



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

November 2019

We Need You to Envision Our Church: Online Assessment

by Hope A.

PB UMC's visioning event on September 21st generated some great information.

Now we take the next step. Our fabulous consultant Dr. Cedrick Bridgforth has used the input to shape a congregational assessment. Please take some time to participate in our assessment before November 10th. Our goal is to hear from every member of PB UMC and include everyone's opinions and perspectives in our plan and in our planning process. Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/PBUMCAssessment>.

In case it's not convenient for you to complete the online survey on your own, we will be holding an assessment party after each service on Sunday, November 3. If you do not have a laptop, tablet, or smart phone, we will have some available for you to use. If you have one of these devices, please bring it so you can provide input during the party or assist others to do so. The assessment form takes about 15-20 minutes to fill out. Light refreshments will be provided. Assistance can also be provided by phone.

After we receive all of the assessment data we will begin making some suggestions based on the data you provide. We will also ask the congregation to provide feedback on what we propose so that our entire congregation is fully engaged throughout this process. If you have questions, please talk to any member of the VUE team, or contact Hope A. or the church office.

Your VUE team
Pastor Bob Rhodes
Hope A.
Al H.
Malea S.
Vicki T.
Adam M.-L.



Pastor Bob's Printed Blog

Dear Friends . . .

As we enter the month of November, we are nearing the end of our liturgical year. We are also at an annual turning point because our annual Church Conference will be in just a few days. We are experiencing much transition in this time.

One potential transition—admittedly one in which we are still in limbo—is the transition of our denomination. What will become of The United Methodist Church? Will our denomination repent of the harm done through the hateful language and punitive practices set forth in our revised Book of Discipline? Will those called to inclusive ministry resist from within, or form a new denomination?

Bishop Grant Hagiya has asked congregations in our Annual Conference to envision what a “new church” might look like, and part of our ongoing visioning process is intended to address this request. As part of this process, many PB UMC leaders and members gathered on a Saturday morning with Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth to begin this dialogue, and out of this an online survey was formed for PB UMC members. *All* participants in our congregation are invited to participate using this link: <https://bit.ly/PBUMCAssessment>.

We continue to be in transition in our styles of Worship. Over the summer, we began a new worship format using primarily modern Christian music led by guitars and percussion and including intentional conversation time. This has been met with passionate response, with some strongly opposing the new format and others strongly in favor. Your Growing In Faith committee has wrestled faithfully with this feedback, and made adjustments including the return of The Voices of Praise to this newly-styled service.

Most recently, the Growing In Faith committee has elected to identify these services by name. The 9:00 am service that has been largely unchanged over the last several years is now called “Mid-Century Modern” because of its classic and timely worship design that harkens to the 1950s and 1960s, the timeframe that this worship style embodies. The newly formatted 10:30 am service is called “Connexion” because of its intentional times of conversation, using John Wesley’s old-English spelling as he wrote about the importance of our “connexion” with God and with one another.

In the midst of all of this, I believe another transition is

taking place. During much of this year, these pages from “Pastor Bob’s Printed Blog” have had an intentional focus on the reminder that this church belongs to the people who give themselves to this community. This church is led most faithfully and most effectively by the laity who respond to God’s call to servant leadership. It is both inaccurate and—in my opinion—spiritually dangerous to think of a church or congregation as belonging to the pastor. Yes, the pastor provides leadership and vision, and must do so *as a servant leader*. It is the representative lay leadership of this congregation that has the solemn task each year to communicate with the Annual Conference the congregation’s desire to keep their current pastor(s) or to request another. Why? Because the church belongs to the people.

In the month of October, lay members of this congregation have taken leadership in our worship gatherings to speak about the ways this congregation has touched members of this faith community and the community of Pacific Beach. As part of this conversation, our speakers have been realistic about the challenges we face as a congregation. Even facing difficult circumstances, we are reminded that this congregation is in the capable hands of our faithful lay leadership.

Finally, I wish to remind you that I, too, am in the midst of transition. In this difficult time of personal transition, our Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) and our District Superintendent have recommended that I take a period of personal leave. I will do so for the last three weeks of November, returning in time for our Advent season.

In this time of transition and questions, we may feel as though we are in the midst of chaos. Yet, it is in the midst of chaos that God’s voice speaks, that God’s voice brings order and calls forth light. As the Spirit moves among us and within us, may we hear God’s call and leap with joy into God’s light.



