

Perspectives

LAGUNA NIGUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JULY/AUGUST 2009

LNPC New Members

Please welcome our newest members of Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church who will be introduced to the congregation on July 19.



Donna Riddell

"Life is wonderful" says Donna. She has 3 adult children and 7 wonderful grandchildren. Donna is active within the community and sits on the Board of Saddleback College Advisory Committee. Donna is President of Senior Citizen Committee. She enjoys yoga, Pilates, and exercise classes with other members of Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church.

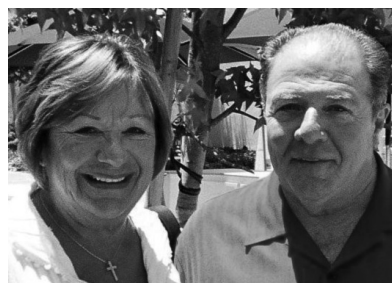
The Wrights

Gary and Lois Ann have been married for 21 years. Between the two they share 11 grandchildren and love to spend time with them.



Gary and Lois Ann Wright

They moved to California in 1989 where they have built their own successful Insurance business. They enjoy traveling and spending time at their home in Tucson, Arizona.



The Giulianos

Sharon was born and raised in Akron, Ohio. Errol's hometown is Wakefield, Massachusetts. The Giulianos met here in California and have been married 45 years. They raised 4 children and have 7 grandchildren. Sharon enjoys home cooking for her children and families on holidays.

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Laguna Niguel
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Washington, D.C. Music Mission Trip



Festival chorus and orchestra



Dr. Binh Vu, Music Minister and Director of Music at LNPC was invited to teach Orchestra conducting a 7-day workshop organized by the Vietnamese Catholic Union for advanced conductors of Vietnamese Catholic parishes in Canada and USA. Following the conductors' workshop is a pilgrimage worship festival which features the joint chorus's of more than 100 members and orchestra, conducted by selected conductors from the workshop.

Teaching in action.

Conductor from the workshop conducts festival chorus and orchestra.



Teachers, staff, conductors and musicians after one of the conducting session.

LNPC News



LNPC is having a church wide picnic Sunday, August 9th from 3 pm to 6 pm at The Club at Rancho Niguel located at the corner of Moulton Parkway and Rancho Niguel Road in Laguna Niguel. This will be a day of fellowship, food, swimming and summer fun. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Please note: Space is limited, so get your reservation in early. RSVP to Karen Skinner at 949.218.2505, email karenskinner48@yahoo.com or contact the church office at 949.249.1218.



LNPC Jail Ministry

Our mission group goes to Theo Lacy Jail in Orange on the second Tuesday of each month. We conduct two worship services from 6 to 8 pm. We sing, pray, read scripture and present a sermon. It's a positive and energized Christ-centered atmosphere. If you have a calling for this type of ministry, please call Don Boyd @ 949-495-6572.



South County Outreach

Please remember the food pantry during July and August - During the summer months, the SCO has a very hard time keeping food on the shelves. South County Outreach has seen an increase of people needing food and a decrease of food donations. During the summer, SCO donations slow down because school food drives donations stop when schools are out. South County Outreach always needs: peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti & pasta, canned vegetables, tomatoes, fruit, beans, chili, salad dressing, barbecue sauce, mustard, ketchup, pancake mix, muffin mix, and box potatoes. Thank you for helping South County Outreach this summer.

School Supplies for San Juan Elementary

LNPC is collecting school supplies this summer for one of the most deprived schools in our district. The children in Vacation Bible Camp will be decorating the bags during VBC and filling them in July. Bags will be distributed at the end of services July 26th. We ask the congregation to fill the bags in August. All bags are to be returned to the bins



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A Message from Randy

Dear Friends in Christ:

First the good news: “God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work” [2 Corinthians 9:8 (NRSV)]. Paul wrote these words to the Corinthian believers describing a spiritual reality he personally witnessed in their generosity. Just as true today, these words describe the generosity and commitment of the members and friends of LNPC.

This week our treasure, Jerry McCloskey, made the final loan payment on our Christian Education Building! Through God’s provision and your generosity, we were able to retire our loan in only five years. What makes this even more incredible is that we accomplished this remarkable feat despite the severe economic situation we are experiencing in our community and country. Praise the Lord! And thank all of you for your faithful, sacrificial, and generous giving above and beyond your commitment to our operating budget. This is truly a testimony of God’s work in and through our church. What an exciting time for us. Now debt free we can move forward in mission and ministry with the same enthusiasm that has marked our church throughout our building phase.

