



APRIL 2015

Beach Breeze

Reflections from the Readiness 360 Team

Living God's Love to Change the World

An exciting affirmation: PB UMC is doing important things right! The team attended a gathering of the five participating churches in March to learn more about missional alignment. This means comparing our strengths and resources as a church to the things (missions) we want to accomplish. And because we are not large enough to try to do everything (and this is a good thing), alignment means selecting just one or two ministries, or missions, to throw ourselves into.

As Christians, we are called to put our faith to service. As a congregation, we are challenged to put our hearts, minds and souls into one or two ministries that suit our passions and strengths. To go “deep and narrow” and do all we can to meet the needs of the people we serve. By fully developing meaningful ministries, we can expect to strengthen this congregation and intensify our spiritual experience.

The team readily identified two long-time ministries that define us as a congregation: our status as a reconciling congregation, and our care for the homeless including Wednesday Night, Storefront Shelter, CCSA, and Interfaith Shelter Network. We believe these two initiatives are central to our identity as PB UMC. Fortunately they also line up well with our resources and strengths. We hope you will affirm that our passions remain strong for these ministries.

For those who passively support the ministries (this writer included) it's time to think deeply and creatively about how to become more active supporters. One of our team members asked: why are we still the only reconciling Methodist congregation in San Diego? It turns out that several churches have approached Pastor Bob about becoming reconciling. What if we reached out and shared stories of our experiences? Or—thinking outside the box—what if we all attended church at their house one Sunday so they could feel what it's like to be in a reconciling congregation with LGBT and straight families worshipping together with their children and friends?

If you have ever dropped a dime in the collection plate, you support the ministry for the homeless and hungry. Though money is important especially for our Wednesday Night meals, we can do much more. Presence, showing up to meet our guests and help make the meals happen. Prayers in support of the Wednesday night leaders and perhaps specific prayer requests from our guests. Gifts of clothing, referrals, and specialized skills. What if we offered a Wednesday afternoon worship with communion for our guests, many of whom may not feel comfortable on Sunday morning?

These are just a few brainstorming ideas. The team doesn't have all the answers. We are now working on a plan for the next two to three years to develop ourselves as disciples of Jesus and to reach out in service to others outside the doors of our church. We will be talking with you. More to come.



Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear Friends ...

I have enjoyed our recent practice over these last weeks since we finished the "Questioning God" series of taking time to ask and answer questions during worship. I think it's important that we join together in an environment where both thinking and questioning are important elements of our worship and our faith. To me, this is strongly Wesleyan and core to being United Methodist.

A recent question came in through the church office that I would like to address here rather than in worship because it connects with some ongoing work that some PB UMC leaders are doing. The question submitted is: *What is a disciple?*



First, some background. Our Readiness 360+ group has been hard at work since our church was invited to participate in this pilot revitalization program, and from

this group began our recent Acts Bible Studies. More information can be found from R360 members here: <http://www.pbumc.org/ministries/2015/02/readiness-360-progress-report/>.

Part of the ongoing work that R360 is undertaking is to create a Discipleship Plan, or a defined method by which PB UMC members and worshipers may move further along a continuum toward being deeply committed disciples. In part, this is one way we live into the United Methodist mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

But in order to create that plan, we first had to address that same question: *What is a disciple?*

It is important to recognize that we United Methodists may understand discipleship a bit differently than those who are Presbyterian or those who are Baptist. Following that logic, we may also agree that discipleship here at Pacific Beach UMC may look different than at UMCs in other parts of the country where cultures and demographics are strikingly different; and perhaps discipleship at PB UMC may even be somewhat different than nearby churches like Mission Hills UMC or First UMC. These differences aren't necessarily profound, but simply a reflection of our uniqueness as a

congregation and the gifts we bring together to this community and to this congregation.

As we come to understand the unique culture and tradition of Pacific Beach UMC and our ministries and where we show strengths for ministry, we believe that a disciple can be seen as person who fully and completely lives God's love in such a way that – in partnership with other disciples – the world is naturally and powerfully changed for the better. We live this out completely in our participation in the ministries of the church with all the gifts we have to give – we think of this as our head, our heart, and our hands.

