

Spire

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A note from Pastor Karla

In the month of February, the season of Lent begins. While we are not always a liturgical church, we do mark this particular season as a sacred one to prepare our hearts for Resurrection Sunday. What this really means is that church life can look very different from life outside the church. As Lent is not meant to rush us forward, as most of the rest of life does, but to gently slow us down. For forty days, we walk with Jesus toward the cross, learning again what it means to trust God more deeply and love more faithfully.

In that respect, Lent can be compared to the changing of the seasons in nature. This corresponds to our Lent sermon series this year entitled "Deep Work". In early spring, a gardener prunes branches that seem lifeless or overgrown. At first, the garden may look sparse and uncomfortable, even barren. Yet the pruning is not an act of loss—it is an act of hope. It makes room for new growth, stronger roots, and richer fruit. In much the same way, Lent invites us to allow God to gently prune our lives. That might happen through the removal of habits that distract us, attitudes that harden us, or handing over burdens we were never meant to carry alone. Through worship, small group conversation, and acts of service in this season, if we choose to participate (emphasis on the word "choose") we make room in our lives for God to do this "Deep Work" within us.

What will you choose this Lenten season?

As we journey together through these next weeks, may we all discover with fresh eyes that God meets us not only on Easter morning, but in every step that leads us to the cross.



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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Holiday Office Closures

Presidents' Day: Feb 13-16



Read this online!
pointlomachurch.org/spire-newsletter



Sign up for our weekly email newsletter!
Pointlomachurch.org

Our Vision

Loving *everyone* to *LIFE* with *everything* we have.

Our Mission

Through authentic community, we seek to *experience* Jesus, *journey* into deeper faith, *strengthen* the Church, and *transform* our world.

Values

We are a good home.
We are intergenerational.
We inspire engagement.

Inside this issue!



ANNUAL REPORT

2025

CHURCH NEWS

Session Highlights

DECEMBER 2025 MEETING | JOHN SPAFFORD, CLERK

Each year the Session's last meeting features the examination of the next class of elders. Pastor Karla Shaw noted the importance of this "peaceful transfer of power" as she introduced Deacon-elect Denny Dertien, and Elders-elect John Brand, Ken Bertino, Carolyn Griesemer, Joyce Pritchett, Joanne Simmons, and Jeanie Spies. The elders had attended Pastor Karla's training, presented a statement of faith, and were questioned by the Session. All were confirmed as the Elder's Class of 2028, and warmly greeted. Current Elder Amy Radonich was also confirmed in her continuing two-year service extension.

Much of the meeting was devoted to reviewing church finances and budgeting. Finance Chair Radonich remarked, "We're doing great!" She presented the preliminary 2026 church budget and spent some time discussing coming adjustments and challenges as we complete the renovation and enter into a new financial environment.

Radonich provided more information on financing the proposed solar electric system, and Facilities Chair Elder Lou Suter reported that his survey showed that other churches with solar installations were "ecstatic" with their performance.

The meeting concluded with Pastor Karla's heartfelt appreciation of the service of the departing elders: Debbie Fountain, Martha Lenocker, Whitney Skala, and Marty Smith. All rose to thank these good and faithful servants.

EXPERIENCE JESUS



Earthwise Podcast

We are back with a new podcast series to complement our Sunday sermon teaching, Earthwise: God's Call to Care for Creation. We are inviting professionals from our community to share from their experience and explore how environmental stewardship is an act of justice, discipleship, and hope in Christ. Episodes are available on all streaming platforms and on YouTube @ PointLomaChurchOnline



**LISTEN
TO THE
PODCAST!**



Annual Congregational Meeting | Feb 8, 10:30am

Our Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 8. There will be ONE combined worship service at 9:30am in the Sanctuary and on livestream. The meeting will begin immediately after worship. For those in person, we will have a BBQ lunch together after the meeting (and well-before the Big Game!).

Purpose of the Meeting: Review the 2025 Clerk's Report, review the 2025 finances, vote on the Session-approved 2026 Church Budget, vote on the Pastor's Terms of Call, vote on a loan application for a solar project, elect the 2026 Congregational Nominating Committee and receive the 2025 annual report.



