



COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

September 2017



WORSHIP PLANS

Sunday, September 3 10:00 a.m.

Communion Sunday

Labor Day Weekend

Blessing of Hands for Work

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, September 10 10:00 a.m.

New Beginnings Sunday

Habakkuk 2:1-4

Fall Sermon Series:

"Let's Run with It!"

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, September 17 10:00 a.m.

Acts 9:10-19

"Don't Run in the House:

The Challenge of Evangelism"

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, September 24 10:00 a.m.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11, 3:1-8

"Running Out of Time:

The Church and the Time Famine"

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

From the Pastor

On Backpack Sunday, church member Teddie Warner shared a story. She was standing in the checkout line, her cart overflowing with school supplies, when the woman standing next to her asked, "Are you a teacher?"

"No," Teddie replied. "This is all for my church. Every August we fill thirty or more new backpacks with school supplies for children in need." The woman then asked Teddie to wait while she went to her car. She came back with a new backpack that she wanted to donate to our Backpack Sunday project. She told Teddie, "I'm homeless. A community center was giving out these backpacks. I got two, but I really only need one."

Teddie noted that something similar happened at the next store she stopped at. Her companions in the checkout line gave her a cash donation on the spot when they learned who the school supplies were for.

Teddie's story demonstrates something vital for us:

1. When we share what our church is doing, people are interested and want to participate.
2. Engaging with others about our congregation and its work is not that complicated.

This Fall, our Session is challenging our whole congregation to re-commit to outreach. In order that this goal can be specific and tangible, we will focus for the fall months on increasing participation in worship.

Here is the challenge: Everyone, Every Week!

Because we believe that a vital and joyful gathered community is at the heart of a vital church and provides the foundation for growing in faith, discerning our calls, and gaining the clarity and courage to act as God's people in the world we commit to building participation in Sunday worship at Claremont Presbyterian Church.

Each week, we challenge everyone to do AT LEAST one of the following:

- * Come to Church.
- * Invite someone to come to church.
- * Share an event or opportunity at our church on your social media platforms.
- * Speak to someone you do not know well on the patio during coffee hour.
- * Reach out to someone from our congregation who you have not seen recently.

And above all, pray that our congregation will grow in its capacity to form faithful and courageous disciples of Christ who will share the love, compassion and mercy of God in the world.

See you in church!

Karen Sapio

Sunday Morning Adult Education

Sunday Morning at Nine Adult Education will begin a new year on Sunday, September 17. The first two weeks will be a series on "Fighting Hate." Please join us.



Sunday, September 17 - Fighting Hate - Room 1
Sunday, September 24 - Fighting Hate - Room 1

New Beginnings Sunday September 10

As summer turns to fall, many of our ministries begin anew. On **Sunday, September 10** we will celebrate our New Beginnings in worship. We will welcome two seminary interns to our staff, receive new members, hear an update from our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and bless students and teachers as they begin a new year of learning together. The choir will be back in the loft and Pastor Karen Sapio will begin a new sermon series called "Let's Run with It: The Importance of a Vision."

Following worship, visit the tables on the patio to learn about the various ministries of our church, then move to Angell Courtyard where Roger Denton will have the grill up and running for hot dogs and hamburgers.

Community Meal September 24

Our church is one of a number of 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.

This meal program is part of the response to discussion several 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, September 24**. On that date, volunteers are needed to either (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.

If you're interested in helping out, please contact Sue Likens at suelikens@gmail.com. or (909) 626-5593.



September Brings Hellos and Goodbyes for CPC Staff

The start of a new school year brings changes to our CPC Staff this fall.

Parish Associate Dongwoo Lee has been called by Pasadena Presbyterian Church to be the lead pastor for it Korean Language Ministry. Dongwoo will begin his work with Pasadena Presbyterian on September 1. Our gratitude and prayers go with him. We are glad he will not be very far away.

As we say goodbye to Pastor Dongwoo, two seminarians will be joining our ministry staff this fall.

Catharine Taylor is a third year student in the Claremont School of Theology's hybrid MDiv program. She normally lives in Virginia and does most of her coursework online. This fall, however, she is in residence at CST and will be joining us to work with our Christian Education and Worship ministries. Catharine worked for many years as a high school math teacher and is an active member of Vienna Presbyterian Church in Vienna, Virginia.

Kristi Van Nostran recently returned from six years as a Presbyterian Mission Co-worker in El Salvador. She is in southern California to complete her MDiv at Fuller Seminary. Kristi will be working with our Deacons and providing support for our pastoral care ministries. Kristi is from Vancouver, WA and continues to be a member of First Presbyterian Church.

We will welcome our new interns in worship on September 3.



And these words...
shall be upon your heart;
and you shall teach them
diligently to your children...
-Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Sundays for Children, Youth and Young Adults Beginning September 10

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.

