



# THE CHIMES

Monthly Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church

JUNE 2008

Community Presbyterian Church, 32202 Del Obispo Street, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

**SERVING THE LORD SINCE 1919 ”**

(949) 493-1502

FAX (949) 493-4215

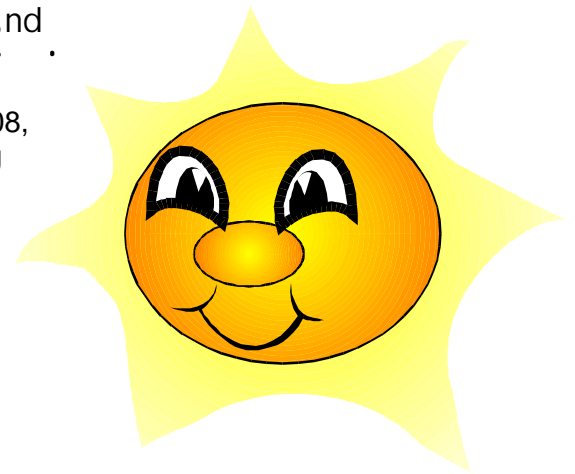
[www.sjcpres.com](http://www.sjcpres.com)

[office@sjcpres.net](mailto:office@sjcpres.net)

## Summer Schedule Starts June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Beginning on June 22, 2008 and continuing through August 15, 2008, Community Presbyterian Church will have a single Sunday morning service. The 8:45 a.m. contemporary and the 10:30 a.m. traditional services will be combined into one service starting at 9:30 a.m. Both praise band and choir music will be featured.

Be sure to mark June 22 on your calendar

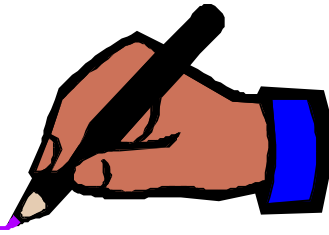


### June Calendar

- Tuesday, June 2 — Statewide Primary Election – **Be sure to Vote!**
- Saturday, June 14 — Youth Fundraiser – Signups on the patio (watch for details in the bulletin)
- Sunday, June 15 — *Father's Day*
- Sunday, June 22 — Start of combined service schedule – see you at 9:30 a.m.

For Presbyterian Women events see page 7.

# FROM THE PASTOR



## A Summer of Experimentation

By Pastor Morgan Murray



By the time you read this, I hope you will have heard about our summer experiment. Starting June 22, we'll be worshipping together in one unified service each Sunday at 9:30. The Session proposed this experiment after our time together on April 27, in which we had one blended service to accommodate the town hall meeting. The energy we all felt, and the joy that comes from being all together in one place at one time, were just too special to be reserved for one Sunday.

I love experiments. I am convinced that the best ideas are not the big ones, or the clever ones, or the complicated ones, or the simple ones. The best ideas are the ones that are *tried*. So having an experimental summer gives us an opportunity to try out lots of different ideas and see what happens. My invitation to you this summer is to put on your lab coat, strap on the goggles, light up the Bunsen burner, and join in!

Notice I didn't say, "Grab your clipboard." Of course, research involves gathering data. But when it comes to worship, we aren't passive observers who get to stand outside and critique the results as good or bad, preferable or not. For the experiment to have the best possible outcome and get the maximum amount of data, each of us must fully participate. I want to challenge you to enter into this experimental summer with a commitment to openness, a willingness to suspend judgment, a desire to be surprised. Give yourself fully to the experience. Try it on. Play it out to the end without bias or preconceived notions of the outcome. Some parts will undoubtedly work out better than others, but all parts are opportunities for learning and for discovery.

What might this spirit of openness look like? It might look like unqualified support to the leadership as they work this experiment out all the way through August. It might mean that you come earlier or later than usual, that you lend your back to moving pews, your voice to special music, and your time to helping out with Sunday school or something else you've never done (or at least not done for a long time). One thing it will definitely look like: It will look like fruit - Fruit of the Spirit that is. Our willingness to give ourselves fully to worshipping God together and supporting each other will inevitably bear the fruit of affection, exuberance, serenity, stick-to-it-iveness, heartfelt compassion, generosity, loyalty, flexibility, and the wise use of our energies.

Funny enough, that's exactly what we'll be talking about together, all summer long.

