



THE CHIMES

Monthly Newsletter of Community Presbyterian Church

JANUARY 2010

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Celebrating 91 Years of Christian Service

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A New Year and New Beginnings

Interim Pastor, the Rev Paul Reeves has led our congregation successfully through the Christmas season and into the New Year. The Christmas Eve candlelight service complete with choir, youth, musicians and hand-bells was spectacular.

As we begin a new year, the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DNPC) is presenting a candidate for the position of Community Presbyterian Church Designated Pastor. The congregation will be introduced to the nominee and hear him preach on January third. For additional information see the Session report on page 2.

Happy
New Year

As we enter a new era at CPC, we thank all of those who have brought us this far, a vast community of saints in Christ. We are confident that God has exciting plans for the church in the coming year.

Events and Activities

Friday Jan 1	New Years Day
Sunday Jan 3,	Single worship service at 10:00 AM. Followed by Called Congregational Meeting
Wednesday Jan 6	Bible study with Pastor Paul Reeves (see page 9)
Saturday Jan 9	Rose Garden Work Day 9:00 AM (See page 3 for details)
Sunday Jan 31	CPC Annual Meeting, following the second service

For PW activities see the calendar on page 9.

Session Report

*** Just like you, Session had a busy month ***

Eight elders attended a special workshop on Dec 1. The only purpose was to work on details of the General Fund proposed budget to reduce the deficit for 2010. At the end of this meeting, Moderator Paul Reeves conducted a Called Meeting in which Session voted to schedule a Called Congregational Meeting on Dec 13 for the purpose of electing church officers.



In the Dec 13 Called Congregational Meeting, **Jackie Brubaker, Luanna Rugh, Barbara Ward** and **Ken Ledermann** were elected to serve 2 years as elders in the class of 2011, **Fran Eagan** was re-elected to serve 2 years as an elder in the class of 2011, and **Paul Larson** was re-elected to serve 1 year as an elder in the class of 2010. **Jim Behmerwohld, Joanne Frazee, Bonnie Lyon** and **Don Seapy** were elected to serve 3 years as deacons in the Class of 2012 and **Susan Grulkowski** was elected to serve 1 year as a deacon in the Class of 2010. There are still two vacancies to be filled, one on Session and one on the Board of Deacons.

There was a Joint Meeting of Deacons and Elders on December 15. It was attended by Moderator Paul Reeves, nine elders, three newly-elected elders, nine deacons and four newly-elected deacons. At the start of the meeting, elders and deacons enjoyed fellowship, desserts and cider provided by the deacons. The food was served from a beautifully decorated buffet counter. After 45 minutes, the groups divided so that regular Deacons and Session Meetings could proceed.

The December 15 Regular Meeting of Session was moderated by Interim Pastor Paul Reeves. It was attended by nine elders in class of 2009 and 2010. Three elders in the class of 2011 were present as non-voting guests.

The first item of business was from the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee, with Don Seapy speaking in place of the Moderator, Frances Bucklin, who was unable to attend. The DPNC has a candidate to nominate for the position of CPC Designated Pastor, which the Congregation must vote on, and requested that Session schedule a Called Meeting of the Congregation on January 3 for the vote. This meeting will immediately follow a single worship service, beginning at 10:00 am, in which the congregation will hear a sermon by the candidate, whose name has not been revealed at this time. The DPNC is highly impressed with this candidate and is sure the congregation will be also.

Elder Paul Larson, Church Treasurer, cautioned Session not to get excited by the General Fund \$8,039 surplus shown in the Financial Statement for Nov 30, because annual payments and reserve accounts must be funded before closing the books for 2009. Paul forecasts a Dec 31 deficit of about \$19,000 which will be paid using funds now in an existing reserve account. Nov 30 cash positions for the General Fund and Preschool Fund are good. The Pastor's Housing fund has grown a small deficit because payment of interest and retirement of the loan balance added up to slightly more than the rent provides after insurance, water, homeowner's, property maintenance and tax bills are paid.

