

Spire

October
2020
Vol. 29
No. 9

As October approaches we are coming to the end of the season of bird migration. In the Spring, many birds make their way to the north to feed on insects which arrive with all the new



growth. In the Fall, those same birds make their way back to the south until the cold chill of winter subsides. It is really fascinating to see birds migrate. Flocks of birds move like synchronized swimmers or a well-choreographed dance troupe, flowing in our cloudless skies. This dazzling dance actually has a name, it is called a **murmuration**. In a murmuration these creatures often seem eerily connected together. They twist and turn and change direction at a moment's notice, as if someone or something is orchestrating their movement.

Although scientists don't fully understand the how and why of murmuration, most believe that birds have a sort of biological radio, able to communicate these intricate patterns instantly. It has been observed that these flocks have no leaders, instead each bird hones into the signals of the seven birds closest to them, and they act as one, flying up, down, and around and to the side. Don't you find that fascinating? These birds know how to stay together, not because there is a clear leader, but because they are so tuned in to those around them.

Even more fascinating is how God has wired each of us as well with God's Spirit. We have also been gifted with a sort of biological radio to be able to commune with one another. That Spirit is what connects us and by leaning into it, we have the ability to move the Church in beautiful synchronized patterns of hope for God's world. Leaning in and listening, though, means

Murmuration, Continued on page 2



New location for 2020!

ADVENTURE
FAMILY CAMP
2020

October 16-18
Thousand Pines
located in the San Bernardino National Forest

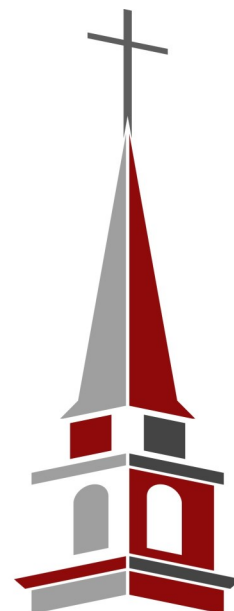
POINTLOMACHURCH.ORG/FAMILY-CAMP

There is still time to join us for Family Camp! This is sure to be a great time to unplug and enjoy the great outdoors! Visit our website for all the details!

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church

Worship Services Online
Red Brick Kids Worship
Sunday 9 am
Sunday Worship
9:30 and 11:00 am
Café Service 9:45 am
outdoors on campus
www.pointlomachurch.org

Rev. Karla Shaw
Senior Pastor
2128 Chatsworth Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92107



Follow us on Facebook for weekly updates:

www.facebook.com/PointLomaChurch

Sign up for our weekly eNews:

pointlomachurch.org

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LOOKING AHEAD

October 16-18:	Family Camp
October 20:	CTC—Election Information
October 25:	Congregational Meeting
October 30:	Trunk or Treat
Nov. 1:	Daylight Saving Time ends

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:

1. We are a good home.
2. We are intergenerational.
3. We inspire engagement.

CHURCH NEWS

Session Highlights - September 23, 2020

The September Session meeting via Zoom began with attendees in breakout groups discussing where they see the PLCPC vision and mission statements being lived out in the life of our congregation. Once the attendees had regathered they shared some of the comments with the whole group.

Director of Operations and Church Life Jolene Wade told about the young, and some older, groups that are now gathering carefully and safely on the campus.

Likewise, attendance at online events remains strong, including Sunday morning worship, with approximately 288 at the 9:30 am service and 79 at 11:00 am service on September 20. Outdoor Café service attendance for that week was 73.

Pastor Karla Shaw reviewed responses from a web survey asking the congregation's opinions on the streaming worship services and returning to indoor services. The results indicate strong appreciation for the online services, with an enduring desire to resume indoor worship, but only when safe. Elder C. Gresham Bayne reviewed the church financial status, joyfully announcing that 95% of the 2020 pledge income has already been received. This support, along with the positive

information from the survey have prompted the Financial Committee and others to consider the value of expanding the church's production of virtual worship. The Session encouraged the Finance Committee to continue examining the proposal.

Rev. Shaw has called for an online meeting of the congregation using the Webinar application for Sunday, Oct. 25, 10:35 am following the 9:30 online worship service, for the routine election of deacons and elders. A bylaw amendment to allow electronic voting is being developed, and will be published prior to the meeting.

