



claremont presbyterian church

COMMUNICATOR

April 2023



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Don't forget your fish!

We will receive our annual One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter Sunday, April 9. Funds from this offering are shared among Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the PCUSA fund for the Self Development of People. Bring your fish bank to church on Easter Sunday or give by check or online at specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/oghs/

Every time we set a table

Where hungry hearts can eat

Every time we welcome neighbors

And we add an extra seat

Every time we live as servants

Free to wash each other's feet

In our living, in our giving, we are there.

Upcoming Worship

Sunday worship services are in-person and accessible through Facebook Live (facebook.com/claremontpres) or YouTube (search Claremont Presbyterian Church).

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday

Matthew 2:1-11

Karen Sapio preaching

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday

Night Prayer with Communion

Friday, April 7, 2:00 PM

Community *Good Friday* Service
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Friday April 7, 4:00-6:00 PM

Good Friday

Prayer and Labyrinth Walk
Prayer Garden at CPC

Sunday, April 9, 8:00 AM

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service, Church Lawn

Sunday, April 9, 10:00 AM

Easter Sunday

Sanctuary service featuring
John Rutter's *Gloria*

Sunday April 16, 10:00 AM

Second Sunday of Easter

Matthew 15: 9-39

Brian Gaeta-Symonds preaching

Wednesday, April 19, 5:30 PM

The Village Dinner Church

Sunday, April 23, 10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Easter

Matthew 16:1-12

Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, April 30, 10:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Waffle Church

Matthew 18:1-14

Anjlo Ajmal preaching

Good Friday Prayer Walk

Take time for personal reflection on the meaning of Good Friday by coming to the CPC Prayer Garden and Labyrinth any time between 4 and 6 PM on April 7. You will have the opportunity to move through a prayer walk highlighted by photographs of the Tim Schmalz sculpture series "When Did We See You?" and complete this with a circuit through our CPC Labyrinth. Printed guides will be available on site as well as a link to an electronic version on our church website.

Walking a Labyrinth

by Father Richard Rohr (slightly edited by Tina Blair)

The contemplative practice of walking a labyrinth grew out of the medieval commitment to going on pilgrimage.

Labyrinths are found in different forms on all continents, within many cultures and mythologies, carved or painted on ancient cave and church walls, and set in floors at sacred sites such as Gothic cathedrals, retreat centers, and contemporary churches. These circular paths are a way of learning and praying through movement instead of through thinking. Labyrinths seem to have emerged from the collective unconscious, representing a clear path to center, to the Divine. A classical labyrinth has seven cycles, each representing a stage of life, and seven U-turns as we learn to change course at least that many times in a normal life. A straight-line trajectory grows no one; it only makes you more and more rigid and inflexible.

Go to our labyrinth (or one printed on paper or carved in wood) for your feet or fingers to traverse in the company of God's presence. Walk or trace the labyrinth as if on pilgrimage, without a goal beyond the experience itself. Move consciously and slowly, allowing the Divine to guide and teach. Let the path teach its own lessons. There is no one correct message. The turning circuits of a labyrinth remind us that life is change, transformation, and repentance (that is, metanoia or turning around).

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance at work in Syria and Turkey

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support in the aftermath of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks in Syria and Turkey. PDA's emergency response and specialization in long-term recovery is fueled by your generous gifts. Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/give-STearthquake, by phone at 800-872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (USA) with "DR999999 - ST earthquake" written on the memo line and mailed to Presbyterian Church (USA), PO Box 643700, Pittsburg, PA 15264-3700.

Easter Worship with John Rutter's *Gloria*

In commemoration of the risen Lord on Easter Sunday, April 9, the CPC Sanctuary Choir is excited to present John Rutter's *Gloria*! The presentation will be accompanied by organ and by members of the San Dimas Brass Ensemble.

