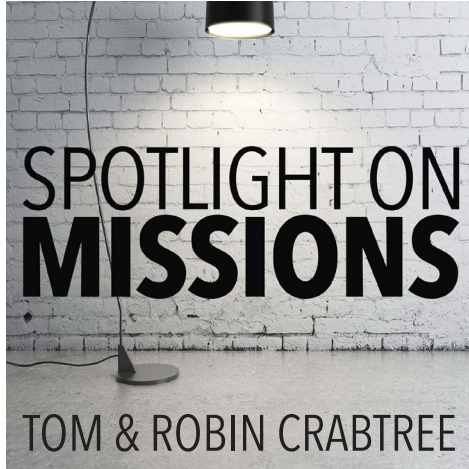


MESSENGER

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 5

MAY 2024



Greetings LCPC family! It's the time of year when we're in between seasons here in Nigeria. Dry season is slowly loosening its grip, the temperature and humidity are rising and we see clouds which promise the rains are not far off. Transitions - they are constant in our lives and we've weathered many during our 14 years in Jos, Nigeria.

Just to remind you, Nigeria has the third greatest remaining Bible translation needs in the world. There are more than 500 languages in Nigeria, and at least 170 languages are yet to have any Bible translation work started. The country is split rather evenly between Christianity and Islam, and there is still a lot of remaining work to be done.

Robyn is serving on the Human Resources team for Nigeria Group. Over the past six months, we've added almost 30 new staff mem-

bers. Most of them are Nigerian by nationality, but they represent a variety of Nigerian cultures. One of the aspects of Robyn's work is to facilitate cross-cultural training for our staff, which involves assisting small groups to engage in cross-cultural conversations. Our new Nigerian staff are learning to work alongside expatriates from several different countries, and they are also learning about our corporate mission culture.

Robyn also assumed the role of Prayer Coordinator for our Area last year, which requires her to keep in touch with the prayer coordinators from our seven different branches around Africa.

Tom serves at the Africa Area level in leadership development and resourcing for Wycliffe's work. This involves coordinating capacity building initiatives in seven English & Portuguese speaking countries within our Area (Nigeria, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Southern Africa, and Ethiopia). Over the past year, he implemented an internship pilot program which recruited 25 interns from seven countries serving in three key areas that enable translation work to be expanded: literacy & education, Bible translation, and language

program management (LPM).

Another initiative for this year is to form a team of (mostly) local staff from Africa who will cast the vision for fundraising within the African Church. From the early days of missions in Africa, the majority of resources (people and money) came from the western Church (North America & Europe). However, a healthy and mature church should be supporting itself and giving to others in need. Today the "majority world" is sending more new missionaries than the west. But the funding for most of Wycliffe's work in Bible translation still mainly comes from the west. This means that many African Christians are missing out on the blessings of giving. In January, we started recruiting some local staff from six countries in Africa to lead this effort; the team came together for training in January and February, and the work continues.

Another God-sized effort in Nigeria is called the Mark Road cluster project. This is a four-year project to engage 40 of the language



communities without any Scripture. It uses an innovative approach that equips and empowers the church and community to take increasing responsibility for Bible translation in their language. The project was launched in October, and gives language communities time to explore different options available such as oral Bible storying, oral Bible translation, written translation, full testaments, a survey of Scriptures, or a summary of Scriptures. It's called "Mark Road" because it starts Bible translation with a single story in Mark (and expands from there).

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P A S T O R ' S L E T T E R

Friends,

The post-Resurrection story of Jesus and the two disciples of Emmaus in Luke 24:13-35 gives me so much hope, because it tells me a little something about the people who experience Jesus' comforting presence. Jesus didn't come to those who had it all figured out. He didn't walk with people who were able to keep a smile on their face while their world was coming to an end. Instead, He comes to those who are disappointed, doubtful like Thomas, and discontent. Jesus comes to those who don't know their Bibles well, who don't recognize Him even when He's walking right beside them. He comes to those who have given up, who have thrown in their towel and are headed back home. He comes to people like us.

