

Echoes from the Hills

Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church • San Jose, California



EMANATIONS FROM EVIE

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.

—1 Corinthians 12.4

*To one, God has given the gift of good humor,
to another the gift of resilience, to another courage,
to another the appreciation of beauty,
to another truth-telling, to another soft-heartedness,
to another the ache for justice,
to another quiet presence, to another exuberance.*

*What gifts live in you? What passions and callings,
what energies consistently rise up in you,
leave people blessed in your wake,
lean toward the healing of the world around you?
They may seem small, odd or ordinary,
but they are the bricks with which God builds
the Realm of Joy and Justice.*

*God gives to each of us gifts of God's choosing.
What gifts does the Spirit of love activate in you?
Name them, give thanks, and devote them this day
to the Great Work of the mending of the world.*

Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes

I regularly receive an email sent from this Methodist pastor/poet, Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes. Each one is a reflection on some piece of scripture. I like his writing and how he thinks about God's Word as it comes to us through the Bible.

Not long ago Garnaas-Holmes shared this poem based on the familiar words of 1 Corinthians about gifts of the Spirit. When I read it I thought of you, the members and friends of Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church.

I have now been with you for three months and during that time I have witnessed the generous sharing of so many spiritual gifts. It is a joy to be a part of the ministry you share with one another and the world.

In this time of transition here at STHPC your Session members have been wondering out loud about how we might discover more gifts among us and have even more of us be a part of church committees and share in formation and implementation of our visions for ministry. It is an exciting time and a time of great possibility. I hope you will consider what your gifts are and how you might share them in the ministry and life we share here at STHPC.

What are the bricks waiting to be discovered within us here at Santa Teresa Hills, “with which God builds the Realm of Joy and Justice?” Speak to one of the Session members or to me if you have some ideas or would like to join one of the ministry teams here at the church.

As we move into the Easter season, may we celebrate the life giving Gifts of the Spirit here at Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church.

In Faith,
Evie

Notes from the Choir Loft



It is amazing how fast the choir year speeds by. The Chancel Choir is enjoyed a well-deserved break the week after Easter after a very busy Lent and Holy Week. We had a great time joining our Cameroon brothers and sisters for the introit “When Jesus Entered Jerusalem” on Palm Sunday and welcoming trumpeter Jacob Jackman for a wide range of music on a joyful Easter Sunday. As quickly as the time has gone, we still have a lot of music left!

On June 2, the choir will be joining four other local church choirs for Chorus Magnus—a choral worship experience at Valley Church in Cupertino. The service is at 7:00 PM. The other conductors include long-time and newer musical friends. We will join the choirs of Valley Presbyterian Church (Portola Valley), Valley Church (Cupertino), Mountain View Presbyterian Church, and Bethel Lutheran Church (Cupertino). The choir will sing much of the music for that concert as anthems over the next few weeks, including pieces that we have sung over the past year and new works by favorites Mark Hayes and Craig Courtney and a beautiful 8-part motet by Felix Mendelssohn. Please put the date and time on your calendar and plan to attend. It will be a wonderful evening of sacred music with a massed choir of over 80 singers. See me or any member of the choir for more details.

The choir will take a break over the summer, but we will schedule two or three “Summer Choir” Sundays where we will meet before worship service and learn a simple anthem to sing. I hope you will plan to join us and share our love of singing.

Hugh McDevitt, STHPC Chancel Choir director



Worship and Music

Barb Overholt • Elder



Rhona Souter • Liturgist

Sunday, April 7 • “Heaven Scent” Isaiah 43:16-25 and John 11:55, 12:8

We were blessed to have had first-time Liturgist Rhona Souter at the pulpit to lead us in worship! Another first was bringing back the Children’s Sermon at which time, Pastor Evie had a special message to give to our children. It’s been quite awhile since we’ve had our children up front with the Pastor and what a delight it was.

Pastor Evie’s sermon “Heaven Scent” was based on scripture texts Isaiah 43:16-25 and John 11:55, 12:8 which transitioned us from the Gospel of Luke in our Lenten journey to the Gospel of John and Jesus’ anointing by Mary – a person who seemed to understand who Jesus was and what he’s about, and acts on that understanding with her whole being. A story of faith in action, a selfless act of love, of discipleship as Jesus taught it. The sense of smell is very powerful and can bring back memories of people and events that have taught us love; inspired courage, showed us mercy – who showed us God. What does God’s love smell like in your life today?

