



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

September 2017

Interfaith Shelter Network *Winter Is Coming, and So Is Shelter Time at PB UMC*

by Ken B.

Harsh winters are uncommon and perhaps an unlikely event here in San Diego. Nevertheless, there are families and individuals in need of shelter.

For over thirty years, members and friends of PB UMC have opened their hearts and shared their gifts, talents, and services in welcoming our Interfaith Shelter Network (IFSN) guests. All shelter guests must receive a referral from the approved Network social service agency working with each branch. We avoid labels, but use the terms neighbor, friend, or family member, for this is our way of providing hospitality for two weeks.

The Interfaith Shelter Network is comprised of seven branches. The 2017-2018 shelter season starts with the upcoming Interfaith Shelter training, September 23rd, at St. Catherine LaBoure Church. The September training provides an opportunity to network with representatives from all the branch congregations. There is a follow-up meeting of the Beach Branch (our branch) usually in October with more in-depth discussion, just prior to officially launching the IFSN program in the beach area. If you are interested in attending, contact Ken B.

In the August *Beach Breeze* there was short mention of the two week period in January that PB UMC is scheduled to host Interfaith Shelter. The success of the Shelter program is dependent upon the many volunteers. Next month I will provide details of all the opportunities, as well as examples of how members went beyond, by lending their time, talents, and resources in making our guests welcome.

October Stewardship Focus

Each Sunday in worship, we experience a time of community prayer. Afterward, we prayerfully transition into our Offering, with a reminder that this time of passing plates and giving our financial gifts toward the ministry of the church is a continuation of prayer. We cannot understand the importance of giving without understanding it through prayer.

Rev. Melvin Amerson phrases it well in the book, *Celebrating the Offering*: "Celebrating the offering is a spiritual act of worship every believer can actively participate in each week. Giving becomes a celebration when the believer discovers the joy of generosity, which grows out of God's grace."

Over the course of this year, we have heard each month from our Finance Committee about some of the challenges we've faced this year. (Note: for this month's news, please see page 6.) Persons who give regularly also receive quarterly statements of their specific giving that generally includes a letter from the Pastor with ongoing news about the financial health of the church. Your committee chairs work hard throughout the year to honor approved budgets, and also to respond to shortages in estimated giving so that our church remains in a healthy financial position. All of this is done through faithful and prayerful discernment.

Of course, we remember that our financial giving is only one part of a larger expression of stewardship. As United Methodists, we covenant to support the ministries of the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. Please plan to join in our annual Stewardship conversation during the month of October, which will include the distribution and receipt of our annual Estimate of Giving cards. This time each year helps us to set individual goals of full expressions of stewardship toward the Ministries of this congregation, and helps our church leaders set goals and plan for the coming year.

Let us look toward this time with hope and with joy.

Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear friends...

During the summer months when many of the major television shows are on hiatus, the Rhodes family particularly enjoys watching American Ninja Warrior. The show is an athletic competition program featuring competitors who attempt various obstacles of ever-increasing difficulty and increasingly ambitious objectives. Of the dozens of competitors, only a few progress along the various stages through to the finals. As we have watched the show over the last few years, many reach their goals and many do not.

It seems to me that this can easily be seen as an allegory for life. We all work through challenges, and some periods of our lives seem as though those challenges are ever-increasing. We often set goals: to wake up on time, to get a job or a promotion, to start a new hobby. Some of us set these goals with vision and clarity, some of us simply decide that we want to do something better, and some have other approaches.

I confess that I have a difficult relationship with "goals." I absolutely think through shorter-term goals that, to me, seem a bit average. When I feel as though I do something poorly, I absolutely spend time and energy working toward improvement. But I don't think of that as setting and achieving goals. I'm sure this is a growth opportunity for me, and I've already begun working on it.

Our VUE (Visioning, Uniting, Expanding) committee works in a particular pattern of goal-setting that continues to be helpful. Though most have taken a summer break, we have set in motion several growing, small groups that meet during the week to discuss our weekly scriptures and sermons. We have already put in motion quarterly fellowship and learning opportunities. Most recently, our quarterly gathering featured the Rev. Julie Elkins and a one-woman show on women in the Bible. This month, we'll have a panel discussing LGBTQIA identity and relationships through scripture (see page 5). These are fantastic opportunities to gather together for fellowship and good food and great learning! This is a helpful model and I am learning how to incorporate goal-setting in my regular routines.

As you may know, sometimes goals are set for us by outside influencers. I wish to share with you a

goal that has been set for us – and a goal that has my full support. At the Annual Conference gathering in June, Bishop Grant Hagiya set a goal for all congregations in our region to meet the following objectives:

- ♦ Every local church needs to reach out to its surrounding neighborhood and bring 10 new people to Christ per year (10 new Baptisms, 10 new Professions of Faith, or some combination);
- ♦ every church to increase its average worship attendance by 10%;
- ♦ every church to make 25% of our current congregations into living Disciples;
- ♦ every church needs to give 100% of its apportionments.

