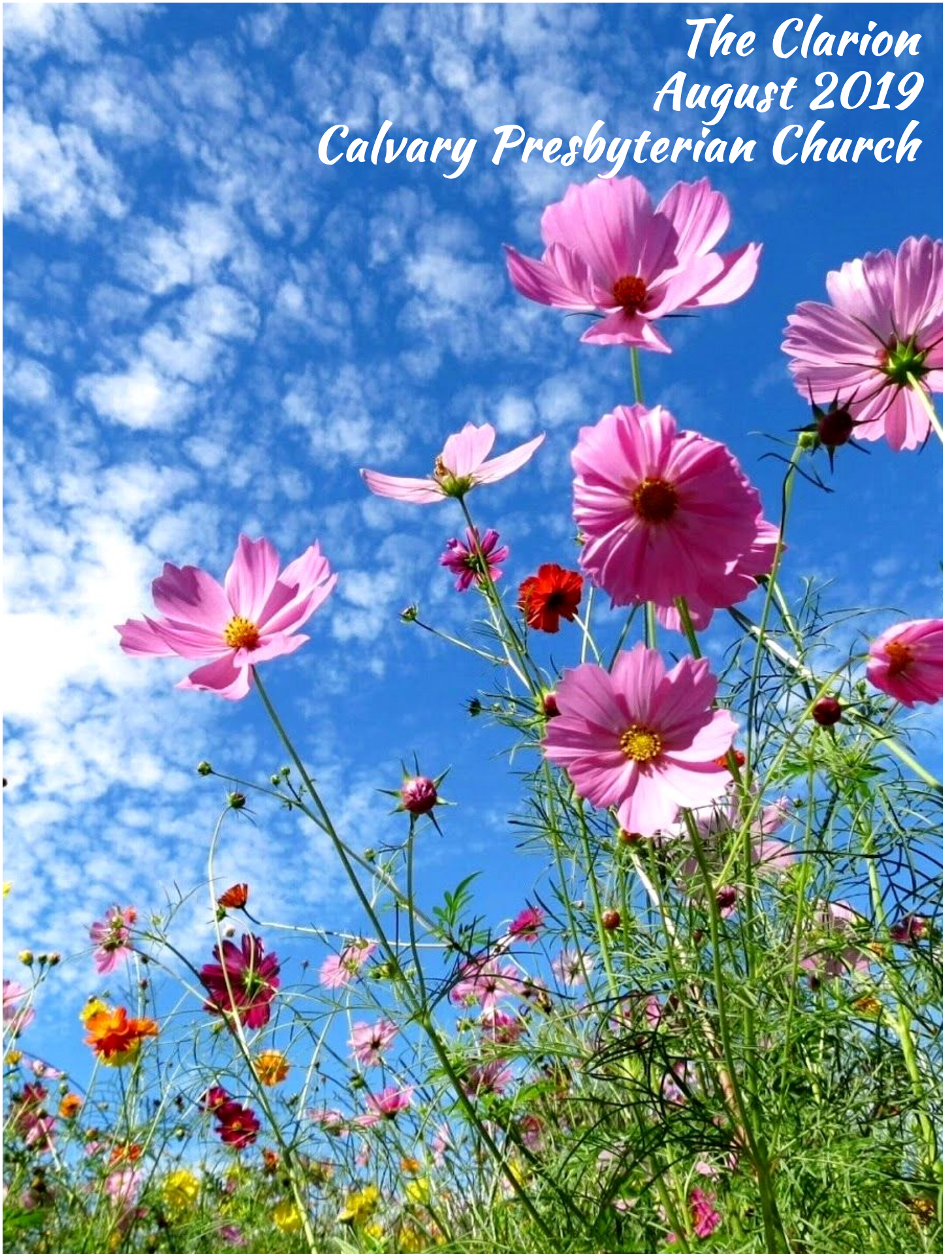


The Clarion
August 2019
Calvary Presbyterian Church





Summer Worship
10:30 am in Fellowship Hall
Brunch is provided

Revelation
Summer Bible Study
Every Monday 7-8 pm
In North Parlor

Upcoming Events

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ron Schooler	8/1
James & Cindy Zack	8/4
♥ Jeff & Holly Bruce	8/5
♥ Marge Novasel	8/12
May Smith	8/12
Sharon Lyall	8/24
Ron & Nathana Schooler	8/27
♥ Lisa Reynolds	8/29
Jennifer Schooler	8/30



Presbyterian Corner Our faith, our practice, and our roots

Is God a male?

