

# Faith In Action

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A new series profiling members and friends of SMCC

## **Mary and Randy Heartfield**

Members of San Marino Community Church since 1970, Mary and Randy Heartfield joined after visiting several times and a meeting with Associate Pastor Dr. Chet Buley, who explained Presbyterian beliefs. From the start their expectations regarding quality Christian education were high. Mary says that it was important for them to know there was an excellent nursery school for their children Alison, Wesley, and Laura. Their interest in childhood education has prompted them to contribute both their talents and treasures to several long-term Christian education programs.



Randy and Mary also became involved in church activities beyond nursery school. They both served on Session and the SMCC Foundation and Mary served on the Board of Deacons as well. Randy is proud of the fact that the Anniversary Offering for the Foundation was initiated while he was serving as its president.

Mary and Randy have always been travelers and interested in other cultures. In the 1990's, Randy joined other church members in a two week mission trip to Nepal visiting Patan Hospital (near Kathmandu). Randy was deeply moved by the work and sacrifice of the missionaries. He met a British missionary who delivered non-formal education to women in Nepal as well as performing other community services. A long term correspondence ensued and Mary and Randy were able to return years later to visit her and the hospital. While on a personal trip to Africa, they went to Malawi, spent time with the Ministry of Hope staff, and witnessed many projects, including the Crisis Nursery Center and multiple outlying feeding stations. The Dairy Cow program interested them as a capital and sustainability program and they helped to get that project started.

Recently Randy's skills in leading committees were called upon to address the pre-construction and the implementation of the construction for the Capital Campaign. He also co-chaired the fundraising effort with Tim Sloan.

A teacher, Mary has a fondness for and an interest in children. A former chair of the Nursery School Board, she has also served on the Christian Education Committee as well as a Sunday school and Vacation Bible school teacher. One year Randy gave Mary an autoharp for Christmas and she was excited to share Christian music with the children as she went from room to room to sing and play songs with pre-schoolers at SMCC.

Mary believes each person has different talents enabling them to contribute. Her passion for teaching children about Christ and providing Christian education in impoverished countries enabled her to help those going to Malawi to select and provide excellent learning tools.

Randy and/or Mary are enjoyed by their coworkers on any project as they immerse themselves in planning, implementation, and accomplishment.

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