

## A note from Pastor Karla

When I was considering becoming a pastor, the one hang-up that prevented me from taking the final leap in those last years was my fear of death. This is not a profession to get involved with if you have that type of fear, as facing death is a central part of what a pastor does—not just for self but for others.

A fear of death, though, is not uncommon in our culture, as we are a culture that denies death. We pad our lives with constant life-saving measures—seat belts, exercise, vitamins, healthy diets—these are all good things, but having so many “good things” also teaches us something. Our beauty products are marketed to prevent aging. In our healthcare industry we market pills to prevent decay. We color our hair to go with the season. Our media depicts those who are mostly young and beautiful. We send those who are aging to nursing homes like they are not a part of our family systems anymore and the young then have zero exposure to those in their final season of life. When we get sick, even with a terminal diagnosis, we have been trained to look forward—to the next treatment, to the next cure. In the end, it's hurting us. As when death comes our way, we don't know what to do, because we have been denying it for so long.

**This is the gift of the season of Lent: an invitation to face that which scares us.**

One Lenten season, while living in Pittsburgh, I frequented a tiny Catholic church and I meditated on the stations of the cross. I sat in death for an entire season at first to see if I could and then secondly to see if death had anything to teach me. And what I learned, and have continued to learn since while walking with people through all kinds of death—not just physical, but emotional and spiritual death as well—is that the death of things, while painful, is also hopeful. Death is only all consuming when you haven't also experienced life after death. Not like us. Thanks be to the resurrected Christ who enters this season with us.

**May we all invite the darkness these next weeks so that the light might have the opportunity to shine brighter.**



## 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

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## Looking Ahead

April 13 Palm Sunday & EasterFest  
April 17 Maundy Thursday  
April 18 Good Friday  
April 20 Easter



**Read this online!**  
[pointlomachurch.org/spire-newsletter](http://pointlomachurch.org/spire-newsletter)



**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.



**LENT**  
**AT POINT LOMA CHURCH**

INFO ON PAGE 2



# LENT

AT POINT LOMA CHURCH

Lent is a season of reflection, prayer, and spiritual growth as we prepare our hearts for Easter. We invite you to journey with us through *United in Prayer: A Sermon Series on the Lord's Prayer* on Sundays and engage in meaningful opportunities for worship, community, and service from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Explore the full schedule of happenings at [pointlomachurch.org/lent](http://pointlomachurch.org/lent)

## LENT COMMUNITY GROUPS

Be part of a Lent Community Group! In these groups we will go through the study *Choosing Unity: Sharing in Community Group Experiences of Spiritual Practice*, which will guide us through six different Christian traditions and their associated spiritual practice. There are four ways to engage in this study: a home group, an online group, a self-directed family group, or a self-directed individual study.

Families! Tune in to our podcast every Thursday throughout Lent for episodes that transform the Lent study into a family devotional—perfect for children ages 4-9.

Pick up Community Group Workbooks and Family Devos in the church office!

## LENT WORSHIP SERVICES



**PALM  
SUNDAY**

**April 13, 9:00am**  
Sanctuary, Chapel &  
Livestream  
Simultaneous services



**MAUNDY  
THURSDAY**

**April 17, 6:15pm**  
Sanctuary  
Dinner & Tenebrae service  
of extinguishing the light



**GOOD  
FRIDAY**

**April 18**  
Prayer walk along OB's  
historic church row hosted  
by peninsula faith leaders



**EASTER**

**April 20**  
9:00am & 11:00am  
Sanctuary & Livestream

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFLECTION & SERVING



**LORD'S PRAYER  
LENT ART EXHIBIT**

MARCH 5-APRIL 20  
Art on Display  
MARCH 19, 5:00-7:00PM  
Artists Open House & Self-guided Reflection Time

Artists from our community will produce art works based on any word or phrase, in any translation, from the Lord's Prayer that resonates with them. These works will be on display in the Chapel throughout Lent.

On March 19 from 5:00-7:00pm there will be an open house with artists and self-guided reflection time in the Chapel. Stop by to enjoy the art and support the artists!

MARCH 5-APRIL 17  
**LENT  
FOOD DRIVE**

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS  
AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS



Donations of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items are needed to support our mission partners including: New Day Urban Ministries, Loaves & Fishes, and Military Outreach Ministries. Bring donations to Worship services, events, or the church office. You can also donate online, by check made out to Point Loma Church with "Lent Food Drive" in the memo or Venmo @point-loma-church with "Lent Food Drive" in the description.