Pastor Bob



We Care for One Another

A Big Thank You



The Ver Steeg Family would like to thank you for the very warm reception remembering Gayle between services on the 29th of September. The family appreciated the many one-on-one conversations. Gayle's latest passion was making cards and sending them to family members and favorites. PB UMC was a big part of her life since 1966. She preceded Aimee as the administrative assistant. Dick wants to express thanks for the many cards and support that he continues to receive during this time of adjustment.

Second Sunday Brunch

Let's all gather for lunch on Sunday, November 10, at one of our favorite lunch spots. Broken Yolk is at 1851 Garnet Avenue. We'll meet there at about noon, or after second service. In addition to street parking, Broken Yolk has a parking lot you can enter from the alley between Hornblend and Garnet. After lunch many of us will return to PB UMC for the Second Sunday Concert by Seaside Quartet at 2:00 pm. This concert is not to be missed! To help us get a right-size table, please RSVP to Marcia M or Hope A.



Second Sunday Concert

Featuring "Seaside Quartet" Sunday, November 10, 2019 2:00 pm



Seaside quartet is a virtuoso ensemble comprised of pianist Brenda Martin, violinist Philip Tyler, violinist/violist Päivikki Nykter and cellist Cecilia Kim. They are friends on and off stage, which is apparent in their seamless and graceful ensemble playing. Their deep love and desire to play chamber music was the main reason to form this quartet and take time from their busy schedules to make beautiful music together. Their collaboration and exquisite musical taste have produced highly acclaimed performances in the San Diego area. Brenda and Phil serve as professors at the Point Loma University music department. Brenda is also one of the five staff pianists at PB UMC. Päivikki and Cecilia are sought-after freelance musicians in southern California. The one-hour

concert will feature works by Corelli, Mozart, Labenske and Turina. Don't miss this exciting afternoon of great music from world-class musicians.

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

November Youth Ministry Activities

Our Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), along with youth representatives, is continuing to search for our next Youth Ministry Coordinator. As this search continues, PB UMC youth are invited to join with the youth of La Jolla UMC on Sunday evenings. Contact Pastor Bob for more details.

Children's Choir



Children's Choir is underway with practice Sundays between services, from 10:00 am until 10:20.

Children's Choir will sing for the congregation both services on Sunday, December 8, so please mark your calendars! If you have any questions, please contact Jesse H. at jesseh@pbumc.org or Joseph P. at josephp@pbumc.org.

Sunday School Update:

Most of you have heard by now that as of November 3rd there will be Sunday School only for the younger children at the 9:00 am service. I have added to the activity bags we already had for children to take into worship with them at the 10:30 service.

This came about because we only have 8 teachers right now. That is enough teachers to cover one service. Recently, three people volunteered. Yea! We just need five more to cover the 10:30 am service. Teachers work in teams of two and teach once a month at one service. Curriculum is provided. All teachers must have a background check and take the Safe Gatherings online training.

Malea
maleas@pbumc.org



All Church Conference

by Adam M.-L.

Our congregation meets annually to make budgetary decisions, elect leaders, receive reports from various areas of the church, and more. This year's Church Conference is an especially important one as we will be considering a major change in the structure of several church committees.

We will receive a special report and recommendation from the subcommittee on Simple Board Governance. This group has been meeting to study and discern whether this governance style would be beneficial for our congregation to implement. The subcommittee made a recommendation to the Administrative Council, who voted unanimously to send this on to the November Church Conference. The proposal involves combining the three "business" committees of the church (Trustees, Finance, and Staff-Parish Relations) with the Administrative Council. Flattening and combining our committee structure in this way will mean fewer people will be needed to sit on various committees, and that decisions can be made more efficiently (less back and forth between committees). FAQs and diagrams will be available as part of the report packet. You can view these now at www.pbumc.org/sbg.

Our Church Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 5th at 6:00 pm. All professing members of PB UMC are eligible to vote. Please come to celebrate the good work of 2019 and make your voice heard as we plan for 2020 and beyond!

We Reach Out to Others

Project Grace Turkey Donations

Our Project Grace Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings will be held on November 20th this year. We need donations of approximately twenty (20) cooked turkeys to serve to our guests. We will also need people to help carve, serve the meal, cut pies, pour drinks, clean-up after the event, and just sit and talk with our guests. If you are willing to cook a turkey (or two) as a donation, please sign up on the list that will be in the church entry area before and after worship, starting Sunday, October 27th.

