



Laguna Presbyterian Church | **Annual Report 2018**

INTERIM PASTOR

Dear Friends and Members of Laguna Presbyterian Church,

2018 was a huge year in the over 100 year history of Laguna Presbyterian Church.

After 46 years of ministry with you, you said a loving and poignant good-bye to your Senior Pastor, Jerry Tankersley. What a time of memories, celebration, sadness and hope!

Continuing with you as Associate Pastors are Steve Sweet and Kathy Sizer who have worked hard to give you a strong foundation and a vibrant bridge to the future.

Now you look to the future God is preparing for you.

I came to you in September of 2108 to lead you through an interim process which will culminate in the calling of a new pastor.

The Los Ranchos Presbytery Committee On Ministry (COM) is working with you to define this interim process. Here's how I would summarize what is planned:

1. Preparation of a Congregational Mission Study in three parts:
 - a. Demographic analysis of the congregation, Laguna Beach and the surrounding areas.
 - b. Clarification of who we are as a congregation.
 - c. Prayerful and careful thought about who God is calling us to be.
2. The Session, with help from the congregation, will prepare and write this Mission Study:
 - a. The Session will approve the Study.
 - b. The Session will share the study with the Congregation and Presbytery.
 - c. The Presbytery will approve the Mission Study and give permission for the Congregation to call together a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).
3. With nominations from the Congregation, the Session will nominate the Pastor Nominating Committee:
 - a. The Congregation will elect the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).
 - b. The PNC will use the Mission Study to create a Church Information Form (CIF) which will describe the kind of Pastor the church is seeking.
 - c. The Session will approve the CIF.
 - d. The Presbytery will approve the CIF.
4. The PNC will begin searching for the next Senior Pastor:
 - a. The COM will work with the PNC to do the search.
 - b. All PNC activity with potential pastors is confidential.
 - c. The PNC will give the Session and Congregation regular updates but will not share potential candidates.
 - d. The PNC will bring the final candidates to the COM for clearance.
 - e. The PNC will bring the final candidate to the Congregation for election.

In my experience this process will take 12 to 24 months.

In the meantime, I am committed to being your Interim Pastor and leading you through the transition with energy, grace, imagination and love.

So let's have a joy-filled and thrilling 2019 together as God leads us into a new future following Jesus Christ.

Gareth Icenogle, Interim Pastor



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STAFF

Gareth Icenogle, Interim Pastor
 Steve Sweet, Sr. Associate Pastor
 Kathy Sizer, Associate Pastor
 Jon Moore, Parish Associate
 Sookyung Bang, Organist / Pianist
 Maggie Craig, Children's Ministry Co-Director
 David Galante, Sound Technician
 Abigail Garcia, Middle School Youth Director
 Lori Hathaway, Wedding Coordinator
 Anne Herzog, Preschool Director
 Jim Hind, Weekend Facilities Manager
 Theresa Keegan, Communications Coordinator
 Leah Lind, Business Manager
 Gerri Machin, Children's Ministry Co-Director
 Ray Martin, Facilities Manager
 Caroline Millson, Financial Administrator
 Karen Myers, Memorial Service Coordinator
 Gail Onodera, Children's Ministry Co-Director
 Beth Pinney, Worship Leader
 Linda White, Director of Choirs
 Custodians:
 Becky Delgado; Rita Martinez; Juana Sanchez

SESSION - 2018

Gus Altuzarra, President
 Cheryl Beehan, Christian Education
 Margie Bell, Worship
 Judy Bell, Membership Fellowship
 Bobbette Cameron, Clerk of Session
 Steve Donner, Property and Finance
 El Hathaway, Property and Finance
 Ron Hubbard, Stewardship
 Wendy Huntley, Worship
 Alice Jensen, Mission Outreach
 Paul Machin, Property and Finance
 Tom Magill, Stewardship
 Christy Miller, Treasurer
 Caroline Millson, Mission Outreach
 Gail Onodera, Membership Fellowship
 Debbie Regele, Membership Fellowship
 Ed Sauls, Property and Finance
 Lindsay Williams, Christian Education

