



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

March 2025

Lenten Study: Who Was “God the Father” to Jesus of Nazareth?

Six Thursday evenings via Zoom, beginning March 6th

A few Sundays back, Dr. Karl Martin gave us significant food for thought in his lay message -- what does it mean to be a Christian in the United States today? This is more than a thought experiment or a philosophical exercise. How we answer this question shapes not just our belief but also the way we exist and act in this world. Our upcoming book study, co-led by David D and Adam M, aims to give a timely and deeply theological answer to that question. Together we will read through one of the last books authored by Dr. John Cobb.

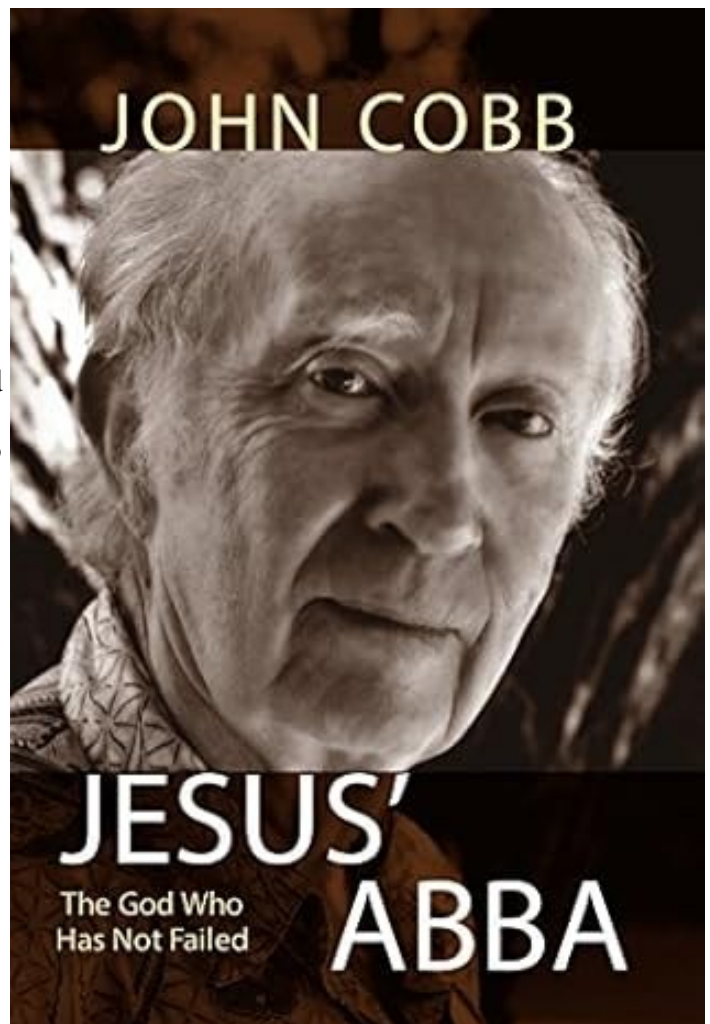
John Cobb was a longtime professor at the Claremont School of Theology, a preeminent Methodist scholar and theologian, and mentor to countless philosophers and faith leaders. In the book for our study – *Jesus' Abba: The God Who Has Not Failed* – Cobb argues that Christians must think of the figurehead of the Trinity through the lens of Jesus of Nazareth. Holding a primary understanding of God our *Abba* has profound implications for science, theology, interfaith relations, and especially ecology.

During the six weeks of the Lenten season, we will read through John Cobb's book. Please pick up a copy of the book in preparation (physical or Kindle) and feel free to peruse Chapter 1 as our weekly readings continue to take shape.

To register for this group or to ask questions, reach out to Adam at AdamM@pbumc.org.

Kindle: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01E4MRKD4/>

Paperback: <https://www.cokesbury.com/Jesus-Abba>



Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

The liturgical season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5th. Lent spans forty days, not including Sundays, and is a season of preparation leading up to Holy Week and Easter. It's a quiet, reflective season that invites us to look inward as well as to look around. It encourages us to relinquish that which binds, diminishes or limits us or another. Theologian Frederick Niedner compared Lent to "spring cleaning" for the body, spirit and soul. Lent encourages us to create space in order to be prepared to truly, deeply receive the good news of Easter when it arrives.

We will observe Ash Wednesday in several different ways. As we've done in years past, we'll participate in the ecumenical offering called "Ashes to Go." Representatives from a variety of churches will host a table on the boardwalk in PB. Watch the weekly email for more details about times and location. In addition, we'll gather with our siblings from La Jolla UMC for an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm in our sanctuary. We'll read scripture, join in prayer and have the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes on our foreheads, a reminder of our mortality and an invitation to move purposefully into this season of repentance and renewal.

