & 2)

*Partners in Life: The Handicapped & the Church*, edited by Geiko Muller-Fahrenholz (Spec. Needs 261 Mul), given by Ruth McCreath



*Dancing in My Nightgown: The Rhythms of Widowhood* by Betty Auchard (Spec. Needs D-306.88 Auc), given by PW in the Presbytery

*Tis: A memoir* by Frank McCourt (Biog MCCOURT)



*Telling Secrets: A Memoir* by Frederick Buechner (Biog BUECHNER)





## Miriam's Column

Easter has been followed, in church school, by reflections on Jesus' life, death and resurrection using the *Road to Emmaus* story and *labyrinths* - paths that help us draw closer to God.

Spring lessons continue with *Peter and Cornelius* and the affirmation they received that all are welcome in the church. Jesus called Peter the *Rock* on which the church is built; we'll hear stories about the building of our own Stone Church.

The final rotation before summer is the story of *Pentecost*, including a party for our church family on May 27, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. On June 3, we'll thank all contributors to church school this year and enjoy *Music Time*.

On June 10, students will share a song through voice and chimes, and we'll kick off summer church school (see page 6) with visiting bees (the 2007 Heifer Project animal) as students begin their *Read to Feed* project. I hope you'll spring into summer with us!

God bless,  
Miriam Kishi, CE Associate

## Vacation Church School in Galilee By-the-Sea

Stone Church will be transformed into a seaside village in Galilee, for Vacation Church School this year.

Our *Galilee By-the-Sea* program will provide memorable Bible-learning activities for families. Each day kids and adults will join with a small group named after one of the 12 tribes of Israel. Tribes will come together each morning for singing and to explore traditional Bible-times family life. They will visit the Synagogue, play games, and sample Middle Eastern snacks. Families will also explore a Galilean Marketplace, where they'll be apprentices in the Carpentry, Rope, Jewelry, Toy Shops and more!

Galilee By-the-Sea is an exciting way to learn about the amazing things Jesus did. And the best part is that families learn by becoming immersed in Bible-times culture. Participants witness real-life dramas in the center of town, chat with shopkeepers about what Jesus has said and done, and discover what it was like to live when Jesus did.



### Dates and Times:

- ☛ Monday, June 18 - Friday, June 22
- ☛ From 9 am until noon
- ☛ Special reenactment of the Marketplace for the congregation following worship on June 24.

### Who is Eligible?

- ☛ Students aged 4 years through those completing 5th grade will be part of a Tribe.
- ☛ Students completing 6th through 12th grades will assist in a variety of ways, with a special Thursday afternoon activity just for them.
- ☛ Adults will be Tribe Leaders, Shopkeepers, Actors, etc. To learn more about participating, please contact Janice Goertz.

### How to Register:

- ☛ Call the church office (269-1593).
- ☛ Use website [www.stonechurch.org](http://www.stonechurch.org)
- ☛ Sign up at registration tables in the social hall beginning in May.
- ☛ Please register by June 10.

For questions, contact Janice Goertz, Vacation Church School Director.

And get ready to travel back in time, to Galilee By-the-Sea!



*Cutting Edge Ranch was the location for a recent "Confirmation Class and Mentors" retreat. Steve Nelson manned the barbecue, and Rosaleen Zisch led the program. Highlights included visiting the animals and seeing lots of farm equipment.*

# Church & World Helps Us to do Christ's Work in the World

... [to] raise the consciousness of the congregation regarding the local, national, and world mission programs of the Presbyterian Church USA ... [to] strive for greater participation in pursuing Christ's work in the world.

This is one of the charges of the Church & World Committee, as set forth in its charter. We try to accomplish this each month through this article and our website, [www.stonechurch.org/ChurchWorld.php](http://www.stonechurch.org/ChurchWorld.php)

The website lists the local missions we support, along with our denomination's special giving programs. Our affiliation with California Interfaith Power & Light (CIPL) is a new program just introduced this year.

We encourage you to volunteer for one of the many opportunities we pass on to you, either in the Sunday Bulletin, in *The Stone News*, on the website, or on the C&W bulletin board (between the Social Hall and the Education Wing).

## Presbyterians Today

The Session, at its April meeting, gave C&W approval to provide each household of our congregation a subscription to *Presbyterians Today*. The Session has left several copies of past

issues in the narthex, which you are welcome to enjoy.

We would like to know how you like this magazine, which is published monthly (except for one issue for Jan./Feb. and one issue for June/July). You should receive your first issue in 6 to 8 weeks.

C&W feels it is a fine magazine that promotes connectedness among congregations in our nation, as well as around the world.

