

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST



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

June 2022

Ministry with Children, Youth, and Families

I'm thrilled to introduce you to Artcel Ruiz, our new Director of Ministry with Children and Families. You can read more below and meet her in worship on June 19.



Artcel Ruiz was born and raised in Manila, Philippines, and came to San Diego when she was 15. She has been married to her husband, Frank, for 26 years. They have two children, Justin, 25, and Jianna, 17. Artcel recently graduated from Claremont School of Theology with a master's degree in Divinity. The next goal is to pursue a Doctor of Ministry.

Artcel has been leading life groups, chairing various ministries, working with children, and occasionally preaching at her church for years. She is passionate about empowering and being an advocate for children. Her desire is for the kids and their families to experience and personally know God.

Wearing so many hats--mother, wife, employee, friend--can be a lot, so having "me-time" is a non-negotiable for Artcel. Getting lost in a book, taking walks, having hot cocoa or unwinding with favorite tv shows or a play is vital.

In addition, I'm happy to announce that Fiona Case will remain as our Youth Leader. Fiona stepped in temporarily during Danielle's maternity leave. As we announced a few months ago, Danielle discerned a need to focus on her family and decided not to return as the Youth Leader. Fiona, along with the support of families, has nearly doubled the participants in youth group in the last six months.

Meanwhile, our Faith Formation Ministry has been holding focus groups with parents, interested church members, and now the children and youth themselves on June 5th and 12th. We are learning a lot and we will be turning all of this into plans for implementation over the next six months.

It is an exciting time in the life of our church!
Blessings!
Pastor David

Rock n Roll Marathon - June 5

The Rock and Roll Marathon will pass by our church again this year. Please make a note in your calendars, worship will begin one hour later **on JUNE 5**.

Strengthen the Church Offering - June 5



All Together!

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. As God calls MHUCC to be the church in new ways, your generosity will

plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

By our generosity to this offering, we build up the Body of Christ.

You can donate [online](#), by check (put STC on the memo line), or by cash.

Ecclesiastical Meeting - June 12

The Annual Ecclesiastical Meeting of MHUCC will be held June 12, 2022 immediately following worship. The business to be conducted at this meeting includes the Election of the 2022-2023 Church Council and Ministry Members, adoption of the 2021-2022 Ecclesiastical reports, financial update for 2022.

A quorum is necessary to conduct this business of the Church. Please plan to attend the Ecclesiastical Meeting on **Sunday, June 12, 2022** immediately following worship.

Welcome to our new members

On May 1st we welcomed 3 new members, (Mary Lou Chandler, Marilyn Owens, and Susan White) here are their bios so you can get to know them!

Mary Lou Chandler:



I was raised in San Diego. I married young and had four children, that I am very proud of. I was the middle of three daughters. I was raised in a loving family where my parents were best friends as well as being parents. I had a wonderful childhood. Of course, San Diego was much smaller town so they allowed us to take the trolley to go anywhere we wanted to go, the beach, the zoo or wherever we found interesting or entertaining. My youngest sister and I went to every church that had Bible school during the summers. We were baptized when I was about nine. I attended church off and on throughout my life. I went back to finish high school when my youngest child started school. I continued at Mesa College, then San Diego State. I obtained my BA in nursing and later my Masters. I did hospital nursing, and worked at various Public Health departments. After retirement I was very involved with my grandchildren. I did a lot of traveling and have been almost everywhere. I became a member of First United Methodist Church until the pandemic. My friend Marilyn Owens found Mission Hills UCC and I started attending with her. I'm happy now to be a member of this lovely church. I live in my little Mission Hills Craftsman home with my dog Chloe and my son, who is a wonderful support. I am grateful to God for my wonderful life.

Marilyn Owens:



From a farm in Indiana, my family moved to Arizona in the early 50's. After a visit to San Diego in the early 60's, my goal was to get back to San Diego. That didn't happen for another 10 plus years after time in Los Angeles and Las Vegas. Now I have spent half my life in San Diego and retired from a former local airline, PSA, which became a part of American Airlines.

After being baptized in the Christian Church in rural Indiana, I have been affiliated with the Methodist Church on and off for many years. My late husband and I joined First United Methodist Church in Mission Valley together, We were very active members and after his death and changes in the Methodist Church, I was lost and searching for a church "home".

I visited MHUCC because of a longtime friendship (through golf) with Nellora Walker. The welcoming spirit of this church made me want to be a part of it. After meeting Rev, Bahr, I finalized my decision to become a member of MHUCC.

(continued on next page)

Susan White:



Being raised in Anaheim, Ca., I was there when the strawberry fields and orange groves morphed into Disneyland. I moved on to UC Irvine, for my University years - once again, watching strawberry fields and orange groves become a University developed and then into much more than that. I gathered up a few diplomas, in Social Sciences, Communicative Disorders and Teaching, while there, eventually, moving up to Canada. I lived and worked in British Columbia and Ontario. Some years later, I returned to Orange County. My son, Jeffrey, became the most important person in my world, when we adopted each other in 1995. Besides becoming a mom, I also continued my professional career, in Special Education. Most of this time was in the Public School system. When it was time to retire, I headed directly down to San Diego. Don't ask me why, it was just calling my name. That was over 10 years ago. Between then and now I have enjoyed volunteering at the San Diego Zoo and as a Tree Steward with Balboa Park. My son is now married and has made me one of the best grandmas to be found. Today, I will add joining Mission Hills United Church of Christ to my life's résumé. Thank you for your warm welcome!

