

# Pacific Beach Christian Church

## The Front Porch

March 11, 2021

Photo of this morning's rainbow was taken by Drew Bauman.



May your joy be complete and your spirit filled!

*“God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.”*

*1 John 4:9-12*

In our developing partnership with Shoreline Community Services we have begun to receive mail for several of their homeless clients. We have been offering this service to some in our own church family who have needed a safe place to receive their mail, so we have seen what a difference it can make. That’s why it made my day this week to get a call from a woman who has been receiving her mail here for almost two years. Why did that make my day you may ask? Because she called me from Hilo, Hawaii! After struggling here in San Diego to make it as a dishwasher at a local restaurant while living on the streets of PB, she was given an opportunity to work and live in Hawaii. She sounded like a different person! Someone cared enough to provide her an opportunity and now she is experiencing the gift of new life! And who was she quick to acknowledge made all this possible? Our amazing God. During this season of Lent Christians often take the time to reflect on sin. But what is sin? Father James Keenan, a Jesuit scholar and writer, put it this way: “Sin is the failure to bother to love.” That’s a powerful definition. It’s not just failing to love, but failing to even bother to love. Indifference. And inaction. We might ask ourselves...who have we failed to bother to love? Certainly many might fit into that category, including those we encounter who are struggling on the streets. So if sin is the failure to bother to love, perhaps salvation is the newness of life that comes *when* we bother to love...or the newness of life that comes when “...*God lives in us and his love is perfected in us*” (1 John 4:12b). That’s the kind of salvation that not only makes a difference in our life, but in the lives of those we bother to love. There is a woman living in Hilo, Hawaii who bears witness to that newness of life today. In her own words, “God is good...all the time!” And that goodness is often channeled through those who bother to love.

Brian

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



03/20 Doug & Sylvia Trenton  
03/28 Gary & Carolyn Hernandez

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03/04 Jackie Alcott  
03/09 Malia Butler  
03/11 Susana Clark  
03/12 Mike Dwyer  
03/14 Janice Calabrese  
03/17 David Lloyd  
03/18 Anna May Southworth  
03/19 Carolyn Hernandez  
03/25 Bobbie Davila  
03/26 Doug Sovinsky  
03/27 Karen Ruberg



## IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Liz Fotheringham:** prayers for Liz as she recovers from hand surgery earlier this week

**Jill McIlwain:** continued prayers for Jill as she recovers following shoulder surgery

**Sandy Roberts:** continued prayers for Sandy as she recovers from acute asthma

**Sussan Johnsen:** prayers for Sussan as she continues to do battle with cancer after a new lesion was found on her skull

**Kim Hairston:** prayers for Charlene Hill's sister after being hospitalized recently with stomach issues and vertigo

**Meredith Hopkins:** continued prayers for Andi Sanders' sister as she recovers from back surgery

**Rivera Family:** continued prayers for the Rivera family and their church

**Ian Briski:** continued prayers for Ian and his family as Ian remains hospitalized and has a very long road of recovery ahead following a severe brain injury resulting from a snow-boarding accident

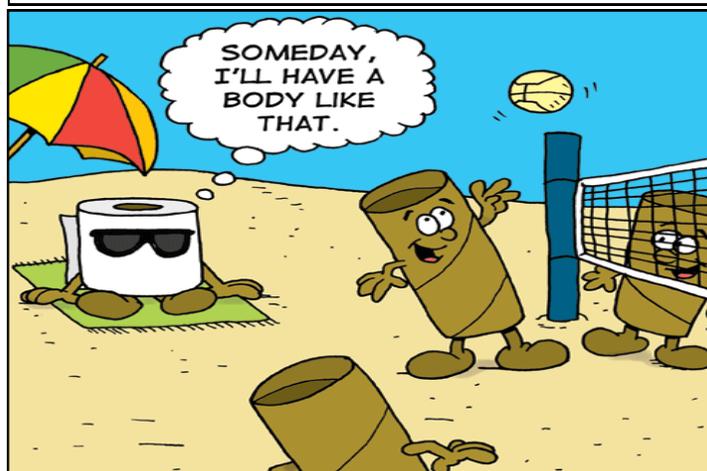
*Daylight Savings Begins!*



**This Sunday...**

March 14, 2021, 2:00 am clocks are turned forward 1 hour.

## REMEMBER TO SMILE



## COVID-19 PROTOCOL UPDATE

With the recent Supreme Court decision that now allows churches in California to worship indoors at 25% of their worshipping capacity, some have asked about our plans for re-opening PBCC. The church's board recently approved the following guidelines based on the State's color-coded tiered system:

**Purple:** the church will not have indoor or outdoor gatherings of any size

**Red:** the church will re-start our monthly Worship in the Park services and allow other small groups to meet outdoors at the church

**Orange:** the church will begin indoor worship in the sanctuary provided we are allowed up to 50% of our worshipping capacity

**Yellow:** the church will continue to allow for indoor worship up to 50%

We hope this helps to clarify the church's plans for re-opening. Should you have further questions we welcome you to contact our church office.

