



hold fast to Joy

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Hold Fast to Joy: Stewardship 2022

What is Stewardship and why is it important? Stewardship is using the gifts God has given us to do the work that God is calling us to do. God blesses each of us with gifts of time, talent and financial resources. When we offer these gifts generously, we become partners with God’s work in the world. Stewardship is an important part of our relationships in the church community. When we “give to the church” we are really giving to each other; helping one another to grow in ministry as God’s people.

Where do the funds to meet CPC’s operating expenses come from? They come from US! 84% of the income for CPC’s annual operating budget comes from pledges and offerings from members and friends of the congregation. Less than 1% comes from building usage fees.

Why pledge? Can’t I just give as I am able? Making a pledge is important because it means making a commitment. It means undertaking the spiritual discipline of generosity in a serious, rather than a casual way. On the practical level, pledges enable the church to plan. Pledges committed for the coming year form the basis for the annual operating budget. Pledges enable our lay leaders and staff to move forward confidently with their work, knowing that funds for these ministries have been committed.

How does CPC manage its finances? The Session adopts an annual budget in January and presents this to the congregation at its annual meeting in February. The Property and Finance Committee oversees the church’s income and expenditures with the assistance of our church treasurer and our bookkeeper. The Treasurer presents an updated financial report to the Session each month. Copies of this report are available in the church office. Finally, our books are audited annually by an independent auditing firm.

What about reserves and endowment funds? Because of generous gifts in the past, CPC does have reserves and endowment funds. We use these monies to

Upcoming Worship

All worship services are in-person
and accessible through
Facebook Live
(facebook.com/claremontpres)

Sunday, November 7, 10:00 AM

Guest Preacher:
Erin Swenson

Sunday, November 14, 10:00 AM

“Hold Fast to Joy”
Psalm 126
Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, November 21, 10:00 AM

Reign of Christ Sunday
Revelation 1:4-8
Karen Sapio preaching

Sunday, November 28, 10:00 AM

First Sunday of Advent
Luke 21:25-36
Karen Sapio preaching

fund expenditures that fall beyond the scope of the annual operating budget such as significant new mission initiatives or extensive maintenance needs. As a last resort, they may be used to make up significant shortfalls in the budget, but only with the approval of the Session--and in certain cases a congregational vote. A bequest or special gift to one of these funds is another way to support the ministries of CPC

Karen Sapio

Celebration of Generosity and Joy Food Drive

The deacons of CPC will be sponsoring a community-wide food drive on Saturday, November 6, 3:00-5:00 PM in the church parking lot. All donations will benefit Inland Valley Hope Partners, one of CPC's long-time mission partners.

Members are invited to drop off donations of canned soups, stews, vegetables, fruits and any other nonperishable food items like ramen, cup o' noodles, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, crackers, pastas, rice, beans, etc.

The food drive will run alongside a concert and anniversary celebration on the church lawn at the same time. The award-winning Ron Kobayashi Trio will be returning to perform live for the first time since the pandemic. (The trio was a featured performer for past Jazz Vespers.) Folding chairs will be available for the performance or bring your own blanket or lawn chair.

IVHP's food security manager Isaac Vega said that the initial surge in need following the start of the pandemic had started to level off; however, IVHP is now seeing another increase in need as stimulus and unemployment benefits have waned. Many clients are months behind on rent and could soon face homelessness as the eviction moratorium ends. Food donations are one way to support both the unhoused and those struggling to pay rent and utilities.

If you can't make the celebration, but have items to donate, please contact your deacon or send an email to claremontfooddrive@gmail.com any time before November 4. We can arrange a time for a volunteer to pick up your donation. Tax-deductible, monetary donations are also accepted by mail or online. (Send a check to Inland Valley Hope Partners, 1753 N. Park Ave, Pomona, CA 91768 or drop it off at church.)

Wheelbarrow Monitor Needed - Is This You?

