

Holy Week

APRIL 13
PALM SUNDAY
10:00 AM WORSHIP
CHAPEL AND SANCTUARY

APRIL 17
MAUNDY THURSDAY
5:30 PM
SACRIFICIAL MEAL
IN KOOPMANS
7:00 PM
WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

APRIL 18
GOOD FRIDAY
7:00 PM
WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

Easter Sunday

9:00 AM
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
IN THE SANCTUARY

11:00 AM
CLASSIC WORSHIP
IN THE SANCTUARY

(SEE PAGE 11 FOR FULL
APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE)

NEW OFFERINGS FOR SPRING PEAK

The Spring Session of PEAK starts up on Wednesday, April 2 and will run from 6:15 – 7:15 pm. Please also join us for dinner from 5:30 to 6:10 pm. for a meal (\$5 for adults, \$3 for kids). We are offering two classes this session:

Jesus and the New Testament World

This course will be led by Pastor Mouris and will examine the following: the Jewish religious landscape and its importance to understanding the world Christ was born in, the major religious groups during the time of Jesus (Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes, Scribes, Priests, etc.), the political atmosphere, Jewish major festivals and Christian faith, the twelve apostles and the spread of the gospel, Paul's mission trips in Acts, the canonization of the New Testament, the persecuted community, and global Christianity.

Marriage Through Christ: Growing Deeper

Marriage is a lifelong journey—one that requires ongoing care, renewal, and reminders of God's purpose for our union. As seasons change, so do the dynamics of our relationships, and it's easy to lose sight of the foundation we've built. That's why creating intentional space to refocus, reconnect, and strengthen our

marriages is so important.

This 7-week series is an extension of the original Marriage Through Christ course but is open to all couples, whether you've attended before or are joining for the first time. Each session stands alone, allowing couples to drop in whenever they can—no prior attendance required.

Through biblical truth, practical tools, and real conversations, we'll explore topics like spiritual intimacy, communication, forgiveness, finances, and navigating life's transitions together. No matter where you are in your marriage, this is an opportunity to realign your hearts, invest in each other, and build a Christ-centered marriage that lasts.

Join us as we continue deepening our understanding of God's design for marriage—one week at a time!

...AND COMING SOON THIS SUMMER!



The Chosen, Season 5

If you are a fan of The Chosen, please join us for a PEAK-like class this summer, starting in June. We will watch each episode the week after it comes out and will follow each viewing with a guided discussion.

If you aren't caught up, seasons 1 through 4 are available for free on The Chosen app, or can be streamed on Amazon Prime Video (and other streaming services). More information to come.

I N S I D E

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

Greetings, La Crescenta Presbyterian Church Family & Friends.

On Ash Wednesday, we have begun our 40-day journey in the wilderness during this Lenten Season. Our Lenten journey continues through the glorious day of Easter Sunday.

As I pointed out in March *Messenger* issue, the Season of Lent is a time to refresh, reflect, repent, and renew our commitment to follow Jesus. It's a time to seek pardon for our sinfulness and starting a new and clean slate in our relationship with God. It's a time to focus on and not lose sight of the Savior, the deliverer, who delivers us from any form of temptation, Jesus Christ.

Traditionally, the Season of Lent is also known as a "season of sacrifice." People "sacrifice" and give up that which they feel they cannot live without such as a certain food, dessert, or social media. Have you ever thought about the joy in sacrifice that Lent provides? Most of us don't delight in sacrifice; in fact, in our daily lives, we often do our best to avoid challenges and practices that push us outside of our comfort zones.

In Christianity, there is a beautiful irony be-

tween joy and sacrifice, and we are presented with a wonderful opportunity to embrace this uniquely during Lent. Lent is a fitting time to "detach" ourselves from the deceiving world, and "attach" ourselves to Christ. In intentionally choosing this, we are saying "no" to things in order to get into the practice of saying "no" when inclined towards sin, ultimately deepening our faith and our relationship with the Lord.

Victory can be found when we deny ourselves and pick up our crosses and hardships in order to grow closer to Christ! Therein lies the joy. When we grow closer to God by denying our will, we say "yes" to a life of abundance with God through Christ. Our God is a benevolent God; He will not hold back His grace from those who honor Him and choose challenging things to grow and give Him glory. Without question, Lent provides us an opportunity to make God a greater part of our life, and to take our faith to new levels.

Lent is a time for every one of us to do more than simply deny ourselves and our desires; we need to welcome God into our lives in greater ways so that when we get to Holy Week and Eas-

ter, we have an even greater appreciation for the sacrifice the Lord made for us. Talk about pure joy!

