

Spire

November
2023
Vol. 32
No. 10

A note from Pastor Karla...

This fall, in addition to the study of Matthew during our Sunday morning hour, I have also been studying the book of Revelation with dozens of women at the church. Even though these two books have vastly different content, I have been struck over and over again by the consistent theme of "faithfulness". In fact, the call to faithfulness isn't just relegated to the New Testament, it is also the most consistent theme throughout the entirety of the Scripture. From Genesis all the way through the end, we get a beautiful picture of God's faithfulness to His creation followed by a continual call to faithful living in response to God's love.

Faithfulness, though, requires consistency.

When I was a young person, consistency felt like death to me--new adventures, new relationships, new geography--that is what I longed for. The last thing I wanted was the same thing over and over again. But, as I have aged, I have realized that faithfulness has nothing to do with monotony, in fact it has little to do with consistency outside of us. The kind of consistency God seeks is found within the heart of a person. Are we the same person with our family that we are with our friends? What about our colleagues at work or the stranger at the gym? What about our enemy? Faithfulness means being the same face everywhere you go.

Halloween reminded me of the many faces that we wear as people. At my children's school, during their Halloween parade, they were not allowed to wear masks. This is certainly a bummer

Continued on page 2

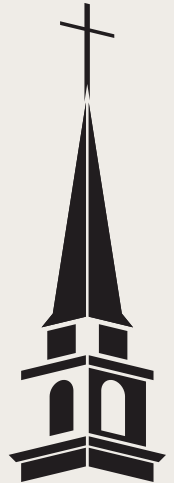


Christmas Concert
— A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS —

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 .
5:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church
2128 Chatsworth Blvd., San Diego, CA 92107
pointlomachurch.org

**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

Inside This Issue

Church News	2
Experience Jesus	3
Journey Into Deeper Faith	4
Strengthen the Church	7
Senior Adult Programs	8
Transform Our World	9
November Flowers	9
New Member Bios	10
Staff & Session Contacts	11

Looking Ahead

Nov. 9	Dine Online
Nov. 10	Preschool Closed
Nov. 10	Family Bingo Night
Nov. 12	MOM's toy drive starts
Nov. 14	Veterans Luncheon
Nov. 17	Youth Trampoline
Nov. 26	Advent Fair



**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

for the kids, but as a metaphor, I think we would benefit as a society from signs posted over the doors of our churches, schools, places of work, homes, and businesses, that our true faces, not a mask, is a requirement for entry. For Christ followers, this would remind us to be faithful to God's call on our lives--to be the same face everywhere we go.

I hope to remember God's call to a faithful life the next time a salesperson knocks on my door or when I am at the end of an exhausting day and my child wants me to read him a book. I hope you remember to be faithful as well. But the good news is, God, in His mercy, remains faithful even when we forget. May that be one more thing for which you can give thanks in this season of gratitude!

Rev. Karla Shaw
Senior Pastor

Pastor Karla

CHURCH NEWS

Session Meeting Highlights | OCTOBER 25, 2023

The Session welcomed David Suter, President of CBSI, the Renovation's construction management firm, to the October meeting. David and Renovation Chair Sue Skala reviewed progress with the geotechnical survey, and productive discussions with Quieter Non-Residential Program representatives. Preschool building architectural designs are almost done, as is the search for a general contractor.

Elders Susan Cramer, William Ehrlich and Marty Smith presented an update on the Strengthen the Church Mission Group.

Other elders presented reports on:

- PLCPC's healthy finances
- The 2024 Stewardship Campaign
- Infant Preschool room progress
- The Presbytery's approval of Pastor Karla's 2024 sabbatical

The meeting concluded with news of and prayers for our community and the world.

John Spafford
Clerk

FAITH FORWARD TAKE A STEP >>>

You recently received information about PLCPC's 2024 giving campaign in the mail. Don't forget to take a step and fill out your commitment card at POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/FAITHFORWARD



Help Provide Christmas PLCPC's Decorations

Each Christmas, our Sanctuary and Chapel are decorated with poinsettias, greens and trees to enhance the Advent Season.

Contribute at:
pointlomachurch.org/register



Campus Access will be Changing Soon

Help Needed!

