

Spire

October
2023
Vol. 32
No. 9

A note from Pastor Karla...

My family and I ventured into Lakeside a couple of weeks ago to watch the car races at Barona Speedway. Just in case you weren't aware we had this in San Diego County, the Speedway, located just around the corner from Barona Casino, is a 1/4 mile clay oval track where all kinds of cars--sports mods, dwarves, pure stocks--compete in races a couple times of month. It is really quite the scene! There are tailgate parties, lots of enthusiastic fans, and heart-pounding action utilizing the Lakeside rocky hills as the backdrop. Despite the thrill, though, what I didn't anticipate was the noise. Racing cars are very loud and not just normal levels of loud--I am talking full-body-pulsing loud. The morning after when I was preparing to come to church, I found myself speaking more animated than usual due to my still-reduced hearing. And even more so, in the middle of the race when my older son turned to me to comment on the speed and cool tricks of one of the vehicles, I couldn't hear a thing he was saying.

Is that what is happening in our stunted spiritual growth when we can't hear God's voice? Is the surrounding noise simply too loud?

I would venture to say, "yes".

Priest, theologian and author Henri Nouwen once wrote, "Many voices ask for our attention. There is a voice that says, 'Prove that you are a good person.' Another voice says, 'You'd better be ashamed of yourself.' There also is a voice that says, 'Nobody really cares about you,' and one that says, 'Be sure to become

Continued on page 2


you're invited!
PLCPC
Trunk-or-Treat



October 29 | FREE COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN EVENT!
5:00pm - 7:00pm
on Udall St.



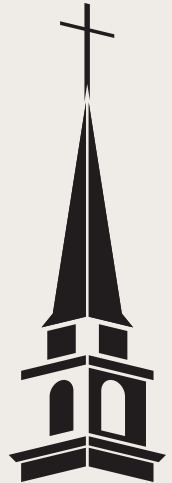
Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church

Worship Services

Sundays
Sanctuary Service 9:00 am
Online Service 9:30 am
Café Service 10:30 am
in the Chapel

Rev. Karla Shaw
Senior Pastor

2128 Chatsworth Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92107



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Looking Ahead

Oct. 1 Family Jam
Oct. 8 Burrito Breakfast
Oct. 12 Dine Online
Oct. 19 Wine, Women, and Word
Oct. 29 Trunk-or-Treat
Oct. 29 Youth Halloween Party
Oct. 31 Preschool Halloween Parade



**Sign up for our weekly
email newsletter!**

Pointlomachurch.org

Our Vision

Loving everyone to LIFE with everything we have.

Our Mission

Through authentic community, we seek to *experience* Jesus, *journey* into deeper faith, *strengthen* the Church, and *transform* our world.

Values

We are a good home.
We are intergenerational.
We inspire engagement.



A note from Pastor Karla... continued from page 1

successful, popular, and powerful.' But underneath all these often very noisy voices is a still, small voice that says, 'You are my Beloved, my favor rests on you.' That's the voice we need most of all to hear. To hear that voice, however, requires special effort; it requires solitude, silence, and a strong determination to listen."

At this time in history, listening may be harder than it has ever been, but listening is also the only way to understand and embrace true discipleship. We must be able to hear the voice of our teacher if we expect to follow. May the voices clamoring for your attention give way to the only voice that truly matters. God is indeed speaking.

Rev. Karla Shaw
Senior Pastor

Pastor Karla

CHURCH NEWS

Session Meeting Highlights | SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

The Session welcomed its first-ever Chaplain to the September 27 meeting. Parish Associate Rev. Chris Lenocker will regularly attend meetings, and offered a devotion on Jeremiah 29:4, encouraging Session elders to "bloom where you are."

The Session also welcomed Renovation Building Committee Chair Sue Skala, who gave the Committee's first report. Watch for RBC updates here in the Spire. The Session prayed for the RBC, and for our Construction Manager, CBSI.

Pastor Karla discussed the many changes coming in church campus access, and the Session encouraged the staff to communicate the changes with the community.

Elder Whitney Skala introduced a roundtable discussion considering ways to encourage engagement, volunteerism, and learning at PLCPC. Many insights were shared, and the Session is determined to keep this topic in the forefront.

John Spafford
Clerk

Generation to Generation Renovation October Update

We are continuing the Environmental Review of the site, including:

- A geotechnical soils test, which will necessitate drilling at least two boreholes – one in the parking lot and the other near the library
- A sewer line investigation – snaking the existing lines to check their condition
- Utility locations – more spray paint around the campus

The Request for Proposal (RFP) has been finalized. This will be sent to several General Contractors, inviting them to send their proposal for the project. Due mid-October.




Stay tuned for interior perspectives of the preschool rooms for next month's newsletter (much more exciting!)

