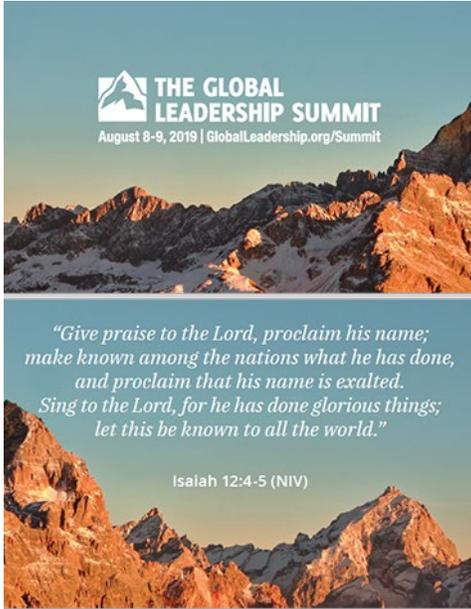


MESSENGER

VOLUME 68, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2019



THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
August 8-9, 2019 | GlobalLeadership.org/Summit

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world."

Isaiah 12:4-5 (NIV)

There's still time to register for this outstanding leadership summit. If you need a boost in your leadership, spiritual, or professional life, these two days will make a difference. We will have lunch together as a group on Friday. La Canada Presbyterian does a great job of hosting us. Go to globalleadership.org/summit/2019 and register with discount priority code 19PRTORG.

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MISSION DOMINICANA 2019

PHOTOS BY JOSH HORTON AND JUDY TRUMBO. MORE ON PAGE 4 AND 6!



Student artwork at Joe Hartman School



Medical lead Dr. Rob Flores



Counting meds with a friend



Mary with Delaney of Light a Candle



The whole group including Charles Drew University staff and students and Light a Candle staff



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,
As part of our *Vision 2020* strategic plan (which extends through 2019 and 2020), we're putting a greater emphasis on prayer in our LCPC family.

Just this month the Session adopted a proposal that helps to advance that goal. We now have a newly-invigorated prayer ministry operating within the area of Worship and Music that will focus on offering one-on-one prayers for people after Sunday worship services. You will hear much more about that over the next few weeks.

This month I want to reflect with you briefly about prayer. I invite you to read through and talk about this letter with family members and other Christian friends. I want to pose a simple but crucially important question: Why pray? I hope your conversations will focus on these four answers:

First, we pray because Jesus prayed (and still does).

Jesus relied on prayer at every step of his earthly mission. Prayer provided Jesus the opportunity to see the sinful, aching world from the point of view of heaven, and to renew his vision and energy for the work that lay ahead. Jesus would sometimes escape from a crowd of needy people and spend the entire night alone in prayer. And of course, Jesus commanded his disciples to do as he had done. Prayer, he told them, is what makes every good thing possible.

Second, we pray because God cares about the details of our lives.

Jesus tells us we should be bold in our prayers. We should ask our Father for everything we need to fulfill his dream for our lives. That probably rules out the prayer for a good parking space at Costco. But it doesn't automatically rule out prayers for money, or good health, or any other blessing that we sincerely believe will help us advance God's kingdom.

It's better to err on the side of asking God for too much than for too little – or for nothing at all. Remember: the Lord's Prayer includes a request for our daily bread. Asking for daily bread really amounts to asking God to give us the basic things we need to serve him in the current moment.

Thankfully, God knows what's best for us. He's able to teach and admonish us when we make the mistake of praying for the wrong things. As Bill Hybels points out in his book, *Too Busy Not To Pray*, God evaluates our prayers and always answers according to our need:

If the request is wrong, God says, "No."
If the timing is wrong, God says, "Slow."
If you are wrong, God says, "Grow."

But if the request is right, the timing is right and you are right, God says, "Go!"

Third, we pray because God uses our prayers to advance His kingdom.

Many Christians are deeply confused about the church's role and their own role in God's plan of salvation. They take the attitude that since the Lord is all-powerful and all-knowing, our prayers can have no real effect on the unfolding drama. God is going to do what God is going to do; our prayers are inconsequential.

