LENT - A SEASON OF PREPARATION -

THE CLARION MARCH 2019

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women Of the Bible Series All-Ages Bible Study Mondays, March 4 & 18, 7 pm South Parlor

> ASH WEDNESDAY March 6th, 7 am Sanctuary

MOUNTAINTOP STRING CONCERT Sunday March 10th 4 pm, Sanctuary 5:30 pm Reception at Fellowship Hall

ECUMENICAL LENTEN SUPPER HOSTED BY CALVARY SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH 6 PM, SOUTH PARLOR

> 5TH SUNDAY COLLABORATIVE WORSHIP SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST 10:30 AM, FELLOWSHIP HALL

> > DINNER AT UNION STATION Family Center Sunday, March 31st 6 Pm

Palm Sunday April 14th 10 am Traditional Service, Sanctuary 11 am Informal Service, Fellowship Hall

> MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER April 18th, 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall

EASTER SUNDAY April 21st, 10 am One Traditional Service, Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

Join us for a brief Ash Wednesday Service followed by a light breakfast March 6th at 7am at the Sanctuary

Lenten Sunday Ecumenical Simple Dinner and Prayer 2019

First Sunday of Lent, March 10 | Calvary Presbyterian 6pm Dinner/Prayer
Second Sunday March 17 | St. James 6pm Prayer/Dinner
Third Sunday March 24 | South Pasadena Christian 6pm Dinner/ Prayer
Fourth Sunday March 31 | Holy Family Church 7pm Dinner/Prayer
Fifth Sunday April 7 | Grace Brethren 6pm Dinner/Prayer
Palm Sunday, April 14 | Oneonta Church 5pm Dinner/Prayer

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Patricia von Bibra	3/2
Peggy Ingraham	3/2
Bruce Irwin	3/5
Tyler Zack	3/6
James Jontz	3/7
Fon Leong	3/1
Millason Dailey	3/14

Pat Castellano	3/18
Chelsea Reynolds	3/18
Katherine Gutschow	3/20
♥ Bob & Diane Wilken	3/20
Elene Perry	3/25
Bob Wilken	3/26
Ruth Melissa	3/31

We will be cooking dinner at Union Station on Sunday, March 31. This year we have transitioned to the Union Station Family Center. Come join us at this inaugural dinner!



You are invited to come and sing! Monte Vista Grove Hymn Sing on Tuesday, March 12 at 4 p.m. in Marwick Place. Rebecca Thompson will continue her introduction to the *Glory to God* Hymnal with a focus on Hymns for Lent. For more information please contact Huw or Rachel Christopher at <u>huwchristopher@gmail.com</u> or (850) 209-6931

One Great OGHS starts on Ash Wednesday and con SHARING OF

Wednesday and continues through Palm Sunday. A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors -in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters,

provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Calvary has multiple ways to participate.

Traditional fish banks are available to remind yourself to donate generously.



Buy a Bunny—Give a chicken



We are partnering with the Presbyterian Mission Agency to provide families with chickens, by giving chickens, we help improve the food security and livelihoods of families around the world. Stuffed bunnies will be for sale for \$25- perfect for your Easter Basket. Each stuffed bunny provides a family of chickens to 1 family.

Checks are also welcome—Just put OGHS in the memo line.

Session

Liz Daley '19 Orville Houg '19 Thorsten Hoins '19 Alex Seo '19

Carl von Bibra '20 Megan Guerrero '20 Sue Norton '20 Janet Douglas '20 James Jontz '21 Ron Schooler '21 Susan Shaver-Kane '21 Marta Renna '21

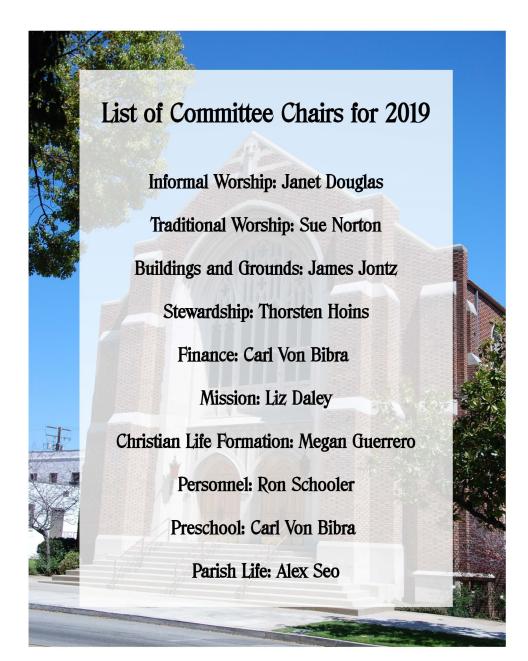
Lisa Reynolds, Clerk

Deacons

Ruth Melissa '19 Cathy Riley '19

Pat Martinez-Miller '20 Linda Kopperud '20

Nathana Schooler '21 Elizabeth von Bibra '21



At our Christmas Eve service Pastor Millason challenged us each to take a blanket from the sanctuary and to give it to someone in need. What is your blanket story?

