



# COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

October 2016



## Worship Plans

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

*World Communion Sunday*

Joint Worship service with

Emmanuel Hispanic Presbyterian and

GPIB Indonesian Fellowship

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Kuan, President of the  
Claremont School of Theology, preaching

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

*Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Exodus 13:1-3

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

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

*Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10

The Rev. Karen Sapio

**5:00 p.m.**

Ordination service for Krista Wuertz

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

*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

2 Samuel 7:1-7

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

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

*Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*

1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

## From the Pastor

During our New Beginnings study in 2015, we learned that New Beginnings for congregations often emerge from new connections: from churches following their curiosity and their passions to reach out to people or groups who have not previously been on their church's radar. This month a lot of things are happening at and through CPC that emerged in just that way.

The Labyrinth Festival October 7-9: Murphy Daley's curiosity was sparked when she read about churches using the walking of Labyrinths as a spiritual practice. In a conversation with Karee Galloway, she discovered that Karee had been part of a congregation with a Labyrinth ministry before she moved to Claremont. Together, they reached out to Lars Howlett, whose work is dedicated to helping faith communities, schools and other groups discover this practice. Out of this new connection comes the Labyrinth Festival at Claremont coming to CPC this month. You can read more about it in this newsletter.

Our Refugee Concerns Team has been forging new connections with churches and individuals in the Claremont/Pomona area who are working on responses to the Syrian Refugee Crisis. These new connections led to our sanctuary being the host site for A Benefit Concert for Refugees this October 22. We anticipate several hundred guests on our campus that night.

CPC Deacon Sally Lopez attended a performance of The California Baptist Male Chorale at the invitation of a friend. She was so moved and impressed, she knew she wanted Claremont to have a chance to hear this remarkable ensemble. She approached the Evangelism and Nurture Commission to see if CPC would sponsor a concert as part of our Performing Arts program. That event is scheduled for Sunday, October 30.

## Congregational Gathering

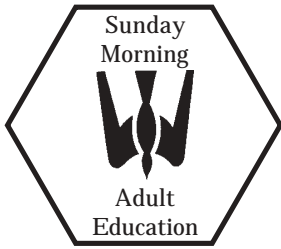
Following worship on Sunday, October 30, our congregation will gather for lunch and to hear from our 2017 Stewardship Team. Our theme for 2017 is "Make a World of Difference." The gathering will highlight the many ways CPC is making a world of difference in the lives of individuals, our community and around the globe. You will learn how your pledge in 2017 will be part of the World of Difference.

## Sunday Morning Adult Education

Two separate programs are available which it is hoped will meet the diverse needs of the congregation. One will meet before worship and the other will meet after worship

### 9:00 a.m. in Room 1

"CPC Coffee & Twitter." This program focuses on dealing with current social, political and international issues. It will provide an opportunity to share our various experiences in the world to strengthen our sense of justice and love and keep us asking how to live in this world as Christians.



- 10/2 Dr. Rev. Jeffery Kuan: President of Claremont School of Theology
- 10/9 Coffee and Twitter
- 10/16 Coffee and Twitter
- 10/23 David Menefee-Libey will lead the discussion on elections in the U.S.
- 10/30 David Menefee-Libey will lead the discussion on elections in the U.S.

### 11:15 a.m. in the CPC Library

A Bible study which leads people to learn more about the Bible, Christianity and its theological aspects which can deepen the faith that we confess and help mature our Christian spirituality. We will use the curriculum of "Living the Word: Small Group" and "Life Mosaic" that correspond to the "Narrative Lectionary" that we are following in worship. Every week's material will correspond to the sermon on Sundays. The leaders are the Rev. Karen Sapio, the Rev. Dongwoo Lee, the Rev. Mark Carlson and the Rev. Tina Blair.

If you have a question, please talk to the Rev. Dongwoo Lee. (revdongwoolee@gmail.com)

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## Progress in Capital Campaign Projects

Your Capital Campaign contributions are at work! Work has begun on the patios, which will be under the mature trees outside of Rooms 4 (the old Resource Room) and 7. The patios will be fenced, with lighting and seating for outdoor gatherings, with access through the new French doors in the meeting rooms.

