



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

November 2021

## **Church Conference** **Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm on Zoom**

It's Church Conference time!

This annual meeting is an important part of the life of the church. We will be meeting with our new District Superintendent, Sandy Olewine, as we reflect back on the ministry of this past year and look forward to all that is ahead.

This year, churches are being asked to prepare and share a video at Church Conference that highlights our very own "parables of the pandemic." In the midst of so much struggle, fear, and challenge, how have we continued to be in ministry, offering Christ's love and extending the grace of God within our own community and throughout the world?

In addition to sharing our video, we'll also do some of the business of the church, including items related to the budget, as well as plans for lay leadership in the coming year.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend the Church Conference and all church members have a vote. The zoom link will be shared via a special e-mail on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for this important time of reflection, celebration, and preparation for a new year of ministry at PB UMC.

## **Sunday School News**

by Dart R.

### **November—Let's Build An Attitude of Gratitude!**

Calling All Children of God

Every day, yes, every single day, look in the mirror and tell yourself one thing for which you are *so* thankful. (Maybe do this when you are washing your face or brushing your hair; you are probably looking in a mirror anyway.) Then, if it involves someone else, please tell them what it is that makes you feel grateful each day. You might even want to write them a thank you note or draw a picture. Every day, find something you are thankful for and, well—be Thankful! The Bible tells us to give thanks to God. That's a great place to start.

Know that you are loved, and you are One of  
God's Favorites!



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

Dear Friends,

We are approaching one of my favorite Sundays of the year...All Saints Sunday. This year we are celebrating All Saints on November 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a day when we are especially mindful of the “great cloud of witnesses” and all of those who have gone before us. We remember dear ones from our own lives: parents, siblings, children, spouses, partners, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends, so many who have companioned us in this life’s journey and made a difference in our lives. We remember others whose legacy has blessed, changed, or inspired us in some way, shape, or form. We come to worship on All Saints Sunday, holding all of these souls in our hearts and minds. We bring grief, without a doubt, as we do the hard thing of living with their absence from our physical lives. But we also bring gratitude for each individual person, and we bring hope—hope that we are given through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We remember that death will never have the final word. By the grace of God, life wins.

We will have several opportunities to remember our loved ones during worship on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We’ll be attaching bells to a ribbon banner. We invite you, before the service, to attach a bell or bells to the banner

in honor and remembrance of loved ones you have lost. In addition, we’ll be lighting candles for those we have lost in the last year. If there is someone special to you who has died in this past year and you would like to have their name included in this time of remembrance, please contact me on or before October 31<sup>st</sup>. We will light a candle, ring a bell, and remember those who are “absent from our midst,” but now “present with the Lord.”

God’s grace makes room for our joy and our sorrow, our gratitude and our grief. I am looking forward to gathering with you for worship on All Saints Sunday, along with the great cloud of witnesses, as we give thanks for folks with whom we have travelled, and for life abundant and eternal as we receive it through Jesus Christ.

In Christ,  
Pastor Lori



2016 PB UMC Courtyard Tree

### ***Tree Lighting In the Courtyard***

The first Sunday of Advent is November 28<sup>th</sup>, and we will mark that special day by lighting the tree in the courtyard! Help usher in this special season by joining us at 6:00 pm for fellowship, refreshments, caroling, and, of course, lighting up the Christmas tree!

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



Waiting patiently for the movie to begin, Pam R., Chris B., Devin R., and Kathy W. get time for a game of Mah-jongg in the social hall.

Photo by Dart R.

### ***Movie Night at PB UMC***

by Craig R.

About twenty folks bundled up for the cool October evening on the 17<sup>th</sup> to watch PB UMC's first outdoor movie showing, "What's Up, Doc?". Actually, they watched *two* versions of "What's Up, Doc?": the 1950 Bugs Bunny cartoon short, and the 1972 feature film starring Barbra Streisand, Ryan O'Neal, and Madeline Kahn. Attendees brought snacks, and the church had popcorn ready.

Everyone enjoyed the evening, despite a mid-movie glitch on the DVD that required a Plan B of streaming the remainder of the movie. Fortunately, the church has a *great* Wi-Fi setup!

Thanks to Bruce T. and Mark B. for technical support, Ken B., and Louis P. for set up and breakdown assistance, Dart R., and Pastor Lori for providing and bagging the popcorn, and Patty R. for the on-the-spot comedy routine.

Apologies to *Breeze* readers, but this event came together after the deadline for last month's *Beach Breeze*. We are planning another movie night for December.

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).



Craig R., ready to show "What's Up, Doc?"



Photo by Bruce T.

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

## ***Compassionate Community Cleanup***

by Patty R.