As mentioned in August's Spire, Point Loma Church was awarded a federal grant for the installation of surveillance cameras and access control throughout the campus to enable us to be more aware of who's on campus. The perimeter gates have already been prepared and tested and now we are in the process of setting up access control for authorized parties. This major change to our church campus will require all visitors and program participants to flow through the church office located on Udall Street during normal business hours.

We are seeking a few more front office volunteers to greet for the following shifts:

- Mondays: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- Tuesdays: 9:00 am - 10:30 am
- Tuesdays: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
- Wednesdays: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- Thursdays: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Can you help? Sign up to serve at pointlomachurch.org/serve

We recognize this may be a major change in how you access our campus and we appreciate your help in creating a more informed and connected community.

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

f y i @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



PointLomaChurch.org

Release
Reconnect
Restore

Wednesdays
Noon
Chapel or Zoom




GET THE
ZOOM
LINK

Take time to pause from the busyness of the holiday season and reconnect to what's most important, our healthy and balanced walk with Christ, during our weekly yoga class.

Dine Online

Nov 9
5:30pm



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

FAITH FORWARD

TAKE A STEP >>>

DEBRIEF THE SERMON

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

Curious how Jesus' Sermon on the Mount impacts your discipleship? Explore the implications for your life and our lives together through conversation and reflection. Debrief the Sermon meets Sundays 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 services. Come when you can, each session stands alone. Questions? Email Cheryl Louie at clouie3@gmail.com

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



The Messiah: Comfort and Joy

AN ADVENT QUIET DAY

Come away from the Christmas rush and enjoy a quiet moment with Jesus, the Messiah. Discover the truths of the promised comfort and joy that come with knowing the Christ of Christmas!

Saturday, December 9 • 8:30am-2:30pm

\$40 for in-person includes a light breakfast, lunch, & retreat materials.
\$15 for online



[POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER](https://pointlomachurch.org/register)



Red Brick Preschool

October was full of lots of fun events! Enjoy these photo highlights from our fire truck visit, Trunk-or-Treat, and Halloween parade!



Upcoming Events

Closed for Veterans Day

Friday, November 10

Chapel

Tuesday, November 14

Wednesday, November 15

Closed for Thanksgiving Week

Monday, November 20 -

Friday, November 24





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

October was all about integrity in Kids' Cafe, learning about truth and trustworthiness and how God is the ultimate example of both! In November, our Bible stories will all center around - you guessed it - gratitude! More than just feeling thankful, we can let others know we see how they've helped us by using our words and actions.



Speaking of gratitude, I'm grateful so many of you were able to come to Family Camp last month! We had an awesome time bonding together as families, as well as deepening our relationships with others in our church. Despite the heat, the kids had a blast and the adults enjoyed themselves too!

SAVE THESE DATES

As we enter into the beginning of the holiday season, I'd like to make you aware of some fun opportunities to connect with others here at PLCPC:

- **November 7:** MOPS Bible Study, 9:30am - 11:00am
- **November 14:** MOPS with Julia Roller: "Simplicity: Getting Past All the Stuff," 9:30am - 11:00am
- **November 28:** MOPS with Miranda Buening: Candle Making Workshop, 9:30am - 11:00am
- **December 10:** Red Brick Christmas, a family Christmas party, 3:00 - 5:00pm



NOVEMBER 10, 6-7 PM

FAMILY LIFE CENTER | POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER

Make sure to mark your calendars for Friday, November 10th, our Family Bingo Night and Ice Cream Social! Whether you're feeling lucky or you just have a sweet tooth, come join us in the Family Life Center from 6 to 7 PM. There will be lots of prizes and fun all around! This is a FREE event, but please register on our website to indicate whether any children 3 and under will need childcare.

POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER





Brick Youth Group
brick youth@pointlomachurch.org

**A note from Karen May,
our interim Youth Director**

The Fall season is in full swing. The youth have enjoyed lots of fun games, food and lessons on how we can use the Bible as our Compass to guide us in life. As November begins, we will continue to meet every Sunday evening to grow our faith and connect with each other. As always, it is a joy and an honor to spend time with your kids.