As you enter our church, you will see a faithful red wheelbarrow sitting in the narthex. This wheelbarrow receives donations of non-perishable food for Inland Valley Hope Partners' food bank. We need a volunteer, (an individual or a family), to monitor the wheelbarrow and, when it is full, to take the donations to Inland Valley Hope Partners' Beta Center in Pomona. Generally one or two trips each month are sufficient. If you are interested in taking this on, please contact our Congregational Care Coordinator, Delight Slotemaker de Bruine.

Family Day Trip

Join us for the next Day Trip (all kinds of families and households welcome): Nov. 7 at the Padua Hills Art Fiesta, 11 AM - 4 PM. Tickets: \$5 for adults, free for kids under 18 yrs. Come eat lunch with your household crew and then meet up at 2:00 PM near the entrance for a group photo and maybe some exploring together around the fiesta.

CPC Youth 30 Challenge

On Wednesday, November 10, 7:00 PM we will continue our monthly gathering for a brief time of learning, being challenged, and growing in your faith and as a person. This is not meant to be a long stay, but rather an opportunity to come together for 30-45 minutes. We will check in with each other, hear from experts, and explore growth through challenge. I challenge you to be part of this new youth gathering (Jr/Sr High welcome). For more information contact Pastor Brian 562-674-8407. Meeting ID: 867 8160 1982

Beyond Pink and Blue Conference

The Beyond Pink and Blue: Family & Spiritual Care Conference will be Saturday, November 6 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Claremont Presbyterian Church

Keynote speakers include Rev. Annanda Barclay of Oakland, California; Rev. Jess Cook of Richmond, Virginia; and Rev. Dr. Erin Swenson of Atlanta, Georgia.

Transgender, gender creative and nonbinary children, youth and their families face misunderstanding and discrimination across our country. Places that should be safe and nurturing such as schools and churches are too often not so for trans+ children and their families. This day-long conference is committed to providing information and educational resources for families, faith leaders and congregations for a time such as this. This conference is offered as a hybrid experience both in person and online.

For more information and to register for the in person conference or online, please contact Bear Ride at bear.ride@gmail.com

Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service

This year the annual Claremont Interfaith Council's Thanksgiving Eve Service will once again be in person. Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church will host this year's gathering at 7:00 PM on November 24. Our theme for this year's service is "Gratitude Stories." We will comply with the LA County Health Department's guidelines for public gatherings, so be sure to bring a mask.

Looking forward to Advent

With Advent on the horizon we look forward to familiar traditions with new flare. One of those traditions is the annual Advent Workshop. This year we will be on the front lawn right after the worship service inviting all to participate in making the congregational favorite...Advent Wreaths. We will also have stations for making ornaments, playing games, practicing art, and a few other activities. On November 28 stay after worship for this familiar and fun event and then pick up your home Advent

Devotional guide on your way out. (No cost and no registration necessary). Other Advent dates to look forward to:

Dec. 12, 10:00 AM -Worship and Christmas Pageant

Dec. 19, 2:00 PM - Family Advent Hike on Mt. Baldy and pine cone craft

Dec. 24, 4:00 PM - Family Christmas Eve Service on the patio with photo op and activities.

Labyrinth Retreat Rescheduled

On November 21, 2021 from 1:00-2:30 PM, CPC will host a Labyrinth Retreat and Workshop. Our guest presenter is Dr. Rebecca Prichard. Dr. Prichard has taught theology, worship, and spirituality in a variety of congregational and academic settings. A 2007 Lilly sponsored sabbatical drew her more deeply into the study of Celtic history, art, and spirituality. Rebecca has traveled widely through the British Isles, having lived and worked in Scotland. A calligrapher, she draws upon the words and artistry of the Celtic Gospel books as prayerful practice. In recent years she has taught Celtic spirituality at the Graduate Theological Union, Whittier College, Chapman University, and the New Theological Seminary of the West.

