



SONSHINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, August 2009

Pastor Bill's "Hot August Thoughts!"



Just thought I would try something a bit different to get your attention ~ Did I?

The heat of the summer is now totally upon us and many of us are trying to find ways to escape this heat. Sunday mornings still finds us gathering in a lovely and cool church to worship, celebrate, and fellowship with God and each other. A great place and time to bring a friend, neighbor, or loved one. And, so, I would remind each of us to greet those who are our guests and introduce them to your friends and offer them a hot cup of coffee or a cold cup of lemonade and maybe a donut.

Did you know that a few of our members gathered outside the church to watch the 4th of July fireworks? This is something to think about for next year along with an ice cream social and a bar-b-q for the *neighborhood*. It is my prayer that we will have PowerPoint by then and can also show some good old-time films in the sanctuary for everyone's enjoyment and maybe even have a "sing-a-long!" using the electric organ?

By now you have seen the bright white and beautiful 8'X19" storage shed thanks to Harvey Stephens and the men in the Bible Study group. Hopefully, as I write this, and you read it, remodeling has begun, or is about to begin on our kitchen and on the chancel (some call it a "stage") to bring us a bit up to date. This fall, when all remodeling is finished, we will have a big dedication time. But, I would like to make a few suggestions as we trudge into the middle of our hot August summer: 1) Be in worship and the "5:59 Gathering" whenever you are in town ~ your presence is a **priceless** treasure; 2) Please keep your pledges and gifts for both our daily operating budget and the "A Place of Our Own" budget up to date or, if you are going to be out of town, returned to God ahead of time ~~ this keeps our doors open and work accomplished; 3) Prayerfully consider giving an extra gift over and above to special projects and need, e.g. ~~ a) the power point; b) a /TV & DVD player for larger group use and /or for projected Sunday School; c) Kitchen utensils; d) Commercial dishwasher. You can give **all** or **part** of the cost of any of these items. Each specific item is to be approved by the Session.

FYI ~ One of our members has graciously and generously given \$500.00 in funds to be matched for \$1,000.00 toward a Parish Nurse ministry; hopefully, another \$375.00 in matching funds will also be given as \$125.00 has already been added anonymously.

On July 10th, we celebrated John Calvin's 500th birthday; did you know that? One of the key things is that Calvin stepped out of the box at **great risk** in the 16th century to help move the Reformation and Reformed Theology into a new day. The question I have is can we in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and in Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, also step out of the box by developing and implementing new and exciting, risk-taking and challenging ministries reaching into our community and neighborhood? If we don't, we will become mummified and as good as dead! This means local mission and ministries, worldwide missions, music and worship styles, attitudes and actions. If the old dominates and controls, we will shrivel up and have a nice time being irrelevant in a world already looking in different directions. Just look at the estimated one billion watching Michael Jackson's funeral! Can you imagine that many watching the church in action? My question, as some colleagues have also asked, "Who is the King?" Michael Jackson or Jesus Christ?

Continued on page 2

But it is your decision! We can regress using styles and sounds that we used to love but are not wanted today except by a few; we can return to yesteryear and forget about attracting new, younger, people; we can hold tight of “our” possessions and find ourselves scraping the bottom of the barrel just to stay afloat; we can be the Presbyterian or Methodist or Congregational church of the 1960’s or even the 1990’s and keep shaking our heads that no one new visits, stays and unites with us. But, do you know what I love about PSPC? It is that we have few, if any, who want that kind of regression! From what I can tell, most of us want to move ahead, even if it is not exactly what we want, enjoy or sing in the shower when no one can hear us, but to reach more in name of Jesus Christ. Three cheers!

By now you are probably asking, “Why does Pastor Bill write about this so often?” Why? Because I am convinced God has bless us with this new building and property for a reason, and God is giving us opportunities and challenges to make a difference; to make a difference we must step outside of our comfort zone and box. And we must not let God down! We must not become complacent nor regressive; it is so easy and comfortable to do so! If we do, I am convinced; we will loose it all! And no one wants that to happen.

May God bless PSPC as God leads us into a potentially exciting future for the Glory of God in the Name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, and for the sake of our neighbors near and far whom God loves and for who Jesus died and rose. One God! Amen.

Thank you all for what you are already doing and for what you will be doing!

Even as I remain, yours, in Christ’s Service,

Pastor Bill

William N. Johnson
Interim Pastor

REMEMBER: **Next Deadline** for September 2009 **Sonshine** is August 14th.

