

# PBPC news

## DEAR PBPC FAMILY & FRIENDS

The 19th Century English novelist, Emily Bronte, known best known for Wuthering Heights, once wrote that "May is the month of expectations, the month of wishes, the month of hope." I have each of those things as I begin my final month as pastor to this wonderful church, and I hope you have those things, too.

I expect God is still on the throne working things together for good. I expect Christ is still the Head of the Church, loving his Bride and leading Her as a Good Shepherd. I expect the Spirit is still alive at PBPC, breathing life into you and counseling you in the way you should go.

I wish for God's richest blessings to encourage you, to affirm your faithfulness, and to vitalize the fruitfulness of your labor for His glory. I wish for leadership and vision that will inspire you and maximize your resources in stewardship. And, I wish for balance in the honoring of your history and the forward movement of your mission.

And, I hope that the priorities of your heart will reflect those of the psalmist, who declared to God, "I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long, though their number is past my knowledge. I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord God; I will praise your righteousness, yours alone. O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come." (Psalm 71:15-18, NRSV)

As I write, I'm still on a bit of a spiritual high from the morning of Sunday, April 21. So many things brought me joy. We had wonderful music from the choir and Sounds of Worship. Erah gave us a mystical, magical version of "Be Thou My Vision" with his saxophone. Tony returned from Greece speaking Greek and reading God's word. Haley previewed the Spill the Tea women's Life Group, a great new ministry to strengthen community. For sheep's sake, you encouraged my creative preaching with a kind reception and affirmation of Benjamin Bershad, my Israeli shepherd character. And, the Deacons showed joyful hospitality hosting a fun fiesta as we gathered for food and fellowship. That's just one day in the life of PB Pres! Great things are happening in this congregation, and great things are on the way.

On Sunday, May 4, Pat Hom will lead the Stewardship Spotlight with an update on the leadership transition steps you'll be part of in May and beyond. On Mother's Day, May 12, we'll celebrate moms. And, on May 19, we'll give thanks to God for our time together as I conclude my pastoral leadership. I hope you'll

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read the newsletter to see what's coming up and join us throughout the month for the many things going on.

I am grateful for the years we have spent worshiping, serving, and growing together. Thank you for all of the ways you have loved me and supported my family. I look forward to the remaining weeks with you and the shared eternity in heaven that awaits us in Christ.

With love and deepest respect ~ Pastor Bill



## **MAY (BILL'S REMAINING) SERMON SCHEDULE**

May 5: "Love One Another" John 15:9-17  
Lord's Supper Sunday

May 12: "So That They Also May Be Sanctified" John 17:6-19  
Mother's Day

May 19: "But, God..." Acts 2:22-28  
Pentecost Sunday; Annual Pentecost Offering



### **ATTENDANCE**

March 31 (Easter): 128

April 7: 65

April 14: 68

April 21: 55

# BIRTHDAYS



May 2: Ezra Gray  
May 8: Bill Sperry  
May 10: Mac McEuen  
May 12: Bridgette Cota  
May 13: Karl Schmid  
May 16: Helen Melbourn  
May 17: Anne Bay  
May 19: Betty Zander  
May 20: Jean Ilstrup  
May 21: Kellee Cook  
May 25: Haley Pettersen  
Caleb Lopez

## WELCOME MICHAEL MODROW

Hi. My name is Michael Modrow and I'm so blessed, thankful and excited for the opportunity to serve as Church Custodian at PB Presbyterian Church!

I have 22 years of experience as a custodian at First Presbyterian Church of San Diego, during which time I became involved with Ladle Ministry, a soup kitchen ministry of First Pres. Through Humble Heart Thrift Store, in which I am co-founder, along with my Son Mike Jr., we have been able to stay involved with Ladle Ministry. Ladle Ministry is a vital ministry in the Downtown area and helps many people in so many different ways. Please feel free to ask me about Ladle Ministry and/or Humble Heart any time!

I am a family man who dearly loves and cherishes his family. Our beautiful, precious daughter Milinda, succumbed to cancer last year. It goes without saying that it has been a very difficult time for our family and we miss Milinda deeply. We draw comfort and hope that she is with Jesus and that she is here with us in spirit. Cheryl and I have 3 adult children, Christina, Milinda and Mike Jr. Milinda left us with 4 amazing children (2 boys and 2 girls) and an absolutely adorable great granddaughter! Christina has 4 beautiful, awesome daughters! Christina operates our OB Humble Heart and has branched out to teach and coordinate children's music lessons, musical instrument sales and even live music. I'm so proud of her! Mike Jr. is my strong right arm at Humble Heart and in many other areas of my life! All of my children and grandchildren are right here in San Diego...so much to give thanks for! I like to spend my free time cooking for my family and going on long walks. I'm into anything healthy!

My goal is to be a blessing to PB Presbyterian Church, its congregation and to the surrounding community. I look forward to a long and rewarding career at PB Pres.!

