

Echoes from the Hills

Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church • San Jose, California



COOP'S CORNER

BIG CHANGE A COMIN'

By now you should have heard the “big news.” I am retiring in January of next year. My last Sunday will be January 13th. As I mentioned in my letter to you all, because of the soaring real estate values, I can now retire sooner than later. When I retire I will be 67½ years young. DeLynn and I want to move closer to our children and grandchildren who currently live in Alabama, Georgia, and Virginia. That only happens if I retire and we sell our home (reap the appreciation) and purchase a home in one of the Southern states. I see that most likely happening sometime in 2019.

This decision brings with it a lot of mixed emotions. Of course, I am excited about what lies ahead. We want to travel, to relax, to spend more time with our grandchildren, and to explore new and exciting opportunities – while we are still healthy. But, it also brings with it a sense of loss as we leave the “family” we’ve known for 17 years. You all have made such a difference in my life. I can’t imagine a more welcoming, loving, and generous congregation. You are not only my parishioners, but also my friends.

I want to assure you that you will not be left without leadership once I am gone. The Presbytery will help us find just the right interim pastor to take over. And then you all will have the opportunity to search out and find just the right pastor to take you into the next decade and beyond.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as your pastor. I have grown and deepened my faith and I have learned what it means to be truly a servant. I have seen love, service, and generosity modeled to me by each and every one of you. Thank you! I will never forget you. When we get settled somewhere in the Deep South (I never imagined I would write those words), I expect you all to come and visit.

But, my time is not yet over. We still have almost seven months together. I promise to make these next months the best they can be.

Let me close with a quote from Brian Houston: “God sees more in you and me than we could ever see in ourselves. No matter what triumphs we’ve celebrated or failures we’ve lived, he has more grace and favor waiting in our futures.” I truly believe that. The future is bright for STHPC. With the leadership we have on board, I know it will be left in good hands.

Have a blessed day, my friends, and as always, I hope to see you on Sunday!

Pastor Tom



Rev. Jennifer Bales

"I am the vine; you are the branches" • John 5:5

On May 6, we were once again blessed to have Rev. Bales at our pulpit while Pastor Tom was on study leave. "Abiding in God's Love" was Pastor Jenni's sermon title reflecting the day's scripture readings: Psalm 15 and John 15:9-17. Thank you to Elder Yvonne Miller who aptly led us in all aspects of our time of worship.



Elder Yvonne Miller



Welcome New Members!

We welcomed new members into our church family when they reaffirmed their faith on Sunday, May 13. At your earliest opportunity, please introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

From left to right: *Alice Fosah, Laurie Boggs, Mbah Tanwani, Barry and Angela Pumphrey.*

A full **Cameroon Choir** was enjoyed by all on Sunday, May 13 when we were blessed to experience "Holy Spirit Hear Us," "Everlasting Life," and "Come to the Savior, Make No Delay."

Their sound and tempo were uplifting!



PENTECOST

"Oh, my bones – Hear the word of the Lord." Ezekiel 37:1-14

"The Walking Dead" • Rev. Tom Coop



*Pastor Tom baptized
Kelsey Elizabeth Hines*



There was celebratory cake!

On Sunday, May 20 we celebrated not only the Spirit of creation and God's imagination but Kelsey Hines' baptism as well as welcoming Kelsey as a new member into God's church. The color red was everywhere (as it should be) and talented choir director Hugh McDevitt treated us to his arrangement of "Spirit of the Living God" for our Introit. For our Offertory, soloist Taylor Dunye was on hand with her beautifully powerful alto voice in accompanying the choir with "Jesus Lay Your Head in the Window." Accompanying Taylor was also soprano soloist Cathy Williams.



Alto soloist Taylor Dunye



*Kelsey Hines was received as a
new member into God's church family.*



Worship and Music (Cont.)