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There is a story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: “I have good news and bad news. The good news is, there is enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it’s still out there in your pockets.”

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1. Speak to the other person first. Don’t wait for him or her to take the initiative.
2. If there is someone you don’t know, introduce yourself to him or her.
4. Invite newcomers to a worship service or to a church event and introduce them to other members.
5. Encourage people to participate in those church activities that interest them.

Worship Schedule and Sermons for August 2009

LOOKING AT LIFE CHRIST'S WAY

During August, Pastor Bill will guide us in a series; he calls, "Looking at Life Christ's Way." Bring a friend or neighbor to join in this exploration and growth in our Lord Jesus Christ.

AUG. 02 - "Finding Jesus in a Loaf of Bread" ~ Pastor Bill

The Lord's Supper celebrated by Intinction

Psalms 51:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

AUG. 09 - "Murmuring, Muttering, or Cheering?" ~ Pastor Bill

Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:35, 41-51

AUG. 16 - "Alive in Christ!" ~ Pastor Bill

Psalm 111; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

AUG. 23 - "The Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen"

Luncheon following worship honoring the McCullens

AUG. 30 - "The Rev. Patricia Stout"

Guest worship leader and preacher in Pastor Bill's absence

SEPT. 06 - "21st Century Healing" ~ Pastor Bill

Holy Communion

Psalms 125; James 2:1-10, 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

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BREAD BAKING FOR OUR FIRST-TIME GUESTS

Note: *Lots of Churches do this:* Is there anyone (or, hopefully, more) out there who would be willing to bake very small loafs of some kind of delicious bread or a batch of mouth-watering cookies to give to our First Time Guests (Visitors) welcoming them to our church? A brief brochure about the church and what we are doing, would accompany the bread or cookies. It would be a great way of welcoming first time guests during worship or immediately following worship. We can keep the bread or cookies in the freezer at church to be ready every Sunday (*and Pastor Bill will **not** give in to temptation!*) If interested, see Jim DeHart, Robert Kemp, or any of the Deacons

You might need help decipher this for you!



1. No1 b4 m
 2. Dnt wrshp pix/idois
 3. No omg's
 4. No wrk on w/end (sat 4 now: sun l8r)
 5. Pos ok - ur m&d r cool
 6. Dnt kill ppl
 7. :-X only w/ m8
 8. Dnt steal
 9. Dnt lie re: bf
 10. Dno ogle ur bf's m8. or ox. Or donkey. Myob.
- M, plz rite on tabs & giv 2 ppl.
Ttyl, JHWH.
ps wwjd?

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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's between you and God. But, prayer does make a difference! To sign up on the Prayer Calendar, call the church office, 320-2729



The congregation is deeply saddened by the death of our lovely Luella Hoover on Sunday, July 19th. She was a faithful member of PSPC for many years, serving the Lord as an Elder and Deacon of the church. We pray for God's blessings, comfort and guidance for her husband, George and the family.

In lieu of flowers, gifts can be sent honoring Luella, to Palm Springs Presbyterian Church.

ARE YOU LOOKING? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE & EMAIL

REMEMBER: Our email address is:

pspresby@verizon.net

Our website is:

palmspringspresbyterian.com

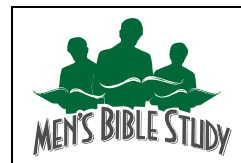
Please USE them; tell others!

Our new address is:

815 S. Camino Real at S. Riverside

Palm Springs, 92264

760 320-2769



First of all, thanks to the men in the Men's Bible Study for painting the new storage shed; it looks Great!!

CALLING ALL MEN

Wednesday @ 7:00 AM

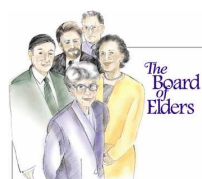
The Men's Bible Study under the insightful and dedicated leadership of Allen Perrier, on Wednesday mornings in the Fellowship Hall, meeting at 7:00 am with a study of the **Book of James**. What a great way for men to gather together in the middle of the week to renew our spiritual batteries as we study 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).



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY ON SUMMER BREAK UNTIL THE FALL WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

You might study Paul's letter to the Romans!?



SESSION NOTES HIGH FIVE

The Session met on Wednesday, July 15th at 9:30 in our Fellowship Hall with Moderator Pastor Bill Johnson and Parish Associate Ken McCullen. All session members were present except for Bob Wulf, Geri Bintliff, Harry Henderson, and Cal Custer, all of who are out of town.