We ask that the cooked and sliced turkeys be delivered to the church on Sunday, November 17th, or Tuesday morning, November 20th. If you are willing to donate a turkey but cannot cook it, please deliver the turkeys no later than Sunday, November 10th, so there will be ample thawing time for any that are frozen.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to talk to Chef Ben or to contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity to our guests!

Christmas Food Baskets

by Pam R.

It's that time of year again to begin preparing for the Christmas Food Baskets which will be distributed by Community Christian Services Agency to about 200 low-income families. PB UMC will be donating for seven families, and more, depending on the amount of donations received. Each basket will contain non-perishable food items, plus a \$35.00 Target or Walmart gift card for perishable food items.

For a list of recommended groceries see www.ccsandiego.org. You may also donate gift cards to Pam R. or Hope A. or offer cash in the Sunday collection plate, with the words "Christmas Baskets" on the envelope. The deadline for collections is Sunday, Dec. 8; we will assemble the baskets after the second service. We thank you in advance for your help.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry has an official start date for training! Our first Stephen Ministry training will begin on Sunday, January 5, 2020, from 10:30 to 11:30 am. There is still time to discuss becoming a Stephen Minister and join this training. Please contact

Jesse H. at
jesseh@pbumc.org
for more
information.



Advent Kick-Off

Do you love crafting projects? Do you love Advent? We're searching for someone to organize our annual Advent Kickoff event. If you can help organize supplies and set up for fun Advent-themed crafting, please contact Pastor Bob or the church office.

Tentative plans call for events to begin for young people and adults on Sunday, December 1, 2019, at 4:00 pm. Along with creating special Advent crafts to take home and enjoy, we'll plan to have a potluck meal at 5:00 pm. Attendees will bring a favorite potluck dish: a side dish or a dessert. Some beverages will be provided. After dinner, there will be a brief program, then everyone will gather outside to light the courtyard tree.

Circle of Support

September 2019

	Budget	Actual
September giving	\$21,456	\$13,873
September other sources of income	\$18,145	\$21,784
September total available for ministry	\$39,601	\$35,657
September expended in ministry	\$34,291	\$29,988
September income minus expenses	\$5,310	\$5,669
YTD giving	\$193,103	\$161,636
YTD other sources of income	\$116,055	\$112,505
YTD total available for ministry	\$309,158	\$274,141
YTD expended in ministry	\$314,517	\$301,832
YTD income minus expenses	(\$5,359)	(\$27,691)
Year 2019 budget	\$415,890	

Sharing the Grace of God in Worship

Aug 25 – 131 persons
 Sept 1 – 80 persons (outdoor)
 Sept 8 – 102 persons
 Sept 15 – 110 persons
 Sept 22 – 121 persons
 Sept 29 – 115 persons
 Oct 6 – 97 persons
 Oct 13 – 128 persons
 Oct 20 – 113 persons

Avg. Weekly (2019) – 115 persons

Reflections From the Finance & Stewardship Team

We continue to hold expenses well below budget. The bookkeeper is almost finished catching up issues due to our switch to a newer version of Quickbooks. As a result, the numbers in our Record of Generosity table are still preliminary. This month's report includes accounting updates to previous months, so the last month's estimated Record of Generosity does not tie to the current table. September income includes two months' rental income, but our year to date income minus expenses is virtually unchanged from October's *Beach Breeze* report. Please continue to pray for the financial health of the church.

In October we received an additional \$32,000 from the Steve Frank estate, which will be used for Labor of Love if needed and otherwise to seed a property maintenance capital campaign fund. You won't see this donation in the Record of Generosity table, because it's not part of our annual operating income and expenses.

Joined at Christ's Table on Wednesday Nights

Aug 28 – 125 persons
 Sept 4 – 80 persons
 Sept 11 – 91 persons
 Sept 18 – 121 persons
 Sept 25 – 115 persons
 Oct 2 – 204 persons
 Oct 9 – 155 persons
 Oct 16 – 148 persons

November Communion Offering: Interfaith Shelter

The Interfaith Shelter Network (ISN) involves congregations of all denominations county-wide in a rotational shelter program. Many congregations host the program in their facilities, and the remainder serve in a valuable support role by providing volunteers for meals and overnight hosting, transportation, and donations. People are sheltered where there are no shelters, and receive the understanding and support of congregations. Congregations benefit by getting to know homeless individuals personally, and the mutual sharing of stories is beneficial to both.