It's Easter Sunday, and Cleopas and the other unnamed person, two followers of Jesus, are traveling back to Emmaus from Jerusalem, where some amazing and perplexing things have happened. So here's my question: If there's talk of a missing body and appearing angels and a risen Savior in Jerusalem, why are they leaving? If I were them, I would want to stick around, to find out what's going on. Why are

they heading out of town when all the answers are behind them? Because what's behind them represents the destruction of their dreams. How often have we walked lonely roads and gone through difficult times thinking we are all alone, only to find out that Jesus was walking beside us and we didn't even know it. This is an important lesson, because it gives me hope to know that God won't stop walking beside me just because I don't acknowledge His presence. After the travelers pour out their hearts, Jesus responds by showing them His hands and feet establishing the fact that He was not a ghost, but He is for real.

Jesus is alive, He is real, and He is present. There are so many things that we will never be able to understand on this side of Heaven. But one thing we should never doubt and that's the presence of our trustworthy God as we wrestle with the many unanswered questions of life. Thankfully, the travelers invite Jesus to stay with them, and they are given a transformed view of this stranger in their midst.

Like the two disciples of Emmaus, we, too, are on a journey. And I bet that somewhere along this journey we call life, we will run into

disappointment, or doubt, or despair. Will we continue to live in the past tense? "We had hoped." Or will we remember what we've heard in Scripture and understand the promise of protection and presence of Jesus who has said: "I am with you always" and that Jesus walks with us on our journey? Rejoice, people of God, we follow a Risen Lord!



Yours in Christ's Service,
Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

MISSIONS

(continued from page 1)



Please pray for:

- God to prepare the "soil" in these 40 communities to receive God's word, and for the success of this complex and faith-stretching initiative.
- Rest and discernment for Robyn as she transitions more into her "prayer coordinator" role and does less of her "training" and "staff mother" roles in Nigeria
- For creativity and new funding strategies to succeed which will enable Bible translation into all the languages still needing it, and support Wycliffe's work all across Africa.

JOIN THE BIBLE RECAP CHALLENGE!

Have you ever closed your Bible and thought "What did I just read?" or started with the intention of reading through the whole Bible or the whole New Testament, but gotten discouraged or distracted along the way and needed just "that much" encouragement or motivation?

Then join your LCPC family for the Bible Recap Challenge this summer!

Beginning June 1 and ending August 31, we will be using the free Bible Recap tool (www.thebible Recap.com) to read through the whole New Testament! Each day's lesson consists of about 10-15 minutes of reading and a 7-8 minute podcast, video or text, guiding and explaining the passages. Lessons are very approachable and explained with some historical background and some contemporary examples what is going on. Each lesson highlights how we see God's character in the reading.

Sign up at the welcome table in the Narthex in May and join us Wednesday evening May 29 for orientation to the program and the multiple ways you can access it. We'll have a little bit of email cheering, optional get togethers each month to encourage each other and answer questions, and "fabulous" prizes for everyone who finishes!



Kids Hope will be wrapping up the 2023-24 school year shortly.

If you feel that:

- God is calling you to join a new ministry in 2024.
- You want to positively impact the life of a child in your neighborhood.
- You are able to commit to one hour once a week for the 2024-25 school year (from late September-early May)

Please contact either Janie Roach at circle5@aol.com or Armineh Manookian at amanookian@yahoo.com for more information or if you have any questions,

Thanks so much for your consideration!

MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ART DIRECTOR/EDITOR

Shawn Kelly
shawndraws@gmail.com

MESSENGER DEADLINE
SATURDAY, MAY 18
9:00 AM SHARP

Messenger articles and corrections should be emailed to shawndraws@gmail.com. Please put the word "Messenger" in the subject line. Materials submitted after the deadline may be omitted at the discretion of the editor.



