

# BEACH BREEZE

A Monthly Newsletter From Pacific Beach United Methodist Church

January 2025

## ***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 2025, from January 18<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 February 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:kenb@pbumc.org)).

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



# *Pastor Lori's Monthly Message*

Beloveds in Christ,

Happy new year! I hope and pray that your Christmas held many moments of hope, peace, joy and love. May the gifts and blessings of Emmanuel, God with us, continue to guide, encourage and inspire us as we move into 2025.

In this threshold time, my heart is full of gratitude for the leaders of this congregation. Many people share their time and talents in ministry areas that are not always highly visible but are foundational for our ability to be of consequence for Christ in our community and the world. Thank you to all the members of the Church Council. They are organized in work areas of finance, staffing and building/maintenance. They work together to not only manage what "is" but to dream about and plan for what is "yet to be."

Thank you to our Church Council Chair, Ken B., who ably leads us! Special thanks to Patty R. who rotates off the Church Council this year and to Sheryl T. who is rotating on. I also want to thank Mary Margaret R., Joan F. and Amberlyn R. who have served on the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee. We are thrilled to welcome Jerry P. and David N. into that ministry area. And deep thanks also go to our small but mighty church staff. To Ron J., Susie V., Eazy M., Cat T., Madison R., Michael B. and Brian K. Thank you for the many ways you lead and support the ministries of PB UMC.

The dreadful thing about thanking people is that, inevitably, you leave someone out! And the truth is, each one of you deserves a thank you. Each one of you brings something unique and vital and life-giving to this community. You matter. You make a difference. And I'm so thankful we will journey into 2025 together.

My hope for this coming year is that we will discern and live into new ways to share God's love in and through our community. I hope to give an extra measure of time and attention to what we are doing and can be doing with and for the children and youth of our community. As we enter into this new year, I'd like to revisit a question from our Advent series... What is the good that is yours to do? Where and how and with whom might you share your gifts in this new year? I hope and pray that each of us will spend a little time reflecting on these questions and that we will move together in a spirit of service, compassion, peace and justice, to extend the love of God in wider and wider circles as it seeks every corner of our hearts, communities and world.

In Christ,  
Pastor Lori



## *January Communion Offering* *Human Relations Sunday*

Human Relations Day is a special Sunday across our denomination, 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 over **\$250,000** was raised to support these vital ministries through the Human Relations Day Sunday offering.

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

Thank you to Pastor Les for leading a special Advent Sunday School series! She loved having time with our amazing young people! Thank you, Sunday Schoolers for welcoming her so kindly! Also, huge kudos to all the kids who participated in the Christmas at Home program. We have Sunday School kids who are not only incredibly kind but also incredibly talented. Please know that your church family loves you. We pray that 2025 brings lots of joy, growth, play and love. We are grateful for you!

**Kidz  
Korner**

## ***Caring Ministry Need for January: Migrant Ministries!***

Over the last months, we've been exploring needs related to Caring Ministries. We want to match the interests and talents of each person to a ministry where they can let their light shine AND be involved to the extent they desire and are able. Each month we will feature a caring ministry need in the Beach Breeze and weekly church e-mail. Some of those ministries have an internal focus and some of those ministries turn our hands, hearts and spirits outward.

The invitation for January is **MIGRANT MINISTRIES**. This is a ministry that has not had a recent champion at PB UMC. But issues around migrant needs will surely remain with us and in all likelihood increase. Our California-Pacific Conference has recently sent out a request to local churches to share how they might be involved in ministries for migrants. This includes things like hosting a mobile event for medical and immigration services, registering as a short-term sanctuary church, volunteering to drive, assembling backpacks and supplies, supporting a shelter in Mexico and more. Do you have a heart or passion around this issue? Could you be the liaison to the work of the Conference and help us serve these vulnerable neighbors in need? If this sounds like just the right spot for you, please reach out to Pastor Lori for more information. And if this isn't quite the right fit for you, is there something else that might suit your time and interest? Give it some prayerful consideration and reach out to Pastor Lori with your ideas!



### ***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 Ingham) 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.

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***

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

By "Doc"

The number of sea otters in California is growing due to a mutually beneficial development. The sea otters have developed a taste for the most invasive species in the marine world, the green crab. The otters' numbers growing and the green crabs are losing their hold. Amazing little critters!

Source: Meghan Cook, Good Good Good

*Laugh often & live healthy!*

*:Doc*



Clockwise from Upper Left:

1) On Thanksgiving Eve, over a dozen PB UMC members and friends worked to assemble and package Thanksgiving meals for Project Grace guests.

2) One of the many tasty Project Grace Thanksgiving meals.

3) Joan F. decorates each pumpkin pie slice with whipped cream.

4) The night before, PB UMC held its annual charge conference. The Voices of Praise kicked off the meeting with some inspirational music.

Photos by Pastor Lori





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

## ***Church Correspondence: Getting What You Want and Need***

By Pastor Lori

PB UMC shares church information in a variety of different ways. First, if you're reading this, you know about the Beach Breeze newsletter. Published at the beginning of each month, you can receive it electronically, have it mailed to your house or pick up a copy on Sunday morning.

In addition, we send a weekly email with news and information about what's coming up. It's sent on Thursday mornings and includes information about the upcoming Sunday as well as future services, meetings and activities.

Folks also have the option to sign up for special emails about things like upcoming studies, the weekly prayer chain, memorial notifications and more. If you are NOT getting the information you want, please visit [pbumc.org/news](http://pbumc.org/news) and review your options/preferences. Please reach out to the Church Office if you need assistance.



