The Clarion March 2021

Calvary Presbyterian Church

A community worshiping, growing, and service together



Upcoming Events

Lenten Studies

Wednesday evenings at 7 pm with Ashley Sundays mornings at 11:30 am with Reece

Inspired Women Group

Beginning on March 16th Tuesday night 7-8:30 on Zoom

Palm Sunday Picnic March 28 at 12PM

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Patricia von Bibra	3/2	Pat Castellano	3/18	
Peggy Ingraham	3/2	Chelsea Reynolds	3/18	
Bruce Irwin	3/5	Katherine Gutschow	3/20	
Tyler Zack	3/6	Bob & Diane Wilken	3/20	
James Jontz	3/7	Elene Perry	3/25	
Fon Leong	3/10	Bob Wilken	3/26	
Millason Dailey	3/14	Ruth Melissa	3/31	
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Presbyterian Corner Our faith, our practice, and our roots.



What is the Holy Spirit's role in evangelism?

Presbyterians strongly affirm the primary role of the Holy Spirit in evangelism. Typically we define evangelism as the sharing of the "evangel," or the gospel, of Jesus Christ. The "good news" of the reign of God that Jesus Christ proclaimed during his ministry (Matt. 9:35; 10:7) is the "good new of God that Jesus Christ" himself (Mark 1:1), in his life, death, and resurrection (2 Cor. 10:14). This gospel was proclaimed by the early apostles (Acts 8:25; 14:7) and is the message of God's grace in Jesus Christ (Acts 20:24) to be shared with the whole world (Matt. 28:18-20).

We believe we come to believe this message of the gospel through the illuminating work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit give us the gift of faith that transforms our lives. The Spirit opens our hearts and minds, turning them from the enslaving power of sin to embrace the promises of God's loving grace and mercy in Jesus Christ. The spirit makes us a "new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17), regenerates or renews us (Titus 3:5), and sanctifies us, so we can grow in faith (2 Thess. 2:13). "Through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness" (Gal. 5:5).

Presbyterian theology has always recognized that what happens when we share the gospel of Jesus Christ in evangelism does so by the work of the Holy Spirit. When people believe in Jesus Christ, repent of their sins, experience conversion, and being to walk in a new direction in a life of love and service to Jesus Christ—they do so because the Holy Spirit has been at work. We trust the Spirit to bring forth faith and new life. It is the Spirit who "converts" people—never a preacher! The Holy Spirit brings the truth of the gospel "home" to us and enables us to receive the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ by faith.

It is important to recognize this primacy of the Spirit in evangelism. This perspective enables us to realized that the results of our efforts to spread the gospel rest with the Spirit. The church proclaims the gospel as vigorously and faithfully as we can. But it is ultimately the Holy Spirt who enables our witness to Jesus Christ to bring faith and new life. This comforts us, but also challenges us to be energetic, innovative, and joyful. For we realize that God can and does use our efforts to bring the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ into the lives of others.

Mission updates

The Little Free Pantry ---that was created almost 1 year ago when we removed books from the Little Free Library to help feed our neighbors is going strong! Ashley has placed CPC homegrown vegetables there. People visit it frequently throughout the day either to place supplies inside or to take needed items. It seems that there is currently a great deal of need in South Pasadena that may not be overtly visible. It has found community support with people who fill it regularly and even has a strong Facebook following! The pantry is a great ambassador from our church to the South Pasadena community. Please consider supporting this ministry and contact the office if you would like food picked up from your house.

Union Station Dinners---We are continuing to serve at Union Station and delivered a home cooked dinner on January 31st to the Family Center. Residents received meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and cookies for dessert. (Vegetarian options were also made) All the food was homecooked by church families and then gathered and delivered together. Our next dinner will be on April 25th. Please let the office know if you would be willing to cook a portion of this meal.

Reverse Advent Food Boxes ---have been collected and distributed. One box went directly to a family known to our church. The others were split between the little free pantry and Crossroads Women. A supply of hygiene items and beauty product gift bags that had been donated were also donated to Crossroads.