Ways to Give

As we return to in-person worship, following CDC recommendations, we will still not be passing the offering plate. There will be a collection box in the Narthex and all these methods are still available:

- Check: As long as the US Mail is still delivering, we can receive contributions by checks mailed to our church office.
- Online: You can make an online contribution to Claremont Presbyterian Church by navigating to our website at claremontpres.org/giving-2.
- 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.

New Wednesday Bible Study Begins November 17

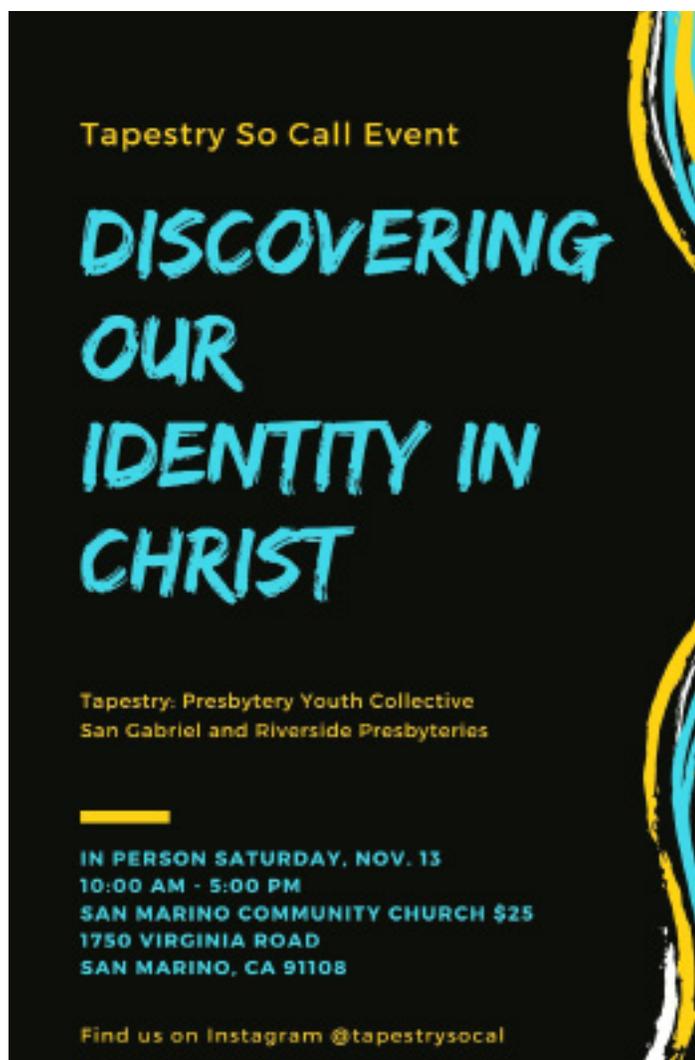
Join us on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM for "Joy: A Study of Paul's Philippians." Regulars and newcomers are invited to begin a new 6 week Bible Study on November 17. Just in time for the Thanksgiving/Advent/Christmas season, our new study focuses on finding joy. The study's author Alan Hilton states in his introduction:

Welcome to the unexpected. Those of us who map

happiness on the territory of pleasant circumstances face a formidable challenge in Paul's Letter to the Philippians. The author sits pressed in the "abandon hope all ye who enter here" realm of a dark, dank Roman prison. And his addressees face suffering and struggle under the pressure of neighbors who oppose them for their faith.

Surprisingly, this exchange between sufferers produces, not only the highest frequency of joy language in the Bible (16 occasions in 107 verses), but the most complete recipe in scripture for how to attain and sustain joy regardless of our situation. As you make your way through this study, keep an eye out for that recipe. Ingredients will include purpose and prayer and mindfulness practiced in community.

Zoom meeting ID: 862 1883 9113. Please contact Pastor Karen Sapio at karensapio@claremontpres.org to receive a copy of the study. It can be provided as an electronic file or hard copy.



