

Go Tell It on the Mountain

February 2017 Newsletter

Skyland Community Church

Rev. Stephen Glauz-Todrank

10:30 Sunday Service

Church phone: 408-353-1310

Minister's Column

New Slates Keep Skyland on Track

Dear Skyland Friends,

Whenever I sit to write a Minister's Column for the newsletter, I am most often feeling gratitude to God for the opportunity to be your minister, and appreciation that goes beyond words for all that you all do to make our church such an amazing place to grow in spirit.

At our annual meeting on Jan. 29, we elected new officers and board and committee members to help us keep things going smoothly. I am excited about the people we have as church officers and the mix of people we have on each of our boards and committees. It looks like an excellent blend of new people and those who have been around awhile.

I am so grateful to Marcia Rollins, our outgoing moderator, and Deana Arnold, our incoming moderator, for their willingness to watch over and "moderate" all the different energies and interests that keep us in motion. I am also grateful for all those who are finishing terms of service as well as those who are beginning something new or continuing in their work.



Marcia counts the house.

There are also many people helping in areas that don't show up on the "slate":



Photo by Nancy Jo Lopp

Trustees Dig In to 'Emerald Triangle'

We have a new look at Skyland Community Church. The photo above shows the view as you round the corner coming up Miller Hill Road; in the foreground is Skyland's "Emerald Triangle," the slice of land given to the church last year by the Wicht family.

Trustees Lou McTamane, Gerry Alonzo, Brian Wood, and Paula Leary, plus Larry Lopp of the Site committee, have performed extensive tree management to remove dead trees and provide defensible space for fire protection, as well as a healthy and beautiful growing space for our redwoods and oaks.

The trees needed attention. Many of those on our property had not received care for 20 to 40 years. The trees were crowded, and, as we have seen, prone to collapse. The selection of the trees remaining was careful, thoughtful and difficult. Tree removal and trimming was performed all around the property. The trimming was done quickly, in only a couple of days, using local, hard-working and artful climbers and ground crews from Huerta's Tree Service of Redwood Estates. The cost was just over \$5,000, according to Paula.

In the next few weeks, the chippings from the trees will be disced or rototilled into the soil, after which wildflower seeds will be spread.

-- Larry Lopp

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White Privilege Meeting Feb. 5 after Service

The second meeting to discuss the United Church of Christ's

Women's group, Choir, Sunday School teachers, Nominating Committee, cleaners, helpers, newsletter editors, kids of all ages who contribute just by being present, as well as often entertaining us! Thank you for all you do to bring God's love into the world, both in our little corner of creation and in the wider world out there.

Blessings to all,

Stephen

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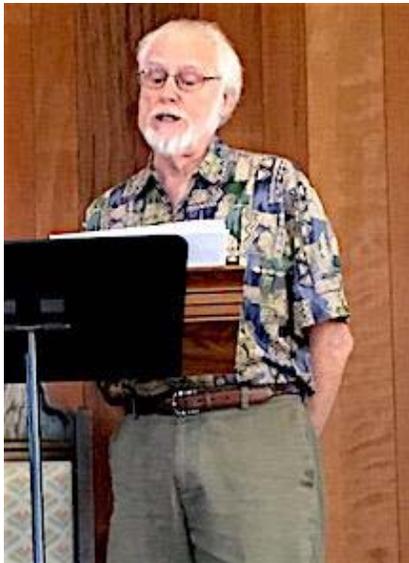
curriculum on white privilege will be held downstairs in Whitaker Hall after the Feb. 5 church service.

Chelsea Page will show videos from UCC leadership, and lead a discussion on personal experiences of white privilege. A brief but witty and powerful video on exactly what "white privilege" is, made by the Chicago Theological Seminary, a UCC affiliate, will also be shown. (For a preview, go to Youtube online [here](#).)

A third meeting will be held on Feb. 26, and a fourth on March 26; these meetings will focus on sections of the UCC curriculum, which is available online [here](#).

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Needed: Copy Editor/ Publisher to Replace Skyland's Best



Multitalented John Gaffney sings as well as produces the newsletter

John Gaffney, the person responsible for whatever coherence this newsletter has displayed for more than a few years, is retiring with the current issue; and we need someone to replace him.