Church Campus Closed Feb 13-16 No Worship Services Feb 15

The Session, our governing Board of Elders, has given this intentional pause to our church and preschool staff for a well-deserved rest after a year-long renovation. The church campus will be closed February 13-16 for all church and preschool business, including Sunday worship. On Sunday, February 15, we encourage you to gather in nature. You could take a hike, do a beach clean up, or sit outside and listen to the Earthwise podcast (pointlomachurch.org/podcast).



DEEP WORK

LENT AT POINT LOMA CHURCH



ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

DEEP WORK SERMON SERIES

Sundays, February 22-April 5

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

MIDWEEK REFLECTION

Wednesdays, February 25 – March 25, 6:00–7:15pm

In person & online

Reflect on the Lent theme with others

EASTER CHOIR

Begins February 19 | Rehearsals Thursdays, 7:00–8:00pm

Lead worship on Easter Sunday

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

February 18 | Available at pointlomachurch.org/children

“Lent Through the Senses” for kids ages 4–11 and parents

FOOD DRIVE

February 18–April 3

Donate non-perishable food and hygiene items for our unhoused neighbors

QUIET DAY

March 28

A guided experience embracing silence and reflection



START LENT TOGETHER

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 7:00 pm Sanctuary & Livestream

Worship, communion, and imposition of ashes

Special Kids & Youth Worship (ages 4–14)

Nursery care available (ages 4 & under)

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY & EASTERFEST | MARCH 29

Simultaneous 9:00am worship services followed by a community celebration

LENT ART SHOW | APRIL 1 & 2

Artworks by our community members on display in the Chapel

MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 2

6pm dinner in FLC followed by worship service in Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 3

12-2pm pilgrimage reflection with OB peninsula faith communities



EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5

9:00am and 11:00am
Sanctuary & Livestream

Learn more, sign up, or donate: pointlomachurch.org/lent

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



Red Brick Preschool
redbrickpreschool.com

Nicole Hage, Preschool Director
preschool@pointlomachurch.org
619-223-1633 x220

Registration for the 2026–2027 school year opens in January. Priority registration will be offered in the following order:

Jan 26:

Active PLCPC members

Jan 28:

Families with children currently enrolled in Extended Care

Jan 30:

Families with children currently enrolled in Preschool

Feb 2:

Families with a child who has an alumni sibling

Feb 3:

Families on the waitlist will be contacted for remaining openings

Youth

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



Youth Girls Night
February 6, 5-9pm

Junior high and high school girls—you're invited! Join hosts Haley Courtney and Heather Milligan for an evening of fun, creativity, and self-care. We'll be making friendship bracelets, creating vision boards, and enjoying time together to relax and recharge. The night is totally free—so be sure to bring a friend along!

YOUTH SUPERBOWL PARTY • FEBRUARY 8, 3:30PM-7:00PM

Super Bowl party for all Junior High and High School kids in the Youth room

JOIN IN WEEKLY!

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday Mornings, 10:30am during Chapel service

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!

TEEN CENTER

Mondays & Tuesdays, 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Video games, snacks, & more! Upstairs In the Youth Center.

SAVE THE DATE!

Youth Summer Camp, June 25-29

children & family MINISTRY

Sarah Butterfield, Director of Children & Family Ministry

sarah@pointlomachurch.org | 619-223-1633 x215

Ash Wednesday Kids' Service | Feb 18


This year for our Kids' Ash Wednesday Service, we'll be creating a "Big Collaborative Path to the Cross." Each child will add their own footprint (decorated with a simple prayer or drawing) to a large path we build together down the center of the room. Once the path is complete, every child will have the opportunity to walk down it and receive ashes for Ash Wednesday at the cross. This activity is for kids ages 4-14 (Kindergarten through middle school) in the FLC. Nursery care for 4 and under is also available. No registration necessary.

"Lent Through the Senses" Family Devotional

Designed for children ages 4-11 and their parents, this weekly Lenten resource focuses on experiencing God's love through sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell. Each devotion includes a brief Bible story and an optional, hands-on practice that fits naturally into family life. This resource will be available for download at pointlomachurch.org/lent starting the week of Ash Wednesday!


Great Big Bible Walkthrough Celebration | Feb 22, 10-10:30am | FLC

Everyone is invited to celebrate the completion of our Sunday morning curriculum! We'll have cake and juice and an optional Bible craft to mark the occasion.