And, speaking of being Heaven-sent, the congregation elected members to the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Being a member of the PNC is probably the most important committee that ever serves in a church. It is an extremely dedicated and time-consuming position and we are very fortunate to have these capable and Spirit-filled members of our congregation willing to take on this task. The congregation prays for God’s grace and guidance in the PNC’s endeavor as the year progresses and thanks them for their commitment to our church family.



Pastor Evie with newly elected PNC members.

L–R: Barry Pumphrey, Horace Hines, Mike Manley, Libby Souter, Mary Paterson, Mary Azah. Not shown: Constance Ebanda

“You are a member of God’s very own family ... and you belong in God’s household with every other Christian.” Ephesians 2:19

On Sunday, March 17, we welcomed with open arms John Stuart MacKay as a new member of our church family. John is pictured here with Clerk of Session Steve DeJarnett and Pastor Evie Macway.



The Children’s Sermon returned on April 7 as the children gathered around Pastor Evie to receive her special message to them.



The amazing voices of our Chancel Choir with Choir Director Hugh McDevitt (left) wowed us once again on April 14 when they sang a Choral Benediction “Ride On, King Jesus.”

Palm SUNDAY

What a Spirit-filled Sunday!



***"When Jesus
Enters
Jerusalem!"***



Maundy Thursday Service

"I will lift up the Cup of Salvation and call on the name of the Lord..." • Psalm 116:13

Twenty parishioners gathered to remember the events of the evening when Jesus shared his last supper with his disciples. It was an inspirational and love-filled service.



Dressed in black and white, the Chancel Choir presented "Remember Not, O Lord God," "Without His Cross," and "Ave Verum Corpus."

Good Friday Service

Our Good Friday service involved dramatic readings taken from J. Barrie Shepherd's book "Faces at the Cross" in which Barb Overholt (as Mary Magdalen), Dave Robertson (as Peter), Marylyn Goode (as Mary), and Hugh McDevitt (as John) expressed their thoughts as Jesus was dying on the cross. Alfred and Marilyn Morikang, and Paul Elliot read scripture from Matthew and Luke, and Debbie Wallace was our Usher. It was a beautiful and emotional service and attendees were invited to stay and pray around the black enswathed, candle-lit cross on the floor following the service.

He is Risen Indeed!



Easter Sunrise Service

Our eyes are barely open, the sky has hardly brightened, the morning has just begun, and we see you have already done a new thing. Praise be to you, O God. Your ways are beyond our understanding, your mystery is too vast for words. Yet, on this day, we dare to believe that you are making us into new creations. Alleluia!



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 becoming a liturgist or an usher, please contact Elder Barb Overholt or Pastor Evie.

Our USHERS in March and April:

Jay Hartley, Barb Overholt, Barry and Angela Pumphrey, Angelina Red, Chris De La Roca, Laurie Boggs, Emily Manley, Jerry and Carol Miller, Jim and Sally McClure, Dave Robertson, Rebecca Elliot, Debbie Wallace.

Our LITURGISTS in March and April:

Hugh McDevitt, Dave Robertson, Barb Overholt, Yvonne Miller, Rhona Souter, Mojoko Sona, Cheryl Elliot, Mike Manley.

Our COMMUNION SERVERS on March 3 and Holy Week:

Jay Hartley, Barb Overholt, Marylyn Goode, Paul Elliot, Dave Robertson, Cheryl Elliot, Laurie Boggs, Lynn Hines, Chris De La Roca, Yvonne Miller.



Three of our Cameroon sisters "Dressed to the Nines" (and rightly so) for a very festive Palm Sunday! You are beautiful Beatrice, Grace and Mojoko.

CHURCH AND WORLD MINISTRY

One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you to everyone for your generous giving for the One Great Hour of Sharing. We don't yet have the final totals, but the "fish boxes" seemed pretty heavy with coins.