I find the homeless issue in Los Angeles to be complicated and distressing. The problem seems so big and unanswerable! I pass many people who are sleeping on the street each day as I drive into work. I have given many of them our food bags previously, so a blanket should be easy. But it wasn't. I felt paralyzed with that blanket in my car. To whom should I give the blanket? There are so many who I pass each day. Do I just toss it to them as I drive by, or do I get out and hand it to them? What if they don't want the blanket? Will the blanket even really help them, they are homeless living on the street—they obviously really need more than a blanket, like sustainable housing, healthcare and food. I also realized that I did not really want to talk to the people sleeping on the street. I was afraid that they would want more than the blanket, they would want money, and to be honest I did not want to have that discussion. I could give them money, but I have been raised not to trust giving money to people because you do not know what they will spend it on. The blanket sat in my car...

After a discussion with a friend about her blanket experience I set a date. This would be the week that I gave away that blanket. I paid more attention each day to the people on the street. One morning I saw a new person, lying on the sidewalk at a busy bus stop. No tent, no blanket, dirty, with her head resting on a big stuffed animal. It broke my heart. I drove back around the block, took the blanket out of the car and placed it over her. As I got back into my car I said a quick prayer for her, and for all the homeless. Did I fix all her problems? No. But hope-fully that blanket will provide her with some warmth and comfort. She and the blanket were gone as I drove home that night.

Liz

Do you feel like sharing your blanket story? Email it to the office, or chat with Liz Daley.

"MountainTop Strings of California....

... is coming back on Sunday, March 10th to Calvary Presbyterian Church. The free Concert is at 4:00 p.m. followed with a Reception in Fellowship Hall. This exciting group has toured Italy and Austria in 2013, then again to Italy: Rome, Tuscany, and Venice in 2016. This a collective of youth string ensembles "which have transformed the mountains communities of Big Bear and Lake Arrowhead into a robust, thriving, and cultured musical destination for both the connoisseur and student of music".

You won't want to miss and you will want to bring some friends.





Network Partners:

Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church has been a major donor for many, many, years. We are delighted to



welcome two of their staff as members of the Angel Interfaith Network Council. Rev. Grace Park is their Associate Pastor. She has served as a children's pastor and youth pastor and has had the blessing of being able serve in urban missions with focus on the homeless and on short-term missions in both Mexico and in Central America. Pastor Hayden Rush is the Director of Student Ministries. Over the past three years Hayden has been involved working with youth in various capacities in the Palisades and surrounding neighborhoods, while completing his MA in Theology and Ministry from Fuller Seminary in Pasadena. The Pali Pres Mission Committee recently



committed an extra \$1,000 for the youth group to buy needed supplies for our patients and their families. The knitting ministry delivered basketfuls of blankets, shawls, and baby shoes and hats to Angel Interfaith Network.

The Mission Committee at Woodland Hills Presbyterian Church saw in a recent newsletter issue that we needed warm men's jackets in larger sizes and packages of underwear in various sizes. They donated a box full of packaged underwear and gently worn jackets in the most needed sizes

Those We Serve:

Brian and Elena were homeless, living under a bridge on the outskirts of Los Angeles. Elena came to the hospital, but lost her baby. The social worker requested clothing, shoes, warm jackets and blankets for both Brian and Elena. The goods were delivered at bedside and they were so grateful to receive these gifts from our gracious donors at this time of great loss.

Soraya was at the Pediatric Clinic for a follow up visit for her 2-year old son Damian. She is pregnant and has two other children and is going through a difficult time. Her social worker requested a car seat and Pampers for Damian and clothing for all three children. "Some food coupons would be nice if you have them," he added. We did and were able to meet all their needs. Soraya was so grateful that tears welled up in her eyes.

Urgent Needs:

Needs for the month are a twin bed, a refrigerator, and L-3X jackets for men and women.



www.Angelinterfaith.Net

Become a Sustaining Angel: http://angelinterfaith.net/sustainers.html

Office 323-409-6923



Presbyterian Corner

Our faith, our practice, and our roots

How can we know God?

There is really only one way to know God: that is, if God chooses to become know. We all recognize the great differences between God and humans. In the language of philosophy and theology, God is "transcendent"-over and beyond us, and infinite. Humans are limited and finite. We are humans; God is God.

