

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

March 2026

## *Piano Duo to Perform Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>*

By Ron Jessee

On Sunday morning, March 15<sup>th</sup>, PB UMC will have a wonderful surprise experience in the worship service. World renown pianists, Stephanie Trick and Paolo Alderighi, will be our special musical guests. They will be performing throughout the service.

The piano duo has earned widespread success with their arrangements of classics from the stride piano, ragtime and boogie-woogie traditions, as well as from the Swing Era, and indeed, lush hymn-tune creations.

Blending impeccable technique with mature musicality, Stephanie and Paolo have performed in a variety of venues across the United States, Europe, Japan, Israel and Australia. They have been featured in the following venues. Gilmore Keyboard Festival, Jazz at Filoli, the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix, the Kobe Jazz Street Festival in Japan, the London Jazz Festival, the Edinburgh Jazz & Blues Festival, the Ascona Jazz Festival in Switzerland, the Silkeborg Riverboat Jazz Festival in Denmark, the Bohém Ragtime & Jazz Festival in Hungary, the Milan Conservatory, Teatro Dal Verme Milano, Jazzland in Vienna, and the Jazz Bistro in Toronto, winning the acclaim of critics and fans alike.

I first heard Stephanie and Paolo at St. Marks UMC and immediately fell in love with their virtuosity. The service on March 15<sup>th</sup> will follow the usual format, and will include several spots where the duo will favor us with piano selections. Arrive early for their prelude starting at 9:50 a.m. Invite your friends and family. This will truly be a fascinating worship experience!



## Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

Over the years I have adopted various practices with the hope of observing a holy and meaningful Lent. I've given up caffeine and chocolate. (I can say, without a doubt, that distancing myself from either or both of those things did not bring me any closer to God or others. In fact it may have had the opposite affect!) I've also tried during Lent to "take on" certain practices. I've attempted to read the Bible more regularly, to keep a gratitude journal and to pray in new or different ways. All of these things were meaningful but none seemed to lead to the spiritual experience for which I hoped and hungered. So for many years, I gave up adopting a Lenten practice altogether. But I missed it! Each year during Lent I find I come back to wrestle with the possibility of a Lenten practice. Because somewhere in my spirit, there's a longing to mark this time as different. I recognize within myself a desire to change something up in order to reorient my mind and heart to God and God's good news.

As many of you know, our Lenten worship theme this year is "Tell Me Something Good." This series challenges us with the question: "Can we be 'good news' people in a world too often burdened by bad news?" This series invites us to ground ourselves in Christ Jesus, rooting ourselves for the first time or once again, in the essential words, actions and values of Jesus. As I was preparing for this Lenten series, I came across Nadia Bolz Weber's Lenten Reflection entitled "40 Days of Good #@%\$ (a Lenten discipline for cranky people). (#@%\$ is a literal and figurative four letter word...just in case you want to google the article yourself!) In it she talks about giving up stuff that's not helping her:

*"I'm going to give up thinking I'm someone who could ever successfully give up sweets for Lent. That's a good*

*start. Maybe I'll give up some resentments I've been cherishing a bit too much and just gently let the story I tell myself about that person go. Or I'll give up on the idea that I can exercise my body back into a previous version of herself. That might be good. At some point I should probably give up thinking that if we order Chinese take-out it will be good this time."*

She goes on. But then she also says she's taking on "stuff" that helps her, calling it "40 Days of Good #@%\$ Project." So her goal is to take a photo of something beautiful each day or to write a sentence about a warm interaction. The notion behind all this is that some days it feels really hard to find the good stuff going on around us. But if we plan to take note of something good each day, we are much more likely to notice it, when and where it happens around us.

So Les and I are giving it a go...reporting something beautiful, something kind, something gracious that happens in these forty days of Lent. I invite you to join us and, if you like, feel free to share with me, with one another or on our PB UMC Facebook Page. I pray the Spirit meets us in life giving and restorative ways this Lent. That we might see the world truthfully, not shielding our hearts from the reality of hurt and harm. But that we might also see the good in the world around us, grounding ourselves in the goodness of God, and becoming more and more generous in sharing that with others.

