



THE MISSION BELL

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2022

Volume LXII Number 4

18th (almost) annual

Planting Seeds of Faith



Luncheon & Auction

**Sunday,
May 15
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!

GET YOUR TICKETS!

Adults \$12 Children ages 12 & under \$7

Children ages 2 & under FREE

available in the Gathering Place on Sundays, in the church office during the week, or by contacting the church office.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Pastor Ivan	2
Per Capita	3
Parking Lot News	4
Covenant Network Workshop	4
Food Closet News	5
Opportunity Knocks	6
Help When Suffering	7
Picnic Postponed	7
In Our CPC Family	8
Notes of Thanks	8
Want to Be More Involved?	8
Mission Bell Deadline	8
Scuttlebutt	9

**From Pastor Ivan N. Herman:
"May Flowers "**

April showers bring May flowers. And what do May-flowers bring? Pilgrims!

Hilarious! It was one of the first "jokes" I learned as a child. The playful pun fit neatly into the poem that may have originated with Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* ("Whan that aprill with his shoures soote"). It also fit neatly into the historical narrative I had been taught that America was founded by Europeans on a great spiritual pilgrimage. That great discovery of new land and new freedoms by those pilgrims was also one small part of a long and sordid history of Christians occupying and conquering lands and peoples in the name of Christ, often undergirded by a teaching called the "Doctrine of Discovery."

The Doctrine of Discovery

is a philosophical and legal framework first articulated in

1452 by Pope Nicholas V as the Papal Bull "Dum Diversas" and in 1496 by King Henry VII of England as a patent

granted to John Cabot, which authorized and justified the destruction, killing, and appropriating of the lands of indigenous peoples and nations. These documents follow a long line of religious conquest that can be traced back to the 8th century to Charlemagne and the many Crusades and religious wars that followed. The Doctrine of Discovery was incorporated into U.S. law in the 19th century, stating that European nations had assumed dominion over the lands of America upon discovery and as a result Native Americans had lost their rights to complete sovereignty as independent nations and retained a mere right of occupancy in their lands. This doctrine laid the groundwork for the genocide of indigenous peoples around the world; the colonization of Africa,

Asia, Australia, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas; and the transatlantic trafficking in
(Continued on page 3)

**The Lord's Prayer
(Native American version)**

O Great Spirit, Creator of the universe, You are our Shepherd Chief in the most high place. Whose home is everywhere, even beyond the stars and moon. Whatever you want done, let it also be done everywhere. Give us your gift of bread day by day. Forgive us our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Take us away from wrong doings. Free us from all evil. For everything belongs to you. Let your power and glory shine forever. Amen.

This version was written by Hattie Corbett Enos, Nez Perce, great grandmother of Presbyterian minister, Rev. Irvin Porter and printed in *Gifts of Many Cultures*, 1995, Maren C. Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy, United Church Press, Cleveland, OH.

Per Capita Reminder

by Laura Janik

Per Capita is a set amount per member that each congregation should pay annually to the larger Presbyterian Church (USA). Per Capita funds are pooled together from all congregations and used to fund services provided by the Office of the General Assembly of PC(USA) as well as



the local Synod of the Pacific and Presbytery of North Central California.

Based on CPC's current members, our congregation's contribution is budgeted at \$15,554 this year. As of April 3, we have collected \$3,338, or 22% of our annual per capita obligation. Individual per capita par-

ticipation this year is \$30.26 – approximately \$2.50 per month for each member. Our goal is for each CPC member to contribute their per capita amount each year so our payment to the Presbytery is fully funded.

If you have made your 2022 per capita payment of \$30.26 per member, **THANK YOU!** If you have not made your 2022 payment, please do so as soon as possible by dropping it in the offering box at the church service or mailing your check to the church office. You can use the blue envelope from your offering envelope box or just indicate that it is for "Per Capita 2022" and your envelope number on the check. You can also go to the Donate tab on the CPC website and click on "Donate Now." Please indicate that the contribution is for "Per Capita 2022" and your envelope number. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Paul Shultz**, Financial Administrator.

... From Pastor Ivan ...

(Continued from page 2)

persons used as slave labor. (For more study, visit <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/racial-equity-womens-intercultural-ministries/gender-and-racial-justice-ministries/doctrine-of-discovery/>)

The Doctrine of Discovery also deeply conflicts with our stewardship of creation. Extractive industries (e.g. mining and petroleum) operate on a paradigm of domination that often displaces and destroys indigenous populations. We can see that in our California Gold Rush history, but know it to be true today. For example, our Presbyterian partners in Colombia and Peru minister directly to indigenous people who have been forcibly displaced by mining conglomerates.