Our Lenten theme for Sunday mornings comes from our friends at Sanctified Art. This year's theme is "Everything in Between." We'll follow the lectionary readings and examine a set of polarities each Sunday, such as "Intention and Action," "Stranger and Neighbor," "Faith and Work" and more. We'll listen together for God's invitation to navigate such polarities faithfully, searching for God, ourselves and one another in the places and spaces "in between."

In addition, we have a deep and meaningful six-week Lenten Study, led by an incredible team, Adam M and David D. You have probably already read about the study and how to sign up on the previous page. I hope and pray that you will participate in one or all of these Lenten opportunities that are before us. In these upcoming weeks, let us find the courage to slow down, to reflect, to release what needs releasing and to prepare our hearts, minds and spirits to be filled anew.

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 March 20th we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at the Olive Garden on Sports Arena Boulevard.

Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, March 18th so we can reserve a table big enough for all!



ITALIAN KITCHEN

We Care for One Another

Phyllis Tachco

(Sept. 14, 1936-Jan. 28, 2025)

Phyllis Adell Tachco—wife, mother, teacher, journalist and woman of infinite talent and charisma—died on January 28, 2025 in San Diego. She was 88 years old.

Born in Columbia, Missouri to parents Robert and Clara Railey, she was a self-described “army brat,” moving all around the US following her father’s transfers with the US Army.

She attended the prestigious journalism school at the University of Missouri, paying her own way by working in the student health clinic.

Phyllis was a storyteller, always recounting stories of childhood summers on her grandparents’ farm, the history of her extended family, adventures from her extended travels and her serendipitous meeting of the love of her life, Tom Tachco, while cruising the streets of Hollywood. They married on December 23, 1958.

Phyllis worked for the *Los Angeles Times*, then decided to become a schoolteacher, a decision that would benefit generations of children in both Ventura County, CA and Granville, OH, where she won the Salute to Excellence Award for teaching in 1996. Her unique approach to learning allowed children of all levels to thrive.

She had a talent for decorating, sewing, painting and drawing, flower arranging, basket weaving and cooking. She could taste something she liked in a restaurant, then go home and “hack” the recipe, making it better than the original. She was passionate about the arts and was a longtime season ticket holder to San Diego’s Old Globe Theater.

Phyllis was pre-deceased by her husband Tom. She leaves behind four children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild, as well as her four brothers.

Phyllis’ family requests that all who wish to remember and honor her do so by donating to PB UMC’s Project Grace, of which she was a passionate supporter.

Phyllis also provided Shoreline Community Services with a generous donation five years ago which enabled it to grow into the powerhouse non-profit that it is today.



The *Beach Breeze* is a monthly publication of the Pacific Beach United Methodist Church. Please visit our website at www.myPBchurch.org.

Beach Breeze Editor:
Craig Roberts

We Grow in Grace & Faith

Good News: Just What the Doctor Ordered

By “Doc”

Ilkeston, Derbyshire - 10-Year-Old Manages Grave Situation. Here's the story...

Ben, a 10-year-old from Ilkeston, was visiting his grandmother's grave and decided it needed cleaning. While there, he looked around and said to his mum, “looks a bit sad.” They were in disrepair and Michelle, his mum, explained that not everyone has time or money to take care of them. She suggested Ben start a business cleaning gravestones and he took it to heart. Together they researched the best products and techniques to use so as not to damage the stones.

His business has been greeted with warm responses and support. Since launching it, Ben made two important decisions for his new business. First, it's time for his mum to get his website up and running. More importantly, he's donating 10% of his income to Stevie Stones, a charity supplying headstones to families who can't afford a memorial for their children.

Source: Matthew Barlow, BBC News, Derby

Laugh often & live healthy!

:Doc



Mahjong Game Day in March!

By Hope A

We love meeting new folks to play mahjong! And we love to teach the game. Please join us after church on Sunday, March 16th to play Chinese-style mahjong – or other games if you want to bring them – in the social hall. Bring your lunch or pick one up at a nearby restaurant. We start playing by noon after eating together. Bring a drink or a snack to share if you like. We keep two tile sets in the bell closet (newly designated space) and can bring more if we know you are coming.

Please contact Kathy W or me for further information.



We Reach Out to Others

March Communion Offering ***United Methodist Committee of Relief***

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), a unit of Global Ministries, is a humanitarian organization that helps alleviate human suffering, one of the two main goals of Global Ministries. Originally founded in 1940 in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II, UMCOR assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion or status. UMCOR's work is carried out by providing relief and assistance in response to natural and human-made disasters and supporting programs in the areas of migration, health, food security and environmental sustainability.

Some of the UMCOR's efforts go towards international and US disaster response, migration and refugees and relief supplies, including an established supply network.