## Foster Parents Needed

Would you consider becoming a foster parent? C&W has received a request from Hosanna Foster Homes, which serves ten Bay Area counties. For more information, please visit their website, [www.hosannahomes.org](http://www.hosannahomes.org)

## Advocates for the Elderly Needed

Would you consider becoming an advocate for the elderly who live in nursing homes and residential care homes? You can volunteer for Catholic Charities' Long Term Care Ombudsman Program by contacting Stephany Beane (408-325-5134, [sbeane@ccsj.org](mailto:sbeane@ccsj.org)).

## One Great Hour of Sharing

During Lent you heard and read about our *One Great Hour of Sharing* special offering, which was received on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We will be sending \$3,697 to the PCUSA, which will be



divided among three organizations: *Presbyterian Hunger Program* (36%), *Self-Development of People* (32%), and *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* (32%).

## All-Church Workday

Saturday, May 19, has been set as our *All-Church Workday*. Sign-ups will take place in the social hall following worship on May 6 and 13. We will be working at Sacred Heart Community Service, replenishing Louise's Pantry and sorting and hanging clothing in the Clothes Closet.



Lunch will be served in the social hall at noon, following the morning work schedule.

Come work with your church family, and learn more about an organization that we all support.

- Bea Groppuso, C&W Moderator

# Men's Mission Team Performs Repairs at Westminster Woods

The Men's Mission Team traveled to Westminster Woods, March 16-18, to perform some much needed, and much appreciated, repairs.

Westminster Woods, a Presbyterian camp, is located two miles east of Camp Meeker, and a few miles as the crow flies from Santa Rosa - a great location.

Leland Wong had this to say about the trip:

We stayed onsite at the camp's Hilltop House and had our traditional Friday night dinner at the Union Hotel in Occidental. On Saturday, we were tasked to repair dry rot at the Railroad Car building. This was a fun, but tough, job as the more we repaired, the more we found needed repairing. We also framed for stairs for a deck we had completed on previous trips. We also built and framed

platforms for the Ropes Course up the hill from the camp.

The guys said it was a great trip - we upgraded our construction skills (as we take more trips, we keep improving!) and enjoyed our usual fellowship and stimulating discussions (on

serious topics such as *church unity*, as well as lighter, fun *kidding around!*).

These work trips are always open to all men of Stone Church, so if you are interested, the schedule is on the church calendar. And we always try to accommodate work schedules.



The Men's Mission Team enjoy a little relaxation after a hard day's work! Clockwise, from top left: Bill Lakatos, Steve Buckley, David McCreath, Art Holtz, Gabriel Faber, Michael Donald. (Those are Leland Wong's shoes at left, and Bill Palmer took the photo.) More photos, back of calendar.





## News from PW

Ah, the Merry Month of May. Does anyone remember dancing around the Maypole at school? A lost tradition ...

Presbyterian Women for many years have supported supplying mosquito nets to the malaria abatement program in Africa. It is a continuing success in saving the lives of children and their parents. We no longer produce nets as they can be made more efficiently in Africa and provide income for those making them, but we do support the effort financially. Mother Day Cards will be available in the social hall on May 6: a donation of \$10 per card goes toward the making and distribution of the nets. Your support is appreciated.

Have you noted the new brochures in the pew racks? The author(s) are to be congratulated.

On Sunday, May 20, Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery will hold its annual meeting at 2 pm at St. Andrew in Aptos (directions cheerfully given by Catherine Amos). The coordinating team will be installed, and Communion will be served.

Please remember the Stone Church PW Picnic on the first Thursday in June, during which our Birthday Offering shall be received.

Here is the PW May Schedule

Amethyst Circle: Wed., May 2, 1 pm, Conference Room/Library

Emerald Circle: Thurs., May 3, 9:30 am (contact Rhonda Lakatos for location)

Sapphire Circle: Mon. May 14, 7:30 pm, Sheri Cunningham's home

Focus Group: Tues., May 1, 9:30 am, Elizabeth Shandera's home

Book Group 1: May 21, 1 pm, reading *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See, Elizabeth Shandera's home

Book Group 2: Mon., May 21, reading *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbit, Marcia Ludwig's home

Lunch Bunch: Tues., May 8, 11:30 am, Taiwan Restaurant, Lincoln Ave.

Prayer Shawl Group: Thurs., May 24, 4 pm, Fireside Room (reminder: Janice says not to buy yarn because of generous donations)

Bible Study resumes in August with the 2007-2008 *Horizons* study *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*

- Catherine Amos



Jeanette Rapp and Ruth McCreath are hard at work in the kitchen, following the Maundy Thursday Soup Supper.

At its regular April meeting, Session heard a presentation from Rev. Nancy Schell, co-chair with Judy Lococo of the Older Adult Ministry

### Session Beat

of the Presbytery of San Jose. Nancy noted that most churches have programs for children and younger adults, but that with the aging of the population at large, as well as of the membership of the Presbyterian Church, ministry to older adults is equally important. This task force, of which Stone's own Claudia Hamm is a member, has resources available.

