

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST



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

July 2023

Moderator Message

As we embark on a new year of governance at MHUCC, I want to again express my appreciation to Carol Holt for her superb leadership as moderator during the past year. She has been an invaluable mentor to me and I would not have been able to assume the role of moderator for the coming year without her close collaboration.

I am a relative new member of MHUCC. I first stepped through the church doors on November 18, 2017. I was attending a memorial for Charlotte Albrecht, a long time member of the church and a force in the music program. I knew Charlotte through Zeta Rho, our women's study group. From that first moment I was touched by the friendliness of all in attendance, and by Pastor Scott's beautiful description of Charlotte. It felt as though he were describing a family member. In fact, the warm spirit that filled the sanctuary felt like family. Previously, I had been a regular church goer at the Catholic Church down the street, however, I hadn't been attending any church in several years. That first Sunday after the memorial, I was in the pew at MHUCC and I've been there most Sundays ever since. I became a Member on February 4, 2018.

MHUCC is like home for me. I consider the staff, as well as the congregation dear friends.

I'm honored to serve as your moderator for the coming year and I promise to fulfill my responsibilities with the utmost care and consideration. I am confident that as we move forward during this time of change in governance, the collaboration of the leadership team, with Pastor David, the continued support and involvement of the congregation as well as the grace of God, it will be another great year at MHUCC.

*With love and blessings,
Jere*

New Members

Tom Tipps:



Raised in Lynchburg Tennessee and is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University. Tom worked in the defense contracting industry for 9 years in Huntsville Alabama. In 1992 on vacation in San Diego he met his husband-to-be, Curt Sumner, and moved; "it's a fun little story, ask me sometime". They've been together since August 1992 and were married in 2008. They live in Hillcrest and both work in the tech sector; Tom is a software development manager at Mitchell1, a subsidiary of Snap-on. Three fun facts about Tom: (1) he was on Jeopardy! in 2021; (2) he was bitten by a rabid fox when he was a year-and-a-half (another fun story); (3) he and Curt are on a mission to see all 50 state capitals, having visited 41 so far.

Dr. Vanessa H. Gilyard:



A native of South Florida, Vanessa came to San Diego from Fort Myers, Florida. She graduated from Northcentral University in 2022 with a doctorate degree (Ed.D) in Leadership in Higher Education at Petco Park. Vanessa decided after graduation to stay in San Diego. Presently Vanessa works as an online History/Human Resources professor since 2013 and is a wellness coordinator for Melaleuca Wellness Company. Vanessa also has a real estate license with the state of Florida. In her spare time, Vanessa likes to sing, go to movies and theater, travel (she has been to the Caribbean and two other countries), read, and watch football, NASCAR and NHRA (drag racing)

Fellowship & Growth Ministry July Events

- **July 15, Pride Parade** - The Partnership Churches have registered to march again this year. Please join us as an act of witness, hospitality, and compassion, whether you can walk the entire length of the parade or must ride (there are carts available for you). More information will be provided in July.
- **July 30, Worship in the park, 10 am** - Come casual. Bring your chairs, blankets, and goodies Let's enjoy our community as we worship God in the perfect sanctuary, Mission Hills' treasure, Pioneer Park (1521 Washington Place – 92103). The service will be followed immediately by our annual all church potluck picnic, (making a return this year)! Please bring a main dish, salad or side dish along with reusable plates and utensils. Our Ministry will provide lemonade, water and desserts!



Monthly Mission Partner - Barrio Logan College Institute



The mission of Barrio Logan College Institute is to break the cycle of poverty by preparing underserved students to be the first in their families to go to college through afterschool programs that begin in third grade. The students continue in this program through 12th grade. Parents are also supported and educated on how to be involved in their child's education.

During the month of July, The Mission Hills United Church of Christ Sunday School will prepare backpacks filled with school supplies for the new third grade class at Barrio Logan. We need your help in purchasing these supplies or donating money for purchase of the backpacks. Any excess funds will be donated to further this after school program that teaches the students to achieve academically and give back to their community. The 20 new third grade class students will be introduced in August. Our youth will be attending this event and presenting the backpacks to these students.

Youth Group Future Events

August 25: social and planning meeting - kick off to our program for 2023/2024

September: Board game night!

October (one Saturday morning): Care for our environment: volunteer opportunity with San Diego Audubon

October 20 – 22: MHUCC family camp weekend at [Pilgrim Pines](#).

Thoughts on our Open Table

One of the many things that I really love about our church is the Open Table at Communion. Everyone is truly welcome including our kids in Sunday School. I have approached visitors on a Communion Sunday and let them know our communion table was open to everyone. I always get a "thank you" and a smile.