This great gulf between us and God can never be bridged by human actions. We cannot storm he gates of heaven, pull back the clouds, and peer into God's face! We are on earth; God is heaven. As God said to Isaiah, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways" (Isa. 55:8). Limited human beings cannot meet God on "equal terms."

So, if we are ever to know anything about God or to "know God," it must be God who takes the initiative to become known. God must be God one to "make the first move."

Astoundingly, we Presbyterians, along with other Christians, believe God has done this! God has communicated God's own self to us. Theologically, this selfcommunication is God's "revelation." That which is hidden has been made known. The God who is greater than us in every way has chosen to communicate with humanity and to impart knowledge of who God is. Even more astonishingly, we can "know" God in the way that we say we "know" other people.

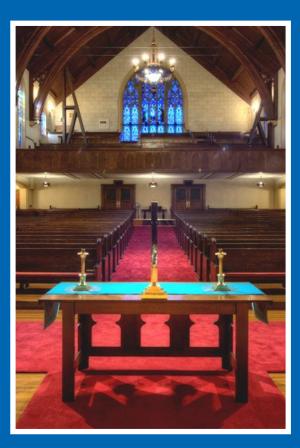
God's revelation comes in two forms. "General revelation" is the knowledge of God gathered from nature around us, or from our human minds. If we look at a sunset, we might reason that there must be a "God" behind it all. This is sometimes called "natural revelation."

Yet, any kind of knowledge gained through nature or our own minds is not enough. Even if it convinces us that is a God, it does not tell us what this God is like. Even more, sin causes humans to reject and "suppress" this knowledge gained from the visible world (Rom. 1:18-23). More is needed. So Christians believe in God's "special revelation." God is revealed to us in the Scriptures and, supremely, in Jesus Christ, the focus of God's special revelation. He is "Emmanuel" -- "God is with us." Nature or human reasoning can ever revels that! Only God can. To know God by faith this way is to look at God's "general revelation" with new eyes. Now nature around us can be see as the theater of God's glory, and now to us "the heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Ps. 19:1).

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

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30am Moms in Prayer 10am Inspired Living	2 9am Music Prepa- ration for Worship 9am Sip N Stitch 5pm Pack 7 Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10am Traditional 11am Informal 11:30m Coffee Hour 3pm Strikers	2:30pm Traditional Worship Planning 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Women of the Bible Series	7pm Women's Bible Study	10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis 5:30pm Door of Hope 7am Ash Wednes- day Service	10am Mom's Coffee 7:15pm Al Anon 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8:30am Moms in Prayer 10am Inspired Living	9am Music Prepa- ration for Worship 9am Sip N Stitch 12pm Set-up for MTS Reception
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10am Traditional 11am Informal 11:30m Coffee Hour 4pm MountainTop Stings Concert 5:30 MTS Recep- tion 6pm Ecumenical Lenten Supper in South Parlor	7pm Boy Scouts 7pm PEO Chapter GF	7pm Toastmasters 7pm Women's Bible Study	10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis	7:15pm Al Anon 7:30pm Choir	8:30am Moms in Prayer 11am Personnel Committee	9am Music Prepa- ration for Worship 9am Sip N Stitch 9:30am P.E.O State Chapter 3pm Fundraiser Show for My Refuge House
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10am Traditional 11am Informal 11:30m Coffee Hour	7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Women of the Bible Series	7pm Women's Bible Study	10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis 7pm Deacon's	10am Mom's Coffee 7:15pm Al Anon 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8:30am Moms in Prayer 10am Inspired Living	9am Music Prepa- ration for Worship 9am Sip N Stitch 7Pm Session Retreat
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9am Session Retreat 10am Traditional 11am Informal 11:30m Coffee Hour 5pm Church Fellowship	7pm Boy Scouts 7pm PEO Chapter GF	7pm Toastmasters 7pm Women's Bible Study	10am Preschool Chapel & Spring Flower Celebration 10:30am Men's Group Noon Kiwanis 7pm Mission	10 am PEO Chapter AA 5pm Embroiderer's Guild 7:15pm Al Anon 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8:30am Moms in Prayer 10am Inspired Living	9am Music Prepa- ration for Worship 9am Sip N Stitch
31 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Collabo- rative Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour						



PRAISE THE LORD WITH US! JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10 AM TRADITIONAL (SANCTUARY) 11 AM INFORMAL (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At the February Standing Meeting, Session approved the following:

- The members of 2019 Parish Life Committee
- The members of the 2019
 Mission Committee
- The members of the 2019
 Preschool Board
- The 2019 Preschool budget

February Financials

February Budgeted Income \$16,900.01 February Actual Income \$12,165.63 February Budgeted Expense \$41,087.01 February Actual Expense \$33,993.65 February Food Bank Expenses: \$0.00

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9 Am - 4pm, Monday - Friday

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CPCSOUTHPAS.ORG