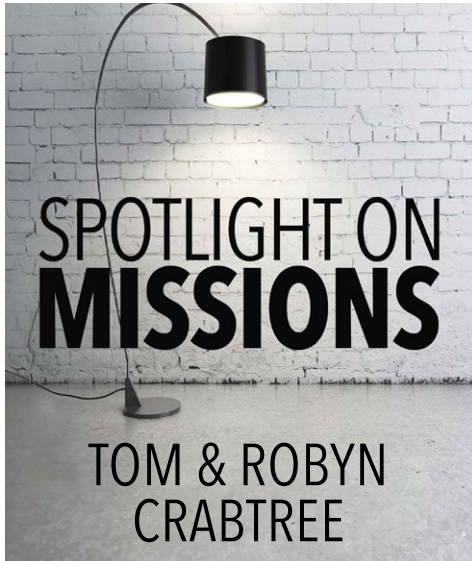


# MESSENGER

VOLUME 75, NUMBER 5

MAY 2026



Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*-Psalms 23:6 (NKJV)*

**Trip to East Africa:** We started 2026 with a trip in January to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Robyn helped facilitate a “Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills” training for 25 interns. This is a wonderful course on Biblical principles for communicating and relating well with colleagues in a work environment. We did this training ourselves in 2012 and still use it frequently. Prior to the training, Tom was involved in mentor

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meetings and other training with the interns. Next, we travelled to Kenya for Africa Human Resource meetings (after a short holiday in Mombassa to celebrate our 43rd anniversary). These Human Resource (or People Team)



*Robyn with her “People Team”*

meetings were the first time we gathered our key people together from the English and French-speaking parts of Africa. God answered our prayers for a time of team building, strengthening our trust and learning important things about our changing work environment.

### Intern Program Update:

The SIL Africa intern program is thriving with 36 interns across 15 countries - being trained in technical skills infields supporting Bible translation. We started this cohort program in April 2025 and the interns will graduate after 2 years of training. Each intern has a mentor and supervisor assigned to work with them, and each fills a key role in their unit of assignment.

### Prayer Ministry for Africa:

Martin Luther allegedly said, “I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer”. Robyn is not yet up to Luther’s level, but she often starts her day in a prayer meeting - and some of those begin at 4:30 am, given the time difference with our colleagues in Africa. Her role involves collecting and sharing prayer needs from across Africa, and she is active in several

prayer groups that pray for the needs in Africa and globally. Tom’s department has prayer as the first element of their strategy and so Robyn is a key member of the Partnerships and Resource Development Team as well.

**Transitions:** Both of our organizations (Wycliffe USA & SIL Global) are going through transitions. There can be a lot of confusion as organizations change. Wycliffe USA has just transitioned with the end of their vision (Vision 2025—to see Scripture translation started in every language that needs it by the year 2025) to a time of discerning what is the “Wycliffe of the future?” There are still over 500 languages needing translation to start, but there are also many languages with ongoing translation work and many with the New Testament but not the Old Testament Scriptures yet. So there’s lots of work still to do. SIL has been on its own journey over the past year with new leaders at Global and Africa levels. We just completed a combining of both Anglophone and Francophone regions of Africa into one SIL Africa. Tom’s role changed in 2025 to be serving as an Associate Director on the Partnerships and Resource Development team for Africa. Well, in June, Tom’s boss, Anthony Kamau will be re-assigned (again - he took his current role in June 2025) to now over-



*Interns and trainers in Addis Ababa proudly displaying their training certificates*

see resource development for SIL worldwide. And Tom & Cynthia Wanyonyi will co-lead the department while we wait for the next director to become available. While this is not an entirely new role for Tom, the changing of roles takes a toll on the whole team.

### Praise & Prayer Points:

- Pray for discernment for Tom and the SIL Africa leaders about the future of the intern

*(continued on page 6)*

While April was a great lesson in change, patience, inconvenience and flexibility for all of us, we are returning to our **familiar rhythms in May!**



the Psalms of Lament and another great class on guided prayer. **Pastor Mike McClenahan**,

who was also a fantastic guest preacher, led us in trusting God in the in-between times and spending more alone time with Him. This month, we look forward to more nights of

healing speakers, delicious dinners prepared by **John Arangio**, and time together.

**Bistro 50+** is back this month, Tuesday May 12 at noon with a homemade lunch for just \$5 in Koopmans. You are invited to join the **Cruisers** for their monthly meeting led by our dear **Pat Chambers** that will be lots of fun. She always brings us games that are entertaining, and/or we learn to do something new and energize our brains. Don't miss it!

