

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Skyland Community Church
Monthly Newsletter
10:30 Sunday Service

April, 2013
Minister: Stephen Glauz-Todrank
Church phone: 408-353-1310

Holy Week Calendar

Holy Week brings special services to our church.

Wednesday:

Contemplative Prayer
 Service 7:15-7:45 pm

Thursday: Soup Supper, at 6:30 pm and Service of Tenebrae at 7:30 pm (Please bring your own utensils to aid clean up!)

Sunday: Sunrise Service 8:00 am and Family Service at 10:30

We will also be taking our annual **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering and we will be collecting small stuffed animals for local service people to give to children when making emergency calls. The Easter Bunny will be joining us after the later service!

(Please bring something tasty to share for the receptions following each service)

Blessings in this season and always,
 Stephen

[Our New Email](#)

Welcome to the new edition of the Skyland Community Church online newsletter.

Minister's Column

Easter is not just a day of the church year but a season lasting 50 days until Pentecost. During the Easter season this year our church will be participating in a program open to all member churches of the United Church of Christ, called "Mission 4/1 Earth" in which we hope to achieve three big goals together before Pentecost: 1,000,000 hours of care for the earth; 100,000 trees planted around the world; 100,000 letters advocating for the quality of the environment.



There will be a ticker showing progress nationwide at www.ucc.org/earth, and we will be gathering individual hours and doing things together to support these worthy goals. The bulletin will have a new look, with a place for recording your volunteer hours each week and we will be including our hours as part of our offering on Sunday mornings for the duration.

During Lent we have been paying close attention to St Francis of Assisi's "Canticle of the Creatures" in which he calls various elements of the natural world "brother" and "sister" (Brother Sun, Sister Moon) as a way to praise God. We can use these terms of intimacy with God's creation to inspire us to great feats of earth care activity.

I hope we will have one activity each week to support this project. The Women's Group "Blue Theology," retreat on April 6, with Rev. Deborah Streeter, will include a visit to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. All those hours count for earth care! We plan a Summit Road Clean Up Day with other mountain churches on Saturday April 20th at 9 a.m. Kids are welcome (We'll have safe places for trash pickup) and their hours count as much as adults! Plans are afoot to show a fabulous movie on home gardening after church on the 28th, which will count along with all the other hours you put into gardening.

System

The Church's Board of Communication Systems is evaluating this new email system, **Constant Contact**, as a way to provide needed email messaging improvements, such as distribution of the monthly newsletter. These improvements are intended to enhance your experience as a reader while allowing access to background material for those who desire it.

We can now include pictures, charts, maps, and other graphic elements in the newsletter.

The board is also developing a new web presence which will mate elegantly with this email tool.

We hope you enjoy the new format and will let us know how you like it.

-Larry Lopp
Board of Communication Systems (BCS)

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We will also plan a letter-writing Sunday at some point during this season. Watch out for other possibilities. Let's work together to reach this big, bold goal with thoughts of Easter's new life throughout the season.

Cheers,
Stephen

Altar Flowers

Open dates for providing flowers are April 7 and 28, May 5 and 19. Please sign up in Whitaker Hall or send an email to heyes2@gmail.com.



Financial report March 2013

Nothing unusual happened in March. Pledge gifts are holding reasonably steady, only \$986 less than anticipated through March with one Sunday remaining. Fiscal year to date income is \$138 less than planned, but expenses are \$2,078 more than planned. Most of the unplanned operating expenses are due to a \$700 increase in facility insurance and an \$800 increase in medical insurance. We will need to increase these budgeted items for next fiscal year.

	Summary of Operating Finances			
	March 2013		Jun 1, 2012 to Mar 2013	
	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned
Income	\$ 8,365	\$ 9,797	\$139,728	\$139,867
Expenses	\$ 22,245	\$ 21,768	\$146,351	\$144,273
Net	\$(-13,880)	\$(-11,971)	\$(-6,623)	\$ (4,406)

Gerald J. Alonzo, treasurer

Member Phone books available

The phone books have arrived and are available for purchase at Whitaker Hall. Just put \$3.00 in the basket. Buy one to find out all the new info!

Santa Cruz Mountain Fair

Come for a local community event with resident musicians, artisans, farmer's market and purveyors of loved items. People of all ages will enjoy the unique showcase of talent that our Mountain has to offer. Exciting children's activities and carnival games



will be on hand, as well as our very own Loma Prieta Fire Rescue Dept. Enjoy excellent food and beverages from Summit Store and yummy baked goods from the Loma Prieta Women's Club. This is sure to be a fun filled family community event!

Saturday, May 4, 2013, 9-3pm
Playfield behind Building Blocks Cooperative
Preschool

For more information about the Fair, or if you want to secure a booth for \$25, go to [Santa Cruz Mountain Fair](#)

A Fundraiser benefiting Building Blocks Cooperative Preschool and early Childhood Education Program

A Poem in Your Pocket on April 18th

April is National Poetry Month, and Erica Goss, the poet laureate of Los Gatos, has plenty of events planned. Each Sunday in April, she will read a haiku at the end of the service at Skyland Church. On April 11 from 4-5 pm, she will conduct a poetry postcard workshop for elementary school children at the Los Gatos Library.

"Poem in Your Pocket Day" is April 18 - Erica and volunteers will hand out poems all day. Copies of the poems will be available at the Los Gatos Library that day.

On April 25, Erica will host a poetry reading and open mic at Great Bear Coffee, 19 N. Santa Cruz Ave. in Los Gatos, starting at 6:30 pm.

National Poetry Month started on April 1, 1996, with a proclamation from then-President Bill Clinton: "National Poetry Month offers us a welcome opportunity to celebrate not only the unsurpassed body of literature produced by our poets in the past, but also the vitality and diversity of voices reflected in the works of today's American poetry...Their creativity and wealth of language enrich our culture and inspire a new generation of Americans to learn the power of reading and writing at its best."

For more details, go to www.ericagoss.com and click on "Events."

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