

## A note from Pastor Karla

When Marc and I were first married and living in Pasadena, we visited the Griffith Observatory. While entrance to the main museum exhibits were free to the public, the planetarium show cost \$7 per person at the time. Marc and I debated whether we could afford such a steep fee on our meager salaries. In the end, we decided it was worth the splurge and bought the tickets. I had no idea that when I sat down for that 30-minute film, I would walk away transformed. As soon as the lights dimmed to darkness in the dome, we were launched through space. During our journey, we discovered just how vast and unknowable the universe truly is. It was such an immersive experience that when we returned to Earth and the lights came back on, the audience remained riveted to their seats. At that point, I looked around the room, and suddenly the Muslim family sitting two rows in front of me, and the man two seats over—covered head to toe in tattoos—didn't feel like strangers anymore. They felt like family. In those 30 minutes, I discovered our shared humanity in contrast to the vastness of God's creation.

Sadly, most of us don't live inside a planetarium show. As a result, we often go through life focusing on our differences instead of recognizing the thread of humanity that connects us all. We have stopped seeing the image of God implanted in everyone, and this dehumanization is, unfortunately, destroying our world. To counter this harmful worldview, the church theme for this school year will be "We Are All Divinely Designed." Through this theme—explored in our sermon series and small groups over the next nine months—we will look inward at our own preciousness, outward at the beauty of others, and around us at the planet God has entrusted to our care, all because of the divine image within us.

I hope you will be inspired this year to see humanity for what it truly is: a reflection of God's grace in a fallen world.



## 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

Church News .....	2
Renovation Update .....	2
Experience Jesus .....	3
Journey Into Deeper Faith .....	3
Strengthen the Church .....	7
Flowers & Life Events .....	10
Staff & Session Info .....	11

## Looking Ahead

Sept 7	Discover Our Community
Sept 13	Church Family Beach Day
Sept 22	Prayers & Pints
Sept 28	Congregational Meeting
Oct 1	Make & Take



### 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.

# HARD FEELINGS

A SERMON SERIES ABOUT OUR EMOTIONS



## CHURCH NEWS



### Discover Our Community Class | Sept 7 & 14, 12:00pm

This two-part hybrid class provides an opportunity to meet others who are exploring and growing in their faith at PLCPC. You will learn what we believe, what makes this community unique, and explore how your gifts can be expressed. After the second class, there is an opportunity to become a PLCPC member, if you choose. Lunch and childcare are provided for in-person participants.



### Congregational Meeting | September 28, 10:00am

We'll gather for a brief congregational meeting in the Sanctuary and via Livestream immediately following the 9:00am service on Sunday, September 28. Please note, the online service will begin at 9:00am to accommodate the meeting. Together, we'll elect new elders and deacons, then continue the celebration in the Family Life Center with new leaf dedications on the Tree of Life. The Chapel service remains at 10:30am.



### Tree of Life Reception September 28, 10:30am

The Tree of Life in the Family Life Center is a beautiful way to celebrate life events and milestones—honoring loved ones, commemorating special moments, and telling the story of our church community. This September, we'll hold a special reception to add new leaves to the tree and celebrate those being honored.

## GENERATION TO GENERATION

### Renovation Update

Phase One is Complete!

While there are still a few finishing touches that need to take place, we were able to open six of our eight new classrooms, a portion of the Children's Courtyard, and the new teacher Resource Room on August 18 for the first day of school! The teachers and students are all getting used to their new spaces and loving the special environments that were built to foster faith and education for the youngest among us.

Now onto Phase Two!

This phase includes a partial removal of the middle building (also known as the tower) to open up the campus and make space for an elevator to the second floor. **Entry to the church campus during the week will primarily continue to be through the church office.** Preschool families, as well as those utilizing rooms in the upstairs Children's area, will access the campus through our newly dedicated Preschool entry. **The passageway behind the Chapel, as well as the Chapel alley gate will be off limits, so traveling from one side of the campus to the other will take place via the sidewalk on Udall St.**

Phase Two also focuses on the refurbishment of the ground level spaces in the 1940's building, as well as the Kids' Cafe space on the second floor. We can't wait to see how this reimagined space will be used for community connections, art/music events as well as our ongoing bible studies and classes.

Thank you for your continued support of the Generation to Generation renovation project! This is critical for Point Loma Church to not only continue, but to expand the ways we are serving our neighbors and sharing the love of Jesus.

