

# La Cañada Press



A Publication for Members and Friends of La Cañada Presbyterian Church  
Volume 28 ☪ Issue 3 ☪ Summer, 2010

## LCPC All Church Camp August 14-20



- Come on an adventure to the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains to discover more about God's Amazing Grace.
- Come to All Church Camp August 14-20.
- Come by yourself, with your family, or with friends, and experience the best week of the year!
- Come and relax.
- Come and see God's creation.
- Come and just be....

For more information, please contact Paul or Crista Murray at [wackoville@earthlink.net](mailto:wackoville@earthlink.net).



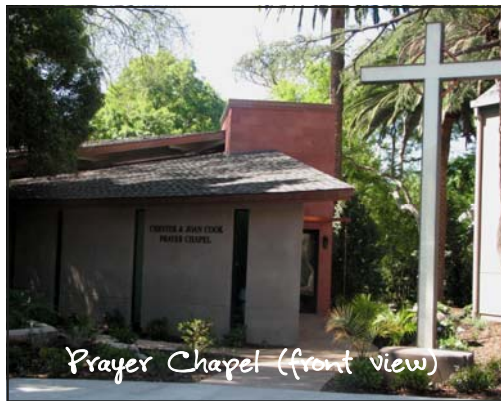
This year's All Church Camp guest speaker: KRISTIN MILLER HUFFMAN, Associate Pastor of Outreach Ministries at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX .

## Cook Prayer Chapel Now Open!

On May 11, the La Cañada Flintridge Planning Commission approved a change in requirements for operation of the Chester & Joan Cook Prayer Chapel. Final inspection has taken place and the City has issued us our Occupancy Permit.

Because both our neighbors and the Planning Commission have agreed to waive the sound-testing equipment installation, which was originally in the Conditional Use Permit issued by the city in March 2005, LCPC has now taken the final steps in gaining occupancy of the Chapel. We are allowed one year of operations during which the neighbors can respond to the church regarding any noise issues and work with LCPC to correct such issues. Dave Mason, LCPC Business Administrator, will supervise use and operations of the Prayer Chapel and Prayer Garden to eliminate any adverse noise issues and will work with the neighbors on any concerns that may arise.

The Cooks and Samuelsons have given LCPC this beautiful gift of a Prayer Chapel and Garden. To God be the Glory! ☪





## From Where I Sit . . . Pastor Gary Dennis

Stunning! I don't know how else to describe it. Time is not supposed to go this fast. I can't believe that another year of ministry is moving into the "home stretch" (we think of our ministry year as beginning in September and ending in August). Wow! One more month and I will be off to do the writing and planning for a new year of worship and ministry at LCPC. It seems like I just finished that writing for this year. How does the time go so quickly?

I realize that my feelings about this last year are really an expression of my feelings about life. As I look over my computer screen, I see three pictures of my mom and me. It seems like yesterday. In the first picture, I was six or seven months old; in the second I'm three or four; in the last one, mom and I are standing together, as I'm about to leave for the senior prom. Now, mom is dead and I'm about to celebrate twenty years as your pastor. Where have the years gone? And how have they gone so quickly?

My maudlin ramblings remind me of the last paragraph in Psalm 90.

### *A PRAYER OF MOSES, MAN OF GOD*

*Oh! Teach us to live well!*

*Teach us to live wisely and well!*

*Come back, GOD—*

*how long do we have to wait? —  
and treat your servants with kindness  
for a change.*

*Surprise us with love at daybreak;  
then we'll skip and dance all the daylong.*

*Make up for the bad times  
with some good times;*

*we've seen enough evil to last a lifetime.  
Let your servants see what you're best at—  
the ways you rule and bless your children.*

*And let the loveliness of our Lord,  
our God, rest on us,  
confirming the work that we do.*

*Oh, yes. Affirm the work that we do!*

The heading of Psalm 90 ascribes these words to Moses. If the heading is correct,

think of all that Moses went through to "live well" – a lot of ups and downs. He was orphaned by his family and raised by royalty. He murdered an Egyptian and then spent decades hiding from Pharaoh's authorities in the wilderness. He responded to God's call and then led the Hebrews through forty years of desert wandering. He experienced moments of great success and times of heartbreaking failure. Ultimately, he died in the wilderness, never able to enter the promise that he pursued for the last forty years.

