



SONSHINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, April 2008

From Pastor Bill's "Powerbook"



We've celebrated Easter just about as early as it comes but then, every Sunday is an Easter celebration. We celebrate Jesus' Resurrection on the 3rd day and that is Sunday. It seems to me that as we enter April we use this time to not only renew our faith in Christ, but that we make a point of sharing our faith with others. Did not Jesus command his disciples to "go into all the world, making disciples, and baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?" Of course.

Now, lots of decisions are before us. After lots of prayer and discussion the Session on Sunday, March 16th, has voted **not** to continue merger conversations with our brothers and sisters in the Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church. Why? Because to lose our identity as the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church would be to lose that which attracts many to our church—even as hidden as we are in SDA church facilities.

Ahead of us lies, **first**, the search for our own facility—possibly the old Palm Springs Community Church on the corner of Baristo and Cahuilla...or some other location. But, that could be expensive and lots of work. Also ahead of us lies, **second**, the active searches for a called, permanent, pastor which is vital to our growth even as much as I love being your interim pastor and growing in faith with you. A **third** challenge for us is growing: not only spiritually, but also numerically and financially. We have to do all three! And it will take commitments from those of us who are full-time residents and from you, our winter residents.

Are we up to this? I believe so. Why do I say this? Because of you and because I trust our God to guide and enable us.

So, as Joyce and I prepare to fly to Israel, Egypt, and Jordan from the middle of April to the middle of May, you will be in our prayers. While we are gone, you have two excellent people filling our pulpit: **the Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen and the Rev. Dr. Art Ihnen**. They are a blessing and you will be blessed. But, please, keep Joyce and me in your prayers as we fly thousands of miles and see wonderful, biblical and historic places. When we return, on Sunday May 11th we will give you a DVD hint of our adventure during worship.

Thank you all and God bless you and your loved ones in 2008.

Yours, in Christ's Service,

Pastor Bill

William N. Johnson
Interim Pastor

REMEMBER: Next Deadline for May 2008 Sonshine is April 24th

Worship Schedule and Sermons for April – May 2008

CONTINUING IN 2008: WATCH AND WATCH OUT!

Pastor Bill will conclude his sermon series he calls, “**Faith Fights for Fullness; Walking in Christ**” on April 6th. The next three Sundays of April and the first Sunday of May we will be privileged to have Dr. Ken McCullen and Dr. Art Ihnen as our worship leaders and preachers. Plan on participating in worship and **invite and bring** a friend to also grow in God’s grace. That is the only way to grow.

Here is the schedule of worship and preaching for April into the middle of May 2008. As you prepare to participate in worship, please read the noted Bible passages in preparation and ask yourself this question: “**What do these passages say to me and how will Pastors Bill, Ken or Art, present them?**”

**APR. 06 - "God’s Plan for You!" (Life Direction)
Celebrating the Lord’s Supper
Psalm 116:1-4,12-19; Luke 24:13-35**

**APR. 13 - "Give Yourself to the Wind!" The Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen
Guest Worship Leader
Joel 2:28-29; John 14:15-17, 25-27**

**APR. 20 - "How Tempting!" The Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen
Guest Worship Leader
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Matthew 4:1-11**

**APR. 27 - The Rev. Dr. Art Ihnen, Guest Worship Leader
Potluck Luncheon**

**MAY 04 - The Rev. Dr. Art Ihnen, Guest Worship Leader
Celebrating the Lord’s Supper**

**MAY 11 - Pastor Bill will be back from Israel, Egypt and Jordan. Tired! Exhausted!
Exhilarated!
Sermon: "Our trip to Israel, Egypt, and Jordan in pictures on PowerPoint."**



Sermons for April - May

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THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

A friendly church is one where worshipers greet one another warmly and sincerely.
A friendly church is one where members seek out newcomers and make them feel welcome and important. Visitors hear that the congregation can help meet various needs: spiritual nourishment, Christian education, fellowship, friendship, service opportunities, support and comfort during difficulties and more.
A friendly church has something for everyone. It becomes a loving home were people desire to return frequently for spiritual, social, physical and emotional support.

