

# Spire

August  
2024  
Vol. 33  
No. 6

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR CHRIS

It is hard to believe that two months of summer have come and gone. We have had the joy and privilege to hear 8 different voices speak into our PLCPC community. Each message has been a blessing and a challenge, as mission and ministry converge to help us hear about the least of these and those who have been serving Christ in these settings. Several of the messages spoke of the impact within our own local community of efforts to engage the urban poor with the message of hope, community and God's direct and practical intervention. We also heard the powerful stories of people interacting with local communities across the globe to bring resources to bear on issues of infrastructure in underserved and isolated towns and villages. We learned that the issues of homelessness are ubiquitous and not easily solved – each community brings its unique situations and challenges. We are blessed with the special challenge of living in a border community, where a wall exists between “neighbors.” Being part of the PCUSA family brings its blessings and needs. Opportunities abound for us to Love Everyone to Life with All We Have.

One of the blessings I have received and learned from this series of messages is that none of these missions and ministries happen in isolation. It takes people in relationship and partnership to speak God's love and grace into the lives of those served and the ones serving. We have many blessings to share and even more blessings to receive. Jeremiah 29:7 says, “Seek the welfare of the city I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf,

*Continued on page 2*



## Sunday Worship Services

Sanctuary 9:00 am  
Online 9:30 am  
Chapel 10:30 am

Rev. Karla Shaw  
Senior Pastor

2128 Chatsworth Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92107

## Inside This Issue

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## Looking Ahead

|        |                            |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Aug 11 | Youth Sunday               |
| Aug 16 | Back-to-School BBQ         |
| Aug 18 | Prayer Quilt Sunday        |
| Aug 18 | Bryan & Friends Concert    |
| Aug 24 | Faith & Fiction Book Club  |
| Aug 31 | Singing Retreat            |
| Sept 1 | Family Jam Sandwich Social |



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

[Pointlomachurch.org](http://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 Chris... continued from page 1*

for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” I recommend John Mark Comer’s book *Garden City* as a way to engage our own mission within our own community. We are blessed to be a blessing and to serve God where we are in every way we can. May the rest of our summer be filled with God’s love and grace.

**Shalom,**  
**Rev. Dr. Chris Lenocker**  
Parish Associate

## CHURCH NEWS

### Session Meeting Highlights | Kathy Wright, Asst. Clerk

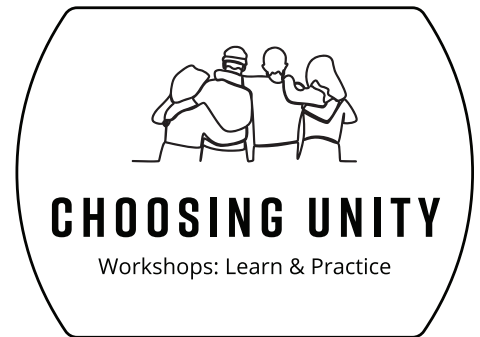
#### JUNE 26, 2024

Rev. Dr. Chris Lenocker again served as moderator during Pastor Karla’s sabbatical, and Kathy Wright served as clerk during Clerk John Spafford’s absence. Rev. Lenocker welcomed guest Dr. Em Cummins, PLCPC member and current Moderator of SD Presbytery.

Kathy relayed an alert from Director of Operations, Jolene Wade, about phishing emails sent to PLCPC members with an address that looks similar to Rev. Shaw’s. Kathy also presented an email received from the Presbytery Nominating Committee requesting any suggestions for ordained elders interested in serving on the Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry. This invitation will be shared with all PLCPC elders.

Dr. Cummins and Rev. Lenocker discussed the process for approving initiatives submitted to the General Assembly, such as the overture from the Olympia, Washington Presbytery submitted to the General Assembly recently held in Salt Lake. This overture proposes changes to certain language in the Book of Order regarding sexual orientation. As with any proposed changes to the Book of Order, it will undergo a long, complicated process involving careful examination by committees of the General Assembly.

The session also endorsed Evan Gratz’s request for enrollment as an inquirer into the preparation for ordained ministry through the Presbytery of San Diego.



This fall we are diving into a new sermon series on 1 Corinthians called *Choosing Unity*. As a part of this series we are hosting *Choosing Unity Workshops* where we will connect, listen and learn as we put “*Choosing Unity*” into practice. This two-part workshop will teach us how to ask curious questions that encourage sharing and to listen well as we seek to understand.

