

MESSENGER

VOLUME 65, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 2016

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD is in full swing!
Please remember to return all boxes by Monday, November 14. Information on how to pack a box is available in the church office or at <http://www.samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>.

SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG

The Cathedral Choir wants YOU! We are still welcoming new singers to join our merry band of musicians, and share in the unique experience of joining together to sing the Lord's praises.

We are especially in need of tenors and sopranos, but all parts are welcome!

We rehearse on Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 PM. HOWEVER, if you wish to attend PEAK classes, we understand! Come on over after class, and you "off-PEAK singers" can still get in on the Christmas concert. Hope to see you next Wednesday!

UPDATE FROM DANIEL AND MARIE



Left: Seventy-seven students signed up for InterVarsity at the student fair - beyond our wildest hopes!

Dear Friends,
 There's a growing sense of excitement about InterVarsity at the music schools!



The student leaders are following up with the 77 students to welcome them to campus! Pray for the InterVarsity leaders as they work to connect with new students so more meet God through InterVarsity.



Daniel's first day of school heading out the door at 6:50 AM

and learn. I'm grateful for your help in making this possible!

I am especially enjoying two of my classes, "Interpretation of the New Testament," and "Christology." I have a new favorite theologian, John Behr, who wrote *The Mystery of Christ* in which he gives an insightful perspective on how theological beliefs about Jesus came about.

Behr talks about how the disciples didn't understand who Jesus was and what he did until after the passion and resurrection. As Jesus showed them the Old Testament prophecies, suddenly the Old Testament story made sense and, in turn, the Old Testament revealed the meaning of the cross

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DANIEL AND MARIE

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and resurrection. It was out of the disciples' witness of Jesus' death and resurrection, and their searching of the Old Testament Scriptures, that theology about Jesus developed. That's a really different explanation than just using human logic, or having sudden revelatory visions, or making things up.

RECOVERY UPDATE FOR MOM

Daniel's mother is recovering well. She is already walking, driving, grocery shopping, doing



Mom's huge "Get Well Soon" card from her high school students.

I was a small child, but I remember it very well. Maybe my memory is helped by the fact that the scene has been replayed on television so many times. Maybe I only think that I remember it. The



WHO DO YOU WORK FOR?

new president of the United States was standing at the podium saying, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

We all attend church for our own personal reasons; some for the message, some for the company, and some for the coffee and cookies. Some attend every Sunday, some once in a while, and some on Christmas and Easter. All are missing something. It is a bit like going to a five-star restaurant and only ordering a hamburger.

Our church has a number of opportunities to attend; meeting with people of similar interests, or to participate in projects that help those who need help the most. I won't repeat them all here, they can be found in the church bulletin.

I have friends and family members who, along with others in our church, have built houses in Mexico and on the Pima Indian Reservation. They have built a church in the Dominican Republic and they have taught underprivileged children to read. Some of these folks do volunteer work that is the same as the work that they do at home. We have doctors and nurses who provide medical services to

taxes, and best of all, enjoying life! Considering that her prognosis had been "unrecoverable to significantly impaired," we are relieved and thankful to God beyond words.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Marie has more to do than she can manage. Beyond discipling students and planning and leading Bible studies on campus, she leads a training day in campus planting for 12 staff each month, and she is personally coaching two staff planting at two colleges. Please pray for her stamina and wisdom to prioritize ministry tasks and know when to decline opportunities to serve.

Daniel has an intense reading load. He has to read 5+ books this weekend, and is not sure how he can keep up! Pray that he will be able to accomplish the reading, glean what he needs to learn, and still manage to enjoy it.

Thank you for your prayers and generous support!

God bless,
Daniel & Marie

people who would not have medical care without them.

Some of our volunteers do work that is completely outside the realm of their normal skills. We have

people in the financial world who have poured concrete for the foundation of a school for children who would not otherwise have a school. Volunteers from our church built a house for a family that would not otherwise have had a home. A lawyer painted the interior. None of them were professionals in the building trade.