The Bible reveals God in a very different light. The God we meet there is a personal being who loves us far more than we could ever love him, and who proves his love by sending his Son, Jesus, to live and die for us. That same Jesus, before ascending to heaven, commissions his followers to continue his work. Then the Spirit comes. Empowered by that Spirit, the Church is able to do even greater works than those done by Jesus.

What all of that tells us is that our prayers matter. For reasons that remain mostly hidden from us, the Lord chooses to include us on his team. He releases his power and accomplishes his work through the prayers of his people.

Fourth, we pray because we love God and we need to let him know it.

his followers would do the same. As we journey through our sermon series on these wonderful songs and prayers of Israel, I hope you will let them echo in your prayers, meditate on them before you go to bed, and allow them to expand your experience of God's goodness.

Look for Podcasts to help you learn practical ways to integrate the Psalms into your devotional life. Check out the LCPC Facebook page and Website for links.



We were created for praise. Our joy and purpose in life is to love God with all our might. Prayer allows us to communicate that love both in corporate worship and in private devotion.

In his lyrical poem, "*When Lilacs Last in Dooryards Bloomed*," Walt Whitman discovers in himself the same impulse to celebrate that is woven into all creation. The song of a thrush helps him to find his own song of praise:

*"Solitary [he]
Sings by himself a song
Song of the bleeding throat!
Death's outlet song of life – for well, dear brother, I know
If [you were] not gifted to sing, [you would] surely die."*

You may not have been gifted to sing at a microphone. But God has planted a song in your heart – a celebration of life that only you can sing, and that must be offered to God alone. Find your song and you'll find your reason for living.

Prayer makes sense for us for many reasons. We pray because Jesus prayed. We pray because God cares about the details of our lives. We pray because He uses our prayers to advance His kingdom.

And we pray because the very best part of who we are rises up to praise the Lord.

May we make room for him in our church, in our home, and in the quietness of our hearts so he can plant his life in us.

Love and good cheer,
Andy Wilson

LEE'S LATEST

How often have you listened to the radio and sung along with a song you haven't heard for 20 years? It's amazing how songs get embedded in our long-term memories. The Psalms are a collection of songs that can get "stuck in our head" if we let them, but more than that, they can embed themselves in our prayers if we practice.

Jesus' teachings are dripping with references and allusions to the Psalms – he grew up singing and praying the songs of Israel. If Jesus prayed and meditated on the Psalms, it seems fitting

MESSENGER

LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**MESSENGER DEADLINE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15
9:00 AM SHARP!**

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

Dear Friends,

I hope you're enjoying the summer warmth and the love of God in your lives this season. As summer-y as it may be, school will be starting up again before we know it, and some families will be struggling with their finances as they send their young adults off to college.

Hilary Norton, one of our wonderful Deacons, has been working on a plan to create a scholarship fund for our LCPC students. Below are her thoughts and bullet points about this fund. We ask for your prayer and input on this important gift to our community.



Calling for Support and Input for a Potential LCPC Higher Education Student Scholarship Program

Our Deacons, in loving response to significant input we have received regarding the struggles of our church community, are considering creating a special fund to support parents and students entering higher education.

Here are a few reasons that we are considering such a fund:

- While the costs of higher education (college or

vocational) are not “emergencies” as outlined in the Deacons Emergency Fund guidelines, these costs can create a significant temporary financial hit to our church families

- Some Christian colleges, such as Biola and The Master’s College, have “matching fund” programs to match church contributions with college scholarships, therefore providing twice the benefit for our church families.
- With the goal of creating “sticky faith” — connection to God away from the church — small scholarships from LCPC would be a reminder to our students that we are connected to them during their higher education years.
- Some of our families have experienced significant unplanned financial hardships during their children’s higher education years — illness, divorce, loss of a job. A fund like this

On August 25, the final SSSM service will be provided with a high energy ensemble performing three medleys of favorite selections from the musical *Godspell*. The group will consist of the music’s arranger, Noel Collins, conducting 12 musicians comprised of four singers, four rhythm, and four brass. Featured on vocals will be lead singer Lexie Collins accompanied by the Emmerson family singers – Talin, Lana, and Jeff. Other LCPC members of the ensemble will be Ronan Emmerson on French horn, Geoff Bryan on bass, and Elzbieta Nawrocka on piano. Professional guest musicians rounding out the group will be two trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist, and a drummer.

