



claremont presbyterian church

COMMUNICATOR

March 2023



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Jazz Vespers Returns

Our evening Jazz Vespers services are returning on Sunday March 12 at 6 PM! After a long pandemic interruption, we will once again gather for a time of evening prayer and wonderful music by the Ron Kobayashi Trio with vocalist Deb Ebert. Our Jazz Vespers services are for the whole community and combine beautiful sounds with sacred space, sacred readings, and a time for heartfelt prayers. We hope to offer Jazz Vespers every other month on the second Sunday.

Holy Week and Easter 2023

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday worship with Palm Procession and Chancel Drama

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday worship with Communion

Friday, April 7

10 AM - 12 PM Good Friday Labyrinth Walk

2 PM Community Good Friday service at Good Shepherd Lutheran

Sunday, April 9

8 AM Easter Sunrise Worship on the lawn
with Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

10 AM Easter Worship in the Sanctuary
featuring John Rutter's Gloria

Upcoming Worship

Sunday worship services are in-person and accessible through Facebook Live (facebook.com/claremontpres) or YouTube (search Claremont Presbyterian Church).

Sunday, March 5, 10:00 AM

Second Sunday of Lent
Communion Sunday
Matthew 7: 1-14
Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, March 12, 10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Lent
Matthew 7:15-23
Karen Sapio preaching

Wednesday, March 15, 5:30 PM

The Village Dinner Church

Sunday, March 19, 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Lent
Matthew 7:24-29
Brian Gaeta-Symonds preaching

Sunday, March 26, 10:00 AM

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Waffle Church
Ruth Santana-Grace preaching

PCUSA Moderator Ruth Santana-Grace to visit Sunday, March 26

PCUSA Co-Moderator Ruth Santana-Grace will be our guest preacher on Sunday, March 26th. Ruth and her family were active participants in the life of our congregation from 2006-2014 when Ruth was Executive Presbyterian of San Gabriel Presbytery. Following worship, we will gather for a light lunch in the Fellowship Hall for those who would like more time for conversation with her.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at work in Syria and Turkey

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support in the aftermath of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks in Syria and Turkey. PDA's emergency response and specialization in long-term recovery is fueled by your generous gifts. Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/give-STearthquake, by phone at 800-872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (USA) with "DR999999 - ST earthquake" written on the memo line and mailed to Presbyterian Church (USA), PO Box 643700, Pittsburg, PA 15264-3700.

Nominating Committee at Work

Nominating Committee at Work The Church Nominating Committee is at work with a goal of presenting a slate of new officers, (Elders and Deacons), for class of 2025 at a Congregational Meeting on April 23. How can you help? 1. Contact one of our pastors if you have someone you would like to recommend, (including yourself!) 2. Be open to a conversation if a member of our Nominating Committee reaches out to you to discuss the possibility of serving. 3. Pray for our Nominating Committee and for our church that the Holy Spirit will lift up the leaders we need at this juncture in our life together.

Labyrinth Meditation for March

Rev. Dr. Tina Blair

Here is a guide for walking the Labyrinth this month. These are simply suggestions; your own thoughts and words will be guided by the Holy Spirit and may turn in different directions.

Spring is breaking forth around us in all its beauty.

As we begin, we take a deep breath, breathing in the smells around us, listening to all the noises of birds and wind and cars, grounding ourselves in this moment.

As we move toward the center, let's pray the (adapted) Navajo Beauty Chant. With each repetition, we can think about the beauty around us and of this spring and of this planet:

"In beauty I walk:

Beauty before me, beauty behind me;

Beauty above me, beauty below me;

Beauty beside me,

Beauty within me."

Let's repeat this chant until we get to the center.

In the center, we offer our prayers of gratitude to Christ, Giver of Life.

Remembering that Jesus Christ promised to always be with us, we pray this Celtic prayer as we wind our way out, picturing Christ with us:

"Christ before me, Christ behind me;

Christ above me, Christ below me;

Christ beside me, Christ to hold me;

Christ within me; Christ within me."

At the end, we take a deep breath, asking Christ to be our guide this day forward.

Some of us like to repeat, and walk the labyrinth again, as second time and more.

Wednesday Lenten Study

Our Lenten study continues on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM and will make use of our Lent Devotional Book, *When Did We See You?* Copies can be downloaded from claremontpres.org. The Zoom meeting ID is 862 1883 9113.

Adult Ed – Lenten Study

This February and March we welcome back Lisa Strom to facilitate our Lenten study and to lead us in spiritual practice. Some may have missed this study the last round a couple of years ago, and others may want to dive into it a second time to gain something new. Here is what Lisa has to share about this study:

"The first time wine and a vineyard is mentioned in the Bible is Genesis. Vines have been tended and wine has been drunk as long as Judeo/Christians have been recording history.

