



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

December 2022

*Celebrate
Christmas
With Us!*



*PB UMC Lights
December 2022*

Photo by Dick V.

Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 3rd at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary

Join in the fun and help us to dress up the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work! Christmas carols and goodies will be provided!



Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 4th, 6:00-8:00 pm

Christmas Caroling is scheduled to take place Sunday, December 4, at 6:00 pm. All ages are welcome! We'll meet in the social hall, sing a few songs around the tree, and then walk around the neighborhood singing songs of cheer for all to hear! Afterward, we'll head to the parsonage for snacks.

Christmas Musical Festival of Christmas

Sunday, December 11th, 10:00 am and 6:00 pm in the sanctuary

A Joyful Celebration of the Season, Composed by Mary Macdonald.

These performances by our acclaimed Voices of Praise are free, and open to the public.



A Message From Pastor Lori

Beloveds in Christ,

Our community continues to grow and flourish! I want to introduce a new member of PB UMC, the Rev. Rob Lee. Rob will join us remotely and we look forward to having him here in person sometime after the first of the year to formalize his connection with PB UMC.

Rob will be joining this congregation as he pursues ordination in the United Methodist tradition under the California-Pacific Annual Conference's Safe Harbor Initiative. Rob will be attending PB UMC from his home in North Carolina while also planning a new church start for our annual conference. Rob has preached in pulpits from Los Angeles to Paris, France. He appeared on the MTV Video Music Awards and ABC's The View to decry the racist legacy of Confederate monuments to his namesake relative, Confederate General Robert E. Lee. He also testified before Congress about the issue in 2020. Rob is the author 4 books including *A Sin by Any Other Name: Reckoning with Racism and the Heritage of the South*, and *Fostering Hope: A Prayerbook for Foster and Adoptive Families*. Rob graduated from Appalachian State University and Duke University Divinity School, and is currently finishing his doctoral work at the Pacific School of Religion. He taught public speaking and rhetoric at Appalachian State for 2 years, and has served churches in a variety of settings including a large urban church and a church that was overwhelmingly LGBTQ+. In 2021 Rob participated in the Inaugural Prayer Service for President Biden and Vice-President Harris.

Rob was baptized into the Methodist tradition on All Saints' Day in 1992. He was a delegate to General Conference in 2012, but later left the denomination to pursue more equitable denominations. He was ordained in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, but his Wesleyan heritage never left him. Rob is married to Stephanie Lee, the Director of Marketing at an athletic and orthopedic sock company in Hickory,

North Carolina. In 2021 they adopted two amazing and precocious girls, Athena, and Phoenix, who were baptized into the United Methodist Church at the same font where Rob was baptized. The Rev. Mandy McDow, Senior Pastor at Los Angeles First United Methodist, is Athena's cherished godmother (also known as her fairy godmother). Rob has a miniature poodle named Frank and a goldendoodle named Maggie. In his spare time, you can find Rob tinkering with podcasts or curating his extensive autograph collection.

Rob will be teaching a class during Advent via Zoom here at Pacific Beach, and he is excited to be involved with the church. We will also have a "Meet and Greet" on Thursday, December 15th from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm, via Zoom. Please feel free to drop in during that hour, introduce yourself, and spend some time getting to know Rob and allowing him to get to know you. I am excited about providing safe and supportive space for Rob at PB UMC and I am excited about the unique gifts, grace, and perspective he brings to this fellowship as well. You can reach Rob via email at rob@roblee4.com if you'd like to say hello! What I know about PB UMC is that we have big, welcoming hearts and a wide, open table that makes a place for all God's children. It is our joy to welcome Rob and his family as they "pull up a chair" to connect with this community and the life of faith and fellowship that happens in this place.

In Christ,
Pastor Lori



We Care for One Another

**Kidz
Korner**

Hi my friends!

I hope you are excited to celebrate all the wonderful magic of December! It's my very favorite time of the year! Here's an idea: if you know an adult who knew you from the very first day you were born, how about you ask them what they thought when they saw you. Did they instantly love you and think you are the cutest, most beautiful/handsome, and precious baby in the whole world? If it's a parent or grandparent you are asking, I bet they would say, "ABSOLUTELY YES!" And they will be right. Love will do that for ya!

Now think about the first people to ever see baby Jesus. Do you think they thought He was the cutest, most handsome, and precious baby in the whole world? "Also, DEFINITELY YES!"

I genuinely love babies, and I've never seen a baby who I thought was anything other than incredibly precious, and still, I wonder if baby Jesus was even more special than you or I were as babies. I am getting ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the most wonderfully amazing child ever to enter this world, with the biggest job and the kindest heart. I hope you have a great Christmas. Remember that Christmas is not brought to you by Santa, or Target, or Amazon. It's all because of a perfect little baby, born in a manger, sent to save the world. Merry Christmas to you and yours.