After attending the Maundy Thursday service at the end of March, I wanted to take advantage of the Deacons Beacon to share a few thoughts with Messenger readers about the event.

First, as always, it was a joy to spend time with other Deacons, and one of my favorite Deacon things is working with them on the Maundy Thursday meal and making connections with the people who come to break bread together before the evening service. We are very grateful to Bill McClain for supplying oranges for the meal. This year they came from his orchard and were delicious!

I acted as the coordinator for this year's dinner. That entails connecting with Nancy Thomas to schedule Koopmans Hall and arrange for tables to be set up, and making sure we have volunteers for shopping, food preparation (cutting up oranges and bread, and making the soup), setting the tables, serving the meal, and cleaning up afterwards. Elaine Ross-Collins and Rachel Wolflick took on the job of getting the ingredients and preparing the meal, with help from Dave Eagle and me. The set-up, serving and clean-up crew included Traci Haleen, Arminah Manookian, Amanda Granier, Ann Wetzel, Carrie Hoffman and Alice Hill. Pastor Mouris (who is an ex officio member of the Deacons team) joined us for the meal and said grace.

SESSION REPORT

At the March 25 Stated Meeting of Session, the following items were discussed and/or approved:

- Approved the Center for Children 2024-2025 Fiscal budget, including new room rates.
- Received a report with recommendations from the Creation Care Task Force.
- Received a report from Student Ministries Team on Mission Arizona and plans to reinvigorate the YAM (Young Adult Ministries) program.

Blessings,
Sheri Gray
Clerk of Session

In years past, the Maundy Thursday service was already underway by the time the clean-up work was done. I usually had work to do and went home after the meal was done. This year, I went up to the service for the first time, and found it deeply moving. The music set the atmosphere for the service, with the choir singing Allan Petker's haunting anthem, "Lamb of God," a beautiful arrangement of Gabriel Faure's "Pavanne." (Gary Woodward tells me that Tim Milbrodt sings with the Santa Clarita Master Chorale which is directed by Petker.)

Communion was set up on three commu-

nal tables reminiscent of the table at the Last Supper with three leaders, Pat Chambers, Bill McClain and Jillian Matson. Groups gathered around each table to pray, receive communion, and listen to the word of God. I left the service with a good deal to think about and feeling that the grace of God was truly with me.

In my view, this was a great way to get ready for Easter. I hope to see even more people both at the meal and the service next year!

Faithfully yours,
Nancy Smith,
Co-Moderator, Deacons



Dear LCPC Family,

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with anticipation for the coming summer months. As we prepare for a season of growth, fellowship, and deepening our connection with God, I am thrilled to officially announce our summer schedule for this year. We are kicking off our summer festivities on June 12 with an exhilarating event: a trip to the Dodger Game!

This promises to be a fantastic time of bonding and fun as we come together to enjoy America's favorite pastime. In addition to our special events, we have established a weekly schedule designed to foster community and spiritual growth among our youth. Starting on Tuesdays from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, we will host Junior High Lunch. This dedicated time will provide an opportunity for our Junior High students to connect with one another and become acquainted with the Abide community. Furthermore, on Wednesdays, we invite both Junior High and High School students to join us for Abide from 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM. These gatherings will be filled with engaging activities, meaningful discussions, and opportunities for spiritual enrichment.

As we embark on this summer journey together, I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. I believe that God has great things in store for us, and I am confident that through our shared commitment to

faith and fellowship, we will experience His presence in powerful ways. I kindly ask for your prayers for a successful summer filled with growth, both in our students and in our ministry. May God's guiding hand be upon us as we seek to serve

Him faithfully and build His kingdom here on earth.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Let's make this summer one to remember as we grow closer to each other and to God.

