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From the Pastor

It's hard to believe that it has been twenty years since we were anticipating the start of a whole new millennium and anxiously waiting to see if the dire predictions of Y2K doom and disaster would actually come to pass. But here it is... January of 2020.

2020 is a phrase often associated with good vision and clear sight. Sometimes, we see clearly unaided. Often, though, we need a special lens to enable us to see what we need to see and understand what we need to understand. We need the lens of a telescope to see the heavens in detail. We need a microscope to see life at the cellular level. When we go to a 3D movie, we have to wear special lenses in order to view the film properly. Sometimes our own vision gets distorted and we need corrective lenses to find our way again.

In the Christian tradition, we often say that scripture is a kind of lens. When we look at the world through the witness of scripture, we see things in a different way. Jesus lifted up love for God and love for neighbor as the primary lenses through which we should view the world. During the coming year, our Sunday worship and sermons will seek to help us see the world through the lenses of various biblical people and situations. In this season between Christmas and Lent, we will look through the lens of the Ten Commandments and see if we can see what Moses saw as he stood on Sinai. Come join the journey!

Karen Sapio

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, January 5, 10:00 AM

What Moses Saw: No Other Gods

Exodus 20:1-20

Matthew 22:34-37

Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, January 12, 10:00 AM

What Moses Saw: The Name of God

Deuteronomy 5:1-21

Matthew 7:21-23

Brian Gaeta Symonds preaching

Sunday, January 12, 7:00 PM

Evening Prayer for Healing and Wholeness (Chapel)

Sunday, January 19, 10:00 AM

What Moses Saw: Remember Sabbath

Deuteronomy Exodus 20:8-11

Mark 2:23-28

Karen Sapio preaching

Waffle Church (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, January 26, 10:00 AM

What Moses Saw: Honor The Life-Givers

Exodus 20:12

Luke 9:57-62

Karen Sapio preaching

Election 2020

How do I talk with people I love whose politics I hate?

How do I talk with my relatives the Trump supporters?

How do I talk with my friends who are liberals.

(Hint: it's not about convincing them that you are right.)

A workshop with Frank Rogers, Claremont School of Theology

Professor Rogers is co-director of the Center for Engaged Compassion, author of *Compassion in Practice*, and a spiritual director.

Learn: (three bullet points)

- get through family gatherings, Easter Dinner.
- how to build relationships that transcend ideology.
- how social change starts with compassion and understanding, not confrontation.

Saturday, February 29

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Claremont Presbyterian Church

1111 N. Mountain Ave.

Registration is required, and space is limited. (There is no fee for this workshop. A freewill offering will help support this and similar events.)

Reserve your place at Everbrite or by calling the Claremont Presbyterian Church Office, (909) 624-9693.

January Adult Education

January 5 - The Other Americans - Book Discussion as it relates to racism and race relations here in our own backyard in Southern California

January 12 - Unpacking Our Terminology - Whiteness is not an identifier

January 19 - Our Intentions and Our Impact - White Privilege & White Supremacy as a Result

January 26 - Speaking Up - What We Do and Don't Do, And How It Matters

Save the Date - PW Book Review

The 20th annual Book Review, sponsored by Claremont Presbyterian Women, will be held Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall.

“**Where the Crawdads Sing**,” the widely read book by Delia Owens, is the featured selection. Leanne Kerchner and Elaine Walker will introduce the author and explore themes. The afternoon tea and review will include opportunity drawings and a book exchange.

A donation of \$10 per person is suggested, and proceeds will benefit a community organization. Pat Beswick will accept RSVPs (909) 626-6624 and donations, beginning now. Tables of eight can be reserved. Watch for more information leading up to the event.

Alternative Christmas Market a big success

On November 24, CPC held its annual Alternative Christmas Market (ACM). We said good-bye and thank you to Bill and Kim Brinegar. Bill has organized the ACM for 12 years and Kim joined him in coordinating the ACM for the last 8 years. This is not the only leadership roles the Brinegars have taken on at CPC as they have participated as an Elder and Deacon, been a member in choir, and there are many other services we could list. The Mission Commission wishes to highlight their responsibility for producing our Alternative Christmas Market and the many ministries that have been supported because of the ACM.

This year the ACM tables included: African Team Ministries; Angel Interfaith Network; Church World Service; CLASP; CPCCC; CPC Mission Commission; CPC Special Projects; Clinebell Institute; Deacons' Adopt A Family; Crossroads; Foothill Aids Project; Habitat for Humanity; Heifer International ; House of Ruth; IVHP; Living Waters; Meals On Wheels; Medical Benevolence Foundation; NEST; Pilgrim Place; Prison Library Project; Refugee Concerns Team; and Uncommon Good.

Bill Brinegar reported after the ACM "The preliminary count for donations to the 2019 Alternative Christmas Market is \$7861.00. This is \$1,700.00 (29%) more than the amount donated last year and \$906 (13%) more than the previous high year (in 2013). The congregation has again demonstrated its **generosity and care and concern for "...the least of these."** In the eight years that Kim and I have co-chaired the event, the congregation has donated **\$50,283.00 to the Church's mission partners.** Blessings abound, we are deeply grateful for your **and the congregation's support."**

The CPC Mission Commission (MIC) would like to thank the Brinegars for their dedicated leadership in producing the ACM for us, and we would like to thank the CPC congregation for your generous giving that encourages these ministries to continue to participate in our ACM.