## Session Meeting Highlights | John Spafford, Clerk | February 26, 2025

The Session approved an amendment to the Endowment Funds Bylaws, prepared by past Endowment Committee Chair Steve Smith. This complete rewriting of the document provides clearer language and clarifies the perpetuity of the endowment principal. Members may receive a copy of the Bylaws by

emailing the Clerk:  
clerk@pointlomachurch.org.

Pastor Karla provided an extensive update to recent progress on Renovation projects, but noted the City permit is still pending a few sign-offs. She said the City is requiring that PLCPC improve the Udall and Poinsettia sidewalks at

substantial cost. The Session, with some reluctance, approved the unbudgeted project, identifying operations reserve funds for payment.

The meeting adjourned with many prayers for those suffering family losses in recent weeks.

## EXPERIENCE JESUS

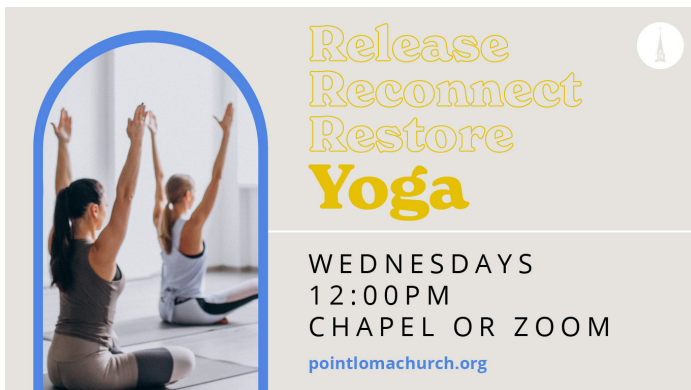


SD MASTER CHORALE  
**BRAHMS REQUIEM**  
APRIL 26 & 27  
4:00PM  
Tickets available on  
SD Master Chorale's website

### The San Diego Master Chorale is coming to Point Loma Church again this April!

Regarded as a powerful requiem for the living, Johannes Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem explores life after loss while offering hope and solace for humanity. The San Diego Master Chorale presents this profound masterwork, using Brahms' own arrangement for two pianos, featuring pianists Bryan Verhoye and Jessie Chang.

Buy tickets at [sdmasterchorale.org/brahms-requiem](https://sdmasterchorale.org/brahms-requiem)



Release  
Reconnect  
Restore  
**Yoga**  
WEDNESDAYS  
12:00PM  
CHAPEL OR ZOOM  
[pointlomachurch.org](https://pointlomachurch.org)



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.

**GET THE ZOOM LINK**



point loma church podcast  
**FAITH-FILLED FAMILIES**  
Spiritual Practices at Home  
**LENT**  
AT POINT LOMA CHURCH

### Point Loma Church Podcast

Want to re-listen to a sermon or dive into more learning opportunities? On the Point Loma Church Podcast we share each week's sermon, and we also release educational series led by staff.

You can access the podcast in audio form by searching "Point Loma Church" on the apps Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or iHeartRadio. The podcast is also available in video form on Youtube.

- **Currently releasing: Revelation Podcast**  
Join Pastor Karla and RO Smith as they have a conversation unpacking the mysteries and misconceptions of revelation and how it applies to our lives today.
- **Currently releasing: Faith-Filled Families Podcast**  
Sarah Butterfield and Ryan Silvia are excited to share a podcast specifically for parents of kids K - 12. We'll be exploring developmentally appropriate spiritual practices centered around six different Christian traditions. It's our hope that these will become habits of faith your kids can engage in all year long!
- **Find out more at [pointlomachurch.org/podcast](https://pointlomachurch.org/podcast)**

# JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH

## children & family MINISTRY

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

### FAMILY DEVO LENT 2025

#### A Note from Sarah

I would also like to invite you to participate in a take-home weekly devotional series for the season of Lent. We will be sending home one "Lent bag" per child. Inside, there is a booklet of six devotionals (one for you to read aloud each week) along with one corresponding hands-on activity with an item from the bag. We hope this will be a concrete and engaging way to deepen your faith!

**Pick up the devotional on Sundays and listen to the accompanying podcast on the Point Loma Church Podcast!**

#### Mark Your Calendars!

#### • FAMILY JAM • Sandwich Social

April 6  
SUNDAY, 11:30 AM - 1 PM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

### EasterFest

GAMES, CRAFTS, SNACKS, MUSIC  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

APRIL 13 • 10:00AM-12:00PM

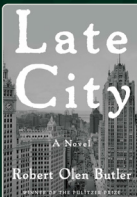
#### SERVE AT EASTERFEST!



