



claremont presbyterian church

# COMMUNICATOR

February 2021



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## Still waiting...

*You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.” Psalm 91*

When we gathered in Fellowship Hall for our congregation’s annual meeting in early February of 2020, we little dreamed how drastically all of our lives were about to change. News of a strange, new virus devastating communities in a distant province of China was barely on our radar--much less in our minds as something that would impact our own community and the ministries and life of our congregation. Barely a month later, our Session gathered in that same Fellowship Hall and voted to suspend worship and other activities on campus until the Los Angeles County Public Health Department advised that it was safe to do so.

We’re still waiting.

If someone had told us at last year’s annual meeting that we would have to shut down nearly all activities on our campus for a year or more, we could not have imagined how our mission and ministries as a congregation could continue—but they have! We did not so much take a leap of faith as we got pushed off the edge and discovered that God would bear us up.

This year has seen the Holy Spirit unleash boundless creativity and strength among us. We learned that, with God’s help, we had the capacity to do faithful, courageous, and transformative ministry in a world turned upside down. Here are just a few examples:

- We learned to live stream Sunday worship to reach people at home in isolation.
- We are using social media to gather folks daily for Morning and Evening

## Upcoming Worship

(all worship services are accessible through Facebook Live unless otherwise noted)

### February 7, 10:00 AM

Star Words: Pray

Mark 1:29-39

Karen Sapio preaching

*Communion*

### February 14, 10:00 AM

Star Words: Listen

Mark 9:2-9

Karen Sapio preaching

### February 17, 2-4 PM

*Ash Wednesday*

Drive up Imposition of Ashes in

Church parking lot

### February 21, 10:00 AM

Eavesdropping on the Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

Karen Sapio preaching

### February 28, 10:00 AM

Eavesdropping on the Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

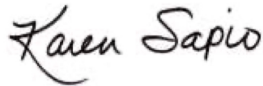
Karen Sapio preaching

Evening Prayer on the Lawn is currently on hiatus until March 20th, the first Saturday in Daylight Savings Time.

Prayer.

- The outdoor Labyrinth installed just weeks before COVID hit, has been a blessing to our whole neighborhood during a time when walking outside is one of our few available activities.
- The Deacons have been tireless in reaching out to those for whom the isolation of lockdowns and quarantines have been especially difficult.
- We've Zoomed our way through Bible Studies, Committee Meetings, Adult Education Forums, Christmas Pageants, and a Parent Support Group.
- We moved the Alternative Christmas Market online and into people's mailboxes and received a record breaking number of generous contributions.
- We re-opened our Childcare Center to provide an essential service to parents working during the pandemic.

Seeing how God's hand guided and sustained us in 2020, we can trust in God to give us wisdom and courage to new visions for ministry and mission in the post pandemic world.



## Adult Ed Winter/Spring

Adult Education has some exciting offerings coming up this Winter and Spring. Even as we gather more information, the Adult Ed Team would like to invite you to the following discussions:

February 15 (maybe 8) at 7 PM on Zoom we will have a Post-Inauguration Discussion focusing on the events of the insurrection and how they shape American politics, the political/party change in Georgia, D.C, and the U.S, religious implications and dimensions of the insurrection, and prospects for the Biden/Harris Administration, including the House and Senate and the "house divided" status of the nation. Zoom meeting ID - 848 2356 4986

There will also be a Lenten Study from February 22-March 22. See the next article for more information.

Following Easter we will have a 3-part series on Extremism (April/May). This series will address both the national and the religious aspects of today's politics. The Adult Ed Team continues exploring a combination of guest facilitators, and encourages certain readings to better prepare. More information to come.

## 2021 Lenten Study

For our Lenten study this year, we will be using the book, "Journeying with Mark" by James Woodward, Paula Gooder, and Mark Pryce

The authors invite the reader to take a closer look into the Gospel of Mark as we journey from Advent through Lent. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on where we have been, where we are, and where we are going in the life of the church. Once again Adult Education and Pastor Karen will provide the option of joining one of two groups, or both. You are encouraged to

find a copy of the book on your e-reader or order it through any large book retailer (a few copies will be available in the church office).

