



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

May 2021



by Craig R.  
Co-Chair, Shoreline Community Services

Since concluding my term as chair of the church finance committee at the end of 2019, I've been serving as co-chair of Shoreline Community Services ([www.shorelinecs.org](http://www.shorelinecs.org)). This non-profit started by PB UMC members has grown beyond our church to become a coordinator and solution provider to the central beach community on behalf of its most vulnerable residents. (And a shout out to my fellow Shoreline board members, PB UMC members Hope A., Beth R., and Alan S.)

Since I know our church family is all about solutions and action, I'd like to inform you of several ways you can volunteer with Shoreline:

- Meal Services—Prepare food and “to-go” meals for distribution to unhoused neighbors.
- Showers/Laundry—Greet unhoused neighbors who come for hot showers and laundry on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, sanitizing showers after use.
- Gleaners at Farmer's Market—Pick up unsold produce from vendors on Tuesday evenings; clean, prep, and store produce.
- Outreach Workers—Go out into the community with a team to offer resources to unhoused neighbors on the street (training offered/required).
- **Special Need**—Newly housed, pregnant mom on bed rest needs help with driving/running errands during the week; she lives in City Heights.
- Paperwork Assistance (EDD, EBT, IDs, SS, Birth Certificate...)—Give one on one assistance online, by appointment.
- Website/IT—Provide tech assistance, as needed.
- Social Media/PR Intern—Collaborate, create, and keep up with social media site postings.
- Grant Writing—Work with a team to achieve fundraising goals.
- Donating! —Make financial or in-kind donations through the Amazon Wishlist, [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K03FN61XTMUY?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K03FN61XTMUY?ref=wl_share)

We welcome any one of you to get involved in Shoreline and help us make the Central Beach Area a more humane, welcoming part of San Diego. The Shoreline web site has much more information about our efforts and needs (including tax-deductible donations!).

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

Dear Friends,

What a difference a few months makes! Spring has sprung, Easter has come, the weather is warming up, and more and more people are being vaccinated to protect themselves and others from COVID-19. We have been hunkered down for a long, long time, and this season of enforced hibernation appears to be moving toward an end. New life is emerging. Resurrection spirit is in the air! Some of us have already begun getting out and about for small ventures to our favorite people and places, and others of us have gotten back to more substantial travel, making up for deferred trips and lost time! I'm glad to hear of folks getting back to some of the normal activities of life and enjoying a few of the many things that were necessarily put on hold for over a year. I encourage you to take a little time for whatever is healing and restorative for you! We all deserve a little bit of time to take a deep breath and to connect or reconnect with people and places that are important in our lives.

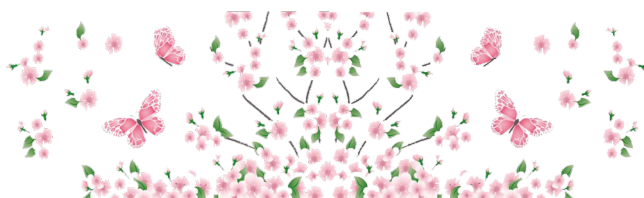
Not only are we moving about more as individuals and families, but PB UMC is stirring with the new and renewed sense of life that these days bring as well. I know that you are aware that the state of California has lifted all restrictions related to faith communities gathering for worship. While there are some communities that have chosen to go back to things as they were, with no special precautions, we are choosing a more moderate path that we believe honors our deep desire to be together again, AND that is careful- and caring-related to protecting one another and our community from COVID-19. Hopefully, there will be a day when we can say that this pandemic is entirely behind us. We are not quite there yet. But things have changed *enough* that we can begin to take steps toward in-person worship, study, and fellowship opportunities for those who feel ready.

All of our ducks are in a row in order to proceed with our Labor of Love renovation project in the sanctuary. We just received approval from the City for all the plans and revisions. Materials have been ordered, and we anticipate beginning construction

by June. While our worship space is being upgraded and beautified, we will use other indoor and outdoor space to find ways to be together. Beginning Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will offer a "Worship Watch Party" in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings, giving those who would like to gather in person an opportunity to view the service together. By mid-May, we plan to introduce a few "live" elements to that gathering, beginning with the sermon. Masks will be required, and we'll ask folks to maintain safe space between friend and/or family groups. We will not require pre-registration to attend, but we will provide overflow space and an audio feed in the courtyard if we reach a capacity where we can no longer safely distance inside. Of course we'll continue to have the option to watch the pre-recorded service from the comfort of home as well!

In addition to the Worship Watch Party, we'll offer a 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month "Communion in the Courtyard" Service, beginning May 16<sup>th</sup>. See page 4 for more details! This is a time for patience and caution, but also hopeful optimism as we take steps toward being with one another in person again. As members of the body of Christ, we need one another. While we have been profoundly "with" one another in many ways throughout this pandemic, it has been hard to be physically apart. It will be good to put eyes on each other...to see and be seen in person! Let us pray for those who continue to suffer in the midst of this pandemic, with illness or grief, and let us pray for healing and recovery in our community and throughout the world.