Blessings,
Izzy

ABIDE PRESENTS

SUMMER
2024
BEGINS JUNE 12, 2024

SCHEDULE

JUNE 12TH - DODGER GAME

JUNE 21ST - KNOTTS BERRY FARM

JUNE 28TH - LOCKOUT

JULY 5TH-9TH JUNIOR HIGH CAMP

JULY 8TH-12TH HIGH SCHOOL CAMP

AUGUST 4TH - YOUTH SUNDAY

AUGUST 17TH - ABIDE BEACH TRIP

FOR TICKETS AND RESERVATION EMAIL AT
ABIDESTUDENTMINISTRIES@GMAIL.COM
ADDRESS: 2902 MONTROSE AVE, LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

BY JESIAH BOZICH



Hello all!
 May is situated between Easter and a certain big summer program in such a way that I often simply consider it "VBS Prep Month." Still, there's a lot of really fun and exciting stuff happening this month with our regular

of our Lord Jesus. Meanwhile, our SPARKS on Wednesday night will continue to explore "Living with God!" a series all about how following Jesus changes the way we live! Be praying for our kids as they encounter God through songs, stories, prayers, videos, and more. Pray that our kids would not just know ABOUT God, but would truly know God.

Pray for our ministry as we continue to discern how to bless our children here at La Crescenta Presbyterian and the Center for Children. We want each and every one of them to know that they are deeply loved by the God who created them, died for them, rescued them into His family, and invites them into dwelling relationship with Him. Pray for us. Pray for the kids. I remind you that our Children's Ministries Team is an open team, so if you would like to join us as we plan and discern, we welcome you to join us in one of our monthly Zoom calls!

As always, I thank God for what He has done and eagerly anticipate what He will do next!

Grace and peace,
 Jesiah

9am-12pm, July 15th-19th
\$60 for one child, \$100 for two children, \$140 for three or more children!
T-shirts included!
More info at www.LCPC.net

By the time this article is published, it should be the case that registration for Vacation Bible School 2024 is open! Look on our website for the registration link and spread the news! Our VBS this year is "SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God!" Vacation Bible School runs from 9:00 AM - Noon each day from July 15-19. Cost is \$60 for one child, \$100 for two children, \$140 for three or more children - and t-shirts are included!

If you know any families with kids, please be sure that they know about this exciting program! We are also looking for plenty of volunteers for VBS, so please send

me an email or chat with me after church or at PEAK if you are interested in taking part! This is a truly wonderful way to bless our community and share the Good News of Jesus with the young generation. Even if you don't enjoy teaching kids, come talk with me and I'm sure we can find a way for you to help!

programming, so be praying for our kids as we keep worshipping, praying, and learning about Jesus!
 On Sunday mornings, kids will jump into a brand new series called "Children of the King," where kids will learn about the new life that we have as children of God by the grace

BISTRO 50+
TUESDAY, MAY 14
12 NOON IN KOOPMANS
 Everyone 50+ years old is welcome to come and enjoy a meal and fellowship for just \$5.00.

Man Night was a success! 25 guys, ages 35-95, gathered at Doug and Diana's home Monday, April 1. We worshipped (thx, Doug & Dan) and ate well thanks to grillmaster Jon, Carlo's chili and Craig.

We celebrated the Tuesday night, Wednesday morning and Saturday morning men's ministry groups at our church, and discussed how to grow them.

Thanks to all that contributed and promoted. And thanks for the encouragement to do it again in the fall.

In gratitude,
 Phil Van Horn



MAN NIGHT

CRUISERS
 At their May 14 meeting, the Cruisers will host Mr. George Murphy, who will bring us a very interesting program all about "CALENDARS." We were very lucky to have him last summer with a great program all about "Bees," so we are looking forward to learn everything about calendars. All are invited to the program that follows the Bistro 50+ lunch.