**Study Group One** lead by the Adult Ed. team: 6:30 PM on Mondays. Zoom meeting ID: 897 8223 0155

Feb. 22 - Chs 1-2, Mar. 1 - Chs 3-4, Mar. 8 - Ch 5, Mar. 15 - Ch 6, Mar. 22 - Ch 7

**Study Group Two** lead by Pastor Karen: 4:00 PM on Wednesdays, Zoom meeting ID: 862 1883 9113

Feb. 24 - Chs 1-2, Mar. 3 - Chs 3-4, Mar. 10 - Ch 5, Mar. 17 - Ch 6, Mar. 24 - Ch 7

## Sundays for Children

This Winter and Spring continues with providing spiritual formation for children on Sunday afternoons. Our Toddlers, Early Elementary, and Tweens classes engage our youngest in Bible stories, crafts and activities, prayer, and discussions that help them think about their faith.

It takes so many to make this happen each week, and we are so glad to have such a committed group of volunteers and staff. In the Toddlers class we have Brenda Pintado and Marilu Jimenez; the Tweens is led by Jeanine Robertson and Mark MacKenzie; and our Early Elementary class is taught by our Godly Play teachers and Door Stewards – Shelley Randles, Jenna Brooks, Jenny Eazel, Gabby Rodriguez, Grace Lee, Mark Nelson, and Teri Eazel. All of these classes are supported by our Children’s Intern Raquel Arenas, and our Coordinator Barbara MacKenzie.

Many of these volunteers also planned Staycation Bible School, put together Advent Home Kits, will be putting together the Lenten Home Kits, and have worked on the new Safe Church Policy. Thank you to the many people who provide fun, faithful, and safe programs for our children.

## Crossroads, Inc. Shoe Drive

Claremont Presbyterian Church’s Young Adults are sponsoring a shoe drive for the Crossroads, Inc.’s annual shoe drive. This is a wonderful and easy activity. Crossroads says, “Collected shoes are used to support micro-enterprise vendors in developing nations. Crossroads, Inc. will receive funds based on the number of pairs collected. Clear out your closets and get rid of those shoes you never wear while supporting Crossroads!”

How do I donate? You are encouraged to call the church office from February 1 through March 10 to make plans to drop off your gently worn, used, and/or new shoes. A collection box will be kept in the front office due to limited staffing on the campus. Watch the Claremont Presbyterian Church Facebook and “the Latest” for announcements and donation progress.



## Souper Bowl of Caring

The CPC children and youth are so excited to collect for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser this year January 31 – February 7. Each previous year the children and youth have carried large metal cauldrons around the sanctuary collecting your pocket change; many even offered dollar bills and checks. 100% of these donations is given to the Inland Valley Hope Partners BETA Center. The children and youth are always so excited to be part of something that will help so many others in our community.

The collection will be mostly done online this year. It is *souper* easy...

You can use Paypal and Zelle to donate (just like giving your offering online) – simply indicate in the memo line that it is for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

We will also gladly accept cash and checks submitted by February 7.

Let’s cheer on our children and youth making this the best collection yet!

## Mardi Gras Talent Show

Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, is just around the corner. Let's have some fun as we enter the Lenten season. This year on February 16 at 6:00 PM, we are bringing back the Talent Show and all of you are invited to join in.

Do you have a talent – hidden or known? Record yourself performing your talent and send it in to Pastor Brian or Pastor Karen by February 9. Make sure you captivate your audience in 2-4 minutes. Maybe you play an instrument, tell jokes, or carve soap miniatures, or whistle with your mouth closed, or can hoola hoop with your legs. Or maybe you're a ventriloquist, or a singer, or a painter. Whatever your talent, and would invite your grandmother to see, send it in.

