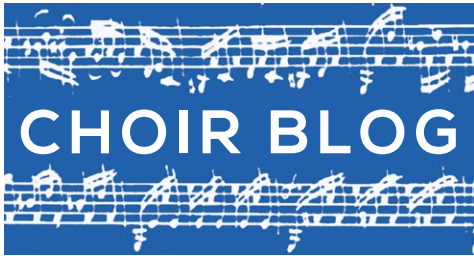


MESSENGER

VOLUME 68, NUMBER 7

JULY 2019



During the hiatus of the Cathedral Choir, our Second Service Summer Music schedule for July is loaded with fine talent to enhance our worship services. On July 14 we will welcome two newcomers from the Verdugo Women's Chorus, Ki Park, pianist and June Rim, soprano vocalist. They will cover all three liturgical pieces and Ms. Park will accompany the congregational hymns as well. (We are hoping they will become members of our LCPC choir.)

Sunday, July 21, will feature our perennial favorite Rod Davis. As usual, Mr. Davis will cover all aspects of the musical service with his beautiful and oft times exciting and exuberant keyboard stylings.

On Sunday, July 28, we will finish the month of July with our own tenor soloist Tom Otoshi singing a special number for the Offertory accompanied by keyboardist Elzbieta Nawrocka who will also be playing the Prelude, Postlude, and accompanying the hymns.

Enjoy the July worship services and stay tuned for the good stuff that's going to be happening in August.

In Christ,
Noel



MEN'S MINISTRY: HELPING HANDS

Ministering to men is perhaps the most difficult ministry. Most men don't want to be ministered to. Yet LCPC has uncommonly active weekly men's ministry groups. Our men gather to read the Bible and pray Tuesday nights and Wednesday mornings, and another group hikes the Deukmejian Trail Saturday mornings.

The Wednesday morning men team up with Influencers Global Ministries (www.Influencers.org) and Souly retreats (www.SoulyBusiness.com) for men and women. Influencers has a "Journey" discipleship program that has been integral to surprising growth of "Journey groups" for men and women here in California.

LCPC men have also created a "Helping Hands" ministry for yard work, moving, minor plumbing and electrical projects, brush clearing, gutter cleaning, and painting. Trusted men in our church work for low rates. It also helps out our men who are either unemployed or under-employed. Also, if you have old or unused tools that you would like to donate to Helping Hands, let us know.

Call Phil Van Horn for Men's ministry and Helping Hands details at (818) 517-5880.

BISTRO 50+
FUN FOOD, FELLOWSHIP

This month you have **TWO** Bistro 50+ opportunities!



Wednesday, July 3: Please join CFC in celebrating the 4th of July. Come at 11:00 AM to watch the children parade around the block, then join us downstairs for a good old American BBQ lunch.

Tuesday, July 23: We will have our regular Bistro lunch.

Bistro 50+ starts at noon and is just \$5 for lunch and entertainment!

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CONVERSATIONS IN THE GARDEN

Join the Conversations! We meet once or twice a month on Sunday afternoons at the home of Nancy Coler to discuss the week's sermon in a peaceful and relaxed atmosphere. Our group is small but mighty. Both services are represented and new

friendships are being formed. All are welcome!

This month we'll meet on **July 14 and 28**. Arrive at 4:30 PM, and we'll be finished by 6:00 PM. For more information, please call Nancy Coler at (626) 755-1880.

PASTOR'S LETTER



Dear friends,
July marks the seventh month since we launched the *Vision 2020* strategic plan. The Lord is moving among us

to grow His kingdom. He is drawing many in our church family into deeper fellowship with himself. He is accomplishing that in many ways, but most importantly by inspiring us to listen to his voice and obey with joy and gratitude. The Lord is also using us as his chosen ambassadors to spread the sweet fragrance of his love to our neighborhood and beyond.

