



COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

April 2014



Worship Plans

Sunday, April 6 10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

John 11:1-45

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, April 13 10:00 a.m.

Passion/Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11

Procession with Palms

The Rev. Rocky Supinger preaching

Thursday, April 17 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

Worship with

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church and

GPIB Indonesian Fellowship

Friday, April 18 2:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Community Worship Service at
Claremont United Church of Christ

Easter Sunday April 20

One Great Hour of Sharing
offering received

8:30 a.m. Worship led by the Rev. Rocky
Supinger and CPC Youth

10:00 a.m. Worship led by the Rev. Karen
Sapio, CPC Sanctuary Choir,
Liturgical Dance

Sunday, April 27 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter

John 20:19-31

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

From the Pastor Time in the Wilderness

Our Lenten group Bible study began last month with a discussion of the role that time in the wilderness plays in transformation.

The first Bible passage we explored together was the story of the Hebrew people's escape from oppression in Egypt. Their dramatic liberation from their old life was followed NOT by an immediate entry into the land of promise, but by forty years in the wilderness. Our Bible study guide quoted Alan Roxburgh's thoughts on this strange journey. He wrote: They spent forty years in the wilderness not because it took God forty years to get the Hebrew people out of Egypt. It took that long because it took forty years to get Egypt out of the Hebrew people.

When we are longing for transformation – either as individuals or as a community – we may wish that the journey from our old ways to a new life were easy, quick and painless. Most of the time, however, a step away from entrenched habits, traditions and ways of behaving is followed by some time in the wilderness; time in which we are trying to find our way, trying to unlearn long-standing patterns, trying to discern how we can become the people God is calling us to be.

This Lent, our lectionary readings in worship include the stories of people who encounter Jesus and experience a call to change their lives. You may notice that as each story ends, the person's journey toward transformation is just beginning. It is the same with Jesus' followers on Easter. The experience of resurrection calls those Easter morning witnesses to a complete transformation of their lives and their community. But as the gospel's Easter stories conclude, the transformation has just begun.

As we observe Lent and celebrate Easter this month, consider whether you – or we – are being called to step into the wilderness as part of God's work of transformation in us.

Karen Sapio

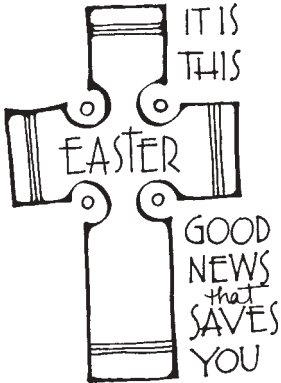
Adult Education

Sunday, April 6 & 13 at 11:30 a.m. Join your church family this Lent in this journey looking at Personal and Congregational Transformation. There will be a range of topics including "Are We There Yet", "Stop Whining and Walk" and "The Wind Power of Transformation".

No Adult Education on Easter Sunday, April 20

Sunday, April 27 at 9:00 a.m.

1. "Questions That Haunt Christianity" in Room 1
2. "It's Complicated: Understanding Teens and Social Media" in Room 7



Holy Week/Easter Events

Palm Sunday - April 13

10:00 a.m. Worship Service at CPC beginning with Palm Procession

Maundy Thursday - April 17

7:00 p.m. Worship Service combined with Emmanuel Hispanic Presbyterian and GPIB Indonesian Fellowship

Good Friday - April 18

2:00 p.m. Community Worship Service at Claremont United Church of Christ

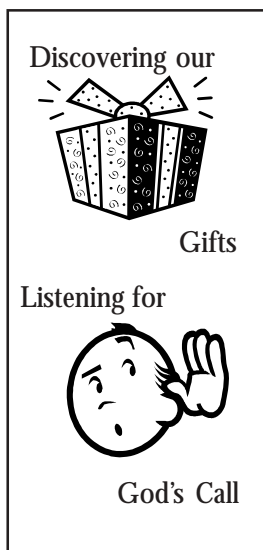
Easter Sunday - April 20

8:30 a.m. Worship at CPC led by Pastor Rocky Supinger and the Youth of CPC

10:00 a.m. Worship at CPC led by Pastor Karen Sapio with the CPC Sanctuary Choir and Liturgical Dance