Godspell was created by Stephen Schwartz who wrote all the music and crafted the lyrics from Biblical text as well as other clerical and spiritual sources. It is a contemporary version of a Bible story based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Through the whimsical enactments of various parables, it deals with the last days of Jesus Christ. While being considered in the genre of a rock musical, the rhythmic journey takes us beyond that through swing, jazz, waltz, and even a hoedown. The music is at once dramatic, oftentimes humorous, and always poignantly reverent. Enjoy!

In Christ,
Noel

could help children finish their higher education year, rather than disrupting it.

There is still much to discuss before we finalize our proposal to Session. We would like your prayer and consideration as we develop funding sources and program rules.

If you would like to reach out to me to discuss your feelings on this idea, identify other higher education programs which recognize church contributions, or provide examples of other churches that have created their own scholarship programs, please do not hesitate to reach me at (213) 448-2900 or hilarynorton@me.com.

In Christ,
Kerry Milbrodt

CFC FAITH UPDATE

What a fun summer it has been so far at CFC! Over the past weeks, we have been learning about the Fruit of the Spirit. The Fruit of the Spirit are nine qualities that the Holy Spirit grows in us so that God can use us to share His love and truth. The nine fruit are: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control. It is wonderful to see multiple examples of these fruits during my time with the children of CFC. I have particularly noticed kindness, joy and self-control during the month of July. I look forward to continuing to learn more about these fruits and about the Savior who displayed them all, as we wrap up our summer Chapels.



CONVERSATIONS IN THE GARDEN

Join the Conversations! We meet once or twice a month on Sunday afternoons at the home of Nancy Coler to discuss the week’s sermon in a peaceful and relaxed atmosphere. Our group is small but mighty. Both services are represented and new friendships are being formed. All are welcome!

This month we’ll meet on **August 4 and 25**. Arrive at 4:30 PM, and we’ll be finished by 6:00 PM. For more information, please call Nancy Coler at (626) 755-1880.



We were all very disappointed that the Bob Marlowe Band had to cancel their July 7 appearance. They were so well received last year. However, they will remain on our list of potential Second Service Summer Music (SSSM) participants and perhaps we will get them back next year. Our thanks to Tom Otoshi and Elzbieta Nawrocka for filling in the July 7 date (the date Tom originally wanted) and a special thanks to Gary Woodward and Elzbieta for covering the July 28 date that Tom had to vacated.

August is the last month for SSSM and is loaded with talent. On August 4, Karen Hayhurst will do the honors with members of her extremely talented family providing fine classical music. Then on August 11, Josh Horton and his ever-popular Youth Band will fill the service with their brand of up-beat musical stylings. For the August 18 service, two of our choir members, Sharon Valdez and Tim Milbrodt, will sing a duet for the Offertory, accompanied by Elzbieta Nawrocka who will also play the Prelude and Postlude.



Oh, August! We hope you will be mild with us, and spare our air-conditioning bills! As the summer activities, camps and trips are winding down, we are gearing up for the Fall activities to begin! **No PEAK this month**, but it will be starting back up on Wednesday, September 11.

There is still time to register for the **Global Leadership Summit** at La Canada Presbyterian Church on August 8 and 9. If you've had a chance to see the videos Lee has been showing during the Sunday services, then you know how inspiring this event will be. Go to globalleadership.org/summit/2019 and register with priority code 19PRTORG.

If you're planning to attend the **All Church Retreat, All In**, a 50% deposit is due by August 10 to lock in the early bird rate! Reservations are on a first come first served basis and you won't want to miss this fabulous weekend in beautiful in the mountains of Big Bear. You can register on lcpc.net by clicking the All In logo.