And progress is being made on the renovation of the Chapel. The stained glass windows are being re-installed, followed by new flooring and lighting. When the chapel is completed and new locks are in place, televisions will be hung in the meeting rooms. Exterior painting of the education wing will take four to six weeks.

Be aware that some room names are changing: what was the PYG room is now Room 3, and what was the Resource Room is now Room 4.

All of this is only possible due to your generosity to the Capital Campaign and your faith in the future of Claremont Presbyterian Church for the next 60 years. Your timely payment of your Campaign pledges is truly taking CPC to New Beginnings.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the following people:

*The Capital Campaign Implementation Committee:*

Eric Bernal, Geri DeMasi, Dee Kelley, Joan Leibek, John Loper, Sacha Lord, Karen Sapio and Teddie Warner

*Environmental Stewardship.* Sam Atwood, Tom Bleakney, Scott Randles, Karen Sapio and Steve Sittig

*Facilities.* Sacha Lord, Dee Kelley, Robin Kelley, John Loper, George and Peggy Trindle

*Ministry.* The Mission Commission and New Beginnings groups

*Music* Geri DeMasi, Roger House and Karen Sapio

## Need a Ride?

Do you need a ride to church? Aren't driving right now? Don't have a car? Please call the church office and let us know and the Deacons will find a ride for you. We'd like to see you in worship!



## Sunday Morning for Children and Youth

Each Sunday morning child care will be available for infants and toddlers up to 5 years of age during both the 9:00 and 10:00 hours.

Preschool Sunday School meets from 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. in the nursery.

During the 10:00 worship hour children grades K - 5 will be excused from worship following the "Time with the Children" to go to Godly Play and Creative Expression.

Youth from 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade will meet for Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

## Krista Wuertz Ordination!

At its meeting on September 10, the Presbytery of San Gabriel examined and approved Krista Wuertz for ordination as a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church USA. A Service of Ordination is planned for October 16 at 5:00 p.m. here at CPC. Representatives from the Presbytery of San Gabriel as well as many of Krista's mentors and friends will be here to celebrate with us. A reception will follow in Angell Courtyard.

Plan to come celebrate as Krista begins a new chapter in her ministry with the PCUSA and the church universal.

## Concert to Benefit Syrian Refugees

You are invited to a Benefit Concert for Syrian refugees moving into East San Gabriel Valley on Saturday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Claremont Presbyterian Church. Nassar Musu and Amadou Fall will be sharing their West African and Arabic Folk music as we celebrate our new neighbors and raise money for refugee resettlement. The suggested donation for VIP tickets is \$20.00, which includes preferred seating and meet and greet after the concert. There are also free tickets available for general seating. Tickets are available on Event Brite <http://syrianrefugeeconcert.eventbrite.com>.

This event is hosted by Pomona Presbyterian Church, Islamic Center of Claremont and Claremont Presbyterian Church.

## New Artist in Residence - Jordan Nesbit

Jordan Nesbit, our new Artist in Residence, will be working with our children, youth and young adults as they seek to explore and express their faith in creative ways.

Jordan is a University of La Verne alumnus with a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art, graduating Cum Laude, with Honors in Studio Art, and from the University's Global Ideas Honors Program. Nesbit currently works as a Gallery Preparer/Art

## Pastor Karen to Cuba

On October 1, Pastor Karen Sapio will join guests from the U.S. and around the world in celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Cuba. This is the seminary where CPC member Josey Saez-Acevedo and her husband, the Rev. Dr. David Cortes-Fuentes are serving as PCUSA Mission Co-Workers. The seminary in Matanzas has enabled the Presbyterian Church in Cuba to remain strong and vital in spite of its many challenges through the last 50 years.

Karen will share her experiences during an Adult Education forum in November.

## Youth Trip Meeting

We have not had an International Youth trip for quite some time. To get this conversation started, I would like to have a meeting to collect ideas.

Questions like: Could we open the program up to older local college aged kids as we seem to have a few available locally? Where do we go? We have a relationship with Peru, do we continue with that? I already looked into Cuba, but it is not straightforward and needs a lot of legwork. What are your ideas for location, best travel dates, activities, chaperones?

