

Spire

Published
2 Aug 2026

Vol. 35
No. 6

A note from Pastor Karla

For the last couple months, much of the world had its eyes fixed on the World Cup. Nations gathered, stadiums roared, millions watched as players took the field with hope, determination, and the dream of accomplishing something greater than themselves. What made the World Cup so captivating wasn't just the competition—it was the possibility that existed before every match. Each time a team hit the field the action was preceded by hope. Would their commitment, preparation, and teamwork allow them to achieve their shared goal? Spain had the ultimate victory, but there were many other winners on the field this summer.

As our church enters a new ministry season, that spirit of commitment and preparation serves as a helpful illustration for our life together. While our mission is far different from winning a soccer match, we too are stepping into a season filled with anticipation and purpose. Every ministry, every volunteer, every worship service, every act of compassion, and every invitation to a neighbor is part of God's work among us. Each of us has a role to play, and together we become something far greater than we could ever be alone.

This fall season is particularly exciting as we look ahead to utilizing our renovated church building within a new staff structure. Like a team preparing to play on a new field, we are preparing for new opportunities to Experience Jesus, Journey into Deeper Faith, Strengthen the Church, and Transform our World. The building itself is not the goal—it is a tool that will help us live out our calling more faithfully and allow us to share Christ's love with even more people.

So just as the World Cup reminded us, let us move forward together with excitement, gratitude, and confidence, trusting that the greatest goal set before us are more lives transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ. Let's go, PLCPC!



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
Experience Jesus	3
Journey Into Deeper Faith	4
Strengthen the Church	7
Transform Our World	8
New Members Bios	9
Life Events & Flowers	10
Staff & Session Info	11



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.

Facilities Update

Here are a few recent and upcoming facilities updates. First, we're excited to share that the Chapel received brand-new carpet, which was installed on July 8.

You may have noticed in our renovated buildings that the doors and windows were not replaced, that is because we have received funding through the Quieter Non-Residential Program to replace these items, as well as our HVAC systems in the Fall of 2027. While we may have to live with old hinges and hot spaces for a while longer, we are grateful for the airport providing these necessary items to us for the future.

Looking ahead, you'll also see progress on our solar project. The planning process is well underway, the panels have been delivered, and installation is the next step.

Session Highlights

JULY 22, 2026 SESSION MEETING | JOHN SPAFFORD, CLERK

At the mid-summer meeting of Session, the elders took time to catch up on many on-going church-wide projects. They included:

- The solar electric collection system scheduled to begin installation in August, while the Red Brick Preschool is on hiatus. This project will affect most areas of the campus.
- Gen-to-Gen Renovation completion. The punch list will be completed in August, and additional work not on the renovation contractor's list will be addressed with remaining funds.
- Next steps on the staff restructuring program were discussed.
- Session took a look back at the 1776 musical.

At the meeting's conclusion the elders prayed for many in the congregation who are having health and other challenges.



The graphic features a background image of a church interior with people. On the left, a white steeple icon is next to the text "Discover Our Community" in large white font, with "IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM" in smaller text below it. At the bottom left, it says "Sept 13 & 20, 12:00 pm". On the right, there is a QR code in a white box and a blue circle with the text "register today" in white.

Discover Our Community Class

SEPT 13 & 20, 12:00-1:30 PM

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.

Hello!

Bring your
name tag! 😊

Bring Your Own Name Tag

If you store your name tag at church, please pick it up throughout August and then bring it with you to worship going forward.

EXPERIENCE JESUS



Music Ministry

SPONSOR THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Music Ministry is a vibrant part of how Point Loma Church serves both our congregation and our community. Throughout the year, it enriches worship, nurtures musicians of all ages, and fills our campus with beauty, creativity, and joy. From children's music classes that help young musicians build confidence to choirs and worship bands that create meaningful community, the Music Ministry provides opportunities for people to discover and share their gifts. Its outstanding concerts are a cherished tradition, making exceptional orchestral and choral music accessible to our neighbors while offering a welcoming doorway into the life of the church. Through every rehearsal, performance, and worship service, the Music Ministry helps people encounter God's presence in powerful and lasting ways.

