

Welcome to Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles' Membership/Inquirer's Class

Welcome & Prayer

Overview of our time together

Why are we here? Sharing of our Personal Stories

Our Fellowship

Our Church (Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles)

Core Values

Mission/Vision/Strategic Plan

By-laws

Doctrines, Sacraments, Rites

History of our church

Inclusive Language

Conflict Resolution

Our Pastors

Our Building

MCC Websites (UFMCC/MCCLA/Living Fusion)

Opportunities for Ministry

Our Ministries

Gifts of Ministry Sheets

Stewardship (Commitment to Time/Talent/Tithes...attendance/giving/ministry)

Collect Forms

Personal Data

Stewardship

MCCLA Gifts of Ministry

Video/Picture Release Form

Evaluation



Our Core Values

Inclusion

Love is our greatest moral value and resisting exclusion is a primary focus of our ministry. We want to continue to be the conduits of a faith where everyone is included in the family of God, and where all parts of our being are welcomed at God's table.

Community

Offering a safe and open community for people to worship, learn and grow in their faith, is our deep desire. We are committed to equipping ourselves and each other to do the work in our world that God has called us to do.

Spiritual Transformation

Providing a message of liberation; from the oppressive religious environment of our day, or, to those experiencing God for the first time, is what motivates and guides our ministry. We believe that when people are invited to experience God through the life and ministry of Christ, lives will be transformed.

Social Action

Seeking to talk less and do more, we are committed to resisting the structures that oppress people and stand with those who suffer under the weight of oppressive systems, being guided always by our commitment to Global Human Rights.

Denominational website: www.mccchurch.org



MCCLA Mission Statement

Metropolitan Community Church, Los Angeles (MCCLA) is a prophetic, liberating and progressive Christian community of faith that honors, values and welcomes all people. We are rooted in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, and intersex communities. We preach a relevant, vibrant and scripture-based message that embodies and celebrates everyone's spirituality and sexuality. We challenge each other to make our lives count, as we invite everyone to be transformed in mind, body and spirit. From a place of trust, wholeness and holiness, we reach out as the hands, feet, and heart of Christ through acts of justice and compassion to make a difference in our world.

~ Revised June 2003

Our Vision for the Future

Metropolitan Community Churches are on a bold mission to transform *hearts, lives, and history*. We are a movement that faithfully proclaims God's inclusive love for all people and proudly bears witness to the holy integration of *spirituality and sexuality*.

Just as Jesus did, we are called to:

- **Do justice**, show kindness, and live humbly with God. (Micah 6:8)
- **Explore** life's questions with open hearts and minds.
- **Raise our voices** in sacred defiance against religious (and political or systemic) exclusion.
- **Reach out** to those with no hope.
- **Lift up** new generations of remarkable, far-reaching spiritual activists.

Our Strategic Plan

Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles also has chosen to follow the Strategic Plan as laid out by our Denomination. The full plan can be found on the Denomination's website: www.mccchurch.org

The main points of the plan are included below:

Marketing

Increase the effectiveness with which we present the powerful, life-transforming message of Metropolitan Community Churches.

Justice

Emerge as more faithful and influential advocates for liberation from all forms of oppression and injustice in the world.

Evangelism

Launch a new era of outreach and inclusion in MCCLA that results in consistently adding new people to our global community of faith.

Resources

Develop and deliver the relevant and useful resources most needed by our church to successfully carry out our mission and ministry.

Finances

Build a culture of generosity in MCCLA that leads to a strong base of human and financial resources to assure the success of our mission and ministry.

Please visit our website for our by-laws and other administrative information

MCCLA's Website: www.mccla.org

Doctrine, Sacraments and Rites of Metropolitan Community Church

Our Doctrine

Christianity is the revelation of God in Jesus Christ and is the religion set forth in the Scriptures. Jesus Christ is foretold in the Old Testament, presented in the New Testament, and proclaimed by the Christian Church in every age and in every land.

Founded in the interest of offering a church home to all who confess and believe, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches moves in the mainstream of Christianity.

