

# Spire

April & May  
2024  
Vol. 33  
No. 4

## A note from Pastor Karla...

The post-Easter season is always my favorite at the church. Even growing up, before I knew the story of Christ, I knew that Easter was special.

## New life abounds in the Spring. New possibilities emerge.

I am especially grateful to the Session this post-Easter season for affording me and my family some “new life” with the approval of a three month Sabbatical. After serving at PLCPC for almost 14 years, coupled with the strains of a pandemic, I am looking forward to some renewal in my life. My Sabbatical will take place from May 13-August 14 and has four basic goals: to rest, recenter my life in Christ, reconnect with my family, and re-envision the next chapter for PLCPC.

During my time away I will be participating in two learning opportunities: the Festival of Homiletics in Pittsburgh and Chautauqua Institution in New York. I will also travel with my family through several Western States (reflecting on the beauty of God’s Creation in our National Parks), spend a week visiting the Europe of North America (Quebec), and spend time in the Northeast and Northwest reconnecting with family and friends. Throughout all seven weeks of travel, I will have the opportunity to visit different ministries and see how our brothers and sisters are living out faith across our great nation. I hope to glean new ideas and bring them back to the church upon my return.

*Continued on page 2*



Wednesday, May 8, 5:30pm

# Women Connecting Dinner

Renewing Your Spirit With Playfulness

[pointlomachurch.org/register](https://pointlomachurch.org/register)

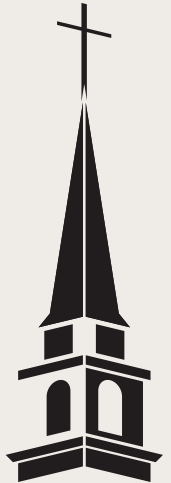
## Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church

### 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

April 12	Family-Friendly Trivia Night
April 14	Youth Serve Day
April 20	Couples Workshop
April 27	Make & Take
April 28	Virtual Garden Walk
May 8	Women Connecting Dinner
May 11	Faith & Fiction Book Club



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

[Pointlomachurch.org](https://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*

While I am gone, you also have much “new life” to look forward to! A line up of incredible guest speakers will be filling the pulpit--speakers who are all doing amazing frontline ministry. As I experience the diversity of our country, so will you. More information about these speakers will be shared in the coming Spires and weekly enewsletters. And a HUGE thank you to Pastor Chris who will be caring for the concerns and business of the church in my absence.

The post-Easter season is indeed a time for new life and new possibilities. I look forward to seeing what God works in and through us during this time!

**Rev. Karla Shaw**  
Senior Pastor



## CHURCH NEWS

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### Session Meeting Highlights | MARCH 20, 2024

The March Session meeting had a short agenda. This gave the elders extra time to have a deep discussion with the Experience Jesus Mission Group regarding their recent work in developing common values. The Mission Group is also considering the “Front Door” experience of visitors and new members to our church.

**John Spafford, Clerk**

### Celebrating Endowment Gifts in May A note from Steve Smith, PLCPC Endowment Chair

In May at PLCPC, we are celebrating and honoring the hundreds of contributors to the Endowment as well as considering how the Endowment can support the church in the future.

Over the past 45 years, members and friends of PLCPC have promoted the congregation’s long-term work and mission through supporting the Endowment. Gifts to the Endowment from the 1970s are still generating funds to support the Endowment in 2024!

Since gifts to the Endowment are never spent, but rather gifts are invested and the income from those investments is used to fund promising new opportunities, resolve occasional challenges, and improve the church’s programs, the Endowment’s principal keeps creating income year after year in perpetuity.

The long-term value of Endowment gifts are also protected from devaluation by inflation because the appreciation of the principal is returned to the principal. So, instead of a gift to the Endowment made in 1980 of \$1,000 being worth approximately \$250 now, it would have an approximately \$4,000 value today and roughly the same purchasing power.

As we celebrate those who have participated in the Endowment, would you consider making a gift and being a part of supporting the church for decades to come?

You may want to give in memory of a loved one, to celebrate happy occasions like birthdays and anniversaries, or as part of estate planning. Participate in PLCPC’s ongoing mission through the Endowment by emailing [jolene@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:jolene@pointlomachurch.org).

### Campus Updates

**Generation to Generation:** At our Annual Meeting, held in early February, we shared some updates to the renovation plan with the congregation. In the new plan we have decided to utilize our existing footprint instead of undergoing new construction. This decision enables us to address deferred maintenance in addition to addressing our essential priorities for the project, including an upgraded Preschool, enhanced safety and security measures, revitalized adult multipurpose spaces, and the addition of an elevator to the second floor.