Sunday, May 17 we hope you'll participate in our **monthly potluck** after services, down in Koopmans Hall. This has become a wonderful time for our church family to share a meal and conversation together each month. And there are always yummy new dishes to sample – LCPC knows how to cook! Even if you don't bring anything, come on down and grab a plate full of food!

Our **monthly game night** is happening Thursday, May 21 at 6pm in Koopmans. The group will continue to play Rummikub and welcomes new players! You can bring your dinner or a treat to share and enjoy an evening of fun and games.

Tuesday, May 26, LCPC will be hosting the quarterly **San Fernando Presbytery meeting and dinner**, starting at 5pm in Koopmans. The Fellowship team will provide the dinner and gratefully accepts any help with food prep,

serving and clean up. Contact Linda Winfield – lkwin@pacbell.net if you're interested.

CFC is excited to be offering their **Summer Day Camp** again this year, so let your friends and neighbors with kids know! They have Kinder Camp and classes for kids entering 1st grade through 7th grade. Along with fun daily activities, there will be weekly field trips to all the most fun places in So Cal! School pick up is available for those kids attending GUSD summer school in the La Crescenta area. They offer a "pick and choose" registration so families can pick the weeks that work best with their schedules. For more info, contact the CFC office at 818-249-8124.

**Children and Family Ministries** is still looking for a **Sunday School Assistant**, to welcome and check in families in the Narthex, as well as set up Sunday School class supplies. The role could also be shared between a few people. Please contact **Dennis Fernandez** at dcfernandez@yahoo.com if you're interested.



The **Deacons** have another **Blood Drive** coming up Sunday, June 14, from 8am-2pm. Didn't we just have a blood drive, you might be asking? Yes, we did, but the good news is you can donate every 56 days! There is a severe shortage of blood, and we have some healthy donors in this church who have saved a lot of lives and have plenty more blood to give. Spread the word to friends and family and let's fill every slot they have! Go to Redcross.org/give and search for the LCPC blood drive to register.

Keep praying for God's faithfulness to LCPC, as he has been faithful to this church for more than 140 years and He knows the plans He has for us. Talk to you next month.

## MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### ART DIRECTOR/EDITOR

Shawn Kelly  
shawndraws@gmail.com

### MESSENGER DEADLINE MONDAY, MAY 18 9:00 AM SHARP

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

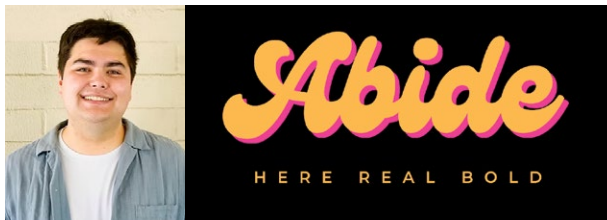
The **parking lot construction** project was a major undertaking, and despite limited parking, everyone managed to find creative ways to attend classes and services. We appreciate your support, understanding and your presence!

Not only does our renovated lot look pristine, but we have new sprinkler lines and electrical improvements to support additional lighting in the lot. We're grateful to **Duane Fernandez, Josh Kauffman, Sidney Schreiner's son-in-law Dave Ellingford** and **Foster Dennis**, who owns California Paving & Grading for their hard work and expertise!

To tidy up after all the work (we have a bit more dust!) we'd love your help at the spring **All Church Day of Service**, Saturday May 2, from 8am – 1pm. We've got gardening and weeding projects around the campus, Sanctuary cleaning, and other areas needing attention. Even an hour of time can make a difference! Contact Scottcarpenter7@outlook.com with questions.

The next day, May 3, we'll have our **combined worship** service in the Sanctuary with **Communion**, at our regular 10am time. This month, we also return to our **usual Sunday worship schedule**, with the two services at 10am. We are hopeful we may have an interim pastor sometime this month too!

**PEAK classes** have been going well, and the **Adult Ministries Team** has been working tirelessly to invite leaders to teach encouraging classes in this season of change. **Robyn Crabtree** led a powerful evening of prayer based on



April has been another great month for Abide as we've continued our rhythm of weekly gatherings. It's been a joy to see students consistently showing up, building friendships, and growing together through time spent in fellowship, fun, and faith.

