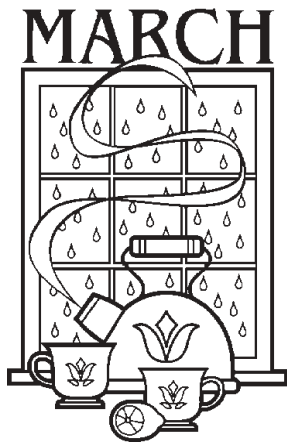




# COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

March 2014



## Worship Plans

**Sunday, March 2 10:00 a.m.**

*Jazz Sunday*

The Rev. Karen Sapiro preaching

**Wednesday, March 5 7:00 p.m.**

*Ash Wednesday Service*

The Rev. Rocky Supinger preaching

**Sunday, March 9 10:00 a.m.**

*First Sunday in Lent*

*"Temptation"*

Sister Simone Campbell preaching

**Sunday, March 16 10:00 a.m.**

*Second Sunday in Lent*

*"Nicodemus"*

The Rev. Rocky Supinger preaching

**Sunday, March 23 10:00 a.m.**

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*"Woman at the Well"*

The Rev. Karen Sapiro preaching

**Sunday, March 30 10:00 a.m.**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*"Man Born Blind"*

The Rev. Karen Sapiro preaching

## From the Pastor

A few nights ago at the dinner table my kids rehearsed that ancient question, "Which came first: The Chicken or The Egg?" Armed as they are now with a basic knowledge of genetics and biology from their school science curriculum, the discussion ranged over cells, evolution, and whether we were talking about prehistoric chickens or modern chickens.

Lately, I've been pondering a somewhat similar question – Which comes first: The Transformed Person or the Transformed Church?

On the one hand, one might argue that if enough individuals experience a personal spiritual transformation, then the church of which they are members will eventually undergo transformation as well. On the other hand, you could argue that it is the Holy Spirit at work through spiritually vital congregations that helps individuals experience personal transformation; therefore congregational transformation must come first.

But what if it isn't an either/or question? What if church transformation leads to personal transformation AND personal transformation leads to church transformation?

This year our Lenten groups will be exploring this question using a resource called *And Still We Rise: A Six Week Study on Personal and Congregational Transformation*. The groups involve Bible study, discussion and prayer experiences around the theme of transformation for individuals and faith communities.

You can come to groups meeting Sunday after church (lunch included), Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m.

Sign up to join one of these groups on the patio after worship, or call the church office for more information.

## Jazz Sunday March 2

Once again the Night Blooming Jazzmen, led by our incomparable Chet Jaeger, will lead music for worship on the Sunday before Lent begins. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to church!

The Night Blooming Jazzmen (NBJ, or "Nightbloomers") is a traditional, or dixieland band, formed in October 1975 to represent the Society for the Preservation of Dixieland Jazz at the third Sacramento Jubilee. Since then, they have played thousands of concerts, church services, funerals, house parties, grand openings, jazz clubs, wedding receptions, dances, etc.... The band's Sunday morning "hymn-a-long" often has the largest attendance of any event at any festival where they play.

## Lenten Series

Join your church family this Lent as we embark on a 6 week 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 advance preparation is required.

There will be 3 sessions each week.



**Sundays after church from 11:30 - 1:00** served with a light lunch in the Southwest Room (beginning March 9.)

**Sunday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30** in Room 1 (beginning March 9.)

**Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 - 2:30** in Room 1 (beginning March 11.)

Each session will have a short worship time, a short lecture and group sharing. While it is preferable to come to the same group each week, you can come to any of them. Sign up by calling the church office.

### Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday,

March 5

7:00 p.m.

CPC

Sanctuary



## Sister Simone Campbell to Preach Sunday, March 9

On the first Sunday of Lent, Claremont Presbyterian Church will be honored to welcome Sister Simone Campbell as our guest preacher.

