

2011 Annual Report

Associate Pastor

2011 saw the emergence of new forms of Christian discipleship at Claremont Presbyterian Church, both among youth and adults. Of course, many of our treasured expressions of faith bore fruit as well.

On the traditional side of things, the confirmation process and the annual youth work trip provided ways for students and mentors to work together and to discern the Holy Spirit in our midst. In May the congregation recognized the commitment of 9th graders Carolina Woodcock, Andrew Atwood, and Matthew Hughes while celebrating the work of their respective mentors: Sharron Bentley, David Menefee-Libey, and Edward Santana-Grace.

In June, John Hill, Mark MacKenzie, Irene Atwood, and Linda Silva accompanied 16 high school students to the Life Church of Walker, Louisiana for the annual PYG work trip. This was a return visit to Walker (the PYGs spent three days there in 2007), and we experienced lavish hospitality, compelling worship, and Christian community as we worked together with the saints of Life Church to share the good news and serve their community.

June was a time of new faith experiences too, though, as five students from CPC attended the Junior High Camp at the Big Bear Christian Camp and Conference Center, while one of our high school graduates, Shay Schwartz, served as a camp counselor. Junior high students also got the new experience of a four-day work week with the students from Calvary Presbyterian Church of South Pasadena. Those students, accompanied by committed adults, served people all over Los Angeles and the Pomona Valley, including the Beta Center in Pomona and Homeboy Industries downtown.

Far from downtown, in the Eastern Sierras above Mammoth, Scott and Shelley Randles once again led a memorable camping excursion for our students. Five students had the intimate experience of hiking Panem's Crater and Devil's Postpile, surveying Mono Lake, and sharing life 'round the campfire. This is an invaluable ministry led by the Randles.

The leaders of student ministries at CPC are numerous, and they're a compliment to the church's witness. Larry and Jeanine Robertson faithfully shepherd junior high and high school students each Sunday morning (with doughnuts), while Larry also helps to shape a growing mid-week ministry with junior high boys; Andrew Trindle and Gale Burrow accompany junior high students (PYGlets) each Sunday afternoon, a group that now includes three students from our the GPIB Indonesian congregation; Scott Randles and Linda Silva are a constant source of friendship and guidance for our high school PYGs.

At the time of this report's publication, of course, our student programs are in mid-stream: 9th graders Sarah Blaine, Jean Reeder, and Thomas Randles have already passed through an experimental collaborative confirmation retreat, and we are looking ahead to recognizing them in worship in May. They are being accompanied ably by their respective mentors: Kathy Croughan, Nora Quinn, and John Hill.

The 2012 youth work trip is scheduled for July, a 10 day stretch in Ayacucho, Peru. Nine students from CPC will join with youth and adults from across the San Gabriel Presbytery to contribute to an emerging partnership with the Presbyterian Synod of Ayacucho. You will have ample opportunity to join with these students in preparing for and supporting this cross-cultural ministry opportunity.

Meredith, Laura, and I continue to be extravagantly blessed by the communion of saints here at CPC. I boast eagerly and often of the congregation I have the privilege of serving; you are thoughtful, compassionate, and deeply committed to sharing the love and justice of Jesus with people far and wide. You are teaching us new things all the time, and for that we are thankful.

Solo Gloria Dei.

Rocky Supinger

Associate Pastor