

Faith In Action

A series profiling members and friends of SMCC

Marilyn and Norman Marshall

Marilyn and Norman were married in 1964 and joined the San Marino Community Church congregation in 1970. While their children, Scott and Mary Catherine, were attending Sunday school at SMCC, Marilyn not only taught Sunday school, but became a deacon. Over the years, Norman has served as both deacon and elder, chairing committees in both groups.



Commitment and participation are central to everything the Marshalls do. Marilyn was trained in elementary school education at Occidental College, has taught at all levels and in a number of locations including Monterey, Los Angeles, Pasadena, and in West Germany for US Military Dependents Schools,

Having risen to the rank of Commander in the US Navy and later to Colonel in the National Guard, Norm is a graduate of USC Law School and holds a Master's Degree in Business Taxation. During his law career, he developed a profound interest in books and history, especially military history – a subject on which he has written extensively for the California State Government in Sacramento.

Norm and Marilyn understand well the importance of tradition and the role parents play in passing it on to the next generation. With their son now a young man, and a member of The Boy Scouts of America, Norm worked with the Scouts in preparing them to receive such honors as the God and Country Award and, in the process, inspired them with his love of military history.

In 2009, Norm had a stroke that impaired his ability to speak. As frustrating as that disability surely is, it has not impaired his courage or his determination to overcome it. Aided by his sense of military discipline, natural-born fortitude and an unshakable faith in Jesus Christ, he continues to improve as he proceeds along the path he was set on by God.

Norm participates in Men's Breakfast every Wednesday morning. The men who gather there feel blessed to share his fellowship and to offer Norm a safe setting where he can practice speaking among his brothers in Christ.

The Marshalls participate in a discussion group that meets after Sunday services, and for seven years Marilyn has attended a weekly bible study group, currently focused on The Ten Commandments. Clearly, the Marshalls have an abiding love for San Marino Community Church. It's their church home. It's where they go to hear God's Word and to feel God's presence. It's where they are reminded of grace in every aspect of their lives.

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