Time to Update Our Directory

It's been one year since we created our first on-line directory. If you would like to submit a new photo for the directory or you have any contact information changes, please send them to the church office by June 30. If there is no change, no need to do anything. Also, if you do not have the link to the church directory, simply contact the church office.

MHUCC Scholarships

Now is the time to prepare your application for the Mission Hills United Church of Christ College Scholarship. Members of the church who are planning to attend college this fall are eligible to receive this scholarship. You may pick up a copy of the application at the church office, or [online](#).

The church office must receive applications no later than **June 15, 2022**. For more information, please contact Suzanne Albrecht (suz1127@cox.net) or 619-987-0176.

Sundays in June

June 5 – It's Pentecost Sunday. **Please wear red.** The service will begin ONE HOUR LATE at 11 am because of the Rock and Roll Marathon

June 12 – Music Appreciation Sunday. Come listen to chime choir perform and the choir sing the Rutter Gloria. It's also our annual Ecclesiastical Meeting

June 19 – We will observe Juneteenth

June 26 – Celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the founding of the United Church of Christ

Fellowship Hour

Please join us for Fellowship Hour after church each Sunday. It's a wonderful time to greet our neighbors, strengthen our church family, celebrate life's great Joy, and support each other. Coffee, tea, and snacks such as cookies, cheese and crackers, vegetables, fruit, and even birthday cake (once a month) are provided by church volunteers -- please consider volunteering once a month or season to keep our fellowship hours fun and vibrant!

Sign up in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, or using Sign up Genius online:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a9a823a6f94-coffee1>

New Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

A new PRC has been constituted. According to our bylaws, the PRC is responsible for supporting the professional growth and well being of the Pastor and facilitating the Pastor and congregation carrying out the ministry effectively. In addition to promoting and maintaining an open and healthy relationship between the Pastor and the members, the Committee will clarify expectations, serve as an advisory group to the Pastor and be a support for the Pastor's leadership.

Julie James is the chair and members include Marc Tarasuck, Erik More, Laura Borschel, and Amy Brunton.

Vigil for Victims of Gun Violence

Last night, May 31, we came together with the [Mission Hills United Methodist Church](#) to grieve and honor the victims of gun violence in Buffalo and Uvalde with prayers for peace, music and poetry to heal, and commitments to justice.



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>

History Corner



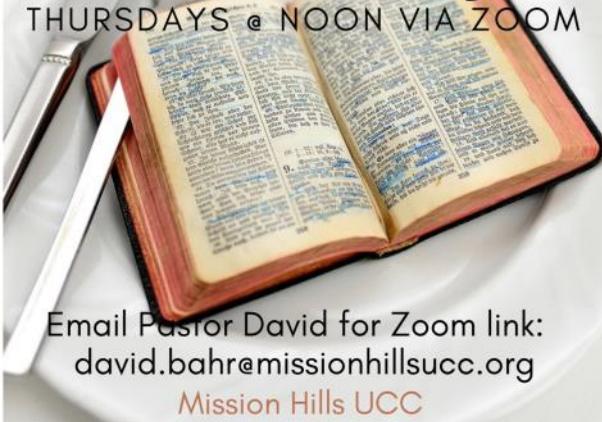
The book “Images of America, Mission Hills,” published 2015, contains many pictures of our church neighborhood, including this photo of Ford’s Market in 1947. This building was located on the corner of West Lewis and Jackdaw, the current location of our church parking lot. (The couple in the photo is unidentified.)

A note of interest in our Council minutes - in 1958, our church protested the issuance of a license to sell alcohol in the store. The store was sold shortly after and there is no record of the new owner applying for a liquor license.

By 1968, the store was vacant and our church purchased this property and the adjacent small home located at 1211 West Lewis St. A year later, we tore down the store and created the parking lot which we now use. We renovated the small home, which we rented for \$135 a month, until 1971, when we created the Mission Hills Community Preschool.

Lunch & Lectionary

THURSDAYS @ NOON VIA ZOOM



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

Mission Hills UCC

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](#).

June Birthdays

- June 6** Ann Dahlkamp
Jackson Lantis
- June 7** David Jay
- June 9** Joan Rawlings
- June 10** Erin Brown
Christopher Steeley
- June 12** Laura Hollis
Allie Welch
- June 14** Sue Mayberry
- June 15** Betsy McIntyre
Sharon Steeley
Cas Hom
- June 17** Laurie Fisher
- June 21** Al Mazur
- June 23** Barbara Christensen
- June 28** Lynn Barnes-Wallace
David Rickert
- June 29** Dori Cage
Glenn Ward



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

Happy Birthday!

Meeting Minutes

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

<https://missionhillsucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/AprilCouncil.pdf>

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'



Mission Hills United Church of Christ
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(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 Vocal Music	Angelica Eclar		angelicaella89@gmail.com
Worship Technologies Coordinator	Saige Afalava		saige.afalava17@gmail.com
Worship Technician	Trevor Norkowski		
Sexton	Carlos Wilson		

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