In October we will celebrate this grand achievement with a “burn-the-mortgage party.” It will be a great way to honor God’s work among us and commit to follow



Dr. Randall Steele

God’s leading into the next chapter of our lives together. There will be more information forthcoming on this festive event as we get closer to the date. I know you won’t want to miss this party!

Now the challenge: “Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor” [Romans 12:10 (NRSV)]. Once again Paul reminds us of a commitment we make in response to what we have received from God’s grace in Jesus Christ.

I share this with you in response to a conversation that was relayed to me last Sunday. It came from a new family visiting our first service. When they arrived, on time, and ready to worship, they noticed that only three people were in attendance with the Worship Ensemble. Thinking that something was not right, they got up and walked out to the patio area and said, “Do you really have a worship service here at

this time? Doesn’t your church take worship seriously?” Wow! It is not an easy thing to hear is it?

Think about it. Visitors often arrive early. Being their first time, they often allow more time to find the location and a comfortable place to sit in the sanctuary. Their expectation is to meet friendly people with whom they can build relationships. So this is an important opportunity for us to welcome them and briefly visit with them. It is a time we can help direct their children to their Sunday school classes and introduce them to their teachers. So, imagine how they feel when congregation is absent! It is time for us to live into the kind of church we want to be for others and for our families.

This is a wake-up call for all of us! It is time to take our commitment to the next level and embrace punctuality as a discipline worthy of our Christian witness. This story is a reminder of the responsibility we have to our God, to others, and to ourselves. I strongly encourage you to invest in a new discipline and move your arrival time up twenty minutes. It will bring honor to God, support others, and will allow you to live a Christian life of integrity. Don’t let the culture of our age dictate your faith expression. Let’s turn this around. I need your help is this matter.

In Christ’s love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy".

SHARING *Our Caring*

Birth

Chase Cameron
Born 5/7/09
8 lb. 11 oz., 21"
Mother: Kristen Cameron
Father: Duane Cameron

Death

Joel Lawrence Richardson
6/24/09

Frances Whitmore
6/28/09



Congratulations to our Graduates for 2009!

High School

Brittney Bernal
Marissa Columbus
Alanna Eilenberg
Tara Free
Warren Hardie
Jason Lisenbee
Anna Williams
David Wright

College & University

Andrew Green
Tiffani Heath
Rena Kamariotakis
Lauren Lacey
Andrew McColl
Andrew Naeve
Brianna Peckham
Jennifer Wanninger

*If you know of a grad who was not on the list, please contact the church office so we can acknowledge him/her.

The Voice of the Soul Summer Bible Study on the Psalms

Pastor Emily will be teaching for 6 weeks from the Psalms beginning July 14 on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Each week is self contained, so if you can come only once or twice, you may. There are no prerequisites, only time to share and learn, so bring a friend! We will meet in Gard Hall B (by the kitchen).

Congratulations to our Newly Commissioned Stephen Ministers!

These people have completed 50 hours of training in listening, confidentiality, and Christian caring skills. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen and meet with you. If you are going through difficult times, these wonderful people commit to one to one visit as you talk about the trials of your life. Please call or email Margaret Lee: takying7@hotmail.com or 949-230-8999; Pastor Emily: Emily@lnpc.org or 949-249-1218 for more information.

Emily's Desk

Summertime is a time to kick back and reset our lives. We take time for the family, to picnic, to go to the beach, or get outside and breathe deeply the stuff of life. We give thanks to the Lord. At the same time, we are reminded that troubles do not take a vacation. As one of your pastors, I encourage you to do two things:



Rev. Emily McColl

- reconnect with the Lord conversationally: pray, read your Bible, trust each moment to the Lord
- nurture relationships with others in the Lord: come to worship, join a small group or Bible study, phone a friend, reach out to someone in need

If you want to talk, need suggestions for growth or service, or want to meet others, please call 949-249-1218 or email me at Emily@lnpc.org.



Your Deacons will be emphasizing these two movements in life during the coming year. Our theme verses are from Mark 12:29-31:

The greatest commandment is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The new deacons have been ordained and installed and we are excited about serving Laguna Niguel with sympathy and compassion. The moderators for 2009-10 are:

- Marilyn Campman—pastoral moderator (spiritual leadership and support)
- Kathy White—executive moderator (administration and care)

You will notice that moderator titles and duties reflect both of our themes to love God and love one another. Also we are working through some new things in the deacons and you may notice that some of the people in your parish have changed. We are trying to encourage people with common interests to get to know one another as well. Some parishes are aligned according to these interests. For example, we want to continue to be a place for all ages, so we are forming a parish for the twenty-something. Rena Kamaritokis has graciously consented to shepherd this group, and I expect it will involve more cyber/text type contacts. Stay tuned for more news as we get oriented and organized. At LNPC every member has a deacon who is available

