

# PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST



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

March 2022

## ***Lent at MHUCC***

Lent has often involved such practices as solitude and giving up. After two years of Covid, we've been there, done that. So, we're following a different path this year – focusing on reminders of God's abundant love and expansive grace. The gospel texts this Lent are brimming with gratitude – Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured lavishly, and stones shouting their praise. The theme we are following is Full to the Brim: An Expansive Lent. In addition to special services for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, we will share daily email affirmations, offer small group engagements every week, and weekly worship services to express gratitude and prepare ourselves with hope to seek justice.

Blessings on our journey,

Pastor David

### Daily Emails

We will be sending a daily email affirmation and prayer on the theme of an Expansive Lent. If you received the daily Advent devotional, you will receive this. If you didn't, please let us know, [missionhillsucc@gmail.com](mailto:missionhillsucc@gmail.com)

### Ash Wednesday - March 2

You are welcome to come to the church for a brief Imposition of Ashes at Noon or 6 pm. And then our Partnership Service with our 6 UCC San Diego congregations will be at 7 pm on Zoom. You can sign on anytime after 6:30 to chat with other participants.

Join us on [zoom!](#)

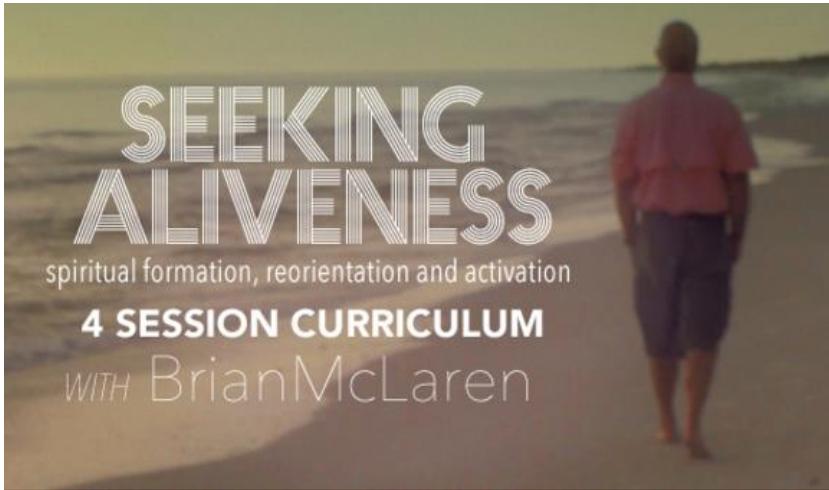


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## Lent at MHUCC (continued)

### Tuesday Zoom Groups

We will have Zoom groups for 5 Tuesdays in Lent March 3 through April 5 at [Noon](#) and [7 pm](#). We will use “Seeking Aliveness,” a video curriculum from The Work of the People. We will journey with Brian McLaren on themes from his book *We Make the Road by Walking: a yearlong quest for spiritual formation, reorientation and activation*. These Tuesday sessions will offer up much food for thought, encouraging us to walk boldly into new forms and possibilities of an alive faith that God sets before us. Let us journey together on our Lenten Way.



### *Zoom Information:*

#### [Noon:](#)

Meeting ID:  
843 4328 3676

Passcode: 764621

#### [7 pm:](#)

Meeting ID:  
833 4482 5999

Passcode: 969279

### Lunch and Lectionary

L&L continues and always welcomes new participants at Noon on Thursdays on Zoom. We will discuss and study gospel texts that are full to the brim with grace and love. Contact Pastor David, [david.bahr@missionhillsucc.org](mailto:david.bahr@missionhillsucc.org) for information.

### Holy Week

We will have an in-person Maundy Thursday service at 7 pm (also live-streamed) to commemorate the Last Supper.

On Good Friday we will gather for a short meditation on Zoom at Noon and 7 pm.

## Courtney's Farewell Reception

We will all miss Rev. Courtney Mys, whose last Sunday will be March 6<sup>th</sup>. A farewell reception will be held following worship, **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, to celebrate and thank Courtney for her service to Mission Hills UCC.

*For more information please contact Pat Wahlen.*

## Moderator's Message/Annual Corporate Meeting

I will be Moderator a few more months. My hope, my prayer, is by the time my tenure ends, our Church, its services and other gatherings will look as much like they did before the pandemic than they have since. I know it has been difficult, frustrating and sometimes scary trying to figure out how to safely reopen the Church. In fact, with Omicron, it was as if we took several steps back.

Now as our Community and Nation seem to be re-emerging from Omicron restrictions, hopefully we are back on track to whatever "normal" is going to look like in the future. For our Church, a big part of that is our Congregational meetings. We were supposed to have one in January, but that was when the spike in cases was at its worst.

The good news is that the spike has subsided and case numbers are down. Last month, the Church Council, by affirmation, decided to have our Corporate Meeting on **Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will handle the regular matters for our usually held in January meeting, voting on the Nominating Committee and the Church Budget. We are also going to be addressing two other items that came up during the pandemic.

