Pacific Beach Christian Church

The Front Porch– September 22, 2022

"These are the people of the province who came up out of the captivity of those exiles whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried into exile; they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his town."
– Nehemiah 7:6

A longtime friend of mine from high school reached out to me to extend a personal invitation to come up to Los Angeles for our 40th high school reunion next month. I was quite sure he had the wrong number. There is no way we graduated from high school 40 years ago. Turns out I was the one who was wrong. Indeed, it has been 40 years. But once I came to accept that harsh reality, I must admit there is a part of me that thought about what it would be like to set foot on a high school campus I haven't been on in 40 years. Not to mention what it would be like to see some of the guys (yes, I went to an all-boy Catholic high school) I haven't seen since we were teenagers. There is something about returning 'home' (however you may define 'home'). Nehemiah was knee deep in helping returning Jewish exiles get settled after returning 'home'. He found a book of genealogy that chronicled some of the stories of the first wave of returning exiles. Their exile had spanned decades and Jerusalem and Judea no doubt looked very different from when they were first forced to leave. Yet there was still something about returning 'home', even if there was much work to do. It feels like we have been in exile these last 2 ½ years of pandemic. We weren't exiled *from* our 'home', but we were exiled *to* our 'home'...both literally (for a time) and metaphorically as the nature of our social lives changed significantly. The church was a spiritual 'home' for many prior to the pandemic, but then we went into exile and the sacred nature of our connection in community suffered significantly. Some have found their way 'home' out of exile, but many have not. Is it time to return 'home'? That's a question we all must ask ourselves. Is there something missing when you aren't here in community? That's a question worth pondering. Is the community itself diminished when you're not here? That too is worth some prayerful reflection. We can adjust to living in exile, but what gets lost in the process? Now that San Diego has been moved to the lowest tier for risk of Covid spread, the CDC is telling us it is safe again to gather. Are you ready to come 'home'?

Brian

SEPT./ OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

9/22	Ed & Kathy Sly
10/01	Rip & Leah Rippetoe
10/19	Rafael & Pamela Navar

SEPT./OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

9/23	Andi Sanders
9/25	Amanda Gille
9/27	James Frazier
9/30	Ronnie Calabrese
10/1	Lloyd Farrar
10/5	Dani Griffith
10/5	Kathleen Wheatley-McHenry
10/7	Rafael Navar
10/10	Nancy Fowler
10/10	Cameron Allen
10/11	Amber Osbourne
10/15	Jeff Fotheringham
10/21	Jeff Bishop
10/25	Dan Owens

AUGUST 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 August (the second month of our 2022-23 fiscal year).

General Fund (August)	General Fund (2 Months)
Budgeted: $15,160	Budgeted: $34,110
Received: $12,750	Received: $27,675

Building Fund (August)	Building Fund (2Months
Budgeted: $2,168	Budgeted: $4,336
Received: $4,965	Received: $5,805

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kurt Allen: prayers for Kurt as he heals and recovers from his recent bone marrow transplant

Melanie McCabe: continued prayers for Melanie as she continues treatment for cervical cancer

Dwyer-McHenry Family: prayers for the family following Denny's recent death

Dieter & Margaret Steinrichter: prayers of thanks that Dieter has made a successful transition to a new care center

Milli Palaferri: continued prayers for Milli as she continues under hospice care for dementia

Robert Laffoon: prayers for Robert as he undergoes surgery for a broken hip

Dr. Rev. Jill Kirchner-Rose: prayers for Jill after being diagnosed with advanced cancer

Rev. Jerri Handy: prayers for Jerri as she transitions to Northern California to begin a new job and to be near family

Kenton and Patti Fowler: prayers for Phil and Nancy's brother and sister-in-law after being diagnosed with Covid

Robin Downey: prayers for a good friend of the Dalys and Bishops as she undergoes surgery for a recurrence of brain cancer

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR DENNY DWYER-Oct. 1st

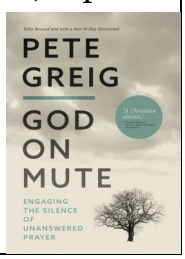
The Dwyer- McHenry family would welcome you to join them in honoring their beloved matriarch, Denny Dwyer, in a special Celebration of Life service on Saturday, Oct. 1st, beginning at 1pm at the church. Denny's church family meant a great deal to her, so please join us as we honor her and give thanks for her light and life. There will also be a reception following the service, so plan to join us as we also share stories and memories over food together.

