



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

February 2025

## *Lea Ann Walker* *(May 11, 1943-Jan. 4, 2025)*

PB UMC is saddened to announce the death of Lea Ann Walker, long-standing member of our choir, the Voices of Praise.

Lea Ann was born in Enid, OK on May 11, 1943 and lived in Enid until 1961. She married her husband Patrick Walker (another Voice of Praise member) in November of 1962 while she was a student at Oklahoma State University and he was a student at the University of Oklahoma (this is an example of what Oklahomans jokingly refer to as a “mixed marriage”).

Throughout her life as a military family member, Lea Ann worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all service families. She was largely responsible for leading the military to change from referring to family members as dependents. Lea Ann’s contributions to this policy change were recognized and praised by all the Personnel Departments of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Lea Ann was also a gifted musician and started and led many choirs in both military and civilian communities. She and Pat joined the Voices of Praise back in 2007.

Lea Ann and Pat celebrated their 62<sup>nd</sup> year of marriage on November 23, 2024. Her love of music and celebration of special holiday dress-ups and care for plants and flowers brought smiles and light to so many who knew her. Her great spirit and lovely voice will be missed. But her love and the light she shined will continue to brighten the hearts of all she touched.

Please join us on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary to celebrate the remarkable life of Lea Ann Walker. Her spirit, music and joy blessed us beyond measure! There will be a time for fellowship in the social hall following the service. If you can help by bringing something to share, please reach out to and coordinate with Malea Sandstrom ([maleas@pbumc.org](mailto:maleas@pbumc.org).) In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Lea Ann’s memory be given to the charity of your choice to assist fire victims of the recent LA fires. The service will be livestreamed.



## Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

I still feel like I'm trying to get my feet under me as we move into 2025. Perhaps you feel the same.

Some of us are trudging into the new year, having experienced deep grief and loss. Some of us are dancing into the new year, looking forward to events, connections and opportunities ahead. Still others of us are moving tentatively into the new year, unsettledness and angst our almost constant companions as we mull over personal, communal, national and global concerns. This is an unusual time, a time when much feels in transition and little feels certain or known. Regardless of how we find ourselves at this point in the new year, I invite us to remember what we know deep down...that we are not alone. We belong to God and to one another. Our faith matters in these times as we root ourselves in the words, songs and beliefs that shape us as the body of Christ and, borrowing a phrase from our Advent series, we "do the good that is ours to do," one gesture, one word, one person, one day at a time.

In this new year, I have renewed my intention and effort to regularly read, reflect, journal and pray. I am always blessed when I turn to author John O'Donohue and his book *To Bless the Space Between Us*. His reflection called "The Inner History of a Day," reminds me to be as present as I can in every day – with mercy, compassion, kindness, love. It goes like this...

*No one knew the name of this day;  
Born quietly from the deepest night,  
It hid its face in light,*

*Demanded nothing for itself,  
Opened out to offer each of us  
A field of brightness that traveled ahead,  
Providing in time, ground to hold our footsteps  
And the light of thought to show the way.*

*The mind of the day draws no attention;  
It dwells within the silence with elegance  
To create a space for all our words,  
Drawing us to listen inward and outward.*

*We seldom notice how each day is a holy place  
Where the eucharist of the ordinary happens,  
Transforming our broken fragments  
Into an eternal continuity that keeps us.*

*Somewhere in us a dignity presides  
That is more gracious than the smallness  
That fuels us with fear and force,  
A dignity that trusts the form a day takes.*

*So at the end of this day, we give thanks  
For being betrothed to the unknown  
And for the secret work  
Through which the mind of the day  
And wisdom of the soul become one.*

As we move into this year, may we know each day as a "holy place where the eucharist of the ordinary happens" and may we "listen inward and outward" for the Love that journeys alongside us all our days.

In Christ,  
Pastor Lori



### Lunch Bunch

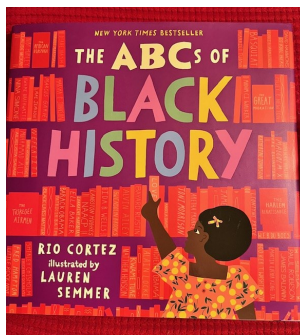
Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering of good souls, enjoying food and fellowship at one of our wonderful local restaurants. On February 20<sup>th</sup> we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at Fairouz Café in the Midway District. Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> so we can reserve a table big enough for all!



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

February is Black History Month and it's a great time to learn about the achievements and struggles of African Americans throughout history. See below for a picture of one of Pastor Lori's favorite books about Black History Month (along with a few famous Black Americans). Would you like to learn more about Black History Month, who it honors and what it means? Go to websites like [kids.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/black-history-month](https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/black-history-month) to read more. AND you're welcome to borrow her book! If you'd like to "check it out," see her any Sunday morning! May this be a month for all of us to remember, honor and learn as together we celebrate Black History Month!

