



# THE MISSION BELL

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 2025

Volume LXV Number 2

## Parking Lot Project – Where Are We?

by Tim Farley

Most of the Parking Lot Task Force (PLTF) meetings begin with three questions –



Ron Morris fishes in “Lake Carmichael” in CPC’s parking lot after a recent rainstorm.

Where are we? Where do we want to

be? and How do we get there? Then we

pray for God’s guidance and support.

This brief update is intended to address the first question – Where are we? The short answer is, “We’re getting close.” The new solar panel (Continued on page 3)

### Inside This Issue:

From Pastor Keith	2
From Pastor Ivan	4
Communion Changes	4
World Relief—Stand in the Gap	5
A Long-Awaited Gift	6
Caregiver Support Zoom	6
Membership Class	7
In Our Church Family	7
Children’s & Youth Ministry	8
All Church Campout	8
Overcoming Storms	9
Library Corner	10
Presbyterian Women	11
Scuttlebutt	12
Wanted: Cookie Enthusiasts	13
Our Mission	15
Our CPC Staff	15

**ASH**  
WEDNESDAY  
WORSHIP  
March 5 at  
7:00 p.m.

This contemplative service begins the Lenten season with the imposition of ashes and the Lord’s Supper. The service will also be livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/carmichaelpres/>  
Childcare is provided.

From Pastor Keith L. DeVries:  
"Mom's Daily Devotions"

When I walk into my mom's house, my attention is drawn to the kitchen table and mom's growing stack of daily devotionals.

At last count, she has at least a dozen devotional books that she reads from faithfully every single day. I'm not sure I can

keep up with mom, but I

thought that for my Lenten practice this year, I might try reading from three different devotional books, starting with:

1. **2025 Lenten Devotional**, "Grieving Change and Loss: The unpredictable, non-linear, faith-filled journey toward resurrection," produced by *Presbyterian Outlook*, with devotional materials written by Teri McDowell Ott, Dr. Bobby Hulme, and Rev. Ginna Bairby. This devotional is available to you at no cost at the sign in tables on Sunday mornings and in the church office during the week.

2. **Where the Eye Alights, Phrases for the Forty Days of Lent**, by Marilyn McEntyre. Marilyn is an



More than a dozen devotional books rest on the kitchen table at Pastor Keith's mother's home.

author and professor of literature and medical humanities, speaker and retreat leader. Available from online booksellers.

3. **Turning Over Tables, A Lenten Call For Disrupting Power**, by Kathy Escobar. Available in the church office for \$12. This will be the basis for a Lenten study, led by **Pastor Ivan** and me beginning March 2, in the Howard Crowley Room following worship. See Pastor Ivan's article on page 4 for more details.

In preparing for my Lenten journey, I share with you a few sentences from each devotional to give you a sense of

what each one brings to the table.

From "Grieving Change and Loss:"

*The wilderness of Lent, this 40-day journey with Jesus, is a journey of grief. We prepare ourselves to lose Jesus on the cross. We boldly lean into the pain of this loss to remind us of our love for Christ and of God's love for us. But the hope of Christ's death rests in the new life it offers. Resurrection is the gift that reminds us that death is not the end, that we journey toward healing and hope.*

*As stark as the reminder is, we welcome the gift of this Ash Wednesday. It's the perfect beginning to Lent, this reminder that we don't have forever, that we are mortal, that we and those we love will die. It's the perfect prompt to return us to God, to Godly living, to cherishing life as a precious, fragile gift.*

From *Where the Eye Alights*:

*Lent is a time of permission. Many of us find it hard to give ourselves permission to pause, to sit still, to reflect or meditate or pray in the midst of daily occupations—*

## ... From Pastor Keith ...

*(Continued from page 2)*

*most of them very likely worthy in themselves—that fill our waking minds and propel us out of bed and on to the next thing. We need the explicit invitation the liturgical year provides to change pace, to curtail our busyness a bit, to make our times with self and God a little more spacious, a little more leisurely, and see what comes. The reflections I offer*

*here come from a very simple practice of daily meditation on whatever has come to mind in the quiet of early morning.*

*From Turning Over Tables:*

*To me, the season of Lent, on the road to Easter, is always about intentionally opening ourselves up to what's underneath the surface, what's hidden in the dark, what tectonic plates*

*need to shift for something new to be born. It is also supposed to disrupt us and lead us to action.*

*Days like Ash Wednesday, where we are confronted with our humanity, our mortality, can help equalize and ground us in a deeper truth. It helps remind us that we came from dust and we'll return to it. It can help us be more honest, humble, vulnerable, and rightsized, and these are the essential ingredients that are needed in conversations about power.*

*Dusty ones, this Ash Wednesday, let's humbly rightsize ourselves—not too big, not too small.*

Friends, pick out a devotional or two or three from the stack on your kitchen table and join with me on this Lenten journey of discovery.