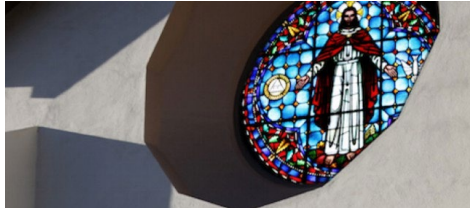
This month I want to highlight some of the big opportunities that have emerged since we launched *Vision 2020*. In particular, I want to focus on some of the work relating to our beautiful church campus. Over the next few months I anticipate that we will make good progress on several fronts. I hope you will prayerfully consider how you might help to advance one or more of these initiatives.

Working with the Property Committee and the Center for Children, we will soon begin renovations in the Chapel, Fireside Room, and Koopmans Hall. Our goal will be to improve and update the spaces with relatively inexpensive investments in paint, flooring, and lighting. We will also install modernized (but basic and functional) sound and projection hardware. Our top priority will be to make the spaces user-friendly so that, with only a few minutes of training, a person without technical skills will be able to play music, project a video, or operate sound for a speaker or small praise band.

We of course will rely on contractors to accomplish much of the work, but the process will be open and inclusive. We will conduct meetings with the groups that use the spaces so they can explain their needs. Funding for most or all of the work will come from estate funds that have been received very recently.

Similar work will be done in the Sanctuary. Again, we will focus on upgrades that will brighten

the space and make it more welcoming, but that can be accomplished at modest expense. We hope to paint the stucco and replace some of the aging carpet. Our lighting and digital sound systems are also aging - you may have noticed glitches and failures recently with both systems. Thankfully, the upgrades we invested in more than a decade ago provide a solid platform so that we can update without replacing hardware like speakers, wiring, etc.



The biggest project in the Sanctuary will be that of preserving the stained glass windows that shed such marvelous light on God's living Word. That project will likely cost \$80,000-\$100,000. The *Vision 2020* plan is to conduct a church-wide campaign (the first in nearly 30 years) that will incorporate matching grants from LCPC's estate funds. So the goal will be to raise around \$40,000 so we can preserve those priceless windows for future generations.

Other projects will include replacing the 60s-vintage heating and air-conditioning units in our CFC/ Christian Education classrooms, reconfiguring the Christian Education offices (to give Ashley



Deacons' Beacon is on summer vacation. We will see you again in August!

Pollock, Lee Cook, Josh Horton and other interns improved office space) and redesigning and making better use of the space in front of the CE building along Montrose Avenue. Our main goal for all this work will be to make LCPC a welcoming campus where people will sense the God's presence and be drawn into the new life He offers in Christ. Again, the work will be funded mainly from estate funds.

While all of that is in motion, we will be working to expand and improve the ways we reach out using digital media! You'll be hearing much more about that very soon.

Watch for news of these changes. We welcome your involvement. Your prayers are an essential part of all of these efforts.

Love and good cheer,
Andy Wilson

CFC FAITH UPDATE

I hope the kids enjoyed our friendship series this Spring as much as I did! I loved hearing their examples of friendship and of ways they see Jesus acting as a friend in their lives. As we move into Summer, we will be starting a series on the "Fruit of the Spirit" and talking about how Jesus exemplifies love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We will also practice looking for those traits in the words and actions of others. One fruit that stands out to me when I think about the kids of CFC is joy! I am so grateful to be around that joy each week.

MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**MESSENGER DEADLINE
MONDAY, JULY 15
9:00 AM SHARP!**

Messenger articles and corrections should be emailed to shawndraws@gmail.com. Please put the word "Messenger" in the subject line. They can also be placed in the Messenger folder. Materials submitted after the deadline may be omitted at the discretion of the editor.

LEE'S LATEST

What's the key to a powerful devotional life? How can we overcome the obstacles, pitfalls, addictions, and trials in our lives? Where do we find strength when all hope seems lost? How can I hear from God when my heart is hard and my prayers are cold? What is my response to people who hurt me?

These questions are at the heart of faith. They are the questions that all of God's people have asked, past and present. They are more than just polite questions asked in Sunday School; they get to the core of real life lived in the real world.

