



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

September 2019

Welcome Aboard!

by Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Committee



Welcome our newest staff member, Lynn Nguyen (pronounced “win”). Lynn was selected from over 60 qualified applicants for the Office Administrator position. She brings with her a toolbox of skills and a terrific outlook on life, including a healthy sense of humor and a level of energy that will be key to her success in such a central role here at PB UMC.

Lynn has one more year to complete a degree in Business Marketing from SDSU and is looking forward to supporting the promotion of our church any way possible. She wants you all to know that she is excited to be here and to become an integral part of this community—both inside and outside the church walls. During her interviews with Pastor Bob, TennieBee, and me, Lynn was touched by all we do, and said she can’t wait to get started at such a great place filled with great people.

But get to know Lynn’s story better yourself by dropping by to meet her. She completed her initial training the last two weeks in August, so now that Lynn is flying solo, come on down and cheer her on. And for all you committee members out there, give her time; she’s gonna be amazing. But meanwhile, help her out; we have a lot of moving parts!

Welcome to the team, Lynn; we are so glad to have you!

Nursery Room Staff Changes

by Malea Sandstrom

A great big thank you to Dart R. and Amberlyn R. for the time they have given to staffing our nursery! Amberlyn is off to college. (It’s hard to believe the little girl that played in our nursery is that old!) Now, Dart will have weekends free to explore with Devin.

Madison R. and Anastasia B. are our new regular nursery staff.



Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear Friends . . .

The earliest expressions of the Wesleyan movements included limited licensed/ordained preachers, and relied heavily on the organization of circuits. You may recall the stories of Circuit Riders in early U.S. Methodism, as traveling preachers would visit local congregations and/or meeting groups to provide care, and to preside over the sacraments. Dr. Robert Simpson, writing for the General Board of Archives and History of the UMC, notes that these Circuit Riders “preached daily or more often at any site available, be it a log cabin, the local court house, a meeting house, or an outdoor forest setting. Unlike the pastors of settled denominations, these itinerating preachers were constantly on the move. Their assignment was often so large it might take them five or six weeks to cover the territory.”

This was a difficult life, with many of these traveling preachers riding 200 to 500 miles on horseback and preaching as much as every day. Exhaustion, illness, animal attacks, and unfriendly encounters were constant threats. Freeborn Garrettson, an early mentee of Francis Asbury, wrote this of his experience: “I was pursued by the wicked, knocked down, and left almost dead on the highway, my face scarred and bleeding and then imprisoned.” Statistically, the life expectancy of these traveling preachers was grim with many less than 30 years old at the time of their death.

In some ways, we live out this history of our denomination today. These traveling preachers were appointed to serve these areas by a bishop, sometimes for a few months, and sometimes as long as a year. Today in The United Methodist Church, clergy who are commissioned and ordained commit to go and serve wherever the bishop sends (or “appoints”) them to go.

In the not-so-distant past of this denomination, Methodist pastors were moved every couple of years. I have heard clergy families tell stories of moving frequently, sometimes not even knowing where they were moving until the Annual Conference gathering. While this frequency is far less common today, the idea of one-year appointments is still part of our structure. While I have had the privilege of serving this congregation for just over five years, this has been made possible by five successive appointments. The practicality of *longer* appointments these days is made possible through *annual* appointments.

There is much conversation about whether longer appointments or shorter appointments is best for

congregational growth. In a message to clergy in 2016, Bishop Grant Hagiya cited studies indicating that longer appointments make for more effective pastors. As a clergy person, I suggest that the stability of longer appointments is better for children and families. But there is healthy disagreement.

My father, Jerry, suggests that longer appointments have a tendency to allow churches to rely too heavily on their pastors. As a former SPRC chair and frequent lay speaker, he has a great passion for celebrating vibrant lay ministry. I think his understanding of the importance of lay leadership is exactly right, and would even suggest that John Wesley’s early organizational instincts with circuits and traveling preachers was effective, in part, because of its reliance on strong lay leadership.

Of course as a modern leader, I ask this question: is it too much to have both? If pastors are statistically more effective as they remain in a community, and if strong lay leadership leads to effective congregations, then the best chance to sustain and grow a congregation may be to have both a long appointment and strong lay leadership.

