



# THE CHIMES

Monthly Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER 2009

Community Presbyterian Church, 32202 Del Obispo Street, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
Celebrating 90 Years of Christian Service

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It's Here!  
It's Time!  
Finally  
The 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration is this Month.

For a complete listing of activities see pages 2 and 3 of the Chimes

See you there October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Events and Activities

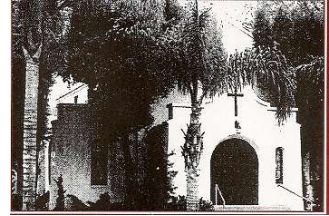
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|---|-----------|---|
| • Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>       | Fri – Sun | Women's Retreat at Pine Manor (See page 7)                          |
| • October 4 <sup>th</sup>                     | Sunday    | Free Flu Shots available at CPC (see page 7)                        |
| • October 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> | Sat - Sun | <b>90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Weekend</b> (See page 2) |
| • Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>     | Fri – Sun | Men's Retreat at Green Valley lake (See page 7)                     |
| • October 28 <sup>th</sup>                    | Sunday    | Hunger Walk (See page 7)  |

# 90<sup>th</sup> Celebration Events Calendar!

**Saturday, October 17, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. CPC History Walking Tour, downtown San Juan Capistrano**  
Guided by Lori Porter and her docents

Step into the past on this visual tour of our church in historic San Juan Capistrano. Our walk starts at the SJC Historical Society, 31831 Los Rios Street. This rich experience will include historic pictures, a visit to the Montanez adobe, stopping at the sight of our 1916 Sunday school, plus an inside look of our first church building on El Camino Real. This walking tour will take approximately 1 1/2 hours and cover about 1 mile.



This history tour is free, however pre-registration is required. We want to keep our groups a comfortable size so everyone can hear and see. Pre-registration will assist Lori in adding docents as necessary.

**4:00 p.m. Swapping Stories of the Past 90 years, in the church Sanctuary**

How many of you remember?

- The gorilla walking up the church aisle?
- Or when the donkey came to church (and turned out NOT to be housebroken)?
- Or the Tarantula under Herb Lamb's Hat?
- Or perhaps the talent shows?
- Or the Christmas Plays?
- What about moving from the little church in town to the big church out to the country?

Come share your "eye witness account"... and hear more stories from others!

Our voices and memories are precious and we want to hear each other. Those wishing to share a memory need to use the reservation form so we can schedule you according to decades (19-29, 30-40, etc.). The length of each presentation will be determined by the number of people wishing to present.

**5:30 p.m. Pre-Dinner Entertainment, in the church Sanctuary**

Debbie Reeder, our musical Director of Childrens Ministries, is preparing entertainment from a very special group! This is too precious to miss! If you cannot join us to hear the story swapping, then be sure to come early for dinner to catch our "pre-dinner" entertainment!

**6:00 p.m. 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Celebration, Don Miller/Fellowship Room**

Come along for a festive dinner! A delicious meal will be served on the personal tableware of your special table hostess. Cost per person for all ages is \$12.00. Reservations are required. See the reservation form for more details and deadlines.

**Sunday, October 18, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. Worship Service, in the Sanctuary**

Children, youth, and adults have been worshipping at Community Presbyterian Church, San Juan Capistrano for almost 90 years. This Sunday we will continue the tradition with one service featuring contemporary and traditional music to celebrate God's steadfast love through so many years. Special speakers will reflect on our past, present and future. All are welcome!



**Immediately following our Worship Service - Join the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party on the church front lawn and patio.**

Come along to an "old fashioned" anniversary party with carnival games and prizes! Get your face painted, try knocking over milk bottles, hook a "fish", toss a bean bag, and bounce in a house with a slide!

There'll be hot dogs, popcorn, even cotton candy! FUN for kids of ALL ages!! Tickets for carnival games and food will be available for sale the day of the event. You may wish to bring a chair or blanket for sitting.

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Presbyterian Women

- Ø **Bible Study** – Joshua – A Journey of Faith. Rev. Dianna Bell, Pastor, will lead the Bible Study Preview – Chapter 1 - on Wednesday, **September 30, 2009** from 10:00 – 11:00 AM in the **PASTOR'S STUDY**. Please note **location** and **date change**.