Let's meet after church on Sunday, October 16 at 11:15 a.m. in Room 7. If you can't make it but would like to give me your input, please email me at [judy.kohnen@gmail.com](mailto:judy.kohnen@gmail.com).

~Judy Kohnen

## Sunday School for Preschoolers

Marina Gonzales, our Nursery Director, will meet with the children that are interested in more focused faith lessons from 9:15- 9:45. The lesson will be followed by a snack, and then the children will be walked up to worship at 10:00.

If you would like to volunteer to stay and help with the lessons, please talk to Marina directly. You are welcome to drop your child off as early as 9:00 a.m. Our adult education hour is from 9:00-10:00, so this would give you the opportunity to participate in that if you like. During the 10:00 hour, the children's routine will remain consistent with what it has been in the past.

## People in the Church: The Prayer Chain

*On August 27 CPC held a memorial service for long-time member Marilyn Hamilton. Among the small group in attendance was her grandson, Peter O'Connell. We at CPC are grateful for her signal effort in creating the CPC Prayer Chain, an act which today deserves continued recognition. The following article appeared in the Communicator in 2010 and has been slightly updated. Thanks again, Marilyn, for the Prayer Chain.*

Peter O'Connell's scream pierced the night. The young boy had "brittle bone disease," and another bone had just snapped. His grandmother, Marilyn Hamilton, felt a knife of pain shoot through her. "I felt so helpless," she said. "I needed to do something." A few days later she got the Presbyterian Women to organize a prayer chain similar to the ones she had known in other churches. That was over fifteen years ago.

The CPC Prayer Chain, composed of twenty women, continues today. Carolyn Knight became the leader in the early years and faithfully performed that responsibility until recently, when it passed to Phyllis DeLeo and now (2016) Joyce Alexander.

How does it work? Often a person may call one of the pastors (624-9693) or [Joyce Alexander 909-621-0493] and request prayers for themselves or someone else. In all cases the information is confidential and Joyce checks with the person to see what information she can share with the Prayer Chain and to make sure they want prayers. The group relies on a telephone tree. Joyce contacts three people, who each contact three others, until all twenty are notified. Members are given a name and sometimes additional information.

I was especially curious to know what people in the Prayer Chain prayed for. In our society we know that some people pray for money, some pray for miracles. Often they seem to be saying that God ought to do what we want, instead of us following God's will. In the case of my own illness (myasthenia gravis) that began in 2008 I found myself unsure what to pray. If the illness was God's will, or even more, if it was somehow a "gift" from God, to me or someone else, wouldn't I be wrong to pray that the illness be taken away, that a cure would occur? On the other hand, it seemed too much, at least in the beginning, to offer prayers of gratitude for these times of trauma and crisis. Is there some wisdom we might gain from the Prayer Chain?

I discovered that what and how Prayer Chain members pray is left to their own discretion. "I pray that God bless the person. I pray that God's will be done," said Leonaine Dixon. "If it's an upcoming surgery," said Marjorie Stoddard, "I often pray that the person be at peace. And I pray that the physicians have a good night's sleep." Phyllis DeLeo prays that the person feels

surrounded by God's loving, healing presence. Her prayers are not just for physical healing, but emotional and spiritual healing as well. Marilyn Hamilton said, "I pray that people know they are not alone, that they know they are loved, that they are in the good hands of a loving God." What if it involves a terminal illness? Pat Beswick said, "I pray 'God, don't let this person suffer.' I pray that there is somebody to be with them." And if there are times when it seems appropriate Pat will pray "that you and your family know that this is a gift." In the midst of the traumas and the tragedies, their vision of a loving God comes through so powerfully in these prayers.

For the people I interviewed, these prayers were not tasks or obligations. Their prayer lives strengthened their own connection to God. At a time when Marilyn Hamilton felt helpless to stop Peter's illness and pain, she could turn to God in prayer and know that she and God together could be of help. "It brings me closer to God's reality and the importance of faith in our lives," remarked Leonaine Dixon. Marj Stoddard spoke of having "a feeling that I am supported." Phyllis DeLeo told me that prayer provides a vital connection between us, and between us and God. "We are spiritual beings," she declared. "To deny that, to deny prayer, is to lose sight of who we really are."

