



Office Manager Resigns

On February 10 (after the press deadline for the last *Chimes*), Office Manager Debbie Walloch submitted her resignation to the church.

In Debbie's words,

"Effective today, I submit my two weeks' notice of resignation as Office Manager of Kensington Community Church. My last day will be Thursday, February 21, 2008.

"Thank you for taking a chance on me four years ago. I've learned a lot but now feel it is time for me to move on. I have come to care a great deal for all who attend this church and value the friendships I have made. I wish all of you the best in the future."

Debbie has had a big impact on the daily life of the church during her years at KCC, and we wish her well as she explores new opportunities. ♦

New Office Administrator Comes On Board

Welcome, Donna Hanson!

Please welcome KCC's new Interim Administrative Assistant, Donna Hanson!

Donna comes to the church with a wide-ranging background in office and customer service work, including, most recently, jobs as a legal secretary and as the customer service representative in a large photo lab. So she brings both a high level of technical competence and a warm, open, friendly approach to all.

She has been at KCC for just one extremely busy week, during which, she says, she has met an amazing number of nice people. "I have been particularly impressed by the very warm and supportive atmosphere here," Donna reports. "And I'm looking forward to meeting as many of the church people as I can – please stop by and say hello!"

Donna was born in the Kensington area and has lived her whole life in San Diego, including attending our local schools. The sister of KCC's own Ron Morebello (whom we have to thank for mentioning the job opening to her!), Donna now lives with her husband Larry in the Relondo Park area of the city. Her interests include golf and gardening.

Donna will be working in the church office Mondays through Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. She can be reached by email at info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com and by phone at 619-284-1129. Do stop by and welcome her! ♦

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Pastor's Ponderings

Last week was one of the most unusual weeks I've ever had. One staff member left her position. Two new staff members started their positions. All in one week. There's nothing like this extent of change to remind me of my own vulnerability.

I don't think I'm alone in that. Change does this to all of us. It makes us feel vulnerable, out of control, powerless. As painful as vulnerability can be, though, it's good.

Good? Yes, good. Good, because it's God's way.

But I don't like God's way. I would rather go my way. My way says that only the strong survive. My way says that the one with the most marbles at the end wins. My way says that strength is good and weakness is bad, so I'd better be strong. Always. All the time.

But, of course, that's foolish. None of us can be strong all the time. And, if we're honest, we aren't really strong even some of the time. It goes with the human condition. We have visions of grandeur as being made in God's image, but we fear the person who lives next door. Turns out we can only pretend to be strong. Most of the time, we're weak.

But we still try like crazy to deny our vulnerability. We shore up ourselves with a wide grin and an "everything's just fine" attitude, and try to project to ourselves and everyone else just how strong we think we are.

We even structure our vision of God to help us in this pretense. We focus on God as the One who is strong, who is powerful, and who is able to swoop in and make everything work out okay.

But God's way is the way of vulnerability. Last week, when I was preparing for the Thursday night "Soup, Song, and Study" session, these words hit me right between my spiritual eyes:

... God has no coercive power. God cannot overpower us nor force us in any direction. In the vulnerability of the cross God reveals that the only power that can change us is one that attracts us freely, with

the offer of healing. The stock-in-trade images of conventional belief, which picture God as an emperor in the sky, the wrathful enforcer of law, the deity who sanctions the rule of the strong, are shown up in the light of the cross as projections and idols. God's only power lies in the attractiveness of life and light to those who yearn for them. The only role God can play in relation to our brokenness is that of healer.

(Martin L. Smith, *Love Set Free: Meditations on the Passion According to John*, p. 22-23.)

These are liberating words. Freed from images of God that affirm only law and strength – what we assume undergirds "normal" life – I can understand that my acute sense of vulnerability is part of God's image in me. Through recognizing my vulnerability, I affirm God's way. By refusing to deny my vulnerability, I can open myself to receive God's healing balm.

We might yearn to be dazzled by a sea parting or water turned to wine, but that's not the point. The point is to live into our sense of vulnerability so that we might let God be God to us.

Then, when we feel extra vulnerable, we can know deep in our bones that God is there with us too, to make sure that we are cared for, to make sure that we are healed. That's the power of the cross. That's the power of God.