Student Ministries has an exciting outing planned for Tuesday, August 13, from noon to 9:00 PM, called **Animal Safari Excursion**. The details are a surprise! Bring \$20 with you to the Student Center and be ready for an adventure with fur, feathers & fun! **Abide Summer Nights** will also be continuing weekly with a special finale on August 19.

Children's Ministries is planning a **back to school party** for our school age children later this month – be watching the bulletin and weekly email for all the details.

Did you hear about the history-making **Dodger game** last month, which also happened to be the night 86 LCPC fans were wildly cheering from the stands? The Dodgers rallied for the 5-4 win in the 9th inning with five walks! You early birds who left in the 8th inning missed the best part!

Ashley and Kristy brought our community another wild and wonderful **VBS** last month. We had 225 kids spend the week with us, singing

catchy songs, learning about Jesus, making crafts, and having a blast! The Thursday night family BBQ was a huge success too, with lots of families enjoying the delicious dinner, sno-cones, waterslides, and face painting. The kids raised more than \$700 for **Children's Hunger Fund** Food Paks, so Ashley donned a gorilla suit and did a jungle jig on stage the last day. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked hard to make it a special week for the kids. **Mary Wilson** had it right when she said "LCPC is at its best during VBS week!"

Unfortunately, the July Mission trip to the **Casa de Los Angeles Orphanage** had to be postponed because too many people had conflicts in their schedules. Be looking for a new date on the horizon.

I always love announcing LCPC engagements, and I am giddy that I have not one, but two special couples to highlight! **Chase Walker** surprised **Aubrie Cary** during her UCLA graduation party by popping the question in front of all their family and friends! A couple weeks later, **James Matson** got down on one knee and proposed to **Jillian Kauffman**! We are so excited for both couples who are planning their 2020 weddings.

We also want to wish **Don and Mary Catherine** Empey a very Happy Anniversary! They recently celebrated 63 years of marriage. What an inspiration to us all! *(continued on back page)*



Our trip to the DR this year was as wonderful as ever. We had 11 students working on our construction team, only a few of them having been on the trip before. We managed to complete the entire framing of the house!

See more pics elsewhere in this issue!

Here's our end-of-summer Abide calendar:

- August 7:** Abide Summer Night
- August 13:** Animal Excursion Safari
- August 14:** Abide Summer Night
- August 19:** Abide Summer Night – After Dark



Above: Group photo from the last day; inside the house we built

Left: Closing time at a medical clinic

children's Ministries

by Ashley Pollock

"King of Kings forever reign. Jesus, You alone are worthy of all praise!" I wish everyone reading this could have heard the chorus of children's



voices singing those lyrics on Wednesday at Vacation Bible School. I found my eyes and my heart well-

ing up in that moment. What a privilege it was to worship with such wonderful kids and leaders. And what a privilege it is to come together and sing knowing that the Almighty Creator chooses to listen to our praises.

As always, VBS could not happen without the many people willing to give up their time and talents to serve as prep workers, teachers, craft leaders, snack distributors, water game maker-uppers, technological trouble shooters and more! I am humbled by the servant hearts that surrounded this year's program and reflected the love of Christ to the children who attended. Thank you so much to the following people:

Our wonderful Department Leaders who each oversee one age group – **Sarah Sorowice, Stephanie Adamson, Elaine Ross-Collins, Talin Emmerson, Diana Given, Rachel Wolflick, Judy Trumbo, Mary Wilson and Darren Pollock.**

Our talented craft, story and theme leaders who communicate the day's Biblical principles in fun, interactive ways – **Jeanette Draney, Janie Roach, Julie Hill, Michele Fernandez, Molly Wolflick, Katie Rose Clem, Jerry White, Traci Haleen, Linda Win-**

field, Sidney Schreiner, Jennifer Clem, Peggy Bedevian, Pam Wyroski, Victor Bustillos and Carol Van Citters.