For thousands of years, believers have found the answers in the Psalms: the hymnbook and

prayer book of God's people. The Psalms invite us to pray alongside saints who have gone before us with David, Moses, and so many others. We find Psalms that give voice to our frustration, joy, sadness, and hope. We can sing along with a heavenly choir in celebration of our King. We can find forgiveness in the midst of our deepest failures. There is no human experience that the Psalms do not give voice to.

On July 28, I will begin a new sermon series to help you learn to pray, sing, and meditate with these powerful songs of faith; the songs that Jesus himself sang and prayed.



children's Ministries

by Ashley Pollock

It is time for Vacation Bible School! OK, it's not quite time, but by the time you will read this,



the countdown will be on until "In the Wild" (our theme for the week) begins! In a matter of days, kids from LCPC, CFC, and the community will gather together for five days to play water games, do science experiments and crafts, sing songs, enjoy wacky skits, and learn about five specific encounters that people had with Jesus while He lived on Earth. The Bible passages we are looking at this year are: Jesus as a boy in the temple; Jesus is baptized; Jesus walks on water; Jesus dies and rises from the dead, and the road to Emmaus.

Because we accept registration through the first Monday of VBS, there is still time to sign up a child! So please invite your child's friends or your grandchild's friends or your neighbor's kids! We have classes for children 4 years old through 6th grade. You can register at: bit.ly/lcpcVBS.

Please join our VBS team in praying for this week-long event and for each child who participates. We prayerfully hope that the Spirit will be at work drawing kids closer to Jesus and giving them a deeper understanding of the love He has for them.

While VBS is our biggest event for the Summer, I hope that children will continue to join us on Sunday mornings for our Summer "Fruit of the Spirit" series! Each Sunday morning, as we learn about love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. We will also have a series of new Summer games, do a weekly fruit taste test, and enjoy reading the Bible outdoors on mornings that are not too hot. Summer is a great time to bring friends to LCPC and introduce kids to our ministry, our welcoming volunteers and great kids!

Last, but not least, one of our wonderful

families is moving to Texas this month. Jamie, Kari, Makenna, Wyatt, and Owen – thank you for all the joy, humor, generosity of time, and kindness you have shown over the past few years. Kristy and I will miss you guys so much and we are praying for each of you as you start this new adventure!

Kids Say The Darndest Things

During our 6th Grade Tribute Night at SPARKS, the 6th graders said some things that brought tears to my eyes. This may not be the funniest statement, but it reminded me that God is at work on Wednesday nights and made me very grateful for our wonderful PEAK leaders – Mary Wilson, Bryan Lescher, Katie Rose Clem, Armineh Manookian, Linda Winfield, Kristy Hicks, Mary Braswell, Janie Roach, Carleigh Fernandez, Carol Hampar and Christine Marks.

6th Grader: "I want to say thank you to (my friend) for inviting me to SPARKS because it's like I have a second family now."



Summer's in full force around LCPC! Kids are giddy about Summer break, college students are home, graduation and vacation pictures are all

over Facebook and Instagram, and the weather is heating up! I hope that 100-degree hot spell a few weeks ago is not an indication of what the rest of the Summer will be like!

Congratulations to all our graduates! The **Cary Family** hosted another fantastic Senior Banquet at their lovely home and eight of our graduating seniors were showered with love and good wishes, along with a delicious taco dinner, photo booth, and presentation of a yam - a little reminder that they will always be welcome at the Sunday night **YAM** (Young Adult Ministry) gatherings!

We're starting off the month with **Dodger Night** on July 2. We have a block of seats along the 3rd baseline and it's always a fabulous night of cheering for our favorite team! Tickets are \$30. Email **Craig Carlson** at carlsport@aol.com to

see if he might have a ticket or two left.

CFC will be having their annual **Red, White and Blue Parade** along Montrose Avenue on Wednesday, July 3, at 11:00 AM. Right afterwards there will be a bonus **Bistro 50+ BBQ** lunch in Koopmans. Come join the festivities!

The long awaited VBS "**In the Wild – Amazing Encounters with Jesus**" is just days away! You can register your kids online at bit.ly/lcpcVBS or grab a registration form in the church office. It's 9:00 AM to Noon, July 8-12, and it's just \$40 for a week of games, crafts, skits, stories and Jesus. Best deal in town!

