

Echoes from the Hills

Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church • San Jose, California



COOP'S CORNER

THANK YOU

I may only have one more Coop's Corner after this, so I'd better make this good! As I thought about what I wanted to share with you, I kept thinking of all the ways you all have blessed me these past seventeen years. And how much I will miss all of you.

It is amazing that a pastor could ever honestly say they will miss all of the people of their congregation, but I can.

I genuinely like each and every one of you. What a blessing that is to me. And just to be sure, I just went through the entire phone list – and – yep, I like you all! And not just you all, but those who have gone before you, but are no longer here either because they have moved or have gone on to bigger and better things - like heaven!

I first thought I might list each of you and what I appreciated about you, but that would take the whole newsletter. And I still have a stewardship letter to write.

Maybe instead, I can just share some impressions over the years. I think the three things I like to do best is baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Having the opportunity to walk with people at their highest highs and their lowest lows is a privilege I do not take lightly.

I remember baptizing some of your children. I remember performing some of your and your children's weddings. And I remember being honored to officiate at some of your spouses and/or parent's memorial services. Thank you for trusting me with that.

I look back and remember wearing a grass skirt and coconuts. I remember wearing funny hats and costumes. And you still accepted me.

I stumbled over my words and even occasionally forgot them. And you still accepted me.

You suffered through my growing pains. You prayed for me and cried with me. You disagreed with me, at times, and weren't afraid to tell me. And you still accepted me.

I am a Dodger fan. And you still accepted me – okay, maybe that one is stretching it a bit.

You stayed awake during my sermons (well, most of you did). You laughed at least at some of my jokes. You let me into your homes and hearts.

And you definitely paid me more than I was worth.

You guys are amazing! And the next pastor of this congregation is going to be a very blessed man or woman.

This has been the best seventeen years of my life – and you all are a big part of that. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I can't say it enough.

When DeLynn and I say that there will be a room in our home in Georgia waiting for you to come visit, we mean it will all of our hearts. So, we will not say goodbye in January – but just, “See you soon!”

But until that time, I expect to see you in church on Sunday!

May you each be blessed by God in unbelievable ways.

Pastor Tom

CHURCH AND WORLD MINISTRY

STHPC has been busy in the month of October!

Peacemaking

October 7 was World Communion Sunday when we took up the Peace and Global Witness Offering, formerly known as the Peacemaking Offering. STHPCers gave of their treasures to help enable the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Our congregations will utilize up to 25% of this Offering to sustain our local peacemaking ministries. The Church and World Ministry Team will decide where our local funds will go.

Faith in Action - Feed My Starving Children

“Table 4 got one more” was one of the chants from the 18 STHPCers who gave of their time and treasures, (STHPC was one of the sponsors) on October 20 to help pack 160 boxes of food. This food will be distributed to 70 countries worldwide. “Table 4 Feeds the Poor” we yelled as the 18 of us finished packing 28 boxes of food. Over 34,000 meals were packed by the roomful of 160 volunteers! “Table 4 has great rapport” was very true! We had a lot of fun, as usual.



Paul Elliot, Church & World Elder

Faith in Action - Light the Night – Walk for Leukemia & Lymphoma

Many STHPCers walked at Avaya Stadium for “Light The Night” for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We walked specifically for our own Miyah Ngwa and her battle with leukemia. Some gave of their time, some gave of their treasures and some gave both to help the fight against leukemia & lymphoma. If you would still like to donate go to [Welcome to Team Miyah's#270FE17](https://www.teammiyah.org/donate-to-team) and click on the red box “donate to team.”

Faith in Action - Alternative Christmas

Coming up in December is our annual Alternative Giving for Christmas. We will have more information on that in Moments for Missions on upcoming Sundays.



Rev. George Minerva

While Pastor Tom was away at the Kairos Prison Ministry, we were fortunate to have at our pulpit Rev. George Minerva on September 23 whose sermon “Whose Agenda,” was based on scripture from Proverbs 3:10-31 and Mark 9:30-37.

Choir Director Hugh McDevitt stepped up to the pulpit as our liturgist and also blessed the congregation with his arrangement of “My Song Is Love Unknown” sung by the STHPC Choir.