All have told me that they felt wonderful about this work. It gave them a feeling of accomplishment and fulfillment unequaled by any type of paying job. A few have related to me how they came to volunteer - the first time they were talked into it by friends or family. However, after seeing the good that they did with their own hands and the gratitude of those who were helped, many can not wait to sign up for the next project. It makes me think of what Jesus said in His Sermon on the Mount that we should love one another. "As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Following that teaching has great benefits for both the recipients and the volunteers.

Kathy Hill

Andy is in the DR, so look for his letter again next month.

CFC FAITH UPDATE

Every year I look forward to hearing what the kids are thankful for. Check out the Kids Say the Darndest Things part of the Children's Ministries article for a sneak preview of this year's answers! This month, the children and I will talk about how God is the giver of all good things and brainstorm ways we can respond to His generosity.

One way that we can always respond is by sharing what God has given us. In keeping with that idea, children in Rooms 107, 201 and 202 will participate in a Chapel packing party for Operation Christmas Child on Monday, November 14. I will provide the necessary supplies but any donations would be much appreciated! Children will pack boxes for boys and girls in need around the world, write them notes and pray for the recipients of each box.

Lastly, it was wonderful to see so many of you at Mommy and Me Day! Getting an extra morning with my CFC friends was a special treat. Please know that you and your children are always welcome at LCPC!

MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**MESSENGER DEADLINE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 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.



ABIDE

STUDENT MINISTRIES

(Please welcome our guest columnist this month, Emma Minkler, who is a 17-year-old Junior at CVHS.)

THANKSGIVING

During this month, most people are preparing for the one holiday primarily devoted to feasting and giving thanks. If you hadn't figured it out, that holiday is Thanksgiving! Many people know the story of Thanksgiving but not the story behind it. Traditionally, the Pilgrims and Native Americans periodically held "thanksgivings" to celebrate a plentiful harvest or even a victorious battle over the neighboring town. Never once were religion or religious based holidays in the national government (which is ironic since the Pilgrims or separatists fled for religious freedom) allowed.

It wasn't until George Washington was in office that he proclaimed our country have November 26th "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God." This was the first holiday in the United States to celebrate the goods and blessings brought to us by God. However, Thanksgiving as a holiday was not easy to accept nationwide as the South disagreed with congressional religious

observance. After the Civil War, the South accepted Thanksgiving along with other historical adjustments.

Also after the war, many presidents tried to move the holiday in accordance to various events. In 1867, Thanksgiving was officially to be the last Thursday of November, but in 1939, Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the date further to allow maximum Christmas shopping time. Ever since then, the day was bounced around but usually falls around the November 20th mark. All in all, the holiday we know as Thanksgiving was refined over a period of time and once was far from what it is today. Aside from dates and origins, Thanksgiving is a day (but certainly not the only day) for everyone to acknowledge and appreciate God's love and blessings over us and to bless other people with love and great food!

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Personally speaking, my family and I like to celebrate the entire day. The morning starts with a big brunch, watching the Macy's parade, and a lot of family time. Then toward the end of the day, we drive to my grandma's house for a more traditional dinner complete with tumbling in the backyard and Thursday night football.

Thanksgiving has always been one of my favorite holidays just because it's the only holiday that's devoted to family and giving thanks rather than receiving small trinkets or toys. I really have appreciated the reasons we give thanks because over all, God deserves so much more credit than He gets. Every day we should praise Him...and eat turkey and stuffing and pie! Let's all remember to thank the Lord!



LEE'S LATEST

Fear is powerful force in our world, and it has been prevalent during this campaign season. "If my opponent wins, the nation will surely suffer and spiral out of control" seems to be the tagline for every political ad I've seen so far.

In a world fueled by the 24-hour news cycle, fear is a powerful tool, but we have not been given a spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7). The temptation is to give in to fear and doubt, to be paralyzed by the despair and hopelessness so prevalent in our society.

