



Pacific Beach  
United Methodist Church

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

May 2025

## *Easter Sunday 2025*



Above, over 50 people attended the Easter Sunrise service at Crown Point. Attendees included members of Pacific Beach United Methodist and La Jolla United Methodist but also many folks who found the service through social media or Easter morning signage.

Below, the PB UMC sanctuary is overflowing with Easter lilies during Easter Sunday worship service.

Photos by Craig Roberts



## Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

Easter Sunday was a joy! Thank you to all who were a part of the celebration in body and/or spirit! It was a gift once again to share some of our Holy Week/Easter services with our siblings at La Jolla UMC. Throughout Lent and Holy Week, we welcomed many friends, family members, neighbors and strangers as we sang and prayed, laughed and cried, listened and spoke, leaning into “the messy middle” and into our God of abundant love and grace who meets us wherever and however we are. I’m so grateful to have celebrated this Easter in and with this big-hearted community and I’m looking forward to all that is ahead in Eastertide and beyond.

There are so many aspects of Lent and Holy Week that have stuck with me. One of them is the importance of *the table*. I shared briefly during Communion at the Easter Sunrise Service about author Diana Butler Bass’ words regarding the power of the table in the days before Jesus’ crucifixion and after his resurrection. She points out that the disciples, following Jesus’ crucifixion, “gathered in a room,” which was likely the same room where they gathered Thursday night for the “last supper.” In other post resurrection accounts, Jesus gathered with his disciples at literal or figurative tables, including a campfire where they shared a meal. Butler Bass rightly says that Jesus never took the disciples back to the site of the brutal crucifixion. No, the places he met them were gathering places, places with tables, places where people could break bread with one another. The cross is a central symbol in our faith for certain but perhaps the table is just as essential.

So I’ve been thinking about tables and opportunities to gather. Knowing this church has fond memories of small groups that gathered around tables, we’ve hatched a plan to revisit that old tradition and combine it with something relatively new. For the last several years, Les and I have hosted “Hymn Sings” at the parsonage, often combined with a potluck or BBQ. This year we want to take that tradition on the road. Over the late spring and summer months, we hope to have three or four gatherings in different parts of the county. (We’ll still do one summer potluck/hymn sing at the parsonage on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>!) Hosts can choose day and time, along with what we’d like to share...potluck of snacks or lunch or dinner or dessert? It’s up to you! We’ll do some sharing and sing some songs. Folks will be invited to come to the gathering nearest them OR venture out into the community and come to one or more or all! We already have one volunteer to host in the North Park area of San Diego. So we just need a few more!

Please let me know if you’re interested in hosting or if you’d like more information. We’ll begin to publish gathering places and times in the next few months so folks can join in where they’re able. Opportunities to gather and break bread are not only fun but they are exactly where and how Jesus invites us to meet him, to meet one another...heart to heart, spirit to spirit, breaking bread and finding holy grace for the living of these days. Will you join me?

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 Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> we’ll meet at noon for a no host lunch at the Mission Valley Islands, 2441 Fenton Parkway (next to Costco).

Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> so we can reserve a table big enough for all!





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

## ***Guatemala Project Returns to PB UMC***

By Pastor Lori

PB UMC has a long history of supporting the mission and ministry of Guatemala Project. Their website at [www.sdguatemalaproject.org/who-we-are](http://www.sdguatemalaproject.org/who-we-are) describes their work in this way: “The Guatemala Project, affiliated with the United Methodist Church, is doing truly awesome work in the Highlands of Guatemala. Over the past 20 years, we have built medical and dental clinics, a tailor's trade school, houses for widows and homes for mud slide victims, wood efficiency stoves, schools for children as well as having taken medical teams to serve the needs of people who may never before been seen by a doctor. So very many lives are transformed, one by one, family by family in Guatemala. Our mission is to assist Mayans in securing a voice in their own future. We accomplish this in partnership with faith-based communities in Guatemala and the United States by building educational, medical, and recreational facilities and providing scholarships, education, and home improvements in Guatemala primarily through the sale of Mayan indigenous products. Our shared work and prayers help support healthy, educated and culturally stable Mayan communities.”