Written in 1974, John Rutter's *Gloria* is a musical setting of the second part of the Latin Order of Mass and is regarded as one of the great works of contemporary sacred music. The text is structured in three movements arranged in the fast-slow-fast format often associated with concertos. The composer himself has described the piece as "exalted, devotional and jubilant." He has said that the scoring was intended as "a combination which in the outer movements makes quite a joyful noise unto the Lord, but which is used more softly and introspectively in the middle movement." *Gloria* was the first work commissioned from the United States for the British-born Rutter.

The San Dimas Brass Ensemble is directed by educator, composer, and arranger Ed Wolfe, who will serve as our Guest Conductor.

Please join us for an exciting musical presentation and a festive and meaningful Easter celebration at CPC!

First Tuesday Coffee and Conversation

At 9:30 AM on April 4, grab a cup of coffee to go from your favorite Claremont Village coffee shop and join friends in Laemmle Square for a time of conversation and building friendships. This is a great chance to get better acquainted with members of our community. Questions? Call the church office at 909-624-9693.

Youth Bowling Night

Join us on April 7 from 7-9 PM at Bowlium Lanes (4666 Holt Blvd. Montclair, 91763). Cost is \$20/person for bowling and shoe rental (bring extra \$ for food). Please sign-up with Pastor Brian.



The Village Dinner Church – Into Year 2!

Our next Village Dinner Church is Wednesday, April 19 in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM.

Over the course of the last year the Lead Team of 9 were joined by 35-45 people each month, including nearly a dozen new families, more than 15 children under the age of 12 years old, and invited over 6 community leaders to reflect on their work of passion in Claremont followed with engaging questions that were explored around the table. And the meals were mostly catered by Zaky's Mediterranean Grill, a local restaurant.

Generous grants and donors made it possible to build a budget for the first year. Now the Lead Team is taking a leap of faith into year two as they are discerning ways to sustain the cost of this missional adventure. If you would like to give to support the Village Dinner Church, you can send a check to the church office, or you can give online at www.claremontpres.org/villagegiving

Family Earth Day Spaghetti Dinner and Movie Night

The CPC families will come together with the Children's Center families for a delicious spaghetti dinner and a delightful movie on Saturday, April 22 from 5:00-7:30 PM. Children are invited to come in their PJs and bring a blanket and pillow. The movie will be rated PG and have a nature theme to coincide with Earth Day. We hope to accommodate gluten free and vegetarian dietary restrictions. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for this fun event!

Adult Ed Wine & Cheese Tasting Soirée

It is time to wrap up our Vine and Vineyard Lenten Study with a wine and cheese tasting on April 16, 4:00 PM. Location to be determined, watch for more in *The Latest* and the bulletin. The culmination event is open to anyone who wishes to attend for a fun afternoon (you did not have to have attended the Lenten study to share in this experience).

This March we welcomed back Lisa Strom to facilitate our Lenten study and to lead us in spiritual practice. This second time for this series proved to offer some new information, and invited participants into different spiritual practices.

During the bible study, we:

- Learned wine history, vine cultivation, and wine making information that gave deeper understanding to many passages about wine and vineyard practices that we encounter in the Bible,
- Had opportunities to meditate on this learning with a few contemplative practices, and
- Reflected on each passage in the context of our own lives and looked for what God might be saying to us through those scriptures.

Also, look out for a quarterly series from Adult Ed (4 Sunday mornings in 2023).

Family Camp – Vision Into Action Pt. 2

This year Family Camp will return to the Big Bear Lake Camp. We again want to offer an opportunity to get away, close to home, and enjoy some modern amenities while being able to step out the doorstep and into nature. Join us on May 27-29 at Big Bear Lake Christian Conference Center. Cost is \$118 per participant and children 2 years and younger are free. Register today with your \$50/participant deposit Scholarships available. Sign-up today with Pastor Brian or Heather.

February Session Highlights

- Approved a bid to repair and paint the music building breezeway
- Approved the facility-use fee schedule through the summer
- Was pleased to learn of generous donations from Mission Interpretation Commission (\$2,000) and the Refugee Concerns Team (\$1,000) to earthquake relief by Syria/Lebanon Partnership
- Approved adding paid holidays for Children's Center staff for the days the Center is closed between Christmas and New Year holidays.

