



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

January 2018

Christmas *Season at PB UMC*



Advent Kick-Off Crafts



Christmas Musical — 2017



Caroling



Tree Lighting



Wed Night Dinner Helpers



Christmas Eve Worship

Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear friends...

In the month of October we entered into the period where this congregation traditionally explores ideas of stewardship. In doing so, we used the lens of “stepping up” our levels of commitment to this congregation, particularly in our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. And together we responded in wonderful ways!

Note: If you'd like to re-visit these sermons (or hear them for the first time), you can find them on our website: <https://www.pbumc.org/sermon-series/step-up/>.

The response is most easily seen related to financial giving as shown in our Finance Committee's reflections on page 6, but – as I often assert – finance is not our only commitment to the members of our community. I have heard from members about the spiritual growth experienced when they spend a bit more time in prayer. I have received several suggestions from members who are committed to stepping up our presence (witness) here in PB, most recently as more than a dozen PB UMC members walked through the streets near the church and sang Christmas carols to our neighbors.

And of course, members have committed to stepping up in service both inside and outside the church. This is evident in the increased number of people volunteering during our Wednesday evening Project Grace meal each week, new people stepping into committee and other support roles, and many other opportunities submitted through the pink sheets distributed during Worship in October.

Continuing in the analogy of “stepping up,” we must also see that the most dramatic changes take place with more steps. While it is surely worth celebrating this effort to increase our engagement with our faith community, we might also understand that there will always be opportunities for continued growth both personally and collectively. Thankfully, we affirm a God who continues to encourage and strengthen and guide. Isaiah 40:31 reminds us that

“...those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary.”

This month, we begin a new calendar year. Our culture's tradition is to make resolutions or commitments to ways we might improve our physical, emotional, or spiritual selves. I submit that this tradition might remind us to stay motivated and to maintain the commitments into which we've stepped so that we can continue our upward trajectory and achieve even more than we imagine.

Stay open and aware, dear friends. God continues to make things new. We have just celebrated again the newness of the infant Jesus in our hearts and our lives. Let us remain focused on the teaching and healing of one we call

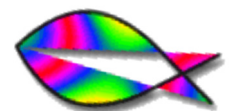
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Eternal Father,
Prince of Peace,
the one we call Messiah,
the one we call Savior,
the one we call Christ.

In this newness, let us explore new ideas. Let us pray continuously. Let us grow spiritually. Let us share our faith courageously and unapologetically. And let us continue to grow our commitment to shining the light of Christ in our communities and the world.

May we all continue to experience the profound love of our God through Jesus Christ.



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another



PB UMC Ladies' Lunch

Swami's Café recently moved into the former Embers/Las Olas location near the corner of West Pt. Loma Blvd and Midway Dr. Though the name suggests Indian food, it's actually a great place for breakfast and lunch, with a beach menu of omelets, pancakes, breakfast burritos, salads, wraps, sandwiches, smoothies and the like. (And, yes, curry.) Join us for lunch after second service (about noon) on Sunday, January 14, 2018, at Swami's Café, 3924 W. Point Loma Blvd, San Diego CA 92110, 619-222-6600. The lunch bunch always welcomes friends, families, and kids. Contact the church office, Hope A., or Kathy W. to reserve a place at the table.

Christmas Basket Overflow at CCSA



Preparing Christmas Baskets — 2017

Generous givers provided baskets of groceries with \$35 gift cards for a family of five (which received two baskets), two families of four, a household of two seniors, and a single adult. Your contributions enabled us to buy another *fifteen* gift cards. Two of them went to individuals in our own congregation. The rest will provide Christmas cheer to families who were too late to sign up for baskets through CCSA. So much Christmas cheer! Thank you.

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 Ministry Activities

Please contact DeeB@pbumc.org if you have questions about any of these activities or our Youth Ministries Program.

Sunday, January 7

- We will start a new topic in Sunday School. Youthies, please plan on going to lunch and meeting to decide what to make for the shelter guests on the 14th. We have also been asked to host a District event that we need to plan.

Sunday, January 14

- Youthies, we will prepare and serve dinner, then join our rotational shelter guests.

Sunday, January 21

- Youthies, after church we will head out for a scavenger hunt/Deetour challenge. The location will depend on weather. Watch for an announcement.

Friday, January 26-Sunday, January 28

- Area youth retreat.

Summer Church Camp

Hey all you campers! Camp registration is open. Sign up soon to get early bird discounts. The forms can be found at: www.calpaccamps.org. Along with the usual camps, film camp is being offered at Cedar Glen this year!

Sunday School News

by Malea S.