Our faith is based upon the principles outlined in the historic creeds: Apostles and Nicene.

We believe:

In one triune God, omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient, of one substance and of three persons: God, our Parent-Creator; Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, God in flesh, human; and the Holy Spirit, God as our Sustainer.

That the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, showing forth God to every person through the law and the prophets, and finally, completely and ultimately on earth in the being of Jesus Christ.

That Jesus...the Christ...historically recorded as living some 2,000 years before this writing, is God incarnate, of human birth, fully God and fully human, and that by being one with God, Jesus has demonstrated once and forever that all people are likewise Children of God, being spiritually made in God's image.

That the Holy Spirit is God making known God's love and interest to all people. The Holy Spirit is God, available to and working through all who are willing to place their welfare in God's keeping.

Every person is justified by grace to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

We are saved from loneliness, despair and degradation through God's gift of grace, as was declared by our Savior. Such grace is not earned, but is a pure gift from a God of pure love. We further commend the community of the faithful to a life of prayer; to seek genuine forgiveness for unkind, thoughtless and unloving acts; and to a committed life of Christian service.

The Church serves to bring all people to God through Christ. To this end, it shall arrange for regular services of worship, prayer, interpretation of the Scriptures, and edification through the teaching and preaching of the Word.

Sacraments (This Church embraces two holy Sacraments):

Baptism by water and the Spirit, as recorded in the Scriptures, shall be a sign of the dedication of each life to God and God's service. Through the words and acts of this sacrament, the recipient is identified as God's own Child.

Holy Communion is the partaking of blessed bread and fruit of the vine in accordance with the words of Jesus, our Sovereign: This is my body...this is my blood. (Matthew 26:26-28). All who believe, confess and repent and seek God's love through Christ, after examining their consciences, may freely participate in the communal meal, signifying their desire to be received into community with Jesus Christ, to be saved by Jesus Christ's sacrifice, to participate in Jesus Christ's resurrection, and to commit their lives anew to the service of Jesus Christ.

Rites

The Rites of the Church as performed by its duly authorized ministers shall consist of the following:

The **Rite of Ordination** is the setting apart of duly qualified persons for the professional ministry of this Church. It is evidenced by the laying on of hands by authorized ordained clergy or UFMCC Elders, pursuant to these Bylaws.

The **Rite of Attaining Church Membership** shall be conducted by the Pastor or Interim Pastoral Leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. In accordance with criteria established by the local church, a baptized Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith.

The **Rite of Holy Union/Rite of Holy Matrimony** is the spiritual joining of two persons in a manner fitting and proper by a duly authorized clergy, Interim Pastoral Leader of the church, or UFMCC Elders. After both persons have been counseled and apprised of their responsibilities one toward the other, this rite of conferring God's blessing may be performed.

The **Rite of Funeral or Memorial Service** is to be fittingly conducted by the ministers of the Church for the deceased.

The **Rite of Laying on of Hands** or prayer for the healing of the sick in mind, body or spirit is to be conducted by the ministers of the Church, at their discretion, upon request.

The **Rite of Blessing** may be conducted by the ministers of the Church for persons, things and relationships, when deemed appropriate by the minister. This includes the dedication of a church building to the glory of God.

(The Doctrine, Sacraments and Rites can be found in MCC's By-laws on their website)

Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles: A Quick History

- Oct. 6, 1968:** MCC founded by Rev. Troy D. Perry in Huntington Park, California
- 1979:** Church at 22nd & Union purchased and occupied; first UFMCC General Conference held.
- Jan. 27, 1973:** Building at 22nd & Union destroyed by a fire of “suspicious origin.”
- 1974:** MCCLA purchases and occupies the former Belasco Theater at 11th & Hill downtown.
- Feb. , 1986:** Rev. Nancy L. Wilson elected pastor of MCC Los Angeles.
- 1987:** Hill Street building sold and Washington & La Cienega property in Culver City purchased.
- Jan. 17, 1994:** Building Washington Boulevard destroyed during Northridge earthquake.
- 1996:** Santa Monica Boulevard property purchased jointly with UFMCC and occupied.
- Feb. 15, 2001:** Rev. Michael J. Nikolaus serves as MCC Los Angeles’ interim pastor.
- Nov. 4, 2001:** Rev. Neil G. Thomas of Bournemouth MCC, England, elected as Senior Pastor of MCCLA and began his pastorate in early 2002. He was installed March 10, 2002.