Thank you!
 Isabel



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
CFC CM KH M&O PEAK	Center For Children Children's Ministries Team Koopmans Hall Mission & Outreach Committee Praise & Education for Adults & Kids	SC SM W&M YAMS	Student Center Student Ministries Committee Worship & Music Team Young Adult Ministries	6:30 A 5:30 P 6:10 P 7:30 P 7:30 P	Mens Ministries- Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Choir-Chapel Outreach Team-Lib.	7:00 P Mission Team-Lib.	7:30 A 9:00 A 9:30 A	Be Still Pickleball-Basketball Court Cornerstone Crew
10:00 A 11:30 A	5 Combined Worship-Sanctuary Deacons-KH	6:00 P 7:00 P CFC Team-KH SM-SC	11:00 A 2:30 P 7:00 P 7:00 P Tuesdays Bible Study-KH Tasty Tuesday-SC Men's Group-203 W&M Team	6:30 A 5:30 P 6:10 P 7:30 P 7:30 P	8 Mens Ministries- Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Choir-Chapel Adult Discipleship-Lib.	9 10	7:30 A 9:00 A 9:30 A	Be Still Pickleball-Basketball Court Cornerstone Crew
10:00 A	12 Classic Worship-Chapel New Song Worship-Sanctuary	11:00 A 12:00 N 1:00 P 2:30 P 7:00 P 7:00 P Tuesdays Bible Study-KH Bistro 50+-KH Cruisers-KH Tasty Tuesday-SC Men's Group-203 Fellowship Team-Zoom	11:00 A 2:30 P 7:00 P 7:00 P Tuesdays Bible Study-KH Tasty Tuesday Men's Group-203 Communications Team-Zoom	6:30 A 5:30 P 6:10 P 7:30 P	15 Mens Ministries- Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Choir-Chapel	16 17	9:00 A 7:30 A 9:00 A 9:30 A 11:00 A	MESSENGER DEADLINE Be Still Pickleball-Basketball Court Cornerstone Crew Armenian Cultural Event
10:00 A 11:30 A 11:30 A	19 Classic Worship-Chapel New Song Worship-Sanctuary Sunday Potluck-KH Personnel Team-Lib.	7:00 P 7:00 P Session-KH	11:00 A 2:30 P 7:00 P 7:00 P Tuesdays Bible Study-KH Tasty Tuesday Men's Group-203 Team-Zoom	6:30 A 5:30 P 6:10 P 7:30 P	22 Mens Ministries- Zoom PEAK Dinner-KH PEAK Classes Choir-Chapel	23 24	7:30 A 9:00 A 9:30 A	Be Still Pickleball-Basketball Court Cornerstone Crew
10:00 A	26 Classic Worship-Chapel New Song Worship-Sanctuary	7:00 P MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH & CFC OFFICES CLOSED	11:00 A 2:30 P 7:00 P Tuesdays Bible Study-KH Tasty Tuesday Men's Group-203	6:30 A 6:30 P 7:30 P	29 Mens Ministries- Zoom MAZ Stockholder's Meeting-SC Choir-Chapel	30 31	7:30 A 9:00 A 9:30 A	Be Still Pickleball-Basketball Court Cornerstone Crew

The April showers have certainly brought May flowers and we are loving this Spring beauty! The pink trees in the courtyard are gorgeous right now! Thank you to all the hard-working volunteers who trimmed, weeded and cleaned up the spring growth around the church campus at the **All Church Service Day**, among other tidying projects.



One group cleared away all the left-over tape and hooks from the walls of Koopmans. Let's keep those walls clean by removing all tape and hooks from upcoming event decorations.

Congratulations to **Moshier Yousef** who will be graduating with his engineering degree from Rowan University in New Jersey on May 4! While **Pastor Mouris, Margaret** and **Miral** are celebrating this great accomplishment, we are looking forward to having **Dr. Laura Harbert** as the guest preacher at our combined service on Sunday, May 5. Laura is a gifted preacher and special friend to the LCPC family.