Waffle Church

This exciting family friendly abbreviated worship experience, followed by a real waffle breakfast with all the toppings, awaits you and your family and friends. On Sunday, April 30 during worship, our children are invited to gather up front in the Fellowship Hall on blan-

Deacon Red Wheelbarrow Collection Event - Thank you!

Your Deacons thank everyone, most sincerely, for your gracious donations to our “Fill the Red Wheelbarrow event!” Deacon volunteers helped to receive your donations and Karee Galloway and Duane Bidwell kindly delivered the donations to IVHP. Your combined generosity provided 40 assorted sizes of bags and boxes filled with food items, paper goods, and toiletries.

We thank you as we continue to seek to give to the food-insecure in our local community. You are welcome to bring items for the red wheelbarrow on any day, however, the next three 2023 “Fill the Red Wheelbarrow Deacon Events” are: June 4, September 10, and November 12.

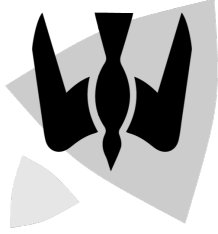


kets and with pillows to participate in prayer, listen to a story from scripture, and hear a captivating message. Heather Chapman and our youth will help lead all those gathered in worship after which we take some time to eat and share in conversation with friends.

Nominating Committee at Work

Nominating Committee at Work The Church Nominating Committee is at work with a goal of presenting a slate of new officers, (Elders and Deacons), for class of 2025 at a Congregational Meeting on April 23. How can you help?

1. Contact one of our pastors if you have someone you would like to recommend, (including yourself!)
2. Be open to a conversation if a member of our Nominating Committee reaches out to you to discuss the possibility of serving.
3. Pray for our Nominating Committee and for our church that the Holy Spirit will lift up the leaders we need at this juncture in our life together.



The Communicator is published monthly by Claremont Presbyterian Church. Submissions are subject to editing for content and length. To submit an article please e-mail Lisa Strom (lisa@claremontpres.org) by the 15th of the month.

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Ways to Give

- Place offerings in offering box in narthex after worship.
- Check: We can receive contributions by checks mailed or dropped off at our church office.
- Online: You can make an online contribution to Claremont Presbyterian Church by navigating to our website at claremontpres.org/giving-2. or by scanning the QR code to the right.
- Autopay from your checking account: Your bank should be able to help you set up an electronic payment directly to CPC.
- Transfer money through your bank or the Zelle app. Send your money to: giving@claremontpres.org.

Flowers for Worship

We are grateful for the thoughtful offerings of worship flowers given this past month in memory of loved ones and in gratitude for all of that for which we have to be thankful. You are invited to reach out to our CPC community individuals to offer your caring expressions of thoughts, care, compassion and welcome.



Flowers on these Sundays in March were given as follows:

March 5 in honor of the great work of our mission partners at Uncommon Good

March 12 by Jean Perry in honor of her son, Robert's, birthday on March 16.

March 26 in honor of and in gratitude for the ministry of Ruth Santana-Grace, and her family. We were pleased to welcome her back to CPC as our guest preacher on this day.

Should you wish to donate an altar or Narthex arrangement in honor of, in memory of, or in celebration of a loved one or special event, please contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine.

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 02/28/2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$99,427.72	\$80,834.00
Other Income	\$13,986.22	\$19,886.00
Expenses	-\$113,358.48	-\$116,256.89
Variance	\$55.46	-\$15,536.89
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 02/28/2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue	\$189,440.86	\$185,010.00
Expenses	-\$178,523.12	-\$186,761.50
Variance	\$10,917.74	-\$1,751.50

Please Lift Up Your Prayers

In gratitude: Bill Brinegar and Phoebe DeVile, each experiencing improvements in health and well-being; the opportunity to celebrate the life of Jean Underwood on Saturday March 18, with her two sons, a daughter-in-law, grandchildren and family from the Midwest, along with friends at Pilgrim Place. (A recording of the Jean Underwood Celebration of Life is now available on the Pilgrim Place Vimeo channel. You can view it at vimeo.com/809446942)

In contemplation: This Lenten season, that we may choose to follow the path of pursuing a deeper relationship with Christ, and experiencing the love of God, that is deeper than the ocean; that we may look into the face of a stranger and see Christ.