From July 12-15 there will be a team heading down to Rosarito, Mexico to continue work on the **Casa de Los Angeles Orphanage**. They would love to have you join them if you are high school age or older and have a passport. Contact **Pastor Andy** to sign up.

LCPC kids will be well represented at the coolest camps in California this month. Junior highers will be spending five days in **Catalina at Campus by the Sea** July 18-22; SPARKS will be heading up to Forest Home's **The Village** July 21-26; and high schoolers will be at their happy place **Mount Hermon** in Santa Cruz July 28-August 3, along with nine LCPC young adults who will be working at the camp this Summer. Our kids love camp so much that they can't wait to work there and give kids the

same incredible experiences they had.

For those of you who have been anxiously awaiting a chance to become a member of our wonderful church family – the wait is over! There are two **new member classes** coming up - Wednesday, July 17, and Wednesday, July 31. You only need to attend one. Contact **Nancy** in the office for all the details.

Josh is excited to have a new Summer intern, **Allie Fernandez!** Allie will be working with Josh while Austin is at Mount Hermon. **Becca** is scaling back her time at LCPC to focus on her Ph.D. program at Fuller Seminary, but will still continue to lead a high school girls small group. Josh and Allie have started up a **high school Bible study** every Friday afternoon, 1:30-3:00 PM at Tickle Tree Café on Foothill. Kids just need a Bible and money for coffee.

If you know what a **MUCK** is, then you've been at LCPC for a while! **Most Unusual Church Kids** was the youth program in the 60s, 70s and 80s and any former **MUCKS** are invited to the **3rd annual reunion!** It's Saturday, July 27, 4:00-9:00 PM in Northridge at **Danny & Crystal Fernandez'** home. (**Danny** is **Dennis'** twin for those trying to keep track of all these Fernandez). RSVP to **Trevor Carson** at: trevorc1984@gmail.com.

(continued on back page)



CFC Heartbeat



Director's Corner

I'm just back in the office from a three-week road trip. I traveled more than 6,000 miles by car with a friend and her dog. Bob joined us for one week of the trip. I visited 21 states and Canada, saw three baseball games in three different cities, went to two halls of fame – NFL and Rock and Roll, visited one presidential library, took boat trips to the bottom of Niagara Falls and around the three rivers of Pittsburg. We saw numerous friends along the way including LCPC people and CFC former staff. I got to see both of my daughters and my father and step mom. It was an amazing trip. But, as they say, there is no place like home.

When I got back to work I found out that two staff members were going on to new positions. We will miss Lindsay and Scott and wish them well as they take on new adventures. I also came back to an amazing staff meeting where we worked with a communications trainer on how to communicate better with each other, children, and parents. It was a good day. The staff enjoyed the lunch and thank you for the gift card they received.

I also came back to a fully functioning CFC. A lot happened while I was gone and Helen and the staff did an excellent job of handling it all with professionalism and grace. The CFC is so fortunate to have the capable and dedicated staff that knows what to do without having to be micromanaged. I truly appreciate each one of them.

So by the time you read this we will be starting our week three of a busy Summer! Stay cool everyone.



Vacation Bible School

This year we are going to be "In the Wild." Get ready for a great week from July 8-12. It's the church's annual Vacation Bible School. Children ages 3 and up will be participating in this program. (That is children from rooms 104,105,107 – 202). Children in the Kindergarten and younger classes will remain in their rooms and children in 1st –6th grade will be joining with other children in age-specific classes. Everyone will get to have morning music, watch skits, make crafts, enjoy outside games and refreshments. VBS hours are 9:00 AM – Noon. If your child is not signed up for five days that week, we invite them to come between 9:00 AM – Noon on days they don't usually come so that they can have the entire VBS experience. On Thursday of this week there will be a family fun night with dinner and other activities. Please plan on coming, your kids would love to show you what they have been doing all week.