The **Benevolence Fund** aided 3 people recently. One was a SP neighbor who reached out to the church for aid, one was referred by a church member, and the third was a person experiencing homelessness who was eating lunch from the Little Free Pantry as I happened to stop by to stock it.



in a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression

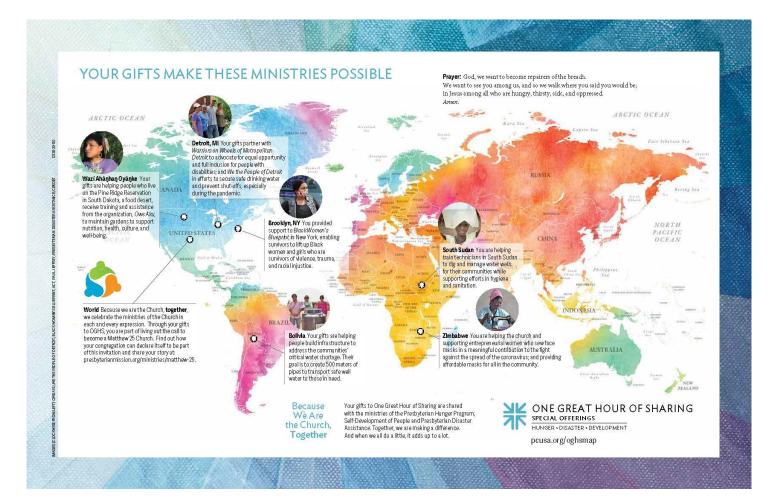
Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Request your Fish Bank (or envelope) from the church office and bring it back to church on Palm Sunday during the Palm Parade, filled with coins.

(Checks or online giving also greatly appreciated!)









Mission Market Thank you Notes

Dear members of Calvary Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of the SGP Living Waters for the World team I want to thank you for the generous gift from your mission fair to the LWW ministry of \$1995.00. We look forward to the day when we can resume this ministry work in Peru and appreciate your financial support of it! Before the pandemic kept us at home we had two different sites in Peru that we were evaluating for water systems. We expect to continue our work with them once it is safe to travel again. The SGP LWW team has been blessed to have Pat Martinez-Miller as part of this ministry for the last several years and we invite others to join us in the future. Please do consider this invitation. We'd love to have more LWW team members.

Thanks again for your gift supporting clean water systems in Peru!

In peace,

Wendy Gist

Mission Advocate, San Gabriel Presbytery

Your generosity is a symbol of hope, love, support, and belief that anyone and can stand on their own. Thank you for giving children living in SGV Habitat homes the opportunity to dream big and thrive.

Dear Lisa,

Thank you for Calvary Presbyterian Church's \$905

donation! Your church is making it possible for
more families to have their own safe and decent

place to call home! Thank you for your partnership

n creaning affordable homeownership opportunines.

If you have any questions about SGV Habitat, please don't
hesitate to give me a call!

With grapitude,

Julianna

Thank You!

February 9, 2021

Lisa M. Reynolds Calvary Presbyterian Church 1050 Fremont Ave South Pasadena, CA 91030-3225

Donation information on back of page

Dear Lisa M. Reynolds,

Your gift to San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity is making it possible for more families to access safe, and decent and affordable housing.

These are families like Macha and Melissa's, who spent ten years moving constantly in their search for an affordable place to live. For them, owning a safe and stable home seemed like an unattainable dream.



"We sometimes ended up in much lessthan-ideal living conditions with mold infestations and exposure to lead," Macha remarked, "It was difficult to build a stable home for our two kids."

Now, as Habitat homeowners, they have a safe place for their children to grow and thrive.

"Owning a home has provided stability for our children. It has placed us in a community of families that deeply care and are invested in our children's lives as they grow. Within the walls of our home, our children experience safety. This is a gift beyond measure."

Thanks to you, more families like Macha and Melissa's will experience safety and stability through affordable homeownership. Thank you!

In partnership for all needing housing,

Frances Hardy

Frances Mondy

Director of Development





Crossroads Fundraiser

http://www.crossroadswomen.org/

For 45 years, Crossroads has provided HOPE and HOME for previously incarcerated women. Their vision is for these women to THRIVE in the larger community.

