



COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

September 2016



Worship Plans

Sunday, September 4 10:00 a.m.

Twenty Sunday in Ordinary Time

Krista Wuertz preaching

The People's Choice Sermon Series:
"Who Deserves Redemption?"

Sunday, September 11 10:00 a.m.

New Beginnings Sunday

Narrative Lectionary 2016-17 Begins

Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, September 18 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 15:1-6 (Luke 3:8)

The Rev. Dr. Mary Kuhns preaching

Sunday, September 25 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

From the Pastor

Coming in September to A Pulpit Near You: The Narrative Lectionary

Starting September 11, our New Beginnings Sunday, worship at CPC will begin following The Narrative Lectionary for the next nine months.

A lectionary is a formal plan for the reading and proclamation of scripture in worship. John Calvin often followed a plan of "lectio continua" reading progressively through an entire book of the Bible. In the 1980's, many Protestant churches adopted the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of scripture readings for worship based on older lectionaries from the Anglican, Lutheran and Catholic traditions.

More recently, creative pastors, scholars and worship leaders have developed additional lectionaries to meet the needs of ministry in ever-changing contexts. For example, several years ago we used portions of The Season of Creation: a series of readings designed to focus on scriptures related to environmental stewardship.

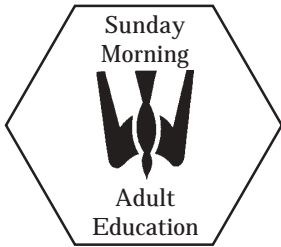
The **Narrative Lectionary** is a four-year cycle of readings. Each year is designed to move the congregation through the whole narrative arc of the Biblical story—from Creation through the early church. Each cycle begins in September and focuses on stories from the Hebrew Scripture through the beginning of Advent. From Christmas through Easter the readings move progressively through one of the four gospels. From Easter through Pentecost, the readings follow themes from the Book of Acts and the New Testament letters. There are no assigned readings in the summer months, leaving congregations free to enjoy summer preaching series—such as our own People's Choice series.

For our Adult Education Bible Study, we have chosen a curriculum that follows the Narrative Lectionary. This will allow Bible Study participants to delve even deeper into the texts around which our Sunday worship is based.

At the end of the 2016-17 cycle, our pastors along with the Worship and Music Commission will evaluate whether to continue with the Narrative Lectionary for another cycle. For more information about the Narrative Lectionary, check out http://www.workingpreacher.org/narrative_faqs.aspx.

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.



The first option could be called by many names, "Presbyterians in the World," "The News and the Good News," or "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. **This group will meet in Room 1 at 9:00 a.m. beginning September 11, 2016.**

- 9/11 Rev. Nuha Tomeh: A former PCUSA liaison to Middle East.
- 9/18 Refugee Task Force (Sharing reflections on a summer with Syria and Lebanon and exploring next steps by Jane Douglass and Mary Elyousef)
- 9/25 Refugee Task Force (Guest speaker & discussion)
- 10/2 Dr. Rev. Jeffery Kuan: President at Claremont School of Theology.

The second is 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. **Bible study will meet in the library at 11:15 a.m. beginning September 18, 2016.** We will use the curriculum of "Living the Word: Small Group" that corresponds to "The Narrative Lectionary" we will follow in worship. Every week's material corresponds to the sermon on Sunday. If there is enough interest in meeting on a weekday, that may be scheduled as well.

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

Guidelines for Use of Funds for New Initiatives in Mission and Ministry

During our 2015 Capital Campaign, Claremont Presbyterian Church designated ten percent of pledges for New Initiatives in Mission and Ministry. Some donors designated additional portions of their pledge to this fund.

Session appointed a small task force to design goals and guidelines for the use of these funds. Session approved the following guidelines at their June meeting.

The Fund for New Initiatives in Mission exists to:

- Enable CPC to enter into new mission partnerships not funded by the existing operating budget.
- Train and equip CPC members for leadership in ministry and mission.
- Provide seed money/venture capital for social enterprises that would extend CPC's mission reach and mission funding capacity.
- Support internships for individuals engaging CPC in transformational mission.

