

MESSENGER

VOLUME 75, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2026

SPOTLIGHT: ARPY JAHJAH

For as long as she can remember, Arpy Jahjah has drawn energy and inspiration from being in the presence of children.

As a young girl, she was the go-to babysitter in her neighborhood, and when her middle school sought volunteers to help out first-graders at the elementary school next door, she was quick to put up her hand.

"I love the child's brain. When kids ask a lot of questions, I get excited because that questioning makes us see things in a way that adults usually don't," says Arpy, who's overjoyed that she gets a daily dose of kids' curiosity as the executive director of the Center for Children at La Crescenta Presbyterian.

"Every morning, when that first child walks in, it's like my first cup of coffee. It's exciting to me, it starts my day off right."

Arpy taught preschool during her college years, became a kindergarten teacher soon after graduation, and served as an administrator in both public and private schools settings. But her life and career have also taken unexpected turns that, in retrospect, prepared her well for leading CFC, the church's most prominent local ministry.

It's something of a family tradition, she said, recalling her father's willingness to go wherever God was calling him.

Raised in Lebanon, Missak Tatoulian moved to Chicago in the 1960s and built a career as a photographer, even taking team photos for

MLB's White Sox. After marrying Arpy's mother, Araxy, who was from the same hometown in Lebanon, the couple decided Chicago winters were just too hard to take and they relocated to Pasadena.

There, they opened a restaurant, the Flaming Skewer on Lake Avenue. "My dad was not a chef and my mom was more of an intellect who had never fried an egg," says Arpy, but with a little training and a lot of determination, they turned the eatery into a success.

But God had other plans in store for the family. Arpy's father was prominent in the Pasadena community and a deacon at St. Gregory's Armenian Apostolic

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Recap of 2025 Activity:

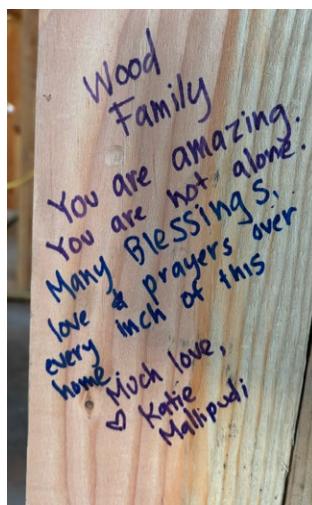
- Total contributions to the Eaton Fire Recovery Fund totaled nearly \$190,000, including matching grants and about \$28,000 in transfers from other LCPC mission accounts, as well as accrued interest on the fund.
- We expect to distribute the vast majority of this fund by the end of 2026. So far, we have distributed about \$46,000, with about two-thirds of that going to Door of Hope ("DOH"), and the balance to San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity ("Habitat"). We expect the proportion of our giving to these two organizations will shift in the coming year as Habitat building accelerates and DOH's support specifically targeted to victims of the fire begins to wind down. We also still plan to financially support at least one other Christ-centered organization doing highly effective work in response to the fire, but have not selected that organization.
- Not long after the fire was extinguished, a small group of LCPC members and friends volunteered through Samaritan's Purse to assist about 45 families as they searched through the ashes of their homes, looking for special possessions that might have

survived the fire.

- We have participated in three Habitat building events so far. On December 13, we participated in our first multi-church, CommUnity Coalition build day (following the postponement of our November 15 event due to heavy rain). Working together with folks from La Canada Presbyterian and other churches, we installed siding, removed a soffit, added fresh paint, and filled the Wood family's future home with handwritten messages of hope and encouragement. Similar build days will be scheduled throughout 2026, with our first one taking place on January 31. Check out our photo album (reflecting various build days since October): [Habitat for Humanity Photo Album](#)

- In July, Vacation Bible School families collected backpacks and

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P A S T O R ' S L E T T E R

"A NEW YEAR, A NEW VISION, A PLACE FOR ALL"

Dear LCPC Family,

As we stand on the threshold of this new year, January beckons us with the promise of new beginnings and fresh opportunities to deepen our faith and impact our community. The turning of the calendar is a natural time for reflection, a moment to look back with gratitude on God's unwavering presence through the valleys and on the mountaintops of the past year, and to look forward with anticipation to the possibilities that lie ahead.