Those experiences fly in the face of how many today would describe what it means to "live well." Yet, I think that is precisely how Moses lived. If I'm right, then living well is not dependent on the amount of good things that happened to us over a lifetime outweighing the tough stuff. Rather, living well means that we keep pursuing Jesus, no matter what happens to us.

Time is moving fast. Do we have enough time to slow down and finally discover the secret of living well? It is as simple as this. Life is what it is! Now, how do we find God in that?

God bless you this summer, as you continue to pursue what it means to live well. Gary ☞

## Update on Purchase of Property

At the direction of our session, LCPC has secured a contract to purchase the adjacent residential property at 4435 Woodleigh Lane. If approved by the congregation, we would purchase this .98-acre lot located behind the high wall that

runs along the south side of the parking lot, exiting onto Woodleigh Lane. The property is available to LCPC for \$1.9 million, and will require approximately \$400,000 to \$600,000 to develop the additional parking spaces needed for our congregation.

Along with the approval which we hope to receive at a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, June 6, the session has required that before we can close escrow on June 18, we must raise at least \$300,000; with half of it in cash and the other half in pledges to be paid within two years.

What is our parking situation? The Armenian Apostolic Church of La Crescenta has made an offer to purchase the Christian Science Church. If they close on that property, we will lose 25-30 parking places on Sunday and 45-50 places during the week. Right now, LCPC owns 109 parking places in our L-shaped lot that opens on Foothill Blvd and Woodleigh Lane. The lease of the Thursday Club currently provides another 100 places for our use on Sundays. We anticipate that any other congregation purchasing the Christian Science property will likely be a growing congregation which will create more competition for on-the-street parking.

By the most conservative count, we can build a 70-car parking lot on the adjacent property. If the city will waive the setback on Woodleigh Lane, we could build a lot with 105-110 parking places, which would basically double the number of parking places that the church owns.

For the future of the congregation that we all love, we need to secure this adjacent property during this rare moment while it is available to us. You will be receiving a mailing with more details on this proposal so you can prepare for the meeting of the congregation. We are asking for each person in our congregation to prayerfully consider making a gift toward the \$2.5MM cost for acquisition and development of this adjacent property. ☞

# FAITH MISSIONS

*sharing hope and faith*

It's happening. Our Faith Missions are making a positive impact in people's lives. We go out in faith, we take action in our community, and we experience those moments when God breaks through and speaks to us.

## Giving and Going

Adults and children brought over 300 sack lunches to worship on Sunday, May 16. Then a group of 14 of us took those lunches to MacArthur Park in downtown LA. Go Journey leader Cathy Taylor reports, "Everyone receiving a sack lunch was so grateful. There were

children picking up sack lunches for their families." And it wasn't just a handout. Our sack lunches were just a small part of the ministry of the full-time World Impact missionaries who live downtown and have started a church in MacArthur Park. Under the trees, hundreds gathered for worship. "It was moving. The message of the sermon was about hope and serving. We took turns praying for each other," says Cathy Taylor. Our giving through Faith Missions supports these full-time, church-planting missionaries just 10 minutes away from our LCPC church campus. "Everyone can actively do something through Faith Missions. When you see it in person, it does make a difference"—LCPC volunteer handing out sack lunches.

Over 100 people have already signed up to participate in a Go Journey after the first Sunday of Faith Missions, May 16. New Go Journeys are listed on our website at [www.lcpcFaithMissions.com](http://www.lcpcFaithMissions.com). There is still time for you to sign up. See the pictures of what God is doing through us, through our Faith Missions.

