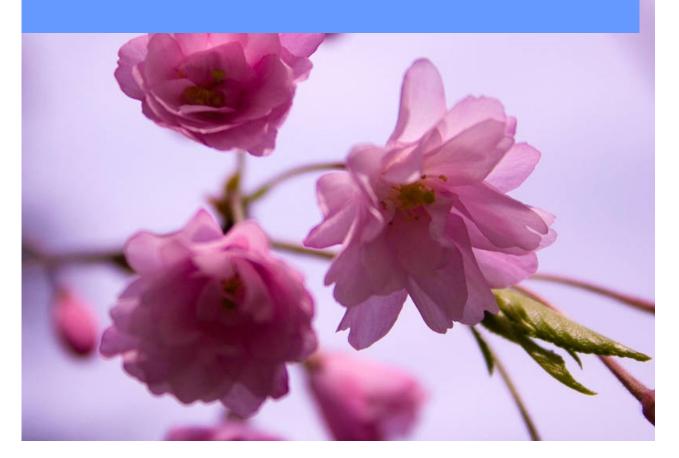
The Clarion April 2022

Calvary Presbyterian Church

A community worshiping, growing, and service together



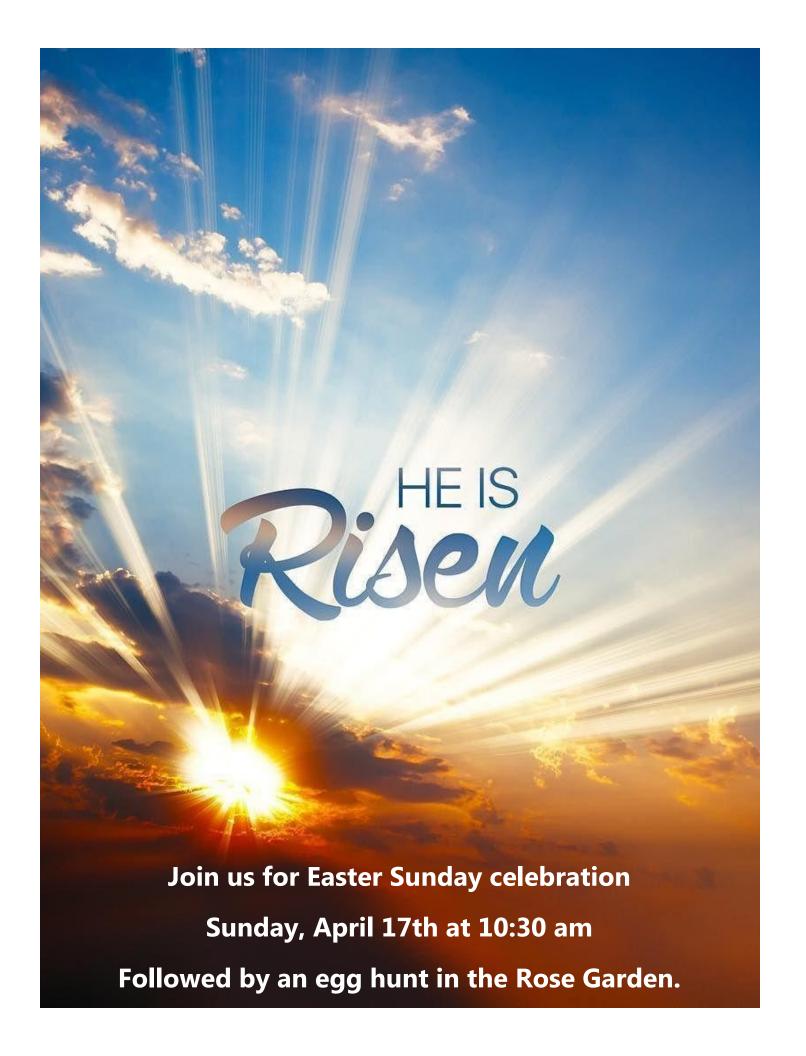
Upcoming Events

Easter Sunday Sunday, April 17th 10:30 am followed by and Easter egg hunt

in the Rose Garden.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Maxfield Dube	4/6
Devon Douglas	4/9
Jeff Bruce	4/10
Donna Heselbarth	4/15
Kelly Douglas	4/16
Lorenz von Bibra	4/16
Cynthia Zack	4/26
Reiko Furuta	4/26





Presbyterian Corner Our faith, our practice, and our roots.

Why Presbyterians churches put such a stress on Christian education?

