



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
November 2015

“Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” (Matthew 6:34)

These familiar words come from the passage in Matthew called the 'Beatitudes,' where Jesus is teaching his Disciples what might be called 'important life messages' through eloquent, beautiful verse. These particular words close the teachings about the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, and remind us of God's deep love and caring, and that we can trust God for our needs.



In a way, we remember and celebrate this kind of faith every year at Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims, who were fleeing religious persecution, had to trust that God would care for them as they struggled for survival in their settlement. It must have been a challenge to keep that faith with biting cold and snow, illness, hunger. There may have been times of fear as a people so different from them became part of their lives and integral to their existence. Without trust, they would have perished. But they did persevere, and celebrated the God who loved them and the indigenous people who helped sustain them in that meal which, though perhaps made more colorful with the passing of time, was in its essence more grand than the most lavish table we could prepare today.

As we gather to celebrate and give thanks, whether with a large group or bowing our heads before a single bowl, whether being served or serving the homeless, whether with family or a circle of strangers, it is good to remember that extraordinary meal shared at the beginning of what may be called America's 'modern era.' It is good to acknowledge human trust, friendship, support and community. The acceptance of the stranger. It is good to remember that this continent existed before the arrival of most of our ancestors, and the great cost our arrival had on those who welcomed us.

It is also good to remember that all this time later other souls are still fleeing persecution, longing for a helping hand, a good meal, a safe haven. Do we trust, do we share, do we welcome regardless of the cost? Do we worry about 'our' tomorrow without the consideration of our neighbor?

Maybe November's theme should be, 'we are our neighbor.' Jesus tells us we are our brothers' keeper, our neighbor's keeper – and we are that neighbor, whether in the giving or receiving. We need not worry, because the Promise is sure regardless of the outcome. We can trust and have faith; we can love relentlessly and give selflessly. We can receive without guilt or shame, with grateful and full hearts.

Embrace the extraordinary, unique and stand-alone month of November, the month of generous hearts and minds! Of people so very different sharing a table, even as we are welcome at God's table. Give thanks for those truly Native Americans who embraced the stranger, and give thanks that through that kindness every person who lives on this sacred soil can experience this, create this, for another human being – even now. Brand new. Without worry, only the reward of a living.

faith. God will worry about tomorrow, carry us through the minutiae of a day, and cast a ray of sunshine on the heart of the Samaritan.

Happy Thanksgiving, O Happy Hearts! *Rev. Christine*

If you would be willing to help provide transportation for a few of our members and friends at PSPC who wish to attend church and have no transportation, would you please let a Deacon know of your willingness? You may phone Peggy Lynn at 760 413 0658 or email peggylynn15@verizon.net Thank you so much for your consideration of this request.



A collection of Christopher Radko and other Christmas ornaments has been donated to the church. These ornaments are unique and one-of-a-kind. We will be selling them to raise money to repair the stained glass windows. They are priced from \$1 to \$50 (half the cost of buying them on ebay). This is your chance to buy your next new family heirloom and help the church as well. If you would like to donate towards the repair of the windows but don't need another family heirloom, you can make a check out to PSPC and designate it for stained glass windows. The success of these special drives is dependent upon extra gifts over and above the usual tithing.



The Festival of Lights Parade will be held December 5th, starting at 5:45 PM. It begins at Ramon Rd. and travels north to Tamarisk. Join the fun decorating and working on the float. Of course, monetary help is also appreciated. For more information, see Dick Schultz or Dirk Voerman.



Sessions Notes from October 22, 2015 Session Meeting

Session approved the following: To fix the fountain; to fix the stained glass windows to be funded by the sale of the Christmas ornaments; a bake sale on Nov 8 to fund the Festival of Lights Parade float; to paint the office restroom; and to allow TRENTO (Tahquitz River neighborhood association) to hold their annual meeting at PSPC on Nov 21, 2015.



Jeff Morgan (Music & Worship) Committee elder reported that Jan Perrier held a training get together for members and friends who are or would like to be greeters. She prepared an outline and talked about good techniques to use in greeting. This outline will be available for all who are greeters for this important Sunday morning service opportunity.

Jody Allen (Finance/Stewardship) Committee elder reported that giving continues to be less than previous year. Church expenses are being closely monitored.