Our patio was covered with colorful banners and balloons as over 22 local ministry partners displayed their passion to care for the least, the lost, and the lonely. Faith Missions. It's our chance to share hope and faith with those who really need it. Together, we really do make a difference. ☞



## Parent Ed Registration: "No More Standing in Line"

No more standing in line! That's the big news from Parent Education, which is now offering online registration. Gone are the days of waiting in line at dawn to register for classes. Enrollment can be completed through our website at [www.lcpcparented.org/registration](http://www.lcpcparented.org/registration). Registration will continue both online and in person until classes reach capacity.

Childcare for siblings is also being offered; it's available Tuesday through Friday for siblings ages 6 weeks to 5 years old.

Parent Education classes are available for parents of infants through teens. Weekly classes run September-June.

### Class Schedule

#### Parent/Child classes

Infants (born from 3/1/10-8/7/10): 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Thursday, taught by Nanette Brown

Older Babies (born from 10/16/09-2/28/10): 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Wednesday, taught by Nanette Brown

Toddlers (born from 12/2/08-10/15/09): 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, taught by Cary Horne

Non-Separating Toddlers (born from 12/2/08-10/15/09): 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, taught by Mary Van Amringe

Twos (born from 12/2/07-12/1/08): 9 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Tuesday or Wednesday, taught by Mary Van Amringe

Threes/Fours (born from 12/2/05-12/1/07): 9-11:30 a.m. Friday, taught by Christa Peitzman

Mixed Ages, 2-5 (born from 12/2/04-12/1/08): 9-11:30 a.m. Thursday, taught by Christa Peitzman

#### Parent-Only classes

Parents of Pre-Kindergarteners (PRE-K): 9:15-11:15 a.m. Wednesday, taught by Cary Horne

Parenting Elementary Kids, K-4th (PEK): 9:30-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, taught by Jan Roberts

Parents of Tweeners, 5th-8th grades: 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, taught by Jan Roberts

Parents of Teens, 9th-12th grades, 12:15-2 p.m. Wednesday, taught by Jan Roberts; and 12:15-2 p.m. Thursday, taught by Cary Horne

Class fees range from \$350 to \$385 depending on the number of weeks that the class is offered (28 to 32 weeks). A one-time registration fee is \$70. Participants may also pay by semester (half the tuition cost). For more information, visit [www.lcpcparented.org](http://www.lcpcparented.org) or contact the Parent Ed office at (818) 790-6708, ext. 205. ☺

## Parent Ed Annual Auction & Gala a Success!

The Parent Ed Board, Staff and Volunteers, want to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Parent Ed Annual Auction and Gala a success!

About 150 friends and participants of the program attended the gala, held April 30, at the La Cañada Flintridge Country Club. The night included a silent and live auction and entertainment by the improv group, ComedySportz.

The program reached its fundraising goal, which supports the Parent Ed Program in a number of ways. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Thank you again! ☺



Parent Ed Volunteer Board: (seated, left to right) Kimberly Crowley, Mikki Weightman, Katie Mountain (standing, left to right) Jennifer Stanton, Carmen Del Castillo, Deena Keys, Kathy Baumann, Annie Brose, Anne Bierling, Lynne Graves, Melissa Lorenz, Heather Lenz, Kim Murphy, Ginger Wilson



Parent Ed Staff: (seated, left to right) Nicole Ravana, Eileen Young, Mary Van Amringe (standing, left to right) Nanette Brown, Barb Barber, Sandy Ravana, Christa Peitzman, Anne Bierling, Beth Shupper, Jan Roberts, Cary Horne, Kim Murphy



Above: ComedySportz

Right: Chuck Osburn (co-auctioneer) checks Anne Bierling's & Chris Erskine's (co-auctioneer) weight. Find out why by asking someone from Parent Ed!



## **“Daring to Believe: Our Life in Christ” womengathering Summer Study**

### **“Christ in you, the hope of glory!”**

Are you up for a challenge? Are you ready to go deeper in your faith? Join us this summer for a three-week Bible study presented by *womengathering*. How can we discover and trust the fullness of Christ for the many issues in our lives and in the world. Together we'll look into the book of Colossians to find inspiration and a new perspective for our faith journeys.