In 2016 the 222nd General Assembly of the PC(USA) repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery and set the stage for the work of reconciliation and reparation as a part of our commitment to antiracism as a denomination seeking to be faithful to Jesus' teachings in Matthew 25. This coming summer, the 225th General Assembly will meet and receive the final report from the Special Committee on Racism Truth and Reconciliation. Their report urges the church to address racism by reparative action. "Truth + reparations = reconciliation."

Carmichael Presbyterian Church is located in the American River watershed and the ancestral lands of the Nisenan people. As a Matthew 25 church we are committed to dismantling structural racism in our church and in society, and part of that dismantling is acknowledging the truth of our own history.

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

Parking Lot News

by Tim Farley, Buildings & Grounds Chair

One of the positives about our low rainfall this season has been fewer encounters with “Lake Carmichael” in our parking lot. In the long run, though, we want to eliminate the lake and other trouble spots.

A Parking Lot Task Force (PLTF) began meeting last year to identify all the issues surrounding the existing lot and to develop specific solutions for those problems. Some of the issues are:

- do we add fencing and gates for security?
- how should we handle the

planters?

- will we need a new use permit?
- how do we deal with roadway easements?
- do we need a drainage or storm-water treatment plan?
- and more!.

Although the PLTF also spent time considering the inclusion of a solar electric project with



the parking lot construction, we concluded that it was too much for us to handle at one time. A new group is being formed address the feasibility of solar separately. Contact **Tim Farley** at t_farley@sbcglobal.net if you would like to help.

We recently had an informational walk through the parking lot with an asphalt contractor. He identified a few areas that need timely attention – namely, the large depressions in the parking area near the Food Closet. That area will be fixed in May along with a few smaller areas behind McMillen Hall. Those areas and the front driveway will then be resealed and striped.

Considering the details that still need to be worked out, including the potential effects of the water district construction activities, we don't expect the full remake of our parking lot to occur before early next year. Please be patient with us, and your prayers and support would also be welcome.



Saturday, June 4

9:30 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

The Covenant Network of Presbyterians is hosting a day of conversations for the Presbytery of North Central California that will offer us an opportunity to learn how to be more inclusive of LGBTQ+ individuals, families, and youth. The day will offer a worship service with workshops and special speakers from around the state and beyond, opportunities for small group conversations, and fellowship.

The cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch.

Registration opens soon, and we will share more details as they are available.

CPC's Inclusion Task Force will be attending and welcomes participation from interested individuals.

Come join the conversation.

Food Closet News

VOLUNTEER of the MONTH

Paula Cope is being honored as the first volunteer of the month at the CPC Food Closet. Paula has been part of the Food Closet team for a number of years, both with the morning stocking crew and the afternoon distribution crew.



Paula Cope
Food Closet Volunteer of the Month

Paula is an active member of American River Community Church on Walnut Avenue.

We are so lucky to have her on our team and send a big thank you to her for her service.

FACILITIES UPDATE

The Food Closet Task Force is happy to announce the installation of a walk-in refrigerator/freezer.

It is 10' X 20' and has been installed in the corner of the

warehouse. We are working on getting new shelving installed, new storage bins, and plastic temperature door guards to help keep the temperature from rising when we open the doors. While we were upgrading, we added a heater/air conditioner to the warehouse to make it more comfortable for our volunteers and to help preserve stored food.

As soon as this last part of the project is completed we plan to invite you to an Open House to show off the revamped and upgraded Food Closet. Watch for date and details coming soon!

She always arrives early for her volunteer shift with a smile on her face and a "can-do attitude." No matter what she is asked to deal with, she has a solution and takes care of the task.

Throughout the pandemic, Paula has been at the Food Closet every week, in both cold and hot weather, to help out.

Within our new daily managers plan, Paula has stepped up to be the Friday Manager. She spends most her Fridays supervising the warehouse and the workrooms. She also volunteers other days of the week, filling in holes in the schedule as often as she can.

Donate Sanctuary Flowers



You can donate flowers to adorn our Sanctuary during worship on Sundays! The cost is \$35 for one bouquet or \$70 for both bouquets. It's easy to do: Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4BA4AE29A5FE3-sanctuary> to choose an open date at least one week in advance. Fill in the information requested and submit your payment to CPC with "flowers" in the memo line.

