



# THE PACIFIC BEACH CHRISTIAN

Pacific Beach Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

Volume 64 Issue 11

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## Our Mission Statement



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## Advent & Christmas



### Schedule of Events

*Hanging of the Greens*  
December 4th, 10:30am  
Chili Potluck Luncheon to follow

*CWF Christmas Program & Sweet Swap*  
December 14th, 10:30am

*Caroling & Youth Group*  
December 17th, 4:00pm

*Christmas Eve Services*  
Family Service, 5:00pm  
Candlelight Service, 7:00pm

*Christmas Sunday Worship*  
December 25th, 10:30am





## Our “Daly” Bread

*“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” – 1 Samuel 3:9*

**LISTENING FOR GOD**—How do you hear God’s voice? Good question. A question many have pondered at one time or another on their journey of faith. This time it was asked of me by someone genuinely seeking divine guidance and direction, but struggling to distinguish God’s voice from all the other voices competing for her attention. It would be nice if God chose to speak to us in an audible voice while everyone else is asleep, like in the case of young Samuel. But even Samuel had trouble identifying the voice as that of God. So how do we listen for God’s voice?

The Apostle Paul believed that nature itself speaks to us about God. He said it this way: *“Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made” (Romans 1:20)*. Having lived four blocks from the beach these last 17 years I would say I have to agree with him. Every time I look out over that vast and beautiful ocean and see a pelican skimming along looking for a fish I think of Jesus’ words: *“Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?” (Matthew 6:26)*. And so in some very real way there is an assurance and peace that comes with that experience and it feels as if the Creator is speaking...if we are able and willing to listen.

Certainly a part of what makes that experience more meaningful is having spent some time reading the Bible. Ever since we embarked on the One Year Bible experience as a church some 7 or 8 years ago I have found it helpful to read at least a few verses of Scripture every day. In the process I have come to discover that while the words were written in a very different cultural context and setting between 2,000-3,000 years ago, it is uncanny how often they still speak to us today with relevance and wisdom. Just last week I was wounded (and maybe even a little angry) at some things that were being said about me by someone who thought I was unfair and even a little harsh with them. In defense of myself I wanted to speak a few words of my own about the person who had been venting their frustration with me. Then I found myself reading in the book of James: *“How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire” (James 3:5b-6a)*. It was exactly what I needed to hear (though not necessarily what I wanted to hear!). That kind of thing has happened enough times, coming across the right word at the right time, that I can’t help but conclude that God often speaks to us through the daily reading of the Bible...if we are able and willing to listen.

And this time of year as we enter into the Advent-Christmas season I am reminded that God also speaks to us through the familiar stories and traditions. We need more than a day to reflect on the significance of Jesus’ birth (thus the need for the four weeks of Advent). For one of our core beliefs as Christians is that God chose to enter the world in a very visible and tangible way through the person of Jesus. That says something very profound about the God we believe in and worship. It speaks to God’s deep desire to know and be known...to love and be loved. It also speaks to God’s desire to be with us. *“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” (Matthew 1:23)*. And so God can speak to us through the sometimes all-too-familiar Christmas story by reminding us that we are loved passionately and deeply by God (even when we don’t always feel that love) and we are never alone...if we are able and willing to listen.

And so I invite you this Advent season to be a little more intentional about listening for God’s voice. Pick up one of our Advent devotionals...open your Bible...take a few more walks to take in the beauty that surrounds us...and do so with young Samuel’s words in mind and heart: *“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”*