When Jesus was asked "which commandment in the law is the greatest?" he replied, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matt.22:37;Mark 12:30; Luke:10:27). In this Jesus was indicating that we are to bring to our faith in God the best though and understanding of which we are capable, and we are to use all our intellectual capabilities to serve in our love for God.

Our Presbyterian tradition has taken this perspective seriously, and has historically stressed education generally, theological education for clergy and Christian education in the church for laity, very strongly. John Calvin began the Genevan Academy, which educated citizens and clergy. Churches in out tradition have been active in establishing colleges and universities. Local Presbyterian churches in the United States have long-established Sunday school programs as well as other innovative educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults. We emphasize education because we believe that, as the twentieth-century theologian Karl Barth put it, "The knowledge of God is the service of God." As we learn of God, we are also serving God. Another way to see this is in terms of a theological motto that is part of our Presbyterian tradition. It is inherited from Augustine, during the period of the early church. We believe that "faith leads to understanding." Our faith in Jesus Christ inevitably propels us into wanting to learn more of Christ, of God's actions, and of what is revealed in Holy Scripture. So we stress Bible study, theological study, and the whole panorama of topics that will help us better understand God, the world, humanity, and all that God does. We believe children of Christian parents should embark on a lifetime of learning, particularly learning about the fullness of Christian faith. Adult Presbyterians also have strong responsibilities to grow in their faith by seeking further understanding. Without the stimulus of new ideas and perceptions, our Christian faith can stagnate and not be all it can be. Christians education in the church enhances our faith and lead us even farther into obeying Jesus' prescriptions to love God "with all our minds."

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

What is Right With the Church

I have made it a regular part of my ministry to speak openly and honestly about the Church and the challenges the Church faces in the world in our present age. I have not hesitated to speak up about the misdeeds of the Church and the need for reforms in both her thoughts and actions. The Church is made up of people and people are complicated and messy, so it should be no surprise to any of us when the Church makes mistakes. Likewise it should never be taboo to address such things together. Even so, there are many things to praise the Church for and that is what I want to share with you in this month's reflection.

What the Church has done for me:

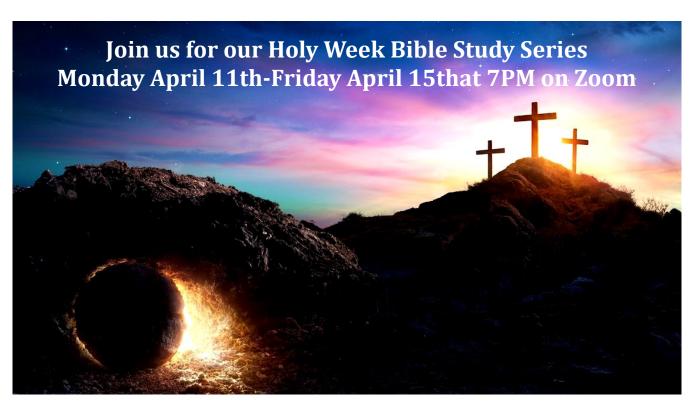
- 1. The Church gave me a family when my family was disintegrating. My childhood was pretty chaotic. My parents divorced and any sense of security I had as a 6 year old child was shattered. Amid the hostility between my parents, I found myself isolated within my home. The Church stepped in to make sure that I always had what I needed, but they did something even more profoundly impacting; they gave me a place to belong. There is a reason that Christians refer to one another as "Brothers and Sisters", there is a recognition that we are bound to one another through thick and thin. Like any family, we are not perfect, but we continually bear witness to the deep truth that God, our Father always has our back. I cannot always feel God's arms of love around me and when those times came, there were always people who would place an arm around my shoulder that I *could* feel. The Church raised me.
- 2. The Church gave me the Scriptures; faithfully preserved and wrestled with for millennia. In turn, the Scriptures gave me a "Big Picture" worldview and a real sense of purpose. Most importantly, the Scriptures have given me a sense of identity; that I am not an insignificant drop of water in an endless ocean, rather I am a deeply loved and gifted person made in the image of God.
- 3. The Church taught me to serve rather than to be served. In this way, the Church saved me from the endless spiritual vacuum of a life wasted on selfishness.
- 4. The Church encouraged a life of faith. My physical eyes can only see so much, but the eyes of faith see deeper realities that are even more real than what appears in front of me. This is a huge help in the inevitable necessity of moving through the challenges of life without giving in to the paralyzing power of fear.
- 5. The Church has given me hope, because the Church is still doing all of these things for countless others, all over the globe, all the time. I believe the world can be changed because, of how *my* world was changed. So wherever there is war, I find the Church ministering in the trenches and speaking out against violence and injustice. Wherever there is famine, I see the Church actively feeding the hungry. Wherever there is suffering, the Church is there easing the pain. Wherever people

are sick, I see the Church bringing healing to the whole person, body and soul. Where people are alone, I see the Church offering companionship.