Since the Congregation could not meet together, as required by our Bylaws, and some matters had to be approved for the Church to continue to function, the Church Council took several votes on behalf of the entire Congregation. These actions included approving two Nominating slates for our officers and Ministries, an annual budget and some large expenditures. If you like, you can visit the links below and review each and every one. Since we are a Church that is governed by the Congregation itself, it seemed appropriate to hold a vote of the Congregation to affirm the decisions the Council had to make for the Church.

Furthermore, to be prepared in case we are again unable to meet together because of some emergency, an addition to the Bylaws has been proposed. The addition would create a process for Church business to continue even if the Congregation cannot get together as a whole.

Now, we will need as many people who can attend the meeting March 13<sup>th</sup> after Church as possible so we can ensure a quorum. So, if you feel comfortable to come, please do, we will need you. If you don't because of medical or whatever other reasons, please do not feel you are disappointing anyone. A Church family is made up of many people with many different skills, abilities and strengths. Sometimes, an important ability is being able to safely come to Church. I am confident that if everyone who does feel comfortable and is available the 13<sup>th</sup> come, we will be fine.

*Peace and love,  
Jon*

[Link to Agenda](#)

[Link to Proposed Additions to By-laws](#)

[Link to Proposed Affirmation Vote](#)

## 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

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(619) 296-2169; Fax (619) 296-2115

**Website: [www.missionhillsucc.org](http://www.missionhillsucc.org)**

### STAFF DIRECTORY

Position	Staff Member	Phone Ext.	Email
Pastor	Rev. Dr. David Bahr	ext. 302	David.Bahr@missionhillsucc.org
Minister of Visitation	Rev. Courtney Mys		cdmys@yahoo.com
Youth Leader	Danielle Carlin		Danielle.Carlin@missionhillsucc.org
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Director of Instrumental Music	Kristopher Abels		kjabels@gmail.com
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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**

# SUPper Bowl Sunday



## March 20



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!**

## March Birthdays

Mar 2	Lisa Striebing Martin Case
Mar 3	Karen Huntington
Mar 10	Sharon Peterson
Mar 11	Jennifer Conrard
Mar 14	Christopher Antos
Mar 16	James Roth Aaron Willard
Mar 17	George Waller
Mar 18	Kenneth Jensen
Mar 26	Joan Berry Larry Brunton
Mar 29	Karen Norkowski
Mar 30	Meg Conrard
Mar 31	Willie Freheit



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



## Meeting Minutes

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

<https://missionhillsucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/JanuaryCouncilMinutes.pdf>

## Budget Forum via Zoom

Join us on Monday, March 7 at 7:00pm. Members of the Stewardship and Investment Ministry as well as Treasurer, Gordon Adler, will be in attendance to answer any questions you might have about the 2021 Financial statements and the proposed 2022 budget. You can find the report [here](#).

Zoom invitation:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83873474909?pwd=Vmd5VHQwZXovTHA1LzJPMTNEdzNvQT09>

Meeting ID: 838 7347 4909

Passcode: 401690

## Love Remains – One Great Hour of Sharing special collection on March 27



One Great Hour of Sharing special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and the long-term recovery.

Through this special collection you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Thank you for any amount you can donate. You may use the special envelopes provided and place your collection in the offering plate or donate [online](#).

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



**This is the time of the year when we look towards filling opening on various MHUCC Ministries for the next term beginning in July 2022.**

**Like to know more about them?**

**Here's some information on a few of our ministries which serve the church and larger community:**

**Diaconate Ministry:** The Diaconate members attempt to reach out with cards and phone calls to church friends and members who are dealing with illness, loss, or are homebound. They attempt to arrange transportation to church for members who cannot drive. In addition, Diaconate assists with memorial services and receptions. Here are a few photos of Diaconate in action:



**Faith Formation Ministry:** This ministry seeks to offer different experiences that promote personal and spiritual growth. These can be weekly or monthly study groups such as “Rethinking Our Faith”, “Lectionary Bible Study” or a recent series centered around the book, Waking Up White . The annual Advent collection of member stories, prayers, and meditations is compiled, edited, and issued by Faith Formation. In addition the ministry supports retreats, pilgrimages, and small group interaction activities. Like to find out more — hear more from a current member:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljq\\_-qJUVNY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljq_-qJUVNY)

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## MHUCC Table (continued)

Fellowship Ministry: This ministry organizes social opportunities for church members and friends to get together and get to know each other better. These have included the now annual Beer and Hymns singing in the fall, a trip to see a Padres Baseball game, the Stone Soup lunch, a wonderful Thanksgiving meal the last Sunday prior to Thanksgiving day, an even a night at the San Diego Opera. Here are a few photos from recent Fellowship sponsored activities:



## 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>

## Youth Group

Here is our pattern for youth group activities on Sundays:

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

## Stone Soup Sunday ~ 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.

## History Corner

Through our 111 year history, there have been many interesting people who have worshipped here. During the mid-1930's, famed aviation pioneer T. Claude Ryan was a member of our congregation. His first production aircraft, the M-1 Mailplane, provided the design basis for Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis." Ryan established the first year-round passenger service in the U.S., San Diego to Los Angeles, in 1925. He went on to found several airlines and aviation factories. He is honored in the San Diego Air & Space Museum's "Hall of Fame." If you'd like to read more about T. Claude Ryan - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T. Claude Ryan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T._Claude_Ryan)