#### **THREE WEDNESDAYS**

**June 23 & 30 and July 7**

**9:30-11:00AM OR 7:00-8:30PM**

RSVP to Deena Keys ([deenakeys@yahoo.com](mailto:deenakeys@yahoo.com))  
for AM or PM series.

Music for AM sessions provided  
by Janet & Judy!

**The Rev. Steffi Miller**, formerly of St. Stephen Presbyterian Church in Chatsworth, will lead us on a journey through Paul's letter to the Colossians. How can this letter from 2,000 years ago speak to us today?



Steffi is a native Californian! She received her BA from Occidental College, and Masters of Divinity from Princeton Seminary. She is an ordained PCUSA minister who served churches on the east coast, and recently retired after serving at St. Stephen Presbyterian in Chatsworth, California for nine years. She has led numerous small groups, most recently the *womengathering* winter Thursday evening study, along with Bible Studies and women's retreats.

*womengathering* summer studies are wonderful, warm places to be with your sisters in Christ. In the quieter days of summer, as life slows down, a study offers a chance to really hear God. We'll look at the main theme of Colossians -- the sufficiency of Christ. We'll see what this apostle says to help us in our faith journey and struggles today. We'll ask when do we need to know that Christ is enough? What about astrology, belief in angels, new age philosophies, and self help groups? (Paul actually talked about these things 2000 years ago.) Can our faith help and give us power for life? Is there anything we can do to avoid hitting rock bottom? Is there any secret knowledge that we can rely on to help us in our friendships, family life, marriages, relations with our children or at work?

Come and bring a friend! Invite your small group! Be prepared to see how God is working in your life. ☞

## **From Your LCPC Librarian**

Marie Abajian

As Thomas Browne said, “life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible sun within us.” We should take that flame and run with it. How will you spend your summer? Will you encourage the flame to grow, or will it dwindle and possibly die out? Reading or listening to books on CD is a good way to keep your flame alive. Your LCPC Library has many books to encourage that flame to

grow to amazing strength. Take some time to check out what we have to offer. For your summer reading pleasure we have a number of great materials we'd love to tell you about.

Our biographies and memoirs cover an amazing cross range of people, from those that helped to form our Christian roots to just everyday people who for one reason or another make/made a difference in the life of those around them. Our offerings include “In Every Pew Sits a Broken Heart” by Ruth Graham (Billy Graham's daughter), it's available in both print and audio CD. Ruth shares her journey through divorce, depression and shame, her struggles with her parents and her faltering attempts to make wise choices. “Confessing A Life: A Spiritual Odyssey” by Ben Campbell Johnson is a must read for members of this church. His books are some of the most popular books in the library, and learning about his faith journey will help you learn more about yourself. The library also has books written by popular members of the entertainment industry: two such books are “Mosaic” by Amy Grant and “The Man Called Cash” about Johnny Cash. Both books are stories of how no matter how famous you are, you can keep your faith.

Have you read about C.S. Lewis' life? We have so many books he's written, but what about him personally? Have you read his biography? We have that as well.



His books are so popular we have a hard time keeping them available for everyone, but that shouldn't stop you from coming in and looking for some of his popular books. One series that is recommended for you and your family this summer is the “Chronicles of Narnia”... when is the last time you read that? Have you read it to your children yet? We have the single book with all the stories in it, most of the individual books also available in print form, and as a wonderful addition we have the full series on audio CD. What could be better than taking a drive to family camp with the whole family quietly listening to “The Chronicles of Narnia”? Available also is the “Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” on DVD.

Your LCPC Library does all it can to offer books, music CD's, audio CD's, DVD's and all other forms of materials to enhance your spiritual journey. Check us out. And while you are visiting, take a look at our wish list. We never ask that you purchase items for us, but look on your shelves at home; do you have a book or other item that you know others would love as well, or a book you received as a gift but really wasn't your type of book? So please take a moment to check your shelves at home, not only will you be giving yourself some space for more books, you'll be sharing some spiritual tools for others to benefit from.

