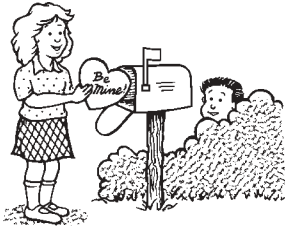




COMMUNICATOR

News from Claremont Presbyterian Church

February 2012



FEBRUARY

Worship Plans

Friday, February 3 7:00 p.m.

Interfaith Interchange with TBI

Evening Service at Temple Beth Israel
Part II of CPC/TBI Exchange

Sunday, February 5 10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, February 12 10:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, February 19 10:00 a.m.

Jazz Sunday

Chet Jaeger and

the Night Blooming Jazzmen

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

Wednesday, February 23 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

A service of reflection and prayer

Sunday, February 26 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Lent

"The Seven Deadly Sins"

The Rev. Karen Sapio preaching

From the Pastor

It is already beginning. As I drove home last night around 5 o'clock, I noticed that it was lighter at that hour than it had been even just last week. The days are getting longer.

That must mean it is time for Lent to begin! In English our word "Lent" comes from the same root word as "length". The word referred to the late winter days when the hours of daylight begin to lengthen noticeably, holding the promise of Spring. It is during these "lengthening" days that we observe the season of preparation for Easter.

We often speak of the core Lenten disciplines as prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We tend to forget, however, that the goal of these disciplines is repentance: turning away from the powers of darkness and death and toward the light of God's liberating love. How do we name those powers that hold us in their grip and keep us from living as God's people?

From its earliest days, the church used the list of "the seven deadly sins" to name the forces at work in the world that keep God's creation bound to the powers of death. Though some Protestants may consider this list something only for Catholics, there has actually been a renewed interest throughout the Church in what this ancient list can teach us about confronting evil in the world.

Our sermon series during Lent this year will focus on this list of The Seven Deadly Sins. We will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22 with worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. The series will continue through the Sundays of Lent. There will be small group opportunities to explore these topics as well.

Stay tuned for more details in the Sunday bulletins and on the Church website.

Karen Sapio

Sunday Morning at Nine Adult Education

Adult Education classes are held each Sunday beginning at 9:00 a.m.



Beyond Brave New Planet

February 5, 12 and 19

The Rev. Vern Visick

Last October CPC hosted an environmental conference with writer/activist Bill McKibben which was attended by over 300 people. What did we learn and what should we do next – as individuals, as a congregation, and in Claremont and beyond? One of the conference organizers, The Rev. Vern Visick, will lead our conversation over three Sunday morning sessions. Vern is a new resident at Pilgrim Place. He served for 23 years as a staff member of the Madison Campus Ministry at the University of Wisconsin. For the past eight years, he has been Director of New College Madison. He holds a PhD in Ethics and Society from the University of Chicago.

When Mental Illness Affects Some You Care About

February 5 and 12

The Rev. David G. Lutz

It is sometimes hard to know how to respond when someone you care about is affected by mental illness. David Lutz, our CPC Parish Associate, will lead a conversation about ways we can respond with compassion and support when someone we know is dealing with mental health challenges of their own or with a spouse or other family member. Rev. Lutz is a pastoral counselor on the staff at The Clinebell Institute here in Claremont.

February 26 - Lenten studies begin on this year's theme: The Seven Deadly Sins. Check the bulletin and church website for details to come.

The 30 Hour Famine Is Back

Claremont youth will band together to protest hunger on February 24 and 25 as they fast for a day as part of World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. Prior to the fast, students will be raising awareness about global hunger and raising funds to combat it. Then, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the 24th, those students will spend a grueling 24 hour period together learning about the dynamics of hunger, sleeping in the church, writing letters, and working for change, all while drinking plenty of fluids.

You can be part of this effort by designating contributions to "30 Hour Famine." You can also take part in Saturday morning's Offering of Letters. Come to the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. and write letters to Congress advocating for social programs for the poor and hungry.



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 22

at 7:00 p.m.

Begin the
season of Lent with
a simple worship service
of reflection and prayer.