Elder Rebecca Cress, Worship and the Arts Chair, presented plans for the production of a video presentation of the Session's recently adopted Racial issues Statement. The Session approved one of the proposals, and the presentation will be included in the Sunday, October 4 worship services. The video will then be available on the church website. The meeting concluded with a recording of the Zoom screen of all attendees for inclusion in the presentation.

John Spafford
Clerk

Congregational Meeting Sunday, October 25 at 10:35 am via Zoom
Join us as we meet to elect Elders and Deacons for the coming year
Zoom information with details will be sent via e-blast prior to the meeting

Murmuration, continued from page 1

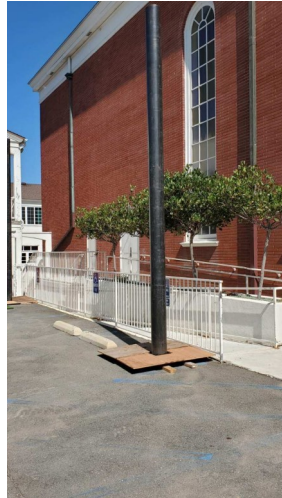
we have to pay attention more to our neighbor than ourselves and that is not something we are accustomed to doing. Yet, maybe more than ever in recent history, our world needs people listening and responding in unity with one another.

So, the next time you look at the sky and wonder about the majesty of God, may you also be reminded of God's desire to manifest that majesty in the "flow between us." And may God give us the courage and the strength to follow God's lead.

Living the Flow Between,
Pastor Karla

There's something shady going on here....

Work is underway to install shade sails over the new turf area outside the Sanctuary. They have been working diligently to dig massive holes, pour concrete and set the giant posts which will bear the weight of the shade sails. This will make Sunday morning Café service a cooler experience, as well as provide a safe, cool place for the preschool children to play every day.



ADULT MINISTRY

Sunday Scripture Group—Sundays 9:45 am We continue an 8-part series “*Jesus: His Life*,” told through the unique lenses of those closest to Him.

Contact: Bob Simoneau, grs55@cox.net for Zoom information.

Monday Morning Men—Still meeting Monday mornings 7-8:30 am for virtual coffee via Zoom. We have different guest speakers each week. Contact: Evan Gratz, evan@pointlomachurch.org

Women’s Bible Study—Tuesday at 9:15am. Pastor Karla is leading a study on the book of Deuteronomy.

Contact: Clara Blenis, clblenis@sdccd.edu

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)—2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7 pm via Zoom. Topics for this month: Oct. 13: Awareness and Compassion for Others: Operation Christmas Child, and Oct. 27: Raising Worry-Free Kids.

Contact: Julia Roller, mops@pointlomachurch.org

Continuing The Conversation (CTC)—Will meet on Tuesday, October 20 at 7 pm via Zoom to discuss the upcoming election. There will be an update from the Registrar of Voters followed by a discussion of the State Propositions and City Measures. Note! The last day to register to vote in this election is October 19.

Contact: Gordy Lutes, gklutes@gmail.com.

Journeymen— Wednesdays, 7 am All men are invited to join this group of guys who chat about life and discuss relative topics all while digging into what Scripture says about them.

Contact: Evan Gratz, evan@pointlomachurch.org

Men@Work— Wednesdays 8:30 am The Men@Work guys continue their weekly meetings with camaraderie and bible study under the leadership of Em Cummins via Zoom mostly. We are completing small tasks on campus as needed. If you’re curious about us, please feel free to join us.

Contact: Don Griffith at 619-432-2682 or don.griffith69@gmail.com.

Wednesday Men’s Bible Study—5pm, via Zoom. Fellowship and study time. We continue meetings virtually through Zoom as we study the Book of Hebrews. All are welcome
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6192231623>

Contact: Jerry Heidt, gheidt@ghhco.com

Moms Small Group—1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6:45 pm. Led by Pastor Karla, we continue a study on the book of John.

Contact: Pastor Karla, karla@pointlomachurch.org

Centering Prayer—Thursdays weekly, via Zoom.

Contact: Pastor Alex, alex@pointlomachurch.org

Prayer Quilt Ministry— 1st Saturday, 9am-3pm, Family Life Center. Contact: Karen Vandenberg, ktvandenberg@aol.com.