Hugh McDevitt

Stewardship 2018

October 21 • “True Servanthood”

While Pastor Tom was away at a conference, we thoroughly enjoyed the energy that Rev. Nan Swanson shared with us on October 21. We began this service with something new: a Ritual of Welcome in which the Bible (The Book of Memory), the Chalice and Paten (The Table of Sustenance) and a pitcher of water poured into the baptismal font (The Font of Identity) were presented. Rev. Swanson then announced “*People of God, welcome home!*”

Rev. Swanson’s lively sermon was entitled “True Servanthood” relating to scripture readings from Hebrews 5:1-10 and Mark 10:35-45 in which we are encouraged to free ourselves from the enticement of power and all that it doesn’t bring, and widen our hearts and

consciousness in servanthood. It was an amazing service in which our choir was in top form and brought down the house with “Hear Me, Redeemer” and then melted our hearts with “Close Your Eyes and See.”

Alfred Morikang provided his insights on stewardship and what serving others means to him and his family here at STHPC. Thank you everyone, for a wonderful and enriching worship experience!



Rev. Nan Swanson



Alfred Morikang

Worship and Music Barb Overholt • Elder

Serving in Worship ...

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

Thank you to our USHERS in October:

Jim and Sally McClure, Jay Hartley, Laurie Boggs, Jerry and Carol Miller, Barry and Angela Pumphrey.

Thank you to our LITURGISTS in October:

Marylyn Goode, Mojoko Sona, Hugh McDevitt, DeLynn Coop.

Thank you to our COMMUNION SERVERS for World Communion on October 7:

Jim and Sally McClure, Paul and Cheryl Elliot. Thank you to Cheryl Elliot for preparing the communion elements.



Friends of Todd Sing Out!

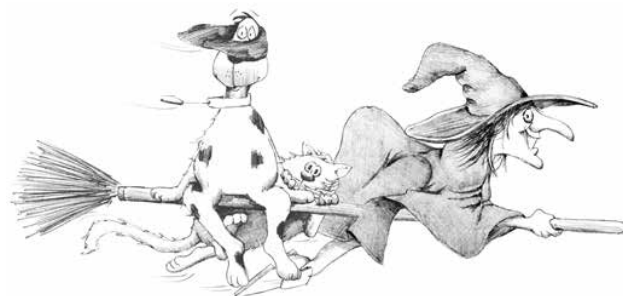


Todd sings tenor at a recent choir rehearsal.



Your Heavenly Warblers

We'd love for you to prayerfully consider joining this wonderfully diverse and friendly group of individuals. It's a great way to get to know one another! No previous choral experience is required and, I believe, the only proviso is that you be able to stand up and sit down on cue. Please contact Choir Director Hugh McDevitt for rehearsal times and dates.



"31 Days of October with Todd"

For those of you not on Facebook, here's some background on this icon currently being presented with commentary on a daily basis of his exploits and accomplishments since joining the Overholt family.

"Todd was found at Home Depot and seemed to need a home desperately. Michael said he had the look of despair and decided to give him a home. Upon his arrival, Todd has proven to be very pleasant company and has become a member of our little family helping with a variety of chores in and around our home."

Sometime back, Choir Director Hugh McDevitt asked if Todd could sing. I thought it would be a great experience for Todd to pay a visit to one of our recent choir rehearsals so he could get a taste for what it's like to praise God in song. Thank you choir members for accepting Todd with open arms, he had a great time!

Barb Overholt

Cartoons • Barb Overholt

Notes from the Choir Loft

For this edition of “Notes from the Choir Loft,” I promised to give you a little behind-the-scenes look at how we choose Chancel Choir music for each Sunday. The choir normally sings three pieces of music each week—an introit, an offertory, and an anthem—so we prepare 9 or 10 pieces of music each month. So, what guides the music selection process? Service theme is the first thing to consider. I am very fortunate that Pastor Tom Coop provides me with his preaching schedule at the beginning of the church year, so I can look for music in our library that matches either the service theme or specific scriptures that Tom is preaching on. The choir is lucky to have a large and varied music library, put together by Dave Robertson and other former directors, that is a great resource for many of our anthems. For International Peace Sunday, we sang “Let There Be Peace on Earth” and “Light a Candle for Peace.” For World Communion Sunday, we sang an arrangement of “Cantad al Señor,” a Brazilian folk song that has been translated into Spanish and English.