For the most up to date information about the renovation, visit the blog: [pointlomachurch.org/renovation-updates](https://pointlomachurch.org/renovation-updates)

## EXPERIENCE JESUS



### Hard Feelings Sermon Series | September-October

There has been an increase in emotional distress across our world over the last decade. As Christians, we often ignore these darker emotions instead of expressing them, but what if the feelings we have are actually an invitation from God to deeper faith? Join us this fall as we explore our emotional life together.



### Jump into Music Opportunities this Fall!

#### Intergenerational Choir | September 7

Help lead worship in our intergenerational choir on Sunday, September 7. Open to all singers grade 2 - age 110! To participate, come to rehearsal at 8:00am in the Chapel on the day of, and then lead worship at the 9:00am service in the Sanctuary. Email [alicia@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:alicia@pointlomachurch.org) for more information.

#### Join the New Covenant Choir | Rehearsals Start September 4

Rehearsals Thursdays, 7pm | Lead worship Sundays, 9am

Experience the joy of making music together—no experience needed, just a willingness to grow, connect, and boost your brain and well-being through the power of song.

#### Sing in the Christmas Concert Choir | December 7 Rehearsals Starting October 2

Rehearsals Thursdays, 7-8pm, Starting October 2

Choir retreat Saturday, October 25, 9am-12pm

Join the New Covenant Choir to sing in our annual Christmas Concert!

#### Point Loma Nazarene Singers | October 12

The Point Loma Nazarene Singers will lead worship in both the 9:00am and 10:30am services on October 12. Don't miss this special musical experience!

## JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



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

**Nicole Hage, Preschool Director**  
[preschool@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:preschool@pointlomachurch.org)  
619-223-1633 x220

The school year is off to a wonderful start in our newly renovated classrooms! A huge thank you to our dedicated staff for their flexibility and commitment throughout the process, ensuring our students have the best learning environment possible.





# Community Groups

With fall routines starting up again, it's the perfect time to think about adding a community group to your week. We have a number of ministries for adults of all ages and walks of life that meet regularly throughout the year.

## Women's Groups

### Women's Bible Study

TUESDAYS | 9-10:30AM | CHAPEL & ZOOM  
Study the book of Ruth with Pastor Karla.

### MomCo

TUESDAYS | 9:30-11:30AM | ROOM 5  
Moms with young kids gather for friendship, support, and growth. Weeks alternate between community meetings and Bible studies.

### Community Bible Study

THURSDAYS | 10-11:45AM IN-PERSON | 10:15-11:30AM ZOOM  
Interdenominational women's study of Psalms with small groups, lectures, and a program for children.

## Men's Groups

### Monday Morning Men

MONDAYS | 8:00AM | ZOOM  
We are a casual, yet intentional group intended for all men. We meet for virtual coffee and fellowship.

### Men@Work

TUESDAYS | 8:30AM | PARLOR & ZOOM  
Retired men gather for coffee, connection, Bible study, and service projects around the church campus.

### Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS | 5:00PM | PARLOR  
Come read the Word of God with us and find the answers you have been seeking. The Truth is in the Word, and we will find it together!



## Interest Groups

### Faith and Fiction Book Club

ONE TUESDAY A MONTH | 6:30-8:00PM | PARLOR

Book club exploring fiction through faith; upcoming reads: 9/9-A Million Things, 10/14-The Caretaker, 11/18-Signal Fires by Dani Shapiro

### Knitters & Crocheters

SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH | 10AM-12PM | PARLOR

All ages and skill levels welcome; gather for fellowship while creating blankets for ministries near and far.

### Prayer Quilt Ministry

QUILTING: FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

PRAYER: THIRD WEDNESDAY | 9AM | ZOOM

Making prayer quilts for those in need; each knot tied represents a prayer lifted by our church family.

### Release, ReConnect, Restore Yoga

WEDNESDAYS | 12PM | CHAPEL & ZOOM

Restorative yoga for all levels with gentle postures that release tension and renew body and spirit.

## Groups for All Adults

### Sunday Scripture Group

SUNDAYS | 10:15AM | PARLOR

Explore scripture with contemporary resources like The Chosen and The Eyewitness Bible Series to grow in faith together.

### Centering Prayer

THURSDAYS | 6:00-7:00PM | ZOOM

We gather virtually to practice Centering Prayer together and learn more about the practice.



*\*Special Opportunity this Fall\**

### "Hard Feelings" Small Groups

SEPT 28-OCT 26 | MULTIPLE TIMES AND LOCATIONS

This fall as we go through the sermon series "Hard Feelings," these small groups will meet weekly to dive deeper into the themes discussed on Sundays.