## Session Report

Eleven elders met with Pastor Morgan Murray for a Regular Meeting of Session on May 20. Reports were received from the Stewardship, Finance & Administration and Worship Committees, the Presbytery Commissioner, and the Pastor.



A Stewardship report is presented elsewhere in this issue. Finance and Administration Committee distributed a Financial Statement for April 30 indicating that year-to-date income was \$173,132 and expenses were \$158,935 for a surplus of \$14,196. Total cash on hand was \$122,256 and the total amount in dedicated accounts was \$64,348 so the April 30 cash reserve was \$57,908. Because cash on hand is larger than required for month-to-month operations, the Committee decided to move a portion of it from the checking account into an interest-bearing temporary investment account. This portion will be monitored carefully and adjusted each month as required. After joint consultation with the Presbyterian Foundation, the Finance & Administration Committee and the Endowment Committee determined that some of our Endowment Fund investments should be moved from a capital fund into a lower-risk balanced fund to reduce the potential market value loss during investment market downward trends.

The Worship Committee reported that templates were created for four different blended worship plans to use for the combined services this summer which will run from June 22 through August 31. Worship plans were created with careful regard to worshiper's sensitivity to sudden or significant changes. The new worship plans incorporate both praise songs and traditional hymns and feature the Praise Band and the Chancel Choir with organ music, perhaps on alternate Sundays. Not all details about the music are finalized at this time. The Presbytery Commissioner reported that Rev. Steven Yamaguchi was elected to another five-year term as Executive Presbyter for Los Ranchos Presbytery. The General Assembly meets from May 21 to 28 at San Jose CA.

Pastor Morgan reported that he will be out of town on Sunday, May 25, and the Rev. Dr. Keith Geckeler will preach that day. He will be assisted by Pastors Bob Schwenck and Jerry Elliott. Rev. Geckeler is now the Stated Clerk for Los Ranchos Presbytery. Home communions were served by Pastor Morgan to 8 persons on April 16 and to 9 persons on May 7. The Pastor was assisted by Deacon Barbara Ferguson and Toni Hannum, RN.

Session voted to approve distribution of two scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose names will be announced when the \$250 awards are presented by the Endowment Fund Committee. Session voted to approve purchase of a wireless headset microphone for use in worship services. Session voted to table until June a new set of CPC Bylaws, re-written following suggestions from Keith Geckeler, Stated Clerk of Los Ranchos Presbytery. After they meet approval of Session, the revised Bylaws must be voted upon by the congregation. Session voted its approval of 13 volunteers who will be working in Children's Ministry this summer. Elder Tammy Ause announced that she will resign from Session after the June Meeting because she and her family are moving to Michigan in July to live close to Bob's parents.

Elder Larry Strong reported receipt of sincere thanks from the Thursday Men's AA Group for their use of CPC facilities for their meetings over the past 37 years. This AA Group recently held an annual barbeque in Fellowship Hall and on Sue's Porch for more than 100 AA attendees and guests. Elder Darlene Elliott displayed a business card with contact and phone number information for emergency aid providers. It will be referred to the Mission Committee for additional references before it is finalized and approved for distribution.

Al Jessen, Clerk of Session



## HABITAT ON THE MARCH!

By Jerry Elliott

FIRST PRIZE FOR THE BEST WALKING GROUP was awarded to the 21 volunteers of our church who marched in the Swallows Day Parade in support of our church's mission to help build 27 Habitat for Humanity homes in San Juan Capistrano.

July 2 is the next BIG DAY! The first wall will be raised on the first home. There will be a big public ceremony in mid-morning, and you are strongly encouraged to wear your Habitat T-shirt and attend. (T-shirts are available for purchase on the patio between services each Sunday.)

As you know, our church has been very involved with this project from the get-go. Dave Ludwig and many other volunteers have donated hours and hours of time and energy.