Grace and peace,
Bruce ♦



Missions Moment

On Sunday, March 2, KCC will participate in One Great Hour of Sharing. This is the relief, refugee, and development fund of the United Church of Christ. In conjunction with eight other Christian denominations and Church World Service, it carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries, including the US.

With OGHS, the UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

More than 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for approximately ten missionaries working in health care, education, and agricultural development. Gifts are also used for disaster preparedness and response, refugee and immigration advocacy and assistance and related volunteer initiatives.

Funding decisions are made by asking worldwide mission partners, "What would you have us do with you?" The UCC responds as a member of ecumenical organizations such as Church World Service and Action by Churches Together International. The UCC also supports the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations with which the UCC has direct partnerships through Global Ministries.

On average, annual OGHS special offering receipts total just over \$3 million throughout the UCC, with nearly seventy percent of UCC congregations participating. And on average, of every dollar given to One Great Hour of Sharing, 92 cents are used directly for the fund's mission programming.

This is a great cause; please give generously! ♦



Mark Your Calendars For Holy Week, Easter

While our Lenten worship and study continue, Holy Week is not that far away! Mark your calendars for these, the most important dates in the church year:

Palm/Passion Sunday	March 16
Wave palms, then live the passion	
Maundy Thursday	March 20
Supper, Communion, and Tenebrae	
Easter Sunday	March 23
Festival worship at both services	

Come and worship! ♦

Lectionary Readings

Here are the readings from the Revised Common Lectionary for upcoming services. Bruce will pick two from this list each Sunday.

- March 2: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.
- March 9: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45.
- March 16: Liturgy of the Palms: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29. Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54. ♦

Thank You!

KCC's Personnel Committee has been putting in a lot of overtime lately, doing some of the most essential work of the church. Please take a moment to thank this hardworking group: Amy Winn, Chair; Sheryl Chaffee, Marsha Dodds, and Tom Wheeler. ♦

All-Church Breakfast

On Sunday, March 2, at 9:15 a.m., join the fun between the worship services, as people from the 8:30 service and people from the 10:00 a.m. service gather together for breakfast and conversation.

The food is good and the company is better. Please come! It won't be the same without you. ♦

How To Contribute To KCC – At No Cost To Yourself

At the risk of sounding like a late-night television ad, there is in fact an easy way to contribute to KCC's finances at no cost to you. Actually, fifty-four church families already participate. The program is called E-Scrip.

The E-Scrip program is designed to support schools and churches in conjunction with various grocery, restaurant, and retail outlets. When enrolled participants shop at these places, a percentage of the purchase price is contributed by the store to the designated recipient.

There is no charge to the customer; nothing extra is paid by the consumer. So, for example, when an E-Scrip participant shops at Vons or Safeway, at least 1.5% of the purchase price is credited to KCC, at no cost to the shopper. When an E-Scrip participant eats at Ponce's Mexican Restaurant or the Burger Lounge or the Parkhouse Eatery or Coco's, at least 2.5% of the bill is credited to KCC, at no cost to the diners. And so on. Retailers like Macy's and Eddie Bauer also participate.

All you have to do is enroll. This can be done via the Internet; in addition, I will bring my laptop computer to the all-church breakfast between the services on Sunday, March 2, to assist with new registrations, add credit card numbers to current registrations, and answer any questions you may have. Or ask me at lkellerhoweth@cox.net or 619-282-0329.

Mallie Odle has graciously managed and monitored KCC E-Scrip activity over the last five years, and now I am taking on that role as part of my work with the KCC Stewardship Committee.

The 54 families who are already enrolled were responsible for almost \$1,000 coming to KCC via E-Scrip in 2007. If more people choose to join, and if existing participants choose to add credit/debit cards to their registration, we can make an even bigger contribution to KCC's operations and missions, an even bigger step towards doing God's work in the world.

Lee Howeth
Stewardship Committee ♦

Men's Breakfast

At 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 1, the men of KCC will enjoy good food and good fellowship. All are welcome. Just let Bruce (619-284-1129 or bruce@kcc.sdcoxmail.com) know that you are coming, so there will be plenty of breakfast for you! ♦

Calling All Women!

All are invited to join the group of women who minister to each other through various projects and fellowship throughout the year. It is a great way to meet new friends and develop a Christian support group within our church community.