Dart, one of God's favorites (just like you!)
Sunday School Coordinator

December Memory Scripture Verse

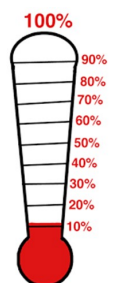
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. – Psalm 23:4

Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Our last outing for the year is December 4, right after church. I'm asking for both the youth and young adults to make some suggestions on what they'd like to do for an enjoyable event to end the year on a positive note! We have many things planned for next year, so stay tuned. We're also still in search for 1-3 people that are willing to devote one Sunday each month for a youth group devotion time during the sermon. Volunteers are welcome to lead the devotion, help with the devotion, or simply be in attendance. To discuss the outing, or for more information about volunteering, please see Jesse H., Director of Education.

Matching Fund Update

We are within \$100 of our \$1500 matching goal to go towards the renovation project in the children and youth rooms! (If you wish to contribute, still or again, you can do so by noting that your gifts are designated to be used for the Children's Ministry Renovation.) We thank the Anthony Family with all our hearts for their generosity in matching up to \$1500 for this important project!



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

PB UMC Council Notes

Finance

by Hope A.

Council continues to prepare our 2023 budget. If you meant to turn in an estimate of giving online or by card, please do so; we can still use the information.



October 23, 2022
Our Kids in Worship



Problems and Passions

...a wrap up from Lesley Brogan

For three weeks, we talked during the Adult Sunday School class about the going's on at the corner of Thomas and Ingraham. We talked about the programs and the passions that make up our ministry in the world. We talked about programs that have been done in the past and no longer continue. We talked about programs that continue to flourish and identify who we are. We talked about who is doing the work of these programs. Finally, we talked about how needs for participation are addressed, and how programs are communicated.

We discussed what it means to emerge as a Faith Community from COVID. Owning the personal and corporate impacts, we discussed the unique opportunity that the Pandemic provided. Because of this time's particularity, we discussed how we are in a unique position to emerge differently. Truly, we don't have to do what we always have done in the past. Because of this unique time, we can keep and re-tune the ministries that really matter and let go of what is no longer vital to the life of our church. We discussed the lessons learned, and what was prioritized from living-in-and-through-COVID (i.e., our value of weekly worship, the appreciation of good preaching, and our wonderful music program; our deep missing of members' relationships throughout the Pandemic).

During these conversations, we identified four primary ministries that matter to the life of this community: Worship/Music program, Social Action (commitment to LGBTQ+, Project Grace, CCSA, etc), Learning and Teaching, and finally, Relationship Building/Belonging (coffee hours, Stephens Ministries, Bible study, movie nights, etc).

Where do we go from here? Sunday School participants all committed to hold the ministry of PB UMC in our prayers. We hope everyone else will as well. I'm interested in continuing these conversations (meeting for coffee, sharing a meal during the week) and seeing how we can give these ideas shape and form.

We Reach Out to Others

December Movie Night

by Craig R.



There's a lot going on in December... but hopefully you can still make time for a movie! On Sunday, December 18th, at 6:00 p.m. PBUMC will screen the beloved classic "Meet Me in St. Louis" (1944) starring Judy Garland.

This portrait of a St. Louis family follows their joys and sorrows over the year 1904 as the World's Fair comes to their hometown. It features many classic Garland tunes such as "The Trolley Song," "The Boy Next Door" and, most appropriately for this time of year, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

We hope you can join us to enjoy this timeless movie suitable for all ages!

Hospitality Munchies



Hospitality Chair Ray McC. requests donations of refreshments for fellowship time after worship on December 11th and December 25. Store-bought or home-made sweet or savory small bites are ideal.

It's Time Again

By Pam R.

Time again to continue our tradition, and collect donations for several Christmas food/gift baskets to be distributed to low income families by Community Christian Services Agency (CCSA). This year there is one change: due to the increased cost of living, CCSA is requesting that the gift card from Walmart or Target for a family be for \$50.

You may donate CCSA's requested groceries to the collection box in the narthex. You may also donate money, which will be used in the purchases of groceries and gift cards. Cash may be placed in an envelope with the words "Christmas baskets" on the outside. Checks should be made to the church with "Christmas baskets" on the memo line. You may also donate on-line, indicating the gift is for "Christmas baskets."

Our deadline is Sunday December 11.

Non-perishable food requests are: box of stuffing mix, canned fruit, can of cranberry sauce, can of chicken or vegetable broth, box of mashed potato mix, cans of green beans and corn, gravy (in non-breakable container), box of cake or cookie mix, bag of rice.

Circle of Support

October 2022 Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
October giving	\$19,230	\$24,975
October other sources of income	\$10,385	\$11,683
October total available for ministry	\$29,615	\$36,657
October expended in ministry	\$34,043	\$31,100
October income minus expenses	(\$4,428)	\$5,558
YTD giving	\$192,697	\$173,275
YTD other sources of income	\$153,743	\$158,558
YTD total available for ministry	\$346,440	\$331,833
YTD expended in ministry	\$367,671	\$364,580
YTD income minus expenses	(\$21,231)	(\$32,747)
Year 2022 budget	\$437,898	

Reflections From the Finance Team

October was a positive month for income minus expenses. We received an IRS refund check for \$8,949 in November. It doesn't show in the October numbers but it will help us catch up with our expenses.



