



Pacific Beach
United Methodist Church

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

January 2026

Interfaith Shelter Network Returns to PB UMC

By Kenneth B

As part of its ministry to the homeless community, PB UMC has served as a host congregation for the Interfaith Shelter Network (IFSN) for over 30 years. The success of this ministry is due to the volunteers and supporters who donated their time, talents, and services. In continuing this tradition of service to the community, PB UMC will be hosting the shelter program again in 2026, from January 17th to 31st. We need volunteers and there are a variety of areas where your help is of greatest need.

Set-up volunteers are needed early in the morning on Saturday January 17th. These volunteers will transport shelter guests' belongings from the previous host church to ours and set up cots.

Prior to the arrival of our shelter guests, we need volunteers to contribute breakfast and lunch food items for our guests to prepare their own breakfast and sack lunches as they leave for the day. We provide all items needed; please check out the items list in the church lobby.

During their two-week stay here at the church individuals or groups are needed to serve as dinner hosts. The dinner host prepares meals and serves the guests around 6:15 p.m. on their assigned evening. The church's kitchen is available for use for all meal preparations. As your IFSN coordinator, I am willing to work around your schedules so if you need to arrive at the church early to prepare your meal... no worries. After our guests finish their meal, they help clean the kitchen and then settle in for the evening.

Each evening an overnight supervisor volunteer is needed. Overnight supervisors eat with our shelter guests during dinner and sleep overnight in a private room.

The shelter program will end January 31st at PB UMC; therefore, we need volunteers to help with breaking down beds, collecting used linens for laundry and packing up our shelter supplies. The last and final area where we need volunteer help consists of washing the used bedding linens, blankets and returning them back to the church clean and folded for storage.

So where do you begin to volunteer? By looking at all open volunteer opportunities on the sign-up sheets located in the church lobby during worship services. If you have any questions, just ask me (email: kenb@pbumc.org).

IFSN is grateful for your continued support and service to this vital ministry to the community.



INTERFAITH
SHELTER
NETWORK

Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

While I long ago gave up New Year's resolutions, I find almost every year, as we roll from one calendar year to the next, that I look forward to some kind of a fresh start. In past years, I've sought a fresh start in a variety of different areas of my life...health, diet, exercise, hobbies, journaling, reading, education. I trust that many of you can relate! In fact, I would love to hear some of your "fresh start" stories, past and present!

As we've crossed the threshold into 2026, my "fresh start" for this new year is related to scheduling. I believe I am a lifelong learner in how to use my time effectively. This has been a journey of trial and error, with a heavy emphasis on the word error. Despite a few missteps, I've grown in my understanding of my own operating system and strive to find "a better way," not just for my own sake but in order to be of consequence to/for the people and world around me.

So in 2026, I'm trying a new thing. I have traditionally taken Mondays off but intend in 2026 to take Fridays and Saturdays off when I'm able. This will not always be possible as the life of the church has activities and events that land on Friday and Saturday. It will also require that I get my sermon written by Thursday...is it

possible?! I don't know! But when I'm able, I hope to take 1.5 to 2 days off per week. I find the older I get, the more intentional I need to be about finding rest, not only in body, but in heart and spirit as well. And while that's frustrating in some ways, it's humbling and helpful in others. I am reminded that we are intended – at every stage of our lives – to lean into and on the God who loves us and who fills our cups with what we need for the living of these days.

Please know that if you reach out to me with non-urgent matters on Friday or Saturday, I'll get back to you by the early part of the week. And, as always, please reach out to me with urgent needs and know I'll respond as soon as I'm able. I hope and pray this new calendar year brings some sense of a fresh start for you as well! Let us remember we belong to a God who believes in fresh starts and in new beginnings. May we embrace all that grace and generosity offered to us and may we be generous in extending it to others as well.

In Christ,
Pastor Lori



Special Church Conference in January

The January Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 20th via Zoom, will include a special Church Conference to vote on the budget for 2026. All are welcome; all members of PB UMC will have a vote. The Church Conference portion of the meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. Watch for the Zoom link in the weekly church email or reach out to the office for information about how to attend.

Thank you to all those who have labored to create a budget that will enable us to be in mission and ministry in meaningful and effective ways in 2026! And thank you to the many members and friends of PB UMC whose continued faithfulness, stewardship and generosity enables PB UMC to share the light of Christ with each other, in our community and in the world.

Sunday School Ministry Group

On Sunday, January 18th, the Sunday School Ministry Group will meet to assess, evaluate, pray and plan as we turn into the new year. We want to take a look at where we've been, what's working well, what needs attention and how we can continue to grow in nurturing our children, youth and families. All who would like to give their time, attention and support to this special ministry are welcome! We'll gather after church, approximately 11:20 a.m. in Room 205. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Lori.

