

LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SAN FRANCISCO

LANTERN

201 Eucalyptus Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132

415-564-8833

March/April 2022

LAKESIDEPCSF.ORG

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Upcoming Services

March 2: Ash Wednesday, 7 p.m.

April 10: Palm Sunday, 11 a.m.

April 14: Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.

April 15: Good Friday, 7 p.m.

April 17: Easter, 11 a.m.

Ash Wednesday is on March 2nd this year and is the beginning of Lent. Lent is a reflective period of time when we focus on our relationship with God. This involves sacrifice, prayer, and fasting. Fasting is my theme for the Ash Wednesday service on the 2nd.

I have found that prayer and fasting draw me into a much closer and deeper relationship with God. This prepares me to live sacrificially in my relationships with others, putting their needs in front of mine, and serving them with a heart of love.



The Rev. F. Christopher Gelini
Pastor

This reminds me of what Jesus says in Luke 9:23, *"If anyone wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross daily, and follow me."* This is a good description of Lent. Being Christ's disciples means putting aside selfish desires, shouldering one's cross every day and following Jesus. Following Jesus for the first disciples meant literally suffering and death. Believers today understand it to mean that we belong to Jesus and that we live to serve his purposes. This means living a life of sacrifice like Jesus did, even if it means dying for Him.

We grow in this attitude through prayer and fasting. Traditionally, during Lent we sacrifice something that we do daily in our lives in order to spend more time with God and serving God through others. Our dedication and love for God and others takes priority in our lives, and in doing so, we become more like Jesus.

This all leads us to Holy Week. Hearts prepared throughout Lent we focus all our energies on Jesus' proclamation that he's the Messiah as he enters into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, his call to a life of service on Maundy Thursday, his death on the cross for the sins of the world on Good Friday, and his victory over sin and death through his resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday. The rest of the year is continuing to live this out in our daily lives to the glory of God. It will take prayer, fasting and sacrifice.



LakesideSF



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AN INCLUSIVE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE CELEBRATING GOD'S AMAZING LOVE.

From the Pastor's Desk, continued

There will be Lenten devotionals available to assist in our devotional life with Christ. I want to encourage you to attend our worship service either in-person or online as I preach through the Gospel of Luke, preparing us for Holy Week with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the City of David and the rest of Holy Week. I'm planning on offering a class on "Growing in Christ" throughout Lent as well.

May God bless each of us with a greater hunger for him during this Lenten season.

Serving Jesus,
Pastor Chris

PastorChrisLPC@lpcsf.org



Worship with us in
person each Sunday
morning at 11 am.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 6 in the sanctuary, on Zoom, and by phone. Look for more information in the [GRAPEVINE](#).

ASH WEDNESDAY SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER

Back by popular demand, our Simple Soup Supper at Six returns on Wednesday, March 2, before the Ash Wednesday service. Those who are fully vaccinated and boosted are invited to join us for dinner on the front steps and narthex beginning at 6 p.m. for a simple supper before our Ash Wednesday service.

To make a reservation, visit LakesidePCSF.org/lent or call the church office 415-564-8833.

The reservation deadline is February 27.

The Session, Staff, and Members are grateful for your generosity.

To make an offering to LPC, please place it in the offering place in the Narthex,

visit LakesidePCSF.org/donate,

or mail a Check to 201 Eucalyptus Drive, SF 94132. Thank you!

The deadline for articles for the May/June [LANTERN](#) is April 15.
Content may be sent to dscarpenter@outlook.com.

WORSHIPPING THROUGH MUSIC, ART, AND DRAMA

Ash Wednesday



Lent



Holy Week



Easter



Holy Week

It has been three years (yes, three!) since we received ashes on Ash Wednesday, processed Palm Branches on Palm Sunday, gathered around the table at the Last Supper, hammered nails to the cross, and celebrated the glorious resurrection of Jesus in person. Can you believe it?