Our fun, enthusiastic guides, most of whom are in junior high and high school – **Abby Henry, Michael Saeva, Hannah Yi, Ashley Rios, Alex Mixon, Carley Mulcahey, Kaylei Van Eps, Kristyn Roh, Holly Nutting, Kate Saeva, Audrey Hill, Sammy Bouzikian, Mackenzie Hofmann, Annie Guerrero, Rory Solano, Emily Goethals, Adrianna, Cadie Carlson, Jordan Guzman, Colin Solano, Hannah Wyroski and Michael Clark.**

Our faithful CFC teachers who jumped right in - **Julie, Charlotte, Jennifer, Armineh, Anita, Alin, Emely, Nancy, Leslie, Kim, Ryan and Candace!**

Our sound and tech team who ran things perfectly all week – **Henry Mencia, Paul Hofmann and Austin Marks.**

The super fun water games team – **Will Wolfswinkel, Josh Horton and Chris Clem.**

Our snack team who kept everyone nourished – **Pat Rabe, Whitney Lescher and Pat Beggs.**

Our early riser, registration team – **Pat Chambers, Mandy Carey and Sheri Gray.**

The kind people who gave time to sub when we were in a pinch, or prep things or help tear down – **Heather Henry, Carleigh Fernandez, Sarah Milbrodt, Allie Fernandez, Austin Granier, Andy Wilson, Lee Cook, Nikki Cook, Susan Hicks, Dennis Fernandez, Darrell Fernandez, Todd Marks**

and **Jim Granier.**

And last, but certainly not least, a big thank you goes to my co-director this year – **Kristy Hicks!** I could not have gotten everything done without you and your ridiculous organizational skills!

VBS is truly a team effort and I am so thankful that God has put me in such a loving, patient, passionate team!

Time to start prepping for next year...just kidding...kind of.

children's Ministries Upcoming Events:

Sunday, August 11: Final Summer Sunday Celebration/Promotion of Kindergarteners to FISH

Saturday, August 17: Waterpalooza End of Summer Party! Come celebrate the end of summer with water games, water balloons, watermelon, and lots of frozen treats! 1:00 – 3:00 PM in the Courtyard for children in 1st-6th grade.

Kids Say The Darndest Things

Kindergartener: (during VBS) "Ashley, someone likes the skits and someone likes the songs here."

Ashley: "Oh good! Is that someone you?"

Kindergartener: "Yes."



Katie Hayhurst & Megan Cady were very popular!



The new house from the outside



CFC Heartbeat



Director's Corner

Can it be August already? The back-to-school commercials are on, so it must be. Summer comes and goes much too quickly for my taste. I remember times in my life when summer seemed to go on forever but that is not the case anymore. Seems like our summer program just started, then the Red, White and Blue parade happened followed by an amazing VBS and now it's August. Towards the end of this month, Glendale Unified will start school again and we will be shuttling kids back to the seven elementary schools in our area. Many will think that that is when the real learning happens.

But what can we learn here at CFC during the summer? The upstairs kids made astounding animal habitats during VBS. I saw children in the pre-K class solve the problem of how to get water from one water table to the next, a true feat of engineering. I witnessed our toddlers learn to accept new friends into their classrooms and say good-bye to old friends. The preschool classes have been counting and sorting all types of items as the themes have changed over these last few months.

We at CFC believe that play is an important part of the learning process for children throughout their childhood. We want our summer program to reflect that. This philosophy about play has been around for a long time, as evidenced by the following quotes.

- "It is a happy talent to know how to play." (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
- "Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning." (Fred Rogers)
- "Do not... keep children to their studies by compulsion but by play." (Plato)

• "Surely all God's people... like to play." (John Muir)

So as we finish our summer we won't be finishing our play. I hope before summer is over you can find time to play as a family!

Pat

Beach Day at CFC

To celebrate our summer we will be having a themed beach day on Thursday, August 15. Pump and Splash will be here that day to make sure we have extra fun with our water play! We invite your kids to wear their best beach outfits and hats and bring beach towels for circle time as well. We will have a luau for lunch in Koopmans Hall and a showing the movie *Lilo and Stitch* for our preschool - school age classes.