Sometimes, people need more than a second chance. It takes time, preparation and resources to be able to fully take advantage of opportunities. But when the time comes for that person to make a change, their belief is that we, as a community, need to be ready to journey along with that person in order to make those changes within that person's life

Calvary has partnered with Crossroads for several years; from eating their homemade jam, to chatting with Sister Terry at the mission market to delivering food for them during the pandemic. The youth have worked on their home over mission week and Sip and Stitch has granted them many handmade blankets.

We have a new way to partner with them this spring. Crossroads is opening a new home and needs funds to cover these costs. They are hosting a "Walking Home Virtual Walk" fundraiser. There are 2 ways to give support.

- 1. Sister Terry is walking the 15 miles from the California Institution for Women in Corona to the Crossroads home on March 14th. They are looking for groups to sponsor each mile for \$1000. I challenge us to raise the money to support Sister Terry for one of her miles. This money will go straight to Crossroads in support of their programs. Calvary will have the added benefit of being listed as a sponsor in publications and on the website. Please send a check or make an online donation to help us raise this money. Remember to designate it "Crossroads".
- 2. You can join the virtual walk. Between March 14 -March 28 you can support Crossroads by having your own Walk. https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Claremont/CrossroadsWomenWelcomeHome5KVirtualRace

Click the "Sign up now" button and Join the Calvary Presbyterian Church team. You can choose to walk any thing from 1 mile to 15 miles and best of all you have 14 days to complete your walk!! (You do not have to do it all in one day) (And it is on the honor system) The cost to register is \$40 and please remember that this is separate from the money that Calvary is raising to sponsor one of Sister Terry's miles.

For those who want to meet up—outdoors and safely distanced—we can plan some walk together time.

Please contact Liz Daley if you have questions about either of these options for supporting Crossroads.



Journey to the Cross

BY ASHLEY LYNN ROQUE

This Lenten season, I want to invite you to journey with me through the healings, teachings, and tensions of Jesus of Nazareth. I firmly believe we must embrace the healing of Christ in our own lives before we can become open to His teachings. Spending time with Christ and the tension he brought to the Jewish leaders and surrounding community will help prepare our hearts for Holy Week.

The first two weeks of Lent will be centered on the healings of Jesus. As you read his miracles, pray about where you might need healing in your own life. Healing begins with acceptance. We must accept our past, our mistakes, and other people if we are to find healing and serenity in any season. Join me as I journey to the cross by reading through the Gospels this Lenten season. May God bless you this Lenten season with a greater experience of serenity.



Week of March 1st

Mathew 5 - 7 (Reread these chapters as much as you can this week)

Week of March 8th

Mark 4:1-20 Matthew 13 Luke 10:25-37 Luke 12:13-34 Matthew 18

Your rock is Christ, and it is not the Rock which ebbs and flows, but your sea. - Samuel Rutherford

Week of March 22nd

Matthew 21:1-27 Mark 11-12 Matthew 23 John 13-17 Luke 22

Passion Week

Matthew 26:31-56 John 18:1-38 Luke 23 John 19 Matthew 27



"It would be hard to exaggerate the magnitude of the changes that have taken place as a result of the cross, both in God and in us, especially God's dealings with us and in our relations with him. Truly, when Christ died and was raised from death, a new day dawned, a new age began."

JOHN STOTT

DEVELOPING RESILIENCE

BY ASHLEY LYNN ROQUE

HOW TO GROW RESILIENT BEFORE IT IS NEEDED

In our group "Making Spaces," we spent one Wednesday talking about the virtue of resilience. How do we get back up after defeat? How do we try again after an experience of failure, after messing up? Developing resilience in struggle and hardship is one of the most important skills we can have. Surprising to many, it's a skill that one can develop long before they actually need it.

One of my favorite podcasts is the Jocko Podcast. Jock is an intimidating man, full of wisdom on life and leadership. He is also a veteran. One of Jocko's most popular messages is found in a video called "Good." In this video, Jocko talks about a discussion he had with a subordinate. He tells Jocko about something positive that happened, and Jocko's response is "Good." Then he tells Jocko about something negative that happened and Jocko's response is still "Good." Jocko goes on to say:

"Didn't get the new high-speed gear we wanted? Good. Didn't get the promotion? Good. More time to get better. Oh, the mission got canceled? Good. We can focus on another one. Didn't get funded? Didn't get the job you wanted? GOOD. Unexpected problems? GOOD. We have the opportunity to figure out a solution." Jocko explains that everything that happens whether good or bad can be for our good if we only shift our perspective. When hardship and frustration come, we must learn to focus on how we can grow and develop with our circumstances. What is good for us is not always apparent. Each "bad thing" that happens is an opportunity to recalibrate, re-engage and grow.