Brian

**Sunday  
Schedule**

9:00am  
Bible Study

10:30am  
Worship &  
Children's Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	2) 7:15pm Recovery In Christ	3) 8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
4) <b>Missions Sunday</b> 	5) 6pm Prayer Ministry	6)	7) 6:00pm Prayer Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Youth Rehearsal	8) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	9) 7:15pm Recovery In Christ	10)
11)  <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	12) 6pm Prayer Ministry <b>7pm Board Mtg</b>	13) 7:00pm PYSL Mtg	14) 10:30am CWF & Sweet Swap 6:00pm Prayer Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Youth Rehearsal	15) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	16) 7:15pm Recovery In Christ	17) 4pm  <b>Caroling Party</b> & Youth Group
18) <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> 	19) 6pm Prayer Ministry <b>7pm Elder's Mtg</b>	20) -Newsletter-	21) 6:00pm Prayer Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Youth Rehearsal	22) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	23) 7:15pm Recovery In Christ	24)  <b>Christmas Eve Services 5pm &amp; 7pm</b>
25) 	26) 6pm Prayer Ministry <b>- Office Closed -</b>	27)	28) 10am-Noon Games Day	29) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	30)	31)  <b>HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR!</b>



Each year we invite the congregation to help us decorate the sanctuary for Advent as part of a special Hanging of the Greens service. We will sing many of the familiar carols and learn a little about the history and symbolism of the various decorations used to brighten the sanctuary in preparation for Christmas.

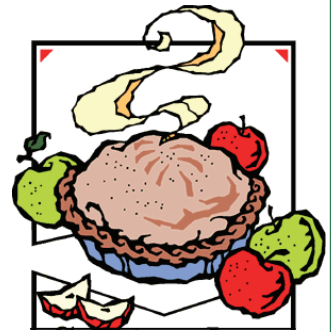
This year's service will be during worship on December 4th, at 10:30am. Following the service, we invite you to bring a pot of your favorite chili for our annual chili potluck. Fresh-cut fruit is also welcome! So join us December 4th for this fun and festive morning.



One of the highlights of the Christmas calendar is our annual Caroling Party to those in our church family who are ill or homebound and unable to come to church for any of the Christmas festivities. Caroling provides us with the opportunity to bring the church festivities to them! It's not only a great way to share the Christmas spirit, but also to get into the spirit of the season.

We invite you to meet at the church on Saturday, December 17th, at 4pm to organize our carpools for the evening. Be sure to wear warm clothes and bring a flashlight and we will provide the caroling books. Following caroling, everyone is invited to the Daly's home for a light supper.

## “Open Kitchen” Fellowship Refreshments



Fellowship refreshments on the Sundays following Hanging of the Greens will be an “Open Kitchen”. This is an opportunity for everyone to bring their special cookies or treats to share with their church family. In January, the flower & Goodie Charts will be posted for 2012. More and more people have been enjoying fellowship together following the service and the variety of food being offered by our hospitality team has really helped. If you would like to take a Sunday and bring something to share, simply sign up on the bulletin board and many will enjoy your generosity! Thank you everyone for a wonderful year of food, fun, and fellowship!

## “Music Master’s Chorus”

Clairemont Christian Church invites us to join them for a Christmas Quartet. The “Music Master’s Chorus” is a mix of Christmas, Gospel, and Religious music sure to be enjoyable. A Freewill Offering will be available with refreshments following the performance. Please join us as we fellowship at Clairemont Christian on Monday, December 12th, from 7:00 to 8:00pm.

## PBCC Job Opportunity

PBCC Children’s Ministry is looking to hire a part time (5 hours/week) coordinator to work with our volunteer team to execute the ministry plan for our children from infants to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. If you are interested please contact Christine Johnson (email: [cmctjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:cmctjohnson@gmail.com)) or Malia Butler (email: [mjmbmak6@gmail.com](mailto:mjmbmak6@gmail.com)).





## Youth Group



Following “Caroling”, we traditionally have an outing. We will continue that tradition, but the outing details will be “tbd”. I’m

tossing around a few ideas with the youth and we don’t yet have it narrowed down. So please stay tuned for more information. Please mark your calendars for winter camp...

## Pastor’s Book Club



We are grateful to Dr. David Levy for joining us for a wonderful discussion earlier this month of his recently published book, Gray Matter. Our next book will take us in a very different direction as we dust off one of the classics written by C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity. While C.S. Lewis

will be unable to join us for the discussion, it still promises to be a meaningful time of learning and sharing! So make plans to stretch your mind and open your heart to some of the spiritual wisdom offered by one of the most insightful apologists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## Small Groups

### Games Day:

Wednesday, November 30th, 10am–noon  
at Clairemont Christian Church.