PLEASE NOTE: During the week of VBS, parking will be difficult so we suggest all parents come before 8:45 AM or after 9:15 AM to drop off children. Pat

Teacher Challenge

This year we are giving the teachers a challenge for each month. In June the challenge was painting without brushes. How many ways can you get paint on paper without using a paintbrush? It was very creative. July's challenge is to use things that roll in art, circle time, outside etc.



Red, White and Blue Parade

On Wednesday, July 3, our classrooms will be marching around the 2900 block of Montrose at 11:00 AM. The children will be dressed in their best Red, White and Blue outfits. Music will be playing from the bell tower and the children will be cheering for the USA. This annual event is always fun. Come join us, cheer us along the path, take photos, walk with us, and then stay for lunch as our guests. A great time for grandparents too! **We will be closed July 4-5 for the holiday weekend.**

Summer Day Camp

Our day camp is on a roll this Summer. I hear the children having fun each and every day and it is great to see friendships deepen and new ones made. Remember to stay in the habit of letting the office know what days you need each week by Tuesday.



CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
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| Joshua Horton | Director of Student Ministries josh@lcpc.net |
| Ashley Pollock | Director of Children's Ministries ashley@lcpc.net |
| Gary Woodward Elzbieta Nawrocka | Choir Director Organist/Pianist |
| Dan Blessinger | Producer of Contemporary Music |
| Nancy Thomas | Office Manager nancy@lcpc.net |
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| Helen Tuma Teri Reid | Assistant Director Office Administrator |



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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JULY

NEW SONG WORSHIP (CONTEMPORARY), SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM
SERVICE OF PRAISE (CLASSIC), SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM

The Summer is heating up. God is doing so much in the life of our church. This July we'll finish up our study of Daniel by looking at Jesus' fulfillment of Daniel 7, and Darren Kennedy will share a word

with us as he visits from Cairo, Egypt. On July 28, Lee will begin a new series: "The Psalms: The Songs Jesus Sang" (see Lee's Latest for more information).

JULY 7

Message by Dr. Darren Kennedy

JULY 14

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Message by Lee Cook

"Jesus Versus the Powers of Darkness"

For Personal Study: Daniel 7

JULY 21

Message by Andy Wilson

JULY 28

Message by Lee Cook

"The Psalms: Blessed"

For Personal Study: Psalm 1

MOUSE

(continued from page 3)

Andy, Mary, and their team of 35 dedicated volunteers just got back from another amazing trip to the **Dominican Republic.** They built a house in a barrio in La Romana, worked in mobile health clinics in the area providing remedial health care, and made many new friends along the way. It's not too early to think about joining them next Summer!

Fellowship organized another fabulous **Progressive Dinner.** Thank you to **Judy Trumbo** and **George Vine, Caron** and **Al Nunez, Cindy** and **Mark Williams, Julie** and **Craig**

Hodges, and **Carlo** and **Armineh Manookian** for opening up their beautiful homes and making delicious appetizers and rice dishes. **Darrell Fernandez** BBQ'd all the tri tip and chicken, **Christine Marks** and **Linda Winfield** made delectable desserts, **Jon Weingarten** whipped up a beautiful salad, and **Craig Carlson** and **Carlo Manookian** provided fine wines for the evening.

You can thank **Geoff Bryan** when you are enjoying your cup of coffee at the **Party in the Brezeway** this Sunday! He worked hard to get our beloved church coffee maker working properly again. The photos he posted of wires and electronic stuff looked more like he was disarming a bomb!

Have you registered for the **Global Leader-**

ship Summit yet? It's coming up August 8-9 at La Canada Presbyterian Church and is a great opportunity to get world-class leadership training right in our own backyard. Register at globalleadership.org/summit and use the priority code 19PRTORG.

Don't forget to save the dates October 11-13 for the **All Church retreat "All In."** It will be held at Pine Summit Christian Camp in Big Bear and will be an awesome weekend of inspiring speakers, fellowship, outdoor fun, and a dance party on Saturday night! Be watching the bulletin for pricing and sign up details.

Enjoy your July 4th holiday celebrations and may **God Bless the USA!** See you next month!