Spire

March 2022 Vol. 31 No.3

A Note from Pastor Karla...

Each year when we gather for Ash Wednesday and place ashes on each other's foreheads this act is accompanied by the words, "from dust you come and to dust you shall return." This is always an emotional act for me as, in these words, I am reminded how both close and inevitable death are, but



the truth is, these words are not meant to scare us as much as they are meant to remind us of our mortality, as in that we are also reminded of our dependence on God.

The journey inward and the journey of sacrifice during this season prepare us for the joy of the resurrection. We are not a hopeless people and death does not have the final say, God does.

Instead of looking down at the earth, though, it might also be as true to say "from stardust you have come, and from stardust you shall return." In the early 1980s, astronomer Carl Sagan hosted and narrated a 13-part television series called "Cosmos" that aired on PBS. In one of the episodes, he is famously quoted as saying, "We are a way for the universe to know itself. Some part of our being knows this is where we came from. We long to return. And we can, because the cosmos is also within us. We're made of star stuff." Sagen was not wrong. Carbon,



Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church Worship Services Sundays Sanctuary Service 9:00 am Online Service 9:30 am Café Service 10:30 am in the Chapel

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



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LOOKING AHEAD

March 2:	Ash Wednesday	
March 6:	Debrief the Sermon Begins	
March 9:	Lent Weekly Series Begins	
March 16:	Wednesday Lent Series	
March 26:	Cribbage Tournament	
March 26:	Organ Recital	
April 2:	Lenten Quiet Day	

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.

Continued on page 2

Session Meeting Highlights—February 23

Most of Session's work is done in the committees and working groups that report to it. The Session took some time to review the memberships of these groups during the February 23 meeting, as required by church bylaws. Church members and friends are encouraged to participate on Session committees. The list of committees and their chairs can be found on the Session and Staff page here in the *Spire*.

The Session reviewed the most recent renovation plans, on hold since 2020. Elder John Brand, Renovation Task Force chair, has activated that planning group with new members.

Pastor Karla reviewed the current Covid restrictions and requirements, and discussed future steps toward a safe and more interactive church life.

The meeting closed with news of the community, and special prayers for Elder Greg Cuddeback's health.

John Spafford

Clerk

A Note from Pastor Karla, continued from page 1

THE WORD OF THE LORD

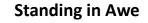
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nitrogen and oxygen atoms in our bodies, as well as atoms of all other heavy elements, were created in previous generations of stars over 4.5 billion years ago. Because humans contain these elements, we are literally made of star stuff.

I don't know about you, but to me this makes a lot more sense than the dust of the earth. As stardust most certainly still reminds me of mortality, after all it is still dust, but looking up at the night sky also elevates the boundless grace of God. We may be dust, but with God we are still found among the stars.

May this image be a guide for us during this Lenten season. As we remember we are dust, may we also remember the God-ordained cosmos.

Pastor Karla



You may have seen Pastor Karla preaching from an upgraded stand these last weeks. Where did it come from? A big thank you to John Spafford and Suzy Spafford Lidstrom who secretly designed and created this beautiful adjustable podium and gave it to Pastor Karla as a Christmas gift from the church! Two years in the making, the wood



used was reclaimed from our former pulpit and Sanctuary pews. The inscription, in font inspired by the Chancel stained glass window reads, "The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!"

Pastor Karla is so grateful to retire the old creaky (and not so attractive) music stands.

Choral Ensemble—Rehearsals Sundays at 8 am. Open to all adults and high school students who want to sing once a month in worship.

Contact: Alicia McMillan, alicia@pointlomachurch.org Sunday Scripture Group—Sundays at 10:30 am in the Parlor. Current series: *The Chosen,* is a multi-season television drama based on the life of Jesus. We're watching Season 2 of this highly popular crowd-funded series.

Contact: Bob Simoneau, grs55@cox.net

Monday Morning Men—Monday mornings from 8:00-9:00 am. Virtual coffee via Zoom. Different guest speakers each week. Contact: Evan Gratz, evan@pointlomachurch.org

Women's Bible Study—Tuesday at 9:00 am Chapel and online via Zoom. Pastor Karla leads this weekly study. The ladies are currently studying the book of Proverbs.