Is the Prayer Chain well used by our congregation? There are dry spells and there are floods. I got the sense that we averaged 3-4 requests per week. That had Marjorie Stoddard wondering, "How many people avail themselves of the Prayer Chain?" Do most of us know it exists? Are we embarrassed to request prayers for ourselves? Does it ever occur to us that our request might help others connect to God? Most of the requests are health-related and come at a time of crisis. Imagine how many more of us might seek prayers for spiritual help. Remember the man who told Jesus, "Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief."

In my own case, I never quite resolved the question of what I should pray for, and yet by the time I was one year into the illness I seemed to be emotionally and spiritually at the place desired by the Prayer Chain people. Does that sound like prayer is working?

~Dick Johnson, 2010 and 2016







## Angel Interfaith Network

This year's "Project Angel" meeting will be on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Claremont Presbyterian Church. This annual Baby Shower which supports the Angel Interfaith Network, supplies items for babies born at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center to guarantee that they go home with the basic supplies needed.

Bring new, unwrapped baby items such as blankets, hygiene items, clothes, diapers, knit caps, car seats, bottles, toys, books, etc. If you cannot attend the shower but would like to donate items, please bring them to church by Sunday, October 16.

If you have any questions you may call the church office at (909) 624-9693.

## CPCC Fundraiser at El Ranchero

On the second Monday of each month you have an opportunity to support the Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center. El Ranchero restaurant at 984 Foothill Boulevard in Claremont has graciously agreed to donate a portion of the receipts one night each month to the Children's Center. **All you have to do is go to El Ranchero on Monday, October 10 between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. and tell them you are with CPCC** (Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center.)

You may eat at the restaurant or take your food to go.



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

**Pastor**  
Karen Sapio

**Church School**  
9:00 a.m.  
(Except in Summer)

**Worship**  
10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care  
available both hours

The Presbyterian Performing Arts Series presents

California Baptist University

## Male Chorale

Mr. Steven Dahlgren, Conductor

Sunday, October 30  
6:30 p.m.  
Claremont  
Presbyterian Church



The concert is free and open to the public.

A freewill offering will be received

## Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 08/31/16	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$ 286,151	\$ 318,000
Other Income	50,206	64,067
Bequests/Gifts	5,000	0
Expenses	( 359,086)	( 382,785)
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>( 17,729)</b>	<b>( 718)</b>
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 08/31/16	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income	\$ 503,007	483,731
Expenses	( 487,849)	( 483,731)
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>15,158</b>	<b>0</b>

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

## 8th Annual Interfaith Walk and Rally for Peace

This annual event planned to promote friendship and understanding among faiths in the Pomona Valley will begin with an opening program at City of Knowledge on Sunday, October 16 at 4:00 p.m. The walk begins there and stops at the Islamic Center of Claremont at 4:30 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 5:00 p.m. and ends at Temple Beth Israel at 5:30 p.m. where a light communal meal will be served. All faiths and ages are welcome. (Those unable to walk comfortably are welcome to drive between locations.)

This event is sponsored by the Claremont Interfaith Working Group for Mideast Peace. You may contact them by email at [ClaremontInterfaithWG@gmail.com](mailto:ClaremontInterfaithWG@gmail.com).

## *Learn the art of sacred geometry*

in this weekend series of workshops led by labyrinth expert Lars Howlett. Participants will have multiple opportunities to design, build, and walk labyrinths, while learning about the history and spirituality behind this practice of mindfulness.

Friday, October 7: 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. – Dinner and Lecture

Join us for a simple dinner as Lars leads us through the history and mystery of labyrinths with an informal talk and slide show. The evening includes a short labyrinth walk and time for questions.

Saturday, October 8: Full Day – Design, Build, and Walk a Labyrinth

Morning: Beginning at 9:00 a.m., Lars will provide step-by-step instructions for designing your own labyrinth. In the late morning, we will work in teams to transform everyday objects into walkable, temporary labyrinths. Lunch provided.