Elaine Burrell, Director, MSW | elaine@pointlomachurch.org 619-223-1633 x210



THANK YOU

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the men and women who participated in the photography exhibit, *Your Life is a Work of Art*, and all the people who came to view and enjoy the show. It was very gratifying for me to put together this project, which provided me with the opportunity to get to know each of you better and to express our thanks to God for the gift of a long life. I plan to assemble the photos and biographies into a book for the archives of the church. Gratefully, Elaine



EXERCISE DVD IS READY

Exercise with Elke is a DVD featuring Elke Ertle teaching a 38-minute gentle exercise class specifically geared senior adults who prefer to use a DVD player instead of a computer. Stay fit in the convenience of your own home. Contact Elaine for your free copy.



MEET-UP AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEGACY CENTER | Wednesday, October 14, 2020 | 10:00AM

The Morris Cerullo International Legacy Center is a religious history center that has just opened for visitors! Located in Mission Valley, the center features an interactive globe, 4-D Dome Theater, International Market, Wailing Wall replica and Catacombs. The center is very spacious. Currently, capacity is limited, and distancing measures are enforced. Elaine attended with her family a few weeks ago, and the experience was exceptionally safe, clean, and responsibly managed. Those interested in attending will meet independently in the lobby at 10:00 am and the staff will split visitors into groups of 10 or fewer. No reservation required, they will be expecting us.

Location: 875 Hotel Circle South, 92108, 619-782-9183

Wear: Mask, comfortable shoes (for moderate standing and walking)

Admission Cost: Current buy one get one free deal results in admission cost of \$7.50 and includes all attractions and theater. Restaurant on-site with outdoor, distanced dining, if you decide to stay for lunch.

Brick Youth is back on Campus!*

We are meeting on campus on Monday nights for fun, faith and fellowship. We just started a new series, *Love to the Tenth*, examining the Ten Commandments with a new perspective. Junior high (6th—8th grade) meets from 6-7:30 pm. High School meets from 7:30-9 pm. We play games, have Bible study and wrap-up with small group discussions. All youth are invited to join us!

Brick Youth Open Door On Wednesdays from 3-5 pm*

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to Brick Open Door on Wednesday afternoons. This is simply a time to “hang out.” There is no set agenda or program. Kids are invited to come and go as they please. Youth ministry staff will be in the Youth Center to talk, play games or just hang out with students.

* **Masks must be worn and RO must have a current waiver on file to attend.**

BRICK MONDAYS

Junior High // Mondays 6-7:30 pm
High School // Mondays 7:30-9 pm
in the new Turf Area

BRICK THURSDAYS

High School // 7:30-9:00 pm
in the former Three Tree Courtyard

For more information, email
ro@pointlomachurch.org



Children and Youth today need trustworthy, reliable, consistent adult presence in their lives more than ever. We are looking for adults who love Jesus and want to make a “kingdom” impact in the lives of youth. We have various volunteer leadership positions and ways to partner with kids and families. If you are interested in volunteering with youth, reach out to RO for details on how to get involved.



Loaves & Fishes
Community, Compassion & Food

Loaves and Fishes continues to serve the hungry on the Point. In August and September, they served more 700 people per month – double the number they were serving prior to COVID when they served approximately 350 per month. They are still in need of **volunteers and financial support**. Please visit their website: sdloavesfishes.org to see how to donate. If you are interested in volunteering with them, contact, Katie Mayberry at kmayberry43@gmail.com

Additionally, Loaves and Fishes also has an Amazon “wish list” to simplify donations of personal items that they distribute as needed to clients. <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VDAG2G0IRFMS> Their goal is always to provide, at a minimum, hygiene kits which include soap, toothbrush and toothpaste and socks.

Thank you for your continued support!

CleanUp Day!



Pastor Chris and Martha

Lenocker helped clean up their neighborhood for our Serve Day in partnership with I Love a Clean San Diego! To date, the clean up days have cleared up over 26 million pounds of litter and debris.

Nicole Hage, Director | preschool@pointlomachurch.org 619-223-3327 | www.redbrickpreschool.org

The preschool is off to a great start this year. We have adjusted well to our new regulations. The preschool families are so happy to have their children in our program. We do have a few openings for 2-5 year olds if you are interested. We will be having our annual vision screening the week of October 12. Our first chapel with Pastor Karla & RO will be October 13 & 14. This year’s Halloween parade will look a bit different as we will have to keep our classes separate, but it will be fun! If you would like more information about our preschool visit www.redbrickpreschool.com or email preschool@pointlomachurch.org



Current Needs: We need a new playground structure as our 30+ year old one is no longer stable. If you would like to donate to our new playground structure fund please donate at www.pointlomachurch.org/give.