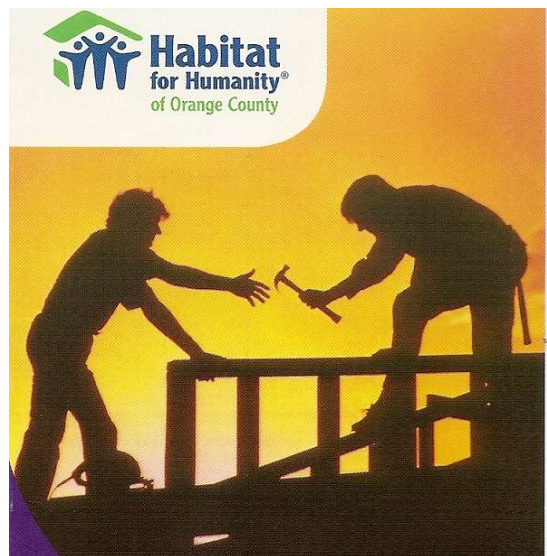
And of course we have donated a bunch of money and will continue to do so. We will have a special offering on July 6. On July 11-12, our youth will have a 30 hour fast and will contribute their proceeds to Habitat.

On the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m., there is a meeting in our Fellowship Hall for everyone who wishes to do any kind of volunteer work to support the San Juan Capistrano build. Every potential volunteer should attend one of these monthly meetings. (You don't need to come each month.)

There are many opportunities for volunteering — not just in construction. For example, Michelle Lincoln, one of our members, is serving as a partner with one of the families selected to live in a Habitat home.

Mary Elliott has volunteered to be in charge of coordinating a program of providing lunches or snacks to volunteers who are doing construction on Saturdays. If you wish to help, call Mary at 493-4986.

Reaching beyond our church, Jerry Elliott has been leading the "Presbyterian Partnership" which now involves 8 other Presbyterian Churches. The Partnership has a goal of raising \$250,000, the cost of building each of the 27 homes in San Juan Capistrano. We are about half way to reaching this goal.



# Congratulations to the Graduates!

This year we are pleased to have two high school graduates at CPC.



Crisitna Maxey

Cristina graduates from Santa Margarita Catholic High School and plans to go to college at the University of Redlands majoring in Environmental Studies. She won the Earth Science Award this year, so she's well on her way. Christina has been at CPC since she was in the nursery. We're proud of her and wish her all the best.

Matthew Tolles

Matt is a graduate of our CPC Preschool and now graduates from Dana Hills High School as an AP Scholar with Distinction. Matt is a National Merit finalist and won a scholarship to the Arizona State University Honors College where he will be majoring in Bio Engineering. At Dana Hills, Matt was on the wrestling team for four years. He completed his Eagle Scout project right here at CPC by redoing the signage. He enjoys backpacking and hiking.



We are proud of both of you and pray for blessings in your futures.

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Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>

*Remember Dad on his special day*

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## FELLOWSHIP REPORT

### DINNER FOR SIX PLUS TWO

Our new small dinner groups are progressing nicely. Three groups have already completed their first round of dinner, brunch, etc. I have one home waiting to join a new group and just need two more. If you would like to join in on this very enjoyable activity, just give me a call and I will give you all the details. Fran Eagan 240-6114



## Presbyterian Women -

- Ø **We have completed the Bible Study for this year.**
- Ø Pastor Morgan will lead the next Bible Study Preview for Lesson One –

### Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor

on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 from 10:00 – 11:00 in the CE Room. Please invite your Bible Study leader and one other participant from your circle to attend. Mark your calendars now.



**Lydia Circle** members look forward to a meeting and potluck lunch on Wednesday, June 11 at 11:00 a.m. in the CE Room at the church. Call Colleen Emery for details 496.7521 – cemery@cox.net

**Martha Circle** will meet for lunch at Sarducci's at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2008. Call Val Jessen for details 495.0350 – jessen23@cox.net

**Mary-Deborah Circle** will meet at the home of Muriel Hamme for dinner at 6:30 on Tuesday, June 10. Contact Nancy Powers for details 495.4262 – forpowers@cox.net

- Ø **The PW Quiltmakers** will meet on Thursday, June 5, 9:30 after breakfast, and June 19 at 9:00 am. Call Marilyn Johnson for details 498.2231 – mj1626@aol.com

**The PW Book Club** meets Tues, June 24, at 7:00 PM at the home of Veronica Murray, 218.6074. Call for directions. The selection for discussion is **A Day with a Perfect Stranger**, by David Gregory

## Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering



On May 10, Presbyterian Women hosted a luncheon and fashion show by Coldwater Creek, with close to seventy women attending, making it the highlight of the Spring activities. The PW Quiltmakers created a beautiful quilt as a fundraiser for the Birthday Offering, with ticket sales totaling \$475 plus an offering of \$471 with a grand total of \$946 for the Birthday Offering. **Good Job!!!**

The drawing for the quilt was held after lunch, with the winning ticket held by **Jane Heath**. Congratulations!