BOARD OF DEACONS - 2018

Patricia Angus	Lori Kollmann
Margaret Arnold	Chuck Kollmann
Nance and Dick Baird	Chris Larek
Sue Davis	Beate Loomis
Linda Del Crognale	Michele Luna
Skip Del Crognale	Marsha McCoskrie
Pat and Marv Drew	Barbara McCrory
Jan Felberg (deceased)	Marcela McKibben
Andrea Galante	Sandra Montag
David Galante	Karen Myers
Maggie Hatfield	Jackie Proctor
Kevin Herr	Meg Schaefer
Heather Hines	Dave Sizer
Polly Hodge	Dave Swan
Valerie Hunt	Kim Timmins, moderator
Diana James	Celeste & Igor Toro
Mark James	Judy Jameson Trulock
Tom Jones	Debra Waller
Sandy Katz	Stephen Williams

SR. ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Youth and Family Ministry

One of our highlights each year is our Spring break service trip to Molokai, Hawaii. Hundreds of high school students have participated in this trip over the last nineteen years. In April, forty of us participated in the week-long trip, which included painting, construction, maintenance, working at a bird sanctuary, the ancient fishing pond and the Molokai Land Trust. Each night we gathered for worship, the study of God's Word and shared life in small groups.

Another highlight is our annual summer camp up at Forest Home Christian Camp at Forest Falls. Over 60 high school students, middle school students and adult counselors made the trip this year. Forest Home strikes the perfect balance of providing the serious and the fun. Lives are changed and transformed in Christ as both students and leaders grow in their knowledge of God's word, thrive in fellowship, and enjoy all the great activities that Forest Home has to offer.

Logos, our high school group, meets on Wednesday nights. Caravan, now called "Rooted," our middle school group, meets on Monday nights. Abby Garcia is our Middle School Director. Sunday School, for 6th -12th grade students, meets during the 10am worship service. At these meetings we worship, study God's Word, meet in small groups, have games, and fellowship. We also learn how to serve God actively in our community, school, home and church through various service projects.

Rev. Steve Sweet

Parish Associate - The Grief Group

Grief group leaders are Jon Moore, Deborah Sakach and Leah Lind. We met with eight people in the Spring for 6 weeks, bringing awareness, consolation and hope through their grief. We had another six people gather in November for a one-session Grief at the Holidays meeting. Attendees come from the community at large as well as the church membership.

Rev. Jon Moore



ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Congregational Life

2018 was such a year of change for our church. Much of my ministry in the winter and spring revolved around arrangements for retirement events for our Pastor Jerry Tankersley. In the summer and early fall, Steve Sweet and I served together as "co-bridge pastors" as we prepared for the arrival of our Interim Pastor. Steve and I decided to use our summer preaching series to help the congregation explore the question of how to discern God's direction for our own lives and for us as a church. We used John Ortberg's book "All the Places to Go, How Will You Know," to resource this sermon series.

As a member of Los Ranchos Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, I led the task force for the historic merger of Shepherd's Grove (the spiritual descendants of the Crystal Cathedral) with Irvine Presbyterian Church as a PCUSA congregation. Merger documents are complete, and we were approved by the Presbytery this week!

My role includes directing adult education and small groups, serving as a MOPS mentor mom, and advising Membership-Fellowship Committee, Women's Retreat, Nominating Committee, 3rd Friday board, and Deacons. Check out the summaries of those ministries in their sections of this Annual Report. I am so grateful for the addition of our Business Manager, Leah Lind, to our pastoral care team. Leah, who is completing a Masters degree in pastoral care, has done some hospital and home visitation, joined our grief team, and helped our deacons with skill-building.

For me personally, 2018 was full of good news beginning with my doctor's decision that my February breast cancer treatment would require only surgery and radiation, but no chemotherapy. I was delighted to be thoroughly recovered so I could sing with LPC choir at Carnegie Hall in NYC during the Thanksgiving weekend. And I found out I'm having another grand-daughter—this one in Washington, D.C.!

I continue to be so grateful to be part of the Laguna Presbyterian Church family. Our past 16 years together have been wonderful, and I am excited to see what God has ahead for us!

Rev. Kathy Sizer



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Education - Small Groups

The heart of LPC's Adult Education is our small group Bible study offerings. We believe that engaging God's word in community is often a key environment for adults to mature in their faith. Our small group opportunities include the Tuesday and Wednesday morning pastor-led studies and 8 on-going long-term study groups. In addition, this year Michael Millson led a weekly Disciple Bible study for members of the group which traveled to Israel in 2017, Judy Bell led a weekly women's study, and Caroline Millson led a weekly Mom's group study. For the fourth year, we offered a small group program of Ignatian prayer and self-discovery, *Forty Weeks: the Sacred Journey*, by Fr. Bill Watson. For the 4 Sundays of Advent we offered weekly scripture meditation.

