



# SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church March, 2012

From Pastor Christine



"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep." John 10:11

As we enter the season of Lent, and begin our Easter walk, it is good to remember how blessed we are, and how challenged, too. Just before the quote above, Jesus gives notice to the Pharisees, who question his authority following the healing of a blind man: "I have come into this world so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." The Pharisees, who think they know it all, can't accept that Jesus is the Way, and refuse to surrender their authority for the revelation that stands before them. Even as we stand at the beginning of this Easter walk, are we fully prepared to accept the responsibilities that come with the joy of the Resurrection? Are we prepared to 'surrender?' To accept – and give – the unconditional love demonstrated in the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ?

That can sound sort of heavy, but really, it is as light as a feather! While Christmas is filled with song and joy and gifts and truly a wonderful celebration of Jesus' birth, what can match the wonder of the Cross? Every year around this time, I start to feel younger and younger as Easter approaches. By the time we reach Palm Sunday, I often wish I could walk down an aisle with children, waving a palm frond; and on Easter Sunday, with rows of lilies, the bright yellow of daffodils, colored eggs and those wondrous words: "He is Risen, Risen, Indeed!", my heart belies my body and I am once again that child of innocence, totally invested in the glory of the day.

This is surrender: to our trust, and our faith, to God; to the love of Christ and the reason we gather to worship and give thanks every Sunday, and strive to carry our better selves into the world throughout the weeks, months, years. Easter! Rebirth and new beginnings! We don't need to carry our burdens of sorrow, but can instead put on coats of light! We are not bound by Law, but by Love.

Embrace this time, set aside for contemplation, sacrifice, and remembering. That long, long ago, Jesus faced all the woes we encounter, and more. Visualize the details: a group of rag-tag vagabonds, often trailed by camp followers, likely watched by authorities, led by a charismatic man who was more than a prophet and heading towards a martyr's death with full knowledge of the suffering he would endure. The Hope of the world in dusty sandals, God with us, who never faltered and through whom we, everyday people, would gain reunion with our Creator, forgiveness, everlasting life.

Come, let us walk together, as little children, until we arrive at the foot of the Cross

Peace,

*Rev. Christi*

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## WOMEN'S RETREAT

Once again the women of the church have planned a very special day for us. On Saturday MARCH 17, 2012. We will enjoy MICHELE TELFER, a Christian event speaker, who will talk about her walk of faith. The theme of the retreat is "THE JOURNEY: ADVENTURES WITH GOD". Her story is impelling and she is a joyful, energized woman of devout faith. In today's vernacular "google her" and you will line up to hear her speak. A day of prayer, music, inspiration and friendship enhancing will make this a memorable day for all of us. Early registration will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Invite your neighbors. Registration will be \$10. which will include lunch. A coffee social time will begin at 9:30 A.M. and the day will conclude at 2:00 P.M. As women we have such a variety of roles with family and community. Our faith is the heart of all we are. This retreat will nourish us in an awe inspiring way. Mark your calendar now and pray for the success of the mission of this retreat. – An aside. This year the seasonal women of our church have made a commitment to help the fulltime members with the retreat. It is truly a team effort. A blessing for us all.



## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, **HOPE**

Following last week's devastating tornadoes in Indian, Kentucky and many other states, the PC(USA) Disaster Assistance (PDA) has put out a call to our congregations for help in responding to the great need of the many who have lost so much. Your Palm Springs Presbyterian Mission Committee is initiating a drive to prepare hygiene kits for distribution to those in need. The PDA provides a list of items, with a cost per kit of \$11.00. The Committee will buy the items with your donations, and is planning an "assemble the kits dinner" so that we can get together as a congregation to put our donations into action to help others. The April 5:59 dinner will not only have fabulous food, as usual, but also an opportunity to work together for a great cause, and see our mission dollars out into action. Please consider 'sponsoring' a kit or several (direct donations to the PSPC Mission Committee), and whether you donate or not, we look forward to EVERYONE gathering for fellowship and the equally important donation of time, effort and experiencing the love of Christ.



March 17, 2012



## Session Highlights

Session met on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 9:35 a.m. Elder Robert Wulf opened Session with a read “How to know what God wants you to do you’re your life” and “3 essential daily personal spiritual practices” from the “Presbyterian Handbook” followed with prayer. All members were present with Sue Cooper and Frances Gotenstein being excused. Also present were Anne Smith, representing the Committee of Ministry (COM) and Deacon Robert Kemp.

This was the first session with the newly elected Elders. Committees were discussed and Committee assignments were approved. Session approved having Elder Bob Wulf in charge of a estate planning. Session approved the following new members: Marjorie Carlson by letter of transfer and Micki Alston & Clay Robertson by Affirmation of Faith. Session approved purchasing half size pencils with “Jesus never fails” imprinted for the back of the pews. Session elected Elders Bob Wulf and Don Shepherd as delegates to the May 5<sup>th</sup> & June 9<sup>th</sup> Presbytery meetings. Retreat for the Elders & Deacons was set for March 10<sup>th</sup> at the church.