As we continue to reopen and more parishioners return to in person worship, this year we will celebrate every one of these occasions, and each will be more special than ever. For the entirety of my career, I never thought that not being together, in person, would be a reality for these most holy of days. But we know it to be true. I know that you look forward to these services as much as I do. Please mark your calendars:

Ash Wednesday: March 2, 2022 (7 pm)

Confession † Imposition of Ashes † Communion

Sundays in Lent: March 6, 13, 20, 27, and April 3 (11 am)

Palm Sunday: April 10 (11 am)

Hosanna † Palm Procession † The Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of Mark

Maundy Thursday: April 15 (7 pm)

Charity † Love † Communion † The Garden of Gethsemane

Good Friday: April 15 (7 pm)

Cross Procession † Stations of the Cross † Ritual of the Cross

The Resurrection of the Lord/Easter: April 17 (11 am)

Celebration † Forgiveness † Communion † Hallelujah

Throughout Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and beyond, the Music Ministry of Lakeside will continue to lead us in song. As we have done for years, our Easter morning celebration will be full of singing, orchestra, trumpet, and organ as we proclaim, "Christ is risen, he is risen indeed!" If you haven't returned to worship in person, I implore you to consider doing so now. As comfortable as it might be to watch the service from home, we need you to be a part of our in person community at 201 Eucalyptus Drive. I hope to see you!

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God † Hosanna, Blessed is He Who Comes † Alleluia, Christ is Risen

In God's Service,
Don Scott

Don Scott Carpenter
Organist and Director of Music, Worship, and the Arts

DSCarpenter@outlook.com

LENTEN PROJECT

It's time to consider a project for Lent, which begins March 2. We have chosen to support the Presbyterian Church USA: "One Great Hour of Sharing" project which supports hunger, disaster, and development needs around the world. Please pick up a fish box in the narthex and place offerings in it between March 2 and April 17 when they will be collected during the Worship Service.

IMPORTANT: please call the Church Office, 415.564.8833, if you would like a fish box sent to you.



One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability. Through One Great Hour of Sharing...we stabilize, we strengthen those who are weak, we connect.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs ~

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Restore Streets to Live In

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

Share your Bread with the Hungry

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE

Loose the Bonds of Injustice

March 2-April 17, 2022

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- + Through your congregation
- + Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- + Text OGHs to 91999 to give

-or-

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/oghs



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



Please give generously.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

MISSION



LPC supported a young mother and her two young children this past Advent with Christmas gifts, gift cards and a rolling suitcase. This is the thank you note she sent:



Esta Tarjeta es para mi donador
Yo y mi familia estamos agradecidos
Esperamos en Dios que tengas una vida
Próspera y que pases una feliz
Navidad y Próspero año nuevo
al lado de tus seres queridos
que Dios sea bendiciendo tu
vida y la de tu familia
Att. Menti Romero y familia
Bendiciones.

"This card is for my donor. Me and my family are grateful; we hope in God that you have a prosperous life and that you spend a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year next to your loved ones. May God bless your life and your families' lives."

We received a thank you letter from the **SF-Marin Food Bank** for the donation LPC made in December. "Inspired. Grateful. That's how your generosity makes us feel. With Lakeside Presbyterian Church's critical help, our neighbors not only receive food during the pandemic, but hope. Thank you for your compassion and generosity. One thing this pandemic has taught us is that we are all interconnected, and we are in this together."



This is from **La Casa de Las Madres**:

"On behalf of La Casas de las Madres' Board of Directors, staff, and the women, children, and families we service, thank you for Lakeside Presbyterian Church's generous support of domestic violence survivors this holiday season. The in-kind contribution of 10 holiday gift boxes was graciously received by the women, children, and families we serve." "Thank you for the presents this holiday season, the only gift I received since pre-pandemic...this means so much to me." "I am grateful for your kindness"

From the Mission Committee: "Thank you, Lakeside Family for your generous donations which helped many this past Christmas."

KENYA CHILDREN MISSION PROJECT

Lakeside's Kenya Children Mission Project continued its work in 2021, supporting orphans and vulnerable children in Meru, Kenya. April, 2021, saw the 12th anniversary of session's approval of the Project. Meru is located on the Equator, a mile high on the northeast slopes of Mount Kenya.