Rather do it live on Zoom, let Pastor Brian or Pastor Karen know what it is and how long it would take you, and we will schedule you in the program.

And if you really want to get in the spirit of things, make a pancake dinner and join us on Zoom, Tuesday, February 16, 6:00 PM. Zoom meeting ID: 833 5017 0281

## Annual Meeting

This year's annual congregational meeting will take place on February 7 at 11:00 AM on Zoom in order to conduct business safely under pandemic conditions. Our agenda will be to hear highlights from the annual reports of various Commissions, review the 2021 Budget approved by Session, and approve terms of call for our Pastor and Associate Pastor.

The Zoom meeting ID is 883 0993 1019. The 2020 annual report and the 2021 Budget, will be available online at [www.claremontpres.org/annual-report](http://www.claremontpres.org/annual-report)



# WINTERFEST 2021

*workshops offered nightly  
FEBRUARY 1 -5*

*plenary speaker: Bruce Reyes Chow  
FEBRUARY 6*

*watch [sangabpres.org/wf](http://sangabpres.org/wf) for more information*

## How to Give when there's no Offering Plate

No offering plate? No organ music? No problem. There are still ways to support your church during this time when we are worshipping online and outdoors. Here's how;

- Check: As long as the US Mail is still delivering, we can receive contributions by checks mailed to our church office.
- Online: You can make an online contribution to Claremont Presbyterian Church by navigating to our website at [claremontpres.org/giving-2](http://claremontpres.org/giving-2). You may also use the following QR code:
- Autopay from your checking account: Your bank should be able to help you set up an electronic payment directly to CPC. You may also make contributions through Zelle if your bank offers this electronic payment service.



## Easter Lily Donations

Easter is April 4 and the Deacons and Congregational Care Coordinator, on behalf of the Pastors and all of CPC, will again be distributing Easter lilies in celebration of the resurrection of Christ our Lord and new hope, to the homebound, ill, bereaved, and those who could benefit from a bit of cheer.

You will have the opportunity to donate an Easter Lily in memory of, in honor of, in celebration of, or in recognition of a loved one, or someone special.

For all donations and dedications received prior to March 15, the donor and dedication will be listed, in full, in the April 2021 Communicator.

Suggested donation per Easter lily is \$25.00. Donations are accepted as early as you would like to submit them. Donations can be made on the CPC website, via PayPal or Zelle, or by a check mailed to the church attention Neila Carey. Please memo: Flower Fund-Easter Lilies.

If you have any questions, you are invited to contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine by phone or via email: [delight@claremontpres.org](mailto:delight@claremontpres.org)

## Ash Wednesday in the Parking Lot: Drive up for Ashes and Lent Packets

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. CPC's creative leaders have been hard at work imagining a way to mark this holy day safely! Our Pastors and other volunteers will be available in the CPC Parking lot from 2-4 PM to give you a small container of ashes to mark your own hand or forehead as they stand nearby to offer a prayer and blessing.

You will also be able to pick up a Lenten packet containing a One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Bank, a Lenten Devotional, and other materials to help you observe a meaningful season of Lent at home. We also hope that we will be able to distribute the new picture directories which are scheduled to arrive by that time.

Ashes and Lent packets are available to anyone who would like one, whether or not they are regular participants at Claremont Presbyterian Church, so let your neighbors and friends know.

## Exploring Centering Prayer: A Lenten Learning Experience

The Contemplative Ministries Team is putting together a special event for Lent: an opportunity to learn about and practice Centering Prayer. Save the date - Sunday, March 14. More details will be available in the March Communicator and on our church website soon.



The Communicator is published monthly by Claremont Presbyterian Church.

Submissions are subject to editing for content and length. To submit an article or item for the monthly calendar, please e-mail Lisa Strom (lisa@claremontpres.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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## Worship With CPC On Line: A Brief Tutorial

There are several simple ways to navigate to our online Sunday Worship services.