Mojoko Sona

***"When you come upon a wall,
throw your hat over it, then go get your hat!"***

(Irish Proverb)

Our June 10 worship service, led by Mojoko Sona, marked the end of our choirs' worship schedule and the beginning of their summer hiatus. What a wonderful blend of voices! Our Cameroon Choir provided our Introit "Spirit Divine Attend Our Prayer" and our Offertory "Keep Trusting Jesus" as well as the Anthem "My Faith Looks Up to Three" which had us all clapping and joining in song. The STHPC choir

provided energetic Choral Anthems "Can't Hide Sinner" and "How Can I Keep From Singing." Lead Soprano Cathy Williams provided the solo for a very moving and inspirational rendition of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Laudate Dominum."



Cathy Williams



The Cameroon Choir



The STHPC Choir.

Worship and Music (Cont.)

It takes a village ...

Please join me in thanking those who offer their time and talent in leading our church family in quality worship each week. If you are interested in being a liturgist or an usher, please contact Barb Overholt.

Thank you to our ushers in May and June

Laurie Boggs, Chris De La Roca, Barb Overholt, Emily Manley, Marylyn Goode, Horace and Lynn Hines, Dave Robertson, Rebecca Elliot, Cheryl Elliot.

Thank you to our liturgists in May and June

Yvonne Miller, Barb Overholt, Paul Elliot, Marylyn Goode, Mojoko Sona, Horace Hines, Dave Robertson.

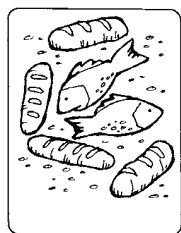
Thank you to our communion servers in May and June

Cathy Warrick, Laurie Boggs, Chris De La Roca, Barb Overholt, Carol Miller.



Heavenly Warblers

Your choir will be on its summer hiatus starting June 17 and will return for Homecoming Sunday September 9. Over the summer months, the choir welcomes you to consider joining this diverse and talented group of individuals. It's a great way to get to know one another! We are friendly and welcoming, and invite you to join us when we return for rehearsals in the fall on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.



NEEDED: Monthly Communion Preparation

The Worship and Music Ministry is looking for an individual to purchase communion bread and juice and prepare them each month. Please see Barb Overholt, elder of Worship and Music, for details. No prior experience is necessary.

Upcoming Worship Events

Summer Sermon Series

"Questions I Have for God"

Starting June 17

Have a question you've always wanted to ask God or may have asked and not received an acceptable answer? Pastor Tom may not always have a satisfactory answer, but it will be fun to at least wrestle with the issues you think are important.

In our worship bulletins starting May 20, you received the opportunity to write down your questions to God on an insert. Please drop your questions either into Sunday's offertory plate or place your question into Pastor Tom's mail slot located in the copy room.

Summer Worship Series 2018

"Questions I Always Wanted to Ask of God"

June 24 – Guest Preacher – Pastor Isabella Nyakunby

July 1 - What are YOU going to do with those who don't believe in Jesus Christ?

July 8 - Guest Preacher – Pastor Isabella Nyakunby

July 13 – Guest Preacher Rev. George Minerva

July 22 – When and how was the Old Testament formed?

July 29 – When and how was the New Testament formed?

Aug. 5 – What is with all these different translations of the Bible?

Aug. 12 – Why is there so much suffering in the world?

Aug. 19 – What is up with the Book of Revelations?

Aug. 26 – What is the connections between FAITH and WORKS?

Sept. 2 – How do we know YOU are speaking to us – in discerning what is best?

*All Questions and Answers are subject to change at the Preacher's whim.

CHURCH AND WORLD MINISTRY

SMUM Backpacks

Our July Faith in Action project will be packing backpacks for Santa Maria Urban Ministry. Cathy Warrick has the sign-up sheet for supplies such as binder paper, notebooks, pencils, scissors, glue sticks and other school supplies. Many of these supplies can be purchased at a Dollar Store. There will also be a sign-up for packing the backpacks on Sunday, July 22 after worship.

Offering of Letters

On Sunday, May 20th, members of the congregation wrote letters for Bread for the World to our Senators and Representatives about issues of hunger and the SNAP program in the Farm Bill. They wrote 3 letters to Senator Feinstein, 3 letters to Senator Harris, and 5 letters to Representative Lofgren. Some people sent their thoughts to their representatives by email. We hope that many others mailed their own letters and/or used the email option to communicate their concerns on

the issues of hunger and poverty. Thanks to everyone!