**Kidz  
Korner**



## ***Caring Ministry Need for February: Prayer Chain Support***

Over the last months, we've been exploring needs related to Caring Ministries. We want to match the interests and talents of each person to a ministry where they can let their light shine AND be involved to the extent they desire and are able. Each month we will feature a caring ministry need in the Beach Breeze and weekly church e-mail. Some of those ministries have an internal focus and some of those ministries turn our hands, hearts and spirits outward.

The invitation for February is for PRAYER CHAIN SUPPORT. This ministry can be done entirely from home! It would involve following up on existing prayer chain requests, updating information and communicating those updates to the office. This is one of those ministries that the right person could "make their own," adapting the role to meet individual time and interests. Do you value the role of prayer between and among us? Would you like to help coordinate our prayer efforts to be even more meaningful and efficient? If this sounds like just the right spot for you, please reach out to Pastor Lori for more information. And if this isn't quite the right fit for you, is there something else that might suit your time and interest? Give it some prayerful consideration and reach out to Pastor Lori with your ideas!



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).

*Beach Breeze* Editor:  
Craig Roberts



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

### **Good News: Just What the Doctor Ordered**

By “Doc”

Chula Vista- young man does the right thing for the right reason—helping someone else. Here’s the story...

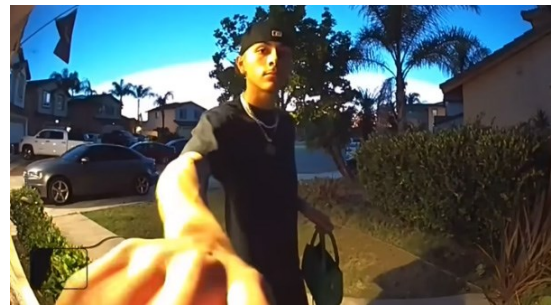
If you’ve ever lost your wallet or purse with everything in it including credit cards, driver’s license and cash, it’s frightening. You know the feeling. You anxiously try to piece everything back together and hope the “wrong” person doesn’t find it. One day, at a local market, Eliana Martin experienced such an event and was frantic. She couldn’t find her purse when she got home and began canceling credit cards and trying to repair the mess. When 17-year-old Adrian Rodrigues found the purse in the parking lot, he immediately looked inside for an address and headed off to return it to her. No one was home so he left the purse, not looking for a reward, just doing the right thing.

Martin’s residence had Ring service, so when she got home, she got a look at her young aide and couldn’t believe how young he was. She wanted to do something for him and started a Go Fund Me page. This way she could reward a young man who did the right thing when no one was watching--the definition of character. Since then, the page has raised nearly \$5,000 for Adrian, a recent high school graduate. Guess caring for others pays in both directions.

Source: Tod Perry, Upworthy.com

*Laugh often & live healthy!*

**:Doc**



Above, Adrian Rodrigues is captured on Elaina Martin’s doorbell camera returning her purse.



PB UMC members Susie Virgilio and Joan F. (above) celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a couple last month.

At right, the celebratory cake!



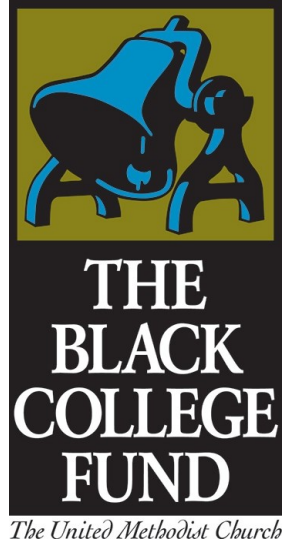
## ***We Reach Out to Others***

### ***February Communion Offering*** ***United Methodist Church's Black College Fund***

February is Black History Month and as part of recognizing this, PB UMC will allocate its monthly communion offering to the United Methodist Church (UMC) Black College Fund (BCF).

One of the most significant ways the UMC helps make quality education accessible to all is through the BCF. The fund supports the 11 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) related to the church – the largest number of black colleges and universities receiving funding from any church body in the United States. More than 95 percent of all proceeds of the fund flow directly to HBCU campuses, where they help to strengthen programs, provide vital infrastructure and keep tuition costs low.

For more information: [www.gbhem.org/education/bcf-for-schools/](http://www.gbhem.org/education/bcf-for-schools/)



Above left, the Rhodes family (Cameron, Zachary and Beth) provided the evening meal for PB UMC's first night of hosting the Inter-faith Shelter Network.

Above right, the new parsonage dogs: Olive (left) and Coach.

