

Pacific Beach Christian Church

The Front Porch

December 31, 2020



“What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun.” – Ecclesiastes 1:9

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’” – Revelation 21:5

We find ourselves at the threshold of a new year...and a much anticipated year at that. There seems to be a collective desire to leave 2020 in the rear view mirror and all the pain, suffering and turmoil that came with it. A new year can only provide a fresh start and a renewed optimism...right??? Maybe. Maybe not. Not that I want to burst anyone's balloon, but we will most certainly begin 2021 with the same challenges we are currently facing in 2020. The pandemic continues to spread...the economic fallout continues to reverberate in all directions...and the political drama continues to unfold on a daily basis. So what will be different about 2021??? Nothing...at least that's the conclusion of the author of Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiastes is a strange little book. It is traditionally ascribed to Solomon, the son of David who is best known for his wisdom. But Ecclesiastes has a rather fatalistic view of the future. Almost as if hope and optimism are nothing more than fool's gold. Is he right??? Maybe. Maybe not. If our hope and optimism are dependent upon defeating a virus, restoring the economy, and enjoying new-found political cooperation, then we are likely to be disappointed in what 2021 will bring. But if we believe God is using everything we have experienced in 2020 to do a work in us, both personally and collectively, then we can enter 2021 trusting the Spirit of God is doing a new thing. Did you hear that in the words of Revelation? There is a very different tone in Revelation than there is in Ecclesiastes. Written during a time of great persecution, the early Church is reminded that God is not done yet. To the contrary God is always at work to bring restoration, healing and redemption. If we actively look for the ways that God is at work in the New Year we are likely to have a very different experience. Even better, if we are busy at work partnering with God to bring restoration, healing and redemption we will most definitely have a different experience. So which will it be? Ecclesiastes or Revelation? A choice each of us must make.

Happy New Year,
Brian

**JANUARY
ANNIVERSARIES**

01/01 Kevin & Amber Osbourne
01/12 Bob & Bobbie Davila

**JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

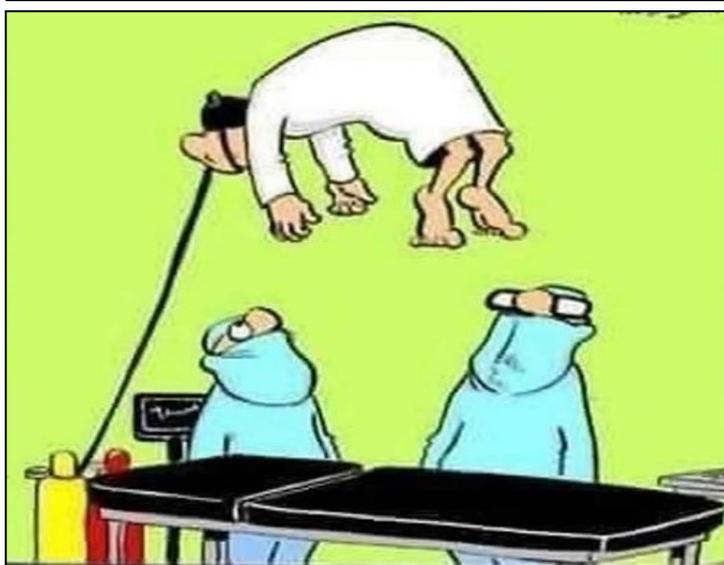
01/04 Rayann Frazier
01/04 Samir Chowdhury
01/06 Alice Roth
01/17 Pete Leitner
01/19 Nikki Zanchetta
01/20 Laura Daly
01/21 Nicolis Isaac
01/22 Denny Dwyer
01/23 Steven Smith
01/24 Liz Fotheringham
01/26 Cliff McReynolds
01/27 Landon Gille
01/28 Shanee Halldorson
01/28 Mac McQueen
01/29 Colleen Bailon
01/29 Roger Clark



2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2021 Offering Envelopes are here. We invite you to pick them up at the church M-F (9am-12pm) or call the office and we will make arrangements for pick-up or drop-off. Thank you.

REMEMBER TO SMILE



"Mental note, the yellow tank is helium."

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Wolford Family: continued prayers for Laurie, Jenny and Steve following Randy's death

Mike Dwyer: prayers for Mike as he transitions home following recent surgery

Schafer Family and Friends: prayers for the family and friends of Debbie Bishop's co-worker and friend who recently died of complications related to Covid-19

Sonny Flores: prayers of Dawn Frost's daughter's father who was recently diagnosed with stage four stomach cancer

Raymond Brown: prayers for Dawn Frost's daughter's father-in-law who is currently in ICU battling Covid-19

Philipp Berry: prayers for Aurora Bishop's brother who had been diagnosed with Covid-19

Bill Rippetoe: prayers for Rip's father as he recovers from recent surgery

Glenn Clarke: prayers for Debbie Sehlhorst's father after a recent diagnosis of metastatic cancer

Keith Settle: prayers for Charlene Hill's cousin as he slowly recovers from Covid-19

Ron Ness: prayers for Ruby Birts' son-in-law after a recent diagnosis of Covid-19

Ian Briski: prayers for a young man in our PB community who remains in a medically induced coma following a snow boarding accident

May The Road Rise Up To Meet You



*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
The rains fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again,
May God hold you
In the palm of His hand.*

Traditional Gaelic Blessing

STAYING CONNECTED

Our **worship services** will continue to be live streamed on Sunday mornings at 10:30am via our Facebook page, and also on our website (click on LIVE) to view. The services are then posted on the page thereafter for anyone who would like to access them later or share them with a friend or family member.

