



SONSHINE



The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, March 2009

From Pastor Bill's "Powerbook"



It looks like we will be moving in "A Place of Our Own" early in March and for that I give God praise and glory! Elsewhere in the Sonshine, you will find directions and a map from the Seventh Day Adventist Church to our new church and, by now, you have received a letter from me with directions and a map as well. It is easy to find and less than a mile from where we are, in the SDA facility.

And, of course, we want to thank the Seventh Day Adventist's pastors, leaders and members, for their gracious and supporting ministry with us making such beautiful facilities available to the glory of God.

I continue to be awed by the way in which God has worked in the life our church to make this move. I have urged the Session not to make hasty decisions but to let us all live with what is there as we decide what to do and when to do it. We will continue to do what we do so well: fellowship, caring for each other, worshipping together, reaching out to others, and so much more. Of course, much else has to be done: we will find that we might have to sit closer together than before; there will be work needed to be done in several places (the kitchen and offices areas); we will be needing chairs and tables for the Fellowship Hall and a P.A. system and PowerPoint for the sanctuary; we might have to develop two (**yes, 2—WOW!**) worship services especially in the winter and maybe they will be somewhat different to help attract different needs; I won't be surprised if we need two services for Easter this year; we will have a yard to maintain and keep beautiful; we might be sharing (renting) the church to another church (we have had several inquiries); we hopefully, will have some weddings (one is already scheduled for April 17-18); there may be some of you who would like to purchase a chair or chairs, or a table or tables, or some kitchen equipment or help with the yard or dusting/vacuuming the inside - we will have sign-ups for this and more very soon. **Let's make the church glow and invite all to worship and work with us.** As I said last month, Session is working long and hard in prioritizing all of these needs and any help or ideas you have will be deeply welcome and appreciated. In fact, all and/or volunteered to take on specific responsibilities; but before any actions takes place, or work done, all items will be brought before the Session of prioritizing and approval.

I am convinced that God is at work in our church; we need to continue to listen to God and to pray asking God for guidance and ability to make this transition that is exciting and extremely challenging. This will not happen in a day or a week or a month: a lot has to be done! **Let's not let God or our community down! This will take every one of us pulling together.**

Look elsewhere in the **SONSHINE** for announcements about the "5:59 Gathering" which will meet on Thursday, March 5th & 19th for some interesting insights to what is happening in the Christian world; the Women's Bible study on Luke led by Joyce Johnson, continues on Tuesdays, at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, the Men's Bible study. Also on Luke, with Allen Perrier continuing on Wednesdays at 7:00 am.

One last thought: if you have not yet given a gift or made a pledge for the “A Place of Our Own,” I urge you to do so as soon as possible. I am convinced that it is important for all of us to support prayerfully, financially, and physically, our move toward “A Place of Our Own” and help make reality for PSPC after 20+ years of renting and wandering, a powerful witness to God’s love and work.

REMEMBER: Next Deadline for April 2009 **SONSHINE** is March 19th. Please see our editor, Margaret Pace, for more details.

Thank you all and God bless you and your loved ones in this Adventurous New Year, 2009 moving into “A Place of Our Own,” Really, God’s place!

Yours, in Christ’s Service,

Pastor Bill

William N. Johnson

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Worship Schedule and Sermons for March and April 2009

LIFE AND RESURRECTION

During March and April, as we begin worship in “A Place of Our Own,” Pastor Bill will be continuing his series on “Life and Resurrection” and the hope God give us in Jesus Christ here in Palm Springs and in our nation and world. If you are concerned about the future of not only PSPC, but of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and our nation and world, you will want to be a part of this series. Remember: not only invite new people, but also bring them. And, read the Scripture passages Pastor Bill has noted ahead of time so that as he preaches it becomes a dialogue between you and him.

MAR. 01 - “Whose Time is Fulfilled?”
Celebrating the Lord’s Supper
Psalm 25:1-10; I Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

MAR. 08 - “What Gain Do We Expect?”
Second Sunday in Lent
Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

MAR. 15 - “For What is This House Used?”
Third Sunday in Lent
Psalm 19; I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

MAR. 22 - “A Statement of Love, Sacrifice, and Response”
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

MAR. 29 - “I, Too, Want to See Jesus”
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33
Potluck Luncheon

APR. 05 - “Truly, This Man is God’s Son!”
Palm/Passion Sunday
Celebrating the Lord’s Supper
Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 15:1-39
One Great Hour of Sharing-Special Offering



APR. 12 - "The First Day: A New Day, a New World, a New Life"
Resurrection Sunday/Easter
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; I Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