We hope you can join us in worship on May 4<sup>th</sup> to hear all the updates from a Guatemala Project representative and then stay after church to support this life giving ministry by purchasing beautiful, hand-made items at the Guatemala Project Market that will be set up in the social hall. Question? Reach out to Pastor Lori.



Pastor Lori, BL and Hope met at Mr. Peabody's for April's Lunch Bunch.

Photo by Pastor Lori

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***

## ***May Game Day***

By Hope A

We're moving our game day from its tentative date on Mother's Day to Memorial Day weekend instead, due to availability of the hosts. If you are in town, please join us for an afternoon of Mahjong (or other games you might like to bring) after worship on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. We will gather in the social hall shortly before noon and play till probably about 3:00 p.m. You are welcome to come later or leave early if that suits you better.

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.



## ***The End Times: Truth Or Consequences***

By Pastor Lori

This educational presentation will be held on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. after church in the sanctuary. Our presenter, our own Rev. Dan Meyer-Abbott, will help us explore the meaning of the End-Times through the lens of American history and the Bible.

What does scripture actually say about the End-Times? What is the rapture and how do we understand the complexities of the Book of Revelation? A time for Q & A will be built into the presentation.

RSVPs are requested. If you plan to attend, please sign up via the link in the weekly church email or add your name to the sign up sheet on the table in the entryway at church. All are welcome!



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

## ***May Communion Offering*** ***PB UMC Solar Power Project***

By Craig Roberts

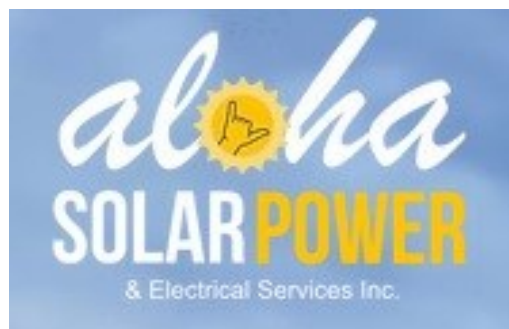
Exciting news: PB UMC will be getting solar panels sometime this year! And at that point, we'll be "off the grid." This will be our church's "environmental ministry."

Earlier this year, the Leadership Council voted to engage Aloha Solar Power to install solar panels on the roof of our office building. Since then, the contract has been signed and Aloha submitted their installation plans to the City of San Diego for permit approval. The city has responded with comments on the project and Aloha has responded to those comments and resubmitted the updated proposal.

Because the church is considered a commercial property for municipal permitting purposes, our permit may take a bit longer to be granted than it would for a residential property. But once the permit is granted, it should take less than a week for the panel(s) installation. The hope is that the project will be completed before the end of summer.

Our May communion offering is going towards this environmental ministry.

For more information: [alohasolarpower.com](http://alohasolarpower.com)



### **PACIFIC BEACH INTERFAITH COALITION**

*Evening of Interfaith Music*  
May 7, 2025



Music can transcend language, overcome barriers, evoke deep emotion, and offer spiritual renewal. Join people of different faith traditions for an evening of interfaith music and creative expression. Featuring presenters from Islamic, Jewish, Baha'i, Buddhist, and Christian backgrounds.

Graciously hosted at  
**Christ Lutheran Church**

4761 Cass St.

Program begins at 6:30 p.m.  
Refreshments and fellowship to follow



Join the South District for the SD Padres Faith and Family Night on Saturday, May 17th. Gather with fellow San Diego church communities for an unforgettable evening of fellowship, fun, and faith.