### From our Church Website:

1. Go to [claremontpres.org](http://claremontpres.org). The opening screen features an image that says "Worship Online" with a button to click to learn more. If you click this link it will bring up our Link Library, with the top line featuring a hyperlink to our church Facebook Page. The hyperlink looks like this:

### Sunday

10:00 AM - Worship on Facebook

2. Click the word "Facebook" and it will take you to our church's Facebook page. If you do not have a Facebook account, you may see an invitation to set up an account. You can decline this and still view our Facebook page. Shortly before 10 AM on Sundays, our live video feed from the Sanctuary should be the top post.

### From your web browser:

1. Open your browser (Safari, Firefox, Chrome, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge, etc.)
2. In the address bar, type the URL (or web address) "facebook.com/claremontpres" to navigate to Claremont Presbyterian Church's Facebook page. On Sundays, just before 10, our livestream should be the first post you see.

### From Facebook:

If you are already logged on to Facebook, type Claremont Presbyterian Church in the search bar. This will bring up a link to our CPC Facebook page at the top of the list of search results. If you have not already "liked" our church page, we encourage you to do so.

### To find Archived Services from previous weeks:

Go to [www.clarameontpres.org](http://www.clarameontpres.org). At the top of the page, click the Worship and Music tab. This will bring up a drop down menu. From this menu, click "Sermons". This will take you to a page with recorded services from previous weeks.

Many of our services, music, and educational offerings are also viewable on

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 12/31/2020	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$449,781.90	\$470,000.00
Other Income	\$268,980.95	\$108,500.00
Expenses	-\$584,657.67	-\$598,874.11
Variance	\$134,105.18	-\$20,374.11
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 12/31/2020	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue	\$648,719.88	\$909,740.00
Expenses	-\$775,751.61	-\$909,740.00
Variance*	-\$127,031.73	\$0.00

our church YouTube page. Go to YouTube.com and enter “Claremont Presbyterian Church” in the search bar. You’ll see our channel close to the top of the page.

## Flowers for Worship

The January 2021 worship flowers were generously donated as follows:

January 3: Given lovingly by Dorothy Whitham to the Pastors, staff and entire congregation of CPC, to wish all a New Year full of joy, good health and Christ’s hope and peace realized. Flowers were displayed in the Mt San Antonio Gardens Lobby for the New Year.

January 24: Given in honor of and in celebration of Chet and Eileen Jaeger’s 75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, on January 13, 2021! We join the 58 members of the Jaeger family in wishing them CONGRATULATIONS! All 58 members of the family, from all over the world, were scheduled to take a family photo on that day, but due to covid, that will be rescheduled to another time. Flowers were delivered to the Jaegers for their quarantine celebration.

January 31: Given by Mary-Ellis Lacy Adams and her brother, Phil Lacy, in loving memory of their parents, Milo and Mary-Paul Lacy and in memory of their brother, Stewart, whose birthday is January 29. The colors of red and yellow in the arrangement, are in recognition of Stewart’s service in the United States Marine Corps. Flowers were distributed to friends of Milo and Mary-Paul’s.

Please contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine via email: [delight@claremontpres.org](mailto:delight@claremontpres.org) to make arrangements to donate flowers for any worship service in memory, in honor or in celebration of an individual or an event. Delight will collaborate with you on the floral colors, and distribution or delivery of the arrangement.

Thank you for your generosity and contribution to our CPC worship services!

