

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST



Sharing the Good News of Mission Hills United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming (ONA) Congregation

April 2022

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 10: come by 9:45 am and gather in the parking lot to process into the sanctuary. Cut some small palm branches from your home to bring with you and to share. Then stay for Stone Soup after worship.

Maundy Thursday, April 14: at 7 pm – both in-person and online (Facebook and YouTube), we will commemorate the Last Supper. Our liturgy will include the Tenebrae, the Darkening Shadows. The service will end with the lights off and stripping the sanctuary of the paraments.

Good Friday, April 15: Join us on Zoom only at Noon and 7 pm for a brief reflection on the Seven Last Words of Jesus.

Easter, April 17

- ◇ Sunrise service at 6:30 am in the courtyard. In-person only.
- ◇ Easter Worship 10 am – in person and online – with trumpets and brass and joyful celebration.
- ◇ Easter Egg Hunt following worship – invite friends, neighbors, grandchildren to worship and festivities afterward.

I'm looking forward participating in your traditions and introducing a few of mine. Funny small-world connection: I wrote the last Maundy Thursday liturgy Pastor Scott used in 2019. It was published by the UCC in *Worship Ways* and churches around the country have used it. I love discovering those connections!

One more special service. On *Sunday, April 3*, worship will include anointing with oil, a promise to be a healing presence in a world of hurt and division.

Blessings,
Pastor David

Moderator's Message

I am a Racist (We all are)

I felt compelled by my mind, my heart and my soul to confess this sin. Persons only have a chance to become better persons if they are self-reflective.

I was watching television, engrossed in what was happening in Ukraine. I switched channels and I found myself watching the NAACP annual awards.

The show cut to commercial. It showed two young African American guys walking into a bodega type of store. I sensed, they were acting weird. They were not choosing items and going to buy them. They were meandering and picking things up and putting them down like they were killing time until something happened. That sense was reinforced by the shots of the Clerk looking over suspiciously.

What happened? A friend wandered in and they embraced and headed off to whatever activity they were scheduled for. What was I anticipating?

I was afraid one or both were going to pull out a handgun. I was afraid they were going to point it at the clerk. I thought it was a robbery or worse in the making.

My second guilty thought, I wanted to believe that if it had been two skinheads or whatever we think of as Caucasian thugs, I would have had the same reaction. But, isn't that the point? I saw two young African Americans acting out of the ordinary and my anticipation was something bad was going to happen. Then, I try to sanitize my subconscious leap by thinking if it were white apparent criminals, I would have reacted the same. If I see African American brothers and sisters acting oddly as potential criminals versus only seeing my white brothers and sisters as potential threats if they are actually demonstrating a threat, what does that say about me?

I pray for forgiveness and guidance. At the Museum of Tolerance up in the L.A. area, when I went on the tour, at one point they point to a door and say everyone who isn't racist should take that door. It's locked and doesn't go anywhere. The point... everyone is racist. But, until we allow ourselves to acknowledge that and consciously try and recognize when we are thinking or acting racist, we will not diminish our own flaws. Until we as a society start to work to diminish our flaws, the world our non-privileged brothers and sisters experience will not change for the better.

***Prayers and Love,
Jon***

Sunday 10 am Worship Service

Please join us for worship in person or watch our livestream on [Facebook](#) and our [YouTube](#) Channel.

A bulletin link is emailed at 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays and posted on [Facebook](#) Sunday morning if you wish to follow along.

On Mondays you can find closed caption video on our [website](#) and [YouTube](#).

ZOOM Fellowship Time

If you are watching the worship service from home, perhaps you'd like to chat with others at the end of the service - catch up with old friends, meet some new people.

Join us immediately following the service by using the Zoom information below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86419475741?pwd=bUZ0VHRYTXNQZHlKU0cWdGpL2l3QT09>

Meeting ID: 864 1947 5741

Passcode: 651063

Mission Hills United Church of Christ
4070 Jackdaw Street, San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 296-2169; Fax (619) 296-2115
Website: www.missionhillsucc.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

Position	Staff Member	Phone Ext.	Email
Pastor	Rev. Dr. David Bahr	ext. 302	David.Bahr@missionhillsucc.org
Administrative Assistant	Elizabeth Quinones	ext. 301	Elizabeth.Quinones@missionhillsucc.org
Director of Instrumental Music	Kristopher Abels		kjabels@gmail.com
Director of Choral Music	Angelica Eclar		angelicaella89@gmail.com
Worship Technologies Coordinator	Saige Afalava		saige.afalava17@gmail.com
Worship Technician	Trevor Norkowski		

Additional Staff: Sunday Nursery - Gloria Schacht, Amelia Norkowski

General information

info@missionhillsucc.org

News subscriptions & submissions (due on the 20th)

news@missionhillsucc.org

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Thank you from Courtney

After driving ~2000 miles through a bit of snow and freezing temperatures where my California windshield wiper fluid froze @5/6000 ft, I was glad to have my new viking knit hat to keep me warm scraping off the ice. After unpacking many boxes, I am settling in and finding my way around the Mayo Clinic and Rochester, MN. It was difficult to say "good-bye for now", but you made the parting possible with your wonderful supportive gifts, cards, emails, social media posts, and words of love and care.

Thank you for such a beautiful "send-off" blessing helping me to move forward for this new in chapter. In hindsight, I wish I could have shared more formal words in the last service of how much all of you and MHUCC mean to me, especially over these last few years. I felt fortunate, however, to barely make it through our last partaking of communion together. Simple words cannot convey how your love and witness have filled and transformed my life in so many profound ways. Truly, MHUCC lives what it means to love and to serve and to be a community united in the Spirit of Christ.

Thank you for sharing your heart with me. Your warmth and support carried me through the miles on my journey and sustains me here, filling my Spirit with love, so many beautiful memories, and great joy.

MHUCC = best church ever!!!

Many blessings,
Courtney (formerly known as Pastor Courtney)



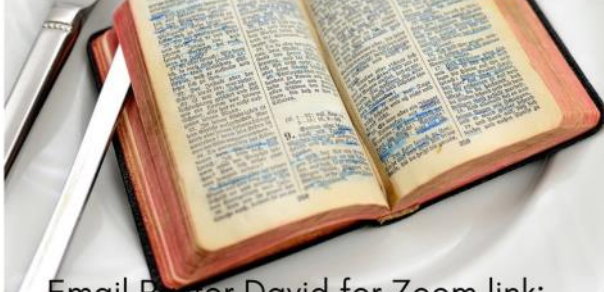
Meeting Minutes

In order to enhance communication with the Congregation, here is a link to the minutes of the February Church Council Meeting:

<https://missionhillsucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/FebCouncilMinutes.pdf>

Lunch & Lectionary

THURSDAYS @ NOON VIA ZOOM



Email Pastor David for Zoom link:
david.bahr@missionhillsucc.org

Mission Hills UCC



If you wish to give to our mission and ministry,
you may use this QR Code to connect with our giving page.

We thank you for your generosity!

April Birthdays

Apr 2	Danielle Carlin
Apr 5	Susan Waller
Apr 6	Alyssa Calonis
Apr 7	Steve McIntee Geru Mu
Apr 8	Samantha Brown Marilyn Miles
Apr 10	Andrew Wolf
Apr 15	Don Taylor Barbara Snodgrass
Apr 18	Guy Halgren
Apr 22	Alyssa Huntington Tommy Huntington
Apr 23	Julia Bohnet
Apr 25	Samantha Pettis
Apr 27	Anne Reichman Sue Lake
Apr 28	Jennifer Hom
April 30	Bettie Cain



Please contact the church office
with corrections or additions to the
birthday list.



Green Manor

Green Manor is now accepting applications for its waiting list. Individuals must be 62 to get an application. The first 75 received will be considered.

For more information, contact Mary at 619-297-1601

Wouldn't you like to — Have a Place at the MHUCC Table ??



The Nominating Committee for 2022 has the task of finding members and friends of the church who are willing to serve in the 9 different ministries of our church.

We particularly are looking for parents of children in Sunday School or of youth in the Church Youth Group to serve on the Faith Formation Ministry which serves to help oversee those programs.

Would you enjoy getting to know new church members and help visitors and new members feel welcomed at MHUCC? Then serving on Membership and Growth could be a great fit for you.

Interested in the church building, rental and use of the building to outside groups/ organizations, or in the use of technology and social media in the church? The you might enjoy finding out more by serving on the Property, Administration & Technology Ministry.

Love the music offered in each Sunday's services? Have some ideas for integrating more of the arts into Sunday services? Serving on the Worship, Arts, and Music ministry could be the perfect position for you.

Interested in finding out more about the church's budget, finances, and investment of church funds? Then serving on the Stewardship and Investment Ministry could be the perfect place for your service.

Speaking of finances, we have the critical task of finding a new Church Treasurer to fill the position currently held by Gordon Adler who has very ably handled this position for **7 Years** and deserves a much needed break. If you have a background in accounting, finance, and/or budgeting, we'd love to talk to you and see if you could serve as our next Treasurer. With a strong Stewardship and Investment Ministry to work with and training and help with learning the position from Gordon Adler, this position could be a great opportunity to serve MHUCC in a most valuable way.

Have questions? Like to get more information? Please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee:

Carol Holt: clholt@cox.net

Marilyn Miles: mfmiles235@att.net

Bruce Ramet: rramet@gmail.com

Georgia Rickert: georgia@plumosa.org

Barbara Snodgrass: barbarasnodgrass@cox.net

Dennis Stryker: dstryker@cox.net

Sharon Van Bruggen: la_svb@yahoo.com

Thanks for considering being part of church operations.