Parents' Night Out!
FEBRUARY 6 • 5:00 - 7:00PM
Pizza & nursery care for kinder and under
Games & pizza for grades 1-8
POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER

Register by
Feb 3!



Parents Night Out February 6, 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.

June 8-12

VBS 2026

Summer Day Camp for Kids Grades K - 5

Register by April 3

pointlomachurch.org/register



VBS | June 8-12 Registration Open!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a summer day camp for children in grades TK-5th grade that educates them about God in a fun and engaging way. This year we are stepping through the mist into Rainforest Falls! Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

Register a Camper



Sign up to Volunteer



STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH



Senior Adult MINISTRY

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



GET INVOLVED WITH THE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY WITH ONE OF OUR MONTHLY EVENTS!

Monthly Luncheons with Entertainment

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month we have a luncheon with entertainment. For luncheons doors open at 10:30am, music begins at 11:00am. Lunch served at 12:00pm, \$7 donation is requested at the door as well as an RSVP by the Friday before event.

Monthly Health & Educational Lectures

Every 3rd Wednesday at 12:00pm in the Family Life Center we have lectures in partnership with community agencies on a wide range of topics.

Upcoming Events

LUNCHEON

VALENTINE LUNCHEON

Tuesday, February 10, Family Life Center - \$7 at the door

Doors Open at 10:00am, Entertainment at 11:00am, Lunch at 12:00pm

Valentine Luncheon featuring Deirdre Sullivan, Lutenist. Menu: Lemon herb pasta with chicken, salad and dessert. RSVP by Feb 6.

LECTURE

WRITE OUT LOUD - STORIES FOR SENIORS

Wednesday, February 18, 11:00-12:00pm in the Family Life Center

Stories for Seniors brings literature to life through a professional actor reading aloud a selection of short stories, poems, or interesting articles. Join us for an entertaining hour that is sure to inspire! Light refreshments provided. Reserve your spot today.

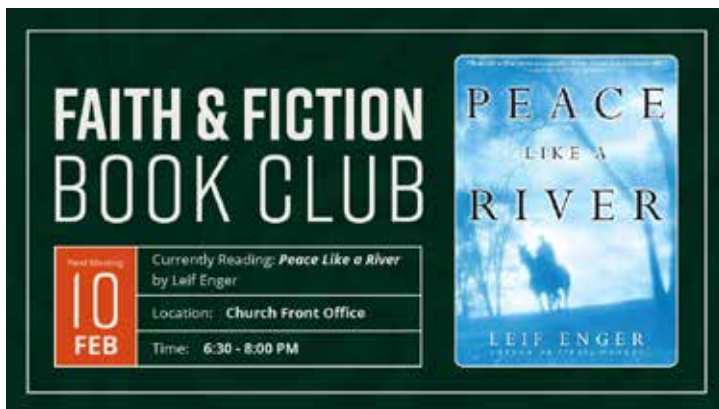
OTHER OFFERINGS

COFFEE ON THE PORCH

hosted by Senior Adult Ministry
February 22, 10-10:30am

TOUR OF AMAZON FULFILLMENT CENTER

**February 25, Depart in Church van at
9:30am, space is limited**



Faith and Fiction Book Club Feb 10 & Mar 17, 6:30 - 8:00pm

On the second Tuesday of the month we dive into fiction and explore 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 meet in the church front office. February's book: *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger. March's book: *I See You've Called in Dead* by John Kenney.

Men's Fellowship



Men's Breakfast | 1st Wed of the Month 7:00-8:30am | FLC | Feb 4

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 ages 15 and older are invited to join us! No registration needed. Just show up ready to eat!

Women's Fellowship




Wine, Women, & Word February 25, 5-7pm

This is a time of relaxed fellowship, meeting new women and fun conversation. We meet every other month with our first one of the year on February 25. The following gatherings will be on April 21, June 17, August 19 and November 18, so mark your calendars and register for our next gathering by February 22.

Contact Jean Federici at jrgfederic@gmail.com with any questions. Hope you can join!





Deacons Pancake Breakfast
SUNDAY, MARCH 8
9:30-11:00AM
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE DEACON FUND

Deacon's Pancake Breakfast
March 8, 9:30am-11:00am | FLC

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



JANUARY & FEBRUARY 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...

JANUARY 4

By Mark and Carlene Albrecht in loving memory of Richie Albrecht.

JANUARY 11

By Ruth Palma and family in loving memory of her husband and their father and grandfather, Charlie Palma.

JANUARY 18

By Kathleen McKnight in joyful celebration of the birthday of her granddaughter Hailey Ann McDonald.

JANUARY 25

In celebration of the women's retreat.

FEBRUARY 1

By John Boaz in loving memory of his wife Marianne and her mother Mary Fisk.

FEBRUARY 8

In loving memory of Carolyn T. Meredith and Joel Calhoun by her family.

FEBRUARY 22

In honor of Dianne Grafton's birthday, and in memory of Bruce Jackson's (84) and Dottie Orr's (96) on February 20th by Robert Tripp Jackson.

And, in loving memory of Scody Hage on his first Heavenly Birthday by Bonnie, Will, Nicole, Rylie and Ryan.



Help provide church decorations! On Easter Sunday, our sanctuary is decorated with glorious spring flowers to enhance our worship celebrations.

Scan the QR code to donate Easter flowers or visit pointlomachurch.org/lent

LIFE EVENTS

Arlene Simpson passed away on December 28, 2025. A memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 10am. Pastor Karla will be officiating. A reception will follow immediately in the Family Life Center.

Vivienne Hale passed away at age 103 on December 31, 2025. Services are pending.

Fran Golden passed away on January 23, 2026. Services are pending.



ANNUAL REPORT

2025

NOTE FROM PASTOR KARLA

Every January I sit down to reflect on the previous year at PLCPC, and when I do, I am always overwhelmed with gratitude. We have such a unique church family-- a group of believers from all walks of life just trying to live out the vision God has given us to *Love Everyone to LIFE with Everything we Have*. We are a community that reaches toward that vision, we plan for that vision, and sometimes in that reaching and planning we succeed while other times we fail. Yet, in the end God continues to remain faithful by our attempts to love more.

We started out 2025 in the theme of *Choosing Unity*--what an important phrase to try to emulate in such a bifurcated world. This theme guided us to pray for other churches during Lent as we practiced different spiritual disciplines. We also, for the first time in decades, participated in a Good Friday pilgrimage with other churches on the Point. It certainly has been a year of gathering!

Unity isn't the only important word this past year though. Flexibility has also been an important theme for all of us as we have watched our campus transform throughout the renovation. While it is taking longer than expected, this summer we celebrated the opening of six of our new preschool classrooms while expanding care for infants. What a gift to see this place come alive! Continuing into the fall, we have been reminded that we are all *Divinely Designed*. Through sermons, service, small groups, podcasts, and gatherings of all shapes, sizes, and ages, we continue to be a community that seeks to care for the Divine spark in every single person. This is no small task, but it is always meaningful to experience life flourishing.

As you read through this year's Annual Report, please remember that behind every number is a life impacted by our ministry together. This is our work in Christ. The best part is that one life impacted has ripple effects around the world. Thanks be to God for the life flowing through Point Loma Church!

EXPERIENCE JESUS

Experience Jesus is the invitation to encounter the living Lord through worship services, music and the visual arts.

The Experience Jesus Mission Group has the privilege of curating three unique worship services each Sunday - in addition to any special services that happen throughout the year. Although styles and format may vary from the Sanctuary, Chapel and Online environments, certain liturgical elements like communion and confession are present in each space. This mission group coordinates all aspects of worship from the ushers, to musical selections, to sermon series and even the preparation of the communion elements and scheduling the Elders to help lead in worship.

The Sanctuary service during 2025 enjoyed an Intergenerational Choir, wonderful soloists and our cherished New Covenant Choir, Ensemble and Bell Choirs. The Chapel Worship Service continued to see new attendees every week from a wide variety of backgrounds. The approachability of the worship environment, upbeat music and friendly community served many new attendees. Our attendance at our in-person services increased by 10% year over year.

Many of the new attendees have also referenced that they first engaged with Point Loma Church online before coming in person. The Online Worship Service continued to morph in both variety and format and created new content to attract new visitors. Some of these offerings included the Revelation Podcast, Divinely Designed Devotional, the Hard Feelings Podcast, and music videos.