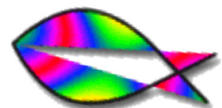
The purpose of these goals is to revitalize all of the churches in our region with the understanding that revitalization is necessary for an estimated 90% of our congregations. I would suggest that revitalization should be an ongoing process even if we are growing.

These are lofty goals. These are far-reaching goals. And these are achievable goals. And even though these are goals for which I – your Pastor – will be held accountable, these are not goals I can achieve on my own. These are goals for all of us at Pacific Beach United Methodist Church.

So we have work to do, and it is good work. It is work that we will not do alone, but will do together and with the help of our gracious and loving God. What we do now continues to nourish those who are already in our midst, so let us look for new ways to be in ministry to and with our community so that we can achieve and even surpass these incredible goals. Let us join together in this good work!



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another

September PB UMC Ladies' Event

(PB UMC Night Out — *Food Truck Friday at Balboa Park*)

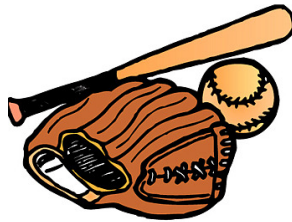
Ladies Night Out is sponsoring a gathering at Balboa Park. This looks like so much fun that we are inviting gentlemen and families as well. No charge for parking or admission, and no need to RSVP—just show up! Wear your PB UMC t-shirt if you have one, and let's look for each other in front of the Botanical Gardens to meet up.

Friday September 29
4:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Plaza de Panama/El Prado walkway
Free Live Entertainment

For more information, talk to Hope A. or Dart R. or check the website, <http://www.balboaparkconservancy.org/project/food-truck-friday/>



Faith and Family Night at Petco Park



Join your UMC faith community once again at the San Diego Padres game against the Colorado Rockies at Petco Park on Saturday, September 23, 2017, at 5:40 pm. We will join other faith communities from around Southern California for Padres Faith & Family Night, an evening designed specifically with churches in mind. Attendees will receive a 2017 Team Photo and a 2018 Padres Schedule. The evening will conclude with the final fireworks show of the season.

We have requested field-level tickets at a cost of \$31.75, including several wheelchair accessible seats. If you are interested in attending with your PB UMC family, find Amy & Rod B. or Ralph S. at church on Sundays in the coming weeks. Please note that all participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation, and we encourage carpooling or public transportation. Don't miss an opportunity for fellowship and fun with the San Diego Padres!

Membership Orientation Lunch

The next quarterly Newcomer Lunch will be held Sunday, September 10, 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.

There is no cost for lunch. However, we would appreciate RSVPs for planning purposes. Contact Dart R. (Newcomer Luncheon Coordinator) at dartr@pbumc.org.

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

September Youth Ministry Activities

If you are a youth or a parent of a youth and are not receiving e-mail and/or text updates regarding our events, please let Dee know at: DeeB@pbumc.org.

UMYF is Middle School and High School.
Best Group is for 2nd-6th graders.

Sunday, September 3

- Communion Sunday. We will try having Sunday School through group text again this week. 12:30-4:00ish. UMYF and Best Group Pool Party at Bruce and Dee's house in La Mesa. Dee can drive a car load from church, but we may need an additional driver or two if more folks want to attend. Dee will have some snacks and drinks. Bring your swim suit, towel, and goggles (if you have some). Dee's pool gets pretty deep fast, so novice swimmers should bring floaties. Please RSVP to Dee at: DeeB@pbumc.org.

Sunday, September 10

- Sunday School during service. 11:45-1:15 UMYF lunch outing. Please bring \$10.00 for lunch if you can.

Sunday, September 10-Friday, September 15

- Dee will be at camp for Strength for the Journey.

Sunday, September 17

- There will be a dinner and presentation at church at 5:00 pm. See article on page 5. Some youth may wish to attend.

Saturday, September 23

- Padres Game (See p. 3).

Friday, September 22-Sunday, September 24

- Dee and a few youth will be on Fall Retreat with Vista and Santee youth.

We Receive Thanks Reconciling Ministries

The July communion offering allowed us to send \$780 to the Reconciling Ministries Network. In a thank you letter, Executive Director Jan Lawrence said: "The generosity of Reconciling Communities like yours makes possible the lifesaving ministries of creating safe sanctuaries and just policies for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities."

Our Youth

Our Youth made quite an impression in Santa Clara on their Mission Trip (See page 5). Host "Bo" Roberts, after praising the work of our young people at Vacation Bible School, commented on the multitude of tasks undertaken at his house. He ended his letter saying, "I pray that their parents are as proud of them as I am. They are welcome back anytime."



Nametags

You may think that everyone knows you, but this isn't always true. Visitors and new members have an easier time learning names if everyone wears a nametag. Please make and wear a nametag. There are blanks on the table in the narthex in case you never had one, or left yours at home.

Bible Study Group "Covenants With God"

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

Signs of God's Covenants

The readings for September are:

- September 3, The Rainbow, Genesis 8:20-22; 9:8-17
- September 10, Circumcision, Genesis 17:1-14
- September 17, Sabbath Observance, Exodus 31:12-18
- September 24, Spirit-Filled Heart, Ezekiel 37:15-28

We Reach Out to Others

Youth Mission Trip 2017

by Dee Baraw

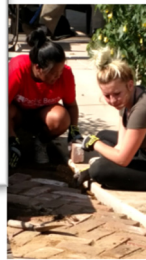
This summer we did something a bit different than Sierra Service Project (SSP) for our Mission Trip. We had some schedule conflicts and last minute changes that required me to pull our group from SSP. However, I did want those youth who were still planning to attend to have a project. By making the change and altering the date, we had other youth join us. We took a road trip to Santa Clara, CA.



In the morning, we would go to Santa Clara UMC to help out with Vacation Bible School (VBS). Many of the children were young, and they were from several different cultures. Some of the parents did not speak English very well. It was a great experience for us to help with all aspects of VBS.



In the afternoon, we worked on laying a brick pathway and moving decomposed granite. We learned to lay brick and fill between with a sand mixture. A couple of the youth got very good at splitting bricks to fit the edge pieces. Youth also got to operate a dump truck and use a construction zone plate compactor. We ended up moving about 16,000 pounds of decomposed granite.



Other aspects of the trip included preparing and cleaning up our own group meals. (For most, making individual pizzas was the best.) We also had evening devotion time. Since we finished our work project quickly, we were able to squeeze in a full day of fun, and went to Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Youth Mission Photos by Dee Baraw

The youth did such a great job representing PB UMC, we have been asked back to help any time! I am proud of the work they did, and of everyone's flexibility with the last minute changes.

Quarterly Workshop

"Clobber Passages:

Debunking Biblical Myths About LGBTQ Identity and Relationships"

by Adam M.

PB UMC will host a workshop on September 17 featuring panelists who will discuss the ways we can contextually read our sacred texts, compelling faithful Christians toward LGBTQ+ inclusion. The panelist discussion will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner being served in Hughes Hall at 5:00 pm. Donations are appreciated to defray the cost of the food, though this is not a barrier for attendance. Be on the lookout for an online event registration form, which will help us gather a headcount for the meal and determine if childcare will be needed. All are invited to attend — the skeptics, the theologically uncertain, the LGBTQ+ community — everyone! Following the one-hour discussion, panelists will be available to answer specific questions participants may have.

We hope that you will join us, so that together we can be the beloved community of all God's children!

Mid-Week Sermon Study Group

The former mid-week study group is now called "Wednesday Scripture & Sermon Study." The group meets each Wednesday at 11:30 am. All are invited to join!

Circle of Support

July 2017 Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
July giving	\$23,550	\$24,531
July other sources of income	\$10,101	\$8,499
July total available for ministry	\$33,651	\$33,030
July expended in ministry	\$33,651	\$35,375
July income minus expenses	\$0	(\$2,345)
YTD giving	\$164,850	\$147,568
YTD other sources of income	\$70,717	\$76,725
YTD total available for ministry	\$235,567	\$224,293
YTD expended in ministry	\$235,567	\$233,922
YTD income minus expenses	\$0	(\$9,629)
Year 2017 budget	\$403,818	

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

Aug 6 – 148 persons
Aug 13 – 123 persons
Aug 20 – 126 persons
Aug 27 – 139 persons
Avg. Weekly (2017) – 152 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

Aug 2 – 142 persons
Aug 9 – 110 persons
Aug 16 – 137 persons
Aug 23 – 119 persons

Reflections From the Finance & Stewardship Team

July was a good month. Variations in giving and expenses for July are due to timing and are not of concern to the Finance Team. July expenses include two months custodial and utility bills.

July giving is a bit above budget. Other sources of income appear to be down, but are budgeted evenly throughout the year while we receive draws from our two biggest legacy funds only in March, June, August, and November. Adjusting for these timing issues, income and expenses are at budget for the month. We are still concerned about the year-to-date net loss. As we approach budgeting for 2018, we are mindful that we can't rely on certain particularly generous gifts to continue beyond 2017.

