



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

January 2021

## *Adjourned Church Conference*

On Tuesday, January 12, 2021, there will be an Adjourned Church Conference (special session) to elect PB UMC officers and adopt the 2021 budget. The meeting will take place via Zoom at 6:30 pm during our regular Church Council meeting. Please contact the church office and/or Pastor Lori if you'd like to attend.

## Small Group: Sermon on the Mount Video Group

by Adam M.-L.

There is still time to sign up for our first small group series of 2021. Using video content from Cokesbury by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, we will be taking a practical look at the Sermon on the Mount, and what Jesus' teachings mean for us today. The group will be discussing videos, so there will be no materials to buy. Meetings will be held each Monday at 6:30 pm for six weeks (January 4<sup>th</sup> through February 8<sup>th</sup>).

For questions or to sign up, please email [AdamM@pbumc.org](mailto:AdamM@pbumc.org)



## ***A Message From Pastor Lori***

Dear Friends,

You will be receiving this issue of the *Beach Breeze* right around Christmas Day. I hope that your Christmas Season is full of the people and things that bring you comfort, peace, and joy. I pray that the blessings of Emmanuel—God with us—bring light to your hearts and souls and spirits. We are rapidly approaching 2021, and I think most of us will bid a happy and hearty “don’t let the door hit you on the way out” kind of farewell to this year that brought us way more than we thought we could handle. As I do my own personal “year in review,” I can also say that there have been some highlights and bright spots that I would never trade. One of those bright spots is joining this faith community at Pacific Beach United Methodist Church. It is a blessing to be here, in community and ministry, with kind, compassionate, talented, and faithful folks. Thank you for welcoming me into this delightful family.

I gave up making New Year’s resolutions many years ago because I never ever (ever) kept them. My resolve lasted a week or two at best; after that, I just forgot about it. A few years ago I decided to do something slightly different. Rather than making a resolution, I decided to take stock of the past year and then “set an intention” for the upcoming year. It wasn’t a resolution. It was more like a focus or theme for the coming year. My first “annual intention” had to do with authenticity. Last year my intention had to do with kindness...to others as well as to

myself. And for this coming year, I believe that my intention will be around trust...trust in my personal relationships, and in my life with God.

What is it your heart or spirit or life crave in the coming year? Is it something you can invite or lean into? If it feels like a meaningful thing to do, I encourage you to identify an intention that might guide and sustain you in and through 2021. If you do, I hope you’ll share it with me and/or with others somewhere along the way! May we companion and support each other as we welcome a new year that most certainly will bring its own share of joys and struggles. May we companion and support each other as we, individually and as a community of faith, seek to share the love of God and reflect the light of Christ in our lives and in our world. I believe it’s going to be a wonderful new year!

In Peace,  
Pastor Lori



## ***Pastor's Vacation***

Pastor Lori will be on vacation from Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. Please reach out to Adam Marshall-Lopez for emergent pastoral care needs during that time.

# ***We Care for One Another***

## ***January Youth Ministry***

by Erich Grimm-Schmitt

January: Typically, a month where we think December (Christmas) ends, and we celebrate a new calendar year, though for us, the Season of Christmas, or Christmastide, celebrates the travel of the Magi, extending until Epiphany day, which is January 6<sup>th</sup>. Ordinary time, the time after Epiphany, counts the Sundays after Epiphany until Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent). In this time, we remember and celebrate the start of Jesus' ministry as he begins his journey in making disciples.

Friends, we are all given this amazing opportunity to be followers of Jesus. What does it mean to be a student of Jesus? How are we being examples of this message? During this season of Ordinary Time, let us remember the fruits of the spirit and go out and be disciples.

### Upcoming Activities

Children & Family, @ 10:30am

Jan 3, 2021, Sunday School

Jan 17, 2021, Sunday School

Youth, @ 4:00pm

Jan 10, 2021, Youth Group

Jan 24, 2021, Youth Group

All, @ 4:00pm

Jan 31, 2021, Engage with Erich

"Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in the city square, during work, on a journey."—Pope Francis

## ***Pastoral Intern Update***

by Adam M.-L.

Greetings, beloved members of Pacific Beach United Methodist Church!

I have enjoyed having pastoral conversations with so many of you, and look forward to many more!

For Pastor Lori's upcoming staycation, I will fill in for any pastoral care needs.

My Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) cohort has been quite unexpected. Many of us come from different backgrounds and ministry contexts, so it is interesting to see how others are handling the needs of their congregations within the pandemic.

If you find you need someone "just to listen," please don't hesitate to reach out to me! I am sending you all positive thoughts and love as we look forward to 2021.

The *Beach Breeze* is a monthly publication of the Pacific Beach United Methodist Church. Please visit our website at [www.myPBchurch.org](http://www.myPBchurch.org).