Afternoon: Our afternoon includes a series of labyrinth walks, including a family walk at 1:00 p.m. for children of all ages; a guided walk at 2:30, and a vespers walk at 5:00 p.m. accompanied by music.

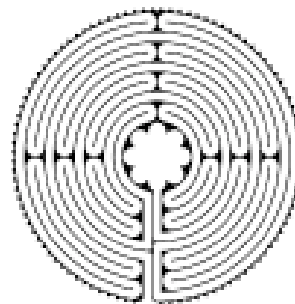
Sunday, October 9: 9:00 a.m. - Noon – Guided Walk and Worship.

Join us for a guided labyrinth walk at 9:00 a.m. followed by worship in our sanctuary where Lars and Pastor Karen Sapio will speak on labyrinths and walking meditation as a form of spiritual prayer and practice.

## **Labyrinth Festival October 7-9**

**Free to the public!**

**Reservations  
recommended  
(909) 624-9693**



Claremont Presbyterian  
Church  
1111 N. Mountain Avenue,  
Claremont

## **Living Waters for the World**

On September 13, Claremont Presbyterian Church launched Veronica Hernandez and Judy Kohnen from Claremont, to the highland Andes of Peru. The team joins five other members from the San Gabriel Presbytery (Wendy Gist, Rob Crowell, Pat Martinez-Miller, Bob and Debbie Cowan.) Judy and Veronica work together, providing educational health training at two new Living Waters for the World (LWW) water purification systems located in Huanta and Yanama. The government brings piped water to its population, but poor infrastructure and maintenance issues mean that over 80% of the population has water-borne hepatitis A and B, from agricultural and human contaminants seeping into the water lines. This is why the systems are needed.

Our September installations are in the highland Andes area, in the province of Ayacucho. The project in Huanta is an elementary school with 300 students. Judy and Veronica provide all the instructional materials, show the teachers how to use it, and then spend a day watching the teachers teach a classroom of children the LWW curriculum. Huanta is a rural town but the second site, Yanama, is a huge slum, in the city of Ayacucho. The slum is divided into districts. We previously installed a system in district 13, but it had been moved to district 7, and they need a refresher class on system maintenance and educational training.

The Living Waters initiative in Peru is growing; there are installations by other groups in other highland cities like Arequipa, Cusco, as well as a jungle systems in Iquito. For the first time, Living Waters is sponsoring members from all these places, a few Americans but all the Peruvian installment leaders and partners. Locally, the Peruvians need to make it convenient to pick-up the water, and figure out how to price the water so that there is money to pay for new water bottles and for someone to run the system.

This is the latest news. And there is momentum. Rotary International has funded fifteen more sites, schools and orphanages, all in Lima. We will be scoping potential locations, and expect some of these to be ready in the Spring 2017, Irene Atwood is already on stand-by for that trip.

Of course, this work stands on the shoulders of other Claremont and San Gabriel team members who coordinate behind the scenes and have done five previous installations. Irene Atwood did all the shopping for this trip. Octavio Guerrero figures out funding. Roger Denton is a powerful fundraising worker. Sam Atwood, Will Kohnen, and many, many hands in our congregation continue to make this mighty undertaking a little easier.

# 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*: October 15**

## **New Friendship Grow & Old Friendships Deepen Around Tables for Eight**

Each fall CPC invites members and friends to sign up to be part of a Tables for Eight, a small fellowship group that meets regularly for dinner and conversation. Each group sets its own schedule. Meals can happen in homes, restaurants or in a room here at the church. You can sign up on the sign up form in your bulletin on October 9, 16 or 23 or call the church office.

## **“Like” Us on Facebook**

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.

## **Mark Your Calendars!**

**The Alternative Christmas**

**Market**

**arrives in Fellowship Hall**

**on Sunday,**

**November 20, 2016**

## **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.

## **Soup Friday**

Now it is easy to sign up to help at Soup Friday using the online tool. Just go to <http://signupgenius.com/go/10c0a45acad2ca02-soup>. You can also check to see if anyone has signed up. If there is no “Soupervisor” the group is most likely not meeting!

Soup Friday is meeting October 7 as part of the Labyrinth Festival.