Information sheets are in the church office. We look forward to seeing you at our first get-together on March 11. If you would like to know more about this fun group, please contact Cathy Stephenson at 619-583-6559. ♦

Heritage Builders

It's easy to join the Heritage Builders. All you have to do is add a codicil to your will or trust, designating a gift to KCC. In fact, there's an even easier way. Do you have certificates of deposit, other bank accounts, or mutual funds? Just list the beneficiary as KCC; all you will need is the church's Tax ID number, which the church office will be happy to provide.

Once you have made these arrangements, notify the church that it is the beneficiary. And there you are: a member of the Heritage Builders, a non-exclusive and oh-so-proud club of people who have chosen to give back some of what God has provided.

The church hosts a banquet for Heritage Builders every year. Make your arrangements now, and then come enjoy the banquet on May 6. Questions? Ask me (858-566-3927 or fredricradick@netzero.net).

Fredric Radick
Stewardship Committee ♦

Senior Luncheon

"Showers and Flowers" is the springtime theme of the next Senior Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, April 2, in Lander Hall. All the church's seniors are invited to this delightful event! ♦

Kensington Concert Series

Two of the items in the spring 2008 series feature an extra-special treat – dinner concerts! Here is the listing:

Ole Kittleson

Enjoy Broadway, Hollywood, and cabaret favorites with local performing legend Ole Kittleson, accompanied by virtuoso Bob Macleod on the piano. This concert is at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, at 4234 Ridgeway.

French Music – French Cuisine

The Kensington Trio (including our own Ron Morebello) will play music by Fauré, Poulenc, Debussy, and others; then all will enjoy a three-course dinner at the local restaurant sensation, Bleu Bohème, which also serves as the venue for this concert. Sunday, April 27, at 4 p.m. Oo la la!

Mexican/Spanish Music & Buffet

Local favorite Ponce's Mexican Restaurant will host Alfonso Vidales and Ana Luisa Vidales, duo pianists, playing Mexican and Spanish music; they will be joined by soprano Esther Gonzalez Lozano of Ensenada accompanied by pianist Susan Schick. All this will be followed by a buffet dinner. Sunday, May 18, at 4 p.m. ¡Olé!

San Diego Men's Chorus

This classic group (the first choral group to perform in the newly-renovated Balboa Theater) will present selections from their concert "Dreamguys," a tribute to bands and babes – Bee Gees, Beatles, Backstreet Boys; Bette, Barbara, and Bernadette. This concert is at 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 15, at 4617 East Talmadge Drive.

Tickets are \$22 for regular concerts, \$41 for the Mexican concert and buffet, and \$67 for the French concert and three-course dinner. They can be purchased at Kensington Video, 4067 Adams Avenue. Seating is limited; buy your tickets now!

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Morebello at rmorebello@rmorebello.cts.com. Net proceeds will go to benefit the Friends of the Kensington/Normal Heights Library. ♦

Meet New Member Denise Madruga

Denise Madruga, whose photo appeared in the last issue of the *Chimes*, recently moved to Kensington, where she shares a home with children Maddie and Eddie Warner, fiancé Michael Lesniak, and Dillon Lesniak.

Denise, who is Director of Operations for an investment management company, loves cooking, gardening, exercise, traveling, hosting gatherings, and zipping about on her scooter. She graduated from San Diego State, and lived in Talmadge before her recent move.

Denise's KCC sponsor is Jodi Cleesattle. Please welcome her and the other newly-joined members to the church. ♦

Preschool News

Students returning to the KCC Preschool next fall are invited to submit their registration materials between March 10 and March 28. Starting Monday, March 31, open registration will begin.

The preschool will take its Easter break from March 17 through March 23. Then, on March 29, watch for the big Kensington Preschool Parents' Association rummage sale! ♦

Easter Egg Hunt

The young and the young at heart delight in the annual Easter egg hunt hosted by Beth and Tony Guepin, 4165 Palisades Road, San Diego. This year, with Easter so early, the egg hunt is early too: Saturday, March 15. Come enjoy the fun! ♦

Need A Chuckle?

