

# CENTER NEWS

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October 2010

LA TIJERA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND CENTER FOR CHILDREN

## Mayola's Corner— Teacher Assignments and Bios

In our last newsletter we shared with you that we would let you know the teacher assignments once we finished our hiring process. Here are our assignments as of now. Along with our assignments, we decided to dedicate this newsletter to introducing all of our staff and giving a brief biography of each teacher.

**Stage 1: Kris LaMonica** has been with the Center for Children for 10 years and does an amazing job with our children. Kris loves working with our children and has enjoyed watching all our children grow and develop. Kris will be out of the center for a few months as she heals from a broken wrist. We will be holding her in our prayers for a quick and speedy recovery.

**Melanie Sims** has been at the Center for 4 years. She has 12 years experience working with children. Melanie's favorite thing about working at the Center for Children are the children's sweet dispositions and smiles. When Melanie is not at the Center, she is teaching piano and bass. She says it is rewarding to watch children learn.

**Shay Oyerinde** has been at the Center for Children since 2006. Prior to coming to our Center, she worked with elementary children and preschoolers. Shay has 3 boys of her own. She loves the differences in all the children's personalities and having the opportunity to teach and watch the children grow.

**Janet Evans** has been with the Center for Children for 10 years. She is a librarian at a local elementary school and finishes off her day working with our children in Stage 1. Janet loves to see our children's smiles. Seeing them grow and watching them flourish is the best.

**Stage 2: Rosa Aguilera** has been at La Tijera Center for Children for one year. Prior to coming to our Center, she spent 11 years at another Early Childhood Education Center. Rosa has 7 children of her own. She loves to hear our children laugh and watching them take their first steps.

**Yvonne Nibo** has been with us for a year and a half. She has loved being able to enrich children's lives because what they learn now, they will take

with them as they get older. Yvonne is phasing out of her work here at the Center for Children and is pursuing her MD. We wish her the best and will miss her.

**Chestina Altu** is one of our newest staff members. She has 12 years of experience that she will be able to draw from in her work here at the center. Chestina likes to watch the children's development and providing activities to promote their growth.

**Jessica Renteria** began working at the Center for Children in 2004. She moved away for a few years, but came back to work with us again in 2008. She loves playing with the children and watching them grow. She has had the opportunity to be in several rooms and enjoys hearing our children say their first words.

**Stage 3: Lynnette Slocomb** has been with the Center for Children for 18 years and a Sunday School teacher for over 25 years. Lynnette was a school librarian before she brought her skills to our Center. She loves to see the excitement that children bring to learning something new. She says that children are like little sponges that soak up so much information.

**Claudia Aguilera** is our other new teacher. She comes to us with 15 years experience working with children ages 18 months to 3 years. She says, "I just love their innocence and happiness. They have no worries. They just play and play and play. Anything can make them happy."

**Sharon Oyerinde** has been with us over four and a half years. Prior to coming here she was the Director of a local YMCA. Sharon is the mother of 3 adult girls and the grandma of 3 energetic boys. Her favorite thing about working with children is their smiles. Sharon is also our Extended Day lead teacher. She facilitates the process for our children to complete their homework.

**Transition 1: Mary William** has been with the Center for Children for 3 years. She has 18 years experience teaching children, including 12 years running her own school in India. Mary says she loves teaching children, providing them with activities, circle time, music time, and art.

**Transition 2: Alex Gonzalez** has been with the Center for 7 years. She has over 10 years experience working with children. Her favorite thing is the children and the experience she gets working with them.

### Special points of interest:

- **Open House and the Parent/Teacher Conferences** have been joined together to respect your time. At the conference, you will be able to visit with your teacher about your child, learn more about the classroom that your child is in, and discover some more about our Center at the same time! Please be sure to schedule your conference for October 21-22.
- Don't forget about the **Halloween Party/Parade**. Festivities will begin around 10:30 on the 29th, once we have all our children in their costumes. You are invited to come help out, join in the party, and/or bring goodies to share. This is a really fun day!!!
- Have you updated your **Earthquake Kit** lately?
- **Faith Lessons from our Children**—Pastor Rachel is working to begin an online study/discussion, based on the wisdom and insights we can learn from children in our lives. This is in the beginning stages of development, but she wants to know who from the Center for Children and the Church might be interested in participating. Each "session" would include a video which can be borrowed from Pastor Rachel or watched online for \$1, and a discussion board that will be active for about 2 weeks before we move onto the next topic. The hope is that this will accommodate everyone's schedule and you can participate when you have a free moment. Please let Pastor Rachel know if you are interested!!! [rachel@latijeraumc.org](mailto:rachel@latijeraumc.org)

*Assignments and Bios continued*

**Room 5: Lupe Mendoza** has been with the Center for Children for over a year and a half. She has four years experience total working with preschoolers. Lupe says, "I love working with children, helping them learn, watching them develop day by day and listening to their amazing stories."

