

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Skyland Church Newsletter – March 2018

Skyland Community Church
10:30 Sunday Service

Rev. Stephen Glauz-Todrank
Church phone: 408-353-1310

Minister's Column

March will be a busy month. Here is a quick guide to some highlights:

Lent continues to the end of the month with Easter falling this year on April first. During Lent I will be referencing John Sanford's book "The Kingdom Within" in my sermons and will also encourage times for small groups to gather to discuss the book.

On March 18th we will have a special congregational meeting after church to decide whether to adopt the reVision program we have been talking about for the last few months.

Our Holy Week schedule begins with our family Palm Sunday service on March 25th. On Thursday the 29th we will meet in Whitaker Hall for a simple soup supper followed at 7:30 by a service of Tenebrae.

On Easter Day we will have a family service at 10:30 followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. We will also be taking our One Great Hour of Sharing offering that day and welcoming new members! If you have been attending our church for a while and would like to become a member, please let me know so we can include you in the group.

Please join us for these and other opportunities to create the Kingdom of God together!

Blessings to all. Stephen

Calendar

March 4	Communion Sunday Missions Board -- after worship
March 11	Deacons -- after worship Trustees -- after worship
March 13 Tuesday 10:30 - noon	Skyland Community Church Women's Group March Meeting at Whitaker Hall Business meeting will be followed by a presentation and discussion on " <i>Bad Girls of the Bible and What We Can Learn From Them</i> "
March 18	Congregational Meeting -- reVision Program -- after worship Potluck Lunch -- after meeting
March 25	Palm Sunday Church Council Meeting--after worship
March 29 Thursday	6:30 pm Soup Supper (bring bowls & spoons) 7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae
April 1	Easter Day 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt -- after worship
April 7 Saturday 10 am to 2pm	Skyland Community Church Women's Group April Women's Mini-Retreat at Skyland Church, cost \$25 (Please sign-up early). Please invite women friends and neighbors to join the group for discussions that may interest them.

Report From Our Moderator

The Church Council met on Tuesday, February 20 at 7 p.m. Changing the responsibility of coffee hours from boards and committees to individual households was discussed. The Deacons had identified 40 coffee hours per year, since potlucks are excluded. Since it is difficult to know one's availability very far in advance, it was decided that sign-ups would be requested on a quarterly basis. A three-month trial will begin in March, and a sign-up sheet with more information will soon be distributed and posted in Whitaker Hall.

The Council is also exploring a new website platform with an updated landing page and the addition of a calendar on our website. The outside firm charges only \$40 per hour, and the changes are expected to take no more than three hours total.

The reVision program was discussed and the Council voted to recommend participation in the program to the membership at a special meeting to be held after church on March 18. Timing will also be discussed, with a recommendation that the program, should it be approved, begin with group leader training in October-November followed by the small group meetings starting in January.

A suggestion was made that the church consider a retreat before the fall, and Stephen agreed to bring the suggestion to the Deacons for consideration.

The Council also voted to move the monthly Church Council meeting to the fourth Sunday of every month after church. The Council hopes this will make the meetings more convenient to attend.

The next Council meeting will be Sunday, March 25.

Peace and light, Deana

Missions Board Spotlight

The Missions Board is collecting blankets, sleeping bags and warm clothes for one more Sunday. Thanks to those of you who have helped out already. We will be meeting on Sunday, March 4th after church.

During March, we will be asking members to donate forks and razors (not plastic ware) for Mental Health Client Action Network (MHCAN), 1051 Cayuga, Santa Cruz.

This group helps all of those in need and uses the forks for feeding its clients during the week.

The razors are for those working to transition back into the community and looking for jobs/support/etc.

For more info on this organization see: <http://www.mhcan.org/>

"MHCAN is a clean and sober mental health community center that welcomes all people diagnosed with mental health issues like schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or major depression. We also have a strong contingent of people who define themselves as "psychiatric survivors". Some of us support MindFreedom, some support NAMI, some of us are on medication, some off meds, some compliant and some are revolutionaries. We are a diverse bunch of folks and we welcome newcomers.

Treasurer's Report - March 2018

Pledge income for month of February met expectations, but offering income continues far less than our financial plan, \$6,490 less for our fiscal year to date. Our significantly reduced expenses result in a net increase of \$11,610 fiscal year to date. Even with some quarterly lumped expenses in March of about \$9,500 we should end our fiscal year with a small surplus in net operating finances.

Our Heifer Project Quarter Tube overflowed by 1 quarter, totaling \$133.50 which has been sent for their mission work giving small animals to families in rural areas that can use the milk, offspring, and other benefits.

Your Mission board voted to continue supporting the four international student education funding in India, Guatemala, Fiji, and Baobab Home in Africa. All the yearly support has been sent.

We are now able to accept credit card payments for pledge, general and special offerings if that is more convenient than check or cash. See either Jan or me after service for these transactions.

Here are our operating finances as of February 25 for our 2017-18 fiscal year.

	Summary of Operating Finances		February 2018		Jun 1, 2017 to Feb 25	
	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned
Income	\$ 9,332	\$ 10,200	\$147,559	\$150,757		
Expenses	\$ 9,890	\$ 9,678	\$135,950	\$144,408		
Net	\$ (-558)	\$ 522	\$ 11,610	\$ 6,349		

Gerald J. Alonzo, Treasurer

Altar flowers add color and beauty to our contemplations during worship service. There are many openings for flowers for March and April. Please see the flower calendar in Whitaker Hall to select a Sunday to bring flowers.

MEDITATION MOMENT

To see a World in a Grain of Sand
 And a Heaven in a Wild Flower
 Hold Infinity in the palm of your
 hand
 And Eternity in an hour.



pink camellia
 brightens winter and heralds
 the advent of spring.
 -- haiku by John Heyes