

Pacific Beach Christian Church

The Front Porch

April 29, 2021



“Be still, and know that I am God!” – Psalm 46:10a

We had a work day at the church last Saturday to clear out the nursery and two of the children’s classrooms in preparation for a renovation of those rooms. It involved moving everything from those rooms into a storage shed we have on the parking lot. It was one of those jobs where many hands make for quicker and lighter work. So when one of our homeless neighbors happened upon us, I asked him if he wanted to help. Without hesitation he jumped at the opportunity to assist us. He was wearing a very large and heavy backpack on his shoulders, likely containing all of his clothes and worldly possessions. I asked him if he wanted to put it down and store it in a safe location. The answer was ‘no’. So for the next hour or more he kept carrying things out to the shed with that huge pack on his shoulders weighing him down. It made me wonder...do I do that? Do I carry around a heavy load that I sometimes resist laying down? Stress. Fear. Multiple responsibilities. Others’ expectations. The need to be in control. I’ve carried all of those at various times...sometimes all of them at once. The load can get heavy. Then what? The voice of God breaks through with an invitation: *“Be still, and know that I am God!”* Maybe it’s more than invitation. Maybe it’s an admonition. It might even serve as a command, directed especially at those carrying heavy loads. It’s often only in the stillness we can quiet the other voices in our head, including our own. It’s often only in the stillness we can become more aware of God’s presence...of God’s power...of God’s grace...of God’s love...of God’s faithfulness. We need not shoulder the burdens we are often tempted to carry alone. Psalm 46 begins with these words of faith: *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1)*. We will know that to be true when we can be still...taking time to breathe...slowly...and deeply. Try it. And may it lighten your load.

Brian

MAY ANNIVERSARIES



04/30 Bill & Andi Sanders
 05/03 Steve & Kathleen McHenry
 05/06 James & Alyssa Frazier
 05/31 Jeff & Elizabeth Schmied

MAY BIRTHDAYS

04/30 Susan Ganz
 05/06 Hannah Belvin
 05/08 Dieter Steinrichter
 05/10 Pamela Navar
 05/11 Sylvia Trenton
 05/11 Joseph Podhorsky
 05/18 Marilyn Zanchetta
 05/18 Alex Monteiro
 05/20 Howie Manheimer
 05/22 Nicole Chowdhury
 05/22 Jack Dapra
 05/25 Eileen Farrar
 05/26 George Podhorsky



REMEMBER TO SMILE



After listening to his owner drone on for hours, Ralph suddenly realized he was NOT cut out to be an emotional support dog after all.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Higgins Family: prayers for Lee Higgins' daughter and family following her recent death
Patricia Mann: continued prayers for Patricia as she has grown weaker and has been moved into a residential care center
Sherry Schempp: prayers of thanks that Brenda McQueen's sister is now cancer-free
Carl & Helen Koiner: prayers for Liz Fotheringham's parents after her mother was recently placed under hospice care
Sussan Johnsen: continued prayers for Sussan as she undergoes additional cancer treatment
Adriana DeLeon: prayers for Brenda and Mac McQueen's neighbor who is being treated for breast cancer
Sherri Adams: prayers for Casey Smith's aunt as she battles cancer
Sarah H.: prayers for Jill McIlwain's friend who is battling ovarian cancer
Fran Shelton: prayers for Susan Linder's friend who had surgery recently to remove a brain tumor
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

PB Interfaith Coalition Virtual Gathering – May 6th

The Pacific Beach Interfaith Coalition (PBIC) invites you to a special virtual gathering that will help us learn more about our Muslim neighbors. Imam Taha Hassane and Tehseen Lazzouni will share with us the meaning and significance of Ramadan in a special Zoom presentation on Thursday, May 6th, from 6-7:30pm. The event is being co-hosted by SalaamUSA, a non-profit dedicated to creating mutual understanding between Muslims and non-Muslim neighbors. For more information or if you would like the registration link, please contact either Pastor Brian or Janice in our church office.

APRIL GIVING UPDATE

We are grateful for your continued support of our ministry during this challenging time. The following are our giving totals through the end of April. Our 2020-21 fiscal year is from July 1st thru June 30th.

General Fund (April)	General Fund (YTD)
Budgeted: \$14,632	Budgeted: \$157,294
Received: \$10,997	Received: \$143,233
Building Fund (April)	Building Fund (YTD)
Budgeted: \$2,168	Budgeted: \$21,680
Received: \$2,965	Received: \$21,984

CHURCH RE-OPENING

PHASE ONE

We look forward to our Phase One Re-Opening of the sanctuary for partial in-person worship beginning this Sunday, May 2nd. This first phase allows for 50% of our current worshipping capacity. Those wishing to attend are being asked to contact us in the church office either by phone or e-mail so we can plan accordingly. The following Covid-19 safety protocols will be in place:

Any pre-service or post-service fellowship will take place outside

The doors will open at 10:15am

A check-in procedure will include a contact tracing sign-in sheet, temperature check, and use of hand sanitizer

Masks will be required throughout the service

Ushers will help to insure appropriate physical distancing while in the sanctuary

Individual communion baggies will be provided at check-in

We would ask that congregants refrain from congregational singing during the service

Offering plates will be placed at the door rather than passed

The service will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page and website for those who prefer to worship from home. Please call or e-mail us asap if you plan on attending this Sunday. And thank you for helping us to keep one another safe!