This year, we are especially excited as we embrace our renewed Vision Statement, which will guide us in the coming years. Our new Vision Statement reads, "La Crescenta Presbyterian Church is a community of believers striving to be an intercultural, intergenerational congregation dedicated to making disciples of all nations."

This vision is not merely a set of words; it's a living call to action. It asks us to embody

Christ's love in tangible ways, to find joy in serving one another and our neighbors, and to lead with faith and conviction in a world that often needs clear, compassionate guidance.

In adopting this vision, we are affirming that the Gospel of Jesus Christ breaks down every barrier.

Intercultural: We celebrate the rich diversity of God's children. Our doors and our hearts are open to people from every background, recognizing that our unity in Christ is made stronger by the unique perspectives and traditions we all bring to the table. We actively seek to listen, learn, and grow together, reflecting the kaleidoscope of the Kingdom of God here in our local community.

Intergenerational: The church is a family spanning all ages. We commit to intentionally connecting the wisdom of our elders with the energy and fresh insights of our youth and children. We need every generation engaged

in ministry, learning from one another, and walking this faith journey side-by-side.

Making Disciples for Christ of All Nations: This is our core purpose—

our missional mandate. Our goal is not simply attendance, but transformation. We are called to nurture mature followers of Jesus who know His teachings, embody His love, and share His hope with the world around us, beginning right here in La Crescenta and extending to our neighbors from every nation.

Our new vision statement challenges us to move beyond comfort zones and into deeper, more intentional fellowship and mission. It asks us to see the world not as it is, but as God intends it to be: a unified community of believers dedicated to the spread of His love.

Let us pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we embark on this exciting chapter.

• May our lives individually and corporately reflect this beautiful vision of a vibrant, welcoming, and disciple-making community.

• May we enter this new year with sacred curiosity, wondering how we might grow together and what work God is equipping us to do as a united, yet wonderfully diverse, family. Love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously.

• Blessings to you and your families in this new year.

Warmly in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

M E S S E N G E R

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ART DIRECTOR/EDITOR

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MESSENGER DEADLINE SUNDAY, JANUARY 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.



EATON FIRE REMEMBRANCE

Let us gather together for comfort and hope

one year REMEMBRANCE *of the Eaton Fire*

**Wednesday, January 7,
2026**

grief stations | all day

worship service | 6:30pm

more info | lacanadpc.org

626 Foothill Blvd, La Cañada CA 91011 | 818-790-6708

We are quickly coming up on the first anniversary of the Eaton Fire, on January 7. La Canada Presbyterian Church ("LCPC-East"), our partner in the Habitat for Humanity rebuilding projects, is providing opportunities that day to stand with our Altadena neighbors in grief, gratitude, and hope through Christ. Throughout the day, LCPC-East will host **grief stations** designed to help people reflect at their own pace. These stations will offer space to:

- Lament the devastation and losses
- Honor the courage and resilience shown in hardship

- Recognize blessings and support received along the way
- Renew hope for the year ahead

Whether people come for a few minutes or stay longer, all are welcome to move through this experience freely and personally. At **6:30 PM**, there will be a worship service centered on remembrance, healing, and the sustaining strength of God. And **spiritual care volunteers** will be present all day to offer compassionate listening and prayer for anyone who desires it.

Happy New Year
LCPC! May 2026 be
a year filled with joy,
good health and many
blessings!

FROM THE
**CHURCH
MOUSE**

What a wonderful Christmas season we had! Every event and celebration had lots of families enjoying the holiday fun and cheer! Thank you, **Arpy**, for a festive **family Christmas party**, complete with Santa himself! And everyone loved the **CV High School Charismatics** at both this event and the Cruisers meeting.