I have been meditating on gratitude lately. I've (re)discovered a classic discipline: the antidote to worry is thanksgiving. Try it! It's very hard to be worried when you're thanking God for his blessings.

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

(Matthew 6:33-34)



GENERATIONS: GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

**Saturday, November 12
8:30 AM -12:00 Noon
in the Fireside Room**

Everyone is invited to this fun, interactive training in intergenerational ministry lead by GenOn Ministries staff member, Liz Perraud, and hosted by LCPC's Children's Ministries. Liz is trained in leading intergenerational ministries and is flying in from Pennsylvania to talk to LCPC specifically about how we can build intergenerational relationships and thus create a deeper culture of discipleship through our current programming. Come enjoy breakfast, fellowship and some wonderful teaching. Children's Ministries sincerely hopes that people of all ages will make time in their schedules to come to this event! RSVP to Ashley @lcpc.net.

BISTRO 50+
FUN FOOD, FELLOWSHIP



**Tuesday,
November 22
12 Noon
in Koopmans
Join us for lunch. Only \$5!**

children's Ministries

by Ashley Pollock

Almost every Sunday in E.I.S.H. (our Sunday morning program for 1st - 6th graders), we take time during our large group to add Post-Its to our **"Gratitude Board."** The Gratitude Board is really just a bulletin board covered in butcher paper and now neon colored Post-It notes, but it is a fun tradition. Each week, 3 - 5 kids come to the front of the room and write down something they want to thank God for that week. The answers are sweet, entertaining, random, thought provoking and at times hilarious. One week, a young boy was thankful for robots. Another week, a little girl was thankful for her big brother. Multiple kids have been thankful for donuts and Pokemon. Recently, a 3rd grader very seriously shared that she was thankful for God's forgiveness.

The Gratitude Board is not a challenging activity. The kids have no problem every week coming up with things they are thankful for. Some of them will resolutely maintain that they had a "two thumbs way down" kind of week but still race forward to add their Post-It note to the board. And that serves as a great reminder to me and hopefully to all of them that even on our worst days, our God still deserves our thanks and praise. We are entering the holiday season (hard to believe but true) and while many families love this time of year, others feel pain more acutely in these next two months – loss, loneliness, financial instability all seem to hit a little harder. But in all circumstances, I pray that we can take time each day to add a little something to our own personal gratitude boards because as Psalm 106:1 reads: *Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

One of the most common things that children write down on our board is "family." They are thankful for their families. I am thankful for the LCPC families as well and I hope that you will join me on November 4 for a **Family Cooking and Movie Night!** This event is open to families of all kinds – whether you have young children, adult children or no children, you are invited! We will begin the evening at 6:00 PM by making dinner together – homemade pizzas and salad. After enjoying our culinary creations, we will watch the culinary Disney classic *Ratatouille* and enjoy some dessert. The event goes from 6:00 - 9:00 PM. RSVP to Ashley@lcpc.net so that I can make sure we have enough pizza supplies.

The following weekend on November 12, Children's Ministries will be hosting an event that I am very excited about – one that we have never had before! **Generations: Growing in Faith**

Together is an interrogational training open to the entire congregation. GenOn staff member and intergenerational ministry specialist Liz Perraud is flying out from Pennsylvania to lead this training and help our church think about how we can create a deeper culture of discipleship through intergenerational relationships. The event runs from 8:30 AM to Noon in the Fireside Room. Please join us for a light breakfast, fellowship and some wonderful teaching! RSVP to Ashley @lcpc.net.

As PEAK wraps up for the year, Mary Wilson and I will be talking to our 4th - 6th grade SPARKS about being grateful to God for generously giving us our talents and abilities. This, along with a Wednesday night lesson on humility in Christ, is meant to prepare them for the **9th Annual SPARKS Talent Show** on Wednesday, November 16, at 6:30 PM. This show is meant to be an opportunity for the kids to encourage each other, pray together and celebrate the variety of talents God created. In addition, this year, our SPARKS will be raising money to purchase Spanish children's books to give to Megan Doeding, an LCPC member who works as a house parent at an orphanage in Guatemala. I hope that each of you reading will carve out some time to come and enjoy the show.