May the blessings of peace be upon you,

*Pastor Keith*

## ... Parking Lot Update ...

*(Continued from page 1)*

system will be constructed first. We currently expect it to be installed this spring. It should take about three weeks.

We hope that “breaking ground” for the whole parking lot will happen in late summer or early fall. We still need final approval from the County, a request for construction bids needs to be finalized and advertised, bids need to be received and evaluated. Also, a proposed contract needs to be reviewed by legal professionals.

The construction of the parking lot will probably take about 60 days. There are many parts to the project, such as demolition, grading, lighting, irrigation and land-

scaping, that have to take place before paving begins.

As **Karen Orlando** said last month in her excellent article on “Paving The Way To Welcome All,” you will be hearing more from the PLTF. We are revising the rendering display of the parking lot and we will be sharing that and more details in future Q & A meetings.

As we continue to work on the construction details, we're beginning to brainstorm solutions to other questions like where will worshippers, other visitors, and staff park during construction? And how can the Food Closet function during that time?

Stand by! We're getting close.

### **THE MISSION BELL**

(USP 593-640)

Published Monthly by  
CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5645 Marconi Ave.

Carmichael, CA 95608

Periodicals Postage Paid at

Carmichael, CA 95608

Postmaster send address changes to:

*Mission Bell*

5645 Marconi Ave.

Carmichael, CA 95608

Pastor Ivan N. Herman Writes:

# “Lenten Study: Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power”

From flipping the money-changers’ tables in the temple to uplifting the poor and marginalized, Jesus’ actions and words turn the world’s idea of power on its head. There are different kinds of power that impact us, but Jesus embodied a kind of power built on empathy and connection, not on fear or hierarchy.

We invite you to dig deeper with a book of daily devotions



for the season of Lent as we read together *Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call for Disrupting Power* by Kathy Escobar. We will delve into Jesus’ challenge to the pervasive influence of privilege and oppression that have dominated since ancient times. Through poignant reflections and thought-provoking practices, readers will discover how they can harness the disruptive power of Jesus’ teachings to bring about meaningful change in their

communities and beyond. Together, we can turn the tables and build a world where justice, healing, and greater equity reigns supreme.

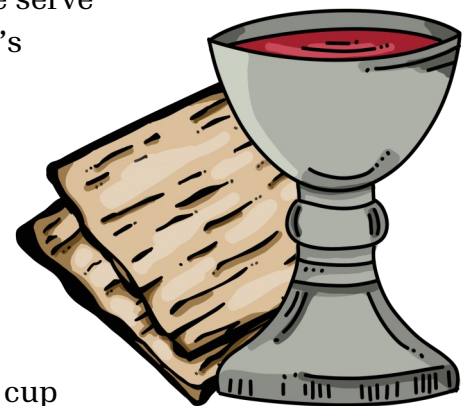
Led by **Pastor Keith** and me, we will meet after worship on March 2 in the Howard Crowley Room for an introduction and distribution of the book. (Books cost \$12 and can also be purchased in the church office during the week.) While this is a daily devotional, we will also meet for group discussion and reflection after worship on Sundays in Lent (except for March 30 and the Planting Seeds of Faith luncheon and auction).

## Changes to Communion Service

by Terry Sakuda, Worship Division Chair

The Worship Division will be implementing changes to how we serve Communion in order to better adhere to recommendations in CPC’s Earth Care Congregation recertification. We are seeking to reduce waste and to make the Lord’s Supper accessible to everyone.

To this end, beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5, Communion will include only gluten-free bread and will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into a common cup). This will enable us to serve intinction style without fear of contaminating the juice with wheat and will feel more inclusive for all. The bread will be spread out on trays without individual paper cups, and a common cup will be used. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **Terry Sakuda** at [terry.sakuda@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.sakuda@yahoo.com)



# STAND IN THE GAP



In Matthew 25, Jesus says, "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me."

## MARCH 2 SPECIAL OFFERING SUPPORTING WORLD RELIEF SACRAMENTO

Carmichael Presbyterian Church has been a partner in mission with World Relief Sacramento since 2018. We have hosted literacy education, job fairs, sports programs, and provided financial support to benefit hundreds of refugees who have become new Sacramento residents. Below you can read an urgent World Relief update. On March 2, 2025, CPC will receive your special financial offerings to "Stand in the Gap" to help World Relief Sacramento support recent arrivals. Write "Mission - World Relief" on an envelope containing your gift, on the memo line of a check made out to CPC, or in the drop-down menu of our CPC online donation page.