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A Challenge for All of Us:

To grow means New People. Bring someone who needs to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Session Meeting

SESSION NOTES HIGHLIGHTS

The Session met on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 9:30 am, in the Church office.

All members of Session were present with Harvey Stephens excused. Moderator Bill Johnson, read from John 20:19-29 and led in prayer.

Minutes of prior Session and Congregation meetings were read and approved with minor corrections. Pastor Bill requested of Session that the Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen be invited to be our Parish Associate and that we request the Presbytery of Riverside to concur.

The Session adjourned and the Corporation convened to elect corporate officers: President, Bob Wulf; Vice President, Jim De Hart; Secretary, Jackie Morgan; Treasurer, Harvey Stephens. Session then reconvened to hear reports from committees.

An Ice Cream Social has been scheduled for April 13, 2008 immediately following worship to help raise money for Women's Ministry. It was reported that we raised \$1,225.00 for the One Great Hour of Sharing! Congratulations for this extra mile giving to share as God has blessed us.

A special Session meeting has been called for Wednesday, April 2nd to discuss the pros and cons of the old Palm Springs Community Church. The regular Session meeting, scheduled for April 9th has been postponed and will only meet if so called. We will next meet on May 21st at 9:30 am. *If you have any concerns or suggestions for session and/or session committees, or for Pastor Bill, please address them to any session member.*

Session supports special Moments for Mission: Mission Committee on the odd months and the Deacons on the even months.

Session adjourned at 11:12 am with prayer by Session members and the Moderator.
Pastor Bill Johnson
Moderator of Session



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

You are wonderful! The OGHS special offering raised \$1,225.00 as it was received on Palm Sunday and Easter. Thank you and God's richest blessings on you for this generous response. I am confident that the money raised will truly bless those who are deeply in need.

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The Well in the Desert Food Needed

The **Well in the Desert**, one of our Mission outreaches, continues to need **food**. So, please, as you come to worship on Sundays bring *canned or boxed food supplies or carefully used clothing* for those in need. They are usually picked up first thing Monday morning. Thank you.

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PSPC SHOPPING BAGS AVAILABLE

Rather than using plastic or paper grocery bags when grocery shopping, that are not the best for the environment, check out our new approach to bagging groceries! *Shopping Bags that are environmentally correct are now available!* Shopping bags made of washable, re-usable materials; with our PSPC name and logo are available for a \$5.00 donation. Yes, yes, you can get them for less money at the grocery store, but what great publicity for our church, a witness to our faith, and good for the environment; use them many times over and over and over. For winter residents and guest, get a couple and show them to your home church; maybe they will do something similar. Many grocery stores give a 5-cent per bag credit for using these when you shop. We have ordered 100 but can get more if these are all snatched up as Pastor Bill expects will happen.

So, get yours now while they last. *Rumor has it that Pastor Bill and Joyce are going to*

get two each— a total of four-boy, they must do a lot of shopping!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

PSPC Office hours

M-W-F 8:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

Tu - Th 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As we continue to look for a permanent Pianist/Director, we are so pleased to have Ruth Teafora to fill in for us. When she is not available, Alex Damson steps in.

We have been fortunate also to have Ken McCullen and Michael Cruz singing solos. Susan McGuire, Caryl Williamson, Kent McCarty, and Ruth Teafora also singing with Frieda Nichols playing the chimes and singing duets. What a versatile group we have been blessed with. Wouldn't you like to join us?

A foster home is still needed for our grand piano. If you know of a person that would be able to keep it for us, please call Jackie at the office or Geri at 323-1275.

Maundy Thursday evening service was very well attended by 57 people. Noel White led the choir in singing the anthem and he also sang a solo. Rev. Doug Uhls, Rev. Ken McCullen, and Pastor Bill Johnson, all participated in the service. A very tasty dinner was prepared by Donna McCullen.