The Revised Common Lectionary also provides guidance for music selections. The RCL is a three-year cycle of biblical readings for each Sunday of the year that generally includes a reading from a gospel, a psalm, another Old Testament reading, and a New Testament epistle. I have two books: “Liturgical Music for the Revised Common Lectionary” and “Catalogue of Choral Music Arranged in Biblical Order” which I reference to look for pieces of music that match specific scriptures from the church year. Since the psalms have inspired many composers, I often find musical settings for the psalms for a particular Sunday. For World Communion Sunday, the lectionary psalm was Psalm 26, and the choir sang “I Love Your House,” an introit I wrote several years ago that quotes Psalms 26 and 27.

Finally (for now, at least), I will mention three other music sources. I spent a couple of weeks this past summer playing through all of the music in our library to find pieces that I really like and wanted the choir to sing. I am trying to program this music throughout the year. Second, my wife and I attended “Tuning at Tahoe,” a week-long retreat for music directors and singers, at the Zephyr Point Conference Center in Lake Tahoe this past August. Among many musical activities, we had the opportunity to read through over 100 pieces of church music. Some of those pieces will find their way into our choir folders this year. Finally, I ask our choir members for their favorite pieces and work those into our choral “playlist.”

There are a number of other factors that influence the music we sing, but I hope this gives you a flavor of the selection process. By the way, for each week the Chancel Choir sings, I am writing a short devotional about the music we are singing with a little background information and some thoughts about why the music is important. I’m sending this as a PDF to the choir and also posting it on my personal Facebook page and the STHPC Facebook page. I’d be happy to send you a copy if you are interested! Oh, and if there is a piece of music that you would like us to sing, please talk to me. See you in church!

Hugh McDevitt, STHPC Chancel Choir director

..... :In Memorium

.....
:Two of Santa Teresa Hill’s own passed away recently. :
:Iris Fox, a former member, passed away in October :
:from pancreatic cancer. Her service was held at :
:STHPC on October 20. Woody Wallace, husband of :
:member Debbie Wallace, also passed away in :
:October. His service will be Nov. 17 from 3 - 6 PM in :
:the STHPC sanctuary. Our prayers are with both of :
:their families and friends. :
:.....

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“Writing hymns is harder than I thought!
I can’t think of anything that rhymes with
‘Hallelujah’ except ‘glad I knew ya’
and ‘we’ll tattoo ya!’”

Work Party • Saturday, September 15

Landscaping Around 3D Preschool's Out Building



*Purple Hopseed Bushes
(Dodonaea viscosa 'Purpurea')*

reaching 12' high and 6-8' wide. Its prized foliage puts on a great show of color of bronze-green that turns deep purple-red in autumn. Pinkish bloom clusters brighten the plant in summer. Once established, Purple Hopseed Bushes are drought tolerant.



*Plants, landscape cloth and
irrigation are installed.*

Thanks to everyone who came to the church on Saturday, September 15 and tirelessly worked on installing the landscaping to beautify the west side of 3D Preschool's new out building. There were 24 plants, two trees, six yards of bark, one yard of topsoil, an auger, 200' of commercial grade landscape fabric, 200' of drip tubing, a plethora of individual emitters, and lots of shovels.

On Saturday, October 20, Dave Robertson and Barb Overholt spent the morning digging and planting the last of the plants — seven Purple Hopseed Bushes (*Dodonaea viscosa* 'Purpurea') — installing the remaining commercial weed cloth and drip irrigation, and spreading bark on the east side of 3D Preschool's building.

The newly planted Purple Hopseed Bush specimens are young and somewhat small but are expected to grow fast reaching 12' high and 6-8' wide. Its prized foliage puts on a great show of color of bronze-green that turns deep purple-red in autumn. Pinkish bloom clusters brighten the plant in summer. Once established, Purple Hopseed Bushes are drought tolerant.