## REFLECTION

You will never know God's strength until He has supported you in deep waters.

~ Charles Spurgeon

### “Eternity is Now in Session” – New Saturday Series

We invite you join our Saturday morning Lenten Series entitled “Eternity is Now in Session” from 10-11am via Zoom. Most of us think of eternity as something that begins after we die. However, Jesus doesn’t talk about eternity that way. In fact, Jesus defines “eternal life” only once, with great precision, and in a way that has been largely lost in our day. This series will help to recover that original definition while trying to answer questions like:

**What** if we stopped thinking about eternal life as something we can only experience after we die?

**What** if we stopped thinking of Christians as people who profess beliefs about God and instead focused on becoming disciples who know God?

**What** if salvation isn’t mostly about getting into heaven but about getting heaven into us?

The series was inspired by a book written by John Ortberg with the same title, [Eternity is Now in Session](#). So make plans to join us. A Zoom link will be sent out via e-blast each Friday.

## KIDS AND YOUTH EVENTS

### PB KIDS ZOOM BAKING PARTY!

*The Osbourne's oreo cream cookie*



This Sunday- 1:00pm

Zoom link will be sent.

Email [dbishop@pbchristian](mailto:dbishop@pbchristian) for more information.

### PB KIDS ZOOM BAKING PARTY:

*The Monteiro's  
Boscoitos!*

MARCH 28- 1 PM

A Zoom link will be sent. Email

[dbishop@pbchristian.com](mailto:dbishop@pbchristian.com) for more information.



## PB Youth Video Game Night !

NEXT SUNDAY, March 21st, 6:00 pm

Virtual Video Game Night

You vote for the game-we'll play together!

Email [dbishop@pbchristian.com](mailto:dbishop@pbchristian.com) to RSVP



## PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB “Letter from Birmingham Jail”

Our next Book Club offering is not a book, but a letter written by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will be reading his now famous “Letter from Birmingham Jail” (the full text of which can be found on-line). The letter was written by Dr. King in response to “A Call for Unity” which was published by some of Birmingham’s white clergy following Dr. King’s arrest at a peaceful protest in Birmingham. Dr. King’s letter challenges the clergy (and us) to reflect on the ways faith should inform and move us to action when our ‘neighbor’ (regardless of color) is being unjustly oppressed. Our discussion will be next Sunday evening, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6pm via Zoom. All are welcome to join us for this important and timely discussion.

## 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 the book of Deuteronomy.

**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.

## CHAPMAN FOUNDER'S DAY 2021

This Saturday, March 13

The Office of Church Relations is very pleased to bring **Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre** to present at this year's virtual Founders Day. His topic is **Decolonizing Christianity**, helping us see and understand the unholy linking of racist white supremacist ideas and American Christianity.

Dr. De La Torre is a professor of social ethics and Latinx Studies at Iliff School of Theology in Denver. A modern Amos-like prophet who speaks a clarion message against myopic American Christianity, he has written more than two dozen books, including Liberation Theology for Armchair Theologians and Doing Christian Ethics from the Margins.

Founders Day is an annual event sponsored by the Office of Church Relations connecting students, faculty, staff and community members with an outstanding scholar in the area of religion. The event highlights Disciples on Campus students and provides an opportunity to support DOC Scholarships.

You must register in advance to receive the virtual event link which will be emailed the day before Founders Day. Register at:

[Chapman.edu/founders-day](http://Chapman.edu/founders-day) or call 714-997-6760.

## Lenten Devotionals Available

Lent invites us into a time of reflection and prayer during the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter (not including Sundays) to better prepare us for the gift of resurrection and new life available in and through Jesus. This year's devotionals are entitled "Go to Jerusalem". We are invited to place our hand in the hand of Jesus and journey with him to Jerusalem. Pastor and scholar, Mary Alice Mulligan, will lead us on a self-reflective journey to discover what it means to truly follow Jesus. Entries begin with the darkness of Ash Wednesday and culminate with the glory of Easter morning. Each brief devotion includes scripture, a reflection, journaling prompts, suggested spiritual practices, and a prayer. The devotionals are currently available for pick-up at the church office, but if you prefer to have a copy mailed to you then simply contact Janice or Brian in the church office.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Saint Brigid, in partnership with Catholic Charities and the San Diego Food Bank is distributing free food. You can request a food package for pick-up or home delivery by ordering online at: [ccdsd.org/efdn](http://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 Tuesday from 9:30-11:30am. 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. You can also register at:

[saintbrigidparish.org/food-distribution-covid-19](http://saintbrigidparish.org/food-distribution-covid-19).

## 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.