In early 2008, six Lakeside members formed the Kenya Children Mission Group. Two members, Bob Taussig and Karl Morthole, travelled to Kenya to identify needs, and the Group recommended four mission partners, which were approved by vote of the session. The four mission partners over the years have been:

- (a) **MCK (i.e. Methodist Church in Kenya) Runogone Church's** orphans and vulnerable children program (called "**Watoto Wetu**") supporting local area children and their families in need in the rural Runogone area five miles east of Meru Town;
- (b) **Ripples International's** program in Meru assisting abandoned newborns, 0 to 2 yrs, raped and abused girls, 4 to 18 yrs and families suffering from HIV/AIDS;
- (c) **MCK Meru Children's Home at Kaaga** administering feeding and support outreach at the **CCM (i.e. Catholic Consolata Mission) Primary School** near the Mjini Slum in Meru Town; and
- (d) **DOM (i.e. Diocese of Meru) Meru Children's Home at Nkabune**, administering feeding and support outreach at the **DOM** facility in the Nkabune area eight miles southeast of Meru Town.

During 2021, we wired \$8,795 to the rural **Watoto Wetu** program. Over the past three years, Lakeside's total donations have slowly declined. Because **Watoto Wetu** receives support only from Lakeside and **Runogone Church** members, and all the other partners receive some support from other sources, it was decided to temporarily support the **Watoto Wetu** program only, until donations might increase. The funds sent to **Watoto Wetu** provide school fees for secondary school students, tuition and other support for nursing school students, technical & teacher training college students and university students. Primary school has been free in Kenya since 2003. Over the years, we have also provided shoes and school uniforms for primary school students. In 2021, more **Watoto Wetu** orphans finished their university degrees, teaching, nursing or technical licenses, etc.

With the continuing generosity of our members and friends, more funds (amounts not yet determined) will be wired soon to **Watoto Wetu** and the other partners.

Lakeside members have made five multi-week trips to Kenya over the years (Feb 2010, Feb 2011, May/June 2013, Jan/Feb 2016 and June 2017). The trips have lasted up to three weeks and have cost less than \$3 thousand per person, including round-trip air fare. In 2018/19, we had to delay our visit to East Africa due to Gail and Karl Morthole's newborn twin-care duties. We had hoped to be able to have another mission trip in 2020 or 2021, but the Covid pandemic intervened. So, we're hoping to organize another trip as soon as the pandemic allows. Please let us know if you would be interested, by contacting Karl Morthole, (415) 517-7292, karl@mortholelaw.com.



SESSION UPDATES

Dan Anderson
Margaret Elam
The Rev. Chris Gelini
Gail Hemenway
John Johnson
Karl Morthole

Judith J. Murio
Beth Phipps
Jane Sharp
Sandra Tye
Beverly Wong

SESSION NEWS

Returning Elders in the Class of 2022 are Dan Anderson, Margaret Elam, Gail Hemenway, Jane Sharp, Sandra Tye, and Beverly Wong. The Elders in the Class of 2024 are John Johnson, Karl Morthole, Judith Murio, and Beth Phipps.

In January, the Session continued to meet on Zoom. A Session Retreat was held on January 11 to discuss Elder responsibilities. Our regular Session meeting was on January 23 with a follow-up meeting on January 27th to approve the 2022 Budget for LPC and LPCC.

We received good news in January that the SBC approved our application for forgiveness of our second PPP loan.

WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is a period of penitential preparation for Easter. In Western churches it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides for a 40-day fast (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. In Eastern churches Lent begins on the Monday of the seventh week before Easter and ends on the Friday that is nine days before Easter. This 40-day "Great Lent" includes Saturdays and Sundays as relaxed fast days.

A period of preparation and fasting likely has been observed before the Easter festival since apostolic times, though the practice was not formalized until the First Council of Nicaea in 325 CE. It was a time of preparation of candidates for baptism and a time of penance for grievous sinners who were excluded from Communion and were preparing for their restoration. As a sign of their penitence, they wore sackcloth and were sprinkled with ashes. This form of public penance began to die out in the 9th century, and it became customary for all the faithful to be reminded of the need for penitence by receiving an imposition of ashes on their foreheads on the first day of Lent—hence the name Ash Wednesday.