Adult Education - Grief Ministries

Each spring, we offer an eight-week "Good Grief" small group. Leaders include Rev. Jon Moore, Deborah Sakach, and Leah Lind. The group provides a safe place where people from the church and the community can experience and share their grief as well as receive information and coping skills to deal with their loss. We also offered a November afternoon session - "Dealing with Grief at the Holidays" - to help people cope with loss at this difficult time of year.

Adult Education - Large Group Presentations

Larger group adult education opportunities included Nick Stefanidis explaining refugee ministry in Athens, several mission speakers, and Dr. Cordula Dick-Muelke speaking about caregiving.



Children's Ministries

Children's Ministries continues to grow and touch the lives of families in our community and beyond.

Family Fun Nights consistently hosted over 80 parents and children, VBS brought Jesus' love alive to over 120 children, MOPS filled to capacity every semester, and over 100 children experienced Holy Week and the birth of Christ Jesus through interactive stations. Our families were working together to bless those suffering from illness, and Club 325 (homework club) continues to be a place kids want to come to every day. Our Sunday School classes have continued to grow and the children went on a journey digging into the Bible in one year from Genesis to Revelation.

We are so grateful for the many volunteers donating supplies, money and their time to make it all happen, growing God's love and growing lasting relationships.

- Gail Onodera, Maggie Craig, Gerri Machin

Welcome to Laguna Presbyterian Preschool!

Ten months out of the year, this side of the church campus is buzzing, full of joy, laughter and learning! We are thankful for the opportunity to serve the families of Laguna Beach through LPP. God's amazing love for us is tangible on our campus as we watch the children grow and develop through our curriculum, form lasting relationships with each other and our staff, and celebrate His love during our chapel time each week. We are blessed to have a fantastic staff and together we continue to learn, grow and collaborate to provide experiences that are in the best interests of children. Special thanks to Leah Lind and Caroline Millson for the ongoing support they provide our program, Juana Sanchez and her team, and Ray Martin who keeps our campus functioning smoothly and free of hazards. In 2018, LPP served 161 families.



We especially wish to thank the congregation for your continued prayers and support. It is a blessing to be an outreach of LPC, serving the young families of Laguna Beach as your Preschool Director.

Blessings, Anne Herzog, Preschool Director

MEMBERSHIP FELLOWSHIP

Membership Fellowship Committee

Our Membership Fellowship Evangelism team, led by elders Judy Bell, Debbie Regele, and Gail Onodera seeks to create opportunities for all to be welcomed and enfolded into our church family. We direct or oversee Women's Ministries, Book Talk, At Home Hospitality Hour, New Members' Class, and 3rd Friday Fellowship. This year, under the creative leadership of Susan McGill, we also coordinated Jerry's Gala Retirement Dinner at El Niguel Country Club.

Book Talk

Our book group, led by Sandy Montag, is one of the ways we involve women and men in community, even if they cannot attend a Bible study. It has become an open door for new people and those who are not otherwise involved in the life of the church, as well as for long-time LPC'ers. Books discussed in 2018 included: The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, by Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama; A Piece of the World, by Christina Kline; Dearie: The Remarkable Life of Julia Child, by Bob Spitz; and Mudbound, by Hillary Jordan.

3rd Friday

This fellowship group, under the leadership of Jack Bell and an independent board, is often the first fellowship opportunity experienced by new people at LPC. With an average attendance of 75 people, we meet the third Friday night of each month, September through June, for dinner, fellowship, and a program covering a variety of topics. Highlights in 2018 included Rob Verdi's "Saxaphobia" collection of vintage and modern saxophones and an Oktoberfest "Beer Garden" in Jeff and Barb McCrory's backyard.



Women's Ministries

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Our MOPS group continues to be a dynamic program which encourages, supports and nurtures mothers with children from infancy through kindergarten. This year we included 38 moms in MOPS and 49 of their children in our Moppets childcare program. MOPS children or families often also attend our Vacation Bible School, Family Fun Nights, and Sunday worship services. This year twelve MOPS families participated in Advent candle lighting in our Sunday worship services.