Cathy Warrick

CROP Walk

Thanks to all who contributed to this year's CROP Hunger Walk fundraiser. Our congregation sent in \$898.05 which helped push the total San Jose CROP walk Funds to over \$32,000. CROP Walk funds are passed on to CWS (Church World Service) to support their projects. These funds help US-based hunger fighting organizations, provide water systems and increased access to safe drinking water around the world and provide tools for impoverished families to grow the food they need. Each \$100 provides 200 chicks for families; \$300 pays for drilling down 10 meters to create a shallow borehole well that improves hygiene and sanitation. Thank you so much for contributing to this great cause!

Cheryl Elliot

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY

What Got Fixed This Month?

- Fellowship Hall Doors: New door hardware for the double-doors was installed and the back doors re-leveled and adjusted. No more chain and padlock!
- New Shade Sail: A "pretty blue" sail was installed to replace two older sails in the courtyard. A second blue one will be ordered.
- Plumbing: Broken Zone 6 sprinkler control valve replaced on May 26. Multiple drip irrigation manifold valves replaced June 2.

What's On Tap?

- New classroom portable: As you probably noticed, 3D Preschool's contractor is getting ready to prepare the ground, run utilities and install a portable classroom. Construction will finish this summer.
- Others: New door for the multi-purpose room, re-level courtyard pavers, courtyard fountain.

Handywomen and Handymen Needed: Can you clean? Plant? Change light bulbs? Fix plumbing, electrical, do minor wood/building repairs? Buildings and Grounds needs extra hands to help with fixin' stuff at the church. Please let Dave Robertson know if you can help out in any way. He has a list of projects you can choose from.

Dave Robertson, Buildings & Grounds Elder

ADULT ED MINISTRY

God continues to call us to be open to new meaning to the events of our lives. The Sunday morning bulletin *Bible Study* insert continues to allow for study at home this summer. We hope that members and friends look into the Bible and let the scriptures help you discover ways God is calling you. Watch for opportunities to grow in faith - do, pray, share, sing, read, help, celebrate. Summer is a good time to grow your faith.

Good and Evil
(live is evil backwards)
In the beginning God created....and it was good.
Scripture to read:
Genesis 2:9
Romans 12:9
1 Thessalonians 5:22

We can do good or we can do evil.

- help or hurt
- build or destroy
- love or hate
- add or subtract

- win or lose
- honesty or deception
- create or destroy
- light or dark
- share or hoard
- heal or harm

Good or evil - the choice is ours. Both have effects for others/our word as well as ourselves.

Stop for a moment and evaluate your life.

1. List the "good" things.
2. How has evil affected you or loved ones?
3. When you are confronted with evil, what do you do?
4. List the worst evils of our time.
5. Can we overcome the evils around us?

We struggle with good and evil all of our lives.
Only God can help.

Trust in the Lord and do good...Psalm 37:3

Carol Miller, Adult Ed Elder

YOUTH MINISTRY

Angelina Red has started and is doing great with the Youth! We welcome the Red Family to the STHPC family. The bird houses are underway. Last week the Youth started construction and sanding. We will continue the project for the next few weeks. I am pleased to turn over this amazing group of very creative individuals to Cathy Williams leadership. She will bring a creative new life to the program. Angelina and Cathy will be an unstoppable team. I am available to help in the transition. It has been a pleasure serving as youth elder. Thank you for everyone's help, love and support.

Yours in Faith,
Kate Manley, outgoing Youth Elder
Cathy Williams, incoming Youth Elder

VISIBILITY/SESSION NOTES

June 2018 Session notes

- Pastor Tom announced his retirement as of January 13, 2019. We thank him for what will be 17 years of service to STHPC!
- Three session members started their new terms: Cathy Williams, Horace Hines and Paul Elliot. We thank Mike Manley, Kate Manley and Bill Simmons for their service.
- Two deacons started new terms. Joy Lee continues her service and Yvonne Miller has joined the Deacons. Thanks to Dottie Simmerly for her service.
- The previously approved addition of a trailer for 3D Preschool has started with all the excavated dirt being contained inside the fences.

