



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

April 2021

Get an Early Start on April with the March 31, 2021 South District Listening Circle

Local church laity and clergy are invited to attend a Cal-Pac Laity Council listening council event. Join Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, Mrs. Erin Hawkins-Smith, and our District Superintendent to celebrate the joys and success of the lay ministries.

Conversation starters include:

- * Amid racism, COVID 19, natural disasters, homelessness, aging and economic inequality, what are the laity ministries celebrating in your local church?
- * Please share the challenges that the laity ministries are facing during this difficult time.
- * How can the Laity Council and the Conference support the laity ministries in your local church?

Join the conversation:

Time: Mar 31, 2021, 6:30 pm

Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96060710720?pwd=VldTSk5BTVP3VDhYc2FZalE3S3IHUT09>

Meeting ID: 960 6071 0720

Passcode: 980783.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service

It is traditional on Maundy Thursday to offer a service of Communion and Foot Washing as we remember Jesus sitting down with the disciples, breaking the bread, sharing the cup, and then kneeling down to wash their feet. Jesus gave them a new commandment to “love one another,” modeling for them a love that serves with gentleness and humility. Not able to literally wash one another’s feet this year, we have chosen to be in service to others by assembling hygiene kits for our unhoused neighbors in need this Holy Week. Thank you to all who created kits for Project Grace or who donated these much needed items. And while we can’t gather under the same roof *yet*, we will mark this Maundy Thursday by gathering for a simple Communion Service on Thursday, April 1st, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Bring your own Communion elements, and join us as we remember Jesus’ love for us, and as we remember his “new commandment” to love one another.

A Zoom link will be sent out on April 1.

Please contact the church office or Pastor Lori for more information.



**MAUNDY
THURSDAY**

A Message From Pastor Lori

Dear Friends,

When you receive this, we will be in the midst of Holy Week. After the preparatory season of Lent, Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and concludes with the celebration of Easter. Maundy Thursday is the day we commemorate Jesus' Last Supper with the disciples, and his act of love and humility in washing their feet. Jesus gave them a "new commandment" or "new mandate" to "love one another as I have loved you." On Good Friday, we move liturgically to a place that feels hopeless and despairing as we bear the memory of the crucifixion, mindful of what hate, fear, and violence can do in reaction to perfect love. And yet we call Good Friday "good" because we know it is not the end of the story. God's LOVE overcomes our human sin and Brokenness, and we celebrate the risen Christ on Easter morning.

The message of Easter is one of resiliency, hope, life, light, love, and promise. It reminds us that God's love and grace have overcome, and continue to overcome, any force that seeks to harm or diminish. Death is not the end of the story. It becomes the threshold for God's work of resurrection. And while Easter is always about GOOD NEWS, there is something about this year that makes it feel especially good! As we begin to move out of this long pandemic, our bodies and hearts and souls yearn for light, hope, promise...new life!

One sign of "new life" dawning is the fact that we can safely gather a small group for an Easter Sunrise Service. We will be joining again with the Water's Edge Community to offer a simplified but *in-person* Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 4, at 6:00 am at Crown Point Park.

Those who would like to attend are asked to pre-register. The group will be limited to 50 people. A Zoom option will be available for those who would like to be there, but are not inclined to travel to the bay in the wee small hours of the morning! We will then "gather" online for a beautiful Easter celebration at 9:00 am.

Following this first outdoor, in-person service on Easter, we will offer an outdoor service in the church courtyard 1-2 times a month on a Sunday afternoon. We are submitting our plan to the District Office of the United Methodist church regarding return to indoor, in-person worship. It is likely that our first indoor gatherings will take place in the Fellowship Hall, as we anticipate the Labor of Love sanctuary renovations will finally be underway in the spring and early summer months. All of this is good news! As we witness the bloom of natural life this spring, as we celebrate each newly vaccinated person, as we participate in these small steps of returning toward normalcy, I pray that our spirits will be healed and mended, strengthened, and lifted. Easter reminds us that there is light at the end of the tunnel. How thankful I am to celebrate this day of light and love and hope with you!