If you would like to be a part of supporting the Music Ministry continuing to bless our community in these ways, please consider sponsoring the Christmas Concert. Scan the QR code or visit pointlomachurch.org/give to support.



Participate in the Fall Art Show

We invite you to submit original artwork for the upcoming visual arts showcase, *Come and See: Shaped by Place*. Inspired by the invitation of Jesus in John 1, this exhibit explores the landscapes, places, and experiences that have shaped our faith and lives. The exhibition will be on display starting in October, and we would love for you to be a part of it! Visit pointlomachurch.org/music-arts for theme details, submission guidelines, and important deadlines.

Upcoming Choir Opportunities

Express and grow your musical gifts while building community with these Choir opportunities. For more information, contact Alicia McMillan, alicia@pointlomachurch.org



Summer Ensemble AUG 30

Join in leading worship. Rehearsal is that Sunday mornings at 8:00am. Contact alicia@pointlomachurch.org to receive music listening links for rehearsal.



New Covenant Choir STARTING SEPT 3 | REHEARSALS THURSDAYS, 7:00-9:00PM

The New Covenant Choir performs at the 9:00am service each Sunday. We also pre-record hymns and special music for our online service. No experience needed!



Christmas Concert Choir STARTING OCT 1 | REHEARSALS THURSDAYS, 7:00-9:00PM

Sing in our annual Christmas Concert with a chamber orchestra on December 6 at 5:00pm and 7:00pm.



Vocal Health Workshop SEPT 19

You're invited to a free group voice lesson and choral workshop with a guest vocal expert—an uplifting experience to build vocal skills, explore musical styles, and grow in faith through music.

Register



JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH

Youth

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

As we soak up the last bits of the summer, join us for a beach day in Ocean Beach on Aug 9 and Youth Group End of Summer Party on Aug 30. Let us know you're coming to the End of Summer Party and get the details - **Scan the QR code!**



children & family MINISTRY

Sarah Butterfield, Director of Children & Family Ministry

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



MomCo Playdate in the Park | August 4, 9:30am

Come join us at the Liberty Station playground! We'll be there with bubbles, snacks, and information about MomCo. Bring a mom friend!

MomCo starts meeting regularly again on August 11. Scan for more details.



Children's Music Classes | August 26 & 27

We have 2 classes available for children to develop music and drama skills with the opportunity to participate in a Christmas musical. Ages 4-grade 1 meet on Wednesdays, 4:00-4:45pm. Grades 2-6 meet on Thursdays, 4:00pm-6:00pm. Register at pointlomachurch.org/children



Parent Workshop | September 16, 6:00-7:30pm

TACKLING SIBLING RIVALRY GUEST SPEAKER WENDY SNYDER

Sibling squabbles got your home feeling more like a battleground than a peaceful place? Join Wendy Snyder, Parenting & Family Life Coach and author of *Fresh Start Your Family: Powerful Parenting to Restore Peace in Your Home*, for an inspiring talk on sibling conflict and rivalry. You'll learn why your kids really fight (hint: it's usually about an unmet need!), how to stop refereeing every argument, and powerful, compassionate tools to help your children learn to work things out themselves. Wendy will share her signature Firm and Kind approach, plus a few simple strategies you can start using the moment you walk back in your door. Come ready to feel encouraged, supported, and equipped to bring more peace to your family. You'll even leave with a free gift to start using with your kids right away!



Family Jam | September 6

FIRST FAMILY JAM OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

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!



Preschool & Infant Center

Nicole Hage

Preschool Director

preschool@pointlomachurch.org

619-223-1633 x220

We look forward to welcoming both new and returning families as classes begin on August 17!

We have a few new things we are excited about this year. We're opening a new classroom for children ages 18 to 30 months, creating a smoother transition from our infant program into preschool. Our new infant space also includes a washer and dryer, dishwasher, and full-size refrigerator to support daily care and cleaning. Just outside the infant classrooms, a new playground provides a safe and convenient outdoor space for our youngest learners.

Before the first day of school, join us for Parent Orientation via Zoom on August 12 at 6:00pm. Then, celebrate the start of the school year at our Back-to-School BBQ on Friday, August 14, from 5:00–7:00pm. Preschool families are invited to arrive at 4:00pm to meet teachers and tour classrooms. Families are also welcome to schedule a classroom visit with their teacher earlier that week.

We can't wait to see everyone back on campus!

Adult Discipleship

The start of the school year is a great time to join a bible study group!

Visit pointlomachurch.org/adult to view all our groups.

All Adults

Sunday Scripture Group

Sundays | 10:15 am | Parlor

Centering Prayer

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

Debrief the Sermon

Sundays | 10:30 am | Meeting Room A

Resumes in September

Men

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays | 5:00 pm | Parlor

Men@Work

Tuesdays | 8:30 am | Parlor & Zoom

Resumes in September

Monday Morning Men

Mondays | 8:00 am | Zoom

Resumes in September

Women

Community Bible Study

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

Thursdays | 10:15 am - 11:30 am | Zoom

Resumes September 17

MomCo

Tuesdays | 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Resumes August 11

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays | 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Meeting Room B & Zoom

Resumes September 8

Activity Groups

Yoga

Wednesday | 12:00 pm | Chapel

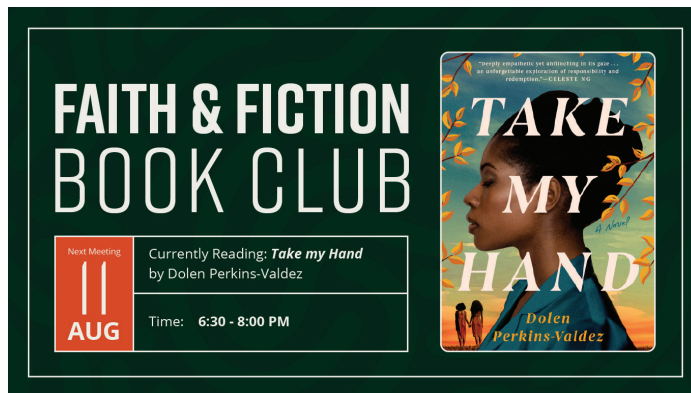
Knitters & Crocheters

2nd Thursday of the Month
10:00 am | Parlor

Prayer Quilt Ministry

Meetings | First Saturday of the month

Prayer Team | 3rd Wednesday of the month
9:00 am | Zoom



Faith & Fiction

AUGUST 11, 6:30 - 8:00PM

In this book club 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! This month, we will discuss *Take my Hand* by Dolen Perkins-Valdez.

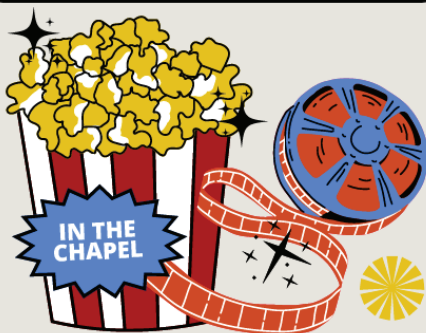
Visit pointlomachurch.org/adult to for more information!

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

SUMMER

MOVIE
Nights

WEDNESDAYS, 5:30PM



Aug 5

LES MISÉRABLES

PG-13

Aug 12

A BEAUTIFUL MIND

PG-13

Aug 19

LA LA LAND

PG-13

Aug 26

**STAR WARS:
A NEW HOPE**

PG

Tree of Life Reception | September 27, 10am

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.

If you'd like to participate, order your leaf by September 11 to have it included in the reception.

Learn more and order a leaf:
pointlomachurch.org/tree-of-life



TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Rancho Genesis Mission Trip Highlights

Each year, a team from our church travels to Ensenada, Mexico, to serve with our mission partner, Rancho Genesis. During the trip, mission team members assist Rancho Genesis in hosting camps for children from local orphanages. Through these camps, children experience Christ's deep and unconditional love in tangible ways. They participate in devotionals, enjoy fun camp activities, share delicious meals, and hear words of encouragement and affirmation. For many of these children, these experiences help heal painful memories of abuse with new memories of love, joy, and hope, bringing healing and reminding them of their incredible worth in God's eyes.

Here are some photo highlights of the trip last month!



