

Community Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 788
7854 Pearblossom Highway
Littlerock, CA 93543

Return Service Requested



**"To Know Christ and
to make him known."**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Littlerock, CA
Permit No. 10005

Our Purpose Statement

**To know Jesus Christ as Savior and make Him known
through: Spirit-filled worship, passionate evangelism, loving
fellowship, obedience to scripture, support
of worldwide missions, and
service to our community**

Church Office 661-944-3231 Fax 661-944-3894
Church Web Page WWW.CPCLR.ORG
Pastor K.C.'s email: kcwahe@cpclr.org
Office Administrator email gailL2@sbcglobal.net



Grace In The Desert

Community Presbyterian Church
PO Box 788 7854 Pearblossom Highway , Littlerock, CA 93543
Church Office: 661-944-3231 Church Fax: 661-944-3894 Web: WWW.CPCLR.ORG
"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

"Great is thy faithfulness"

If I could sum up this summer with one word???? That word would be phew!!! What a summer we've had here in Littlerock. Summer began with a wonderful time of Vacation Bible School led by Annie and our great group of adult and youth volunteers. The Gospel was shared with 25 wonderful kids, and each child went away feeling loved and cared for. **This** summer has also been a time of patience for many in our congregation with health issues. We praise God that he is the great physician and that he is good! We praise God for the work of the doctors who cared for people like Barbara Morris and Janice Wise as the cancer they had experienced is now in remission. We continue to pray for Jimmy who is struggling with cancer, and as his life comes to an end we know the Lord has prepared a place for him. **We** celebrated the life of a faithful friend, and a long-time member, Kenny Zink. The memorial service for Kenny was a testimony of God's love and grace in Kenny's life and the memories that were shared will stay with us forever. Kenny and Toyoko were dear friends of many of you and as we continue to pray for Toyoko and her family in their grief, let us also celebrate the life Kenny now has with the risen Lord. **After** 20 years of ministry we saw the departure of Pastor Angel and the Valle Church to their new property on 87th Street. We know that God is at work in the Valle church and because of people like Pastor Bob and others, the church is now at a new beginning and continues to serve the Spanish speaking community here in Littlerock. **We** saw the arrival of a new Spanish speaking congregation join us on Sunday afternoons. Nuevo Pacto is a New Covenant church and will be meeting on Sunday afternoons for worship at 5:30pm and on Tuesday evenings for Bible Study at 7:30pm. We pray for this new relationship and for the vision to be a community for a community. **Also** pray to continue helping others come to know Christ and to make him known here in Littlerock. Friends I am reminded of that great hymn as we close our summer together and start off the fall together in unity as one church! *Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! May it be so!*

Because of him,

Pastor K.C.

Volume 1, Issue 5

September 2007

Inside this issue:

Children, Youth, and Adult Education	2
Church Financials	2
Mariner's Fellowship	3
A Poem From Dotty	3
Pastors Study Group	4
Church Calendar	7



Grace In The Desert
is a monthly
publication
of the
Community
Presbyterian Church
Of Littlerock, CA

Children Ministry and Youth Ministry Stuff!

We have hired a new child care coordinator for the church. Her name is Rose Banfield. She will be helping to organize, along with Pastor K.C. and Annie, a system for child care on Sunday mornings during the worship service, Sunday school classes, and special events for the church. Make sure you extend a warm greeting to both Rose and her husband Mike. We will be having our first ever Parents night out for the community. Rose Banfield and those interested in experimenting with this idea as a way for caring for those in our church with kids and those in our community with kids please contact Pastor K.C. for more information. **We will start it on September 14th at 6:30pm.** We will be showing a movie and providing some light snacks. The cost is \$5.00 per family or \$2.00 per child. We will end promptly at 8:30pm.

We are currently in need of Sunday School teachers this fall. We would really like to have a Sunday school class for the youth of our church who are in Jr. High and High School. If you are interested in helping to lead this class, please contact Pastor K.C. or Annie. We need a male and female volunteer and Pastor K.C. will help you coordinate and organize the class.

There will be an additional Sunday school class this fall, led by Denece and Terry Parsons on the Book of Philippians. The class will be at 8:45am and will be for persons of all ages or “multi-generational.” If you and your child are interested in coming please see Denece Parsons for more information. The first class will start on October 7th. We will continue to have our Saturday night youth groups with Caleb from 7:00pm 8:30pm. Contact Caleb Whitehouse for more information.