The process for receiving a grant from this fund is as follows:

- ◆ Person or group with mission idea meets with a member of CPC pastoral staff or designated

member of Session to discuss their proposal.

- ◆ After this initial consultation, the person or group will have the opportunity to complete a Mission Funding Proposal.
- ◆ Except for applications for less than \$500, applications will be reviewed by a Funding Review Team appointed by Session. The senior pastor may approve applications for \$500 or less and report such action to Session.
- ◆ If the FRT decides to move forward, it will meet with proposers for an interview.
- ◆ The FRT makes decision regarding whether to recommend the proposal to Session.
- ◆ If approved by the FRT, the recommendation goes to Session for final confirmation.

The first grant from this fund was approved by Session at its July meeting. A grant of \$5000 will be used by CPC's Refugee Concerns Team to extend our work with local refugee resettlement efforts, to fund one team member's participation in the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Syria-Lebanon Partnership Network in Louisville this September, and to send at least one member of our team to Syria/Lebanon on a trip sponsored by the Presbyterian Mission Agency in 2017.



Activities for Children, Youth and Young Adults

In September we have many learning and fellowship opportunities for children and youth from infancy through college age/graduate school. All of the activities described below will begin on our New Beginnings Sunday: September 11.

Ages 0-4: Sunday Nursery: We have a wonderful nursery director, nursery assistant and volunteers from our congregation that care for and teach our youngest children. The children in the nursery learn primarily through music and play. The nursery is open every Sunday from 9:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Elementary Age Children (grades K-5): Godly Play: Godly Play uses storytelling and the invitation each week for the children to respond creatively through art, music and movement to the stories they hear to help children develop a sense of the beauty, mystery and wonder that is part of learning the stories of God's movement in the lives of the people of God. In the fall our focus is primarily on foundational stories found in the Old Testament. We have an excellent and experienced team of youth and adult teachers returning this year to work collaboratively to teach the Godly Play lessons each Sunday. Godly Play meets every Sunday morning from 10:15 -11:15 a.m. The children are invited to come to worship at 10:00 a.m., and then leave with their teachers after "The Time with the Children."

Junior High and High School Youth (grades 6-12): Sunday School and Youth Group: Our Youth have the opportunity to meet for study and conversation every Sunday morning from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Long-time congregation members and educators, Jeanine and Larry Robertson, teach this Sunday school class. On Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m. we have a youth group that Junior High and High School age students are welcome to attend. This is a fellowship group and is led by our Youth Advisor, Jenny Eazell and our Interim Associate Pastor, Krista Wuertz.

College-age and Graduate School: Fellowship Group: This year, we are beginning a college/grad. school age fellowship group on Sunday evenings from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. This is a drop-in group, and it will be facilitated by a small group of adults from our staff and congregation. Any college or graduate school age young people are invited to come to this fellowship group as frequently as they are able to attend. Those who are away at college are welcome to drop in this group whenever they are back in town.



If you have questions, or would like more information about any of these activities for young people in our congregation, please contact Krista at krista@claremontpres.org.

New Beginnings Sunday: September 11

On this first Sunday after Labor Day, we gather for worship to celebrate New Beginnings:

- * In Christian Nurture as Godly Plan, Youth and Young Adult groups begin
- * In Mission as we Commission members of our Church to travel to Peru
- * In Global Partnerships as we hear from PCUSA Mission leader Nuhad Tomeh
- * In Friendship and Fellowship as we join for a meal in Fellowship Hall/Angell Courtyard

Join the Choir

The Sanctuary Choir is starting up again for the year and we welcome any church member or friend, new or old, to join us. The choir is a fun-loving, hard-working, energetic group that loves a variety of music. Current members are always pleased when new people join the choir. No audition is required. The choir is made up of musicians of all experience levels, so you don't need to be a strong sight-reader or an experienced musician to join. All that is required is a willing spirit, and an enjoyment of singing.