We also wrapped up our time partnering with Children's and Family Ministries during Wednesday night PEAK. This has been a meaningful season of connection across ministries, and we're grateful for the opportunity our students had to be involved in the life of the broader church community in this way.

In addition, we've continued the search for our next full-time Director of Student Ministries and are beginning to narrow in on the right candidate. Thank you for your continued prayers during this process—that God would provide clarity, wisdom, and the right person to lead and shepherd our students well.

We're thankful for all that God is doing in Abide and are excited for what's ahead!

Will Wolfswinkel  
Interim Director of Student Ministries



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# MAY 2026

10:00 A Combined Worship-Sanctuary	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary	31						

*Mothers Day*

9:00 A **MESSENGER DEADLINE** 18

**MEMORIAL DAY**

CHURCH & CFC OFFICES CLOSED

- CFC Center For Children
- CM Children's Ministries Team
- KH Koopmans Hall
- M&O Mission & Outreach Team
- PEAK Praise & Education for Adults & Kids
- SC Student Center
- SM Student Ministries Committee
- W&M Worship & Music Team

# SESSION NEWS

In late March, Session approved a letter and response card created by the Membership Task Force. This letter is being sent to those identified as possibly moved from the area and/or inactive for the past several years, to validate if they still want to be LCPC members or be removed from the rolls. Session accepted the proposal to remove 13 members who had either moved or joined other churches and accepted the transfer of four members to the inactive roll.

The Presbytery has approved a grant to cover the Cyclical Full Circle church health assessment, and Session is determining when to start the first of three phases.

During Holy Week, we had a guest pastor for Maundy Thursday and Easter

Sunday. The Good Friday service was led by Session members Jennifer Clem, Doug Given, and Steven Andersen. Going forward, we have the Sunday pulpit filled through May and will soon initiate the interim pastor nominating committee.

Session members are thankful for all of the individuals who showed up for the Town Hall on April 8. And we are glad that many of the attendees could express their honest hopes, concerns, and struggles that evening. We continue to be fully open to your inputs, and appreciate your continued prayers for our church body and leadership as we navigate through this transition period.

Submitted in Christ,  
Steven Andersen



## May PEAK Classes

Please join us in May for the following PEAK events (dinner at 5:30, event at 6:15)

### May 6: Trust

A video lecture by Pastor Craig Groeschel from the Global Leadership Summit, with table discussions led by Craig Carlson

### May 13: Missions Night

An evening of hearing about some of the various missions LCPC is involved in, led by Tom and Robyn Crabtree

### May 20: Flashback & Fun Facts Pizza Night

Join us for a special PEAK evening of pizza, ice cream, trivia, and shared memories! We'll test our knowledge with some church trivia and hear a few stories from longtime members who helped shape our church family. It's a relaxed night to help us laugh, connect, and remember the journey God has taken us on together. Come for the food, fun, fellowship, and a few "I never knew that!" moments.

We hope you all had a blessed Holy Week and enjoyed breaking bread together on Maundy Thursday. We thank Rachel Wolflick for leading the charge in the kitchen and preparing the meal. We also thank Robyn Crabtree, who made a last-minute trip to the market to pick up some additional ingredients. Thanks to all of the deacon volunteers, from meal prep and setup to serving and cleanup, to make the meal event possible. This event is a treasured LCPC tradition, sharing a meal together leading to the Maundy Thursday communion service.



The spotlight for this month is on the Meal Train Ministry. The deacons can provide a meal train for those that request meals due to illness, recovery or grief. Yuqin Hu, spouse of our clerk of session Steven Andersen, is our contact for this at this email: Huyq2018@gmail.com. Three meal trains were provided in the first three months of this year. Yuqin organizes a schedule of meals for an individual or family, with deacons and congregants volunteering to provide homecooked meals, meals purchased from restaurants, or gift cards. There aren't any active meal trains currently, but if you would

like to hear about future meal trains and provide a meal to someone in need, please contact Yuqin to be added to the email distribution list. If you or your family member is ill, preparing for a procedure, or have lost a loved one, and would like to be supported during this time by having meals provided to you and your immediate family, please reach out to Yuqin or any Deacon so that a meal train can be created for you.

The deacons are accepting applications through June 14 for 2026 scholarships. These scholarships require some church affiliation of applicants. The scholarship can be used for tuition to either trade school or most higher education programs. An application can be submitted for each degree (e.g. bachelors or masters). Successful applicants will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship, which is funded directly to the school rather than the student.