**The Quieter Non-Residential Program** (of the San Diego Airport) has completed the installation of new windows and exterior doors to meeting and teaching spaces in the Parlor & Office, the Chapel, and the Family Life & Youth Centers. There are a few remaining finishing touches to be worked out, but the program and contractor have been very responsive.

The purpose of the program is to lessen the air traffic noise in all meeting spaces. In a few special cases, the sound treatment has been to add a layer of sound absorption to replace existing windows or doors.

The QNRP would also like to treat our sanctuary and education buildings, and is waiting for confirmation of state funding and guidelines. These treatments, including adding air conditioning will likely take place after our renovation is complete.

# 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](http://pointlomachurch.org)

[!\[\]\(cbe80b694ebd74fcfe136a095b608235\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(27df6be88af07602ea392719b144fe7f\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(96f0a292e266dbee33329d5ab59a28c7\_img.jpg\)](#) @pointlomachurch

## Check out the artist videos from the Lent Art Show



[youtube.com/PointLomaChurchOnline](https://youtube.com/PointLomaChurchOnline)

## Release Reconnect Restore Yoga

WEDNESDAYS  
12:00PM  
CHAPEL OR  
ZOOM



GET THE  
ZOOM  
LINK

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



Scan here

## Serve at PLCPC!

Check out all the ways to serve around campus at [pointlomachurch.org/serve](http://pointlomachurch.org/serve)

## FAITH FORWARD TAKE A STEP >>>

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

## Debrief the Sermon | April 7-May 5

Come as we unpack Christ's teachings on discipleship through conversations and reflection. Join us for five Sundays—April 7-May 5. We meet from 10:30-11:15 in a hybrid model of in-person in the Library or online through 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](mailto:clouie3@gmail.com)

The Art of Transforming Conflict into Connection

## Couples Workshop

April 20, 9:00am - 12:00pm

[pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)

## Couples Workshop | April 20

Geared for committed couples, this workshop led by Claudia Grauf-Grounds PhD, LMFT will explore three common conflict patterns noted in the Grauf-Grounds' book, *We've Had This Fight Before*. Couples will learn ways to identify tension areas in their relationship and practice new responses. There will be time to hear from Grauf-Grounds and for practicing engaging in connecting conversations. Claudia Grauf-Grounds PhD, LMFT is a licensed family therapist, professor, author and church Elder. [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)

## Virtual Garden Walk

Sunday, April 28, 6:30 pm  
on Zoom

[pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)

## Virtual Garden Walk | April 28

Meander through beautiful gardens and enjoy the colors, design and care created by our master gardeners. Come ready to be inspired and to ask any questions. RSVP at [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register).

# Coming this summer!

## Guest speaker sermon series



## JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



### Red Brick Preschool | [redbrickpreschool.com](http://redbrickpreschool.com)

Spring is in the air at the Red Brick Preschool! We will be watching caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies this month. The week of April 15th is the Week of the Young Child, and we will be celebrating what it is to be a child. Our annual art show will be on April 17th & 18th. We will be displaying the children's artwork in our courtyard. On May 6th & 7th we are taking spring pictures and our parent/teacher conferences will be on May 9th and 10th. The school year ends on May 31st with our promotion at 1:00pm followed by a reception in the Family Life Center.

The preschool needs substitute teachers to help as needed. If you are interested in more information, please contact [preschool@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:preschool@pointlomachurch.org)

**Nicole Hage, Preschool Director**

[preschool@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:preschool@pointlomachurch.org) | 619-223-1633 x220



### Brick Youth Group

**Ryan Silvia, [ryan@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:ryan@pointlomachurch.org)**

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

### A NOTE FROM RYAN

This month was a BLAST with the PLCPC Youth. We had so much fun at our VR night! The students were exhausted but had a great time screaming and working together. There is a lot of fun to be had coming up, so make sure you check out the various events!

We also are looking for volunteers. Reach out to [ryan@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:ryan@pointlomachurch.org) if you are interested.

#### JOIN IN WEEKLY!

##### TEEN CENTER

##### MONDAYS & TUESDAYS

3:30PM-5:30PM | YOUTH CENTER

##### HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUTS

##### THURSDAYS

3:00PM-6:00PM | YOUTH CENTER

##### YOUTH GROUP - HS & JR HIGH

##### SUNDAY NIGHT

4:30PM-6:30PM | YOUTH CENTER



### SUMMER CAMP

**JR. HIGH | JUNE 18-21**

**SR. HIGH | JUNE 25-28**

COST: \$325.00

Summer camp sign ups are live! Spots are limited so make sure you sign up asap. Head to [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register) for more information.