The Treasurer’s report showed a profit for the month of January of \$2,367 and.. Next 5:59 dinner will be held on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Session

approved participating with the Cathedral City Community Church for Ash Wednesday Service on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Elder Susah McGuire reported on the Presbytery meeting held on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Session was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. with prayer. The next Session meeting will be Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

If you have concerns you wish the Session to consider, please speak to one of our Session members, to Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session, or to Pastor Christine.

*Elder Jim DeHart*

Clerk of Session

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Meet a valued and treasured member of our congregation who is **anonymous**.

This is in connection with our flower calendar. You can sign up to dedicate the flowers on the Communion Table for a Sunday and the cost is \$16.50. We have a standing order for flowers with Jensen’s floral department and a Deacon picks up the bud vases on Sunday morning. If no one has signed up for flowers, the church has to pay the cost out of its general fund.

However, a generous member gives the cost of the flowers for every Sunday where no one has signed up. The dedication on those Sundays is from Dominus Vobiscum, which is Latin for “May God be with you”.

We should all know about the generous and caring people in our congregation and I thank them for enriching our lives.

## Ordination and Installation of New Elders and Deacons



On February 5<sup>th</sup>, new deacons, Micki Kristina Alston, Melissa Yezek and Jeff Morgan were ordained and installed along with Kathy Smith. New elders who were installed were Don Shepherd, Nancy Spencer and Fran Gotenstein. Susan McGuire was ordained as a new elder and installed on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Welcome to all and thanks for serving God's church.

The new Committee assignments were made at the last session meeting. The elders and their responsibilities in 2012 are Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session and Finances; Bob Wulf, Administration & Personnel; Susan McGuire, Worship & Music; Fran Gotenstein, Christian Education; Ernie Moore, Mission & Stewardship; Don Shepherd, Congregational Life; Nancy Spencer, Evangelism & Outreach; Jackie Morgan, Nominating and Sue Cooper, Women's Ministry.

The new Deacon assignments are Peggy Lynn, moderator; Kathy Smith, Secretary and Jim DeHart will serve as Treasurer.



The new church directory will be out soon. Yea!







## ONGOING PROJECTS

We recycle! Bring your empty aluminum cans and glass and plastic bottles to the church office. Thank you for helping our budget and the environment.

PSPC Aprons for sale "Have You Hugged a Presbyterian Today" - \$16.75 - See Morella, Jim or Jackie

Save used ink cartridges for Palm Springs High School Band fundraiser. Collection jar is on Jackie's desk.

Save Box Tops for Education for Sabella's school. You can leave them in the office.

Bring a package, can or box of food for The Well in the Desert. Leave it in the bin by the front door. They can also use warm clothing.

Save used stamps and Campbell's soup Labels for The Tecate Mission. Leave a ¼ inch border around the stamp when you cut them out. Leave them with Jackie.

Bring in your gently used women's clothing for Hacienda Valdez.. You can leave it in the office with a note on it.



**THE NEXT 5:59 GATHERING WILL  
BE THURS, Mar 15th.**

It is always a wonderful time of good food and fellowship.



## ONGOING MEETINGS EVERYONE WELCOME

Sunday Morning Kerygma class with Ernie Moore – Fellowship Hall 8:30 AM

Men's Bible Study with Allen Perrier – Fellowship Hall Wed 7:00 AM  
Breakfast after Bible Study.

Women's Bible Study with Rev. Christine – Fellowship Hall Tuesday 9:30 AM. We are studying Revelation. This is a wonderful time for learning, sharing and prayer.



Thursday, April 5 – 5:59  
Maundy Thursday dinner  
followed by Tenebrae  
Service.

Sunday, April 8–10:00 A.M.  
Resurrection of the Lord  
Easter Service



**From Jan Perrier's**  
**Kitchen**

**LEMON BARS**

Mix together

½ c butter softened

1 c flour

¼ c powdered sugar

Mix well. Put in 8 x 8 buttered pan.

Bake 350 degrees 15 minutes.

Meanwhile as first mixture bakes

Mix together

2 eggs beaten

2 Tbsp lemon juice

1 c sugar

2 Tbsp flour

½ t baking powder

Mix well and spread on top of first

mixture. Bake 25 minutes 350

degrees. Cool. Dust with powdered  
sugar.

Enjoy!!!



**March**

Bob Wulf	6
Dick Erickson	6
Mary Shepherd	16
Micki Kristina Alston	24
Don Shepherd	25
Claire Vilhauer	25
Audrey Bergquist	27
Steve Lutke	28
Caryl Williamson	28
Ila Summers	30

Sonshine Deadline - March 19, 2011

**Editor's Note**

I will be away for 2 weeks in April.  
Would anyone like to be the Sonshine  
editor for April? (And maybe forever)  
Please see Jackie if you are interested.

Please e-mail articles to  
[jmorgan@pspresby.org](mailto:jmorgan@pspresby.org) or  
[jmorgan@dc.rr.com](mailto:jmorgan@dc.rr.com)  
or FAX to the office  
at 760-320-5089



**PSPC OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Thursday  
8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Closed on Friday



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### 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!

Pastor:  
Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:  
Alex Danson

Office Administrator:  
Jim DeHart

Church Secretary  
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:  
Jeff & Jackie Morgan



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