Discovering our Gifts – Listening for God's Call – April 25 and 26

Ever wonder if God has a purpose for your life? This last fall six people took a six-week journey of self-discovery, learning about their skills, spiritual gifts, Myers-Briggs Personality Type, Values and Passions. They all found it helpful in discerning God's plan for their lives, and learned a lot about each other as well. Many others were interested but couldn't commit to six Monday nights. So this spring we are going to offer it in a weekend format. We will begin with a light supper Friday evening at 6:00 and go until 9:00. Then we'll resume Saturday morning with breakfast at 8:30, go until 4:00 in the afternoon with a break for lunch. The class includes short lectures, individual exercises, small group sharing and large group interaction.



The Great Getaway Weekend: May 30 - June 1

Join us for a fun weekend of fellowship and relaxation as we retreat the last weekend in May.

We are camping this time - tents, air mattresses, propane stoves, campfires, etc. We have reserved a group spot at the beautiful San Clemente State Beach. Because we will be camping the cost is substantially less than a retreat center.

Here are the details:

When: Friday evening May 30 through Sunday lunch June 1

Where: San Clemente State Beach (just an hour and 10 minute drive)

How Much: \$25 a person, includes camping and Friday and Saturday dinners, plus \$15 per vehicle per night

If you don't like/ want to camp, the San Clemente Inn Resort is nearby. You can come for the day and sleep in a bed at night. You will need to make your own reservations.

We will be taking sign-ups beginning April 6.

Sunday Morning for Children and Youth

Sunday Mornings there are faith-nurturing activities for children in pre-school through high school all morning long.

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Music and Movement for grade 2 – grade 5
Godly Play for age 4 – grade 1
Youth 6th - 8th grade Sunday School Class
Youth 9th - 12th grade Sunday School Class
Nursery care is available for infants through pre-k

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Music and Movement for age 4 – grade 1 (after Time with the Children)
Godly Play for grade 2 – grade 5 (after Time with the Children)
Nursery care is available for infants through pre-k



Save the Date!

2014 Vacation Bible School at CPC
Sunday, June 15 - Thursday, June 19

Tell your friends and look for more information coming soon!

Bible Breakfast - April 13

Each year at Claremont Presbyterian Church we celebrate our commitment to helping the children among us grow in their faith by presenting them with a Bible of their own. This Bible is offered to the children as a gift from the whole community of faith, and so we present these Bibles during our service of worship. Traditionally we give children their own Bible when they are in the third grade, but we also have Bibles for those that began worshipping at CPC after they were in third grade.

If you have a child or grandchild who would like to receive a Bible from our worshipping community, please contact Krista by email at krista@claremontpres.org and plan to come to our celebration of this event on Sunday, April 13, 2014. We will gather before worship and have breakfast together with some of the youth who have received their Bibles in previous years. So if you are celebrating with us, please come to the breakfast beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Godly Play

In April we continue our Lenten series "The Faces of Easter," through Palm Sunday. There will be no Godly Play on Easter Sunday (April 20th), as our worship schedule will be different on this day.

On the last Sunday in April we begin a new series of lessons that take us from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. This series is entitled, "Knowing Jesus in a New Way." Each of these stories helps us to focus on the different ways we encounter the living Christ, and our first lesson in the series is "Knowing Jesus in a New Way: Known in Absence." In this lesson, the children will be asked to focus on the experience of finding the empty tomb.

Claremont Youth SERVE

Claremont Youth SERVE begins Friday evening, April 25. This youth service event used to be called "The 30 Hour Famine," and this year we're broadening its scope to include more students and to have a greater impact on the problem of homelessness in our community.

Students from CPC, the Claremont UCC, and friends will gather at 6:00 Friday evening at the UCC Church (on Harrison in the Claremont Village). We will spend the evening learning about homelessness and even experiencing some of its effects. After spending the night in the church, we will spend Saturday in service and learning together before ending around 3:00.

This is a terrific opportunity for junior high and high school students in Claremont to help solve homelessness. Also, parents and other adults are invited to support our students by providing food and drinks throughout the event.

