



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

January 2017

Interfaith Shelter Network and PB UMC 2017

By Kenneth B.

This is our 31st season of hosting Interfaith Shelter Network guests at Pacific Beach UMC. The collaborative program serves more than 200 homeless men, women, and children in San Diego who receive shelter and other services for a two week period. Over the years, the demographical composition of shelter guests has changed; we are seeing more single mothers with children.

Our guests will arrive Saturday, January 28th, to officially launch the start of the two week period here at PB UMC. Each guest in the Interfaith Shelter Network is pre-screened and receives additional case management support as they endeavor to get their lives on more solid footing. The guests will be at the church from 5:00 pm in the evening to 7:00 am the following morning each day during their two-week stay. They will sleep at the church, shower at the church, and eat their breakfasts and dinners at the church. As each guest leaves during the day for work, job hunting, or going to school or Sunday worship services, we send them off with a healthy sack lunch.

Continuance of the Interfaith Shelter Network tradition at PB UMC is achieved through the contributions of members and friends who generously donate their talents, gifts, and services. The volunteer recruitment has begun; sign-up sheets are located in the church lobby after each worship service. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities, but the most critical needs are overnight supervisors, dinner hosts, lunch hosts, set-up volunteers January 28th (including luggage and cots pick-up) and clean-up February 11th (shelter break-down, washing bed linens).

During the month of January, donation boxes will be placed in the narthex to collect personal care items such as deodorant, hand and body lotion (travel size), gloves, socks, soap, toothpaste and brushes, feminine hygiene items, razors, shampoo, and conditioners for our guests.

Along with my fellow coordinators, Betty J. and Steve F., we thank you for your support and service. Together, we are looking forward to hosting and displaying our genuine PB UMC hospitality in welcoming guests. For questions and inquiries please contact Ken B. at KenB@pbumc.org. Include "PBUMC Interfaith Shelter" in the subject line when emailing.



Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear friends...

As a parent, I have the wonderful opportunity to learn from my children. I confess that I do not always take advantage of this opportunity, and that when I do indeed open my eyes to the many things they have to offer I am often filled with awe.

Very often, I see both of the boys enjoying wonderful success at the things they want to do. Whether it is the latest video game or their academics or community sports, I am overjoyed at what these two small-ish humans are able to accomplish.

Something that they have taught me is that when any of us enjoy success on a regular basis, we often fall into the illusion that *everything* will be easy for us. A similar expression is that when a particular facet of our lives is easy, it will *always* be easy. Of course, we can see the fallacy of these statements. We cannot expect that everything will be easy, nor can we expect that what is easy today will be easy tomorrow or next week or next year. We simply cannot expect this. It is unreasonable.

So why is it that we expect our faith to be easy?

There are some in our congregation – like me – who grew up in communities of faith. We were taken to church or maybe went to religious schools. We became comfortable early on with the traditions and the special names for things and with the acronyms. We know the basic flow and when to stand and when to sit and when to reach for a hymnal.

With all this experience, we can sometimes forget that it's new for many who come through the doors of the church. And to walk into a new faith community and have to decipher what may seem like a foreign language surely can't be easy. To be honest, was it easy for us at first?

Others in our congregation may have come to faith through a particularly traumatic or hurtful time in their life. These journeys are all unique with their own sets of circumstances and challenges and pains. And in conversations with some who have come to faith in this way, I have sensed the notion that because one person made it through then everyone else should as well. But if it wasn't easy for one person, should we expect it to be easy for others?

The idea I'm trying to lead to is simply this: faith isn't easy. We might creatively discern some simple ways of expressing our ideas of faith, but actually *doing faith* isn't easy. In fact, I think it can be profoundly difficult.

Beginning January 8, 2017, we will embark on a new sermon series called "How to be a Christian in Seven ~~Easy~~ Steps." The series is guided loosely by the book *What's the Least I can Believe and Still Be a Christian?* by Marin Thielen. During this 7-week series, we'll explore some of the things that we don't need to believe as Christians (that we can't doubt or have questions; that we can be judgmental and obnoxious) as well as some of the more critical and necessary parts of our faith (like Jesus's life and teachings and death and resurrection).

