

**LAKESIDE COMMUNITY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
9908 Channel Road, Lakeside, CA 92040  
619-443-1021  
lakesidepc.org    office@lakesidepc.org  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 9 AM – 2:00 PM

**DIRECTORY**  
*“All members are ministers in Christ's Service”*

Rev. Tim Avazian, Pastor  
Silvia Serrano, Office Manager  
Ron Hilley, Director of Music  
Janice Johnson Warren, Treasurer  
Suzy Smith, Caretaker  
Joanne Laird, Nursery Attendant

**2024 LCPC OFFICERS:**  
**Clerk of Session:** Linda Sunkel  
**Elders:** Sheila King, Glen Bauer,  
Nancy Adams, Lisa Hultman, John Sunkel, ,  
Garry Smith, Gerie Morrin, Gary MacDonald  
**Deacons:** Chris Crawford, Suzy Smith,  
Ruth Boudreau, Sioux Swart, Mark Vettel,  
Ski Zenski, Shirley Wilson, Joy Wray

Sola Scriptura – Sola Fide – Solo Gratia -  
Solo Christo – Soli Deo Gloria

(Scripture Alone - Faith Alone - Grace Alone -  
Christ Alone - To the Glory of God Alone)  
“A Confessing Presbyterian Church”



LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN  
CHILDREN'S CENTER  
La Teresa Oropeza, Director  
619-443-2887

**Our Supported Missions:**  
John and Cynthia Chynoweth (**Cru, FL.**)  
Leona Edic & Jennifer Edic Bryant  
**Literacy & Evangelism Africa/Central  
America**  
Dave & Sylvia Riggs  
**Wycliffe Bible Translators, Mexico**  
Steve & Debbie Robinson  
**Mission Aviation Fellowship, Idaho**  
Dave & Linda Ringenberg  
**Mission Aviation Fellowship, Indonesia**  
**Sudanese Church**  
**San Diego Military Outreach Ministry**  
**Presbyterian Urban Ministries**  
**Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana**  
**Lakeside Christian Helps Center**  
**Presbyterian Missions (shared)**  
**Sudanese Church of San Diego**  
**Daniel Nunez, Kingdom Builders**  
When you finish reading this newsletter,  
please share it with family and neighbors.


**1 Corinthians 15:1-4**  
“Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”



Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church  
9908 Channel Road    Lakeside, CA 92040    619-443-1021

**LCPC CONNECTIONS**

office@lakesidepc.org  
lakesidepc.org  
March 2024 Newsletter



**A WORD FROM PASTOR TIM**  

---

**The Centrality of the Cross**

---

Walk into the sanctuary of Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church and one of the things that you first notice is the cross. In fact, there are 6 different crosses that are visible. I don’t know the purpose of the placement of each of the crosses but I suspect that the cross is to be at the center of our sanctuary, central to our worship. It speaks volumes about our church and our faith.

The earliest Christians didn’t use a cross as a symbol of its faith. The New Testament church tended to use a dove, a peacock (to symbolize eternal life), an athlete’s victory palm, the Chi-Rho monogram or a fish (ichthys). It wasn’t until the 2nd century, after the Roman Emperor Constantine had a vision, that the cross became a symbol of Christendom. Here is the story behind that Constantine’s vision.

On the eve of the Battle of Milvian Bridge, Constantine had a vision in which he saw a flaming cross in the sky, along with the words “in hoc signo vinces” (with this sign you shall conquer). Upon his victorious battle, Constantine adopted the cross as his emblem and the empire, and Christendom followed.

Over the two millennium of Christendom, the cross has become the symbol of the Christian church. It represents and memorializes Christ’s death:

- The cross is a reminder of the cruel and gruesome execution that Christ faced on our behalf.
- The cross reminds us of His atonement for our sins.
- The cross reminds us that He died on our behalf, the perfect sacrifice for the sins of humanity.
- The cross also reminds us of His resurrection from the dead, His conquering of death, and of eternal life.

This year, as we come to another Holy Week and Easter, may the cross remind us of Christ’s death, of His sacrifice for our sins.

- May we offer up prayers of gratitude for what He did on the cross.
- May we offer up our lives to Him as a living sacrifice, a response for what He has done.
- May we share what Christ has done to our family and friends who need to hear the Good News that Christ has risen.

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE:**

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 24 – Palm Sunday Service

Willie the Donkey leading the palm waving processional into the Sanctuary.

March 25-29 – Holy Week Communion Services

Each day at 12pm we will have a short communion service as we walk with Jesus to the cross during His final week.

March 28 – Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm

A communion service where we remember Christ’s Last Supper with His disciples.