Elder John Hourian reported that there have been concerns about performance of our cleaning service contractor, high cost of purchasing paper and cleaning products, difficulty in locking Fellowship Hall doors, and appropriate signage for announcing the time and date of special events. Elder Nancy Wermers presented and Session approved motions for several Youth Group activities. Following a review of attendance and interviews with the families involved, Elder Carol Rodriguez recommended moving 11

active members to inactive status and removing 7 active members from the membership roll at their request. This brings CPC active membership down to **170**.

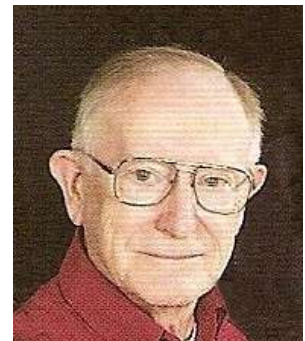
Session approved distribution of certain dedicated Mission funds to Family Assistance Ministries and SJC Habitat for Humanity. The balance in a Mission dedicated account was transferred to a Youth Mission dedicated account. It was noted that there are funds raised for the Village of Hope remaining in a dedicated account. Session believes that it is best to expend that balance on a ministry other than Village of Hope. Since this will change the recipient of those funds, Session will seek approval from the Congregation approval to reallocate the money to a viable organization which supports a similar type of mission.

Session voted to schedule the CPC Annual Meeting on January 31 following worship. The meeting will begin following lunch provided by the Fellowship Committee in Fellowship Hall. The congregation will be able to ask questions about information in the Annual Report which will be available to read beforehand. There will also be voting to approve Corporate Officers, for members of the 2010 Nomination Committee and on other matters which may come up.

Elder Luanna Rugh and Preschool Director Terri T-Beck proposed organizing a Preschool & Kindergarten Planning Team to consider and implement new programs to provide education and/or entertainment for Preschool children and their parents and to build relationships between them and the church. Session voted to approve this proposal.

Elder Marge Ball reported that the number of new pledges received through December 15 was less than at this time last year. The committee anticipates that more pledges will come in as the good news about the Designated Pastor spreads.

Al Jessen, Clerk of Session



Rose Garden Work Day



The Rose Garden Volunteer Work Day will be from 9-12 on Saturday January 9, 2010. All enthusiastic gardeners are welcome to assist in planting and transplanting roses in the garden. Bring your shovels, gloves and hoes. There will be an abundance of nutritional nourishment offered for your heartfelt endeavors.



Nan Fryer, Deacon



FLIPPING THE PRESBYTERY: From 'The Meeting' to 'The Mission'

"As Missional churches, we are gathered together, to be sent into the world, to demonstrate the Kingdom, inviting others to join us."

Darlene Elliott and Marge J. Ball have represented CPC at Presbytery meetings this past year. Jerry Elliott and Frances Bucklin attend Presbytery meetings as their schedules permit. They all have watched a major transition occur in the direction of our Los Ranchos Presbytery.

Selected lay leaders and ministers, referred to as "The Odyssey Group", were organized in 2007 and charged with determining the direction of the Presbytery for the next decade. They began meeting in January 2008. In February 2009, they presented their first draft of their recommendations. Additional input was gathered in response to their draft. The second, and final document was presented at the May 16, 2009 meeting.

They recommended that the Presbytery become a "missional learning community" and a "deliberative body". Their report explained the new direction: "The Presbytery is less focused on regulating, providing programs and submitting reports and more passionate about learning, discerning, building relationships and partnering in our mission together." Their recommendations were approved at that Presbytery meeting.

We enjoyed the worship service, provided by the host church, at each Presbytery meeting. Following the worship service, the business of motions, amendments, and approvals for the Presbytery meeting continued. Many of the business items pertained to the changes created by a new direction. Presbytery Gatherings of the future will include time for worship, networking, creating partnering opportunities between churches, and still a bit of business required by the Book of Order.