Three opportunities the Lord offers La Crescenta Presbyterian this Lent to help us "detach" ourselves from the world, and "attach" ourselves to Christ. **(1) Sunday Worship:** on March 23rd, I started a 4-week sermon series titled, "Wilderness Wandering!" In this series, we will be learning together where to find strength for the journey. **(2) PEAK Spring Classes:** Two classes that would help us in this process of spiritual formation. *Marriage Through Christ – Growing Deeper*, led by Jamie Given, and *Jesus and the New Testament World*, a one-of-a-kind Bible class that I will lead. This class examines the world of the New Testament religiously, politically, socially, and culturally for a better understanding of the Scriptures. **(3) Holy Week at LCPC:** This is going to be another wonderful opportunity to center ourselves on Christ. There will be services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and two worship opportunities on Easter.

And as we continue to navigate this journey, do not despair. God always has the last word. Just look at the Easter event! On Good Friday the world of darkness had thrown everything it had on the Anointed One, the Messiah and buried Him in a tomb – thinking it had the final word. But the final word belonged to God. On Easter Sunday God overturned the world's verdict, as our Savior Jesus Christ rose from that tomb and conquered the darkness of the world forever. May you and our faith family of LCPC, along with all of our loved ones, have a Christ-centered Lent and a most blessed and Happy Easter!

Yours in Christ's Service,
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff



March brought both excitement and change to our Student Ministry, and through it all, we witnessed God's faithful guidance. While the challenges of this past month prompted us to look for new ways to minister to our youth, they also opened doors for fresh perspectives and deeper connections. One of the most encouraging moments during this time was our recent Spring Break—an occasion that allowed us to serve our community, strengthen relationships, and enjoy meaningful fellowship together.

Although our ministry is undergoing a period of restructuring, we have been blessed with a team of dedicated leaders who have risen to every challenge. Their collective passion and willingness to adapt have made it possible for us to welcome new volunteers, pursue outreach opportunities, and help local schools and families learn about Abide. It is inspiring to see both seasoned and new leaders working side by side, united by a common desire to nurture students and guide them in their walk with Christ.

Spring Break was undoubtedly a highlight, with three distinct events spread throughout the week. On Tuesday, we hosted an Open House in

the Student Center, offering students a comfortable environment where they could unwind, build friendships, and catch a glimpse of what our ministry is all about. Wednesday took us beyond the church walls to the YMCA in La Cañada Flintridge, where our students spent the afternoon supporting those affected by the Eaton Canyon fires. This tangible act of service reminded everyone involved that God can use even small gestures of help to bring hope to those in need. Finally, we capped off the week with a Saturday movie night at AMC Burbank. Watching *The Chosen* together sparked plenty of conversation and provided a refreshing way to close out Spring Break, reinforcing the bonds of community that had formed throughout the week.

In the wake of these events, our students have returned with a fresh passion for ministry and a heightened awareness of how God can work in their lives. We remain committed to equipping this next generation of believers, and we believe our current restructuring process will strengthen our youth program and empower us to reach more young people in our local area. Our vision is simple: to create a supportive environment where students can grow in faith, serve others, and discover their God-given gifts.

As we move ahead, we continue to covet your prayers and support. Please pray for our leaders, both those who have been faithfully serving for years and those who are joining us for the first

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M E S S E N G E R

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ART DIRECTOR/EDITOR

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MESSENGER DEADLINE
FRIDAY, APRIL 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 GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Lead where you are

AUGUST 7-8, 2025

EXPERIENCE THE WORLD'S PREMIERE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE. You'll hear fresh, actionable insights and encouragement from world-class leadership experts.

2025 SPEAKERS...WITH MORE TO COME!



CRAIG GROESCHEL
FOUNDING & SENIOR PASTOR, Life Church; BESTSELLING AUTHOR



CHRISTINE CAINE
COFOUNDER, The A21 Campaign & Propel Women; BESTSELLING AUTHOR



BRADLEY RAPIER
FOUNDER, Groove Theory; AWARD-WINNING CHOREOGRAPHER



TASHA EURICH, PH.D.
Organizational Psychologist; Researcher; BESTSELLING AUTHOR



ERICA DHAWAN
Leading Authority on 21st Century Teamwork, Collaboration & Innovation; BESTSELLING AUTHOR



JAMES HEWITT, PH.D.
Human Performance Scientist; AUTHOR



GABRIEL SALGUERO
PASTOR, The Gathering Place; PRESIDENT, National Latino Evangelical Coalition



STEPHANIE CHUNG
FORMER CHIEF GROWTH OFFICER, Wheels Up; SALES & LEADERSHIP EXPERT

Join other leaders from your community August 7-8 at the Global Leadership Summit, and experience the amazing hospitality of the La Canada Presbyterian Church team. Over two days, you'll be equipped from experts in their field, build community and be encouraged in your own leadership journey, and leave empowered to lead where you are.