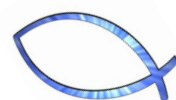
Leadership and vision are a large part of what will be taking place in the coming months. We have already announced the upcoming visioning event planned for later this month, and a sub-group of our Administrative Council is exploring ways to structure our committee leadership to be more nimble in our decision-making. Adam M-L. is leading us into greater discipleship through learning and spiritual growth, and Jesse H. is seeking lay persons to participate in congregational care.

As we envision the future of PB UMC, where are the greatest opportunities to serve our community? Where can we experience growth? What does “success” look like for churches in the 21st century? And consider this critical question: where do you feel God calling you to participate in the ministries of this faith community?

May we continue to seek God’s voice together....



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another

Sunday Fellowship Time

Have you considered bringing cookies for the fellowship time after services? There is a need right now to fill up two holes in the schedule. It's a simple way to contribute. The coffee and lemonade service is set up on Saturday, and all is ready to go on Sunday morning. You bring in whatever additional refreshments you like, and show up ten minutes before the end of either the 9:00 am or 10:30 am service to oversee the table.

If you can pick a Sunday and be a part of the rotation, it only requires a team of eight people a month. Each person serves just once each month. This is a great way to encourage the fellowship that everyone enjoys after a worship service!

Ray McC., Hospitality Coordinator
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CCSA Backpacks

At press time, PB UMC has delivered 16 backpacks filled with school supplies to the Community Christian Service Agency (CCSA) in Clairemont. They are being distributed to families in need of help. This is a 60% increase over last year for our church. Well done, generous givers!

Our next collection will be for Christmas food baskets in November and December. CCSA is currently seeking donations of their most needed items: men's jeans and underwear (all sizes), and men's, women's, and children's new or gently used sandals, sneakers, or flip/flops.

We also appreciate getting clothing and blankets donated here at the church for our Wednesday night Project Grace visitors.



Join United Methodists from around San Diego on Saturday, September 14th, in supporting Habitat for Humanity and the second "United Methodist Coalition Habitat Build."

The Coalition will be working on the Faith Build house in El Cajon, a house supported and built entirely by faith organizations.

Plan to bring your work gloves, water bottle, and lunch, and spend the day in work and fellowship as we support a family in need of affordable housing.

Register online at <http://vhub.at/methodistcoalition>.

Pre-registration is preferred, but everyone is invited. Build begins at 7:45 am, and should end around 3:30 pm. The Build address is: 814 Grossmont Avenue, El Cajon.

If you have any questions, contact Rev. Melissa Spence at mspence@fumcsd.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

For more information about youth Ministries events or the program in general, please contact Dee Baraw: deeb@pbumc.org. Also, let us know if you are not on our youth mailing list to receive reminders and updates.

Sunday, September 1

Outdoor church, potluck, and fun! Plan on coming for worship and staying for lunch, games, and fun.

Sunday, September 8

11:45 am – 1:30 pm, Lunch, back to school activity, and let's play people hungry hippos again. (If you don't know what that is, show up and find out!)

Sunday, September 15

No after church/evening youth group. Dee will be at Camp for Strength For the Journey Retreat, Sept. 15-20.

Saturday, September 21

Visioning time! It would be awesome to have lots of you, the youth, at church for this time of visioning and dreaming! What ideas do you have for PB UMC? Come, we really want to hear your voices.

Sunday, September 22

11:45 am – 2:45 pm, Bring \$10 for lunch if you can. We will stop and pick up lunch and head to Balboa Park for some photo scavenger hunt fun. Parents, we will need an extra adult or two for teams, and drivers.

Sunday, September 29 (Fifth Sunday)

We will have worship in the social hall during Sunday School. Youth activity, to be announced.

Calling All Youth Parents!

by Chair, Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Caring for and nurturing your children is a *big* ask of anyone. Just imagine trying to manage your own kids times 3 or 4!

While we look for a co-lead to assist our Youth Director, we need you to help out. Help us ensure our youth at PB UMC get the best possible blend of spiritual growth and social activity.

Won't each of you be ready to volunteer to accompany the youth during weekday activities until we find a co-lead? If you take turns, it's not asking much. And just think, you get to have fun with them!

Contact Dee to sign up as activities are published on the calendar.

Urgent Need For Fun Folks

from Your SPRC

When we return to the non-summer version of the 2nd service, we also return to youth Sunday School after Children's Time.

We need four folks to take about 30 minutes, one Sunday each per month, to assist with this special time of spiritual and social growth for our youth.

