



The Beacon

Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so all may experience God's life-giving love

First United Methodist Church of Seal Beach

March 2026

From Pastor Tia

Greetings Friends,

We are full into the Lenten season. Right around the corner is Easter. But before we get there, we need to travel this journey of Lent and take time to refocus our lives on Jesus. Spend extra time in prayer, reading the Bible, serving, and or worship.

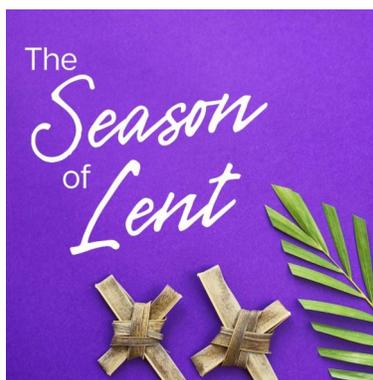
To help with this important time of reflection and repentance I have begun the sermon series by Adam Hamilton, "Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion." Each Sunday we will explore the scriptures to understand better our meaning of Jesus's death for each one of us. If you wish, you may join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm on Zoom as we go deeper into this subject with our Lenten Study.

Holy Week will also give you an opportunity to spend time in worship. Prayer and reflection. On Palm Sunday we will continue our sermon series and also celebrate with the waving of palms and singing hosannas. I have decided to do something different for Maundy Thursday. You are invited to join me in the Fellowship Hall at noon on Thursday April 2nd for a simple soup and bread lunch. After lunch we will celebrate Holy Communion together. And then on Good Friday, April 3rd at 7:00pm we will gather in the Sanctuary for a traditional Tenebrae Service of Darkness.

Our Lenten journey concludes on Easter morning with our two services. We will meet on the Beach, just west of the pier, at 7:00am for our Easter Sunrise service. At 9:30am our traditional service in the sanctuary will celebrate the Day of Resurrection with music, prayer, scripture, and communion. All services will be broadcast live on Facebook for those who are not able to attend.

May this season of Lent be a time when you grow closer to Jesus.

Shalom,



In-Person & Virtual Worship Sundays
9:30am

E-mail Prayer Chain
prayerchain@firstchurchsealbeach.org

Ad Council
Sat. March 14th @ 9:00am Hybrid

Lunch Bunch
Wed. March 25th @ 11:30am
@ **TBD**
4th Wed of the month. All are welcome. Notify Jeanne if you'd like to join us.

Men's Breakfast Group
Thursdays @ 7:30am @ Blackboard Bistro on PCH.

Miracle Prayer Group
Charlotta Butler (562) 431-8540

Mission Ministry Fellowship
Thurs. March 5th @ 9:00am. First Thurs. of the month.

Music Ministry
Trio & Choir rehearsal times vary. 8:30 & 11:30am. Beach Bells Tues. @ 5:45pm .
Anjanette Navarro
anjanette880@gmail.com.

Tea Time Tuesdays
Tuesdays @ 3:00pm Zoom. Contact Pastor Tia if you'd like to attend.
pastortia@firstchurchsealbeach.org.

Women's Group
Mon. April 6th @ 11:00am
Meetings held as needed.



<p align="center">Missions <i>by Carolyn Nicks</i></p>	<p align="center">March Birthdays</p>	 <p align="center">UMCOR Sunday March 15th</p> <p>When disaster strikes around the globe so many feel helpless. As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act. Will you continue to meet the needs of children, families and communities who've experienced devastation in the wake of disaster by</p>
<p>A big thank you to all that participated in our annual "Souper Bowl Sunday" lunch. The money raised was given to Interval House for shelter needs. Interval House has served victims of domestic violence for 40 years in Los Angeles and Orange counties. This has been able to be done thanks to all of YOU!</p> <p>The lunch program is doing well due to the generous donations from the congregation. Cans with pull tops, nuts, granola bars, fruit are welcome. No glass please. Thank you all for sharing your bounty.</p>	<p>Chris Wildermuth Kathleen Dunbar Beth Barinek Clay Peterson John Arnold Taylor McCallum</p> 	 <p align="center">Easter Flowers</p> <p>Easter Sunday April 5th, our beautiful sanctuary will be decorated with spring flowers to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. The flowers are donated in honor or memory of a loved one and may be taken home following the 9:30am Easter Sunday Service.</p> <p>Look for order forms starting Sunday March 16th You can also call the office or send an email to office@firstchurchsealbeach.org to order flowers.</p>
<p>With the rain and cold weather we haven't given our many lunches in February. We've given out 12 Lunches</p> <p>Thank you for the many donations of socks we received. We will continue to give out socks with lunches.</p>	 <p align="center">March Altar Flowers</p> <p>All Sunday's in March are open for altar flowers.</p> <p>If you'd like to provide flowers on March 1, 8, 15, 22 or 29 to honor someone or an event, or in memory of someone please sign-up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. You can also call or email; office@firstchurchsealbeach.org and state it's in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion. Your gift of flowers for the altar on Sunday morning really adds beauty and meaning to our services.</p>	
 <p>There is a box in the kitchen by the freezer for recycled mason jars. We ONLY need the medium size jars for jam.</p> <p align="center">Thank You.</p>		