March 29 – Good Friday Service at 7pm

A “Rite of Nails” service where we remember that Christ died for our sins on the cross of Calvary.

March 31 – Easter Celebration Service at 9:45am

Come and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at a joy-filled celebration of the risen Christ.

~~~~~

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: SUNDAY MARCH 10

~~~~~

LCPC 24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

Please pray for, and sign up for, our upcoming Prayer Vigil scheduled for Friday, March 15, starting at 9:00am, through Saturday, March 16, 9:00am. Please sign up and participate.

CABRINI – SUNDAY, MARCH 10

LCPC women, we have preordered 10 tickets, so don’t delay and sign-up in the Fireside Room. Special ticket price is \$7.50; (regular price is \$12.39) we will carpool from the church at 3:00PM for Mission Valley 20 AMC Theater. SUNDAY, MARCH 10. SHOW TIME 3:45PM. Please pay LCPC and write movie in the note field, or place \$7.50 in an envelope and write Movie.



Best Wishes to you!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 -Gerie Morrin  
Suzy Smith
- 7 - Charlotte Perkins  
Linda Tagney
- 10 – Ruth Boudreau
- 15 – Edgar Fernandez  
Bob Spencer
- 19 - Wendy MacDonald  
Marilyn Matteson
- 20 - Pete Rich
- 24- Angela Large
- 25 - Leon Hylton-Gordon
- 31 - Barbara Hill

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 – Terry & Ruth Boudreau
- 22 - John & Petra Rich
- 23 - Gary & Marilyn Gilbert
- 28 - Mark & Nancy Vettel  
Ed & Shirley Wilson
- 31 - Don & Jennifer Hillberg





**Lakeside Presbyterian Children's Center**

- Mon-Fri 7am-5:30PM
- 2-4 yrs
- YMCA & CDA subsidies accepted
- Discounts available

# Preschool Enrollment

Your kids deserve the best education

**Benefit:**

- ✓ Certified Staff
- ✓ Kindergarten Prep
- ✓ Curriculum
- ✓ Social Learning
- ✓ Faith Based
- ✓ Family Support

619- 443-2887  
Email: preschool@lakesidepc.org  
www.lakesidepc.org



*Our preschool has been serving our community and nurturing children since 1953!*

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT PRESCHOOL

Hello!

The days are getting longer and warmer, which means only one thing - springtime is just around the corner!

In honor of Dr. Seuss birthday, we will celebrate with crazy days! Each crazy day will go along with one of Dr. Seuss book.

Get ready for all things green as we celebrate St. Patrick’s day. I heard there might be shamrocks and gold coins sprinkled around the playground. And of course we hope to find that pot of gold! We will have Irish dancers here for an assembly; it’s going to be so much fun!

Until next month.

La Teresa Oropeza, Preschool Director

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS) – 2024

*For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world.*

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Your offering will be a sign of hope to many people throughout the world.

In the end, we are working as one team, and as one people, to bring hope to affected people. This is part of our faith. The OGHS campaign runs from February 14 - March 31, 2024. ***Offering will be dedicated on Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.***

A Testimony: *“You cannot imagine people in such destitute circumstances who need cancer treatments, for example, that cost thousands of dollars or else they’ll die,” he said. “Here we can see the suffering and the very critical conditions that many families are facing today. This is why we want to be a sign of hope to many people through the One Great Hour of Sharing. In the end, we are working as one team as one people to bring hope to affected people. This is part of our faith.”*

Please consider making a special gift to OGHS and join Presbyterians to work for a better world, as we share God's love. We make giving easy at LCPC. There are a variety of ways to give: cash in an envelope marked OGHS, a check and identify in the note field OGHS, or give by going to our website: [www.lakesidepc.org](http://www.lakesidepc.org).

*“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die. Do you believe this?””*  
John 11:25-26

SCRIP GIFT CARDS



PLEASE BUY SCRIP GIFT CARDS AND HELP SUPPORT SOME OF YOUR CHURCH & PRESCHOOL’S PROGRAMS

- ✓ You pay face value, and the church gets a percentage of the purchase back.
- ✓ We have order forms available, and a list of hundreds of cards available.
- ✓ Ask Jan Warren, Nancy Adams, or Suzy Smith for more information.
- ✓ Orders are placed on the last Sunday of the month, and are available to be picked up the following Sunday.

**Young At Heart**  
**A Ministry for Senior Citizens**  
*Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church*

Our Young at Heart group is hosting a **St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon on Friday, March 15, from noon - 2:30pm in Rooms 1 & 2.** Lunch will be Shepherd’s pie, soda bread and green salad. Those attending are asked to bring goodies to share. Sign up on the patio during Fellowship time. If you have questions, contact Gary MacDonald at 561-4235, or the Church Office.





## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us for our Women's Bible Study, Mondays, in the Fireside Room at 3:00pm. We are using a series by Sheila Walsh entitled, **The Longing in Me.** Hope to see you there!

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All men are invited on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room.

## CAN YOU HELP?

### PEOPLE WANT TO ATTEND CHURCH, BUT NEED A RIDE.

If you can help, please call the Church Office, 619-443-1021.

## HOSPITAL STAY & PRAYER

If you or someone you know has a stay in the hospital, please contact the church office, so that our prayer partners will be in prayer for you or for them. It is our desire, as a body of Christ, to look to the wellbeing of our church family. We would like to extend prayer and care in whatever way that we can. Unless we are made aware of a hospital stay, we will not know of the need. We would rather get the same notification several times, than none at all.

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

### LAKESIDE CHRISTIAN HELPS CENTER NEWS

The Center needs clothes, blankets, sleeping bags, sheets, pillows, and towels; 16oz, or smaller, bottles of water; easy pop-top cans of chili, pork & beans, and fresh/canned fruit/vegetables.

The Center is open Monday through Thursday, from 10:00am to 12:00pm, and the fourth Saturday of the month, with the same hours. If you know of someone who may need a little extra help, the Center may be reached at (619) 561-3488.

### HOPE 4 THE HOMELESS LAKESIDE (H4HL) & THE THINK DIGNITY SHOWER MOBILE

Both of these organizations are in need of men and women's clothes and shoes (**special request for shoe size 10 and up**), hygiene supplies, underwear (new), snacks, bike patch kits, batteries, tents, tarps, backpacks, and large trash bags for cleaning up the river area. Donations may be dropped off on Sunday, in the foyer, or at the church office during regular hours.



## BOX TOP\$ NEWS – KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Our Preschool has earned \$28.20, to date, from your submitted receipts. The beauty of this easy program is to simply turn in your receipts to the church within 14 days of purchase. The church will submit your receipt and if any item you purchased was identified with a Box Top\$, the preschool earns money. If you download the Box Top\$ APP, you can submit digital receipts too. Remember there are over 80 brands and 350 participating products that have the Box Top\$ logo. Thank you for your continued support.

## MEN'S RETREAT AT PINE VALLEY MEN'S CONFERENCE BEING A JOYFUL MAN OF GOD OCTOBER 4-6, 2024

Pine Valley Men's Conference is designed to allow men to step out of their current context, encounter Biblical teaching, and interact with other men on the same journey. We provide space for church groups to gather and process as a small group as well as a number of activities for men coming on their own.

Individuals, Sunday School classes, men's groups, father and son(s) (ages 12 and older), are all invited and we encourage you to bring your friends with whom the Christian faith is new or unfamiliar as there will be a clear gospel presentation. Cancellation & Refund Policy (applies to all registrants) – 90 days before event: full refund (minus \$50 processing fee). 90-30 days before event: 50% refund (minus \$50 processing fee). 30 days before event: No refunds

OPTION	PRICE	Linens	Meals
Private Bath Lodge	215	yes	yes
Shared Bath Lodge	192	yes	yes
Cabin / Dorm	172	no	yes
RV	130	no	yes
Tent Camping	130	no	yes
Saturday Only	85	no	yes

**Registration begins in July.** In years past the retreat offered overnight in lodge, bunk or tent style accommodations. This year the retreat offers a one-day Saturday retreat @ \$85.00 that includes: 3 meals, guest speakers, outdoor stuff! Guest Speaker: Dr. Scott Smith, Sunrise Church.

---

Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church livestreams our services and engages in social media platforms as a means to engage and communicate church activities. This means your image may be visible to the public. Participation in worship or other church events shall be considered consent to the use of the photo as described, unless written notification to prohibit is received by the church office. **Contact us at: [office@lakesidepc.org](mailto:office@lakesidepc.org), or visit our website at: [lakesidepc.org](https://lakesidepc.org).**



## LCPC MEN'S MINISTRY - LOOKING FOR YOUR INPUT

- **Ideas on Men's Bible Study. Current Bible Study ends on March 18th**
  1. Day and time that works for you?
  2. Material to use such as, Bible, Book(s), Video?
  3. Frequency: Weekly, Bi-Monthly, Monthly?
- **Ironmen Revived**
  1. Would you be interested in participating in a trip to: Gillespie Field Aerospace Museum, Billiards at Parkway Bowl, Card games in the Fireside Room, Balboa Park Auto Museum, USS Midway, or other ideas?
  2. Would you be willing to find guest speakers and prepare a notice for Connections and Sunday Bulletin?
  3. Would you be willing to host a meeting?
  4. What day of the week and time works for you?
  5. Frequency: Monthly, Quarterly or Semi-Annual?
  6. Pot Luck dinner?
- **Men's Retreat**  
Registration begins in July. The retreat offers overnight dorm, tent, or RV accommodations. This year, the retreat offers a one-day Saturday retreat @ \$85.00 that includes: 3 meals, guest speakers, outdoor activities! Guest Speaker: Dr. Scott Smith from Sonrise Church.