Adult Education

Our worship service on Sunday mornings is where we come to know Christ in a new way every week. Another way for us as a church body to come to know Jesus is through small groups. This fall we will have an additional Sunday school class at the 8:45am hour taught by Denece and Terry Parsons. The class will be a “multi-generational” class covering the book of Philippians. Youth and adults of all ages are welcome to come and join the class. Contact Terry or Denece for more information. If you’d still like to join the purpose driven life class on Sunday mornings contact Rick Whitehouse for more information.

Church Financial Report	
June	
Income: Budget: \$13,000 Actual: 9,121.50	August (First 3 weeks)
Expenses: Budget: \$13,000 Actual: 9,227.42	Income: Budget: \$9,645.17 Actual \$17,279.75
	Expenses: Budget: \$9,644.86 Actual \$11,255.82
July	
Income: Budget: \$13,000 Actual: 8,102.09	Building Fund: \$127,000.00 CD
Expenses: Budget: \$13,000 Actual: 9,926.17	\$8,700.00 Checking

September Church Calendar

- Sept., 2nd - Deacons meeting immediately after church
- Sept. 4th - Food Bank Distribution 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- Sept. 5th - Pastors Study 8:30 am and Mariner’s Fellowship at 6:30pm
- Sept. 6th - Choir Meeting - Fellowship Hall - 7:00pm
- Sept. 8th - Women’s Fellowship Meeting 10:00am
- Sept. 9th - Session meeting immediately after church
- Sept. 14th - Family Movie Night 6:30pm to 8:30 pm \$5 Family or \$2 per child
- Sept. 15th - Men’s Breakfast 8:00am (Now back to 8:00am)
- Sept. 18th - Food Bank Distribution 5:00pm to 6:30pm

October Church Calendar

- October 2nd, 16th & 30th - Food Bank Distribution 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- October 3rd – Mariner’s Fellowship at 6:30pm
- October 6th - Shannon Sexton’s Wedding 11:00am
- October 7th - Deacons meeting immediately after church
- October 12th - Food Bank Fundraiser “Taco Nite” 5:00pm to 7:30pm
- October 13th– Women’s Fellowship Meeting 10:00am
- October 14th – Session meeting immediately after church
- October 20th - Men’s Breakfast 8:00am (Now back to 8:00am)
- October 31st - “Trunk or Treat” Festival 4:30pm to 6:00pm

EVERY SUNDAY!

- Sunday School 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am**
- Nuevo Pacto Worship Service Sunday evenings 5:30 pm**
- Nuevo Pacto Bible Study every Tuesday 7:30 pm**
- **NEW** Pastors Study Group every Wednesday at 8:30am**
- Bible Study every Thursday 5:30pm**
- Youth Group meets every Saturday 7pm - 8:30 pm**

Why we do what we do in worship? (Continued)

The full range of the psalms should also be used in worship. Selections for reading in public worship should be guided by the seasons of the church year, pastoral concerns for a local congregation, events and conditions in the world, and specific program emphases of the church. Lectionaries offered by the church ensure a broad range of readings as well as consistency and connection with the universal Church." (Book of Order, W-2.002 - W-2.003)

Preaching "The preached Word or sermon is to be based upon the written Word. It is a proclamation of Scripture in the conviction that through the Holy Spirit Jesus Christ is present to the gathered people, offering grace and calling for obedience . . . the sermon should present the gospel with simplicity and clarity, in language which can be understood by the people . . . the preaching of the Word shall ordinarily be done by a minister of Word and Sacrament. (Book of Order, W-2.2007) "The Word is also proclaimed through song, in anthems and solos based on scriptural texts, in cantatas and oratorios which tell the biblical story, in psalms and canticles, and in hymns, spirituals, and spiritual songs which present the truth of the biblical faith. Song in worship may also express the response of the people to the Word read, sung, enacted, or proclaimed. Drama and dance, poetry and pageant, indeed, most other human art forms are also expressions through which the people of God have proclaimed and responded to the Word." (Book of Order, W-2.2008)