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LNPC's 2009 Disaster Academy Graduates



Pictured left to right are: Andy Tierney, Lynn Loper, Jerry McCloskey, Shirley Byers, not pictured: Lee Kraft

LNPC was well represented at the 2009 Laguna Niguel Disaster Academy. The 8 week course provided by the City and its Emergency Manager, Paul Russell, was an intensive community emergency response training program. LNPC provided Gard Hall for the 32 community participants to meet and receive their training. All received certificates after demonstrating their response to a Disaster drill at City Hall on Thursday June 18th.

Jerry McCloskey, as Incident Commander led the drill team. City and community volunteers maintained the drill and participated as victims. The police, fire dept., and ambulance service responded. Friends and family, along with many city officials were there to observe and support.



Pastor Randy Steele accepted an award for LNPC's role in the Academy. Paul also recognized Marvel Anderson & Lee Kraft. Congratulations to the City, LNPC, and Academy Graduates. We are fortunate to have you and the dedicated community service you provide.

HEALTH *Ministries*

Health Ministries would like to announce our next workshop:

Volunteer Pastoral Care Training for Stephen's Ministers, Deacons, Care Partners, friendly visitors
Sunday July 19, 2009 – 11:30 to 2:30
Speaker: Mr. Dave Hart
Lunch hosted by Health Ministries in Gard Hall

This Workshop will provide:

- An overview of dementia and Alzheimer's disease including pathological changes and treatment modalities
- Skills needed for conducting successful pastoral care visits with individuals affected by dementia and their families
- Effective strategies to communicate with persons in the early to late stages of dementia and Alzheimer's disease

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Emily's Desk *(Continued from page 4)*

to connect them with help, prayer, the pastors and the office. Of course, we want to thank the outgoing deacons: Jill Bone, Shirley Byers, Chuck Campman, Bob Forshee, Shirley Forshee, Randy Free, Michelle Free, Joie Hardie, Christie Phillips, Rob Phillips, and Ana Marie Seligman.

Who do I call in an emergency? Who is my deacon? Who will know what to do? Some information is hard to come by. With the health insurance privacy regulations, even the hospital won't call your church unless you personally give permission. Pastors are also bound by confidentiality rules.

- If you have a need, please call us at the office or your deacon! First!
- Please be clear about how you would like others to know or not know your needs.

You may be shy or think someone else will tell us, but it doesn't always happen. And if you do hear of someone in need, please ask them, "May I have permission to call the office or pastors?" This way we can follow up. We will ask if the information is confidential, if you would like it on the prayer chain, and what we can do for you. Needs vary—from meals or transportation to someone to sit with or talk with.

So what do you do? Call the church office. We will take note and follow up to determine what sort of help we might be. This will initiate the process to begin caring in an appropriate manner. If the matter is confidential, rest assured the pastors WILL honor that request, even if we hear it from others.

If you are one who likes to help others, we have many ministries in which you may like to participate. You can be part of the chain of love that supports others in caring:

- Meal delivery
- Rides to doctors
- Help with receptions
- Circle of Care visitors
- Connect with resources
- Health care ministry
- Flower delivery
- Cards or phone calls
- Prayer chain (email)



Prayer Ministry

Here at LNPC we publicize the prayer needs each Sunday. We also have a confidential prayer chain that goes out by email. Some people meet for prayer time together as well. If you would like to be involved or have ideas for this ministry, please call Pastor Emily.

CHILDREN'S *Ministries*



Children's Mission Project

The Pathfinder children ended their session with a service project for the Orange County Rescue Mission. Under the direction of Eileen Green our children provided 40 hygiene kits and also donated new men's socks, T-shirts and cotton briefs.



Teacher Appreciation

Sunday, May 31st Children's Ministry honored all of their Sunday school teachers and volunteers with a special Children's Message and a dessert and coffee table out on the patio. A great big thank you goes out to all of our wonderful volunteers for their service to the children of our church. We appreciate you so very much!

VBC "Crocodile Dock" July 6th – July 10th

It's not too late to sign up for Vacation Bible Camp. Invite your friends and neighbors and join the fun while we discover how "fearless kids shine God's light".

Camp is from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and includes Bible

Theater, Crocodile Rock Music, Gator Games, Bayou Crafts and Swamp

Side Snacks. Cost is \$50

a child \$75 for 2 children and \$90 for 3 or more children. You may sign up in the church office or download the registration forms on our website at www.lnpc.org.