No. But it is easy to get that impression when we listen to the church's language about God through the years. In particular, church references to the deity very often refer to God as "he." Jesus referred to God as "Father" (Matt. 6:9), and the Holy Spirit is often called "he" as well. With Jesus, the whole Trinity is often designated with the male pronoun. Languages other than English may not have the same difficulties as we do with these kinds of issues. But in English-speaking countries, using the translation of the English Bible that have come down to us, Presbyterians churches—with other Christian communions—have historically used male-oriented language for God in prayers, preaching, and other theological expression of faith. Thus, it is easy to get the impression that God is male.

The past forty years in the Western cultures have brought the awareness of this problem to the forefront. Women in churches had heard God referred to almost exclusively in male terms. But feminist biblical scholars and theologians have helped churches recognize that our traditional theological language has slipped easily into these patterns, whereas biblical imagery for God is much wider and more inclusive than has often been recognized. This is now reflected in "A Brief Statement of Faith" (1993) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which includes both genders images for God in the confession:

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

(BC 10.3, LINES 49-51)

Biblical allusions here include Isaiah 49:14-15; 66:13; Luke 13:34-35, as well as Luke 15:11-32. This is important because, theologically, God is not, male or female. "God is spirit," said Jesus (John 4:24). "I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst," said God to the prophet Hosea (Hos. 11:9). None of our English pronouns—or nouns!—can ever say all there is to say about God, or capture the essence of the biblical God. So our language about God needs to reflect the fullness of the biblical witness and to affirm what Elihu said to Job: "God is greater than any mortal" (Job 33:12)—in every way.

-from Donald K. McKim, *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers*

DID YOU KNOW ?

Our office administrator Maribel is a Notary Public. If you need her service, please don't hesitate to contact her. She works with Calvary friends and family for a reasonable price. Also, Maribel offers mobile notary, so she will meet you at the comfort of your home or office.

Thank you For Your Support and Encouragement, Thoughts and Prayers

Rachel and I would like to thank each of you for all of the encouragement and support which we have both known from our Calvary family since her diagnosis with breast cancer in April 2018. As we rejoice in what has been accomplished, we look forward now to the next step of the journey as Rachel moves to the survivorship care program of City of Hope. With the support and encouragement of her doctors, we will be away for various conferences and family visits until the middle of September. We will miss seeing all of you in worship and other activities. You will be in our thoughts and prayers as we continue to give thanks for all of your thoughts and prayers which have been the source of tremendous encouragement and strength to both of us.

Huw Christopher

OUR MISSION

Mission Update:

- A successful collection and donation to Crossroads was completed late this spring.
- Dinners were served at both Union Station and Door of Hope
- We are currently in the middle of a Back To School collection for Monte Vista Street Elementary School.
 - All school supplies are welcome. (no Sharpies please) If you would prefer to donate money, please mark it clearly for Back to School and someone will do the shopping for you.
- We continue to support Esther Wakeman (Thailand), David Cortés-Fuentes and Josey Sáez-Acevedo (Cuba) and Christopher and Nancy Zoolkoski (Niger—please see the update in this Clarion).
- We, as a congregation, are working towards certification as an Earth Care Congregation (as designated by the Presbyterian Mission Agency). This demonstrates our interest in being stewards of God's earth.
- We have applied for recognition as a Hunger Action Congregation (as designated by Presbyterian Mission Agency) which demonstrates our commitment to care for our neighbors.
- We are working towards a collaboration with Church World Service to be a collection site for their Emergency Clean Up kits during times of disaster response.
 - <http://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/emergency-cleanup-buckets/>
- We are looking for appropriate ways to be involved with the immigration crisis, specifically partnering with our Presbytery. This is a new and growing program. Stay tuned for more details and see further information in this Clarion about how the Presbytery is getting involved.

We welcome your interest, your ideas, your partnership and your concerns. Please join our meetings or reach out to a member of the Mission Committee at any time.

Dear Calvary Congregation,

As a congregation we support Christopher and Nancy Zookoski (Nancy is the daughter of Barbara Smith and grew up here at Calvary.) in their medical mission in the African country of Niger. We are forwarding a recent letter from them giving you a snapshot of what a typical day is like for Nancy : After her personal time with the Lord, Nancy will meet with her literacy students. These are adults who have never had any formal education. When Nancy first began working with them, they did not know how to recognize the letters A, B, or C. Now these adults are starting to read the Bible in their native Hausa language.