Pastors:

- 1968 – 1972 Rev. Troy D. Perry
- 1972 – 1975 Rev. Lee J. Carlton
- 1975 – 1976 Rev. James Sandmire
- 1976 – 1978 Rev. Donald Pederson
- 1978 – 1985 Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey
- 1985 – 1986 Elder Larry Rodriguez
- 1986 – 2000 Rev. Nancy L. Wilson
- 2001 – 2002 Rev. Michael Nikolaus
- 2002 – present Rev. Neil G. Thomas

Locations:

- 1968 Troy Perry’s home, Huntington Park
- 1968 The Women’s Club, Huntington Park
- 1968 Embassy Auditorium, Los Angeles
- 1968 First Methodist Church, Los Angeles
- 1968 – 1970 Encore Theater, Hollywood
- 1970 – 1973 22nd & Union Street, Los Angeles
- 1973 Aquarius Theater, Hollywood
- 1973 American Legion Hall, Hollywood
- 1973 – 1974 Encore Theater, Hollywood
- 1974 – 1987 11th & Hill Street, Los Angeles
- 1987 – 1994 Washington & La Cienega, Culver City
- 1988 – 1989 Crescent Heights Methodist, Hollywood
- 1994 Sound Studio, Culver City
- 1994 Beth Chayim Chadashim, Los Angeles
- 1994 – 1995 Pio Pico School Auditorium, Los Angeles
- 1995 – 1996 Plummer Park Auditorium, West Hollywood
- 1996 – 2008 8714 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood
- 2008 – present 4953 Franklin Avenue, Los Angeles

Communication Covenant

As a member of Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles, each of us must recognize that communication skills are essential to efficient, effective and orderly operation of the church. Therefore, each member agrees to enter into a covenant between other members in individual conversations, group meetings and written communications. By seeking membership, we agree to uphold this covenant.

1. Admit and accept responsibilities for one's self, one's own thoughts, attitudes and behaviors.
2. Respect one's self and others.
3. Do not attempt to articulate another person's thoughts, attitudes or positions without their prior invitation. Do not make accusations.
4. If a problem arises with another person, always go directly to that person first to resolve the problem.
5. Deal directly with others. Be loving and caring, yet frank.
6. When a problem arises, solve it immediately. Don't wait.
7. Be sensitive to differences of all types that exist between people. These include but are not limited to: race, gender, age, ethnicity, physical ability, economic status, nationality, and sexual/affectional preferences.
8. Ask for an explanation of what a person means by what they have just said if you are not sure, rather than forming an incorrect conclusion.
9. Listen and hear what others have to say. Try to put aside preconceptions or judgments and be in the present moment. Do not interrupt when another person is speaking.
10. Be considerate and do not take more than your share of speaking time.
11. Keep all participants at equal levels of responsibility for the outcome of the interchange.
12. Use no abusive language when dealing with others. This includes name calling, insults or harsh scolding, although being emotional about one's own feelings may occur.
13. Don't gossip. Listen to someone else's needs or do something about a problem within your domain, but don't be a part of spreading rumors about an absent person.
14. No back biting, that is, talking maliciously about an absent person.
15. Admit when an impasse is reached and no further productive interchange can occur. Terminate the communication for that time, rather than trying to get one's own way.
16. Make a definite agreement about when you will discuss a problem if you cannot discuss it when approached.
17. Be available to listen to anyone that may have something to discuss.
18. Do not negate, deny or invalidate another's feelings.

Regions

Metropolitan Community Churches are located around the world. We have geographical regions that are overseen by our Regional Elders (in some countries they are referred to as Bishops). The regions of our denomination are listed below, although we do not have churches in all of the countries listed.