**Lydia Circle** meets Wednesday, October 14, 10:00 AM in the **NARTHEX** at the church. Contact Colleen Emery for details 496.7521 – cemery@cox.net

**Martha Circle** meets Thursday, October 8, 9:30 AM in the **YOUTH CENTER** at the church. We will be studying Chapter 1. Contact Val Jessen for details 495.0350 – jessen23@cox.net

**Mary-Deborah Circle** meets Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 PM at the home of **ANNE LARSON**. Contact Anne Larson 493.7098 (pnalarson@yahoo.com) for further information

- Ø **The PW Quiltmakers** will meet on Thursday, October 1 at 9:30 after breakfast, and October 22 at 9:00 AM in **FELLOWSHIP HALL** of the church. Please make note of change in location and the second date. Contact Marilyn Johnson for details 498.2231 – [mj1626@aol.com](mailto:mj1626@aol.com)
- Ø **Fabric memo** – Thanks to Marjorie Ball and Susan Howit for providing fabric for our quilts. We appreciate the donations to renew our "stash".
- Ø **The PW Book Club** will meet Tuesday, October 27, at 7:00 PM at the home of Terri Treemarcki-Beck - 365.0873. Call or email ( [terri@sjcpres.org](mailto:terri@sjcpres.org) ) for directions. The selection for discussion is **Always Looking Up**, by Michael J. Fox.

## Session Report



Eight elders met with Moderator Dianna Bell on the night of September 15. The moderator of the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee, Frances Bucklin, and committee members Kristen Tetherton and Jay Rodriguez presented and discussed the Church Information Form and Job Description which the committee prepared. After minor modifications, Session voted to approve the documents and authorized DPNC to forward them to the Los Ranchos Presbytery Committee on Ministry to start the search for a Designated Pastor for CPC.

The Director of Youth Ministry, Brandon Tatum, reported on upcoming activity plans. Session approved Brandon Tatum and the CE Committee to explore the presentation of a video on the "Invisible Children" of Uganda. Session approved a number of future off-campus Youth Group activities so that CPC liability insurance coverage will apply.

CPC membership rolls include **186** active members and **26** inactive members following the death of active member Alice Ward on Aug 27. Communion was served to **90** persons in worship on Sept 6.

Free flu shots will be available on the Upper Patio on Sunday, Oct 4. Also, LifeLine Screening will return to CPC Fellowship Hall on Dec 4 from 8:15 am to 5:30 pm. Watch for an announcement of when & where to sign up for an appointment.

Printed reports from the Treasurer and Finance Committee were distributed. The Aug 31 Financial Statement indicates that year-to-date General Fund income exceeded year-to-date expenses by nearly \$7,000. This number is significantly down from July 31 because of the expense of church exterior wall and door repairs and painting. A second check was received from the Eileen Lewis estate. This, like the first one, will be invested through the Endowment and Legacy Committee.

The Stewardship Committee reported that for the eight month period ending August 31 there was a reduction in the difference between expected and actual receipts for non-yearly pledges. This is a good sign and it is hoped this trend will continue through the fall and winter.

Session approved a budget of \$2,000 for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Task Force. Part of this money is to be spent on local community newsprint advertising including an invitation to local residents to celebrate the event with us. The funds will come from fund raisers plus donations from the congregation. The Arts Festival brought in about \$1,300. Part of the proceeds from the Sept 26 Vacation Auction event will be added to these funds. A donation of \$12 per person is suggested for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration dinner to be held in Fellowship Hall on the evening of October 17. Reservations and donations are being accepted by mail or on the patio between services.

Session voted, with regret, to accept the resignation of Judy Richter as our Church Organist, effective Sept 13. Elder Tom Lanni outlined the steps required to fill the vacant position of church organist/accompanist. Session voted to eliminate the position of Choir Conductor and to form a Task Force under the Personnel Committee to define the positions of organist/accompanist and choir director, interview candidates, and hire.

Community Presbyterian Preschool and Kindergarten is enjoying enthusiastic community support in the form of increased enrollment for Preschool and new Kindergarten and Enrichment classes.

Session voted to refurbish portions of the Youth Center interior and to clean and paint steps, decks, and railings in front of the center and between the two units after the Finance Committee finds the money. About \$4,000 will be required.