**Join a group!**

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



**Visit [pointlomachurch.org/adult](https://pointlomachurch.org/adult) or scan the QR code to explore these and other groups you can be part of!**



## Brick Youth

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

### JOIN IN WEEKLY!

#### YOUTH GROUP

Sunday Nights, 4:30-6:30pm  
Junior High and High  
Schoolers join us on Sunday  
nights to eat, have fun and get  
to know about Jesus!

#### YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday Mornings, 10:30am  
during Chapel service

#### TEEN CENTER

Mondays & Tuesdays  
3:30pm - 5:30pm  
Video games, snacks, & more!  
Upstairs In the Youth Center.

## children & family MINISTRY

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

September 13, 10am-1pm • Bonita Cove

### Church Family Beach Day

#### Church Family Beach Day September 13, 10am-1pm | Bonita Cove

Come enjoy a fun and relaxed day at the beach with our church family! There will be a bounce house, games, safe swimming for kids, and a sandcastle-building contest with prizes. Bring a snack to share, your beach gear, and a friend—we'll have fried chicken, water, and plenty of space to play and connect.

#### Parents' Night Out!

SEPTEMBER 26 • 5:00 - 7:00PM

Pizza & nursery care for kinder and under  
Games & pizza for grades 1-8

[POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER](http://POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER)

#### Parents' Night Out | September 26, 5-7pm

Drop off your kids (grades K on up) in the FLC for dinner and games while you enjoy the night off! Childcare for ages 4 and under is also available. \$10 per family. Register today!



**Mark Your Calendars!**  
**Trunk or Treat | Oct 26**



## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH



# Senior Adult MINISTRY

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

## WELCOME BACK LUNCHEON WITH COWBOY JACK JOHNSON

**Tuesday, September 9, Family Life Center - \$7 at the door**  
**Doors open at 10:00am, Entertainment at 11:00am, Lunch at 12:00pm**

Welcome back friends! This month we will kick-off the season with some country-western music performed by Cowboy Jack Johnson along with a luncheon of beef kabobs, rice, salad, roll and dessert. Join us for fun and fellowship and sign up for upcoming senior events. Bring a friend! RSVP by September 5.

## SHARP HEALTHCARE | NEW NEUROLOGICAL CENTER

**Wednesday, September 17, 11:00am-12:30pm, Family Life Center**

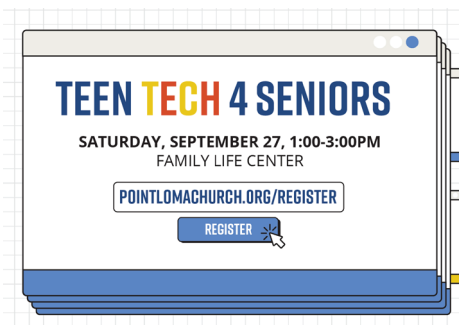
Sharp Grossmont Hospital for Neuroscience is San Diego's first comprehensive center for patients needing advanced neurosurgical, neurological and spine care. For patients with neurological conditions that affect the brain, nerves and spine, the hospital provides specialized inpatient and outpatient care with access to a highly skilled multidisciplinary team. Learn all about this new center by attending this presentation.



## TOUR OF PETCO PARK

**Tuesday, September 23, 11:00am**  
**Depart in church van at 10:30am**

Experience the ballpark as only players and staff do. Led by a tour guide, this historical, behind-the-scenes tour allows guests to experience the ballpark while learning about the history of Petco Park and the San Diego Padres. Tour is 80 minutes long and requires lengthy standing and walking. \$40 per person, pre-payment & registration with Elaine required. Space is limited to 12 participants.



## TEEN TECH FOR SENIORS

**Saturday, September 27, 1:00-3:00pm, Family Life Center**

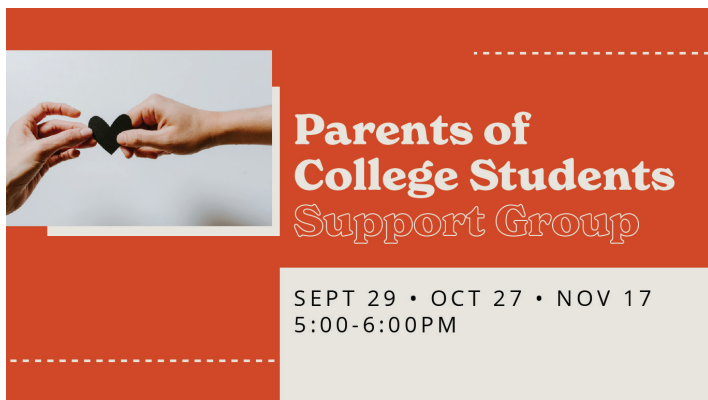
Would you like to become more proficient at using your portable digital device? At this workshop, you will be paired with a friendly, tech-savvy teenager to work with you one-on-one for up to an hour. They can help you troubleshoot basic problems, teach you how to optimize the functions of your device, and adapt it to meet your needs. Reservations required by September 24. When registering, please indicate the type of device you need help with.