Halima only received this one lesson from Nancy because her father refused our offer to help with her education. We are praying that his heart will change and that he will give permission for Halima to learn to read also.



After the early-morning literacy lessons, Nancy is off to join her pharmacy team to dispense the correct medications in the correct amounts to the hundreds of patients who will be served that day. This includes preparing specialized chemotherapy regimens for our patients who are battling leukemia and lymphoma and choriocarcinoma. The job description of "pharmacist" is very broad and includes the monumental task of planning and purchasing medications which we import from Europe in 40 foot shipping containers.



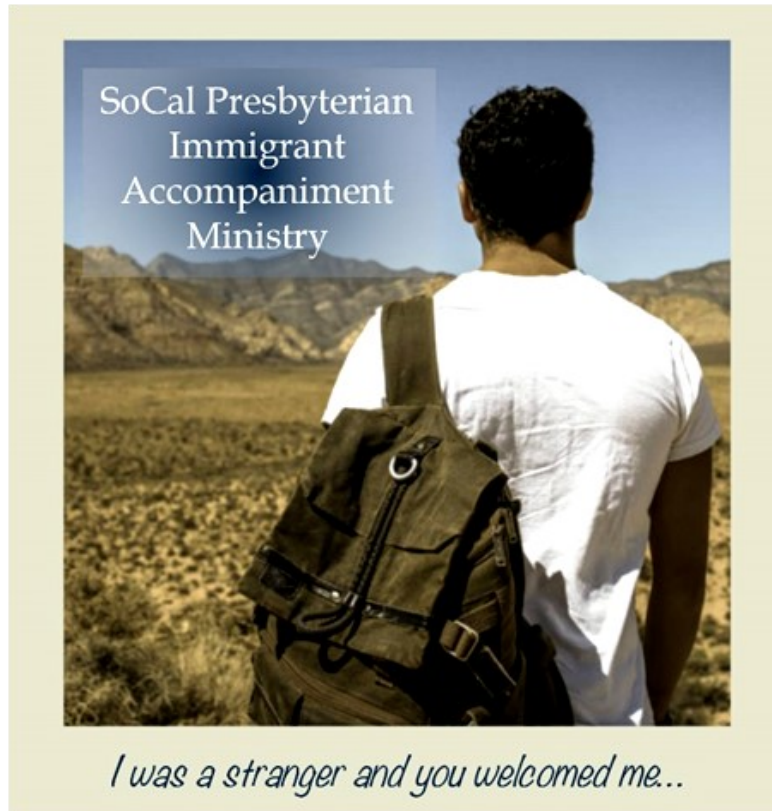
Outside of the usual routine, Nancy has enjoyed some diversions which include visits to some of the small rural churches in our region of Niger, attendance at the weddings, and baby naming ceremonies of our co-workers a picnic on the majestic sand dunes!





PRESBYTERY OF
San Gabriel

Presbyterian Immigrant Accompaniment Ministry



SoCal Presbyterian Immigrant Accompaniment Ministry is a growing network of Presbyterians around Southern California, in ecumenical collaboration with the Matthew 25/Mateo 25 SoCal Movement, striving to follow Christ's call to **welcome the stranger** by opening our churches, homes, and hearts to sisters and brothers seeking asylum.

Our mission is to strengthen and expand a faith-rooted, compassionate response to immigrants and refugees in our communities by equipping, empowering, and supporting congregations and individuals to joyfully and faithfully engage in accompaniment and advocacy.

Join a Circle of Support

- Be a part of a team of people who commit to coming alongside a family or individual in the asylum process. This may include things like visiting, providing transportation, assisting with translation, gathering necessary clothing/home goods, or purchasing grocery gift cards.

Consider Becoming a Host

- Extend hospitality by welcoming an asylum seeker -family or individual- into your home or church. The SoCal Presbyterian Immigrant Accompaniment Ministry and our ecumenical partners will support you, your family, and your church family as you live into the blessings and challenges of sharing life together.

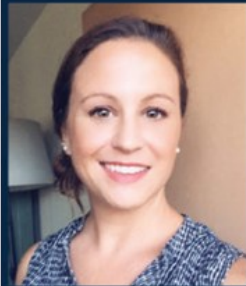
Detention Center Visitation

- Join us for one of the monthly opportunities to be a part of this powerful ministry of presence. Showing up and being willing to listen are profound ways to foster hope and offer welcome.