This host site is one of 400+ local communities participating in the simulcast of the Global Leadership Summit from our Studio in South Barrington, IL. You'll join with leaders and aspiring leaders from your community to be equipped to impact your community. You'll

also receive seven days of Video-On-Demand following the Summit to re-watch the talks!

Many leaders at La Crescenta Presbyterian Church make this a priority each year and can attest to the change this can make in your leadership. So who is a leader? We all are leaders in different ways in our families, work, social and church lives.

Now through May 7 is the time to sign up to get the lowest registration fee, just \$149. Go to <https://globalleadership.org/summit/> and use the promo code 25PARTNER. Be sure to select La Canada Presbyterian church as the location.

invited to have dinner in Koopmans before the evening service. Deacons will be serving vegetable soup and beef soup along with bread and oranges.

Noel Collins will be heading up another Strike Up the Band Concert on April 27 at 3 PM. We encourage you all to invite your family and friends from the community. All proceeds go to the Deacons Scholarship Fund to benefit those seeking higher education.

Another ministry of the Deacons is keeping in touch through cards. This ministry is spearheaded by Elaine Ross-Collins. She also writes up the list of birthdays and anniversaries seen at the Connection Center. If you would like

BISTRO 50+

TUESDAY,
APRIL 8
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 April meeting, the Cruisers are proud and excited to go on a tour of a beautiful area as our Dave Eagle will be taking us to the top of Kilimanjaro which he recently had the joy of visiting. So do come and enjoy it!! If you want more information or have a question, call the church office.

to be included on the birthday and anniversary list or know of someone who would benefit from receiving a card (thinking of you, get well, sympathy, congratulations, etc.) please contact Elaine.

Faithfully Serving Him,
Deacon Dave



We first want to thank everyone giving blood and all the volunteers that made the March American Red Cross blood drive possible. We especially want to thank Hilary Norton and Deacon Alice Hill for organizing this event.

The next stop on the Deacons' calendar is Maundy Thursday on April 17. You are all

EATON FIRE RECOVERY FUND UPDATE

To all of you who have already contributed to this fundraiser, thank you! We just need a little more push to get us to our goal of raising \$75,000 by Easter Sunday (April 20); all donations received by then will be doubled by a matching grant (up to \$75,000). As of March 25, we've raised \$46,513 before the benefit of the matching grant. Please spread the word, especially among your neighbors, friends, and co-workers who aren't a part of the LCPC family.

Or consider conducting your own event or outreach on behalf of our neighbors who lost everything in this disaster. We know time is running short, so if you want to plan your own event to benefit our Recovery Fund but can't get it done by Easter, just let us know – we will extend the benefit of the matching grant to events that take place after Easter, so long as we know about them in advance.

All the money we raise will support Christian organizations already on the ground serving the most economically vulnerable victims of the fire. The Task Force has been carefully vetting potential partners, meeting with representatives of the organizations who made it to our "short list", and researching a wide range of considerations as part of our selection process. We are happy to announce that we've already selected two of our future partners: **Door of Hope** and the **San Gabriel Valley chapter of Habitat for Humanity**. At least one additional mission partner will be added to our roster in the coming months. For a glimpse at how we will partner with these organizations, read on!

DOOR OF HOPE

In the wake of the Eaton Fire, Door of Hope took swift action—launching the Eaton Fire Housing Assistance Program to provide immediate relief and long-term housing stability to 150 low-income families with nowhere else to turn. As a Christian nonprofit housing provider located just a few miles from the fire's epicenter, Door of Hope has spent nearly 40 years helping families facing homelessness through three holistic programs: Transitional Housing, Homelessness Prevention, and Alumni Services. They understand the fear and uncertainty of losing a home, and have the tools and experience to help families find safe, affordable housing as quickly as possible.

The Eaton Fire Housing Assistance Program is providing families with:

- Transitional shelter (pictured below) for those with nowhere to go
- Case management to help them rebuild their lives
- Financial assistance to cover unmet housing needs
- Housing navigation services to secure long-term solutions
- Furniture for their new homes (facilitated by Door of Hope's partnership with The Change Reaction)

In addition to providing financial support to Door of Hope's Housing Assistance Program, LCPC has already committed to walking alongside at least one family who lost their home in the fire, as they transition into new housing. We may not be matched with our family (or families) for a few more months, but once we are, and when the family has started their housing search (with the help of their case manager), we will receive a brief bio and housewares "wish list" from them, much like a wedding registry. We will purchase at least \$1,000 worth of goods on their wish list, and bring



these items to the family's new home (which may be outside Altadena) on the Saturday the family is moving in. Then we can help the family assemble furniture, hang pictures, whatever they might need to help them transform an empty space into a warm, welcoming home.