It was so meaningful to have a **Children's Christmas Program, The Greatest Gift**, for the first time in many years. **Dot Kim, Mandy Cary, and Pat Shen** did a fantastic job planning and rehearsing each week with about 25 kids of all ages from LCPC and CFC. Watching and hearing all those precious little ones brought a tear to many eyes. It was wonderful to have our youth participate with readings about the birth of Jesus, **Leland Elmes** as our favorite "Little Drummer Boy" and **Brock Cary, Allie Fernandez** and **Diana Barseghyan** share their beautiful voices. Thank you also to **Karen Hayhurst, Aubrie Walker** and **Wyatt Given** for their musical talents and **Nancy Jacobson** for providing ASL interpretation.. It was a fantastic afternoon and brought so much joy to all who participated and attended.

The **Choir Christmas Concert** was another fantastic evening, filled with carols, glorious music and talent galore! *Joy to the World* was probably the most joyous thing we've heard all year! What a treat to hear **Gary Woodward** on



flute, our choir's angelic voices, hear and watch **Matthew Krell** mesmerize us with his rendition of *Silent Night*, and have our Praise Band featuring **Dave Robbins, Lana Arrington** and **Brock Cary** lead worship. We had a large crowd from the community, and everyone was blessed by this amazing concert.

Our **Christmas Eve** services were lovely, with many people worshiping with us and celebrating the birth of Christ.

Did you happen to notice **Baby Jesus** in the creche out front of the church, got a special gift this year (*pictured*)? Not from the Wisemen, but from the Wisewomen! **Madeline Schneiker** crocheted Jesus a warm new blanket and hat, and **Sidney Schreiner** gave him a much needed bath and new swaddling cloths. It was a holy baby shower!

If you're available to help on Sunday, January 11 right after services end, we are going to have the **"Unhanging of the Greens"**



and would love your help! Time to box up all the Christmas decorations until next year!

This month **Pastor Mouris** will be starting his new sermon series, **"A Time to Rebuild,"** focusing on the power of God to repair what has been broken in our lives, churches and communities. His **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** will resume on January 13, at 11 am in Koopmans.

For their first meeting of the new year on January 13, the **Cruisers** will be hosting **Deputy Ji Woong Chun**, from the Sheriff's Office of Los Angeles County. He'll speak about avoiding fraud on the internet and our devices. All are welcome to come to this important meeting in Koopmans North at 1 pm. Join us for the **Bistro 50+ Luncheon** beforehand in Koopmans for \$5!

PEAK starts back up Wednesday, January 14. We look forward to **John Arangio's** delicious dinners at 5:30. At 6:15, the kids will go off to their classes, and there are two new classes for adults to choose from. **Dot Kim** and **Jamie Given** will be leading **"The Anxious Generation,"** based on

Jonathan Haidt's best-selling book of the same name. This class is open to all adults, whether you're parenting toddlers, raising teenagers, or simply trying to build a healthier relationship with technology. They'll explore the impact of smart phones and social media on an entire generation, with conversations about how we can create change as a community.

Adult Ministries is offering **Discipleship Explored**, a journey through Paul's letter to the Philippians, designed to explore the joy and challenge of following Jesus in today's world. Each session features a documentary-style film followed by group discussion and Bible study. Join us for an encouraging, structured way to explore what it means to live as a disciple in today's world and strengthen our relationship with God and with one another.



and I guarantee you, everyone will love it! It's always a great afternoon of yummy food and fun conversation.

The Mission Team has another **Habitat for Humanity Build Day** opportunity Saturday, January 31, working on a new home in the early stages of construction. Sign up using the link in the weekly email – spots are expected to fill quick. Last month we sent a crew of volunteers to Altadena to work on a home for the Wood family who should be moving into their finished home later this month. What a huge blessing this ministry is!

Our **Ladies of LCPC** events are starting back up this February. First up is the **Women's Tea**, Saturday, February 21.

We are looking for five creative hostesses to sponsor a tea party table, which means setting and decorating a table for eight ladies. (One of last year's lovely tables is pictured.) Contact **Pat Chambers** at pmccfc@hotmail.com if you'd like to host a table.