As I read the Bible and learn about what goes into making wine, I have seen how many amazing nuances and depths to the proverbs, parables, and tales about wine and the vine can be hidden to those who are less familiar with the world of viticulture (grape cultivating) and oenology (the science of winemaking).

The Bible is so rich in this imagery, but sometimes the depth of the story is lost in translation, the passing of time, or the lack of context. I hope to root some of these stories in context then pull back the canopy and reveal the fruit underneath."

During our bible study, we will:

- Learn wine history, vine cultivation, and wine making information that will give deeper understanding to many passages about wine and vineyard practices that we encounter in the Bible,
- Have opportunities to meditate on this learning with a few contemplative practices, and
- Reflect on each passage in the context of our own lives and look for what God might be saying to us through these scriptures.

This Lenten study begins with a soup supper February 27 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. It will continue each Monday evening at 7:00 PM in the Library and on Zoom (Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27). Zoom Meeting ID: 896 2471 1195

It will then conclude with a Wine and Cheese Tasting in late April (Date TBD)

Also, look out for a quarterly series from Adult Ed (4 Sunday mornings in 2023).



First Tuesday Coffee and Conversation

At 9:30 AM on March 7, grab a cup of coffee to go from your favorite Claremont Village coffee shop and join friends in Laemmle Square for a time of conversation and building friendships. This is a great chance to get better acquainted with members of our community. Questions? Call the church office at 909-624-9693.

The CPC Village Dinner Church – 1 Year Anniversary!

I can't believe it's been a year already since the launch of this new worship experience. A Lead Team of nine people came together to realize a vision for an experience that lifts up the gifts of the community wrapped in worship...all around a dinner table.

Over the course of a year those nine were joined by 35-45 people each month, including nearly a dozen new families, more than 15 children under the age of 12 years old, and invited over 6 community leaders to reflect on their work of passion in Claremont followed with engaging questions that were explored around the table. And the meals were mostly catered by Zaky's Mediterranean Grill, a local restaurant.

Generous grants and donors made it possible to build a budget for the first year. Now the Lead Team is taking a leap of faith into year two as they are discerning ways to sustain the cost of this missional endeavor. If you would like to give to support the Village Dinner Church, you can send a check to the church office, or you can give online at www.claremontpres.org/giving-2

Join us for The Village, March 15, 5:30 - 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Winter Camp in Big Bear

On March 17-19 at Big Bear Christian Camp & Conference Center, our Jr. and Sr. Highers are invited to join other campers from all over Southern California in Big Bear for the annual March Madness youth camp. Come build new friendships, learn about Christ in a fun way, eat some delicious camp food, and just let loose for a weekend. Some personal testimonies include friendships that

last beyond the weekend, food that is now expected each time at camp, and deepening their faith in ways they didn't think they could. Talk to Pastor Brian for more information. Cost: \$145.00 (Scholarship available – See Pastor Brian)

Newcomers Luncheon

New to Claremont Presbyterian Church (CPC)? Or maybe you're interested in learning more about CPC and how you can become more involved in the life of this community of faith. On March 5 at 11:15 AM in Room 7, the Evangelism & Nurture Commission will be hosting a light luncheon and casual conversation for anyone desiring to hear more from members of this congregation. If you would like to attend, please let Pastor Brian know.

January 25 Session Highlights

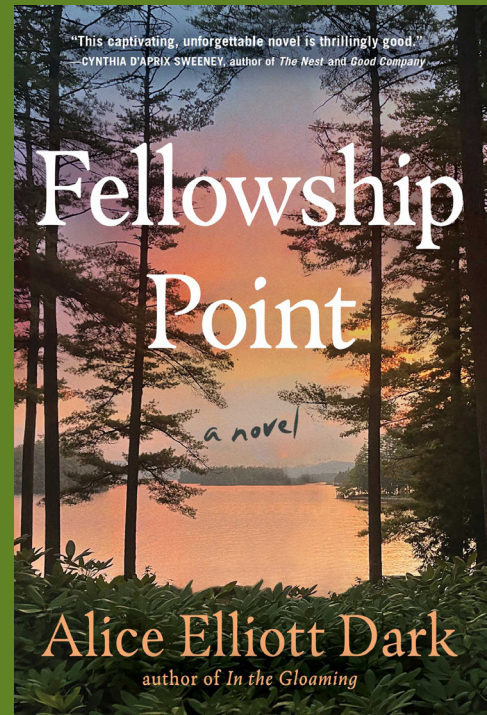
- Pastors and Elders highlighted the varied and meaningful worship services and programs over the Christmas and New Year holidays
- Grieved the passing of Ed Hughes, Jean Underwood, Rev. Chris Hartmire and Ted Alexander
- Reflected on the past year and where we have felt a state of blessedness and fulfilling God's purpose within our church. Among those shared were: Children's Christmas pageant, weekly worship, moments of connection with children or community, the Pandemic Requiem and saying "Yes" to new initiatives.
- Approved the 2023 budgets for CPC and CPCC
- Adopted the Personnel Handbook, Revised January, 2023

