

The Clarion May 2020  
Calvary Presbyterian Church



# Upcoming Events

**Church Chat**  
Join us each Wednesday from  
12pm -1 pm on Zoom

**Vacation Bible School**  
July 27th-31st.

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| ♥ Richard & Cora Freeman   | 5/3  |
| Andrew Freeman             | 5/5  |
| Fedora Saraos Schooler     | 5/5  |
| Taran Daley                | 5/5  |
| Julienne Smith             | 5/6  |
| Aliene O'Malley            | 5/7  |
| Ann Mills                  | 5/8  |
| ♥ Jonathan Saraos Schooler | 5/9  |
| ♥ Bob & Ruth Melissa       | 5/9  |
| Mike Wilson                | 5/20 |
| ♥ Ed & Marge Novasel       | 5/20 |
| Nancy Irwin                | 5/28 |
| Ruth Leong                 | 5/30 |



## Presbyterian Corner

### Our faith, our practice, and our roots.

## What is sin?

If we are created in the image of God, to represent and reflect God, the sin is our breaking of his image. Sin is the perversion and distortion of the image of God in us, so that we do not live in the type of relationship that God intended in creation. The first two chapters of the book of Genesis tell us of our creation by God. Chapter 3 is the story of sin's intrusion into the good creation.

Sin means what we are and what we do that is contrary to God.

This is sin's essential character. Presbyterians believe that sin is both our nature now as humans, our "condition," as well as the action we do (or fail to do) that are opposed to what God intends for us as humans. Whatever else is true of us, we are "not the people we should be."

There are a numbers of biblical expressions for sin. We rupture our personal relationship with God by the things we do that alienate us from our loving creator. Sin enslaves us as the human race and individuals in its addictive power. Sin as our human condition and as what we do makes us unclear and unworthy to stand in the sight of our holy and righteous creator. Sin means the pursuing of our personal goals and agendas in life, seeking our own self-interest rather than God's or the good of our neighbor. Sin also makes us guilty people in God's sight, since we have not followed either God's will or God's law for how God intends us to live. Sin may also mean that we retreat within ourselves and fail to act at times, when honoring the images of God in other persons would mean we should act in their behalf. So we 'miss the mark' and fail to be who God wants us to be. We may seek to live "my way" instead of 'God's way,' as a people who image their creator. The Bible indicates "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). The consequences of sin are to be cut off from God, and ultimately death (Rom. 6:23).

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

# Mission Co-worker updates:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Presbyterian Mission Agency made the historic decision to recall all global mission personnel. This decision was made due to the rural areas that many co-workers live in, and inadequate health care resources in their local communities.

**Esther Wakeman** and her husband Rob have decided to remain in place in Thailand. Esther had planned a trip to the United States this spring to visit her supporting churches, however when it became clear that US travel would be limited, and meeting with congregations not possible she decided to remain at Payap University. As here, her classes are going online. Esther writes “I have a huge learning curve in front of me. Please pray for wisdom and creativity. Much of what I teach is about relationships and the fundamental importance of face-to-face joyful interaction. Hmmm. How is this going to work?” To read Esther’s latest letter click here: [https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/letter/april-prayer-letter-update/?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Read+the+latest+from+Esther+Wakeman+-+Presbyterian+Mission+Agency&utm\\_campaign=Esther+Wakeman+RSS](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/letter/april-prayer-letter-update/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Read+the+latest+from+Esther+Wakeman+-+Presbyterian+Mission+Agency&utm_campaign=Esther+Wakeman+RSS). We hope to set up a ZOOM visit with Esther in lieu of her planned visit later this spring.