### LADLE FELLOWSHIP | APRIL 14, 1:00PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO

It's time to give back. Youth is partnering with Ladle Fellowship at the First Presbyterian Church of San Diego to help serve the homeless population here in San Diego. This is an absolutely amazing opportunity to give back to this amazing community we live in. Every time I have gone to serve I have come away with a changed heart. All students are encouraged to email [ryan@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:ryan@pointlomachurch.org) to sign up.



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



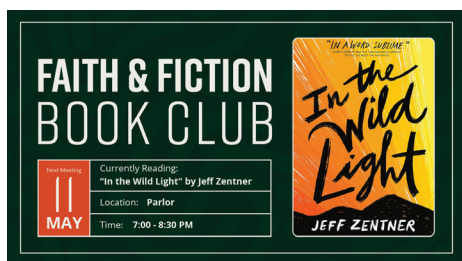
Last month in Kids' Cafe, we learned how to make peace with others! In April, we'll focus on the wisdom of patience, and in May we'll learn about the importance of commitment in growing our faith.



There are plenty of upcoming opportunities to gather in the weeks ahead. We hope you'll join in the friendly competition (and ice cream sundae bar) at the Family Friendly Trivia Night on April 12 from 6:30-8 PM! There will be questions for Generations Alpha all the way up to Boomer, and prizes to boot! This event is free, but registration is needed.



All adults are invited to our next Make and Take on Saturday, April 27th from 9-11 AM. We'll be making a beautiful sea glass tray, in addition to munching on goodies and chatting with friends new and old. Bring a friend and register on our website.



Don't forget to join us on Saturday, May 11 from 7-8:30 PM for our next Faith and Fiction Book Club! We'll be discussing "In the Wild Light" by Jeff Zentner, exploring our personal connection to the threads of faith woven throughout the story.



And finally, Scuba VBS is fast approaching! Join us June 10-14 as we take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. The deadline to register your child (grades K-5) is April 20th. We are also looking for help! Sign up to volunteer or shop from our Amazon wish list (just scan the QR code) to make sure this year's VBS is fin-tastic!

## MOPS EVENTS

- **4/9** "Overcoming Overwhelm" with Marie Osborne 9:30-11:30am
- **4/16, 4/30 & 5/14** Bible Study 9:30-11am
- **4/16** Book Club - The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store 6:30pm
- **4/23** "Potty Training & Managing Your Child's Challenging Behaviors" with Jen Pla 9:30-11:30am
- **5/7** "Raising Intuitive Eaters" with Crystal Karges 9:30-11:30am
- **5/21** Summer Fun and End of Year Potluck 9:30-11:30am

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

# Women Connecting Dinner

Join us for an evening of rejuvenation and joy with speaker Courtney Ellis as she shares insights on the topic "Renewing Your Spirit With Playfulness." Courtney is an author, speaker, pastor, birder, and host of "The Thing With Feathers Podcast."

Don't miss this opportunity to nourish your spirit and connect with other women!

**In the Family Life Center at  
Point Loma Community  
Presbyterian Church**

2128 Chatsworth Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92107

**Purchase tickets for \$50 at  
[pointlomachurch.org/register](https://pointlomachurch.org/register)  
or scan here:**



**MAY 8, 5:30PM**

## GriefShare® SUPPORT GROUP

**WEDNESDAYS, 1:00-3:00PM  
APRIL 3 - MAY 22**

EMAIL [ELAINE@POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG](mailto:ELAINE@POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG) TO REGISTER

GriefShare is an 8-week, in-person grief recovery group for individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one. Sessions involve watching a brief video, group discussion, and workbook exercises. The Christian curriculum helps you find hope and healing as you walk the journey of grief.

Facilitated by Rev. John Moser & Elaine Burrell, MSW. Participants may join at any time.

**Contact Elaine Burrell at  
619-223-1633, Ext. 210 or  
[elaine@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:elaine@pointlomachurch.org)  
to register or for more  
information.**

**\$20 Donation requested**

**In the Parlor at  
Point Loma Community  
Presbyterian Church  
2128 Chatsworth Blvd.**

## POAMN Conference May 29 & 30

An exciting conference will be held at Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church on May 29 & 30. The Presbyterian Older Adult Ministry Network (POAMN) is a national organization that provides information, training, resources, networking and support for faith organizations that offer senior adult programs. This year, they have selected our church as the location for their national conference!

