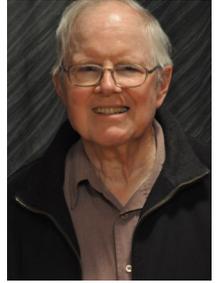


## ***Don Munro Obituary***

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Don Munro, 80 years old, who died November 30 from complications with pneumonia. The Rev. Don W. Munro Jr., served 20-years as Senior Pastor at Felton Presbyterian Church, 1965-1985, building that congregation into a cornerstone of the community. St. Philip's has been blessed for over five years to have Don, his wife Dyann, son, David and wife Kris, with grandsons Connor and Matthew attending our little church. Don was even confirmed here by Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves in December 2011.



Don was born May 21, 1935, in Berkeley, the son of Don W. Munro and Bernis Munro. He attended Berkeley High School, majored in history at the University of California at Berkeley, earned a divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary, and began ministry at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church in 1960, where he met and married Dyann. In 1976, in mid-career, he earned a master's degree at San Francisco Theological Seminary.

At the height of his ministry, Don loved to read, write, preach, counsel, comfort, play the piano and talk. Especially talk. He was a champion conversationalist with an uncanny knack for ferreting out the experiences and passions of the person he was talking to and immersing himself, however briefly, in that person's world. With a voracious curiosity and an ability to connect with people from all walks of life, he tackled whatever conversational subject was at hand -- from the intricacies of the Gospels or the philosophical ramifications of quantum physics to the strengths and foibles of the San Francisco 49ers -- with an easygoing inquisitiveness.

That personal touch proved an important part of his ministry at Felton Presbyterian. Don certainly put much thought into his progressive and tolerant sermons, and he wanted to make them accessible and interesting, often inserting amusing quotations from Dear Abby and asides from San Francisco Chronicle columnist Herb Caen to make a point. (He kept an extensive collection of index cards with sermon-worthy quips filed by subject, and he could never resist a bad pun.) But it was the one-to-one connections of pastoring that satisfied him most. He used the telephone and personal visits like people use Facebook today, keeping up with his parishioners, especially in times of crisis and sickness.

One of his signature contributions to the Felton congregation was his "Three Minutes a Day" program. Participants read a daily dose of Scripture and then phoned in to hear Pastor Munro offer a brief Bible lesson and prayer, all with the idea of the experience taking just a few minutes. (Though he loved to talk, he often thrilled members of the congregation with prayers that were short and sweet). Sitting in his office, you could hear the huge, clunky recording machine -- this was long before answering devices -- groan into action on a regular basis, and you could tell just how many people, including shut-ins, availed themselves of the service.

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Don loved to read, especially periodicals, soaking up all he could on politics, world cultures, nature, history, sports and science. In a sense, his generalist interest in the world was an extension of his theology, a sort of “worship” of the endlessly fascinating moving parts of an intricate and divine creation.

Though working long hours, his family was always paramount in his life. After he retired from the ministry, he loved making weekly trips to the first-grade Quail Hollow Elementary School classroom of his wife, Dyann, to play piano for school programs. (He loved the songs “Hats Off” and “Chicken Soup With Rice.”). The piano was an important part of home life, too, whether it was spending long hours playing ragtime or accompanying his older son, Donald, on trombone, and younger son, David, on clarinet. When the joyous time for grandchildren came, he patiently sat with Connor and Matthew at the keyboard helping little fingers pick out first notes, then chords, and finally whole pieces. Playing ball, early on with his sons and later his grandsons, was another time for family bonding.

Don also thoroughly enjoyed his Friday lunch meetings with the Santa Cruz Rotary Club, where he was a long and faithful member, and provided music for the weekly programs.

Don and the family liked to travel, whether it was journeying across the country from Berkeley to New Jersey by train in college when he attended Princeton Theological Seminary, or the last great trip of his life, a 50th wedding anniversary cruise to Alaska with family members, including daughter-in-law Kris Munro and son-in-law Shane Moreman. In 2013 Don and Dyann sold their Ben Lomond home which they had about 48 years and moved to Scotts Valley.

Don is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dyann, a retired teacher, of Scotts Valley; son Donald, arts and culture critic at The Fresno Bee, and son-in-law Shane Moreman, a communication professor at California State University, Fresno; son David, an English teacher at Saratoga’s Prospect High School, and daughter-in-law Kris, superintendent of Santa Cruz City School District, of Scotts Valley; and grandsons Connor and Matthew.