They are the future leaders of our church and already bring insight and inspiration to our family at PB UMC. So help us *help them thrive*. You may just give yourself 30 minutes of inspiration!

Contact Malea to be put on the calendar!

Studies and Groups

by Adam M-L.



Pacific Beach UMC is continuing to strengthen small groups. If you're interested in adult education, spiritual formation, or discipleship, check out our new web page to fill out a survey and explore upcoming topics. And, be sure to subscribe to Studies & Groups on Flocknote. Details are available at <https://www.pbumc.org/what-we-do/studies-and-groups/>.

We Reach Out to Others

Bringing the Picnic Home

Outdoor Church on Labor Day Sunday

by Hope A.

We are reviving the tradition of outdoor church on Labor Day weekend. Sunday, September 1, a single worship service at 10:00 am will be followed by a potluck, including grilled burgers, dogs, and veggie burgers. Please bring a favorite appetizer, side dish, or dessert to go with the grilled food. And because the church picnic was on hiatus this year, we will add safe picnic activities to the festivities. If you'd like to volunteer, or for more information, contact Hope A. or the church office.

PS, If you'd like to revive the picnic in 2020 and can volunteer to organize it, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact the church office.



Photo by Mark B.

**Outdoor Church And Potluck
July 7, 2019**



Photo by Dee Baraw

Interfaith Shelter Times at PB UMC

by Ken B.

It seems only a few months since our shelter guests departed in early Spring 2019, and not that the next Interfaith Shelter Network (IFSN) season is about to begin!

In 2019 it was a different season from what we were used to, and the number of shelter guests was lower than expected. I wish the low numbers were due to a lower number of people experiencing homelessness, but this was not the case. During the 2018-2019 IFSN season, the Beach Branch changed our client case management services. The case managers do an excellent job with the services they provide, but the last shelter season was a bit difficult because of the change over mid-season; however, during our wrap-up meeting we (the Beach Branch) had an opportunity to get better acquainted with the case managers. They now have a better understanding of the type of clients we need. In the upcoming 2019-2020 shelter season, the case managers will work harder to make sure all 14 of our beds are filled.

We shall have a very busy season, and need more support than ever. I am truly grateful for all of you who continue year after year to support this vital ministry by volunteering your time and services, by making sack lunches and dinners, being overnight supervisors, setting-up, breaking-down, doing laundry and all the other volunteer tasks needed. If you have never volunteered, this is your time to join the fun.

The annual training will be held September 14, 2019. If you are interested in getting more involved, please contact Ken B. for more information. The Beach Branch of the Interfaith Shelter Network meets on October 2, 2019. After this meeting, the shelter officially starts in the Beach Branch. The first Shelter will be at Pacific Beach UMC, March 21st to April 4th, 2020. I look forward to your continued support in this ministry. Thank you all.

Circle of Support

July 2019 Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
July giving	\$21,456	\$16,830
July other sources of income	\$9,755	\$24,759
July total available for ministry	\$31,211	\$41,589
July expended in ministry	\$33,791	\$29,323
July income minus expenses	(\$2,580)	\$12,266
YTD giving	\$150,191	\$132,011
YTD other sources of income	\$88,605	\$83,917
YTD total available for ministry	\$238,797	\$215,928
YTD expended in ministry	\$246,535	\$238,653
YTD income minus expenses	(\$7,739)	(\$22,725)
Year 2019 budget	\$415,890	

Reflections From the Finance & Stewardship Team

July shows positive income due in part to a transfer of \$16,617 from the Steve Frank/Russ Gooden estate for Project Grace. This amount covers unfunded Project Grace expenses through June. Project Grace also received in July a \$3,000 Justice and Compassion grant from the Cal-Pac Annual Conference. We thank, too, our individual contributors that keep our weekly meals and clinics going.

Expenses were low in part because we missed paying our apportionments of about \$3,300 in July (and will catch up in August).

The office is undergoing several transitions as we implement, thanks to Mark B.'s vigilance, a new version of QuickBooks that will improve functionality and save us on monthly fees. We thank Beth R. as our excellent interim administrator. And we welcome our new administrator, Lynn Nguyen.

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

July 28 – 114 persons
Aug 4 – 98 persons
Aug 11 – 120 persons
Aug 18 – 116 persons

Avg. Weekly (2019) – 140 persons

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

July 31 – 111 persons
Aug 7 – 167 persons
Aug 14 – 140 persons
Aug 21 – 168 persons

September Communion Offering: Christian Education

Our offering in September will be in support of Christian Education Sunday.

