



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

May 2023

## ***Rock Painting Party***

***Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 9 to Noon in Hughes Hall***



All are welcome to join us for a relaxing morning of rock painting. Pastor Lori's sister, Karen, will be here to assist us. Come and create a rock to place in your garden, to use as a paper weight, to give as a gift, or to leave at the PB UMC Memorial and/or Friendship Rock Gardens. Rocks and pens will be provided. The rocks can be sealed with Krylon spray to take home the same day, or we'll use resin for the rocks to be picked up at church on Sunday. This event is for all ages, and no experience is required. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Lori.

## ***Our Pianists***

We rarely see two, let alone three, of our pianists in the sanctuary at the same time, but we had three pianists there Easter Sunday.

L-R: Adam M.-L., Laura W., Brenda M. and Ron Jessee.

Photo by Craig R..



## ***Honoring Our Tree***

We are so grateful to Doc and Diane for helping us to honor our beloved pine tree before it was removed after Easter. There is a beautiful book in the narthex, honoring our tree and all trees. Please stop by the round table in the lobby of the sanctuary to see the book, and to add your own personal memory!

We are sitting with the open space for a few weeks in order to discern what comes next. Should we plant a new pine tree? Create a labyrinth? Keep it as an open space?

We would love your creative input. Please share any thoughts with Lay Leader Ken B., Pastor Lori, or any member of the Church Council.



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

Beloveds in Christ,

Thank you to all for such a meaningful Lent and a joyful Easter! We had an incredible Lenten class on the Gospel of John, led by Adam M.-L. We allowed thought provoking questions to guide us each Sunday in worship. Voices of Praise offered beautiful music on Palm Sunday. We celebrated Maundy Thursday and Good Friday with La Jolla UMC. We gathered in the wee hours of dawn on Easter for our Sunrise Service on Mission Bay. We had a full house on Easter at 10:00 am, and then delighted in an Easter Egg Hunt, made even *more* delightful by the presence of “Digger” who led the kids in the hokey pokey! And then, with the guidance of Doc and Diane, we honored our beloved pine tree. And as much as I enjoyed *every part of it*, I will also confess that I breathe a little sigh of relief each year when it’s all over. Because—wow—it’s a lot!

And each year when it’s over, I find myself wondering, “What’s next?” Where do we go from here? How do we live into our calling to be Easter people, not just on a single day but our whole lives long? I’d like to invite you to wonder along with me. As many of you know we had a Visioning Workshop in March with 30 people attending. We began talking about what we, as a congregation, envision for our next steps, where and how we feel God is calling us. We’ll continue in that exploration over spring and summer, focusing on how we welcome folks into this place *and* how we move out into the community to meet people where they are.

One simple thing we can do, for the sake of newcomers, is to return to wearing nametags. This allows new folks to share their name and learn the names of others. Calling one another by name is important. When someone speaks our name, it communicates interest and care. So, with Mark B.’s help, we’re revamping our nametag system. Watch for more information in the month of May about where and how to get your nametag!

And as we seek to reach out into the community, we begin by asking ourselves, “For what do we want to be known?” If we had to pare it down to one

sentence, what would that sentence be? We started brainstorming this question at the Visioning Retreat and we asked groups to begin putting together some ideas. Here’s a little of what we came up with: “PB UMC...a welcoming fellowship for all seeking acceptance, understanding, spiritual growth, and belonging.” “PB UMC...striving to create community through making authentic connections with each other while building a relationship with God.” “PB UMC...growing together wherever we start, wherever we are destined to be.” “PB UMC...bringing people together to serve the community.” “PB UMC...bringing people together to serve the community and grow through God’s love, acceptance, and inclusion of all.” “PB UMC...reflecting God’s hope and light to all those we encounter and encouraging each other to recognize God’s love as inclusive of all.” And last, but not least, “God loves you and we’ll try!” What would you say? If we could communicate, in a single sentence, the essence of who we are and what we’re about...what would you say?

Watch for upcoming opportunities to share your thoughts. Or even better, send me a text or e-mail right away! I look forward to exploring these next important steps with you as we seek to be instruments of God’s grace and peace for one another, and for the community around us. May we grow as an Easter people more and more every day!

In Christ,

Pastor Lori



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

## **Kidz Korner**

To my friends at PB UMC, especially the youngest of our Church Family:

It has been my privilege to work with the children of PB UMC these past many years. I have a genuine love for our kids, and they enrich my life immensely. It is with both joy and sadness that I'll be leaving San Diego and PB UMC for whatever is next in my journey. Know this—I take part of you all with me, and I leave part of my heart here with you. Luckily, San Diego is not *that* far away from Vancouver, Washington! I'll come back to visit, and through the magic of the livestream, we'll stay connected. I will continue to pray for each of you and wish you only the very best that God has to offer. I know that we are ALL God's favorites.