In Peace,  
Pastor Lori



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

## ***May Youth Ministry***

by Erich Grimm-Schmitt

We continue in the month of May being caretakers of the earth as we do our part in the 2021 Earth Day Event. Save your soda cans and plastic bottles, and bring them to PB UMC to help raise funds for our youth.



Speaking of caretakers, Mother's Day is also this month. Let us show love to all mothers and all parent figures who fill that role in each of our lives.

Beloved, Friendship, Witness, and Filled, are the words for each of our Sundays in May. We are all beloved persons, we all have friendship, we all are witnesses, but how do all these words fill our faith? How does Jesus embody each of these words? Let's learn together as we continue to be engaged with the Children's Moments.

Sunday School will be offered each Sunday in May, excluding Mother's Day of course. On May 23, St. Mark's UMC invites PB UMC to join in on their special Sunday School day. This is a unique event, with a member of St. Mark's leading us in COOKING!

Senior High Camp is a go! Make sure you register before space runs out. Scholarships are available. All youth deserve to go to camp, so if you have an interested high school young person, sign them up and we'll get them there. Go to the Summer Camp page [www.campcedarglen.org](http://www.campcedarglen.org) to register.

### Upcoming Activities

Children & Family, @ 10:30am

May 2, 2021, Sunday School

May 16, 2021, Sunday School

May 30, 2021, Sunday School

May 23, 2021, @ 11:00am

Sunday School with St. Mark's UMC: Cooking with Sandy

Youth, @ 4:00pm

May 23, 2021, Youth Group

All Church

May 23, 2021, Earth Day Event Ends

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***

## ***Courtyard Communion Services***



As the weather warms up and COVID rates decline, we are moving forward with a variety of creative options for in-person togetherness! In addition to our Worship Watch Party each Sunday morning, we'll be offering a Courtyard Communion Service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, beginning on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 in the afternoon. No advance reservations will be required. We will ask folks to continue to wear masks and to maintain appropriate space between individuals and/or family/friend groups. Bring your own lawn chair and find your spot in the courtyard as we share music, scripture, a reflection, prayer, and Holy Communion. Individual pre-packaged communion elements will be provided for you. We look forward to this opportunity to worship and be in fellowship together! (If you do not have a lawn chair, don't let that keep you away! We'll find you a place to land when you get there!)



## ***New Office Hours***

We are reopening our offices!

Starting May 24, 2021, the church office hours will be 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.

In order to avoid overcrowding, please make an appointment with office administrator, Ivey. Visitors should wear masks, and observe appropriate distancing while in the church building.

## ***Stephen Ministry Thanks You For Your Support!***

The April communion offering was collected and designated to go towards additional training of our Stephen Ministers. Ongoing training is both expensive and essential.

The Stephen Ministry team is available to anyone who asks. Contact Jesse H. or the church office to be connected to a Stephen Minister.

We thank you for your support, and we offer you ours!



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

## ***Church Council News***

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

by Patty R.

Terre F. took charge of the PB UMC hikes and walks project that was announced last month. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for PB UMC friends to meet each other and hike with others through places in San Diego that might be new to them. Two hikes have taken place so far, and we hope more will be scheduled as the grip of the pandemic lessens and people feel free to gather. So far, Terre F. and Ray Mc. have hiked through the Carlsbad Flower fields, enjoying the flowers and pineapple whip. Yum! A few weeks ago, Pastor Lori, Ron J., Tim A., his sister, and Terre F. walked along the Batiquitos Lagoon Trail on a perfect hiking-weather day. If you want to explore new areas with PB UMC friends, please let Terre F. know. Tell her your ideas for hikes in and around San Diego. She would love to connect with you and others.



To ensure that our staff did not feel unappreciated, SPRC sent each one an Easter card to cheer them on during this special day.

Finally, SPRC is in the process of updating the Employee Manual section on the policy for staff vacation and leave.

### ***Finance***

by Hope A.

Now that Labor of Love construction is imminent, we are taking a closer look at our total liquid assets, and preparing to move some of the funds on deposit with the credit unions back to our checking account. In addition, we no longer have a surplus from insurance proceeds for the Reed Ave fire restoration, as that work has been completed and paid off. Your finance team will keep a close eye on our bank account balances.



# Circle of Support

## March 2021 Record of Generosity

<i>Excluding extraordinary items*</i>	Budget	
March giving	\$17,730	\$15,160
March other sources of income	\$21,568	\$23,896
March total available for ministry	\$39,298	\$39,055
March expended in ministry	\$31,360	\$44,725
March income minus expenses	\$7,938	(\$5,670)
YTD giving	\$53,190	\$45,055
YTD other sources of income	\$51,271	\$50,502
YTD total available for ministry	\$104,461	\$95,557
YTD expended in ministry	\$94,080	\$97,930
YTD income minus expenses	\$10,381	(\$2,373)
Year 2021 budget	\$380,390	

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

## Reflections From the Finance Team

Total income this month is in line with budget, but expenses exceed budget. Part of this is for new Reed Avenue parsonage appliances that were not reimbursed by insurance. Due to billing delays, we still owe two months' apportionments to the Cal-Pac conference—about \$6,000—offset in part, by having paid about \$3,000 in insurance and benefits to Cal-Pac one month early. Year to date, we are running below budget in giving and Project Grace income.