**David Cortes and Josey Saez** had just finished relocating from Cuba to the Dominican Republic when the ‘return home’ order came through. Josey and David choose to relocate to Puerto Rico and are now living with Josey’s sister. They hope that their location in the Caribbean will allow them to return quickly to the Dominican Republic when it is safe to do so, and also allow them to remain in the same region throughout the pandemic in order to maintain contact with their partners. Here is a link to their most recent letter, which is written from the DR prior to their return to the US. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/letter/its-been-a-journey/>

**Christopher and Nancy Zoolkoski** are in South Pasadena!! Nancy writes “We are so thankful to be here during this pandemic, so that we can be with Mom! We marvel at how God already knew and planned this, so that we “happened” to be in the U.S. when the coronavirus hit.” They remain in regular contact with their medical team in Niger who are hampered by the inability of outside medical teams to travel to Niger and assist at Galmi Hospital. Their prayer requests are for the Galmi Hospital team in Niger to stay healthy, to persevere, and to have the joy of the Lord and also that Christopher will be able to procure and ship needed supplies to the hospital in Galmi. We hope that we will be able to use the technology that we are all getting used to in order to get a live update from Nancy and Christopher about their work in Niger.

As we stated last month the Mission Committee remains committed to aiding our partners through this difficult time.

We are no longer able to cook meals in the kitchens of our partner agencies, nor can we bring home cooked meals into their facilities. This is all done to protect the health of their residents who live in more crowded conditions and who may have underlying health issues.

We are working with small family-owned restaurants to provide catered meals for our partner agencies. This method has the additional benefits of supporting these restaurants and their employees.



In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Presbyterian Hunger Program awarded Congregational Emergency Food Grants of \$1,000 to two congregations in each of PC (USA)'s 16 synods. These grants are to assist in responding to the urgent needs in your communities presented by the COVID-19 crisis. As with past crises, those struggling with poverty and food insecurity are hardest hit and PHP is thankful for ministries that serve at this time of great need.

AND.... (Drum roll please....) Calvary applied for and was given one of these grants! We are one of the two churches in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii to receive this aid. In our grant we expressed the desire to help our partners while also supporting the local economy and jobs supported by restaurants. We will use some of the money to provide meals to Door of Hope and Union Station through catering from small local restaurants. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting partnership.



I hope you have seen that our 'Little Free Library' has been temporarily converted to a 'Little Free Pantry'. This change has been noticed by our community and shown on the SPEF Facebook page, ColoradoBoulevard.net and by the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program. The pantry is utilized frequently. Some of the money from the Congregational Emergency Food Grant was designated to help us supply food for this pantry. If you want to help with this program you may purchase food on your next grocery trip and I will collect it from your home and use it to stock the pantry as needed. Contact Liz [Daley@gmail.com](mailto:Daley@gmail.com) for more information.



# Pulling out weeds

Embracing God's love in the process of pruning

*By Ashley Lynn Roque*



Memory Verse: As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

- John 15: 9

When I first was hired at Calvary, I began working in the garden. Not sure if you know this, but in front of the church there are four raised garden beds that used to be a vegetable garden. But by the time I came on board they were filled with mountains of weeds and creepy crawly things. The garden was originally inspired by the kids at Vacation Bible School and I wanted to cultivate it again to make it a resource for our community.

So I went to work. I borrowed Dean's shovel and started to dig up the weeds. I thought it was going to be easy. I mean, weeds don't have deep roots, right? Wrong! The weeds in our garden plots had grown many tiny roots and they had dug DEEP into the soil. I swung the shovel like a scythe over and over again and formed a nasty blister on my thumb in the process. It took all of my strength to break up the roots from what had grown over the years.



Memory Verse: As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

- John 15: 9



As I was breaking up these roots to make room in the soil for bok choy, tomatoes, peppers and herbs, I kept thinking about John 15.

In this passage Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches - an extension of his love and mercy to the people around us. He begins this allegory of the Christian life by talking about pruning. Jesus said that God removes every branch (or aspect of our lives) that does not bear fruit. When you think of “fruit” think of the fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

Every habit, every relationship, every activity, every response to our circumstances that does not bear good fruit or does not lead us to respond with love and self-control and goodness, we can safely say that Jesus is in the process of weeding that out. And some weeds have deeper roots within us than others.

Where is God pruning you?

In this season of disruption, let us consider how our loving God might be pruning us. What is God calling you to let go of? What is the Holy Spirit nudging you to change?