Sister Simone is a religious leader, attorney and poet with extensive experience in public policy and advocacy for systemic change. In 2012 and 2013, she was instrumental in organizing the “Nuns on the Bus” tours in which Roman Catholic sisters travelled across the country addressing the debates about health care reform and immigration policy from the perspective of Roman Catholic social teachings. Her memoir, *A Nun on the Bus*, will be published by Harper One next month.

Sister Simone will be in Claremont to kick-off “Agenda for a Prophetic Faith”, the second annual community lecture series sponsored by Progressive Christians Uniting. In addition to preaching at CPC she will speak that same evening at Holy Name of Mary Roman Catholic Church in San Dimas and will meet with students at the Claremont Colleges on Monday, March 10.

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

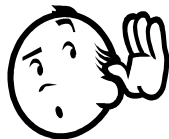
Ever wonder if God has a purpose for your life? This last fall six people took a six week journey of self-discovery; learning about their skills, spiritual gifts, Myers-Briggs Personality Type, Values and Passions. They all found it helpful in discerning God’s plan for their lives, and learned a lot 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. Sign-ups will officially begin March 30.

Discovering our



Gifts

Listening for



God’s Call

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School Class  
Youth 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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*

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Save the Date!  
Inland Valley Hope Partners' 18th Annual Golf Classic  
Thursday, May 8, 2014  
Sierra Lakes Golf Club, Fontana

### Godly Play

In March we will be helping the children connect the meaning of Lent to the celebration of Easter. We begin the month with a lesson called "The Mystery of Easter." In this lesson the children connect the time of Lent to the celebration of Easter, and they explore the different and contrasting feelings that we have during Lent and Easter. After this lesson, we begin our Godly Play Lenten series which is called, "The Faces of Easter." This series of lessons traces the life of Jesus from his infancy through his death and resurrection. This series helps the children to connect Jesus' death on the cross to the One who was born in a manger, discerned His calling, healed the sick, and taught about the Kingdom of God.

### Get Ready for March Madness

March 21 - 23

Big Bear Lake

Junior high and high school students are invited for a weekend retreat of fun and challenge.

Download registration form at [claremontpres.org](http://claremontpres.org)

\$135.00  
Includes lodging and all meals. Please ask about assistance.

Call Rocky with questions  
(909) 624-9693

### Mark your Calendars - The Great Getaway Weekend - May 30- June 1 at San Clemente State Beach

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

AND 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:

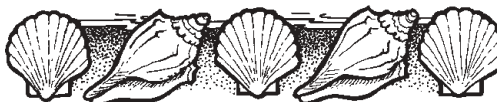
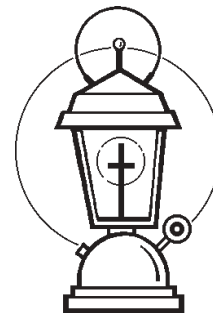
When: Friday evening May 30 through Sunday lunch June 1

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

AND 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 in April, but put it on your calendars now!



## From Winthrop to Claremont: John Roth

Dick Johnson kindly asked me to send some reflections from Winthrop to Claremont. They need to begin at a time when my spouse, Lyn, and I knew nothing about the small town in rural Washington State that we now call home. Life often takes us to unexpected places. Our journey from Claremont to Winthrop testifies to that.

Lyn and I arrived in Claremont in the summer of 1966. That September, I began a teaching career at Claremont McKenna College (Claremont Men's College at the time). It would last more than forty years. Lyn taught at Chaparral Elementary School, one of the several Claremont schools where she helped first graders learn to read, something she loved to do. Soon we were involved in the life of Claremont Presbyterian Church, whose Mountain Avenue location put it on the edge of a town that was still expanding in open space to the west. Ken McCandless was our first pastor at CPC, part of the church's fine leadership that has included Jim Angell, John Najarian, Sandy Tice, and Karen Sapio. Lyn became a stalwart Sunday School teacher, often teaming with her late friend Nancy Thum. As I recall, the two of them were especially deft in helping youngsters to travel with Moses on the Exodus journey. Our two children, Andy and Sarah, grew up in the CPC family. (Andy is a sociologist, presently in the Bay Area but likely to be returning to Claremont with his spouse, Liz Boyd, in the relatively near future.) When my parents, Josiah and Doris Roth, retired to Pilgrim Place, CPC became their church home, too. A weekly highlight for us all was hearing Geri DeMasi's brilliant playing of the church's fine pipe organ. Something else that meant a great deal to us was the close friendship that developed between CPC and Temple Beth Israel. Much of my academic work has focused on the Holocaust and on Jewish-Christian relations. The CPC-Temple Beth Israel relationship, which included mutual hospitality that extended to the congregations sharing each other's facilities during building renovations, stands as a model for others to emulate.