Photos by Pastor Lori

### ***Former US Bank Parking Lot No Longer Has Free Parking***

PB UMC no longer has permission to park at this lot (NE corner of Grand and Ingraham) for free—please plan accordingly! If you are comfortable walking for a block or two, please look for street parking—this allows visitors to easily find a spot in our lot.

# Circle of Support

December 2024

## Record of Generosity

	Actual	Budget
Activity in November		
Giving	\$ 34,934	\$ 21,551
Other Income	\$ 22,433	\$ 20,625
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 57,362	\$ 42,176
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 29,495	\$ 36,730
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 27,872	\$ 5,446
2024 Year-To-Date		
Giving	\$ 270,354	\$ 258,491
Other Income	\$ 159,862	\$ 151,861
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 430,216	\$ 410,352
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 426,842	\$ 432,519
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 3,374	(\$ 22,167)

## Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T.

Giving was generous for December, thank you for your faithful dedication!

Throughout 2024, Church administration and all those involved in managing resources did an amazing job of identifying opportunities and making wise choices. We went into 2024 with a deficit and finished the year not only able to pay our full share of Apportionments, but also with a few loaves and fishes left to tuck into our coffers.

We enter 2025 in a similar situation. The budget, recently adopted at our special Charge Conference session, is a plan, and we'll make pivots as the year progresses, remaining faithful stewards of the church's resources.

We are grateful for your ongoing generosity in prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Thank you for the many ways you support the mission and ministries of PB UMC!

## Church Office Open Intermittently in February

Due to a planned medical procedure, the church office will have intermittent hours during the month of February — please call in advance to ensure that it's open.

### CHURCH STAFF:

Lead Pastor: The Rev Lori Leopold  
Music Director: Ron Jessee  
Director of Technical Arts: Michael Beu

Office Administrator: Susie Virgilio  
Assistant Director of Technical Arts: Brian Kaplan  
Campus Maintenance Coordinator: Troy McGarrity

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



# Calendar of Events

Every Sunday: **10:00 am, Worship Celebration**  
Child Care Available

## Week 1

Sat, Feb. 1 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 2

Sun, Feb. 2 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship (Communion Sunday)  
2:00 pm, Celebration of Life of Lea Ann Walker  
Mon, Feb. 3 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Feb. 4 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Feb. 5 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Feb. 6 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Feb. 7 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Feb. 8 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 3

Sun, Feb. 9 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Sound of Music," starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer (1965) (p. 8)  
Mon, Feb. 10 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Feb. 11 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Feb. 12 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Feb. 13 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Feb. 14 Church Office Closed  
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)  
Sat, Feb. 15 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 4

Sun, Feb. 16 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
12:00 pm, Game Day! (p.7)  
PRESIDENTS DAY  
Church Office Closed  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Feb. 18 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)  
Wed, Feb. 19 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Beach Breeze Materials Due  
Thurs, Feb. 20 12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 2)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Church Office Closed  
Fri, Feb. 21 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Feb. 22 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 5

Sun, Feb. 23 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
12:00 pm, Growing in Faith  
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Second Best Marigold Hotel," starring Maggie Smith, Richard Gere, Judi Dench, Bill Nighy and Dev Patel (2015) (p. 8)  
Mon, Feb. 24 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Feb. 25 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Feb. 26 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront  
Thurs, Feb. 27 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Church Office Closed  
Fri, Feb. 28 Church Office Closed

## Game Day Returns in February!

By Hope A.

Want a little social time? A chance to meet friends who don't all attend worship? We'll gather in the social hall at about noon on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, and play Chinese mahjong (and other games if you like to bring them) for about 2-3 hours (or till we are tired).

Bring your lunch or pick one up at a nearby food place—and a snack to share if you like. Families and newcomers are always encouraged—we love to teach! If you have questions, please talk to Kathy W. or me.



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

## ***February Worship/ Scriptures***

- February 2** Holy Communion  
Luke 4: 21-30
- February 9** Guest Speaker: Karl Martin  
Romans 11:33-12:2
- February 16** Luke 6: 17-26
- February 23** Luke 6: 27-38

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



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## ***February's Movies Take Us from Austria to India***

By Craig Roberts

Ready for a trip around the world? Join us for our two February movies.



On Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup>, it's time to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 1965's Best Picture winner, "The Sound of Music," starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer. You may have seen this film before, but you may not have seen its special "sing along" version, where all the song lyrics appear on the screen. Show us if you have what it takes to be a Von Trapp family singer!

On Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, we'll celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 2015's "The Second Best Marigold Hotel," with an all-star cast that includes Richard Gere, Dev Patel, Bill Nighy, Judi Dench and the late, great Maggie Smith.

All movies screen at 1:00 pm in Hughes Hall. Popcorn and other snacks are always available but please bring anything you like!

And if you can't attend in person, consider putting these films on your personal watchlist and let me know if you enjoyed them (or if you didn't)!