Contact: Clara Blenis, cblenis@sdccd.edu

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) — Meeting both in-person and via Zoom this year. See page 5 for specific programs in March. Contact: Julia Roller, mops@pointlomachurch.org

Men@Work— **Tuesdays at 8:30 am in the Library.** We've resumed our in-person gatherings and continue to connect via ZOOM with those who cannot attend in person. New members are always welcome to join us for a time of fellowship, Bible study and work projects around campus.

Contact: Jobs or other queries Don Griffith, 619-432-2682 or don.griffith69@gmail.com. For the Zoom link or study info: Em Cummins, emcum@sdsu.edu.

Continuing the Conversation March 23

For what cause are you willing to go to jail? For what cause



are you willing to face being physically attacked? Continuing The Conversation (CTC) continues the PBS series "Eyes on the Prize" on March 23 with the viewing and discussion of Episode 3. Event details and registration information will be provided closer to the date. All are invited to this continuing study of the Civil Rights Movement.

In Episode 3 we learn how courageous Black college students in 1960 used lunch counter sit-ins in Nashville to advance the Civil Rights Movement. Then, hear the story of the Freedom Riders, who though brutally attacked, continued their travel through the South in 1961 to desegregate interstate buses.

"Eyes on the Prize" tells the story of the civil rights era from the point of view of the ordinary men and women involved. Their extraordinary actions launched a movement that changed the fabric of American life today. A movement whose struggle continues.

For additional information contact: Gordy Lutes, gklutes@gmail.com.

Continuing The Conversation (CTC)—4th Monday at 6 pm. *Eyes on the Prize* Episode 3 viewing and discussion. See below for more details.

Contact: Gordy Lutes, gklutes@gmail.com

Wednesday Men's Bible Study at 5pm in the Parlor. We will continue to offer a Zoom connection for those who cannot attend, using the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6192231623 and Meeting ID: 619 223 1623.

Contact: Gresham Bayne, cgbaynemd@gmail.com

Ladies Book Study (for women in their 20s, 30s and 40s)— Thursdays at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Resumes in May with *The Listening Life* by Adam McHugh

Contact: Pastor Karla, karla@pointlomachurch.org Red Brick Knitters and Crocheters—2nd Thursday from 10 am – noon in the Parlor.

Contact: Judy White, gmajudy@san.rr.com

Centering Prayer—Thursdays at 6:00 pm weekly, via Zoom. Contact: Tom Baker, tbakerusa@gmail.com

New Covenant Choir — Thursday at 7:00 pm

Contact: Alicia McMillan, alicia@pointlomachurch.org Prayer Quilt Ministry— 1st Saturday from 9 am-3 pm in the Family Life Center.

Contact: Karen Vandenberg, ktvandenberg@aol.com.



A Lenten offering of Debrief the Sermon will meet the first five Sundays of Lent (March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3). The group will meet collectively from 10:30-11:15 am in a hybrid model of in person and online folks. We will have a chance to unpack, discuss and personalize the Lenten sermon series, *Full to the Brim* as we focus on God's extravagant and boundless grace! Let's learn together how to be open to receiving one of God's greatest gifts, GRACE!

All are invited to join us any week! If you have any questions, please reach out to Cheryl Louie at clouie3@gmail.com.

BRICK MONDAYS on the Turf March Series: Acts of the Apostles Junior High (6th-8th grade): 6:00-7:15 pm High School (9th-12th grade): 7:30-9 pm

During the month of March we are starting a series called Acts of the Apostles. It is all about the things that the apostles of Jesus went on to do in the world and attempting to answer

the question: how do we live in a world that Jesus is not physically in?

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUP Current Series: Let's Unpack That Thursdays 7:30-9:00 pm

We are still in our "Let's Unpack That" series. So far we have talked about hell, satan, religion, spirituality, and we have a lot more stuff on the horizon. We would love to see high schoolers join us on! Contact Michael for the location.



What looks like a weird ritual is actually just the high schoolers embracing their younger side! Who says teenagers don't like to play?



We encourage our students to spend as much time as possible with the ones they love!