PB Kids

Mission Bay Park Play Day - Sunday, May 9 - 3pm

Zoom Baking Day - Sunday, May 23 - 1pm



PB Youth

Beach Day - Sunday, May 16 - 2pm

Beach Clean Up Day - Sunday, May 30 - 2pm



REFLECTION

*Our work is great, our time is short, and
the consequences of our labors are infinite.*

— John Newton

WORK DAY THIS SATURDAY

We are grateful to those of you who volunteered last Saturday morning to help us clear out the children's classrooms in preparation for the renovation that began Saturday afternoon. We have some more work to do this Saturday as we prepare the church for the Phase One Re-Opening on Sunday. We would welcome you to join us from 10am-12pm and the tasks will include both indoor and outdoor work depending on your preference. We thank you in advance for your help!

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DRIVE

AGC and Computers 2 Kids are co-sponsoring an Electronics Recycling Drive May 7-21 at sites throughout San Diego County. Any of the following donated items are welcome:

Computers, laptops, tablets, gaming systems, monitors, keyboards, mice

Fax machines, scanners, routers, switches, network components

VCR's, DVR's, Recorders, cell phones, land phones, cords

Software, hardware, ink and toner cartridges (new)

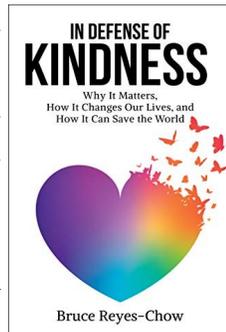
Radio, Stereo equipment, speakers

All items storing personal data will be sanitized in compliance with the Department of Defense Sanitization Standards. There is no charge to the donor and tax receipts will be available upon request. If interested, please contact our church office for the donation locations, hours of operation, and contact phone numbers.

PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB

May 16th

Our next Book Club will feature a book entitled In Defense of Kindness by Bruce Reyes-Chow. In a world that is so often fragmented and even hostile, can kindness really make a difference? In this recently published book Pastor Reyes-Chow argues it can change our lives and even save our world. The author is a Presbyterian pastor, leadership coach, spouse and parent to three children. He has also spent 25 years working with individuals and organizations helping them to work through conflict and change having to do with technology, race, relationships, religion, leadership and change. You can find the book via Chalice Press or on Amazon.



EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING

We will continue to receive any gifts for the Easter Special Offering through the end of April. The Easter Special Offering is a way for us to support the missions and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) throughout the country and world. This year's theme, "Deep and Wide", serves as a reminder of the limitless power of the risen Christ to develop Disciples, form new faith communities, and connect us to ministry partners around the world who are serving God's people in need. Just send your gifts to the church or via PayPal and designate them "Easter Special Offering". On behalf of those who will be blessed by your generosity...thank you!



NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

As most of you know our San Diego Convention Center has become a transitional shelter for young girls, boys, and teenagers who are unaccompanied minors entering the asylum-seeking process and waiting to be transported to a family member or sponsor here in the United States. While here in San Diego they have some basic needs that we can help with. Anyone wishing to help meet some of those needs is encouraged to bring any of the following donations to the church. We will in turn direct them to the Convention Center. Feel free to contact the church office should you have any questions. Thank you!

LIST OF NEEDS:

- New blankets (twin size)
- Hygiene products (shampoo/conditioner, tooth paste/toothbrush, deodorant, soap/body wash, cleansing wipes, body lotion, feminine products, Kleenex, slippers, shower sandals)
- Bath towels and washcloths (white)
- Gently used books/board games/crayons/coloring books
- Backpacks, duffle bags (boys and girls)
- School supplies (pencils, pens, notebooks and paper)

CLOTHING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Boys (ages 5-12)

- Tennis shoes (sizes 11 boys-size 8 men)
- Socks and undergarments
- New clothing- shirts, t-shirts, sweatpants, jeans (sizes for boys ages 5-12)

Girls (ages 5-17)

- Tennis shoes & sandals (sizes 8 girls-8 women)
- Socks and Undergarments (ages 5-17)
- New clothing (long-sleeved, short-sleeved tops, sweatpants, jeans in sizes for young girls and teens including XXS/XS/S/M)