If you want to join the **LCPC Dodger fans** at the game on June 12 against the Texas Rangers, May 5 is the last day to purchase tickets from **Craig Carlson** at carlsport@aol.com. They are \$37 and he may have a few left.

Happy Mother's Day to all you wonderful Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, mentors, friends who are like Moms, and fur baby Moms out there! Your superwoman skills and love keep the world running smoothly until Jesus returns. Thank you for taking care of all of us!

At the **Cruisers** meeting this month Tuesday May 14, the wise and knowledgeable **George Murphy** will be giving a presentation on the history and importance of the calendar. Come to the **Bistro lunch** in Koopmans at Noon for just \$5, then stay to learn everything you need to know about calendars!

Speaking of calendars, y'all need to get your events on the **LCPC Shelby calendar** ASAP! As soon as you have an event date, even if it's tentative, email Nancy@lcpc.net to confirm that date is clear, even if it looks clear on the calendar. She can add it for you, then you need to let **Sheri Gray**, our amazing Clerk of Session know, so she can determine if it needs Session approval. And all **Team Moderators** need to get team reports to Sheri every month by the 3rd Thursday of the month. We're tightening up our church-wide communication, folks!

Outreach is working hard to plan an exciting new community event coming up Saturday, May 18. The **Armenian Cultural Celebration** will be in the LCPC parking lot from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM and will feature Armenian food, desserts, music, dance, games, and crafts. The

event is free but lunch tickets are available for purchase for \$10 and coffee, tea, and desserts will be \$1 each. Bring the whole family and invite your friends to experience an afternoon of enjoying and immersing yourself in Armenian traditions!

The next day, Sunday, May 19 is **Pentecost**, the day the Holy Spirit filled the Church with power and the people began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:4) We have a powerful service planned, filled with the many languages of the LCPC family. Join us right after the service for the monthly **After Church Potluck** down in Koopmans Hall. Everyone is invited whether you bring a food dish or not!

The last **PEAK** class for the spring semester will be Wednesday, May 22. But Adult

now through June 1. Contact **Hilary Norton** at Hilarynorton@me.com for all the details.

Registration is also open for our summer **VBS "SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God!"** Vacation Bible School runs from 9:00 AM-Noon each day July 15-19. Cost is \$60 for one child, \$100 for two children, \$140 for three or more children- and t-shirts are included! You'll find the registration link on the lcpc.net Events page. Tell your friends, family and neighbors about this lively week of Bible fun for kids ages 4 – incoming 6th graders! We need plenty of volunteers to make sure this week goes smoothly. Contact Jesiah@lcpc.net if you're able to help in any capacity.

Save the date for the **Global Leadership Summit**, August 8-9 at La Canada Presbyterian Church. We'd love for you to be part of the LCPC West group that is attending. Everyone is a leader! You can sign up at <https://global-leadership.org/summit/> Check their website for early bird pricing.

THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
August 8-9, 2024
La Canada Presbyterian Church

We will once again be partnering with La Canada to offer you this opportunity to attend the GLS remotely. Many of us who have attended in the past feel this is the best leadership conference being offered. We hope you will think about joining the staff of La Crescenta, Elders and annual attendees.

- \$139 until 5/08/24 (11:59pm CT) with
- Priority Code: PRTNGLS24
- Price goes up after May 8.
- globalleadership.org/summit

Ministries is hoping to have a **Spring PEAK wrap up** the evening of Wednesday, May 29 and introduce a summer Bible reading Challenge called The **Bible Recap** which will start June 1. You can check out the Bible Recap on the YouVersion app and on your favorite podcast app. They'll also fill you in on new summer pickleball hours Wednesday nights.