Karen Connor, Director of Children's Ministry | karen@pointlomachurch.org
619-223-1633 x215

Sunday Programs

Join us every Sunday online at 9 am for the Red Brick Kids Worship Service. Simply visit pointlomachurch.org and click on the Worship graphic.

Children's Ministry Blog

We are sharing boredom busters, inspiring videos, activities and more! Check is out today by visiting pointlomachurch.org. Click on the Ministries tab, then scroll to Children and click on the Children's Ministry Blog link on the right.

Fall Programs are Underway!

Our children are dancing, moving and drumming their way to fun and faith enrichments on Sunday morning and Monday and Thursdays nights on campus. Our Monday Journey program is at capacity, however there are still a few spots in our Thursday Music and Creative Arts program, as well as the Sunday Bible Memory Program. Contact karen@pointlomachurch.org for registration information.



Fall Schedule

**Journey
Faith & Fitness
Mondays 4-5:15 pm**

**Music &
Creative Arts
Thursdays 3:30-5:30 pm**

**Bible Memory
Sundays 9:30-10:45 am**

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is meeting via Zoom for the fall semester on Tuesdays at 7 pm.



October meeting topics:

- Oct. 6:** Bible study
- Oct. 13:** Awareness and Compassion for Others: Operation Christmas Child
- Oct. 20:** Book Club: *American Spy* by Lauren Wilkinson
- Oct. 27:** Raising Worry-Free Kids

To join us, please register at mops.org join and use the code ZBV9 to be placed in our group or email Julia Roller at mops@pointlomachurch.org for more information.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Love to decorate for Halloween?
Register to "host" a trunk on October 30
pointlomachurch.org/register

We are hosting Trunk or Treat on October 30 from 5-7 pm. This provides a safe way for kids to enjoy the fun of Halloween while maintaining social distance! We are looking for volunteers to "host" a trunk. It's simple and fun. You pick a theme, decorate your car's trunk and hand out treats to costume-clad kiddos. We'll provide the treats, you provide the car and decorations.

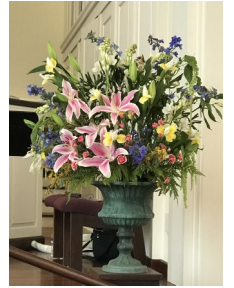
To sign-up to "host" a trunk, please visit our website: Pointlomachurch.org/register

Here are some ideas for trunk decorating. Looking for more ideas? Simply google, "Trunk or Treat" and you will find all sorts of inspiration!



Chancel Flowers—re:imagined

While we don't have flowers every week in the Sanctuary for Worship, the Deacons are delivering flowers (with masks and social distancing) in order to brighten days and bring cheer. We are so grateful to those who have donated to make this flower ministry possible this month. The flowers are given:



October 4

- by Jeanne Teft Tarter in thanksgiving for the life of her late husband, John H. Tarter, and grandparents, Essie M. and Vernon E. Tefft.
- by Elizabeth, Jim, Rachel and Sabrina Davis in loving memory of Dorothea Hosea, who is remembered by so many friends and especially her family.

October 11

- by David Lamott in loving memory of his wife, Janet Hill Lamott, and by Jo Anna, Jenny, and Sage Lamott, and Jill, Kevin, Megan and Dan O'Beirne.
- by Tyler and Susan Cramer with gratitude for her loving parents, Robert and Margaret Wybel, and her wise grandmother, Nan Wybel.

October 18

- in celebration of Howard Wygle's 96th birthday by his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.
- by Ellen and Charlie Mac Vean in loving memory of their parents, Jane and Homer Mac Vean and Marion and Russell Wollemann,; and our brother, LT. Stephen S. Mac Vean, USN.

October 25

- by Fritzi Johns in loving memory of her husband, Ed; their son, Edward Dillon Johns, and their parents.
- by Diana Holman in loving memory of her first husband, Bill, and son, Ben Stephens.



Welcome New Member!

Carolyn LeVasseur is joining PLCPC by Transfer of Certificate from Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, where she was active in the life of the church. She served as Deacon Moderator, secretary, and greeter, made hospital and home visits, prepared food and served at coffee hour and at the Soup Kitchen. Also, she was a Stephen Minister, choir member and liturgist. Carolyn is retired with two grown children. She enjoys travel, theatre, opera, dance and classical music. Special friends at PLCPC include Dwight Kellogg and Jill Curtiss. carolyn0927@yahoo.com.

You made a Difference!



Thank you to the donors who came out to support the San Diego Blood Bank! Not only will your donations touch lives, we had one of their largest turnouts of the day including four first-time donors!