The session meetings are open meetings where anyone can attend - exceptions for infrequent personnel matters. The meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 6:59 pm at the church.

Horace Hines, Visibility Elder



Join STHPCers for Baseball and BBQ
at the SJ Giants Game on Saturday, August 4
4:00 PM @ Turkey Mike's BBQ



Dinner- BBQ Ribs, Chicken, or
Tri-Tip Sandwich w/sides \$27
child menu burger or dog \$16

Price includes General Admission reserved seat ticket & dinner
Sign-up at the Activity Table. You must pre-pay.



Saturday, August 25

An adult afternoon/evening of wine
tasting, picnic dinner and music by
Hot Tub Time Machine
(80s, 90s, 2000s Rock and Pop)

Wine tasting: Come by 4:00 for the last tasting at 4:30. Tasting room open
11 AM - 5 PM. A flight of 5 wines is \$15.

Music and Picnic: Music begins at 5:30. Seating is first come first served,
bring a picnic (no cooking allowed, but sharing is encouraged), a non-
alcoholic beverage and a blanket/chair. \$10/ticket for non members. Wine
by the bottle and glass for sale. Bring a jacket, the mountains can get chilly.

Sign-up at the Activity Table so we'll know to expect you!
<http://www.savannahchanelle.com/santa-cruz-mountain-wineries/>

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Cards for a Cause, the fundraiser for the Ngwa family, was a rousing success. More than 35 people played bingo and poker games and enjoyed mocktails. We raised over \$2000 for the Ngwa's. Thanks to everyone who came and everyone who donated! More good deeds done by STHPC.

Upcoming Fellowship events:

- San Jose Giants Fellowship Night Saturday, August 4. For more information see pg. 8. Sign-up and pre pay at the Activities Table.
- Savannah Channel Winery Saturday, August 25. For more information see pg. 8 Sign-ups will begin soon.
- Homecoming Sunday breakfast, Sunday, September 9 at 9:00 before Worship.

Lynn Hines, Fellowship Elder



The last Sunday of every month we gather for brunch at AQUI. Join us!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

In June, we completed the PWP's bible study, "Cloud of Witnesses: A Community of Christ in Hebrews". We had quite an adventure over the past 10 months. We learned a lot about who the communities are that are around us and support us in our faith journey. Communities form us as individuals. They provide support, like the rock wall metaphor in our study, and they surround us like a cloud. The writer behind the bible chapter Hebrews encourages us to imitate members of the community whose behaviors arise from faith and patience. In turn, we should be those members whom people want to imitate.

If you missed out on some or all of this past year's bible study, Cheryl Elliot has two copies of the DVD available for check out along with a few copies of the bible study guides.

In September, we will start up a new bible study entitled, "God's Promise: I am with you". This study will take us on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of his presence. God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age. If you think you would like to take part in this study, either with us at our monthly PW meetings or on your own, please let Cheryl know, so she can order the bible study guides.

Lastly, if you have been wanting to join us but the 3rd Tuesday evenings and/or 3rd Saturday mornings don't work, let Cheryl Elliot know when you might be available, as we would like to have more participation. We can consider changing our meeting time, if we could find a time that would work for more of you. Feel free to email Cheryl with your response at celliot4270@sbcglobal.net.

Cheryl Elliot, Moderator



Helping Hands



*Please help
us help others who
struggle to support
and feed their families*

Requested items: Cans of fruit and cans of vegetables, cans of soup or chili, canned meats, peanut butter & jelly, pasta & pasta sauce, and boxes of macaroni & cheese. Flip-top cans are appreciated by many! **The Pantry also needs toiletry items.**

Monthly summary: Between May 1 and June 7, 21 people were assisted; 17 people received food and 11 people received bus tokens.

Food donations totaled 941 lbs. Thank you for donations from STHPC: 311 lbs., St. Julie's: 370 lbs.; Other: 10 lbs. A friend of the church donated 250 lbs.