In grief: We continue to ask for God's grace, comfort and strength for the survivors and for the responders in the tedious reparations, as a result of the devastating earthquake in Turkey and in Syria.

For those who have died: Rev. Roger Shervington passed away on Friday, March 17 in Claremont. Rev. Shervington was a pastor of Eagle Rock Presbyterian Church and Community Presbyterian Church, El Monte before he retired. He and his pre-deceased wife, Sandy, and family have been long-time members of Claremont Presbyterian Church. We pray for his daughter Phyllis and their family and friends as they mourn his death. Rev. Raymond "Kay" Brown passed away on Tuesday, March 14. Rev. Brown retired to Pilgrim Place twenty years ago after serving churches in Arizona and Washington and was active in the San Gabriel Presbytery when they moved to Pilgrim place. We pray for his wife, Suzanne, and their family of five children and friends as they mourn his death. Ron Diaz, beloved husband of Trischa Diaz, passed on February 26; Teri Lingenfelter, who passed away February 24, daughter of Jeanne Master, sister of Devon and Robyn; Kevin Kessler, who died February 25, we lift up his siblings, Ken and Karen, and his friends who will miss him dearly; Ardon Alger, husband of Nancy Minte, Director of Uncommon Good .

For those who are faced with health challenges and recuperation: Jean Perry, who had elbow surgery on March 16, continuing with dialysis and recuperation at home; Sean Hughes; Tina Blair recovering from hip replacement surgery; Peter Campbell recovering from knee surgery; Linda Hamilton being treated for lymphoma; friends and neighbors who are recovering from Covid and the flu.

For those for whom we wish the continued grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit: Pam and Roger House, as Pam continues to navigate her path in recovering from long-covid and cancer treatment; Dolores Morgan; Wadie and Rita Alkhouri; Marcia Reich for her niece, Wendy, undergoing breast-cancer chemotherapy; Patricia Yu, Catherine Lin's mother; Joan Kelly's sister and Donna Kelly's aunt who suffered a stroke; Corinne Tolles, Delight's cousin undergoing chemotherapy and continuing dialysis.

For living transitions: Pastor Brian's parents, Bonnie and Dennis Symonds, as they get used to their new surroundings; Joyce Alexander, relocated to Ventura.

For the strength and peace of the Holy Spirit for those of us who may find ourselves in sensitive family situations: Greg Stout and sister, Margie Stout Ludwig; pastor Brian's aunt; Pastor Brian and family; the Agwu family.

For those whom we remember on an ongoing basis: Mike Layne; Larry Robertson; Frank Pinkerton; Cloyce Morrow; Ron and Trish Perry; Gennie Ransom; Sue Likens; Peggy Nall; John Najarian; Carrie Willette, Jan Willette's daughter; Barbara Patch; Doris Craig and Mae (Becky) Beck and her nieces; Tom Bleakney; Eileen Jaeger; Carolyn Kingshill; Claire McDonald; Barbara Myers; Doris Chambers; MaryAnne Blaine; Marianne Hillman; Sandra Deibel; Carolyn Whitham; Marion Thompson; Jean Cochran.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Deadline for May *Communicator* - April 15

Weekly Online Events

Monday - Thursday, Saturday

8:00 AM - Morning Prayer (Facebook)

Sunday - Friday

5:00 PM - Evening Prayer (Facebook)

Sunday

10:00 AM - Worship (Facebook)

Wednesday

11:30 AM - Mid-Week Mini Concert (Facebook)

4:00 PM - Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday

8:00 AM - Morning Meditation (Online Meditation Chapel)

See All That's Happening... For the most up-to-date calendar of events, go to www.claremontpres.org/calendar.



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