Easter Sunday, and what a glorious day! HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! The choir so loved the anthem and hoped that all who heard it were also moved.

We are always open to suggestions for Worship and Music, so if you wish, call Geri at 323-1275 or Pastor Bill and the church office.

May the peace of the Lord be with you.

Geri Bintliff
Worship and Music



PRAYER COMMITMENT

Every single one of us can do this! To commit some time every week or day, praying for PSPC and God's guidance in the future. How much time? That is between you and God. But, prayer does make a difference! To sign up on the Prayer Calendar, call Jan Perrier at 346-7790 or call the church office, 320-2769 and give day and time.



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

As you may know, we now have a website and you can visit it at palmspringspresbyterian.com

We keep adding to it and it is Session's and Pastor Bill's desire that it will keep all interested, up-to-date on the comings and goings at Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. Potentially it is a help to anyone *new or visiting* the Palm Springs area and is looking for a Presbyterian Church in which to worship and participate. Any comments or suggestions are welcome. So, LOOK IT UP! Tell us what you think.



**Presbyterian Women's Retreat
March 15, 2008
Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church**

What a great day for the Retreat! We had a wonderful speaker, good weather, wonderful food served by the men, and 5 ladies from CCCPC, 6 ladies from Twenty Nine Palms, and 20 ladies from PSPC.

Our speaker was Laurel Kelsh Jones on "A Woman of God." It was a unique opening and caught everyone's attention as she portrayed Katie Luther, wife of Martin Luther in full costume and German dialect.

The rest of the day was just as interesting and in the afternoon a workshop on Prayer was held.

Music was provided by Frieda Nichols and Susan McGuire with great congregational singing. Rev. Julie Hodges served communion in the afternoon worship service and it was a perfect end to a perfect day!

Many thanks to Harvey Stephens and his kitchen crew of Pastor Bill Johnson, and Allen Perrier for the Continental Breakfast and the lunch that was very good as usual.

Many thanks also to the Cathedral City Community Presbyterian Church for the use of their fellowship hall and the sanctuary.

Thanks to Leanne Sowards for her "Woman of God" magnets, to Margaret Pace for obtaining the speaker, the beautiful booklets and name tags. To Barb Stephens and Leanne Sowards for helping to put those all together, and to Luella Hoover for keeping the finances in order.

What a day. Thanks be to God!
Geri Bintliff, Chairperson

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We are on the Internet!
So, Give us Your E-mail Address

We are now on the Internet and our email address is pspresby@verizon.net

That gets us into at *least* the late 20th century if not the 21st!! So...please give us your **email address** so we can email you the latest happenings of PSPC: letters, the **Sonshine**, other important information and activities. We will **NOT** give this to anyone else without your permission!!

Please leave the form below in the offering plate, give to the office, or mail to the church office Thank you!!

Name _____

Member ___ Affiliate Member ___ Friend ___

My/Our email address _____

You have my/our /permission to give others in the church my/our email address:

Yes ___ No ___



Bible Study: Wednesday—7:00 AM

The Men's Bible Study, under the insightful and dedicated leadership of Allen Perrier, continues on Wednesday mornings at the church in the Lounge, meeting at 7:00 am with a study of the **Book of Matthew**. This is a great way for men to gather together in the middle of the week to renew our spiritual batteries as we study the Bible. Then at 8:00 am, for those who wish, we go to breakfast and continue our fellowship. All men of the church and any other men are welcome. Just show up on Wednesday mornings about 7:00 am. BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible) and GTBT (Go To Breakfast Together).

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Thank You

The Women's Bible Study concluded on Tuesday, March 18th with a "thank you" luncheon for Joyce at a local restaurant. Eighteen ladies were in attendance to convey their appreciation for her leadership in an inspiring and informative Bible study these past months.

A unanimous request (**Joyce, please take note**) was made to her by the women to return in the fall for another in depth study of His word.