## IMPORTANT WORLD RELIEF SACRAMENTO UPDATE SUSPENSION OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

On inauguration day, the new presidential administration issued an executive order that suspended the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program. This action closes the door for refugees who are desperately seeking a safe place to rebuild their lives. Refugees who had waited months or years, navigated intense vetting, and had flights scheduled to arrive in the US, immediately began to see those flights cancelled. No new refugees are entering the US. Then, late on Friday, January 24, World Relief was notified by the U.S. Department of State that all federally funded activities providing initial resettlement support to the refugees we most recently welcomed to the U.S., must stop effective immediately. This federal government funding has historically provided the most basic 90-day assistance to cover food, shelter, clothing and transportation, allowing for World Relief, our volunteers and church partners to focus on wrap-around services, biblical welcome and care for our newest neighbors. We were counting on this financial backing to complete all the required and needed services for those who are already here.

## WHAT THIS MEANS AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

**Emergency Aid:** First and foremost, the immediate cut to funding means that World Relief no longer has the funds needed to pay for case management staffing or to provide the most basic human needs to recently arrived families, such as housing, food, and transportation. Even with the news on January 29 that some restrictions on federal funding have been lifted, **the order to stop work and support for newly arrived refugees is still in place.** These are some of our most vulnerable neighbors. These actions by our government have created a true emergency for these newest arrivals in our community. **The urgency of this moment cannot be overstated.**

**World Relief Sacramento** is now facing a funding gap of upwards of \$1 million to continue providing essential support. We cannot bridge this gap without your help.

# A Long-Awaited Gift

by Keith Atwater

You may recall that our talented young friend, **Mikhail (Misha) Sumarokov** played an organ recital after a worship service last November. Thanks to



your generous donations, Misha was able to purchase a bayan — a Russian push-button accordion. Made in Ukraine and ordered before Christmas, it arrived in late January. Misha shares this about the bayan:

“I started playing a bayan when I was 12 years old. My grandpa had several bayans, and I was very curious about the instrument. So he gave me one, and I started learning at home. I discovered that I had a talent for music, so I studied music, and after graduating from regular and music high schools, I studied organ and bayan at a music college from 2018 to 2022.

My family and I appreciate

the CPC community very much for giving me a chance to continue my mu-

me. I cannot express how grateful I am. This means the world to me! Thank you everyone.”

Misha says that he had not played a bayan for two and a half years! He also wants the

CPC community to know he has a full-time job in the kitchen at Eskaton Carmichael, where some of our members live.

We look forward to a bayan recital in our Sanctuary some time in the future.



*Keith Atwater joined Misha Sumarokov in the CPC office as he opened the bayan purchased for him thanks to generous donations from CPC members.*

sic path. When I got the bayan it felt like a piece of home was brought to

## Caregiver Support Zoom: Are You Interested?



If you are a care giver who would like to connect with others in a similar situation but can't get away, please consider joining a Care Giver Support Zoom meeting. Share concerns, ideas, and resources in a supportive environment and know you aren't alone. And be assured that you won't need to leave your loved one in order to attend.

Meeting dates and times are still being planned. If you would like to know more, please contact **Kathy Lewin** at [kslew-in@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kslew-in@sbcglobal.net).

# Membership Class

Want to find out what it means to be Presbyterian, how CPC operates, and how you can connect to the life and ministry of CPC in a way that is meaningful to you?

Join Pastor Keith for new member classes on

**Sunday, March 16**

**1:00-3:00 p.m.**

and

**Saturday, March 22**

**9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**(includes Welcome Lunch!)**

***Childcare will be provided upon request.***

Questions? Want to sign up? Contact Julie Ueltzen at 916-486-9081 or [carmichaelpres@gmail.com](mailto:carmichaelpres@gmail.com)

## In Our Church Family

Please lift up in prayer these members of our church family who have recently lost loved ones:

✠ **Ivan & Susan Herman** and family on the loss of Ivan's uncle, **Fred W. Newton, Jr.** on January 7.

✠ **Jay Hyde** and family on the loss of his mother, **Joy Jones**, February 4.

✠ **Steve & Karen Orlando** and family on the loss of Steve's sister, **Nancy Crooks**, on February 7.