# ***We Grow in Grace & Faith***

## ***Reasons to Celebrate!***

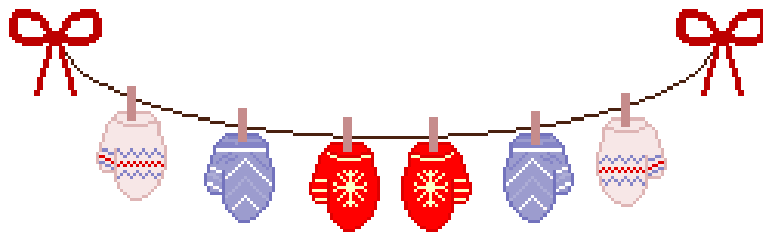
by Beth R.

Project Grace is feeling the love and support of our PB UMC family. Recently when our 20 plus year backer, Trader Joe's, informed us that they could no longer support Project Grace with donations of produce and meat, we reached out to our PB UMC family for support. The Project Grace budget does not support supplying these expensive items, and our freezer was emptying quickly. According to Hope and Dick's last report as of November 30<sup>th</sup>, you have generously given \$3987.58! Thank you to everyone who donated and all those who continually uphold us with prayer and encouragement! We are feeling the love!

In addition to this wonderful news, La Jolla UMC has joined Project Grace as a full sponsor the first week of every month! A group of four volunteers joined us Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:00 am. Under the watchful guidance of Chef Ben, this small group did all of the cooking and preparation of the meal for that evening. Chef Ben even commented this group is so enthusiastic he will have them make chicken enchiladas in January! They have recently committed \$200 a month to pay for the food and supplies, and hope to contribute more.

We are so grateful for the love and support of our PB UMC family and to have our family of supporters growing with the addition of the LJ UMC congregation. Thank you. Keep praying for Project Grace and all of the vulnerable individuals we help each week. Continue to think of us in your giving, so that we can continue this meaningful work without worry or distraction.

With grateful hearts,  
The Project Grace Team



## ***Cold Weather Wish List***

by Hope A.

Project Grace and Shoreline Community Services have teamed up to identify cold weather items needed by our homeless friends. The articles include warm socks, hoodies, blankets, rain ponchos, beanies, and warm gloves. Items will be distributed at PB UMC Wednesday night meals, and at other local churches serving the same population. If you would like to donate, look at Shoreline's more complete Amazon Wish List to see the specific items that are most useful. (Use this URL or scan this QR code.)

([https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KCURVCPRF6VM?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KCURVCPRF6VM?ref=wl_share))



# ***We Reach Out to Others***

## ***Church Council News***

### ***Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)***

by Patty R.

The SPRC is sorry to say farewell to Vicki T. who has served so faithfully on our committee for many years. On the other hand, we are grateful to Ray McC. for joining our committee. Last year, when we needed assistance providing the post-service refreshments, Ray stepped right up and offered his help. Happily, providing refreshments is not his only talent, and we look forward to his enthusiasm and wisdom.

The SPRC committee has been working on the salary package for our staff for the upcoming year. Trying to anticipate where the pandemic will lead us has been quite the challenge!

### ***Finance***

by Hope A.

Las Patronas granted us \$12,004 to replace kitchen equipment used to prepare Project Grace Wednesday night meals. We will order a new freezer, range, microwave, and deep fryer as soon as our vendor is able to update their supplier's prices. We also expect to have submitted our application to the SBA for PPP loan forgiveness by the time you read this newsletter. This will add up to \$21,400 to our recorded revenue for 2020.

Church Council plans to finalize the 2021 budget at our January 12 meeting. That means it's still not too late to submit or revise your estimate of giving (online at pbumc.org or by email to Linda A).

We were able to give well-deserved bonuses to our technical team. Joe P. and Mark B. have worked long hours above their contracted levels to keep us up and running with online worship, group meetings, and work from home.

## ***Support During Time of Grief***

This is a time when many of us are living with grief.

Some of us have been through the recent loss of a loved one. Others of us are grieving losses from the past. Many of us are grieving losses related to a job, a living situation, a home, a hobby, the sense of safety and stability. There are so many things that have been compromised in these last months.

*PB UMC is offering a grief group via Zoom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.* Anyone is welcome to drop in to listen, and to give or receive support. We'll start with a simple reflection, have time for sharing, and close with prayer. Pastor Lori, along with one of our Stephen Ministers, will host this time. Please get in touch with the church office to get the link to join us this month or any month!

# Circle of Support

## November 2020 Record of Generosity

Excluding extraordinary items*	Budget	
November giving	\$18,800	\$16,949
November other sources of income	\$8,611	\$14,669
November total available for ministry	\$27,411	\$31,617
November expended in ministry	\$31,926	\$30,811
November income minus expenses	(\$4,515)	\$807
YTD giving	\$206,800	\$174,615
YTD other sources of income	\$125,105	\$146,570
YTD total available for ministry	\$331,905	\$321,185
YTD expended in ministry	\$354,192	\$337,917
YTD income minus expenses	(\$22,287)	(\$16,732)
Year 2020 budget	\$386,129	

\* Fire and fraud in 2019, covered by insurance.