For all of these reasons, I will never leave the Church. I will continue, at times, to criticize, but only because I know what the Church can be. It is out of the deepest love for the Church that I might challenge her. So if you read or hear me do so and are tempted to think that I am advocating the rejection of the Church, nothing could be more woefully misunderstood. The Church is not the organizational/denominational thing that is so easy to dismiss. The Church is not those beautiful buildings that remind us of some bygone golden era. The Church is the living, breathing and life sharing community of faithful Christians who have given their lives over to God and have partnered with God in redeeming the world. The Church is something worth being a part of.

Keep Shining,

Reece



Zoom Meeting

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6759828821

Meeting ID: 675 982 8821

Millason's Book Club

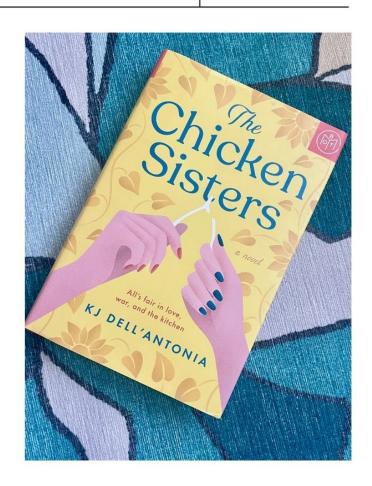
April 2022

The Chicken Sisters

The response to Millason's Book Club has been really overwhelming, so from the bottom of my heart: thank you! Last month, several of you approached me after reading *Nine Perfect Strangers*. Some of you loved it. Some of you hated it, and if I had to guess, some of you also loved to hate it!

My intent with the book club isn't to always share books that I love or that I am deeply convinced that you will love too. Rather, my intent is to share books that left me thinking for days afterwards, and books that I dislike sometimes do that as equally as books that I adore.

To be honest, I'm not exactly sure how I feel about our April 2022 book, *The Chicken Sisters* by KJ Dell'Antonia. When I picked up this book, I thought that it would be a home run with me... a book about fried chicken and the love of cooking! But it actually ended up having very little to do with the culinary arts and ended up being about as much more. Namely, the challenges we experience in childhood that we



carry with us as adults. So I guess you can say that I didn't dislike *The Chicken Sisters*. It simply wasn't the story that I was anticipating.

Just like *Nine Perfect Strangers*, the story is told from multiple perspectives; this time oscillating between two sisters and their experience of the same family, the same food, the same broken

relationships.

I don't want to create any spoilers, but what I ended up appreciating most about *The Chicken Sisters* was the lesson it taught about storytelling. Sometimes we tell a story once, uncertain of its accuracy, and that story gets repeated and then repeated again until

what was once considered speculation now becomes fact. .We do this often in life, attest to the historicity of something with checking first. *The Chicken Sisters* teaches us the dangerous consequences that come from such practices.

Let me know what you think.



Hello, Calvary Pres!

My name is Katie Rosenson, and I am honored to be returning to Calvary as your Director of Children's & Youth Ministries for the next year. As some of you may remember, I served as the summer intern for three years at CPC while I was in college. I absolutely loved getting to know and work with you back then, and

I am so excited to be back!

As some of you know, I was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs and grew up in an interfaith family. I received my BA in English and Philosophy of Religion from Belmont University in Nashville, TN. In college, in addition to interning at Calvary, I also served as the Pastoral Intern at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville, NC, and I served as the Intern for Adult Education at West-

minster Presbyterian Church in Nashville. Since we last saw each other, I have been attending Princeton Theological Seminary. I will graduate in May with a Master of Divinity degree, and over the next year, I will continue in the final steps of my ordination process. During seminary, I have worked as both the Youth Leader and the Children's Ministry Lead at Hopewell Presbyterian Church in Hopewell, NJ, and I served as the Intern, then Program Coordinator and Social Media Manager at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale, AZ. I have two wonderful parents, two older sisters, and two puppies I call my own (though my mother would argue that point, as they live with my parents).

Thank you all for the opportunity to work with you again. I will be working remotely with youth and volunteers from March to May as I finish graduate school, but for those of you I haven't met in the past, I hope to meet you when I am back in person starting in June. For those of you I've had the pleasure of getting to know previously, I look forward to seeing you again and catching up on the last three years! Feel free to drop by my office anytime to say hello. I'm so excited to see where God takes us over the next year.