Youth Center Re-Set

The Youth Center was transformed with lots of hard work and sweat by

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a crew of youth and adult volunteers. Old broken furniture was removed, new couches were assembled and the room was generally spruced up to be more welcoming and comfortable. Next time you are on campus, head upstairs to check out the fruits of their labor.



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Parent Survey— We Want to Hear From You!

You should have received a Parent Survey from the Children's Ministry in your e-mail. Please respond to the survey by Friday, March 11. If you did not receive the survey, please reach out to Lem and he will forward the survey to you.



We are so excited for the return of Easter Fest! We are planning activities for all ages. We will celebrate Palm Sunday worship at 9:00 am in both the Sanctuary and Chapel. Following the services, the campus will be filled with crafts, games, activities, snacks and so much more for all ages. Please invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us for all the fun!

Sunday Programs

Our Kids Worship continues to meet each Sunday morning in the Children's Center upstairs. All kids in grades preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us during Worship at either 9:00 am or 10:30 am.

Please drop your children off in the Narthex (9:00 am Sanctuary) or the Chapel (10:30 am Café). After Worship, please pick-up your children on the Preschool Playground.

Nursery care is available for those 6 months—3 years old.

Our MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group meets on campus every other Monday morning and on Zoom on alternating Tuesday nights for discussion, encouragement, and learning. We are open to any moms with children preschool age and younger. Please join us! For more information, email Julia Roller at mops@pointlomachurch.org.

Upcoming events include: March 1 Book Club Fight Night by Miriam Toews (Zoom)

March 7 *Navigating Your Child's Ups and Downs* by Tracy Carson, MFT

March 15 Marriage: On the Same Team (Zoom)

March 21 Speaker and Topic TBD

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

The preschool is looking for qualified substitute teachers. If you or someone you know are interested in some part-time work guiding and teaching some of the littlest children among us, please email preschool@pointlomachurch.org for instructions on how to apply.





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



Percussion Ensemble

Tuesdays, March 1, March 15 & March 29, 11:00 am - Family Life Center Back by popular demand, the Percussion Ensemble will take place in 3 sessions this month. Join Adam Thompson as he leads the group in World Beat drumming, vocal chants, and rhythmic meditations. Participants are encouraged to attend all 3 classes. **Sign up today! Space is limited.**



St. Patrick's Day Luncheon with Fiddle Girl Tuesday, March 8, Doors open at 10:00 am; Music & Lunch 11am-Noon Family Life Center - \$5 Donation

Enjoy upbeat Irish tunes and dancing by Celia Lawley, also known as "The Fiddle Girl." A traditional meal of corned beef & cabbage, potatoes and Irish soda bread will be served. *Reservations will close 3/6 so RSVP today!*



Driving Ambition: Keeping Seniors Safely Behind the Wheel Presented by church member, Dr. James Grisolia, Neurologist Wednesday, March 23, Noon-1:30 pm, Family Life Center

Church member and neurologist, Dr. James Grisolia, will discuss normal changes that affect driving as we age; the effects of medication on our driving; and what to look for in our spouses, friends & family to ensure safe driving. Alternative transportation services will also be discussed. Dr. Grisolia is a general neurologist practicing in downtown San Diego. He is the chief of staffelect at Scripps Mercy Hospital. Besides serving as senior VP for the Epilepsy Foundation, he has worked with the state level DMV and CHP on driving safety. **RSVP to Elaine. Note:** This lecture will be LIVESTREAMED as well as offered in-person. To watch the livestream, go to www.pointlomachurch.org 5 minutes before the lecture and click on a banner to join the livestream.



Home Safety for Senior Adults

A Presentation by Officer David Surwilo, SDPD Community Relations, Western Division Tuesday, March 22, 11:00 am - Family Life Center

Learn how to protect yourself, your home and your property by attending this informative presentation by the officer familiar with our community. Light refreshments served. RSVP required.