WORSHNIP IN THE PARK AND PICNIC– This Sunday!

We look forward to an opportunity to worship together under the trees this Sunday, Sept. 25th, at Kate Session Park beginning at 10:30am. We will be in our traditional spot at the north end of the park near the children's play area. This will take the place of our regular worship service at the church on Sunday. So make sure to bring a blanket or chair as we praise God together surrounded by the beauty of God's Creation. We are also planning a BBQ and picnic following the service, so make plans to join us for lunch as well. There will be plenty of good food provided and games for both the kids and adults, so let's enjoy this unique opportunity for worship, fellowship and fun together!

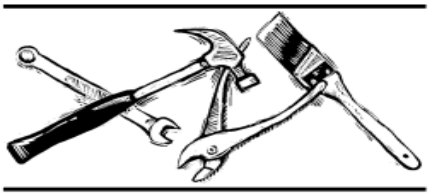
PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB

The next book in our Pastor's Book Club series is entitled God on Mute by Pete Greig. In this book Greig shares from his personal journey following his wife's fight for her life following the diagnosis of a debilitating brain tumor. He wrestles with the timeless questions of what it means to suffer and to pray only to encounter silence. In this heart-searching, honest and deeply profound book, Greig looks at the hard side of prayer, how to respond when there seem to be no answers, and how to cope with those who want to give us answers and interpret our experience for us. Ultimately this is a story of faith, hope and love beyond understanding. Books are available on Amazon and our discussion will be this Sunday at 6pm via Zoom. Reach out for the Zoom link if you would like to join us.



TIJUANA HOUSE BUILD- Oct. 29th

We are happy to announce that after a 3-year hiatus due to Covid, we are heading back down to Tijuana on Saturday, October 29th, for a Project Mercy house build. We welcome both skilled and unskilled volunteers as we team up with sister congregations from the Los Angeles area to build a home in a day for a family in need. We have posted a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the church for anyone wanting to participate. You can also contact our church office directly should you want to sign up remotely. Just make sure to secure a passport or passport card before the trip to insure a safe return at the end of the day. If you have any questions reach out to Pastor Brian at **bdaly@pbhcristian.com.**



New Bible Study Series – "Lessons Learned from the Early Church"

Are there lessons from the early Church that can speak to us in 21st century San Diego? That's the question we will explore in an 8-week Bible study series that starts Sunday, October 2nd. Specifically, our focus will be on seven often-overlooked New Testament letters written toward the end of the first century AD, a time when the Church was beginning to take shape and struggle with important issues and controversies.

Oct. 2	James
Oct. 9	James
Oct. 16	1 John
Oct. 23	1 John
Oct. 30	1 Timothy
Nov. 6	2 Timothy and Titus
Nov. 13	1 Peter
Nov. 20	2 Peter