Women's Retreat

Our annual retreat is one of the most spiritually deepening experiences of the year for many women. Led by Elder Judy Bell, this year sixty-eight women enjoyed our new retreat venue, Pala Mesa Resort and Spa in Fallbrook. Rev. Courtney Ellis from Presbyterian Church of the Master led us in exploring the uncluttered life, and artist Mia Moore helped us reflect on our weekend experience through the medium of paper collage.

GALS

This monthly dinner group led by Claudia Redfern welcomes women of all ages who have lost a spouse. The group includes eight to twenty women each month - some from LPC and some with no church affiliation.

Nominating Committee

Our committee was made up of Cheryl Beehan (Chairman), Judy Bell (Co-Chairman), Kathy Sizer (Ex-Officio), Jackie Pearson, Jackie Proctor, Jennifer Sweet, Jinx Langemak Day, Jerry Immel, Ken Cornelison, Kim Timmins, and Maggie Craig.

We began meeting in the Spring of 2018 and we were able to nominate new elders, deacons, Carson Trustees and LPC Foundation members. The congregation voted to affirm these nominees in November, 2018 and they began their new responsibilities on January 1, 2019.

MEMBERSHIP FELLOWSHIP

Board of Deacons

As the caring arm of our church, each year our Deacons extend hospitality and care for parish members, take meals to those in debilitating situations, visit members in the hospital, host memorial services, and deliver Sunday flowers to those unable to attend worship. We also hosted annual all-church activities Parish Sunday, Pancake Breakfast, Mother's Day Strawberries-and-Cream in the Rose Garden, and Hospitality Night cookies and beverages. This year our Board of Deacons was honored to facilitate 8 home gatherings for congregation members to say good-bye to Pastor Jerry Tankersley upon his retirement. We are grateful for the leadership of Kim Timmins who completed her 2-year term as Moderator.



Health Ministries

Our parish nurses are: Susan Mattson RN, PhD, Meg Schaefer RN, Sarah Fox Van Tilborg RN, MSN, Louis VanTilborg, RN, BSN, Nancy Wade RN, BSN, and Beate Loomis.

The following are a few activities we have provided for our congregation and community: a monthly blood pressure clinic has yielded between 10-15 blood pressures being taken; four Red Cross Blood Drives have collected 126 pints of blood; a Skin Cancer Screening held once a year had 61 community participants of which 25 of those were referred for biopsy. Lastly, our annual flu clinic, held every October free of charge, resulted in 112 injections being administered.

We all are available to provide conversations about health concerns and offer possible knowledge and alleviate fears needed to improve the health of our congregation.

Alice Jensen RN, MSN, Your Health Ministry



IN MEMORIAM

Riki (Ruth) Belew
Jeff Brown
Janet Felberg
Arnold Forde
Mimi Olshausen
Betsy Rao
Elaine Robinson
James (Lyn) Wilder

NEW MEMBERS

Tripton Babcock
Gavin Childs
Mark Chung
Angela Davidson
Ethan Ghere
Jared Hammet
Mason Herr
Carter Jones
Manal Kerfoot
Isabel Meekma
Maryana Wollam
Christian "Duke" Wollam

MISSION OUTREACH

Mission Outreach Committee

The vision for MOC is that each church participant will find an opportunity to reach out in some way to the local and global community we support. We provide opportunities throughout the year for hands-on participation, by financial support, and by prayers for specific projects.

Caroline Millson and Alice Jensen are continuing Elders. We have added a much needed additional Elder for 2019, Jayme Maxwell. Our committee consists of 18 members who meet monthly to oversee 16 local ministries and 10 global ministries and missionaries.

A couple of highlights of the year were collecting funds for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help those victims involved in the fires experienced in California. We have been following closely the beginning ministry of Caleb and McKenna Scott in Beirut, Lebanon for Horizons International. Caleb was raised in Laguna. Both are becoming fluent in the Arabic language so they can minister to the people of the region (see photo below). We have a long-standing relationship with Amextra in Mexico and two representatives from this ministry gave a wonderful presentation in April. Members of our church traveled to Tumaini Home, Kenya in November. Many of our congregants support one or more of the children who live in this home.