### Reflections From the Finance Team

Income and expenses continue to be well below budget. With help from expected Payroll Protection Program loan forgiveness—not yet booked to the accounting system—we hope to end the year with a positive net income. Thank you for your continued generosity.

## Got Keys?

by Ivey Merrill, Office Administrator

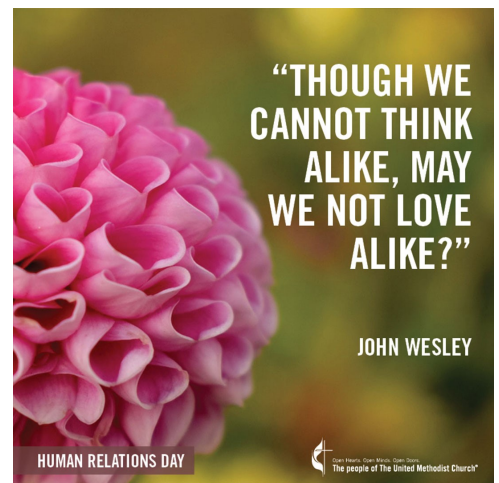
If you have a set of keys for PB UMC locks, please email the church office with what keys you have, and the corresponding "ReturnMe" code on the keychain.

If you have a set of keys from PB UMC and don't need them anymore, please turn them in! This will help us keep our key log up to date. Thank you!

## January Communion Offering Human Relations Day

Human Relations Day calls United Methodists to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with one another. Our January communion offering will benefit Human Relations Day, one of six United Methodist Church special Sundays.

Proceeds from this special offering are allocated to outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice, and work with at-risk youth.



### CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor: The Rev Lori Leopold  
Sojourning Pastor: The Rev Christopher Carter, PhD  
Office Administrator: Ivey Merrill

Music Director: Ron Jessee  
Sunday School Coordinator: Malea Sandstrom  
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Erich Schmitt



# Calendar of Events

Worship Times  
9:00 am, Worship Celebration Via Livestream



Tree Lighting and  
Caroling in  
Our Courtyard.  
November 29, 2020

Photo by Craig R.

## Week 1

Fri, Jan 1 New Year's Day

## Week 2

Sun, Jan 3 9:00 am, Worship and Communion  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
10:30 am Children and Family  
Sunday School (p.3)  
Mon, Jan 4 6:30 pm, Sermon on the Mount Study (p.1)  
Wed, Jan 6 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan 7 7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

## Week 3

Sun, Jan 10 9:00 am, Worship  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
4:00 pm, Youth Group (p.3)  
Mon, Jan 11 6:30 pm, Sermon on the Mount Study (p.1)  
Tues, Jan 12 6:30 pm, Church Council Meeting and  
Adjourned Church Conference (p.1)  
Wed, Jan 13 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan 14 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

## Week 4

Sun, Jan 17 9:00 am, Worship  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
10:30 am Children and Family  
Sunday School (p.3)  
Mon, Jan 18 Martin Luther King, Jr., Day  
February *Beach Breeze* Deadline  
6:30 pm, Sermon on the Mount Study (p.1)  
Tues, Jan 19 6:30 pm, Grief Group (p.5)  
Wed, Jan 20 Inauguration Day  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan 21 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

## Week 5

Sun, Jan 24 9:00 am, Livestream Worship  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
4:00 pm, Youth Group (p.3)  
Mon, Jan 25 February *Beach Breeze* Posted Online  
6:30 pm, Sermon on the Mount Study (p.1)  
Wed, Jan 27 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries  
Thurs, Jan 28 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat



## Week 6

Sun, Jan 31 9:00 am, Worship  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
4:00 pm, Engage With Erich (p.3)

# ***We Love and Worship God***

## ***January Scriptures***

- Jan 3, 2021**      Worship and  
Holy Communion  
“What Will You Receive?”  
Matthew 2:1-12
- Jan 10, 2021**    “The Promise of Baptism”  
Erich Grimm-Schmitt preaching  
Mark 1:4-11
- Jan 17, 2021**    “Come and See”  
John 1:43-51
- Jan 24, 2021**    “Follow Me”  
Mark 1:14-20
- Jan 31, 2021**    “Trusted Authority”  
Mark 1:21-28

### **Pacific Beach United Methodist Church**



1561 Thomas Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92109

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
\* PAID \*  
San Diego, CA  
Permit No. 174

From Dart R.

Hello and Happy New Year to You and Yours!

I would guess that most of us are happy to close out 2020 and are looking forward to 2021, anticipating next year to be better in many ways. We realize that the past year has been a most difficult time. I am hoping that the blessings of 2021 help to make up for the stresses of 2020! If you are in need of support, a caring friend, a listening ear, or a helpful hand, please keep in mind that the Stephen Ministers are available. To be matched with a trained Stephen Ministry Care Provider, please contact Jesse H. or Dart R.

We are keeping our church family close to our hearts even while we are keeping a safe distance, and looking forward to being together again when it is in our best interests to do so.

Happy New Year, and may God richly bless you.