The children had Sunday fun helping to bring the Israelites some joy by making a home out of Duplos. The children always bring me joy as we discuss our Sunday School lesson! If you would like to share in this good time (and maybe fulfill a New Year's resolution to give a little of your time in service) we can use *you* as a Sunday School teacher. It only takes about an hour a month. We provide the curriculum and support. Please see me if you are interested in giving it a try.



Save the Date

Save the date for a screening of "Tony - The Movie," a film about homelessness in San Diego. We plan to screen the film the evening of February 6th and will include Q&A with the filmmakers. Don't miss it!

Bible Study Group "Faith in Action"

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

A Living Faith in God

The readings for January are:

- January 7, A Sincere Faith, Daniel 1:8-21
- January 14, A Bold Faith, Daniel 3:19-23, 26-28
- January 21, A Prayer for an Obedient Faith, Daniel 9:1-9
- January 28, A Strong Faith, Daniel 10:10-19

We Reach Out to Others



December Second Sunday Concert: Christmas at Home

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

The December Second Sunday Concert was our annual Christmas Musical. It was a fun one, of course, and fit into our “Coming Home” focus of this year’s Advent and Christmas church services. It was a story about a wise and revered Grandmother telling the Christmas story to children. Every time she came to a pause in the story, our Voices of Praise or Grace Notes (youth choir) sang a song or two from one of our previous Christmas musicals. Members of the choir portrayed the 3 Wise Men wittily, and had us all laughing. I loved all of them: the kids, the grandmother, the Wise Men, and the choirs and musicians.

I remembered the choir singing a number of the songs other years. Only they seemed even better this year. As usual the multi-talented choirs were accompanied by a gifted group of musicians. We also had a number of very remarkable vocal soloists perform for us. It all just seemed extra *extra* special this year.

Leaving on a high note, Nancy E. and I discussed the performance. We agreed that we were extremely fortunate to have such talented people entertain us, and that their performance was exceptional, even for them. Nancy added, “I loved hearing Louis sing his solos, as his singing seemed especially strong. The children were very natural in their acting, making the story believable. The story was creative and appropriate to a modern way to look at Christmas.”

It seems to me, each Second Sunday Concert has been more fun than the previous one. So, I can’t wait until next year. Look in the *Beach Breeze* for notices of when the next one will be.

Spare Vases?

by Betty J.

Our altar flower donations are redistributed each week by a group of volunteers who rearrange the display into individual gifts and present them to members, shut-ins, and friends who could use a little sunshine in their day. To do this, we use a lot of flower vases, and our supply is running low. If you have any spare flower vases, please bring them to church and leave them in the kitchen. Thank you very much.



Dear Staff of PB UMC,

Thank you for being a beacon of light to our church family and our community. You “leave a touch of glory, everywhere you go.”

Blessings to you all,
A Grateful Heart

Circle of Support

November 2017 Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
November giving	\$23,548	\$23,107
November other sources of income	\$10,101	\$8,134
November total available for ministry	\$33,649	\$31,241
November expended in ministry	\$33,649	\$34,140
November income minus expenses	\$0	(\$2,899)
YTD giving	\$259,046	\$228,544
YTD other sources of income	\$111,123	\$111,551
YTD total available for ministry	\$370,169	\$340,095
YTD expended in ministry	\$370,169	\$364,165
YTD income minus expenses	\$0	(\$24,070)
Year 2017 budget	\$403,818	

Reflections From the Finance & Stewardship Team

Generous giving in early December, particularly on the day of the well-attended Christmas musical, puts us in better shape financially than the table shows at the end of November. Thank you! Thanks also to all who pledged generously for 2018.

In case you are reading this before January 1, please take one last look at your tax situation. At this writing, we don't know the final disposition of the tax bill. If you have the cash, and if your itemized deductions will go away in 2018 due to higher limits, there is still time to prepay your 2018 pledge and receive tax benefits for 2017. Drop a check in the offering plate on December 31, or go online to use an e-check, debit card, or credit card. Scroll down to the Give Now button at www.pbumc.org. Be sure to let the church office know if your donation is intended for 2018.

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

November 26 – 125 persons
December 3 – 166 persons
December 10 – 374 persons
December 17 – 143 persons
Avg. Weekly (2017) – 162 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

November 22 – 184 persons
November 29 – 138 persons
December 6 – 145 persons
December 13 – 135 persons
December 20 – 133 persons

January Communion Offering: Interfaith Shelter

The Interfaith Shelter Network (ISN) involves congregations of all denominations county-wide in a rotational shelter program. About 60 of the congregations host the program in their facilities and the remainder serve in a valuable support role, providing volunteers for meals and overnight hosting, transportation, and donations.

Through your contributions to ISN, people are sheltered where there are no shelters, and receive understanding and support when previously all they knew was fear and uncertainty.

CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor: The Rev Bob Rhodes
Sojourning Pastor: The Rev Christopher Carter, PhD
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

Mon, Jan 1 New Year's Day
 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Wed, Jan 3 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:00 pm, Books, Movie, and Writing Club
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 6:00 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
 Thurs, Jan 4 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Jan 5 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Jan 6 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
 10:00 am, Scripture & Sermon Study at
 PB UMC Lanai

Week 3

Sun, Jan 14 Worship
 Ladies Lunch after church (p.3)
 Youth serve ISN guests (p.4)
 Mon, Jan 15 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Wed, Jan 17 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 6:00 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
 Thurs, Jan 18 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Jan 19 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Jan 20 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
 10:00 am, Scripture & Sermon Study at
 PB UMC Lanai



PB UMC Youth — 2017

Week 2

Sun, Jan 7 Worship & Communion
 Youth Sunday School
 Youth after church lunch and meeting (p.4)
 Mon, Jan 8 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, Jan 9 6:00 pm, Staff Parish meeting
 6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
 7:30 pm, Finance Committee
 Wed, Jan 10 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, Jan 11 7:00 pm, Choir rehearsal
 Fri, Jan 12 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Sat, Jan 13 10:00 am, Scripture & Sermon Study at
 PB UMC Lanai
 Interfaith Shelter Guests Arrive

Week 4

Sun, Jan 21 Worship
 Youth Deetour challenge (p.4)
 Mon, Jan 22 February *Beach Breeze* Deadline
 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Wed, Jan 24 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
 5:30 pm, Storefront Ministry
 Fri, Jan 26 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
 Area Youth Retreat (p.4)
 Sat, Jan 27 10:00 am, Scripture & Sermon Study at
 PB UMC Lanai
 Interfaith Shelter Guests Depart



Gift cards from Target, Ralphs, Starbucks, McDonald's, and Jamba Juice for the Storefront teens. All thanks to the generosity of our congregation — 2017

Week 5

Sun, Jan 28 Worship
 Mon, Jan 29 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, Jan 30 9:30 am, February *Beach Breeze*
 Folding Party
 Wed, Jan 31 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
 5:30 pm, SD Project Grace

We Love and Worship God

January Scriptures

The Power of Words

January 7, 2018

James 3:7b-10; Ephesians 4:29
“Tearing Down or Building Up?”

January 14, 2018

Colossians 3:8-9, 12-13, 15b; James 1:19
“Family Words: Hurtful or Life-Giving?”

January 21, 2018

1 Corinthians 1:10-12, 12:31b & 13:4-8a
“Religion & Politics”

January 28, 2018

Exodus 20:7; Psalm 19:14; John 1:1, 14a
“In the Beginning Was the Word.”

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



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San Diego, CA 92109

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Meet A Voice Of Praise: Wesley J.

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

I was excited to get to know Wesley J. Wesley? I wondered, is he related to our founder? Then I realized Wesley was John Wesley's last name, and it is Wesley J.'s first name. Even so, his family went to a Methodist church, and he thinks his mother named him Wesley in honor of John.

Wesley told me he was born and raised in Wyoming, and went to the University of Kansas. After his sophomore year he dropped out to join a national tour, opening up for acts such as *Nelly*, *Naughty by Nature*, and *Lil Wayne*, and performing in the MTV Spring Break show. Later, he moved to Los Angeles to follow his dream of acting. He told me, “I use my middle name, Dwaine, as my last name for my acting career. I use J. . . for government purposes.”

Wesley moved from Los Angeles to San Diego in February of 2017, so he could spend more time with his 3 year old son, M. . . He started attending PB UMC in August, after he took care of personal business. He chose us because he lives near our church and was raised as a Methodist. He joined the Voices of Praise in October because he loves to sing, and joining our choir will help him perfect his own craft. He told me, “Ron is amazing, and I love to put myself around amazing professional people.”

Wesley is a former DJ. He owned a record label, and is working on a comedy album on which he will be singing. When I asked him what he currently does for a living, he told me, “I am an actor and comedian on TV and in films.” He works primarily in shows for TV, and will continue to go to LA for that. “Locally I plan to audition for theatre productions, but it is TV pilot season in L.A., so I will be there for a lot of auditions.” His movies on IMDb (formerly internet movie database) include *Black Blood* (2013), *Damien Styles: Snomed* (2013), and *For Jewel* (2008). Some films not yet on IMDb are *Still Moon*, *A Packed House*, and *Collisions and Collisions*. Watch for them.

I really wanted to get to know Wesley after seeing him as one of the Wise Men in our Christmas Musical. He is a talented member of Voices of Praise and will be a great asset to our church. And, he is a truly funny person.