Or, call the church office and we'll be glad to help you sign up over the phone.

This is a meaningful way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. All donors and the people you choose to recognize will be listed in that Sunday's eParish Notes.

You can choose to take the flowers home after worship or have our Deacons deliver them to someone in need of a bit of cheer.

Opportunity Knocks

by Sharon MacLean, Engagement Coordinator

Hello CPC family! CPC seems to be back in full swing with Sunday School classes, youth mission events, special Holy Week services, choir, etc. And soon the always fun Planting Seeds of Faith Youth Auction will be happening. It's so exciting to see our campus come back to life.

Along with all the activities and ministries happening in and around CPC, there are a plethora of opportunities for you to be involved in the life of the church. And being involved – big or small, through service, study, or fellowship is a wonderful way to meet people and to nurture and grow our faith.

One upcoming, new opportunity that I'd like to highlight is a **Single Parents** group that plans to meet monthly. This single parents groups is a great way to feel the support and friendship of other single parents in the church while the kids can hang out and play too. If this is something that you'd be interested in, contact **Julie Ueltzen** at the church office (916-486-9081), or just reach out to me and I'll connect you.

There are many areas for you to serve or be involved. If you're interested and want more details, please reach out



to me; I will fill you in and get you connected.

Deacons: Pantry Coordinator (McMillen Kitchen) – 2 times per month. Check and replenish supplies as needed (church reimburses); Transportation – drive people to/from church periodically; Ushering during Sunday worship – at least once every other month.

Education/Youth: Planting Seeds of Faith Youth Auction on May 15 – Donations wanted, and help with setup, cleanup, cashiers, table closers, spotters, etc.

Food Closet: AM, PM and Saturday shifts; food pick-up drivers; Phone bank.

Membership & Outreach: Greeters to greet worshippers before church (9:45-10:00am).

Mission and HART: Weekly Shower ministries; weekly homeless lunches; monthly SOS meal.

Building & Grounds: Discuss and prioritize campus needs; help with campus projects and upkeep; researching the feasibility of installing solar on campus.

Fellowship & Nurture: Health Ministries Committee needs medical and mental health professionals; Fellowship with a Marinersip group; Presbyterian Women

(PW) Bible study; Women's Bible study small groups (day or evening); Men's Thursday morning fellowship (on Zoom); Prayer Shawl Ministry; Single parents monthly meetup.

Worship: Lay Leaders; sharing your faith stories.

Miscellaneous: Matthew 25 team; Earth Care team; Lay people to serve and help leaders on various divisions and committees (no time commitment required).

Coming Soon: All Church Picnic, Stephen Ministry training classes; Family Promise, committees and event planning leading to our Centennial celebration in 2023.

PRAY: Pray for those on the prayer list in the *eParish Notes* and *ePrayer*; Pray for CPC members and staff; Pray for our community, country, and world.

I will periodically have an "Opportunity Knocks" sign-up table after worship with current opportunities for involvement. Please stop by and say hi and see where you might fit in – for serving the church and community or to nurture your faith. Feel free to email bruce.sharonmac@gmail.com. I'm happy to help you find a place to get involved and connect you with any of the leaders of specific ministries.

Help When Suffering

by Misty Dunn Stephen Minister/Leader

Christians often experience pressure to appear strong in the face of suffering. After all, we don't want others (especially non-Christians) to think that we don't trust God if we admit that we're having difficulties. We may stop telling others about our problems particularly after friends and family have heard us talk about our suffering or our difficulties a few times. As important as it is for anyone to talk about their difficult diagnosis, loss of a loved one, or other distressing situations, other people sometimes get to the point where they 'have heard enough.' Not knowing what else to say, people may seem to ignore you, offer platitudes like, "It's God's will," or say, "Pray about it and your faith will get you through it." Or sometimes Christians will glibly say, "I'll be praying for you," and then they go about their normal life while the person experiencing the difficulty is left floundering.

Sometimes people who experience a series of upsetting challenges may not realize how heavy a toll this all is taking on them. They may think, "Oh, I can handle it! It's not like it's life-threatening or something." At the same time,

they may feel burdened, anxious, overwhelmed, or de-



pressed, yet they think they are 'over-reacting.' They might talk to a pastor about what they're going through, yet they don't want to take up their pastor's time, so they try to "suck it up" and appear strong.