### Mark your calendars!

#### PART 1

Learn: The Art of Conversation  
Saturday, Sept 14, 9am

#### PART 2

Practice: Day of Dialogue  
Sunday, Sept 29, 1pm



### Prayer Requests


Submit Prayer requests to the Prayer Chain at  
[prayer@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:prayer@pointlomachurch.org)

## 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)

   @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](http://pointlomachurch.org/podcast)

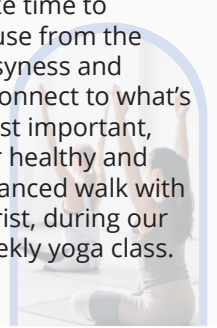
**Release  
Reconnect  
Restore  
Yoga**

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)



# Bryan & Friends Courtyard Concert

August 18 5:00pm

30th Anniversary

**Celebrate the 30th anniversary of this beloved evening of music on the plaza with Bryan Verhoye and Friends. Listen to a blend of light jazz, pop, and classical melodies performed by top local musicians.**

Join us for a cookie reception following the concert. Admission is free! Come and enjoy this wonderful musical event. Invite friends and family!

Special guests: Tripp Sprague on saxophone, Sara Fisher, Glen Fisher on Bass, Tim McMahon on drums, and Molleigh Verhoye on vocals.



# Singing Retreat & Workshop



**Saturday, August 31  
9:00am - 12:00pm**

All singers ages 18+ join in to learn vocal techniques and sample a variety of music! Lunch is included. After attending you will have the option to join the choir and sing in worship on Sept. 8.

**REGISTER NOW!**

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



## Music Ministry Opportunities

**Step forward in your faith and get involved in the music ministry.** Experience the joy and celebration of worship and growing in your faith by making a joyful sound. Ready to get involved or looking for more info? Contact Alicia McMillan, [alicia@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:alicia@pointlomachurch.org)

### Music opportunities include:

- Adult Choir
- Adult Choral Ensemble
- Sanctuary Worship Band
- Online Worship Band
- Chapel Contemporary Worship
- Bell Choir
- Children's Music Ministry

### SPECIAL FALL OPPORTUNITY!

#### Christmas Concert Choir

- 1-hour rehearsals: Oct 3-Dec 5 (*excluding Halloween and Thanksgiving*)
- Retreat: Saturday, Oct 19, 9:00am - 12:00pm
- Dress rehearsal: Saturday, Dec 7
- Sing in our annual Christmas Concert: Dec 8



Scan to learn more! Or visit [pointlomachurch.org/music](http://pointlomachurch.org/music)



## JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



RED BRICK PRESCHOOL

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

**Nicole Hage, *Preschool Director***

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

The preschool had a wonderful summer full of fun activities. Now, we are preparing for school to begin on August 19 and looking forward to our Back-to-School BBQ on August 16 from 5:00-7:00pm. This is a great opportunity to meet the teachers, see the classrooms, and enjoy our BBQ with a bounce house, game truck, and so much more. Our parent orientation will be held via Zoom on August 14 at 6:00 PM.

With the growing need for infant care in our community, we decided to increase our infant capacity from 8 to 16. We are thrilled to offer this much needed service for our community!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out at [preschool@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:preschool@pointlomachurch.org) or visit our website at [redbrickpreschool.com](http://redbrickpreschool.com).



# children & family MINISTRY

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

## Fall Music Classes

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



## Sign-up for Fall Music Classes

Music & Movement Class  
Ages 4-6 • Wednesdays, 4:00 - 4:45pm • Starts August 28

Drama & Choir Class  
Grades 2-6 • Thursdays, 4:00-6:00pm • Starts August 29

Youth Bell Choir Class  
Grades 6-12 • Thursdays, 5:00pm - 6:00pm • Starts Sept 5

**Register Now!**  
[pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)



## Bible Memory Class

Rising 4th & 5th graders  
Sundays, 10:30-11:30am | Aug 18 - Nov 17  
Free | [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)



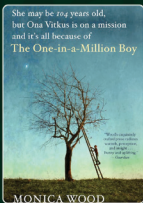
## Bible Memory

**Sundays, 10:30-11:30am | Aug 18 - Nov 17**

This is a rigorous but rewarding class, involving homework and occasional parent participation! At the end of our time together, each student will choose a Life Verse which they will memorize and then recite before the congregation when they receive their personalized Bible. The cost is free to attend, but we'll need names and grades of the kids as well as parent contact info. Sign up at [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register).