EXPERIENCE JESUS

Engage with Us Online

Have you ever missed Worship? Or been especially moved by a song or message? We maintain a vast library of online resources including past worship services, choir selections and even Bible studies on our YouTube channel and other social media platforms. Find, follow and like us to keep up with the latest news and events!

pointlomachurch.org

   @pointlomachurch

We Have a Podcast!

The Point Loma Community Church Podcast includes the weekly sermon and other special classes. Listen each week on your favorite podcast platform.



pointlomachurch.org/podcast

Parables of Jesus Online Bible Study

POINT LOMA CHURCH



Journey through the unexpected stories told by Jesus which break cultural norms and teach us how to love one another more.



**WATCH ON
DEMAND!**

FAITH FORWARD

TAKE A STEP >>>>

DEBRIEF THE SERMON

SUNDAYS, 10:30-11:15 AM
in the library and online

Challenge yourself to go deeper this Fall, to really experience Jesus, to move what you have heard in your head into your heart and notice how God might be working in your life! Come join us as we unpack Jesus' teachings in the Sermon on the Mount. We meet from 10:30-11:15 in a hybrid model of in-person and online participants. Join us in the Library or look for the zoom link in the chat after the online service. Come when you can, each session stands alone. Questions? Email Cheryl Louie at clouie3@gmail.com



Welcome Madeline!

Our new Music & Children's Choir Assistant

Madeline McKenzie is a recent graduate at UC San Diego. She graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Music and was an Honors recipient for her contributions in Music Literature. Throughout Madeline's life she was always involved with music, she began learning how to play multiple instruments from the age of 12 - in college she focused on learning the art of sound engineering and production. She was also involved in both the Chamber Choir at College of the Desert and the UCSD Gospel Choir. Madeline's goal is to eventually teach students music and help students build strong connections to their instruments.



Join the Christmas Concert Choir!

Sing in this year's Christmas Concert, themed Festival of Carols on December 3rd at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm!

Rehearsals are October-November on Thursday from 7:00-8:00 pm.

CONTACT ALICIA@POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



Red Brick Preschool

The preschool is off to a great start this year! We still have a few spots available. If you are interested, please contact us at preschool@pointlomachurch.org.

We are hiring an infant assistant teacher and substitutes to help when staff are out. If you would like more information about our preschool visit www.redbrickpreschool.com or email at preschool@pointlomachurch.org.

Upcoming Events

Annual Vision Screening

Week of October 16th

Halloween Parade

Tuesday, October 31



Brick Youth Group

brick youth@pointlomachurch.org

Middle School

We are embarking on a new series called Compass, focusing on navigating what the Bible is, how to use it, and what it means for students' lives today. We hope our middle schoolers can come to understand that the Bible can be their Compass, helping them navigate their own lives and experiences.

High School

We are kicking off a 4-week series: Faith in an Anxious World. In this series we will journey together to a deeper understanding of Christ and how we can seek Him when times get tough. We will talk about anxiety and delve into stories throughout the Bible where God enters into an anxious situation and uses it to nurture growth and discover spiritual practices.

A note from Karen May, our interim Youth Director:

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome as I embark on this journey as Interim Youth Director. It has been a joy and a pleasure to meet your youth, and I am excited to continue to get to know everyone. The fall youth group is in full swing! Our first few weeks of youth group, we have been enjoying getting to know one another and learning why it is important to be in community together as followers of Jesus. We are also enjoying sharing a meal each week as we learn what it is like to be a Church Family.

My wish is to meet each child where they are and nurture their faith in any way I can, and I am honored to do this work. I look forward to seeing everyone Sunday mornings and evenings as we embark on this journey of faith together.

Sunday Night Youth Group

Junior High 5:00-6:30 pm

Senior High 6:00-7:30 pm

Dinner is provided

Following Orange Curriculum
thinkorange.com

OCTOBER 29



Halloween Party

7:00 pm

Immediately following
Trunk-or-Treat





Sarah Butterfield, Director of Children & Family Ministry
sarah@pointlomachurch.org | 619-223-1633 x215

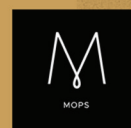


It's been a wonderful month of beginnings for our children and families at PLCPC.

Kids' Cafe is in full swing. In August, we wrapped up a mini-unit on God's creativity and our creativity! Check out this tabernacle-building challenge we completed!

In September, we focused on friendship in the Bible. This month, we're starting up our monthly Bible verse memory challenge, and children ages 4-11 will earn one gumball sticker for each verse they memorize.

Motherhood is hard



But it doesn't have to be lonely

Our MOPS program and our Bible Study for moms of young children had a strong start. Many new moms joined us for the first time and enjoyed fellowship and connection.