*The Deacons
and the Church & World Committee*



Income and Expenses

	May 2018 Month to Date	Through 5/18 Year to Date
Income	\$31,096	\$121,796
Expense	\$26,287	\$124,389
Net Income	\$4,809	-\$2,593



Thanks to Cathy Warrick, Nancy Chesterton, the Hines and the Elliots for treats in May and June. And special thanks to those who help clean up!

Treat Schedule through August

- June 24 open
- July 1 open
- July 8 Paul & Cheryl Elliot for their 40th anniversary
- July 15 Karin McMinn/ Jane & Jerry's 50th Anniversary
- July 22 open
- July 29 Rhona Souter for her birthday
- all August dates are open

*Sign up at the Activity Table to
bring treats for your special
occasion -
or any time!*



Reasons to Celebrate!

Birthdays

July 9	Rogan Souter
July 16	Miyah Ngwa
July 21	Harlan Otter
July 23	Rhona Souter
July 26	Dick Clouss
August 2	Jim Wright
August 3	Sherry Burch
August 8	Dave Robertson, Jane McMinn, Cynthia Greene
August 12	Steve DeJarnett
August 25	Catherine Needham, Ruby Webb
August 27	Alma Morikang
August 31	Austin Keathley, Brittany Tambe

Anniversaries

July 8	Paul & Cheryl Elliot
July 20	Jerry & Jane McMinn
July 25	Joe Buttle & Cathy Warrick
July 27	Steve & Robin DeJarnett
Aug 2	Bill & Sharon Simmons
Aug 6	Mona & Keith Johnson
Aug 13	Mike & Kate Manley
Aug 24	Ross & Libby Souter

Go Green!

Want to help the church save paper, ink, trees, and money? Sign-up to receive your copy of Echoes from the Hills by email! Please email Lynn Hines at not57@sbcglobal.net to begin receiving your newsletter by email. Your church and your planet thank you!

Newsletter Staff

Editor: Lynn Hines

Proofreader/Publisher:

Kristie Reed

Elder: Bill Simmons



ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE

Activities are open to all members and visitors - come check out what is happening!

EVERY SUNDAY:	TWO-CAN SUNDAY: BRING YOUR FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE DEACON'S PANTRY TO WORSHIP
Every Thursday:	Choir Practice At STHPC at 7:30 pm. - on Summer vacation
First Tuesday:	Fellowship Ministry Team at STHPC at 7:15 PM
Second Tuesday:	Session meeting at STHPC at 6:59 PM
Third Tuesday:	Presbyterian Women at STHPC at 7:00 PM. - on Summer vacation
Third Saturday:	Men's Fellowship meets at 8:30 AM in the Multipurpose room.
Third Saturday:	Presbyterian Women at STHPC at 10:00 AM - on Summer vacation
Last Sunday:	Breakfast at Aqui Restaurant (Blossom Hill & Snell) following worship (around 11:30ish)

Upcoming Events

- through Sept. 2 Summer Sermon Series "Questions I Always Wanted to Ask God" continues
- Saturday, Aug. 4 SJ Giants Fellowship Night (see pg. 8 for details)
- Saturday, Aug. 25 Savannah-Channelle Winery (see pg. 8 for details)
- Sunday, Sept. 9 Homecoming Sunday (details in the next newsletter & in the bulletin)

Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church,

The Reverend Tom Coop, Pastor

www.sthpc.org

Worship: 10:00 AM

Sunday School PreK - 8th grade 10:00 AM

Regular Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday

9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

**For Pastoral care: The Office (408)629-5906 or
Pastor Tom's cell (408)234-8553**

Church Bulletin deadline: Thursday 9:00 AM

Church Historian: Barb Overholt

Church Newsletter deadline: August 12

for September Newsletter

email your information to Lynn Hines at not57@sbcglobal.net

**Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church
5370 Snell Ave.**

San Jose, CA 95123

Phone: 408-629-5906



*San Jose Giants Fellowship Night
Saturday, August 4
see page 8 for details*