



COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

July/August 2014

Summer Worship Plans

Sunday, July 6 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"Are Winners Blessed? Are Losers Not?"

Sunday, July 13 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"Why Does Martha Get Such a Bad Rap?"

Sunday July 20 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"What Was Wrong with Cain's Offering?"

Sunday, July 27 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"Is Heaven for Real?"

Sunday, August 3 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"What's Up with Angels?"

Sunday, August 10 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"How Can Christians Talk with Atheists?"

Sunday, August 17 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"What's the 'Right' Way to Interpret Scripture?"

Sunday, August 24 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"Is There Life on Other Planets?
Is God There?"

Sunday, August 31 10:00 a.m.

The People's Choice Sermon Series
"God: Perception and Revelation"

From the Pastor

We call it "People's Choice": twelve weeks of worship gatherings in the summer months chosen entirely by "the people," that is, the worshipping congregation (you'll excuse the false dichotomy between "people" and . . . someone else?)

Choice: the word has me thinking in these first days of summer.

We are a people gripped by a story not of our own making, and it's not the story anybody would choose given the choice. In our story, glory comes through service, not conquest. The last are first. The poor are made rich, captives are released, and the kingdom of God draws near. And this story shows God choosing us for this story, choosing the least likely and the least fit, before we know the first thing about it.

Still, we have to make choices, and the littlest ones may have the greatest impact. Will I hand the dollar in my pocket to the person right in front of me who's asking for it? Will I hold my tongue in this moment when I'm really angry? Will I try this thing with an uncertain outcome, though it may fail? And in this technological age, the choices only seem to multiply.

My prayer for us these summer weeks is that we will have the confidence of a people chosen by God as we grapple with all the choices we must make. And, should we fear, may God shape us ever more into the people God desires us to be, the very people God has chosen and called to tell the gospel story in word and deed right now, right here.

(Rocky Supinger)

Sabbatical Blog

While Pastor Karen Sapio is in Mexico on sabbatical you can follow along on her journey by logging on to her blog through a link on the church website (www.claremontpres.org), or on the Claremont Presbyterian Church facebook page or you can go directly to the blog: aphotoopportunityashotatredeemption.blogspot.com.

Adult Education

Sunday Morning at Nine Adult Education will take a summer break and will resume in September.



High Schoolers Headed to New Mexico

The low rumbling noise you hear is the big ol' engine of a charter bus getting ready to cart 42 Presbyterian youth and 11 chaperones from across Southern California to the Ghost Ranch Education and Retreat Center in Abiquiu, New Mexico for a week-long Youth Service Corps. CPC high school students Clara Becker, Clayton Becker, Matthew Hughes, Andrew Atwood, and Henrick Kohnen are part of this great group.

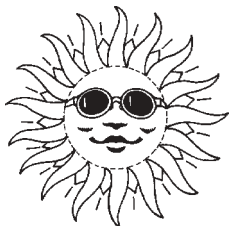
This trip is the newest venture of Tapestry: A Presbyterian Youth Collective. Tapestry is a regional Presbyterian youth ministry organization that CPC is helping to build, so that youth from Presbyterian churches from Claremont to Eagle Rock and from Pomona to Lake Arrowhead can join in transformative retreat experiences together.

We're still raising the needed monies for the trip. If you would like to donate (and join in a little fun), go to <http://www.gofundme.com/8ycqlo>. There you can make a contribution toward all of the students' experiences while also casting your vote for which annoying song they will be forced to listen to for an hour straight on the bus to Abiquiu. Thanks for your support!

Summer Surprise June 22 - August 10

Each summer we take a break from our primary children's curriculum, *Godly Play*, to focus our attention in a different way. We call our eight-week summer series Summer Surprise! Because we understand that most families need more flexibility in the summer, we design and select curriculum for Summer Surprise that complements our Godly Play curriculum, but one in which each Sunday is a complete lesson. Our hope is that children can find enrichment if they come to all eight weeks in the series, or if they just come to one.

This summer we are learning about stories of children in the Bible including Miriam, young Jeremiah, and twelve-year old Jesus. Our hope is that through the stories and activities the children will connect their stories to the stories of the children in both the Old and New Testament. We expect that through this identification our children's faith will be enriched. This year, Summer Surprise will run eight consecutive Sundays from June 22-August 10. We meet during worship following "The Time with the Children," and children



Help with Community Meal on July 27

Our church is one of seven congregations involved in serving meals three Sundays a month on a rotating basis: Claremont United Church of Christ, Friends Meeting (Quakers), Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Claremont United Methodist Church, Monte Vista Unitarian-Universalist and Nithyananda V. Temple, Montclair.

As you may remember, this meal program is the response to discussions more than three years ago led by members of the Interfaith Council on the question: "What can local faith communities do to address the needs of the 'homeless' (or financially challenged) in our midst?"

It's now our turn again on **Sunday, July 27**. On that date, volunteers are needed to (1) prepare a food item for 20 people and bring it to Sumner School by 2:45 p.m. that day or (2) help serve the meal, visit with participants and prepare "to go" boxes.

entering kindergarten - grade 5 are welcome to come and learn.