EATON UPDATE

(continued from page 1)

other school supplies, along with over \$1,000 in cash donations, all of which was matched with money from our Eaton Fire Fund to support kids in the DOH program who were directly impacted by the fire.

- Small teams helped to furnish homes for three DOH families, delivering items from the families' wish lists and sharing a meal with them.
- We hosted a heavily trafficked booth at DOH's annual Christmas festival in Pasadena (pictured). We welcomed kids and their parents with a lively ping pong toss game (complete with cool prizes) and crafts, which included making small, no-sew fleece pillows and ornaments. Using one of the church vans, we also provided a shuttle service between

an off-site parking lot and Maranatha High School, where the event took place. Hundreds of DOH kids participated at this year's event (both those currently in DOH programs, as well as alumnae); the event was a huge success, and one we now anticipate supporting annually.

- We have been delivering meals once a month to one of the DOH multi-family shelters.

Have you resolved to serve the Lord in new ways in the coming year? Here are a couple of great opportunities to support the families impacted by the fire in Christ's name in the coming weeks and months. Besides meeting real needs, you'll find this service fun and inspiring!

Join our next Habitat Build Day on Saturday, January 31st. We expect to fill the volunteer slots relatively quickly for this event (max of 30 participants for each of the two shifts). Volun-



teers must be 16 or older, but no experience is necessary! [REGISTER HERE FOR JANUARY 31 BUILD!](#)

Or prepare and deliver a meal to one of the DOH multi-family shelters (you would be providing food for about 15 people, including children, teenagers, and parents). A small group of volunteers are on rotation to provide this service as their schedules permit (sign up for a **second Monday of one or more months in 2026**). Please contact Cindy at csguenther50@gmail.com if you are interested in joining our small team... it's a relatively easy (and gratifying!) way to serve our neighbors in need.

MOUSE

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CFC is exploring new recipe ideas and introducing more diverse meals from different cultures. CFC chef **Geoff Bryan** has been trying out Greek, Armenian, and Chinese dishes and we're happy to report the kids love Kebab, Gyros, Pilaf, and stir fry! If you have an easy family recipe to share with Geoff and the CFC kids, feel free to send an email to officeatcfc@gmail.com with your favorite family recipe!

It was wonderful to have our former Director of Children's Ministries **Jesiah Bozich** as our guest preacher while Pastor Mouris was away for the holidays. Jesiah gave a great sermon, and it was so good to see him, **Jen Ning** and meet their precious new baby boy **Hezekiah** (Kiah for short).

Tim and Kerry Milbrodt couldn't be more excited to become grandparents this summer! **Sarah and Troy Eggertson** are expecting a baby boy in June, and Kerry can't wait to hold that precious baby in her arms. We are so happy for them!

Good luck with all those **New Year's Resolutions** and I'll talk to you next month!

This Chambers, Murphy and White crew (a few of them anyway) is just one of the many family or friend groups who took turns lighting the Advent candles this season.





Abide

HERE REAL BOLD

We wrapped up the fall semester with an awesome Abide Christmas party filled with games, great food, and plenty of laughter. It was a joyful way to celebrate the season and the community that

has grown among our students. We were also grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Children's and Family Ministries Christmas program, sharing in the joy of the season and supporting our younger church family.



With the advent of the new year, we have a changing of the guard on the Deacons Board. We give thanks to outgoing deacons Nancy Smith and Elaine Ross-Collins. We appreciate the service of the deacons who have completed their terms and have agreed to serve again: Mackenzie Roach, Bill Larson, and Dave Eagle. We are also so blessed and excited to welcome incoming deacons Nancy Jacobson, Karen McCauley, Tom Crabtree, and returning deacon Hilary Norton. Welcome aboard!

Our spotlight shines on Elaine this month, who has been a faithful deacon for six of the last seven years. Her ministry focus has been to send sympathy, anniversary, and get well cards. Elaine also has been extremely active in



accomplishing as many visitations as possible by phone, and keeping track of details of those not seen in church in awhile. She has tirelessly blessed so many people with this ministry for so long. She often does the devotionals at the deacons meetings, and is very diligent to the deacons' notebook plans and distribution each year.