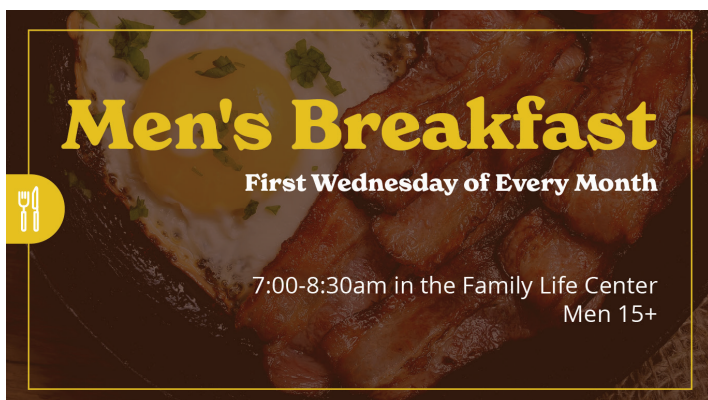
**Prayers & Pints**  
**September 22, 5:00-7:00pm**  
**Coronado Brewing Co**

All Men 21+ are invited to gather with us for fellowship at the Bay Park Coronado Brewing Co. (1205 Knoxville St. 92110). Make sure to invite a couple of friends along!



**Parents of College Students**  
**Support Group**  
**September 29, 5:00-6:00pm | Parlor**

When a child goes away to college, the whole family goes through an adjustment period. At this meeting, we will share joys and concerns, pray for our students and learn about our Deacon college outreach ministry. RSVP to Elaine. Meeting monthly Sept 29, Oct 27, Nov 17.



**Men's Breakfast**  
**October 1, 7:00-8:30am | FLC**

New men's opportunity starting this fall! On the first Wednesday of every month we will be gathering together in the FLC for fellowship, encouraging teaching time as well as a home cooked hearty breakfast! All men, 15 and older, are invited to join us! No registration needed. Just show up ready to eat! Suggested donation \$5. Nov 5 & Dec 3



**Make & Take**  
**October 1, 5:00pm - 7:00pm | FLC**

Join us at this fun craft night where we'll be using pressed fall flowers to create a pair of fall floral votives! This is the perfect project for all skill levels of crafters. All materials will be provided and light refreshments will be served. Childcare is included, and we will have pizza for the kids! Cost is \$15. Questions can be directed to sarah@pointlomachurch.org



**Sign up now!**  
[pointlomachurch.org/register](http://pointlomachurch.org/register)



## JOIN OUR TEAM!

Red Brick Riders

November 8

[POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER](http://POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER)



Calling all bike riders! Join Point Loma Church's team—Red Brick Riders—for Ride the Point, a community bike ride supporting pancreatic cancer research. Choose between a 25-mile ride or a 5-mile family-friendly option. Select "Red Brick Riders" as your team when registering, and use code RTP25RBR for \$10 off the 25-mile ride. Let's ride together for a great cause and fun fellowship!



Join our team!

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

## Deacon's Pancake Breakfast Family Life Center | Sept 21, 9:30am-11:00am

PLCPC Deacons will be serving delicious, homemade pancakes. Proceeds to benefit the Deacon Fund. Come join us for fun, fellowship and a full tummy!



Pancakes cooking on a wood stove at Bill and Millie's cabin in Trinity, CA.

### THE STORY BEHIND THE PANCAKES!

Did you know that our first Deacon Pancake Breakfast debuted a secret recipe developed by Bill and Millie Gallaher, now known as "Millie's Secret Recipe"? As Bill tells the story, Millie's family had a rustic cabin in the mountain wilderness of Trinity County, just east of Redding where Millie and Bill spent time. Millie and Bill would rise early to fell trees and split logs for the fire that would cook their food and heat water for their showers. They needed a hearty breakfast to fuel their labor! So, instead of adding just water to pancake mix, they added eggs, milk and, eventually, applesauce. Millie was a renown cook too, having run her family's breakfast and lunch business in Sacramento as a young girl.