For more information, check out "[Eaton Fire Response For Churches](#)". Or, for a first-hand look at this powerful mission in action, join other LCPC friends of Door of Hope at an Open House at their Villa Home on Sunday, May 18, anytime between 11:00 am and 1:30 pm. Contact Cindy by email (address below) if you want to carpool to this event.

[RSVP FOR MAY 18TH TOUR NOW!](#)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Those of you who joined us a few years ago on one of our work days with Habitat (who were building two homes at the corner of Howard and Navarro in Altadena)

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EATON FIRE FUND

(continued from page 4)

know what a joy it is to work alongside a family making their dream of home ownership a reality!

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope. The San Gabriel chapter was started in 1990. Since then, they have built nearly 100 homes in northeast Los Angeles county, and completed close to 130 home preservation (major renovation) projects for families for whom such improvements were financially out of reach. Check out some of their past projects here: [SGV Habitat](https://www.sgvhabitat.org/)

Projects

Under their "Framing The Future" campaign, SGV Habitat seeks to change the lives of 200 families over three years (2024-2026), through affordable home ownership and home preservation. To this end, the organization recently acquired six houses that had been in the original path of the 710 freeway (purchased by Caltrans back in the 70s under threat of eminent domain), with a mandate to

build affordable housing on the sites. With renovation, these six houses will become eight homes, all of which have been earmarked for residents of Altadena who lost theirs in the fire. There are another four units in Pasadena awaiting renovation (and the addition of two more units), which have also been set aside for Altadena families. Additional land for new construction in Altadena is expected to be acquired in the near future.

Habitat has already identified 18 families who lost their homes in the fire and who would qualify for assistance through one of their builds. New constructions are expected to start in the next six months to a year, possibly even sooner.

Of course, this kind of transformation doesn't come cheap. New construction of one of these homes would likely cost more than \$400,000, with a major renovation running about half that. Habitat works to build partnerships with churches, other organizations, and individuals to creatively finance these projects and facilitate affordable mortgages (30% of their gross monthly income) for the families they serve. In addition to paying their mortgage, all household members 18 years and older are required to participate in the building of their home through some form of "sweat equity", working alongside community volunteers for a minimum of 250 hours per household. This kind of investment pays off for both the family and the program, with zero SGV Habitat homeowners facing foreclosure since the inception of this program.

As of this writing, we are in the early stages of determining exactly how we will partner with SGV Habitat. Our hope is that in partnership with a few other churches, we would be able to sponsor the construction (or major renovation) of one of the sites identified above.

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To donate to LCPC's Eaton Fire Recovery Fund, click on the link below, or make checks payable to LCPC, with "Eaton Fire" in the memo line. You can also find this fund in the drop-down menu on the church website at <https://www.lcpc.net/give>

Questions? Contact Cindy Guenther-Williams at csguenther50@gmail.com

SESSION REPORT

At the February 24 Stated Meeting of Session, the following items were approved and/or discussed:

- Approved the following Team and Committee Moderators:
 - Adult Discipleship - Craig Carlson & Doug Given
 - CFC - Nicole Elmes
 - CM - Dennis Fernandez
 - Communications - Michele Fernandez
 - Fellowship - Victor Bustillos and Linda Winfield
 - Financial Stewardship - Bill McClain
 - Finance - Cindy Guenther
 - Missions - Cindy Guenther
 - Deacons - Mackenzie Roach and Nancy Smith
 - Nominating - Steven Anderson (Moderator), Doug Given
 - Personnel - Rebecca Lessley and Greg Cary
 - Property - Mandy Cary & Josh Kauffman

Student Ministries - Jerry White
Worship and Music - Jon Weingarten

At the Annual Meeting of the Congregation held on March 2, 2025, the following items were presented to the congregation:

- Financial results of the 2024 budget
- The 2025 budget as approved by Session
- Approved Terms of Call for Rev. Dr. Mouris Yousef
- Approved changes to the LCPC Bylaws

If you have questions for Session about any of these items or what Session is doing, please contact one of us. Elders are usually listed on the back of the bulletin or can be found on the church website www.lcpc.net.

