



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

February 2019

2019 Interfaith Shelter Network at PB UMC

by Kenneth B.

This is our 33rd season hosting Interfaith Shelter Network guests at Pacific Beach UMC. This shelter program provides more than 200 homeless men, women, and children accommodation and other services for a two week period. Our guests will arrive Saturday, March 23rd, to officially launch the start of the two week period here at PB UMC. All guests in the Interfaith Shelter Network are pre-screened, and receives additional case management support in their 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 next morning during their two-week stay. They will sleep, shower, and eat their breakfasts and dinners at the church. As the guests leave during the day—for work, job hunting, going to school, or Sunday worship services—we will send them off with a healthy sack lunch.

For over 30 years the PB UMC ministries, in collaboration with the Interfaith Shelter Network and other organizations, have helped provide some immediate survival demands for adequate food and health service needs. Continuing this service tradition is achieved with the contributions of members and friends who generously donate their talents, gifts, and services.

Volunteer recruitment will begin late January, 2019, with sign-up sheets located in the church narthex 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 on March 23rd (including picking up luggage and cots) and clean-up April 6th, involving shelter break-down and washing bed linens.

During February, donation boxes will be available in the narthex to collect personal care items such as deodorant, travel size hand and body lotion, gloves, socks, soap, toothpaste and brushes, feminine hygiene items, razors, and shampoo and conditioners.

Along with my fellow coordinators, Betty and Ray, I 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 inquires please contact Ken B. at 619-251-5987 or email: kenb@pbumc.org. Include PB UMC Interfaith Shelter in the subject line when you send an email.

Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

Join San Diego community and faith leaders for an interfaith prayer breakfast on the morning of Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 7:45 am, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 5151 Fanuel St., Pacific Beach. The breakfast will feature catering by The French Gourmet, prayers from local interfaith leaders, and a keynote address by Michael Kinnamon, author of *The Witness of Religion in an Age of Fear*.

The cost is \$15 per person and includes breakfast. Seating is limited and registration closes on February 14.

This interfaith event is organized and sponsored by: Beach & Bay Family YMCA, Pacific Beach Christian Church, St. Brigid's Catholic Church, Islamic Center of San Diego, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Congregation Beth Israel, Christ Lutheran Church, St. Andrews by the Sea Episcopal Church, and Pacific Beach United Methodist Church.

Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear Friends . . .

As we continue into 2019 and a potential vision for ministry for this congregation, it is important that we also recognize where we have been. To faithfully work toward a vision, we must know our starting place.

Many have noted that we have experienced some decline in both giving and attendance over the last several years. This is correct, and it is also good to know some of what lies behind this. First, this decline is not unique to our congregation. Giving and attendance continue to decline in churches around the country. Our District and our Annual Conference are exploring ways to support congregations in working through decline in imaginative and important ways. However, this does not mean that we should be unconcerned. On the contrary, let us be authentic and forthright so we can face any challenge.

In terms of attendance, the average number of persons in attendance on Sunday mornings has been in decline since 2013 (with a minor spike in 2014, likely because of the change in Pastors). But even 2013 numbers were well below averages in 2008-2009. It is my opinion that our summer schedule change this past year had a negative effect on our overall worship attendance. However, it is also important to note that our Christmas and Easter attendance *increased* in 2018 over 2017.

We must also consider the Sunday morning Worship gathering and its efficacy in leading people to faith-filled experience. In the worship survey from this past summer, participants have a strong sense of God's presence in worship (78%) and are satisfied with our current worship style (94%). Coupled with this, I have received a number of direct comments about our recent sermon series on reading our sacred texts that worshipers are very happy to enter into this journey.

Indirectly, we have heard a desire for more opportunity to grow in discipleship. In addition to the two groups that meet based on our weekly Sermon Notes (see the weekly email and church website, and the monthly *Beach Breeze*), Pastor Christopher is planning an upcoming study on the book *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. In addition, look for information on an upcoming study on the book *Short Stories by Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine.

Also indirectly, I have heard concern about our community's continued Project Grace community meal and additional programs. I must acknowledge that I communicated the community's concern better than the response. I have engaged in regular dialogue with nearby faith and community leaders so that we might regularly share challenges and best practices; we have partnered with Father Joe's Villages to provide the only entry point for VI-SPDAT (a coordinated assessment database for services) in the Pacific Beach region; we are partnering with even more regional non-profits to provide even more services to help people to prevent and escape homelessness; we purposely host PB Street Guardians, who offer jobs and case management for persons living on the street; I have increased my own community presence including the local PB Town Council. As a result of these and other programs, the number of complaints are dramatically reduced and even some of the most vocal critics have now offered words of thanks and support. Much of this is in large thanks to our SPRC leaders who help us to have the right personnel on site, and specifically Beth Rhodes who coordinates our non-profit partnerships.