Faith in Action

Church Beautification Day

Our April Faith in Action activity was to beautify our church. Buildings and Grounds and Church and World combined to put on this activity. Many people from the congregation and 15 Boy Scouts came to help make the church a welcoming place for the Easter season. Fellowship followed up with a tasty BBQ.

Sewing, Knit, Crochet for a Cause

Five women gathered at Caryl Brown's home on March 30 to each work on their own project. Yvonne and Cathy were knitting, Mary crocheting, and Caryl and Cheryl were sewing. Caryl was able to deliver 12 finished blankets to Project Linus. Other projects are going to other causes. There will be another day this summer so watch for information!

Coming up - SMUM in May

Our Faith in Action activity for May will be helping out at SMUM, Santa Maria Urban Ministries, in downtown San Jose on Saturday, May 18 from 9 – noon. Sign-up at the Activity Table and take a reminder slip. Be sure to show up at the church at 8:30 to carpool as there is very limited parking at SMUM. If you have questions, see Cathy Warrick.

Paul Elliot, Church & World Elder



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY

Thanks to all who attended and pitched in on April 6 at the Faith in Action Work Party. We had a great turnout -- 18 from our church and 15 Boy Scouts and leaders. We planted flowers, cleaned kitchens and rooms, reorganized and threw stuff out, trimmed trees, cleaned gutters, and fixed chair feet. And then we ate.

Roofing Update and Fund: It's finally time to replace the original roof (leaky) and skylight (cracked) over our Sanctuary, offices, and classrooms. 31 years on a 30-year roof is not bad. Session has approved a contract for up to \$60,000. The work will take place in August. While we have the church assets to cover this, Session has authorized a Designated Fund ("Roofing Fund") for members who can help defray the expense. Please prayerfully consider a special donation between now and August. Make checks payable to STHPC and write "Roofing Fund" in the memo line.

Dave Robertson, Buildings & Grounds Elder

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY

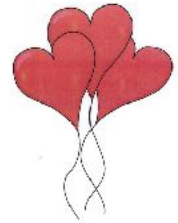
How about advertising STHPC on your vacation, and sharing your vacation with other STHPCers? It's very easy. Just follow these instructions:

- Take our Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church Shares sign with you on vacation,
- Take a photo of you holding the sign,
- Share the love of Christ when people ask you what you're doing,
- When you return home, email your photo or two and a few sentences about your trip to the newsletter editor, Lynn Hines at not57@sbcglobal.net.

Your photo and trip will be shared in our Echoes From the Hills newsletter. And who knows? You may even meet someone from San Jose who'd like to attend our church!

Sharon Simmons, Membership Elder

Santa Teresa Hills
Presbyterian Church
SHARES



Things that Make Us Happy

Sharon and Bill Simmons
in the Land Down Under



We met wonderful people, toured the amazing opera house, ventured through the beautiful blue mountains, swam in the Great Barrier Reef, viewed the most extraordinary wildlife, swam with an awesome HUGE sea turtle, viewed the impressive penguin parade, and took a very long plane ride home. We are very thankful we were able to visit Australia. We tried to get the koala to hold the STHPC SHARES sign but he refused! Then, through the magic of technology...



CHILDREN'S ED MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING SCHEDULE

Date	Teacher	Helper/ SS or Nursery
5/5	Claris Ngwa	Yolanda Wu
5/12	Lynn Hines	Rebecca Elliot
5/19	Marilyn Morikang	Emmanuel Ngwa
5/26	TBD	TBD
6/2	Marilyn Morikang	Yolanda Wu
6/9	Lynn Hines	Emily Manley
6/16	Cheryl Elliot	Rebecca Elliot
6/23	Claris Ngwa	Alfred Morikang
6/30	Kate Manley	Emily Manley



ADULT ED MINISTRY



As we walk along on our faith journey, ponder your next step of faith.

Following our Easter experience, may we each have an Emmaus experience.

Read and reflect on the story in Luke 24:11-35.

1. Is Jesus finished with you yet?
2. What part of your faith are you working on?
3. What can we learn from the story in Luke?
4. What would that experience tell you about your own walk in life?
5. Would you recognize Christ if he appeared in your own life?

Watch for him. He is with us. Remember, He said, "I am always with you....."

Do you believe that?

