

A note from Pastor Karla

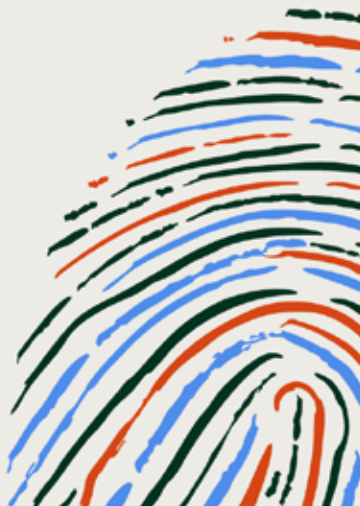
Every morning when I walk into the church office I am reminded by the large banner hanging from the outside Chapel wall that "We are all Divinely Designed" (our church theme for this school year). I am grateful to work in a place where I get to see that message everyday as I am not sure I hear that message enough in other places in our world.

When I turn on the news, it is mostly about tragedy, fighting, and insurmountable differences. More often than not, I have to scroll to the bottom of the news webpage to read anything uplifting or good. I am guessing you have similar experiences. Why is that? As for me, the news does not reflect the experience of most of my daily life. Most interactions I have on the streets of my neighborhood, within the walls of my kid's schools, while watching the Padres game at the local grill, and while buying groceries are positive and not filled at all with division or tragedy. Most interactions are good and helpful--like the woman at Target who asked for my opinion about a shirt she was considering purchasing for her mastectomy the next morning. There was also the gentleman who let me into traffic this week as I was running late for an appointment. Then there was the kind cashier at the pizza place that gave my son a compliment on his eyes which brightened his day. If we were to only watch the news, we would assume all of humanity is only capable of dispensing hate, but our true humanity was created in God's image to express the heart of God.

So my challenge to you this month, as we enter deeper into our theme this year, is to make a list of all the positive interactions you have in a day. When you have finished the list, use it to give thanks during your prayer time that evening.

God is not finished with us yet. Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace!

WE ARE ALL —————
**DIVINELY
DESIGNED**



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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Looking Ahead

Oct 12	Point Loma Singers
Oct 19	Youth Worship
Oct 26	Trunk-or-Treat
Oct 30	Hage's Haunted House
Nov 5	Wine, Women and Word



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.

CHURCH NEWS

JULY-SEPTEMBER

Session Activity

The Session took the month of June off this Summer, and then, instead of a regular meeting, gathered in July for an in-depth discussion with the Staff Review Team members. They were seeking Session's direction in answering a fundamental question, "Who should we be serving?" Should our programs focus on serving people in the Point Loma Community, or central San Diego, or should our reach extend beyond the city?

At the August 27 meeting, Finance Lead Elder Amy Radonich had a positive review of church finances, and announced changes in finance operations following the retirement of Treasurer Emeritus John Leimbach. Elder Cara Thome will join the Finance Committee, and help manage the church investments.

The Session joyfully approved the distribution of \$91,500 to our Mission Partners.

Inquirer to Ordered Ministry Evan Gratz updated the Session on his progress at the September meeting, and the Session joyfully approved Youth Director Ryan Silvia's application to begin the process.

The Session reviewed and approved a proposal from the Strategy Working Group to create a Discipleship Task Force, headed by Elder Whitney Skala. He intends to develop a clear pathway to participation and discipleship for new and inactive members.

EXPERIENCE JESUS

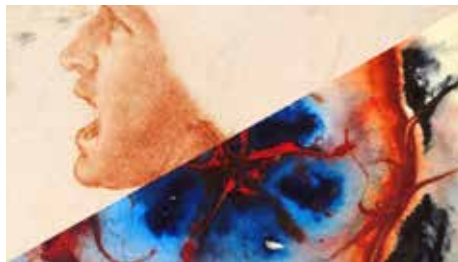
Opportunities to Dive Deeper into the Hard Feelings Series



Parent Workshop Nov 3, 6-7:30pm

Every child experiences big emotions—joy, anger, sadness, fear—and every parent wonders how best to guide them through those moments. This interactive workshop will equip parents with practical, science-based strategies to help kids name, understand, and manage their feelings in healthy ways. Together we'll explore simple tools you can use at home to strengthen resilience, reduce

meltdowns, and build stronger connections with your children. Whether your child is preschool age or a teenager, you'll leave with skills you can start using right away to support their emotional and spiritual growth.



Art Reflections

Spend time in reflection with these visual mediations centered around feelings. pointlomachurch.org/arts-blog



Hard Feelings Podcast

Professional therapists from our community join host Evan Gratz on the Point Loma Church Podcast to further discuss the topics covered in the Hard Feelings Sermon Series. Look for "Point Loma Church" wherever you get your podcasts. The podcast is also available in video form at youtube.com/PointLomaChurchOnline

LEARN MORE AT POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/HARD-FEELINGS

Mark your calendars! November 26, 7pm | All Souls
We will be joining with other local churches for a joint *Thanksgiving Service!*



Divinely Designed Devotionals

The theme for this year is: we are all Divinely Designed. This theme was chosen to remind us of our common humanity - no matter how varied our life experiences - that we are each made in the image of God. We thought what better way to see that diversity than to hear from a variety of people in our community through short weekly devotionals. Every Thursday, we will release a short devotional on our Youtube (youtube.com/PointLomaChurchOnline) from a community member sharing which character in the Bible they are relating to most in this season and why.