She also leads the Cornerstone Crew (gardening and landscaping team) on Saturday mornings and works in conjunction with the Property Team to keep the sprinklers going. She has been a very faithful servant, and we will be hard-pressed to cover her duties. Thank you, Elaine, for faithfully serving the Lord and LCPC. You are a blessing to us and the deacons are so very grateful to have served with you all these years.

In other news, our next blood drive is slated for March. Please keep this in mind if you donate regularly, as you need to wait 56 days between donations. The official date will be revealed in the New Year, so stay tuned.

Happy New Year,
Dave

ARPY JAHJAH

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Church. But he decided to travel to Jerusalem for a full year of monastic study, with Araxy staying behind to manage the restaurant and care for their baby — Arpy's older brother.

"My father told me the story of this very intense calling, how he couldn't shake the feeling. How he decided to become a priest," Arpy recalls.

Upon his return, Missak Tatoulian was ordained in Reedley, in California's Central Valley, where Arpy was born and spent the first 15 years

of her life. Upon ordination, Missak was given the name Fr. Datev after an Armenian Monastery dating back to 895 AD.

"Reedley is a sweet little farming town, and in many ways it reminds me of LCPC — the community feel, even the church hall," Arpy says. "When the Cruisers gather in Koopmans, it's that same kind of community."

Her father went on to continue his ministry in San Diego, where Arpy went to high school before continuing her education at community college, Long Beach State and eventually Pacific Oaks College, studying early childhood education and human development.

But like her father, Arpy had the sense that she had other talents she was meant to explore. She had always had a mind for business and even considered changing her major, but her father, always her biggest champion, encouraged her to finish what she started — but leave herself open to learning new things later in life.

That guidance played out after she met her husband, Roger Jahjah, who was at the time in the luxury goods sector. Roger learned of an opportunity that Arpy would be perfect for, and she pivoted from education to marketing, working for elite brands like Gucci, Swatch and Cartier and

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CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRIES



Happy New Year, friends & families of LCPC! I hope you all had a beautiful holiday season and are enjoying a sense of anticipation and joy as

we start another year around the sun. The Lord is so gracious to provide these rhythms of new beginnings – for the invitation to start afresh in any areas of our lives that need a reset button.

I pray that the start of your 2026 feels full of hope.

The Children & Family Ministry celebrated Advent and the end of 2025 with a Christmas program that truly exceeded our expectations in every way. I am so grateful to all the incredible volunteers who gave so freely of their time and talents to make *The Greatest Gift* come to life. The children and young adults sang beautifully, our youth delivered the readings with confidence and clarity, and all of our accompanists played so wonderfully – we even had ASL interpretation, which was such a blessing. Most importantly, the story of Jesus' birth – our greatest gift – was told, and we pray that the Holy Spirit stirred many hearts towards Jesus. Thank you so much for your support of the program!

In Wonder Kids this month, we're

kicking off the new year with a series that explores the ways in which Jesus relates to us: he is our high priest, king, savior, brother, friend, and light. As always, I hope that our time on Sundays draws the kids

into greater understanding of Christ, and subsequently, deeper joy at who He is.

For Winter PEAK, I'm so excited to be co-leading a discussion-based class with my friend and fellow LCPC / Mountain Ave. mom, Jamie Given (LMFT). We're inviting anyone from the church, CFC, and community to explore the intersection of technology, mental health, and faith through discussion around Jonathan Haidt's bestselling book, *The Anxious Generation*. We'll offer kids programming and lots of free play, per Haidt's recommendation, and are expectant for how the Lord will use this class to bring renewal to our city.

We're also excited to get planning underway for our next big event: A Valentine's Dance for everyone! This community event will be a fun, family-friendly way for people of all ages to celebrate Christ's love. Who doesn't love an opportunity to dress up and dance? Please look out for more details to come – we hope you'll join us for this fun evening.

That's it for me for January, but I look forward to checking in with all of you again next month!