 JOYS & CONCERNS Feb. 22, 2026	Holy Week	Events
<p>Greg & Kathy's friend, Barbara from Loomis passed away last Wednesday. Pray for her husband, friends & her family.</p> <p>Harlene's friend, Marsha is in the hospital, please pray for her.</p> <p>Continue to pray for Anjanette's parents as the family goes through transitions.</p>	 <p>Maundy Thursday April 2nd Simple Lunch & Communion in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00pm.</p>	 <p>In-Person & Virtual Worship Sundays 9:30am.</p> <p>Tuesdays Tea Time  3:00pm Zoom Tuesday is a time to join together to chat and catch up. Pastor Tia will send out the Zoom invite each week, please contact Pastor Tia if you would like to join.</p>
<p>Joy</p> <p>Anjanette's parents are celebrating their 50th anniversary this Friday.</p> 	 <p>Good Friday, April 3rd@ 7:00pm</p> <p>This is the day of the crucifixion. On this day we are to remember the sacrifice that was given for each one of us. The term Good is used to remind us that it is the day we are forgiven.</p>	 <p>Men's Breakfast Group Thursdays 7:30am Men's fellowship group meets for breakfast every Thursday at Blackboard Bistro on PCH.</p> <p>Lenten Bible Study  7:00pm Zoom Starts Wed. Feb. 25th</p>  <p>Mission Ministry Fellowship Thurs. March 5th @ 9:00am</p> <p>April Beacon DEADLINE Mon. March 18th @ 11:00am</p> <p>Office Closed Fri. March 20th & 23rd (Jeanne on Vacation)</p>
	 <p>Easter April 5th Sonrise service @ 7:00am on the beach west side of the pier. Traditional service @ 9:30am</p>	 <p>Admin. Council Sat. March 21st @ 9:00am</p> <p>Lunch Bunch  Wed. March 25th @ 11:30am @ TBD</p> <p>All are welcome. Contact Jeanne if you'd like to join us.</p>  <p>Women's Group Mon. April. 11th @ 11:00am</p>



Life at First Church

Finance Report as of February 18, 2026

	Monthly	Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
	2/1/26-2/18/26	2/1/26-2/18/26	2/1/26-2/18/26
Income Totals	4,436.00	19,822.28	50,112.00
Expense Totals	27,097.60	5,526.45	51,604.00
Difference	-22,661.60	14,295.83	-1,492.00

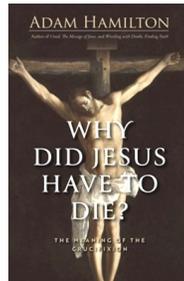


Daylight Savings Time begins March 8th. Remember to set your clocks ahead an hour Sat. March 7th.

Lenten Bible Study

Wed. Zoom 7:00pm

We will be using Adam Hamilton's book "Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion."



Palm/Passion Sunday

March 29th @ 9:30am



Palm/Passion Sunday is the Sunday that celebrates the triumphant entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. We begin Holy Week with shouts of Hosanna. By the end of the service we will enter into the Passion of Jesus as he walks towards his crucifixion. The service will end on a somber note as we enter into Holy Week, making our way toward Easter.

March/April Upper Room Available

The daily devotional Upper Room is available. They do enrich your life. If you would like one mailed to you please contact the office.

Lenten Sermon Series

"Why Did Jesus Have to Die?"

March 2026 Worship Schedule

In-Person Worship 9:30am

Streaming live on Facebook

Sunday Worship Services 9:30am

March 1st

Communion, 2nd Sunday of Lent

John 1:1-5, 14

"Lift High the Cross"

March 8th

3rd Sunday of Lent

Colossians 13b-15

"O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done?"

March 15th

4th Sunday of Lent

Luke 22:19-20

"Agnes Dei"

March 22nd

5th Sunday of Lent

Ephesians 5:2

"Were You There?"

Mach 29th

Palm/Passions Sunday

John 3:16

"What Wondrous Love is This?"

Rev. Tia Wildermuth, Pastor

**First United Methodist
Church Seal Beach**

148 10th Street
Seal Beach, CA 90740-6421
First United Methodist

March 2026

Phone: (562) 431-0494

Office Hours: M-F, 10:00am-2:00pm

Web site: www.firstchurchsealbeach.org

Email: Office@FirstChurchSealBeach.org

April 2026 Beacon Deadline

DEADLINE 11:00am **Wed. March 18th**

Beacon Editor: Jeanne Mignacca

Rev. Tia Wildermuth

pastortia@firstchurchsealbeach.org

Mobile 562-234-0641

**In-Person and
Streaming Live**

First Church Sunday worship service is streaming live on Facebook. You can find us @ [facebook.com/firstsealbeach/](https://www.facebook.com/firstsealbeach/). Or go to our website, scroll to the bottom right & click on  Space is available for comments.

Save the Date

*Mothers and
Others Tea*

*Saturday,
May 9th*

1:00 to 3:00pm