You don't have to be going through a *crisis* to get help! If you're experiencing something that is causing you to feel stuck, overwhelmed, or distraught, it could certainly be time to consider getting a

Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers offer confidential, one-on-one distinctively Christian care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister has received special training to be "present" and to listen empathetically to the person to whom they're offering care (their care-receiver). The care receiver is invited to talk about what they are going through as many times as they need to, so they can work through the emotions, find their next steps, and begin to feel the load lifting from their shoulders.

If this sounds like something that you or someone you know may benefit from, or for more information about Stephen Ministry, contact one of CPC's Stephen Leaders: **John Wallace, Kelly Holland, Mary Thomas, or Misty Dunn.**

PICNIC DATE CHANGE

The All Church Picnic planned for May 22 is postponed

because the Sheriff's Department needs the venue that day.

Watch the Sunday eParish Notes and the June Mission Bell for a new date and details.



In Our CPC Family



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

- † **George Burbank** and family on the loss of his wife, **Carolyn Burbank**, on April 1.
- † **Chris Zirbel** and family on the loss of his brother, **Louis Zirbel** on April 24.

MISSION BELL DEADLINES



10TH OF EACH MONTH FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S ISSUE

Submit articles to:
Amy Lerseth,
Mission Bell Editor at
amylerseth@buzzoates.com

Notes of Thanks



Dear CPC Family,

Marsha and I are overwhelmed and humbled by your amazing financial gift. Thank you so much for your generosity.

I thank God for the privilege of working together with each of you for so many years. I will cherish joyful memories.

May God bless each one of you richly in the months and years to come!

Your friend,

Randy Benfield

To my CPC family,

Where to begin? Where to end? The many expressions I have received from the cards, letters, phone calls, personal visits, and the hugs tell me how much Carolyn meant to you and how much she was loved.

To our extended families, to our Atria family, and to our church family: thank you, thank you, thank you.

May God bless you all,

George Burbank

Want to Be More Involved?



If you have been enjoying coming to in-person worship but would like to be more connected to the congregation, please consider joining the usher team. The minimum commitment is once is every two months. If you've never been an usher before, don't worry! The tasks are simple. We will go through what's required so you feel confident.

There are two usher teams: even numbered months (coordinator: **Duane Johnson** duane@jps.net) and odd numbered months (coordinator **Tony Perrou** tgperrou@gmail.com). Please contact one of them to sign up for your preferred months, or contact Deacon Moderator **Kathy Lewin** at kslewin@sbcglobal.net

Thank you from the Usher Team!

Scuttlebutt

News from CPC's Mariner Ships

Clipper Ship

Skipper **Charlene Lee** and 12 members of the Clippers crew enjoyed fellowship and great food on Sunday, April 10 at Danielle's Creperie.

Our next monthly event will be the Planting Seeds of Faith luncheon and auction on Sunday, May 15.

Companionship

Companionship met in the Gathering Place on April 2, for a Prairie Home Companion evening. We opened our gathering by singing Amazing Grace before eating our Lutheran potluck of hot dishes, Jell-O salads, powder milk biscuits, and of course, rhubarb pie which we ate later.

First Mates, **Tim and Barbara Farley** led a short business meeting in the absence of **Dave and Nancy Studer**. Our ship will be helping with the SOS dinner on May 21. The ship agreed to continue our usual auction item, donating a pot of soup once a month for a year,



Clipper Ship enjoyed lunch at Danielle's Creperie for their April gathering.

for the Planting

Seeds of Faith auction on May 15.

Marti Wallace read a devotional titled "Living Well" by Eugene Peterson followed by her closing prayer.

Priscilla Mauerman who was in charge of the program, had **Bud Banker** read a biography of Garrison Keillor, followed by a trivia contest about Garrison Keillor or different

things pertaining to the radio program worth 10 points. Everyone was to bring a favorite story of Keillor's or your favorite joke (5 pts).

Bud Banker read a story while **Karen Banker** provided outstanding sound effects. First place winner was **Priscilla** with her story of "The Potato" and second place went to **Tim Farley**, wearing his duck hunting hat, who told a story of Keillor's about a duck hunting disaster!

We closed the meeting by singing the old camp song, "Tell Me Why." As we left Lake Wobegon, we all agreed that, all our women were strong, the men were handsome, and of course, all our children were above average!

Thanks to **Priscilla Mauerman** and **Bud and Karen Banker** for putting together such a fun evening.