Blessings,
Dot



BISTRO 50+

TUESDAY,
JANUARY 13
12 NOON IN
KOOPMANS

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

CRUISERS

For their first meeting of the new year on January 13, the Cruisers will be hosting Deputy Ji Woong Chun, from the Sheriff's Office of Los Angeles County who will be talking to us about how to stay safe and avoid being involved in fraud while using the internet on any and all our devices. All are welcome to come.

January 2026		Saturday	
Sunday		Friday	
Monday		Thursday	
Tuesday		Wednesday	
Wednesday		Thursday	
Thursday		Friday	
Friday		Saturday	
January 2026		Saturday	
1	Happy New Year!	2	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
2	CHURCH & CFC OFFICES CLOSED	3	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
4	10:00 A Combined Worship-Sanctuary Deacons-KH	5	6:30 A Men's Ministries-Zoom Outreach Team-Lib. Choir-Chapel
5	11:00 A Center For Children Christian Education Children's Ministries Team Fireside Room Koopmans Hall	6	6:30 A Men's Group-203 W&M Team-KH
6	7:00 P M&O PEAK SC SM W&M	7	7:30 P Mission & Outreach Team Praise & Education for Adults & Kids Student Center Student Ministries Team Worship & Music Team
7	7:00 P CFC CE CM FS KH	8	6:30 P Personnel Team-FS
8	10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary Worship-Sanctuary	9	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
9	11:00 A ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK	10	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
11	10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary Worship-Sanctuary	12	11:00 A Tuesday Bible Study Bistro 50+-KH Cruisers-KH CFC Team-KH Men's Group-CE Ofc. Fellowship Team Abide Tues. Nights-SC 7:00 P 7:00 P
13	11:00 A Center For Children Christian Education Children's Ministries Team Fireside Room Koopmans Hall	14	12:00 N 1:00 P 6:30 P 7:00 P 7:00 P 7:00 P
15	10:00 A Combined Worship-Sanctuary Deacons-KH	16	6:30 A Men's Ministries-Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Adult Discipleship-Lib. Choir-Chapel
17	11:00 A Center For Children Christian Education Children's Ministries Team Fireside Room Koopmans Hall	18	5:30 P 6:15 P 7:30 P 7:30 P
19	10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary Worship-Sanctuary	20	6:00 P Game Night-Koopmans
21	11:00 A CFC & CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED	22	7:00 P Women's Book Club-Zoom
23	10:00 A Combined Worship-Sanctuary Deacons-KH	24	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
25	11:00 A Property Team-CE Office	26	11:00 A Tuesday Bible Study -KH Men's Group-CE Office
27	10:00 A Classic Worship-Chapel Contemporary Worship-Sanctuary Worship-Sanctuary	28	6:30 A Men's Ministries-Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Choir-Chapel
29	11:00 A Center For Children Christian Education Children's Ministries Team Fireside Room Koopmans Hall	30	7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew
31	10:00 A Combined Worship-Sanctuary Deacons-KH		7:30 A 9:30 A Be Still-CE Office Cornerstone Crew



CFC Heartbeat



Happy New Year!

A new year brings fresh beginnings and time for reflection. January 19 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance Day. Each year around this time during his remembrance, I tend to reflect on how powerful his words remain in my heart and in my mind. It was an important part of my early education, as my teachers would share with us his courage and faith-filled words—lessons that remain rooted and guide me still today.

When Martin Luther King, Jr. was a young boy, he once asked his father why he and his friends were treated differently because of the color of their skin. His father knelt beside him and said, “You are just as important as anyone else. Never believe otherwise”

That message stayed with Dr. King throughout his life. He believed that love was stronger than hate, that peaceful actions could change hearts, and that even small acts of kindness could help build a better world. His dream reminds us that when we teach children to care for others, to include everyone, and to stand up for what is right, we help keep that dream alive.

At the Center for Children, we are proud to nurture these values every day as we guide children to grow with compassion, respect, and confidence. Our amazing staff are perfect role models and in early childhood education it is embedded in our core values to model on our children what we expect them to put into the world.

ARPY JAHJAH

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building expertise in event coordination, visual displays and training teams.