Region 1 Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Western Canada (British Columbia, Yukon), China, Micronesia, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, North Korea, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Eastern Russia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sumatra, Taiwan, Thailand, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and the United States of America (Alaska, California (Northern), Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming).

Region 2 Canada (Manitoba and Nunavut), and the United States of America (Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas (Eastern), and Wisconsin).

Region 3 Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Tobago, Turks & Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands and the United States of America (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, the District of Columbia (Washington, DC)).

Region 4 Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Denmark, Egypt, England, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Greenland, Holland, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Scotland, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syria, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Wales, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Region 5 Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Eastern Canada (Baffin Island, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec), Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, The Czech Republic, Tajekistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America (Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia), Uzbekistan, Vojdovina.

Region 6 Antarctica, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela and the United States of America (Arizona, California (Southern), Nevada, New Mexico, and Texas (Southern)).

Region 7 Western Canada (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories) , and the United States of America (Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas (Northern)).

Board of Elders

Our Moderator, Vice-Moderator and Regional Elders serve as the Spiritual Guides for MCC. Each Regional Elder is responsible for resourcing and supporting local churches with our seven Regions.



Moderator

Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson

941-755-5771

RevNancyWilson@MCCchurch.net

Region 4

Rev. Elder Glenna Shepherd

44 7789 636947

RevGlennaShepherd@MCCChurch.org



Vice Moderator

Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

210-380-7881

RevDarleneGarner@MCCchurch.net

Region 5

Rev. Diane Fisher

617-448-2396

RevDianeFisher@MCCChurch.net



Region 1

Rev. Elder Ken Martin

971-344-2181

RevKenMartin@MCCchurch.net

Region 6

Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

210-380-7881



Region 2

Rev. Elder Jim Mitulski

323-578-4454

RevJimMitulski@MCCchurch.net

Region 7

Rev. Elder Lillie Brock

972-243-0761

RevLillieBrock@MCCchurch.net



Region 3

Rev. Elder Arlene Ackerman

717-898-3713

RevArleneAckerman@MCCchurch.net

Every Week, Every Gift, Every Life: God's Guarantee!

God's Word contains promises that we can all depend upon. We trust God to provide the next breath we take and to care for us through eternity, but we can't seem to trust God to take care of us if we faithfully give 10% of our income back to God. You can trust God.

Please carefully consider practicing the Biblical principle of tithing by trusting God and bringing the **FIRST** 10% of your weekly income to the storehouse of MCCLA. If for any reason you discover, after 120 days, that God has not been faithful to you, the church will refund every dime we have a record of your having given during the 120 days. God's Word reports God's Guarantee to you, and this church is willing to stand good on the promises of God.

Your choices make a difference. God is Faithful.

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says God, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."
~ Malachi 3:10

My Estimate of Giving to the Ministry of MCCLA

I will begin to tithe (10%) \$ _____ per week month quarter year

I will continue to tithe (10%)\$ _____ per week month quarter year

I will commit to giving \$ _____ per week month quarter year

_____ I would like to speak with a member of the Pastoral Staff about steps to tithing.

_____I will commit to devoting more time and developing my talents for the glory of God.

Name _____ Date _____

Feel free to contact Rev. Neil if you have more questions: revneil@mccla.org

So how much is a tithe? A Weekly Tithing Chart

The following is a breakdown of weekly and annual income levels and their corresponding tithing figures in 2.5% increments. Please feel free to use this if you would like to calculate your financial contribution:

<u>Weekly Income</u>	<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>2.5% Tithe</u>	<u>5% Tithe</u>	<u>7.5% Tithe</u>	<u>10% Tithe</u>	<u>Your Tithe</u>
\$ 100.00	\$ 5,200	\$ 2.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 10.00	_____
\$ 200.00	\$10,400	\$ 5.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	_____
\$ 300.00	\$15,600	\$ 7.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 22.50	\$ 30.00	_____
\$ 400.00	\$20,800	\$10.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	_____
\$ 500.00	\$26,000	\$12.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 37.50	\$ 50.00	_____
\$ 600.00	\$31,200	\$15.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 60.00	_____
\$ 700.00	\$36,400	\$17.50	\$ 35.00	\$ 52.50	\$ 70.00	_____
\$ 800.00	\$41,600	\$20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00	_____
\$ 900.00	\$46,800	\$22.50	\$ 45.00	\$ 67.50	\$ 90.00	_____
\$1,000.00	\$52,000	\$25.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$100.00	_____
\$1,250.00	\$65,000	\$31.25	\$ 62.50	\$ 93.50	\$125.00	_____
\$1,500.00	\$78,000	\$37.50	\$ 75.00	\$112.50	\$150.00	_____
\$2,000.00	\$104,000	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$200.00	_____

Inclusive Language with Reference to God

Recognizing that our language is limited and limiting, it is important to counteract those limitation by using many and varied images and metaphors as we attempt to speak about God. Our language about God should be as intentionally diverse and varied as is that of the Bible and our theological tradition. We suggest that as you lead worship you consider using some of the following terms and phrases (or be creative and come up with your own) when speaking to and about God. (This list was compiled by Drew Theological School's Task Force on Inclusive Language in 1981 and was adapted for use at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1986).

All-powerful God	Giver of every good and perfect gift
Almighty Giver of Good	Giver of health and salvation
Answer to all mysteries	Giver of life and health
Awesome God	Giver of love
Awesome One	Giver of peace
Binder of Wounds	God arrayed in justice
Brightness of faithful souls	God of ages past and future
Comfort of sufferers	God of all being
Companion of the lonely	God of all comfort
Creative Source of all being	God of all compassion
Creator and Preserver of all humanity	God of all creatures
Creator of all	God of all flesh
Creator of goodness and beauty	God of all generations
Creator of the light	God of all power
Delight of the Ages	God of all the world
Desire of Nations	God of all times and places
Eternal Father-Mother God	God of Earth and air
Eternal God our Answer	God of earthquake, wind, and fire
Eternal Keeper	God of eternal might
Eternal One	God of forgiveness and understanding
Eternal Ruler	God of freedom and right
Eternal Source of Love	God of grace and glory
Eternal Spirit of...	God of Heavenly powers
Ever Living God	God of holiness
Ever Loving God	God of holy love
Faithful God	God of hopes and joys
The First and the Last	God of Israel's past
Fountain of all Holiness	God of life and death
Fountain of Life	God of light and sun
Fountain of Light and Truth	God of many deliverances
Fountain of Wisdom	God of peace
Friend of the poor	God of power and splendor
Friend	God of prophets and apostles
Generous Provider of all Good Gifts	God of all righteousness
Giver of all good things	

God of steadfastness and encouragement
God of the beginning, God of the end
God of the loving heart
God of the morning and noon
God of the spirits of all
God of this day
God of unchangeable power
God of wonders
God our Companion
God our Helper
God surrounded by glory
God Who art perfect love
Gracious Giver of knowledge
Gracious God
Great God of power
Great God of Hope
Great Ruler of the world
Great Healer of body and soul
Guardian of our lives
Guide of the meek
Guide and inspiration of humanity
Guide of humanity
Healer of the sick
Heart that inspires in us a vision of justice & love
Hearts Delight
Helper of all persons
Helper of the weak
Hidden God
High and Holy One
Hope of all the ends of the Earth
Judge Eternal
Incognito God
Inexhaustible God
Infinite God
Inspiration to goodness
Judge of all humanity
Keeper of the covenant
Keeper of our souls
Life of all who live
Life of mortals
Life of the universe
Life of the world
Light of all seeing