In addition to the varied musical genres presented in the Sunday worship services, the Music Ministry celebrated two wonderful concerts for the community - Bryan and Friends in August and the annual Christmas Concert for the community in December. A Concert Committee was formed this past year to assist in the fundraising and logistics for concerts. They are looking forward to supporting the *1776 Musical* coming in the summer of 2026.

The Visual Arts Ministry hosted a *Choosing Unity* mural workshop in February for the broader Point Loma community. They also developed a Lent Artshow around the Lord's Prayer sermon series, hosted a hands-on workshop for the *Summer in the Psalms* and held an Art Therapy workshop to complement the *Hard Feelings* sermon series.

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH

Journey into Deeper Faith fosters the ongoing faith formation of people from seekers to committed Christ-followers and leaders at all stages of life; from children, families, youth and adults.

The Journey Into Deeper Faith Mission group hosted several outreach events for the community throughout the year including EasterFest held on Palm Sunday, the Back to School BBQ, Trunk or Treat and Red Brick Christmas. In addition to the family events, every week our Youth Ministry partners with the YMCA to host a Teen Center where kids can hang out after school. All of these functions bring hundreds of new smiling faces on the campus. This mission group aims to help everyone who comes onto our campus learn about Jesus and take next steps in their faith journey.

Preschool

The Preschool had a very active year with masterfully moving children and teaching supplies to accommodate the renovation. This included setting up three temporary classrooms in half of the Family Life Center. The staff did a tremendous job communicating with parents and pitching in wherever needed to create inspiring spaces for the kids to learn. Forty children graduated from our program in May followed by VBS and summer camps. In August, the newly renovated classrooms were ready for the new school year to start - complete with a new playground. This renovation allowed for an expansion of the infant program from 8 infants to 20!

The Children's Ministry averaged 27 kids in attendance across Sunday services, where they learned about God through the "Great Big Bible Walkthrough" curriculum.

- We also served 90 families during the week of VBS, and trained 43 youth volunteers.
- We provided several opportunities for intergenerational fellowship with three Make and Take craft nights, and seven Family Jams.
- An average of eight moms attended weekly MomCo and MomCo Bible studies, deepening relationships with each other.
- Faith and Fiction Book Club continues to meet on a monthly basis to discuss how the characters and plots relate to our faith.

There were also two new ways we supported parents this past year. During Lent, Sarah Butterfield and Ryan Silvia hosted a podcast for parents that adapted the Lent curriculum for families. This fall, during the *Hard Feelings* series, they hosted an interactive parent workshop to equip parents to help their children handle big feelings.

Youth

The Youth Ministry has seen significant growth this past year! On Sunday mornings the students met during the Chapel Service and averaged 12 kids per week. Then on Sunday nights, Youth Group with different teaching and community building time averaged 16 students per week. Haley Courtney started a Youth Band, made up of the students, which performed at both services on Youth Sunday. The Teen Center also exploded and averaged 25 kids on Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

Adult Discipleship

In 2025, we brought back the tradition of meeting in homes and smaller community groups. During Lent, 173 people met in groups to try various spiritual practices intended to be a practice of *Choosing Unity*. This was so successful that the home group concept was brought back in the fall to coordinate with the *Hard Feelings* sermon series. Many of the ongoing groups and bible studies continued to meet this past year, such as Sunday Scripture Groups, Men's and Women's Bible Studies, Men at Work, as well as seasonal offerings.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

The Strengthen the Church Mission Group builds our community through gatherings of authentic fellowship and seeks to care for the needs of people through ministries of prayer and care.

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Mission Group includes several ministry teams all working to build community through fellowship, service to others and caring for the needs of people through compassionate ministries and prayer. During 2025, we continued many of our long-standing traditions, such as annual retreats and dinners for men and women. Senior Adult Ministry continued to offer a variety of enriching programs including monthly luncheons, educational lectures, outings and experiences, attracting younger seniors, church members and non-members alike. Weekly Coffee on the Porch gatherings were coordinated by STC and hosted by elders, staff and new members. Our loving Memorial Guild provided beautiful receptions following memorial services.