Youth are encouraged to co-teach with adults during Summer Surprise, and they can do so after a brief training. If you have a young person that would like to help teach one or more of these summer Sundays please contact Krista at krista.wuertz@cst.edu.

4th of July Booth & Parade

CPC will once again have an information booth at the Claremont 4th of July celebration in Memorial Park. We are looking for volunteers to staff the booth from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. We need two people at a time. Grab a friend and sign up to help staff our booth letting people know what a great church we are a part of. We will be taking sign-ups on the patio after worship.

Later in the afternoon we will gather with the Children's Center to join in the 4th of July parade.

Come along!

Family Community Ministry Events

Throughout the summer we have many opportunities to gather for fun and relaxation together. Our family-community events are designed to be open to anyone who would like to get together for some fun and fellowship. Hopefully the longer days and more relaxed pace of life in the summertime makes the summer an opportune time to join in some traditional summer fun like concerts in the park, minor league baseball games, a trip to the beach, and more. Summer is also an ideal time to invite friends who do not currently attend CPC to come and enjoy some time together. We have events for kids and families scheduled throughout the summer, so please see the schedule and descriptions below.

July 26th - Beach Trip

August 5th - Movie and Music in the Park

August 22nd - Quakes Baseball Game

Beach Trip

On **Saturday, July 26** we will head down to Crystal Cove beach for the day. The section of the beach that we will visit has wonderful tide pools and sandy coves. For those that want to carpool, please let me know. We will plan to leave CPC for the beach about 9:00 a.m. and plan to be back in Claremont by 5:00 p.m. If you would like to come to this event, please RSVP to Krista for more details. You can reach Krista at (909) 624-9693 (ext. 309) or by email krista.wuertz@cst.edu

Quakes Baseball Game

On **Friday, August 22** we will meet at the Rancho Cucamonga Epicenter to watch the Quakes play Stockton. Game time is 7:05 p.m. There will be hot dogs, ice cream and soda on sale for \$1.00. If you have questions about this event please contact Krista at krista.wuertz@cst.edu or (909) 624-9693 (ext. 309).

Tri-Church Meal and Talent Sharing – August 30

In the past we have had a picnic in the park on Labor Day Weekend as an opportunity to get to know members of the Emmanuel Congregation and the Indonesian Fellowship. This year we are going to have a potluck at the church followed by a Talent Show, which may include Karaoke. If it is super hot, as it often is on Labor Day Weekend, we can just go inside Fellowship Hall. If the weather is pleasant we can enjoy our fellowship in Angell Courtyard.

Check your bulletin in early August for more details!

Summer Choir

Calling all singers – and we do mean “all” singers. Summer choir time is almost here and we would love to see whole families come and sing. Starting July 6, all that is required is coming to church at 9:00 a.m. and meeting in the choir room to learn a simple anthem for the service that morning. We would love to see the choir full of people of all ages and we encourage families to come and sing together. All ages, from young children to great-grandparents are welcome! Looking forward to singing with you on any or all Sundays in the month of July.

Music & Movie in the Park

On the evening of **Tuesday, August 5** you are invited to join us at Memorial Park for an evening of children’s music and an outdoor movie. The children’s concert featuring “The Happy Crowd” begins at 7:00 p.m., and *The Lego Movie* will begin at dusk. Most often people begin to gather about 6:00 p.m. to enjoy a picnic dinner before the music begins. Be sure to bring blankets and low chairs for your comfort.

For more information about this event, please visit this website: <http://www.ci.claremont.ca.us/ps.leisurecreation.cfm?ID=1740>.



Claremont Concerts in The Park Start on July 7

Every Monday night in July and August provides a fun and easy way for members and friends of CPC to spend some time together and enjoy a relaxing evening of outdoor entertainment. Come out any Monday night at 7:00 (arrive early to claim seating), grown-ups and kids can bring a picnic and enjoy a couple of hours of getting to know one another while listening to great live music. We hope this terrific opportunity to contribute to the public life of our community is one that many, many of us seize.

See you there!



Passing the Salt: How Eating Together Creates Community

This is the title of Rebecca Katz's capstone project for her Bachelor of Arts in 2012 from Western Kentucky University. Her abstract goes on to say "Sharing a meal is a simple, yet sacred occasion. It is a universal act that is important to building relationships within people groups. Intentionally eating together creates time and space to engage in the spiritual and intellectual levels that are unique to human beings. Sharing food cultivates community because the implications of the meal extend beyond the time of eating together."

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, July 14 and Monday, August 11 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!



Seeking Nursery Director

We are searching for someone to be the Director of our Nursery. If you are interested in the position, please contact the CPC office for more information. If you know someone who may be interested in this position, please let us know. If you have questions about this position, please ask Krista: krista.wuertz@cst.edu.

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.