RSVP

MEETUP.COM/PLAYGROUP-754

Contact Julia

MOPS@POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG


host a trunk!
PLCPC

Trunk-or-Treat



October 29

SET-UP • 4:00PM - 5:00PM
EVENT • 5:00PM - 7:00PM

pointlomachurch.org/register







Sign up now!
pointlomachurch.org/register

Host a trunk! All it takes is a trunk, truck bed, or a table and a touch of creativity! Candy is provided. Trunk-or-Treat is on Sunday, October 29 in the church parking lot on Udall St. Trunk hosts can begin set-up at 4:00 pm that day, and the event is from 5:00 pm - 7:00pm.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH



Wine, Women, and Word

Twenty-two women enjoyed an evening of fellowship, a light tasty meal and beverages in the home of Lucy Celeste at our August 30th Wine, Women and Word gathering. The morning and early afternoon fog and cloud layer lifted just in time to delight us all to a beautiful view of the San Diego bay and downtown as we caught up with old friendships and connected with women newer to the group. If you have not had the opportunity to join us at one of our past gatherings, we encourage you to check out this warm and welcoming group of women. Bring a friend or neighbor and join us!

OUR NEXT GATHERING

will be in the home of Jean Federici on Thursday, October 19th from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. More details to follow later this month.



DEACONS

Burrito Breakfast

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8
9:30 AM - 12 PM

FREE-WILL OFFERING - NET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE PRESCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Deacons will be serving El Tapatio's delicious, homemade breakfast burritos with homemade salsa! Your choice of sausage, bacon or non-meat. Free-will offering - Net proceeds to benefit the preschool classrooms. Come join us for fun, fellowship and a full tummy!

Release
Reconnect
Restore



YOGA

Wednesdays
Noon
Chapel or Zoom

Dine
Online

Oct 12
5:30pm

Second Thursday of the Month at 5:30 p.m.

Do you have a child or grandchild in college?

The Deacons want to keep in touch with students by sending notes and gift cards to let them know we are thinking of them. Please submit your student's name and mailing address to Susan Wright at snoo.wright@gmail.com

Senior Adult Ministry Programs

OKTOBERFEST LUNCHEON FEATURING THE POLKA DOTS

Tuesday, October 10, 10am - 1pm • Family Life Center • \$7 at the door

Dust off your lederhosen and dirndl, it's time for our annual Oktoberfest luncheon! Enjoy a traditional German meal including bratwurst, sauerkraut and a Bavarian pretzel while being entertained by San Diego's Accordion Sweethearts: The Polka Dots!

RSVP BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

DOORS OPEN AT 10:00AM, ENTERTAINMENT BEGINS AT 11:00AM, LUNCH SERVED AT 12:00PM



TRIVIA NIGHT FOR BOOMERS AND BEYOND

Wednesdays in Oct, 6:30pm-7:30pm • Family Life Center

Join us every Wednesday in October for Trivia Night hosted by The Troubadour of Trivia, Whitney Skala! Teams of 2-6 people will compete for prizes and bragging rights on topics such as Science & Technology, Entertainment & Literature and Church History. Going solo? Join the singles table which will be its own team. Refreshments provided.

DERBY CALIFORNIA BOOK READING & PIZZA LUNCH

Wednesday, October 18, 11:00am - 1:00pm • Family Life Center • \$5

Have you ever noticed a man and his dog with matching mohawk hairstyles surfing in OB? Well, now is your chance to meet them! Kentucky Gallahue and his surfing dog, Derby, have written a book called The Adventures of Derby California. The two friends will provide a book reading and will be followed by a pizza lunch. RSVP to Elaine



THE BARBIE MOVIE

Tuesday, October 31, 11:00 pm • Family Life Center • \$5

The Barbie Movie is more than just a story about a pretty face...it's a commentary on what she represents for all women and an exploration of traditional gender stereotypes, packaged in a fun, colorful movie. Let's watch it together while we enjoy a light lunch and discuss it afterwards. Pink attire or costumes welcome.

FOREVER FIT

Every Wednesday, 9am - 9:50am • Family Life Center • Instructor: Elke Ertle

Join us weekly for this free, gentle exercise class especially for senior adults. Exercises are chair-based with some standing, with a focus on flexibility and balance. Equipment provided, bring a water bottle. No reservation needed. Offered in partnership with the Ryan Family YMCA.

Register

ONLINE
pointlomachurch.org/register

CONTACT ELAINE
(619) 223-1633 Ext. 210
elaine@pointlomachurch.org



Elaine Burrell honored with the Jeff Henson Memorial Scholarship

Elaine was recently honored with the Jeff Henson Memorial Scholarship to become a Certified Senior Advisor (CSA). Earning the CSA certification requires individuals to pass a rigorous exam and to uphold the highest ethical standards for the benefit and protection of the health and welfare of seniors. CSAs are multidisciplinary professionals who have demonstrated advanced knowledge in the multiple processes of aging. While the certification is independent of Elaine's role at the church, it will enhance her ability to serve seniors in San Diego and fulfill the mission and vision of Senior Adult Ministry at PLCPC.