My passion for carbs has always been a “weed” in my life that I know God has been trying to pull out. I turn to bagels, bags of chips, and pasta whenever I get anxious or stressed. God has been trying to remove this “survival skill” for a long time. And that’s just what it was - a way to survive some very difficult experiences. In this season of “safer at home,” it’s been especially hard to practice new and healthier ways of handling my stress.

So I am actively working towards developing healthy practices that help me deal with my challenges instead of burying them. I often remind myself of God’s measureless love for me. God cares about my health and well being. He cares about my relationships and my sense of belonging. Most importantly, God cares about my spiritual growth. When I practice prayer and daily abiding in His love, I experience God leading me to be more centered, more at peace, and more able to handle the pressures of every day living.

Join me this May in memorizing Jesus’ words in John 15:9: “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.” May our loving God give us the courage to let go and surrender the things that do not bear good fruit in our lives. And may we also meditate on God’s measureless love in this season of our journey of faith.

# Ashley's Book Club

Embracing God's love in the process of pruning

As I begin my journey as the youth director at Calvary, I am working on getting acquainted with the experience of youth and teens today. The book *Hurt 2.0* by Chap Clark came highly recommended to me by a couple of other local youth directors. It's a great read for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and neighbors who want to better understand the lived experiences of youth today and learn how best to love and care for them. Clark does a great job helping readers understand the tension of growing out of childhood and into the complex duality of adulthood: separateness and self-assertion. Clark describes adolescence as a "drive for uniqueness (separateness) and a quest for personal autonomy (self-assertion) a desire to move toward the discovery of community, belonging and interdependence." (pg. 9).



Clark believes that youth need refocused, nurturing organizations and programs. A stable and secure loving environment and meaningful relationships with adults (pgs. 192-195). These are all things I hope to provide in the coming years at Calvary.

I can't imagine what it is like to graduate high school and attempt to enter the workforce in this age of COVID-19. I want so much to be used by God to love and care for our youth as they discover and embrace God's unique calling upon their lives. I want to help children and youth learn to lean on God in times of challenges and to rely on God's grace to carry them through.

Each month, I'll be sharing with you a book that I am reading for children and youth. Some months it will be a book for parents and caretakers. Other months, I'll suggest something specifically for children or youth. My prayer is that "Ashley's Book Club" in the Clarion will be a resource to you as you navigate the beautiful complexity of living as family in the days ahead.

Let me know if you have any books you recommend. I am always excited to learn and continually praying for more wisdom.

[ashley@cpcsouthpas.org](mailto:ashley@cpcsouthpas.org)

*If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God,  
who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you.  
- James 1:5*



# STAY CONNECTED



## Calvary Presbyterian Church Family

Private group · 38 members



About Discussion Members Events Media



What's on your mind, Ashley?  
Photo/Video Tag People Feeling/Activity

About  
Private  
Only members can see who's in the group and what they post  
Visible

You can find all of Rev. Millason's sermons and all of the Sunday worship music our choir and band is producing online on our church website, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram.

[cpcsouthpas.org](https://cpcsouthpas.org)

calvary presbyterian church

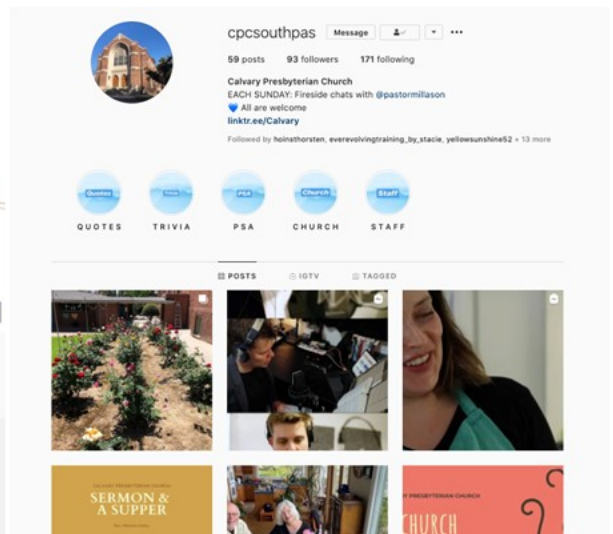
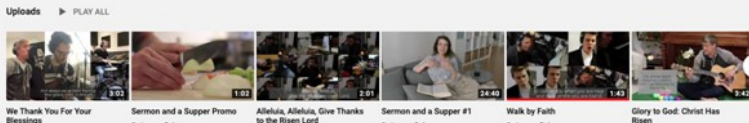
CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
South Pasadena, CA