To sign up, email "SERVE" to rsupinger@claremontpres.org.

People in the Church: Faith Jones

Sometimes I feel a bit guilty not being more Pentecostal,” confesses Faith Jones. One might say it’s in her blood, from the very beginning. Struck by the evangelical fervor typical of the Pentecostal movement, her parents in the 1930’s joined the newly created Go Ye Fellowship in Southern California and became missionaries to southwest China. Faith was born there, as was her sister Anna two years later. Before WW II began Faith’s mother returned with her two daughters to their home in Cardiff, Wales, to look after her mother, who had suffered a stroke, and a sister with asthma.

“When I was about ten a great sense of sin came on me,” Faith recalled. With her mother beside her, Faith knelt at her bedside and asked Christ to save her. “I felt a great relief.” Two years later she was able to receive baptism by total immersion. “It was a most wonderful experience,” she said, because it was her first really public witness to the importance of God in her life.

In Cardiff the family attended the Elim Pentecostal Church. Faith saw the power of the Holy Spirit on many occasions as the Pentecostal church practiced spiritual healing and speaking in tongues. She recalled one instance when a woman in the congregation worshipped God by speaking in tongues. “It’s important,” she noted, “that someone serve as an interpreter,” but in this particular instance no one understood what she was saying. Finally a visiting sailor exclaimed, “She’s speaking Swedish!”

“In the Bible,” Faith recalled, “Paul says that you have gifts. It’s up to you to use those gifts.” When Faith was 18 her mother seemed to follow that advice, embarking on a preaching tour of America. “She was a well-sought after preacher,” Faith said, “while Anna and I sang duets. I loved that!” Her favorite song, then and now, is the Pentecostal hymn, “Follow, Follow, I Will Follow Jesus.”

They traveled throughout America. In Chicago they appeared on “Welcome Travelers,” a TV program that encouraged visitors to tell their story. The president of Wheaton College, Illinois, gave Faith and Anna each an envelope. Faith eagerly opened the envelope and found it contained \$100. It was the key to attend Wheaton. Faith went to work in a factory, saved enough to pay for one semester of college, and enrolled at Wheaton. Thereafter, small amounts of money would simply appear anonymously in her mailbox, allowing Faith to continue at Wheaton. Recalling her amazing experience, Faith exclaimed, “The Lord does provide! God is with us! Have faith!”

During the next decade Faith became a Registered Nurse, practiced midwifery and obstetrics in London and Wales, hitchhiked across Europe several times with friends, and returned to Chicago where she took a position at the Cook County Hospital. Conditions at the hospital “were very rough,” Faith said, which was probably an understatement, yet it appealed to her as a “mission field” where her gifts could be put to great use. Continuing her education, she received a Master’s degree in Counseling and found employment with

the Chicago Board of Education as a nurse visiting pregnant students. Many of these students were lost souls mired in terrible living conditions. For Faith it was another “mission field” and she continued there for nine years. During her Chicago years Faith gained spiritual strength while attending the Fourth Presbyterian Church whose pastor, a Welshman, the Rev. Dr. Elam Davies, was “the finest preacher I ever heard.”

Eventually with an earned doctorate Faith accepted university teaching positions, first at the University of Illinois and later at Rush University. In 1984 her Dean at Rush University recommended Faith for a position at Cumberland College of Health Sciences (now a part of the University of Sydney) in Australia. The college had just completed its first decade of operation and needed help upgrading its nursing program. Reluctantly, Faith traveled to Australia for an interview. Back in Chicago, she told her mother that “if they offered me a position I would say ‘no.’” But when the phone call came and Faith opened her mouth to say no, to her amazement out came “yes.” “I think it’s God’s leading,” she acknowledged. So Faith went to Australia with her mother, who later said that the years in Australia were “the best ten years of her life.”

Her success at the University of Sydney brought invitations from other nursing programs throughout Asia. Faith traveled to locations from Korea to New Zealand, bringing her into contact with many different peoples and cultures. Gradually, almost imperceptibly, her own beliefs migrated from the Pentecostal view that salvation comes only through an acceptance of Jesus Christ to the recognition that God loves all of His creation.

