

Candidates for MMACC Community Leadership Council (CLC) (2-year term) – 2026-2027

Sue Bruner

My husband Mike and I joined MMACC in January of 2023. We are both fully committed to the vision of this community. I was brought up in the traditional church and come from a big family. In my experiences I have been made to know that God is a constant companion. As I was growing up I went with my mom to “prayer meetings” - Catholic communities that rocked my world. Later, I was able to participate in the Religious Education Congress, held annually in Anaheim, CA. At Congress I got to sit at the feet of many liberal theologians and prophets and absorb ideas that helped me understand.

My vocation was teaching in the public schools. There I was able to learn and practice community building through many years of staff development - Restorative Practices, Shared Decision Making, the 7 Habits, and much more. The experience of teaching was a gift, and I did not waste it.

I have been on the CLC the last two years. I hope to be able to serve this community as you would have me.

Karen Murphy

I'm grateful for the opportunity to be considered for the CLC. The MMACC community was an answer to my prayers on how to keep my faith which I desperately needed to thrive. I love my Catholic faith, but I was at a crossroads listening to sermons that didn't seem to match the gospel that I heard at mass, or the science of how the world works, or the value of the diversity of peoples. If selected for the CLC, I promise a commitment to serve wherever the need is greatest. MMACC has brought me peace and an expansion of Catholic vision.

I'm a lifelong learner graduating with a BS in chemical engineering, then while working gaining an MS in that same field and later an MBA. I was the first woman engineer in my department and rose up to be the first woman manufacturing plant manager at the company. The peak of my career was working at the World Bank helping to identify ways to bring higher wage manufacturing companies into developing economies. My husband and I retired to hike in the Black Hills of SD. We have 4 daughters now age 27 – 37 and we are experiencing an explosion of grandchildren ages 0-7 yrs old. My mother showed me the way with a career and 5 children. And my dad, who was a research chemist, gave me a love for science.

Many of you may see me up on the wall as a Zoom member on Sundays, but my husband and I will be in person on December 21 at the mass. I'm also a member of the Book Club and participated in the study of “Across That Bridge” by John Lewis.

Judy Scarborough

My dad was in the Navy and my first 12 years we moved around the country and spent 3 years in Germany. When he retired, we returned to San Diego. I went to St. Rita's School in 7th & 8th grade and then to Cathedral Girls High School, downtown. After graduation, I started roaming on my own, living in Boston and Maryland for a while before returning to San Diego in 1977. In the 1980s I attended St. Didacus in Normal Heights and was involved as Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Youth Group Leader, and Secretary from 1984-1992. After that, I attended and was involved with the Newman Center at SDSU where I received a BA in Psychology in 1984. I was also involved with La Providencia Retreat Center where I served on the Board of Directors for 7 years. I moved to Spokane, Washington in late 2004 and attended St. Francis of Assisi until the diocesan response to the sexual abuse crisis led me to “take a break” from the Catholic Church. During this time, I attended a Celtic Mass offered by a woman Priest at an Episcopalian church. These Masses were offered monthly and I attended them and when they announced that all were invited to attend the annual

meeting in late January, I went, to learn more about this church where I felt quite comfortable and inspired. The collegiality evidenced at the meeting led me to become a member. I was involved with several ministries and eventually on the Vestry and served as Senior Warden for a term. My spirituality and faith was nurtured by Sister Pat and Sister Millie at La Providencia and the inclusivity of the Women Priests and others I met in the Episcopal Church. All this to say that when I returned to San Diego in September 2022, I was looking for an inclusive, forward-looking, and welcoming church. My Spiritual Director mentioned that a mutual friend attended MMACC and she thought it would be a good match for me, so I came in January 2023 and am so grateful for the welcome and ethos of this community. I haven't been very involved since I live in Crest (El Cajon) with my sister and her husband, and it is a fair jaunt to Serra Mesa. As well, I don't drive at night, so I'm not able to attend some activities, like winter Mass. I do try to attend daytime events and of course, online. Recently I've been helping the team who makes the lunches on Wednesday and made some cards for the recipients. Mary Magdalen has been a blessing to me and if being on the CLC allows us to keep going and sending that blessing to others, I would be honored to serve.