Our first rehearsal is **Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m.** in the choir room. Our first Sunday to sing is September 11.

Looking forward to learning and singing with you soon!

Gerri DeMasi on Hymn Society Conference

I would like to thank CPC and the congregation for providing the opportunity for me to attend the annual conference of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, which was held in mid-July at the University of Redlands.

I came to the conference unsure of what to expect, but open to new people and possibilities. There were a variety of professions represented, including academic theological scholars, church pastors, choir directors, liturgical composers and fellow organists. A hymn festival was presented on a daily basis, and one organist from the Kansas City area was particularly inspirational. Rather than singing the hymns, I found myself taking detailed notes on everything that she was doing! I am hoping to incorporate some of her innovative approaches to hymn introductions and registrations into our worship at CPC.

The fellowship among all of the participants was remarkable. Even with all of the group's collective accomplishments, I was amazed by the collegial environment and the support of such well-known musicians as John Horman, Daniel Damon and others. I even had the opportunity to present some of my compositions to a publisher, and received some very encouraging comments.

It was an exciting and affirming conference, and I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to participate.

Crossroads Orientation

Crossroads, an agency that provides housing and services for women coming out of prison, will be conducting an orientation on Monday, September 19, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer or for anyone interested in learning more about the agency. There will be a program overview, a discussion about volunteering and a question and answer period.

The orientation will take place at the Crossroads administration office, 250 W. First Street, suite 254, Claremont, CA, 91711. The office is on the second floor above the Escape Salon. Once you get to the second floor, walk about 15 feet and you will see a sign directing you to turn to the hallway on the left to get to Crossroads. Go down that hallway and our suite, #254, will be on the left.

We hope to see you there!

Labyrinth Festival in October

A Labyrinth Festival will be coming to CPC the weekend of October 7, 8 and 9. As part of our New Beginnings goal to offer more opportunities for spiritual growth and exploration, a team of CPC members is working to organize this event for our church and the wider Claremont community.

Lars Howlett, an international Labyrinth expert, will be leading a lecture and workshop to introduce us to the history, practice and experience of labyrinths. Starting with an introduction on Friday evening, continuing with a day workshop on Saturday we can learn how to design, create and walk a labyrinth. Come join the fun and benefit from this ancient meditation practice of worship.

Save the date and watch for more information in the October Communicator.

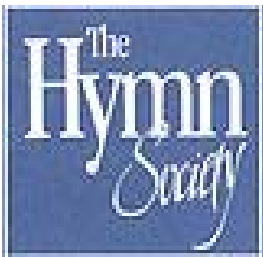
Bag-It Sunday

The CPC Board of Deacons is preparing for our annual "Bag-It Sunday" on **September 25** where we put together hygiene kits for homeless people who come to the Beta and Sova Centers that we support. We are looking for toiletry items (all in travel sizes) that you can pick up while you are travelling or shopping.

Some suggestions of items to bring are:

Washcloth, New Gym Socks,
Toothbrush, Toothpaste,
Emery Board, Shaving Cream,
Disposable Razor,
Kleenex Pack,
Shampoo, Conditioner,
Deodorant (men's and women's),
Comb, Dental Floss, Hand Lotion,
Sewing Kit, Band Aids

Please drop off your donations in the church office any day before September 25.



Meet Teddy Muaja, Lay Leader of the GPIB (Indonesian) Fellowship

Teddy Muaja has lived in the United States continuously since August 31, 2001. Although he had lived in the states for five years in the 1980's, he knows that God was watching over him when he entered the states in 2001 less than two weeks before 9/11. Teddy feels certain that he would not have been allowed to enter if he had been scheduled to arrive after 9/11.

