



From Pastor Bob Yule

Each one of these people of faith died not yet having in hand what was promised, but still believing. How did they do it? They saw it way off in the distance, waved their greeting, and accepted the fact that they were transients in this world. People who live this way make it plain that they are looking for their true home. If they were homesick for the old country, they could have gone back any time they wanted. But they were after a far better country than that—heaven country.

Hebrews 11:13-16a The Message

In Eugene Peterson’s paraphrase translation of Hebrews 11, the best country is ‘heaven country.’

People of faith have traveled widely searching for God’s purpose. Patty and I are celebrating our 40th anniversary this year by making a pilgrimage by way of St. James in Spain. In the last 20 years, Camino pilgrimages have more than doubled. Most of the pilgrims travel mainly on foot from all directions, usually requiring several days or even weeks of hiking to reach Santiago in Spain. We will be riding e-bikes for 4 days, covering about 25 miles a day. We will travel the northern costal route arriving at the great cathedral in Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

We covet your prayers for a safe journey and refreshing time away meeting people from all over the world. We expect to continue to learn more about the simple fact that we are better together. I look forward to sharing with you how we are all serving the Lord in the Kingdom, which is really a pilgrimage toward ‘heaven country.’

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Update

With diligent prayer for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the PNC is rigorously reviewing potential pastor candidates through the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) online dashboard system. Invitations to interview via Zoom are extended to selected applicants, again through CLC.

The PNC convenes weekly and will be meeting more often as we go through the interview process. Prayers for discernment are welcomed as we continue this journey together.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Missionaries Steve and Dawn Liberti from Proclaim! International will join us in worship and lead the message on Sunday, June 9th. Look for more details next month!

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to welcome our new members of Celtic Cross! We are honored and blessed to have them join us.



Ruthie Chalmers



Greg Herrick



Terry Jeppesen



Janelle Robinett



Patty Robinett

Stewardship **By Mike McKibbin**

God has been so good to our church! Thank you for your financial support so far during 2024. As we approach the middle of the year, we ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your financial support as you continue partnering with us to create a strong community of believers and spread God's love to the world.

Your support is important for several reasons. For one, it helps to fund the work of the church. From maintaining the building to supporting community outreach programs, the church relies on the contributions of its members to carry out its mission. By tithing, you are playing a vital role in supporting the work of the church and ensure it can continue to thrive.

We give not for our own glory, but to bring glory to God. While we have made meaningful progress in our pledges, we are still not where we need to be. Thank you for prayerfully considering increasing your giving to the church as the Lord so leads you. Leviticus 27:30 (The tithe is introduced into law): "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD."

Treasurer's Report March 2024

YTD Income:	\$97,000
YTD Expenses:	<u>\$113,902</u>
Variance:	-\$16,202

Mission Focus **By Joy Lineback**

This month, our Mission focus is the Lithuanian Christian College (LCC) International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania. LCC brings together students from 64 countries, including Ukraine and Afghanistan. It is a Christian Liberal Arts university with many non-Christians in the student body. The students learn together in an environment providing opportunities for cultural and spiritual exchange. They model how we can live in peace amidst incredible differences. LCC offers smaller classes where students and professors may engage more personally in life-changing discussions.

Jackie Bartz taught at LCC from 1998-2008. You may speak with her for more insights.

Celtic Cross provides an annual gift for student scholarships at LCC. To make a personal donation, go to <https://lcc.lt/donate/us-giving-options>.



Adult Ministries **By Kay Grenda**

God asks us to be a part of His family. He wants us to grow, learn more about who He is, and share stories. What better way to do this than through being a part of an Adult Ministry group?

A great disciple of His was our own Karen Sturdevant. I remember when she asked me to help with a children's Sunday School class. I told her I had only a little church experience and had not been brought up in the church. She said it was okay, that I should try being an assistant and I would learn. She was right: I did learn from that experience and recognized how much more there is to learn, which led me to participate in Adult Ministries.