Sacraments "The Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are God's acts of sealing the promises of faith, within the community of faith, as the congregation worships, and include the responses of the faithful to the Word proclaimed and enacted in the Sacraments." (Book of Order, W-3.3601)

Offering "The Christian life is an offering of one's self to God. In worship the people are presented with the costly, self-offering of Jesus Christ, are claimed and set free by him, and are led to respond by offering to him their lives, their particular gifts and abilities, and their material goods. Worship should always offer opportunities to respond to Christ's call to become disciples by professing faith, by uniting with the church, and by taking up the mission of the people of God, as well as opportunities for disciples to renew the commitment of their lives to Jesus Christ and his mission in the world." (Book of Order, W-2.5001 - W-2.5002)

Community Concerns "Worship is an activity of the common life of the people of God in which the care of the members for each other and for the quality of their life and ministry together expresses the reality of God's power to create and sustain a community in the midst of a sinful world. As God is concerned for the events in daily life, so members of the community in worship appropriately express concern for one another and for their ministry in the world." (Book of Order, W-2.6001)

If you have any questions about the worship service please talk with our worship ministry team leaders or Pastor K.C.. *Our worship ministry team includes, Barbara Morris, Verna Trombly, Caleb Whitehouse, Jan Wise, Denece Parsons, and Willie Schuessler.*

Mariner's Family Fellowship

It's that time of year to start thinking about the **Annual Soup Luncheon and Boutique on Saturday, November 3rd, 11am to 2pm.** We are in need of Craft items to sell, soup to serve and bake goods.. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the narthex every Sunday. **Let's make this a great Boutique! Also note!** your Mariner's support is at work in the church fellowship hall. We have added 7 new tables, 40 new chairs (with cushions) and soon to be, new blinds. Session has approved new carpet, and Al, Jeff, Mike and Bruce textured and painted the room. It should be beautiful and clean when finished. **Special thanks to ALL who helped!!!**

Worship Services and Choir

As many you might know the church choir is reforming. We are having a planning meeting on **September 6th at 7:00pm.** We will be meeting in the fellowship hall. This will be a choir for all levels of singing. If you sing in the shower, we want you! If you sing in the car, we want you too! If you don't sing and still want to help lead worship in our services, WE WANT YOU! Contact Jan Wise for more information. We are still planning logistics for a second worship service. We know there are a few persons interested in an early service at either 8:00am or 8:30am. We hope to have everything in place as soon as we are able.

A Poem From Elder Dotty Davenport...

-For Kenny-
He was loved by many and
loved many in return.

Kenny
His name was Kenny -
A most wonderful man.
To everyone he met,
He gave a helping hand.

His faith was strong,
Through good and bad.
When asked to help others,
He gave what he had.
He served his country

So many years ago.
He knew that this was
The right way to go.

He's with You now—
At home and at peace.
His struggles are finished-
His heartaches have ceased.

Some day You'll return,
And take us above—
To Your home far away,
Then—again—we'll all
Share his love.

Visit Our Church Web Page

WWW.CPCLR.ORG

**If you missed a recent sermon,
you can listen to the sermons
online.**

"Trunk o Treat"

This year Halloween falls on Wednesday October 31st. We'd like to host a "Trunk O Treat" in our church parking lot for the community. If you are interested in helping with this event as a way of reaching out to the kids and families of our community Please contact Pastor K.C. We will start at 4:30pm and will end at 6:00pm.

What is the Bible?

Each newsletter Pastor K.C. has pulled a distinct belief that we as a Presbyterian Church hold to in regards to faith and our relationship with Christ. As many of you know we were blessed with the gift of new Bibles a few months ago in our pews at church. The Bibles are the New International Version translation which we felt would be a basic translation that every one was familiar with.

What is The Bible?

The Bible is a collection of 66 individual books that together tell the story of a group of people bound by a common faith in God. It is divided into two main sections: the Old Testament containing 39 books originally written primarily in Hebrew, and the New Testament containing 27 books originally written primarily in Greek. For Presbyterians and others of the Reformed tradition the Bible is the means by which Christian believers come to understand how God has been present with humanity since the beginning of time and is present in our world today. By studying the scriptures we can begin to know of God's faithfulness, constant love and eternal goodness.