Some good news for any Intuit employees in the congregation: PB UMC has just been approved for their matching gifts program. Intuit matches up to \$5,000 per fiscal year for all donations made to eligible organizations.

September Communion Offering: Christian Education

Our offering in September will be in support of Christian Education Sunday, which is a Special Sunday for ministries within our annual conference.

Christian Education Sunday calls the church as the people of God to be open to growth and learning as disciples of Jesus Christ. Christian education is not just for children! The hope is that you will continue God-inspired learning for the rest of your life.

This offering helps to strengthen programs in the United Methodist church that nurture religion.

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, Grace Notes

Week 1

Fri, Sept 1 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Sept 2 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
 10:00 am, Bible Study at PB UMC Lanai



Youth on Road Trip

Week 4

Sun, Sept 17 Worship
 5:00 pm, Dinner and Workshop (p. 5)
 Mon, Sept 18 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 October *Beach Breeze* Deadline
 Wed, Sept 20 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, Sept 21 5:15 pm, Joyful Ringers rehearsal
 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Sept 22 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Sept 23 10:00 am, Bible Study at PB UMC Lanai
 5:40 pm, Faith & Family Night at Petco
 Park (p. 3)

Week 2

Sun, Sept 3 Worship
 12:30 pm, Youth Pool Party (p. 4)
 Mon, Sept 4 Church Office Closed (Labor Day)
 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Wed, Sept 6 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 (p. 5)
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, Sept 7 5:15 pm, Joyful Ringers rehearsal
 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Sept 8 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Sept 9 10:00 am, Bible Study at PB UMC Lanai

Youth Learning to
 Split Brick



Week 3

Sun, Sept 10 Worship
 Noon, Membership Orientation (p. 3)
 11:30 am, UMYF Lunch Outing (p. 4)
 Mon, Sept 11 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, Sept 12 6:00 pm, Staff Parish meeting
 6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
 7:30 pm, Finance Committee meeting
 Wed, Sept 13 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, Sept 14 5:15 pm, Joyful Ringers rehearsal
 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Sept 15 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Sept 16 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
 10:00 am, Bible Study at PB UMC Lanai

Week 5

Sun, Sept 24 Worship
 Mon, Sept 25 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, Sept 26 9:00 am, October *Beach Breeze*
 Folding Party
 Wed, Sept 27 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 5:30 pm, Storefront Ministry
 Thurs, Sept 28 5:15 pm, Joyful Ringers rehearsal
 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Sept 29 4:00 pm, Food Truck Friday in Balboa Park
 (p. 3)
 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Sept 30 10:00 am, Bible Study at PB UMC Lanai

Construction Work on Thomas Avenue

It is our turn!

The city of San Diego has started work on the water mains that service our property. Street parking is restricted Monday through Friday from 7 am to 5 pm. The easiest access to our parking lot is through the alley.

The only end date that has been given is, "Fall of 2018."

Drive carefully, everyone!

We Love and Worship God

September Scriptures

Sep 3, Exodus 3:1-15
"Fire"

Sep 10, Exodus 12:1-14
"Death"

Sep 17, Exodus 14:19-31
"Wind, Sky, and Sea"

Sep 24, Exodus 16:2-15
"Food"

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



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Meet One Of Our Voices Of Praise: Terre F.

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

I recently chatted with Terre F. I am sharing what I learned about her with you.

When I asked her what brought her to PB UMC, she told me she used to attend her sister's church in Kansas. Their bulletin states 'Asbury United Methodist Church, a place where Progressive and Inclusive Christianity is Practiced and Preached' and 'All Means All.' She told me, "It is so welcoming and inclusive, and that is what I wanted in a church! I started googling San Diego churches with progressive and inclusive Christianity. PB UMC came up in my search." She told me about her first time at PB UMC, "I've been to lots of churches and nobody strikes up a conversation with someone they don't know, right? I found they do at PB UMC." So, it's inclusive and friendly.

I asked her how she joined our choir, she said, "I've always enjoyed music. I sang in school and church choirs from elementary school until I graduated from high school. So when I attended my first PB UMC service, I was really interested in hearing the choir. Ken H. saw my interest and introduced me to Ron. I joined the choir that week. I also play bells in the Joyful Ringers handbell choir. It is a new skill for me, so it's nerve-racking, but gratifying as well."

When I asked if she had something else she'd like to share, she said, "I raised two boys and a girl. During the ten years I was a stay at home mom, I was a den mother, girl scout leader, soccer mom, Halloween costume sewer, home room mother, classroom volunteer, and Rolling Reader coach. I also played soccer in an over 30 women's league. Recently my daughter had a baby boy and I became a grandma. And that's the most fun!"

I hope you enjoyed getting to know Terre. I know we all look forward to enjoying her participation in our Voices of Praise and Joyful Ringers choirs.