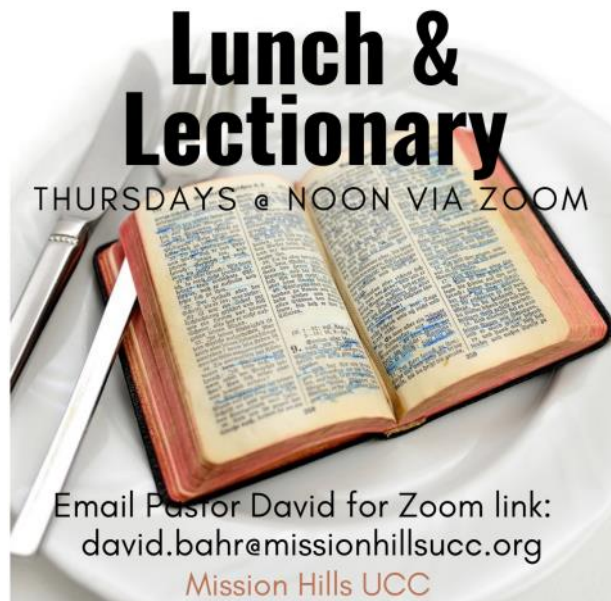


I recently attended a memorial service for a manager from my working days. It was held at a beautiful Catholic Church in Clairemont and the service was very Catholic, incense and all. When it came time for Communion the Priest made it very clear that *"in respect for our Catholic religion only active and compliant Catholics were to take Communion."*

Deep exhale. What a sad outlook.

We as a church may or may not do everything right. It pleases me that we welcome everyone rather than having a checklist of qualifications or requirements.

~ Larry Holt



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](#).

July Birthdays

- Jul 1 Robert Cox
- Jul 3 Walter Borschel
- Jul 7 Trevor Norkowski
- Jul 8 Jessica Ripper
- Jul 9 Debbie Fiegura
Cea Parrish
- Jul 11 John Hinojos
Ben Janzen
- Jul 12 Shannon Johnson
- Jul 13 Laura More
- Jul 18 Rebecca Hamilton
- Jul 20 Carolyn Muhlstein
- Jul 21 Julie James
Amelia Norkowski
- Jul 22 Gordon Adler
Teresa Merrick
Emy Yeazell
- Jul 23 Randy Spicocchi
- Jul 24 Garland Parrish
- Jul 26 Frank Ruiz
- Jul 29 Kelly Hutton
- Jul 31 Mitchell Barnes-Wallace
Andrea Vickers
Artcel Ruiz



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 May Church Council Meeting:

<https://missionhillsucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/MayCouncil.pdf>

History Corner

Our church has undergone many architectural changes over its 111 years, from the original redwood chapel, to the 1921 arts and crafts designed building, to the 1950 major addition (not to mention much interior remodeling through the years.) Pictured here is the March 1950 dedication of the newly constructed chapel, education and recreation wings. The Pastor at the time was the Rev. John C. Wiley.



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
Minister for Congregational Care	Rev. Janalee Borja		Janalee.Borja@missionhillsucc.org
Director of Ministry with - Children and Families	Artcel Ruiz		Artcel.Ruiz@missionhillsucc.org
Administrative Assistant	Elizabeth Quinones	ext. 301	Elizabeth.Quinones@missionhillsucc.org
Director of Instrumental Music	Kristopher Abels		Kris.Abels@missionhillsucc.org
Director of Vocal Music	Angelica Eclar		Angelica.Eclar@missionhillsucc.org
Youth Leader	Fiona Case		Fiona.Case@missionhillsucc.org
Worship Technologies Coordinator	Saige Afalava		Saige.Afalava@missionhillsucc.org
Worship Technician	Trevor Norkowski		
Sexton	Gloria Schacht		
Sunday Nursery	Gloria Schacht & Jianna Ruiz		

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

Mission Hills UCC - July Events

July	Mission Partner: Barrio Logan College Institute
Tuesday, 7/4	4th of July parade and concert in Pioneer Park, 10 am – 2:30 pm
Wednesday, 7/12	Light up the Cathedral, 7 pm, St. Paul's Episcopal
Friday, 7/14	MH Concert Series, 6-8 pm, Pioneer Park
Saturday, 7/15	Pride Parade
Sunday, 7/16	Installation of Church Leaders
Tuesday, 7/18	Feeding Mission Hills Food Distribution, 10:30 am
Friday, 7/21	MH Concert Series, 6-8 pm, Pioneer Park
Friday, 7/28	MH Concert Series, 6-8 pm, Pioneer Park
Sunday, 7/30	Worship in the Park, 10 am, Pioneer Park
August	Mission Partner: Jewish Family Service of SD: Welcome the Stranger Fund
Friday, 8/4	MH Concert Series, 6-8 pm, Pioneer Park
Sunday, 8/6	All Generations Food & Fun @ Beach - Time TBD
Friday, 8/11	MH Concert Series, 6-8 pm, Pioneer Park
Tuesday, 8/15	Feeding Mission Hills Food Distribution, 10:30 am
Sunday, 8/20	Scholarship Sunday Blessing of the Backpacks

For all events, visit our online calendar: <https://missionhillsucc.org/calendar-of-events/>