Watch for news of future studies. Be a blessing to someone today!

Carol Miller, Adult Ed Elder

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

The Fellowship Ministry Team had a hand during the April 6 Faith in Action church beautification workday. We cleaned and straightened the kitchenette and then put on a BBQ for all to enjoy. Bill and Kevin Simmons, with help from the Boy Scouts, manned the BBQ grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for the hungry workers. Chips and cookies were provided by attendees. It was good to sit, relax and eat after a busy, beautifying morning.

Upcoming Events:

- The after church BBQ has been moved to a yet to be determined date in July.
- Savanna Channele Winery wine tasting and picnic dinner is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 22. The band that evening is ReknRoad playing original rock and blues. It is a harmony driven band that delivers hit after hit with songs inspired by the Eagles, John Mayer, The Allman Brothers, CCR, and many more.
- SJ Giants outing will be one Saturday evening in July. Watch the newsletter and the Sunday bulletins for further information.

Lynn Hines, Fellowship Elder

Dear STHPC family,

Well, we've been here about a month and a half. Like Dorothy says, "We aren't in Kansas anymore!"

We are living in a wonderful Del Webb community with very friendly people and lots of activities. I have already joined the men's chorus (only about ten of us – but we sound pretty good), am playing table tennis, have joined a book club, a movie review club, a bible study, and I am checking out pickle ball this week. AND I even found a Democrat club 😊 ...

The church we attend is a PCUSA church and very small – about 60 members – all over the age of 65 (except DeLynn, of course). They, too, are very, very friendly. The choir is six people (I miss my STHPC choir!!!!) and I might join them (the jury is still out on that). The pastor is a woman who is progressive and a good preacher. I have a hard time not wanting to speak up and change things to be more like STHPC – but that is not my place DeLynn keeps reminding me.

We are surrounded by OLD PEOPLE!!! What a surprise, right? I miss the diversity of San Jose and the different age groups, and of course the Cameroon community. But we are starting to make friends and are joining the community as it is. The Good News: the spirit is strong and present.

Del Webb and Greensboro (population 3,500 and the closest town – about ten miles away) feel like the middle of nowhere. We have to drive almost an hour to the closest big box stores, shopping centers, etc. There are a few good restaurants we have found, but not many. We were sure spoiled in San Jose. 😊

Our house is almost a home. Still a few things left to buy, set up, or arrange. However, we are feeling more and more at home. AND our guest room is all ready for visitors ... hint, hint!

It is great to be near grandchildren. Trace (Danielle and Matt's adorable baby) has visited and we have visited him. And my daughter's three boys have been here for a weekend and we go there in a week to help celebrate the middle one's birthday. How cool is that!!!

I still can't believe I am retired. It just doesn't seem real. But each passing day (and especially Sundays when I am not in the pulpit) make it more and more a reality.

I hope you all are well and that you are treating Evie well. You are blessed to have her. We will be out in San Jose at the end of May and will be at worship on Sunday, May 26th where we hope to see many of you.

May God abundantly bless each and every one of you!

Tom and DeLynn



SESSION NOTES

The Mission Study, previously approved by the Session, was approved by the Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM). This allowed us to form our Pastor Nominating Committee which was elected at the Congregational meeting on April 7. The members are Horace Hines, chairperson; Mary Azah; Constance Ebanda; Mike Manley, secretary; Mary Paterson; Barry Pumphrey, vice chairperson; Libby Souter, secretary; and Frank Bernstein (COM). We have been meeting weekly to fill out STHPC's Ministry Information Form (MIF). After COM approves our MIF, it will be put on the PCUSA web site in June or July to start advertising for pastor candidates.

The Session voted to change the number of elders on session from 12 to 7. We want the different ministry teams to function as committees with several members and bring any required actions to session. The ministry teams will now be Administration (Finance/Stewardship/Personnel), Buildings & Grounds, Church & World, Education (children, youth and adult), Fellowship, Membership/Visibility/Outreach, and Worship & Music.

We approved an addendum to the 3D Preschool lease that includes the rental of the trailer space and increased utilities. The monthly payments for 2019 will be \$9,424 including utilities. Copier charges are billed separately.