Jazz Sunday February 19, 2012

Can't get to New Orleans for Mardi Gras? Experience Dixieland Jazz in our Sunday worship service on February 19. Once again CPC musician Chet Jaeger and his band of Nightblooming Jazzmen will lift our spirits with their unique blend of tunes and inspiration. This is a great Sunday to invite friends to join you at church.

February Family Ministry

Everyone is invited to join us on Saturday February 18 for a February Family Ministry Game Night and Pizza Dinner. We will meet in Fellowship Hall from 5:30-7:30 p.m. to enjoy dinner and games together. Bring your favorite card and board games to share with your friends.

There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per person to help cover the cost of dinner. Please RSVP to Krista if you plan to join us for fun and games in February. You can reach Krista at krista@claremontpres.org.

Souper Bowl of Caring is Sunday, February 5

On the day when football's last two teams square off for ultimate victory, CPC will join with churches and community groups all over the country to defeat hunger. By bringing with you to church that Sunday extra dollar bills to drop into the large soup kettles that CPC youth will be managing, you can be part of that Super cause. All of the money collected at CPC's Souper Bowl of Caring goes directly to the Beta Center food pantry in Pomona to provide food for hungry people. Game on.

Annual Interfaith Exchange with Temple Beth Israel January 29 and February 3

Our annual interfaith exchange with our friends at Temple Beth Israel will take place Sunday, January 29 and Friday, February 3. Rabbi Jonathan Kupetz will preach at our Sunday morning worship on January 29 and Pastor Karen Sapio will preach at TBI's Friday evening service on February 3.

Plan to be at church that Sunday to welcome our TBI neighbors and to attend their Friday services to be part of this long tradition of building mutual respect and understanding.

Conscientious Projector

Conscientious Projector is a monthly gathering of mindful, passionate people coming together to screen documentaries about important current justice issues, and to discuss these viewpoints from a variety of perspectives. Screenings are free to the public; just bring an open mind and a desire to discuss! Screenings in Claremont are at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the Claremont Forum, 586 W. First Street (in the old packing house.)

Godly Play

The month of February is filled with parables and mystery in the Godly Play classroom. The first three Sundays we will be studying the Parable of the Sower, the Parable of the Leaven and the Parable of the Mustard Seed. We will conclude the month by beginning to explore the mystery of Easter as a beginning of our Lenten study. All children grades 1-6 are welcome to join us in the Godly Play classroom at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday. If you have any questions or would like more information about becoming involved in Godly Play, please contact Krista Wuertz at krista@claremontpres.org

Flower Donation Procedures

Would you like to help brighten the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning by donation flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person or occasion but you aren't sure how to do it? Here is the procedure:

Step 1: Select a Date

- * Look at the Flower Calendar in the Narthex
- * Select an open date on which you wish to donate flowers
- * Write your name and telephone number beside your chosen date

Step 2: Notify Kim Brinegar, Flower Committee chairperson

- * Locate the Form envelope to the right of the Flower Calendar
- * Complete a "**Weekly Floral Arrangement**" form
- * Place the completed form in the offering plate OR deliver to the church office

Step 3: Kim Brinegar will call you to:

- * Confirm your chosen date
- * Discuss the Bulletin Dedication
- * Discuss the ordering of flowers via Sherwood Florist
- * Answer any questions or concerns you might have

If you have not heard from Kim within two weeks of submitting a "Weekly Floral Arrangement" form, please contact the church office at (909) 624-9693.



People in the Church: Bob Cave

“Bob Cave is the best lay theologian that CPC has,” John Najarian once remarked to me. How is that possible, I wondered, that a man so highly respected as a scientist, the Dean of Faculty at Harvey Mudd College, and an award winning Chemical Physicist, would also immerse himself in theology? There might be an amazing story here, I thought to myself. And as it turns out, there is – amazing, yes, and also illuminating.

Let’s begin at the California Institute of Technology, where Bob was a graduate student in the late 1970’s. For all graduate students, the nights are long and sleep takes a distant second to research and studies. But for Bob Cave, the nights also provided time for something rather unusual in that great citadel of science. Bob set aside time for prayer and reading theology.