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PLEASE FEEL FREE: to call our **Interim Pastor, Dr. Bill Johnson**, anytime you have an emergency (like going to the hospital) or with questions, concerns, ideas, etc.
Home phone-(760) 345-2993
E-mail-drwnj57@aol.com
Cell phone-(818) 314-5104

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NEW FLOWER REGISTRY

If you have a special occasion you would like to celebrate or a loved one to remember, please **SIGN UP for FLOWERS** on the new 2008 Flower Registry, which is located in the Narthex

"The 5:59 GATHERING" in Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
Everyone is WELCOME!! The "5:59 Gathering" includes an outstanding meal for a \$5.00 donation plus lots of fellowship, time of learning and growing together. The "5:59 Gathering" generally meets every other Thursday during the late fall, winter and early spring.

TIME: 5:59 pm. to 7:35 pm.

PLACE: Palm Springs Presbyterian Church (we meet in the 7th Day Adventist Church on Sunrise near Ramon).

FOR WHOM: Members, winter residents, and friends who wish to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and in understanding the Presbyterian Church/Reformed, Calvinist Theology

The Following is the Last 5:59 Gathering for the spring!!

Apr. 03 - "Why Some Presbyterians are Leaving the PC (USA) and We are Not!" - Pastor Bill Johnson

Apr. 12-Pastor Bill & Joyce leave for Israel, Egypt and Jordon! Will return May 11th for worship...Gasp! Tired & glad to be home.

Dinner at 5:59 pm. for \$5.00 and with reservations—call 760 320-2769. Class from 6:60 to 7:45 p.m. in the church social hall.

I want to thank all of our members and friends who have made our 5:59 Gathering Dinners so special!! You cannot beat it for a \$5.00 donation! I don't know where to begin without risking forgetting (I am past "37" you know!) but I want all to know how much you are appreciated!

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This is something you will not want to miss!

Women's Retreat Ice Cream Social



WHEN: Sunday, April 13th
After worship

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

Come and tickle your taste buds with a yummy sundae, or a root beer float or maybe both????



DEACON'S CORNER

From Hope Curtiss' Kitchen

BARBECUE SANDWICHES

- 1 boneless beef chuck roast (1 1/2 #)
- 1 boneless pork loin rib end roast (1 1/2#)
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/2 cup brown sugar packed down
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1 tbl chili powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp ground mustard
- 2 tsp Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 6 oz can tomato paste
- 15 sandwich buns, split

Spray a 4-5 quart slow cooker with Pam.

Trim fat from meat. Cut meat in 3 inch pieces and place in cooker with remaining ingredients except tomato paste.

Cover and cook on low for 8-10 hours. Remove meat with slotted spoon. Shred meat with two forks; strain liquid in cooker. Reserve liquid. Return vegetables and meat to cooker and stir in tomato paste. Stir in reserved liquid (1-2 cups) for desired moistness. Cover and cook on high 10-15 min. until hot. Spoon the meat mixture onto the buns.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can help fight against hunger, breast cancer, and etc., by going to www.thehungersite.com There is no cost to you as sponsors of the site cover the cost.

We can also support our troops by sending free e-mail cards. The site is www.letssaythanks.com



LOOK WHO'S HAVING A BIRTHDAY!

Leslie Lutke	5
Jeff Morgan	5
Carie Webb	8
Katherine Weezorak	15
Robert Kemp	23
Luella Hoover	25
Angie Hemy	27



**The Deadline for the
Sunshine is April
24th**

Please send articles to my home
by
Fax: 329-8084 or e-mail:
maggie1952@roadrunner.com



April showers....



Palm Springs
Presbyterian Church
P.O.Box 582
Palm Springs, CA 92263
(760) 320-2769

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church is to proclaim the Good News of God by reaching out to others and inviting them into a new relationship with Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves, therefore, to be a center for spiritual growth and friendship, where the teachings of Jesus Christ are faithfully received and God's grace is celebrated joyfully with Christian friends!

Interim Pastor:
Dr. Bill Johnson

Pastor Emeritus:
Dr. Harry Summers

Music Director:

Church Secretary:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editor:
Margaret Pace



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