On December 8<sup>th</sup>, PB UMC presented its Christmas musical "Christmas at Home."

At left, the cast and choir, including guest director Russ S, pose for a photo.

At right, the God Squad performs during the musical.

Photos by Pastor Lori



On December 14<sup>th</sup>, PB UMC participated in the annual Pacific Beach Christmas Parade and won the award for Best Float!

At left, Pastor Lori orchestrates a picture of the float and its riders.

At right, elf Wesley clowns with float designer Louis P. as Ron Jessee looks on.

Photos by Pastor Lori



# Circle of Support

November 2024

## Record of Generosity

	Actual	Budget
<b>Activity in November</b>		
Giving	\$ 18,152	\$ 21,540
Other Income	\$ 8,490	\$ 7,948
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 26,642	\$ 29,488
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 31,216	\$ 35,799
Income Minus Expenses	(\$ 4,574)	(\$ 6,311)
<b>2024 Year-To-Date</b>		
Giving	\$ 235,420	\$ 236,940
Other Income	\$ 137,429	\$ 131,236
Total Available for Ministry	\$ 372,849	\$ 368,176
Total Expended for Ministry	\$ 396,744	\$ 395,789
Income Minus Expenses	(\$ 23,895)	(\$ 27,613)

### Reflections From the Finance Team

By Heide T.

Both Pledged and Unpledged giving were under budget for November, but close to target for the year. As we enter the new 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!

### Special Charge Conference in January

We will hold a special Charge Conference at the beginning of the Church Council meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to adopt the 2025 budget. Please watch for a link in the weekly church email. All are invited to attend.

### Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is a monthly gathering of good souls, enjoying food and fellowship at one of our wonderful local restaurants. On January 16<sup>th</sup> we'll meet at noon for a no host lunch at Tandoori House, 3146 Midway Drive. Planning to attend? Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, January 14<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

Wed, Jan. 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY  
Church Office Closed  
Thurs, Jan. 2 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Jan. 3 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Jan. 4 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 2

Sun, Jan. 5 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
Mon, Jan. 6 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Jan. 7 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Jan. 8 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan. 9 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Jan. 10 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Jan. 11 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 3

Sun, Jan. 12 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
1:00 pm, Movie: "Cactus Flower,"  
starring Walter Mattheu,  
Ingrid Bergman and Goldie  
Hawn (1969) (p. 8)  
Mon, Jan. 13 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Jan. 14 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Jan. 15 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan. 16 12:00 pm, Lunch Bunch (p. 6)  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Jan. 17 Church Office Closed  
3:00 pm, Finance Focus (via Zoom)  
Sat, Jan. 18 PB UMC Begins Hosting  
Interfaith Shelter Network  
(p. 1)  
10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 4

Sun, Jan. 19 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
12:00 pm, Game Day! (p.7)  
Mon, Jan. 20 MARTIN LUTHER KING  
DAY  
Church Office Closed  
6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Jan. 21 6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
7:00 pm, Special Charge Conference  
(p. 6)/Church Council (via  
Zoom)  
Wed, Jan. 22 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
5:30 pm, Storefront  
Thurs, Jan. 23 *Beach Breeze* Materials Due  
7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Jan. 24 Church Office Closed  
Sat, Jan. 25 10:00 am, Al-Anon

## Week 5

Sun, Jan. 26 9:30 am, Prayer Circle  
10:00 am, Worship  
12:00 pm, Growing in Faith  
1:00 pm, Movie: "The Purple Rose of  
Cairo," starring Mia Farrow,  
Jeff Bridges and Dianne Wiest  
(1985) (p. 8)  
Mon, Jan. 27 6:00 pm, Al-Anon  
Tues, Jan. 28 9:30 am, Prayers and Squares Quilters  
6:00 pm, Choir Practice  
Wed, Jan. 29 11:30 am, Scripture and Sermon Study  
4:00 pm, SD Project Grace  
Thurs, Jan. 30 7:00 pm, Narc Anon  
Fri, Jan. 31 Church Office Closed

## Ring in the New Year with Game Day!

By Hope A.

Meet for Chinese mahjong and other games if you like to bring them. We'll gather in the social hall around noon on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, and play for about two hours or till we are tired. Bring your lunch and a snack to share if you like. Families and newcomers are always encouraged—we love to teach! If you have questions or suggestions for other days and times, please talk to Kathy W. or me.

It's helpful to know if you plan to come so we can set up enough tables.



# We Love and Worship God

## January Worship/ Scriptures

- January 5** Epiphany Sunday  
Holy Communion  
Isaiah 43:16-21  
Matthew 2:1-12
- January 12** Isaiah 43:1-7  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
- January 19** Guest Preacher:  
Rev. Dan Meyer-Abbott
- January 26** Luke 4:14-21

### Pacific Beach United Methodist Church



1561 Thomas Avenue  
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## Oscar-Winning Actresses Featured in January's Movies

By Craig Roberts

A trio of Academy Award-winning actresses show up in January's film presentations.



On Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup>, we'll celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1969 romantic farce "Cactus Flower," starring Walter Mattheu, Oscar winner Ingrid Bergman and Goldie Hawn, who won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar, for this, her first major film role.

On Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup>, we'll celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Woody Allen classic Depression-era comedy "The Purple Rose of Cairo," starring Mia Farrow, Jeff Bridges and Oscar winner Dianne Wiest.

All movies screen at 1:00 pm in Hughes Hall. Popcorn and other snacks are always available but please bring anything you like!

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