**Room 3: Mal Wilson** has been with the Center for Children since 2002. She has a total of 15 years working with children, preschool and elementary age. Mal likes the connections that children make and the pride they have in themselves when they "get it."

**Driver/Floater: Bernice Hale** has worked with us for over 5 years. She had been hired to be our driver after over ten years driving for special needs populations. When Bernice is not shuttling our children to and from school, she fills in as needed in the classroom. She says that her favorite thing about work at the Center is watching the children grow!

**Floater: Suzy Simon** has been working at the Center for children for 18 years. She is here as our end-of-day help for the preschool and extended day program. She has 26 years of experience in childcare. Suzy says that her favorite thing about working with children is that you never know what they are going to say, do or react. They keep you on

your toes.

**Lauren Bonner** has been with us for 4 years. She began as a summer student and has become a great help to the program. Lauren is working towards a degree in Pediatric Physical Therapy.

**Music Teacher: Lyda Eddington** has been teaching music at the Center for 10 years. She is a Master Level Orff Schulwerck music teacher, and received her Early Childhood Education units locally. Lyda teaches at 3 preschools in the West Los Angeles / Santa Monica area in addition to teaching music and drama at a private elementary school in West Los Angeles. She is a professional musician and performer, a trained drum circle facilitator, and a harp therapist. Lyda enjoys sharing her love of music and the arts with children of all ages and is delighted to be a part of the La Tijera family. Besides seeing her around the Center, you can also see Lyda Sunday mornings at La Tijera UMC as the Director of Music!

**Director: Mayola Hayes** has been with the Center for Children since 1997. She started as a teacher and was promoted to Director over 8 years ago. Mayola says the best thing about being in childcare is watching the children grow up, start their career, and recognize the part you played in that process. Her career started 37 years ago as a head teacher for Head Start. She had 5 years experience as a supervisor of a UC facility before starting here in 1997.

## Tupperware

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Tupperware Fundraiser. We raised \$536 in two weeks. Congratulations to Jaelen and his mom, Allison Yoshinaga for winning the rectangular modular mates to their sales efforts. Small thank you gifts are in the front office for those who participated. Please stop by and pick up your gift. A few of the boxes are in and we hope to have them sorted this week. We will notify you when they are ready for pick up. If you had wanted to place an order but did not get it in on time, please see Pastor Rachel or turn in your order forms by October 8th, and a new order will be placed. Again, thank you for your support!!!

*Don't forget the P4C Meeting on October 14th at 5:30 pm. Let Tricia McReynolds know if you have a topic to discuss! Email her at MRSAnim8or@aol.com. Room Parents are still needed for Stage I and Stage III!!!!*

## Euro Soccer Schools

Dear Parents,

Please allow us to take this time to invite you to register your child for Euro Soccer Schools. Euro Soccer Schools will be having in-house soccer classes being held every Tuesdays at the Big Field next to the School.

The first day will be on October 12, it is never too late to register. The classes will be at 9am and 3pm.

Boys and Girls ages 2-5 start at 9am; all classes are 30 minutes long; Boys and Girls ages 5-12 start at 3:00pm.

The great part of our program is that we update our blog frequently with Video of your kid playing at EuroSoccerSchools that way you can see first hand exactly what your child is doing, watching him/her grow in the sport right before your eyes. WE TEACH SOCCER AT THE SCHOOL SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO PICK

THEM UP AND TAKE THEM ANYWHERE.

Check out our blog to see footage of our other schools in Los

Angeles, We will soon be updating it with video from the free day of soccer we had at La Tijera. [www.eurosoccerschools.wordpress.com](http://www.eurosoccerschools.wordpress.com)

The Classes start at \$130 for 3 months of Soccer Classes, \$45 per/month

Established 5 years ago, based in Los Angeles with 600+ kids, we specialize in soccer training for children from ages 2-12 years old, offering a comprehensive program that emphasizes skill learning through fun play during and after school.

Our Founder Denver Newton, an Ex- Pro from Scotland has a degree in Soccer Science, Psychology and is a USSF National "B" License coach for 16 years. District Director, Johnny Alcaraz, also an ex-professional player from MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER team Houston Dynamo has vast experience in soccer and sports development with K thru 6th grade children.

Thank You for your time and we hope to see your child soon!!