Calvary Presbyterian Church USA

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HOME VIDEOS PLAYLISTS CHANNELS DISCUSSION ABOUT



Join us every Wednesday from 12-1pm with your favorite mug full of coffee as we chat about a virtue or challenge of the Christian life. Over the past few weeks we have discussed:

- Gratitude
- Perseverance
- Faith
- Kindness
- Dealing with Resentment

Join us each Wednesday to spend time with your Calvary Church Family!  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6759828821>  
Meeting ID: 675 982 8821





## Network Partners:

Trinity Presbyterian Church's congregation has been preparing Easter baskets for children and teenage patients at LAC+USC Medical for the past 15 years. Fortunately, they were able to shop and assemble the baskets before the COVID 19 quarantine. The virus could not stop the love and dedication of their participation in our mission of neighbor to neighbor support of our young patients. Thanks to all involved for this wonderful blessing.



Lynn Beecher delivering baskets from Trinity Presbyterian Church

Receiving baskets are Nubia Reyes and Alma Martinez, Child Life Pediatric Unit.

## Those We Serve:

**Grandma Lita** is the caretaker of her 19-month-old grandson, Danny, who is a patient at LAC+USC Medical Center. She has been having problems finding large size diapers for Danny. Her social worker also asked for diapers and pull ups and asked if we had clothing for Lita's 10-year-old daughter Elena. Angel Interfaith Network was able to meet both of these request because of our generous donors and partners, Baby 2 Baby and the Violence Intervention Program.

**Orlando** is an oncology patient who is unable to support his family while undergoing treatment. His social worker asked for Ensure as Orlando cannot have solid food and for food coupons for his wife and children. AIN was able to provide a gift card for Target for Ensure and food cards for the family thanks to our donors.

**Christy** was born prematurely and weighed only three pounds. Her mother was not prepared for Christy's early arrival, so the Social Worker requested a baby basket. The family was having financial difficulties, so food coupons were requested, as well. AIN was able to deliver both to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) where Mom sat at baby's bedside in a wheel chair and cried tears of gratitude and concern for the future of her newborn.

## Urgent Needs:

Infant car seats  and Pack 'n Play,  which are used as bassinets and cribs. Men's clothing up to 5X - Used is OK. 