Los Ranchos Presbytery changed staff titles and positions to reflect the new direction of the Presbytery. Executive Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Steve Yamaguchi, will become the Presbytery Pastor. Rev. Dr. Keith Geckeler, the Stated Clerk, will continue in that role while assuming the financial/business functions. New positions were created, other staff positions were eliminated; one had a reduction from 100% to 75% time.

These changes come at a time when our church and Los Ranchos Presbytery have been working closely together. In the summer of 2008, Rev. Dr., Steve Yamaguchi, and Committee on Ministry representatives, Gary Miller and Duncan McColl were with us in the transition from full-time minister to Interim Minister. Presbytery and CPC Session Elders worked together to lead the way for setting new guidelines for retired pastors. Our Vision Day, led by Los Ranchos Staff member Barbara Murphy, prepared us to recruit our new Designated Pastor. Resumes for our Designated Pastor were provided by Presbytery. Presbytery staff has been with us on our decisions with the purchase and rental of our house. We even had a musical presentation from Rev. Dr. Steve Yamaguchi at our 90th anniversary!

We expect this interaction with Presbytery office staff and committees to continue. The new opportunity presented by the changes is the encouragement to focus on being a "missional" church. "Missional" is defined in the Odyssey report as follows:

(Continued on page 5)

Presbytery (Continued from page 4)

“Missional ecclesiology is a way of understanding the church. It begins with the *Missio Dei*—God’s own ‘self-sending’ in Christ by the Spirit to redeem and transform creation. In a missional ecclesiology, the Church is not a building or an institution but a community of witness, called into being and equipped by God, and sent into the world to testify to and participate in Christ’s work. The mission of God expressed in and through the local congregation is “the central organizing principle”¹ for Christian life. Further, “The congregation is the basic form of the church, and individual believers have their ministries nurtured and guided within the congregation.”² As Missional churches we are “gathered together, to be sent into the world, to demonstrate the Kingdom, inviting others to join us”³ The Church does not have missions; instead, the mission of God creates the Church.”

All members of a church are welcome to attend at a Presbytery Gathering. CPC has two commissioners, who vote at the business portion of Presbyterian Gathering. Visitors to Presbytery (non-commissioners) do not participate in the business unless they are given special permission to speak on some topic, nor do visitors vote. The new format of the meetings does allow for gathering ideas from other churches forming program partnerships with one or more churches, plus attending learning session on numerous topics.

New directions create new opportunities. This is an exciting time to be in Los Ranchos Presbytery! Consider attending a Presbytery Gathering in 2010. Information is available at the Presbytery web site, <http://www.losranchos.org> or from the CPC office.

Per Capita

The Per Capita amount this year is \$22.80 per person. Please remember to use your Per Capita offering envelope this month, which is in your offering box. Per Capita funds go to support Los Ranchos Presbytery, our Synod and General Assembly. Your participation in paying the Per Capita fee will allow CPC to use 100% of your offerings toward the work of our church.



Mission, Mission, Mission

Recently, Brandon Tatum, our youth director, said that after much prayer and study he has arrived at the conclusion that the central theme of our youth program should be "MISSION." As a member of the Mission Committee, "my heart was strangely warmed." to quote a line from John Wesley.

There are several good sources of information about the mission work of our denomination. One of these is the *The Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study*. Copies of the 2010 edition are in the church office, and you are encouraged to take one. If you want to help defer the expense, the suggested donation is \$10, but all donations are appreciated, and none are expected.

Other good sources are the monthly magazine *Presbyterians Today* (the official journal of our church) and *Presbyterian Outlook*, a weekly independent magazine.

A great online source is *Presbyterian News Service* (<http://www.pcusa.org/pcnews/>). Here are a few lines from a recent article:

I arrived in Lusaka (Zambia) on Nov 5 after my 32 hours of travel and two nights of "sleeping" on a plane.

In the middle of this tourists' agenda, we detoured into the industrial area to pick up the Rev Nkhweto, pastor of a developing church in Kaoma - 400 km from Lusaka - along with his wife and his elderly father. The congregation wants to grow rice as an income generating project.

