

MESSENGER

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JANUARY 2016

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CFC FAITH UPDATE

Every year as January rolls around, I feel inspired to try something different during CFC chapel and classroom visits. We have tried new cooking projects, object lessons, themes, etc. This year, I am excited to begin incorporating a curriculum called Kids Serving Kids with the elementary age children at CFC.

Kids Serving Kids offers six weeks' worth of lessons that center on opening kids' eyes to the needs of orphans around the world, inspiring them to mirror God's compassion, enabling them to serve in practice ways. While this will not be the main focus of every chapel, we will look at Kids Serving Kids every 4 - 6 weeks. Our preschoolers will also be learning about compassion and how we can share the love of Christ with others by showing kindness and generosity.

INSIDE

- 2 PASTOR'S LETTER STUDENT MINISTRIES
- 3 CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DEACONS' BEACON
- 4 CHURCH MOUSE SESSION REPORT
- 5 CALENDAR
- 6 LEE'S LATEST
- 7 CFC HEARTBEAT
- 8 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PROJECT DOMINICANA 2016: JUNE 11 – 20

This year's mission trip to the Dominican Republic is now recruiting high schoolers, adults, and medical personnel. Working in partnership with the Beraca Church, this year's construction team will be repairing and improving the homes of two families from the church living in poverty.

Our medical team will be conducting mobile health care clinics in the rural villages surrounding La Romana where Haitian immigrants work to cut sugar cane. This trip has been transformational for



many participants who experience God's presence in their lives in a fresh way.

Learn powerful lessons about the relevance of the Gospel for rich and poor and the fulfillment found in giving. Brochures are available in the church office. Registration forms and a

\$300 deposit are due January 19. Note: the trip may fill before that deadline. Get your materials in as soon as possible to reserve your spot. For more information contact Mary Wilson at (818) 957-4741, or at mhw1@sbcglobal.net

PEAK 2016

JOURNEY WITH JESUS

Ten Wednesdays ♦ The Whole LCPC Family One Life-Changing Adventure

Starting Wednesday, January 13, and continuing each week until Holy Week, we'll seek the path Jesus lights for us in his Sermon on the Mount. All adults, together with our high school students, are invited to gather in the Sanctuary at 6:30 PM for 40 minutes of excellent teaching followed by 40 minutes of focused discussion in small groups. Our goals will be to strengthen our church-wide friendships, deepen our prayer life and embrace the true meaning of Christian discipleship.

- **Begin with a raffle, song, prayer, and short testimony**
- **Consider a different facet of Jesus' revolutionary teachings each week**
- **Make new friends in your small group**
- **Learn from others how to connect Jesus' words with your daily challenges**
- **Parents will receive weekly "discussion starter" handouts for use with younger children**

The teaching team will include Andy Wilson, Lee Cook, and other staff and volunteer leaders. Topics will include anger and forgiveness, prayer and worship, wealth and contentment, to name a few. Regular attendance is encouraged but not required. Friends are welcome.

Information such as teachers, topics, and study verses will be communicated weekly through Facebook, the LCPC Web site, the bulletin notes, and the all church email.

To enhance your experience and deepen your understanding, you might read one or more of the following books. All focus on themes from the Sermon on the Mount: *Radical*, by David Platt (2010 – for general readers); *The Divine Conspiracy*, by Dallas Willard (1998 – challenging); *The Cost of Discipleship*, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1937 – challenging); and *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*, by John Stott (1978 – a commentary on the text).



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,
I love our Wednesday evening PEAK gatherings. Sometimes we have close to 200 people on campus for various mid-week offerings. Most aspects of PEAK are an unqualified success. That's why we've never seriously contemplated restructuring the program.

But many of us recognize that our PEAK model presents us with two big challenges. First, because we offer a smorgasbord of opportunities, it's difficult to bring everyone together to pray or to enjoy inter-generational fellowship. Second, although small groups can be tremendously helpful to people at all stages of their walk with Christ, it's difficult to build a small group component into PEAK. (Potential leaders are busy running other ministries, and virtually all meeting spaces are being used!)