- Sunday Bible Studies at 9:00 am in the church library and 10:30 am in the church library and on Zoom
- Prayer Ministry
 - Weekly Intercessory Prayer List, contact Kay Grenda
 - Prayer Chain, contact Sue Hurd
- Fellowship Groups
 - Genesis (Presbyterian Women), meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am in the church library, contact Chris Underwood or Carol Cross
 - Dorcas (knitting & crocheting), meets Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the church library, contact Nancy Guettler
 - Board Game Group, meets Thursdays at 10:00 am

Prayer Ministry

By Kay Grenda

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. It is a day designated by the United States Congress when people are asked “to turn to God in prayer and meditation.”

The theme for the 2024 National Day of Prayer is “Lift Up the Word - Light Up the World.”

2 Samuel 22:29-31 (ESV) “For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.”

Please lift up the following areas in prayer: education, media, businesses, families, churches, the government, and the military.

Information about the National Day of Prayer Broadcast on May 2, 2024 at 8:00 pm ET can be found at https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/events/2024_broadcast.

Matthew 18:20 (ESV) “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Book Talk

Book Talk meets Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00 pm by Zoom only. Church members and friends are welcome to join in our discussion of *The Other Alcott* by Elise Hooper. If attending, contact Joy Lineback at 916-784-2790 or jlineba@surewest.net.

Presbyterian Women, Genesis Bible Study

This month’s meeting is Tuesday, May 14th at 10:00 am in the library. Lesson 7, *Lydia*, and Lesson 8, *Work of the Disciples*, of Sacred Encounters will be led by Carol Cross with Judy Schefer as hostess. The Scriptures are Acts 16:11-15 and Acts 9:36-42, respectively. The mission project is collecting supplies for the Veterans Community Center in Citrus Heights.

We want to thank our Celtic Cross family for the outpouring of love to us following the death of our granddaughter/daughter. Your cards and prayers have helped make our grief more manageable.

Thank you and God bless you!

Sue, Dave & Jason Terwilliger

YOUTH & KIDS MINISTRY

By Jim Staniels, Director of Family Ministries

jimstaniels@celticpc.org

Growing in faith does not happen simply by cramming more information about the Bible into our brains. All of that knowledge means nothing if we don’t experience how that knowledge transforms our hearts. To experience faith we must practice faith, and that takes commitment.

Commitment is part of God’s nature and how God interacts with us: by keeping His promises and putting His plans into action. God’s commitment to us is just one of the many reasons we can trust Him no matter what. Because God’s promises and plans came true in Jesus, we can be with Him forever. We reflect God’s character when we make a plan and stick to it.

This month, we’ll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. We hope they commit to practicing their faith by reading God’s Word, praying to God honestly and consistently, talking about God with others, and living for God in how they show love throughout the everyday moments of their lives.

To help us do that, this month’s theme is Training Camp! May is going to be a great month at ccKids. May 19th will be Youth Sunday for both services, where we will get to worship with our youth and hear from them about what God has done and is doing in their lives! I love hearing from them and hope you will be as encouraged as I am!

May 5: 10:30 am ccKids, 6:30 pm Journey

May 19: Youth Sunday, 6:30 pm Journey

May 12: 10:30 am ccKids

May 26: 10:30 am ccKids, 6:30 pm Journey



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DON'T MISS OUT! ✕

From: Celtic Cross Church

To: YOU!!!

Subject: Weekly Emails Keeping You Up to Date

**Call or text 'CONNECT' to
916-967-1414 to sign up!**



**CHRIST CENTERED FAITH
PEOPLE FOCUSED COMPASSION**

Check out: www.celticcross.church

GET YOUR COMMENT IN COLOR!

Email the church office at
officemgr@celticpc.org
to receive your Comment
in color via email!

**THE JUNE/JULY COMMENT DEADLINE IS
TUESDAY, MAY 14 AT 4:00 PM**