A difficult truth is that very few of us live out our lives in this way. In a recent conference that I attended at my alma mater, Rev. Adam Hamilton offered the observation that only 10% of Christians describe themselves as persons who are at that place of fully living God's love in a way that incites positive change (Hamilton uses the Wesleyan phrase "sanctification," which is being made Holy). 20% describe themselves as on that road but not yet arrived. 30% describe themselves in a period of growth. And 40% describe themselves as yet on an even longer journey.

Wherever we see ourselves on our journey of discipleship, let us work toward being people who look forward with joy and hope toward being people who live God's love so fully that we begin to make this world better than it has been.

I believe the journey is life-long; I believe the journey is as challenging as it is rewarding; and I believe it is God's powerful call on us all. I look forward to journeying with each of you.

Grace and peace...



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another



Ladies Afternoon Tea

The ladies of PB UMC are invited to gather together to enjoy each other's company and a lovely spot of tea as we wish only the best to our friend, Jen, who is moving to the east coast with her lovely family. We will take tea at the Shakespeare Corner Shoppe, 3719 India Street, in San Diego, on Saturday, April 11, at 3 pm. RSVP to Dart by Wednesday, April 8

Membership Orientation Lunch

Are you curious about the ministries here at PB UMC? Would you like to meet some new and old members? Do you have questions about the church? Are you considering becoming a member of PB UMC? Are you already a member and want to refresh? Does the idea of a free lunch sound appealing?

You are invited to attend a Membership Orientation Lunch on Sunday, April 26, starting at 11:45 here at the church. Please come meet with Pastor Bob and other members of the church for a light lunch, conversation, and a bit of information. Bring your questions and appetite! Yes, it really is a free lunch; we just ask that you RSVP to the church office so that we can make sure to bring enough food. We look forward to breaking bread with you!

Music Appreciation Sunday

Music is at the heart of PB UMC. From our Children's Choir, to our Voices of Praise, from our classical piano and organ pieces, to drumming and rocking out with guitars, music plays an important part of our Sunday services and worship. In acknowledgement of that fact, we ask you to sit back, relax, and join us on Music Appreciation Sunday, April 12. The entire service will be music-oriented, so all you need do is enjoy, sing along, and let your heart soar with the notes in the Sanctuary.

Please wear your BRIGHTEST clothing on the 12th! In memory of our Bright Sunday worship in the past, we will be taking an all-church, rainbow-colored photo at approximately 10:15. Dazzle us with your sense of fashion! We look forward to seeing you!

Read with Me!

BMW Club is a books, movies, and writing club that would like to invite you to join us for the discussion of "Bel Canto" by Ann Patchett on Tuesday, May 19, at 6 pm at Cafe Athena in Pacific Beach (located at 1846 Garnet Ave). Please read the novel in advance and bring your discussion questions, comments, and inspirations or simply enjoy dinner with us!

The Beach Breeze is a monthly publication of the Pacific Beach United Methodist Church. Please visit our website at www.myPBchurch.org.



We Grow in Grace & Faith

Children's Choir

Your singing children of PB UMC are practicing each Sunday morning between services, to prepare music for worship. We are so grateful, first for Maggie's years of service as accompanist for the Children's choir, and now for Jesse who plays for us on Sunday mornings, and is wonderful with the kids!

The songsters will be participating in both services on April 12 for the Music Appreciation Sunday. We are continuing our theme of all being important in God's world.. leading up to our Spring Musical. Watch for the date!

Let's keep our children learning and singing about God's world!

Sunday School News

In the children's Sunday School class we are enjoying our new curriculum (the kids love the clever video segments!). This last Sunday the lesson was on sacrifice and the resurrection. We looked at a small watermelon seed and how it didn't look alive, but when planted and taken care of, would produce large fruit. The children then came together to portray the roots, stems, branches, leaves, flowers and fruit of a plant. They "got" the lesson and had a good time doing it!



