



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONALIST

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

God
is still
speaking,

February 2, 2010

Ash Wednesday, February 17th

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of the season of Lent, when we come together as a community as we begin our journey toward Easter. This year there will be two services to help you prepare:

Contemplative service at 8:00 a.m. in our chapel

This short, meditative service will include time for silent reflection, some meditative music, imposition of ashes, and Communion. The chapel will remain open after the service until the office closes at 3:00 p.m. You are invited to stop by and take time for yourself in the chapel. Ashes will be available from either Pastor Scott or Pastoral Intern Luke throughout the day.

Partnership service at 7:00 p.m. at University City UCC

2877 Governor Drive, San Diego 92122

We will join together with other members in our San Diego Partnership Churches for this service, which will include the imposition of ashes and Communion. You are invited to arrive at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship time before the service.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the season of Lent, when we journey together toward Easter, the pinnacle of the church year. Lent is traditionally a time for prayer, penance, fasting, and giving to the poor. Lent began in the early church as a preparation for baptism. At that time, baptism was only administered once a year on Easter. The candidates for baptism were instructed to fast several days before Easter to prepare themselves to receive baptism, and

communion for the first time. Other members were also invited to fast with the baptismal candidates to prepare themselves for Easter. The shorter fast was eventually extended to forty days to coincide with Jesus' wilderness pilgrimage. The forty days begins on Ash Wednesday, and continues through Holy Saturday, excluding Sundays because Sundays are always a celebration of the Resurrection. Please take time during this holy season of preparation to draw closer to the Spirit.

GALA - THIS SATURDAY

We're looking forward to seeing all of you who are able to attend this year's Gala supporting the McKinley School Foundation this Saturday evening, February 6th.



Festivities start at 6:00pm.

Be ready to have fun, enjoy a great meal and support a terrific organization!

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Albert "John" Ambler who died Monday, January 25. A memorial service is scheduled for 1pm on Sunday, February 7. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be given to the Memorial Fund of Mission Hills United Church of Christ.



Mission Hills United Church of Christ

4070 Jackdaw Street
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 296-2169

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. M. Scott Landis</i>
<i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Joe Sandven</i>
<i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	<i>Chaplain E.V. Lyons, Jr.</i>
<i>Pastoral Intern</i>	<i>Luke Williams</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	<i>Santina Poor</i>
<i>Youth Leader</i>	<i>Keith Warrick</i>
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Max Chodos</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Rick Parks</i>
<i>Office Manager / Bookkeeper</i>	<i>Charlotte Wilder</i>

www.missionhillsucc.org
missionhillsucc@sbcglobal.net

ATTENDANCE:

January 31, 2010 - 181

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday, 9 am to 3 pm

Annual Corporate Meeting Report

111 members attended the Annual Corporate Meeting on Sunday, January 31st. Walter Borschel, Moderator, highlighted the high level of involvement and commitment of MHUCC members, recognized the generosity of members in their support of the church, acknowledged our outstanding Church Staff and emphasized the excitement of being part of a growing Church. MHUCC membership is growing at 25-30 members per year. Here is a short summary of the actions and information from the meeting.

The Congregation approved the 2010-2011 Nominating Committee Slate presented by Vice Moderator Eric Bernhard: Eric Bernhard Chair, Anne Sarsfield, Amy Brunton, Sharon Peterson, Sharon Ross, Nellora Walker. The Nominating Committee will present their recommendations at the June Ecclesiastical Meeting.

The Congregation approved the 2009 Financial Reports presented by Glenn Ward, Treasurer. The Church ended 2009 slightly under budget and carried over a balance of \$9,280 into 2010.

The Congregation approved the proposed 2010 Budget presented by Stewardship & Investment Chairperson Bob Poor. As discussed in the meeting, the Church Council will conduct a mid-year review of the following areas: Mission & Outreach Budget, Christian Education Budget, compensation for the Minister of Christian Education and the budget plan for the Pastor's 3-month sabbatical in 2012 and provide an update at the June Ecclesiastical Meeting.

Corporate Meeting, *continued...*

The Congregation supported working on the following four goals in 2010:

Develop and implement a Strategic Plan for the next 3-5 years. Walter reviewed the outline of the Strategic Plan that the Team has been developing. To get member feedback on the recommendations, a series of Strategic Plan forums and cottage meeting are being planned for the next several months. Please attend one of these Forums or cottage meetings.

Develop, adopt and implement a Safe Church Policy: Tom Merrick spoke about the importance of having a Safe Church Policy in place and he reviewed some of the areas to be included in the Church's Policy. The Safe Church Policy will be presented at the June Ecclesiastical Meeting.

Strengthen the Church by high engagement of new and current members: As we grow toward 300 members, Walter asked members to make room for visitors and guests by leaving seats open at the end of the pews and to reach out to build friendships with new members.

Begin planning for our 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2011. The Church Council is establishing a Committee to begin planning for MHUCC's 100th Anniversary in 2011. If you are interested in being part of this planning, please contact Walter Borschel, Eric Bernhard or Pastor Scott.

Thank you for your participation in our Annual Corporate Meeting.

Walter Borschel, Moderator

MHUCC CALENDAR



Every Sunday: *Facets of Faith - 9 am*

Worship - 10 am

Youth Forum - 10am

Children's Choir Rehearsal - 11:30am

Every Thursday: *Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm*

This week

Tuesday, February 2

Christian Education Comm. - 7pm

Wednesday, February 3

Worship Arts Music Comm. - 6pm

Heart of Christianity Study - 7pm

Thursday, February 4

Mission & Outreach Comm. - 6:30pm

Saturday, February 6

Mardi Gras Gala - 6pm

Sunday, February 7

John Ambler Memorial Service - 1pm

Monday, February 8

Material Aid - 10am

Journeying Together - 7pm

Tuesday, February 9

Church Council - 6:30pm



Save the Dates

February 14 - Mardi Gras Sunday

Commissioning
of Santina Poor

February 17 - Ash Wednesday

8am service at Mission Hills UCC

7pm service at University City UCC



4070 Jackdaw Street
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 296-2169
www.missionhillsucc.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
San Diego, CA
Permit 302

If you wish to be removed from this mailing,
please contact the church office.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ALL ARE WELCOME AT MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Church is a church without dogma where people are free to explore and deepen their faith in an environment open to questioning in the richness of our strong Christian heritage.

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a progressive, inclusive Protestant denomination that celebrates diversity and community action.

UCC churches seek to unite people from all ethnic, racial and social backgrounds. Our churches and ministries are active worldwide, working in communities to promote social justice and better living standards.

***No Matter Who You Are
Or Where You Are On Life's Journey
You Are Welcome Here!***

Open and Affirming (ONA)



United Church of Christ