Last, but certainly not least, November marks the end of our **Operation Christmas Child** collection and the beginning of our Christmas Adopt-a-Family project. LCPC's Operation Christmas Child collection ends November 14, so please bring your shoeboxes to the sanctuary by then. I



love seeing the steps of chance packed with all those boxes and thinking that each one will bring happiness to a child who is likely persevering through more than we can imagine. If you have any questions about Operation Christmas Child,

please contact me at Ashley@lcpc.net.

Then, **Adopt-a-Family** begins on Sunday, November 27. This year, Children's Ministries hopes to create a minimum of 20 Christmas gift bags for local families in need. We like to fill these bags with candy and gift cards to grocery stores and Target. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Love in Christ,
Ashley Pollock

Kids Say The Darndest Things (on Gratitude)

Ashley: (with the CFC kindergarteners) "God is the giver of all good things. What are you the most thankful for today?"

5-Year-Old: "For having love all around me."

6-Year-Old: "Oh I know... for all the food and things."

5-Year-Old: "I'm thankful God gives us power. (Gives Ashley a knowing smile) I remembered that!"



SUNDAY AFTERNOONS IN THE GARDEN

Please join us for Conversations in October. We meet once or twice a month on Sunday afternoons at the home of Nancy Coler to discuss the week's sermon.

So far, we have been meeting indoors to escape the heat. Join us for some heartfelt fellowship that will carry us into November. All are welcome!

This month we'll meet on **November 27**. Arrive at 4:30 PM, and we'll be finished by 6:00 PM. For more information, please call Nancy Coler at (626) 755-1880.

November – the month for giving thanks! We all have so much to be thankful for this season! I think what I'm most thankful for this year is that no matter what chaos is going on in our country or the world around us, **Jesus is Lord** and He and His Father are ultimately in charge. Amen!

It is also that glorious time of year when we gain an extra hour of sleep, courtesy of **Daylight Saving Time ending!** Don't forget to set your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday, November 5, because the magical transformation will happen at 2:00 AM, **Sunday, November 6**, while you are snoozing away.

Thank you to **Jenny Schwing** and her team for organizing an enjoyable and successful **Phantom of the Auction**. So many people graciously donated items, services, and gift certificates. Another team hit the pavement and solicited donations, wrapped baskets and set up Koopmans. The youth were in full force helping out and offering their musical talents to the evening. Then all of you came out to bid on the wonderful items to benefit our **Children's and Youth Ministries programs**. Thank you all for supporting LCPC's biggest fundraiser!

Journey With Jesus II has been going great! Attenders are once again blessed by the opportunity to gather in small groups and dig in to the topic of the evening with meaningful discussions.



The series will continue until Wednesday, November 9.

We could use more **volunteers to serve PEAK dinners** on Wednesday nights through November 16. You just need to arrive by 5:25 PM and you will be done in time to make it to your favorite PEAK Class. If you are able to help, let **Elaine Ross-Collins** know this week at **PEAK**.

Creative Bible Journaling has a new schedule for the remainder of 2016. The group will be meeting monthly – first on Thursday, November 10, and again on Thursday, December 8, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Narthex. If your schedule didn't permit you to check out a Wednesday class, now is your chance! People are loving this new and creative way to experience the Bible.

On Saturday, November 12, **Ashley**, along with **Ed and Shirley Carlson**, will be hosting a workshop called **"Generations: Growing in Faith Together."** The class will be led by **Liz Perraud** from **GenOn Ministries**. She will be teaching us how to effectively use our programming to create intergenerational discipleship. We hope you can attend 8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. It's free and breakfast snacks will be provided.

You've still got time to get your **Operation Christmas Child boxes** filled, wrapped and delivered to the sanctuary by Thursday, November 14. It will be the best gift you give this Christmas season! Go to **www.samaritanspurse.org** for ideas and to print your shoebox labels.