Nov 6, 2022
All Saints Sunday

Photo by Betty J..

December Communion Offering UM Student Day

United Methodist Student Day calls congregations to support students as they prepare for a life of Christian service.

When you give generously on United Methodist Student Day, you support future missionaries, engineers, teachers, pastors, film producers, and young people pursuing many other careers, as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge.

Card Ministry

The Card Ministry is an opportunity to write cards and send messages of love to those that may be ill, need encouragement, or are homebound. We're asking for volunteers that are willing to write cards from the comfort of their homes, at a time that's convenient for you, and as often as you'd like; we'll also provide the supplies. Please see Jesse H. if you are interested or have any questions.



Stephen Ministry

We know that the holidays are approaching and want to send out a reminder that Stephen Ministers are available for one-on-one support and are trained for working through many life situations. If you or someone that you know could use a Stephen Minister, please contact Jesse H.

CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor: The Rev Lori Leopold
Music Director: Ron Jessee
Office Administrator: Susie Virgilio

Director of Education: Jesse Hodge
Sunday School Coordinator: Dart Rhoades

Church Office: www.pbumc.org/contact 858-274-6573

Calendar of Events

Worship Times

10:00 am, Worship Celebration
Child Care Available

Week 1

Thurs, Dec 1 6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Dec 2 6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
Sat, Dec 3 10:00 am, Al-Anon
2:00 pm, Hanging of the Greens
in the Sanctuary (p. 1)
6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep



October 30, 2022
Our Young
Trick-or-Treaters

Photo by Betty J..

Week 2

Sun, Dec 4 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship & Communion
Labyrinth in Hughes Hall (p. 8)
6:00 pm, Christmas Caroling and
Cookies at the Parsonage (p. 1)
6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
Mon, Dec 5 6:00 pm, Advent Class With Rob Lee (p.2)
6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Dec 6 9:00 am, Prayers and Squares
Quilt Group
6:00 pm, Choir Practice
6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
7:00 pm, So District Prayer Meeting
Wed, Dec 7 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
Thurs, Dec 8 6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Dec 9 6:00 pm, PB Holiday Float Prep
Sat, Dec 10 10:00 am, Al-Anon
Noon, PB Holiday Parade

Week 3

Sun, Dec 11 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship—Christmas Musical
Labyrinth in Hughes Hall (p. 8)
6:00 pm, Christmas Musical (p. 1)
Mon, Dec 12 6:00 pm, Advent Class With Rob Lee (p. 2)
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Wed, Dec 14 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Dec 15 6:00 pm, Meet and Greet Rob Lee (p. 2)
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Dec 17 10:00 am, Al-Anon

Week 4

Sun, Dec 18 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
Labyrinth in Hughes Hall (p. 8)
6:00 pm, Movie Night (p. 5)
Mon, Dec 19 *Beach Breeze* Deadline
6:00 pm, Advent Class With Rob Lee (p. 2)
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Dec 20 9:00 am, Prayers and Squares
Quilt Group
6:00 pm, Choir Practice
6:30 pm, Church Council Meeting
Wed, Dec 21 11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Dec 22 7:00 pm, Blue Christmas With LJ UMC
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Sat, Dec 24 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:00 pm, Family Candlelight Service
7:00 pm, Traditional Candlelight Service



Nov 20, 2022
Walker 60th Anniversary SingAlong

Photo by Ray McC.

Week 5

Sun, Dec 25 **Christmas**
9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship in Herron Chapel
Mon, Dec 26 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Dec 27 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Dec 28 *Beach Breeze* Posted Online
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Thurs, Dec 29
Sat, Dec 31 **New Year's Eve**
10:00 am, Al-Anon

We Love and Worship God

December Scriptures

December 4 2nd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10;
Luke 1:26-38

December 11 3rd Sunday of Advent
Festival of Christmas
Isaiah 35:1-10;
Matthew 1:18-25

December 18 4th Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:39-45, 56-58;
Luke 1:46-55

December 25 **Christmas Day!**
John 1:1-14;
Luke 2:15-21

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

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Labyrinth

The Labyrinth is still available during Advent after church for one hour in the social hall. (The last day is Sunday, December 18.) This is an opportunity to be in prayer, meditation, reflection, and a state of thankfulness during this time of year. Along with the large Labyrinth to walk through, there will also be a finger Labyrinth available for those that would find this more suitable.

If you are not able to physically join us, feel free to take advantage of your very own Labyrinth using this image. Enter into a state of prayer, and trace through the Labyrinth with your finger or a writing utensil.