Christian education is not just for children. Neither is it a “been there, done that” experience. No degree in Scriptures 101 is offered. You cannot graduate.

The hope is you will continue your God-inspired learning for the rest of your life. Education, whether for children or adults, allows you to ask and answer baffling questions about your beliefs.

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

CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor: The Rev Bob Rhodes
Sojourning Pastor: The Rev Christopher Carter, PhD
Office Administrator: Lynn Nguyen

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

July 22-26,
2019
Our Youth At
La Jolla UMC
VBS



Week 1

- Sun, Sept 1 10:00 am, Worship—Outdoor Church
Bringing the Picnic Home—Potluck
- Mon, Sept 2 Labor Day—Church Office Closed
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
- Wed, Sept 4 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
- Thurs, Sept 5 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
- Fri, Sept 6 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
- Sat, Sept 7 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters



2019 Sierra Service Project
Spirit Walk

Photo by Dee Baraw

Week 2

- Sun, Sept 8 Worship
Youth Back to School Activity (p.4)
- Mon, Sept 9 5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
- Tues, Sept 10 6:00 pm, Staff - Parish meeting
6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
- Wed, Sept 11 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
- Thurs, Sept 12 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
- Fri, Sept 13 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
- Sat, Sept 14 7:45 am, UM Habitat Coalition, Faith
Build House, El Cajon (p.3)

Week 3

- Sun, Sept 15 Worship
- Mon, Sept 16 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
6:30 pm, Finance Committee
- Wed, Sept 18 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
- Thurs, Sept 19 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
- Fri, Sept 20 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
- Sat, Sept 21 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters
9:30 am-noon, VUE Visioning



2019 Sierra Service Project
Train Mountain

Photo by Dee Baraw

Week 4

- Sun, Sept 22 Worship
11:45 am, Youth at Balboa Park (p.4)
- Mon, Sept 23 October *Beach Breeze* Deadline
5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
- Wed, Sept 25 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
- Thurs, Sept 26 6:00 pm, Administrative Council meeting
7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
- Fri, Sept 27 7:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 5

- Sun, Sept 29 Worship—Fifth Sunday
Youth Activity TBA (p.4)
- Mon, Sept 30 6:00 pm, Al-Anon

We Love and Worship God

September Scriptures

Series: "Defiance: Challenging the Norm"

Sept 1, 2019

"Inside Out" Mark 11:12-14, 20-24; 13:28-31

Sept 8, 2019

"Priceless" Mark 14:1-11

Sept 15, 2019

"Bittersweet" Mark 14:13-21

Sept 22, 2019

"In Response" Mark 14:50-52; 16:1-8

Sept 29, 2019

Luke 10:25-37

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



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Meet Tech-Artist Jacob C.

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

I recently enjoyed getting to know Jacob C., one of our Tech-Artists. Jacob and his family have been attending PB UMC for about 8 years. Jacob told me, "We originally went to the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Hillcrest, but we looked for a local more general church. Eight years ago, we found PB UMC. It turned out to be just right for us. We loved the community. My sister and I totally enjoyed church camp, and our parents liked the services. And, still do."

Jacob is currently attending the University of Hartford in Connecticut. His major is Computer Engineering. "My degree will represent a marriage between hardware and software. I am also minoring in audio engineering. I'm working on that degree because I plan on doing Research & Development of an audio product. Being on the hardware/software engineering side makes me understand the engineering requirements of such a product."

As a member of our TechArt team, Jacob runs the sound electronics. He's been a member of this team the past 2 years, while on summer break from college. He told me, "It is not a difficult job, but takes a lot of attention, especially now that second service is different from the first service. Sometimes it seems easy: just push a button and listen to Bob. Plus, I am also happy to help out the church." When I asked him if there was anything else he'd like to share with us, he told me, "I love the experience I had as a Youth at PB UMC. I was going to the Sierra Service Project while in high school, which gave me insight into serving people with a culture and background different from ours. I also went to church camp, which was a special experience every year. I would be glad to participate now that I'm no longer a youth."

During the church service following the time Jacob and I spent together, Pastor Bob led the children's ministry in discussing super-heroes. He said, "Our techies are super-heroes as they do stuff others can't."

I hope you had as much fun getting to know Super-Hero Jacob as I did!