**Your \$40 Theme Game Package ticket includes:**

- \* An exclusive Padres FAITH hat to commemorate the night
- \* A postgame concert featuring the inspirational Rhett Walker
- \* A ticket to catch all the excitement of the game
- \* \$3 goes to support the mission work of the South District

Complete & send this form to [jeri@lindavistaumc.org](mailto:jeri@lindavistaumc.org)

Name:

Address:

Cell #:

# of Tix \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40 each

Church:

SCAN HERE  
TO PAY



*There are a limited 100 tickets available so order now!*



# ***Circle of Support***

***March 2025***

## ***Record of Generosity***

	Actual	Budget
<b>Activity in March</b>		
Giving	\$ 28,167	\$ 22,040
Other Income	\$ 18,430	\$ 22,932
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 46,597	\$ 44,972
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 40,274	\$ 40,578
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 6,323	\$ 4,394

	Actual	Budget
<b>2025 Year-To-Date</b>		
Giving	\$ 75,802	\$ 66,120
Other Income	\$ 41,184	\$ 46,376
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 116,985	\$ 112,496
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 107,661	\$ 120,301
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 9,324	(\$ 7,805)

## ***Reflections From the Finance Team***

By Heidi T

Giving was ahead of budget for March, thanks to a grant for over \$7,000 to Project Grace. Thank you to all the PG team for your time, effort, and diligence in bringing forth this blessing! Spending is on track for the month and under budget for 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!

## ***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.

### **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

Thurs, May 1 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, May 2 Church Office Closed  
Sat, May 3 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 2

Sun, May 4 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship (Communion Sunday)  
11:00 am, Guatemala Market  
Mon, May 5 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 6 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, May 7 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
6:30 pm, Evening of Interfaith Music  
Christ Lutheran Church (p. 5)  
Thurs, May 8 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, May 9 Church Office Closed  
Sat, May 10 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 3

Sun, May 11 Mothers Day  
9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
Mon, May 12 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 13 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, May 14 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 15 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 2)  
Fri, May 16 Church Office Closed  
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)  
Sat, May 17 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon  
5:40 pm, San Diego Padres Faith and Family Night at Petco Park (p. 5)

## Week 4

Sun, May 18 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
12:00 pm, Special Presentation: "The End-Times: Truth or Consequences" (p. 4)  
2:00 pm, Movie: "Madagascar" (2005) (p. 8)  
Mon, May 19 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 20 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)  
Wed, May 21 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront  
Beach Breeze Materials Due  
Thurs, May 22 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, May 23 Church Office Closed  
Sat, May 24 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 5

Sun, May 25 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
11:30 am, Growing in Faith  
12:00 pm, Game Day! (p.4)  
MEMORIAL DAY  
Church Office Closed  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, May 27 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, May 28 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, May 29 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, May 30 Church Office Closed  
Sat, May 31 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon



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

## ***May Worship/Scriptures***

- May 4** Holy Communion  
Guatemala Project  
Acts 9:1-20
- May 11** Mothers Day  
Acts 9:36-43
- May 18** Acts 11:1-18
- May 25** Memorial Day Weekend  
Acts 16:9-15

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



1561 Thomas Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92109

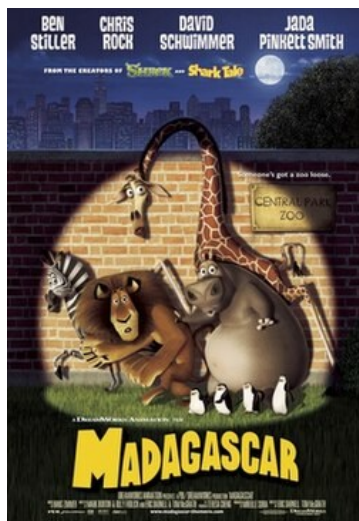
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## ***May Screening Celebrates the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a Beloved Animated Film***

By Craig Roberts

Can it really have been 20 years since the animated classic “Madagascar” was released?



Well, yes, Wikipedia informs me that the film was released May 27, 2005 and we will screen it just a few days shy of that milestone. This film was so successful that it has had three sequels (to date). It features the voice acting of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith and Sacha Baron Cohen.

While we normally screen a couple of films each month, we’re only screening one film in May to avoid Mothers Day and Memorial Day weekends.

PLEASE NOTE that this film will screen at 2:00 pm in Hughes Hall, rather than the usual time of 1:00 pm so as not to conflict with the lecture on the End Times. Popcorn and other snacks are always available but please bring anything you like!

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

