



## What's Taking So Long? Can't We Start Looking for a Settled Pastor? *Transition Period Calls for Faith, Patience and Engagement*

*When!* In the last year, in addition to observing and celebrating the liturgical calendar in a vibrant faith community, Kensington Community Church has:

- Experienced the resignation of a pastor,
- Welcomed interim minister Reverend Elizabeth
- Hailed the Church's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- Searched for a Director of Religious Education
- Launched a "Safe Church" dialogue and crafted a policy to safeguard our community
- Begun exploration of the "Open and Affirming" (ONA) process
- Worshipped and played, served and sung, danced and sought the divine call for our church and ourselves.

As full as our year has been, we all get antsy at times, wanting to GET ON with the search for a settled pastor. *What exactly are we waiting for?*, one might ask. Our interim pastor and the church's Transition Team are leading us through "best practice" transition steps.

*Save the Date*

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
Sunday, June 13  
After the 10 o'clock service

These best practices have been shown to lead to successful settled pastor searches and happy, thriving churches.

### **The Better We Know Ourselves, the Better the Fit with Our Future Pastor**

Establishing our identity is a crucial step of the interim period. We're learning WHO we are as a church, WHAT we want to become, and WHERE KCC wants to go in the future. *The good news?* We've made tremendous progress! We've talked about some very tough topics, namely with Safe Church and the Open and Affirming discussions. In the process, we've stretched and grown as a community!

Yet, to forge an identity that truly reflects our community, we need participation from more of KCC's congregants. We need your attendance, engagement, opinions, and ownership of your church. In this way, we can take a better snapshot of our collective energy for our future pastor to evaluate.

The Transition team (Michael Lesniak, *Chair*; Teresa Higgins, Mick McClain, Tom Wheeler) will be at the Annual Meeting to outline the remaining steps. We ask the congregation for patience, faith and engagement as we move steadily and successfully, toward the end of the transition and KCC's next splendid chapter. ♦

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## Flapjack Flippers, We Need YOU!

It wouldn't be Memorial Day or "Holiday at Home" in Kensington without our pancake breakfast to kick off the festivities. Can you spare a couple hours to flip the flapjacks in the kitchen that morning? Contact Donna and we'll provide a spatula with your name on it! ♦

### Kensington Community Church United Church of Christ

4773 Marlborough Drive  
San Diego, CA 92116  
619-284-1129 Fax:: 619-284-0160  
www.kensingtonucc.com  
info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com

Reverend Paula J. Elizabeth, Interim Minister  
John Hansen-Tarbox, Director of Music  
Nina Deering, Organist  
Connie Cleland, Preschool Director  
Donna Hanson, Administrative Assistant

*Chimes* Editor Marg Stark  
*Chimes* Lay-out Assistance John Hansen-Tarbox  
*Chimes* Production Staff Millie Medigovich  
Beverly Patch

**Sunday worship at 8:30 and  
10:00 a.m.  
All are welcome!**

## Serve Selflessly in June KCC Missions Work Helps Many

The need is close by!

On Saturday, June 5, our Missions Committee will lead us in working in our neighbor community at the City Heights FaceLift. Sign-up sheets are in Lander Hall and the office.

Thanks to Florence Clark for the donation of a T.V. for our family in the El Nido residence, housing women and children who are victims of domestic abuse.

### Great Causes for Our Donations

A donation is being made to St. Mark's Episcopal Church City Heights for Telios House. Telios House provides housing for aged-out foster youth.

A donation is being made to Lifeline, which serves people confined in nursing homes.

A donation was also made to support the work of the May, 2010, humanitarian medical mission in Guatemala. A reporter and photographer from Channel 4 again traveled with the team and will do a follow-up documentary to last year's award-winning program. ♦



## Treasurer's Update

Tithes and Offerings through May 9, 2010

This year's Actual	\$61,024
Last year's Actual	\$63,752

For complete financial report, see April 30, 2010 statements posted on the bulletin board in Lander Hall.

If there are questions, call or email Dick Wayman 760-788-7908 or [rwayman@chicagobooth.edu](mailto:rwayman@chicagobooth.edu) ♦



## A Message from Our Interim Pastor

One of the transition pieces during the interim time is to strengthen the ties with our denomination and with our sister churches. We are fortunate in this particular area of San Diego to be part of the remaining Partnership Churches. (See the article in the May *Chimes*.) Beyond that, Kensington Community Church is a part of the Southern Association of the Southern California and Nevada Conference, UCC. (SASCNCUCC) In that arena there are lots of events, resources and even more connections.