For more information: umcmmission.org/umcor/



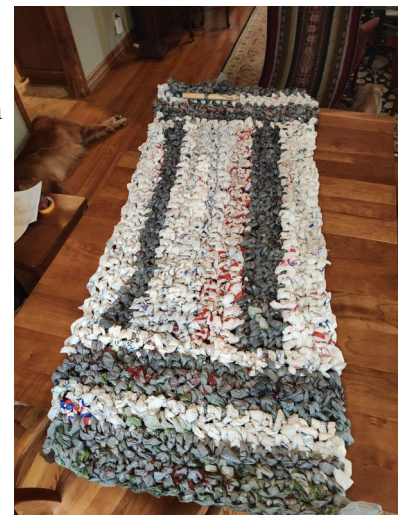
Recycled Bedding Workshop: ***How to Turn Grocery Bags into Sleeping Mats***

By Pastor Lori

Remember all those grocery bags we collected? Let's put them to good use!

On Sunday, March 23rd, Seth Cosford, a young adult from the La Jolla UMC, will be our teacher and guide. Seth is a graduate student and aspiring artist with a deep passion for social justice and advocacy. He'll give us step by step lessons on how to use grocery bags, destined for the landfills, to create water resistant sleeping mats for folks in need.

Feel free to grab some lunch after church and then join us at noon for Seth's brief presentation. Stay as long as you're able or drop in for an hour or two. We'll be working throughout the afternoon and closing up about 5:00. All are welcome...we'll provide drinks, snacks and training for all!



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

January 2025

Record of Generosity

	Actual	Budget
Activity in January		
Giving	\$ 21,619	\$ 22,040
Other Income	\$ 27,094	\$ 14,735
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 48,712	\$ 36,775
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 35,898	\$ 39,862
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 12,814	(\$ 3,446)

Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T

Pledged giving exceeded budget for January, while other giving was close to target for the year. Other income is overstated due to receipt date variations, but should balance once we move a bit farther into the year.

We will continue to use and plan our resources wisely and trust in God who provides. 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!



Louis P (center) provides the Children's Time sermon for the Spence brothers as Pastor Lori looks on.

Photo by Vickie T

Church Office Open Intermittently in March

Due to a planned medical procedure, the church office will have intermittent hours during the month of March — 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 McGarritty

Church Office: 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, Mar. 1 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 2

Sun, Mar. 2 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship (Communion Sunday)
Mon, Mar. 3 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Mar. 4 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Mar. 5 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
7:00 pm, Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs, Mar. 6 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
7:00 pm, Lenten Study (via Zoom) (p. 1)
Fri, Mar. 7 Church Office Closed
Sat, Mar. 8 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 3

Sun, Mar. 9 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS ("Spring Forward")
9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "Joe Versus the Volcano," starring Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan and Lloyd Bridges (1990) (p. 8)
Mon, Mar. 10 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Mar. 11 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Mar. 12 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Mar. 13 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
7:00 pm, Lenten Study (via Zoom) (p. 1)
Fri, Mar. 14 Church Office Closed
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)
Sat, Mar. 15 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 4

Sun, Mar. 16 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
12:00 pm, Game Day! (p.4)
Mon, Mar. 17 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Mar. 18 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)
Wed, Mar. 19 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Mar. 20 Beach Breeze Materials Due
12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 2)
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
7:00 pm, Lenten Study (via Zoom) (p. 1)
Fri, Mar. 21 Church Office Closed
Sat, Mar. 22 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 5

Sun, Mar. 23 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:30 am, Growing in Faith
12:00 pm, Recycled Bedding Workshop (p. 5)
Mon, Mar. 24 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Mar. 25 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Mar. 26 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront
Thurs, Mar. 27 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
7:00 pm, Lenten Study (via Zoom) (p. 1)
Fri, Mar. 28 Church Office Closed
Sat, Mar. 29 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 6

Sun, Mar. 30 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" (1975) (p. 8)
Mon, Mar. 31 6:00 pm, Al-Anon



We Love and Worship God

March Worship/Scriptures

- March 2** Transfiguration Sunday
Holy Communion
Luke 9: 28-36
Guest Preacher: Lesley Brogan
- March 5** Ash Wednesday Service
Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.
Luke 9:51-62
- March 9** First Sunday in Lent
Luke 10:25-37
- March 16** Second Sunday in Lent
Luke 10: 38-42
Guest Preacher: Adam Marshall
- March 23** Third Sunday in Lent
Luke 13: 6-9
- March 30** Fourth Sunday in Lent
Luke 15: 1-7

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
* PAID *
San Diego, CA
Permit No. 174

March's Movies Visit a Volcano and Arthurian England

By Craig Roberts

Ready for more cinematic travel? Join us for our two March movies.



You may have seen “Sleepless in Seattle” and “You’ve Got Mail” but have you seen the first movie to pair Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan? On Sunday March 9th, we’ll celebrate the 35th anniversary of that movie, 1990’s quirky comedy “Joe Versus the Volcano.” I promise you’ll never look at the moon the same way again.

On Sunday March 30th, we’ll celebrate the 50th anniversary of 1975’s “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” the silliest retelling of the legend of King Arthur you’ll ever see. The British comedy troupe Monty Python made a total of four pictures but this is their standout classic.

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)!