Youth Group

Here is our pattern for youth group activities on Sundays:

- 1st Sunday: Youth in the service, participate in communion, and meet briefly after church (check in)
- 2nd Sunday: Youth group meet during the service. Gather in the courtyard after the 'children's message'
- 3rd Sunday: Youth participate in service. Liturgist, ushers, contribute music, meet briefly after church (check in)
- 4th Sunday: Youth group meet during the service. Gather in the courtyard after the 'children's message'



Thank you Danielle!

We want to thank Danielle for serving as our Youth Leader. She has decided not to return after maternity leave. She helped establish a strong cohort of youth who will be together for many years thanks to her work and for that we are all grateful.

We will now begin a search for a new youth leader while we still seek a Director of Ministry with Children and Families. Since both positions require engagement on Sunday mornings, we will be searching for two individuals. We would love your assistance in finding the people made for this important role in our church.

Stone Soup - April 10



Fellowship Ministry will host a Stone Soup Luncheon on April 10th. Bring a chopped vegetable, pasta or rice to the social hall before the church service to add to our turkey broth. We will also make gluten free soup and vegetarian soup.

For more information,
please contact Anne Reichman.

Souper Bowl - Thank you

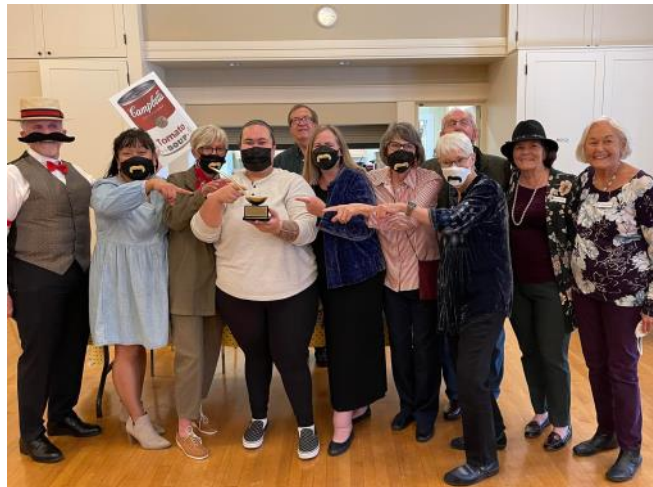
To everyone who participated in a VERY SUCCESSFUL **SOUPer Bowl Sunday** event. The SOUP Makers, the SOUP TA\$TER\$, the SOUP VOTER\$, The SET UP and TAKE DOWN folks, the BOWL AND SPOON washers, the VOTE counters, and the EVENT ORGANIZERS.

The Soup Group that received the **GOLDEN SPOON** award was the "Choir" with their French Onion Soup.

The Soup Group that received the **SILVER SPOON** award was the "Youth Group" with their Sweet & Impossible Chilies.

BUT, the Biggest Winner in this event is **UPTOWN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER & their CLIENTS** with the donations collected at this event of **\$5000**

Thank you to ALL of the kind and generous souls who made this fundraiser an outstanding success.



Sunday Opportunities

Church is nothing without community, and MHUCC has the best! Want to be more engaged with ours? Please consider the following:

- Welcoming new visitors as well as members and friends:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a9a823a6f94-greeters>
- Being a Sunday Morning Liturgist:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a9a823a6f94-liturgists>
- Ushering on Sunday Mornings
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a9a823a6f94-usher>
- Providing Flowers for the Chancel
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F45A9A823A6F94-altar>
- Providing Fellowship Hour Refreshments
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a9a823a6f94-coffee1>

A new Member in Discernment

We are happy to announce that Ken Jensen has been recommended by the Southern Association's Committee on Ministry to be an official "Member in Discernment."

While Ken has been on this journey to ministry for several years, - attending Seminary, completing the UCC "Polity and History" class, completing the discernment process with our local Discernment Committee, - this announcement by the Southern Association marks a significant new phase. Among his next steps will be completion of a Social Justice Ministry project and his Clinical Pastoral Education. As Ken continues on this journey to Ordination, we remind everyone that we are called, as members of Ken's home church, to offer him our prayers, support, and encouragement.

History Corner



Hope Mercereau Bryson was a quite well known artist in San Diego during the 1930's. At that time, she and her husband lived at 4291 Hermosa Way in Mission Hills and were members of our congregation. She studied at the National Academy in New York, the Corcoran School in Washington DC.; and she studied portrait work with Henri Murrisset in Paris. She exhibited frequently in our area and some of her work is still available at art auction sites. On the left is her photograph and on the right is a portrait she painted of a young woman.