In terms of the reduced giving we have experienced, this is largely because we have experienced quite a bit of loss over these last several years. Veritable titans of the church have joined with the saints, and we have had to compensate for their generosity. Even so, we have received new giving commitments and this year achieved a budget that (according to the Finance report on pg. 6 of this newsletter) "was less stressful than last year." This does not mean that we may throw caution to the wind, but instead is the fruit of faithful giving, faithful leadership, and incredible generosity.

As we continue to look forward with hope to a vision for the future ministries of PB UMC, let us do so with gratitude for the foundation upon which this vibrant congregation stands. Let us acknowledge the challenges that stand between where we are and where we see God leading us, so that we may move toward this vision with faithful determination and unyielding grace.



Pastor Bob

We Care for One Another

Ladies' Lunch

Your Ladies' Events planners are cooking up an early dinner at 4:00 pm on Saturday, February 23. (Well, okay, the restaurant will do the cooking. 😊)

Troy's Family Restaurant & Coffee Shop

Located in the heart of
Clairemont Square
4827 Clairemont Dr
San Diego, CA 92117
(619) 276-7651



SECOND SUNDAY CONCERT TO FEATURE ARAM THAGGARD

by Ron Jessee

Aram Thaggard, our amazing percussionist, will be the featured artist at the Second Sunday Concert on February 10, 2019. Aram is a freelance percussionist with thirteen years of experience. He is trained in multiple disciplines of percussion, including, but not limited to, classical, marching, and Latin percussion. In addition to completing a Bachelor of Music Performance in Jazz Studies at San Diego State University in Spring 2018, Aram has received additional academic credits in Jazz studies from the University of California San Diego and the Idyllwild Arts Academy.

Aram has performed and recorded with many notable groups including SDSU's marching Aztecs, the acclaimed SDSU Big Band, Southwestern Big Band, and most recently the Disneyland Resort All American College Band. His noteworthy performance venues include the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, Lyceum Theatre of San Diego Repertory Company, and Sleeping Beauty Castle on Main Street of Disneyland Resort.



Save the Date!

March Second Sunday Concert: Rodney Girvin, Organist and Pianist,
First Presbyterian Church San Diego

Grace & Dine Lunch Bunch

Our next Second Sunday Grace and Dine Lunch Bunch will be Sunday February 10th. We will meet at noon at The French Gourmet at 960 Turquoise St (between Bayard and Cass streets). There is a parking lot, but it is recommended that we use carpools to ensure adequate parking.

This lunch will precede our Second Sunday Concert. Watch church news for more details. More information on the restaurant can be found at TheFrenchGourmet.com.

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

February Youth Ministry Activities

As always, for more Information about youth activities, contact Dee Baraw: deeb@pbumc.org.

Sunday, February 3

Last day of District Youth Retreat

Sunday, February 10

5:00-7:00 pm, Youth Group. We will have pizza, do an activity, and play a game.

Thursday, February 14

Happy Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 17

After Church, Jr High and High School: If weather is good, we will head to Balboa Park for a picnic lunch and some exploring. If the weather is bad, we will have a photo scavenger hunt at the mall. Please let Dee know who will be in town and available.

Sunday, February 24

Noon to 2:00 pm, Best Group and UMYF meets after church for lunch, activity, and games.

Save the Dates: March 5 is the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner; March 8-10 is Family Camp.

Thank You cards from recipients of PB UMC donations to the CCSA Christmas Gift Baskets.



Sunday School News

by Malea Sandstrom

We need some caring, responsible, special people!

All our church members need our care, but our youngest ones need some special care. We are looking for a few people to be on call when our regular nursery workers can't make it on a Sunday. Just like all adults that work with children at PB UMC, you must get fingerprinted (the church will pay for it). Please contact Aimee in the church office if you would be willing to help. This is a paid position.

All Church Family Camp

You all are invited to register and join us for PB UMC Family Camp. It does not matter if you are young, old, single, married, have kids or not, You are a part of the PB UMC family!

Location: Camp Cedar Glen in Julian, CA

Dates: Friday, March 8-Sunday, March 10

Meals included in registration: Breakfast Saturday through lunch Sunday.