### CWF & Sweet Swap:

Wednesday, December 14th, 10:30am

### Prayer Ministry:

“Hour of Prayer” Monday nights, 6:00pm

Contemplative Prayer Study: Wednesday evenings, 6pm

Bible Study: Wednesday evenings, 7pm

Worship Rehearsal: Thursday evenings, 6:30pm

Recovery in Christ: Friday evenings, 7:15pm

Sunday Morning Adult Study: The Chronological Bible – read through the Bible in a year in chronological order. Sunday mornings, 9:00am

...this event is a **MUST** for all youth!

Jr. High JANboree,  
January 13-16, being held at Loch Leven.  
Fees are \$175 postmarked by December 16th  
High School FEB Camp,  
February 17th-20th, being held at Pilgrim Pines.  
Fees are \$175 postmarked by January 16th  
*The church offers half-scholarships!*

# Celebrating

*An Anniversary This Month*

- 12/01 Pete & Minnie Leitner
- 12/17 Matthew & Zoe Cloud
- 12/18 Dick & Susan Ganz
- 12/26 Ron & Janice Calabrese
- 12/27 Dan & Fay Moore



- 12/03 Bill Sanders
- 12/05 Megan Ducker
- 12/06 Jasper Rysedorph
- 12/08 Wilma Emmons
- 12/10 Randy Wolford
- 12/10 Katie Tedford
- 12/12 Lyn Beattie
- 12/13 Robbie Frazier
- 12/19 Alan Fox
- 12/19 Margaret Steinrichter
- 12/20 Tom Deitz
- 12/21 La Donna Dwyer
- 12/26 Debbie Browne
- 12/28 Annie Kelley



Road to Recovery®

The American Cancer Society is in critical need of volunteer drivers for their Road to Recovery program here in San Diego County. Every day thousands of cancer patients need a ride to treatment, but some may not have a way to get there. This program provides transportation to and from treatment for people who have cancer who do not have a ride or are unable to drive themselves. Volunteer drivers donate their time and the use of their cars so that patients can receive the life-saving treatments they need. We are currently unable to fill the number of transportation requests we are receiving from patients because we do not have enough volunteer drivers. Your help is very much appreciated! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Robby Median at (619) 682-7457.

## Alternative Gift Fair

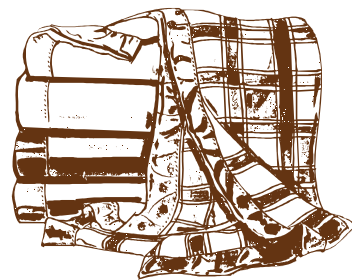
‘Skip the mall, buy a pig.’ One way to counter the mass commercialization of Christmas is to give gifts that will actually make a difference in people’s lives. Church World Service gives us that opportunity through an Alternative Gift Fair.

Instead of buying a tie or socks or a box of candy for people who already have everything they need, why not give them a special card that announces you have purchased a gift in their honor for people in need? This year, there are a wide variety of gifts available for purchase... a batch of chicks, farming tools, blankets, school kits or even health kits. For each purchase, Church World Service gives you a brief description of the item purchased and a Christmas card that can be used to insert the description. Along with Church World Service cards, we have exciting, colorful handmade items from Mexico, Panama, Thailand, Guatemala, the Congo, and even USA. The Alternative Fair tables will be set up before and after church from November 27th through December 18th. What better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus!



## Futuro del Oro

Throughout the months of November and early December, we invite you to bring us new or gently used blankets, bed sheets and towels in support of Ethel Walton’s work with Futuro del Oro in Tijuana, Mexico. Each December, Futuro scholarship children host a Christmas party for the many poor families in their colonia. At the party they will distribute your donations to help families make it through the colder winter months.



We also welcome donations of fresh baked cookies or other goodies for the party. Please bring the bedding by December 2nd and the goodies between December 2-9<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful to Ethel for her continued good work in Mexico and welcome an opportunity to support her in her efforts to give “to the least of these.”