In Christ,
Sheri Gray
Clerk of Session

DONATE NOW

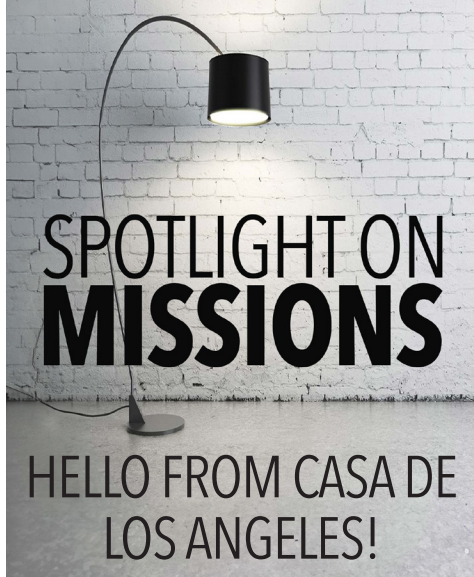
ABIDE

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time. Pray for endurance, unity, and an ever-deepening reliance on Christ's wisdom. Likewise, pray for our students—that they would take hold of the lessons gleaned during Spring Break and carry them forward, both in their personal lives and in their willingness to serve others. Lastly, pray that our outreach efforts, whether through school partnerships or community initiatives, would open more hearts to the love of Jesus.

In all these endeavors, we are reminded of how vital the entire church family is to the growth and vibrancy of our Student Ministry. Your encouragement, volunteering, and faithful prayers continue to shape the journey of our youth in profound ways. We are grateful for every way you stand with us, and we look forward to seeing how God continues to work in the months ahead.

Sincerely,
Izzy



Hey LCPC Family,
I'm super excited to catch you up on what's been happening with Casa de Los Angeles (CDLA)! Born right here at LCPC, CDLA has grown from our trips building homes in Baja to actually crafting a forever home where kids and families can find hope and safety.

OUR GROWING HOME

Remember when we first thought about building an orphanage? Well, our vision has grown just like our building! We're putting up the walls on a massive 11,000-square-foot space that's going to be so much more than just an orphanage. While we're still all about providing a safe haven for kids, we've realized there's a whole community out there that we can help right now.

FROM BUNKER TO BUZZING HUB

About six months ago, we turned a dusty



old storage space into something amazing—the Lomas Altas Community Center. It's become a lively spot where locals like Maria and her family come to connect and grow. Despite her busy life working at a hotel and her kids struggling with overcrowded schools, Maria's found a new circle of friends and support at CDLA. She's even picking up sewing skills in our classes!

MARIA'S DREAMS AND OUR COMMUNITY'S LEAP

Maria's not just stopping at sewing; she dreams of learning English with her kids at the center, boosting her career options in Rosarito's tourist scene. The energy here is incredible, with everyone eager to learn and grow. Our center is quickly turning into a beacon of learning and faith, where every class and gathering is wrapped in prayer and stories of transformation.

PARTNERSHIPS THAT POWER US

And guess what? We're making friends left and right. The local government's stepped in to help distribute food, we've got a pair of nurses wanting to start a health ministry, and our ties with nearby schools and churches are stronger than ever. Last month's Epiphany celebration was a blast—imagine games, King Cakes, and the biggest smiles on kids' faces!

WHAT'S NEXT?

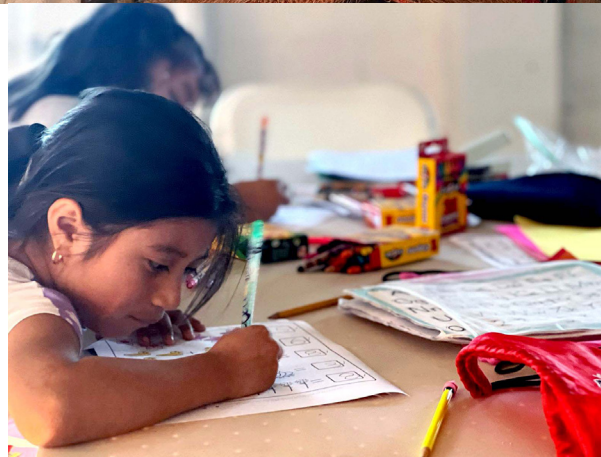
As we keep building upwards and outwards, our mission remains rooted in faith. We're not just constructing buildings; we're crafting a future where every child and family in Lomas Altas can thrive. This spring, why not come down and see it all in action? We're happy to give a tour, or help plan an LCPC Mission Trip!

THANKS A MILLION!

Seriously, we couldn't do any of this without your support, prayers, and love. You're not just our backers; you're our family. Thanks for every bit of encouragement—it means the world to us and to every life we touch here at CDLA.

Jim Sedgwick
CDLA President
jim.sedgwick@gmail.com
858-260-1982

Cindy Guenther
CDLA Board Member
csguenther50@gmail.com



Saturday

00
01

STRIKE UP THE BAND!