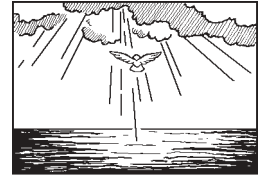
God has had a hand in Teddy's life for many years. His father came from a long line of Christians on North Sulawesi, one of the Indonesian islands, so Teddy knew something about Christianity. But during his youth he was "a bad boy." He was involved in a motorcycle accident and a car accident. Now he realizes how God was looking after him, waiting for Teddy to ask for forgiveness. This he did when he got married in 1979. His wife also came from a long-time Christian family. Teddy writes, "I started to really feel the new life by leaving the past life filled with sin and defects." Teddy's mother also became a Christian during that time; God healed her from an illness and a malignant tumor. Now she too lives in southern California and is a member of the GPIB Fellowship.

Teddy is employed at one of the area warehouses which receives and distributes health food and pharmaceutical products. God has answered his prayers because he does not have to work on the weekends. Teddy and his wife have two adult sons who also live here in southern California.

Currently Teddy is the secretary of the ten member GPIB Church Council at CPC. He is also one of the founding six members of the fellowship. He has served on many church councils since he became a committed Christian in 1979. In fact, one of the things I have learned from Teddy is how many Indonesian Protestant congregations there are in southern California.

When speaking about his church journey, Teddy points to the fact that God wants us to serve rather than be served so he is willing to help with the ministry of the church. Being a volunteer is "a job that is noble and pleasing to God." He prays that his service is a blessing to many people.

This article has been written by Gail Duggan who would be happy to have others from CPC join her and Ruth Auld at the 3:00 GPIB p.m. worship services on Sunday afternoons.



Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.

- John 4:14

Session Digest - Session Builds Toward New Beginnings Goals

Over the last three months, Session has worked diligently to turn the church's New Beginnings goals into concrete plans that we can implement in the next 12 to 15 months.

One of these goals is to "reach out" to youth, young families, and others not currently engaged in our congregation. Plans are being developed for:

- **Jazz Vespers and Performances:** Elder John Watts is leading an effort to use our facility as a venue for jazz performances and to initiate a jazz vespers service.
- **Waffle Church:** Interim Associate Pastor Krista Wuertz is leading a team to establish a Sunday morning service that incorporates breakfast, song, and prayer.
- **New Ministries:** The capital campaign has created a fund of approximately \$85,000 to seed and support new missions and ministries. Session has approved the criteria and procedures for expending these funds and a general announcement will be made in September. Session also approved a first grant: \$5,000 to support the Syrian Refugee Task Force.

- **One Campus, Many Congregations:** Parish Associate, Rev. Dongwoo Lee, is leading a process to better connect CPC and the other congregations that meet on our campus: the Korean Fellowship, Emmanuel Presbyterian, and the GPIB Indonesian Church. He has led two joint meetings where leaders of the congregations pray for one another and share ideas for cooperation and joint activities.

There are several other ideas in the works: plans for more contemplative ministries and retreats, work toward telling the story of the groups who use our campus that comprise part of our overall mission, and an exploration of how we can create a long term financial strategy.

In the meantime, Session urges members to help this year's operations by keeping current in their pledges (we have a balanced budget this year based on amounts pledged) and to augment your pledges if that's possible.

As always, copies of Session minutes are available in the church office.

*~Charles Taylor Kerchner,
Clerk of Session*

For more on New Beginnings see the church website. Background on the process: click About Us, New Beginnings. For Rev. Sapio's summary of the goals and outcomes: click News and Events, Newsletter, June 2016 Newsletter.



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, September 12 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.

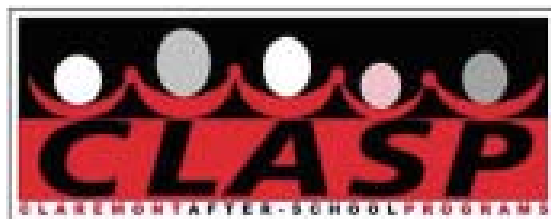


Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 07/31/16	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$ 253,141	\$ 278,250
Other Income	45,527	56,058
Bequests/Gifts	5,000	0
Expenses	(312,873)	(335,250)
VARIANCE	(9,205)	(942)
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 07/31/16	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income	\$ 440,078	423,264
Expenses	(428,348)	(423,264)
VARIANCE	11,730	0

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

CLASP Needs Your Help!