For all those within its walls, an omnipresent attitude seemed to pervade Caltech: “*WE ARE SCIENCE. We don’t need religion.*” The scientific method imposed a rigid discipline. Its answers, always open to further challenge, provided the best, most reliable knowledge attained by mankind. Yet, despite the warning implicit in Heisenberg’s Principle of Uncertainty, science to many observers often portrayed an arrogant side, a belief that it was the only real knowledge.

That view troubled Bob. For several years at Caltech, he felt he would somehow be forced to choose between the knowledge he valued in science and the wisdom he found in religion. Choose one or the other, the message proclaimed, but not both.

Bob had not previously confronted such a choice. When he was young, his Lutheran mother had found a small, warm and nurturing Presbyterian church to attend in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and Bob both embraced and was embraced by that church. As a college student at Michigan State University, he could major in science and take some theology courses without encountering a major clash of values. But Caltech was different. “It was the first time I felt my faith was threatened by an external presence,” Bob explained. “Ever since high school, my goal was to be a college professor of science, but for two years at Caltech I wrestled with the thought of leaving and enrolling instead in a seminary.” Choose one career. But which one?

Through his reading of theology, Bob discovered a profoundly significant alternative. There was a way to do both, to be a scientist and have doubts about religion, while also to be a

person whose religious understanding moderated the arrogant tendencies of science. “As I read theology, I discovered people grappling with the same doubts and questions that I had. And what I really discovered was that these doubts did not exclude them from the religious community. In fact, having doubts placed them at the center of authentic religious community.”

It’s not easy to achieve this remarkable insight. It has eluded such major contemporary thinkers as Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens, not to mention many major religious leaders as well. Imagine how different the world would be if the church had adopted this insight at the time of Galileo!

Today Bob somehow finds time at Harvey Mudd to teach a course titled “Science and Theology.” In that course he will frequently find students who will, when encouraged, frankly blurt out questions such as “how can you, a scientist, believe this Christian myth?” Bob allows them to know that he has his doubts, but that embedded with those doubts is something far more important. Theology, he suggests, can be seen as a history of groups of people interacting with God, finding a progressive revelation. In that revelation there is a context, a life view, one that Bob deeply values. “It gives me a way to live my life. It provides an ability to critique me, to humble me, to ask if what I am doing is the right thing.” And there is something still more fundamental that Bob shares with me. “There are pieces of that Christian ‘myth’ that are real to me. I am aware of the presence of a ‘holy other.’ At times in prayer I have experienced the recognition of a new perspective that I felt did not come from me.”

When Bob was a teenager, he had two great hobbies: music (rock and roll) and tropical fish. Today those hobbies are music and Christology, the theological study of the person and deeds of Jesus. Such a study may tell us something about Jesus, but to Bob it also tells us a great deal about ourselves. “It helps me immensely to have a picture of the human Jesus in the context of his life and times,” Bob notes, “but when you look at the changes in these studies over time, they tend to reflect what characteristics of Jesus people felt they needed for their time and context. The picture of Jesus often critiques us and our modern society.”

I can’t help wondering at the time what picture
(see **Bob Cave** on page 7)



CPCC Second Monday Fundraiser

The second Monday of each month the Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center has a fundraiser at the El Rancho Restaurant on Foothill Boulevard in Claremont. On Monday, February 13 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. eat at El Rancho 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!



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

Pastors

Karen Sapio
Rocky Supinger

Church School

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

Worship

10:00 a.m.

Nursery Care
available both hours

Presbyterian Women of the Claremont
Presbyterian Church
invite you to an

English Afternoon Tea Party

presenting

The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society

by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows

Our 2012 Book Review
featuring

Elaine Walker
Reviewer Extraordinaire

Saturday, February 11, 2012
2:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hall
Claremont Presbyterian Church
(Hats & Gloves optional)

Elaine Walker Book Review

Presbyterian Women of CPC welcome you to our 12th annual book review by Elaine Walker, Saturday, February 11, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. In keeping with the austerity of the setting of our book, WWII Great Britain and specifically the Isle of Guernsey, tea will be simple, and a table donation of \$10.00 is suggested. Seating will be open (unless you make a reservation for a table of 8 by calling the church office at (909) 624-9693.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows consists of letters that “shed light on the suffering of the Channel Islanders during the German occupation, but there is also a rich vein of humor. After (Juliet) moves to Guernsey to work on her book, she finds it impossible to leave the island and her new friends, a feeling readers may share when they finish this delightful novel.” The Boston Globe.