Miniature Golfing at The Loma Club in Liberty Station

March 30, 11:00 am. Join us for an afternoon of fun at the new 18-hole "Tappers" Miniature Golf Course at The Loma Club, 2960 Truxton Road. If you would like a ride in the church van, please let Elaine know and meet at the church at 10:30 am. Or meet us at the course at 11:00 am. Cost of Golfing is \$18, no host lunch (items range from\$10-15). *Please note: This outing requires standing and walking, and navigating around curb-like obstacles.*



Forever Fit Gentle Exercise Class |Wednesdays, 9:00 – 9:50 am |Family Life Center Elke Ertle, Instructor

Get fit at this free, gentle exercise class especially for senior adults. Weights provided, bring your own water and towel. This class is offered in partnership with the Ryan Family YMCA and made possible through a generous gift from the David Arnold Baldwin Trust.



You can now register for any of these events ONLINE at www.pointlomachurch.org/register or you can always call or email Elaine to RSVP.

March Flower Donors

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:

March 6

- in joyful memory of parents Helen and Bill Kearns, and sister Maggie, by Carol (Kearns) Nicolson and Kathy (Kearns) Dixon.
- by Enny Smith to continue to thank the Lord for His joy and love for her 65th birthday.

March 13

- in loving memory of Glen Burgess by the Davis family, we miss you big guy.
- in celebration of Charlie, Ellen, Stephen and Margaret MacVean's March birthdays.

March 20

• by Kathy and Larry Willette and family in loving memory of our parents, Jess and Florence Willette and Lawrence and Bernice Chabot.

March 27

• in loving memory of Bud Bunyard by his wife Char, daughter and son-in-law Kelly and Tim Ferrin, son Michael, and grandson Alex.

Singers Wanted for the Easter Choir

We are looking for singers to join our Easter Choir for the two Easter services at 9:00 and 10:30 am on April 17. Rehearsals will be on Thursdays from March 10 - April 14 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm, plus a dress rehearsal with brass on Saturday, April 16 from 11 am - noon. For more information or to join, please contact Alicia at alicia@pointlomachurch.org



Upcoming Drama and Choir Class for Children



The next session of our Children's Music and Arts program will focus on Drama and Choir. The 6 week session runs from April 7 - May 22 (no class April 14). Open to all children in grades 1-6, the class meets on Thursdays from 4-6 pm. Children will prepare drama and music to lead the Worship service on Sunday, May 22. The class will help children grow spiritually through scripturally based songs, provide group voice lessons focused on developing healthy vocal techniques, develop confidence and self-esteem and creative expression. Special parts available for all children. Class cost is \$50, Registration information is on our website:

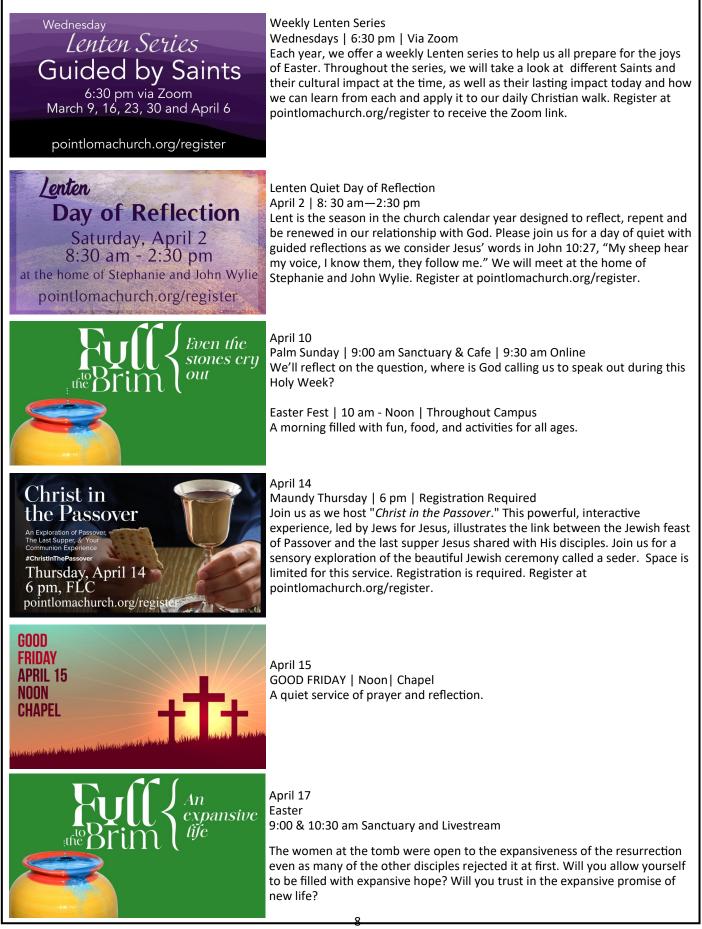
pointlomachurch.org/register.