In Peace,

Pastor Lori



We Care for One Another

April Youth Ministry

by Erich Grimm-Schmitt

We made it! He is risen. He is risen, indeed! Our Lenten Seed Project comes to a close as our patience and care made it possible for our plants to grow from teeny-tiny little seeds into the plants they are now. Think of Jesus, who foretold his death through the allegory of a wheat seed in the book of John, to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is an important reflection of life, death, and everything in between being experienced, as we took on this daily challenge of the Lenten Seed Project. Like Jesus, who gives us life through love and sacrifice, plants must also sacrifice some life in order to continue living. This little sacrifice allows us to collect seeds, bury the seeds in soil, add some time, energy, and a little bit of love, then eventually get a plant resurrecting itself from the soil into a whole other plant. It is this delicate balance of the life cycle that we must cherish and continue to live into Jesus by bearing good fruit (or good seeds) by simply being love, and sharing love. Because all there is, is love.

Your young leaders voiced their opinions, and we are listening! The month of May will bring two additional Sunday School sessions. This addition will make Sunday School a weekly event. The 1st and 3rd Sundays will follow the typical format, led by scripture. In the 2nd and 4th Sundays, we will introduce a more enrichment/relational-based Sunday School.

Earth Day is April 22nd. In celebration of Earth Day, I am challenging our church, as well as other UMC District churches, in a recycling event. It is hard to fully know how much waste we collect daily, since it goes out of our house, into our recycling bins, and is collected by our city workers. From Earth Day to Pentecost (May 23), I will be collecting your recyclables (plastics and soda cans), and keeping track of the weight of waste PB UMC has. All recycling will be taken to the recycling centers, and the proceeds will go to the Youth Fund. Each week, I will also provide friendly ways to become more eco-friendly and Earth-Care minded. More details to come. . .

Upcoming Activities

Children & Family @ 10:30 am
Apr 18, 2021—Sunday School

Youth @ 4:00 pm
Apr 11, 2021—Youth Group
Apr 25, 2021—Youth Group

All Church
April 22, 2021—Earth Day Event



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

Hikes and Walks with PB UMC

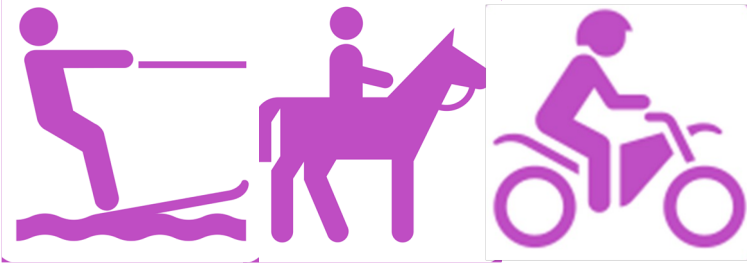
by Terre F.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is planning fun things members of our congregation can do to strengthen relationships with each other in a socially responsible way.

Recently Pastor Lori and I enjoyed a lovely walk along the Batiquitos Lagoon Trail, just east of I-5, in Carlsbad. On a bright sunny day, we walked, talked, and enjoyed the birds. The trail itself starts near the freeway and meanders east about a mile and half. We got to the end, turned around and returned nearly the same way we had walked in. One of my friends introduced me to the trail about six months ago, and this day I was introducing Pastor Lori to it. She was surprised that, having lived in the area for most of her life, she knew nothing about it.



Do *you* know of any San Diego places where you would like to meet others in small groups and share outdoor walks or hikes? Ray M. would like to join up with others at the Carlsbad Flower Fields in the current flower season. I would love to share Batiquitos Lagoon Trail with others, and I would also love someone to show me the beauty of the sunset at Windansea Beach (hint, hint, smile).



If you're interested in either sharing your favorite hike or walk, or joining someone else's favorite hike, e-mail me at TerreF@pbumc.org.

Happy sojourning!

Shoreline Outreach Van Receives Las Patronas Funding

by Hope A.

Las Patronas, who funded our new church kitchen appliances, just granted Shoreline Community Services \$18,081 to purchase an Outreach Transit Van.