To know more about individual ministries we support, check the information cart located on the patio, or go online to our church website.



Caleb Scott Family
Horizons International

PROPERTY AND FINANCE

Property and Finance Committee

During 2018 the Property and Finance Committee was again blessed to have our Treasurer, Christy Miller guide us to a nearly break-even year. With a budget of \$2,072,180 we ended the year with a deficit of \$30,000 or 1.4%. All things considered, a job well done for everyone on the Session.

2018 was a year of transition. We saw Dr. Jerry Tankersley, our Senior Pastor of 46 years retire, and we welcomed our Interim Pastor, Dr. Gareth Icenogle. Gareth is with us to lead us in our search for a new Senior Pastor. We also said goodbye to two Elders of our committee, Ed Sauls and Paul Machin, and we are grateful for their service. Replacing them are Elders Tom Magill and Jim Wogulis, who we thank in advance for their willingness to serve. The Property and Finance Committee would not be complete without our Personnel Chair, El Hathaway and our Facilities Elder, Steve Donner. El Hathaway was instrumental in bringing Gareth to us, serving as Chair of the Interim Pastor search committee.

In addition to our Elders, the Property and Finance Committee would not be able to function without the tremendous support of the office staff. Our Business Manager, Leah Lind and our Financial Administrator, Caroline Millson provide amazing support to our committee and all Session members. We also are Blessed to have Ray Martin because Ray maintains our facilities in excellent working order and is very devoted to our Church.

During the year we continued the ongoing environmental cleanup of the Live Wire property and presently we are expecting the grant from the State of California to be renewed. These funds from the grant will be used for continued testing, well monitoring, and remediation that, God willing, will allow us to return to the Parlor sooner rather than later. A big thank you to Ed Sauls for his work with this project.

As we look forward to 2019, the Session of Laguna Presbyterian Church will recommend a budget that reflects the Session's discernment of God's will. As a Session we choose to grow our programs and prepare for a new Senior Pastor.

In closing I would like to say that the Property and Finance committee will work diligently with all the committees of the Session to follow the Word of God.

Blessings, Gus Altuzarra

PROPERTY AND FINANCE

A.J. Carson Ministerial Trust

Change in trustees: Tom Girvin termed out on December 31, 2018 and was replaced by Ken Cornelison.

Total Market value of Carson Trust decreased from \$703,300 year-ending 2017, to \$657,775 year-ending in 2018. \$31,289 was paid out in scholarships. The remaining loss was due to the poor equity performance in 2018.

The three church members who received scholarships for religious studies in 2018 were:

Dakota Shyres; Chelsea Williams; Camron Hauer.

All three students presented progress reports with grades and all are making satisfactory progress.

A maximum of 5% of the Trust has been budgeted for 2019 scholarships and may be adjusted according to market conditions. At this time, the trustees feel a 5% payout will protect the principal in 2019.

All accounts and transactions have been audited by a third party.

Jack Bell, Carson Trust, Chair



2018 & 2019 Session Retreats - Planning for the Year Ahead



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Committee

During 2018, member and non-member contributions totaled \$1,283,853, an increase of approximately \$11,000 over 2017. Throughout 2018 Laguna Presbyterian struggled to maintain its operating requirements, but as in years past, we prayed and asked for our church to find a way to close the December financial gap.

As of mid-January, we have received 140 pledges totaling \$737,632 which represents about 50% of the \$1,457,000 budgeted for member and non-member contributions in our 2019 operating budget. This shortfall will need to be made up from non-pledge giving and come next December we will be scrambling to meet our year-end expenses once again unless those “undecided” take the next step and make a pledge.

For those of you that have decided to pledge, what is it that you are willing to give additionally for something that our church has never had? Can you pledge a tithe, promising timely and consistent giving that ensures our operating expenses are met each and every month consecutively? The ability to give meaningful salary increases to our dedicated and talented staff? It's still not too late to either turn in or increase your pledge for 2019.

This year our new pledge campaign is *Pressing Forward*. As we look back at the celebration of our 100th anniversary in 2017, the payment in full of our indebtedness from the restoration of our sanctuary, and the retirement of our beloved Senior Pastor in 2018, we look forward to 2019 and beyond to develop staff, programs and mission outreach that reflect our readiness for an empowered future shaped and formed by the Word and the Spirit of God.