We are also grateful to those of you who have been posting on the **Pacific Beach Christian Church Social page**. This is a separate Facebook page that allows you to share pictures and videos with your church family. And finally, our **small groups** continue to meet during the week via Zoom. We encourage you to stay connected by joining any of the following groups:

Tuesday Evenings (6pm): Sermon-based small group discussion

Wednesday Evening (7pm): Bible study on Advent-Christmas

Friday Evening (7:15pm): Recovery in Christ

* If you are interested in joining one of these groups, simply call the church office and we will help get you set up.

OUR THANKS TO MALIA BUTLER

Malia Butler has faithfully served in our Nursery for several years. Before that she worked with our children as both a teacher and Christian Education Director. She has made a difficult decision to resign from her work with our littlest ones and recently sent the following letter to share with you, her long-time church family. We are grateful for her many years of faithful service to our church.

December 2020

Dear Parents and PBCC Families,

I wanted to thank you for all the wonderful years that you have lovingly left your little ones with Melba, Lauren, and me. I feel honored that you have chosen our Church to care and nurture your beautiful children. It has been a gift to teach them the stories of our Lord all these years. Going forward, I am resigning my position due to family matters and stepping down from the nursery. I leave it in capable hands with Debbie Bishop and Lauren. As always God will see us through our challenges and bless us abundantly. I wish for your children all the happiness that knowing the Lord can bring and may God bless each and every one of them.

Kind Regards,
Malia Beattie-Butler

MORNING DEVOTIONS

Pastors Brian and Rip continue to take turns sharing morning devotions via Facebook Live on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8am. We invite you to visit the church's Facebook page or website for all the videos of our previous morning devotions and worship services.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Saint Brigid, in partnership with Catholic Charities and the San Diego Food Bank is distributing free food each month. You can request a food package for pick-up or home delivery by ordering online at: ccdsd.org/efdn or by calling 619-323-2841. Food packages can also be picked up as a drive through service in the Saint Brigid church parking lot each week. Registration is required, and allows recipients to identify a distribution site most convenient for them. If you show up on distribution day, you can also register onsite. Register online at: ccdsd.org/efdn.

There is plenty food available and it is available to all those who meet the income guidelines.

CE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY



Invest with Disciples Church Extension Fund (DCEF). Funds invested with DCEF support the ministries and missions of congregations in need with timely loans. In return, the investors are paid competitive rates on a variety of vehicles, including Demand Plus Notes, Traditional and Roth IRAs, and Educational Growth Notes. For more information call 800-274-1883 or visit disciplescef.org.

RIC

The group continues to meet on Zoom every Friday night at 7:15pm. The Zoom meeting ID is 259886364. Should you have any questions about the group or how best to log on you are encouraged to contact Liz Fotheringham at (619)417-0202.

PB KIDS ZOOM EVENTS JANUARY 2021

JANUARY 10 - 1:00PM

"BAG OF SURPRISES" CRAFT!

1. Sign up by emailing dbishop@pbchristian.com
2. Pick up your craft supplies at PBCC on any weekday morning between January 4-9.
3. The zoom link will be sent to you in the days leading up to the event!



JANUARY 24 - 1:00PM

PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE AND GAMES!

1. Sign up by emailing dbishop@pbchristian.com.
2. You'll be emailed the zoom link and ingredients.
3. While we're waiting for the fudge to set, we'll be playing some fun games together!

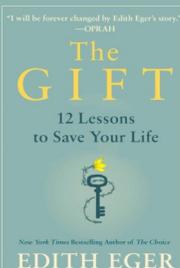


NEW YEAR'S EVE GAME NIGHT

We invite you to join us for a time of fun and fellowship tonight in celebration of New Year's Eve. It has been a long-standing tradition to gather at the church on New Year's Eve to play games and enjoy being together in a safe and fun environment. This year's Game Night will be virtual, but we're hoping it can still be a fun way to see each other's faces and enjoy playing some games together. We will be meeting via Zoom beginning at 6pm. We have included the link below to make it easy for you to join us. Happy New Year!

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/5900701883?pwd=MoQobkp3VnRoY3o4ZoYwMnorenVWUTo9>

BOOK CLUB



We invite you to join our next book club Sunday, February 7th at 5pm. The book we will be discussing is entitled The Gift by Edith Eger. In The Gift, Eger expands on her message of healing from The Choice, and provides a hands-on guide that gently encourages us to change the thoughts and behaviors that may be keeping us imprisoned in the past. Please join us!

REFLECTION



May the stars carry your sadness away,
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,
May hope forever wipe away your tears,
And, above all, may silence make you strong.

-Chief Dan George

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS TOTALS

Our thanks to those of you who supported this year's Alternative Gift Fair. It was a little more challenging to implement an on-line version of the Gift Fair this year, but we give thanks to Andi Sanders for all of her hard work in coordinating this year's fair. To date our church has contributed almost \$700 to Church World Service from this year's Gift Fair. Those gifts will make a big difference to those in other parts of the world who are working toward self-sufficiency. Thank you for your generosity!

AMAZON SMILE

Shop at smile.amazon.com and they will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to Pacific Beach Christian Church if you list PBCC as your favorite charitable organization—no fees, no extra cost.