The **SPARKS** will be presenting their **annual talent show** on Wednesday, November 16, at 6:30 PM. The SPARKS are always full of wild, wacky and wonderful talents! They will be **raising money** to buy books for the **orphanage in Guatemala** where **Megan Doeding** is working. **Dedication**

Sunday will be this month on November 20. There will be one service at 9:00 AM so our whole church family can be together, offering their **Faith Estimate of Giving Cards** for 2017. There will be a delicious **Thanksgiving brunch** after the service hosted by the **Deacons** in Koopmans Hall. It will be a special time of worship and fellowship.

Can you believe the **First Sunday of Advent** is at the end of this month? It's the Sunday right after Thanksgiving. If your family, or a group of friends, is interested in lighting the Advent Candles at one of our services, please contact Michele Fernandez at: fern7@sbcglobal.net.

We were grateful that **Pastor Andy** made it safely to and from the **Dominican Republic** last month. He was en route at the same time **Hurricane Matthew** was headed straight for Haiti, and the storm made landfall just hours after his safe arrival. Fortunately La Romana was not affected by Matthew and Andy was able to continue his work on the Mission House and another housing renovation.

We are delighted to welcome two **new members** into the LCPC family – **Jeanette Draney** and **Michael Lombardi**. Jeanette has been active in the **Cathedral Choir** and on the **Newcomers Committee** and Michael has been attending LCPC for a few years. If you see them, be sure to introduce yourself!

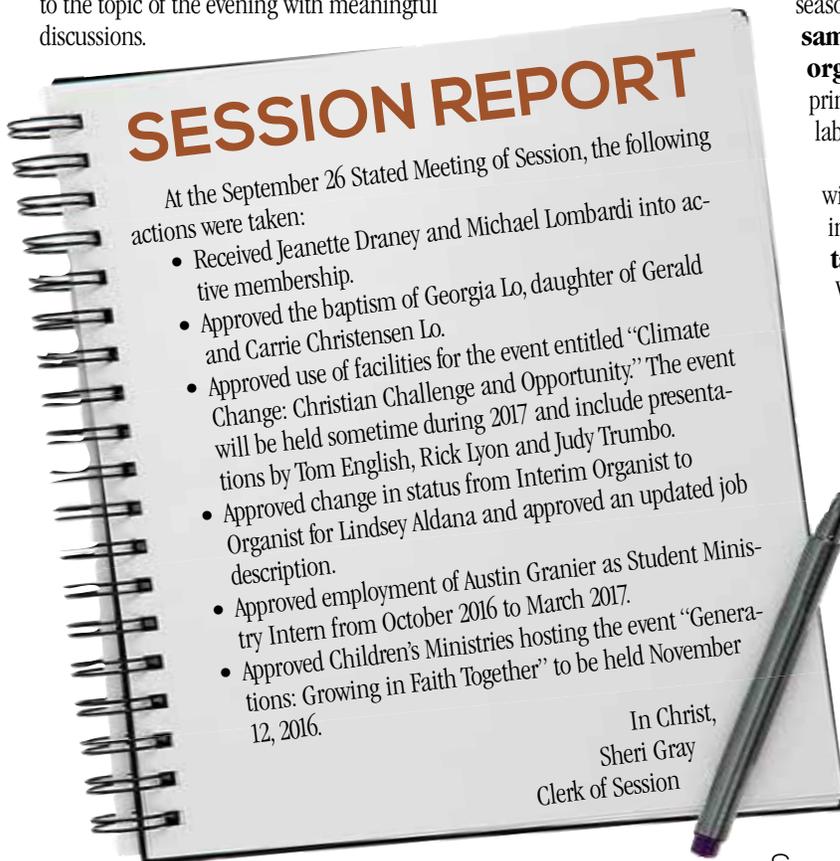
Children's Ministries led a wonderful **Evensong** service last month. **Ashley** was joined by about **10 children** who led worship songs and prayers, and then served hot apple cider, tea and cookies after the service. It was the perfect way to end a fall weekend!

The **Student Ministries** interns are in full swing. Their teaching intern, **Andrew Granier**, has planned a sermon series entitled **"The Great Expedition"** which focuses on our journey to grow closer to God. The program interns have decked out the student center with tents, mountains, vines, and trails - come check it out! There will also be a **video series** chronicling this journey on the **Abide website**.

Congratulations to **Faith Gonzales** on her marriage to francé **Paul Lin** last month! Faith was a gorgeous bride and her mom **Idessa** couldn't have been happier!

We have a very thoughtful neighbor named **Edward** who lives next door to our church. He recently moved here from Australia and couldn't help but notice a group of ladies gardening around the church every Saturday morning. He came over to inquire if they needed help. **Nancy** explained they are our **"Cornerstone Crew"** and now he comes over almost daily to do yard maintenance around the church. If you happen to see him, welcome him with a big thank you!

Count your blessings this month, give **abundant thanks**, and I'll see you next month!





Director's Corner

As Thanksgiving approaches, I wanted to say thank you to all our families for sharing your wonderful children with us. Each day I look forward to seeing what the day will bring. What gem of truth will come out of a child's mouth? How will they view the world? I get to see great hope for the future in their kindness and concern for their fellow classmates. I also get to walk with families in good and bad time, what an honor to be included.

I love talking with kids who are having a tough day and being a soft spot for them to get themselves back together. I regularly pray for your children, your families, your marriages and for my staff. Rest assured that I will think of all of you at my Thanksgiving table this year. May you too take time to acknowledge the blessings in your life and help your children to appreciate theirs too.

Pat

GUSD and CFC Closures

While GUSD elementary schools will be closed on Friday, November 4, and again on November 21-23, we will be here full day for your children. Children in grades 1-6 need to bring a lunch. Thursday, November 10, is a minimum day as well. We will be picking up children early.

Both the CFC and GUSD will be closed for Veterans' Day on Friday, November 11. We will also be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after.

Thanksgiving Feast

During the week of our Thanksgiving Feast you can smell Thanksgiving in the air. Each classroom prepares one part of our feast, and then on Thursday, November 17, we come together in Koopmans Hall for dinner as one big CFC family. The hall will be decorated with your child's artwork and we will give thanks together. We will be asking you to bring in the item assigned to your classroom, like a can of pumpkin pie mix or rolls, etc. Look for information in your child's room and we look forward to seeing you then.

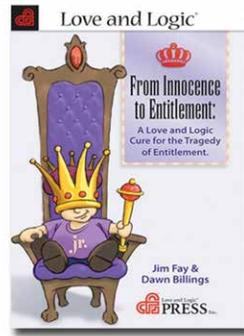


Love and Logic

"Mom, I have to have _____." "Dad, give me _____." "You have to buy me _____." "It's not fair."

Have you ever had your child say something like this to you or feel like it was implied? Have you ever felt that a Christmas or birthday wish list was really a demand list? Many children seem to feel that the entire world owes them, or that they are entitled to get everything they want. Unfortunately we usually don't need to look very hard to see why that attitude grows. Many parents have helped their children develop these attitudes by allowing their children to live like royalty in their houses. While this has happened out of love for their children, they may be stealing their child's potential for contentment, esteem, gratitude, imagination, and happiness.

Too often we treat our children as honored guests in our homes instead of treating them like contributing members of a family. As you all know by now, I really like the approach to parenting that the Love



- Teach your kids the true meaning of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
- Step out of the role of "service provider" and into the role of parent.
- Never hear, "It's not fair," or "But I want it" and give in again.
- Have the courage to say "No".

and Logic Institute puts forth in all their materials. This idea means not only raising responsible kids, but also kids and then the adults we want to be around.