Hage's Haunted House | Oct 30, 6pm | Zoom

Join us for a special Zoom session as we go behind the scenes with Will Hage, the creative mind behind one of Point Loma's most spectacular Halloween displays. We'll kick things off with an exclusive time-lapse video capturing the month-long transformation of his home and yard. Then, stick around for a Q&A session where you'll get the chance to ask Will about his inspiration, process, and favorite spooky details. RSVP by October 25 for a treat to enjoy during the event.



Music at Point Loma Church

Point Loma Nazarene Singers October 12

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



Sing in the Christmas Concert Choir

Rehearsals Thursdays, 7-8pm • Starting October 2

Concert December 7, 5pm and 7pm

For more information, contact alicia@pointlomachurch.org

Join the Christmas Concert Choir to sing in our annual Christmas Concert with a chamber orchestra on December 7 at 5pm and 7pm. Rehearsals are on Thursdays, 7-8pm, starting October 2. Choir retreat Saturday, October 25, 9am-12pm.

JOURNEY INTO DEEPER FAITH



Red Brick Preschool
redbrickpreschool.com

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

Our school year is off to a great start. We love our newly renovated classrooms and playground. Our first chapel of the school year will be on October 8 at 11:40 on our front playground. We are offering free vision screenings on October 14 & 15 provided by the Elks of California and Hawaii. We look forward to our field trip to the pumpkin patch this month as well!



Brick Youth

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



Youth Girls Self-Care Night • Oct 17

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, but we do need a headcount for supplies—so be sure to register and bring a friend along!



Youth Worship Band • Oct 19

We're launching a youth worship band, and their first time leading worship will be on October 19! Students will help lead worship four times throughout the year plus take part in Youth Sunday, where youth will lead the whole service. Rehearsals are Sundays at 3:30pm before youth group. If you'd like to be part of the band, email ryan@pointlomachurch.org to sign up!

Youth Volunteer Appreciation Dinner • Nov 16, 4:30-6:30pm in the FLC

Join us for the 3rd Annual Volunteer appreciation dinner! There will be games, activities and of course prizes for all the amazing volunteers that have helped make youth group so great this past year! Bring the whole family for an amazing night!

children & family MINISTRY

Sarah Butterfield, Director of Children & Family Ministry

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

MomCo happenings this month:

Oct 7, 9:30-11:30am "Getting Organized in Family Life" with Ryan Toft

Oct 14, 9:30-11:00am Bible Study

Oct 21, 9:00-11:30am Moms Morning Out

Oct 28, 9:30-11:00am Bible Study

Sandwich Social on November 2 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!

Trunk-or-Treat | Oct 26, 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! All it takes is a trunk, truck bed, or a table and a touch of creativity! Candy is provided. Trunk-or-Treat is in the church parking lot on Udall St. Trunk hosts can begin set-up at 4:00pm that day.

Family Bingo Night | Nov 14, 6:00pm

Everyone who knows their letters and numbers is invited to participate in Bingo night! Come for the ice cream, come for the prizes, come for the fun. Childcare is available for kids 3 and under. Register by 11/6.



Photo from the Church Family Beach Day!



**FAITH & FICTION
BOOK CLUB**

Next Meeting

14
OCT

Currently Reading: *The Caretaker*
by Ron Rash

Location: Chapel

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Faith and Fiction Book Club Oct 14, 6:30-8:00pm | Chapel

In this book club 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's book: *The Caretaker* by Ron Rash.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

**VETERANS
EVENT**

HONORING OUR VETERANS CONCERT & RECEPTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2:00PM
SANCTUARY & PLAZA

Honoring Our Veterans Concert Nov 4, 2pm

We will honor our veterans with a special neighborhood concert in celebration of Fleet Week San Diego. The Navy Band Southwest Woodwind Quintet will perform, and a cake and coffee reception will follow on the Plaza.

**Surviving
The Holidays**
WORKSHOP & DINNER
NOVEMBER 12, 5:30-7:30PM
POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/REGISTER

Surviving the Holidays Workshop | Nov 12

Grieving a loss or know someone who is? The holidays are challenging when you are grieving a loss. Join us at this workshop to receive encouragement, support and learn practical ways to navigate the season. Workshop includes at 30 min video, discussion time and a pasta meal. Register online.



