

BETH MCLAUGHLIN



Tell us a little about yourself.

I grew up in Lodi, CA as the middle child of a guitar-playing, people-loving, houseboat summer camp directing and a highly hospitable and welcoming piano teacher. After high school, God (and the beautiful sunsets) brought me down to Point Loma Nazarene University where, during the next five years, I adventured in Costa Rica, earned my teaching credential, met and married my husband Mark and started teaching Kindergarten. After living in Point Loma and a short stint in Idaho, we landed back in North County in 2006. As wife and mom to a crew of surfers, you will most likely find us at the beach enjoying the waves and the sunsets.

What is something you enjoy doing that is life-giving for you?

My heart swells with joy connecting with people and watching people connect. Bringing groups of people together and watching them engage with one another is a task I could do every day. Whether it's meeting someone new, connecting with neighbors, or watching friendships form among the most unlikely of people, I cannot get enough. Closely tied together with connecting is my passion for biblical hospitality. I am a huge believer that God, who welcomed us into His family when we were far off, has called us to be a welcoming people for His glory! (Shameless plug for an incredible book: *The Gospel Comes with a House Key* by Rosaria Butterfield). This season of COVID has caused the normal ways of connecting to come to a screeching halt, but God has been faithful, bringing opportunities to connect in ways I had not expected.

In Philippians 4:8 the apostle Paul tells us, “*Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things*”. In light of that, share with us one thing you have seen or experienced that exemplifies one of these.

Who knew that a four-stringed instrument could bring so much joy to my life and the life of others? Whether it be through giving lessons, having a sing-along with neighbors, playing for a friend battling cancer, leading worship on Zoom, or singing and playing with friends at the beach, my little ukulele has helped to create some lovely moments in my life during this season.

Coming into this role as Interim Women's Ministry Director, I look forward to opportunities to help you identify and strengthen your places of passion and giftedness that God will use to bless many.

What specific Scripture verse(s) has the Lord been using to encourage you during this season?

We began attending Redeemer as a family four years ago, a few short weeks later my dad passed away suddenly. His love for Jesus, his family, and the people in his life has had a powerful impact on my own.

Through my father's death and walking through some hard seasons with friends, the prayer of my heart has been shaped by Moses and his prayer in Psalm 90, specifically verse 12. "Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." We do not know the number of days God has planned for us. But we know that God is good. His love is unfailing. I want to live the days He has given me bringing Him glory. As I step into this role at Redeemer, I'm praying for a heart of wisdom.