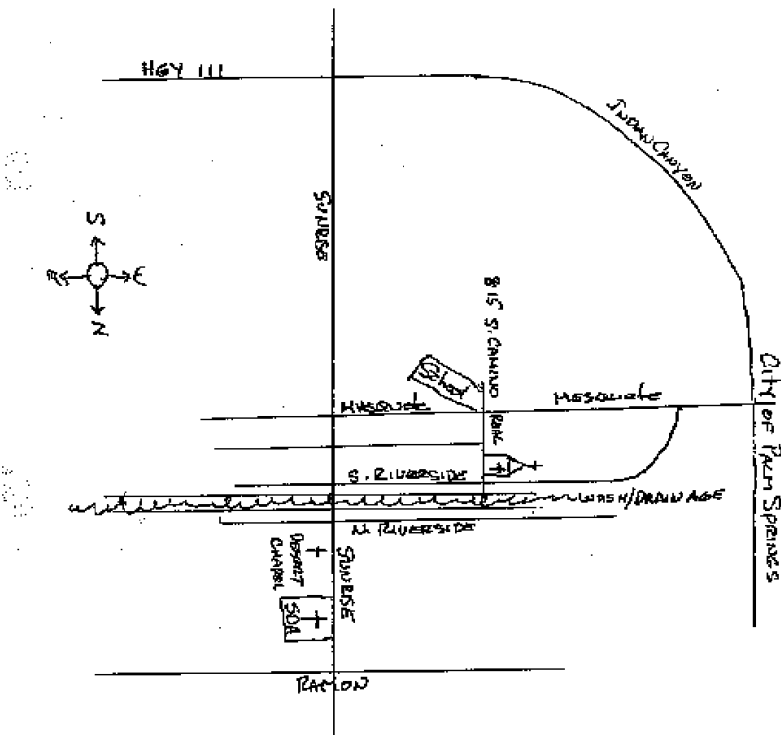
We Are Moving: New life for PSPC

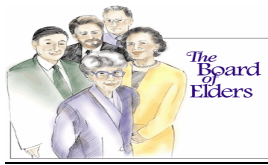
What is Your Prayer for PSPC? How willing are you to Help Make That Happen? God Has and is Blessing Us; Will you and I Bring God's Love and Grace to Our Community and World? In What Ways Will God Honor Our Efforts and Will We Grow?

A PLACE OF OUR OWN

We have been praying, waiting, discussing, cheering, even crying, but fully aware that God is guiding us in obtaining "A Place of Our Own!" It is **now** happening. We are closing escrow; we are prioritizing what needs to be done and when; **we are planning our first worship in our new home for Sunday, March 1st at 10:00 am**; *the Women's Retreat is set for March 21st in our new home*; we even have a wedding scheduled for April 18th. We will also have a special dedicatory service shortly after we move in with members of Presbytery, leaders of our Palm Springs community and government and, hopefully, members of our local media.

Below are directions and a map to "A PLACE OF OUR OWN!"





SESSION NOTES HIGHLIGHTS

Session met at 9:30 am on February 18th for their regular Session meeting. Rev. Dr. Ken McCullen, Acting Moderator, opened the meeting reading from the 16th chapter of Matthew, followed with prayer. Present were: Jackie Morgan, Geri Bintliff, Frances Gotenstein, Allen Perrier, Harry Henderson, Harvey Stephens, Bob Wulf, and Jim DeHart. Guests were Leon Bennett of the Committee of Ministry, members, Jeff Morgan and Donna McCullen. Excused were Pastor Bill and Cal Custer.

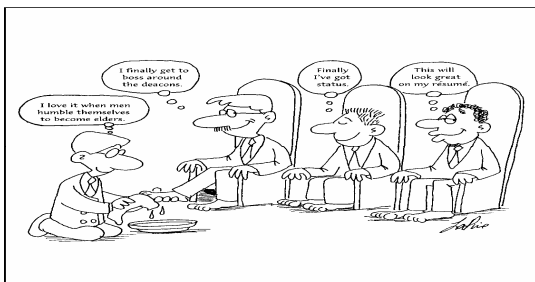
Discussion followed regarding our new church and list of things to do upon possession as follows: Kitchen - prepare a list of items that will be needed and have a kitchen shower; Signage - Elder Henderson presented 2 bids for the sign on the front lawn. Session approved the lowest bid with signing of the contract after the closing; Sound - Jeff Morgan reported on his research and estimated the cost for the sound system to be approximately \$4,000. And it was decided to hold off until we get into the church and see what we need; Chairs & Tables - Elder Stephens is getting cost estimates for 80 chairs and 8 round tables - the Redland church is donating some rectangular tables; Piano being donated by the Palm Desert Church; Men's Bible Study will be in charge of yard maintenance.