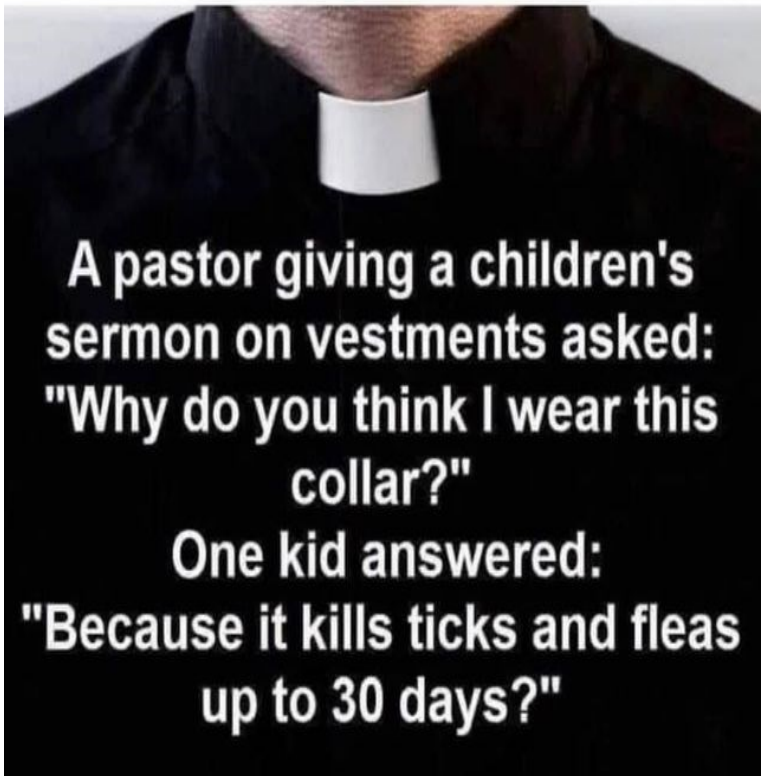
We will gather at 9am on Sunday mornings in the fellowship area, finishing in plenty of time to prepare for worship. The study will also be available via Zoom for those unable to be at the church. So please join us! The corporate study of Scripture is not only personally enriching, but community-building. Without your presence our discussion will be incomplete.

Rev. Michael Kinnamon, Ph.D.
Mk.kinnamon@gmail.com

REFLECTION

You are not your age,
Nor the size of clothes you wear.
Your are not a weight,
Or the color of your hair.
You are not your name,
Or the dimples in your cheeks.
You are all the books you read,
And all the words you speak.
You are your croaky morning voice,
And the smiles you try to hide.
You're the sweetness in your laughter,
And every tear you've cried.
You're the songs you sing so loudly,
When you know you're all alone.
You're the things that you believe in,
And the people that you love.
You're the photos in your bedroom,
And the future you dream of.
You're made of so much beauty,
But it seems that you forgot,
When you decided that you were defined,
By all the things you're not.
-e.h.

REMEMBER TO SMILE



GRIEF WORKSHOP- November 5th

All of us experience grief, but not all of us know what to do with our grief. Our own Dr. Nancy Fowler channeled her personal experience with grief into an opportunity to learn more about it and to share what she has learned with others. So if you have experienced a significant loss in your life and are looking for a safe place to learn about the grief process and ways you can grow and heal, then we encourage you to join us for a special Grief Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 5th, from 9am-3pm at the church. Nancy will integrate the Compassion Practice into the workshop which provides a contemplative, step-by-step path involving mediations to help us develop compassion for ourselves and for others. As some of our losses are acknowledged and tended to, we can begin to experience restoration and healing. If you would like to attend this valuable 6-hour workshop, then please contact our church office by e-mailing Janice at **administrator@pbchristian.com** or by phone at (858)483-4504 or simply sign up on the church bulletin board.

WEEK OF COMPASSION

Given the recent impact of the hurricane affecting Puerto Rico and The Dominican Republic, if you would like to make a disaster relief donation, please make your check out to PBCC and write WOC in the memo section. Thank you for your donations.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday night Bible Study is continuing their study on the book of 1 Samuel. The group meets via Zoom, so if you would like the Zoom link contact Carolyn Hernandez or the church office. All are welcome for this meaningful time of study, prayer and fellowship.

TUESDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP- 6:00pm

Contact the church office for the Zoom link and passcode for this Zoom meeting. We e-mail out discussion questions on Monday and the topic for discussion is the previous Sunday's worship message.