Tapestry So Call Event

**DISCOVERING
OUR
IDENTITY IN
CHRIST**

Tapestry: Presbytery Youth Collective
San Gabriel and Riverside Presbyteries

IN PERSON SATURDAY, NOV. 13
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
SAN MARINO COMMUNITY CHURCH \$25
1750 VIRGINIA ROAD
SAN MARINO, CA 91108

Find us on Instagram @tapestrysocal

Order Holiday Treats and Support Refugees

Our new friends from Afghanistan and Syria have traditional family recipes they would like to share with us for the holidays. Our Refugee and Immigration Concerns Team decided to sponsor a pop-up booth to distribute their goods. Drive through and pick-up orders in the church parking lot!

Pumpkin or Potato Flatbread for Thanksgiving. Pick up Wednesday, November 24 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM in the church parking lot. Mrs. Parwani will make potato or pumpkin Bolani with a dipping sauce. One piece of this flatbread with it's delicious filling (pumpkin or potato) will serve one adult or two kids as an appetizer or side dish. \$10 each, including chutney. Vegetarian. Eat it fresh on Wednesday or freeze and re-heat for Thanksgiving.

Baklava for Christmas. Pick up Saturday, December 18 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM in the church parking lot. The Kanjo family will offer baklava for \$5, \$10, and \$20. Supplies are limited. Baklava is a delightful dessert and a great gift. It will last until Christmas without refrigeration. We need a final count by December 15.

Donations are welcome, cash or check at pick-up time. Write checks to: Claremont Presbyterian Church, include "baklava" or "bolani" in the memo. 100% of the proceeds go to the cooks.

For more information, or to reserve your order by text or email, contact Judy Kohlen: 909-525-5559 judy.kohlen@gmail.com

Thank You

The Deacon's wish to thank the congregation again for your thoughtful and bountiful contributions. Your generosity is heartwarming and gives us the ability to expand our work. Thanks again for the Autumn contributions.

It's Christmas Pageant Time

It's time to start putting our Christmas Pageant together. If you would like to learn how you can participate, contact Pastor Brian. The pageant will be presented as part of worship on December 12.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6 3:00 - 5:00 PM CHURCH LAWN

Drop off your 2022 Pledge Card, Bring Canned Food Donation for Inland Valley Hope Partners

Enjoy the Music of the Ron Kobayashi Trio

At 4 o'clock we will serve cake and ice cream to honor our church's 65th Birthday in 2020

(We were unable to celebrate last year due to pandemic restrictions on gathering)

Feel free to bring your own lawn chair or use one provided by the church.

Virtual Alternative Christmas Market

What is the Alternative Christmas Market, sometimes called ACM? It is an opportunity for you to make a donation to one or more local, national or international organizations which helps those less fortunate as an alternative kind of gift for your family and friends this Christmas. This year CPC's Alternative Christmas Market will again be held virtually. You may shop online or by mail, both from the comfort of your home.

In late November you will receive a packet in the mail describing the various mission partners who are participating along with a shopping list to use to donate toward a particular aspect of their ministry. Mail the shopping list back to the church and either include your check or send your payment electronically through Zelle.

The other alternative will be to shop on the church website, www.claremontpres.org. Beginning Sunday, November 28 there will be a special page on the church website for the ACM with information, videos and a shopping list. You will be able to shop and pay online.

If you would like to speak to someone in person about the Alternative Christmas Market, there will be a representative of the Mission Interpretation Commission available on the patio following worship on both November 21 and November 28 to answer your questions.

Here is a list of the organizations that will be included in this year's ACM:

Agingnext

Angel Interfaith Network

Church World Service

Claremont After-School Program

Claremont Meals on Wheels

Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center

Claremont Presbyterian Church Deacons

Crossroads

Foothill AIDs Project

Habitat for Humanity PV

Heifer International

House of Ruth

Inland Valley Hope Partners

Medical Benevolence Foundation

PCUSA Mission Co-workers

Pilgrim Place

Prison Library Project

SoCal Presbyterian Immigrant Accompaniment Ministry

Refugee Concerns

Tijuana Water Project

Uncommon Good





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

Pastor Karen Sapio
Senior Pastor
karensapio@claremontpres.org

Pastor Brian Gaeta-Symonds
Associate Pastor for Outreach
brian@claremontpres.org

Sacha Lord
Children's Center Director
slord@claremontpres.org

Neila Carey
Administrative Assistant,
Finance and Personnel
ncarey@claremontpres.org