✠ **Chris & ElizaBeth Phillips** and family on the loss of Chris's father, **Rick Phillips**, on February 9.



## MISSION BELL DEADLINE

**10th of each month  
for the following  
month's issue**



Submit articles to  
Karen Gray at  
[karen@carmichaelpres.org](mailto:karen@carmichaelpres.org)  
or mail/drop off a hard  
copy in the church office.

# What's Up in Children's & Youth Ministry?

by Michael Lombrano, Children's & Youth Ministry Director

## Ridiculousness:



CPC's youth group (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) will join with four other area youth groups for RIDICULOUSNESS on Friday, March 14 from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.! What is RIDICULOUSNESS? It is a time for our students to run around, play games, meet other youth, eat pizza, and have a chance to win prizes. There will be a short message during our time there as well. RIDICULOUSNESS is being hosted at Westminster Presbyterian Church (downtown). We will meet at CPC at 5:30 p.m. to drive over together. We will leave WPC a little after 11:00 and return no later than 11:45 p.m.

## PAINTing Seeds of Faith:



On Sunday, March 16, we will paint flower pots for the Planting Seeds of Faith Auction! This event will take place during the regular children's time upstairs. Our goal is to involve all of our students in the auction. We hope that you and your family can join us!

## Stepping Stones 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible:



Calling all Third Graders and their families! On Sunday, March 23, Michael and the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will meet in room 204 to discuss the basics of the Bible and its purpose. Each student will receive their own Bible and learn how to use it.

## Planting Seeds of Faith:



We need assistance to support those raising funds at the auction. If you have a youth interested in volunteering (or being voluntold), please reach out to **Michael Lombrano**. See the included flyer for more information. Also, a reminder to our youth and families: if you would like to use this money, you must help serve. Michael will provide more details when you sign up!

## SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE

## ALL CHURCH CAMPOUT

FRIDAY, JUNE 20—SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Scotts Fl at Campground, Nevada City, CA

Campsites are less than a 5-minute walk to the lake

Fewer mosquitos than last year

(not guaranteed... but likely)

Spots are limited.

Contact Anne Parker ([anne@sparkinn.com](mailto:anne@sparkinn.com))

to reserve your spot.



## New to CPC?

*This is a great way to meet other people and families.*

**Been at CPC a while?**

*Come relax in nature with your church family!*



# Overcoming Storms

by Misty Dunn, Stephen Minister/Leader

*“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.”*

-Isaiah 12:2

This verse brings to my mind the image of a storm raging all around me.

Lightning flashing, thunder booming, and rain lashing the windows. The good news is, I am safe inside, warm, and protected from the furor going on outside. This is the comfort and reassurance that faith gives me despite the anxiety

and fear I may experience on occasion. There are big, uncontrollable things in the world, things that can and do bring fear: violence, hate crimes, climate change resulting in disasters, etc. These are fears that we may find difficult (impossible) to brush aside. This also was the case in the times that Isaiah prophesied to an anxious people wondering what the future would hold. For eons, people have called out to God when they suffered through floods and fires, through food shortages, life-threatening illness, and every form of tyranny and terror.

We can overcome our fears with trust in God and faith in the salvation promised

to us by remembering that we are not alone; God’s presence is promised throughout scripture. Nadia Bolz-Weber reminds us: “From where does



our help come? Not from our cell phones, I’ll tell you that. Our help comes from the Lord of power and might, who never tires of hearing our prayers, never tires of being our help in times of trouble and never tires of offering us comfort and relief. God has been our help throughout human history.”

And, we are blessed that we know we have Jesus walking with us. Strengthened by this, we can bring Jesus’ light, his peace into our own lives and the world. Going to someone we trust for support, finding ways to meditate and regulate our body, and remembering other times that we got through fear can be a time of faith building. Hopefully, we

will ultimately come to realize that in many ways, our faith has been shaped through fear and that we are stronger and more resilient through it all.

As you confront your fears or other difficult challenges in your life, finding someone to talk to, to support you can be life changing. You may be experiencing difficulties like chronic illness, care giving a loved one, grief, uncertainty of income, or any number of other fear-inducing situations. CPC offers specially trained Stephen Ministers to walk with you through the storms of life. A Stephen Minister meets confidentially each week with their care receiver, one-to-one, for as long as is needed. A Stephen Minister listens without judgement, is a sounding board as needed, offers prayer, encouragement, and affirmation as you move from a place of fear or “stuckness” to resilience and peace.