We are hoping to have a letter from our own Ann McIntyre in Scotland, recalling the life of wartime Britain, and we are still hoping for an historian of the Guernsey period. But Elaine will be dazzling as usual, helping us to thread our way through this correspondence and to find the enduring spirit of the times.



Financial Highlights

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 12/31/11	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$516,875	\$525,000
Reserves	10,000	0
Other Income	93,162	75,200
Expenses	(629,440)	(623,645)
VARIANCE	(9,403)	(23,445)
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 12/31/11	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income	\$605,289	\$554,815
Expenses	(603,984)	(544,948)
VARIANCE	1,305	9,867

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

Bob Cave (cont. from Page 5)

of Jesus we most need today, but the interview rushes on.

When I asked Bob what he had learned from other people in the church during his twenty plus years at CPC, he paused. "The list is very long, longer than you have space to report, but I'll mention just a few.

"Jim Butler, who taught me that it was possible to recognize two apparently contradictory truths and hold them in tension."

"John Najarian, whose openness to the diversity of beliefs and encouragement of questioning meant a great deal to me."

"Barb Myers, who took Adam at age one, when we first arrived at CPC, and loved him into the nursery, making him feel ever so welcome and special."

"Jeanine and Larry Robertson, who through all these years have steadfastly worked with the children and modeled Christian love to them."

"Rocky [Supinger] and Krista [Weurtz], for their creativity and courage to take on Godly Play."

"Chuck and Margaret Goodrich, for the depth of their caring and commitment to Adult Education."

"These are just a few among many. When you worship in a church as large as CPC, you don't get to see all the beauty among all the people living out their lives. But when you look around you, what you see is astounding."

~Dick Johnson

Session Digest

In its December meeting, the Session:

- Met for appetizers and business at a community meeting room at the Claremont University Consortium building
- Honored the retiring class of 2011 elders and thanked them for their service
- Met with the incoming elders of the 2014 class
- Discussed a letter prepared by Karen to assist the chartering of the Indonesian congregation that is sharing our facilities
- Noted that six people recently joined CPC's membership
- Rejoiced in hearing of generous contributions to the Alternative Christmas

Hazardous and E-Waste Disposal

The County of Los Angeles is holding a collection day for electronic and household hazardous waste. Saturday, February 4 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. you may take your waste to the Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Avenue in Claremont.

Examples of things you may bring are paint, household batteries, car batteries, computer monitors and cell phones. Bring your items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers. Be prepared to leave the containers and boxes. The event is open to all residents of Los Angeles County.



All are invited to Claremont School of Theology's 2012 M.L. King, Jr. Celebration Tuesday, February 7

2012 KING LECTURE AND CELEBRATION DINNER

4:00 p.m. in Seeley G. Mudd Theater

Dr. Marla F. Frederick

Harvard University Department of
African and African American Studies

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Haddon Conference Center. Reservations for dinner are required.

For details, please visit cst.edu/MLK.

BENDING TOWARD JUSTICE WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 a.m. in Kresge Memorial Chapel

Rev. Dr. Arthur Cribbs

Claremont Alumnus and Executive Director, Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice, Calif.
(CLUE-CA)

There will also be three special Days of Service preceding the event.

For details, please visit cst.edu/MLK.



Dr. Marla F. Frederick

COMMUNICATOR



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

Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Claremont
Permit No. 131

Return Service Requested

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

Annual Meeting February 5

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held Sunday, February 5, 2012 following worship. Reports of the church's life in 2011 as well as a budget for 2012 will be presented. Please plan to be there.

Save the Date!

April 1	Palm Sunday
April 5	Maundy Thursday
April 8	Easter Sunday
April 15	Bible Breakfast

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.