The conference is open to anyone who is involved in senior ministry work, including lay leaders, directors, chaplains, and senior adults who just want to learn more. Participants may attend all conference workshops, meals and events, or just a select few.

The theme of the conference is "The New Face of Aging: Transformative Approaches to Older Adult Ministry" and will consist of workshops, lunch, entertainment, dynamic speakers, vendor fair and even a trivia activity with teens! See details at <https://poamn.org/conference/>

Open to everyone!



# Senior Adult Ministry Programs

## SPRING LUNCHEON WITH JEFFERSON SCHILDGEN OF RAT PACK REBORN

**Tues, April 9, 10:00am, Family Life Center - \$7 at the door**

**Doors open 10:00am, Entertainment 11:00am, Lunch served 12:00pm**

Were you lucky enough to hear the suave voice of Jefferson Schildgen outside of Stumps Market over the holidays? This young Navy man sings songs from the Great American Songbook in retrospective style for all to enjoy. The band leader of the music group "Rat Pack Reborn," Jeff will entertain us with his smooth crooning voice during our luncheon. Menu will consist of a pasta lunch, crisp green salad and dessert. Reserve your spot by Friday, April 5.

## MEANINGFUL RETIREMENT WORKSHOP & PASTA DINNER

**Wed, April 17, 5:00-7:30pm, Family Life Center - \$10 at the door**

Today, living well into our 80's and even 90's is becoming the norm. Our generation is catching up with this reality and realizing the importance of health span and mindset to maximize well-being and flourish during these bonus years. This workshop consists of a slide presentation, small group engagement, a few short reflection activities and dinner in between. With all these extra days, let's make them count! Facilitated by life transition coach, Julia Holladay. Reserve your spot by contacting Elaine.

## AARP SAFE DRIVING CLASSROOM COURSE

**Mondays, April 22 & 29, 9:00am-1:00pm, Family Life Center**

**\$20 AARP Members, \$25 non-members**

Back by popular demand, this two-part course will teach you defensive driving techniques and cover special considerations for mature drivers such as the effect of medications on driving, new technologies found in cars today, and how to adjust your driving for age-related changes. Please note, it is necessary to attend both sessions in their entirety to receive your California Mature Driver Improvement Course Certificate. Payment accepted at the first class, checks or money order made out to AARP are accepted. Reservation required, contact Elaine.



## WESTERN-STYLE LUNCHEON WITH UNCOMMON GROUND

**Tues, May 14, 10:00am, Family Life Center**

**Doors open 10:00am, Entertainment 11:00am, Lunch served 12:00pm - \$7 at the door**

Join us for a western-style luncheon featuring the musical duo, Uncommon Ground, an acoustic country music band that plays a blend of familiar classic and contemporary country covers. Enjoy a Mexican style lunch, including dessert & coffee. Country-western attire encouraged! RSVP to Elaine by May 10.

## FOREVER FIT WEEKLY CLASS

**Every Wednesday • 9:00 - 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, balance and core strength. Equipment provided, no reservation needed. Offered in partnership with the Ryan Family YMCA.

**Register**

**ONLINE** [pointlomachurch.org/register](https://pointlomachurch.org/register)

**CONTACT ELAINE** MSW, Director of Senior Adult Ministry  
(619) 223-1633 Ext. 210 | [elaine@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:elaine@pointlomachurch.org)



## MEN@WORK | TUESDAYS, 8:30 AM LIBRARY & 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 contact Allen Hobbs, [allenmhobbs@msn.com](mailto:allenmhobbs@msn.com) or Sam Bick, [samuelbick@aol.com](mailto:samuelbick@aol.com). For the Zoom link and Bible study information contact Em Cummins, [emcum@sdsu.edu](mailto:emcum@sdsu.edu).

### Prayer Quilt Ministry

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

Contact Maureen Blackhall,  
[maureenblackhall@gmail.com](mailto:maureenblackhall@gmail.com)  
Request a prayer quilt, email  
[redbrickprayerquilts@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:prayer@pointlomachurch.org)

## TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

### A Note on PLCPC's Temporary Shelter

#### OPERATED BY THE TRANSFORM OUR WORLD MISSION GROUP

Our church and its Transform Our World committee has embraced the compassionate mission of offering temporary housing to immigrant families who have legally entered the United States. Nearly two years ago, our first family found solace in the apartment known as "Room 6" within our church. Since then, we've welcomed and sheltered two more families, each with their own unique journey, hailing from Haiti and Venezuela. While we amalgamate their narratives to safeguard their privacy, their collective ordeal reflects a quest for temporary protected status on their road to citizenship.

