

BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

June 2026

Church Alum Loses Almost \$1M to Scam - Then Gets It Back

By Mark B
(Church Information Technology Consultant)

Jeanette Voss was working at a San Diego tech company during the time she was attending PB UMC several years ago. She retired to Vermont in 2018.

On Memorial Day 2021, her laptop started blaring that it had a virus, displaying a phone number for Microsoft. When she called, she was not surprised that the tech support representative spoke with an accent; she knew from her tech days that support is often handled overseas. With remote access to her computer, they were able to silence the alarm, but they said that the computer had been hacked and that her SSN was compromised. Swearing her to secrecy to avoid the hackers, over the next six months, they guided Jeanette to sending \$950,000 to “safe” accounts, many in crypto wallets, while they said they were working to get her a new SSN. Reinforcing the sense of fear and control, they told her not to trust her bank or even her phone; she bought a “burner” to talk to them. Only when her accounts were empty and she stopped getting daily calls did she know for sure that she had been scammed.

Fast forward four and a half years to Christmas 2025. Miraculously, after living frugally on her limited Social Security income, Jeanette got her money back and then some. Law enforcement had caught the California crooks, confirmed their use of a call center in India, and in a very rare success story, managed to recover some of the stolen funds. Crypto had increased enough in value that Jeanette received back more than she lost!

The details of Jeanette’s story are both gut-wrenching and amazing. It brings home the real human cost of fraud, the physical and emotional toll over a period of years. It restores faith in local and federal law enforcement, that there are still many individual officers and agents doing good work on behalf of citizen victims. Jeanette’s story, and others like hers, inspire us to guard against fraud, and encourage us to share our stories to help protect each other.

Jeanette’s full story is told in two online articles and a podcast, all linked from this page on the church web site: <https://www.pbumc.org/community/2026/05/protect-yourself-from-fraud-seminar/>

At right, Jeanette Voss at her home in Vermont.

Photo by Jana Sleeman; used by permission



Pastor Lori's Monthly Message

Beloveds in Christ,

Only a few days ago the hate-fueled violence that has become commonplace in our daily, worldwide news, struck home.

On Monday, May 18th, two teenagers stepped onto the campus of the Islamic Center of San Diego, carrying a load of weapons, as well as their rage, brokenness, misplaced hate...who knows their story or all that was in their hearts, minds and spirits. These two teenagers unleashed destruction and terror, taking the lives of three fellow human beings before taking their own. What a maddening and heartbreaking loss.

We feel shock, grief and anger whenever and wherever this happens. But the fact that it happened to our neighbors in our neighborhood makes such an event even more unbearable. This has weighed heavily on my heart and I know that is true for many of you as well.

How do we respond? As followers of Christ, we respond with love and care. We mourn with those who

mourn. We celebrate differences and protect all our neighbors, especially those who have become vulnerable to being targeted and attacked. We prioritize the health and wellness of our children. And we hold fast to and insist upon the way of love. On Sunday, May 24th, we signed a card to send to Imam Taha and the congregation at the Islamic Center of San Diego. Along with it, we sent a letter, which you can find on Page 4. It is important for us to say, "We are with you. You are in our hearts and prayers. We are here for you."

Please continue to pray for the Islamic Center and its members, all our Muslim neighbors and the families of the two teenagers. May we hold one another in love and prayer as we recommit ourselves, day by day, to moving and living in Christ's Way.

In Christ,
Pastor
Lori



Several PB UMC members went to Petco Park for the Padres' "Faith and Family" Night. Unfortunately, the Padres lost. :(Photos by Pastor Lori

We Care for One Another

Mahjong on Father's Day!

By Hope A

My father and I never played mahjong together, but I'm sure he would have enjoyed it. I'll be playing mahjong at church in his honor on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21st. If you are not otherwise engaged, why not join us?

We gather in the social hall after worship to eat our lunches, then start play at about noon and play till about 3:00 pm. You are welcome to come later or leave earlier. It helps to let Kathy W or me know you are coming so that we can set up enough tables. See us in person or contact the church office (www.pbumc.org/contact). Newcomers are always welcome-- we love to teach.

P.S. It's not the same as that tile-matching solitaire game you see on the web. ;-)



Grads to Be Recognized June 21st

By Pastor Lori

On Sunday, June 21st we'll celebrate grads along with dads!

Is there someone you would like us to include in our list of grads? Please send an email to Susie in the office (www.pbumc.org/contact) with their name, from what/where they're graduating, any pertinent degree information AND a picture if you can!

We'll be praying for our grads and celebrate their accomplishments on the 21st!



PB UMC's own Liesl H (at right) conducted a portion of the Hornswoggle concert in the sanctuary May 3rd.