Organ Recital Featuring Women Composers

The American Guild of Organists is presenting an organ recital at PLCP on March 26 at noon. The recital will honor women composers. More details coming soon!



Lenten Offerings





Cribbage Tournament—March 26

Our first Cribbage Tournament last fall was so much fun, we are doing it again! Yes, Cribbage, the classic card game that actually originated in England in the early 17th century. Whether you are an experience Cribbage player, have never played or are somewhere in between, there is space for you at our Cribbage Tournament.

Make plans now to join us on March 26 at 9:30 am in the Family Life Center. Please register in advance at pointlomachurch.org/register.



Rejoice Easter Cards for Our Military

Join us in the Family Life Center on Sunday March 13 during Coffee on the Porch to write Easter cards for our military. Cards will be mailed overseas in time for military personnel to read for Easter. Cards and pens will be supplied for your use.

Any questions please contact Deacon Jeanie Spies at jeanbspies@gmail.com

Life Events

Births

- Tracy and Whitney Wilkinson are celebrating the birth of their first grandchild, Rory Parker Brady on January 3, 2022. Rory's parents are Taylor and Rhett Brady.
- Tyler and Susan Cramer are celebrating the birth of grandchild, Emmett Cramer Kovacich, born on January 27, 2022 in Santa Barbara, CA. Proud parents are Megan Cramer and Patrick Kovacich.

Baptisms

- Evander Bechara El Khoury, child of Kristin and Jad El Khoury, was baptized on February 6, 2022 in the Sanctuary. Pastor Karla Shaw officiated.
- Evangeline Grace Sisler, child of Mark Sisler and Melissa Mullins Sisler, was baptized on February 21, 2022 at Kellogg Beach. Rev. Karla Shaw officiated.
- Kai Noam Lazaro and Juniper Phileena Lazaro, children of Philippe and Deanna Lazaro were baptized on February 27, 2022 in the Sanctuary. Rev. Karla Shaw officiated.
- Matthew Christopher Douglas was baptized on February 27, 2022 in the Sanctuary. Rev. Karla Shaw officiated.

Deaths

- Wayne Calvin Smith passed away on January 31, 2022. His memorial service was held on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Rev. Karla Shaw officiated.
- Ray Gill passed away on January 28, 2022. A graveside service was held at the Miramar National Cemetery.
- April Stebbins Dorman passed away on February 10, 2022. Her memorial service was held on February 20, 2022 at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Rev. Karla Shaw officiated.
- Hal Sadler passed away January 21, 2022. His memorial service was held on February 27, 2022 at 2:00 pm at The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park.

It was a Super Sunday!

Thank you for joining us for our Annual Meeting and BBQ Lunch on February 13. It was a great time of fellowship combined with important church business.

Additionally, The Balfours and a few other folks spent their Sunday afternoon serving at Ladle Fellowship. We are grateful for your servant hearts and hands!







A few of the Men at Work were hard at work last week painting over the communal canvas on the Turf Area. Watch that space for something new coming very soon! Special thanks to Rob Hanna, Don Griffith and Em Cummins for getting their hands a little bit dirty!



The Bible Beat Drum Class enriched our Sunday, February 13 Worship service with their fantastic beats.



