



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

September 2025

Sunday School Reset...Here We Go!

By Pastor Lori

We have been working hard on our Sunday School Reset and we're set to begin on Sunday, September 7th! There will be several changes to how we currently run Sunday School. We'll experience those changes together but here's a preview of what's to come:

1. Cat and Madison will staff our nursery for children ages 0-3 or 4ish. We'll introduce kids to the "One Room Sunday School" when parents, families and teachers feel they're ready.
2. Adult volunteers will teach our One Room Sunday School. Tami J. has graciously agreed to be the lead teacher for the first quarter. We are training additional Sunday School teachers who will be the "2nd adult" in the classroom throughout this first quarter. If you're interested in helping with Sunday School, please reach out to me.
3. The narthex (lobby) of the church will have more support for children and families. Clipboards, worship worksheets and crayons are available to pick up and take into church. Additionally, there are worship bags with other worship activities/goodies on the table in the narthex.
4. Parents with small children will have lots of options. We're creating a "Play and Pray Area" in the sanctuary where kids/families can remain in worship and color/play during the service. Parents are also welcome to use the narthex as a play area where they can see/hear the worship service on the TV. Additionally, we've installed a TV in the nursery. If parents feel more comfortable staying with kids in the nursery, they can do so and still feel connected to worship.
5. Children will stay in the worship service on Communion Sundays and participate in a variety of different ways.
6. On non-Communion Sundays, kids will begin in church, stay through the scripture reading and then go to Sunday School for a time of music, movement, age appropriate Bible study and fun!

I am so thankful for everyone who has worked so hard to envision something new and loving for our kids. Please join me in praying for this new thing that is happening among us! May we grow in the ways we welcome all God's children of every age.



Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

I only have a handful of memories of my Confirmation experience. I'm sure I was in late elementary school or early junior high. My sister, Jenny, went through Confirmation with me. Our pastor was Rev. Bob Fehlman. He was a very kind man but also big and booming and intimidating to this young confirmant. I remember sitting in his office, taking in the sights and sounds and smells of that place. He showed us a picture on his wall that had all different symbols that represented or related to God. It must have made an impression on me because I remember that moment to this day.

I am certain that I learned a lot from Pastor Bob during Confirmation but I am also certain that I learned just as much from other people at La Jolla United Methodist Church. I learned how to navigate the Bible. I learned a bunch of Bible stories. I learned to play the autoharp and dance the Hora. I learned how to be present in worship and even how to participate. I learned how to survive (and enjoy!) an all night lock-in with the youth group. I learned the hymns of our faith. I learned that Jesus loves us all but he especially looks out for those who are least, last and lost. Above all I learned about God's love – for me, for everyone – through the kind and loving people of La Jolla UMC.

We have the great joy of having three young people in Confirmation at PB UMC. And while I hope that what I share with them is meaningful and will make a difference, I also know that the majority of what they learn about God, about Jesus, about the Holy Spirit, about church comes from you. For that reason, I am writing to solicit your help! My great hope, by the end of Confirmation Class on October 19th, is to compile notes of “wisdom and love” from the people of PB UMC. I want to offer these to our confirmands, written reminders of what you hope they'll know above all else, remember above all else, about what it means to be a Christian and a person of faith. I invite you to write a sentence, a card, a poem, a song, a prayer...whatever suits you best! And then place it in the basket in the entryway at church. Thank you for being examples of faithfulness in good times and hard times. And thank you for showing our youngest members what God's love is all about.

Much Peace,
Pastor Lori



Prayers of the People

By Pastor Lori

When I first arrived at PB UMC in July of 2020, the pastoral prayer portion of our worship service was called “Prayers of the People.” That's an appropriate name as I hope that our time of prayer reflects the deepest hopes and concerns of all of us as we gather for worship. Perhaps because I am slightly more traditional, somewhere along the way I opted to change the name to “Pastoral Prayer.” But beginning on September 7th, we're going to do both/and! On Communion Sundays, I will invite a lay member of the congregation to offer the “Prayers of the People.” Our Lay Leader, Ken Brown has volunteered to “go first.” I hope many others will be open to the idea of offering the prayer on a Communion Sunday moving forward. If you know this is something you'd like to do, please reach out to me and we'll get you scheduled! And don't be surprised if I reach out to you, to ask if you might consider sharing your heart and spirit in this way. (And as always, “yes” and “no” are perfectly great answers!) Let us continue to pray for God's peace and justice, God's mercy and care for our community, for every community, for all God's children throughout God's beloved world.