I'm excited to tell you about Journey With Jesus, a completely unique PEAK opportunity that helps us overcome these two big limitations. The idea is to bring together everyone in the church family, high school age and older, for a ten-week

spiritual adventure that starts January 13. The first half of the evening we'll worship, pray, and hear an in-depth teaching on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The second half we'll break into inter-generational groups of 8-12 people and talk about the application of the teaching in our daily life.

Lee Cook and I will lead most of the sessions, and we'll also hear from Ashley Pollock, Josh Horton, Kim Cox, and other volunteer teachers. The verses we'll consider each week will steer us into the heart of our faith and call us to a higher level of service to Christ. And I'm confident that the impact of the experience will be magnified because we'll be praying together. Families with young children will receive "discussion starter" handouts so they can draw their children into the conversation.

How will the evening be structured? First, we've got a shamelessly commercial plan for getting people in the Sanctuary promptly at 6:30 PM. *We're going to raffle off – every week at exactly 6:35 PM – an item worth \$75 or more!* It might be a gift certificate for the 2016 Christmas Gift Fair. It might be dinner for two at a great restaurant. It might be a coupon for \$75 off for a

retreat or mission trip for anyone you designate.

Then we'll worship with a song, offer a prayer, and hear a short testimony from someone who is trying to live out what we've been learning. During the teaching time (35-40 minutes) we'll look at passages that hit us right where we live, that will both encourage and stretch us. Small groups (about 40 minutes) will meet in various free spaces throughout the campus and will be led by trained staff and volunteers. One big goal is to help everyone not only meet new people but establish lasting friendships.

One more thing...you'll see at the bottom of the nearby promo a list of books that Lee and I are recommending. As a Journey With Jesus participant you won't receive reading assignments. But I'm confident your experience will be greatly enhanced if you read one or more of the four as we travel together. (All are available through Amazon.)

I'm asking you – pleading with the whole church family! – to make this journey. These words from the introduction to Dallas Willard's *The Divine Conspiracy* remind us what is at stake, and why Jesus is our "All in All:"

"Individual Christians still hear Jesus say, 'Whoever hears these words of mine and does them is like those intelligent people who build their houses upon rock,' standing firm against every pressure of life. How life-giving would it be if their understanding of the gospel allowed them simply to reply, 'I will do them! I will find out how. I will devote my life to it! This is the best life strategy I ever heard of!' and then go off to their fellowship and its teachers, and into their daily life, to learn how to live in his kingdom as Jesus indicated was best."

I fully expect the Spirit to bless our fellowship and transform many lives as we Journey With Jesus.

Love and good cheer,
Andy Wilson



ABIDE STUDENT MINISTRIES

The holidays are over and it's time to get back to "normal" life. But before we do, let's reflect on the past few weeks. The Christmas season was filled with awe and wonder once again. We learned from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" what the true meaning of Christmas is (Hint, hint, it's Jesus). We were uplifted by worshipful Christmas concert performance by the Cathedral Choir. And we were safe in our church home this past Christmas Eve as we worshipped together to remember the coming of Jesus so long ago. The Youth also added a bit of fun challenging Glendale Presbyterian to a game of kickball and kicking their...well...enjoying fellowship together. So let us take these moments of joy, worship, safety, and a little bit of fun with us into the New Year.

I know that it's always easier said than done. I learned this not too long ago first hand. As many of you may know, my car was broken into no less than 12 days before Christmas (talk about your holiday cheer). But never did I worry or stress about this event or the person who decided they wanted to smash my window into a billion pieces because I have always known that God will provide and that this busted window would never be able to smash the joy and wonder of the season. I had, and still have, faith in a God who loves me and cares for me.

And sure enough, no more than 24 hours later with help from a loving church community did I have a new window without having to pay a cent of it myself. Again, thank you to all those who helped – parents, high schoolers, and church family. I will never be able to express how deeply grateful and I am and how loved I felt and still feel.

Clearly, waking up to a smashed car was not my ideal wake-up moment and, sure enough, no matter how many new resolutions we make to better our situations, pain and trouble will find us eventually. But I have learned that through it all, we can still hold on to joy, worship, security, and fun together. We, the body of Christ, have always been stronger as one.