Light of the faithful
Lover of peace
Lover souls
Maker of all things
Maker of Heaven and Earth
Maker of light
Maker of man and woman in God's image
Mighty God
Mighty Redeemer
Mind of the Universe
Mind that unifies all creation
Most merciful God
One and Eternal God of time and space
Only One
Our Creator and Our teacher
Our Refuge and Our Strength
Our Source
Power that brings healing
Power that saves
Power that shields
Proclaimer of justice
Protector of all who trust
Pure and upright One
Radiance of faithful souls
Radiant and glorious God
Redeemer and Deliverer
Redeemer of Israel
Redeemer of the oppressed
Redeeming God
Repose of the dead
Righteous God
Righteous One of all generations
Rock of all creation
Rock of our salvation
Rock of our life
Ruler of all peoples on Earth
Ruler of all creation
Ruler of the universe
Searcher of hearts
Shelter from the storm
Shield of our fathers and mothers
Shining Glory
Source of all existence

Source of all health
Source of all power
Source of all that we have and are
Source of all true joy
Source of blessing
Source of Creation
Source of deliverance and help
Source of eternal light
Source of freedom
Source of good
Source of health and strength
Source of life
Source of peace
Source of mercy
Source of salvation
Source of strength
Source of truth and law
Sovereign God
Sovereign of peace

Staff and support of the righteous
Shepherd
Steadfast and loving One
Strength of our life
Strength of the weak
Strength of those who labor
Strong God of truth
Support of the innocent
Sustainer of all the worlds that are
Teacher of peace
The one and only light
The Sun of the world
Will that gives us power
World's Light
Wondrous Fashioner and Sustainer of
life
Refuge of those who put their trust in
God

MCCLA Talent Release Form

Name:
Address:
E-mail:
Phone:
<i>PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</i>
I, _____ give permission to Metropolitan Community Church Los Angeles' Public Access Television Ministry & Website Ministry to use both sound and/or visual images of myself, in part or in whole, for cablecast, broadcast, and/or other public viewing, including Internet Streaming Video.
I, _____ do NOT give my permission to MCCLA to use either sound or visual image of myself for broadcasting nor internet.
Signature:
Parent or Legal Guardian (if under 18):
Date:

MCCLA Membership Personal Data Sheet

(Please note that any information provided is held in the strictest of confidence)

Name:		
Address:		
(include zip):		
Phone	Home:	Work:
	Cell:	Pager:
E-mail		
Emergency Contact:	Name:	
	Phone:	
Dates:	Birthday:	Anniversary:
Baptism:	Date:	Place:
Partner(s):		
Children:		
Occupation:		

<i>Please describe any expectations, desires and hopes you have for your membership with MCCLA:</i>

Office use only	Follow up call:	Membership: .
	Certificate:	

MCCLA Gifts of Ministry

Many opportunities are available to serve and participate in the life of our church. Not all opportunities exist at any given time. However, an indication of your personal preferences will be better recognized if you will take the time to let our church know what you really feel called to do and/or enjoy doing. Please indicate what you would like to do in the life of our church.

Name:	
E-mail:	
Phone:	Cell:

The Work of the Church

- Board of Directors
- Small Group Leader
- Financial Development
- Archives and History
- Tribe (Young Adults)
- Other

Administration

- Word Processing/Data Entry
- Answer phones
- General office
- Errands
- Poster & Publicity delivery
- Bookkeeping
- Bulletin preparation
- Publicity
- Other

Sunday Services

- Creative Worship Team
- Welcome Team
- Participate in Worship
- How Has God Blessed You?
- Set up sanctuary/altar
- Interpreting for the deaf
- Multi-Media (Sound, PowerPoint)
- TV/Website ministry
- Flowers
- Other

Music

- Choir/Praise Team
- Vocal Soloist
- Instrumentalist
- Pianist
- Other

Hospitality/Social

- Fellowship after Worship
- Potlucks
- Picnics
- Entertainment events
- Anniversary Celebration
- Other

Congregational Care

- Calling
- Visitor Follow-up
- Contact missing members
- Pastoral care sessions
- Grief Counselor
- Visiting the sick
- Writing prisoners
- Speak to students/groups
- Send cards
- Adopt-an-Elder
- Prayer Team
- Other

Building & Grounds

- Interior cleaning
- Weed & Trim
- Painting
- Washing windows
- Landscaping
- Electrical/Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Other

Education

- Teacher/Facilitator
- Retreat Planning
- Event Promotion
- Kids' Club
- Teen Quest
- Nursery
- Other

Arts/Special Skills

- Writing
- Acting
- Dancing
- Drawing/Sketching
- Painting
- Photography
- Video Production
- Graphic Design
- Interior Design
- Furniture/Building Design
- Sewing
- Other

Christian Social Action

- Homeless (Brown Bag/HopeNet)
- HIV/AIDS Ministry
- Elder Connection
- Addictions
- Marriage Equality
- Immigration
- Rights for All
- Other

CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE LIFE AT A TIME!