Sunday, May 16, our Interim Conference Minister, Rev. Jane Fidler-Hoffman, visited Kensington Community Church during our 10 a.m. service. She shared welcoming words from the United Church of Christ and stayed for our Open and Affirming potluck and gathering, enriching the meeting with her perspective and offering words of insight and wisdom. Later that same day, at the UCC Southern Association annual spring meeting, a candidate, Rev. Felix Villanueva, the Senior Minister of UCC La Mesa, was presented for the position of Conference Minister. Rev. Villanueva will be voted on at the Conference Annual Gathering in June. John Hansen-Tarbox and Sharon Young will be joining me as delegates and reporting back to you the news and events of our conference.

We have been blessed in just the ten months I have been here as Interim Minister to partake in many resources which are available to us through our Association, and our Conference. We have reached out to our sister UCC churches and leadership for

Safe Church and ONA policy and process, salary guidelines, social events, leadership guidance, and other information. It's great to be connected. Dr. Jaime Romo and Rev. Madison Shockley have both assisted KCC through the Safe Church program, as well as the National UCC holding a workshop on the subject at the La Jolla church which many of us attended. Rev. Joe McGowan, the UCC Conference ONA consultant, has come to KCC offering his experience and knowledge in helping KCC formulate a process which speaks uniquely to our church, and continues to guide us along this journey.

As mentioned before, the Annual Gathering for the SCNC will be held June 11-12 at the First Congregational Church in Santa Ana. The theme for this year is "From One Foundation to New Creations." It seems quite an appropriate one in light of KCC being in transition, along with the conference, and now four out of six of our Partnership churches. All is being made new! May Spirit soar!

Blessings,  
Paula ♦



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***A Great Time Was Had By All!***  
Wine, Cheese & Laughs Enjoyed at  
McCarthy's Home in May

Thanks to Brendan and Bonnie McCarthy and all those who attended the very successful wine and cheese event for members in their 30's, 40's and 50's. More socials are being planned! ♦

## A Moment with Our Moderator

One adjective used to describe KCC is congregational. In fact, I have been told that KCC was a congregational church before it joined the UCC. What meaning does the adjective bring to describing KCC?

To me, being a congregational church describes a church that explores current social issues and follows up with actions. In the last year, we have explored issues with providing a safe sanctuary at KCC for children at first, then all people. The result of that effort is the Safe Church policy that is being reviewed and will be voted on soon. We are exploring issues for being open to all people and affirming our acceptance of them in the Open and Affirming process. Where KCC ends up on this issue is up to all members.

Another aspect of being a congregational church is how issues are handled. In a congregational church, all members have a voice and hopefully feel safe to express their opinions. Some people may think that the ongoing meetings for Safe church and ONA are new. Another way to interpret the meetings is that KCC is going back to its congregational roots.



### Stay Updated, Sign Up for Phonevite Calls

An enhanced method for communicating timely announcements with all members of KCC is in the works. When an e-mail is sent out to those members who have internet access, a phone message will be sent to the members that do not have e-mail accounts. The new service is called **Phonevite**. The service makes it easy for Donna Hanson to send out a voice mail message to multiple recipients simultaneously. This new communication method will ensure that all members receive information in a timely manner. **If you want to be included in the Phonevite list, verify with Donna that she has your preferred phone number.**

--Rich Wayman, *Moderator* ♦



## Kick Off "Holiday at Home" Memorial Day with KCC

On Monday, May 31, don't miss our Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast, served from 8:00 a.m. to 10 a.m. in Lander Hall. Come and savor a yummy breakfast of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, orange juice, coffee, fresh fruit and cereal all for the bargain price of:

\$4.00 per/adult

\$2.50 per/child 12 and under

Bring your friends and neighbors, and show off the great service KCC offers to the community.

Our KCC youth will also man a booth on the church lawn during the Kensington Holiday at Home parade. They will serve juicy, grilled hamburgers and fat hot dogs, not to mention drinks and assorted chips, available from 10 a.m. on.