### FAITH & FICTION BOOK CLUB

Next Meeting  
**8  
APRIL**

Currently Reading: *Late City*  
by Robert Olen Butler  
Location: Chapel  
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 PM



### make & take

APRIL 30 • 5 - 7 PM

#### MOMCO EVENTS:

##### March 4

Bible Study 9:30-11:00am

##### March 11

Mom's Morning Out 9:00 - 11:30am

##### March 18

Bible Study 9:30-11:00am

##### March 18

MomCo Book Club (*The Wives* by Simone Gorrindo)

##### March 25

MomCo Meeting "Serving as a Family" 9:30-11:30am

##### April 8

MomCo Meeting, 9:30-11:30am

##### April 15

Bible Study 9:30-11:00am

##### April 22

MomCo Meeting "Self-image and Self-talk: How we tell our stories matters" with Lauren Mueller

June 2-6

### VBS 2025

pointlomachurch.org/register

Sign up now!



March 28 VBS registration closes  
[pointlomachurch.org/register](https://pointlomachurch.org/register)







# Brick Youth

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

## RYAN'S RECAP

We kicked off our confirmation class this last month and it has been amazing. We are so excited to have a wonderful group of young people getting to know more about God. Sarah Butterfield and I are hosting a six week long podcast series to go along with the Churchwide Lenten Bible study starting. Take a look at our Youtube channel or wherever you get your podcasts if you'd like to join us in this amazing study on spiritual practices for the whole family! I am so excited to hear what our families try out.

Coming out of a busy holiday season, we are excited to get back to our regular youth group rhythms. We have a lot of fun activities planned to continue with our Choosing Unity series! If you'd like to get involved in Youth Ministry we can always use food or some wise adults to help feed our hungry students (literally and spiritually)!

## JOIN IN WEEKLY

**Sundays 10:30am**

All Youth Service

**Sundays 4:30-6:30pm**

Middle School Youth Group

**Mondays & Tuesdays**

**3:30-5:30pm**

Teen Center

## SAVE THE DATE!

**May 4th Youth Sunday**

**Summer Camp June 26-30**



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

**Nicole Hage, Preschool Director**

preschool@pointlomachurch.org | 619-223-1633 x220



Registration for the fall is underway and going well! If you're interested in care for your infant through Pre-K, please contact us for more information or visit our website at [redbrickpreschool.com](http://redbrickpreschool.com). Our infant program is thriving, but space is limited, so we encourage you to join our waitlist as soon as possible.

Our monthly Chapel time will be held on March 11 and 12 on the turf. Please note that we have a staff development day on March 7, as our team will be attending the Early Childhood Conference.

Spring Break is scheduled for March 30-April 4, and we will be closed on Thursday and Friday. In April, we will celebrate the Week of the Young Child with themed days and plenty of art activities. Additionally, picture day will take place on April 16 and 17 in the Narthex.

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH



### WINE, WOMEN & WORD | 4.16, 5-7PM

This is a time of relaxed fellowship, meeting new women and fun conversation. Registration and payment online now required. Please register by April 13. For questions, contact Judy at [jnissen2019@gmail.com](mailto:jnissen2019@gmail.com).

Register for the event



### Highlights from the Last Wine, Women & Word!



WOMEN'S  
*Connecting*  
**DINNER**  
HOLD OPEN TO HOPE

REGISTRATION OPEN!  
**24**  
MARCH

Wednesday, May 7, 5:30pm | Portuguese Hall  
Childcare Provided | Speaker Anjuli Paschal





# Senior Adult MINISTRY

Elaine Burrell, MSW, CSA, *Director of Senior Adult Ministry*  
elaine@pointlomachurch.org | 619-223-1633 x210



## Upcoming Events



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY "THE FIDDLE GIRL"

**March 11, 10:00am doors open, 11:00am entertainment, & 12:00pm lunch**  
**Family Life Center, \$7**

Be Irish for a day at our annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon. Enjoy music by The Fiddle Girl and a lunch menu of hot Shepherd's Pie, salad, hearty bread and festive dessert. Green attire encouraged! RSVP to Elaine by 3/7.

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR SENIOR ADULTS

**March 19, 11:00am-12:30pm, Family Life Center**

Jo Cole from the SHARP Emergency Preparedness program will educate us on the different ways to prepare for each type of disaster that could strike our region, what's the first thing to do when a disaster strikes and where to go for the best info, including new applications for your phone. RSVP to Elaine.

### OUTING TO THE SAN DIEGO FAMILY SEARCH CENTER

**March 24, 1:00pm-3:00pm - \$10**  
**Depart in Church Van at 12:30pm**

The Family Search Center is a free resource where you can receive personalized help researching your family ancestry. Learn about your ancestors by accessing millions of records, talking to experts, and exploring your family tree. Join us while we explore this amazing local resource available to all of us! Space is limited, reserve your spot today!