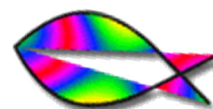
I believe this series might be an easy entry for people with misperceptions or questions about faith and Christianity, and I humbly suggest it may be an excellent opportunity to invite others to join the people of Pacific Beach UMC on a journey to discover our faith more deeply. Please consider inviting family, friends, neighbors, or coworkers to visit during this series.

As we all approach this new year, I hope we do so with open eyes to the things we can unlearn and the things we can learn.

Grace and peace to you...



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another

Our Beloved Evergreen Tree

By Dick V. S.

Our large evergreen tree was originally planted in the northwest corner of the courtyard. It was moved to its current location for more room to grow and to become a central symbol. For many years coffee was served on the east side of the tree, using actual cups and saucers. Candle light services were held around it on Christmas Eves with a nativity scene as the focal point.

Sometime in the 1990s, Andy from the top of the administrative decorated the tree with strings of season. Years later, white incandescent. For many years we rented Hardware Rental until they went purchased a 40 foot (heavy) fiberglass ladder which is stored on the north side of the admin building.

A cherry picker has been considered, and would be quite useful for the top third of the nets. The big ladder is difficult to maneuver. It has been used a lot this past year when a number of the nets, or fuses therein, had to be replaced.

Ron and Louis initiated a switch to LED multicolor nets. We have used a number of different stars at the top of the tree. The star is on a pole which is inserted in a PVC pipe tied to the top of the tree (and left there). The tree has become a Pacific Beach Christmas symbol and attracts a number of sight seers. We have enjoyed many Christmas Eve candle light services around the tree.

Many people have participated in putting up the lights and taking them down. Dick V. S. has been the chief honcho for years, but now says it is time for someone else (much younger) to become the coordinator. Kevin McG. was a chief assistant. Most recently, Art M. has been a key player, following in Tracy Starr's footsteps.

A new coordinator is needed. Dick V.S. will be available as a consultant. Contact the office if this is a job for you.



H-S. strung a power cord building to the tree, and big bulbs for the holiday descent bulb nets were a tall ladder from Ace out of business. We then



Tree Photos by Dick V. S.

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

January Youth Happenings

For more information about the following or any Youth activities, please contact Dee B. at DeeB@pbumc.org

Sunday, Jan 1

- 11:15 am - 1:30 pm Happy New Year - UMYF and Best Group together (2nd grade through high school). Please bring \$10 for lunch if you can.

Sunday, Jan 8

- 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm UMYF. Please bring a snack to share and a white elephant gift. (Talk to me if you need more information.) We will celebrate Epiphany with a fun gift exchange and discussion.

Sunday, Jan 15 – no UMYF activity

Monday, Jan 22 – UMYF - after church - Deetour

Sunday, Jan 29 – no UMYF due to interfaith shelter



Children's Choir Notes

By Vicki T.

To my beloved church family:

It has been an honor, privilege, and JOY to serve as your Children's Choir director for 40+ years .

Several pastors' children have participated, with Christina playing Faith the Cow in the play/musical I wrote about Heifer Project. My 4 sons, all over 40 now, were in "David and the Giants" to Frank G's. Goliath. Ben S. was Noah in "100% Chance of Rain," and our precious Hazel Holmes sang in the choir when she was able.

Leisl H. S., who is so very skilled musically, and an educator, will be assuming the role of director now, and will be wonderful! She will let everyone know when rehearsals start.

Bless you all for your support and the love you have shown me and our young songsters, always.

LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN
LEARNING AND SINGING ABOUT GOD!



Bible Study Group "Praise From and for God's Creation"

The Sunday morning Bible Study group continues during the month of January. Join them any Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the Lanai.