Their stories are ones of resilience amidst adversity, fleeing persecution and violence in their homelands. Crossing through Central America and the infamous Darien Gap, up through Mexico, they navigated their way to safety, traveling by various means, including trains, buses, and even on foot. Some arrived in Texas before being transported to our region. One family was separated at the border, enduring the anguish of being torn apart before reuniting in San Diego.

Through our partnership with the Safe Harbors Network, we have been able to provide crucial support, including access to legal aid, county services, work permits, and identification documents. Our local schools have warmly embraced the children, who are swiftly mastering English and excelling academically, earning recognition for their outstanding citizenship and academic achievements. Meanwhile, the adults fortunate enough to secure work permits are





contributing to our community through various service industries.

In a city witnessing a significant influx of immigrants, most who then move to other places, our commitment remains steadfast. While the Migrant Welcome Center has regrettably disbanded due to financial constraints, organizations like Catholic Charities, Jewish Family Services, and The International Rescue Committee continue to extend aid to asylum seekers. As a congregation, we plan to support these families, step by step, as they navigate the labyrinth of resources, healthcare, education, and transportation and finding housing. Our church's dedicated volunteers have lent a helping hand in myriad ways, from transportation assistance to furnishing their temporary abode, from tutoring to English language instruction.

The gratitude of these families toward our congregation is immeasurable. As we lift them up in our prayers, we envision a radiant future as they progress along their path to Citizenship.



## Rancho Genesis Mission Trip

SUNDAY, JULY 7 TO SATURDAY JULY 13

Come serve with others of all ages from PLCPC for a week in Mexico, just south of Ensenada. We will be staying and serving at the new Rancho Genesis property as we spend the week serving at the camp and caring for kids from an orphanage. Want to know more? Email [evan@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:evan@pointlomachurch.org)



## APRIL AND MAY 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...

- 4/7 for Elizabeth Wootten, we celebrate you and honor you, today and forever, all our love, your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren  
and, by Ken Bertino in loving memory of his mother Phoebe Elizabeth.
- 4/14 in loving memory of Bud Bunyard by his wife Char, daughter and son-in-law Kelly and Tim Ferrin, son Michael, and grandson Alex  
and, in loving memory of Howard and Ruth Kirtland from Michael and Marie Huff.
- 4/21 by Bill and Carol Irwin in loving memory of their sweet daughter Monica Khoury  
and, Mary Harker in loving memory of her parents Willis "Wig" and Jane Cotton Fletcher.
- 4/28 in loving memory of their daughter, Janine Perrill, by her parents Judy and Henry Pritchett.
- 5/5 by Clara Larson in loving memory of my husband, Leland Curtis Larson  
and, in loving memory of my dear Linda, by Fred Daugherty.
- 5/12 by Cindy Wright, James Stradling and Janet Gompper in loving and joyful memory of their parents Julia and Cornell "Corky" Stradling.
- 5/19 by Vici in memory of her parents Regina and Herman Walter, Jim Willis's parents Anita and Lee Byron Willis, and in honor of all Mothers!
- 5/26 by Jean and Mike Collins in loving memory of her mother, Ruby Lippels.



# EasterFest Photo Highlights

MARCH 24, 2024



## Life Events

### DEATHS

**Paul West** passed away on March 12, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held in the Sanctuary at 3:00pm on April 20, 2024 with a reception following in the Family Life Center. Pastor Karla Shaw will be officiating.

**Joan McKenna** passed away on April 2, 2024. Services are pending.

**Marge Grant** passed away on April 2, 2024. Services are pending.





# BLOOD DRIVE

**May 5**  
8:00 am - 1:30 pm

Did you know that your one blood donation can save up to three lives? Our community is currently experiencing a need for all blood donors. Save lives on May 5 at the mobile blood bank!

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY**  
*Trivia Night*

- a. Friday, April 12, 6:30-8:00pm
- b. Family Life Center
- c. Ages 6-106

Childcare available for kids ages 5 and under

# REGISTER FOR TRIVIA NIGHT

April 12, 6:30-8:00pm  
[POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER](http://POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER)

