

Faith In Action

A new series profiling members and friends of SMCC

Hilary Dorsey

Hilary has been involved in just about everything at San Marino Community Church in the years since she and her husband Steve joined in 1980. They moved to San Marino, just walking distance from the church, and began attending shortly after the birth of their first child.



Hilary has served as an Elder, Deacon, Foundation Director and President, President of the Nursery School Board, Chair of Vacation Bible School, Sunday school teacher, Mission Committee member, Pastor Nominating Committee member (finding Jeff O'Grady), and on the Mission Statement Task force. She and Steve are also members of a Marriage Enrichment small group. In addition she traveled to Malawi with the 2008 GO team in recognition of her deep commitment to mission both locally and globally.

Hilary is drawn to interact with people in community, recognizing that efforts are multiplied when like-minded people work together. She's been active in several community organizations with a focus on helping people in need, although SMCC remains the place where she feels the strongest sense of shared values. Over the years the congregation has been an integral part of their family life, a second home, to the whole family particularly as the children grew up. Although Lauren and Stewart are no longer in San Marino, Hilary's penchant for being involved has not lessened. She continues to be fed spiritually and to feel joyful about being a part of the SMCC extended family. Her involvement continues to deepen her faith and strengthen a core set of beliefs that translates into an outward focus on working with others in the community.

Hilary lives the concept that our faith defines how we use our time and talents. Together with Hilary's background in education, this led to her most recent career as Co-Director of Stepping Stones in San Marino. She retired recently after 13 years of providing educational support to help young people realize their potential.

Since her retirement Hilary has found a new way to support the community. She's involved in the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program training volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Once trained, CERT members can assist their neighborhoods when professional responders are not immediately available to help. This is another way to reach out to others, strengthening neighborhood ties in the process, whether or not an emergency occurs.

Note: Hilary encourages everyone to consider attending the upcoming May 1 or 3 disaster preparedness presentations at the church.