*Barb Overholt for
Building and Grounds*



*Purple and Lavender Crepe Myrtles
were installed on the north side of the
building.*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
11/4	Marilyn Morikang
11/11	Cheryl Elliot
11/18	DeLynn Coop
11/25	Lynn Hines
12/2	Marilyn Morikang

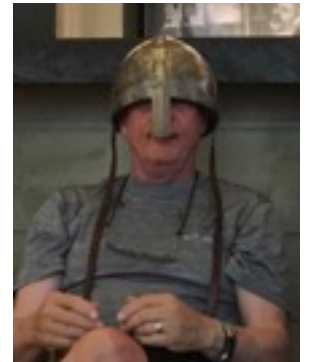
Marilyn Morikang, Children's Ed Elder

What I did this Summer - and Fall ...

Cousins Dottie Simerly and Barb Overholt took off to balmy Cancun, Mexico, for the last time to stay at Dottie's timeshare in October. The two spent two weeks luxuriating in one of the resort's three pools floating and bobbing around with their noodles, partaking in daily Piña Coladas, Mudslides or Banana Monkeys poolside. Barb participated in daily aqua aerobics (way fun!). Of course Barb and Dottie were on hand to participate in the resort's 30th anniversary party held in the bar one afternoon – free drinks of your choice and all the nosh you could eat. They had a great time!



Horace and Lynn Hines spent almost 4 weeks in southern France, northern Spain and Portugal in September and October. They had a fabulous time visiting a variety of places from the medieval walled city of Carcassonne, France all the way to the modern city of Lisbon, Portugal. Along the way they learned about the characteristics and equipment of a medieval knight in



Carcassonne, the bull fights in Pamplona, Spain, walked on the Camino de Santiago, and went out on a boat to a mussel farm (and ate fresh mussels prepared on the boat!) in Cambados, Spain. In the Douro Valley in Portugal they stomped grapes with their bare feet, prepared their own lunch during a cooking lesson, and went on a cruise on the river. Outside Lisbon, in Sintra, Portugal they visited a austere Capuchin Monastery from the 16th century. All along the way they ate (too much!), laughed a lot, and learned a lot.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

The Fellowship ministry Team is busy planning events to help bring the congregation together to and to get to know each other better. Mark your calendars for the upcoming events:

Celebration Sunday - Sunday, November 4 after worship. We will celebrate the end of our Stewardship campaign with a lunch either on the patio or in the Fellowship Hall. Croissant sandwiches and drinks will be provided. Sign-up at the Activity Table to help provide lunch by bringing either a salad, small bags of chips or dessert.

Caroling Around the Piano - Sunday, December 9 after worship. If you'd like to bring some Christmas cookies please sign up on the Treat list at the Activity Table. Hot cider will be provided.

Pastor Tom's Going Away Party - Saturday evening, January 12, 2019. A party for the entire family to say Happy Retirement to Pastor Tom and DeLynn. Watch the Sunday bulletins and the December newsletter for details.