ONGOING STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

MEN@WORK

TUESDAYS, 8:30 AM | LIBRARY AND VIA ZOOM

We meet each week for a time of fellowship and Bible study. Afterwards, when needed we perform repairs, painting, and fix-it projects on our church campus and for the preschool.

For work projects call Allen Hobbs: allenmhobbs@msn.com or Sam Bick: samuelbick@aol.com. For the Zoom link and Bible study information contact Em Cummins: emcum@sdsu.edu.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Contact: Maureen Blackhall, maureenblackhall@gmail.com

Request a prayer quilt: email redbrickprayerquilts@gmail.com

RED BRICK KNITTERS

2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

10:00AM | PARLOR

Prayer Requests

Submit Prayer requests to the Prayer Chain at prayer@pointlomachurch.org



Rooted
AND
Grounded
IN
Love

WOMENS RETREAT



JANUARY 26-28, 2024 BAHIA RESORT HOTEL

It's time to sign up for our annual Women's Retreat!

For 40+ years PLCPC women have joined together in Christian fellowship to learn, to pray, to sing, and to share fun activities for a whole weekend. Women can choose to stay at the hotel or go home each night. Our guest speaker, Eileen Van Geison, has a message to share that will be inspiring for all ages.

Registration opens October 6 at pointlomachurch.org/register.

TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

A Note from Transform Our World Mission Group

PLCPC Blessed to be a Blessing: Mission Grants totaling \$100,000 were given this year! Last month session approved our 2023 Mission Grants recommendations to 7 local, 2 regional, and 5 international Mission Ministry Partners. These 2023 Grants totaled \$100,000. The Mission Ministry Partners do wonderful work, and many have been extremely challenged by the pandemic, natural disasters, and changes in public funding. So that the congregation can be made more aware of these Mission Ministry Partners, the work that they do, and volunteer opportunities we plan to highlight one of these Mission Ministry Partners in upcoming monthly Spire newsletters.

We hope you will be inspired by learning about these wonderful organizations and the work they do. It is through your annual giving to the church and special financial gifts to the Mission Awareness Fund that we as a church can financially support these worthy partners.



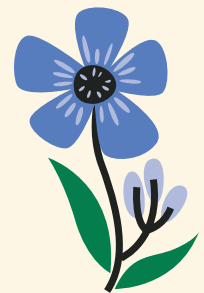
TEEN TECH 4 SENIORS | PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

October Flower Donations



Each week, the Deacons deliver flowers in order to brighten days and bring cheer. We are so grateful to those who have donated to make this flower ministry possible. The flowers this month are given...

- Oct. 1** *by Elizabeth, Jim, Rachel, and Sabrina Davis in loving memory of Dorothea Hosea who touched so many lives and is remembered by so many friends and especially her family.*
- Oct. 8** *by Tyler and Susan Cramer with great gratitude for Susan's loving parents, Robert and Margaret Wybel and her wise grandmother, Nan Wybel.
and, by Diana Holman in loving memory of her first husband Bill and son Ben Stephens.*
- Oct. 15** *in loving memory of Andrew J. Hill and Janet Hill Lamott by their family, David, Jo Anna, Jenny and Sage Lamott and Jill, Kevin, Megan and Dan O'Beirne.
and, in loving memory of Pat and Howard Wygle by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.*
- Oct. 22** *by the Leimbach Family in loving memory of their "Uncle John", Godfather and dear friend.
and, by Michele Marcus in memory of loved ones called Home, husband Dick Marcus, mother Mabel Fackler and sister Dorothy Fackler Bibeault.*
- Oct. 29** *by Linda and Jim Zemcik in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.
and, by Ellen and Charlie MacVean in loving memory of our parents Jane and Homer MacVean and Marion and Russell Wollemann and our brother LT.
Stephen S. MacVean, USN.*



OCTOBER 14 - 15

Men's Retreat

BECOMING BETTER MEN

POINT LOMA ASSEMBLY HALL ON TALBOT • \$60

Guest speaker, taco truck, Phil's BBQ, Prayers & Pints, worship, fun activities, encouraging & challenging content!



LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP!
pointlomachurch.org/register

Family Jam

Oct 1 & Nov 5, 11:30 am - 1 pm

in the FLC



Join us for simple make-your-own sandwiches! This event is open to all, and children and families are especially encouraged to come talk, eat, hang out, and play!