EuroSoccerSchools

# OCTOBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 World Communion Sunday	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 C4C	11	12 Church Council	13	14 P4C	15	16 Laity Convocation
10-fold.org						
17 Ordination Video	18	19	20	21	22	23
10-fold.org			Parent /Teacher Conferences-Open House			
24 Dedication Sunday	25	26	27	28	29 Halloween Parade	30
31 Halloween/ All Saints						

## Schedule of Events

- Oct 3—World Communion Sunday. Celebrate Holy Communion in worship
- Oct 10—C4C Board Meeting
- Oct 10-19—10-fold.org (see below)
- Oct 12—Church Council, 6:30 Chapel Lounge
- Oct 14—P4C meeting, 5:30 Office
- Oct 16—Laity Convocation (see below)
- Oct 17—Pastor Rachel is recording the service for ordination interviews
- Oct 21-22—Parent/Teacher Conferences and Open House
- Oct 24-Dedication Sunday, bring your giving cards to church for dedication.
- Oct 29—Halloween Parade at 10 am. Bring your child's costume to school, we will get them dressed, have a parade, and go trick'o'treating to the classrooms
- Oct 31—Celebrate All Saints Day at worship

## Church News

**10-fold.org**—This event begins on October 10 and lasts 10 days. 10-fold is about multiplying ministry and mobilizing passionate people to stand up and be counted for the causes they believe in. This site will be live and will be full of resources and information about projects supported through The Advance (the giving arm of The United Methodist Church). The goal is to get the support of 10,000 people for each of the 10 projects highlighted during the 10 days. 10-fold.org will bring these Global Projects to our congregations through webcasts, streaming video and other media. During the event, \$1 will be donated for every person who signs up as an advocate for the project. Just show up and be counted.

**Laity Convocation**—October 16th: Dealing with Change at Norwalk UMC (13000 San Antonio Dr, Norwalk, CA) 9 am to 4 pm. Rev. Craig Brown will be the keynote speaker. There are 4 workshop opportunities:

- 1) What is a Vital Congregation?;
- 2) Planning for

Disaster; 3) Finding your Congregation's Calling; and 4) The Visioning Process. The convocation costs \$25 and includes lunch. You can register online at <http://cal-pac.org/registrations/register/8>.

**Ordination Video**—October 17th: Pastor Rachel has to record a worship service to submit for her ordination process. Come out and support her at this service.

**Dedication Sunday**-Check out Rachel's Ramblings.

**All Saints Sunday**—October 31

**Every Sunday**—7:45 am: Breakfast in Robertson Hall; 9:30 am: Worship in Sanctuary; and 2 pm: Lectionary Bible Study

**Every Wednesday**—Bell Choir at 6:30 pm in Chapel Lounge. Contact Lyda for more details.

**LATUMCY**-Youth group will start in mid to late October. Watch the church bulletin for details!!

LA TIJERA UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH AND CENTER FOR CHILDREN

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Joys and Concerns: Congratulations to **Mary Brandt** and **Warren Tabutol** on their new jobs! We hope you feel many blessings as you embark on these new adventures. Congratulations to **Christopher and Jennifer Hunter** for the birth of their baby boy, **Everrett**, in August. We lift up prayers for **Kris LaMonica** as she heals from surgery. We continue to lift up **Pat Harres**, for renewed health. We miss her and hope she is adjusting well to her “new” home. We lift up **Robin Hunter’s parents** for renewed health and healing. We wish a very happy birthday to **Frieda Muro, Lyda Eddington, Mary Brandt, Dillon Robinson, Michael De Rego, and Anna Minutella.**

### *Rachel’s Ramblings*

I had the opportunity to attend my last “residency” workshop for ordination this past month. The workshop was based around healthy church finances and covered topics that ranged from stewardship campaigns and clergy taxes to filling out conference paperwork. Sounds really exciting, doesn’t it? While the information may appear to be dry on the surface, I was excited and inspired by the perspective that was presented.

While finance is important, I think so often we look at the issue in terms of dollars and cents rather than the Spiritual Issue that it is. We must focus on how our financial giving is a

part of community. We give to support one another, to worship together, and share together in our blessings. Giving is also an act of compassion. As we give, we are sharing, caring, loving, and serving. We are working to make sure that God’s love is made tangible in our world. When we give to the church we are working to provide for needs near and far; from the local food pantry to Haiti Earthquake relief. When we give we are expressing and displaying our hope in God; our confidence and assurance in God’s grace.

I know that everyone’s level of giving is going to be different based upon what you feel called and motivated to give, as well as what you can give. I don’t think it is realistic to ask every-

one to give the same amount and would not ask that. While we may not give equal gifts, I would love to see equal generosity and an equal joy in giving.

Over the next few weeks, members and constituents of the church will be receiving a letter that demonstrates how our giving/offering supports ministry and mission in real and tangible ways. In that letter, there will be a giving card. I ask you read the letter, prayerfully consider what you can joyfully and generously give to the ministry of the church, and fill out the giving card. On October 24th, we will dedicate our giving cards in worship. I hope you will join me in this process.