THE SESSION OF PLCPC *Denotes Chair

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

Elder Class of 2022	Phone	E-mail
John Brand Facilities, Renovation*	619-992-1835	jbrand@sentre.com
Chris Capen Worship & Arts*	858-243-7515	chriscapen@mac.com
Kristin Stephany Adult Ministry, Audit*	619-654-6180	winechickks@aol.com
Carolyn Verhoye Nominating*	619-925-2065	worldkids2k@aol.com
Pam Werner Stewardship*	619-955-8696	skiwerner@gmail.com
Stephanie Wylie Personnel*	619-223-8240	skwylie@cox.net
Elder Class of 2023	Phone	E-mail
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Susan Cramer Planning*	619-971-0541	Swcramer1@gmail.com
Carolyn Griesemer Children*	619-929-7201	carolyn.griesemer@gmail.com
Lynn Ziegenfuss Adult Ministry*	619-573-3372	lynnziggy@gmail.com
Elder Class of 2024	Phone	E-mail
Debbie Fountain Worship & Arts	619-226-7718	debbiefountain2278@gmail.com
Katie Fulhorst Facilities*	858-274-1482	katiefulhorst@gmail.com
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Jason Pritchett Youth*	619-994-0604	jasontheeagle@yahoo.com
Cynthia Queen Nominating	619-223-2538	cynthiaqueen67@gmail.com
Jason Stevenor At-Large	309-453-1273	cubchief83@gmail.com

Church Ministry Program and Support Staff 619-223-1633 OFFICE HOURS

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

Rev. Karla Shaw, Senior Pastor karla@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 202

Rev. Dr. Chris Lenocker, Parish Associate chris.lenocker@gmail.com—619-987-8433

Melissa Mullins, Director of Online Ministry melissa@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 217

Jolene Wade, Director of Operations —Ext. 204 jolene@pointlomachurch.org

RO Smith, Digital Content Producer/Worship Leader ro@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 205

Alicia McMillan, Director of Worship & Music—Ext. 208 Organist/Director of Children's Choirs alicia@pointlomachurch.org

Adam Thompson, Music and Children's Choir Assistant adam@pointlomachurch.org

> Bryan Verhoye, Music Associate & Pianist mravgguy@aol.com

Evan Gratz, Director of Community Life evan@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 211

Elaine Burrell, Director of Senior Adult Ministry/ Congregational Care Coordinator elaine@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 210

Michael Lombrano, Director of Youth Ministry/Café Media michael@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 216

Lemuel Blackett, Director of Children's Ministry lemuel@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 215

> Julia Roller, MOPS Coordinator mops@pointlomachurch.org

Nicole Hage, Preschool Director preschool@pointlomachurch.org—Ext. 220

Andrea Benitez, Preschool Admin Assistant andrea@pointlomachurch.org –Ext. 221

Ann Simoneau, Administrative Assistant—Ext. 203 ann@pointlomachurch.org

Sharon Taylor, Staff Accountant—Ext. 206 sharon@pointlomachurch.org

Joyce Pritchett Communications Coordinator communications@pointlomachurch.org-Ext. 209

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

Seeking A Little Help!

Everyone needs a little bit of help sometimes. The Church Office is no exception! We are looking for:

- One person who is experienced in accounts payable, payroll, general ledger entries and statements to serve in an on-call role as a fillin bookkeeper. This is a paid part-time, as-needed, limited position.
- We are also looking for a few volunteers to assistant in the office with some basic administrative needs to include help with maintaining/organizing the church database, and/or answering phones, and/or assisting with church mailings (folding, labeling, sorting, etc.) Some volunteer positions have regular hours, and many are as needed or drop in. These are all flexible roles.
 If you are interested in becoming a helper, please reach out to Jolene Wade at 619-223-1633 x204.

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church 2128 Chatsworth Boulevard San Diego, CA 92107 (619) 223-1633 NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 188 SAN DIEGO, CA

Deacons' Annual Lenten Food Drive Through April 17

Bring Donations of Non-perishable Food Items and Personal hygiene Items to collection boxes on campus.



The Deacons' annual Lenten Food Drive is in full swing. Donations of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items are needed to support our mission partners including: New Day Urban Ministries, Loaves & Fishes, OB Community Dinners and Military Outreach Ministries.

Donations may be brought to any on-campus Worship service or event or the church office. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please note "Lenten Food Drive" in the memo line of your check. Or you can give online and select "Lenten Food Drive" from the dropdown menu.

The return of VBS promises to be **MONUMENTAL!**

Registration will begin on March 15 for children and volunteers. Watch your email for more details