### SPRING SENIOR LUNCHEON

**April 8, 10:00am doors open, 11:00am Entertainment, 12pm Lunch**  
**Family Life Center, \$7**



### EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

**April 23, 11:00am-12:00pm, Family Life Center**

Learn how to start a little library in your neighborhood. Kathy Hargrove has had a successful Little Library for 4 years and will give you the secrets to starting and maintaining one in your neighborhood. Please bring a book to share with others.



## Senior Adult Ministry Volunteer Spotlight

### Celebrating Mildred Clack's Service as Check-In Greeter at Luncheons

For over two decades, Mildred Clack has been a warm and welcoming presence at Point Loma Church, embodying the church's vision to "love everyone to life with everything we have." At 93, Mildred has decided to retire from her role as check-in greeter at the Senior Adult Ministry luncheons, though she will continue to be a cherished attendee. Her dedication, kindness, and unwavering commitment have left a lasting impact on the ministry and the many lives she has touched.

Mildred first joined Point Loma Church in 2000 after the passing of her husband, seeking a church home closer to her Ocean Beach community. She quickly found a place of belonging in the Senior Adult Ministry, participating in craft groups, line dancing, and quilting. She also became a staple at the monthly luncheons, where her table—fondly known as "Mildred's Table"—became a gathering place for friends old and new. For over 20 years, she faithfully greeted attendees, collected donations, and, most importantly, made each person feel seen and valued.

When asked what she enjoyed



*Longtime volunteer Mildred Clack and her youngest son, John*

most about her role, Mildred simply said, "Meeting the people and learning their names. Making people happy and welcoming them." In these small yet profound ways, she exemplified the church's mission to strengthen community and deepen faith through authentic relationships. Whether through her favorite luncheons—the Thanksgiving feast or the Veterans Day program—or her calm, reassuring advice to fellow

volunteers, Mildred's presence radiated warmth and encouragement.

Mildred's contributions have enriched the lives of countless individuals, and her legacy of service is a beautiful testament to the love and hospitality at the heart of Point Loma Church. We are grateful for her many years of kindness and dedication. **Thank you, Mildred, you are deeply appreciated and loved!**



# RANCHO GENESIS Mission Trip

July 6 - July 12

Registration Open March 21



## RANCHO GENESIS MISSION TRIP

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. Have any interest? Questions or Concerns? Simply want to know more about it? Stop by coffee on the porch on March 23 or come to the info meeting on April 6. Trip will take place on July 6 - July 12 and costs \$550 per person (max \$1700 per family).

## Highlights from Previous Trips!



## LIFE EVENTS

The MacVean family thanks everyone for their prayers, love and support for our family after the death of their beloved daughter Lynne Ellen.



### MARCH & APRIL 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...

#### MARCH 2

By John and Charlie Littrell to honor the wonderful Sunday school teachers at our church

And, in loving memory of our parents, Ben and Peggy Woodward and John and Margaret Holman by Diana and John Holman

#### MARCH 23

By Kathy and Larry Willette and family in honor of our parents, Jess and Florence Willette and Lawrence and Bernice Chabot

#### APRIL 13

By Mary Harker in loving memory of her parents Willis "Wig" and Jane Cotton Fletcher

And, in loving memory of Howard and Ruth Kirtland from Michael and Marie Huff

#### MARCH 9

In joyful memory of parents Helen and Bill Kearns, and sister Maggie, by Carol (Kearns) Nicolson and Kathy (Kearns) Dixon

And, by Enny Smith to continue to thank the Lord for His joy and love for her birthday

#### MARCH 30

In honor of all of our church family who give their love to one another in the spirit of unity in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior's name

#### APRIL 27

By Bill and Carol Irwin in loving memory of their sweet daughter Monica Khoury

And, in loving memory of their daughter, Janine Perrill, by her parents Judy and Henry Pritchett

#### MARCH 16

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 celebration of Charlie, Ellen, Stephen and Margaret MacVean's March birthdays

#### APRIL 6

For Elizabeth Wootton. We celebrate and honor you, today and forever. All our love, your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Bette is celebrating 100 years of life on April 9!

And, by Ken Bertino in loving memory of his Mother Phoebe Elizabeth

### Help provide the Easter decorations!

On Easter Sunday, our sanctuary is decorated with lilies and glorious spring flowers to enhance our worship celebrations.

If you are giving in honor of someone, donate by Monday, April 7 at 12:00pm to have the names of those recognize listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin.







# EasterFest

GAMES, CRAFTS, SNACKS, MUSIC  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

APRIL 13 • 10:00AM-12:00PM