For more information about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of the pastors or a Stephen Ministry Leader: **Mary Thomas, John Wallace, Len Tozier**, or **Misty Dunn**, or call the confidential line (916-486-0604).

# Library Corner: A Few New Additions

by Doris Beckert, CPC Librarian

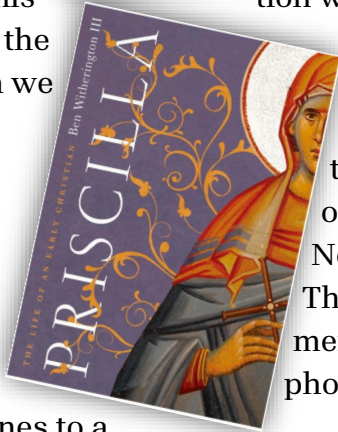
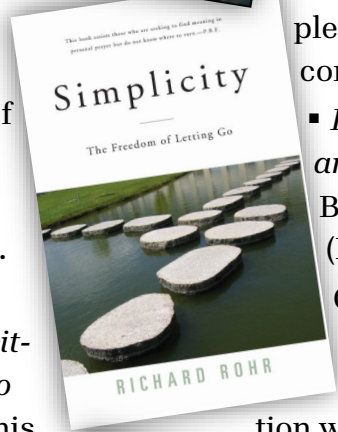
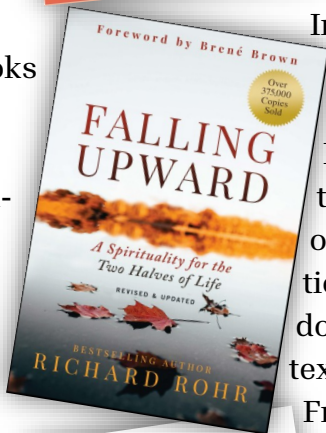
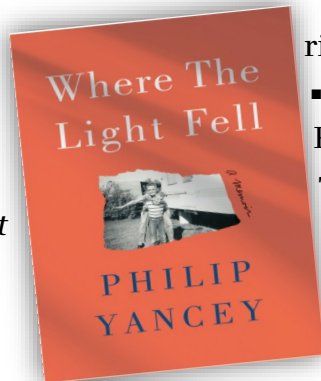
There have been a few recent additions to the library collection:

- *Where the Light Fell*, by Philip Yancey. (920 Yan)

Adding to his many other books on our library's shelves is this spiritual autobiography explaining his conversion from cynic to believer. It is also a family story and an exposé (a reveal of teenage angst).

- *Falling Upward*, by Richard Rohr. (248.4)

Sub-titled *A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*, this book focuses on the later years when we think there is no way to go but down. But Rohr says that this is just the beginning. Our past failures are really stepping stones to a



richer spiritual life.

- *Simplicity*, by Richard Rohr (241.68)

Thanks to donor **Keith Atwater**, the library has another book by Rohr, this one sub-titled *The Freedom of Letting Go*.

Intrigued by that and the chapter heading “Less Is More,” I wondered if Rohr was a pioneer in this 2003 reprint of his original 1990 publication. But no, this is not a down-sizing, decluttering text. It is more like St. Francis’ call for the simple life of happiness and contemplation.

- *Priscilla: The Life of an Early Christian*, by Ben Witherington (Fiction Wit)

Called a novella by the author and considered a historical fiction work, this book brings to life Priscilla, a follower of Jesus. She lived in Rome during the reigns of Emperors Tiberius, Caligula, Nero, Claudius, Titus. The book contains numerous black and white photos of historic sites.

## Follow CPC on Social Media



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/carmichaelpres>

OR

Join our Facebook Group  
“Friends of Carmichael  
Presbyterian Church”



Instagram

[@carmichaelpresbyterian](https://www.instagram.com/carmichaelpresbyterian)



And be sure to  
check out our  
website

[www.carmichaelpres.org](http://www.carmichaelpres.org)

# PW Bible Study Continues

by Lisa Benadom

In March, the Presbyterian Women Bible study, *Let Justice Roll Down*, continues with Lesson Seven, Economic Climate Justice. Author Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull's scripture focus is Deuteronomy 15:7-11, Matthew 26:11, Mark 14:7, and John 12:8. The Bible's economic wisdom never promises to eradicate poverty: "You always have the poor with you." BUT we can reduce suffering and strengthen the entire social network. Previous chapters of this study have examined primarily environmental issues resulting from human behavior. Lesson 7 will encourage us to consider our economic climate justice. As people of faith we are called to provide dignity and opportunity to all. Further, God's intention is that no one be in need within the community and, if there is need, that people give generously in order to care for their neighbor.