## Enough Time for God's Work

In 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, Paul stresses God's abundance. <sup>6</sup>*The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.* <sup>7</sup>*Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* <sup>8</sup>*And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work."*



Having enough of everything. Hmm... Does that mean even having enough time? Raise your hand if you have enough time. If we were together in a room, there probably would be few hands going up. However, what if you were asked if you had enough time for God's work? How many hands would we see?

Jane McWilliams would be one of those raising her hand. For many years, Jane has come into the sanctuary on Wednesday afternoons to prepare the pews for worship. She checks to make sure Bibles, hymnals, envelopes, pencils, our blue fellowship/sign-in books and other items that might be needed for worship are ready for our arrival Sunday morning. She removes any excess items and straightens the area. Jane is also a "Bulletin Stuffer."

"Bulletin Stuffers" arrive in the office at the end of the week to prepare the bulletins for each service. Nell Blue, Judy Clark, Nancy Knittle, Ruth O'Dea, and Alice Ward make sure that each bulletin has the right handouts and is folded correctly so the ushers can easily hand one to us on Sunday morning as we walk into the Sanctuary.

If Jane straightens the pews, and our bulletins are made ready, then who has time to set those lovely flowers out, or lay a cloth on the altar? Terri Beck, Worship Elder, has a team who takes the time each weekend to make sure our worship experience is enhanced by a look of the sanctuary; a look that creates an ambiance appropriate for the service. Joining Terri's team is her husband, David, Jackie Brubaker, Lorna and Larry Collins, Jane Heath, Virginia Miller, Patty Roess, Bob and Bernice Schwenck, Don and Karen Seapy.

By the time we arrive on Sunday for our worship service, each member of the Praise Band musicians & singers, choir members & musicians have found time for God's work. Ushers and greeters have said "yes" they can make extra time on Sunday. Lots of people working together create time to worship God and praise Him for the abundance he provides.

Worship is just one area in which people have found enough time for God's work. Other church family members & friends are involved in keeping the church building operating, providing time for children & youth to learn about Jesus Christ, creating opportunities for fellowship, making sure the bills are paid. Listing all the names here would be like listing the church directory! We would see many hands raised in answer to our question! Coming together, we have found more than enough time – we have found an *abundance* of time to do God's work.

Stewardship is more than financial giving. It is giving of our time; giving of our talents. God has blessed our church with good stewards who give their time to God's work in our church. A big *thank you* to each and every one of you!

The Stewardship Committee

P.S. Please find the time to keep your pledge up-to-date during the summer. It's easy to forget during vacation, but our expenses continue all year long.

## ENDOWMENT AND LEGACY GIVING

"THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S AND ALL THAT IS IN IT."  
Psalm 24:1

We are delighted to inform the congregation that a gift annuity has been established with the Presbyterian Foundation by a member of this church naming Community Presbyterian Church as a future charitable beneficiary. What a kind and loving thing to do.

If you would like information about Endowment and Legacy Giving, you may contact any member of this committee and we will be happy to give you whatever information you need.

Barbara Ward, Ruth McLeod, Paula Zintl, Fran Eagan



Planting seeds for the future

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### June Birthdays

02 Timothy Powers	18 Rich Maxey
04 Devin Jones	20 Nick Pfeil
06 Darlene Elliott	20 Michael Trant
06 Jay Rodriguez	22 Al Johnson
09 Weldon Dorris	22 Dave Willett
09 Bill McGuire	23 Laura Stites
11 Marge J Ball	23 Margaret Strong
11 Jeffrey Brubaker	24 Nathan Whity
11 Dorothy Melville	29 Betty Dorris
14 Barbara Ward	30 Terri Beck
15 Luanna Rugh	
17 Adam Loree	

### Anniversaries

03 Bill & Joan McGuire
09 Robert & Margie Taylor
17 Jay & Donna Kirk
18 John & Diane Hawkins
19 Al & Val Jessen
20 Larry & Jackie Brubaker
24 Bob & Frances Bucklin
24 Weldon & Betty Dorris
29 Steven & Su-Kyung Newton
29 Jim & Sally Young