This is why the youth group, as well as the other ministries of the church, is so excited about our new PEAK curriculum – a chance to learn and grow together. Whoohoo! Having Godly discussions around the dinner table again! A chance to grow stronger together and lean on each other, especially in times when we could use a little joy, worship, sense security and as always (especially from this youth leader) a little bit of fun.

REMINDERS:

Junior High Winter Camp: January 8 -10 at Forest Home.

High School Lock Out: January 30, 12:00 Noon– 12:00 Midnight. Meet in the Student Center. Bring \$10.

High School Winter Camp: February 12 -15 at Thousand Oaks..

Junior High Lock Out: February 27, 12:00 Noon -12:00 Midnight, meet in the Student Center, Bring \$10

MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**MESSENGER DEADLINE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15
9:00 AM SHARP!**

Messenger articles and corrections should be emailed to shawndraws@gmail.com. Please put the word "Messenger" in the subject line. They can also be placed in the Messenger folder. Materials submitted after the deadline may be omitted at the discretion of the editor.

Kim

children's Ministries

by Ashley Pollock

The New Year is upon us. As always, it is hard for me to believe that 2015 has come to an end. I think having a child makes time go by even faster and it also makes me want to hold onto moments even more. While this year was not the easiest or smoothest year for me personally, there were plenty of moments that I would have liked to hold on to a little longer and many of those moments are connected to LCPC and the Center for Children. On this campus, I have found a second family and I hope to love and serve that family better in 2016. To that end, I have come up with some new goals for Children's Ministries. These goals were shared at our Town Hall Meeting and with the wonderful Children's Ministries Committee, but now I share them with all of you.

- Develop a team whose main focus is welcoming new families with young children by taking those families to lunch, setting up play dates, etc. As a part of this effort, we would like to have a Children's Ministries informational pamphlet that we can give to all new families.
- Create a more welcoming and spiritually nurturing nursery environment on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights.
- Present a six-week Bible study for just 6th graders in the Spring that would take place on a weekday evening.
- Partner with the Center for Children on at three family events.

In addition to working toward these goals, I am very excited about some changes that we will be making to our PEAK program. Beginning on Wednesday, January 13, PEAK will offer only one adult class focusing on the Sermon on the Mount. Our Lively Lambs, Fast Frogs and SPARKS (preschool - 6th grade), will also be learning about the Sermon on the Mount each Wednesday evening in the hopes that families can go home and share what they have learned and work together to live out the teachings of Christ.



Josh, Kim, and I will be putting out a weekly take-home sheet that offers conversation starters and family activity ideas pertaining to that week's teachings. Our prayer as a staff is that this will be a unifying time of growth for the church and result in a deeper passion for discipleship. Please know that whether or not you attend PEAK, parents, grandparents, guardians, etc. are also always welcome to email me or stop the office so we can talk and pray together about encouraging the faith of our children beyond the church walls. Remember, that's what I am here for!

Last but not least, SPARKS Winter Camp is this month! Our 4th - 6th graders are invited to a weekend of hot chocolate, games, snow (hopefully) and worship at Forest Home's Creekside Winter Camp from January 29 - 31. This year, children will focus on Jeremiah 29:11 and what it means for God to have plans for our future. Registration

forms are available in the church office and by emailing me at ashley@lcpc.net. Our subsidized cost is on \$110 for the whole weekend and scholarships are available.

Happy New Year, Everyone!

In Christ,
Ashley Pollock

Kids Say the Darndest Things

5-Year-Old: (*singing sweetly*) "Silent Night, holy night. All is calm. All is bright. Bells on bobtails ring..."

4-Year-Old: "Christmas is about Jesus... and Santa. If there was no Jesus, there would be no Christmas and I wouldn't get any presents!"



In December, six of our 18 Deacons completed their 3-year terms of service. We are thankful for **Frances Mencia** and **Lana Emerson** who prepared the communion meals and lined up servers each month without ever complaining when faced with last minute cancellations, and **Lee Halverson** who sent out grief booklets to LCPC family members in addition to ushering, serving communion, visiting the homebound, serving meals to the congregation, and helping to send out the *Messenger*.