In other news, the Deacons are looking forward to celebrating all the mothers in a few weeks with a special Mother's Day gift from the deacons. You'll have to wait to see what it is!

Until next month,  
Deacon Dave Eagle



# CFC Heartbeat



As we welcome the month of May, we are surrounded by so much to celebrate. Growth, gratitude and the special people who make our community so meaningful.

It's that time of year to pause and recognize our incredible teachers during **Teacher Appreciation Week** which is celebrated nationwide from May 4-8. This is a week that is dedicated to honoring our educators for their contributions to education.

This month, we take the time to recognize

our very own incredible teachers here at Center for Children. Their dedication, patience, and genuine love for each child are what make CFC a special place. Every day they go above and beyond to create a nurturing, engaging and safe environment, and we are so grateful for the warmth and care they bring into their classrooms.

The Center for Children thrives because of its deep roots within our teaching team. We are blessed with educators who have devoted not just years, but decades to this community. Some of our teachers have been here for 10, 15, 20 and even 30-plus years. Their commitment has helped shape generations of children and families. The love they bring into the classroom each day is a true gift.

If you are curious to know who these remarkable individuals are, I would be happy to share with you. While they would be far too humble for a public spotlight, they are truly deserving of recognition and our deepest appreciation.

We are also looking forward to celebrat-



ing **Mother's Day** and the wonderful families who are at the center of everything we do. Our classrooms are already buzzing as children prepare their special Mother's Day crafts and gifts. As a mother of three I have held on to

every single piece of art my three children made for me over the years. These small, heartfelt treasures become some of the most meaningful keepsakes. We hope every mom feels appreciated and celebrated.

**Summer camp at Center for Children** is right around the corner and as the days grow warmer the excitement for camp grows stronger. We have so many fun activities planned, engaging experiences, and memorable field trips for our school age children. If you haven't already secured a spot, we encourage you to visit our website at [center4children.com](http://center4children.com) and register soon. Spaces fill up quickly, and we would love for your child or grandchildren to be a part of the summer fun.

We are grateful for this community and the many ways God's love is reflected each day through the care, dedication, and relationships we share.

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14

Arpy Jahjah  
Executive Director, Center  
For Children

# MAY PREACHING SCHEDULE

CLASSIC WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

BOTH SERVICES AT 10 AM

**MAY 3**  
Rev. Kevin Haah

**MAY 17**  
Rev. Nick Warnes

**MAY 10**  
Rev. Dr. Terry McGonigal

**MAY 24**  
Rev. Dr. Rick Lyon

## BISTRO 50+

**TUESDAY,  
MAY 12  
12 NOON IN  
KOOPMANS**

Everyone 50+ years old is welcome to come and enjoy a meal and fellowship for just \$5.00.

## CRUISERS

At their May 12 meeting, the LCPC Cruisers will be led by **Pat Chambers**. Not sure exactly what she has planned, but we guarantee you'll have a great time. Everyone is invited!

## MISSIONS *(continued from page 1)*

program. Can sustainable funding be arranged, and should it transition to another department long-term?

- Praise God for seeing Africa Area through many leadership transitions in 2025-26. Pray for our leaders in Wycliffe & SIL (at each level) as they navigate the challenges of multiple transitions.

- Pray for our staff in Jos, Nigeria with

a terrorist attack on Palm Sunday that resulted in several weeks of heightened security. Praise God for protecting our staff and families & enabling Bible translation ministry to continue.

- Pray for more consistent financial support for many local national staff who are sacrificially serving in Bible translation ministry.

- Pray for wisdom for Tom & Cynthia as they co-lead the Partnerships & Resource Development department during the coming transition period, starting in June.

## PARKING



## LOT



## PROCESS!



## ALL-CHURCH DAY OF SERVICE

**MAY 2, 8AM-1PM**

## CHURCH STAFF

Arpy Jahjah Executive Director, Center For Children  
arpy@lpcp.net

Will Wolfswinkel Interim Dir. of Student Ministries  
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Dennis Fernandez Moderator of Children's Ministries

Nancy Thomas Office Manager  
nancy@lpcp.net

Cindy Charles Finance Manager  
Gary Woodward Choir Director  
gary@lpcp.net

Matthew Krell Organist/Pianist

Scott Tibbs & Dave Robbins Producers of Contemporary Music

Paul Hofmann Head of Digital Support for Worship  
Interim Digital Media Coordinator  
paul@lpcp.net

Baldo Muralles Facilities Manager