



ALONG THE WAY

The Newsletter of Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church • October 2009

Stewardship Campaign

by Michael Pyle


“The people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord.”

1 Chronicles 29:9, NRSV

This year our stewardship campaign has a theme with two parts. The first part – “We give because...” – affirms that we tithe and make financial offerings out of a deep gratitude to God that comes from our recognition that all we have is a gift of God.

The second part of our theme – “Because we give...” – celebrates that our tithes and offerings allow us, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to sustain and grow the wonderful ministries of our church.

Look this month for a booklet that we hope will help you to prayerfully consider your stewardship pledge for 2010. Please plan to bring your pledge cards on Dedication Sunday on November 8. You may also pledge online in a confidential manner through the church’s web site (www.svpc.us). Whatever your decision about your pledge, our prayer is that you will consider it prayerfully and be able to give joyfully and freely.

The Stewardship Committee 

Miriam Kishi Wins Peace Scholarship

The Helen Ramsburg Peace Scholarship was initiated in 1986 to be awarded to a church member who participates in an activity that will in some way contribute to peace and justice. Miriam will use the award to join a Pilgrims of Ibillin visit to the Mar Elias Schools in Ibillin, Israel.

The trip will include learning more about Palestinian life in Bethlehem and Ibillin, as well as doing volunteer work there. When Miriam returns, watch for opportunities to hear what she has learned that will encourage all of us to support peace and justice for Palestinians and Israelis.

You can learn more about Pilgrims of Ibillin and their peace building efforts at <http://www.svpc.us/difference/pilgrims.php>.

The View From Here

by Rev. Steve Harrington

Our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is doing a great job of looking for our next pastor. The first stage of their work has been to glean information about our church from our members via forums and an online survey. Next they've learned about our community through a demographic study and analysis. Using census data and other established survey instruments, the Percept Group has provided a very accurate glimpse of the neighborhood within a 5-mile radius of our church.

One of the things I found interesting in the survey was that when households within this 5-mile perimeter were asked, "Which general church programs or services would you most likely prefer from a church?" 43% of our neighbors responded: recreation — the highest of any category selected! In their survey, recreation was

defined as Cultural Programs (Music, Art, etc.), Sports and/or Camping Programs, Church Sponsored Day-School, and Active Retirement Programs.

When I look at our ministries that already relate to many of these areas, I am greatly encouraged. I'm also pleased to let you know that

"...through a generous donation to our endowment fund, the interest on that gift is going to allow us to bring on a seminary intern who will work in the area of recreation."

through a generous donation to our endowment fund, the interest on that gift is going to allow us to bring on a seminary intern who will work in the area of recreation. Our intern for this year is **Val Weirauch**. The gift was given in memory of **Faye Ellyson** who was a longtime advocate and teacher who nurtured chil-

dren and adults alike in their Christian education.

Val Weirauch has been a member of our church for many years and is a student at Fuller Seminary. Part of her internship will be to further develop the recreational ministry we have by expanding our current wilderness program to include sports

leagues, other recreational outings and possibly summer day camps. She can't do that alone, so if you're interested she's forming a team! Contact the church and let us know your interest and we will pass your name along to Val. 🌿

Grace and peace,

Steve Harrington

October Calendar

A quick look at what's happening at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church this month...



October

- 4 World Communion Sunday & Peacemaking offering
- 4 Monthly food drive
- 4 Youth Confirmation Class begins
- 5 Job Search Support Group, 5–7 PM every Tuesday
- 10 Day of Prayer in the sanctuary and labyrinth, 9 AM–5 PM
- 10 Outdoor family movie night, 7 PM
- 10 Senior High laser tag
- 11 Moment with Children
- 11 Bible presentation for third graders
- 11 Rainbow Choir (K-2nd) sings
- 11 Adult luncheon, 11:25 AM–1:00 PM
- 12 Deadline for submitting November newsletter articles
- 16-17 Junior High lock-in
- 17 Presbyterian Women Global Exchange speaker, 12–3 PM
- 18 Celebration of Ministry in Trinity Court
- 18 Presbyterian Women Bible study, 11:30 AM–1:00 PM
- 18,25 “Lenses Through Which the Bible is Interpreted,”
an adult learning class by Joey Lee, 11:30 AM
- 20 Knit for Kids, 12 noon
- 23-24 Barbara Brown Taylor lecture at Stone Church
- 24 37th Annual SCS Holiday Affaire, 9:30 AM–3:30 PM
- 25 Pumpkins for UNICEF
- 28 BLEND – Junior & Senior High

November

- 1 Monthly Food Drive
- 8 Pledge Dedication Sunday
- 8–14 Houma Louisiana Mission Trip

37th Annual Holiday Affaire

Do you still have Christmas shopping to do? Here's your chance to cross more names off your list while supporting **Sunnyvale Community Services**, an nonprofit benefitting low-income families and seniors in our community!