Blessings,

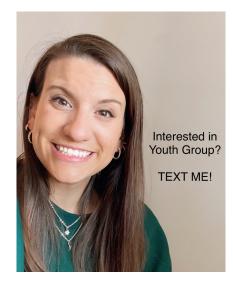
Katie Rosenson

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

Join Katie on Zoom April 3rd at 3pm to brainstorm ideas for the youth program and tell her what YOU want out of the youth group! Feel free to email her at kjrosenson@gmail.com or text her at 847-778-1493 with any questions, concerns, or just to say hi!

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6759828821? pwd=QlpSNHdsT2Q4U2prUUZHMVNmVmJvQT09



Meeting ID: 675 982 8821

Wishing all of our Angel Interfaith Network Family a very Happy Easter.

May it bring you Smiles, Happiness, and Memories to treasure.

Network Partners:

This month we give thanks and celebrate you, our Angel Interfaith Network Family, for the many wonderful partnerships. Because of you, we were able to provide amazing items for babies and children. We want to update you on what Angel Interfaith Network has been doing.

In the last year, AIN provided 1,197 patients and their families assistance with the following:

Food Cards: \$ 23,285

Rental Assistance: \$ 17,600

Utility Assistance: \$ 3,150

Total \$ 44,035



We are grateful to the many individuals and faith communities throughout Southern California that donate money and needed items for many of the families we serve. All of this good is made possible because of your partnership.

Those We Serve: Elena has been battling Cancer for several years and is now bed bound. She is a single parent to two teenagers that love and care for her. Her illness keeps her from working and family members juggle odd jobs to keep the household together. Doctors recommended she improve her nutrition. Due to the financial challenges, Elena's social worker referred her to Angel Interfaith Network for assistance. Thanks to your donations, we were able to provide this family with food cards to help with her dietary needs.

Urgent Needs:

Sustaining Angels

As we continue to work with LAC+USC Chaplains, Social Workers and our community partners, we recognize a shift in the challenges LAC+USC patients are facing. Angel Interfaith Network is getting more requests related to housing and food insecurity, as such, we would like to grow in our ability to respond to these needs. This can be made possible with the help of our Sustaining Angels.

Sustaining Angels are individuals and/or organizations who have committed to making regular monthly or an annual donation to Angel Interfaith Network. Their consistent giving enables us to know that we will be able to meet the urgent needs that are referred to us.

Please consider joining our Circle of Angels, most of our Sustaining Angels have found it easiest to sign up on our web page (www.angelinterfaith.net) and have their donations forwarded monthly. These funds are kept in a designated AIN account at St. Camillus Center, whose 501c3 makes the contributions income tax deductible.

For info, please email: office@AngelInterfaith.net or call 323-409-6923

ELDERS

Class of 2022 Thorsten Hoins Ben Furuta Alex Seo

Class of 2023 Liz Daley Ben De Leon Ron Schooler

Class of 2024
Carl von Bibra
Linda Kopperud
Pat Martinez-Miller

DEACONS

Class of 2022 Cathy Riley May Smith

Class of 2023 Ruth Melissa Nathana Schooler

Class of 2024 Margaret von Bibra Tony Garcia

March Financials

March Budgeted Income \$12,583.33
March Actual Income \$6,176.63
March Budgeted Expense \$36,469.03
March Actual Expense \$41,355.32
March Food Bank Expenses: \$0.0

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



Join your church family online each Sunday at 10:30 am here:

http://calvarypres.online.church/

To see more of Rev. Millason Dailey's sermons check out on our <u>Messages page</u>.

You can also subscribe to our YouTube page for all of the latest from our church.

Calvary Presbyterian
Church

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The Rev. Millason Dailey millason@cpcsouthpas.org

Maribel Valadez
Office Administrator
cpc.southpas@gmail.com
Office hours are remote only



Praise The LORD with us!
Join us in-Person Worship!
Every Sunday at 10:30 am
in the Sanctuary

Online Visit us at www.cpcsouthpas.org/messages

Calvary Presbyterian Church

At Calvary Presbyterian Church, Christ meets community: Welcomes Everyone, Deepens Faith, Sends All ... to love and serve as Jesus did.

STAFF

The Reverend Millason Dailey, Pastor Beau Wammack, Worship Leader Luis Rivas, Sexton Mike Wilson, Director of Music Meredith Stoner, Bookkeeper Maribel Valadez, Office Administrator

Reece Lemmon, Director of Spiritual Life & Service Katie Rosenson, Director of Children & Youth The Reverend Dr. P.A. Castellano, Pastor Emeritus

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