We Care for One Another

Ring in the New Year with Game Day!

By Hope A

We usually meet to play mahjong and other games at least one Sunday each month. January is no exception. We'll have our January play day on Sunday the 18th.

Please bring or buy lunch and eat with us in the lanai (glass enclosed porch on the social hall) after worship— whether or not you stay for the games. Then at about 11:45 a.m. we'll probably play Pictionary for a few minutes before moving to the mahjong tables.

It helps to know who is coming so we have enough tables and tile sets ready. For more information, please talk to Kathy W or email me at HopeA@pbumc.org.

Newcomers are encouraged— we are happy to teach!



January Communion Offering

Human Relations Sunday

Human Relations Day is a special Sunday focused on fostering better relationships and supporting community and youth outreach. In most United Methodist churches, this offering is collected the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday to help bring his vision of a "beloved community" to life. But PB UMC will collect this offering as usual on the first Sunday of the month on our Communion Sunday.

Your gifts will support important programs like Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation. In 2024 (the latest year statistics were available) over **\$250,000** was raised to support these vital ministries through the Human Relations Day Sunday offering.

Pastor Lori on Vacation: December 29th to January 11th

Everyone needs a break from time to time and our beloved Pastor Lori has decided the two weeks beginning after the last Sunday of 2025 will be her time.

Should any urgent pastoral needs emerge during this period, please reach out to the church office or to any church council member. The Rev. Dan Meyer-Abbott will be our "pastoral pinch hitter."

**Happy
New Year!**

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

Clockwise from right:

1) The PB UMC contingent won Best Float at the 2025 Pacific Beach Holiday Parade! Congratulations to float designer Louis Perez! (Photo by Tim A)

2) Jolene Persky and Philip Spence flank Louis during the annual pre-advent Christmas decorating of the sanctuary. (Photo by Ron Jessee)

3) Pastor Lori and Mary Margaret Rowe pose with the 20 Christmas Basket bins that Mary Margeret and her son Chris assembled for the Community Christian Services Agency (CCSA). (Photo by Beau B)



We Reach Out to Others

Good News: Just What the Doctor Ordered

By “Doc”

Santa Cruz- The Wave of the Future. Here’s the story...

There is a paradox for surfers. They love the ocean and want to care for it, yet surfboards typically result in nearly 40% of their petroleum heavy materials being discarded. What to do—what to do?

Enter Swelcycle, a Santa Cruz company that has developed a method for 3D-printing surfboards out of plant-based materials like corn and sugar cane. The result? The boards are nearly 100% bio-degradable and even the manufacturing process is almost entirely solar powered.

And how did they compare to the old standard? One of the surfers testing the new boards said they were “...really fast and really fun.” So stoked for the surfer dudes and our oceans!

Source: Molly McCrea, Anne Makovec & Corlos E. Castañeda; CBS News San Francisco

Laugh often & live healthy!

:Doc



Recently PB UMC welcomed three new members: Sean S, Isaac S and Drew D. Above, Sean is at left and Drew at right as the rest of the Spence family and Pastor Lori lay hands on Isaac.

Photo by Mark B

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

PB YOUTH TURN UP
GAGA BALL
TOURNAMENT
JANUARY 24
5:00 - 7:00 PM

1675 Garnet Avenue
(Parking Lot off of Jewell)

DINNER PROVIDED!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL
PB YOUTH TURN UP@GMAIL.COM

PB CHRISTIAN, CHRIST LUTHERAN,
PB UNITED METHODIST,
AND PB PRESBYTERIAN

Circle of Support

November 2025

Record of Generosity

	November 2025	
	Actual	Budget
Giving Income	\$ 27,102	\$ 22,040
Other Income	\$ 9,819	\$ 8,708
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 36,921	\$ 30,748
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 33,726	\$ 35,836
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 3,196	(\$ 5,088)
	2025 Year-to-Date	
	Actual	Budget
Giving Income	\$ 274,497	\$ 242,441
Other Income	\$ 133,789	\$ 144,490
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 408,286	\$ 386,931
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 405,460	\$ 420,835
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 2,826	(\$ 33,905)

Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T

Giving has been generous for the year – thank you for your gifts! Spending is under budget for the year – thank you to all those involved in managing resources! We are benefiting from improvements in our electric bill thanks to our new solar panels, and we will be able to contribute our full Apportionments to Cal-Pac. We are on track to wrap up the year with a significant improvement over our planned budget – again a huge thank you to all involved! Please watch for information about our Special Charge Conference in January to approve our 2026 budget.