In Christ,  
Pastor Lori



### RSVP Information for Adam M's Ordination Service

Please RSVP for Adam's Ordination Service, scheduled for **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**, (for headcount) and also sign up for the subsequent potluck! [www.pbumc.org/events/adams-ordination/](http://www.pbumc.org/events/adams-ordination/)



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

## ***A Group Game and Mahjong for March Game Day!***

By Hope A

Join us Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, after worship for games. We will meet in the lanai for lunch—please bring your own or pick something up nearby. Afterward, we'll have a brief group game followed by mahjong in the social hall.

Newcomers are always welcome, and you are encouraged to bring other games and recruit players. We will wrap up around 3:00 p.m. Feel free to come late or leave early.

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](mailto:HopeA@pbumc.org).



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

Several folks turned out for February's Game Day in Hughes Hall.

Photo Credit: Craig Roberts

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

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

By “Doc”

*Suffolk, England - Something’s in the Air*

Here’s the story...

For the past 55 years, volunteers at Ipswich Hospital have been lifting the spirits of patients and visitors by broadcasting Ipswich Radio 24/7. Along with changes in music over the years, the average hospital stay has gone from ten days down to two, making it difficult to build an audience. But this radio crew has an advantage few stations have—between shifts they visit the patients to listen to them. Not only does that allow them to customize their broadcast, it provides something more than radio frequency modulation to their listeners—a much appreciated human touch. Best Signal EVER!

Source: Alice Cunningham, BBC, Suffolk

*Laugh often & live healthy!*

**:Doc**



Above, eight new members joined PB UMC last month: Michael, Rook, Meagan, Cece, Tammy, Martha, Dale and Veronica (Photo by Craig Roberts)

Below, Tim, Craig, BL and Dale prepare to enjoy a movie in The Cave (Photo by Hope A).



**PB YOUTH TURN UP**  
SPRING EVENT LINE UP

**MARCH 14TH**  
PB PILGRIMAGE  
SERVICE PROJECT 12pm-2pm  
START: PB CHRISTIAN (1074 LORING ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92109)  
END: PB PRESBYTERIAN (1675 GARNET AVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92109)

**APRIL 18TH**  
CAPTURE THE EASTER EGGS  
Time TBD  
@CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH (4761 CASS ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92109)

**MAY 23RD**  
FINALS STUDY PARTY  
(TIME & LOCATION TBD)

PB CHRISTIAN | CHRIST LUTHERAN | PB UNITED METHODIST | PB PRESBYTERIAN

Questions? Email us at [PBYouthTurnUp@gmail.com](mailto:PBYouthTurnUp@gmail.com), or DM us on instagram @PbYouthTurnUp

# ***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: [umcmission.org/umcor/](http://umcmission.org/umcor/)



### **PACIFIC BEACH INTERFAITH COALITION**

#### ***Prayer Breakfast***

March 25th, 7:30-9:00 AM



Join us for our annual Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, a morning of connection, reflection, and shared hope. In a world that often emphasizes our differences, this gathering celebrates what unites us: our common humanity, our search for meaning, and our commitment to building a more compassionate community. Come break bread with neighbors from diverse faith traditions, share in moments of prayer and contemplation, and discover the strength that comes from standing together. Whether you're deeply rooted in your faith or simply curious about building bridges across traditions, all are welcome at our table.

Graciously hosted by  
St. Brigid Parish, 4735 Cass Street

Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m.  
Program begins at 8:00 a.m.  
\$12 for breakfast use QR code to RSVP



**TICKETS ON  
SALE NOW!**



### **BLACK TIE BINGO** *Community Fundraiser*



**OUR 4TH ANNUAL BLACK TIE BINGO EVENT!**

To Support "Compass Commons",  
our 2026 Workforce Housing Initiative

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026 | 6:00-11:00 PM**

Hosted by:



*Cocktail Hour, Dinner, Live Music, Raffle, and of course... BINGO!*  
*Dress to Impress. "Black Tie Optional"*

**Early Supporter Admission: \$160 (until 3/8/26)**

# Circle of Support

January 2026

## Record of Generosity

	January 2026	
	Actual	Budget
Giving Income	\$ 33,986	\$ 26,751
Other Income	\$ 12,626	\$ 12,680
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 46,612	\$ 39,431
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 36,250	\$ 43,684
Income Minus Expenses	\$ 10,362	(\$ 4,253)

### Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T

Giving was generous for January, with both Pledged and Unpledged giving above budget. The surplus is a bit overstated due to some January expenses that will be paid in February. Regardless, it is a great start to 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!

### Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering of good souls, enjoying food and fellowship at one of our wonderful local restaurants. On Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at Himalayan Spice and Savor at 1768 Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach. You can read about the restaurant and peruse their menu at their web site: [himalayanss.com](http://himalayanss.com)

Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> 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/](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

Sun, Mar. 1 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
Mon, Mar. 2 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, "An Unlikely Lent" Small  
Group Study (via Zoom)  
Tues, Mar. 3 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Mar. 4 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,  
via Zoom  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Mar. 5 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Mar. 6 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Mar. 7 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 2

Sun, Mar. 8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS  
TIME BEGINS ("Spring  
Forward")  
9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
1:00 pm, Movie: "Zootopia" (2016)  
(p. 8)  
Mon, Mar. 9 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, "An Unlikely Lent" Small  
Group Study (via Zoom)  
Tues, Mar. 10 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Mar. 11 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,  
via Zoom  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Mar. 12 4:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Mar. 13 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Mar. 14 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
12:00 pm, PB Youth Turn Up: PB  
Pilgrimage (p. 4)  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 3

Sun, Mar. 15 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
11:45 am, Game Day (p. 3)  
Mon, Mar. 16 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, "An Unlikely Lent" Small  
Group Study (via Zoom)  
Tues, Mar. 17 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)  
Wed, Mar. 18 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,  
Narthex and via Zoom  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Mar. 19 *Beach Breeze* Materials Due  
9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 6)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Mar. 20 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Mar. 21 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 4

Sun, Mar. 22 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
11:30 am, Growing in Faith (Lanai)  
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Trouble with  
Angels" (1966), starring  
Hayley Mills and Rosalind  
Russell (p. 8)  
Mon, Mar. 23 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, "An Unlikely Lent" Small  
Group Study (via Zoom)  
Tues, Mar. 24 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Mar. 25 7:30 am, Pacific Beach Interfaith  
Coalition Prayer Breakfast  
(p. 5)  
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, Mar. 26 Church Office Closed  
Fri, Mar. 27 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Mar. 28 10:00 am, Al-Anon  
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

## Week 2

Sun, Mar. 29 Palm Sunday  
9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
Mon, Mar. 30 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
6:30 pm, "An Unlikely Lent" Small  
Group Study (via Zoom)  
Tues, Mar. 31 6:00 pm, Choir Practice



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

## ***March Worship/Scriptures***

- March 1** Luke 7:36-50  
Matthew 5:1-12
- March 8** Mark 6:32-44  
Ephesians 3:20-21
- March 15** Matthew 19:13-15  
Deuteronomy 24:17-22
- March 22** John 8:2-11  
Matthew 23:23
- March 29** Palm Sunday  
Mark 11:1-11

### **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 Movies: Anthropomorphic Animated Animals and Unruly Angels***

By Craig Roberts



Our March movies are an Oscar-winning animated feature from just 10 years ago and a live action classic from 60 years ago.

The first movie we'll screen (on March 8<sup>th</sup>) won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature: "Zootopia" (2016). Bunny Judy Hopps fulfills her dream of becoming the first rabbit police officer in Zootopia and promptly finds herself investigating a series of animal disappearances. Her unlikely ally: a crafty, legally challenged fox.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, we'll screen 1966's "The Trouble With Angels," starring Rosalind Russell and Hayley Mills (in her first non-Disney film). Mills plays a troublemaking newcomer to an all-girls convent school who tangles with Russell, the school's Mother Superior.

Movies screen at 1:00 p.m. in Hughes Hall. Popcorn and other snacks are always available but 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)!