Men's Ministries-
Zoom
PEAK Dinner-KH
ABIDE PEAK-SC
PEAK Classes
Choir-Chapel

11:00 A Tuesday Morning
Bible Study-KH
7:00 P Men's Group-203

Session-KH

Classic Worship—
Chapel
New Song Worship—
Sanctuary

10:00 A

Combined Worship—

Cruisers-KH

Choir-Chapel

Be Still

Hallelujah for **Holy Week and Easter!** Say it with me, "He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!" The month of April is filled with great activities, traditions and services for the whole family.

The **monthly game night** will be a bit early due to Maundy Thursday falling on the third Thursday. Join us in Koopmans on Thursday, April 3 at 6 pm to learn a new card game, then try out your beginner's luck. You're welcome to bring a snack and a friend!



for only a \$10 suggested donation. The benefit of Pat's work and your donation will be doubled in impact through our matching grant.

There won't be **PEAK** dinner or classes during Holy Week, Wednesday, April 16, but please come to the traditional Maundy **Thursday Sacrificial Dinner** Thursday, April 17 at 5:30pm. The **Deacons** will be serving their delicious vegetable beef soup and bread, followed by the **Maundy Thursday** service up in the Sanctuary at 7pm.

On **Good Friday**, April 18, we will have a reflective service in the Sanctuary at 7pm, followed by the rolling of the **giant Easter Boulder** across the front doors right after the service, symbolizing Jesus' tomb. It's always a very powerful evening.



Our bi-annual **All Church Day of Service** will be Saturday, April 5 from 8 am to 1 pm. Even if you can only come for an hour, there's plenty of things to do both inside and outside the church, such as polishing pews, organizing cupboards, and weeding and cleaning out planters. Students can get service hours. We need all hands on deck!

The **Eaton Fire Relief Fundraiser** is going strong, and we're more than halfway to our goal of raising \$75,000, which will be matched by generous donors. You can read all about it in the article on page 4.



Saturday, April 19, the **Ladies of LCPC** are hosting an **Accessory Swap** in the Fireside Room from 10-11:30 am. Wear one of your favorite accessories and be ready to share why it's special to you but also bring up to five accessories you don't wear or use anymore (think jewelry, purses, scarves, hats, etc.) to swap. It's a great way to mingle with friends and go home with a few new treasures! And save the date of Saturday May 17 for a women's day retreat – **Legacy of Love: Honoring Mothers and Mentors**. It will be an inspiring day of speakers, worship and discussion, led by Jamie Given. More details to come!

Easter Sunday, April 20, we will have two different services to choose from but take note - they're not at our usual time! The Contemporary service with worship led by the Praise Band will be in the Sanctuary at **9am**, and the Classic Service, with worship led by the Choir will be in the Sanctuary at **11am**. Whichever service you choose, it will be a perfect way to celebrate our Risen King!

The **Strike Up the Band, Part IV Variety Show** is Sunday, April 27 at 3 pm in the Sanctuary and you won't want to miss it! This fantastic concert directed by **Noel Collins** features a 14-piece band and vocal quartet, playing pop songs, show tunes, swing, jazz, rock, gospel, Latin rhythms, and TV and movie themed music. Suggested donation for admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for teens and \$5 for children. There're also opportunities for sponsorships, as all proceeds go to the **LCPC Higher Education Scholarship Fund**. This fund has provided financial assistance to 21 students since it started in 2020. Come enjoy an afternoon of great music and support an important cause.

After Easter, we're starting a **new session of PEAK classes**. **Jamie Given** will continue leading **Marriage Through Christ – Growing Deeper**. There have been about 10 couples attending each week and they've been so blessed by the content and discussion, that they encouraged Jamie to continue the class. **Pastor Mouris** will be leading a new bible class, **"Jesus and the New Testament World."** He will examine the world of the New Testament religiously, politically, socially, and culturally, for a better understanding of the Scriptures.

Thank you to everyone who donated a pint of their precious blood at the **Deacons Red Cross Blood Drive!** There's no greater gift to someone who is in dire need. And thank you to **Alice Hill, Hilary Norton, Dave Eagle and Traci Haleen** for coordinating the drive.

The **Student Ministries team** could use some **adult volunteers** to support this vital ministry. If you enjoy youth and could be available to attend their meetings or events, **Izzy and Jerry White** would love to have you join them! It's proven that every young person is greatly benefited when surrounded by a team of at least five adults to support them.

We are thrilled to have a tiny new member of the LCPC family – **Baby Story Walker** arrived March 6 to her elated parents **Chase and Aubrie**, proud big brother **Lake**, and grandparents **Mandy and Greg Cary**. She looks exactly like Lake, so you know how adorable she is! So happy for their growing family.