## May Communion Offering Project Grace

The May communion offering will benefit our weekly Project Grace ministry at PB UMC. Abiding by health department regulations, Project Grace serves healthy “to-go” meals to hundreds of our unsheltered or economically challenged neighbors each week. In collaboration with UCSD, we were recently able to resume medical and dental clinic services. Your contributions will allow us to continue this important service in our community.

## Pastor's Days Out of Office

Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>



During Pastor Lori's absence, Adam Marshall-Lopez will be available for pastoral care.

### 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

Sat, May 1 May Day

## Week 2

Sun, May 2 9:00 am, Livestream Worship and Communion  
9:00 am, Worship Watch (p.2)  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
10:30 am Children and Family Sunday School (p.3)  
Mon, May 3 6:30 pm, Small Group  
How to Fight Racism  
Wed, May 5 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 6 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat



## Week 3

Sun, May 9 Mothers Day  
9:00 am, Livestream Worship  
9:00 am, Worship Watch (p.2)  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
Mon, May 10 6:30 pm, Small Group  
How to Fight Racism  
Tues, May 11 6:30 pm, Church Council Meeting  
Wed, May 12 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 13 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat  
Sat, May 15 Armed Forces Day

## Week 4

Sun, May 16 9:00 am, Livestream Worship  
9:00 am, Worship Watch (p.2)  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
10:30 am Children and Family Sunday School (p.3)  
2:00 pm, Communion in the Courtyard (p.2;4)  
Mon, May 17 June Beach Breeze Deadline  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
How to Fight Racism  
Wed, May 19 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 20 7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

## Week 5

Sun, May 23 Pentecost Sunday  
9:00 am, Livestream Worship  
9:00 am, Worship Watch (p.2)  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
11:00 am Children and Family Sunday School with St Mark's UMC (p.3)  
4:00 pm, Youth Group (p.3)  
Mon, May 24 June Beach Breeze Posted Online  
1:00 pm, Church Office Reopens (p.4)  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
How to Fight Racism  
Wed, May 26 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study Online  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries  
Thurs, May 27 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor  
7:00 pm, Choir Zoom Chat

## Week 6

Sun, May 30 9:00 am, Livestream Worship  
9:00 am, Worship Watch (p.2)  
10:00 am, Post-Worship Coffee Hour  
10:30 am Children and Family Sunday School (p.3)  
Mon, May 31 Memorial Day (Office Closed)



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

## ***May Scriptures***

- May 2, 2021**    Worship and Holy Communion  
“What is to Prevent Me?”  
Acts 8:26-40
- May 9, 2021**    “A Commandment to Love?”  
John 15:9-17
- May 16, 2021**    **Assension Sunday**  
“Next Steps”  
Acts 1:1-11
- May 23, 2021**    **Pentecost Sunday**  
“The Language of God is Multi-Ethnic”  
Erich Grimm-Schmitt preaching  
Acts 2:1-21
- May 30, 2021**    “Being Born Again”  
John 3:1-17

## **Pacific Beach United Methodist Church**



1561 Thomas Avenue  
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## ***Meet Church Members Joan F. and Susie V.***

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.



I recently got the opportunity to get to know Joan F. and Susie V. I asked them how long they have been coming to PB UMC. They responded, “In 1995, Joan was aware of the Reconciling Congregation Program, which was later renamed, Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). PB UMC popped for us on the RMN website. It was the 100<sup>th</sup> church to join the network, and at the time, the first and only one in San Diego County. That’s quite a commitment to the gay community. We were looking for an inclusive church, accepting of the LGBTQ, trans, kids, seniors—all communities. Later, we learned PB UMC partners with the community to serve our unhoused neighbors and homeless teens. We started attending services, and became members in 1996.”

I asked how long they have known each other. “We met in 1978 in college in Illinois. We moved to San Diego in the early 1980s and, much later, Pastor April married us at PB UMC in 2008.”

I asked them what service they perform for PB UMC. They told me, “Both of us have been worship leaders, operated the sound system, participated in sermon skits, and presented Christmas plays, among other things.” Joan added, “I have served on the trustee board, and was a longtime chair of the Growing in Faith committee.” Susie said, “I have also been a trustee, and was a longtime Storefront coordinator.”

I asked them what they do for a living. They told me that since 1996, and throughout the pandemic, Joan has been Production Director for the San Diego Opera (SDO). She and her staff are preparing for SDO's second live drive-in opera, “Barber of Seville,” at the Sports Arena. Susie is not working now as she is recovering from a replacement surgery for a broken shoulder.

I told Joan she did a great job with the spiritual reading for a morning service recently, and asked her if she’d do it again. She confirmed she’s on the May schedule.

Their final words: “In the not-so-distant future, we are looking forward to worshipping together again in one big room at PB UMC, with Pastor Lori in person too! We hope that is soon!”