In the early centuries, fasting rules were strict, as they still are in Eastern churches. One meal a day was allowed in the evening, and meat, fish, eggs, and butter were forbidden. The Eastern church also restricts the use of wine, oil, and dairy products. In the West these fasting rules have gradually been relaxed. The strict law of fasting among Roman Catholics was dispensed with during World War II, and only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are now kept as Lenten fast days. However, the emphasis on penitential practice and almsgiving remains, and many Catholics also observe a meatless fast on Fridays during Lent. In addition, many often choose to give up specific pleasures, such as sweets, alcohol, or social media, during Lent as a way to foster simplicity and self-control; many use their cravings or desires for these items as a reminder to pray and to refocus on spiritual matters.

In the Anglican churches *The Book of Common Prayer* prescribes that Lent be observed with fasting. In Presbyterian, Lutheran, and many other Protestant churches, Lent is observed with various services and practices, though Lent is not formally observed in many Evangelical or nondenominational churches.

LAKESIDE HAPPENINGS

LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CENTER FOR CHILDREN



The Children's Center had a bit of a rocky start in the new year due to the Omicron variant. Exposures occurred in different classrooms, disrupting routines and resulting in children and staff quarantining. In response, the school has increased its safety measures - staff are now PCR testing on site twice a week, and PCR testing is being offered to students weekly. Additionally, in partnership with the California Department of Public Health's Testing Taskforce, the Children's Center will be distributing at-home antigen test kits to students in the event of such exposures at school or at home, after travel, or after an extended break. The school is fortunate to have parents employed at the San Francisco Department of Public Health to help continue to navigate through this challenging time.



This has not deterred the school from continuing to provide a caring and enriching learning environment for the students. In January, the school extended more on-site volunteer opportunities to families. Such opportunities included families sharing their culture and heritage as part of the initiative of the school's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Family members brought food, songs, cherished items and traditions. January also saw the implementation of a new Music and Movement program offered by the school's Assistant Director, Ms. Herlyn. Every week in the afternoons, Ms. Herlyn engages the Caterpillar and Ladybug students in different physical exercises. In February, the Children's Center celebrated Lunar New Year and Black History Month, with activities including [insert here]. In March, the school will honor Women's History Month, Irish Heritage Month and Deaf History Month. The Children's Center has integrated DEI activities regularly in the curriculum.



Continued...

LAKESIDE HAPPENINGS



DID YOU KNOW?

Lakeside Presbyterian Center for Children has been a beloved neighborhood preschool since 1961.

In 2020, Lakeside was awarded the “Best of the Best” Gold Medal for the Best Preschool or Childcare Center in San Francisco.

More information can be found by visiting LakesideChildrenCenter.org.

At the end of January, the Ladybug class hosted their annual conferences. This class will matriculate either to the Butterfly (pre-K) or Firefly (TK) classes at Lakeside, or to TK programs in the surrounding Catholic (St. Cecilia’s, St. Gabriel’s) or public schools.

Registration for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year kicked off in January and concluded in February. Though the school expects to continue to adhere to the stable class COVID-19 regulations, enrollment has filled up quickly. The Children’s Center expects three of the four classes to be full (Caterpillar, Ladybug, and Firefly) and one class (Butterfly) to see a slight decline in enrollment. A special thanks goes to enrollment coordinator Vivian Ta for working hard on the 2022-2023 registration at home while caring for her one-year-old son, Gavin.

The Children’s Center will host its last school tour on March 19th.

The Children’s Center remains grateful for the continued prayers, support and encouragement from Pastor Chris, the Church and the entire Lakeside Children’s Center community.



LAKESIDE HAPPENINGS



Q: Why do we belong to Book Club?

A: It's because we can travel the world without moving our feet.

Book Club is still meeting on Zoom. Members find that an advantage of technology is not having to go out on a dark and stormy night. We look forward to the day when we can safely meet in person.

The book for the March 1st meeting is ***We Are Not Like Them*** by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza.

On the April 5th meeting, we will discuss ***The Goldfinch*** by Donna Tartt.

Both books are available in the Public Library.

We welcome others to join us for book discussion and fellowship. Please call the Church Office for more information on time and place.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Do you have a prayer request?
Need prayer?