Faith decided to retire to Claremont to be near her sister, Anna, who lives at Pilgrim Place with her husband, Jerry Bedford. In another example of God’s leading, Faith tells the story of being accosted by a woman on Harrison Avenue. “You should consider Mt. San Antonio Gardens,” the woman said. Faith has never seen the woman again, the Gardens had not been on her consideration list, but it all worked out.

At CPC Faith has been an active participant, attending the E-hour and worship and serving as a Deacon. Reflecting on her life, Faith mentioned that age tended to make a person want to do more things for other people. She found her service as Deacon rewarding but frustrating. The parishes are not organized geographically, Faith does not drive, and she found herself unable to travel to people whom she felt might need her. Perhaps, she thought, having two or three people who really need the services of a deacon might be the answer rather than a parish.

In May 2013 Faith underwent surgery for removal of part of her liver which was infected with cancer. Throughout the ordeal people said to her, “You seem so happy.” Telling me this story, Faith did not pause to consider the cause of her happiness. Her companions may have been surprised, but Faith

(see **Faith** on Page 5)

San Gabriel Presbytery Plans Women's Trip to Peru



The San Gabriel Presbytery has been richly blessed by our partnership with Living Waters for the World and the Synod of Ayacucho in Peru since we began working together in the spring of 2010. **We are recruiting a delegation of women from across the presbytery to visit the Synod of Ayacucho in October 2014.** The trip will include orientation time in Lima, visits to some of our partner churches, visits to water purification systems that have been installed, a retreat with Peruvian Presbyterian Women from the Synod of Ayacucho, visits to artisans and craft markets, and more. An extension of the trip can be added on to Cuzco and Machu Picchu for those who are interested.

The trip is tentatively set to take place **October 3-13, 2014**. Please be advised that participation in the delegation will require a valid U.S. passport and your vaccinations will need to be up to date. It should also be noted that most of this trip will take place at high elevations, 8500 feet and above, so participants should be in good physical condition and not prone to severe altitude problems.

Space in the delegation is limited. The deadline to submit application materials is **April 15**. Late applications will not be considered.

All applicants must submit a complete application by the deadline of April 15. The cost of the trip, while variable due to variable airfares, is expected to be around \$2000. Please be advised that participants will be expected to contribute to their individual trip costs, as well as raise funds on their own and collectively. Participants will also be expected to interpret their experience to the presbytery both before and after the delegation.

Applications forms are available in the church office. We look forward to a powerful experience of relationship building, learning, and partnership in Christian ministry.

"Like" Us on Facebook

Did you know that CPC has a facebook page? Look for the Claremont Presbyterian Church page on facebook and click on "like" to begin receiving news feeds about what is happening at CPC.

Be sure to share it with your friends!

Faith (cont. from page 4)

was not. I surmised that it was consistent with her entire life: trusting God throughout her journey, seeing her life as a ministry, finding peace and comfort at the very depths of her own faith.

Recently New York Times columnist David Brooks quoted Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who said, "Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement...get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal. ...To be spiritual is to be amazed."

That is Faith Jones.

~Dick Johnson

Weekly Floral Arrangements

Have you thought about dedicating a chancel floral arrangement? It's easy to do! Honor the memory of a loved one or celebrate an anniversary or another milestone. Complete a Weekly Floral Arrangement form found on the Narthex Bulletin Board. Kim Brinegar will help you select a Sunday for your dedication and help write the dedication. She will order the arrangement through Sherwood Florist. Sherwoods creates lovely chancel arrangements in the colors and flowers of your choice for \$54.50. Sherwoods will invoice CPC and CPC Bookkeeper Jo Colclough will contact you about payment.

Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 02/28/14	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$ 75,088	\$ 83,333
Other Income	17,779	17,184
Bequests/Gifts	0	0
Reserve Transfer	0	0
Expenses	(95,649)	(104,937)
VARIANCE	(2,782)	(4,420)
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 02/28/14	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income	\$ 124,650	\$ 120,752
Expenses	(125,949)	(120,752)
VARIANCE	(1,299)	0

A more complete financial report is available in the church office.



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, email jcolclough@claremontpres.org or fax to (909) 624-4743.