A memorial service will be held here at St. Philip’s, 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, reception following. In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to offer remembrances to St. Philip’s Episcopal Church or the Rotary Club of Santa Cruz Scholarship Fund, PO Box 497, Santa Cruz. For more memories of Don, go to [www.donwmunro.weebly.com](http://www.donwmunro.weebly.com).

## *It's a Busy Day & a Busy Month ~*

### **This Week: Dec. 6 - 12**

#### **TODAY: Cookie & Church Decorating!**

Wed., **Theology Book Group**, Sanctuary

Wed., 7 pm, **Lessons & Carols**, Sanctuary

Thu., 5 pm, **Food Pantry**, Foyer

Fri., 10:30 am, **Meditation**, Sanctuary

Sat., 11 am, **Munro Funeral**, Sanctuary

Sat., 3pm, **Teen Rooms Redo**

Sat., 5 pm, **Overnight Guests, Parish Hl**

**Dec. 9:** Lessons & Carols,  
7pm, St. Philip's hosts

**Dec. 13:** Children's Pageant.  
5pm

**Dec. 19:** Pacific Voices  
Concert, 7:30 pm

**Dec. 20:** Pacific Voices  
Concert, 3:00 pm

*See Jane Ellis or Susan Seaburg*

**Jan. 31:** Annual Meeting

**Feb. 5-7:** Winter retreat

# Annual VCUM holiday cooking decorating

**TODAY** following the 10am service



*Bring out your creative and festive spirit as we decorate hundreds (!) of holiday cookies. These cookies will be distributed in the VCUM holiday food baskets that will be provided to those in the SLV/SV area who are in need. The only thing YOU need to do to help us to help VCUM is to SHOW UP! The cookies and decorations will be provided...we just need you. Please join us as we make the holidays a little more special by providing this personal touch to our neighbors' Christmas Baskets.*

## Inviting All Teens and Youth

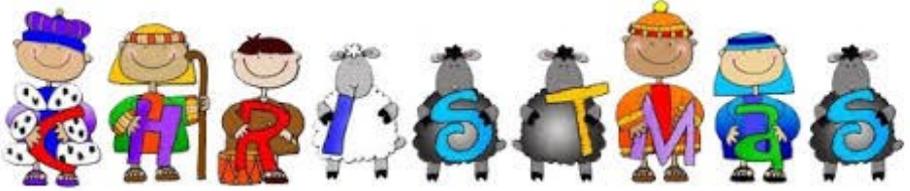


On **Saturday** afternoon, **December 12th**, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. we will be working to clean up Rooms Number 2 and 3 so that our teens and youth can have fun and functional spaces for youth meetings and fun times! If you are a teen or a youth, grades 5th through 12th, please join us to help clean and organize. Call Hayley Kintz with any questions at 828-551-6660.

**Have you ever wanted...**Have you wanted to help define the mission, vision, values & goals of St. Philip's, or to work at forming a caring community that has stability and continuity but embraces change and holds one another accountable, and most of all seeks God's guidance in all things? If this describes you, talk to Pastor Mary or Susan Ortmeier about becoming a vestry (a board of directors) member. **Come and celebrate St. Philip's**

### **Advent Theology Book Group Invitation Wednesdays, 10:30 AM**

During three Wednesdays in December, our group will be discussing "The Good Book" -- i.e., the lectionary readings for the Sundays of Advent (we're in Year C this time). On Wednesday, December 2nd, we will discuss the scripture readings for Sunday, December 6th – and so on, for the following two weeks in December. Come join us, on Dec. 2-9-16, and each time we'll look at the readings for the coming Sunday and have a lively discussion. (We'll be hunting for a good next book to study starting in 2016; suggestions welcomed.)



**The Christmas Pageant is Sun, Dec 13th  
Treats in the Parish Hall following  
5:00-6:15 pm**

So let's get ready! **Rehearsals** for speaking roles will take place during Sunday School time On Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Stage Set up** will be straight after church 11:30 am, during which time the cast will have lunch.

**Dress rehearsal** will be 12:30 - 1:30p.m

All children should arrive no earlier than 4:30pm and no later than 4:50 pm on Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to hear from you as soon as possible if your child will be available and their preference for a speaking or non-speaking role. There are one or two larger, older narrator parts (reading from script) and lots of one or two line parts. I want the children to enjoy their level of participation and feel comfortable and involved, so let me know how they feel about costuming, roles etc.

They **ALL** have something to contribute to the magic and the fun of the evening and I am more concerned that they have a positive experience than that we put on a polished production.

**For older youth I am really looking for helpers with costuming, staging, so please let me know!**

Vicky Granger-Jones, Cell: 831 247 5773,  
Email: [granger-jones@sbcglobal.net](mailto:granger-jones@sbcglobal.net)