Guests are screened by an area social service agency to assure there will be no active drug, alcohol, or mental health problems. Guests sent to the ISN's congregations must be willing to work closely with the referring social service agency to resolve the problems leading to their homelessness.

We will welcome our Interfaith Shelter guests to PB UMC March 24-April 4, 2020.

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:

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's Choir

Week 1

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



Week 2

Sun, Nov 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
Worship and Communion
Visioning Assessment Parties (p.1)
10:00 am, Children's Choir (p.4)
Mon, Nov 4 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Nov 5 6:00 pm, PB UMC Church Conference
(p.4)
Wed, Nov 6 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Nov 7 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Nov 8 7:30 pm, Narc Anon



Pastor Bob, Louis Perez, and Ron Jessee attended the Pride Parade awards celebration where our congregation won 3rd place in the faith-based contingent category!

Week 3

Sun, Nov 10 Worship
10:00 am, Children's Choir (p.4)
Noon, Second Sunday Brunch (p.3)
2:00 pm, Second Sunday Concert (p.3)
Mon, Nov 11 Veterans Day—Office Closed
5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Nov 12 6:00 pm, Staff - Parish meeting
6:30 pm, Trustee meeting
Wed, Nov 13 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Nov 14 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Nov 15 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Nov 16 9:00 am, Prayers & Squares Quilters

Week 4

Sun, Nov 17 Worship
10:00 am, Children's Choir (p.4)
Mon, Nov 18 December *Beach Breeze* Deadline
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
6:30 pm, Finance Committee
Wed, Nov 20 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
Thanksgiving Dinner (p.5)
Thurs, Nov 21 7:00 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Fri, Nov 22 7:30 pm, Narc Anon



Week 5

Sun, Nov 24 Worship
10:00 am, Children's Choir (p.4)
Mon, Nov 25 5:30 pm, Scripture & Sermon Study
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Nov 26 9:00 am, *Beach Breeze* Folding Party
Wed, Nov 27 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
5:30 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
Thurs, Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed
Fri, Nov 29 7:30 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Nov 30 10:00 am, Decorate the Sanctuary
for Advent

We Love and Worship God

November Scriptures

- Nov 3, 2019** Habakkuk 2:1-4, 2;
Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
- Nov 10, 2019** Haggai 1:15b-2:9;
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21;
2Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17;
Luke 20:27-38
- Nov 17, 2019** Isaiah 65:17-25;
Psalm 118; 2
Thessalonians 3:6-13;
Luke 21:5-19
- Nov 24, 2019** Jeremiah 23:1-6;
Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20;
Luke 23:33-43

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Meet the Writer's Writer: Marcia Mengel

by Guest Reporter David McC.

If ever there were such a position as a “Stealth Social Ambassador,” it would go to Marcia. Each month, in PB UMC’s *Beach Breeze*, she writes the “mini-bio” on various members of the church. Through her thoughtfully detailed “Barbara Walters” type interviews she is able to introduce to you different members.

For some reason I was under the misconception that Marcia’s favorite color is red. Her car is red. Her hair is red. And I recall seeing her wear something red around the Christmas holidays. So when I called to set up an interview, I suggested she wear something red. Her response, “Now David, why would I wear red? It’s Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM). Pink will be my color.” And Pink it was. Not only to show support of BCAM, but in celebration of 14 years Cancer Free!

Marcia’s nature can easily be described as unassuming, which is not very surprising for someone who carried one of the nation’s highest security clearances for many years. Upon graduation from college, she applied for and was accepted by the Department of Defense (DOD). Much, if not all, of the work she performed was of a highly classified nature. A good number of the projects assigned to her helped to protect our country. This, she found, was most rewarding.

Something I found interesting was that her father was a US Navy pilot in WW II. On his return from a mission he had engine trouble, and crash landed. Observing the crash from the tower, a female communication specialist standing next to the Air Traffic Controller was quick to call an ambulance. Fortunately, due to the quick actions of the specialist, the pilot survived and was sent to the nearby hospital to recover. A few days later the communication specialist visited the pilot; and here lies a story book ending. The two fell in love and got married. Marcia was their first child.

Marcia often times is a Greeter. She also is the secretary on the Finance Committee. In addition, she keeps track of members who are absent from church for several weeks, and sends out an e-mail to make sure they are okay.