Jocko's perspective is a helpful state of mind. His words remind me of a passage in James that says "My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing." – James 1:2-4 NRSV

I believe that God is not calling us to be superhuman – unfazed by the hurt and pain of life. We are not called to be robotic, less human people. I believe God is calling all of us through the passage of James to develop resilience by allowing hard things to grow and develop us. Not one of us has reached perfection. And no matter our age, we can all grow mentally and emotionally stronger.

How does one develop this precious virtue of resilience? Do hard things. Sign up for voluntary hardship. Sign up for events, races, courses, tasks that are physically and emotionally demanding. Doing that which is hard and sticking with it despite the challenges develops within us mental toughness. And this kind of mental toughness can prepare us for when the real hardship hits.

Here are a few of my ideas about how to develop inner emotional strength and resilience.

- **Sign up for a boot camp.** High-intensity training is bound to develop your mind and body.

- Learn a new skill that has nothing to do with helping others.

 Learn something new and challenging just for yourself. I started to learn woodworking recently and at first, I got really frustrated. After a while, I finally learned to be patient and to stick with it and the process been so rewarding.
- Challenge yourself to walk or hike a certain number of miles.
- **Sign up for a sport.** Endurance sports can help you build inner and physical strength as you run, bike or swim (or all three!) for long periods of time.
- **Sign up for public speaking** For some people, public speaking is anxiety-inducing and it can require a lot of resilience to keep trying.

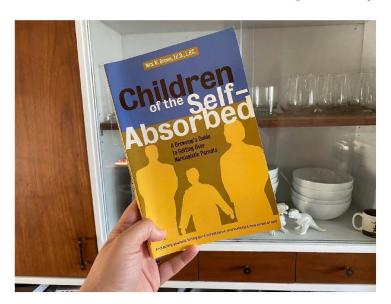
A couple of things to consider: It is important that you do not avoid the sting of failure. We give participant trophies to children because we don't want them to feel bad about losing. This probably evolved came from an effort to avoid meltdowns with preschoolers. But as children get older, it is important that they learn it's okay to fail. Just like adults, children need to learn that failure isn't always the end. We must pick ourselves back up, assess where we need to grow and move forward.

Another thing to consider is if you sign up for a sport, don't quit because it gets too hard or you dislike the coach. Learn to endure despite the circumstances. Building resilience is about getting comfortable with failure and messing up. It's about growing tolerant of the time it takes to change, develop and build new skills.

Finally, resilience is not about competing or becoming indomitable. Resilience is about enduring change, both physically and emotionally and trusting that God will help us through. It's about understanding you do have what it takes to do hard things. It's about learning to trust in the sovereign grace of God no matter what you feel physically and emotionally. Embrace the change. Sign up for it and let endurance have "its full effect in you" as God molds you into someone deeply resilient.

ASHLEY'S BOOK CLUB

Books on Growth, Connection and Spirituality



CHILDREN OF THE SELF-ABSORBED: THE GROWNUP'S GUIDE TO GETTING OVER NARCISSISTIC PARENTS

by Nina W. Brown

Parenting is one of the hardest things anyone will ever do. It can also be the most difficult thing anyone will ever do. We tend to look at parenting along the lines of whether or not we are feeding our kids nutritious food and providing enough opportunities for them to excel in school. But we often struggle with looking at how we actually relate to our children and how our behavior might affect them.

This month, I am reading Nina W. Brown's book titled "Children of the Self-Absorbed: A Grownup's Guide to Getting Over Narcissistic Parents." According to Brown, "[p]arents with a destructive narcissistic pattern will have behaviors and attitudes that are designed to preserve a self-image of perfection, entitlement and superiority. For the child's entire life, the parent-child relationship was reversed, and the child, even after attaining adulthood, is expected to "accept blame and criticism, automatically know what the parent wants or needs, admire the parent and give unlimited attention, never offend the parent," among other things. She also claims that "[a]dult children of parents who have a destructive narcissistic pattern will continue to feel the impact of their parent's behavior and attitudes and continue to suffer reactions that are perplexing to them as they are distressing." I know this is not easy to think about. It is difficult to even consider an issue like this.