Book Review and Dessert Tea

Saturday, March 25, 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Fellowship Hall

- Suggested donation for Tea: \$10 (proceeds benefit Claremont After School Program - CLASP).
- Reservations not required.
- Book Exchange (bring a book, take a book).
- Opportunity Drawings for “Bibliophile Totes” with reader delights.

Contact: Elaine Walker (ewconnects@gmail.com) for more information.



Waffle Church

This exciting family friendly abbreviated worship experience, followed by a real waffle breakfast with all the toppings awaits you and your family and friends. On Sunday, March 26 during worship, our children are invited to gather up front in the Fellowship Hall on blankets and with pillows to participate in prayer, listen to a story from scripture, and hear a captivating message. Heather Chapman and our youth will help lead all those gathered in worship. And then take some time to eat and share in conversation with friends.

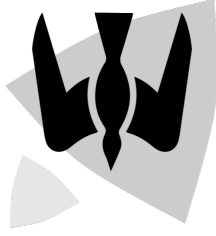
Easter Lily Donations

Your Easter lily donations will decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday April 9. The Deacons, volunteers, and Congregational Care Coordinator will be distributing Easter lilies to the homebound, isolated, ill, bereaved, or to those who could benefit from a bit of cheer.

You have the opportunity to donate an Easter lily in memory of or in honor of someone special, or in celebration of a special event. In order to have your dedication listed in the Easter Sunday worship bulletin, please submit your donation by Wednesday March 29. Suggested donation per Easter lily is \$25.00.

Donations and dedications may be submitted as follows: If you'd like to pay with PayPal or Zelle, go to www.claremontpres.org/lilies and fill out the form and make your donation. If you would like to pay with check or cash, fill out the enclosed form and mail to or drop off at the church office, attention Neila Carey. For all donation submissions, please memo: "Flower Fund-Easter Lilies."

Should you have any questions, please contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine.



The Communicator is published monthly by Claremont Presbyterian Church. Submissions are subject to editing for content and length. To submit an article please e-mail Lisa Strom (lisa@claremontpres.org) by the 15th of the month.

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Red Wheelbarrow Collection Sunday

The red wheelbarrow is back! We are filling it with essential items that will be delivered by volunteers to the Inland Valley Hope Partners Food Bank. Each of us is invited to drop non-perishable food items on Sunday, or at any time during the week. In 2023, we are focusing on four specific Sundays to sponsor the Deacons' initiative to fill the Red Wheelbarrow to overflowing!! Our next Red Wheelbarrow Sunday is March 5.

Ways to Give

- Place offerings in offering box in narthex after worship.
- Check: We can receive contributions by checks mailed or dropped off at our church office.
- Online: You can make an online contribution to Claremont Presbyterian Church by navigating to our website at claremontpres.org/giving-2. or by scanning the QR code to the right.
- Autopay from your checking account: Your bank should be able to help you set up an electronic payment directly to CPC.
- Transfer money through your bank or the Zelle app. Send your money to: giving@claremontpres.org.



Flowers for Worship

We are grateful for the thoughtful offerings of worship flowers that adorn our worship space.

January 29: given in loving memory by the family of Ted Alexander, beloved husband of Joyce Alexander.

February 5: Altar: given by Dorothy Whitham in memory of her beloved husband, Rick Whitham, on the 8th year anniversary of his passing.

Narthex: provided by the Ross family in loving memory of Ray and Margie Ross.

February 12: Altar: given by Ronald, Trish, and Jean Perry, in loving

| CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 01/31/2023 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Pledges | \$73,069.40 | \$40,417.00 |
| Other Income | \$8,685.91 | \$9,943.00 |
| Expenses | -\$53,731.29 | -\$61,929.12 |
| Variance | \$28,024.02 | -\$11,569.12 |
| CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 01/31/2023 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
| Revenue | \$91,339.13 | \$92,505.00 |
| Expenses | -\$83,836.14 | -\$93,576.25 |
| Variance | \$7,502.99 | \$1,071.25 |

memory of Lynel L. Perry, husband, father and grandfather, on the anniversary of his passing on February 10. The flowers are also given in loving memory of Joe Nelson, husband of Trish's daughter, Melissa, and father to Gerrod and to Darren.