Thank you to **Noel Collins** for directing another fantastic musical variety show – **Strike Up the Band Part III!** Vocalists **Chantel Guzman, Kim Poli, Tim Milbrodt**, and **Geoff Bryan** and the band put on a stellar performance, and narrators **Lecia** and **Phil Van Horn** did a great job introducing each song. The **Deacons** will be able to award many more scholarships thanks to your generosity and support of this fundraiser. **Higher education scholarship applications** are being accepted

We had lots of **LCPC Eclipse chasers** witness God's celestial display last month, at various places around the US! **Pat Chambers, Teri** and **Mike Harter, Shawn** and **Scott Kelly** and **Jenny Schwing** experienced "Totality" at the Lake Erie home of **Ed** and **Shirley Carlson**. **Mary Braswell** witnessed it in Texas and **Tyler Carlson** in Missouri. Who knew we had so many umbraphiles in our midst? (Look it up!)

Our heroic **Bob Keiter** was recently honored at the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion Hall in La Crescenta. Bob was the senior Legionnaire present at the celebration, and we are so grateful for his service in the US Marine Corps during the Korean War era. Take some time this **Memorial Day** to remember all those who have served for our freedoms. Talk to you next month!



CFC Heartbeat



Director's Corner

A language rich environment is one in which children are surrounded by talking, singing, and reading and have many opportunities throughout their day, across all activities, to communicate with others and engage in back-and-forth conversations. A rich language environment is important to children's early learning, and can have strong effects on early language, vocabulary, reading, and math skills, as well as on children's social-emotional development.

Research shows that some young children are exposed to more language in their homes, early learning programs, and school settings, than other children. This difference in the number of words and back-and-forth conversations to which children are exposed is called the "word gap."

Teachers and families play a critical role in developing language-rich learning environments. Try these strategies to engage all children in rich conversations in English or in their home language.

- Get down on the child's level.
- Tune in and listen to what the child says. If the child does not speak yet, tune into what they are doing or pointing to and use these moments to talk with them.
- Take turns talking. If the child doesn't have language yet, that may mean you are talking and the child is communicating in nonverbal ways, such as through gestures, looks, smiles, babbles, and word approximations (children's attempts at words).
- Talk about what the child is doing, what the child is looking at, or what the child is interested in.
- Ask questions that relate to the child's experiences or interests.
- Add words or questions to what the child says or does and model new language.
- Give the child enough time to respond. For children who do not have language yet, this may be a nonverbal response, like a gesture or a look.
- Stay tuned in to the child's facial and body expressions to make sure they are engaged.
- Expand phrases so they are complete.
- Add novel and interesting words.
- Make phrases more complex.
- Summarize their thoughts.

Repeat what the child says, and add a little

MORE. You can add words that:

Describe:

Child: I saw Ana's dog.
Adult: Oh, you saw Ana's fluffy little dog?

Name:

Child: I like that.
Adult: I like that red shiny whistle too!

Provide more information:

Child: Yay! David is coming!
Adult: Yes, your Uncle David is going to visit in July and we'll go to the beach!

*Excerpts taken from "Talk, Read and Sing Together Every Day"
www.ed.gov – U.S. Department of Education

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6-10 is national teacher appreciation week. During this week we welcome snacks for our teacher snack area. Because we know so many elementary schools do week long celebrations and families have a lot to remember, we choose to celebrate our staff at the end of the year. Our appreciation week will be June 3-7.

Beginning May 13 and going through May 31, we will collect donations for end of the year gifts (instead of individual gifts) and a luncheon for our staff. You can make your donation right on your Curra Cubby account. Our end of the year gift has been a gift card that the teachers/Staff can use as they wish. Once all the funds are collected, the total will be divided among the entire staff. We appreciate our staff all year, but it is nice to take a moment to make sure they know it.

Parent Meeting

On May 21, we will have a parent meeting for new and returning families. Also a summer day camp orientation meeting and registration/sign ups. This important meeting will start in Koopmans Hall at 6:15 PM with Pat and Julie. At 6:30 PM you will move to your child's classroom based on their placement for June 10 our first day of our summer program. Come get to know your child's teachers and their goals for your child in the upcoming year. This is a **parents' only night** so we can concentrate on the information going out this night.