Friendship

Holy Scow

Lifeboat

Nautilus

March was a busy and productive time for Nautilus. On the nineteenth, we enjoyed the fundraiser concert by **Chris Studer** and other Santa Rosa First Presbyteri-



The Nautilus crew gathered at River City Brewing Company in March following Chris Studer's concert at CPC.

(Continued on page 10)

... More Scuttlebutt ...

(Continued from page 9)

an Church musicians, then meandered over to River City Brewing Co. for dinner and lively conversation together that has been lacking during the pandemic.

A week later, **Brenda Mock, Tiffany Mock, Jan Olson, Margie Marshall, Louise Asmar, and Harvey Swenson** put on their gardening outfits and worked with and supervised a small county work crew planting many flowers that we hope will peak during CPC's centennial celebration. Together, we transferred dirt, and added hundreds of pounds of soil additives and cover. The work crew did a great job. The flowers are already starting to flourish.

We'll get together at the church auction in May.

Skipjacks

Eggs-travaganza! When was the last time you dyed hard cooked eggs for an Easter egg hunt or to decorate your table? Skipjacks were out

of practice but dipped and then decorated eggs in a competition for a prize



basket. **John Cameron's** marker striped egg (not dipped) was chosen as first and **Danelle Brown's** pastel egg with yellow daisies drawn on each end came in second. Other eggs were glittered, jeweled or stickered, and some had wax designs or lines left by rubber bands. After all this creativity, **Diane Instness** and **Bep van der Mik** took some of the finished eggs and turned them into deviled eggs. Our refreshments consisted of those eggs, cupcakes, and coffee. Thanks for a fun activity, Diane.

Preceding all this was a business meeting led by **Danelle Brown**, Skipper for April. **Tony Perrou** led a discussion of possible cargo projects for the rest of the year. It was decided we'd

support the Emancipation project. **Jimmi Mishler** will use some of our funds to purchase grocery gift cards. Upcoming programs were described by First Mate **Diane Instness**, and dates were nailed down so that we have a firm calendar of events.

We pray for our shut-ins **Steve and Judy Harrison**, and our out of towners **Dick and Carole Jacobi**, and those who were not able to make the meeting. We celebrated many March and April birthdays, topped by **Phil Mishler's** 90th. We all hope to reach that milestone ourselves.



Members of the Skipjacks crew competed for the best decorated Easter egg at their April meeting.

Our CPC Staff

Remembering that the members of Carmichael Presbyterian Church are the ministers and missionaries of our faith community, our Pastoral Staff and Support Team provide leadership and specialized ministries.

The Rev. Keith L. DeVries

The Rev. Ivan N. Herman

Trina Spivack,
Accompanist

Tammy Sigl,
Interim Bell Choir Director

Lisa Torgerson,
Children's & Youth Ministry
Director

Paul & Mary Camozzi,
Childcare Providers

Karen Gray,
Pastors' Secretary

Julie Ueltzen,
Church Secretary

Paul Shultz,
Financial Administrator

Ron Morris,
Maintenance Manager

Christian Bolen,
Custodian

Lisa Levering,
Wedding Coordinator

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
Food Closet	916-483-9232

To leave a voice mail message for a staff person when the office is closed, dial 916-486-9081. When the machine answers your call, dial the person's extension.

Keith DeVries	203	Paul Shultz	205
Ivan Herman	202	Karen Gray	201
Julie Ueltzen	200	Lisa Torgerson	204
Ron Morris	206		

via e-mail:

Keith DeVries	keith@carmichaelpres.org
Ivan Herman	ivan@carmichaelpres.org
Julie Ueltzen	carmichaelpres@gmail.com
Karen Gray	karen@carmichaelpres.org
Paul Shultz	paul@carmichaelpres.org
Ron Morris	ron@carmichaelpres.org
Lisa Torgerson	lisa@carmichaelpres.org

Or link to email through our website: www.carmichaelpres.org

TIME VALUE MAIL

Sundays @ CPC

In-Person & Live Stream Worship **10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

A blend of traditional and contemporary music styles provide an opportunity to bring new life to the Word. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/c/carmichaelpres> or search for "carmichaelpres" on the YouTube app or your Smart TV. Plus, watch recordings of past worship services any time.



Sunday School **10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

All children are welcome and encouraged to attend worship. Kids age 4-5th grade will be dismissed to their class following the pastor's Time for Young People.



Coffee Fellowship **11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Visit and enjoy a cup of coffee and browse the Art Exhibit in the Gathering Place before and after worship services.