**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

Middle School

November will begin a new series for our middle schoolers titled "It's Just A Lot". This is the theme we are already discussing with our high schoolers. What we know is one thing all children (and adults) have in common is stress! Whether they are dealing with worries that come with big challenges and changes, or they are dealing with the everyday stresses with school, friendships, and more, most of our children have experienced a season where life feels like a lot. Our wish for this series is to let our middle schoolers know they can look for and trust God with the stress, anxiety, and worries that feel overwhelming. While they cannot carry it all, God certainly can.

High School

For our High School youth, we are continuing our series called Faith in an Anxious World. Each week 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 that we can use to look to God to navigate daily life.

Upcoming Dates

November 17 | All Youth Neon Nights at Rockin Jump 7-9pm

November 26 | No Youth Group Thanksgiving Week

**We had a great time
at our fast food
progressive dinner
last month!**



STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH



Women's Retreat 2024

We hope that you will join us for a spiritual and fun weekend, connecting with Christian women, strengthening our faith, and taking a deep breath from our busy lives. We will hear from guest speaker Eileen Moran VanGieson and dig into the theme of being Rooted and Grounded in Love. Find out more at pointlomachurch.org/womens-retreat

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

The Deacons are happy to report that our first Burrito Breakfast was a tremendous success!

Approximately 125 members plus the 25 Point Loma Singers enjoyed 3 flavors: Sausage, Bacon and Vegetarian. Biggest hit was the bacon! Proceeds from this event will go directly towards the preschool classrooms. We look forward to offering another Burrito Breakfast next year. Thank you to all who contributed!

Our men's retreat was held the weekend of Oct. 14th-15th.

We stayed local this year and had 40 men attend over the weekend. We spent the day on Saturday at the Pt. Loma Assembly Hall and worshiped Sunday morning at the US Coast Guard Lighthouse. Our guest speaker was Pastor Sam Codington from Faith Presbyterian Church here in San Diego and the theme was "Becoming Better Men." It was a great weekend and so good to see the way that God moved in the hearts of our men as new friendships started, old friendships were nurtured and relationships with God were deepened. The retreat ended with a "40 Days of Discipleship" challenge, and we look forward to a reunion after 40 days to share stories about how God has been working in the lives of our men. Stay tuned!



Senior Adult Ministry Programs

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS WORKSHOP AND DINNER

Wednesday, November 8, 5:30pm-7:30pm • Family Life Center • \$5 at the door

The holidays are challenging when you are grieving a loss. Join us at this workshop to receive encouragement, support and learn practical ways to navigate the season. Workshop includes a 30 minute video, discussion time and a pasta meal. Facilitated by Pastor John Moser and Deacon Jeanie Spies. RSVP to Elaine.



HONORING OUR VETERANS LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, November 14, 10am-1pm • Family Life Center
\$7 at the door**

Our community is blessed with veterans from all branches of the military. As an expression of our appreciation for their service, we offer an annual luncheon and program in their honor. Join us for this special program featuring the Navy Band Southwest Woodwind Quintet, PLHS N-JROTC Color Guard and an American-style lunch. Veterans and loved ones, bring your memorabilia and photos to display and share. RSVP by November 10.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT - INFORMATION & ANSWERS

Wednesday, November 29, 12pm-1pm • Family Life Center

JoAnn Siudara, Medicare Specialist for Sharp Healthcare will present a program on Medicare Open Enrollment. JoAnn will also discuss Medicare fraud and the steps you can take to protect yourself. JoAnn will be joined by Terry Snow of UnitedHealthcare to answer any insurance plan questions you may have. Bring a sack lunch and your questions. RSVP to Elaine

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.

ONGOING STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer Quilt Ministry

1st Saturday of the month,
9:00 am - 3:00 pm | FLC

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

TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

San Diego Military Outreach Ministries

A MISSION PARTNER OF POINT LOMA COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MOM's has been a mission partner of PLCPC for many years and a mainstay in the San Diego area for offering support to all our area's military families rated E-5 and below. They are a faith-based organization supported by the Presbytery of San Diego.

MOM's offer support such as food distributions, diapers, children's clothes, furniture, and household supplies. They also support families with activities such as newborn baby parties and the Christmas Toy Store where they help hundreds of local military families get toys.