Patrick West
Facilities Manager
patrick@claremontpres.org

Delight Slotemaker de Bruine
Congregational Care
Coordinator
delight@claremontpres.org

Geri DeMasi
Director of Music, Organist
geri@claremontpres.org

Lisa Strom
Communications Coordinator
lisa@claremontpres.org

Adult Education

November 8, 6:00 PM - "The Presbyterian Church and Roe v. Wade." Zoom Meeting ID: 867 0093 3420. Our discussion will be led by Rebecca Todd Peters, a Christian social ethicist and professor of religious studies at Elon University. She is ordained in the PC(USA), has been active denominationally and ecumenically for over 25 years, and is a member of Presbyterians Affirming Reproductive Options. You may wish to order a copy of her book for a closer look at her story and work, "Trust Women: A Progressive Argument for Reproductive Justice."

The Adult Education Team is also excited to invite you to our 2-part series this December titled "Advent and the Arts." Three well-known and beloved members of our congregation will be sharing their artistry with us in the form of music, woodworking, and master pottery. Learn how their gifts of art are being offered to the congregation in long-lasting ways. And, please note in the details below that Part 1 is in-person and Part 2 is online.

Dec. 5 at 8:45AM "Advent and the Arts" Pt. 1, *Movement of Music Through Advent* with Geri DeMasi in-person in the Sanctuary. This Forum will also be recorded and shared on the Church Website following the class.

Dec. 20 at 7:00 PM on Zoom - Meeting ID: 827 1690 5751. "Advent and the Art's Pt. 2, *Gifts of Artistry from the Pews* with Sam Atwood and Jack Caselles.

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

It's that time of year to think about the opportunity to donate a Christmas poinsettia to decorate the CPC Sanctuary for Christmas in memory of or in honor of a loved one, or in celebration of a special event.

After having experienced a creative Covid-Christmas in 2020, we are again back in the sanctuary to worship and we look forward to enjoying the beauty of the myriad of red Christmas poinsettias.

This year you will have the option of taking the poinsettia home with you or you can designate it as a donation to be delivered to one of our CPC members or friends who is homebound, isolated, ill, or who is bereaved.

Please consider making a donation towards the purchase of one or several poinsettias. Suggested donation is \$25.00 per poinsettia. Your donation and dedication will be listed in the December 19 bulletin.

All poinsettias will be blessed and will hear the organ played and the sermon de-

CLAREMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS OF 09/30/21	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Pledges	\$341,390.66	\$344,997.00
Other Income	\$177,297.90	\$69,534.00
Expenses	-\$470,488.50	-\$453,775.82
Variance	\$48,200.06	-\$39,244.82
CHILDREN'S CENTER AS OF 09/30/21	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue	\$738,956.68	\$481,161.24
Expenses	-\$631,524.60	-\$481,646.87
Variance	\$107,432.08	-\$485.63
Second round PPP Loan has been forgiven. Proceeds are now included in Other Income.		

livered in worship with us on Sunday, December 19 and then delivered by our CPC deacons throughout that following week.

If you would like to donate a poinsettia, you may mail in your check, to Neila Carey at CPC, or donate via Zelle, or via PayPal Please make sure you include the note or memo "poinsettia." You may also email Delight Slotemaker de Bruine delight@claremontpres.org. DEADLINE for orders: December 8.

This is a tradition at Christmas at CPC, and we hope that you will enjoy participating!