Speak Out for Change

- Join people of faith in education and action for just public policies that promote welcome and flourishing within our communities, our region, and across our nation.

Presbytery of San Gabriel | Presbytery of the Pacific



Kristi Van Nostran
Immigrant Accompaniment Organizer
cell 360.521.4096
PresbyWelcome@gmail.com



We Choose Welcome

Kristi is in her final year at Fuller Theological Seminary where she is pursuing a Master of Divinity in preparation for ordination in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She served for seven years in El Salvador as a PC (USA) Mission Co-Worker, and since returning to the U.S. in 2017 has served as Parish Intern for Pastoral Care at Claremont Presbyterian Church. Kristi has a passion for bringing people together and fostering relationships of mutual accompaniment. She is thrilled to be a part of this ministry and the new ways that God's Spirit is moving in and through our Presbyteries to offer hospitality and hope to some of our most vulnerable siblings.

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:8-11





Network Partners

It is hard to say “Good-bye” to a faithful partner. That happened this spring when **John “Rusty” Mills**, the husband of Rev. Ann Mills – one of our founders -- passed away. The photo shows Ann and Rusty at the retirement party/fundraiser for “Ruby,” their Volkswagen that they used to make countless deliveries of needed donations to the homes of patients released from the hospital.



Our prayers are with Ann, along with our thanks, for all their years of dedication and service to Angel Interfaith Network.



The **Tierra Del Sol Foundation** has provided volunteers to help at the AIN Gate House every Tuesday morning for 12 years. We held a luncheon to thank them for their countless hours of service, friendship and dedication. Our thanks to **Señor Fish Mexican Restaurant** for the donation of a delicious enchilada lunch and to the council members who attended the ceremony: Hagar Benitez, Mary Jarret, Elizabeth Gibbs Zehnder, and Father Chris Ponnet. Pictured in the photo are Maria Isela Catellanos (volunteer supervisor), Javier Alfaro, Jeackellin

Santos-Rios, Michaela Sanchez, Dianna Robledo (volunteers), Sandy Lara (Tierra staff manager), Missing from the photo is Sarah Cecire.

Those We Serve:

Angel, one of the Whole Person care staff, had met **Jerry** when he was a patient at LAC+USC Medical Center. She saw him standing by the freeway pan handling. “I can’t help you with change, but are you ready for change?” she asked. “Yes,” he responded. Angel came to us requesting clothing, shoes, a back pack, a hygiene kit and a cane. Jerry was now ready to go into rehab. The donation from AIN enabled a significant change, and Jerry was grateful.

Urgent Needs:



Ensure nutritional supplement,



Tennis shoes for men and women,



Men’s pants and shirts (medium – large),



and wheelchairs.



Become a Sustaining Angel:

<http://angelinterfaith.net/sustainers.html>

What's Wrong with People?

What's wrong with people? The decline in church attendance and membership astounds us. Yet, it has been happening right before our eyes over the last 40 years. Isn't church a place where people learn how to love others and be loved? Isn't it a place where we learn about the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, the greatest of all teachers? Isn't a place where our children learn to be citizens of God's Kingdom? Isn't it the place where we express our gratitude for God's kindness in song and liturgy? Isn't it a place where we make real friends, not to mention feasting on great potlucks?

There is another way of looking at this unfortunate development. We could ask: What's wrong with us? What have we church goers done, or not done, that makes us less attractive to our neighbors? Dealing with this question is the only real way in which we might engender positive change. And, you know there are lots of pundits and academics that have given us reasons for why the fastest growing religious preference in America is "none." Certainly, one prominent issue we can deal with directly is our internal conflicts. We (meaning we American Christians) war with each other over music, theology, sexual orientation issues, pastoral leadership, politics, church leadership, and interpersonal problems. It is ugly. Why would anyone want to get in on that?

We (Susan Shaver-Kane, Carl von Bibra, Pat Martinez-Miller, Linda Kopperud, and Ron Schooler) as your current Personnel Committee took on a mission to do our part to work on some of these issues.