Louisa Jagoe also served for three years heading up the meals and transportation committees, serving communion and visiting the homebound. Thank you **Wendy Burt** for sending greeting cards to LCPC members, assisting with the blood drive, and for many other contributions.

Finally, we will miss the amazing leadership-by-example of our moderator **Elaine Ross Collins** and her involvement in many areas – visiting the homebound, serving communion,

preparing and taking meals to LCPC members, providing transportation, helping to prepare meals for the congregation, and for serving on the committee to approve emergency financial help for those in need.

We thank each of you and hope that you will continue to find new and creative ways to serve our Lord. We are anxious to see who among the LCPC congregation will be called to serve in 2016.

**SAVE THE DATE:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, AT 5:00 PM**

Evensong Service, hosted by LCPC Deacons
A prayer-centered, contemplative service focusing on themes of "New Beginnings" and "Spiritual Renewal"

Wishing you an adventuresome year ahead
in Christ,

Billie Weinstein



Happy 2016! That will only take about six months to get used to writing, right? We all know that New Year's Resolutions usually last only a month or two. Well, here's a **resolution for 2016** that is worth keeping – add **Wednesday night PEAK** to your routine! Where else can you get a delicious meal for \$3 while you catch up with friends, have your brain stimulated by fascinating teachings, and all while your kids are having fun in their classes? Andy and Lee are very excited to try out a new format for the adult **PEAK** class that will feature one big class instead of two, and will include teaching and small groups. **PEAK** starts back up Wednesday January 13 – mark your calendar and make it part of your weekly schedule!

Christmas time at LCPC was magical as always! Be sure to thank **Jenny Schwing** and her **youth helpers** for the beautiful decorations in the Sanctuary and Narthex.

“**A Charlie Brown Christmas**” presented by the children and youth was a huge hit! It drew big crowds both nights and all the kids did a phenomenal job bringing the beloved Peanuts characters to life! The **Kids Hope** kids, families, mentors, and prayer partners came to the show after their Christmas party and they loved it! Thank you to **Ashley** and **Kimmy** for their hard work and directing expertise to bring us this memorable play, and of course to all the adorable actors and stage crew that were involved!

The **Choir Christmas Concert** was a spectacular event, under the direction of **Gary Woodward**. The amazing ensemble of brass and percussion musicians, in addition to Rod Davis on the organ and piano made for the perfect accompaniment to our talented choirs. Everyone enjoyed the glorious voices of our **Cathedral Choir**, along with guest singers from **Masters College**, a beautiful duet by the **Pollocks**, and our **Children's Choir**. Add to that the enchanting music of the **Cathedral Bell Choir** and the **LCPC Flute Choir** and it was just the right combination to put the sounds of Christmas in

everyone's hearts.

Thank you for all your generous donations of gift cards for the **Adopt-a-Family** program. **Ashley** and our kids were able to make Christmas a little merrier for 22 families right in our own community. LCPC's kids also thrilled the residents of **Verdugo Vista Healthcare Center** with their Christmas caroling, crafts, and ornaments. Many CFC and LCPC families attended **CFC's annual craft night** and enjoyed not only the crafts, but also picture time with Santa. It was strange, but I thought I heard Santa speak a few words of Greek. Maybe I imagined it. LCPC does a fantastic job spreading the Christmas spirit around the foothills!

The grand finale of the season was our **Christmas services**, each offering a unique way to celebrate the birth of our precious savior. All three services had big crowds and new faces, and of course the **nativity animals** were a crowd pleaser as always! The **ushers** and **tech crew** worked hard this month to cover all the events and keep things running smoothly. We are so grateful for them and everyone else who plays