**Wine,
Women
& Word**

NOVEMBER 5

5:00-7:00 PM

REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 2

GIANNI BUONOMO VINTNERS • 3492 PICKETT ST

Wine, Women and Word | Nov 5

Please join us at Gianni Buonomo Vintners (3492 Pickett St, San Diego, CA 92110) for our next Wine, Women & Word gathering. This is a time for relaxed fellowship, meeting new women and fun conversation! Cost is \$10 to cover a light meal and sparkling beverages. Wine for purchase if desired. Registration and payment online are required. Please register by November 2.





Ride the Point | Nov 8 | Sign up now!

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!



Mensgiving | November 17, 5:30-8:00pm

Join us at the Portuguese Hall for an evening of fellowship and connection over a delicious dinner as we welcome the holiday season. This year we have a very special speaker to inspire us: Pastor Karla! Don't miss this opportunity to gather, grow, and connect with one another!



Women's Retreat | Jan 23-25, 2026

Life is full of transitions—some expected, some not. From career shifts and family changes to aging and letting go, the path forward can feel uncertain. Join us for a peaceful weekend of rest, renewal, and spiritual encouragement as we explore the theme Weathering Change: Seeking Peace Amid Life's Tough Transitions. Through Scripture, nature, and community, guest speaker Pastor Courtney Ellis will guide us in reconnecting with God's steady presence through life's storms.



Photo from the Tree of Life Reception!





Senior Adult MINISTRY

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

OCTOBERFEST LUNCHEON WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY THE POLKA DOTS

Tuesday, October 14, Family Life Center - \$7 at the door
Doors Open at 10:00am, Music at 11:00am, Lunch at 12:00pm

Dust off your lederhosen and dirndl, it's time for our annual Oktoberfest luncheon! Enjoy a traditional German meal of sheet pan sausage with peppers and sauerkraut along with a Bavarian pretzel with mustard while being entertained by San Diego's Accordion Sweethearts: The Polka Dots! Reserve your spot by Friday, October 10.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND HOW TO USE CHAT GPT

Wednesday, October 22, 11:00 - 12:30PM in the Family Life Center

What exactly is "AI"? At this workshop, we'll explore this question, learn what ChatGPT is and how to use it, and compare it with common tools like Google to understand when a specific AI tool is the best choice. Presented by Senior Tech Connect, an organization dedicated to enriching the lives of older adults by equipping them with essential digital skills. Bring your questions! Refreshments provided. RSVP today.



SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

Monday, October 27, 5:00 - 6:00pm in the 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. Refreshments provided. RSVP to Elaine.

TOUR OF AMAZON FULFILLMENT CENTER IN OTAY MESA

Wednesday, October 29, Depart in Church Van at 9:30am, return by 1pm

Ever wondered how products in your online shopping cart get from Amazon to you? Take a free tour of the San Diego Fulfillment Center to see behind the scenes. We will join an Amazon Tour Leader on a 60 minute walk through the center as they introduce the people, technology, and processes that help prepare each customer order. Space is limited, closed-toe shoes required, walking and standing. Registration required by October 20.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM TEEN TECH!



NEW MEMBERS



Andrew Huelga

Andrew was born and raised in San Diego. His family began attending PLCPC when he was in the sixth grade. A graduate of PLNU, Andrew volunteered as a guitarist for the original Cafe Worship Service. Little did he know, his future wife, Julie, was also serving at the church during that time. Although their paths didn't cross then, they met a few years later and were amazed to discover they had been volunteering at the same place all along.

The couple was married at PLCPC last July and is excited to continue growing in the church community. Andrew enjoys morning surf sessions before church and is a devoted Padres fan.



Julie Huelga

Julie is a native of Southern California who graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University. During her time at PLNU, she volunteered with the Brick Youth Group, where she was first introduced to PLCPC. She and her husband, Andrew, were married at PLCPC in 2024 and now live in Point Loma with their Australian Shepherd.



Bill Lyford

Bill spent his youth in small town Arkansas where he married his high school sweetheart. They lived in St. Louis from 1977 to 2005 and where they raised their two kids. They returned to Little Rock in 2005 and Bill retired from computer sales in 2007. The couple relocated to San Diego in November 2024.



Idalene Lyford

Idalene and her husband both grew up in Arkansas. After their marriage besides Arkansas, they also lived in Honolulu, St. Louis and now San Diego. They have a son who lives in San Diego and a daughter who lives with her family in Orlando, Florida. Idalene and Bill were looking for a church home and friendly people. They feel they found both at PLCPC. They are happy to be so welcomed.



Paula Vance

Paula started attending PLCPC in 2005 soon after moving to San Diego. She joined the choir in 2006 and has been singing in the soprano section next to Sally West since then. Paula and her husband and one daughter and three grandchildren who live in Charlotte. She works remotely three days a week as a data analyst for CommonSpirit Health. She loves to travel, spending part of every year in other parts of the county and abroad.

Photo from the Deacon Pancake Breakfast!



LIFE EVENTS

Charles MacVean passed away on September 10, 2025. A memorial will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2025 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Karla Shaw will officiate. A reception will follow at the San Diego Yacht Club.



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 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 Lynne Ellen MacVean and Charlie MacVean.



COMING UP