Much Love,  
Dart



### **Memory Verse for May/June 2023**

*For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, no things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)*

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).



The PB UMC family, Education Department, and Stephen Ministers would like to thank Dart Rhoades for her years of service and love to us all. This thank you note is not enough. It could fill many pages and still not touch the surface of our gratitude and thankfulness for her. She is always willing to help and serve, and she has a heart of gold. She loves every single one of our children as if they were her own, and she is a role model to Stephen Ministers. Her Children's Time message is always from the heart and full of joy for everyone to enjoy and take something from it. We look forward to having some time to share our thanks and love at a small reception after church on Sunday, May 14. There will also be a book in the sanctuary entrance to sign and share words of encouragement for the next few Sundays, so please take a moment to write in this book words of prayer, love, and encouragement. Dart, we love you and will miss you more than you know.





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



## ***Family Camp***

Family Camp is May 5<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> (Dinner to Breakfast). Check-in is from 5:00-6:30 pm on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Sunday, there will be an All-Church Service at Camp Cedar Glen, at 10:30 am. All are welcome at the church service, and we encourage participants to invite their congregation. Children and Youth may attend with a Youth Director, or congregation member (1:4 ratio).

## ***May Lunch Bunch***

Join us on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, for lunch at Café Athena in Pacific Beach. We will meet at noon for a time of tasty food and fellowship! If you plan to join us, please contact the Church Office and/or Pastor Lori so we know how many to anticipate. Do you have a favorite spot for lunch? Let us know and we'll schedule a future Lunch Bunch in your neck of the woods. *Save the date for next month...June 8<sup>th</sup>.*



## ***Second Thursday Games After Lunch With the Pastor***

Meet for Chinese mahjong and other games following lunch with the pastor. We'll gather in the social hall at 1:30 on Thursday, May 11, and play till we are tired. Families and newcomers are always encouraged—we love to teach! Bring snacks or other games if you like. If you have questions or suggestions for other days and times, please talk to Kathy W. or Hope A.



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

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

### ***Finance***

Wrapping up the first quarter of the year, we are pleased to say that giving continues to be steady and generous. Thank you for your faithfulness and support for the mission and ministries of PB UMC! We entered 2023 knowing that this would be a challenging year financially. Because of fluctuations in the stock market, dividends from our endowment funds have sometimes been less than anticipated. We have also struggled with increased costs of...everything! We know you and your families are experiencing this too. So many of you have come up with creative ways to support the work of the church, whether that be financially, or through other ways of giving.

**Here's our highlight and thank you for this month:** Several folks in our congregation have identified a need around church and then offered to coordinate and financially support that specific effort. For example, Hope A. realized our windows needed some spiffing up before Easter. Hope called her window washing company and paid to have the church windows washed. Dick V-S knew the concerns about our aging pine tree. Dick worked with the tree trimming company and paid for the removal of the pine tree. These were fairly big projects but there are smaller needs and ways to help too. So many of you are doing that by bringing snacks for coffee hour after church or donating a bag of popcorn for movie night. Every little bit makes a difference. Thank you for caring so deeply about the vitality of the ministry at PB UMC. And please let us know if you see someone "giving back" in a creative and generous way!

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

SPRC is very sad that Dart Rhoades' last day as Sunday School Coordinator and her last day at church will be May 14<sup>th</sup>. Dart has worked for many years taking care of our children—both in the nursery and as the Sunday School Coordinator. We so appreciate that Dart has always jumped in to help wherever needed. Recently, Dart and her daughter, Amberlyn, planned and provided a delicious lunch for our March 19<sup>th</sup> Visioning Workshop. We will be sad to see Dart and her enthusiasm leave! SPRC is planning an appropriate sendoff for her. If anyone would like to help plan and conduct this sendoff, please contact the PB UMC office and provide your contact information. SPRC will be happy for your help!

SPRC very much appreciates everyone who has stepped in to help with the refreshments after church!

## ***Mental Health Awareness Month***

by Jesse Hodge, Director of Education

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. PB UMC will be focusing on and bringing awareness to this very important cause. Mental health is something that is part of all of us and is something that we should all pay attention to for our overall well-being. It's also something that we should be aware of for other people and do everything that we can to love and support one another. If we know of someone struggling, this is an opportunity for us to reach out. We at PB UMC also have some resources and can provide direction. There are also other resources that should be mentioned. Call 211 or go to [findhelp.org](https://findhelp.org) for various resources including mental health assistance. If you or someone you know is in crisis, call, or text 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, chat with them online via their website, or text HOME to 741741 (multiple languages available). If it is an emergency, call 911.

Also, 5th Sunday Service is April 30, and we will focus on bringing in Mental Health Awareness month, so please join us for this special service!