Our Claremont life remains special to us. So, why did we leave it behind, where did we go, and what has happened for us since our departure? As is often the case, family ties influence where folks decide to live. About ten years ago, our daughter Sarah and her husband Erik Brooks moved to Winthrop, Washington. Sarah is the associate director of the Methow Conservancy, which specializes in developing land trusts that protect both the environment and a local economy that depends on clean rivers for fishing and abundant space for the trail system that provides world-class cross-country skiing in winter and hiking and biking adventures in other seasons. Erik is a prize-winning illustrator and writer of children's books. Of special importance to Lyn and me, they are the parents of our one grandchild, Keeley Brooks, currently a fifth grader who excels on the violin and ski trails. Family "magnets" drew us north. At first our stays in Winthrop were during summers and college-year vacation times. Then, when I took emeritus status at Claremont McKenna College in 2007, we decided that it might be good to "turn a page" and move north full time.

In addition to the family ties that attracted us to Winthrop, the distinctive natural beauty of this area is a compelling factor. We live on the eastern slope of the Cascades, not very far from the North Cascades National Park. As birds fly, the Canadian border is about fifty miles to the north. Winthrop stands at the confluence of two beautiful rivers, the Methow and the Chewuch, whose waters eventually flow into the Columbia some forty miles south. Deer live around our house, necessitating garden plantings they dislike. Eagles and ospreys often soar above the house we built in 2007. The climate, which, like Claremont's, is on the dry side, is definitely four-season; it is snowing as I write. The nearest traffic signals—and Presbyterian church too—are more than forty miles away. The daily scene is different from Claremont. Winthrop is one of three very small towns in the Methow Valley. In early February, the total population in the Valley is about 5,000. It grows by a thousand or two during holidays and in the summer, when folks from the Seattle area come this way for seasonal stays. Ranching and agriculture still have niches in this area, and there is an exceptional cultural life, too. Artists and musicians abound; so do reading and discussion groups, including one that I belong to. Consisting mostly of "retired" professionals, it is one of the best-read and intellectually stimulating groups that I have ever known.

Religiously, the Methow Valley is interesting and challenging. Apart from the Catholic church in the neighboring town of Twisp, and the Methodist church that stands mid-way between Twisp and Winthrop, the landscape is dotted with a variety of other small Christian communities that are of a fundamentalist and conservative persuasion. No pipe organs exist; liturgies are definitely low-key. Lyn and I have been involved in the Methow Valley United Methodist Church. About 50-60 people regularly attend worship services. The congregation is aging and struggling a bit as it seeks to discern what the church should be in this place and time. Lyn has chaired the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, which has dealt with several pastoral changes during our time here. I recently completed a stint as chair of the church's finance committee. Time will tell what the future holds for this particular congregation, which is part of the Northwest's religious demography. That population contains a considerable majority who are not involved with the church.

Thanks to technology, I find that the scholarly work I choose to do can be done almost as easily here as it could be from an office at Claremont McKenna College. I lack Honnold Library, but in other ways, I can get most of the things I need for research. I travel a fair amount for lectures, workshops, and board meetings. One of the biggest changes between life in Claremont and life in Winthrop is that we have no airport close by, as we did with the airport at Ontario. Seattle and Spokane, both several hours distant from us, are the usual departure points. Presently, I am working on two books, both of them focused on issues in ethics and religion. They concentrate on the grim

(see **Roth** on Page 5)





## Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time Begins March 9. Set your clock ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 8.