Highlights from the September Session meeting:

- Received Bernadine Greenwood as an Affiliate Member
- Began planning the 2022 budget
- Celebrated the forgiveness of our second PPP loan and the many non-budgeted designated gifts this calendar year
- Supported the Deacons' suggestion of installing a Little Free Library on campus
- Thanked Evangelism & Nurture for the picnic and concert series

Flowers for Worship

Our CPC worship services were graced each week by worship flowers donated by several of our generous members. The worship flowers for the month of October were donated as follows:

October 3 - given by Paula Pitzer, in honor and in memory of her parents, Harlan and Ruth Goodrich, founding members of Claremont Presbyterian Church.

October 10 - donated by Frank & Emily Pinkerton for Betty Pinkerton's birthday.

October 17 - donated by Bill & Pat Reed in memory of: John & Lucile Hawley (Pat's parents), Alfred & Helen Reed (Bill's parents), and Robert S. Hawley (Pat's brother).

October 23 - given lovingly by Doug and Scott Carrington in memory of Judy's birthday. PLUS: Judy Blooms. Deacons passed out the cheer of the Judy blooms on the patio.

If you would like to donate flowers for worship, please contact Delight Slotemaker de Bruine, who will take care of all of the details for you.

Please Lift Up Your Prayers

In joyous celebration for the birth of a new baby: We welcome the birth of a new baby, Elizabeth "Elle" Lord Lewis, born to Emma, daughter of Sacha Lord, and Riley Lewis on September 30.

In celebration and in gratitude: We give praise and are

thankful for the recovery of several of our members from various recent medical challenges, including recovery from Covid. For: Saba Alemaiehu, after having bravely and optimistically treated her situation, she has returned to the CPCC staff.

For family and friends of loved ones passing: Clint Robertson, Ann (daughter) and Brad Hanson, and Janet Robertson (daughter-in-law) and her husband, Peggy's son, in the passing of Peggy Robertson who passed in San Dimas on Sunday evening, September 19. The family of Trudy Orr who passed on September 26.

For strength and grace: Doris Craig for continued recovery, following a broken hip and Mae (Becky) Beck; Ruth Auld; Larry Robertson; Meredith Clayton/Rocky Supinger as her father is in hospice.

For successful surgeries, followed by recovery and continued healing: Barbara Patch for a heart valve replacement at Cedar Sinai on September 21; Sandra Kindle for a heart procedure at Good Samaritan Hospital the week of September 20.

Prayers for continued on-going treatments for: Mary and Ed Hughes; Larry Robertson; Patrick West; Patricia Maine; Sue Likens; Bob Kelly; Frank Pinkerton; Jean Perry.

The compassionate, healing touch of the Holy Spirit for: Joyce & Ted Alexander's nephew, diagnosed with a challenging condition; Rizek & Alice Abusharr; Charles and Virginia Rassieur; Donah Holmes, and her son, Steve, positively moving forward; Pastor Brian and his family; Jim and Lenore Braschler; Kathy Holtan; Gennie Ransom; Cloyce Morrow; Mark Nelson, and for all of those who remain unnamed here, but named within our hearts.

For those whom we tenderly remember on an ongoing basis: Joyce & Ted Alexander; Kevin Kessler and his bother, Ken, who are still displaced due to a fire in their family home; Judith Rios, a former CPCC teacher, journeying through stage 4 cancer; John Najarian; Suzanne and Kay Brown; Carolyn Whitham; Chris Hartmire; Thom Bleakney; Phoebe DeVille; Jean Underwood; Chet & Eileen Jaeger; Lee & Claire McDonald; Mike Layne; Barbara Myers; Doris Chambers; Marianne Hillman; Mary & Ed Hughes; Sean and Matthew Hughes; Sandra Deibel, Doug Carrington.

There will be a memorial for Barbara Stout on November 20 at 11:00 AM.

Should you, anyone in your family, or anyone of whom you know, be in need of prayer, and you have their permission to share their name, please send your requests via email to Delight Slotemaker de Bruine. You may indicate that you wish only the name listed or you may wish to include details. Details are shared only as per your direction, otherwise then they will be shared confidentially at the weekly staff meeting.



COMMUNICATOR

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Deadline for November *Communicator* - November 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)

Friday

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



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