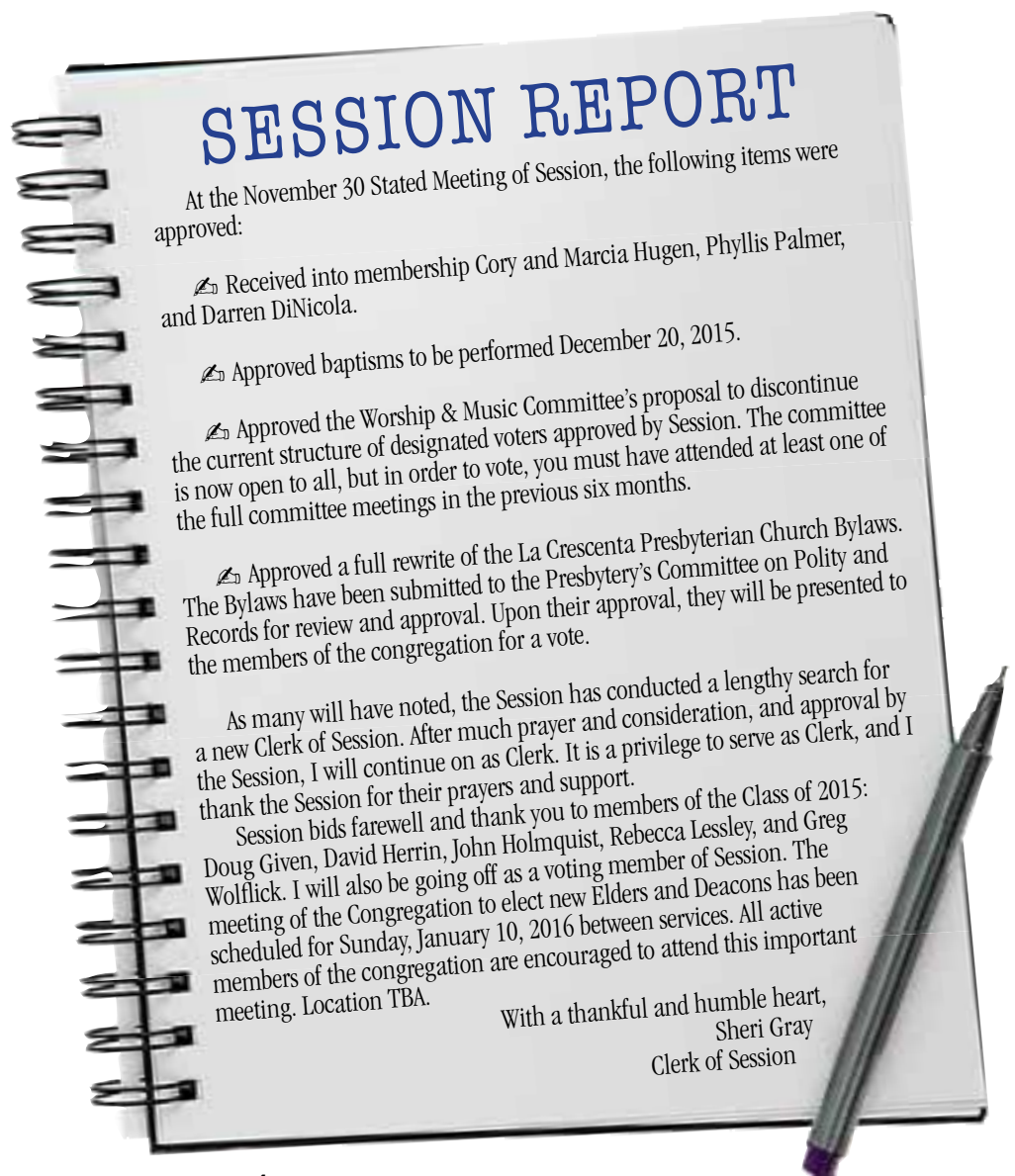
an important role at LCPC.

Andy and **Mary** were gracious hosts for the **Newcomer and New Member dessert** last month at their home. Andy was such a good host in fact, that he offered 11-year-old **Brock Cary** \$1 to jump in his freezing cold swimming pool. **Brock, AKA Charlie Brown** from our musical, donned Andy's swim trunks, which were about 9 sizes too big, and took the plunge. As all good pastors should do, Andy joined him in the pool and it was a high point of the evening!

It was wonderful to have **Terri Hewitt** visiting us these past two months all the way from Taiwan! Terri loves her new home, the friends she is making, and the work she is doing. It's always sad to see her leave but you can follow her adventures on Facebook! She has great pictures of the far away lands she blesses!

