

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH

In an effort to connect with our neighbors we began participation in the 'Stockton Stroll'. In November the band Emmanuel played in the parking lot and we welcome folks into the sanctuary to view Pastor Sharon's Cross-stitch display. The children's table was taken outside so children could draw their own art. Several neighbors stopped by resulting in great conversations. It also helps build relationships with the neighborhood businesses. We look forward to further participation in the year ahead.

In December we distributed a flyer to the neighbors we are calling "CONNECT". This will give us an opportunity to share what is going on at 780 Ashbury and invite neighbors to participate in giving opportunities for the greater community as well as joining us for special programs. It is our hope to distribute these monthly. Thanks to Paula Meader for developing the format.

See Mitchell Evan's report on Disaster Preparedness, which provides another opportunity to connect with our neighbors.

Disaster Preparedness Team

Too often we get reminders of Disaster Preparedness. This year we have the tragic earthquake in Haiti to remind us. Each one of us needs a ready supply of fresh water, food, and basic first aid. As we learn in the news, heroic rescue efforts take time to reach the population, so plan on a one week supply.

In case of a regional emergency, being prepared yourself is the single best thing you can do for your community! When you are prepared, you have the chance to be a helper instead of a victim. And when aid does arrive, it will reach those who are less fortunate.

Whenever you hear that "reminder," our Preparedness team is ready to help you get ready. (Or refresh the supplies you already have.) We will help you choose the best way to store water for your own living situation, and will organize group orders of supplies as needed. Call Mitchell at (510) 375-6104 or contact the church office.

This year we will also be refreshing the emergency supplies located at the church. These supplies can be found in the wooden cabinets in the Fellowship Hall, and in an outdoor storage container at the north side of the church.

Respectfully submitted

Mitchell Evan