Youth Activities for April

For more information about the Youth Program at PB UMC, including these events, please contact Dee Baraw.

UMYF is for Middle School and High School Youth; Best Group is for 1st - 6th grade children.

Thursday April 2

- Movie and Lunch Outing for combined Best Group and UMYF (1st - 12th grades). The plan is to see "Home." Please bring \$10 for lunch; we have movie passes. Please contact Dee regarding times, details and transportation.

Friday, April 3

- Good Friday. Families are encouraged to drop by church any time between 5 & 7:30 for an experiential evening to learn more about Holy Week.

Sunday, April 5, Easter Morning

- Sunrise service, pancake breakfast, worship services and Easter Egg Hunt. Peggy and Dee will need older youth to help hide eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please arrive by 9:15 in order to help hide eggs and supervise the hunt.

Sunday, April 12

- Work Day at Bruce and Dee's. Middle School and High School students raising money for one of our group events or anyone else that wants to come to help. Money will be donated directly towards the youth who come to help. We will head to Dee's from church, have lunch and get to work.

Sunday, April 19

- (UMYF deadline to sign up for District youth event May 1 - see below) UMYF - event pending

Sunday, April 26

- UMYF, 5 - 6:30 pm. Dinner and activities at church. Please RSVP to help plan for dinner. (One activity will likely be playing the game again.) Invite a friend.

Friday, May 1 - Saturday, May 2

- District Youth (Middle and High School) Overnight / Broomball event. Host church: La Mesa First UMC. Broomball will be played at Kroc Center Ice Rink. Cost \$15. The event time is 8 pm to 8 am at La Mesa First. PB UMC Youth must sign up with Dee by Sunday, April 19, so Dee can let Matt know how many we have attending and we can figure out transportation and details. Dee will send you the list of what you need to bring when you sign up for the event.

Bible Study Group

The Sunday morning Bible Study group will join the Acts Bible Study, which will be held in the Lanai, from 9-10am on Sunday mornings. The regular bible study will resume on Pentecost, May 24.

We Reach Out to Others

CCSA Hunger Walk

The Community Christian Service Agency (CCSA) would like to invite you to join them in their annual Hunger Walk on Saturday, April 25, 8am, at De Anza Cove in Mission Bay Park. Registration begins at 7am. CCSA serves thousands of San Diegans in need every year by helping provide food, clothing, and other resources. As CCSA board member Jeanne McAlindin noted:

“As I left CCSA (Clairemont) one afternoon recently, a family of four arrived for assistance. I heard them being helped and saw two little barefoot girls with no sweaters or jackets. The girls were given flip flops, the only shoes in their sizes that could be found for them. The family was given food they could prepare without cooking facilities. Someone had asked where they expected to sleep that night, and the father said that they would be in the car – that he hoped to do a day-job the next day and be paid enough for a hotel room for sleeping and showering the next night ... As I got in my car, I thought about the comforts of my own bed, warm shower, and choices for breakfast. May CCSA always have what is needed to respond to those who come to our door. The smile of a child or parent, the gratefulness of a senior or single challenged by hard times makes whatever we have to do all worthwhile. We are all related, you know.”



For more information, please call 858-274-3371 or visit: CCSASanDiego.org.

CCSA Ongoing Needs:

Food: Pasta and pasta sauce, macaroni & cheese, canned chicken & tuna, canned beans & vegetables, peanut butter, cereal, oatmeal, bagged rice & beans, granola bars, Vienna sausage, small packed juice boxes, bottled water, Spam.

Hygiene: suntan lotion, reading glasses, regular or sample sizes of shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, nail clippers, lotion

Clothing: Jeans (especially sizes 32-36), new underwear and new socks, both men's and women's.

Thank You from METRO

The United Methodist Urban Ministry (METRO) sent PB UMC a letter expressing their gratitude for the contribution of \$994 during 2014. They also updated us on some of the missions that our contributions help them to support.