We are so grateful for both of these community partners. Las Patronas exclusively funds capital items for organizations located in San Diego County. Shoreline teams with six local churches, including PB UMC, and other donors to provide meals and services to our most vulnerable neighbors. One of Shoreline's goals is to be able to sponsor one meal per month at each church.



We Reach Out to Others

Church Council News

Finance

by Hope A.

A \$250,000 3-month CD at San Diego County Credit Union has matured. The funds are now in a regular share (savings) account waiting to be put to use for the Labor of Love (LOL) sanctuary renovation. Other LOL funds are on deposit at Mission Federal Credit Union and US Bank. We are still awaiting final instructions from US Bank to complete the forgiveness application for the Paycheck Protection Program loan received in 2020.

Trustees

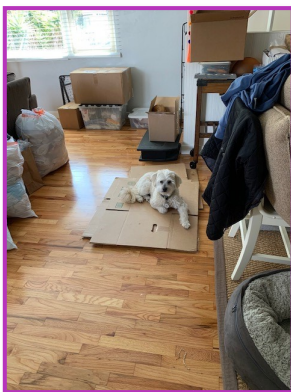
by David McC.

As some of the older members (in terms of time, not necessarily age) know, the Reed Avenue property, which sits behind the church and had been rented over the years, was once the parsonage for PB UMC. At one time, it also housed some of PB's homeless.

Unfortunately, the house was involved in a fire last year, causing a considerable amount of damage. Happily, the family that was renting there was alerted and got out without any personal harm. Today, the house, completely renovated, is the new home of PB UMC's Pastor Lori. Therefore, it is once again the church parsonage.

The house consists of 3 bedroom-2 baths and a nice fenced-in back yard—perfect for Sammy and Abby, the pastor's 2 dogs. The best part of the move: Pastor Lori's commute from her home in Oceanside to PB took about an hour. When asked if doing away with the lengthy commute was the deciding factor in the move, she commented that it was, along with the in-house automatic ice maker. Our pastor is settling in, enjoying the walk to church!

Sometimes it's the little things in life that make a big difference. Speaking of which, batteries are small. Please remember to replace the batteries in your smoke/fire detectors each year. It was the smoke alarm on the Reed Avenue property that kept the family safe.



Sammy



Abby

In other Trustee news, UCSD, in consultation with the Church Council, has restarted seeing a limited number of the most in-need medical and dental patients. They are taking all COVID precautions, and are grateful to be able to provide hands on care to some members of our community who have gone without necessary care during the pandemic.

The church parking lot is looking spruced up with repainting of lines.

Circle of Support

February 2021—Preliminary Record of Generosity

<i>Excluding extraordinary items*</i>	Budget	Actual
February giving	\$17,730	\$14,249
February other sources of income	\$14,568	\$10,295
February total available for ministry	\$30,689	\$24,544
February expended in ministry	\$31,360	\$28,854
February income minus expenses	(\$671)	(\$4,309)
YTD giving	\$35,460	\$29,896
YTD other sources of income	\$29,703	\$26,606
YTD total available for ministry	\$65,163	\$56,502
YTD expended in ministry	\$62,720	\$48,767
YTD income minus expenses	\$2,443	\$7,735
Year 2021 budget	\$380,390	

* Fire and fraud in 2019, covered by insurance.

Reflections From the Finance Team

Expenses are again understated this month. The conference is late in billing us for apportionments, insurance, and pastor's benefits. We'll catch up in a month or two. Terre F. has input the 2021 budget into Quickbooks. (Thank you, Terre!) This is the net-zero budget approved by Church Council in February. It differs slightly from the version we used in last month's Record of Generosity.

Thank you to all from PB UMC and other local congregations who donated to the virtual baby shower sponsored by Shoreline Community Services. Thanks to your generosity, a family is well prepared for the birth of their baby as they move toward secure housing!



April Communion Offering Stephens Ministers

by Dart R.

Stephens Ministers are called. And Trained. And Supported. Not born.