Our summer luncheon series is being held from **11:15-12:15** in Fellowship Hall and continues **July 13, July 20 and July 27**. We share a meal and then are led in discussion regarding the sermon that was preached that morning. The topics for the People's Choice sermons were provided by members of our own congregation so our after worship discussion will simply act as an extension for both worship and building relationships. To sign up please contact Tracy Doebler at tdoebler@claremontbio.com or (909) 200-9746 or Kathy Croughan at (909) 596-1062.

Backpack Sunday August 24

"Thank-you for the backpack that you donated to my school." "My backpack ripped during school hours and I got to choose my own backpack." "Thank-you." and "I thank-you for my cool backpack." These are messages from grateful students from Oakmont Elementary School. Once again the Deacons are planning Backpack Sunday and are counting on the generosity of the congregation to make this project a success. There will be a table on the patio following Sunday services, beginning **July 27**, and you will have the opportunity pick up a list of items needed to contribute to the project. Donations of money are always welcome if you would rather we do the shopping for you.

Financial Highlights

| CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 05/31/14 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|--|------------|------------|
| Pledges | \$ 197,689 | \$208,333 |
| Other Income | 35,761 | 42,958 |
| Bequests/Gifts | 5,500 | 0 |
| Expenses | (244,285) | (262,341) |
| VARIANCE | (5,335) | (11,050) |
| CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 05/31/14 | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
| Income | \$ 310,033 | \$ 301,881 |
| Expenses | (316,839) | (301,881) |
| VARIANCE | (6,806) | 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

Attention All Presbyterian Women

The Women's Association of CPC has undergone some changes and we'd like to take this opportunity to catch you up to date. We are being guided by a Committee consisting of Pat Beswick, who acts as Treasurer, Barbara Patch, in charge of Mission Programs, Elsie Harber, in charge of the Book Review and Carolyn Kingshill.

We have two Circles which meet for Bible Study from September - May. Circle II meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the morning in the Church Library. Circle I meets the second Wednesday in the evening at Mt. San Antonio Gardens.

Our Bible Study this year will be on "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of II Corinthians."

Starting in September there will be a training session for the Circle Bible Study on the first Tuesday of each month led by the Rev. Bear Ride. Anyone interested may attend this 9:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Church Library.

In addition to Circle meetings, we have two other events in which we participate. One is the Angel Interfaith Network Baby Shower, which is held in the fall (more details will be in the September *Communicator*.) The other is the Book Review, which we enjoy in February. The Book Review, which in 2015 will be our fifteenth, is led by Elsie Harber and Elaine Walker.



Dinner at the Gardens

Circle I of the Presbyterian Women invites all who are interested to attend our Annual "Picnic"

Date: Wednesday, August 13

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Where: Mt. San Antonio Gardens - in the Gallery

Cost: \$12.00 for non-residents of the Gardens

Go through the line for your food and bring it to the Gallery. Silver, napkins and water will be on the tables. If you cannot navigate the line, there will be a table in the Gallery marked "Sit Here for Menu Service." To make a reservations to attend please call the church office at 909-624-9693. It's best to carpool as parking can be a problem. Enjoy dinner and hearing about our plans for the coming year. We'll hear about the Bible Study for the Circles, Elaine Walker will tell us about her book selection for next year, and we'll hear about our plans for the annual Baby Shower for newborns at USC. We hope to have Karen Sapio, CPC Pastor, as our special guest.

FAQs about Pastor Karen's Sabbatical

When will Pastor Karen be away?

She left May 29 and will be back at CPC on Sunday, July 27.

Where is she?

Pastor Karen is spending her sabbatical in San Miguel de Allende, a town in the mountains north of Mexico City.

What is she doing?

She is guest preacher at the Community Church of San Miguel de Allende, a small congregation of English-speaking expats in San Miguel. You can find out more about the church at their website: <http://communitychurchofsanmiguel.org>. She is also working on her DMin dissertation project.

Is her whole family with her?

Clayton and Clara will be able to join her for about one month. Tony will make a ten day visit.

Who said she could do this?

We did! The CPC Personnel Committee adopted a sabbatical policy for pastors in 2013. In 2014, the congregation voted at its annual meeting to grant Pastor Karen a two month sabbatical as part of her terms of call for this year. Karen also received approval from San Gabriel Presbytery to do ministry with the congregation in Mexico during her stay there.

Can we be in touch?

While away, Karen will occasionally post news from her sabbatical on the church Facebook page or website. (See the front page for more info about her blog.) The church staff know how to reach her if there is an emergency or information that cannot wait until her return. However, she will not be checking her church email or voicemail.

What's in it for us?

The goal of a pastor's sabbatical is for the pastor to return renewed, refreshed, rested and ready to re-engage in ministry with new perspective and passion.

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Deadline for next issue of the *Communicator*: August 15

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.

Emma Randles' Blog

Emma Randles will be spending the year as a YAV - Young Adult Volunteer with the PC(USA) in Austin, Texas. You can follow her adventure on her blog at www.emmayavsAustin.wordpress.com

"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!

Before You Travel

Don't take your pledge on vacation! Church expenses remain steady through the summer, when many of you go on vacation. If you are able to bring your pledge up to date before you leave, that is very helpful.

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 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.