Editor: Jo Colclough

Pastors

Karen Sapio
Rocky Supinger

Church School

9:00 a.m.
(Except in Summer)

Worship

10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care
available both hours

Mission Gift Thank You Received

In December of 2013 the Mission Interpretation Commission of CPC, sent a gift of \$300.00 to the Our Lady Dispensary in Beirut, Lebanon. John Hill of the commission received this thank you letter from Grace Boustani of the dispensary:

We thankfully received your personal gift and that of your church, of which we held a Christmas program for refugees children from Syria and Iraq with others from the neighborhood, the program included, One day outing was made available for 50 poor children, mostly Syrian refugees from the neighborhood, aged 5 to 13 years old. We took the children to a theatre play called "E-mail Maryam", a very educational and fun theatre play. Just after that, the kids enjoyed a special lunch at MacDonald's. Then they played in the MacDonald's play area and got their faces painting. Afterwards, the kids had one hour to eat lunch and enjoy a fun time with their friends. As they were leaving, each child received a balloon. We thank you immensely for being a friend and partner in our mission to extend a hand to the people in need in the Sad El Baouchrieh neighborhood. We look forward to more cooperation and communication in the future.

*Grace Boustani
December 29, 2013*



Conscientious Projector - April 16

Conscientious Projector is a monthly gathering of mindful, passionate people coming together to screen documentaries about important current justice issues, and to discuss these viewpoints from a variety of perspectives. Screenings are free to the public; just bring an open mind and a desire to discuss!

Films are screened in Claremont on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Claremont Forum in the Old Packing House on First Street.

One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, April 20, CPC will again take part in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Our congregation's history of generously supporting this offering is well known, as Easter worship is decked with paper fish banks packed with coins collected by our children during the weeks of Lent. What may be less known are the specific denominational mission programs those brimming fish banks enable: The Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Each of these mission programs accomplishes important work that no congregation can fulfill on its own. And in times of great need, these works are needed more than ever.

Please prepare for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering by praying for those in need whom the offering helps. You may even wish to assemble and fill your own fish bank! As we prepare, let us take as inspiration some of the words of a song composed specifically for this occasion, "One Great Hour to Share":

When the wind and the rain of the hurricane
left me homeless on the street
Did you give me clothes and shelter, did
you bring me food to eat?
When the Warlords came and
I fled the flames;
When they made me a refugee –
Did you feel my racing heart beat?
Hear my cries of agony?
When the heat and the sand of this barren
land left me struggling to survive
Did you help me find clean water, so my
family could thrive?
When I was lost and lonely and wandering
in despair
My greatest time of need was your one great
hour to share.



Help Support CPCC

The second Monday of each month the Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center has a fundraiser at the El Rancho Restaurant on Foothill Boulevard in Claremont. **On Monday, April 14 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** eat at El Rancho Restaurant and tell them you are with the Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center.

The center will receive a portion of the proceeds and you will enjoy a delicious Mexican meal. If you prefer to eat at home you may get your food to go. Thank you for your support!

COMMUNICATOR



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Claremont, CA 91711
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Deadline for next issue of the *Communicator*: April 15

Uncommon Good's Fiddleneck Family Farms

Fiddleneck Family Farms, a program of Uncommon Good, which is one of CPC's Mission Partners, sells locally grown organic produce each Sunday at the Claremont Farmer's Market. Some of the produce is grown right here on the CPC campus.

Read more about Uncommon Good's involvement in Urban Agriculture on their website uncommongood.org.

Website Photos

Photographs are often taken at church events. These photos may be posted on the church's public website. If you object to having a photograph that may contain your image (or your child's image) posted on the church website, please notify the office in writing.

Newcomer Orientation

If you have been visiting Claremont Presbyterian Church and would like to learn more about our congregation, we invite you to our next Newcomer's Orientation after worship on April 27 in the church library. (The library is inside the church office.) This is a chance to find out about our history, our current ministries and our visions for the future.

Prayer Chain

If you (or a loved one) are in need of prayer, the Prayer Chain of the Presbyterian Women is there for you. Please call the church office at (909) 624-9693 with your prayer request. Please be sure you have the permission of the person for whom you are requesting prayer.