- ♦ Youth from 6th - 12th grade will meet for Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
- ♦ 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 Group for junior high and senior high school students meets Sundays after church for lunch.
- ♦ College and Graduate School Age Drop-In Fellowship Group meets Sunday evenings from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Youth & Children's Ministries Begin Again on September 10

A new Sunday School year is about to begin! During the Sunday School hour, which follows "Time with the Children" in 10:00 a.m. worship, our Artist in Residence, Jordan Nesbitt, will help the kids kick off the year with a collaborative art project centered on the theme of seeking God's vision for our lives on both September 10 and 17. Godly Play will begin during the Sunday School hour on September 24.

Beginning September 10, our youth (junior high and high school) Sunday school class will begin meeting at 9:00 a.m. Youth Group will gather for lunch following worship in the Youth Room.

Bag-It Sunday Is September 24

On September 24 we will assemble hygiene kits for the homeless after church. As we fill each bag, we visit with each other, and appreciate having the basic necessities ourselves. Plan to join us after church to participate in this meaningful outreach to those in need.

Other ways you can help include:

- * Saving individual-sized hygiene articles as you travel, or purchase them from the following list. Bring them to CPC by September 17, so the Deacons can purchase needed items.
- * Shopping for individual-sized hygiene supplies, such as soap, shampoo, mouthwash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks (women's and men's), deodorant, razors, shaving cream, combs, etc. Bring them to CPC before September 17.
- * Making a monetary donation so the Deacons can purchase needed items – after church in September or mail checks to the church, with the designation "Bag-It Sunday" in the memo.
- * Joining us to assemble the hygiene kits after church on September 24.

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The eight members of the APNC (Associate Pastor Nominating Committee) include vice-chair Scott Randles, secretary Karee Galloway, communications coordinator Rita Watts, Jenny Eazell, Stuart Lillich, Alejandro Salas, Tom Luschei and myself, Sam Atwood. In addition, Presbytery Committee on Ministry liaison Sonnie Swentson has attended our meetings and advised us on presbytery matters.

Since late July, our APNC has met five times to develop our Ministry Information Form (MIF.) Eventually, this form will be entered into the PCUSA database of available positions for which candidates can apply. The APNC has based the MIF on the Session's job description as well as our discernment of the most relevant findings of our New Beginnings process and our Staffing Strategy Task Force.

Once approved by Session, we will forward the MIF to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry for its consideration during the first week of September. Finally, we will be providing an update to the congregation on our progress during worship on September 10.

Sam Atwood
APNC Chair



Refugee Assistance

It has been just over one year since the Abdul Kanjo family came to Pomona from their refugee life in Jordan. The Syrian family was greeted by Lenore Brashler and others on August 8, 2016 at LAX and the resettlement assistance began. The refugee resettlement team that includes members of CPC and Pomona First Presbyterian Church (now known as “Team 1”) has been very involved in the lives of the Kanjo family since then. Our goal is for them to find some peace and stability in their daily existence and become independent residents of the U.S. Recently we have assisted in their health and dental care needs. While they are all covered by Medi-Cal insurance, some of their health and dental challenges fall outside that coverage. The team has raised funds to help defray those expenses, but the burden of ongoing expenses will eventually have to be borne by the family.

After one year, refugees are required to obtain a “Green Card” (permanent resident status) in order to remain in the country and to work in the country legally. All employers require a Green Card to hire a non-citizen. We are currently guiding them through the process of obtaining these documents and finding out how expensive it is. Adult son, Amer, has been working full time at a Pizza restaurant for the past several months. Father, Abdul is looking forward to finding employment while dealing with some health challenges. Mother, Maysaa has been cooking up a storm for catered events and other social gatherings. The two daughters, Rama and Bayan, and son Abdurahman have been enjoying the summer vacation from school, brushing up on their English and relaxing at the swimming pool.

The Harfoush family came to settle in the Pomona Valley area in April 2017. Refugee

Resettlement Team #2 is providing ongoing assistance for the family of 2 adults and 5 children (the youngest was born on May 17 of this year.) They are renting a house in Pomona with a yard in which the children can play. The oldest daughter is confined to a wheelchair, as a result of wounds suffered in the conflict while living in Syria. She currently receives rehabilitative care at the Casa Colina Medical facility on Pomona.

The Harfoush family struggles with English language learning and finding employment, but Team #2 (led by Judy Kohnen) reports progress on both fronts. Ongoing assistance to the family requires education and cash subsidies. Team #2 is fully engaged in the life of the Harfoush family to help them become more independent.

There are approximately 10 refugee families that have moved into our neighboring Pomona Valley area over the past 3 years. They are from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. They all come from war-torn countries in hopes of finding peace and a new start in life.