Highlights of 2025 Endeavors Include:

- Seventy people of all ages gathered in the Chapel on a Friday evening to view the *Chronicles of Narnia* movie, *The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe*, which coordinated with the advent sermon series and was offered as an introduction to C.S. Lewis's work.
- In October 2025, Session approved an initiative focused on communication and fellowship. Updating contact information of all members in our Simple Church database and creating a new church directory in 2026 are ongoing projects for winter and spring 2026.

- Our Prayer Chain Ministry, combined with the efforts of the Prayer Quilt Ministry, provided an abundance of opportunities for congregants to answer God's call to pray. During 2025, 140 prayer requests were sent to over 230 prayer partners. Additionally, the 25 members of our Quilt Ministry created 67 new quilts. Hundreds of knots were tied and loving prayers were offered for those receiving the beautiful quilts.
- The Knitting Ministry completed various projects and donated them to New Day Urban ministries.
- The first annual *Tree of Life* reception was held in September, honoring 18 individuals. Each new leaf was dedicated and then added to the branches of our growing trees in the Family Life Center.
- 46 people participated in Grief support programming
- A fun intergenerational picnic was held in June. Families and seniors enjoyed fellowship through games and boat rides on Mission Bay.
- We participated in the annual Ride the Point bike ride as a community outreach event. Wearing PLCPC shirts, bike riders of all ages supported pancreatic cancer research. An information booth about PLCPC and breakfast burritos were provided by a STC committee.

Deacons

Deacons are called to a ministry of compassion, witness and service. At PLCPC, the Board of Deacons is also affiliated with the Strengthen the Church Ministry Group.

In 2025 the Board of Deacons was comprised of 18 deacons. They focused on enriching existing deacon ministries while developing others to provide a more comprehensive program of congregational care:

- A Red Brick Visitors ministry was developed to share Christ's love with church members who are unable to attend church due to age, illness or temporary disability. Regular visits by trained deacons maintained relationships with the church community.
- The Love Meals ministry was revived to provide meals to those in our family of faith who are experiencing significant life events, both celebratory and difficult.
- A Forever Deacons ministry was established to augment the human resources of the Board of Deacons and to allow inactive deacons the opportunity to remain involved in selected aspects of deacon ministry.

In addition to these endeavors, the Deacons continued to express caring and build community through the following activities:

- Delivering 256 flower bouquets
- Sending 347 greeting cards
- Offering long-term bereavement support to 17 individuals
- Maintaining contact with 26 post-secondary youth through care packages and cards
- Greeting visitors and congregants at worship every Sunday throughout the year
- Hosting two Pancake Breakfast fellowship events that served over 300 individuals
- Purchasing individual Gospel of Matthew booklets for Vacation Bible School participants so each child could have a personal copy to use in memorization and other activities
- Designating funds for furnishings, fixtures and equipment for the new café space being created in the renovation project

TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Transform Our World reaches out to the world with the Gospel of Christ through mission, sheltering, and community service within and beyond our walls.

In 2025, we have been blessed to witness God at work through the generosity, faithfulness, and compassionate action of our congregation.

Mission Partnerships and Global Outreach

This year, TOWMG allocated over **\$91,500** to support local, regional, and international mission partners, including **Genesis Diaz, Loaves & Fishes, Together for the Family (Lebanon), Haitian Outreach Ministries, Children's Heritage Foundation, New Day Urban Ministry, Plant With Purpose, Peninsula Shepherd Center, Military Outreach Ministries, and Uplift San Diego**. We also supported individual mission trips, including Naomi Hernandez's journey to **South Korea**. Updates from our partners highlighted the tangible impact of our congregation's prayers, gifts and time.

Sheltering and Housing Ministries

TOWMG continued to support those in need of safe housing. The Venezuelan family we previously sheltered moved successfully into an apartment, with the children beginning school and the family pursuing asylum and employment. We also prayerfully engaged with the **Interfaith Shelter** and began planning ways to expand care for unhoused neighbors. A future initiative, **Anchor Station Point Loma**, is under consideration to provide practical services—such as mail, laundry and basic support—for unhoused neighbors, with volunteer participation to be developed as the project moves forward.

Hands-On Congregational Service

Our congregation's generosity was evident through multiple hands-on ministries. The **Lenten Food Drive** raised nearly **\$3,000** and collected multiple carloads of food for local partners. The **Summer Mission Drive** collected backpacks, socks and bus passes for students and families in need. Recently, we coordinated the **Military Outreach Ministries Christmas Toy Store**, providing toys to **68 families in the lower pay grades of the U.S. military**, raising nearly **\$10,000** to support these families.