These skills would serve her well when she eventually went back to her first love, creating a healthy and nurturing space for children. She became the preschool director at St. Gregory Hovsepian School, then served as a community liaison for Pasadena Unified’s Daniel Webster Elementary. She loved the work but eventually realized that a public school setting put boundaries on the ways she could help families.

“Every time I talked to parents and children, I couldn’t bring the God factor into it, the spirituality into it. You can’t, it’s not allowed,” she says. “And that felt very restrictive because how can I guide you in life if I can’t share God’s love?”

She knew her father was always praying that she would let God take control, and she kept this in her heart after his passing in early 2024. So she felt it was a sign from on high when she opened

Winter Camp

Let’s now jump into Winter Camp at CFC! It is in full swing through January 6. Our children are enjoying fun-filled days with special activities among old and new friends, including a visit to the Kids Space Museum, a movie theater outing, and many exciting experiences right here at the Center for Children. It’s always fun to see

our CFC kids reunite with their summer friends.

We are truly grateful for our families and church community and look forward to a joyful and meaningful start to the new year together.

Arpy Jahjah
Executive Director,
Center for Children



her inbox one day and saw an email from her old friend Peggy Bedevian, who worshipped at both St. Gregory’s and LCPC. Peggy had forwarded the job description from CFC, posted after Pat Chambers announced her plans to retire as director after nearly three decades of service.

Arpy decided the time was right for a change. She applied, and her first interview was scheduled for January 10, 2025. That was three days after the Eaton Fire broke out, sweeping through Altadena — and severely damaging the loving home she and Roger built for their three children and Arpy’s mother. The family had to relocate but Arpy let the CFC hiring team know that she wanted to move forward with the interview.

“I had been praying for this for so long,” she said. “Before my father passed away, he was a really big part of me moving along. I guess I’m a lot like my dad, I’m on this journey.”

Arpy was welcomed onto the LCPC staff in April. She has since jumped into traditions such as Vacation Bible School, where her kids Vem, 16, and 14-year old twins Nishan and Teni, joined

the team of volunteers, and conducted a month-long search for an assistant director — all while living in an RV and ADU during repairs to her fire-damaged home. Thankfully, the family was able to move back in before Christmas.

In the coming year, Arpy has visions of bringing the families in our community even closer together. She would love to launch a faith-based class, something akin to “Mommy and Me” but open to all kinds of caretakers and guardians. Another goal is bringing the dads of CFC together in a Fathers Club that could strengthen their bonds and tap into their ingenuity for school projects, fundraisers and more.

Arpy says that from the time she was in her mother’s womb, “God first” has been her guiding light, and she’s eager to live that out at CFC.

“I know that there are a lot of families who don’t have Christ in their lives or a place where they can learn about Christ and his love. In the short time that I’ve gotten to know the LCPC community, I can feel that love. And this would be a wonderful place for those families.”

JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

CLASSIC WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY
BOTH SERVICES AT 10 AM

A TIME TO REBUILD

“A Time to Rebuild” is our New Sermon Series for the months of January and February 2026. This series of messages will focus on spiritual and communal restoration. It emphasizes the power of God that provides the grace and strength needed to repair what has been broken in our lives, churches, and communities.

“A Time to Rebuild” leads us to the sovereign Master Potter who is able to reshape us into vessels of hope and purpose



through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Entering 2026 is an invitation to move from brokenness to beauty. Just as a potter does not discard flawed clay but remakes it, God uses the challenges of the past year to mold a more resilient future.

“But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand” — Isaiah 64:8.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 COMBINED & COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE

“Looking for the Miracle!”
Genesis 50:15-21 and Romans 8:28-30
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Rick Lyon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

“A Time to Rebuild: Clay in the Potter’s Hand!”
Jeremiah 18:1-10
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18 “A Time to Rebuild: The Ancient Ruins!”

Isaiah 58:9-12
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

“A Time to Rebuild: Real Relationships!”
Romans 14:1-12
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mouris Yousef	Senior Pastor & Head of Staff mouris@lcpc.net	Cindy Charles	Finance Manager
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HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!