Get involved! Donate gently used kid's clothes and toys, furniture, household items (dishes, kitchen items, sheets and towels). Small items can be placed in the wooden box near our Mission Closet and for other help please contact Barbara Chavez, MOM's director, at 619-843-8964.

MOM's Christmas Toy Drive SUNDAYS NOV 12 - DEC 3

We are collecting toys for children ages newborn to 12 years old to supply our Toy Store on December 9 for San Diego military families rated E-5 and below. The toys should be new and unwrapped.

Donate cash, checks payable to PLCPC designated for MOM's toy store, or at pointlomachurch.org/give. Our church elves use funds to buy bikes, skateboards, helmets, and toys.

Help set-up the toy store on December 8, help the families choose toys on December 9 or help assemble bikes and toys the week of December 4. Contact Ed Lynds at elynds@cox.net or 619-813-7865 to serve.



November 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...

- Nov. 5** in loving memory of Ann and James Kelley by Elizabeth and James Kelley and Maureen and Eric Blackhall
- Nov. 12** by Fritzi Johns in loving memory of her husband Ed, their son Edward Dillon Johns and their parents and, by Lana and Roger Brenes in loving memory of their parents, Clark and Beth Seagraves and Sam and Esther Brenes, their niece Megan Most, and their brother-in-law Tom Money.
- Nov. 19** by Bob and Jill Giesick in celebration of the Giesick and Senne November birthdays and, by Kathleen McKnight in joyful celebration of the 5th birthday of her grand-son Ari Loren McKnight.
- Nov. 26** The flowers are given by Jean and Carl Federici in loving memory of their parents Norman & Anna Green and Frank & Jean Federici.

PLCPC NEW MEMBERS



William Gore is joining by Profession of Faith, having been Baptized at the Methodist Church in Lake Providence, LA. Bill was born in New Orleans, grew up in North Louisiana and graduated from LA. Tech University. While in the Navy he met and married his late wife, Ellen. He later became a Commander in the Navy Reserves. He worked in real estate in San Diego before retiring. He loves playing bridge and collects unique items. Bill enjoys spending time with his daughter, Kim Palmer, grandchildren and great-granddaughters.



Sharon Harich is joining by Profession of Faith, having been Baptized at Chino United Methodist Church in Upland, CA. She and her husband Tom are retired and have two adult children. Sharon was involved in various activities with small groups in her former Inland Hills Church. She babysits her grandchildren and is involved with information and activities at her senior community. Her interests include sewing, crafts and singing.



Thomas Harich is joining by Profession of Faith, having been Baptized at St. Margaret Catholic Church in Chino, CA, where he attended until 1999. He is married to Sharon Harich who is also joining the church. They have two adult children. Tom is retired and does some handy man work in his senior community. He enjoys boating, fishing and spending time with their grandchildren.



Stephanie Leigh Stephanie is joining by Transfer of Certificate having held membership in Solana Beach Presbyterian Church. She is happy to be joining the church after attending PLCPC for over a decade. She and her husband, Greg, share 2 young children, who both participate in the church's children's program. Stephanie is a paralegal specializing in corporate and securities laws. She grew up in California's central valley and has lived in Point Loma since 2008. She enjoys walking, and spending time with family and friends.



Gay McCoy is joining by Transfer of Certificate having held membership in the First Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX. She is a widow and a former Transplant Coordinator. Gay has two children; one daughter now deceased and one adult son. She taught many classes in her previous church and was active with the Stephen Ministry and Choir. Gay says, "I'm old, but I love learning and reading". She is very excited to be joining our church.



Kim Palmer is joining by Transfer of Certificate having held membership in the Point Loma United Methodist Church. Her family is very important to her and helped her through disabilities and the loss of her husband. She loves to travel and play bridge. Her father, Bill Gore is also joining the church at this time. Kim grew up in New Orleans and loves Mardi Gras and still is a big New Orleans Saints fan.



ADVENT FAIR

SUNDAY, NOV 26, 9AM-12PM • FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Start your holiday shopping while supporting meaningful causes. At this special holiday market, the bell choir will be selling baked goods; the prayer quilt ministry team will be offering hand sewn items; and the Boy Scouts will have fresh, natural yuletide wreaths for sale. Stop by for a festive morning of shopping and fellowship.