Thank you all for the amazing book donations this spring; we're still in the process of adding them to our collection. From all the volunteers here at the library, thank you, LCPC members, for making our library such a great resource. Have a great summer, fan that flame in yourself by visiting the library. ☞

La Canada Presbyterian Church presents:

**POPS: 2010**  
Swingin', Singin' & Dancin'

General Admission \$15  
Reserved Seats \$20

Friday, June 11 at 8pm  
Saturday, June 12 at 4pm

Order Tickets from Lori MacDonald:  
1-626-794-1522

Tickets also available at the door.

Featuring the  
LCPC Summer Singers  
and  
Little Big Band

Directed By Jack Lantz

INFO: Lori MacDonald, lorimac2001@earthlink.net

**POPS: 2010**

**Swingin', Singin' & Dancin'**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 11**  
**8PM**

**SAT, JUNE 12**  
**4PM**

**LCPC Sanctuary**

### Three Cheers for the Red, White & Blue! Spectacular Music on the Eve of America's Birthday—JULY 3

The words "Americana" conjure up images of our country, its history, and what makes it so special to each of us. We shall explore all of these concepts and more in a moving musical tribute to our great country on the eve of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. As the last event in this season's Ovation Arts Series, the LCPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra will present a wide range of purely Americana music in a concert of the same name on **Saturday, July 3, at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary.**

The choir and orchestra will combine to present familiar traditional selections including Irving Berlin's "God Bless America," featuring our own Diane Wallace, and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The concert will include a tribute to all veterans in the "Armed Forces Salute" and a medley from Richard Rodgers' music to the 1950s television series "Victory at Sea."

The concert will expand to Dixieland in a "Dixieland Jamboree" for orchestra. A section on religion in America will include "Swing Low, Swing Down," a medley of Dixieland favorites with the choir and orchestra, Aaron Copland's "Variations on a Shaker Melody," and "You Raised Me Up" featuring our Associate Director of Music Worship Arts, Andrew Pratt, in the solo made famous by Josh Groban.

Two arrangements by Leroy Anderson, a favorite American composer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, will include the trumpet section feature "Bugler's Holiday" and a unique arrangement of

"Seventy-Six Trombones," featuring the trombone section, of course, which layers John Philip Sousa marches on top of the familiar tune from the Broadway show "The Music Man." Rounding out the concert will be Morton Gould's showpiece for orchestra "American Salute," the original version of John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever," and the choir and orchestra in "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and Carmen Dragon's great arrangement of "America the Beautiful."

Our unnamed emcee will provide inspirational commentary and patriotic poems. Every musical selection will be familiar to all, and will be presented in an exciting and stimulating fashion. This event presents an ideal opportunity for congregation members to invite new people to our church. There is no admission fee for this concert; however, a free-will offering will be received. ☞