Thank you for your faithfulness as we continue *Pressing Forward* in 2019.

Tom Magill and Ron Hubbard, Your Stewardship Elders



WORSHIP

Worship Committee

2018 was a year of change for LPC. The first six months was a time of preparing for Jerry Tankersley's retirement, and a time for him to give us his parting words, thoughts and blessings by preaching from his favorite Psalms. It was a time of jubilation as well as sadness after his long tenure of leadership. All of this was beautifully evident in our worship times together.



During the next few months before our Interim Pastor arrived, we were well cared for by our two Associate Pastors, Steve Sweet and Kathy Sizer. They were integral in keeping our worship moving smoothly with their preaching and supportive input, and by securing great additional pulpit supply. Beth Pinney maintained the continuity of our worship in all aspects with her faithful and wise counsel on the Worship Committee. Our music staff, Linda White Director of Choirs, Sookyung Bang organist and pianist, and the Praise Band all upheld consistent, uplifting and innovative pieces for our worship. We are so very thankful and grateful for all of our wonderful staff who never skipped a beat.

Now that Gareth Icenogle is with us as our Interim Pastor, we are assured of expert leadership as we continue through the transition process. He has helped us integrate his theological understanding into our worship, and will guide us through discovering the necessary changes ahead. We are in good hands and trust that the Lord will continue to bless and grow LPC.

Weddings

In 2018 our Wedding Process received a complete overhaul. We have new documented procedures, including rehearsal and wedding checklists, helpful time lines and wedding details forms including wedding music lists for the bridal couple's use, established deadlines for wedding detail information and balance due. We also improved communication procedures with bridal vendors and staff.

In 2018 we had a total of 16 inquiries resulting in 6 weddings, one casual anniversary celebration, and 5 wedding date bookings for 2019.

Lori Hathaway, Wedding Coordinator

WORSHIP

Chancel Choir, Chancel Bell Choir, Children's Music

Hallelujah! Our choirs have worked hard this year to provide enhanced worship at LPC. Our Chancel Bells attended the 10th anniversary of the Spring Ring, where a full day of workshops and rehearsals culminated in an afternoon concert. The Chancel Choir spent all of 2018 learning a great deal of Handel's Messiah, which we presented with 450 singers at Carnegie Hall in November. This work was also the core of our Christmas concert, and provided many anthems during the year. In addition to drawing some new choir members, this year-long study has raised our choir to a new level of musicianship.

This year we intentionally hosted a variety of music events to draw the public into our beautiful Sanctuary: the classical string group Kontrapunctus, The Laguna Beach Chamber Singers, The Praise Symphony Orchestra, The OC Harp Troupe and the Laguna Beach Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Our children reminded us that Christmas is "All About That Baby" in drama and song, bringing family, friends and many visitors into our morning worship services.

Lastly, our gifted organist/accompanist Sookyung takes us to new and inspiring places in our worship each week as she thoughtfully leads in every part of the service on piano and organ.

Linda White, Director of Choirs



Worship Leader

2018 was a full year of music ministry. A part of my role as worship leader is to meet once a week with the pastoral staff, worship elders and worship committee to plan and prepare the liturgy (the work of the people) for Sunday morning. In addition, special meetings are needed to plan for services during the season of Lent, e.g., Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and for Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. Throughout the year you may notice the sanctuary space is enhanced with different tapestries or paraments or even the occasional art installments in the sanctuary, especially during the season of Pentecost.

There were also many special events that took place as a part of Rev. Tankersley's retirement and I was grateful to be included in planning and the design elements for those events. I thank you for allowing me to be involved in music ministry on your behalf throughout the Presbytery. This year I led worship at our Annual Pastor's Retreat (February), Presbyterian Church of the Master's Women's Retreat (May), as well as LPC's Annual Women's Retreat (March). In 2018 we hosted the Laguna Beach Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Celebration. It was truly a celebration of thanksgiving.

It was a wonderful year of growing the ministry of music and the praise team: Andrea Galante, Abby Garcia, Jeff Nagel, Jonathan Nagel, Linda Well-Sholik (vocals), Thor Fay (drums), Jesse Hughes (bass), Doug Miller (violin), Ross Sellers (guitar), Andy Song (guitar), and Dani McGinley, Gabe Rudner, Adam Bravo, Dan Reckard and Sookyung Bang (keyboard). Thanks to the expertise and patience of David Galante who is faithful Sunday after Sunday, event after event, for making it all sound beautiful. Thanks to Tom Fay, always ready to be there if David is not available. It was great to have Grammy-award finger style guitarist and professional artists Mark Hanson and Greta Pedersen, and Doug Smith in worship.