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

# MAY 2020

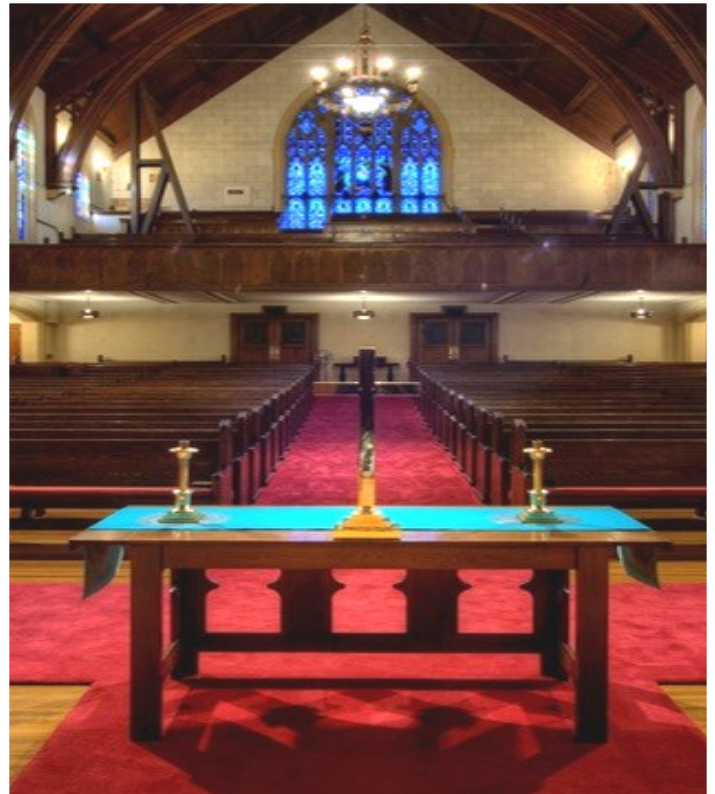
| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY                                | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
|   |   |   |   |  | 1<br>10:30am Staff Meeting            | 2<br>9am Music Preparation for Worship<br>9am Sip N Stitch                             |
| 3<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>Palm Sunday<br>10am Traditional<br>11am Informal<br>11:30m Coffee Hour           | 4<br>7pm Boy Scouts<br>2:30 Traditional Committee | 5<br>7pm Women's Bible Study                      | 6<br>10:30am Men's Group<br>Noon Kiwanis                          | 7<br>8:30am Moms in Prayer<br>10am Mom's Coffee  | 8<br>9:15 am Pre-school Staff Meeting | 9<br>8am Boy Scouts Yard Sale<br>9am Music Preparation for Worship<br>9am Sip N Stitch |
| 10<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>10am Traditional<br>11am Informal<br>11:30m Coffee Hour<br>12pm Session Meeting | 11<br>7pm Boy Scouts<br>7pm P.E.O. Chapter GF     | 12<br>7pm Women's Bible Study<br>7pm Toastmasters | 13<br>10:30am Men's Group<br>Noon Kiwanis                         | 14<br>8:30am Moms in Prayer<br>7:15pm AI Anon<br>7:30pm Choir                                | 15<br>4pm Personnel Committee         | 16<br>9am Music Rehearsal<br>9am Sip N Stitch  |
| 17<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>10am Traditional<br>11am Informal<br>11:30m Coffee Hour                         | 18<br>7pm Boy Scouts                              | 19<br>7pm Women's Bible Study                     | 20<br>10:30am Men's Group<br>Noon Kiwanis<br>7pm Deacon's Meeting | 21<br>8:30am Moms in Prayer<br>10am Mom's Coffee<br>7:15pm AI Anon<br>7:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 22                                    | 23<br>9am Music Rehearsal<br>9am Sip N Stitch  |
| 24<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>10am Traditional<br>11am Informal<br>11:30m Coffee Hour                         | 25<br>7pm Boy Scouts<br>7pm P.E.O. Chapter GF     | 26<br>7pm Women's Bible Study<br>7pm Toastmasters | 27<br>10:30am Men's Group<br>Noon Kiwanis<br>7pm Mission Meeting  | 28<br>8:30am Moms in Prayer<br>7:15pm AI Anon<br>7:30pm Choir Rehearsal                      | 29                                    | 30   |
| 31<br>8:30am Choir Rehearsal<br>10am Traditional<br>11am Informal<br>11:30m Coffee Hour                         |   |   |   |  |                                       |  |

**All calendar**

**events are**

**cancelled until**

**further notice.**



## April Financials

April Budgeted Income \$16,066.67  
April Actual Income \$15,450.00  
April Budgeted Expense \$37,037.38  
April Actual Expense \$51,678.00  
April 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.

## There was no Session Meeting in April



Calvary Presbyterian Church  
1050 Fremont Avenue  
South Pasadena, CA 91030  
(626) 799-7148  
[www.cpcsouthpas.org](http://www.cpcsouthpas.org)

Sunday Worship:  
Traditional: 10 am in the Sanctuary  
Informal: 11 am in Fellowship Hall

The Rev. Millason Dailey  
[millason@cpcsouthpas.org](mailto:millason@cpcsouthpas.org)

Maribel Valadez  
Office Administrator  
[cpc.southpas@gmail.com](mailto:cpc.southpas@gmail.com)

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