Accommodations: We will stay in cabins that have bathrooms and showers. There may be other groups sharing the camp, but we will be in cabins with just folks from PB UMC.

Program/Activities: There will be some scheduled time for worship, crafts, and games for us to do together. There will also be a time where folks can try out archery, or have free time to hike, explore, play on the playground, read, nap, puzzle, and socialize with others.

Cost: The cost for those age 12 and up is \$135 per person. For those under 12, it is \$75 per child. Please speak privately with Dee B or Pastor Bob if cost is an issue for you.

Registration: There will be registration forms available in the church narthex, or Dee will email you one.

More information: Please email: deeb@pbumc.org.

We Reach Out to Others

People Helping People

by Jesse H.

Stephen Ministry is about people helping people. It's a ministry that provides training to selected members of the congregation who are willing to offer support to others during times of need. Some of our worshipers may simply want general care; others may be suffering from loss, divorce, depression, chronic or terminal illness, job loss, spiritual crisis, or life transitions. Stephen Ministry gives us the tools to help.

You may be a person that always felt like you had more to offer others on an emotional level, but you weren't sure how to do it. You may be the person that can use a healing hand and can use someone to be the face of God by your side.

If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, would benefit from having a Stephen Minister, or would like to make a donation towards the cost of implementing this program at our church, please contact Jesse H. at jessseh@pbumc.org.



Volunteer to Be a Techie



Techie Doc (see p.8) would love to see a few more volunteers for live-streaming. She says, "It's one of the most creative and interactive jobs during services, and you get to serve all those who can't worship with us for whatever reason, that's huge. You're coming to church anyway, so make a big difference with no extra time commitment. Talk to Joe P., and join the team."



Shrove Tuesday (YUM, Pancakes!)

Please plan to join us for dinner in the social hall on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Drop in anytime between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. We will be celebrating Mardi Gras church-style by having pancakes and some sides to kick off the church season of Lent. It would help us in planning if you would RSVP (email deeb@pbumc.org), but come even if you did not. There is no set fee, but there will be a donation jar. All are welcome!

Lent is the church season leading up to Easter. It is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 6) and ends on Holy Saturday (April 20). The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. It is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Along with the fun of having pancakes for dinner, we will have some accessories to take some photo- booth-style photos, and we will have a few optional activities to help you on your Lenten journey. We hope to see you there!

Circle of Support

December 2018 (preliminary) Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
December giving	\$22,893	\$41,057
December other sources of income	\$15,498	\$6,431
December total available for ministry	\$38,391	\$47,488
December expended in ministry	\$34,507	\$32,104
December income minus expenses	\$3,884	\$15,383
YTD giving	\$274,712	\$268,397
YTD other sources of income	\$137,207	\$134,791
YTD total available for ministry	\$411,919	\$403,188
YTD expended in ministry	\$417,081	\$398,097
YTD income minus expenses	(\$5,162)	\$5,091
Year 2018 budget	\$417,081	

Reflections From the Finance & Stewardship Team

We've ended 2018 with positive net income. Hooray! The numbers in the table are substantially correct, though we still have a few year-end adjustments to complete. Most of them are included in the numbers presented. Thank you especially to the generous December givers who helped the church reach this result.

At press time, the Finance Team has completed a draft budget to be approved by the Administrative Council. Preparing the budget was less stressful than last year, in part because of designated income funds carried over from last year and because of an anticipated bequest from the Steve Frank estate. These legacies of love provide a stable base for the long-term financial health of the church. What wonderful gifts! Please consider including PB UMC in your estate planning.

Scripture and Sermon Study Group

The Scripture and Sermon Study Group, meeting in a private home in Pacific Beach on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30 pm, welcomes new participants. Call Mary Margaret R., (858) 768-0576.

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

Dec 23 – 135 persons
Dec 24 – 223 persons
(3 services Christmas Eve)
Dec 30 – 102 persons

Avg. Weekly (2018) – 146 persons

Jan 6 – 109 persons
Jan 13 – 104 persons
Jan 20 – 120 persons
Jan 27 – 140 persons

Avg. Weekly (2019) – 123 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

Dec 26 – 110 persons
Jan 2 – 135 persons
Jan 9 – 135 persons
Jan 16 – 141 persons
Jan 23 – 135 persons

February Communion Offering *Stephen Ministry*

Stephen Ministry is a new congregational care program beginning here at PB UMC. Inspired by Galatians 6:2, this ministry is a one-to-one caring ministry following the Stephen Series model, an international program developed by Rev. Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk, author, pastor, and clinical psychologist. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers, called Stephen Ministers, to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

As we begin the program, this month's communion offering will support training for our first Stephen Leaders who will then guide this congregation into a new and vital ministry.