## Please Lift Up Your Prayers

As we share in the grief of our friends and in the celebration of the life of our loved ones and friends, who have entered the space reserved for them with Christ, we lift up our prayers for: the family of Suzanne and Kay Brown, for the passing of their son, Jay, on January 6; Roger Shervington and family for the passing of his brother, Bruce, on January 3; Lisa and David Frazier, for the passing of their only child, Sean Frazier, on January 1; the Thompson family: Marion and her three sons, in the passing of her husband, and their father, Arnie Thompson on Christmas Day, De-

ember 25; the Kohnen family on the death of Will’s father, Heinrick on December 20; the family of Susie Cave, for the passing of Bob Cave on December 18; the family of Phoebe DeVille, for her niece, who passed away from Covid; the family of Rev. Richard (Dick) Hettish, who passed away on Friday, November 27; the family of Jeanne Master, whose son-in-law, Bob DeJournett, passed away on Monday, November 30; the family of Charles Kerchner, whose beloved wife, and CPC Deacon, Leanne Kerchner, passed away on Friday, November 27; the family of Frank DeLeo, whose beloved wife, Phyllis Joy DeLeo, passed away on Thanksgiving eve, November 26; the family of Joy Beanland who passed away on November 25; and the family of Octavio Guerrero, whose father passed away.

We offer praise, and gratitude to the Lord, for successful surgeries, and continued healing for: Catherine Taylor’s mother-in-law, Kay; Ron Perry; Trish Perry; Frank Pinkerton; John Watts; Gennie Ransom; Chikondi Tamaona.

As we lift up those for whom we ask for healing, for strength, for courage, for the grace, peace, and comfort of the Holy Spirit, we pray for: Zoila Garcia and her husband, Osvaldo (retired pastor of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church), who is in hospital with COVID related pneumonia; Pastor Karen’s mother, Barbara Sapio, for continued recovery from a positive test for covid; Chet and Eileen Jaeger, as he recovers from a fall; Bob and Joan Kelly; Bill Wellwood, a Claremont resident who is a professional Clarinetist, colleague and friend of Linda Silva-for continued recovery from surgery for cancer of the salivary gland; Nancy Rice; Cloyce Morrow, for upcoming breast cancer post-surgery treatment; Chinny Agwu as she receives treatment for relief from chronic knee and hip pain; Carolyn Whitham; the family of Barb MacKenzie for Barb’s mother who is continuing treatment; Jean Perry, Lenore Brashler, Jim Brashler, Chris Hartmire, Thom Bleakney, Ruth Auld, Phoebe DeVille, Jane Glenn, Jean Underwood, Chet & Eileen Jaeger, Lee & Claire McDonald, Mike Layne, Barbara Myers, Mary & Ed Hughes, Sandra Deibel and John Najarian.

Should you or anyone in your family, or anyone of whom you know be in need of prayer and you have their permission to share their name, please send your requests via email to Delight Slotemaker de Bruine at [delight@claremontpres.org](mailto:delight@claremontpres.org). You may indicate that you wish only the name listed or you may wish to include details. Details are shared only as per your direction, otherwise then they will be shared confidentially at the weekly staff meeting.



# COMMUNICATOR

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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CLAREMONT, CA 91711

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Deadline for March *Communicator* - February 15

### Weekly Online Events

#### Sunday

- 10:00 AM - Worship (Facebook)
- 10:45 AM - Coffee Hour (Zoom)
- 12:00 PM - Toddler Sunday School (Zoom)
- 12:00 PM - Early Elementary Sunday School (Zoom)
- 1:00 PM - Tweens Sunday School (Zoom)

#### Wednesday

- 4:00 PM - Bible Study (Zoom)

#### Thursday

- 5:00 PM - Community Yoga (Zoom)
- 6:30 PM - Anti-Racist Group (Zoom)

#### Friday

- 8:00 AM - Morning Meditation (Online Meditation Chapel)

#### Daily (except during Sunday Worship)

- 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer (Facebook)
- 11:30 AM - Quarantine Interlude (Facebook)
- 5:00 PM - Evening Prayer, Sun-Fri (Facebook)

For links to all these events, visit [claremontpres.org/weekly-schedule](http://claremontpres.org/weekly-schedule)



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