The readings for January are:

- January 1, Praising God the Creator, Psalm 33:1-9
- January 8, All Creation Overflows With Praise, Psalm 96
- January 15, Praise God the Provider, Psalms 64; 67:6-7
- January 22, Praise God the Creator, Psalm 104
- January 29, All Creation Praises God, Psalm 148

We Reach Out to Others

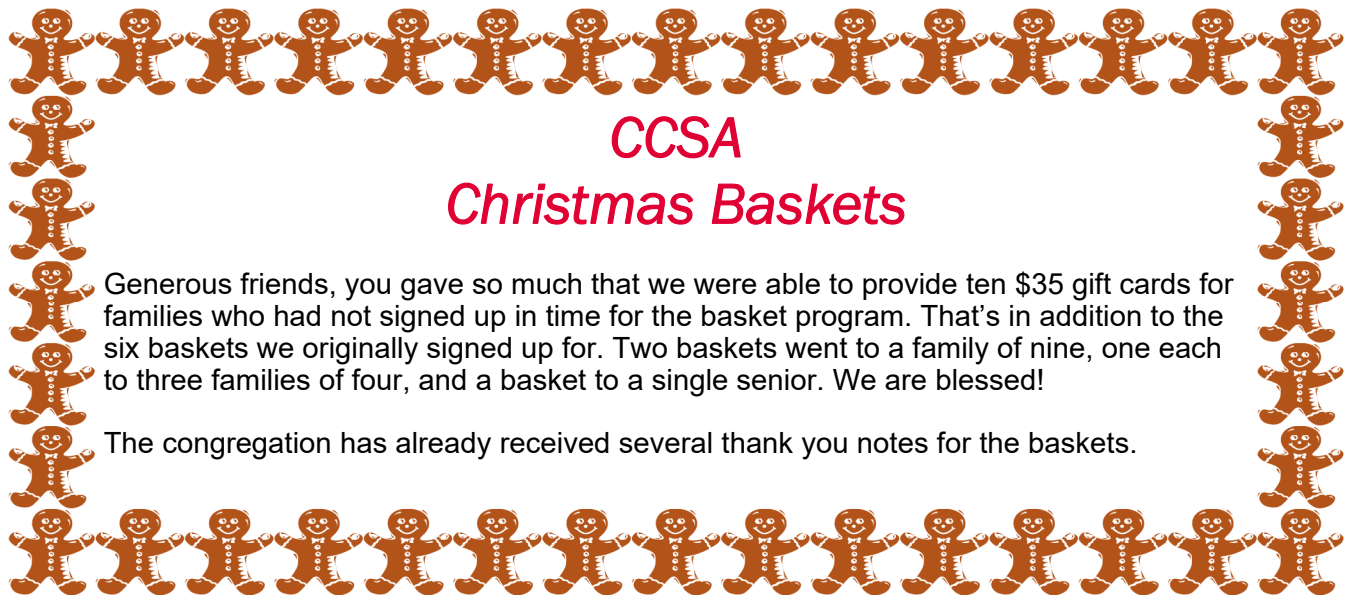
“We All Count” (Annual Homeless Count)

Thousands of individuals, families, and unaccompanied children experience homelessness annually in San Diego County.

Understanding our homeless allows our community to adjust the types of programs and services available according to need, for the most effective use of limited resources. Who are our homeless? Where are they? What led to their homelessness? What do they need in order to move forward with their lives?

In the early morning hours of January 27, 2017, hundreds of volunteers will participate in the WeAllCount. Census in 27 locations throughout San Diego. This event, led by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, enables our entire region to better understand the scope, impact, and potential solutions to homelessness. It also empowers our community to qualify for funding that is critical to keeping homeless shelters open throughout San Diego County.

If you are interested in helping with the count, contact Beth R., beth@shorelinecs.org, or visit the Regional Task Force on the Homeless website, www.rtfhsd.org.



CCSA Christmas Baskets

Generous friends, you gave so much that we were able to provide ten \$35 gift cards for families who had not signed up in time for the basket program. That's in addition to the six baskets we originally signed up for. Two baskets went to a family of nine, one each to three families of four, and a basket to a single senior. We are blessed!

The congregation has already received several thank you notes for the baskets.