- METRO is working with other organizations to implement mentoring services for youth who have been affected by high levels of crime and other risk factors within their families and communities. Mentors and mentees plan specific activities that expose children to positive adult role models through services activities that include art projects, painting murals, designing and building soap-box cars, building neighborhood gardens, and other project meaningful to the regions in which mentoring pairs reside.
- Between the Chollas View Good Neighbor Center and the Nestor site, a total of 1,251 households and 4,174 individuals received food packages, 80 households and 282 individuals received bread, and 94 household and 230 individuals sought out clothing, toiletries, and other family special needs.

METRO asks for continued prayer for their staff, their Board, and those whom they serve, in the belief that creating change in individuals, families, and communities is work that can't be addressed without God's intervention.

Circle of Support

Record of Generosity as of February 28, 2015

Feb giving – budget \$21,161	\$17,779
Feb other sources of income – budget \$11,372	\$8,298
Feb total available for ministry – budget \$33,533	\$26,077
Feb expended in ministry – budget \$31,499	\$25,793
Feb income minus expenses	\$284
YtD giving – budget \$42,322	\$35,501
YtD other sources of income – budget \$22,743	\$19,976
YtD total available for ministry – budget \$65,065	\$55,477
YtD expended in ministry – budget \$65,065	\$59,336
YtD income minus expenses	-\$3,859
Year 2015 budget	\$390,391

Reflections from the Finance and Stewardship Team

Income and expenses through February are below budget, which is typical for this time of year. We report our income in the chart above in two categories: giving and other sources of income. Giving includes money given without restriction for the general operating costs of the church. Other sources of income include rents from our adjacent rental properties, income for facility use, and designated giving. Designated giving is money given for specific purposes such as altar flowers, Wednesday Night Ministry, or youth ministry, and also the annual income we draw from our endowments for specific purposes.

We also receive money from communion offerings and other purposes that is recorded in trusts, which are not part of our operating income. We'll talk about trusts in a future Beach Breeze article.



Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

March 1 – 176 persons
 March 9 – 154 persons
 March 15 – 182 persons
 March 22 – 210 persons
 March 29 – 183 persons
 Ave. Weekly (2015) – 212 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

February 26 – 109 persons
 March 4 – 150 persons
 March 11 – 126 persons
 March 18 – 152 persons
 March 25 – 119 persons

It Needs Repair!

Recently, one of our church members noticed that a repair was needed for one of the Sanctuary doors. The member (thank you, Al!) stopped Art (aka The Facility Guy) and told him about it. Art investigated the problem, and it is in the process of being evaluated for a safe repair.

There is only one Art; however, there are a LOT of the rest of us! Each of us probably notices, upon occasion, a little (or big) repair job that needs to be taken care of. Art is ready, willing, and available to take care of these problems. So, how do we get Art and the repair that needs to happen together?

If you see a repair issue, please let us know! You can write it down on our new Repair Log, which will be located in the entry way of the Social Hall, on the table that is directly underneath the bulletin board. Art will pick up this log every Monday, and create his DO list for the week by incorporating YOUR suggestions! By working together, we can all keep the PB UMC facility safe, whole, and looking great.

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: The Rev Bob Rhodes
 Office Administrator: Aimee Kay
 Music Director: Ron Jessee

Sunday School Coordinator: Malea Sandstrom
 Youth Ministry Coordinator: Dee Baraw

Calendar of Events

Worship Times:
9:00 am, Worship Celebration
10:30 am, Worship Celebration

Sunday Music Rehearsals:
8 am, Voices of Praise
(Adults & Youth)
10 am, Children

Week 1

Wed, Apr 1 5:30 pm, Wed Nite Ministry
Thurs, Apr 2 All youth movie and dinner (pg 4)
5:15 pm, Hand Chime rehearsal
7 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Apr 3 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Apr 4 9 am, Men's Prayer & Share
9 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters



Week 2

Sun, Apr 5 Worship, Easter Sunday!
6 am, Sunrise Service
7 - 10 am, Pancake Breakfast
10 am, Easter Egg Hunt
1 pm, GriefShare support group
Wed, Apr 8 5:30 pm, Wed Nite Ministry
Thurs, Apr 9 5:15 pm, Hand Chime rehearsal
7 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Apr 10 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Apr 11 9 am, Men's Prayer & Share
3 pm, Ladies Tea (pg. 3)



Week 3

Sun, Apr 12 Worship, Music Appreciation Sunday!
UMYF work day at Dee's (pg 4)
1 pm, GriefShare support group
Tues, April 14 6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
6:30 pm, Staff Parish meeting
7:30, Finance Committee
Wed, Apr 15 5:30 pm, Wed Nite Ministry
Thurs, Apr 16 5:15 pm, Hand Chime rehearsal
7 pm, Choir rehearsal
8 pm, Draughts of Faith
Fri, Apr 17 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Apr 18 9 am, Men's Prayer & Share
9 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters



Week 4

Sun, Apr 19 Worship
1 pm, GriefShare support group
Mon, Apr 20 Beach Breeze Deadline
Wed, Apr 22 Storefront Ministry
5:30 pm, Wed Nite Ministry
Thurs, Apr 23 5:15 pm, Hand Chime rehearsal
7 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Apr 24 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Apr 25 9 am, Men's Prayer & Share
8 am, CCSA Hunger Walk (Pg. 5)

Week 5

Sun, Apr 26 Worship, Music Appreciation Sunday (pg 3)
11:45 am, Membership Orientation Lunch (pg. 3)
1 pm, GriefShare support group
5 pm, UMYF dinner and activity (pg 4)
Wed, Apr 29 5:30 pm, Wed Nite Ministry
Thurs, Apr 30 5:15 pm, Hand Chime rehearsal
7 pm, Choir rehearsal

Thank you to our Beach Breeze production crew:
Aimee
Judi
Ed & Fran
Dick

We Love and Worship God

Weekly Lectionary

April 5

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18

April 12

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133,
1 John 1:1-22, John 20:19-31

April 19

Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4,
1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48

April 26

Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23,
1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

Pacific Beach United
Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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Communion: Camping Scholarships

Our April communion offering will help to support the children and youth affiliated with our church to spend time at one of our United Methodist Camps this summer. A number of our youth have already expressed their desire to participate in the camp experience; a time of renewal and relationship in the wonder of God's creation. Camp is a time of deep transformation for many to learn about our rich United Methodist tradition and to experience deep Christian community. PB UMC's tradition is to pay for half of the cost of camp for any student (elementary through high school) who has a connection to our church and who wants to take part. The cost of a week at camp begins at \$375 per child/youth. Helping our children and youth to attend church camp is one of the ways that we live out the vow we make at every child's baptism, to help them and their families grow in the way that leads to life! Thank you for your generosity!

Reflections of Renewal by Adam

There is a particular stretch of Interstate 5 that passes through Camp Pendleton. Thanks to our multi-year drought, the landscape had been reduced to a muted palette of browns and tans. Fortunately the Pulgas Fire in 2014 added black to the area's paint swatches. You can probably imagine how common, uninspiring, and passable this landscape had become.

That is, until several weeks ago. We had consecutive days of steady rain, followed by several sequential days of fog. There was one particular late afternoon, on this particular stretch of highway, against a particularly solid gray sky -- the location of the Pulgas Fire had been completely transformed. Lime and bright green foliage, lemon and munsell wildflowers, even sienna rocks and copper soil. All of the colors suddenly seemed so vivid on this canvas illuminated by the sun lowering and shining in the west.

I would like to think this is what the Apostle Paul had in mind when he admonished the Christians in Rome to be "transformed by the renewing" of their minds. I have stumbled upon profound spiritual truths when I've been pushed out of my box to consider and truly understand a different perspective. Things that for so long seemed plain, ordinary, or matter-of-fact suddenly take on new meaning or are not what they once seemed. If we never experience something new, if we never interact with the marginalized, if we never step back to ask if we could be wrong; I wonder if we will truly experience God's transforming grace.