The online prayer request site is available 24/7 for your prayer requests. The LPC Prayer Group regards it as a privilege to offer prayer requests on your behalf.

To request prayer, visit:
lakesidepcsf.org/prayer



OUR DAILY BREAD

Our Daily Bread for March-April are now available. If you would like one mailed to you, please email your request to Penny Blumenthal at secretarylpc@lpcsf.org or call the office at 415-564-8833 ext. 14 and let her know how many copies you would like. You can also go online at <https://odb.org>.

IN GOD'S HOUSE

Lillian Eng, a member of Lakeside Presbyterian Church since 1977 passed away at the age of 97 on January 9, 2022. She was a member of Lakeside Chancel Choir and sang in the Soprano section. Lillian will be remembered for her energy and active participation in Lakeside activities. She was a Deacon and an office volunteer. She loved to dance and was still square dancing into her 80's and early 90's.

Gail Meister, wife of Gregg Meister who served as our pastor from 1976-1986, passed away February 3, 2022. Jewish by faith, Gail regularly attended Lakeside and participated in the services. She was well loved and always looked around the sanctuary for new faces and made sure she would greet them. One of her many God-given talents was introducing people, who shared the same interests, to one another. To this day, many of them remain friends. She and Gregg were part of the group that started CYCLE (Christian Young Couples of Lakeside (Eating)). We will remember her love of God, life and friends, not to mention her vibrant spirit. She will be missed. Please keep Gregg and their daughter, Miriam in your prayers.

LAKESIDE HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Susan Brissenden Smith	3/1
Joel Bruxvoort	3/9
Ed Andre	3/15
Patty Quach	3/21
Ruth Hill	3/23
Jaevon St. Clair	3/24
Penny Blumenthal	3/26
Penina Tuiasosopo	3/29
Georgenia Latter	4/1
Andrea Thurston	4/4
Sharon Mayo	4/5
Don Scott Carpenter	4/6
Taimane Tuiasosopo	4/16
Inayat Munawar	4/20
Beth Phipps	4/24
John Johnson	4/28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Chris & Pam Rupright	3/12
Erica Brode & Adrian Hayes	3/15
Roger & Carol Parks	3/18
Russell & Judith Lindquist	3/21
Ed & Nancy Andre	4/29

HEIFER PROJECT

At LPC, we celebrate our birthdays and anniversaries by supporting the Heifer Project. We encourage you to donate to this project in celebration of your special day. For every \$5,000 LPC raises, we donate 1 "Ark" to be used in a myriad of ways. An Ark includes two water buffalo, two cows, two sheep, and two goats, along with bees, chicks, rabbits, and more.

For more information on the Heifer Project, visit heifer.org.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don't forget to "spring forward" on the weekend of March 13th as Daylight Savings Time begins. The days get longer as we get closer to spring.

EASTER FLOWERS

Lakeside has a long history of donating flowers for our Easter celebration. You can donate in honor or in memory of someone, or just make a donation. This year we are offering the choice of small (\$15) or large (\$25). The flowers will be in worship on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.

The deadline for donations is Sunday, April 10.

To make your donation, please visit LakesidePCSF.org/easter-flowers

or complete the form below and send a check to LPC or place it in the offering plates.

Name _____

In honor/In memory _____

_____ small (\$15) _____ large (\$25) Total Due \$ _____



Lakeside Presbyterian Church
201 Eucalyptus Drive
San Francisco, CA 94132

LakesidePCSF.org
415-564-8833

Address Service Requested

Please deliver by February 28, 2022

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

An inclusive house of prayer for all people celebrating God's amazing love.

The Rev. F. Christopher Gelini, Pastor

Don Scott Carpenter, Organist/Director of Music

Lakeside Presbyterian Church is a missional church rooted in loving God, loving our neighbors, and living our lives in a manner befitting the Lord. We celebrate our faith through worship, education, mission, and outreach. We are committed to bringing all the warmth, beauty and God's presence at 19th and Eucalyptus directly to you! We invite you to interact with us in new ways, and we hope you find a measure of comfort and God's grace in our time together. Everyone is welcomed here.