Our team of Stephens Ministers have all completed the basic training and are available to provide care to anyone who asks for it.

The April Communion Sunday special offering will be used to support our Stephen Ministers. Part of the offering will go to advanced leadership training. I ask you to seek God's guidance, and consider giving as you are able to further the mission of our Stephens Ministers.

If you or someone you know would like to talk to a Stephens Minister, ask for prayer support, or receive phone/Zoom visits (until we can meet again in person), please contact Jesse H. or the church office. All services provided by Stephens Ministers are free and confidential. God bless you and yours.

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 Grimm-Schmitt

Calendar of Events

Worship Times
9:00 am, Worship Celebration Via Livestream

Week 1

Thurs, Apr 1 7:00 pm, Maundy Thursday
Communion Service via Zoom (p.1)
Fri, Apr 2 Good Friday



Week 2

Sun, Apr 4 Easter Sunday
6:00 am, Easter Sunrise Service (p.2)
9:00 am, Easter Worship and Communion
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour
Wed, Apr 7 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
Online
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Apr 8 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

Week 3

Sun, Apr 11 9:00 am, Livestream Worship
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour
4:00 pm, Youth Group (p.3)
Mon, Apr 12 6:30 pm, Small Group
How to Fight Racism
Wed, Apr 14 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
Online
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Apr 15 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

Week 4

Sun, Apr 18 9:00 am, Livestream Worship
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour
10:30 am Children and Family
Sunday School (p.3)
Mon, Apr 19 May Beach Breeze Deadline
6:30 pm, Small Group
How to Fight Racism
Tues, Apr 20 6:30 pm, Church Council Meeting
Wed, Apr 21 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
Online
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Apr 22 All Church Earth Day Event (p.3)
1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

Week 5

Sun, Apr 25 9:00 am, Livestream Worship
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour
4:00 pm, Youth Group (p.3)
Mon, Apr 26 May Beach Breeze Posted Online
6:30 pm, Small Group
How to Fight Racism
Wed, Apr 28 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
Online
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
Thurs, Apr 29 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

We Love and Worship God

April Scriptures

- Apr 4, 2021** **Easter**
Worship and
Holy Communion
“The Empty Tomb”
John 20:1-18
- Apr 11, 2021** “Service provided by Cal-Pac
Annual Conference
- Apr 18, 2021** “The Peace of Christ”
Luke 24:36b-48
- Apr 25, 2021** “Known”
Psalm 23
John 10:11-18

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

Meet Active Church Member Louis P.

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

Recently, I got to talk to Louis P., who is in our choir, and is very involved in many other church activities. He told me, “I have been attending for 25 years. I met Choir Director Ron Jessee, and came to the church the next week on Easter Sunday. I never left. This is one of the friendliest, if not the friendliest, churches I’ve attended. The people here are warm and welcoming. That’s just one thing that makes it special. Others are feeding of the homeless, and all we do for people in need.”

I told him I know he has done a lot for PB UMC, and even more since the pandemic. We are so lucky to have someone who cares so much about our church. “You say the church is lucky, I say I am lucky to have found this church. I do miss doing the flowers, which brings so many people joy. After Sunday services, the arrangements are made into small bouquets for our sick, and for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. I also love decorating the sanctuary, and miss that the most. I enjoy making it a place of comfort when people come in and let go of the outside troubles. I still get to sing, but it is not the same without the choir. The choir is a close group, and I miss that. Ron still meets with choir members on Zoom on Thursday at 7:00 pm (or normal choir time) so we can still have that focus till we get back together. The pride float building is a fun part of getting the church name out there, and letting people know that we are a church that practices what we preach, and that our doors are open to everyone. I am waiting for the day we are all back, and things get back to some kind of normal.”

I asked Louis what he does for a living. “My 9-to-5 job is an accountant. It keeps me very busy. Now in the pandemic, things have gone crazy. I am working from home, doing the best I can to keep my head above water.”

I asked if there was anything else he’d like to share with us. He replied, “Just that I love PB UMC, the people, and everything about it, and look forward to many more years with you all, God willing.”