Session was informed of the death of M. J. "Sandy" Sanderson, who was an Elder and extraordinary member of Stone in the '50s and '60s. He organized and provided training for GE workers in race relations, with assistance from our former pastor Dave Beamer. His work was

featured in the November 1, 1964, issue of *Presbyterian Life* (predecessor to *Presbyterians Today*). Rev. Beamer called him "a wonderful poet, and a true visionary." He was a friend of Manuel Sunyer, the stonemason who built our church. Ed Tablak remembers working with him.

Session voted approval of fundraisers by the high school group and for Heifer International (*Read-to-Feed*). Session also voted approval for Church & World to give *Presbyterians Today* to all church families, using memorial funds. Moderator Bea Groppuso emphasized the great worth of this informational magazine. Membership & Evangelism is proposing a series of family dinners to introduce new pastor Ken Henry to the congregation. June Tablak has offered to organize these.

Worship attendance on Easter Sunday was 371!

- Alice Thorn, Clerk of Session

## New Tax Law Requires Confirmation of Receipts Used as Stone Church Donation

How often do you buy something for our church programs and don't ask to be reimbursed? Many of us generously supplement church programs such as CE, men's mission, youth mission, PW, etc., and simply keep our receipts for tax deduction purposes. Unfortunately, new IRS rules will not accept such receipts as legitimate deductions. You now must have a proper receipt from Stone Church.

The Budget & Finance Committee suggests you keep receipts related to purchases for church programs,

and periodically (every 3 - 4 months) label each one as to its purpose, place them all in an envelope with your name on it, and deliver the envelope to the church office for the Financial Secretary. Your church account will then be credited with your contributions, and your annual statement will reflect all of your giving.

If you have questions about this process, please contact Mel Goertz, B&F Moderator, or Sally Magee, Financial Secretary (Mondays at the church office, 269-1593).



## Women's Retreat 2007

Forty-six women of the Stone Church family gathered at the St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista for a weekend of conversation, communion and sacred listening led by Rev. Chris Williams of Monterey.

The 2008 retreat is scheduled for March 7-9.

Here, June Tablak, Sara Holtzapple, Janice Goertz, and Emily Chatfield knit lovely prayer shawls. (More photos, back of calendar.)

## PW Hudspeth Scholarships

The Presbyterian Women of Stone Church announce their 12th year of college scholarships and other grants under the Ruby M. Hudspeth Trust.

July 15 is the deadline for Stone Church youth to apply for college scholarships. A student may receive this assistance for up to four years. Last year's recipients included Colin Frohlich, Matthew Moncrief, Marika Minehart, and Andrew Willis.

To find out more about assistance for undergraduate students, please ask for an application in the church office. Also, throughout the year, PW considers applications from individuals needing funds for training or educational programs, retreats, conferences, etc., and also from groups in and out of the church. Applications for these types of aid are also available in the PW mailbox in the church office.

- Sue Williams

## Summer Church School

Beginning June 10, Stone Church Summer Church School will be exploring *Living as Caretakers*. With stories, songs and activities, children will discover ways to use their talents and their time to serve God by caring for others, for the natural world, and for themselves. The classes will be led by Rachel Buckley, Rhonda Lakatos, and other volunteers. Let us know if you would like to help.

THE STONE NEWS, PAGE 6

## Time, Talent, and T?

Yes, we all know what the last T stands for, but Stewardship is just as importantly about *time* and *talent*. While we may know the church budget, most of us (including me) don't know the involvement of our Stone Church family at the church or Presbytery level, or as community volunteers. For a greater appreciation of this commitment, the Stewardship Committee will be creating a *what we do tree*, to contain *leaves* for each of us, with all of our *talents* listed.

We would also like to start a *volunteer mentoring* program. The main

obstacle to volunteering is often fear of the unknown. "What will I be asked to do?" "How much time is involved?" "Where do I go first?" To overcome this, a fellow church member could help you get started.

If you are a volunteer for a non-profit and would be willing to be a mentor, we would love for you to identify yourself to the church office and to the Stewardship moderator.

Let's be the enablers to encourage even more community outreach.

- Derk Johnson,  
Stewardship Moderator

## Men's Book Group to Meet in May, June

The Men's Book Group will meet on May 21, at 7:30 pm. Bruce Raby will be the host.

The book to be discussed is *State Of Denial* by Bob Woodward; it is his reporting of the events, personalities, and attitudes in the federal administration during the preparations and conduct of the war in Iraq.