Lynn Hines, Fellowship Elder

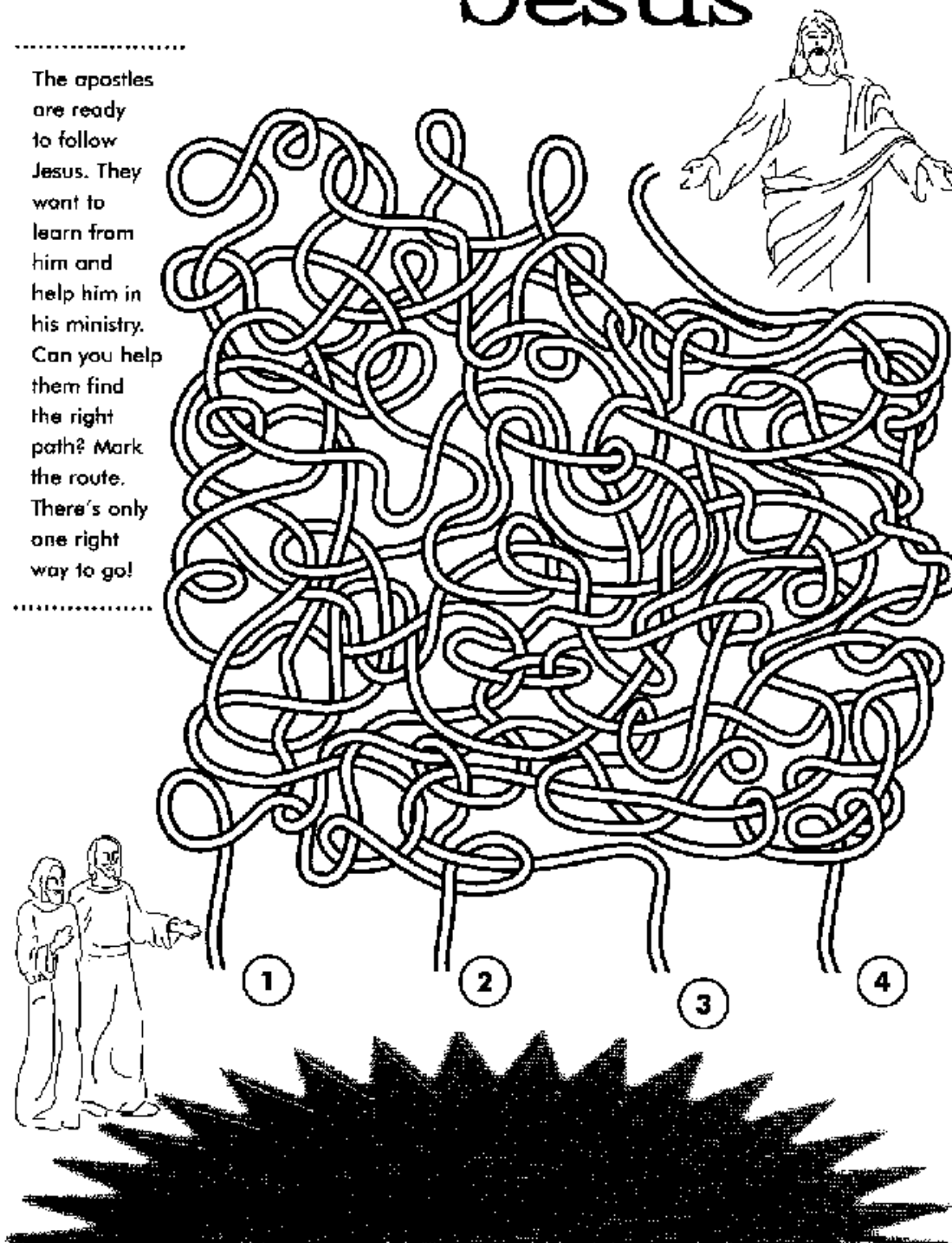
The Twelve
Matthew 9;
Luke 6; John 1

Following Jesus

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The apostles are ready to follow Jesus. They want to learn from him and help him in his ministry. Can you help them find the right path? Mark the route. There's only one right way to go!

.....



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 etables meats, peanut butter & jelly, pasta & pasta sauce, and boxes of macaroni & cheese. Flip-top cans are appreciated by many!

Monthly summary: Between August 9 and October 21, 49 people were assisted; 38 people received food and 15 people received bus tokens. Kristie was able to honor requests for 1 gift cards. Three people received cash.

Food donations totaled 172 lbs. Thank you for donations from STHPC: 132 lbs., St. Julie's: 30 lbs, and Other: 10 lbs.

*The Deacons
and the Church & World Committee*

Nursery Attendants

11/4 Yolanda Wu
11/11 Rebecca Elliot
11/18 Alfred Morikang
11/25 Emily Manley
12/2 Yolanda Wu



Nursery care is provided for three year olds and younger, supervised by Rachele our nursery attendant and assisted by one of our rotating volunteers.

The nursery children are learning the same story each week as the Children's Sunday School class as Rachele provides story time.

As a reminder, parents please sign your children in and out of the nursery and use the name tags.

Marilyn Morikang, Children's Ed Elder



Income and Expenses

	Sept. 2018 Month to Date	Through 9/18 Year to Date
Income	\$28,252	\$239,823
Expense	\$26,926	\$230,960
Net Income	\$1,326	\$8,863

Thank you to the Barry & Angela Pumphry, Hersh Brown and others who brought treats in September & October. Thanks too to those who clean up each week. The "open" dates below are opportunities to help provide fellowship after our worship services.