Practice Van Runs

As our summer comes to a close, we will be running practice van runs on Monday, August 19, at 10:00 AM. We will start with our Kindergarten children and then move to day camp. Children will be shown where they will be dropped off and picked up. Please look in your parent file the week of August 12 for information about our after school policies and procedures. GUSD begins on Wednesday, August 21. We will not take children to school that day, but will begin our after school pickups. Please be sure that we have the correct days your child will be attending, the school, and any other information that we may need.

Fun Days at CFC

The first week of August, the entire CFC will be having the theme of Underground Creatures. Look for all things underground.

Looking for Some Family Fun?

On August 3 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, there's a "Fishing Frenzy" at Conejo Creek North, 1379 E. Janss Road in Thousand Oaks. Hundreds of Magnetic fish will be released into the creek for children to catch with magnetic poles! Kids fill their pails with the fish and turn them in for prizes. Other activities include fish crafts and games and Captain Carl's Mobile Tide Pool. \$5 per child. For more information call (805)381-2793.



Free public "Star Parties" are held monthly at the Griffith Observatory from 2:00 to 9:45 PM. They are a chance for the whole family to look at the Sun, Moon, visible planets and other objects, to try out a variety of telescopes, and to talk to knowledgeable amateur astronomers about the sky and their equipment. This month the date is Saturday, August 10.

Summer Day Camp

We want to say good-bye to our summer only kids. It has been great to have you around this summer! We still have a couple of fun weeks planned but soon it will be time for school to start. Don't forget we pick up at all seven public elementary schools in La Crescenta.

CFC
FOURTH OF
JULY
PARADE!



CHURCH STAFF

Andy Wilson	Pastor andy@lcpc.net
Lee Cook	Director of Spiritual Formation lee@lcpc.net
Joshua Horton	Director of Student Ministries josh@lcpc.net
Ashley Pollock	Director of Children's Ministries ashley@lcpc.net
Gary Woodward Elzbieta Nawrocka	Choir Director Organist/Pianist
Dan Blessinger	Producer of Contemporary Music
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Helen Tuma Teri Reid	Assistant Director Office Administrator



LA CRESCENTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

NEW SONG WORSHIP (CONTEMPORARY), SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM
SERVICE OF PRAISE (CLASSIC), SUNDAYS AT 11:00 AM

We're continuing our series "The Psalms: The Songs the Jesus Sang." Each week we will discover how Israel's songbook can inspire us to praise God, trust him in disappointment, seek true intimacy,

and rest in His love for us. Bring your Bibles for this *experiential* sermon series.

AUGUST 4 THE LORD'S SUPPER

Message by Lee Cook
Psalm 8: "Your Glory Above the Heavens"

AUGUST 11

Message by Lee Cook
Psalm 25: "Intimacy with God"

AUGUST 18

Message by Lee Cook
Psalm 77: "I Cried to God for Help"

AUGUST 25

Message by Lee Cook
Psalm 139: "Search Me and Know Me"

MOUSE

(continued from page 4)

Thank you to **Jenna Wall** for her service and TLC in our nursery every Sunday morning for the last few years. Jenna recently graduated with her Masters in Social Work and is working full time at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, so she won't be working in our nursery anymore. Those babies are going to miss you Jenna!

Lee has been on fire with his sermons on the book of Daniel, and his new series on the Psalms. Have you checked out his Podcasts, **Digging Deeper with Lee Cook**? They are a great companion lesson to his sermons, and give additional details to help us understand God's word. You can listen to his Podcasts by going to the LCPC Facebook page or you can have them automatically

downloaded to the Podcast app on your phone.

Do you love to cook but don't have people in your house who appreciate your talent? Or, do you find that you cook too much and have tons of leftovers? The **Deacons** are looking for eager cooks to prepare meals for people in our church family. They set up a **Meal Train** for people who are recovering from illnesses or surgery, who have had a new baby, or just need some extra help. Contact **Armineh Manookian** at amanookian@yahoo.com if you'd like to be added to her volunteer emails.

CFC and LCPC got a nice write up on **PCUSA's Missions website** about some of our past summer time activities, such as the S'mores night, and Dr. Seuss party, complete with Green Eggs and Ham Quiche and a viewing of the Lorax movie. We just might be trendsetters for the rest of our denomination!

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