Hopefully your interest has been piqued. There are many ways to participate in PW:

1. Pastor-led Bible study is held via Zoom on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. This month on March 13. ALL are invit-

ed. Contact **Karen Gray** in the church office to receive the Zoom link.



*Lesson Seven in the PW Horizons Study explores Economic Climate Justice.*

2. PW Circles meet on the third Thursday of the month for Bible study, prayer, mission, fellowship, and to nurture our faith. This month on March 20. Naomi Circle meets at 9:30 a.m. Contact **Bonnie Hard** 916-501-9291. Mary Martha Circle meets at 1:00 p.m. Contact **Lisa Benadom** or **Kathy Daigle**. Both Circles meet in the DeVries Gathering Place and would be happy to have you join us.
3. Dorcas Circle is our World Service Sewing Circle. For more information about this opportunity to serve,

contact **Carolyn McGregor** at [sabrina53@earthlink.net](mailto:sabrina53@earthlink.net).

Each month our Bible study features extraordinary quilter's art. At CPC we have a tradition in this cherished art form, and we are so grateful to Dorcas Circle for their work.

There are a few Bible study books available. If you are interested in obtaining one, please contact **Terry Sakuda** at [terry.sakuda@yahoo.com](mailto:terry.sakuda@yahoo.com). A copy is also available in the CPC library.

The purpose of PW is to: 1. Nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study; 2. Support mission and service; 3. Work for justice and peace; and 4. Build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

We remain fully committed to our purpose. Come join us. You will be welcomed!

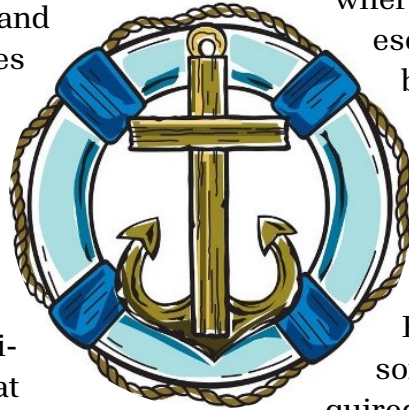
# Scuttlebutt

## News from CPC's Marinerships

### Companionship

Companionship Mariners met on a cold rainy afternoon, February 1. We enjoyed an interesting and amazing talk by **Bep van der Mik** about growing up in Holland and her experiences during World War II. She told us that the weather in Holland is often cold and rainy, with a brisk breeze. Her experience walking in that kind of weather has helped keep Bep in good health for 90 years. Bep was born in Zwolle, a town in the middle of Holland which features a famous church built in the 1400s. The family owned a bakery and lived upstairs over the business, which was about a block long. The bakery was a favorite place for coffee and pastries on Sunday mornings.

Bep, the youngest of seven children, was 5 years old when a cousin came to their home crying to say that the war had started with the bombing of Rotterdam. Bep and other children in the neighborhood distributed Underground Resistance pamphlets. One of her brothers was involved in the Underground Resistance. He trans-



ported weapons and helped the Allies in other ways. He was picked up by the Germans and spent time in concentration camps in Holland and Hamburg, Germany, where he was able to escape. Another brother joined the Allies. Bep's family was forced to have a German officer living with them. For security reasons, he was required to knock to gain admittance – he was not given a key! Like many families, they had a radio well-hidden in a linen closet tuned to Radio Netherlands to hear information about the war. They had Jewish neighbors across the street who owned a fish market. Bep remembers that this family disappeared and never returned. While many in Zwolle suffered from hunger and resorted to eating tulip bulbs, Bep's family was not hungry because of their bakery business. While the schools were closed, families got together to help teach the children, but their education was lacking. They found out the war was over when Canadians arrived to liberate the country. Later, Bep and her husband Simon arrived in the United States in 1957. They

lived in Boston and Texas before finally coming to California. She has been attending Carmichael Presbyterian Church for about 50 years!

After Bep's talk we enjoyed a delicious Valentine's Day cake and festive decorations set up by **Karen and Bud Banker** and **Sharlene St. Clair**. Co-Skipper **Marti Wallace** called our meeting to order and gave a health update on **Dave Beeby**. He seems to be improving a bit. The Beebys have a new caregiver who has been much more consistent. Sharlene St Clair had been in the hospital with cellulitis. **Barbara Farley** distributed the 2025 Companionship roster and program. Thanks for creating this for us, Barbara!