On Saturday, October 9, 2021, several members of PB UMC helped Shoreline Community Services in



conjunction with Friends of Rose Creek with its Compassionate Community Cleanup. I was particularly excited about helping, because the cleanup was on the bike path along Rose Creek I had used for years to bike to work, flying down Soledad Mountain Road, teetering along the sidewalk on Balboa, and finally turning south through the narrow opening to the bike path which led to Mission Bay, over jagged cracks, tree root lumps, and past trash along the path and creek. If I rode north, there was a problem: the bike path ended. I had to dutifully climb off my bike, carry it up the stairs, push the pedestrian light at East Mission Bay Drive, hope cars would stop so I could cross over to Damon Street, ride up to Santa Fe, turn left and resume the journey north.

But by Saturday there was an improvement to the bike path—a new tunnel under East Mission Bay Drive! No more playing amongst the cars!

Saturday morning the bike path was filled with bikes, and we happily cleared trash, rocks, palm branches, and gravel off the path so they could ride by, thanking us as they rode. Several unhoused people lived there, and this was our attempt to tidy up where they lived. It was also our attempt to help Rose Creek feel proud of herself so the coots could paddle around, the great egrets could strut, and the birds could enjoy their playground.

Photo by Pastor Lori Leopold

Dear PB UMC family,



Thank you so much for the celebration of my time on staff. Thank you for the cards, gifts, and song! I appreciate it all! I am so glad for the memories of the past 20 years, and I am now glad to rest from the responsibilities. I am also glad that I can still be a part of this family!

*Malea*



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

## ***PB UMC Council Notes***

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

by Patty R.

PB UMC has a new Children's Sunday School Coordinator: Dart R. A daughter of two ordained ministers, Dart has been a member of PB UMC for over 15 years. She has volunteered as a PB UMC Sunday School teacher and worked as paid staff in the church Nursery for over five years. As a single parent she raised three wonderful children, and we watched them grow at PB UMC. The middle child is now in college and the youngest is a senior in high school (soon to be a Marine).

Dart fostered twelve children through San Diego County Health and Human services, completing numerous courses in child development to do so. Since 1999, she has worked in Quality Assurance in the biotech field, all the while raising her children.

Dart was hired October 11, 2021, and has already started implementing her ideas for improving and expanding PB UMC's ministry to children. For Halloween she invited members to bring wrapped candy to church so the neighborhood children could trick or treat. She has plans for turning the social hall into a haunted house for Halloween 2022!

We are so happy to welcome Dart!

SPRC began interviewing applicants for the Youth Coordinator position toward the end of October.

### ***Finance***

by Hope A.

We've begun to receive estimate of giving cards. A sincere thank you to those who have returned them so far. If you haven't turned yours in yet, there is still time. Please place your card in the offering box at worship, send it to the church office, or respond via email or online at pbumc.org. You'll have a chance to review our income statements and the draft 2022 budget in the package prepared for church conference on November 14.

Comments are always appreciated.

## ***Be Thinking Ahead***

by Pam R.



Start planning now for your donations for CCSA Christmas baskets. Their deadline is always very early in December. Complete details will follow in the December *Beach Breeze*.

# Circle of Support

## September 2021 Record of Generosity

<i>Excluding extraordinary items*</i>	Budget	
September giving	\$17,730	\$14,568
September other sources of income	\$18,668	\$14,879
September total available for ministry	\$36,398	\$29,447
September expended in ministry	\$30,476	\$32,757
September income minus expenses	\$5,922	(\$3,309)
YTD giving	\$159,570	\$155,416
YTD other sources of income	\$128,844	\$132,286
YTD total available for ministry	\$288,414	\$287,702
YTD expended in ministry	\$279,334	\$274,700
YTD income minus expenses	\$9,080	\$13,002
Year 2021 budget	\$380,390	

\* Reed Avenue fire in 2019, covered by insurance.

## Reflections From the Finance Team

September rental income was partially eaten up by repairs at the Thomas Ave. units. Church expenses included \$3500 for fire suppression upgrades related to the new kitchen appliances. Apportionments are two months behind, which has understated YTD expenses by about \$6,000. We'll catch up on those in November.

## November Communion Offering

### Interfaith Shelter Network

The Interfaith Shelter Network (ISN) serves San Diego's short-term homeless. Nearly 80% of San Diego's homeless fit this category. They have lost or are at-risk of losing their housing due to poverty, loss of employment, illness, domestic violence, or death. They are actively seeking to improve their lives.

Your communion offering this month will help to provide shelter and other resources to homeless individuals and families and enable them to move toward self-sufficiency.

The Interfaith Shelter Network does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, or disabilities in hiring practice or provision of services.