Mission Beyond Update

Each year the Session of PLCPC budgets a portion of general funds for support of PLCPC's mission partners. The Mission Beyond Committee has the privilege of maintaining relationships with our mission partners throughout the year, and determining the distribution of the funds allocated by Session. Invariably the requests received for funds from our mission partners significantly exceed the budgeted amount. Our Mission Beyond annual budget for 2020 is \$69,000. In September, the Mission Beyond Committee completed the process of considering all the grant applications while prayerfully discerning each one, in order to distribute the funds.

For details on grants distributed, please contact Rita Solberg, chair of the Mission Beyond Committee, ritasolberg@cox.net or 619-865-7591 . For a list of current Mission Partners, please visit our website. pointlomachurch.org/mission-beyond

As we receive updates from our mission partners throughout the year, we are eager to share their stories with you. These are very challenging times for all of them as they navigate and continue to serve in the midst of a world pandemic. See page 4 for an update from Loaves and Fishes.

SESSION & STAFF

THE SESSION OF PLCPC *Denotes Chair

Rev. Karla Shaw, Senior Pastor 619-223-1633 Ext: 202
 Rev. Alex Wirth, Associate Pastor 619-223-1633 Ext: 205
 John Spafford, Clerk 619-985-4983, clerk@pointlomachurch.org
 Kathy Wright, Assistant Clerk 619-275-0335, kwright6@outlook.com

Elder Class of 2020	Phone	E-mail
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Douglas Buser <i>Audit, Endowment</i>	619-226-6332	valuedplanner@yahoo.com
Rebecca Cress <i>Worship & Arts*</i>	619-255-3220	cressteach@yahoo.com
Susie LaDow <i>Nominating*</i>	619-222-3790	susieladow@gmail.com
Sam Przywitowski <i>Personnel*</i>	619-313-3162	sprzywitowski@gmail.com
Rob Wood <i>Outreach</i>	619-922-1644	rwood1976@hotmail.com
Beth Zedaker, <i>Adult Ministry *</i>	619-602-6910	bethzedaker@gmail.com
Elder Class of 2021	Phone	E-mail
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Max Butterfield <i>Long Range Planning*</i>	810-441-6527	mbutter@pointloma.edu
Mike Long <i>Youth Ministry*</i>	254-640-0451	mikelong22@gmail.com
Frank Polese <i>Finance & Stewardship</i>	619-843-1282	fpolese@oasismaterials.com
Rita Solberg <i>Mission Beyond*</i>	619-222-2841	ritasolberg@cox.net
Barbett Wood* <i>Children's Ministry/ Preschool*, Presbytery Commissioner</i>	619-226-1644	makoakani@gmail.com
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Carolyn Verhoye <i>Nominating</i>	619-925-2065	worldkids2k@aol.com
Pam Werner <i>Capital Campaign</i>	619-955-8696	skiwerner@gmail.com
Stephanie Wylie <i>Personnel</i>	619-223-8240	skwylie@cox.net

Church Ministry Program and Support Staff 619-223-1633

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9 am to 5 pm
 Friday— 9 am to 1 pm

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Rev. Alex Wirth, Associate Pastor
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Rev. Dr. Chris Lenocker, Parish Associate
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Jolene Wade, Director of Operations & Church Life—Ext. 204
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Alicia McMillan, Director of Worship & Music—Ext. 208
 Organist/Director of Children's Choirs
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Joyce Pritchett, Communications Coordinator
 communications@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 209

Church Office / Front Desk—Ext. 201
 frontdesk@pointlomachurch.org

Live Events

Baptism:

Georgia James Graciano, daughter of Alana and Rodney Graciano, was Baptized on September 14, 2020 at Point Loma Community Church. Rev. Alex Wirth officiated.

Birth:

Olivia Rose, daughter of Laura and Alex Cervantes was born September 14, 2020. Proud grandmother is Lynn Greer.

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church
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San Diego, CA 92107
(619) 223-1633

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LIVING the FLOW BETWEEN

***LIVING THE FLOW BETWEEN**, is our theme for this year. We will unpack it in various forms through various groups and I hope you join in on the conversation. Abiding in Christ as the flow between things, even seemingly opposite things, takes both courage and creativity. My prayer is that we might come together as a community, even in our differences, and model that for our world.*

COMING SOON!

Our Re:imagined
Covid Story

God vs. Covid
Who has won?

Check your
mailbox the
week of
October 26