When? Saturday, October 24, from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Where? Sunnyvale Community Services, 725 Kifer Road (between Fair Oaks and Wolfe).

What? Find handmade affordable things including holiday decorations, crafts, baked goods, jams, jewelry, cards, kitchen items, and much more! Also, enter the drawing for a hand-made queen-size quilt made by SCS auxiliary members.

For more information, call (408) 738-4321. 🍃

Rooted in Christ...

Sunnyvale Presbyterian offers everyone an opportunity to connect with the church community.

All-Church Camp: A Look Back

All-Church Camp 2009 went beautifully this past Labor Day Weekend as 423 campers enjoyed fellowship, spiritual growth and lots of fun! Speaker **Heidi Husted Armstrong** led us in a challenging examination of our lives as Christians in Silicon Valley. Many thanks to the hundreds of people who worked hard to make Camp happen.

For anyone who has receipts for expenses associated with All-Church Camp 2009, please submit them with a completed check request to the All-Church Camp mailbox in the church mailroom as soon as possible. Camp evaluation forms or volunteer position forms may be put in the mailbox as well.

For questions about All-Church Camp 2010, please contact Camp Registrar **Bob Stoddard** at bob.stoddard@aeroflex.com or (408) 499-5069, or the All-Church Camp 2010 Directors **Val and Richard Steffen** at vsteffen@sbcglobal.net or (408) 733-9125.

Day of Prayer

Please join us on Saturday, October 10, for a Day of Prayer in the sanctuary and the labyrinth from 9 AM to 5 PM. This is an opportunity to be in sacred space and have a time of holy encounter with God. You may spend a few minutes or a few hours, praying alone or with others, in praise or petition. Come and pray.

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in the congregational survey and open forums in September. The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is currently analyzing the results and will be publishing a summary soon. Thank you for continuing to support the APNC in your prayers. Stay up to date on APNC progress at: www.svpc.us/who/apnc_process.php.

Celebrating All Women!



Presbyterian Women is nurturing a new circle of sisters. Are you seeking a monthly Bible study with fellowship, service, and childcare? Learn about Presbyterian Women on Sunday, October 18 from 11:30 AM to 1 PM in Room 304. Refreshments will be served. Contact **Elsa Amboy** at elsa_amboy@yahoo.com to RSVP. Childcare is available for children 6 months to 6 years of age but you must first contact **Debbie Klein** at childcare@svpc.us or (408) 730-0212 by October 11 to reserve childcare.



Third Graders Receive Bibles October 11

Third graders, please plan to be present at either the 10 AM or 5 PM service for your Bible presentation. Arrive early and meet in the Narthex to get your nametag and instructions on where to sit.



Barbara Brown Taylor

Writer and preacher, **Barbara Brown Taylor**, will be the Henrietta Perdue Memorial lecturer on October 23 and 24 at Stone Church. Her topic: “The Balancing Act: Holy Rest, Good Work, Godly Play.” To reserve tickets, call Stone Church at (408) 296-1593.


Financial Report through August '09

So far this fiscal year (beginning April 1, 2009), both income and expenses have been running well below what was anticipated in the budget. This early part of the fiscal year, which includes the summer, can often be low in terms of income, yet this year is somewhat lower than average. For the year to date we are running at 90% of the income budget.

Fortunately for cash flow, expenses have also been running low so far this year. We are running at 84% of budget for the year to date. The greatest part of the reduction in expenses has been in the personnel budget, as we are still not fully staffed. In particular, we do not yet have an interim pastor on board. When we reach full staffing, as we expect to do soon, then this reduction in expenses will not continue to be realized. All other ministry areas are running below budget to varying degrees.

The fall months typically bring an increase in giving, reflecting the faithfulness of this congregation in fulfilling their pledges. If this pattern holds up we should be in a healthy position at the end of the fiscal year (March 30, 2009). Your continued and faithful support, therefore, is greatly encouraged and appreciated.

Family Movie Night

SVPC Children's Ministry and Young Families Fellowship will be co-hosting an outdoor movie night at the church on Saturday, October 10, starting at 7 PM. We'll choose a family-friendly movie and have popcorn and drinks available. Since we'll be sitting under the stars, bring jackets and blankets to keep warm, and camp chairs, if you'd like. For more information, contact **Scott or Kris Peterson** at krisp100@gmail.com or (650) 967-1754. 