It doesn't seem possible, but it's already time to decide if you would like to attend the mission trip to the **Dominican Republic** this coming June 11 - 20. The trip is open to anyone high

(continued on page 6)



SESSION REPORT

At the November 30 Stated Meeting of Session, the following items were approved:

- Received into membership Cory and Marcia Hugen, Phyllis Palmer, and Darren DiNicola.

- Approved baptisms to be performed December 20, 2015.

- Approved the Worship & Music Committee's proposal to discontinue the current structure of designated voters approved by Session. The committee is now open to all, but in order to vote, you must have attended at least one of the full committee meetings in the previous six months.

- Approved a full rewrite of the La Crescenta Presbyterian Church Bylaws. The Bylaws have been submitted to the Presbytery's Committee on Polity and Records for review and approval. Upon their approval, they will be presented to the members of the congregation for a vote.

As many will have noted, the Session has conducted a lengthy search for a new Clerk of Session. After much prayer and consideration, and approval by the Session, I will continue on as Clerk. It is a privilege to serve as Clerk, and I thank the Session for their prayers and support.

Session bids farewell and thank you to members of the Class of 2015: Doug Given, David Herrin, John Holmquist, Rebecca Lessley, and Greg Wolfflick. I will also be going off as a voting member of Session. The meeting of the Congregation to elect new Elders and Deacons has been scheduled for Sunday, January 10, 2016 between services. All active members of the congregation are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Location TBA.

With a thankful and humble heart,
Sheri Gray
Clerk of Session

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM DANIEL & MARIE ADAMS

When I wanted to be open to whatever God had in store for me, I didn't realize I would be planting on yet another campus!

A PLANTING OPPORTUNITY - PINE MANOR COLLEGE

The surprise began with Gabriela, a student at Pine Manor College. When I first met her, she shared how God filled her with compassion for other students. She knew God wanted her to share about Jesus with them, but she didn't know where to start. She asked for my help so she could learn how!

First I taught Gabriela how to have spiritual conversations with students. She was surprised to



Gabriela (right) with her friends, Gena and Yoselin. She talked about God and philosophy with Gena for two hours!

see people responding with warmth and curiosity! We met Christians who were disconnected from church and Christian community and were excited to be invited to a Bible study. Then we met people of other religious backgrounds who still



Daniel and Cassie

wanted to come to Bible study to investigate who Jesus was. Once Gabriela saw how to talk about God with her peers, she had conversations with 20 more students on her own.

Gabriela is excited to start the college's first Bible study for them this spring.

REGIS COLLEGE

At Regis College there have been ups and downs. I enjoyed helping Cassie reach four friends who were too nervous to try out the regular Regis Bible study where they didn't know anyone. Cassie was able to bring her friends together to learn about Jesus and ask all their questions. We gave each of them Bibles, and they plan to read the Gospel of John together over Christmas break.

The bad news at Regis is that the student leaders of the Bible study asked me not to help them anymore. One leader was angry that I offered him a financial scholarship when he said he couldn't go to a retreat for financial reasons. A second leader believed it was wrong to train or lead others and took offense at my offer to train students to lead Bible study or to help lead others toward Jesus. Despite this setback, I will continue

to partner with Cassie and any others who want to share about Jesus with students on campus.

Beyond campus ministry, I am diligently crafting Bible studies for staff and students in Boston. I look forward to seeing them used on campus spring semester.

MARIE'S NEWS

A Berklee student found new life in Jesus! In the final Bible study of the year, Alan realized he wanted more than just the faith of his parents - he wanted a relationship with Jesus for himself.

Last week the InterVarsity students reached a milestone on the path to official status at Boston Conservatory! Amber, a student leader, bravely explained to a campus administrator why InterVarsity's constitution requires leaders to be Christian. The administrator understood and is allowing InterVarsity to apply to be an official group. Please pray for the student government to approve InterVarsity's application

THANK YOU!

Thank you for being so generous with your support! Because of your prayers and financial giving, students are starting new ministries on new campuses (with helpful Bible study materials), so that more will hear the good news of Jesus!

CHURCH MOUSE

(continued from page 4)

school age and older. A \$300 deposit and registration is due by January 19. This trip always fills up quick so reserve your spot soon!