MCCLA: THE HANDS, FEET & HEART OF CHRIST

Annual Toy and Teddy Bear Drive Opportunity to help children in need for Christmas. (Rev. Alex or Deacon Patricia, toys@mccla.org)

Archives Recording the history of our church in photo and printed media. (Lucia, archives@mccla.org)

Azania Monthly gatherings of people of African descent. All people are welcome. (Meets 3rd Sun. of month after 11:00 am service. Jewel Junior, azania@mccla.org)

Bible Study Weekly supportive gathering, in a comfortable context to study Scripture. (Wednesdays, 7:00 pm. Rev. Pat, biblestudy@mccla.org)

Board of Directors Serves as the local church administrative body. (3rd Thurs, 7:00 pm. Rev. Neil, board@mccla.org)

Brown Bag Lunch Providing meals to the homeless in our community and the greater Los Angeles area. (2nd Sunday of month, Deacon Garret, brownbag@mccla.org)

Congregational Care Team Congregational support for emergencies. (Rev. Alex, revalejandro@mccla.org)

Coordinating Council of Ministries A gathering of the ministry leads to coordinate ministry projects and goals. (Rev. Pat, revpat@mccla.org)

CSW (Christopher Street West) Represents MCC LA in the Christopher Street West Pride Celebration. (Board, csw@mccla.org)

Deacon's Pantry Provides food, clothing and hygiene

products to those in need. Available during Sunday services. Also available during the week by appointment. (Deacon Garret Klindt, brownbag@mccla.org)

Deaf Ministry Providing an outreach to the Deaf and hard of hearing community, fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment here at MCCLA, currently providing sign language interpretation at our 11 am worship. (Lucia, deafministry@mccla.org)

Flowers Celebrates the beauty of God through flowers at our weekly worship. (Flowers@mccla.org)

Fundraising Committee FUNdraisers that supplement the ministry and work of MCCLA. (Board, board@mccla.org)

Healing Ministry Provides special prayer for those who request. 3rd Sunday, 11:00 am special healing prayers during worship service. (healing@mccla.org)

HopeNet Contributes food and money goods to food pantries and thrift stores to eliminate hunger in our area. (Donations accepted on Hope Net Sunday, 4th Sunday of Month, Jose Narciso or hopenet@mccla.org)

Hospitality Provides coffee and snacks to members and friends. (Crystal, hospitality@mccla.org)

Kids' Club Sunday School Weekly gathering of our children (ages 4 – 11 yrs old) for a special time of learning and fun during our 11:00 am service. First Sunday of month, watch for our Kids' Message in the 11:00 am service,

too! (Sundays, Dean Coffey, kidsclub@mccla.org)

Latino Ministry Provides a spiritual experience in which God's unconditional and all-inclusive love is celebrated and identified for all people within the Latino Community. (Sun, 1:30 pm Service in Spanish, Rev. Alejandro, revalejandro@mccla.org)

Lay Delegates Represents the congregation at conferences and communicates info regarding the denomination's concerns and policies. (Crystal Boles, Louis Ramirez, ET Thomas, laity@mccla.org)

Lay Pastoral Assistants / Deacons This trained and dedicated group of individuals are a part of the Pastoral Care Team working alongside the Senior Pastor. They reach out to the sick, shut-in, dying and the needy, both within our congregation and the community at large. (Rev. Alex, revalejandro@mccla.org)