Church members also contributed time and talent to local ministries, volunteering with **Ladle Ministries, Loaves & Fishes Food Bank, the Point-in-Time Count of the Unhoused, Uplift tutoring and mentoring, and New Day Urban Ministries**. These efforts exemplify our commitment to *Love Everyone to LIFE with Everything we Have*.

Intergenerational and Volunteer Engagement

The **Rancho Genesis intergenerational mission trip** in July brought together 18 participants, from children to older adults, for a week of service, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Volunteers of all ages continue to make a difference through local outreach and hands-on support across multiple ministries.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support includes Personnel, Facilities, Finance (including our budget/accounting, stewardship, audit, and endowment), and overall operations for church administration.

Personnel Highlights

- Successful hiring of new bookkeeper, allowing Sharon Taylor to retire.
- Strategized solution for maintenance staff and cleaning services; contracted services with The Maintenance Company after more than three decades of partnership were terminated due to their business downsizing.

- A Staff Review/Restructure Task Force, formed by the Session at the end of 2024, continued their work to align our staff structure with the church's mission. This work is expected to be fully complete in 2026 and will complement the Session re-structure which has already been fully implemented.

Facilities Highlights

Our Facilities team has a punch list of items around our campus that range from safety issues to cosmetic issues. Led by Elders Lou Suter and Michael Huff, and in collaboration with Jolene Wade, the list includes details about the estimated costs, and recommended solutions. One of the items on that list was to prepare and repaint the columns at the front entrance to the Sanctuary. Our facilities team was also on site this past year for pipe issues, floods from the rains and other plans for improvements after the renovation is complete. We are so grateful for all the work of this committee, as well as the Men@Work team that addresses some of the important, but more manageable items on this list!

Finance

The Finance Committee is pleased to report that the 2024 audit was completed and finalized in late 2025. This is hard work from our Audit team and we are grateful for their service. The Finance Committee is also responsible for monitoring the Gen2Gen capital campaign spending for available cash. They have also ensured that the required right-of-way costs and any construction loan needs are addressed effectively. This past year a new structure was created on the Finance Committee - the Chair and Treasurer have now been combined into one position and we have a new Investment Advisor. We continue to be grateful to this congregation for their faithful giving to both the operations of the church, and the Gen2Gen Capital Campaign. It is astounding what God has done in these past years.

Building

It was a milestone for our church to break ground for the renovation of our Education Buildings on Sunday, January 12, 2025. On that day, we walked the grounds and prayed over the classrooms that have served the spiritual lives of thousands of adults and children since the inception of our church. Due to a delay in permitting at the beginning of the project, we were not able to complete Phase One as anticipated, but we were able to open six of eight new Preschool classrooms in August just in time for the start of the school year. As a result of Phase One, we now have a dedicated Preschool entrance to the campus, a beautiful teacher Resource Room on the second level, infant specific spaces, and a more eye-catching playground in the Children's Courtyard.

While Phase One of the project was challenging logistically due to having to work around our existing Preschool, Phase Two of the project has been far more challenging from a construction standpoint. In Phase Two, a portion of the middle 1940's Education Building was demolished to open up our campus and make room for an elevator to the second floor. Since we do not have written plans for this old building, many problems have been uncovered in the stripping of the walls and floors. While we are now back to rebuilding, the discoveries have pushed the end date of this project beyond the first quarter of 2026 into the second quarter. Regardless of when the renovation ends, we are grateful for the support of everyone in our church community and beyond! Through your financial generosity, it seems we will not need to tap into our construction loan as most of the funding has been received. We look forward to envisioning ministry in these new spaces for years to come!

COMING UP

SABBATH SUNDAY

CHURCH CAMPUS CLOSED FEB 13-16
NO WORSHIP FEB 15

The church campus will be closed February 13-16 for all church and preschool business, including Sunday worship. On Sunday, February 15, we encourage you to gather in nature. You could take a hike, do a beach clean up, or sit outside and listen to the Earthwise podcast.



pointlomachurch.org/podcast



VBS June 8-12

Summer Day Camp for Kids Grades TK - 5



Register a Camper