We are looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in the lives of Claremont elementary school children. Can you volunteer for two hours during one afternoon per week?

You will be a friend and tutor for children who need help in order to complete their homework and develop their skills. You may choose from five community sites serving either K - 3rd or 4th - 6th grade students.

Please join over 200 volunteers (including members of the community, college, and high school students), so that we can serve more children in need this year. Our 11th year of service begins during the week of September 19. Orientation for new tutors will occur during the prior week.

For more information, www.clasp4kids.org.

Commission Leadership

Our New Class of Elders was installed in May 2016. This summer, Session has been at work determining leadership for existing Commissions. The following are Chairs and/or Session Liaisons for 2016-17:

Adult Education	Elaine Walker
Evangelism and Nurture	Jean Perry
Church and Society	Scott Randles
Personnel	Kent Miller
Worship and Music	John Watts
Children's Center Board	Irene Atwood
Property and Finance	Janet Siedschlag
Stewardship	Janet Siedschlag and Dayle Keller
Mission	Delight Slotemaker de Bruine
Special Gifts & Endowment	Kent Warner
Nominating	tbd
Youth and Children's Ministry	tbd



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

Pastor
Karen Sapio

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

Worship
10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care
available both hours

The Loaves and Fishes Society: An Additional Way to Give Back to CPC

*There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish.
But what are they among so many?*

~John 6:9

The Loaves and Fishes Society, the bequest program at CPC, provides all of us with an additional way to “give back” to our wonderful Church, in response to all that we have received.

While the annual pledge campaign provides the vital funding to support the daily operating budget of the Church, the bequest program serves long-range needs, as described in the Loaves and Fishes Society brochure. If you would like another copy of the brochure for yourself or a friend, please pick one up in the Church office – we hope it will serve as a ready guide and reference for future use.

Just as the loaves and fishes were multiplied to sustain multitudes (John 6:9), our individual bequest gifts, when combined with those of others, will have a far greater impact than any one of us could achieve on our own. Currently, thirty people are members of our Loaves and Fishes Society.

When you too have taken this important step, please inform one of the Pastors, any member of the Committee, or Jo Colclough in the Church office – we want to offer our hearty thanks to you, as well!



The Special Gifts and Endowment Committee
of Claremont Presbyterian Church
Eric Bernal, Tom Duggan,
Roger House, Dee Kelley,
Karen Sapio, Stan Springer,
Kent Warner, Mike Wigton

Save the Date!

**The Alternative Christmas
Market
is coming to CPC
on Sunday,
November 20, 2016**

An Invitation to Bible Study

Presbyterian Women invite all interested persons (and all includes men!) to attend a Bible Study led by our own Bear Ride, former Associate Pastor at CPC, much beloved.

Who Is Jesus?

Bible Study led by Bear Ride

Tuesday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Room 7, newly renovated

All Are Welcome

Study Guides Available, Pat

Beswick (909) 626-6624

On the way to Caesarea Phillipi with his disciples, Jesus asks, “So what is the word on the streets? Who do people say I am?” The author of this study prays that in the course of the nine monthly discussions, you will find your own voice, your own answer. *Who do you say that I am?* Bear enthusiastically recommends this study.

Continuing to look forward, Presbyterian Women welcome all to the following two events:

Project Angel, an ecumenical baby shower, Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. in CPC’s Fellowship Hall.

Book Review/Tea with Elaine Walker, Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in CPC’s Fellowship Hall.



The Latest

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

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

The church Facebook page has an Email Signup App. You may also contact Jo Colclough in the church office at jcolclough@claremontpres.org and tell her you would like to subscribe.

COMMUNICATOR



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

“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.

Be sure to share it with your friends!

Soup Friday

Soup Friday will meet again Friday, September 9 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come for a light meal of soup, salad and bread. Meet new people, invite old friends. If you feel inspired to bring food, please do so, but if not, please just come!

“Soupervisors” are needed to keep this project going, please contact Pastor Karen or Nora Quinn. You only need to commit to being in charge one Friday at a time.

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.