# Circle of Support

## March 2023 Record of Generosity

	Budget	Actual
<b>Activity in March</b>		
March Giving	\$18,550	\$19,604
March Other Sources of Income	\$8,569	\$8,274
Directed Donations	\$11,682	\$9,402
March Total Income	\$38,802	\$37,280
March Total Expenses	\$37,084	\$35,580
March Income Minus Expenses	\$1,718	\$1,700
<b>Activity Year-To-Date</b>		
YTD Giving	\$55,651	\$55,438
Other Source Income	\$25,708	\$26,046
Directed Donations	\$21,514	\$17,348
Total Income	\$102,874	\$98,832
Total Expenses	\$111,251	\$110,307
Income Minus Expenses	(\$8,377)	(\$11,475)
Year 2023 Budget	\$448,651	

### Reflections From the Finance Team

In March, our pledged giving was above budget and our unpledged giving just slightly below. While this is good news, we continue to be over budget year-to-date by \$11,475, about \$3000 *more* over budget than anticipated.

While some of our expenses are running below budget, there are other areas where costs are increasing. For example, as is true for many, our utility bills are higher than we expected. We have experienced unexpected repair needs, most recently, to fix the furnace in one area of the sanctuary.

While food costs related to Project Grace continue to be above budget, we have begun asking for and receiving donations of Capri Sun drinks and individual cookie bags. Receiving these items as donations allows us to come closer to working within our budget while still providing items that our guests can carry with them, whether they're on bike or foot.

If you have questions, insights, or would like more information, please reach out to Pastor Lori or any member of the Finance Team.

#### 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/who-we-are/contact/](http://www.pbumc.org/who-we-are/contact/) phone: 858-274-6573

## May Communion Offering

### Mental Health Awareness

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. In observance of this month, and the importance of mental health awareness, the May communion offering will go towards mental health awareness in our church and community. (See more on page 5.)

## Prayer Breakfast

National Day of Prayer  
Pacific Beach

Interfaith Coalition

May 4th, 8:00am at the Islamic Center of  
San Diego  
7250 Eckstrom Ave.

Join people of different faith traditions for a light breakfast and a program highlighting the importance and power of prayer in our lives. Featuring presenters from Islamic, Jewish, Baha'i, Buddhist and Christian backgrounds.

You may register at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) (search for Interfaith Prayer Breakfast) See the flyer on the white board outside of church for more information.

# Calendar of Events

## Worship Times

10:00 am, Worship Celebration  
Child Care Available

### Week 1

Mon, May 1 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 2 6:00 pm, Choir  
7:00 pm, Nominating & Leadership Development Meeting via Zoom  
7:00 pm, So Dist Prayer Meeting  
Wed, May 3 7:00 am, AA  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 4 8:00 am, Prayer Breakfast (p.6)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, May 5 Family Camp Begins (p.4)  
Sat, May 6 10:00 am, Al-Anon

### Week 2

Sun, May 7 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship and Communion  
11:30 am, Mystical Practices  
Mon, May 8 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 9 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares  
Quilt Group  
6:00 pm, Choir  
Wed, May 10 7:00 am, AA  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 11 Noon, Lunch Bunch (p.4)  
1:30 pm, Game Day (p.4)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Sat, May 13 9:00 am, Rock Painting (p.1)  
10:00 am, Al-Anon

### Week 3

Sun, May 14 **Mother's Day**  
9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
11:30 am, Mystical Practices  
11:30 am, Reception for Dart (p.3)  
Mon, May 15 *Beach Breeze* Deadline  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 16 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
6:30 pm, Church Council via Zoom  
Wed, May 17 7:00 am, AA  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 18 6:30 pm, Hymn Sing and Dessert  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Sat, May 20 10:00 am, Al-Anon

### Week 4

Sun, May 21 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
5:00 pm, Movie Night, "'Big" (p.8)  
Mon, May 22 *Beach Breeze* Posted Online  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 23 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares  
Quilt Group  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, May 24 7:00 am, AA  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries  
Thurs, May 25 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Sat, May 27 10:00 am, Al-Anon



Kids in Worship With Diane  
on Palm Sunday, 2023

Photo by Vicki T.

### Week 5

Sun, May 28 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
11:30 am, Growing in Faith  
Mon, May 29 Memorial Day Observed  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 30 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, May 31 7:00 am, AA  
11:30 am, Scripture & Sermon Study



Easter Sunrise at Mission Bay  
April 9, 2023



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

## ***March Scriptures***

- May 7** Holy Communion  
John 14:1-14
- May 14** Mother's Day  
John 14:15-21
- May 21** Ascension Sunday  
Luke 24:44-53  
Acts 1:1-11
- May 28** Pentecost Sunday  
Acts 2:1-21

## **Pacific Beach United Methodist Church**



1561 Thomas Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92109

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## ***Movie Time in May***

by Craig R.

Our May film will be the 1988 comedy, "Big," starring Tom Hanks. We'll screen this movie on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm in Hughes Hall. Come join us and celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this wonderful film.