A pastor came upon some boys with a dog. What are you doing?" he asked. A boy replied, "He's a stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whoever can tell the biggest lie will get the dog." The pastor was shocked. "You shouldn't be telling lies! Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie." There was a moment's silence, then the boys all shrugged. "All right, give him the dog." ♦

Prayer List

Please remember these people in your prayers:

Dee Dee Barbeau
Noriko Cook
Marie Cooper
Jon Deering and family
Karen Friedman
Joyce Gilchrist
Bob Guerra
Joey
Zosimo Jadloc
Clint Keay
Charlene Moore
Nicolas Nelson
Leslie O'Toole
Joan Reilly
Celia Reyes and Alpha
Millard Stanforth
Dave Torrance



To get a name added to this list, please contact the church office (info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com or 619-284-1129) or the *Chimes* (klarson26@cox.net or 619-501-1187). Also, please let us know when it's time for the name to be removed from the list. ♦

Calling All Birthdays!

The KCC birthday list needs your help. It includes errors and duplications. It includes people who shouldn't be on it – for example, folk who are no longer among the living. And it omits people who should be on it – for example, perhaps, you?

Please help us update! People are born, people die, people move in and move away... We'd love to have the birthdays of everyone associated with KCC (members and friends alike). If you'd rather that your date not be published in the *Chimes*, we will of course respect that, but we'd like to have your birthday in the church records anyway.

Please drop birthday information off at the church office or send it to Interim Administrative Assistant Donna Hanson at info@kcc.sdcox-mail.com. Thanks very much for your help. ♦

Name Tags

Think honestly about the last time you attended church: did you actually know the name of everyone you saw there? Even, everyone you spoke to? Most of us don't. And not everyone knows our name either.

The solution is name tags! If you have one, please wear it. During construction, the name tag boards are in Lander Hall, which you will conveniently pass on your way to the sanctuary from the makeshift south entrance. As you pass, stop and pick up your name tag – your new friends and neighbors will be grateful.

If you don't have one, or lost it, Donna in the church office will be delighted to make you a new name tag. Just leave her a note or call her (619-284-1129) or email info@kcc.sdcoxmail.com.

Remember the kindergarten song? “Make new friends, and keep the old; one is silver and the other gold.” Name tags help with both. ♦

Decorative Mirrors

There has been an extraordinary spate of mirror generosity. Stacks and stacks of decorative tile mirrors have been generously donated to the church. Thank you very much! But we have enough; no more, please. ♦

March Birthdays

- 3 Connie Cleland
- 4 Thelma Brooks, Amy Harrison
- 7 Millie Medigovich
- 8 Bob Vreeland
- 9 Michaela Clegg, Lucretia McCain,
Lynn Uhazie,
- 10 John Loomis
- 12 Jenna Short
- 16 Carl McKenney, Kathy Phipps
- 19 Shirley Beran, Kurt Stoney
- 21 Marcianne Gagliardi, Carla Mercer
- 22 Bob Parkinson
- 23 Mary Foltz
- 24 Rosemary Downing
- 26 Alicia Rodriguez
- 29 Rich Wayman
- 31 Ariel Baumbaugh



KCC's Capital Campaign Bearing Fruit

Amazed and astounded by the sight of the church? Even with all the disruption and chaos of construction, we can see the excitement start to build. Fresh breezes blowing through previously ill-used or unused space; the worn out and the non-functional gone; glimmers of hope everywhere ... Seen the kitchen lately? That nasty pervasive smell of gas is gone! The floor gleams! The equipment works, and works beautifully! That kind of transformation awaits so many other parts of the church building too, thanks to the generosity of all these people:

Abbott, Shannon	Ehlers, Bill and Sue	McClure, Lucretia
Allen, Barbara and Brock	Eilers, Barbara and Bill	McKenney, Carl and Rebecca
Anderson, Janie	Elkins, Arlene	Medigovich, Milica
Apgar, Bob and Vicki	Elkins, Julia	Morrison, Joann
Apgar, Helen and Robert	Ely, Ilah Jo	Naismith, Sheila
Arjona, Oscar	Frontis, Bill and Carol	Neal, Jay and Jayne
Bachman, Joann	In Memory of Irv and Mary Frontis	Nelson, Marian
Barber, Gail and George	Generoli, Betty	Nielsen, Margaret and Paul
Barnier, David	Gentry, Alison and Scot	Odle, Joe and Mallie
Barrett, Froman	Greer, Marjorie	Parkinson, Bob and Mary
Bast, Fred	Guepin, Beth and Tony	Patch, Beverly
Baumbaugh, Joel and Marsha Dodds	Gutierrez, Abel and Mary	Payne, Patricia and Robert
Berger, George and Virginia	Hanford, Richard and Winnie	Perrigo, Robert and Wendy
Berkshire, Jeannette	Harrison, Amy and Powell	Rhee, Kristine and Robert
Billingsley, Henry	Hartung, Barbara and James	Sapier, Jacques and Susanne
Bourda, Betty	Hengst, Mary Annah and Nolan	Schroeder, Mary Ann and Paul
Brammer, Joyce	Holloway, Betty	Short, Laura and Tim
Brewster, Marian	In Memory of Betty Holloway	Slocomb, Eleanor
Brimhall, Jennifer and Lee Howeth	Holloway, Richard	Stephenson, Cathy and Dude
Brimhall, Jessie	Holloway, Stephen	Swann, Mary Jane
Broselle, Carl and Susie	Hosler, Kathy	Thomas, William
Broselle, Dennis and Judy	Hughes, Ralph and Jerrie Stringer	Thompson, Margie and Steven
Bryan, Russell	KCC's Aerobics Group	Trischman, Jackie and Jay
Burgess, Margaret	KCC's Junior High Youth	In Memory of Amy Utz
Ceriani, Martha	KCC's Preschool Parents	Vancott, Nancy
Christison, Susan	Auxiliary	Vavra, Kay
Clark, Florence	KCC's Senior High Youth	Vik, Mary
Cooper, Jerry and Lilian	KCC's Young Adult Group – the "Oldtimers"	Vreeland, Helen
Cooper, Marie	Kelsen, Sylvia	Walker, Andrew
Craig, Betty	Kennedy, Betty	Walker, Elizabeth
Crane, Kit	Kieta, Gladys	Ward, Jim and Penny
Cross, Ellen	Lander, Bertha	Wayman, Dick and Joan
Curtin-Schamu, Susan and Damon Schamu	Larson, Bruce and Katherine	Wayman, Rich
Davis, Pauline	Loomis, Debbie and John	Wells, Leslie and Tom Wheeler
Davis, Carolyn and Stephen	Loop, Earline	Wender, Jacqueline and Paul
In Memory of Lilah DeVries	Lowe, Robert	Winn, Amy and Kevin
Diener, Mary	Marcoux, Alice	Winter, Zoa
DiMille's Italian Restaurant	Mason, Ben and Edith	Young, Sharon
Downing, Margaret and Rex	McCarthy, Bonnie and Brendan	
	McClain, Cindi and Mick	

The list keeps growing, but there's still room for **your** name! ♦

Easter Lilies

On Easter Sunday, March 23, the sanctuary will once again be filled with beautiful Easter lilies. If you would like to place an order, please complete the form below and return it with your check to the church office. The cost per plant is \$10.00, and you may take yours home after the 10 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday.



Order deadline:
Sunday,
March 16

Your Name: _____

Your Phone: _____

Number of Lilies Ordered _____

Please circle one:

IN MEMORY OF... [or] IN HONOR OF...

(Complete as you wish your dedication to appear in the bulletin)

If you would like to donate your lilies to one of KCC's shut-ins, please check here. _____

Please make your check payable to Kensington Community Church

Return this form and your check to:
Kensington Community Church UCC
4773 Marlborough Drive
San Diego, CA 92116

Questions? Ask Administrative Assistant Donna Hanson, 619-284-1129

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

LENT: "SUPPER, SONG, AND STUDY"
PLACE: KCC SANCTUARY
WHEN: THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 28 AND MARCH 6 AND 13, 5:30 P.M.

MEN: MEN'S BREAKFAST
PLACE: KCC KITCHEN AND CONFERENCE ROOM
WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 8:00 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP: ALL-CHURCH BREAKFAST
PLACE: KCC LANDER HALL
WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 9:15 A.M.

MEETING: TRUSTEES
PLACE: KCC CONFERENCE ROOM
WHEN: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 6:30 P.M.

MEETING: EVENTS COMMITTEE
PLACE: KCC CONFERENCE ROOM
WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 9:15 A.M.

FUN: EASTER EGG HUNT
PLACE: BETH AND TONY GUEPIN'S, 4165 PALISADES ROAD
WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 15

WORSHIP: PALM/PASSION SUNDAY
PLACE: KCC
WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M.

SEE THE FULL CHURCH CALENDAR
AT WWW.KENSINGTONUCC.COM