As we approach the Thanksgiving season and think about giving thanks and of being grateful, I thought I would recommend one particular resource to you from Love and Logic. The people of Love and Logic say the only throne your child should sit on is the one in the bathroom! In order for children to learn how to be grateful, they must feel like they are contributing members of a society and the first society they encounter is the one in the home. This resource helps parents look at that dynamic. It is available both in bound book and e-book format.

Communication with You

We try to get information to parents in a variety of ways, not to bombard you, but so that you will be sure not to miss any events, ideas or news that you might need.

- **Your Parent File:** There is a parent file in your child's classroom. In it we place our two monthly newsletters, billing information, scholastic newsletter, invitations and other types of flyers and information. Please check your parent file at least weekly.
- **Emails:** We send out email messages about once a month. Usually it is about a special event that is coming up that we don't want you to miss. If you are not getting our emails, then please check your spam or junk mail folder. If we aren't there, then please check with Teri to see if we have a good email address for your family. We are happy to add as many emails as you would like.
- **Facebook:** We love to post pictures of what is going on, reminders of upcoming events, parent blogs, family events in our community and some things just for fun. Be sure to follow us. It's the quickest way to get up to date information to you.
- **Website:** At www.Center4Children.com you can

find an up to date menu, forms for medicine, school calendar, newsletters, parent handbook and other helpful information. Use it as a resource tool.

We hope all these means of communication help you feel more connected to our program. And don't forget, you can always call us or stop by the office to talk to us any day and have a jelly bean on me!

Operation Christmas Child

This program allows your family to give the gift of Christmas to children around the world in a very tangible easy way for your kids to understand. All you have to do is fill a shoebox with small items for a boy or girl such as toys, hard candy, school supplies, etc and bring it back to the CFC office marked for a boy or girl and about what age. You can add \$7 for the shipping if you would like. Get more information about this by picking up a brochure in the CFC office. Boxes are due no later than November 14.

CHURCH STAFF

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

NEW SONG WORSHIP (CONTEMPORARY), SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM
SERVICE OF PRAISE (CLASSIC), SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM

In November, we'll be continuing our sermon series on the Book of Acts.

NOVEMBER 6

Message by Andy Wilson
(Don't forget to set your clocks back!)

NOVEMBER 13

Stewardship Panel Discussion

NOVEMBER 13 EVENSONG SERVICE LED BY THE CHOIR 5:00 – 5:50 PM

Followed by a congregational meeting at 6:30 PM to approve by-laws

NOVEMBER 20

DEDICATION SUNDAY! ONE SERVICE 9:00 AM

Followed by a brunch provided by the Deacons

NOVEMBER 27

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Message by Ashley Pollock

Dear Friends,

I want to thank the LCPC family for providing such a warm and respectful environment for my granddaughter and her *Glam* trio during the presentations of the gospel music they provided for the September 4 second service. I was so happy that the LCPC congregation received them with such an enthusiastic and joyous manner.

As the group *Glam*, this was the first public outing for Andilyn, Meghan, and Lexie, and they were elated with the response to their endeavor. A special thanks to Andy Wilson for recognizing and introducing the girls and praising them so gallantly during the service.

GLAM THANK YOU!

I was of course very proud of these young ladies for their hard work and dedication while learning the music that I had written for them, and their subsequent performance. I must also thank their moms and dads who were very supportive of the project, providing rehearsal times and space and encouragement throughout the preparation period; most especially my son Doug who very competently administered the rehearsals when I wasn't available and played drums for the activity.

Another special thanks must go to Lindsay

Aldana for all the extra work she put in practicing and recording the piano music for the girls' rehearsals and for providing her flawless accompaniment. Yet another special thanks to Paul Hofmann for his background videos that brought the music even more alive. All I had to do was give Paul a few suggestions on what I wanted to see and he provided the perfect settings.

And finally, many kudos to Josh Kauffman for engineering and coordinating the sound and tapes during the service. All in all, it was a marvelous experience and one of which I am not likely to forget!

In Christ,
Noel Collins