Session approved having the Annual Meeting following the service on Sunday, March 22nd. Various committee reports were approved as presented. The next regular Meeting of Session will be on Wednesday, March 18th at 1:30 pm with EP Anita Hendrix and COM Leon Bennett attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Jim DeHart

Elder/Clerk of Session



MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Welcome back to our winter visitors, Jan Snyder and Frieda Nichols helping to make our choir even better. Frieda plays the hand chimes and will be playing and helping with the music for the Women's Retreat March 21st.

We try to have a variety of music to compliment the Pastor's sermon or to just have the choir and congregation enjoy in our effort to praise our God.

There is a program in place to help the Communion servers and the ushers to expedite their participation in the worship service. We hope this will include many more Elders and Deacons for the Communion Service.

We are still looking for a "few good men" to join the choir. We need some strong bass voices. If you are a winter visitor and sing in your own choir, think about joining ours even for a short time. We have a great choir and think you would enjoy being a part of it.

Geri Bintliff

Elder, Worship and Music



"5:59 Gatherings"



5:59 Gathering

The "5:59 Gathering" will meet on March 5th and again on March 19th as we continue to look at "How Do You Spell "Prezbitureon?" The purpose of this "5:59 Gathering" is to see our Judeo-Christian heritage within a chronological setting and how that fits with our biblical understanding. Another great dinner will be provided. Please plan on attending.

March 5th & 19th! "5:59" Good, thought provoking and, as usual, outstanding food- none better for a \$5.00 donation!



WOMEN'S RETREAT BAKE SALE

WOW! Our Bake Sale held Sunday, Feb. 8th was a great success! Thanks to the hard work of our committee members and a very special **THANK YOU** to all you ladies (and gentlemen) who contributed all the "goodies" presented for sale to our congregation on our behalf!

We are happy to report that we sold all items, which included Pastor Bill's Brownies, cookies, full cakes, cupcakes, fudge, muffins, shortbread, Persimmon Pudding, date roll ups (which included the recipe). Lemon squares and cookies and assorted breads. All so delicious!

And, our treasurer reports receipts of \$384.26 to help to cover the expenses of our WOMEN'S RETREAT on MARCH 21st at OUR NEW CHURCH! HOORAY!

SO LADIES, MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN ON A SPIRITUAL FILLED DAY, FILLED WITH GOD'S JOYOUS BLESSINGS!

Sue Cooper-Co-Chair

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Have you ever thought it would be fun to be a volunteer on a "Mission?" Well, you might have the opportunity through PSPC.....

PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) will be hosting family weeks in 2009 (June 14 - 20). You would work with other families repairing homes in the New Orleans area destroyed by 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Share hope and build relationships with survivors during family week while worshipping with other village volunteers in the evenings, bonding as a community and reflecting on the faithfulness of Christ in the mission you share.

A Father /Son week will be June 21 - 27 where father and sons would come together across the U.S. to work, witness, and worship together with other father and son teams helping to rebuild homes destroyed by the hurricanes.

There has been some consideration of sending a volunteer work team (each pays their own expenses) of members, friends, and relatives from PSPC to work on one of

the hurricane projects. If this is of interest to you, contact Morella Larsen 760 320-7035, cell 503 881-1001, or at morella.larsen@att.net or contact Jackie in the church office.



PLEDGING FOR 2009

This is an exciting time for the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church; it's members, friends and winter visitors. We have really looked long and hard for "A Place of Our Own", and that reality is now here. We are so blessed.

There is now much to do to ready our "New Home" for the worship of our Lord. We are in the process of deciding what is needed and in what order. We need all the help we can get, from everyone.

I know that pledges and commitments are especially difficult during this time of economical downturn, but we are moving into a new church (new to us) and we are spoiled. We have had everything we've needed at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, including pots, pans, dishes, stoves, refrigerators, tables, chairs, etc. All these things must now be purchased. As a result, we find that we could use building funds to purchase some of these items. If anyone could pay building fund commitments in advance, we could use that. If it were possible for anyone to do this, it would be greatly appreciated. A list of need items will soon be published so that anyone who wanted to contribute will know what is needed. We thank God for this opportunity to serve Him in ways we never imagined. May His blessing be upon us all, as we undertake this adventure.

Yours in Christ,
Harvey Stephens
Stewardship Chairman



CHURCH OFFICE WINTER 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



Women's Bible Study on the Gospel According to Luke led by Elder Joyce

Johnson

9:30 am to 11:00 am on Tuesdays

Joyce Johnson, our Pastor's wife, continues to lead the Women's Bible Study meeting on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall of the church. This year's study is on the **Gospel According to Luke** and all the ladies of the church are welcome to come.

It's a great opportunity to study a book written by one of Jesus' disciples (who also wrote the Acts of the Apostles) and see its relation to our lives today.