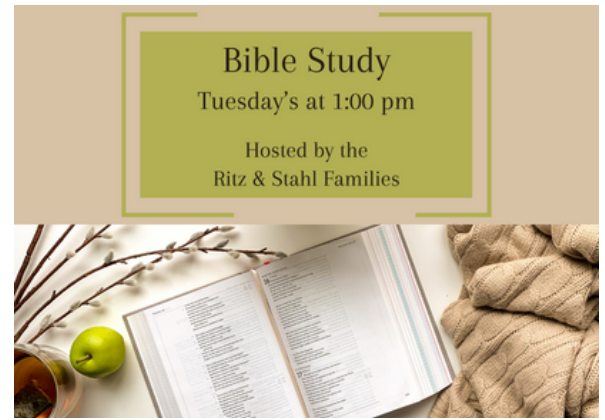


# LIFE GROUPS



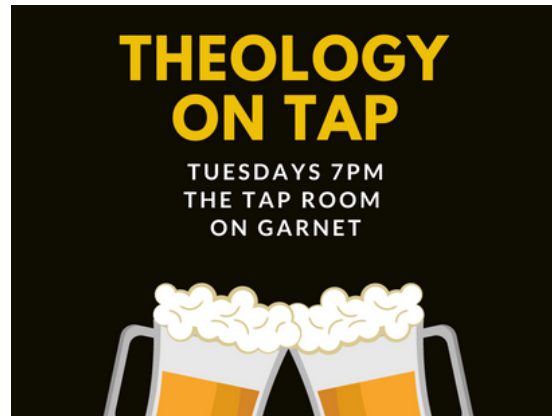
*Prayer*  
Sunday Morning  
9:30 - 9:45 am  
Church Office

A poster for a prayer group. It features a white rounded rectangle on a brown background. Inside the rectangle, the word "Prayer" is written in a large, elegant cursive font. Below it, the text "Sunday Morning 9:30 - 9:45 am Church Office" is written in a clean, sans-serif font. The background of the entire poster shows a pair of hands cupped together, palms up, in a soft, golden light.



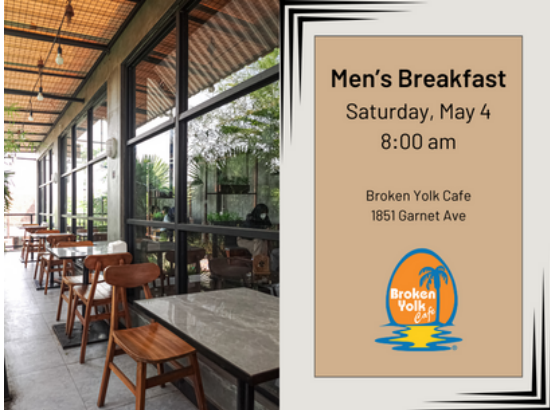
Bible Study  
Tuesday's at 1:00 pm  
Hosted by the  
Ritz & Stahl Families

A poster for a Bible study group. It features a light green rounded rectangle on a beige background. Inside the rectangle, the text "Bible Study Tuesday's at 1:00 pm Hosted by the Ritz & Stahl Families" is written in a clean, sans-serif font. The background of the entire poster shows an open Bible, a green apple, and some dried branches, all on a wooden surface.



**THEOLOGY  
ON TAP**  
TUESDAYS 7PM  
THE TAP ROOM  
ON GARNET

A poster for a theology group. It has a black background with the text "THEOLOGY ON TAP" in large, bold, yellow letters. Below that, "TUESDAYS 7PM THE TAP ROOM ON GARNET" is written in white. At the bottom, there is an illustration of two glasses of beer with white foam, one slightly behind the other.



Men's Breakfast  
Saturday, May 4  
8:00 am  
Broken Yolk Cafe  
1851 Garnet Ave

A poster for a men's breakfast group. On the left is a photograph of an outdoor cafe with wooden tables and chairs. On the right is a white rounded rectangle with the text "Men's Breakfast Saturday, May 4 8:00 am Broken Yolk Cafe 1851 Garnet Ave" and a logo for Broken Yolk Cafe featuring a palm tree and a yolk.



**The Lunch Bunch**  
Wednesday, May 8  
12:00 pm  
Bring your lunch  
to Calvin Hall  
to enjoy in the  
company of  
others

A poster for a lunch group. It features a light blue sky and a wooden table. The text "The Lunch Bunch Wednesday, May 8 12:00 pm" is in a bold, sans-serif font. Below that, a circular grey area contains the text "Bring your lunch to Calvin Hall to enjoy in the company of others". There is also a small icon of a fork and spoon.



*Spill the Tea*  
MAY 25 AT 10 AM  
PACIFIC BEACH PRESBYTERIAN COURTYARD

A poster for a tea group. It features a stylized illustration of Rosie the Riveter, a woman in a blue denim work shirt and a red bandana with white polka dots, flexing her right bicep. The background is light pink with small icons of teacups. The text "Spill the Tea MAY 25 AT 10 AM PACIFIC BEACH PRESBYTERIAN COURTYARD" is at the bottom.