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!

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

Thurs, Jan. 1 NEW YEARS DAY
Church Office Closed
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Jan. 2 Church Office Closed
Sat, Jan. 3 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 2

Sun, Jan. 4 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
Mon, Jan. 5 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
6:30 pm, Advent Small Group ("What Do You Fear?") via Zoom
Tues, Jan. 6 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Jan. 7 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study, via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Jan. 8 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Jan. 9 Church Office Closed
Sat, Jan. 10 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 3

Sun, Jan. 11 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "Born Yesterday" (1950), starring Judy Holliday and William Holden (p. 8)
Mon, Jan. 12 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Jan. 13 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Jan. 14 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study, Narthex and via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Thurs, Jan. 15 12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (below)
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Jan. 16 Church Office Closed
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)
Sat, Jan. 17 PB UMC Begins Hosting Interfaith Shelter Network (IFSN) (p.1)
10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 4

Sun, Jan. 18 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:20 am, Sunday School Ministry Group, Room 205 (p. 2)
11:45 am, Game Day (p. 3)
Mon, Jan. 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
Church Office Closed
6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Jan. 20 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)
7:30 pm, Charge Conference (via Zoom) (p. 2)
Wed, Jan. 21 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study, Narthex and via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
Beach Breeze Materials Due
Thurs, Jan. 22 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Fri, Jan. 23 Church Office Closed
Sat, Jan. 24 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:00 pm, PB Youth Turn Up – Gaga Ball Tournament (p. 5)
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

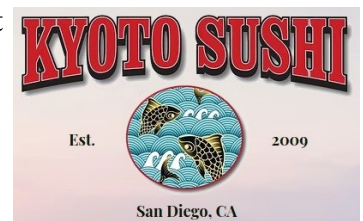
Week 5

Sun, Jan. 25 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Court Jester" (1955) starring Danny Kaye, Angela Lansbury and Glynis Johns (p. 8)
Mon, Jan. 26 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
Tues, Jan. 27 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
Wed, Jan. 28 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study, Narthex and via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront Ministries
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
Thurs, Jan. 29 Church Office Closed
Fri, Jan. 30 PB UMC Ends Hosting IFSN (p.1)
Sat, Jan. 31 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering of good souls, enjoying food and fellowship at one of our wonderful local restaurants. On Thursday, January 15th we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at Kyoto Sushi 3166 Midway Dr. Suite 108 .

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



We Love and Worship God

January Worship/ Scriptures

- January 4** Epiphany
Holy Communion
Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18
Guest Preacher Adam Marshall
- January 11** Proverbs 1: 1-7
Guest Preacher Dan Meyer-Abbott
- January 18** John 1: 29-42
- January 25** Matthew 4: 12-23

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



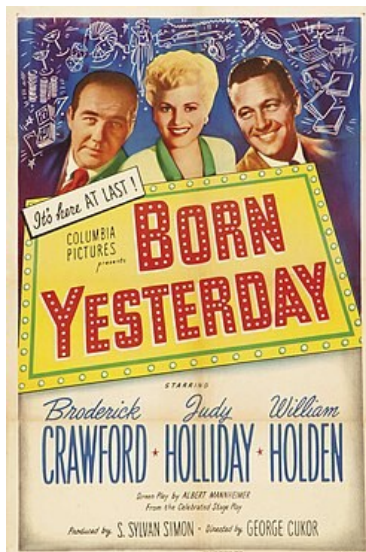
1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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

January Movies Are Two Classics from the 1950's

By Craig Roberts



Our January movie screenings reach way back into the 1950's for two hilarious films.

The first movie we'll screen in 2026 (on January 11th) is "Born Yesterday" (1950), released at the tail end of the year just in time to qualify for consideration for the 1950 Academy Awards—and it won Judy Holliday Best Actress! Holliday stars as Billie Dean, the "arm candy" of wealthy, unscrupulous Harry Brock (Broderick Crawford) who descends upon Washington DC determined to "buy" himself a few Congressmen or Senators. William Holden stars as a reporter determined to expose him. Brock eventually discovers his "dumb blonde" isn't so dumb after all. George Kukor directed this classic.

On January 25th, we'll screen the 1956 comedy classic "The Court Jester," starring Danny Kaye, Angela Lansbury and Glynis Johns. Kaye stars as a balladeer masquerading as a jester in medieval times. Think the legend of Robin Hood, only wackier.

Movies screen at 1:00 p.m. 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)!