Bill and Millie hosted the first PLCPC Pancake Breakfast on behalf of the Deacons for 10 years, featuring Millie's Secret Recipe. By then Millie was adding a few more ingredients, a little oil, a little spice, while Bill manned the grill, flipping the cakes and turning the sausages. Millie gifted the Deacons her famous recipe, placing it in the Deacon notes, and it is what we make to this day.

Suanne Pearson passed away on August 5, 2025. A memorial service will be held on September 20, 2025 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Karla Shaw will be officiating.



## SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER FLOWER DONATIONS

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



### SEPTEMBER 7

by Kathleen McKnight in loving support for her Sacramento grandchildren: Bee, Elizabeth, Benjamin and Joanna McKnight.

### SEPTEMBER 14

By Bill Gallaher in loving memory of his wife, Mildred Keyes Gallaher  
And, in loving memory of my dear Linda, by Fred Daughtery.

### SEPTEMBER 21

By Kathleen McKnight in joyful celebration of the birthday of her grand-daughter Ava Kathleen McDonald.

And, by Merrie Friberg Shinn in loving memory of her daughter, Barbara, Tom her husband of 50 years and her mother, Grace.

### SEPTEMBER 28

By Jean and Carl Federici in loving memory of their parents Norman & Anna Green and Frank & Jean Federici.

### OCTOBER 5

By Tyler and Susan Cramer with endless gratitude, in loving memory of their parents, Ed and Donnie Cramer and Bob and Margaret Wybel, and Susan's brother Richard Wybel

And, by Diana Holman in loving memory of her first husband Bill and son Ben Stephens.

### OCTOBER 12

By Dimi Michalek to honor Art Michalek and Martha Jane Howe as well as my parents' anniversary.

And, in loving memory of Pat and Howard Wygle by his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

### OCTOBER 19

By the Leimbach Family in loving memory of their "Uncle John", Godfather and dear friend.

And, by Michele Marcus in memory of loved ones called Home, husband Dick Marcus, mother Mabel Fackler and sister Dorothy Fackler Bibeault.

### OCTOBER 26

By Linda and Jim Zemcik in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary.

And, in loving memory of our parents Jane and Homer MacVean and Marion and Russell Wollemann and our brother LT. Stephen S. MacVean, USN.



Highlights from the Back-to-School BBQ!





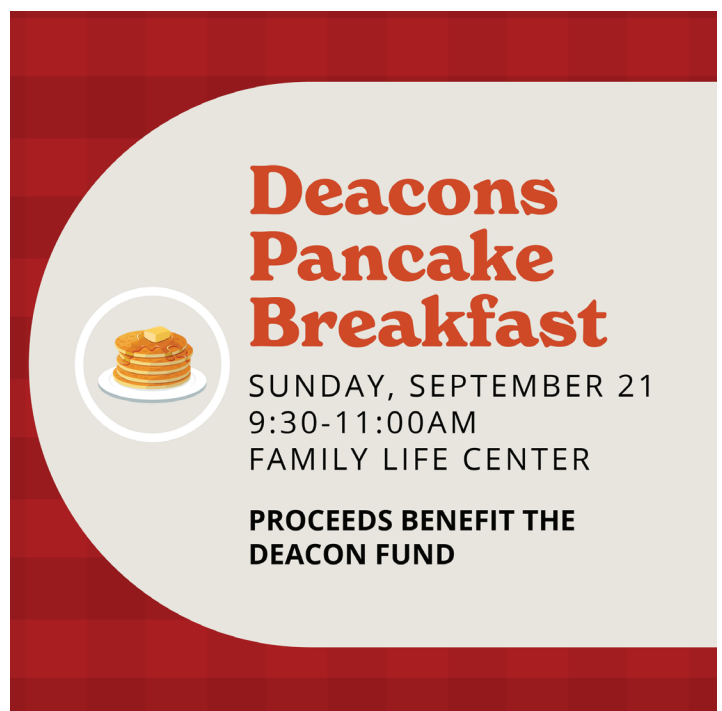
## COMING UP

A poster for 'Hard Feelings Small Groups' with a background of overlapping, colorful, curved bands in shades of blue, green, and red. The text is white and blue.


**HARD FEELINGS  
SMALL GROUPS**

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 26

 **SCAN HERE TO REGISTER  
FOR A GROUP!**

A poster for 'Deacons Pancake Breakfast' with a red background and a large white circle containing the text and a pancake illustration.

**Deacons  
Pancake  
Breakfast**

A small illustration of a stack of pancakes with a pat of butter on top, inside a white circle.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21  
9:30-11:00AM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE  
DEACON FUND**