They bought the land, and the Synod agreed to provide a plow and 2 oxen. So off we all went to buy a small plow.

Once the new plow was loaded in the vehicle, we went by the Synod office to pick up a carton of Bibles, also for the pastor.

As we drove out of the parking lot, the Rev Kabandama pointed out a Synod-owned bus which is both an income generating project and an evangelistic tool.

The bus driver is required to preach a sermon as he drives.

"Who knows," said the Rev. Kabandama, "who might hear the Lord calling them and join a church when they reach their destination?"

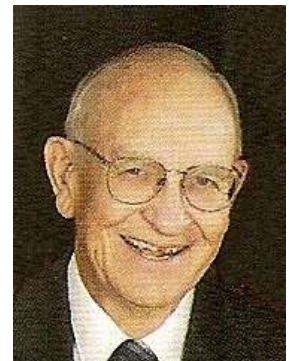
P.S. Opportunities for mission near at hand abound. There is an appeal from Kinoshita School for adults to help children with their reading. You may give as much time as you desire in this opportunity — from 40 minutes once a week to several hours every day! Contact Mr. Cesar Loya, Assistant Principal at the school office: 489-2131.

On Wednesday evening, January 13, Carol Seibert, Faith Relations Manager of Habitat for Humanity, Orange County, will present a program on volunteer opportunities at Habitat.

There are many ways to volunteer in addition to working on buildings. Save the date now.

More details will follow.

Submitted by Jerry Elliott



Youth News

I want to thank everyone at CPC who has readily supplied their youth ministry with the support and encouragement that its students need in order to effectively reach out and serve their neighbors. To give you an idea of how we're putting your support to work, permit me to share with you a couple of "adventures" the youth have been on in this past month.



The day before Thanksgiving, while most adults were diligently preparing for the feast to come or taking advantage of much needed R&R (and most students were sleeping in until noon, lounging around their homes all day, or hanging out with their friends) a group of six CPC students met in the church parking lot at 8:00 AM and drove up to L.A. to work with Faith in Christ Ministries, an organization that helped serve Thanksgiving dinner to over five thousand people in twelve different destitute regions of the city. We spent the day there sorting clothing that was handed out to the homeless on Thanksgiving, setting up decorations in their sanctuary, moving and sorting boxes of food, folding and passing out fliers, delivering boxes of Thanksgiving food items to homes, and basically any other request that was made. All the while we were in the middle of our 30-Hour Fast!



On Wednesday, December 9th, Susan Howit, the students, and I gathered at the San Clemente Hospital, in place of our usual mid-week service, where we spent time with kids from the local community who were to receive medical attention from a Mobile Multi-Service Center (MMSC) Clinic. Our students served cookies and hot chocolate, helped with crafts, and played games with the kids. It was incredibly powerful to visibly see God's will being lived out.

We are on a mission and, on behalf of the youth, we are deeply grateful for all that you do! It is through your help that our mission can continue to grow, develop, and expand into new and exciting areas!

Brandon Tatum
Director of Youth

2010 Mission Yearbook

Copies of the 2010 Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study are available in the church office. A donation to help pay for your copy would be appreciated.



Preschool & Kindergarten News

The school's annual Christmas pageant was wonderful. The children charmed us with their delightful songs and enthusiasm. It is such a joy seeing young children all dressed up in their Christmas finery singing their hearts out for their parents and grandparents.

The teachers, the students, and I would like to extend a great big thank you to Anne Larson for accompanying the children on the piano. Anne has played the piano at our annual pageant for 28 years! What dedication, support, and love. Thank you, Anne. We love you!

Coming up this month at the school:

- Chancy & Bruce Kindergarten Readiness Screenings, Jan. 11 & 12
- Speech & Hearing, Jan. 21 & 22
- Germ Busters of CHOC, Jan. 26 & 27
- Chancy & Bruce Follow up, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.

Registration will take place the last week in February. If you know any interested families, please have them call the preschool (493-9141) or email me at terribeck@sjcpres.org.