Session began with Pastor Bill reading from the PC(USA) Book of Order on "The Great Ends of the Church." Session approved the pamphlet "Connect and Re-Connect" and evangelism work presented by Ken McCullen and the Evangelism Committee chaired by Fran Gotenstein.

- The Session then excused Pastor Bill, with Ken McCullen moderating, to discuss and act on the recommendations of the Kitchen Committee chaired by Deacon Margaret Pace (and members Jan Perrier, Donna McCullen, Barbara Stephens, Jackie Morgan, and Jim DeHart) for remodeling our very incomplete kitchen. After much discussion and questioning, the Session voted let the bid out to Chris Johnson, AIA who will also oversee the remodeling of the chancel (stage) area of the sanctuary. Work to be completed by the end of August.
- Pastor Bill returned and the Session discussed and acted on the presentation of Alex Danson to upgrade our website to contain audio of music and sermons (the whole service) and to make it much more accessible to the staff to keep it updated.
- Session set Sunday, August 2nd, to have a class of potential new members and receive them into membership following worship.
- Session's Evangelism Committee discussed up-and-coming events: Welcome Back Bar-B-Q with Harvey Stephens in November; an ice-cream social and Bar-B-Q for the neighborhood in November; a July 4, 2010 ice-cream social to watch the Palm Springs fireworks from the church.
- Session heard reports from all committees and approved all reports.

Session adjourned with prayer at 11:30 a.m. to meet in August only on call if needed.



Ladies' Birthday Luncheon

LADIES BIRTHDAY LUNCHEONS

Thirteen ladies met to celebrate the June birthdays at the Capri Restaurant in Desert Hot Springs and had a great Italian lunch. A sign up sheet will be available in the fellowship hall, toward the end of each month and hopefully, all you ladies that spend the summer here will come and join in on the fun, fellowship and tasty lunches



PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY, HURTING AND LONELY

The Well in the Desert Food & Clothing Needed

The **Well in the Desert** still needs support. Just because we have moved, doesn't mean the Well doesn't need us ~ they do. Keep up the good work with **food, clothing, blankets, money, water, etc.** These items are usually picked up first thing Monday morning. Please keep them in your prayers. *Thank you.*

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What have we learned in 2,064 years?

Can you guess who wrote the following, when it was written and the country?

"The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public dept should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest ??? become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance."

So, evidently nothing...

The answer to this quiz is found elsewhere in the Sonshine. Read and look carefully to find it....





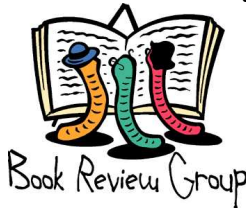
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

PSPC Office hours

M-W 8:00 a.m. -12:00 noon

Tues. - Thurs 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Closed on Friday



“THE SHACK”

A number of women in the church have been reading, or asking about, the popular book, “**The Shack**,” and asking lots of good and thoughtful questions about it and what it implies: challenging, disturbing, theological, etc. Joyce Johnson, our Pastor’s wife, will be leading a study/discussion of this book on **Tuesday, August 12th at 9:30 to 11:30 am.** If you are interested in the group, you **MUST** read the book to be part of this study/discussion otherwise you will be lost in the thinking. “**The Shack** is available in most book stores including Costco. **See, or call, Joyce if you are interested. 760 345-2993**

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PSPC SHOPPING BAGS

The shopping bags are still available, but going fast! With our PSPC Logo on them, it’s a great way to publicize our church! The cost is minimal... a \$5.00 donation for the larger bag and \$3.00 for the smaller one. They don’t have to be used just for groceries. Use them for carrying towels to the beach or pool. One woman wanted hers for books. They’ll be great for Christmas gifts (yes, it will be here before you know it!).



The “5:59 Gathering”

The “5:59 Gathering” will meet next on Thursday, August 20th for another scrumptious meal and a program that will tickle our thinking and doing. In July, Pastor Bill not only read us some crazy “jokes” but also led us on “**Islam Re-visited**” in which we were reminded of the basic beliefs and practices, as well as the early history, of Muhammad and Islam in contrast to our Christian faith. Plan on participating in August.

The meal for our July 16th “5:59 Gathering” was prepared and brought by Jim DeHart and it was fabulous, as usual.

The best \$5.00 meal in Palm Springs or the Coachella Valley

Other volunteers wanted and needed.
See Jim DeHart or Pastor Bill to volunteer

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A PARTIAL WISH LIST FOR PSPC

And some cost projections

The idea is that you or I can purchase all or part of any of these or other items needed. This should be over and above what you have already given or pledged. These are just suggestions from Pastor Bill.