We Care for One Another

September Game Day: Picture Yourself Playing Pictionary

By Hope A.

We'll meet in the social hall after worship for mahjong and other fun games. Martha K. has been introducing us to Pictionary at the beginning of play, after which the group breaks into mahjong tables for the rest of the afternoon. Perhaps you'd like to join us for Pictionary or another group game. (Pictionary is fun even if you can't draw.) If you don't play mahjong, no worries—we love to teach, and you are also welcome to bring and play a different game for the afternoon.

Bring or buy your lunch. We usually eat in the lanai. We start playing by about 12 p.m. and wrap up at about 3 p.m. It's okay to come late or leave early. For more information, contact Kathy W. or me. Join us!



Scripture and Sermon Study Resumes in September

After taking a summer break, the Scripture and Sermon Study will resume Wednesday, September 3rd, in the narthex or via Zoom. All are invited to join any Wednesday morning at 11:30 a.m. as we study various scriptures.

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”

New Orleans, LA - Some Assembly Required. Here's the story...

In New Orleans, a company has found a way to make pediatric wheelchairs available for the cost of printing them *at home*. MakeGood, a New Orleans-based company, is handing out the 3D printer design for free. It allows parents to create them with nothing more than a home 3D printer, and no tools or glue needed for assembly—they simply snap together. For a fraction of a fraction of the cost, now parents can replace wheelchairs as their child grows out of them... or takes them off-roading! Talk about “Big Easy!”

Source: Kamrin Baker, GoodGoodGood.co



Laugh often & live healthy!

:Doc



Voices of Praise hosted the St. Mark's PB UMC choir last month for the "How Great Thou Art" concert.

Photo by Pastor Lori

We Reach Out to Others

September Communion Offering

Hispanic/Latino and Border Ministries

From the California-Pacific Annual Conference website:

We, the California-Pacific Annual Conference, being faithful to our call by Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior to bring the good news of the Gospel to each and all in our world, are committed to broaden our capacity to witness to the growing Hispanic's population at this time in our history and to do so by (1) identifying and equipping transformational accountable leaders, (2) to grow healthy Hispanic churches and ministries, and (3) to broaden our connectional life, as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our church's September communion offering will support these important ministries.

For more information: www.calpacumc.org/hispaniclatino/



**CALIFORNIA-
PACIFIC
CONFERENCE**

Beach Area Youth Group Start Up!

By Pastor Lori

Four churches in the Pacific Beach Area are combining resources to create a cohesive and meaningful youth program for all our youth. A kick off event at Crown Point Park is scheduled for Sunday, September 14th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This inaugural event will be a time of getting to know one another and having fun with lots of games and a BBQ dinner. Parents/families are welcome to attend but not required. Moving forward, we intend to offer a youth event monthly, so stay tuned for more information.

I have committed to being present at our Beach Area Youth Gatherings and invite any/all youth to join me. (And invite a friend!) If you would like to attend, please RSVP to me or the church office. I am happy to pick up and drop off youth as well. And if you're interested in being a 2nd adult volunteer for our youth events, I'd love to know that too. I am excited about this collaborative effort as we seek to love and support our amazing youth connected to our churches and throughout the beach area community!

Historians Needed!

By Pastor Lori

PB UMC has a deep, rich history that reflects the heart, soul and spirit of so many who have gone before us. We have an abundance of paperwork and pictures that are in need of organization. Do you have the gift of organization? Would you be willing to donate your time to sort through historical information in order to organize it? Might you have the skill to compile past histories and create an updated "history of Pacific Beach UMC?" We stand on the shoulders of giants and it is deeply meaningful to honor and celebrate the people and the path that lead us here. If you are interested in any part of this historical project, please reach out to me.

Circle of Support

July 2025

Record of Generosity

	Actual	Budget
Activity in July		
Giving	\$ 19,845	\$ 22,040
Other Income	\$ 4,224	\$ 8,708
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 24,069	\$ 30,748
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 41,768	\$ 40,370
Income Minus Expenses	(\$ 17,699)	(\$ 9,622)

	Actual	Budget
2025 Year-To-Date		
Giving	\$ 191,924	\$ 154,281
Other Income	\$ 80,180	\$ 95,433
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 272,104	\$ 249,713
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 257,238	\$ 273,290
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 14,866	(\$ 23,576)

Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T.

Giving has been generous for the year – thank you for your generosity! Spending is under budget for the year – thank you to all those involved in managing 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!

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering of good souls, enjoying food and fellowship at one of our wonderful local restaurants. On Thursday, September 18th we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at Pho Time in Pacific Plaza in Pacific Beach (1820 Garnet Avenue; photimepb.com).

Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, September 16th, so we can reserve a table big enough for all!



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/ phone: 858-274-6573

Calendar of Events

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

Week 1

Mon, Sept. 1 Labor Day
Church Office Closed
(intermittent office hours all week; call ahead)
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Sept. 2 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Sept. 3 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,
Narthex and via Zoom (p. 3)
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Sept. 4 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Sept. 5 Church Office Closed
Sat, Sept. 6 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 2

Sun, Sept. 7 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
Mon, Sept. 8 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Sept. 9 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
7:00 pm, "The Rabbi, the Reverend &
Jerusalem"; Pacific Beach
Christian Church—1074
Loring Street (p. 7)
Wed, Sept. 10 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
Narthex and via Zoom (p. 3)
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Sept. 11 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Sept. 12 Church Office Closed
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)
Sat, Sept. 13 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 3

Sun, Sept. 14 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:15 am, Sunday School Room
Orientation for Teachers
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Lady in the
Van" (2015), starring
Dame Maggie Smith (p. 8)
5:00 pm, Beach Area Youth Group
Kick-Off, Crown Point (p. 4)
Mon, Sept. 15 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Sept. 16 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)
Wed, Sept. 17 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
Narthex and via Zoom (p. 3)
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Sept. 18 12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 6)
Fri, Sept. 19 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Church Office Closed
Sat, Sept. 20 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 4

Sun, Sept. 21 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:30 am, Growing in Faith
12:00 pm, Game Day! (p.3)
Mon, Sept. 22 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Sept. 23 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Sept. 24 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study
Narthex and via Zoom (p. 3)
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
Thurs, Sept. 25 *Beach Breeze* Materials Due
9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Sept. 26 Church Office Closed
Sat, Sept. 27 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 5

Sun, Sept. 28 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "Easy A" (2010),
starring Emma Stone (p. 8)
Mon, Sept. 29 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Sept. 30 6:00 pm, Choir Practice


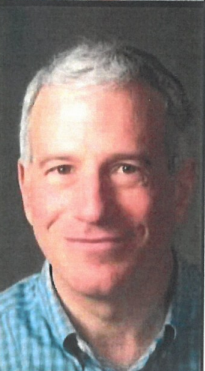
COME & JOIN US FOR

THE RABBI, THE REVEREND & JERUSALEM:

*Can Fiction and
Friendship Heal
What Politics Can't?*

JERUSALEM IS THE SPIRITUAL HEART OF THREE GREAT RELIGIONS AS WELL AS A PLACE OF ENDURING DISCORD. IT'S ALSO THE INSPIRATION FOR NEW NOVELS BY TWO SAN DIEGO AUTHORS: HERE THERE IS NO WHY BY PHIL GRAUBART, FORMER SENIOR RABBI AT TEMPLE BETH EL IN LA JOLLA, AND A ROOFTOP IN JERUSALEM BY MICHAEL KINNAMON, FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. THEIR UNIQUE PRESENTATION WILL TOUCH ON THE POWER OF FICTION TO BRIDGE SOCIAL DIVISIONS, THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERFAITH UNDERSTANDING AT A TIME WHEN POLITICS SEEMS SO FRACTURED, AND THE CITY OF JERUSALEM AS A SYMBOL OF RELIGIOUS LONGING AND CONFLICT.

September 9, 2025 at 7pm
Co-hosted by PB Christian Church
and the PB Interfaith Coalition
1074 Loring Street

We Love and Worship God

September Worship/ Scriptures

September 7 Holy Communion
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

September 14 Luke 15: 1-10

September 21 Luke 16: 1-13

September 28 Guest Preacher: Adam Marshall
Amos 6: 1a, 4-7
Luke 16: 19-31

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

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September Movies: Two Films from the 2010s

By Craig Roberts



The movies we'll screen in September are both fairly recent compared to our typical offerings. Our first movie in September remembers the great Maggie Smith in one of her best roles: "The Lady in the Van" (2015). On Sunday, September 14th we'll screen this film based on the real-life occurrence of an unhoused woman who parked her van in the driveway of a writer (with whom she had no connection) and refused to leave.

Two weeks later, on Sunday, September 28th, we'll watch the first major film that featured future Oscar winner Emma Stone in a starring role: "Easy A" (2010). Stone stars as a high school student whose white lie launches an unexpected money-making opportunity.

All films screen at 1:00 pm in Hughes Hall.
Please bring anything you like to snack on (such

as a late lunch)!

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)!