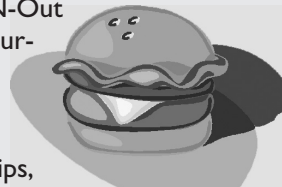
VBC Celebration Sunday July 12th

The In-N-Out Burger truck is coming to LNPC! Come meet the VBC families on Sunday July 12th after the 10 a.m. service for a yummy In-N-Out

Burger lunch featuring their famous cheeseburger

(grilled cheese also available), chips,

dessert and a fountain drink. Children's Ministry will provide the fun with a Super Water Slide and Bounce House out on the patio. Tickets are \$5.50 each and \$8.00 at the door. You can purchase your tickets during VBC, on Sunday's on the patio, or in the church office.



LNPC News

(Continued from page 2)

in the Fellowship Building by August 16th. Feel free to purchase any or all of these items: BASICS – markers, colored pencils, folders to keep papers organized, wide ruled paper, spiral notebooks (wide ruled), erasers, #2 pencils, three-ring binders, small English dictionaries, Thesaurus, English-Spanish dictionaries. EXTRAS – paper back books (grade appropriate RL1 or RL2 on back of book denotes grade), hair clips for girls, pencil grips, fancy pencils, rubber stamps, composition books, journals, personal note pads, and pencil pouches. If you would like to donate money, please put your check made out to LNPC in the offering plates on Sundays August 2nd, 9th, or 16th.

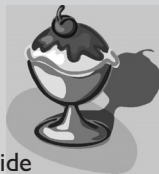
Attention ALL Agape Groups!

It's time for our 3rd Annual Ice Cream Social for all Agape Groups! This year JoAnn & Allen Renning will be hosting the event on Saturday, July 18, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Agape Groups, you'll soon be receiving your invitations. Hope you can join us for the fun! Please RSVP to JoAnn at 949-362-8270 by Friday, July 17.

CONNECTIONS *Commission*

Mark Your Calendars

Summer Treats begin July 5th after 10:00 a.m. Summer Worship service. Back by popular demand we will provide "summer treats from yesteryear." Last year popsicles and root beer floats sparked memories of those great days of summer...watch for a repeat performance. An "angel" gifted us a donation to help provide this fun for you but since we are self funded we will NOT be selling anything, but a donation bucket will be avail-



able for those who wish to supplement this program! Special thanks to Stacy Malone for co-coordinating this year!

September... Watch for Details... Burn the Mortgage Party with Big Surprises

If you are interested in working on this task force contact Karen Skinner (karenskinner48@yahoo.com) or Marvel Anderson (marvel1@cox.net).



Connections Commission Is Excited!

"Living the Life You Always Wanted" The spring small group reading has been *loved*. Everyone who participated thought the book was great, conversation it developed wonderful and an overall great experience. Watch for the fall Small Group sign-ups for the next book. Special thanks to the Rennings and Rev. Emily McColl for making it a success!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Presbytery News

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is the recipient of the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) 2009 Member of the Year.

PDA has been a member organization with National VOAD for many years, and has demonstrated its commitment to the core principles of the VOAD movement, most recently in its development of volunteer villages along the Gulf Coast. PDA's collaboration and coordination of volunteer housing and the creation of a toll-free phone number to organize volunteer groups were especially noted by VOAD.

National VOAD is a coordinating body for every major community-based and faith-based disaster response organization, including the American Red Cross, LDS Charities, The Salvation Army and Feeding America. The member organizations of National VOAD focus on all stages of disaster: preparedness, relief, response, recovery and mitigation. Working collaboratively, the members of National VOAD are the driving force behind disaster recovery in the United States.

Health Ministries

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- Adaptable techniques to help manage challenging behaviors that can be present in the persons with dementia and Alzheimer's disease
- Tips for addressing family concerns and facilitating referrals

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Dementia/Alzheimer's disease and have a free lunch.

Dave Hart is back at the request of our Pastors and by popular demand from those who have attended his previous workshops. RSVP: Kathy White, email klongrcoc@cox.net or call 949-643-8277.

Youth Instrument Ensemble

Who? All musicians young and old
Where? Gard Hall 2nd Floor
When? Every Sunday starting September 13th
Contact? LeeLee@Lnpc.org or (714) 425-6638.



LNPC Children's Choir

Come join our growing Children's Choir as we discover our mission this year. Every Monday starting September 14th, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Contact LeeLee@Lnpc.org or (714) 425-6638.



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Perspectives

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Sexton Nacho Calata



One Hour of Worship
One Hour of Personal Growth
One Hour of Service
EVERY WEEK

*See how this changes
your life!*