Happy Memorial Day from the Events Committee!♦

## Have You Reviewed the Draft Safe Church Policy?

Copies of the proposed Safe Church policy, written by our congregation members and designed to thwart abuse, are now available for your review. Hard copies are available in Lander Hall or from Donna. Marg Stark, the chair of the Safe Church Working Team, can send you the electronic version. Email Marg with any comments or suggestions at [marg@margstark.com](mailto:marg@margstark.com). We recommend you read the draft prior to the June 13 Annual Meeting, at which we will vote on its adoption. ♦

## Survey Results about Open and Affirming Process Are Now In

THANK YOU to all KCC participants who completed our survey regarding the Open and Affirming (ONA) process. There were a total of 88 questionnaires submitted, and the ONA Committee diligently sifted through and summarized the results. These findings were reported at the May 16 Congregational meeting, which was attended by approximately 50 members interested in our dialogue.

Three-quarters of the survey respondents (74 percent) reported that they are comfortable with KCC adopting an Open and Affirming Policy. Additionally, a large majority of participants (71 percent) reported that they have continued patience with the ONA process. Potential advantages and disadvantages of adopting a policy were discussed, along with topic area suggestions for future KCC education/information sessions. A complete copy of the survey results is available in the Church Office.

The Congregational meeting proved to be an opportunity to:

- clarify the goals of the ONA Committee
- shape a conversation about ONA in the context of Safe Church and the search for a settled minister
- recognize and embrace this period of change in the life of KCC
- openly share questions and concerns about KCC's consideration of an Open and Affirming Policy.

The thoughtful comments and insightful suggestions put forth by those in attendance were reminders that our collective voice is an amazing blend of diverse commitments from each of us.

--ONA Committee

Debbie Loomis, *Chair*; Carla Mathison, Lee Howeth, Paula J. Elizabeth, Rich Wayman, Ross Putnam

**A Final Note:** If you are interested in serving on the ONA Committee, please contact Debbie Loomis (619) 563-5042, [debraloomis@yahoo.com](mailto:debraloomis@yahoo.com)

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## May Melodies Concert Wowed The Crowd

Who doesn't love an evening of delicious food and lovely music? On May 2, we were delightfully entertained by three extremely talented musicians. They were: Jessica Chang, playing piano; Jeff Thayer, Concertmaster for the San Diego Symphony, on his Stradivarius violin; and our own Michael Wais playing his 18th century Italian-made bass. All of these fine musicians donated their time for our cause. Mrs. Chang was wonderful on the piano, Jeff Thayer made his violin sing, and Michael played with such bravado that at one point, his glasses flew off!

In the audience of approximately 60 people, was Mrs. Chang's husband, conductor of the San Diego Symphony. Also attending was the assistant concertmaster.

The receptions before and after "May Melodies" were both quite lovely. Everyone seemed to enjoy the wine, cheese, and fruit before the concert while socializing in Lander Hall. Joe Odle was a superb bartender, assisting concert goers in selecting the perfect wine.

After the concert, the musicians joined the attendees in Lander Hall for several sweet treats. Florence Clark's delicious sherbet punch ended the evening on a high note. The music committee would like to thank Michael Wais for organizing the event as well as everyone who helped make this concert a success. ◆

## **PARTNERSHIP & MISSION**

On Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m., The UCC San Diego Partnership Churches will gather on Sunday June 6, at POVUCC, for an evening of fellowship and mission. We'll share a potluck dinner followed by a presentation focusing on the WWII internment event and Wendy Maruyama's TAG mission project. The evening will include a "hands-on" experience of creating tags for the TAG Project. Everyone is invited to come. Information regarding the TAG project can be found at: [www.wendymaruyama.com](http://www.wendymaruyama.com) ◆



## Kensington Preschool Winds Down and Makes Way for Summer Fun

The preschool is winding down for the 2009-10 school year. We have had numerous fund raisers this year that. Indeed, compliments of our faithful parent association KPPA, the proceeds have enabled us to purchase equipment, school supplies, math manipulatives and to enhance our curriculum throughout the year. We are so grateful for their continued contribution to the preschool.

At this writing we are looking forward to the Memorial Day Parade where our school proudly marches down Marlborough Dr. sporting our colorful & patriotic hats the children have created.

June 11 brings our end of the year gala. This is our final and biggest fundraiser of the year which includes a raffle/silent auction, catered dinner and pizza party with entertainment for the kiddos.

Our last school day is also June 11. Summer School begins the following Tuesday for one month. School resumes September 13, 2010. Until then, have a happy & safe summer!

