

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	3
Strengthen the Church	7
Life Events & Flowers	10
Staff & Session Info	11



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pointlomachurch.org/spire-newsletter



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Pointlomachurch.org

Our Vision

Loving everyone to LIFE with everything
we have.

Our Mission

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

Values

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

A Note from Pastor Karla

Just the other day I was running late to pick up my son from school. With heart racing and labored breathing, I finally made it to the appropriate gate to discover my child waiting for me with his backpack in hand and the words, “mom, where have you been?” And at that moment, I had a difficult time answering his question. Where had I been? More importantly, why was I out of breath just picking up my child from school? We live in a world that moves quickly. There is always something demanding our attention, another headline to read, another task to finish, another place we need to be. Onlines searches alone take us down paths we often hadn’t budgeted time for. And yet, in comparison to our complex world, God often invites us to do something surprisingly simple: **pay attention.**

Simplicity is harder than we think.

We are called to be observers, at least that is how Jesus taught his first disciples. He invited them, as he invites us, to slow down enough to really see the people around us and the world God has placed in our care. This involves noticing the person who is hurting, the neighbor who needs a little kindness, the stranger who feels unseen. It may also include noticing the beauty of a changing season, the fragile wonder of creation, and the ways the earth is both resilient and vulnerable.

To observe is more than simply looking. It is to bear witness. It is to say, I see you. You matter. Your story matters. This world matters.

In our theme for this school year of “Come and See” that is our primary objection, just to observe. And that can be hard for us as a “racing” people. We so often want to fix this world and the people in it, but “listening” is a necessary part of our faith as it requires us to trust the God that is speaking. Perhaps faith begins, in part, with learning to notice what God is already doing among us. May this season continue to give us eyes that are open, hearts that are attentive, and the courage to bear witness to the people and the earth entrusted to our care.



Session Highlights

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 SESSION MEETING | JOHN SPAFFORD, CLERK

The Session welcomed the Discipleship Task Force, formed in 2025, to the September meeting. DTF Members Whitney Skala, Melissa Mullins, John Brand and Lynn Ziegenfuss provided an update of their formative activities and next steps. They are using strategies from Tony Morgan's book "The Unstuck Church" which highlights how churches can become stuck in comfortable routines despite apparent success. Their goal is to help new members and participants find their ways to spiritual fulfillment.

The Session heard Pastor Karla's report that Elder Carolyn Griesemer has accepted the new Transform Our World Community Liaison part time position on the church staff. While applauding this good news, the Session elders accepted Carolyn's resignation from their ranks, and prayed for her success.

Renovation Building Committee Chair Sue Skala's final report was reviewed, summarizing a very successful project that was completed well within the capital funds raised by the congregation. She thanked the Committee members: Pastor Karla, Susan Cramer, Jolene Wade, and Althea Holford, the construction management team from CBSI, architect Jon Dominy of domusstudio, Prava Construction, and noted Pastor Karla's "admirable tenacity" leading to project completion. The Session applauded the excellent results, and also thanked Elder John Brand for his early leadership in the project.



WELCOME TO

New Staff Member Carolyn!

We are excited to announce that Carolyn Griesemer is stepping into the role of Community Liaison, the new Lead Staff role over Transform our World! In this new role, she will be responsible for facilitating PLCPC engagement in local, regional, and global mission opportunities.

A dedicated member of our church family for over 15 years, Carolyn has served our congregation in numerous leadership roles over the years—including Usher, Deacon, Elder, and member of the Mission Beyond Committee. Her heart for

service began early in her journey when she served as a missionary in the Dominican Republic between college and law school.

Professionally, Carolyn brings over two decades of executive and legal experience in child welfare, youth advocacy, and non-profit leadership. She has spent her career building strong community partnerships, organizing coalition efforts, and advocating for vulnerable youth and families. Her extensive relationships with regional non-profit leaders and deep background in outreach, grant management, and strategic planning will be invaluable as she helps strengthen our church's connection to the broader community and expand opportunities for service and discipleship.

Carolyn lives in the Sunset Cliffs neighborhood with her husband, Jason. They share four children: Max, Mason, Annie, and Reid. Please join us in welcoming Carolyn to her new staff role!

EXPERIENCE JESUS

Point Loma Singers

OCTOBER 11

The Point Loma Singers, PLNU's select chamber choir, will lead worship in the 9:00am and 10:30am in person services as well as online at 9:30am on October 11. Don't miss this special musical experience!



Christmas Concert Choir

STARTING OCTOBER 1

REHEARSALS THURSDAYS, 7:00PM-8:00PM

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

Christmas Concert

SAVE THE DATE | DECEMBER 6, 5PM & 7PM

COME & SEE



SHAPED BY PLACE ART EXHIBIT

Opening Reception October 9, 5:00-7:00pm

Inspired by the Come & See sermon series and its exploration of the land of the Bible, this art show invites artists from our community to create visual depictions of the land that has shaped them.

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



Preschool & Infant Center

Nicole Hage

Preschool Director

preschool@pointlomachurch.org

619-223-1633 x220

This month, our classrooms will be exploring all things fall from pumpkins and changing leaves to seasonal art and plenty of opportunities to learn through play.

Monthly Chapel | October 14

All children will sing songs and learn a bible message with Sarah Butterfield. Family members are welcome to join us on our front playground for our interactive chapel time.

Halloween Parade | October 30

During this fun Halloween parade with the entire school, children will be trick-or-treating around the church campus. Families are also welcome to stay and watch the festivities.

children & family MINISTRY

Sarah Butterfield, Director of Children & Family Ministry

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



Trunk-or-Treat

OCT 25, 5:00PM - 6:30PM

Join us to celebrate Halloween at Trunk-or-Treat! This is the perfect event for anyone looking for a fun, safe, and family-friendly way to dress up and get candy! Instead of going door to door, trick-or-treaters will go trunk-to-trunk of decorated cars, resulting in lots of candy and smiles!



HOST A TRUNK!



Dipsgiving Family Jam

**NOV 1, 11:30AM-1:00PM
COURTYARD**

Family Jam in November is “Dipsgiving.” Bring along your favorite dip—homemade or store-bought—and we’ll provide plenty of chips, crackers, and veggies for dipping. It’s potluck-style fun you won’t want to miss!



Family Bingo Night

NOV 13, 6:00-7:00PM | FLC

Everyone who knows their letters and numbers is invited to participate in Bingo night! Come for a night of fun and games with other families. Childcare is available for kids 3 and under. Register by Nov 11.



REGISTER

Youth

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

JOIN IN WEEKLY!

Our youth programs are back to our regular timing. All youth are invited to join in weekly for lots of fun, friends, and getting to know Jesus!

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday Mornings, 10:30am during Chapel service

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays, 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

Every Monday and Tuesday afternoon, our Youth Center (upstairs in the Family Life Center) is open for all youth to come hang out! We have games, snacks, and more!



Halloween Movie Night

OCT 29, 6-8PM

We're joining First Presbyterian Church of San Diego for a Halloween movie night on Thursday October 29th from 6-8pm. We'll have dinner, crafts, games and of course a costume contest. Bring a comfy chair to sit out under the stars while we watch Nightmare before Christmas. The event is free. Invite your friends!

320 Date St, San Diego, CA 92101

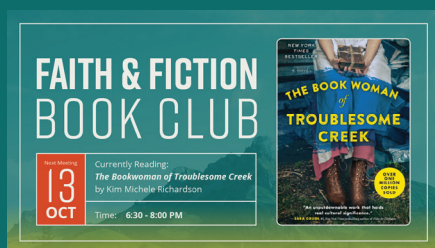
COME & SEE



DEBRIEF THE SERMON

Now - Oct 25 | After Sanctuary and Chapel Worship

Come for conversation and reflection as we unpack the “Come and See” sermons together. We meet from 10:30-11:15am OR from 11:45-12:30pm (depending on the service you attend). The 10:30am discussion operates in a hybrid model of attending in-person or online through the zoom link provided in the chat after the online services. Childcare provided at 11:45am. Come when you can, each session stands alone.



FAITH AND FICTION BOOK CLUB

October 13 & November 17, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Our book club on the second Tuesday of the month where we dive into fiction and explore connections to our faith is lining up titles to help us “Come and See.” We will discuss *The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson on October 13 and *The Unknown Americans* by Christina Henriquez on November 17.



COME & SEE LUNCHES

November 8 & 22

Participants from the Come & See trips will share their experiences during two lunches following worship. Karla will facilitate the conversations, with time for small-group discussion. Registration opens on the website this month.

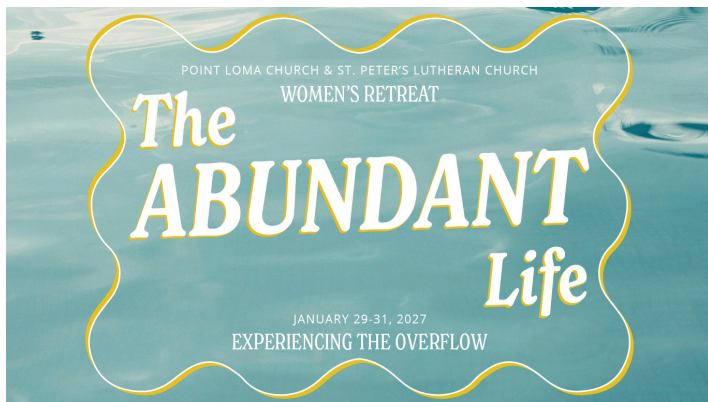


CROSS BORDER IMMERSION REGISTRATION

November 10-12 | Trip Cost: \$400

This immersion experience explores life at the US/Mexico border, focusing on migration, human rights, and the unique character of border communities. This “listening” experience, led by VIA International, is meant to help us think critically about solutions to the root cause of migration. One of the days will be spent in Tijuana.





Women's Retreat

JANUARY 29-31, 2027

Cost: \$230 • The Dana on Mission Bay

Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10) What is abundant life and how do we experience it? We will spend the weekend exploring how Jesus taught and modeled living an abundant life. Together we will explore the joy of an abundant mindset, learning how to cultivate rhythms of grace in our lives which will allow us to experience an overflow of God's goodness that we can then take into our daily lives and share with others.



REGISTER!



Make & Take

OCT 21, 5:00PM - 7:00PM

Join us to make knit pumpkin wreaths! This is the perfect project for all skill levels of crafters. Light refreshments will also be served and we will have pizza for the kids! Questions can be directed to sarah@pointlomachurch.org



REGISTER!

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

COME & SEE

COME & SEE
PODCAST



PODCAST

Inspired by the Come & See sermon series and its exploration of the land of the Bible, this art show invites artists from our community to create visual depictions of the land that has shaped them.





Senior Adult MINISTRY

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



Oktoberfest Luncheon

October 13 | Family Life Center | \$7
10:00am Doors Open | 11:00am Music | 12:00pm Lunch

Dust off your lederhosen and dirndl, it's time for our annual Oktoberfest party! New this year, "Our Song" oompah band will entertain us with music to dance to, followed by a traditional German menu of roasted bratwürste, giant pretzel, sides and spice cake. Invite a friend and RSVP by Friday, October 9.

Alzheimers SD: Signs & Symptoms of Dementia

October 21 | 11:00am | Family Life Center

Gain an introduction to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, including common risk factors, signs and symptoms. Learn about Alzheimer's San Diego programs and services that provide education, support, and resources for individuals living with dementia and their care partners. Reserve your spot today.

Field Trip Gemological Institute of America, Carlsbad

October 28 | 10:00am Church Van Departs | \$7

Did you know that the Gemological Institute of America has an educational campus and museum in Carlsbad? On this tour, we will learn about the vast and vibrant world of gems, minerals and jewelry, tour the exhibits, and discover the educational opportunities offered at this location. No-host lunch at the Windmill Food Hall after the tour. Limited to 10 participants.



Senior Tech Connect Classes

PLCPC is partnering with Senior Tech Connect for a 12-class course designed to help you confidently use your smartphone while staying safe online. Classes will take place every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month from 11:00-12:00pm for the next 6 months! This month we will learn about passwords & security. Register for all or any of the classes!

October 5: Smartphone Basics

October 19: Understanding Your Phone's Hardware

11:00 – 12:00pm | Family Life Center

RSVP to Senior Ministry events at pointlomachurch.org/register

Senior Adult Ministry kicked off the fall last month with a fun luncheon with Jazz music!
Check out some photos from the day.



GriefShare®

Loss of a Spouse WORKSHOP & DINNER

OCTOBER 7, 5:30-8:00PM
Register



Loss of a Spouse **Workshop & Dinner**

OCT 7, 5:30-8:00PM

The passing of your spouse affects every area of your life. At this workshop, we will watch a 30-minute video with relatable stories, guidance from grief professionals and practical exercises to help you cope with the unique challenges that arise after the death of your spouse. After the video, there will be discussion time followed by dinner. Every attendee will receive a workbook to take with them. Join us for this special evening of hope and healing.

College Parents **& Grandparents** Support Group

OCTOBER 19 • NOVEMBER 16 • DECEMBER 22
6:00-7:00pm

Support Group for **College Parents**

OCT 19, NOV 16, DEC 22
6:00-7:00PM

Whether your student is commuting from home or moving across the country, transitioning to the college years brings both joy and unique challenges. You don't have to navigate it alone. Join our community of parents and grandparents as we share joys and concerns, encourage one another, and lift our students up in prayer.



Subscribe On YouTube

@POINTLOMACHURCHONLINE

Keep up with our online resources including past worship services, choir selections, Bible studies and more on our YouTube channel. Find, follow and like us @ PointLomaChurchOnline

Veterans Concert

Join us to celebrate and honor our Veterans with a concert on November 10 at 11:00pm in the Sanctuary.

LIFE EVENTS:

Deaths

Mary Lou Wright passed away on September 24, 2026. A memorial service will be held on November 14, 2026 at 10am in the Sanctuary. Rev. Dr. Chris Lenocker will officiate. A reception will follow in the Family Life Center.

Cora Hamilton passed away on September 24, 2026.



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...

OCTOBER 4

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 honor of her 14 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

OCTOBER 11

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 18

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 25

By Linda and Jim Zemcik in celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

And, in loving memory of Charlie MacVean, Lynne Ellen MacVean and Stephen S. MacVean.

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COMING UP



COME & SEE
SHAPED BY PLACE
ART EXHIBIT

Opening Reception • Oct 9
On display through Nov 22



COME & SEE
CROSS BORDER
IMMERSION TRIP

November 10-12



REGISTER!