Pat Chambers had a fun and unexpected birthday wish on St. Patrick's Day. One of the CFC preschoolers wished Pat a Happy Birthday that day. The puzzled mom asked him how he knew it was Pat's birthday, and he said, "Because you said it was St. Pat's Day, and I needed to wear green!" Pat's birthday is actually in September, but St. Patrick's Day does fall around her half birthday!

Enjoy all this holy month has to offer, especially the celebration of Jesus' sacrifice for us. Talk to you next month.



Also, **Pat Rabe** will be offering her stunning, one-of-a-kind handmade glass pendants for purchase on April 6 after worship in the breezeway. All proceeds will benefit the **Eaton Fire Relief Fund**. Pick one up for yourself or a loved one

CHILDREN'S ministries

Hello, friends
and families of
LCPC!

Happy April!
The signs of spring
are all around us
this time of year,
from the tem-
peramental weather
to my family's
dwindling Kleenex
supply, both our at-
mosphere and our bodies are signaling that the
changing of the seasons is around the corner.
Of the four seasonal shifts we experience each
year, I think spring might be the most repre-
sentative of our life in Christ, both individu-
ally and collectively; the cold, bitter, barren
winter (please bear with me for the sake of the
illustration; we all know that California winters
can hardly be described as bitter!) gives way to
sunlight, warmth, and new life. Far above the
minor annoyances of allergies and unpredict-
able weather patterns is the deep joy that comes
from experiencing this very phenomenon: pe-
rennials shimmying back up from the ground,
deciduous trees gaining their leaves again, the
warmth of sunshine on our cheeks.

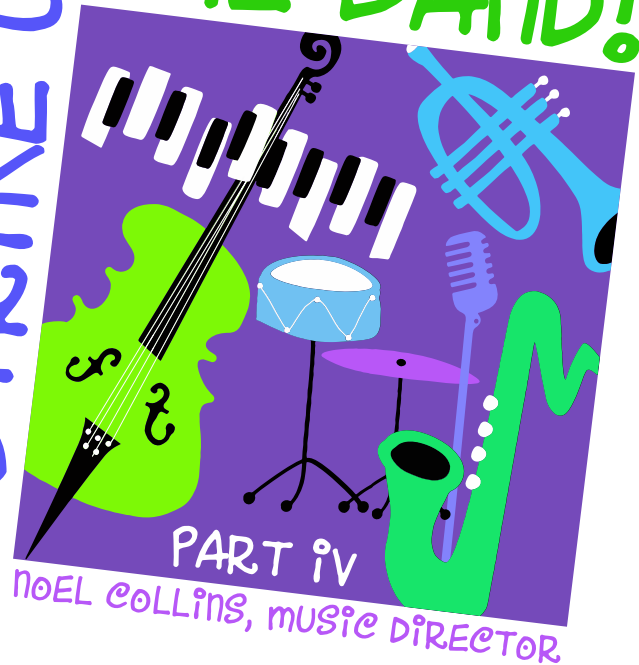
I'm no gardener, but I love taking a peek at
my husband's collection of fruit trees and the
patch of wildflowers in our front yard each day
to see how they're faring as spring nears. This
daily observation reminds me that we rightfully
equate health with growth. When I ponder why
the oranges faltered late last year, he speculates
that the soil is malnourished. When the dahlias
don't bloom, he laments those darn grubs. The
abundance of life – whether in fruit or flowers
or fellowship – is evidence of a healthy founda-
tion.

We can sometimes shy away from wishing
aloud for church growth, as if that would mean
we're only concerned about hitting certain
numbers or targets rather than about the indi-
vidual. "God cares about the one!" we insist.
And this is true, of course. But I think there is
a reason that God uses a metaphor of agricul-
ture to describe those who have yet to be part
of the Kingdom: the harvest is plentiful, mean-
ing there are many who need his care. In this
light, I do pray for growth in LCPC's Children's
Ministry. I pray that the soil of our ministry
would be perfectly pH balanced and dense with
nutrients and microbes, that we would, by the



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power of the Holy Spirit, create an environ-
ment that allows many beloved children and
families to flourish in His light and new life.
Would you pray with me to that end?

As for more concrete updates, the Chil-
dren's Ministry continues to be full of fun
and learning! At LCPC, we dedicated March
to learning about God's wonderful character
through Old Testament stories, and we'll spend
April learning about all the events leading up
to Easter. This month, the Children's Ministry
Team is working hard to make Jesus' death and
resurrection the most joyful reality for these
precious kiddos – that they would trust Him

as their one Hope. At CFC, I am so enjoying
worshiping and share Bible stories with our
kids, from the toddler classes all the way to
upper elementary. God continues to surprise
me in how intimately and personally He cares
about each one of His children.