--Connie Cleland. *Preschool Director* ♦

## *Stewardship Moment*

# Honoring Our Heritage Builders

On Tuesday evening, May 11, the Stewardship Committee hosted what is becoming an annual event: a recognition dinner at the Kensington Grill for members of the Heritage Builders. This is a group of members who have chosen to leave a portion of their estates to the Kensington Community Church. Several Stewardship Committee members, along with Rev. Paula J. Elizabeth and husband Ross Putnam, and moderator Rich Wayman and his parents acknowledged five members of the Heritage Builders.

Along with a yearly financial pledge and a commitment of volunteer time, membership in the Heritage Builders is a way that congregants of Kensington Community Church can assist with the longer term financial health of the church. A wide array of assets can be bequeathed in whole or part to KCC, usually tax-free. As we have seen recently, KCC has benefited from the commitment of two former Heritage Builder members, Betty Craig and Bertha Lander.

Rich Wayman has additional information on this lasting way of supporting KCC. Rich can be reached at (619) 287-0549 or at [rwayman1@cox.net](mailto:rwayman1@cox.net) ♦

## Buy Your Tickets Now for the Kensington Concert Series

### **A Mandolin Concert**

**June 19, 5:30 p.m.**

**4249 Ridgeway Drive, 80 seats**

Outdoors, at one of Kensington's most beautiful homes,

Featuring GARY PAYNE & Friends

~ Joined by KENSINGTON TRIO

### **Roman Holiday – A Festa!**

**Friday, July 9, 5 p.m.**

**Kensington Library Park, 80-plus seats**

Featuring nationally known Italian

Entertainers performing classic and swing

Italian music! (Sinatra, Prima, Francis and

others.) TONY & GIOVANNA DI BONA

with Friends

Proceeds benefit Kensington Library. Tickets: \$24 for concert and reception, available at Ken Video. ♦



## In Our Prayers

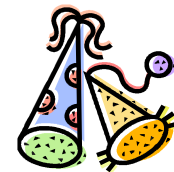
Please keep the following people in your prayers:

David Adams  
Kathleen Andrews  
Denzil Atkinson  
“Benny Bear”  
Brian Brewster  
Janice Corsin  
David Duncan  
Betty Generoli  
Allison Goddard, Murray Goddard  
Diane Guerra  
Jim Langford  
Frank Lantry  
Janice Minor  
Cecil Simpson  
Peggy Spor  
Marilyn Tarbox  
Barbara Underwood  
Hazel Van Harten  
Janis Wilson

and the family and friends of Sally Smith. ♦

## June Birthdays

2 Bethia Dinning, Damon Curtin-Schamu  
3 Kristin McKenney, Janet Richardson  
6 Jonathan Burkett  
7 Helen Apgar  
8 Amanda Short, Susan Curtin-Schamu  
10 Marian Brewster, Duke Clark  
11 Gayle Trempe, Scot Wais  
13 Mai Ling McInnes  
14 Cindi McClain  
15 Alexis Solomon  
17 Jodi Cleesattle, Virginia Lantry  
19 Marie Trischman, Maddy Warner  
20 Andrew Trempe  
21 June Winters  
22 Christopher Apgar, Marjorie Lyn Thomas,  
Tennie Wiggins  
23 Sheila Naismith  
27 Leslie O’Toole  
28 Judy Atwater  
30 Carla Mathison ♦



Kensington Community Church UCC  
4773 Marlborough Drive  
San Diego, CA 92116-2513  
619-284-1129  
www.kensingtonucc.com  
info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES: CITY HEIGHTS FACELIFT**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 5**

**WHAT: MISSION WORK TO SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS**

**HOW: SIGN UP ON SHEETS IN LANDER HALL**

**S.D. PARTNERSHIP CHURCHES & MISSION PROJECT**

**WHEN: SUNDAY, JUNE 6 AT 6 P.M. AT PIONEER OCEANVIEW UCC**

**WHAT: POTLUCK & PRESENTATION ON WWII INTERMENT  
& CREATE TAGS FOR TAG MISSION PROJECT.**

**BRING: DISH TO SHARE**

**GET THE SCOOP ON ALL KCC NEWS: SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2010**

**WHEN: AFTER 10 A.M. SERVICE**

**WHAT: ALL CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING**

**BRING: FINGER FOODS TO SHARE**

SEE THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR  
AT [WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM](http://WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM)