



COMUNIDAD

St. Matthew's Parish

September, 2025

Upcoming meetings

Meetings start at 7:00 pm unless otherwise indicated.

October 7th

Movie night highlighting coming out stories. Snacks will be provided.

November 4th

- Remembering our loved ones
- Rosary
- Elections

December 2nd

Christmas party!

See the next page for other upcoming events.

Keep up-to-date

Can't get enough updates on Comunidad? Stay engaged by connecting online:

- Comunidad website: Find lists of upcoming events and meetings at:

www.comunidadlb.org

- Facebook: Connect with members online. "Like" Comunidad and "Invite" your friends.

Annual Picnic

The Comunidad family came out to celebrate our community through fun and food at the fourth annual picnic on August 24th.



The weather was perfect and El Dorado Park provided a delightful setting. Many members brought food to share and the competition was fast and furious at the UNO table. Check out the festivities in the photos below.



Raffle tickets

Although the Kermes festival will not be held this year, *raffle tickets are still available!* First prize is \$1,000. To purchase tickets, see Jose Manuel.



Winners will be announced after the 12:00 pm Mass on September 21st. *Good luck!*

Forum on medical debt

Are you concerned about medical costs in today's changing benefits environment? Grace United Methodist Church will host a presentation by Public Counsel, "Healing Beyond the Bills" on Thursday, September 18th at 6:00 pm. Topics will include understanding medical debt (including impact on credit scores), and identifying financial solutions.

Grace United Methodist Church is located at 2325 E. 3rd Street in Long Beach. Off-street parking is available.

LGBTQ Catholics join Jubilee pilgrimage

For the first time, LGBTQ Catholics are participating in an officially recognized Jubilee pilgrimage to Rome. The pilgrimage is not formally sponsored by the Vatican, but appears on the official calendar of Jubilee events. For details, see this [story from NBC Palm Springs](#).

Comunidad recap

We hope you were able to attend recent meetings.

August meeting

Fr. Randy presented "Desiderata," and discussed the meaning this timeless poem holds for us today.

September meeting

Sharing stories of faith: Several members recounted their life journeys as they came to terms with the not always easy fit of faith, family, and society. Even those who were self-aware at a young age faced the challenges of growing up among others who might not accept them for who they truly were.

The discussion was enhanced by a companion booklet of eight stories submitted by members. For those who would like to commemorate the inspiring accounts, booklets are available for \$3.00 apiece. To purchase a copy, see Steven Nadolny or Jose Manuel Ruiz-Garcia.



Comunidad

Sharing Stories of Faith
By LGBTQ+ persons and families
Long Beach, CA



Upcoming events

Mark your calendars for these events throughout the remainder of September!

Date	Event	Location	Time
13	Presentation on Kino Border Project by Fr. Neely	Meisel Hall	7:00 pm
18	St. Francis food pantry	Meisel Hall	9:00 am
19	Fr. Miguel Angel Ruiz Installation Mass	Our Lady of the Rosary of Talpa Church	6:00 pm
20	Shopping extravaganza at the Citadel Outlets	Los Angeles	
21	Up Close and Personal concert	St. Gregory Episcopal Church	4:00 pm
28	Rummage sale	Meisel Hall	8:00 am

See you there!