**COOKBOOK CLUB**  
ONCE-A-MONTH  
THEMED  
POTLUCK  
LUKE COWELL  
& JOY PHILLIPS  
HOME  
May Date  
To Be  
Announced

A poster for a cookbook club. It features a teal background with various kitchen ingredients like a yellow pepper, a red chili, a wooden spoon, and some grains. The text "COOKBOOK CLUB ONCE-A-MONTH THEMED POTLUCK LUKE COWELL & JOY PHILLIPS HOME May Date To Be Announced" is written on a spiral notebook.

# PRESCHOOL NEWS

We celebrated Purple-Up Day of the Military Child last week and had four military service members join us and their children so we could honor and celebrate them. Pastor Bill joined in the festivities and even brought his dog JJ! The children learned about the sacrifices military families make while serving our country. They also learned how to cast an injured person, how to salute the correct way, and what some of their cool equipment looked like. We later celebrated with purple cupcakes and finished the event in prayer.



We bought safety glasses for the preschool children and were able to watch the solar eclipse on April 8. One of the children said, "It's looks like a sun moon!"



We've been able to purchase two new Adirondack chairs for the upper playground, a new soft obstacle course for the infant room and a round, mirrored table for the toddlers.



I want to thank the people from the staff and church who continue to support the preschool with their time and energy. We are so thankful for Ms. Stacey, Ms. Haley and Mr. Tony for leading chapel each week, for the fun preschool events and for the bi-weekly coffee cart! Thank you Irene Forbes for donating some of the extra fruit and bread leftover from Sunday Night Ministry...we love it! Thank you to Joy, Chris, Marsha and Bill for serving on the preschool board and Steve and Leslie who show up for everything! We appreciate you all!

Amy Jones

# MUSIC MINISTRY

Hello friends,

Thank you for the support you showed music ministry throughout Holy Week! It was great to have a mix of bells, traditional choir and Sounds of Worship for Easter. I have received especially great feedback about the Good Friday Tenebrae service; unfortunately, there were very few attendees. I hope we can have more events like this in the future and that even more people will attend.



When you read this we will have had our first "Spill the Tea" tea party. We are expecting around 10 women. There will be a tea themed devotional, prayer time, and conversation while enjoying great tea from Point Loma Tea and finger foods made by me. Our next tea party will be on Saturday, May 25, at 10 am in the courtyard. I hope all the women who attended felt blessed and loved by this new Life Group. Please consider joining us in May! I have a sign up sheet to bring food and drink to share. If you would like to attend, please reach out to me via email or in person on Sunday for more information or to sign up to bring something!

**Haley Pettersen**

# OUTREACH & MISSIONS

It's been an exciting year so far, with more coming; plenty of opportunities for everyone to participate in whatever fits your fancy.

Here's some of what's happening.

## **Weekly Sunday Night Ministries (SNM)**

It's been exciting to see all of the gifts and donations coming in for our SNM, not only from you all, but from the local business' too.

Wayfarer Bakery has donated fresh bread each week.



We See You San Diego has helped connect us with donation of produce and meat (like this 40lbs of chicken breasts).



Plus cash donations from Costco for \$50.00 and Smart & Final for \$250,

We still need help in the kitchen to help prepare food ahead of time:

- Saturdays 10 a.m. till 12 p.m.
- Sundays 2 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.

It's easy work, and you can enjoy time with your church family too.

## **Graffiti Clean Up Event**

This year's annual Graffiti Clean Up event is Saturday May 11. This is an annual event we have hosted for 19 years. It's fairly easy on our part. We are the central collection point for community volunteers to pick up their graffiti cleaning supplies, maps of graffiti in the PB area, snack and water, and go... Come join the fun, we can even teach you how easy it is to clean up some graffiti so you and your family or friends can become involved in the actual clean up event itself.

# FOR BEGINNINGS AND ENDINGS

This life is made up of so many beginnings and endings.

We start new jobs and leave old ones.

We move to new cities and leave our childhood hobbies in our parent's basement. (Sorry, Mom.)

We become new people slowly (hopefully kinder and funnier?).

Friends and relationships come and go.

Dreams blossom and then they wither.

And we find ourselves here once again at the precipice of change.

Afraid to let go, and afraid of what will happen if we don't.

Might this be a place of blessing too?

Blessed are we standing in the hallway

between closed doors and ones still to come,

between the old and the new,

between the worn-in and the doesn't-quite-yet-fit,

between who we were and who we might become.

God, make it remotely possible to grow and change,

become open to new adventures, and untethered to routine or to the same-old.

Because the anxiety rising in my shoulders and filling my throat tells me I am unlikely, unwilling, to step forward.

Blessed are we who take a minute to look over our shoulder at all we learned from what was, the people we became,

the people who loved us into becoming.

The peace that came with familiarity.

Blessed are we who trust this timing, and who open our hearts anew to change, to new friends, to hope.

Nervous, maybe heavy-hearted,

but brimming with gratitude for a life so beautiful that it hurts to say goodbye.

Blessed are we, turning our eyes ahead toward a new path not yet mapped.

God, give us courage to take this next step, and enough for the one after that, too.

Remind us that you have gone before, and behind, and around, and are with us now.

In our leaving, in our arriving, in our changes, expected or shocking, surprise us with who we might become.

Kate Bowler, "The Lives We Actually Have"