Interim Pastor Dianna Bell will be on vacation from Oct 3 through Oct 12. While she is away, a guest minister from Fullerton PC will preach and Rev. Jerry Elliott will administer communion on Oct 4. Rev. Jerry Elliott will preach on Oct 11.

Al Jessen, Clerk of Session

## Turning 90 – Murl Collins



Murl Keith Collins was born in Fargo, North Dakota on a cold December 7, 1916 to Thomas Francis Collins and Olive Moffett Halliday Collins. The youngest of six children, he was the only one in his family to be born in a hospital. The rest were born at home. His parents went to Fargo a week ahead of time and stayed with his aunt so they would be close enough when the time came.

His eldest sister, Wanda Adele, was sixteen years old when Murl was born. (She lived to be 101-1/2!) Since they were a farming family, the older kids helped care for the younger ones. Maurice Clark (always called "Clark") was one year younger than Wanda. (He died at ninety-three.) Wayne Burdett arrived three years after Clark. He was the brother Murl was closest to. Francis Halliday was two years younger than Wayne, and June Stanley arrived two years after that. June was six when Murl came along, so he got a lot of attention.

The family farm was in Wheatland, ND, but in 1924, the family, plus assorted other relatives, made the long trek to California. They camped out along the way, and their cars broke down often.

When they reached California, they stayed with an aunt for a short time until they found a place of their own in a section of Los Angeles called Annandale. But they moved again shortly, and continued to move often until they reached Highland Park. Because of all the moves, Murl was behind a grade in school. However, being in class with the younger kids actually proved to be a blessing. At Luther Burbank Jr. High School, he met a cute girl named Letha Mae Burton.

The family then moved to Arcadia where Murl started high school. But he was allowed to live with his sister, June, and her husband back in Highland Park for his senior year at Franklin High School.

His first job was as a mail boy with Security Bank in downtown L.A. Since he lived with his parents in Arcadia, he had a long commute by bus every day.

In 1939, Murl married that cute girl in his family's garden, and they settled in Echo Park. Murl was drafted in 1941 and was stationed at Mare Island Shipyard near San Francisco. This allowed Letha to visit him. He served in the US Navy until 1945.

Their first son, Larry Keith, was born in 1944, and shortly thereafter, they moved to El Sereno. In 1949, when Larry was five, they bought their first house in Alhambra. Casey Burton came along in 1951.

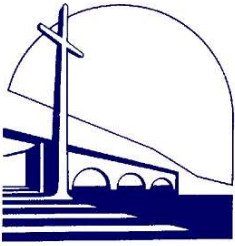
When he returned from the service, Murl drove big rigs for his father-in-law. He continued driving until several years after the family business was sold. At that time, a high school friend who worked for Sparkletts Water Corporation asked if Murl would help him by taking over the Accounts Receivable Department. Murl accepted the position and remained there for twenty-one years until his retirement in 1977.

In 1969, Letha and Murl purchased a mobile home in Dana Point which the entire family enjoyed on weekends and for vacations. On one of those weekends, Letha discovered Community Presbyterian Church which became her church home until her death in 2006.

In 1994, following the death of Wanda's husband, Letha and Murl moved to Leisure World to take care of her. That suited Murl's passion for golf, and he played several times a week. His lowest handicap was seven! Casey, who played golf with his dad, always called him "Mr. Clutch" because if he was in a tournament with prizes on the line or he played against a really good opponent, his game improved, and he nearly always won! He quit playing when he had only tallied ninety-two rounds below his age!

Murl was Wanda's primary caregiver until her death, and Letha's until hers. Today he lives an active life, caring for his neighbors and spending time with friends and family. His hearing is poor, so he doesn't attend church services any more, but he still thinks of CPC as his church home.

## CPC Profile – Judy Stopkowicz



You see it every month in *The Chimes* and on our church bulletins. It's the church logo. But did you ever wonder where we got it? It was a gift from a very talented artist named Judy Stopkowicz (Robert Benedict's mother).

Judy and John attended CPC for many years before moving to Eureka, CA.