# Life

at La Cañada Presbyterian Church

Anchors' Appreciation  
Luncheon  
Tuesday, April 20



Photos courtesy of George Lutes

# Life

at La Cañada Presbyterian Church

Women's Retreat  
April 23-25  
Casa de Maria Retreat  
House, Montecito



Photos courtesy of  
Mary Emily Myers

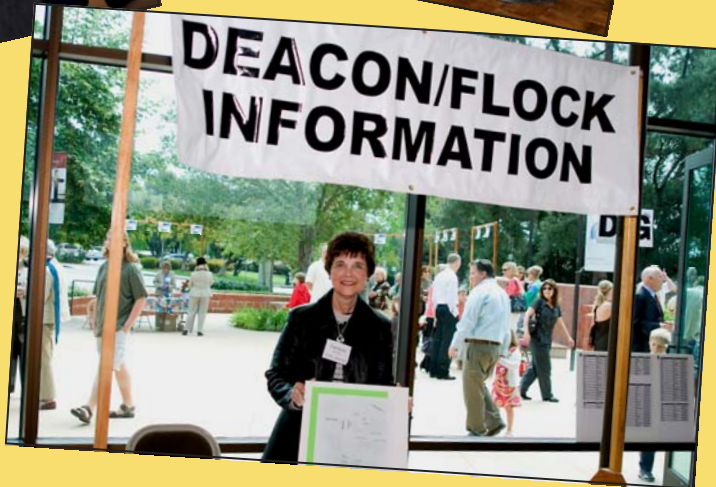
# Life

at La Cañada Presbyterian Church

Seafarers' Retreat  
April 13, San Diego

=====

Deacon Flock Sunday,  
May 2



Photos courtesy of George Lutes

# La Cañada Press

La Cañada Presbyterian Church  
626 Foothill Blvd.  
La Cañada, CA 91011

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Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the **PURPOSE** of the La Cañada Presbyterian Church is to invite people to follow Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord, engage them in Christian community, and equip them to worship and serve God in the church and in the world.

## La Cañada Presbyterian Church

626 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada, CA 91011  
(818) 790-6708 (office); (818) 790-9264 (fax)  
www.lacanadapc.org

Email addresses: (person's first name@lacanadapc.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Gary Dennis (x221)

**Business Administrator:** Dave Mason (x232)

**Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation & Small Groups:**

Rev. Dr. Chuck Osburn (x229)

**Associate Pastor, Outreach & Equipping:** Rev. Jim Milley (x217)

**Associate Pastor, Family Ministry:** Rev. Kristin Leucht (x201; on sabbatical until July 5)

**Parish Associate, Congregational Care:** Rev. Dr. Peter Hintzoglou (x218)

**Director, Parent Education:** Anne Bierling (x214)

**Director, Music & Worship Arts:** Jack Lantz (x223)

**Assistant Director, Music & Worship Arts:** Andrew Pratt (x241)

**Director, Children's Music Ministry:** Judy Brock (x222)

**Director, Handbell Choir:** Kemp Smeal (x251)

**Director, Jr. High Ministry:** James Staniels (x206)

**Director, High School Ministry:** Faith Greiner (x228)

**Director, Children's Ministry:** Karen Roddy (x202)

**Director, Infant Care Center:** Diana Urteaga (x225)

**Wedding Coordinator:** Mary Emily Myers (818) 952-1373

**Clerk of Session:** Marian Hiller, [thehillier2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thehillier2@sbcglobal.net)

## Milestones

### Deaths:

Dr. Charles Broberg

Sally Burk (Jim Burk's mother)

Margy Cocherell (Mary Dirckx's sister & former LCPC member)

Charles Cresmer (Martin Cresmer's father)

Hiltrade Day (LCPC member)

Louise Leddie's father

Jessie Mastan

Pamela Marie Pacino (Lori Pacino's daughter; Pat Stoops' granddaughter)

Gary Swaner's grand-nephew

### Births:

Caleb Daniel Henry, born March 20 to Heather & Brandon Henry. Heather is LCPC's Early Childhood Coordinator.

Jordan Tiana Anderson, born April 12 to Kristen Anderson & Burrell

Rutledge. Proud grandparents are LCPC members, Ann & Jim Anderson.

Sadie Elizabeth Sullens, born April 13 to Jay & Chelsea Davis-Sullens. Proud grandparents are LCPC members, Mike & Lynette Davis.

### Marriages:

Kelli Helse & Keith Welzel

Diane Lund & Wiley Bartine

Lisa Collins & John Coate

Brooke Mayer & Jason Beyer

**GO GREEN!** Our newsletter is delivered via email to all friends and members of our congregation who have provided us with an email address. This helps us to save money on printing/ mailing costs which can then be used for other ministries. If you would like to help us in these difficult economic times by switching to receiving an email version of this newsletter, please contact Gloria Hill at (818) 790-6708, x220 or [Gloria@lacanadapc.org](mailto:Gloria@lacanadapc.org). Thank you. *Every little bit helps!*