NEW MEMBERS



Joyce Alexander is joining by Profession of Faith. She was born and raised in Pennsylvania. Joyce has two sisters, one here in California and the other in Lancaster, PA. She relocated to Point Loma in 1989. Joyce relocated to Point Loma in 1989. She and her husband, Richard live in Point Loma on a beautiful little sail boat named Dulce Vida.



Lucy Celeste is joining by Profession of Faith. She was born in Toronto, Canada and moved to San Diego in 1985. Lucy was raised in the United Pentecostal Church and gave her heart to the Lord as a young girl. She has been attending PLCPC since just before Covid and says she is blessed to have found this community. Lucy is one of our front desk volunteers.



Erik Garriott is joining by Profession of Faith. He is a San Diego native, born and raised in City Heights and Point Loma areas. Erik has a doctorate in Instrumental Conducting and is currently a Professor of Music at Grossmont College in El Cajon. He teaches music theory, music history, piano, ear training and other music courses. He lives in Ocean Beach with his wife Chelsea and their two sons.



Chelsea Garroitt is joining by Transfer of Certificate from First Presbyterian Church in San Diego. She has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and her Master of Public Health in Environmental Health. Chelsea works with the County and oversees conservation, agriculture and urban forestry planning programs in the region.



Esther Jordan is joining by Transfer of Certificate from Pacific Beach Presbyterian Church. She was born and raised in Phoenix, AZ and moved to San Diego in 1981 when she married her husband, Martin. They have two children and three grandchildren. She is retired and enjoyed a long career as a music educator and music director.



Martin Jordan is joining by Transfer of Certificate from Pacific Beach Presbyterian Church. He was born and raised in Phoenix, AZ and graduated from Arizona State University with an M.S. Physics in 1979. Martin retired from SPAWAR in 2019 to become a full-time grandfather. He has 3 beautiful granddaughters.



Gregory Kazwara is joining by Profession of Faith. He grew up in Chicago. Greg came to San Diego after he served in the U.S. Navy. His wife passed away three years ago after 22 years of marriage. Greg currently works as a meat clerk at Sprouts. He has a son who is 38 years old. Greg is currently living in Ocean Beach with his step-son. He loves cooking, walking and reading.



Anna Middleton is joining by Profession of Faith. Anna was born in England and relocated to the U.S. in 2009. After 15 years on the East Coast she moved to San Diego. She is a Special Education Teacher and currently works at High Tech High school network. Ann enjoys writing, hiking, paddle boarding and spending time with her two cats, Tango and Cash. She discovered PLCPC while walking and quickly came to consider it a church home.

Ysela Chacon is joining by reaffirmation of faith.

LIFE EVENTS:

Baptism

Tatum Bailey Montgomery was baptised on July 13, 2026.

Deaths

Elliott Moses, Jr. passed away on June 27, 2026. A memorial service will be held on September 26, 2026 at 11am in the Sanctuary. Pastor Karla Shaw will officiate.

Richard "Dick" McEntyre passed away on July 4, 2026. A graveside service was held on July 22, 2026 at Miramar. Pastor Karla Shaw officiated.

Bob Edwards passed away on July 10, 2026. A memorial service will be held on August 22, 2026 at 10am in the Sanctuary. Pastor Karla Shaw will officiate.



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 2

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.

And, in loving memory of Debora Palma Stranger. Her mother, sisters & spouses, nieces and nephews are grateful for the privilege of sharing her life. Her love and light lives on.

AUGUST 9

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

And, by Mark and Carlene Albrecht in loving memory of her parents Fran and Tom Hardesty.

AUGUST 16

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

AUGUST 23

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

And, by Kathleen McKnight in joyful celebration of the birthday of her grand-son Alexander Ilia McKnight.

AUGUST 30

By Tom and Geri Nielsen in loving memory of their parents, Gerhard and Tove Nielsen and Henry and Dorothy Dahl.

And, by Michelle Styles in loving memory of her parents, Fran and Mike Styles.

COMING UP

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BBQ

AUG 14, 5:00-7:00PM

You're Invited!

Celebrate the start of a new school year in our newly renovated spaces with bounce houses, games, BBQ and more!