Treat Schedule/Clean-up help needed also

Nov. 4 - Celebration Sunday (end of our Stewardship campaign) Sign-up at the Activity Table to help with the lunch

Nov. 11 - Open Nov. 18 - Open

Nov. 25 - Open



Amount for a "normal" Sunday is approximately ONE of the following: 8 dozen cookies, OR - 4 dozen donuts, cut in half, OR - 3 - 9X13 pans of brownies, cut small, OR - a sheet cake from Costco, OR - \$15.00 and we will purchase for you! Sign-up at the Activity Table.

SESSION NOTES

October 2018 Session notes

- Three-D Preschool has received all the necessary approvals leading up to the State's approval for opening the new portable classroom.
- Session approved spending up to \$7,000 to re-seal and re-strip the parking lot. This has been completed.
- The Interim Search Committee will meet in mid-October to start the process of finding an interim pastor to lead STHPC during the transition. Tom has been approached by one candidate. We estimate this process will take one to two months.
- The Mission Study committee has been meeting every Sunday after church and the development of the congregational questionnaire is going well. The plan is to survey the congregation and have meetings to discuss STHPC and the desired characteristics of the pastor we will be seeking.

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

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We have now finished two of our Bible Study Lessons from "God's Promise: I am with you". We are enjoying the content a lot. If you want to join in at anytime, Cheryl Elliot still has some lesson books and we have an extra DVD that can be checked out. This is helpful if you are not able to join us during our PW meeting time.

In September, PW voted to purchase 16 Navy Blue vinyl padded chairs to replace the very old chairs in the MultiPurpose room. These have arrived! We also voted to purchase a new faucet for the Sanctuary kitchen sink...it has arrived also and now just needs to be installed. These purchases are possible due to our Fall Nuts Sales proceeds, so PW thanks you for your buying lots of nuts to allow us to help our church.

Speaking of NUTS, they are due to arrive soon. We have set up a NUT PACKING day on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 10 AM-noon. We will take the nuts from 25 pound boxes to the individual one pound bags. Very easy work, and the more we have helping, the faster it gets done. We will then be selling these nuts in the Courtyard each Sunday starting Oct. 28 thru early December or when we run out. Prices are the same as last year.

Our November Meeting is set to be Tuesday evening, Nov. 20 from 7 - 9 PM. We also hope to have our PW Holiday luncheon on Sunday, Dec. 9 from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM, so pencil in these dates on your calendars.

Cheryl Elliot, Moderator





Reasons to Celebrate!

Birthdays

Oct. 31	Laurie Boggs
Nov. 2	Lynn Hines
Nov. 3	Aiden Morikang
Nov. 10	Owen Paterson
Nov. 11	James McArthur
Nov. 13	Rachel Guerrero
Nov. 14	Leonie Toche
Nov. 30	David Young

Anniversaries

Nov. 3	Alec & Mary Paterson
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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: Horace Hines



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.
First Tuesday:	Fellowship Ministry Team at STHPC at 7:15 PM
Second Tuesday:	Session meeting at STHPC at 6:59 PM
Third Saturday:	Men's Fellowship meets at 8:30 AM in the Multipurpose room.
Third Tuesday:	Presbyterian Women at STHPC at 7:00 PM. - every other month
Third Saturday:	Presbyterian Women at STHPC at 10:00 AM - every other month
Last Sunday:	Breakfast at Aqui Restaurant (Blossom Hill & Snell) following worship (around 11:30ish)

Upcoming Events

Daylight Savings Time ends Sun, Nov. 4
Fall back - turn your clocks back an hour

Celebration Sunday Sun, Nov. 4
sign-up at the Activity Table to help bring lunch additions after Worship

PJ sorting & packing Sat. Nov. 17
new PJs for children's shelters 9 AM
needed by not required @STHPC
new PJ's (teen especially needed) & new books for kids

Life Line Screening Sat. Dec. 1
@ STHPC 8:30 AM-5 PM
(more info at the Activity Table)

Deacon's Community Christmas Dinner Sat. Dec. 8
1 - 3 PM
volunteers will be needed

*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: Nov. 18
for December 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



Celebration Sunday
November 4 after Worship
sign-up at the Activity Table
to help bring lunch additions