## Mark Your Calendars

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm, Outdoor Movie, "Elf"

December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm, Blue Christmas Service

December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve Services, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm

December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm, Memorial Service for Dr. Ken Herron

### 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: Dart Rhodes  
Youth Ministry Coordinator:

# Calendar of Events

## Worship Times

10:00 am, Worship Celebration

### Week 1

Mon, Nov 1 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
"Lenses of Advent"

Tues, Nov 2 **Election Day**  
10 am, Prayers and Squares Quilt Group  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice

Wed, Nov 3 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace

Thurs, Nov 4 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor

Fri, Nov 5 6:00 pm, Narc Anon

### Week 2

Sun, Nov 7 **Daylight Saving Time Ends**  
10:00 am, Worship and Communion  
In Person and Online  
Child Care Available

Mon, Nov 8 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
"Lenses of Advent"

Tues, Nov 9 6:00 pm, Choir Practice

Wed, Nov 10 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace

Thurs, Nov 11 **Veterans Day**  
Church Office Closed  
1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor

Fri, Nov 12 6:00 pm, Narc Anon



### Week 4

Sun, Nov 21 10:00 am, Worship  
In Person and Online  
Child Care Available

Mon, Nov 22 November *Beach Breeze* Deadline  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
"Lenses of Advent"

Tues, Nov 23 6:00 pm, Choir Practice

Wed, Nov 24 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries

Thurs, Nov 25 **Thanksgiving**  
Church Office Closed

Fri, Nov 26 6:00 pm, Narc Anon



Blessing of the Animals  
October 10, 2021



### Week 3

Sun, Nov 14 10:00 am, Worship  
In Person and Online  
Child Care Available  
4:00 pm PB UMC Charge Conference (p.1)

Mon, Nov 15 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
"Lenses of Advent"

Tues, Nov 16 10:00 am, Prayers and Squares  
Quilt Group  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
6:30 pm, Church Council Meeting

Wed, Nov 17 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace

Thurs, Nov 18 1:00 pm, Coffee with the Pastor

Fri, Nov 19 6:00 pm, Narc Anon

### Week 5

Sun, Nov 28 10:00 am, Worship  
In Person and Online  
Child Care Available  
6:00 pm, Light the Courtyard Tree (p.2)

Mon, Nov 29 November *Beach Breeze* Posted Online  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, Small Group  
"Lenses of Advent"

Tues, Nov 30 6:00 pm, Choir Practice

Photos by Malea S.

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

## ***November Scriptures***

- November 7**    **All Saints Sunday**  
Holy Communion  
“Unbound”  
Isaiah 25:6-9; John 11:32-44
- November 14**    “Birth Pangs”  
Hebrews 10:11-25
- November 21**    Guest Preacher:  
Adam Marshall-Lopez  
“Turn, Turn, Turn, Turn”
- November 28**    **First Sunday in Advent**  
Guest Preacher: Mavi Barrena

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



1561 Thomas Avenue  
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## ***Meet Sunday School Coordinator Dart R.***

by Roving Reporter Marcia M.

Not long ago, I got a ride to and from a medical procedure from Dart R. I truly appreciated the rides and was glad to get to know Dart better. More recently, Dart, her son Devin, and I had lunch together.

Dart has been a member of PB UMC for 17 years. She is a member of our Stephen Ministry. She described the Stephen Ministry as a service where trained people help others in whatever they need. “We provide whatever support we can. There is a lot of training involved in joining this ministry.” Dart has been a Stephen Minister for the past year and a half.

She was recently named our Children’s Sunday School Coordinator. Dart told me, “As part of that role, I have been communicating with Pastor Lori about getting more kids involved. That includes children whose parents are church members in addition to neighborhood kids. We will minister to more families in our local community that way.”

“I was nursery staff attendant for 5 years. I spent Sundays downstairs with the little ones. My own children were raised in this church, and I enjoy spending time with our youngest people.”

When I asked her what she does for a living, she told me, “I am a Quality Assurance Specialist at a BIO tech company. I’ve been doing that for 22 years. It is what I do to pay bills but it’s not very creative or fulfilling. The time I spend with children and animals makes my heart happy.”

Both her parents were ordained ministers in the Salvation Army. She told me, “The Salvation Army has a long history of putting women in key positions. I was proud that both my mom and dad worked in the Salvation Army.”

She has fostered children and animals. “I have no foster kids now, but do have foster animals. I currently have five kittens; in the past I have fostered as many as fifteen kittens at one time. My own pets include two Dachshund puppies, a French Bulldog, and an Electus parrot.”



We enjoyed our time together, and she told me “I am Interested in anything someone has a passion for. I just appreciate when they share what they love with me.”