Labyrinth Installation

In late December, CPC completed the latest addition to the campus: a permanent labyrinth for walking, meditation and prayer.

The 24-foot-diameter labyrinth is located on the north side of the sanctuary between the building and Santa Clara Avenue. It was constructed of river rocks and decomposed granite (crushed stone) to match the natural landscaping on the north side of our campus.

The labyrinth is the latest contemplative ministry outreach effort by CPC and is intended to benefit the congregation and the community by offering a peaceful space for contemplation, prayer, meditation and mindfulness practice.

A labyrinth is not a maze, but rather a single, serpentine path from the outside of a circle to its center. Participants walk the labyrinth path to the center and follow the same path out.

Labyrinths are ancient symbols dating back millennia. They were incorporated into the floors of the great gothic pilgrimage cathedrals in Europe; one of the most famous examples was built around 1200 in the nave floor of the Chartres Cathedral outside of Paris.

The permanent labyrinth is an outgrowth of CPC's work with the symbols during the past few years including a labyrinth conference and use of a canvas "pop-up" labyrinth for temporary installations around Claremont.

Conceived by CPC's Contemplative Ministry Committee, plans for the project were reviewed and approved this fall by CPC's Property and Finance Commission and the Session. The labyrinth was installed with funds from the Nancy Arce bequest.

The labyrinth will be celebrated with a brief ceremony following worship on Epiphany – Sunday, January 5, and a longer celebration on Ash Wednesday on February 26.

Monthly Parents' Group

A group for parents will meet once a month for discussion and conversation around the topic of parenting young adults aged 18-30. Parenting is difficult and fun and as our children transition into their young adult years we begin to wonder how they will fare. We ask ourselves all sorts of questions second-guessing our child raising techniques while balancing our hopes and desires for their prosperity.

The group will be facilitated by a clinical and licensed therapist. Find us in the Chapel beginning at 6:00 PM on January 9 for a dedicated 90 minutes.

Coming in February

All-Church Work Day - Saturday, February 8. Please come help spruce up our church campus from 8:30 - 11:30 AM. See you there!

Waffle Church

Waffle church is designed to respect and celebrate the enthusiasm and energy of children in worship, and it includes a lot of movement and child-centered activities – and of course waffles! Join us in Fellowship Hall on January 19 at 10:00 AM

Thursday Morning Meditation

We gather in the chapel at 7 AM to greet the day by keeping silence together for 25 minutes. The first Thursday of each month begins with a very brief introduction to the practice of meditation. We often break the silence by departing for conversation at a nearby coffee shop.

Evening Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

On the second Sunday of each month, we gather in the chapel for prayers at close of day that include prayers for healing--of loved ones, of **those on our congregation's prayer list**, of situations in the world that are heavy on our hearts. These gatherings often include music and readings from scripture, poetry, or spiritual texts. Join us January 12 at 7:00 PM.

Refugee Concerns Team Chili Supper

The Refugee Concerns team invites everyone to a chili supper on January 25 from 5:00-6:00 PM. Join us in Fellowship Hall to hear the stories of refugees and asylum seekers in our community and allies who support them.

Donations gladly accepted to support this important work.

Clean Water Project

On Friday, December 13, several members of CPC along with Pastor Karen travelled to Tijuana, MX. They delivered the components for a new clean water system to Colegio Didaque, a school for special needs students. The system will be installed by a team from CPC and First Presbyterian Church, San Bernardino, in early 2020.





Flowers for Sunday Worship

A wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one or to mark an important milestone birthday or anniversary is to donate a floral arrangement for the chancel for Sunday worship.

To make arrangements to dedicate Flowers for the Sanctuary:

1. Locate the Flower Calendar in the narthex and select an available date.
2. Fill out a "Flower Arrangement Form" available on the same bulletin board.
3. Put the completed form in the offering plate or deliver to church office.
4. You will receive an invoice for the cost of the flowers after they have been ordered.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office: 909-624-9693

The *Communicator* is published monthly (except in summer) by Claremont Presbyterian Church. Submissions are subject to editing for content and length. To submit an article or item for the monthly calendar, please contact the church office by the 15th of the month by telephone at (909) 624-9693 or email: lisa@claremontpres.org.