Please email your answers to Ed Wilson at [fast.ed.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:fast.ed.wilson@gmail.com).

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Good & Beautiful Community

By James Bryant Smith

For the past few months in worship, we have been following the chapters in the James Bryant Smith's book, The Good & Beautiful Community, as an outline for the characteristics of a church. We were looking at what should be the defining aspects of a faith community that make it distinctive, reflecting on the characteristic of God as we follow the Spirit, extend grace and demonstrate love?

This is the third book in a series that is entitled *The Apprentice Series*. It follows the progression of two books. The first book, The Good and Beautiful God, examines the true narratives about God. Its purpose is to align our thoughts with Jesus' thoughts about God, seeking to "fall in love with the God Jesus knows." The second book of the series, The Good and Beautiful Life, deals with the character and virtues of a Christ-follower. It uses Jesus' **Sermon on the Mount** as a springboard for examining our lives in Christ. There is a fourth book, The Good and Beautiful You, that seeks to be a book that helps us to "love ourselves." All of the books, come from a starting point of living out Christ's expression on the greatest commandment from the Gospels:

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*  
(Matthew 22:35-40; Mark 12:28-34; Luke 10:27)

Each of the chapters from The Good and Beautiful Community focuses upon a different characteristic of a faith community that follows Jesus:

- **We are a Peculiar Community** – A characteristic of a good and beautiful community that follows Jesus that is set apart (or holy), and we offer "peculiar acts" of love to each other and to our world.
- **We are a Hopeful Community** – Because we are connected to Jesus and His ways, we have a hope that is beyond this world. But this hope that is future-oriented also effects the way that we live our lives today, sharing God's hope to our hurting world.
- **We are a Serving Community** – Christ's demonstration of coming to serve rather than being served is our model and a characteristic of the Christ-following community.
- **We are a Christ-Centered Community** – Christ is at the center of all that we do. We are to be a community whose hearts beat in our love for Jesus. (Continued on page 6)

- **We are a Reconciling Community** – Our forgiveness in Christ carries over to our relationships. We are to be a people who are willing to forgive because of what Christ has done for us.
- **We are an Encouraging Community** – Our connectedness carries over into our relationships. We need to be a community that is connected to one another, learning from one another, holding each other accountable and encouraging one another as we go through life.
- **We are a Generous Community** – The mark of a Christian community that follows Christ is one that is generous. We believe and trust in a God who provides for all of our needs so we hold loosely our possessions, looking for ways to serve and to meet the needs of others.
- **We are a Worshiping Community** – The focus of our gathering is to give praise and adoration to Christ. He is the center of our worship, and our worship is in preparation for eternity with Him in heaven. We also serve Him, and His kingdom, in our world today.

Another unique aspect of the Apprentice Series books is the inclusion of **Soul Training Exercises** that seek to help us through indirect means, grow in our loving relationship with God, with ourselves, and with others.

The final thing to say about this book is that it is a great book to read with others. There are discussion questions for each chapter that help you to engage with the content of the book and with the soul training exercises. This is the best way to understand the material in the book and grow in our relationship with God and with each other.



## 24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL FOR OUR NEIGHBORS MARCH 15 & 16

During the Season of Lent, we have been praying daily for our neighbors. Now, with Easter approaching at the end of the month, we are going to be praying for 24 Hours, for our neighbors.

**Starting on March 15 at 9am and then, for the next 24-hours, we will pray for our neighbors in 30-minute time slots.** This is something that you can do at home or if you prefer, you can come to church and pray when the church office is open on Friday (between 9am-2pm).

**Sign-ups** will take place after church worship services or you can call the church office (619-443-1021) and add your name to a time slot.

Here are some things that you can be praying for:

- Pray for **three neighbors**. A “neighbor” can be on your street, a relative, a co-worker, or for someone a continent away.
- Pray for neighbors **to invite** to church at Easter.
- Pray for **people on your street** who you don’t know.
- Pray for neighbors that you know are in need. This could be in your community or it could be a continent away.

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1 Peter 1:3*