Believe it or not, decaf coffee and/or tea and/or water will be made available, thanks to Pastor Bill!?! Anyone for cookies or brownies or ???



CALLING ALL MEN
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 Luke. 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)

As most of us know, the shopping bags are here with our PSPC Logo for a \$5.00 donation for the larger bag and \$3.00 for the small one! What a great gift for yourself or friends and is also good for the environment. These bags help and some grocery stores give credit for using them rather than their plastic or paper bags!!



DEACON'S CORNER

The 2009 Board of Deacons has started their new year. They are: Richard Brenner, Robert Kemp, Donna McCullen, Dorothy Hollerback, Susan McGuire, Pauline Gregg, and Christine Lutke. Your deacon should have dropped you a note or called you by this time, but if you have not been contacted or are new to our church family, please contact Christine Lutke at 409-9457, and you will get on a list!

You may wonder what Deacon's do at the church. Here are a few things that we do for our church family. We provide refreshments after church services each Sunday, (and your deacon will be contacting you to please help out and bring two dozen cookies on her hosting Sunday), we provide food vouchers to those in need that come to the church office, we visit those in our flocks that are ill or are healing.

As your Board of Deacons look forward to this new time and exciting time in our church, we also look forward to serving our flocks.

Christine Lutke

Deacon, Chair



SAVE YOUR CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS,
POSTAGE STAMPS & POP-TABS

These items benefit worthy charitable organizations and would otherwise just be thrown away. Please take the time to save these items to help people in need. Thanks

PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY AND COLD

The Well in the Desert

Food & Clothing Needed

The **Well in the Desert** still needs support. Just because we are moving, doesn't mean the Well doesn't need us ~ they do. Keep up the good work with **food, clothing, blankets, money, water, etc.** They are usually picked up first thing Monday morning. Thank you.

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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 Rear at S. Riverside
Palm Springs, 92264

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LADIES!
BIRTHDAY LUNCHEONS

The ladies of the church will meet the last Tuesday of each month to celebrate that month's birthday. A sign up sheet will be available toward the end of each month and where we will meet for lunch. All ladies are welcome...visitors and snowbirds. Come and enjoy a tasty lunch and the fellowship with "the girls!"

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WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday, March 6th, many churches celebrate World Day of Prayer. We rejoice in the presence of everyone who comes to join millions of others around the world in praising and petitioning God for help in bringing peace and brotherhood to the world.

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 Gail Jones at 864-8503 or call the church office, 320-2729

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GOOD ST. PATRICK

On March 17th, many churches, especially those with a large Irish population, will celebrate the life of St. Patrick. He grew up in a Christian home in Britain, but wasn't very religious until a major event changed his life. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, but escaped to Gaul (France) after six years. The years of enslavement strengthened his faith. He later wrote, "In that strange land (Ireland), the Lord opened my unbelieving eyes." He was led by God's voice to return to Ireland where he converted people to Christianity tribe by tribe.

Because Ireland is called the Emerald Isle, those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day will wear something green. Some Christians will even color food or drink green. Many Christians will also eat corned beef and cabbage and decorate tables with shamrocks. Shamrocks are actually three leaf (not four-leaf) clover plants. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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From Pastor Bill's Kitchen

FRAISES ET BALSAMIC (Strawberries and Balsamic)

A wonderful, easily made dessert using fresh, ripe, sweet strawberries

You need:

3 strawberries per person, washed and with leaves on the berry. About 1/3 cup of a good balsamic vinegar (15 - 25 years old) per serving.

Humboldt Fog Goat Cheese

2 - 3 cloves

1 small stick cinnamon, 2 inches long (or ground cinnamon)

1 small vanilla bean, opened (2 inches long)

Honey to taste (just slightly sweet when finished)

2 - 3 fresh mint leaves

(All ingredients can be adjusted to you taste!! Esp. the honey)

Place balsamic and all ingredients (except strawberries and cheese) in sauté pan and reduce over medium high heat for about five minutes; add strawberries and cook for another five minutes, turning over 3 - 4 times so all sides of the strawberries are covered with balsamic and cooked. Remove cloves, vanilla bean and cinnamon, and mint leaves before serving.

Place strawberries (3 per person) on plate, pour balsamic over berries and serve with Humboldt Fog Goat cheese on each plate.

Bill Johnson's adaptation



THE SAFEST PLACE

How to stay safe in the world today.

1. Avoid riding in automobiles-because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home-because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks-because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water-because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So, above all else, avoid hospitals.

But,

you will be please to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church! And...Bible study is safe, too. The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

SO, attend church, and read your Bible.

IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!



Bob Wulf	6
Steve Lutke	28
Caryl Williamson	28
Ila Summers	30

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



The Deadline for the Sunshine is March 19th

Please send articles to my home by

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

Thank you



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



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.