Judy designed the logo at a time when we realized we needed something to identify the church. The noted artist/architect, James Hubble, visited the church and identified the big cross and the arches as the distinguishing features. Judy took those ideas and created the logo we have used ever since. The cost of commissioning a logo would have been prohibitive, but Judy gave it to us as her gift.

In addition to the logo, Judy contributed artwork to *The Chimes*. A little girl named Karley Lawson came to church and would wander up and down the aisle during the service. Various members would pick her up and hold her. She was so cute that Judy began to create cartoons featuring her. Fortunately, we still have them and plan on including them in *The Chimes* from time to time.



CHIME  
to  
give  
THANKS

But perhaps Judy's greatest gift to CPC is the Noah's Ark mural in the nursery. If you haven't seen it, stop by some Sunday and take a look. It is delightful, colorful, and whimsical.

So CPC has much to be thankful to Judy for.



**Editor's Note:** In the next few months, we plan on featuring many of those who contributed to the CPC experience

## Flu Shots

Free flu shots will be available on Sunday morning, October 4<sup>th</sup> on the patio. Contact Toni Hannum for more information.

## CPC Retreats are Coming Up

### Women's Retreat

Ladies, mark your calendars for our annual Women's Retreat. Once again it will be held October 2-4, at Pine Manor, east on the Ortega near El Cariso Village. The facilitator will be Judy Star, who will be sharing about the difference an intimate, daily fellowship with the Lord makes in every day of our life. Contact Barbara Lanni for more information

### Men's Retreat

A Men's Retreat is being planned for October 23, 24, 25 at Green Valley Lake with Dr. Donald Bell as facilitator. So put the date on your calendars, Blackberry's or whatever toy manages your life. Contact Don Mueller for advance registrations.

[donmueller@cox.net](mailto:donmueller@cox.net)  
388-7990



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### Hunger Walk

The Hunger Walk this year will be held on October 28. All participants will meet at The San Clemente Community Center at 1:00 pm for a pep rally and warm up session.

The walk starts at 2:00pm.

Our church has provided great assistance in the past and looks forward to another great event.

John Hourian will be making periodic announcements for donations and runners to support Beryl and himself in this endeavor.



## Youth Ministry



As summer has come to an end – with all of its crazy activities and trips – we look forward to this school year and the incredible ways that God desires to move in CPC’s students. There are a plethora of ideas swirling around their heads as we continually, albeit sometimes clumsily, attempt to discover new ways live out the message of Christ: Love God, Love Others. Our hope is that you, the congregation, would partner with us and support our endeavors as you have so faithfully done in the past. I thank you in advance for all I know you will do!

While the pace of activity will slow down considerably this fall compared to summertime, there are still many opportunities coming up for students to connect with God and one another. For example, on October 9<sup>th</sup> a youth group from San Luis Obispo will be trekking down our way and staying here at CPC with our students. What a blessing it is to continuously foster relationships constructed at summer camp! We will hang out with them Friday night. The following day, Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, both groups will head up to Los Angeles for a worship service called Fresh2009 where Christians from all over the state will pack the Coliseum and, together, worship the One True God. I can’t wait. I ask that you keep the students in your prayers as this worship service will have the potential to significantly impact their young lives.

Thanks and God bless!

Brandon Tatum

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## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Andrew Forquer  
01 Heather Forquer  
01 Josie Kohr  
01 Dale McLeod  
02 Coke Kohr  
02 Alexandra Rager  
03 Nancy Tompkins  
04 Larson Pfeil  
05 Bob Ause  
06 Laurie Jacobs  
07 Lelah Loree  
07 Gretchen Verbeerst  
08 Amanda Gilson  
10 Brittney Gilson  
12 Tina Minty  
12 Tricia Minty  
13 Matthew Tolles  
16 Don Miller  
16 David Peek  
17 Karen Seapy

15 Connie Mills  
18 Bonnie Lyon  
19 Jane Heath  
21 Bernie Schwenck  
23 Lisa Lawrence  
23 Brian Tolles  
25 Debbie Tunget  
27 Pat Mueller  
27 Helen Pannier  
28 Mark Kohr  
29 Doris Rinehart  
29 Ella Mae Thompson  
31 Pat Homewood

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

02 Jim and Louise Behmerwohld  
03 Roger and Cathie Hulett  
21 Nancy and Jeff Wermers