Plan Ahead

We will be closed May 27 for Memorial Day and on June 7 to get ready for our summer program.

BBQ and Art Show

Join us on May 7 for our annual end of the year BBQ and Art Show. The food will start to be served at 5:30 PM and will continue until 6:15 PM. Then stay for fellowship with other CFC families. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per family. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs with plenty of side dishes! See you there.

Summer Day Camp

Sign ups for Summer Day Camp is open on our website WWW.Center4children.com. You need to sign up for each week that you want care noting the days you want your child to attend. The website has a lot of information about the schedule for our Summer Day Camp, children entering grades 1-7. Last day to sign up for our first week of Summer Day Camp is June 4.

SUMMER DAY CAMP
CENTER FOR CHILDREN

WEBSITE

GREETINGS TO YOU THE LUCKY FINDER OF THIS SUMMER TICKET!

***FOR CAMPER'S ENTERING 1ST-8TH GRADE**

***10 WEEKS OF FUN 3 DAY MIN. -PICK & CHOOSE WEEKS**

A FEW SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS:

- WK 1: GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY
- WK 2: MARINE MAMMAL CARE CENTER
- WK 3: HIKE EATON CANYON
- WK 4: PARADE & DIY CARNIVAL
- WK 5: KNOTT'S BERRY FARM
- VBSP WK 6: JUMPIN' JAMMIN' DAVE & BUSTERS
- WK 7: ADVENTURE CITY/ SIX FLAGS
- WK 8: SEASIDE LAGOON
- WK 9: SOAK CITY WATERPARK (TBD)
- WK 10: ROARING FOAM PARTY

PLUS POOLS, PARKS & MORE!

"...MARVELOUS SURPRISES AWAIT YOU!"

SUMMER '24

CENTER4CHILDREN.COM
(818)249-8124

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mouris Yousef	Senior Pastor and Head of Staff mouris@lcpc.net
Izzy Cox	Director of Student Ministries izzy@lcpc.net
Jesiah Bozich	Director of Children's Ministries jesiah@lcpc.net
Gary Woodward Matthew Krell	Choir Director Organist/Pianist
Dan Blessinger	Producer of Contemporary Music
Nancy Thomas	Office Manager nancy@lcpc.net
Pat Murphy Chambers	Director, Center For Children pat@lcpc.net



2902 MONTROSE AVENUE
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214-3896
WWW.LCPC.NET
(818) 249-6137

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

CLASSIC WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY
BOTH SERVICES AT 10:00 AM

A BIG GOSPEL IN SMALL PLACES

The gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ, is God's transforming power flourishes in our weaknesses. We are changed when we no longer rely on what we bring to the throne of grace, but on the risen Lord who is seated on the throne. On Sunday, May 26, 2024, Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef will kick off our New Summer Sermon Series, "A Big Gospel in Small Places!" The



gospel of Jesus of Nazareth transformed the Roman Empire as well as small and lowly places such as Cana of Galilee, Samaria, Bethesda, Bethany, and Jericho. The same gospel is able to transform our lives today when it's believed and trusted. We hope you can join us as Dr. Yousef leads us in this journey through the months of June, July, and August.

MAY 5

**COMMUNION SUNDAY
COMBINED SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY**

"We Become What We Behold!"

Psalm 27; 2 Corinthians 3: 17-18

Guest Preacher: Rev. Laura Harbert

MAY 12

MOTHER'S DAY

"Jochebed: The Story of a Faithful Mother!"

Exodus 2:1-10; Matthew 18:1-6

Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

MAY 19

PENTECOST SUNDAY

"When the Day of Pentecost Came!"

Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:1-13

Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef

MAY 26

"Cana of Galilee: The Best is Yet to Come!"

Isaiah 43:18-21; John 2:1-11

Rev. Dr. Mouris A. Yousef