Randy Bruno/ Pauline Gregg (Congregational Care) elders reported that the next 5:59 Gathering dinner will be November 12 and will be a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Meeting closed with prayer. Next session meeting will be November 18, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

The following is a note from Dr. Wayne McKinny who works on behalf of The Well in the Desert. 10/15/15 Dear Good People, Thank you for always remembering the poor and homeless we serve. You are the first church to support us in our 20th year of service to "the least of these." Your 2 cents a meal contribution is a special gift. It represents your hearts. May your church always thrive. You have taken Matthew 25 to heart. Me He aloha, Wayne McKinny for The Well in the Desert

The camping trip to Hurkey Creek County Park was a fun and exciting trip. Nine people went and we were the only ones in the park. After setting up camp and unwinding we found out that dark at 5 o'clock can make a long night and we were not allowed to make a fire so the fun question became "is it bed time yet?" By 8 o'clock we went in our tents. On Monday, the weather was nice and we could take a nice walk and talk and the stories started to come. Monday late afternoon the weather started to change and lucky for all of us someone had brought a 10x10 canopy and we did set it up just in case. Well early evening it started to rain and we fitted all under it and we put a heater in the middle, lowered the canopy so the heat stayed in (talking about cozy) and then more stories came loose and we stayed up late (8:30) Hopefully we can make a fire next time. We invite you to come along next time, the warmth of getting to know each other at 6 o'clock in the morning is well worth it.

Dirk Voerman



Thijs VanderLinden Erika Voerman Truus Christine Dirk Voerman



Bob & Lea McCoy Rick & Carole Anderson

Desert Regional Spiritual Care Opportunity!

Desert Regional Medical Center is seeking volunteers to spend a few hours a week offering Spiritual support to their patients. They will provide training and orientation to those who are interested, so those offering their time will be well prepared for the joys and challenges of this rewarding work.



Early in my ministry I served as Director of Spiritual Care at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. As a Level One Trauma Center, Harborview was a city of itself, serving a diverse community of patients and their families. In preparing for this work, aside from Seminary education, I pursued specific training in this field for a year. I mention this because this training was so important in being able to not just do my calling well, but also to prepare me emotionally for the many situations a Chaplain will encounter. Entering a hospital room is entering into one of the most intimate times of a person’s life, and it must be done with care, respect for a variety of cultures and religious traditions, and a selfless heart. Desert Regional will provide a volunteer with the tools to serve, and an understanding of one’s part in the patients’ care team.

Did I say it is wonderful, fulfilling and interesting? That it is a privilege, and honor to help others in this way? Volunteering in Spiritual care can involve everything from sharing your Christian experience in word and prayer to learning about Buddhism to talking baseball to an atheist. It is enlightening and humbling. It is extraordinary to experience the resilience of the human spirit.

If you are at all interested, I encourage you to prayerfully consider serving as a Volunteer for Spiritual Care at Desert Regional Medical Center. Please give me a call or leave a message with Jackie to arrange a time to begin the process.

With God’s Blessings, Rev. Christine

The annual Welcome Back barbeque was a big success as always. Lots of good food and good fellowship. It is a happy time seeing old friends return and making new friends. We are so blessed.



Norman & Virginia Christine, Jan Snyder, Jakiah John Ross



Donna Genett, Kate Weezorak, Bonnie Koster

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" - \$20. – See Morella, Jim or Jackie

PSPC cookbook, Love Feast, is for sale for \$5. See Jim or Jackie.

Save used ink cartridges for Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. 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 1/4 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.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

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

Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga Classes Tuesday, 11:00 AM and Thursday at 5:30 PM (except on 5:59 Gathering Thursdays). \$10



WANTED: ALTOS, TENORS, SOPRANOS & BASS

Do you like to sing? If the answer is yes, the choir is seeking new members. Sing the praises of God for all to hear! For more information, contact Jeff Morgan or Alex Danson. Rehearsal is Wednesday from 2 PM to 4 PM and Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. If the rehearsal times are not convenient for you due to work or other obligations, please let Jeff, Alex or Christine know. We will try to arrange a workable time for you. The choir welcomes singers who may only be here for a few weeks or months.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Elivio Ditta | 1 |
| Fred Wallace | 1 |
| Christine Lutke | 2 |
| Bill Cushing | 4 |
| Kay Hansen | 4 |
| Susan McGuire | 15 |

Attention: All Seasonal Friends, Visitors or if you just miss a Sunday You can listen to the Sunday worship services on PSPC's website pspresby.org. Alex has the current Sunday Service available by Tuesday of the following week. Even if you are away you can still enjoy Rev Christine's sermons, hear our great choir and keep up with what's going on here.



Online giving is now up and running. Just get on our website, and click on the button in the upper right hand corner. The website will guide you through the steps to take advantage of online giving. It can be used to make regular



PSPC members and friends have been faithfully saving their used ink cartridges to give to Palm Springs High School band. We have just learned that the band is no longer collecting ink cartridges as a fundraiser. However, LazerInk is happy to received our used cartridges and the money earned from them will now benefit PSPC. We have already received our first check.



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OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of 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 to be a center for spiritual growth and friendship, where the teachings of Jesus are faithfully received and God's grace is joyfully celebrated.

You can listen to the Sunday worship services on PSPC's website, pspresby.org. They are available by Tuesday of the following week.



Pastor:
Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:
Alex Danson

Office Administrator:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:
Jeff & Jackie Morgan