In the area of professional development it was exciting for me to preach in August and to lead the Adult Bible Studies when needed. I was inspired during my time at "Sing! 2018" in Nashville, Tennessee - a conference on encouraging congregations to sing the Psalms in worship. We sang many of those Psalms in the fall of 2018. I am so thankful that you continue to challenge me to grow and stretch.

With a heart of thanksgiving,
Beth Pinney, Worship Leader

BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS

Boy Scout Troop 35

The leaders, parents and members of Troop 35 are thankful for the continued support of our programs by our chartered organization, Laguna Beach Presbyterian Church. Our events center on service, community and the outdoors. In service, we work with LPC to assist at the Homeless Breakfast in December. A related service project for the homeless this year collected over 450 pairs of socks for those in need.

Our troop celebrated a generational milestone in 2018 and started planning for changes in the Boy Scout program in 2019. Peter Jensen became an assistant scoutmaster (ASM) in Troop 35 in June marking three generations of ASM's from the same family in the same troop by following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Rolf, who served Troop 35 from 1952 to 1986, and father, Paul. The importance of family supporting scouting continues in our 2018 additions to our Eagle's Nest: Calem Lindsey (grandson of ASM Michael Lindsey), Stephen Jensen (grandson of Rolf Jensen and son of Paul Jensen), Joe Hovanesian (son of ASM John Hovanesian) and Logan Leeds (son of current Scoutmaster Clay Leeds). The upcoming generations will now include girls as Troop 35 will be one of the first BSA units in the Orange County Council to provide our program to girls who are ages 11 years to 18 years, starting in February 2019.

While some events will be separate for boys and girls, we are looking forward to helping young women gain the leadership skills that Lord Baden Powell envisioned 109 years ago when the scouting program began in the United States. We will continue to be a leader in scouting with the generous support of Laguna Presbyterian Church.

Yours in Scouting,
Pam Jensen, Troop Committee Chair



Cub Scout Pack 35

We are happy to report that Pack 35 had another great year in 2018. The pack regularly participates in many indoor and outdoor advancement activities, which includes camping, hiking, service projects, and many educational experiences. The pack continues to grow and currently includes (54) boys with increased participation from parents. Robert Garret has taken over the reins as our Cubmaster, Lisa Jensen is our Committee Chair and Tom Fay is our Charter Organization Representative. Pack 35 continues to meet the 'Gold Level' in the 'Journey to Excellence' rating with the Orange County Boy Scouts of America Council. This is the highest rating a Cub Scout Pack can achieve and it is based on meeting important milestones of excellence set forth by the Boy Scouts of America.

From our annual Pinewood Derby in January, one of Scouting's most anticipated and exciting traditions, to Hospitality Night in December, where the Cub Scouts help Laguna Presbyterian Church welcome visitors that gather at the corner of Forest and Second Street by giving out cookies, hot cider, and cocoa, the opportunities for fun, fellowship, and service abound. In closing, we appreciate all the assistance and support the church provides to us. We could not do many of these fun activities without you. So, thank you to everyone at Laguna Presbyterian Church and especially to our charter representative Tom Fay.

Our Pack leaders this year are: Robert Garrett, Cubmaster; Lisa Jensen, Committee Chair and Tom Fay, Charter Organization Representative. The den leaders are Lisa Barreth, Meldie Moore, Caroldean Ross, Lisa Jensen, John Hovanesian, Meldie Moore, Jeff Schroder, Jenne Coler-Dark and Allison Trotter. Allan Hundhausen is Advancement Chair and Greg Fiske is our membership chair.



2018 IN PICTURES



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

In response to God's love, we are called to be a Christ-centered community where people can:

Discover who God is and the depth of Christ's love.
Develop individual spiritual gifts and be equipped for ministry.
Demonstrate love and hope in Christ to Laguna and beyond.

In this way we glorify God.

LAGUNA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

415 Forest Ave., Laguna Beach, CA 92651 | 949.494.7555 | lagunapreschurch.org