You may remember that in the process of calling the Reverend Millason Dailey as our pastor this year we took all the inputs from people in the congregation and from them wrote new goals for her leadership in the coming years. Pastor Dailey asked us to include goals for the congregation, for after all, our relationship is reciprocal. We discuss both of these aspects of Calvary improvement in our regularly scheduled monthly meetings. Equally important we are working to find ways to measure how we are doing.

The goals for the congregation are: One, Model the grace of God toward others. Two, serve roles and responsibilities with energy, imagination, intelligence, and love. And, three, be an encouraging and positive presence. In the education world we write standards and measure students by their mastery of these standards. But, what is far more important is growth toward standards. All classrooms have a wide variety of

levels of meeting standards. That is just the way life is. When we are doing education right, we work with kids where they are and lead them to move to the standard.

So it is with the church at large and Calvary in particular. Jesus and the Apostles set high standards for living with each other and the world. It is important to understand that we are all at different levels of spiritual maturity. We should not judge others or ourselves as having met the high standards of our faith. We should judge on how well we are progressing to the high calling of God on our lives. Ask, how can I improve in blessing my neighbor and my enemy?

In helping others and ourselves make progress, criticism should be meted out in very small doses and only when people are open to it. There is a more effective way forward. Pat Martinez-Miller has some sound advice for us. She suggests we do two things: First, expect to see someone in our midst demonstrating God's love to others. And, second, after you have observed this, say a word of thanks and blessing to that person.

The awful trend of our times is to divide people up into warring groups. It is even sadder to say that it is also happening among Christians. This ought not so to be! As Christians we are eternally united under our Lord, Jesus Christ. He prayed fervently for our unity in John's Gospel. Let us work to make it true. We are not the gathered good people of South Pasadena. We are the people who know that we have not measured up to loving our neighbor that God set before us. When we are at our best, we are the people who commit ourselves to more closely imitate God's love for all. Dallas Willard said, "Local congregations are made up of the children of light who light up the world." Let's let our lights shine in the church and the world so many may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. As Margaret Mead said, "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have."



AUGUST 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 3 pm Youth Group 7:15pm AI Anon	2 10am Inspired Living	3 9am Music Preparation for worship 9am Sip N Stitch
4 9:00am Musical Rehearsal 10:30am Summer Worship	5 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Summer Bible Study	6 7pm Women's Bible Study	7 10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis	8 3 pm Youth Group Pool Party 7:15pm AI Anon	9 10am Inspired Living	10 9am Music Preparation for worship 9am Sip N Stitch
11 9:00am Musical Rehearsal 10:30am Summer Worship	12 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Summer Bible Study	13 7pm Toastmasters 7pm Women's Bible Study	14 10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis 7pm Deacons meeting	15 7:15pm AI Anon	16 10am Inspired Living	17 9am Music Preparation for worship 9am Sip N Stitch
18 9:00am Musical Rehearsal 10:30am Summer Worship	19 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Summer Bible Study	20 7pm Women's Bible Study	21 10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis 7pm Mission Meeting	22 7:15pm AI Anon 5:30pm Embroiderer's Guild Meeting	23 10am Inspired Living	24 9am Music Preparation for worship 9am Sip N Stitch
25 9:00am Musical Rehearsal 10:30am Summer Worship	26 7pm Boy Scouts	27 7pm Toastmasters 7pm Women's Bible Study	28 10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis	29 7:15pm AI Anon	30 10am Inspired Living	31 9am Music Preparation for worship 9am Sip N Stitch



All middle & high schoolers are invited!

YOUTH GROUP POOL PARTY

Join us for swimming, games, and burgers to
celebrate the last youth group gathering of the
summer!

AUGUST 8, 2019 • 3 PM-6PM

1210 Blair Ave. South Pasadena, CA 91030

MEET AT THE CHURCH TO CARPOOL OR MEET THERE

JULY FINANCIALS

July Budgeted Income \$16,900.01
July Actual Income \$15,724.00
July Budgeted Expense \$41,087.01
July Actual Expense \$32,733.80
July Food Bank Expenses: \$0.00

These amounts reflect the operating budget only. Income numbers are purely from Sunday offering. Investment and property numbers are not included.

Calvary Presbyterian Church

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(626) 799-7148

The Rev. Millason Dailey
millason@cpcsouthpas.org

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Maribel Valadez
Office Administrator
cpc.southpas@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:
9 am - 5 pm, Monday - Friday



Praise The LORD with us!

Join us for Summer Sunday
Worship in Fellowship Hall
at 10:30 am
Brunch will be served.