Testaments The **Old Testament** tells the story of God's covenant with the Hebrew people. It is regarded as sacred scripture by both Jews and Christians. **New Testament.** The New Testament contains four accounts of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the account of the earliest Christian churches and other writings from the early Christian era. It is considered sacred scripture by Christians.

Translations The Bible has been translated from its original languages into the languages

of people throughout the world. The first translation into English was by John Wycliffe in the 14th century. Since that time, there have been a myriad of English translations. One of the most familiar, the King James Version (KJV), was commissioned by James I of England and published in 1611. Although the language of the King James Bible reflected the everyday speech of England in the 17th century, changes in speech patterns and the meaning of certain words have made it more difficult to understand than more modern translations.

Since the 1950s, there have been many translations of the Bible into contemporary English. Translations frequently used by Presbyterians in their worship services include the Revised Standard Version (RSV) and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). Both are considered excellent translations that are faithful to the original texts insofar as scholars can determine.

ALPHA IS COMING...

The Alpha Program is coming. Alpha is a ten week class that covers questions that are often asked by people looking at what it means to follow Jesus and what it means to be a Christian. It's another avenue for us "to make Christ known," in our community, with family and with friends. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator for the class please contact Pastor K.C. for more information. Information is also available on the Alpha web site at www.alphausa.org. We hope to begin the Alpha program in January 2008.

Pastors Study

Starting September 5th at 8:30am Pastor K.C. will lead a weekly Bible study in the Book of James. We will meet until November 7th. The start of the Advent season is December 2nd this year. During the season of Advent Pastor K.C. will lead a series of sermons around the meaning of Advent as a preparation for the coming of the birth of Christ. We encourage you to invite a friend to church or to any of the Bible studies we do together at church. Rick and others will continue to meet on Thursday evenings at 5:30pm.

Why we do what we do in worship?

The order of a Sunday worship service in a Presbyterian church is determined by the pastor and the session, the church's governing body. It generally includes prayer, music, Bible reading and a sermon based upon scripture. The Sacraments, a time of personal response/offering, and a sharing of community concerns are also parts of worship. The constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) suggests that worship be ordered in terms of **five major actions centered in the word of God (gathering around the word, proclaiming the word, responding to the word, the sealing of the word, and bearing and following the word into the world)**, but recognizes that "other orders of worship may also serve the needs of a particular church and be orderly, faithful to Scripture, and true to historic principles." (*Book of Order*, W-3.3202)

Prayer "Prayer is at the heart of worship. In prayer, through the Holy Spirit, people seek after and are found by the one true God who has been revealed in Jesus Christ. They listen and wait upon God, call God by name, remember God's gracious acts, and offer themselves to God. Prayer may be spoken, sung, offered in silence, or enacted. Prayer grows out of the center of a person's life in response to the Spirit. Prayer is shaped by the Word of God in Scripture and by the life of the community of faith. Prayer issues a commitment to join God's work in the world." (*Book of Order*, W-2.1001)

Music "Song is a response which engages the whole self in prayer. Song unites the faithful in common prayer wherever they gather for worship whether in church, home, or other special place . . . through the ages and from varied cultures, the church has developed additional musical forms for congregational prayer. Congregations are encouraged to use these diverse musical forms for prayer as well as those which arise out of the musical life of their own cultures. To lead the congregation in the singing of prayer is a primary role of the choir and other musicians. They also may pray on behalf of the congregation with introits, responses, and other musical forms. Instrumental music may be a form of prayer since words are not essential to prayer. In worship music is not to be for entertainment or artistic display. Care should be taken that it not be used merely as a cover for silence." (*Book of Order*, W-2.1003 - W-2.1004)

Scripture "The church confesses the Scriptures to be the Word of God written, witnessing to God's self-revelation. Where that Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. For this reason the reading, hearing, preaching, and confessing of the Word are central to Christian worship. The session shall ensure that in public worship the Scripture is read and proclaimed regularly in the common language (s) of the particular church." (*Book of Order*, W-2.2001) "The minister of Word and Sacrament is responsible for the selection of Scripture to be read in all services of public worship and should exercise care so that over a period of time the people will hear the full message of Scripture. It is appropriate that in the Service for the Lord's Day there be readings from the Old Testament and the Epistles and Gospels of the New Testament.