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](mailto: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

## 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. Please call Wendy Gist at (626) 564-0678 or email her at [gist.wendy@gmail.com](mailto:gist.wendy@gmail.com) if you have any further questions. 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!

## Roth (cont. from page 4)

topics of torture and genocide, respectively, and on the ways in which ethics and religion might strengthen resistance to those atrocities. When the human propensity to do immense harm "gets to me," it helps to see the eagles and ospreys flying and to hear the sounds of the Chewuch River below our house. It also helps to remember the words that open the Gospel of John: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

~John K. Roth

February 12, 2014

## Thanks to Steve Sittig for Ten Years of Great Clerking!

CPC Elder Steve Sittig has served the congregation faithfully as Stated Clerk of the Session for ten years. He let Pastor Karen know in 2013 that he was ready to conclude his term and move on to other forms of service. He now joins the ranks of other "retired" clerks who have provided many hours of work recording the work of Session, maintaining church rolls, and receiving and sending official correspondence.

Thank you Steve, for all you have done over the last decade!

At its January meeting, the Session elected Elder Charles Kerchner as the new Stated Clerk of Session.

## Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 01/31/14	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$ 44,589	\$ 41,667
Other Income	12,262	8,591
Bequests/Gifts	0	0
Reserve Transfer	0	0
Expenses	( 45,173)	( 52,468)
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>11,678</b>	<b>( 2,210)</b>
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 01/01/14	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income	\$ 61,355	\$ 60,376
Expenses	( 67,531)	( 60,376)
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>( 6,176)</b>	<b>0</b>

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

# Agenda for a Prophetic Faith

March 9, 16, 23, 30 and May 4, 2014



Lecture 1: Sister Simone Campbell, Leader, Nuns on the Bus & Director, NETWORK (National Catholic Social Justice Lobby)

***Economic Justice for All—A Moral Imperative***

Sunday, March 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church,  
724 E. Bonita Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773



Lecture 2: Dr. Andrew Guzman, Jackson H. Ralston Professor of Law, Boalt Law School, University of California-Berkeley

***Overheated: the Human Cost of Climate Change***

Sunday, March 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
LaVerne Church of the Brethren,  
2425 "E" Street, LaVerne, CA 91750



Lecture 3: Ellen Brown, Public Banking Institute, author, *Web of Debt*

***Banking for the People—Not for Wall Street***

Sunday, March 23, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.  
Claremont United Methodist Church,  
211 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711



Lecture 4: The Rev. Dr. Art Cribbs, Executive Director, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE-CA)

***A Living Wage, Unions and the Faith Community***

Sunday, March 30, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Claremont United Church of Christ (UCC),  
233 W. Harrison St., Claremont, CA 91711



Lecture 5: Dr. Richard Parker, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

***Inequality—Or a Revival of Community?***

Sunday, May 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.  
Claremont Presbyterian Church,  
1111 Mountain Ave., Claremont, CA 91711

Agenda FOR A  
Prophetic  
Faith  
*It's even worse  
Than it looks,  
But there is  
a way Forward*

•A project of Progressive Christians Uniting (PCU)

•Series ticket for all five lectures \$40

Individual tickets \$12

Low-income, student and scholarship tickets available

•More information: JForney170@aol.com

•Website: [agendaforapropheticfaith.info](http://agendaforapropheticfaith.info)

A prophet "...is a person who knows what time it is."

—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

# COMMUNICATOR



**Claremont Presbyterian Church**  
**1111 North Mountain Avenue**  
**Claremont, CA 91711**  
**(909) 624-9693**

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**Deadline for next issue of the *Communicator*: March 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.

## **Make Every Second Monday a Fiesta**

The second Monday of each month the Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center has a fundraiser at the El Ranchero Restaurant on Foothill Boulevard in Claremont. **On Monday, March 10 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** eat at El Ranchero 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!

## **Prayer Chain**

If you (or a loved one) are in need of prayer, the Prayer Chain of the Presbyterian Women is there for you. 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.