Wishing you a wonderful April, friends.
What a beautiful time to remind our kids and
ourselves that because of Christ, our pres-
ent winter will one day give way to an eternal
spring.

Joyfully,
Dot



Director's Corner

I am pleased to announce an important leadership transition at the Center for Children. As of June 30, 2025, Arpy Jahjah will take on the role of Executive Director. She will begin working in the office at the end of April.

Arpy brings a wealth of experience in child

development, administration, and leadership. Her expertise will be invaluable in guiding the Center for Children toward continued growth and success.

Currently, Arpy serves as a Community Assistant at Daniel Webster Elementary School in Pasadena, where she plays a key role in connecting families, students, and community resources. Previously, she was the Director of St. Gregory A&M Hovsepien School, a state-licensed preschool program in Pasadena. She holds two bachelor's degrees: one in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College and another in Family and Consumer Sciences with a concentration in Early Childhood Education from Cal State Long Beach.

With her diverse experience and strong educational background, Arpy is well-equipped to lead our center. Please join us in welcoming her as we enter this exciting new chapter. Formal meet-and-greet opportunities will be announced soon, but feel free to stop by the office and introduce yourself once she begins.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Pat

Holy Week Celebrations



Holy Week begins on April 13 with our Palm Sunday services. The children will take part in a joyful Palm Branch Parade, singing "Hosanna!" and celebrating the occasion. Your child is welcome to join.

On Maundy Thursday, we will hold a worship service and sacrificial meal. Good Friday will be observed with an evening service reflecting on the crucifixion of Christ.

On Easter Sunday, we will celebrate the risen Lord with two services. The 9:00 AM service will be led by the band, while the 11:00 AM service will be led by the choir. Children's classes will be available during both services and will be led by Dot Kim.

We look forward to seeing you at any or all of these special services.

Grandparents Day

We invite grandparents from rooms 102, 104, 105, and 108 to join us on Tuesday, April 29, for a special morning and lunch with their preschool grandchild(ren). The day will begin at 10:30 AM and conclude after lunch. If your child does not normally attend on Tuesdays, they are welcome to come with their grandparent for this event. If a grandparent is not available, your child may bring another special person in their life. Look for sign-up sheets in your classroom.

GUSD Closure

GUSD will be closed on April 24, but CFC will remain open for the full day. On this day, we recognize Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day.



CFC Annual BBQ

Mark your calendars for our annual CFC BBQ on June 3. This will be a special time for the CFC family to gather and say farewell to Pat. We are also excited to have Max sharing his musical talents with us during the event.

We are happy to announce that Max will be back in our classrooms once a week starting the week of May 6. We have missed him and are thrilled to welcome him back.

Pat's last day at CFC will be June 27, 2025.



Easter Egg Party

The church will once again host a wonderful Easter Egg Party on April 12. Please check the Children's Ministry section on page 9 of this newsletter for more details.

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

"WILDERNESS WANDERINGS"

CLASSIC WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL
NEW SONG WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY
BOTH SERVICES AT 10:00 AM

APRIL 6 COMBINED COMMUNION WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

"The Threat of Life!"
Numbers 21:6-9; Mark 4:35-41
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

APRIL 13
PALM SUNDAY
"Save us, Jesus!"
Zechariah 9:9-12; John 12:12-16
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

APRIL 17, 7:00 PM
MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP
Sacrificial Meal 5:30 PM in Koopmans
"Small Things Matter!"
Ecclesiastes 10:1-4; 2 Galatians 5:7-10
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

APRIL 18, 7:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP
"Father, into your Hands I Commend My Spirit!"
Luke 23:44-49
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

Easter Sunday

9:00 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

"The Shortest Easter Sermon Ever!"
John 20:11-18
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

11:00 AM
**CLASSIC WORSHIP
IN THE SANCTUARY**
"Meet Me in Galilee!"
Matthew 28:1-10
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

APRIL 27
"Thomas: The Man who Almost Missed Easter!"
Genesis 18:10-15; John 20:24-29
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mouris Yousef	Senior Pastor and Head of Staff mouris@lcp.net	Gary Woodward	Choir Director
Izzy Cox	Director of Student Ministries izzy@lcp.net	Matthew Krell	Organist/Pianist
Pat Murphy Chambers	Director, Center For Children pat@lcp.net	Scott Tibbs & Dave Robbins	Producers of Contemporary Music
Dot Kim	Interim Director of Children's Ministries dot@lcp.net	Baldo Mural	Facilities Manager
Nancy Thomas	Office Manager nancy@lcp.net	Paul Hofmann	Director of Social Media
		Will Wolfswinkel	Digital Media Coordinator