Photo by Craig Roberts

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

PB UMC Letter to Islamic Center of San Diego

Dear Imam Taha Hassane and Members of the Islamic Center of San Diego:

On behalf of the congregation of Pacific Beach United Methodist Church, we are writing to you to express our heartfelt grief and solidarity following the heinous attack on your community. We were deeply saddened and dismayed to learn of the lives taken by this deliberate act of hatred, and we pray for the health and healing of all those impacted.

An attack on any house of worship violates the safety, sanctity, and peace that we all hold dear. Please know that we come alongside you in full condemnation of this murderous act and the malevolent ideology that it fuels—Islamophobia, anti-Muslim sentiment, racism, and all forms of fear, intimidation, and oppression.

We also recognize the heroic actions of Amin Abdullah, Nadir Awad, and Mansour Kaziha, who put themselves in harm's way to protect your community. They acted with the highest form of love and courage, and we honor their memory alongside you.

In addition, as your neighbors here in San Diego, we seek to move beyond words when the weight of such violence demands commitment to unity. We understand our shared responsibility to acts of peace and compassion for all people, in witness to God's love, which far surpasses the evil of any act of malice. Your cause is our cause; your light, our light.

If there are tangible ways that Pacific Beach UMC can directly support your community, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are only a phone call away and five miles down the road.

Sincerely,

Pastor Lori Leopold, PB UMC Church Council and members of the PB UMC



On May 16th, former Assistant District Attorney Paul Greenwood gave a 90-minute presentation about how to avoid being a victim of fraud.

At left, PB UMC Technology Consultant Mark B helps Greenwood wrap up the talk.

A video of Paul's presentation, as well as his slides, can be found on the church web site: <https://www.pbumc.org/community/2026/05/protect-yourself-from-fraud-seminar/>

Photo by Craig Roberts

We Reach Out to Others

Family and Friends Project

By Tammy E

In the United Methodist tradition, we strive to build “connections.” In that spirit, the Outreach Team at Pacific Beach UMC is starting a new Family & Friends project, and we want you to be a part of it!

Catherine S and I will write brief, biographical profiles of our members, highlighting life adventures, personal anecdotes, hobbies, and/or interests. Each story will be featured in either the *Beach Breeze* or our weekly PB UMC email. Plus, we’ll include a headshot, taken by us. We want to celebrate you and help inspire new connections among our faithful community.

Ready to share? Let’s have an easy, relaxing, sit-down conversation. We’ll meet one-on-one. Please see Catherine or me to schedule a time, or contact the church office: www.pbumc.org/contact. If concerned about mobility or transportation, no worries. We would be happy to come to you!



June Communion Offering

Community Christian Service Agency

The mission of the Community Christian Service Agency (CCSA), an ecumenical Christian agency, is “to provide emergency services to individuals and families in need in San Diego County, including food, clothing, and referrals, and where practicable, counseling to assist in their transition to self-reliance.”

CCSA was founded in 1972 by seven churches in the local ministerial association and obtained its nonprofit 501C-3 status in 1973. During 50 years of service, CCSA has grown to include 31 member churches in the Clairemont, Pacific Beach, La Jolla, and University City areas of San Diego. PB UMC has a longstanding relationship with this worthwhile organization, so we are happy to direct our June offering towards its important ministries.

For more information: www.ccsasandiego.org

Belonging/New Member Gathering

Newcomers are invited to a Belonging Gathering on Sunday, June 14th after worship in the Lanai. These gatherings are for anyone interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church as well as this congregation and its ministries. It’s an opportunity to meet with Pastor Lori, share a cup of coffee, visit with others, ask questions and explore ways to connect and get involved. All are welcome!

For those who would like to join the church, we’ll be receiving new members the following Sunday, the 21st. No RSVP required. Please reach out to Pastor Lori with any questions.

Circle of Support

April 2026

Record of Generosity

| | April 2026 | |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| | Actual | Budget |
| Giving Income | \$ 30,553 | \$ 26,751 |
| Other Income | \$ 8,302 | \$ 8,667 |
| Total Available for Ministry | \$ 38,854 | \$ 35,418 |
| Total Expended for Ministry | \$ 52,932 | \$ 41,856 |
| Income Minus Expenses | (\$ 14,078) | (\$ 6,438) |

| | 2026 Year-to-Date | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | Actual | Budget |
| Giving Income | \$ 120,622 | \$ 107,005 |
| Other Income | \$ 50,792 | \$ 50,503 |
| Total Available for Ministry | \$ 171,414 | \$ 157,507 |
| Total Expended for Ministry | \$ 170,529 | \$ 170,075 |
| Income Minus Expenses | \$ 885 | (\$ 12,568) |

Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T

Giving has been generous for the year – thank you for your gifts! Spending is over budget this month due to some March expenses paid in April.

We remain ahead of our 2026 year-to-date budget. Thank you to our generous donors and to all those involved in managing resources!

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, June 18th we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at the Pacific Beach location of The Fish Shop, at 1775 Garnet Avenue. You can check out their menu at thefishshops.com/pacific-beach.

Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, June 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, June 1 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, June 2 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
 Wed, June 3 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,
via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, June 4 7:00 pm, Narc Anon
 Fri, June 5 Church Office Closed
 Sat, June 6 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 2

Sun, June 7 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship and Communion
 Mon, June 8 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, June 9 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
 Wed, June 10 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,
via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, June 11 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
4:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)
 Fri, June 12 Church Office Closed
 Sat, June 13 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 3

Sun, June 14 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:30 am, Belonging Gathering
1:00 pm, Movie: "Ferris Buehler's Day
Off" (1986), starring Matthew
Broderick (p. 8)
 Mon, June 15 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, June 16 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
7:00 pm, Church Council (via Zoom)
 Wed, June 17 Annual Conference Begins
11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,
Narthex and via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
 Thurs, June 18 12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 6)
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
 Fri, June 19 Church Office Closed
 Sat, June 20 Annual Conference Concludes
10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Pastor Lori on Vacation:

June 25th to July 2nd

Should any urgent pastoral needs emerge during this period, please reach out to the church office or to any church council member.

Week 4

Sun, June 21 Fathers Day
9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
11:45 am, Game Day (p. 3)
 Mon, June 22 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, June 23 6:00 pm, Choir Practice
 Wed, June 24 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study,
Narthex and via Zoom
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace
5:30 pm, Storefront
 Thurs, June 25 *Beach Breeze* Materials Due
9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters
7:00 pm, Narc Anon
 Fri, June 26 Church Office Closed
 Sat, June 27 10:00 am, Al-Anon
5:30 pm, Narc Anon

Week 5

Sun, June 28 9:30 am, Prayer Circle
10:00 am, Worship
1:00 pm, Movie: "Murder By Death"
(1976), starring David
Niven, Maggie Smith, Peter
Sellars and many others (p. 8)
 Mon, June 29 6:00 pm, Al-Anon
 Tues, June 30 6:00 pm, Choir Practice

Camp Cedar Glen Presents
Summer Camp 2026
"Turn The World Around"

Elementary Camp
 Monday June 22nd - Friday June 26th
 Entering Grades 2nd - 6th
 \$395 Reg. Price
 \$360 - Early Bird - Register by Mar. 1st

Jr./Sr. High Camp
 Saturday June 27th - Friday July 3rd
 Entering Grades 7th - 2026 HS Grads
 \$525 Reg. Price
 \$490 - Early Bird - Register by Mar. 1st

Our Activities

Join us for an exciting week of outdoor adventure and fun:

- Team Challenges & Games
- Campfires & Storytelling
- Worship & Small Groups
- Swimming, Archery, Climbing Tower, Ropes Course, Hiking, & MORE

Registration NOW OPEN

Resister Here or scan the QR Code

www.campcedarglen.org
awentzel@calpacumc.org

We Love and Worship God

June Worship/Scriptures

- June 7** Holy Communion
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
- June 14** Genesis 18:1-15
- June 21** Ephesians 3:20
- June 28** Guest Preacher:
Rev. Adam Marshall
Genesis 22:1-14

Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue
San Diego, CA 92109

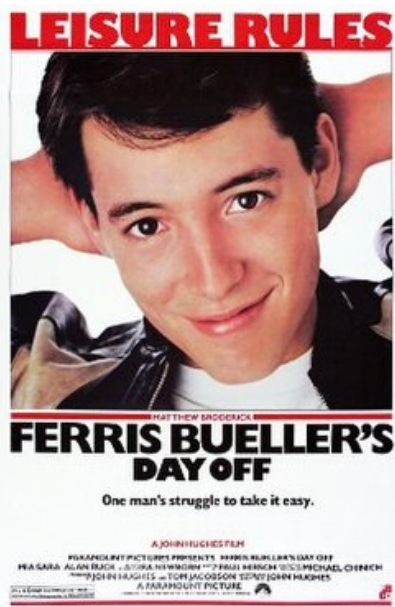
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June Movies: Matters of Life and Death

By Craig Roberts

Our first June movie is a lesson in how to enjoy life, if only for a day. The other concerns itself with death, specifically the trappings of murder mysteries.



On June 14th we'll screen the joyous and hilarious "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" (1986). Matthew Broderick's Ferris decides to skip his tedious high school for one day and convinces his two best friends to join him. What follows is a raucous *tour de force* of Chicago.

On June 28th, we'll screen the wacky 1976 film "Murder By Death." Parodies of literature and film's most famous detectives are invited to a mysterious mansion to solve a murder that has yet to occur. Watch the all-star cast, including David Niven, Maggie Smith, Peter Sellers, Peter Falk, Alec Guinness and Truman Capote (!) attempt to manage the madness.

Movies screen at 1:00 p.m. in Hughes Hall. Popcorn and other snacks are always available but bring anything else you might like to gnosh

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)!