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Next Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of the congregation will take place following worship on Sunday, February 2. At this meeting we will celebrate CPC's ministry during 2019, hear about plans for the coming year, and receive a report from Session regarding the 2020 budget. We will also approve the 2020 Terms of Call for our pastors. Copies of the 2019 Annual Report will be available on the church website, www.claremontpres.org

CPC by the Numbers

| CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 11/30/19 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Pledges | \$406,886.00 | \$430,833.00 |
| Other Income | \$74,108.00 | \$101,475.00 |
| Expenses | <u>-\$536,715.00</u> | <u>-\$550,955.00</u> |
| VARIANCE | -\$55,721.00 | -\$18,647.00 |
| CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 11/30/19 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
| Revenue | \$796,765.00 | \$738,742.00 |
| Expenses | <u>-\$766,180.00</u> | <u>-\$738,914.00</u> |
| VARIANCE | \$30,585.00 | -\$172.00 |
| Christmas Stockings made for Our House | | 31 |

January 2020

Thursday, January 2, 2020

7:00am Morning Meditation, Chapel
 8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am CPCC Chapel
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH
 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir, MB

Friday, January 3, 2020

8:00am Coffee & Donuts, CPCC
 9:00am Children's Center Yoga, Rm.7

Sunday, January 5, 2020

9:00am Adult Education, Rm. 1
 10:00am Worship
 6:00pm College-age Gathering, Rm.4

Monday, January 6, 2020

7:00pm Firm Believers, FH

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am Music & Movement, Rm. 7
 4:30pm Community Yoga

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

10:00am Staff Meeting, Lib
 11:00am Petite Feet, Rm. 7
 1:00pm Lemonade Wednesdays
 7:00pm Property & Finance, Library

Thursday, January 9, 2020

7:00am Morning Meditation, Chapel
 8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am CPCC Chapel
 1:30pm PCU Mtg, Rm. 7
 6:00pm **Parents' Group, Chapel**
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH
 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir, MB

Friday, January 10, 2020

8:00am Coffee & Donuts, CPCC
 9:00am Children's Center Yoga, Rm.7

Sunday, January 12, 2020

9:00am Adult Education, Rm. 1
 10:00am Worship
 6:00pm College-age Gathering, Rm.4
 7:00pm Healing & Wholeness, Chapel

Monday, January 13, 2020

7:00pm Firm Believers, FH

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am Music & Movement, Rm. 7
 9:30am PW Bible Study, Rm. 1
 4:30pm Community Yoga
 5:00pm CPCC Comm, Lib

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

10:00am Staff Meeting, Lib
 11:00am Petite Feet, Rm. 7
 1:00pm Lemonade Wednesdays
 7:00pm P & F Mtg Library

Thursday, January 16, 2020

7:00am Morning Meditation, Chapel
 8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am CPCC Chapel
 4:30pm CPCC Pizza for Parents
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH
 7:00pm Mission Comm, Lib
 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir, MB

Friday, January 17, 2020

8:00am Coffee & Donuts, CPCC
 9:00am Children's Center Yoga, Rm.7

Sunday, January 19, 2020

9:00am Adult Education, Rm. 1
 10:00am Waffle Church FH
 10:00am Worship
 6:00pm College-age Gathering, Rm.4

Monday, January 20, 2020

OFFICE CLOSED
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am Music & Movement, Rm. 7
 4:30pm Community Yoga
 7:00pm Evangelism & Nurture

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

10:00am Staff Meeting, Lib
 11:00am Petite Feet, Rm. 7
 1:00pm Lemonade Wednesdays
 7:00pm CPC Session, Rm. 1

Thursday, January 23, 2020

7:00am Morning Meditation, Chapel
 8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am CPCC Chapel
 5:00pm CPCC Parent Group Rm.7
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH
 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir, MB

Friday, January 24, 2020

8:00am Coffee & Donuts, CPCC
 9:00am Children's Center Yoga, Rm.7

Sunday, January 26, 2020

9:00am Adult Education, Rm. 1
 10:00am Worship
 11:30am Education & Leadership Rm.7
 6:00pm College-age Gathering, Rm.4

Monday, January 27, 2020

7:00pm Firm Believers, FH

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am Music & Movement, Rm. 7
 4:30pm Community Yoga
 7:00pm Deacon Board, Library

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

10:00am Staff Meeting, Lib
 11:00am Petite Feet, Rm. 7
 1:00pm Lemonade Wednesdays

Thursday, January 30, 2020

7:00am Morning Meditation, Chapel
 8:00am Firm Believers, FH
 9:00am CPCC Chapel
 7:00pm Firm Believers, FH
 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir, MB

Friday, January 31, 2020

8:00am Coffee & Donuts, CPCC
 9:00am Children's Center Yoga, Rm.7

COMMUNICATOR



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Deadline for the February *Communicator*: January 15

Prayer Chain

If you (or a loved one) are in need of prayer, the Prayer Chain of the Presbyterian Women is there for you. You may call Joyce Alexander at (909) 621-0493 with your prayer request. Please be sure you have the permission of the person for whom you are requesting prayer.

The Latest

Claremont Presbyterian Church sends out a weekly email update for last minute news and announcements. The email is called “The Latest.” You can sign up to receive “The Latest” several different ways.

One way is to go to the church website at www.claremontpres.org and look in the bottom left corner of the home page. Forms to sign up appear on other pages of the website but usually on the bottom right.

The church Facebook page has an Email Signup App. You may also contact Lisa Strom, lisa@claremontpres.org and tell her you would like to subscribe.



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