Narthex: given by Teresa and Eric Bernal in loving memory of Marilou Amores, sister of Teresa Bernal, for her birthday on February 25.

February 19: Altar: given by Pastor Karen Sapio and Tony Becker in memory of Karen's father, Victor Sapio, on his birthday, February 22.

Narthex: given by the family of Marianne Rawlings, mother of Nicole Minner, Denise Rawlings-Shinn, and Roxanne Douglass.

February 26: Given for all to enjoy, in thankfulness for blue skies, sunshine, and rain that sustains life. The flowers are also given in memory of the victims and survivors of the Turkey and Syria devastating earthquake.

Should you wish to donate an altar or Narthex arrangement, in honor of, in memory of, or in celebration of a loved one or special event, please contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine.

Please Lift Up Your Prayers

In gratitude for: so many gifts, large and small, evidence of God with us all around today; this Lenten season, in which we may opt to follow the contemplative path of pursuing and seeking a deeper relationship with Christ.

For those who have died and for their families: Ron Apperson, family friend of Jean Perry, who died on February 9; Arden Alger, husband of Nancy Minte, Director of Uncomoon Good; Marianne Rawlings, mother of Roxanne Douglass; Joe Nelson, husband of Trish Perry's daughter, Melissa, and father to Jarrod and to Darren Neufeld-Nelson; Ted Alexander; Barb McKenzie's Uncle Chuck; Kasita Smith, beloved CPCC staff member and her family.

For those who are faced with health challenges: Tina Blair recovering from hip replacement surgery, Peter Campbell for knee repair surgery; Phoebe Deville, at home with pneumonia; Herb Christian, at Magnolia Grove; Bill Brinegar; Pam House navigating long Covid; Mary-Anne Blaine, Carlynn Christian, Marianne Hilmann, and other residents at MSAG Oak Lodge enduring Covid; Linda Hamilton being treated for lymphoma; for Marcia Reich's niece, Wendy, undergoing breast-cancer chemotherapy; Patrica Yu, Catherine Lin's mother; Joan Kelly's sister and Donna Kelly's aunt, who suffered a stroke; Corinne Tolles, Delight's cousin beginning chemotherapy, and continuing dialysis; Teresa's Bernal's brother, Chito Amores.

For those for whom we wish the continued healing grace, peace, and comfort of the Holy Spirit: Delores Morgan; Dennis and Phoebe Frankeberger; Wadie and Rita Alkhouri.

For living transitions: Pastor Brian's parents, Bonnie and Dennis Symonds; Joyce Alexander; Kevin and Ken Kessler.

For the strength, grace, and peace of the Holy Spirit for those of us who may find ourselves in sensitive family situations: Greg Stout and his sister, Margie Stout Ludwig; pastor Brian's aunt; Pastor Brian and family; the Agwu family.

For those whom we remember on an ongoing basis: Mike Layne; Larry Robertson; Frank Pinkerton; Cloyce Morrow; Ron and Trish Perry; Jean Perry; Gennie Ransom; Sue Likens, Peggy Nall; John Najarian; Roger Shervington; Carrie Willette, Jan Willette's daughter; Barbara Patch; Phoebe DeVille; Doris Craig and Mae (Becky) Beck and her nieces; Suzanne and Kay Brown; Tom Bleakney; Eileen Jaeger; Carolyn Kingshill; Claire McDonald; Barbara Myers; Doris Chambers; MaryAnne Blaine; Marianne Hillman; Sandra Deibel; Carolyn Whitham; Marion Thompson; Jean Cochran.

We also lift up all of those who remain unnamed here, but whose names and concerns are engraved upon our hearts.

Please contact delight@claremontpres.org for any prayer requests. Details will be shared only as you give permission. Otherwise, the CPC Staff and Deacons will lift up your confidential prayer requests.



COMMUNICATOR

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CLAREMONT, CA 91711

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Deadline for April *Communicator* - March 15

Weekly Online Events

Monday - Thursday, Saturday

8:00 AM - Morning Prayer (Facebook)

Sunday - Friday

5:00 PM - Evening Prayer (Facebook)

Sunday

10:00 AM - Worship (Facebook)

Wednesday

11:30 AM - Mid-Week Mini Concert (Facebook)

4:00 PM - Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday

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

See All That's Happening... For the most up-to-date calendar of events, go to www.claremontpres.org/calendar.



claremontpres.org



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