You know the **gorgeous flower arrangements** that you see up on the Chancel every Sunday? Those are provided by someone in our congregation each week for the low cost of \$45. If you would like to sign up for a Sunday in 2016, look for the flower sign up sheet in the Narthex.

The **youth group** has lots of fun events to start off the New Year! The Junior High group will be going to **Forest Home** January 8-10. With any luck El Nino might bring them some snow, because what is winter camp without a little snow? The High Schoolers will be having the ever popular **"Lock Out"** on January 30. I don't know what kind of mayhem **Kimmy and Josh** have planned this year, but I have it on good authority that it will involve **Broomball!** Just make sure you can sleep all the next day, because you'll need it kids! The youth group had a great time challenging Glendale Presbyterian in The **Presby Cup** last month. About 80 kids played kickball against each other at CV Park and a great time was had by all.

Now go keep your resolution and write **PEAK** on the next 10 Wednesdays on your calendar (starting with January 13) and I'll talk to you next month!

LEE'S LATEST

"LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Revive them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy."

(Habakkuk 3:2)

"O Lord, revive your church, and let it begin with me." (St. Augustine)



I encourage you to do a couple of things:

- Pray for our church – that the Spirit would move in our midst
- Pray for yourself – that your eyes would be opened to places where you need to surrender to Jesus and His kingdom
- Pray for our community – that the Father would be glorified by the way we live
- Examine yourself – Are you the disciple that Jesus has called you to be? Do you want more?
- Prioritize – Make this time a priority. I know how busy everyone is, but this is a crucial moment in the life of our church as we seek to know what it means to follow Jesus.

I'm praying, and I hope you'll join me in prayer and fasting for renewal individually and corporately.

I'm truly excited about our PEAK experience for this term. Normally, I teach a class that's about the Bible in a lecture format, but this January we're trying something new! You can read all the details in Andy's letter, but I want to say how thrilled I am about this new opportunity. I can't think of a better way for us to grow as disciples than to unite our congregation in study of the word and prayer together. I can't wait to see what the Lord is going to do.



CFC Heartbeat



Director's Corner

For years I have been asking people to call what we do at the Center for Children "child care" and not "day care." My phrase to help them remember that is "We take care of children and then the days take care of themselves." So I was so pleased when I saw this article that talks about the same issue.

Pat

Day Care Disrespect: Why What We Call Child Care Matters

In March, a study was published in *Science* magazine that contained remarkable statistics about the effects of good child care on later life. Briefly, it was found that not only did people who received stimulating, appropriate care in their earliest days have stronger cognitive abilities, compared to a control group who did not, they were also notably healthier physically once they reached adulthood. This study makes plain what logic has always dictated but what we in the United States don't always act on at the institutional level. Good child care from the earliest days -- both at home and when the parents are at work -- is absolutely crucial to the development of healthy, productive adults.

The authors of the study use the term "high quality early childhood program" to describe the kind of care that the children who grew up to be healthier received. But when the story was reported in the *New York Times*, the paper used the term "full-time day care" to describe the program. For those of us in the field of early childhood development, the term day care, so common that even an august institution like the *New York Times* would use it, day care is a maddening phrase. Here's why:

Daddy & Me Day

Saturday, January 30, is a special day when Dads and children come together for a morning of preschool. Children in Rooms 104, 105, 107 and 108 get to bring their Dads or other male adult to school. You will experience chapel, circle time, art activities, outside play time, and other activities typical of your child's experiences. Chapel starts right at 9:00 AM so please be on time. This event happens rain or shine! These years go by very fast. Don't miss this opportunity to be with your preschool child, besides it is lots of fun!

the term day care diminishes how complex and nuanced offering good quality child care is.

Despite the millions of people who must use child care outside the home, for many of us, day care, unlike the term preschool, conjures up visions of children warehoused all day in an uninviting, unstimulating environment. This stereotype has been fostered by the unevenness in quality of the early childhood care that is available. Unfortunately, there are terrible child care programs like this -- but the best of them provide care that serves the child and the family far beyond the "day" and well into the rest of the family's life.