**Elayne Anderson** asked for ideas for our April movie discussion. Contenders included *Conclave* and *American Fiction*. We decided to do the Soup of the Month again for the Planting Seeds of Faith auction on March 30. It was suggested that this year the men take on the soup-making responsibility. That suggestion was soundly rejected (by the men)!

Finally, we were very happy to "Tie On" **Burt and Bonnie Logan**. Our meaningful

*(Continued on page 13)*

# ... Scuttlebutt ...

(Continued from page 12)

installation ceremony includes scripture, statement of purpose and singing “Blessed Be The Tie That Binds.” We’re delighted the Logans joined Companionship! If you’re interested in attending a Companionship meeting, please contact Co-Skipper Sharlene St. Clair.

Thanks to **Nancy Studer** for this excellent summary!

## Mothership

As a new community of busy parents with kids, Mothership is making an effort to think outside the box to create a supportive and meaningful space for one another. In January, we kicked off the year with a much-needed adult night out! **Lara Moborez** organized a fantastic happy hour at Cantina Azteca, giving moms the chance to unwind and enjoy good company.



Mothership members are building community through adult nights out and sharing devotional prayers in their online group.

Meanwhile, thanks to **Michael Lombrano**, our Children’s & Youth Ministry Director, our kids had a blast at a game night hosted at the church. It was the perfect way for both moms and children to recharge!

With our busy schedules and limited gathering time, we’ve found new ways to keep our faith and friendships strong. Several nights a week, **Rae-Nani Stokes** shares a prayer from the *Midnight Mom Devotional* on our online group page. This simple yet powerful practice helps us feel connected, knowing we are lifting each other up in prayer, no matter where we are. We’re excited to continue building this community with more creative gatherings, faith-filled moments, and support for one another.

## Skipjacks

Quilts Ahoy! Skipjacks were surrounded by **Margo Scandella**’s quilts in the DeVries Gathering Place on Saturday, February 8. Margo talked about each one, giving

background and explaining symbolism and personal details. Some of her quilts are hung in the Sanctuary during the appropriate liturgical season. Others are in her home. Margo pointed out several details that can only be appreciated with a close-up view, such as the seven quilted butterflies in the border of the Easter hanging, or the flaming of gold thread in the Pentecost banners.



We went from spectators to creators as **Glenda Perrou** guided us through the steps of making greeting cards. From the packets of precut heart shaped

pieces, we glued down paper parts of a puppy, and placed them into handmade envelopes. **Bette Johnson** then provided them to Deacons who will write notes, sign, and enclose copies of the *Upper Room* booklets. As part of their ongoing project of outreach to CPC shut-ins, the cards will be mailed to those requesting the booklets.

Other cargo taken care of during the business meeting

(Continued on page 14)

# Wanted: Cookie Enthusiasts

In January, **Lillian Janik** and **Lynette Ledesma** did a soft launch of a brand-new Wednesday evening ministry, which has recently been named *Chips Ahoy!* in keeping with CPC's tradition of nautical names for our marinerships. While ours is not exactly a marinership, we are embracing our name wholeheartedly!

This ministry is intended for people of all ages to make cookies for Sunday morning fellowship. We do not have a target quota at this time and we aren't looking for perfec-

tion; the only requirement is that you wash your hands properly and can follow a recipe. The goal is to gather, share recipes, and partake in the joy of making something good to eat with coffee or tea on a Sunday morning.

We will gather on Wednesdays in McMillen Hall, between 7:00 and 8:15

p.m. On the first Wednesday of the month, we will make cookie dough to freeze and bake any left-over dough from the previous month. On other Wednesdays, participants are welcome to bake cookies using our ovens. Directions and basic cookie ingredients will be provided. A child must always be supervised by an adult.



*Ryan Ueltzen mixes cookie dough as part of the Chips Ahoy! ministry.*

If you'd like to participate, we welcome your donation of:

- a favorite cookie recipe, along with whatever additional ingredients may be required; or
- cookie-making tools and equipment that you no longer use; or
- your time and effort on a Wednesday evening; or
- a monetary donation to replenish our kitchen supplies.

We look forward to seeing more people participate, making new connections, and share in our love for this community!

Questions? Contact Lynette or Lillian.

## ... More Scuttlebutt ...

(Continued from page 13)  
was approval of funds toward: 1) World Relief, 2) columbarium landscaping, and 3) a donation for the Planting Seeds of Faith auction.

We also will continue to help Fellowship &

Nurture by providing cookies for Sunday coffee time in May, and helping in the transition of the medical equipment closet.