Learning Institute Providing spiritual and life enriching courses and workshops to our church and community. Focusing on the Spirit and Life development of our community. (Rev. Pat, revpat@mccla.org)

Membership Classes Provides monthly opportunities to learn more about MCCLA. Contact Office for more info and to sign up. (Joel, admin@mccla.org or Bonnie, membership@mccla.org)

Men's Spirituality Group This active group has events throughout the month. Please check bulletins for times. (Cory Saucier, mensgroup@mccla.org)

Multimedia & Sound Team

This team helps bring the visual and sound technologies into the worship experience to enhance our time together. (Every Sunday, Chuck Phelan, chuck@mccla.org)

Music Ministry Make a joyful noise! Opportunities for singing, playing instruments, solos, special music, weekly praise team, choir. (Mark Brown @ markbrown@mccla.org)

Military Ministry A support, social and educational group of GLBTQI personnel, veterans and their families. (Jonathan, military@mccla.org)

NAMES Project This group of individuals organize showings of the Names Project Quilt at MCCLA and surrounding areas. For more info (either to help or make a panel, contact them). (Rolando Lira, admin@mccla.org).

Office Staff Welcoming our visitors, answering phones, receptionist work, bulletin making... (Joel or admin@mccla.org)

People of Leather Among You (PLAY) Provides leather men and women a safe and nurturing place to experience their spirituality. Meets monthly with guest speakers & discussion time. (2nd Thurs of month, 2nd floor, Skip Chasey, PLAY@mccla.org)

Poz Spirit A group for those affected by HIV/AIDS with an emphasis of living with HIV/AIDS in the Christian spirit of support. Group gathers primarily to promote and organize events. (pozspirit@mccla.org)

Public Relations Committee Disseminates information and gets the word out to the community about the ministries

and activities of MCC LA. (pr@mccla.org)

Social Butterflies A social group for the transmen, transwomen, their partners and allies. (see Amy)

Social Justice Bringing justice to our community through activism around important issues. (Rev. Pat)

The Tribe/ Youth Group Provides a safe place for younger GLBTQI people to explore personal and spiritual issues and experience Christ's love for us all. The group offers speakers, discussion time, worship & events throughout their calendar. Every Friday of the month, 7:30 pm, 2nd Floor. (Pastor Joel Wilsey, tribe@mccla.org)

TV Ministry Please check the TV schedule <http://www.mcclatv.org> for updates. (Sebastian or tv@mccla.org)

Web Team Provides MCCLA with a dynamic and informative website...reaches worldwide communities! (Sebastian, webster@mccla.org)

Welcome Team Provides our congregation and guests a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere. (Every Sun, Manuel, welcome@mccla.org)

Women's Spirituality Group An opportunity for social interaction and spiritual growth of women of our congregation and community. (First Saturday of month, contact Carol Scherfenberg for directions or womensgroup@mccla.org)

Worship Environment Team Ensures that our altar linens, supplies, decorations and general design is in order and set up. (Roger, altar@mccla.org)

Worship Team Provides excellence in worship, providing an experience that helps people to touch the Divine. Would you like to participate? 4th Thur, 7:15 pm, (Rev. Neil or revneil.org)

Staff:**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Neil G. Thomas

Minister of Congregational Life

Rev. Pat Langlois

Minister of Congregational Care & Minister of Spanish Speaking Congregation (ICM)

Rev. Alejandro "Alex" Escoto

Volunteer Clergy on Staff

Rev. Dr. Lori Dick
Rev. Barbara Haynes
Rev. Steve Swafford
Rev. Sandy Williams

Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

Brad Rice

Music Director**Choir Director, ICM Service**

Peter Kirkpatrick

Multi-Media (TV Ministry)

Sebastian

Office Manager

Joel Wilsey

Board of Directors**Vice Moderator**

Cole Dalton

Treasurer

Walter Wilson

Clerk

Jewel Junior

At Large

Jim Curtan

Keith Meinen

Larry Moad

Roger Owens

Jane Syftestad

Lay Delegates

Crystal Boles

Louis Ramirez

ET Thomas

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