The term "day care" emphasizes the fact that the child is away from home all day as opposed to the fact that what's happening (if it's going as it should) is that the child is being molded for life. Further, in a good child care program, the parents learn as well, as is further demonstrated in the *Science* study. Work like educating children in many ways -- from teaching math concepts and letter recognition, to helping them learn how to label and understand their emotions, and how to get along with others -- and the list goes on, and on, and on. To genuinely care for the child as a whole human being with thoughts, feelings, needs, and the ability to learn, no matter their age. Child care professionals care for children, so we should call the work that they do "child care" or even better "early childhood education."

The term day care prioritizes the "day" over the "care" -- and days don't need any care. They just roll along on their own. We know children do not roll along successfully on their own. We know the good outcomes that can occur when they receive good care -- this recent study proves it yet again. And that's why it's so crucial that these programs and the skilled people who serve them need to be named properly. High quality early childhood education comes in many forms -- and its benefits last far more than a day.

Katherine Rose
Associate Professor of Early Childhood
Development and Education
Texas Woman's University

Thank You

The entire CFC staff would like to thank those that remembered us during the holidays. We enjoyed your treats, gifts and cards. While we do not do this work for those rewards, it is nice that you thought of us. We love being a part of your child's life. We wish you a very happy New Year. May it be filled with joy, love, and hope.

CFC Closed

We will close on New Year's Eve at 3:00 PM. Please arrive on time for your children. We will also be closed on New Year's Day and again on Monday, January 18, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Girl Scout Gold Award

We had a former student, Isabel Zamora, complete her Gold Award while working on a garden project for the CFC. Here is a letter from her:

"Dear CFC,
Thank you for allowing me to complete my Gold Award project at your school this summer. I remember my time as a preschooler at CFC being so much fun with things like show and tell, water play, and hide and go seek. This past July with your help I was able to complete my Gold Award project by redoing the planter in the back driveway and setting up planter boxes and barrels filled with vegetables and fruits.

I had too much fun doing gardening workshops and mini lessons with the kids who were there in the summer. I hope that that as the plants grow, the students and teachers at your school continue to benefit from them. In addition to the planter boxes and barrels I was also able to redo a planter area in the back, filling it with native California and drought tolerant plants that would be more suitable for the planter. Thank you again CFC for allowing me to achieve such a major accomplishment.

Sincerely,
Isabel Zamora"

GUSD Dates

GUSD starts again on January 6.. Please be sure that we have any after-school activities up to date. We are able to go back to a school up to 4:00 PM to pick up children participating in after-school activities on campus at no additional charge to you, but we need accurate information. Also remember to call us when your child does not need transportation back to CFC.



Find us on
Facebook

CHURCH STAFF

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

NEW SONG WORSHIP (CONTEMPORARY), SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM

SERVICE OF PRAISE (CLASSIC), SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM

Epic. That word is terribly overused but it definitely applies to the Old Testament Book of Job. It's not only one of the great works of world literature, it's also a Spirit-inspired story of suffering and redemption that's deeply relevant to our life today.

Start the New Year with fresh perspectives on your deepest heartaches and biggest opportunities. Messages in January (four of the six in this series) trace Job's story as he wrestles with God, suffers great losses, sifts through twisted advice from his friends, and

is sustained by God's promises.

Join the millions of God-seekers who have learned to say with Job: "To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his" (Job 12:13).

The Spirit is moving powerfully among our youth! Tune in to what God is saying to a rising generation as they lead us in joyful worship on January 24!

JANUARY 3

NEW YEAR'S SUNDAY

Message by Lee Cook – "Job: Making Sense of Our Pain"

For personal study: Job 1:8-22

JANUARY 10 – THE LORD'S SUPPER

Message by Andy Wilson – "Job: Coping With Trouble"

For personal study: Job 5 1-7; 6:1-10

JANUARY 17

Message by Lee Cook – "Job: What Happens When We Die?"

Ordination and Installation of New Officers at 11:00 AM

For personal study: Job 13:20-24; 14:7-22

JANUARY 24 – YOUTH SUNDAY!

Teaching and worship from the teenagers of LCPC.

JANUARY 31

Message by Andy Wilson – "Job: God Our Redeemer"

For personal study: Job 19:13-27

Think of people you know who don't have a church home, but are hungry for God's truth. Don't just invite them – bring them!

Happy New Year!