## FAITH & FICTION BOOK CLUB

Currently Reading: "The One in a Million Boy" by Monica Wood  
Location: Parlor  
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 PM



## Faith & Fiction Book Club

**August 24 | 7:00-8:30p | Parlor**

Our book club is back! Once a month, we'll delve into the realms of fiction to explore the connections to our faith. Whether you're a seasoned bookworm or a casual reader curious about exploring faith through the lens of fiction, everyone 18 and older is welcome! We'll be reading "The One in a Million Boy" by Monica Wood.

## Red Brick PRESCHOOL PLAYDATE

Liberty Station  
On the playground  
August 25 • 4 PM



## Red Brick Preschool Playdate

**August 25, 4:00pm | Liberty Station Playground**

Preschool families, join us on the playground at Liberty Station for a playdate! This will be a great time for our kiddos to play together and to connect with other parents.

## FAMILY JAM • Sandwich Social



SUNDAY, 11:30 AM - 1 PM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

## Family Jam Sandwich Social

**Sunday, Sept 1, 11:30am - 1:00pm | Family Life Center**

On the first Sunday of every month we have a build-your-own sandwich lunch after the Chapel Service. This event is open to all, and children and families are especially encouraged to come talk, eat, hang out, and play!

✱ **Children's Worship for ages 4-11 resumes August 18 at both the 9:00am & 10:30am services upstairs in the Children's Center.**



# Brick Youth Group

**Ryan Silvia, Director of Youth & Young Adults Ministry**  
ryan@pointlomachurch.org | 619-223-1633 x215

## A NOTE FROM RYAN

This Summer has been a BLAST! We had an amazing time up at Campus by the Sea with our junior high kids. Thanks to all the wonderful support and prayers we had back home, the trip was amazing. I want to say a huge thank you to Jolene Wade. Without her joining at the last minute when our planned girl's counselor got sick, our girls would not have been able to go to camp.

Our senior high students had a super fun time with our 24-hour Mystery Day Trip. We learned a ton all around San Diego and finished the day making some really cool vision boards together. We have a lot of fun stuff coming up in the fall, so make sure you keep an eye out if you want to get involved. I am super excited about Youth Sunday coming up on August 11. You will not want to miss what our amazing students have to share.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Youth Sunday | August 11

The youth are taking over PLCPC! Come join us and celebrate the amazing things going on with our PLCPC Youth. You will get an opportunity to hear from some wonderful young people as they play music, lead us in prayer and join together in thanks as we celebrate all the amazing things God is doing in our lives.

**There will be one combined service on Youth Sunday in the sanctuary and on livestream at 9:30am.**



### Young Adult Lock-In | August 23

All college age students in Point Loma are invited for 12 hours of fun here on campus. We'll have a late night dance party as well as lots of games and fun as we stay up through the night with our friends. There will also be some time for quiet prayer and reflection as we start off the new school year getting our foundation set as a community following Jesus Christ. The event is FREE, so if you know any college students in the area please have them visit [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register) to sign-up!

**REGISTER NOW!**  
[pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)

## YOUTH WEEKLY EVENTS RELAUNCH THIS MONTH!

### Teen Center

#### Relaunches Aug 26

Mondays & Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30pm  
All 6-12 grade students are invited!

### High School Hangouts

#### Relaunches Aug 28

Thursdays, 3pm-6pm  
For High School students only  
We will have time to get homework done, a short Bible lesson and dinner

### Youth Worship happening now!

Sundays, 10:30am

### Youth Group happening now!

Sundays, 4:30pm-6:30pm

## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM CAMPUS BY THE SEA!





## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

### Prayer Quilt Sunday is August 18!

**"It's not about the quilts; it's all about the prayers."**

"I'll pray for you." How often do we say this when someone shares their suffering? It is an encouraging and caring response. Many times, it is because we do not have any other words. What if prayer quilts could talk? In the first year of our ministry, we gave a prayer quilt to a young autistic teenager. The doctors were trying out new medication, and he was having trouble adjusting. His prayer request was to "get my mind my head my heart in peace not crazy." We picked out a quilt that had horse panels. As it turns out, he loved horses and was grooming them at school. He typed his thank you note, and it read:

*"horse good design. each prayer i name. the prayers i feel. you hear God in the quilt."*

Offering a Prayer Quilt speaks volumes. For each person it's different, meaningful, and personal—connecting us to each other and to the heart of God. Join us on August 18th as we celebrate 22 years of the Prayer Quilt Ministry at this church. **If you have a prayer quilt, bring it along as a testimony to the power of prayer.**



#### Request a prayer quilt

email Lynn Spafford at [redbrickprayerquilts@gmail.com](mailto:redbrickprayerquilts@gmail.com)

#### For questions or are interest in participating in the Prayer Quilt Ministry,

contact Maureen Blackhall at [maureenblackhall@gmail.com](mailto:maureenblackhall@gmail.com).



## Deacons Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 9:30-11:00AM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE DEACON FUND

***save the date!***

# Community Groups

**Our journey into deeper faith begins with our relationships.**

We have a number of community groups available for adults of all ages and stages of life. Whether you are looking for a Bible study or interest group, we hope that you will find a small group that is right for you!

## Women

### Bible Study for Women

Tuesdays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Parlor & Zoom

- Contact: Nancy Wildman, wildone@cox.net
- Resumes this fall

### Mom's Bible Study

Every Other Tuesday | 9:30 am - 11:00 am  
Children's Center

- Contact: Sarah Butterfield, sarah@pointlomachurch.org
- Resumes Tuesday, August 27

### MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Tuesdays | 9:30 am - 11:30 am

- Contact: Julia Roller, mops@pointlomachurch.org
- Resumes Tuesday, August 27

### Community Bible Study

Thursdays | 10:00 am - 11:45 am | In-Person & Zoom

- Contact: CBS Coordinator, Leigh Burdine, lburdine@yahoo.com
- Resumes Thursday, September 5

## Men

### Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays | 5:00 pm | Parlor

- Contact: Bob Lemke, boblemke@cox.net
- Happening now!

### Monday Morning Men

Mondays | 8:00 am | Zoom

- Contact: Evan Gratz, evan@pointlomachurch.org
- Resumes Monday, September 9

### Men@Work

Tuesdays | 8:30 am | Library & Zoom

- Contact: Em Cummins, emcum@sdsu.edu
- Resumes Tuesday, September 10

## All Adults

### Sunday Scripture Group

Sundays | 10:15 am | Parlor

- Contact: Bob Simoneau, grsjr1212@gmail.com
- Happening now!

### Debrief the Sermon

Sundays | 10:30-11:15 am | Sept 8 - Oct 27 | Library & Zoom

- Contact: Cheryl Louie, clouie3@gmail.com
- Resumes Sunday, September 8

### Centering Prayer

Thursdays | 6:00-7:00 pm | Zoom

- Contact: Tom Baker, tbakerusa@gmail.com
- Happening now!

## Activities

### Knitters & Crocheters

Second Thursday of the Month

10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Parlor

- Contact: Hope Roel, hopearoel@outlook.com
- Happening now!

### Prayer Quilt Ministry

Meetings: First Saturday of the month

Prayer Team: Third Wednesday of the month

9:00 am | Zoom

- Contact: Maureen Blackhall, maureenblackhall@cox.net
- Request a prayer quilt: redbrickprayerquilts@gmail.com
- Happening now!

**Visit [pointlomachurch.org/adult](https://pointlomachurch.org/adult) to learn more about our community groups or scan the QR code!**





# TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



## Thank you!

**Thank you to everyone who generously donated to the Backpack, Bus Pass, and Blanket Drive this summer!**

Blankets were collected for UPLIFT for the O Lot Safe Sleeping campsites for the homeless population in Balboa Park. And, backpacks and school supplies went to New Day Urban Ministry. Because of your generosity, we received:

- 56 Backpacks
- 15 blankets
- 2 boxes of school supplies
- \$1,600 to distributed evenly among bus passes, backpacks, and blankets



**BLOOD DRIVE**

**September 8**  
**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 September 8!

Look out for sign ups later this month at [pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register). Walk-ins welcome too!

## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM RANCHO GENESIS!



LIFE EVENTS

MARRIAGES

**Andrew and Julie Huelga** were married in the Sanctuary on July 6, 2024. Pastor Chris Lenocker officiated.

DEATHS

**Phyllis Murray** passed away on September 16, 2023.

**Sharon (Sherry Ann) Ingram** passed away on June 6, 2024. A Celebration of Life was held on July 12, 2024 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Chris Lenocker officiated.

**William (Bill) White** passed away on June 12, 2024. A Celebration of Life was held on July 14, 2024 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Chris Lenocker officiated.

**David Lamott** passed away on June 26, 2024. A Celebration of Life was held on August 10, 2024 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Chris Lenocker officiated.

**Leila Champ** passed away on July 22, 2024. A memorial and celebration of life is being planned at the Thursday Club at a later date.



AUGUST 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...



- AUGUST 4

In honor of our parents Frank and Louise Pokorny's wedding anniversary August 17, 1941 and our brother John's birthday August 22, 1951. Love Mary Jo and Jim Pokorny.

In loving memory of Debora Palma Stanger. Her mother, sisters and their spouses, nieces, and nephews are grateful for the privilege of sharing her life. Her love and light lives on.
- AUGUST 11

For Charles G. Wootton, we celebrate you and honor you, today and forever, all our love, your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In loving memory of his parents, Jim and Marge Grant by Jim and Susan.
- AUGUST 18

In memory of my parents Thurston and Ruth Powers, my sister Joan Miller and my son-in-law Brian Thorenson by Barbara J. Brown.

In honor of the Prayer Quilt Ministry by Maureen and Eric Blackhall.
- AUGUST 25

In loving memory of John L. and Betty Spafford by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

By Kathleen McKnight in joyful celebration of the birthday of her grand-son Alexander Ilia McKnight.



***Save these dates!***

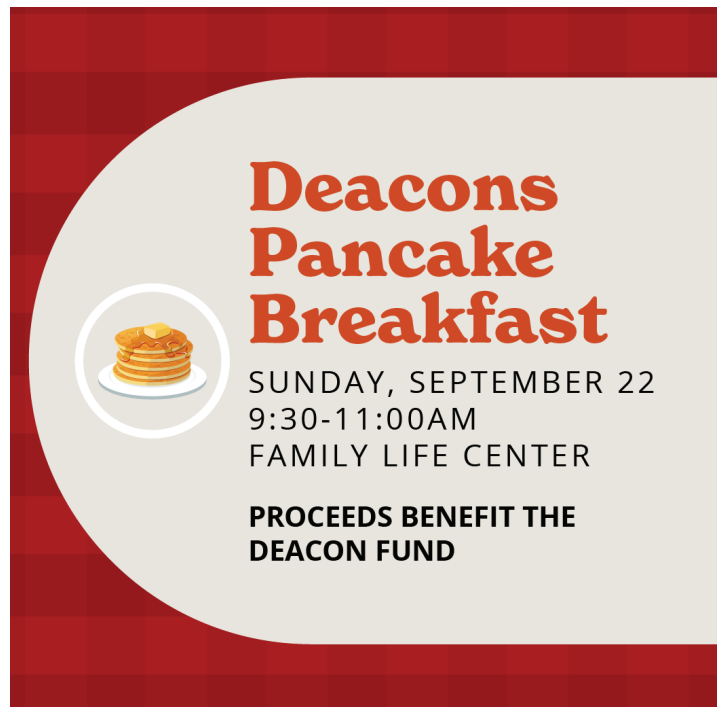
A blue poster for a concert. On the left, there is a vertical graphic of musical instruments including a trumpet, saxophone, and guitar, with musical notes floating around them. The background shows a blurred image of a crowd at an outdoor event.

*More info on page 3!*

**Bryan &  
Friends  
Courtyard  
Concert**

30th Anniversary

**August 18**  
5:00pm

A poster with a red background and a large white circle in the center. Inside the circle is an illustration of a stack of pancakes with a pat of butter on top. To the right of the illustration, the event title is written in large red letters, followed by the date, time, and location in black. At the bottom, it states that the proceeds benefit a specific fund.

**Deacons  
Pancake  
Breakfast**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22  
9:30-11:00AM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE  
DEACON FUND**