

Senior Pastor Candidate: Brian Anderson

The Andersons are a lively family of six! Four young children (two girls and two boys) ensure that Brian and his wife, Geraldine, enjoy life to the fullest. Cami (13), a talented and expressive dancer, is also a rising star on both her club and school lacrosse teams. Tomas (9) believes that life without soccer would be no life at all! This past week he was invited to join *The Pateadores*, one of South California's premier youth soccer clubs. Nicolas (7), never to be outdone by his older brother, is coming into his own in sports as well – both soccer and lacrosse. And Delfina (4) recently began her ballet career, and the possibilities are endless!

All four children are blessed to attend St. Margaret's Episcopal School, in San Juan Capistrano, where Geraldine works as the upper school administrative secretary. The Andersons make their home in Lake Forest. Their favorite summer vacation spots are the lakes surrounding Mammoth Mountain (great fishing), and the beach at Del Mar.

As for Brian, he was raised in Sierra Madre, California, second in the line of three boys. When not playing soccer, much of his family life revolved around church activities, as his father, Richard Anderson, was pastor of Sierra Madre Congregational Church. After receiving a degree in History from UCLA in 1983, Brian was invited by Rev. John R.W. Stott, his spiritual 'hero,' to study at *The London Institute of Contemporary Christianity*. It was the mentorship of John Stott that shaped much of Brian's perspective toward preaching and ministry.

Talbot School of Theology was the ideal place for Brian to deepen his understanding of God's Word, and prepare him to shepherd His people. After graduation in 1988 he figured the perfect place to apply what he'd learned would be 7,000 miles southeast of California, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. That decision changed Brian's life. He credits his church in Argentina for showing him how to mobilize a church to reach those who don't know Christ, and also 'thanks' Argentina for his wife of 17 years. Geraldine, a gorgeous Argentine, along with her parents, her sister and grandmother, were all members of the church where Brian ministered as the pastor to collegians and young adults.

A move to Aliso Viejo in 1991, a wedding in 1993, and a lengthy ministry at Lake Hills Community Church, in Laguna Hills, all preceded the three most thrilling, rewarding, and fruitful ministry experience of Brian's life. Those three years began in 2007, when Tim Celek, Lead Pastor of The Crossing Church, in Costa Mesa, invited Brian to join his pastoral team. Should MHC choose to call Brian as their next Senior Pastor, he would bring with him a vision to reach those who don't know Christ, and a passion to enjoy all God has for a church willing to follow Christ's lead.