## CCSA & Joyce Snyder Center

CCSA will have two main programs for helping people during the holidays. Joyce Snyder Center will make food/hygiene bags for the homeless with a small added supply of pop-top foods. See the complete list on the special bin in the fellowship area.

Christmas Baskets of canned foods with added gift cards can be made up for ‘adopted’ families. For specific details to match you (or your group/company) with a family, call Carol Denton at CCSA (858-274-2271). The due date for baskets is December 15th.

We welcome your donations of non-perishable food items on **Missions Sunday** (December 4th). Most needed food items are: spaghetti sauce, pasta, breakfast cereal, tuna, and peanut butter.

Volunteers are needed to help with various jobs. Contact Jack Blevins (858-272-0163) for more information. Thank you for continued support of CCSA and their ministry.

The Pacific Beach Christian  
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PACIFIC BEACH  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

1074 Loring Street, San Diego, CA 92109

Rev. Brian Daly, Pastor  
Revs. Don & Susan Gonzales-Dewey,  
Regional Ministers  
Rev. Sharon Watkins,  
General Minister & President

Phone: 858) 483-4504

Fax: 858) 483-4504

Pastor's Email: bdaly@pbchristian.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**BY OUR ATTENDANCE**

10/23/11	106
10/30/11	120
11/06/11	102
11/13/11	118
11/20/11	93

**BY OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Weekly Need: \$3,113	
10/23/11	\$2,998
10/30/11	\$2,139
11/06/11	\$3,525
11/13/11	\$3,361
11/20/11	\$1,687
Budgeted (YTD):	\$65,370
Received (YTD):	\$55,501

**Congregation**

Shane & Antoinette  
Frazier Family  
Jay Williams  
Richard Kurosky  
Doris Ducker  
Stephen Sly  
Marjorie Swailes  
Bill Bostick  
Roger Fishero  
Rhoda Kruse  
Angelica Valentine  
Nathan Corey  
The Norton Family  
Bob Jones  
Glen MacPherson  
Fusco Family  
William Dudas  
Recovery In Christ

**Friends & Family**

Mark Connors  
Wendy Grace  
Bob & Grace Marr  
Mary Ann Vincent  
Ryan Porteous  
Andy Birts  
Nellie Van Del Elzen  
Miles/Capp Family  
Jacquelin Leahy  
Pete Ferguson & Family  
Milan Dmitch  
Harriett Bota  
Paula Regan  
Devin O'Connell

**BY OUR PRAYERS**

Ray Perkins & Family	Lauren Lyons
Gabby & Howe Family	Joanne Davis
TJ	Jennifer Kutzner
Jeff Danko	Roseo Vasquez
Martha Fernandez & Family	Bob Bark
Lorraine Hill	Jill Cobb
Chekela Turner	Henry Torres
Ken McCartney	Chris Mischle & Chris Barker
Felix Salud	Kerrie Morfitt
Marjorie Snodgrass	Terry & Dora Rinke
Smith Family	Silas Zeeh
Joann Julian	Bernard Crosby
Justus Everetts	Shane O'Connell
Charlye Hoye	Marie Julian
Ron & Debbie Spiewak	Nicole Luongo
Jennifer Baker	Bruce Smith
Marian Taylor	Micki McQueen
Bob Porter	Jean Neal
Carren Lindsay-Dial	Patricia Spathes
Helen Dunn	Christine Miller
Toni McGregor	Joe Bailon
Kevin Mawhinney	Karen Kelly
Kaely Buckel	Karen Welch
Brooke Strong	James Birts
Rose Eckerman	Gillian Turgeon
Reeves Family	Laura Wright
Alica Langford Straley	Karlie Jo Hutchins
Frank Ortez	Christopher Harris
Colleen Silva	Mary Coles
Dixie Baker	Boys-MAF
Pattie Jo Kaczala	Farrars-Philippines
Kathy Ralls	Eubanks-Thailand/Burma
Joan Lomberto	
Mary Richardson	