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

Fri, Feb 1 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Feb 2 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters



December Wedding Celebration of Pastor April and Bob C.
Photo by David DeB.

Week 2

Sun, Feb 3 Worship and Communion
Mon, Feb 4 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Feb 6 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Feb 7 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Feb 8 7:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 3

Sun, Feb 10 Worship
Noon, Grace & Dine Bunch (p.3)
2:00 pm, Second Sunday Concert
5:00 pm, Youth Group (p.4)
Mon, Feb 11 5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study (p.6)
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Feb 12 6:00 pm, Staff - Parish meeting
6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
Wed, Feb 13 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Feb 14 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Feb 15 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Feb 16 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters

Week 4

Sun, Feb 17 Worship
Noon, Jr. High and High School Youth (p.4)
Mon, Feb 18 Presidents' Day: Church Office Closed
March *Beach Breeze* Deadline
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
6:30 pm, Finance Committee meeting
Wed, Feb 20 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Feb 21 7:45 am, Interfaith Prayer Breakfast (p.1)
7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Feb 22 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Feb 23 4:00 pm, Ladies' Early Dinner (p.3)



2018 Some of Our Youth

Photo by Dee Baraw

Week 5

Sun, Feb 24 Worship
Noon, Best Group and UMYF (p.4)
Mon, Feb 25 5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study (p.6)
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Feb 27 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministry
Thurs, Feb 28 6:00 pm, Administrative Council meeting
7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal

PB UMC Trustee's Wish List

The Trustees are responsible for the church's properties. As you can imagine, there are always projects to be done, both routine as well as larger projects. We will be using this column to provide you with opportunity to give your time or financial support for ongoing needs on our church campus. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office or any Trustee.

Currently, the church is in need of:

- * Rose Garden Caretaker: expert or amateur gardener to spruce up our rose garden.
- * Person(s) willing to be "on call" (should there be an emergency) who could make phone calls to get the emergency handled.
- * Handy "person(s)" able to do small necessary electrical, plumbing, and other minor repair and maintenance needs.

We Love and Worship God

February Scriptures

Series: Reading the Bible Again for the first Time

February 3, 2019

“Paul’s Letters” 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

February 10, 2019

“The Revelation” Revelation 4b-8

Series: See All the People

February 17, 2019

“The Expectant Crowd” Luke 6:17-26

February 24, 2019

“The Questioning Crowd” Luke 6:27-38

March 3, 2019

“The Astounded Crowd” Luke 9:28-43

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



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Meet Techie Dr. Lynn N.

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

I’ve enjoyed getting to know Lynn and Diane N. the last couple of years. Recently, I shared time with Lynn. We all know Lynn as “Doc,” so I asked what kind of doctor she is. “I have a PhD in performance psychology, and practice therapeutic laughter, and nature and forest therapy. Both natural therapies boost mood and improve quality of life.”

How long have Doc and Diane been married? “When I met Diane in church in 1995, I was in the Navy, and on sea duty most of the time, even though I was based out of San Diego. In 2002 we had what we called a ‘Covenant’ ceremony. In May 2017, we celebrated our 15th anniversary by getting legally married. Everyone always considered us married; now the government agrees. And we got to celebrate again!”

I asked how they found out about PB UMC and what made them join. “We were looking for a new church and wanted a place that *celebrated*, not *commiserated*. We also wanted diversity—not just a gay church like we had met in. It takes us an hour to get here, so it also had to be a place worth the drive, *and it is!* It satisfies both requirements and more. The only label appropriate for PB UMC is ‘family’. Everyone is loving everyone. At PB UMC we don’t just say it, we live it.”

Then we discussed Doc being one of our techies. “I have a background in using computer systems, and like technology. I started here with slide projection, and felt like a part of the church service. When the team moved to the back of the church it was difficult for me to feel engaged. When we started live-streaming, I saw an opportunity to be creative doing things like switching camera angles. I felt interactive in the service again.”

I asked about other areas of involvement at the church. Doc just finished a year as Chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) and completed a term on the Nominating Committee. “The SPRC basically sees to needs of the staff, including pay issues and quality of life on the job. We also keep a watchful eye on the relationship between staff and members. We want to make sure everyone is enjoying the best possible experience as part of PB UMC.”

We are very lucky to have such an inspirational member. I hope you enjoy getting to know Doc, too.