Weekly chapel will continue in the sanctuary each Thursday and Friday at 11:40 & 3:10.

Thanks and praise – another student enrolled in the Kindergarten class, making a total of 13 children. As a result, we have had to hire an assistant for the kindergarten class. As a result, the teacher is able to offer more to her students.

Our Holiday Boutique, Opportunity Quilt, and See's Candy fundraisers were very successful, due in part to the congregation's support. We have been able to buy replacement parts for a few bikes that have been out of commission, and we will purchase two or three new bikes and trikes. Thank you for your care of our children and our preschool & kindergarten. Your support and presence on campus has been noticed and appreciated.

Director Preschool and Kindergarten
Terri Treemarcki-Beck,

Presbyterian Women

- Ø **Bible Study – Joshua – A Journey of Faith.** Rev. Paul Reeves, will lead the Bible Study Preview – Lesson 4 - on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 from 10:00 – 11:00 in the PASTOR'S STUDY.

Lydia Circle will meet Wednesday, January 13, 10:00 am at San Juan Mobile Estates Clubhouse (32302 Alipaz St; San Juan Cap 92675) and will be studying Lesson 4. Contact Colleen Emery for details 496.7521 – cemery@cox.net

Martha Circle will meet Thursday, January 14, 9:30 am in the **YOUTH CENTER** at the church and will be studying Lesson 4. Contact Val Jessen for details 495.0350 – jessen23@cox.net

Mary-Deborah Circle will meet Tuesday, January 12, 7:00 PM at the home of Barbara Lanni and will be studying Lesson 4. Contact Anne Larson 493.7098 (pnalarson@yahoo.com) for further information

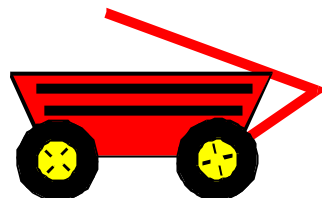
- Ø **The PW Book Club** will meet Tuesday, January 26, at 7:00 PM at the home of Terri Treemarcki-Beck - 365.0873. Call or email (tbeck@sjcpres.org) for directions. The selection for discussion is **The Mercy Ship**, by Dan Stephens.
- Ø **The PW Quiltmakers** will meet on Thursday, January 7 at 9:30 (after breakfast) in church parking lot for a field trip to M & L Fabric Store. On January 21st , we will meet in THE YOUTH CENTER from 9:30 am – 1:00 or so. Lunch included. Contact Marilyn Johnson for details 498.2231 – mj1626@aol.com
- Ø Thank you to all who supported the PW Opportunity Quilt, **Heart & Home**, raising \$320 toward the Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering. Congratulations to Mary Koebler, the happy winner of the quilt.



Red Wagon Food Offerings

Your non-perishable food offerings are always needed and greatly appreciated. Bring items to church and put them in the children's red wagon collection during the service. Or donations may be placed in the basket in the Narthex.

Food donations go to Family Assistance Ministries (FAM)



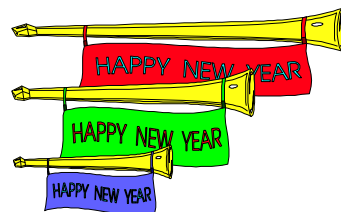
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 Kendall Jones
06 Erika Hourian
09 Jennifer Powers
10 Sam Pfeil
10 Carol Rodriguez
11 Al Jessen
15 Cairistiona Flatley
16 Brenton Lowery
17 Josephine Morrow

18 Cathie Hulett
18 Robin McColley
18 Jordan Wermers
19 Laura Whitney
28 Bonnie Ferber
29 Wendy Jenkins
30 Jason Ross
31 Katie Lanni
31 Will Reeder

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

01 Don and Virginia Miller
03 Eric and Lynn Frey
09 Michael and Joanne Frazee
17 Billy and Mae Bell
19 Paul and Honey Cassady
24 Larry and Michele Anderson
25 Kurt and Diane Pederson
30 Jim and Bobbie Babbage



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