The next meeting of the Book Group will be June 18, and Gary Weiss will be the host. The evening will be spent selecting books for the summer and fall.

The Men's Book Group meets the third Monday of most months, and all men of the congregation are welcome to attend.

- David McCreath

## Wanted: Garden Gnomes

*What in the world are Garden Gnomes? Why are they wanted?*

Let us enlighten you! *Garden Gnomes* are creatures (oh, but in human form!) who are Spirits of the Earth, people who love to garden and create beauty.

Stone Church needs those *Garden Gnomes* who are willing to tend our garden areas for ongoing planting and maintenance during the year. We're thinking of working for a few

hours on every first Saturday of the month, except in January and February. You don't have to commit to all ten Saturdays. We'll create a list of tasks and projects, and you can just subscribe for certain Saturdays.

Together we can make our gardens a beautiful place for everyone.

To sign up, please contact Hill-eguus Faber or Kate Wheatley.

- sponsored by  
Buildings & Grounds





## *Welcome, New Member, Meredith Wright*

Hi, my name is Meredith Wright. I'm a 49-year-old married man and father of one girl. My wife, Deborah, and I have been married for 23 years. My daughter, Bailey, will turn 19 in May.

I'm a graduate of UC Berkeley, with a major in Biochemistry. I also have a Master's degree from

San Francisco State Univ. in Biology, with an emphasis in Cell and Molecular Biology.

My parents are Presbyterian and raised all three of us as Presbyterian. My father was a career officer in the Air Force, which meant we moved around the country often. Depending on where we ended up, we would seek out the Presbyterian church. There were times when we settled for the base chapel.

I joined the Presbyterian church in Merced, CA, at the age of 13. I had an opportunity to represent the youth on the session of the Presbyterian church in Abilene, Texas, from 1973 to 1974. In 1978, I moved my membership to the Presbyterian church in Berkeley.

After graduating, I moved to San Pablo, CA, and joined the United Methodist Church in Pinole, where Deborah and I were married. We later moved our membership to St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Richmond when we bought a house.

Jobs have since pushed us around; that's why we moved to the Campbell area in 1990. I've had a number of jobs at Biotech companies, mostly in South San Francisco and worked in Shanghai, China (for a year) and southern California (for a year and a half) until finally landing a position with a small Biotech company in Morgan Hill. I'm hoping I've finally come home!



*A typical Sunday morning in the social hall ... lots of good fellowship, stimulating conversation, and good food ... well, there **was** some good food! Guess the choir has been through here!*

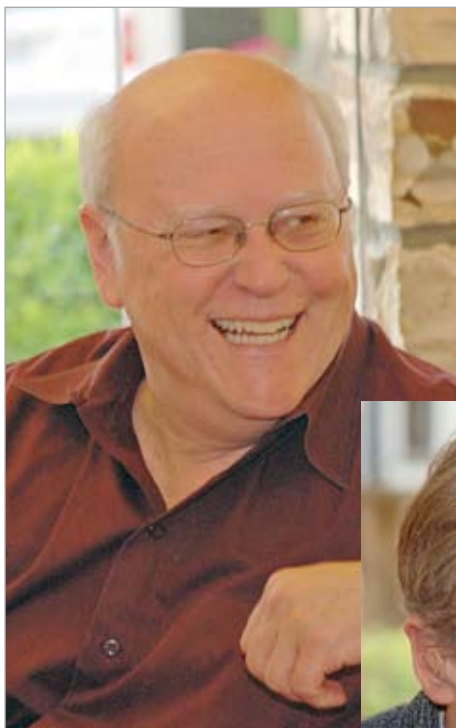
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Wong: Additional Photos  
Catherine Amos, Fred Gardner,  
Dulcie Janzen, Jan Keifer, Jerry Keifer,  
Sylvia Snyder: Production



### Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

Donald Foster shares a  
smile, and Marge Palmer  
puts on her 'Bunny' pin,  
at the Maundy Thursday  
Soup Supper.



### Earth Day at Stone

Earth Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Stone Church! Rhonda Lakatos (above) presided over the many beautifully crafted displays on eco-faithfulness; Hilleguus Faber (top right) shows Danielle Gustafson some beautiful native plants, and Laraine Pitcher and Lowell Clark (bottom right) just seem to be enjoying the gorgeous day!



## LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

The Membership and Evangelism Committee invites you to a "Games Night" on Saturday, May 19, 6 to 8:30 pm. Bring your favorite games ... Chess, Checkers, Cards, Scrabble, Chutes and Ladders, Clue, Cribbage, Backgammon, Monopoly, Careers, Dominos, Candy Land, Park and Shop ... and we'll provide a delicious "beans 'n franks" dinner. Please join us!

**All-Church  
Workday  
Sacred Heart  
May 19**

(see page 4 for details)