The Refugee Concerns Team (RCT) at CPC is staying abreast of the various needs of our Middle Eastern refugee friends and has provided funding support for special needs to some of the families. We continue to hold them in our thoughts and prayers in hopes that they will thrive in their new community. If you take the opportunity to get acquainted with any of these folks, you will understand why we are so fortunate to call them our “neighbors.”

You may donate to the Refugee Resettlement Fund(s) or contribute your time and talent in other ways, to assist in this ministry. Please contact the church office for more information.



Meet Ronny and Vonne Paulus, Members of GPIB (Indonesian Fellowship)



Ronny and Vonne Paulus have been members of the GPIB Indonesian Fellowship since 2014. They both grew up in Christian families where their parents were Elders in their Protestant churches.

The Pauluses have continued that pattern in their own family. Vonne has been the church treasurer many times. She is especially active in the women's activities as well as helping to organize the social events of the congregation.

GPIB worships each Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in Indonesian in the CPC sanctuary. Ronny plays an important role for those of us who don't speak Indonesian. He is one of the simultaneous translators that brings the

sermons and prayers to us in English. Ronny learned English as a teenager when he started leading tourists around some of the ancient sites near the Indonesian city of Yogyakarta. He also helps teach the youth Sunday school class at GPIB-USA Claremont.

Both Vonne and Ronny want God to use their lives and talents. Ronny's favorite Bible verses are Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart...He directs Thy paths."

Elaine Jansak, a student at Claremont School of Theology interviewed the Pauluses for a class she was taking. Gail Duggan adapted Elaine's information for this article.

A Good Book Ahead

In the Communicator for October 2017, Presbyterian Women will announce the new book for Elaine Walker's Book Review, to be held in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Tables for 8 may be reserved with Pat Beswick. All other seating is open and contributions to the tea will be accepted at the tables. All are welcome!

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.

CPCC Fundraiser

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 11 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.



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Editor: Jo Colclough

Pastor
Karen Sapio

Adult Education
9:00 a.m.

Church School
10:15 a.m.

Worship
10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care
available both hours

Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 07/31/17	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	241,407	265,417
Other Income	49,709	75,433
Bequests	29,469	0
Expenses	<u>(328,060)</u>	<u>(340,850)</u>
VARIANCE	(7,475)	0
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 07/31/17	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue	461,157	441,804
Expenses	<u>(462,301)</u>	<u>(441,804)</u>
VARIANCE	(1,144)	0

Presbyterian Performing Arts series presents an event by



The California Jazz Arts Society



Kristin Korb in Concert

Featuring Andy Langham and Ryan Korb

Tuesday, September 26

7:30 p.m.

Claremont Presbyterian Church

1111 N. Mountain Avenue

Claremont, CA 91711

"A protégé of the late Ray Brown, Ms. Korb's bass playing is the foundation of her musicianship. She is an increasingly clever lyricist in the songs she writes, arranges and sings." Doug Ramsey, *Rifftides*

There are few bassists who can sing and there are even fewer who can do it well. **Kristin Korb** is one of those artists who make you forget that she is playing the bass when you hear her crystalline voice. Inspired by the days when music was romantic and made you want to dance, Kristin and her trio embody that spirit and carry their audiences along for the ride.



Suggested donation - \$20.00

JANE DOUGLASS TO OPEN INTERNATIONAL ROSEMARY RADFORD RUETHER CONFERENCE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN PALESTINE/ISRAEL

Jane Douglass is the opening speaker at the October 7 Rosemary Radford Ruether Conference for Justice and Peace in Palestine/Israel. Highlighting Rosemary's many areas of significant contributions, including feminist and liberation theologies, Jane will speak on "The Doors She Opened." The conference honors Rosemary, who suffered a debilitating stroke last year and has not recovered her power of speech.

The conference is both a tribute to Rosemary, an internationally recognized scholar and local resident at Pilgrim Place, and a recognition of issues to which she has devoted her life. Her book, *The Wrath of Jonah: The Crisis of Religious Nationalism in the Israeli-Palestinian*

Conflict (1989), written with her husband, Herman ("Herc") Ruether, remains priority reading for anyone wishing to understand both the conflict and opportunities for peace there. The theme of Jonah, the Ruethers remind us, reveals that anger is not permanent, that forgiveness is necessary, and that God's wish is for nations to live at peace with one another.

The one-day conference at Pilgrim Place will feature a banquet and five internationally known speakers. Registrations prior to September 13 enjoy a \$5.00 reduction in fee.

Further information and registration may be found at <http://2017rosemaryradfordruetherconference.net/>

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Deadline for next *Communicator*: September 15

Presbyterian Women

Fall Bible Study

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 9:30 a.m.

Place: CPC Library

Study Book: *Cloud of Witnesses*,
The Community of Christ in Hebrews

Cost: \$12.00, see Pat Beswick

Leader: Bear Ride

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.

“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.