Children of the Self-Absorbed

But if we are to live the abundant life of Christ is calling us to, we must examine the thought patterns and behaviors that might be holding us back.

In her book, Brown outlines patterns in toxic parenting and offers suggestions for adult children on how to cope.

To help us think about how we were raised, Brown asks us to consider if Our parents:

- Constantly criticized us
- Blamed us for their discomfort
- Made us responsible for their physical and/or emotional well-being
- Expected us to admire them and give them constant attention
- Insisted everything is done their way
- Felt we should anticipate their needs and desires and fulfill them
- Became easily offended
- Ignored, minimized, or discount your feelings
- Made mean comments about you.

When we experience tension in thinking through these issues, consider the words of our Lord: I, "I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10). It's difficult to live an abundant life if we are struggling to cope with a narcissistic parent or we ourselves are a narcissistic parent. If we are constantly criticizing our children or adult children if we make them responsible for our physical and emotional well-being then we should consider the ramifications of our behavior. Brown offers many coping strategies on how to deal with this kind of narcissistic behavior.

If this topic hits close to home, I want to encourage you to remember that God loves you unconditionally. No matter where we are on our journey of faith, we can approach parenting with humility and a heart full of God's grace. Our Heavenly Father is always ready to help us grow or change into the parent we are called to be.



Patients and their families may believe that they've had a little "Good Luck" when Angel Interfaith Network is able to meet an urgent need, but we all know that it is really aware and compassionate social workers, dedicated medical staff, chaplains and all of you donors who provide funds and goods that have made life a little easier.

Network Partners:

This month we give thanks for the continued support from 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 (<u>www.angelinterfaith. net</u>) and have PayPal forward their donations monthly. These funds are kept in a designated AIN account at St. Camillus Center, whose 501c3 makes the contributions income tax deductible.

Those We Serve:

A referral from the St. Camillus Spiritual Care Team, **Luis** is a single father of 3 that lost his job and only source of income due to contacting Covid19. He is not eligible for unemployment benefits and has no access to community resources. He rents a room in which he and his 3 children stay. Unfortunately, due to his recent illness, he has fallen behind on rent and has no access to community resources. Thanks to our donors, Angel Interfaith was able to provide Luis with rental assistance and food cards for groceries.

Luis was thankful for the assistance and remains optimistic that he will overcome this current situation.

Mary came to Angel Interfaith as a referral from a Social Worker. She is currently battling Cancer resulting in her being unable to continue working. She does not qualify for Disability benefits and at the present time, her husband is unemployed due to the Covid19 restrictions. Having fallen behind on her rent due to her medical condition, Angel Interfaith provided her with financial assistance towards her rent and provided her with food cards for her and her husband.

Urgent Needs:









Plus Size Clothing



Men's Gently Used Tennis Shoes Sizes 10 & up



Food Gift Cards

If you have merchandise to donate please coordinate delivery via email at: **office@AngelInterfaith.net** or by calling **323-409-6923**





Palm Sunday Picnic

MARCH 28TH 12:00 PM

Come for a motorized procession around the block of the church as we wave palm fronds.

Followed by a hot dog lunch. Take your food to go or eat inside your cars in the church parking lot!

JOIN US!

February Financials

Feb Budgeted Income \$16,066.67 Feb Actual Income \$3,201.00 Feb Budgeted Expense \$37,037.74 Feb Actual Expense \$41,334.78 Feb 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.



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 Messages page.

You can also subscribe to our

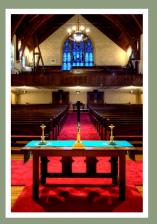
YouTube page for all of the latest from our church.

Calvary Presbyterian
Church

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The Rev. Millason Dailey millason@cpcsouthpas.org

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Office hours are remote only



Praise The LORD with us!
Join us for Worship! Online.
of course. Visit us at
www.cpcsouthpas.org/
messages
Every Sunday to see a new

service