Session meetings are the second Tuesday of each month and open except for limited personnel matters. They start at 6:59.

Horace Hines, Visibility Elder

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PWP, Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery, held their Annual Gathering at our church on Saturday, May 4 from 2 - 4 PM. The Theme was God's Promise is Forever. Dr. Wendy Rouse from SJSU gave an inspirational presentation, including some self-defense how to demonstrations, based on her book "Her Own Hero....The origin of the women's self-defense movement".

STHPC PW won't have a May meeting due to the Annual Gathering at the beginning of the month and many of us being out of town. Our last meeting of the Spring will be Saturday, June 8th from 10 AM - Noon. We will study the last two lessons (#8 and #9) of our PW Bible Study: "God's Promise: I Am with You". We also plan to have a potluck lunch, so we invite all the women of STHPC to come and join us. . We will then break for the summer.

At our April meeting, we voted to donate \$150 to purchase backpacks for the Back To School Supplies program and \$150 to purchase the flowers planted on April 6th near the entrance to the Breezeway. This money came from our Fall 2018 Nut Sale proceeds. We were also able to get our first look at the new 2019-2020 PW/Horizons Bible Study. It is entitled, "Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments." We will start this new bible study in September. If you are interested in getting a copy of the bible study book, please let Cheryl Elliot know, she will place an order soon.

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! **This month toiletry items are especially needed.**

Monthly summary: Between March 5 – April 30, 28 people were assisted. All received food and 13 people received bus tokens. Kristie was able to honor requests for 7 gift cards and 1 person received cash.

Food donations totaled 175 lbs. all from STHPC. Thank you!

*The Deacons
and the Church & World Committee*

Nursery Attendants

5/5 Yolanda Wu
5/12 Rebecca Elliot
5/19 Emmanuel Ngwa
5/26 TBD
6/2 Yolanda Wu
6/9 Emily Manley
6/16 Rebecca Elliot
6/23 Alfred Morikang



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.



Income and Expenses

	March 2019 Month to Date	Through 3/19 Year to Date
Income	\$34,161	\$85,892
Expense	\$26,458	\$79,934
Net Income	\$7,703	\$5,958

Thanks to Cathy Warrick, Mojoko Sona, Barb Overholt and the Elliots for treats in March and April. Special thanks to Cheryl Elliot for the special cake for Pastor Evie's birthday in March! And extra thanks to those who help clean up!

*Treat Schedule for May/
June*

5/5 Marilyn Goode

All other dates are open





Reasons to Celebrate!

Birthdays

April 18	Howard LeBas
April 20	Marilyn Morikang
April 25	Dottie Simerly
April 28	Yvonne Miller, Nancy Girton
May 3	Karin McMinn
May 10	Ross Souter
May 11	Lucas Mudoh, Mike Overholt
May 12	Paris Elizabeth Acha
May 17	Steve Sunseri
May 23	Susan Hunt-McArthur
May 24	Billy Sunseri
May 27	Libby Souter
May 29	Eric DeJarnett
June 3	Nancy Chesterson, Posey Shiu,
June 4	Barbara Brown
June 5	Mike Manley
June 9	Tom Coop, Karla Frye
June 10	Robin DeJarnett
June 12	Claris Ngwa
June 16	Teke Ngwa

Anniversaries

June 9	David & Nancy Girton
June 15	Tim & Laura Davis

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
Second Saturday:	Presbyterian Women at STHPC at 10:00 AM
Third Saturday:	Men's Breakfast Fellowship meets at 8:30 AM in the Multipurpose room.
Last Sunday:	Brunch at Aqui Restaurant (Blossom Hill & Snell) following worship (around 11:30ish)

Upcoming Events

Sat., May 18
9 - noon

Faith in Action
@ SMUM
(see pg. 9 for details)

Sun., June 2
after worship

Congregational
Meeting

*Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church,
The Reverend Evie Macway, Transitional Pastor*

www.sthpc.org

Worship: 10:00 AM

Sunday School PreK - 8 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 Evie's cell 650-465-3037
evie@sthpc.org**

Church Bulletin deadline: Thursday 9:00 AM

Church Historian: Barb Overholt

Church Newsletter deadline: June 4

for June/July Newsletter

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

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