Not that that is really possible. John's unerring eye has detected countless misplaced commas, wrong fonts, missing spaces, and downright mistakes, thus keeping egg off the editor's face and presenting the reader with a display that is at least neat and free of embarrassment to Skyland.

That done, he has then turned the digital copy into a .pdf file, printed it, folded the result, addressed and stuffed envelopes, stamped them, and then actually mailed them to the 15 subscribers who prefer print to pixels.

Skyland Church Council, Committees, Boards OKd at Annual Meeting Jan. 29

Term through 2017

Moderator	Deana Arnold		
Vice moderator	Jackie Seymour	KEY	
Clerk	Don Law	New	Name
Treasurer	(Gerald Alonzo)	2d term	(Name)
Asst. treasurer	(Jan Swayne)	Chair	Name*
Auditor	(Larry Cooke)	Open seat	(blank)
NCSC delegates	(Larry Cooke)		
	Gerald Alonzo		
Student			
NCSC Alternates	Marcia Rollins		
	Jan Swayne		

Term through 2018 2017

Missions	(Shannon Edwards)	Cindy Siwajek
	(Leslie Meehan)	Angela Patterson
	Harold Hoyt	(John Hayes)
Music and Arts	Paula Leary	Jeremy Cole
	Linda Heyes	Lynn Mitchell
	(Christina Schwabecher)	
Pastoral relations	(Anne Evans)	(Mike Mahrle)
	(Ruth Dawkins)	(John Heyes)
Religious education	(Cheryl Shyba)	Sherrie Starkie

It is not true, however, that he would come to your house and read it to you. Everything else, though. These are big shoes to fill.

For despite the sad evidence of today's print media, which has pretty much done away with copy editors and shows it, every piece of copy does need editing. No writer can read his/her own material without being so caught up in admiration for the prose as to miss glaring errors. So we need a replacement for John, in both of his functions.

If two people would like to share the job, that is possible - one to edit, the other to publish in print. For those who dream of journalistic glory, applicants will certainly have the inside track to replace the current editor eventually, with all the attendant perks.

Query newsletter@skylandchurch.com, and let's do lunch.

-- CB

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Altar Flowers

Please use the calendar in Whitaker Hall to sign up for any open Sunday in February and beyond.



*tending our small plot
we send bounty to dear folk
in our land and theirs*

~ haiku by John Heyes

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Meditation Moment



Thy will is best for me,
what'e'r it bringeth me
Of loss or gain,
of joy or pain,
Thy will is best for me.

Patricia Wood (Ann Baier)
Dorice
Piraino

	Term through 2019	2018	2017
Endowment	Don Law	Brian Wood	Al Feuerbach
Trustees	Larry Cooke	(Paula Leary)	Hugh Shyba
	Carol Carre	(Randy McCalla)	Brian Wood*
	(Bruce Victorine)	(Lou McTamaney)	Mike Mahrle
Deacons	(Gina Adams)	(Julie Victorine)	Jeri Tjon
	Nancy Jo Lopp	(Glenda McCalla)	(Jeremy Cole)
	Cliff Barney	Renee Pressler	(Linda Heyes)
Comm. Systems	Cliff Barney	(Larry Lopp)	Lynn Mitchell
		(Brian Wood)	

Term through 2017

Harvest festival (Renee Pressler)

HF Assistant

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NOTE from your treasurer:

Pledge income through January is \$705 less than committed. If you are able, please attempt to keep your pledge gifts current.

\$1,380 was donated to our Mission Education outreach programs.

Here are our operating finances for January 2017 as of Jan. 31.

	Summary of Operating Finances		January 2017		Jun 1, 2016 to Jan 31	
	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned
Income	\$ 11,511	\$ 10,532	\$144,743	\$141,050		
Expenses	\$ 10,350	\$ 10,389	\$129,962	\$131,514		
Net	\$ 1,161	\$ 143	\$ 14,781	\$ 9,536		

Note: the annual financial report for 2016 is available at the Skyland website [here](#).

-- Gerald J. Alonzo, Treasurer

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