Newcomer Lunch—Sunday, January 8, 2017

The next quarterly Newcomer Lunch will be held Sunday, January 8, 2017, in the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30 service. If you are new or new-ish to our church, or if you've been attending PB UMC for a while and have questions or are looking for a way to be of service to the church, please join us for lunch, then stay for the 2nd Sunday Concert!

There is no cost for lunch (See, there is such thing as a free lunch!) however, we would appreciate RSVPs for planning purposes. Contact Dart R. (Newcomer Luncheon Coordinator) at dartr@pbumc.org.

Circle of Support

Record of Generosity as of November 30, 2016

	Budget	Actual
November giving	\$22,094	\$16,034
November other sources of income	\$11,421	\$25,191
November total available for ministry	\$33,515	\$41,225
November expended in ministry	\$33,460	\$30,978
November income minus expenses		\$10,247
YTD giving	\$243,031	\$211,706
YTD other sources of income	\$125,647	\$144,650
YTD total available for ministry	\$368,678	\$356,356
YTD expended in ministry	\$368,138	\$400,640
YTD income minus expenses	\$540	(\$44,284)
Year 2016 budget	\$401,619	

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

November 27 – 133 persons
December 4 – 179 persons
December 11 – 309 persons
(3 services)
December 18 – 135 persons

Avg. Weekly (2016) – 159 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

November 23 – 213 persons
(Thanksgiving)
November 30 – 144 persons
December 7 – 129 persons
December 14 – 152 persons

Reflections from the Finance Team

In November we recorded extra income of \$11,948.71 from the Sabatka legacy to offset final rental renovation expenses. This puts us back in an accurate view of our year to date losses, though it exaggerates November income. Expenses for rental renovation are covered for now by a special draw from the Sabatka legacy, with some level of insurance reimbursement still expected. As a reminder, our other expenses have held to a bit below budget--but unfortunately we budgeted for an increase in income that did not materialize.

For 2017 we are tasked with curbing that excessive optimism to set a budget that lives within our means. At press time, the Finance Committee is struggling to find cuts we can tolerate. Everything we do is worth doing, so the cuts will be painful.

We've received a generous offer for the music ministry that will get us part way there. If you have a special fondness for a particular ministry or activity of the church, please consider making a gift over and above your regular and/or pledged giving to support that activity. If you do, please let someone on the Finance Committee know so we can adjust our plans. Prayers are also appreciated!



January Communion Offering:

PB UMC Church School Supplies

Our communion offering on January 8, 2017, will aid the Sunday School curriculum and supplies we use with our children and youth. We are eager to help the children learn the stories of the Bible, grow in their awareness of God, and translate their faith into everyday action. We give thanks for the dedication of our Sunday School teachers, and we provide those teachers with the materials they need for their lessons to be a success. Thank you in advance for your support!

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

Sun, Jan 1 Worship
11:15 am, UMYF and Best Group
together (P. 4)
Mon, Jan 2 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Jan 4 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Jan 5 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Jan 6 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Jan 7 9:00 am, Men's Prayer & Share
9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
Hand bell Training Class (p. 7)

Week 2

Sun, Jan 8 Worship, Communion Sunday
Newcomer Lunch (p. 5)
4:30 UMYF (p.4)
Mon, Jan 9 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Jan 10 6:00 pm, Staff Parish meeting
6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
7:30 pm, Finance Committee
Wed, Jan 11 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Jan 12 5:15 pm Hand bell Choir rehearsal (p. 7)
7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Jan 13 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Jan 14 9:00 am, Men's Prayer & Share
Hand bell Training Class (p. 7)

Bell Choir Rehearsals; Training, to Resume

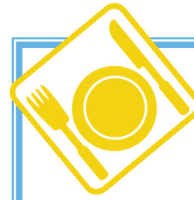
in January

Here is your chance to learn something new and be a part of a fun musical group: Hand bell Choir Rehearsals will resume January 12, 2017; training for new participants will be held January 7 and January 14. Watch for more information from Amy B. soon.