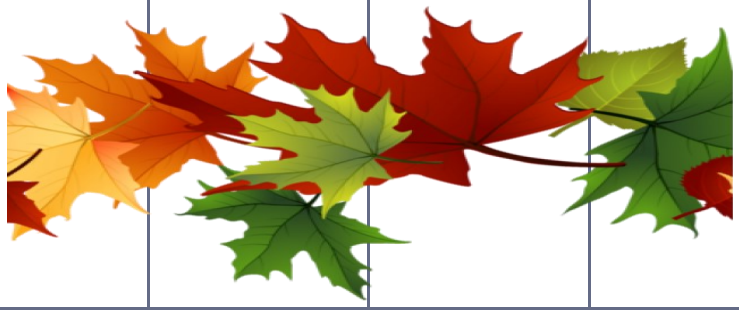
Sunday Worship

Worship Service
10:30am
&
Live Stream
Pbchristian.com
Or

Facebook page

2022

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mission Sunday						1) 1:00pm Memorial Svc. Denny Dwyer
2) **World Communion Sunday** 9:00am Adult Bible Study 2:00pm **City Church**	3)	4) 6:00pm Small Group Zoom	5) 8:00am Morning Devotion 7:00pm Bible Study Zoom	6) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	7)	8)
9) 9:00am Adult Bible Study 2:00 **City Church**	10)	11) 6:00pm Small Group Zoom	12) 8:00am Morning Devotion 7:00pm Bible Study Zoom	13) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal	14) **Regional Assembly** (Fullerton) And On-line	15) **Regional Assembly** (Fullerton) And On-line
16) 9:00am Adult Bible Study 2:00pm **City Church**	17) 7:00pm **Board Meeting**	18) 6:00pm Small Group Zoom	19) 8:00am Morning Devotion 7:00pm Bible Study Zoom	20) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal ***Autumn begins***	21)	22)
23) 9:00am Adult Bible Study 2:00pm **City Church**	24)	25) 6:00pm Small Group Zoom	26) 8:00am Morning Devotion 7:00pm Bible Study Zoom	27) 6:30pm Worship Rehearsal ***Front Porch***	28)	29) 6:15am Tijuana House Build
30) 9:00am Adult Bible Study 2:00pm **City Church**	31) **Halloween** 6:00pm-8pm **Trunk or Treat**					

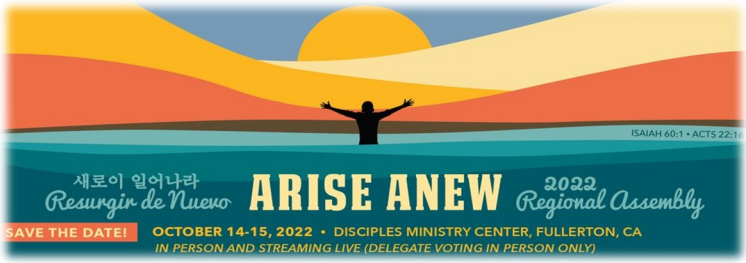


CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MARRIAGE

Christian and Kaitlyn Julian

Pete and Mariette Mendoza

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY-Oct. 14-15



Anyone interested in attending either in person or on-line can register at www.disciplespswr.org .

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY Mike and La Donna Dwyer

Halloween Trunk or Treat

We are excited about resurrecting an outreach opportunity to connect with families in our wider PB community on Halloween for our traditional "Trunk or Treat"! We simply invite you to bring your car decorated for Halloween and park it in the church parking lot. We will provide the candy, games, and hot dogs so that families in our community can pass through our parking lot, have some Halloween fun, and meet some of you as you extend the gift of hospitality to them. It's a fun safe way to open our hearts to the wider community, so here's how you can get involved:

- Sign up to bring your car (and don't forget to come in costume)
- Volunteer to help with one of the games
- Donate a bag of candy or some other healthier alternative

We look forward to partnering together to make it a fun and safe Halloween for the kids of our church and community!