

# Go Tell It on the Mountain

January 2015 Newsletter

Skyland Community Church

Rev. Stephen Glauz-Todrank

10:30 Sunday Service

Church phone: 408-353-1310

## Altar Flowers

## [Minister's Column](#)

All Sundays in January are open for donating flowers. Please sign up on the 2015 calendar in Whitaker Hall.

## Looking both ways as the year changes



*New buds push old leaves from the branch, a chickadee leaps into January.*

--Charles Michaels



Arch of Janus, granite sculpture by Charles O. Perry, Greenwich, CT.

Dear Skyland Friends,

Happy New Year! I am writing this on the last day of 2014, looking back and forward. First backward: thank you for your extraordinary generosity in gifts to others throughout the holiday season, which helped more than 200 families, according to the thank you note from the Family Resource Center in Davenport, plus 21 local families in need this Christmas, as well as lots of blankets for Church World Service.

We also had a wonderful memorial for beloved member Alice Schank, a fabulous Christmas Interfaith program at the LDS church, which concluded with a memorable "Hallelujah Chorus" sung by our three church choirs and directed by Margretta. And I also appreciate your Christmas gift to me of certificates for my two favorite restaurants in Santa Cruz!

Looking ahead now, please join us this Sunday for an interfaith service featuring Lisa Meehan and her a cappella Jewish singing group from Tufts University. We are having an extra potluck this Sunday so bring something large and tasty to help us feed a dozen hungry singers!

On the 11th, I will restart my sermon series on the books of the New Testament in chronological order. Let's think of some new stuff to do also. Jinn Easterday nudged me to read *Zealot*, a really fresh

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*Erica Goss  
renamed Los Gatos  
Poet Laureate*



The Los Gatos Town Council has voted to reappoint Erica Goss as Poet Laureate for another year. She will serve until Dec. 31, 2015.

Erica has been an active wearer of the laurel. In Los Gatos, she organized the first St. Patrick's Day Poetry Walk, created Poems-in-the-Window with local businesses, recorded The Poetry Podcast (50-plus recordings of poems in a variety of languages), established the first Los Gatos poet laureate scholarship, and most recently launched The Poetry Kitchen, a poetry reading series at the Los Gatos Library.

new look at Jesus' life and times. Would you like to read and discuss that sometime? How about a family retreat? The Design Thinking group came up with that idea to help us deepen our relationships with each other. How about your ideas? No limits but what God plants in our heads and hearts!

-- Cheers, Stephen

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## Meditation Moment



Holy Spirit, we plant our feet  
 into the soil of the living God.  
 We turn our ear toward the  
 voice of the calling Christ.  
 We lean our lives into the wind  
 of holy change.

Be fierce, be gentle,  
 Toss us, turn us,  
 Shape us, dishevel us.

O Holy Spirit,  
 In gratitude we wait.  
 Amen.

-- Prayer by Pamela C. Hawkins

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-- Photo by Carolyn McCall

Deana Arnold as Mary, with daughter Kaelie (center) with her band of angels in the Christmas Nativity pageant

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## Financial Report for January 2015

NOTE from your treasurer:

Thanks to your generous Mission donations, \$2,350 plus clothing was given to local Giving Tree recipients, and \$1,490 has been sent to the Church World Service Blankets outreach program.

Many thanks for your special year-end gifts, which totaled \$11,180. These plus an unexpected \$4,000 offering donation will make it possible to finish our final 5 months in the black.

Pledge and offering donations are now on target for June - December.

### Summary of Operating Finances

	Dec. 2014		Jun 1 to Dec.29, 2014	
	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned
Income	\$ 37,622	\$ 26,064	\$126,036	\$121,984
Expenses	\$ 23,651	\$ 23,946	\$107,286	\$107,389
Net	\$ 13,971	\$ 2,118	\$ 18,750	\$ 14,595

-- Gerald J. Alonzo

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