1. PowerPoint and Screen-\$1,200 to \$2,000
2. Dishes/Pot/Pans for Kitchen-\$2,000
3. Double kitchen sink-\$261.00
4. Kitchen faucet-\$108.00
5. Disposal-\$169.00
6. Commercial dishwasher-\$3,080.28
7. Christmas Decorations-\$1,000
8. Christmas Tree for Sanctuary-\$400-\$700
9. Parish Nurse (\$625.00 has been given)
with matching funds-\$1,000
10. Large screen TV with DVD ability-\$1,500-\$2,000
11. Sunday school curricula-\$500.

Many other items can be added as you suggest the needs.

Deacons Meeting



DEACON'S CORNER

I hope many of you are enjoying cooler temperatures while summer has hit our desert! This month, I want to share what your board of Deacons has upcoming soon.

I told you earlier about Project Linus. This all-volunteer organization provides homemade blankets, caps, and dressed teddy bears to seriously ill and traumatized children. The Coachella Valley chapter donates to many agencies in our area, including The Well in the Desert Homeless Shelter.

You might be thinking that this is wonderful, but what does it have to do with the Deacons. Well, I'll tell you. Deacons want to set up a day of the week that members and friends of the church are able to get together and socialize while knotting quilts, sewing tags on items, piecing quilts, or other jobs that need to be completed. We see this as a way for members and friends to invite others to join in the fun, too!

It is the job of the Deacons to care for their flocks, and socializing is very important to the health of our flocks. We all need to feel needed and have time to just talk to others. There would be no pressure, some might come every week and others might come once a month.

At our next meeting in September, we will finalize the details so keep your ears and eyes open! We are looking forward to this worthy project and how it will bring our members and church friends together.

Christine Lutke
Deacon, Chair



PSPC SUMMER MISSION PROJECT

7

Your response to the Mission Project has been Great!

The Coachella Valley Rescue Mission will hold its annual Backpack Giveaway on August 22nd for local children in need and we are asking for your continued help until August 15th when we deliver them to CVRM to be distributed to the children. Many of the local stores are having sales on back-to-school items and it will give you a wonderful opportunity to use your **PSPC SHOPPING BAGS and fill them to the brim with items for their backpacks!**

If you would like to donate, the following items are needed:

Backpacks-pencils
Crayons-school glue
Felt-tip markers/erasers
Pencil sharpeners-safety scissors
Notebook paper/pencil holders
Colored pencils-blue/black pens-K-3 writing tablets
Dictionaries-protractors-3-ring notebooks

Gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target, K mart or other retailers to purchase uniforms

A box will be in the Fellowship Hall by the Mission Table for your donations.

Thank you,
Jackie, Susan & Margaret
The Mission Committee



Pray for One Another James 5:16

JoAnn Walker-Shut-in

Donna Brenner (Richard's sister-in-law)-Has begun chemotherapy & told

Pray for healing & strength

Jane Ditton- (Geri's friend) for kidney transplant

Janet Posey (Mage Sheeh brain tumor-in ICU

Donna McCullen-On chem for strength & healing

The Ladies at Hacienda V emotional & spiritual well-b

All of our brave men and w forces.

Palm Springs Presbyteria for guidance and wisdom to decisions for the future of o

Karol Egan	2
Earl Siems	8
Harry Henderson	17
Marilyn Walker	18
Evelyn Wulf	27

MISSING MEMBERS

If I have missed your birthday, please let Jackie know so you can be included next year. Thank you.



From Kate Walker's Kitchen
Cranberry Salad

1 pkg. (3 oz) lemon Jell-O
3/4 c boiling water
1 c crushed pineapple, drained
1 can whole cranberry sauce
1/2 c chopped celery
1/2 c chopped walnuts
Prepare Jell-O. When cool add remaining ingredients.

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PLEASE FEEL FREE: to call our **Interim Pastor,**
Dr. Bill Johnson, anytime you have an emergency



SAVE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS

The church is in the recycling business!!! We are collecting plastic bottles and the money received from the recycling will be used for the maintenance of the church. While helping the environment you will also be supporting "A Place of Worship" when you come to church!



8

(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



BIRTHDAYS



August 14th

Please send articles to my
home by

Fax: 329-8084 or e-mail:
maggie1952@roadrunner.com
Thank you



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

Parish Associate
Dr. Ken McCullen

Music Director:
Alex Danson

Church Secretary:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editor:
Margaret Pace



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Thank you.