Reaching Out In Love.

Christ commands us to love one another as He loves us. Here's how.

Cupertino Rotary Job Search Support Group

For the eighth year, Cupertino Rotary will be hosting the free Job Search Support Group every Tuesday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 PM beginning September 8, 2009 through June 8, 2010 in the Monta Vista High School cafeteria, 21840 McClellan Road, Cupertino. Parking is available in the staff parking lot. You may enter and exit this free program at any time. For questions or additional information about the class, contact instructor **Jim Gibson** at JimGib007@aol.com or (408) 735-0663.



Orchard House in the Community

Orchard House, started by members of Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, was an assisted living home that operated from 1996 to 2003, when it was sold. The sale proceeds are used to assist organizations that help seniors remain in their homes.

Organizations that have received grants totaling \$346,000 are Sunnyvale Community Services (emergency funds for seniors), Heart of the Valley (computer system), Life's Garden (electronic outside doors), Meals on Wheels, Council on Aging (lavalieres making it possible for homebound seniors to make emergency calls), Roadrunner Transportation (GPSs for cars used to transport seniors to and from doctor appointments), Rebuilding Together (supplies for ramps, hand bars, etc.), and the local Salvation Army (emergency funds).

For more information, contact **Dave Morley** at themorleys@stanfordalumni.org or (408) 867-3869.

Pumpkins for a Good Cause

On Sunday October 25, all children of our congregation are invited to display their pumpkins on behalf of UNICEF. Tables will be set up in Trinity Court, along with coin banks, ready for the congregation's contributions for needy children of the world through the auspices of UNICEF. This is a double blessing: we help the children who need us, and we have fun enjoying our children's creativity and artwork. If you would like to write a check, make it payable to Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church, marked clearly in the memo area "For UNICEF." Note to pumpkin decorators: we would like to have your pumpkins at church 15 minutes before the 10 AM or 5 PM service. Pick up your pumpkin 30 minutes after the service.



Houma Louisiana Mission Trip

Please join us for a special opportunity to serve others and have fun doing it! The Presbyterian of San Jose is sponsoring a Mission Trip to Houma, Louisiana November 8–14. Here are some quotes from SVPC members who served just this past April:

“In one week I came to love these folks, the Cajun culture, the beautiful bayou, and the music. I think they did more for me than I did for them.” – **Michael Shantz**

“I think, as we cared for them, we were caring for Christ.” – **Miriam Kishi**

To learn more, go to the “Making a Difference” page on the church website (www.svpc.us) and click on “Houma Louisiana Mission Trip.”

Presbyterian Women and Global Exchange

Presbyterian Women sends a delegation to various parts of the world to meet with local women and discuss life, faith and hope. Learn about the Global Exchange to Eastern Europe from **Gail Parker-Marshall** on Saturday, October 17 from noon to 3 PM at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. Gail is a member of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church and the Synod representative to the Czech Republic, Ukraine, and Hungary in September 2008. A \$3 donation for lunch is requested with proceeds to go to Second Harvest Food Bank.


In support of the backpack program of our presbytery’s Refugee Outreach Partnership with Catholic Charities, please consider bringing one or more of the following items: standard size toiletries and warm socks.

RSVP to **Linda Hagan** at jhagan@sbcglobal.net or (408) 255-5879 by Wednesday, October 14.

Knit for Kids

Help knit sweaters for needy children at **Jan Mortensen’s** home (823 Helena Dr., Sunnyvale) on October 20 at 12 noon. Bring a sandwich. Please call (408) 733-1220 to RSVP.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Rick Kinnune whose mother died, and **Marta Hinestrosa** whose sister died. **Maggie Burklund** and **Harlyn Larmer** who were hospitalized, and **Beverly Henderson**, **EmmaLee Tredick**, **Rick Kinnune**, and **Karen McCoy** who recently had surgery. 



Book Sale News

You're invited to preview *The Lemon Tree* by **Sandy Tolan**, a story of an Arab, a Jew, and the house each called home. **Miriam Kishi** will meet the Jewish woman and visit the house with the lemon tree on her trip to Israel and Palestine in October. Upon her return Miriam is looking forward to sharing experiences from her trip.

Autographed copies of **Arthur Simon's** *The Rising of the Bread for the World* recount how his organization has fought hunger.

Rev. Karin Hejmanowski recommends *Velvet Elvis* by **Rob Bell**, a fresh look at Jesus and what it really means to live the way he teaches us to live.

Right now, get the *PC(USA) 2009 Mission Yearbook* for half price (Presbyterians serving around the world), and the latest edition of *These Days* is free. 🌱



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