Week 3

Sun, Jan 15 Worship
Handbell Training Class (p. 7)
Mon, Jan 16 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Jan 18 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Jan 19 5:15 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal (p. 7)
7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
Fri, Jan 20 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Jan 21 9:00 am, Men's Prayer & Share
9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
9:00 am, Ladies Social (p. 7)



Lunch Bunch

After several fundraising outings to Rubio's, the lunch bunch returns to Café Athena for a sit-down meal after second service on Sunday, January 22. Everyone is invited, and kids are welcome! Please let Kathy W. or Hope A. know if you plan to attend, so that we can set up enough chairs. Café Athena is close to church at 1846 Garnet Ave, between Jewell and Lamont. (It's tucked away behind the Chinese buffet restaurant.)

Week 4

Sun, Jan 22 Worship
After Church UMYF - Deetour (p. 4)
After Church, Lunch Bunch (p. 7)
Mon, Jan 23 *Beach Breeze* Deadline
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Jan 25 4:00 pm, Youth meet (p.4)
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministry
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace Christmas
Dinner (p. 1)
Thurs, Jan 26 5:15 pm Hand bell Choir rehearsal (p. 7)
7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Jan 27 4:00 am, We All Count (p. 5)
7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Jan 28 9:00 am, Men's Prayer & Share
Interfaith Shelter Guests Arrive (p. 1)

PB UMC Ladies Social Time

Join us Saturday, January 21, at 9:00 am. Our venue this month is Arelys French Bakery in Clairemont Square - 4961 Clairemont Dr, Ste A, San Diego, CA 92117

This serene little coffee shop/bakery has delicious baked goods and great coffee drinks. Prices are very reasonable. We can meet up for a relaxing breakfast and enjoy each other's company.

For more information, contact Dart, dartr@pbumc.org.



Week 5

Sun, Jan 29 Worship
Mon, Jan 30 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Jan 31 9:00 am, *Beach Breeze* Folding Party

We Love and Worship God

January Scriptures

January 1, Matthew 2:1-12

How to Be a Christian in 7 Easy Steps

January 8, Matthew 19:3-9 “(Don’t) Give Me That Old-Time Religion”

January 15, Mark 12:28-34 “Jesus’ Priority: What Matters Most”

January 22, John 8:1-11, Matthew 9:9-13
“Jesus’ Grace: Am I Accepted?”

January 29, John 1:1-15 “Jesus’ Work: Where is God?”

**Pacific Beach United
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Meet Tim A. From Our Voices of Praise

By Roving Reporter Marcia M.

This month I got the opportunity to chat with Tim A., one of Voices of Praise, and our Worship Leader Coordinator. It was a lot of fun.

Tim started coming to PB UMC about 15 years ago when he was invited to attend by Susan G., who was a client of his at Tiffany’s. Shortly, he became a member. Soon after, our music ministry director Ron Jesse heard him singing in the congregation and asked him to join the choir. It was natural for him to accept Ron’s invitation. His father was a Presbyterian minister and Tim sang in church choirs since he was a young boy.

Tim also very much enjoys his responsibilities as Worship Leader Coordinator. He told me, “I love that I get to coordinate this team of good people to share in the Sunday morning services. It is a wonderful way for each Worship Leader to participate in ministry alongside other church leaders.”

Before I talked to Tim I was told that several years ago he gave art history lectures at PB UMC, especially as related to Christianity. When I asked about this, Tim told me, “I am an art historian and used to teach at San Diego State. My special interest is historical goldwork. That specialty led to a deep interest in the work of Carl Faberge, jeweler to the last two Tsars of Russia.” Tim worked for 30 years in the fine jewelry industry for companies such as Jessops & Sons and Tiffany & Co. He has traveled around the world lecturing on jewelry history, especially Faberge, Tiffany, and Van Cleef & Arpels.”

Tim was raised in San Diego. His 2 sisters, brother, and parents all also live in San Diego. He is a 5th generation Californian.

As I said, I really enjoyed getting to know Tim, and I hope you did, too. I know we all enjoy his participation in our Voices of Praise and serving as our Worship Leader.