*Margo Scandella shared stories behind the creation of her quilts and Skipjacks members created handmade cards at their February meeting.*



# Our CPC Staff

**The Rev. Keith L. DeVries**  
**The Rev. Ivan N. Herman**  
**Keith Atwater**, Music Director  
**Michael Lombrano**,  
 Children's & Youth Ministry  
 Director  
**Paul & Mary Camozzi**,  
 Childcare Providers  
**Karen Gray**,  
 Executive Assistant  
**Julie Ueltzen**,  
 Church Secretary  
**Paul Shultz**,  
 Financial Administrator  
**Ron Morris**,  
 Maintenance Manager  
**Christian Bolen**, Custodian  
**Sue Jones**,  
 Food Closet Operations  
 Manager  
**Heidi van Regenmorter**,  
 Organist  
**Rikki Pratt**,  
 Mission Bells Director  
**Gabe Bisho**, Pianist  
**Will Condrey**, Drummer  
**Michael Schwab**, Guitarist  
**Merlyn Van Regenmorter**,  
 Bassist  
**Noor Bitar, Michael Gray,**  
**Bruce MacLean,**  
**Steve Parker, Kiyo Romais,**  
**Avonlee Janik, and**  
**David Stoffel**,  
 Audio/Video Technicians

# Our Mission

Responding to God's love through  
 Jesus Christ, we:

- Welcome all
- Nurture relationships
- Grow in faith together
- Connect with and serve our community and the world



# Contact Us



## by phone:

CPC Office 916-486-9081  
 Stephen Ministry 916-486-0604

## Extensions:

Keith DeVries	203	Julie Ueltzen	200
Ivan Herman	202	Michael Lombrano	207
Paul Shultz	205	Ron Morris	206
Karen Gray	201	Keith Atwater	208

## via e-mail:

Keith DeVries	keith@carmichaelpres.org
Ivan Herman	ivan@carmichaelpres.org
Michael Lombrano	michael@carmichaelpres.org
Julie Ueltzen	carmichaelpres@gmail.com
Karen Gray	karen@carmichaelpres.org
Paul Shultz	paul@carmichaelpres.org
Ron Morris	ron@carmichaelpres.org
Keith Atwater	music@carmichaelpres.org

The church office is open Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



TIME VALUE MAIL

## Sundays @ CPC

### In-Person & Live Stream Worship 10:00 a.m.

A blend of traditional and contemporary music styles bring new life to the Word. Worship in the Sanctuary or join online. Go to [youtube.com/@carmichaelpres](https://youtube.com/@carmichaelpres) or search for “carmichaelpres” on the YouTube app or your Smart TV.



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### Children's Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

All children are welcome and encouraged to attend worship. Following the Time for Young People, kids age 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade are dismissed to their classes.

Preschool through 2nd grade students experience Bible stories through Godly Play. Kids in 3rd-5th grade learn together using lectionary-based Whirl curriculum.

Nursery care for infants through age 3 is available throughout the morning.



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### Coffee Fellowship

### Waterfall Singers & Youth Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Visit and enjoy a cup of coffee and a cookie while you browse the Art Exhibit in the DeVries Gathering Place or chat with friends old and new following worship.

Children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade can join CPC's children's choir, Waterfall Singers.

Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to come to the Upper Rooms (youth rooms) for Bible study.







21st  
**Planting Seeds  
of Faith**   
Luncheon & Auction

**Sunday, March 30 @ 11:30 a.m.**

McMillen Hall

 **ENJOY** a fantastic Lunch donated by Jackson Catering & Events !

 **BID** on tons of fabulous items !

 **WIN** spectacular raffle prizes !

 **HELP** our kids !

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

Adults \$12      Children ages 12 & under \$8      Children ages 2 & under FREE  
in the DeVries Gathering Place on Sundays or by contacting  
the church office during the week.

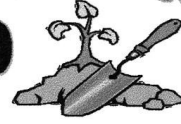
*All proceeds benefit CPC's children's and youth programs*

**Still want to donate an auction item? It's not too late!**

Call Julie Ueltzen at 916-486-9081 or [carmichaelpres@gmail.com](mailto:carmichaelpres@gmail.com)  
or fill out the form on the back of this page



# Planting Seeds of Faith



## 2025 Auction Donation

.....

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(as you would like it to appear in the program)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Item Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by

**March 15, 2025**

to

Carmichael Presbyterian Church

5645 Marconi Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608

OR

email [carmichaelpres@gmail.com](mailto:carmichaelpres@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your support!**

.....

**For Staff Use Only:**

Item #: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt/TY: \_\_\_\_\_ Sale Price: \_\_\_\_\_