



# SONSHINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church July, 2011



## Message from Rev. Christine

"Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn." Psalm 57:8

I have never been an early riser, unless it was to be the first to reach the single heat vent in the small house where I was raised. There were four of us, so getting the inside spot could be pretty meaningful on a cold February morning. But this is a brand new day, and unusual behavior is afoot! Clearly, we don't need to rush to heater vents very often in Palm Springs! So, imagine my surprise when I started waking up at five-thirty a.m.. Not just woke up, but got up. I couldn't help myself, because of the light that threw itself, like the fire of heaven, across the wall. After that first morning, I don't miss a sunrise if I can help it.

There is something about desert mornings that touches the deepest part of a person: they're mysterious, and spiritual. Maybe it's the way the hills and mountains turn from one color to the next, standing out in bold relief against each other or jet trails that become pink, then yellow, then back to white. It could even be how light hits the grass on a golf course, still damp from sprinklers or dew, depending on the season. Birds love the mornings, as do bunnies – tons of bunnies! Overall, there is a sense of peace and beginnings. The desire of the Psalmist to announce the new day becomes the desire of everyone who witnesses such beauty, and, yes, occasionally I will participate, although usually without a harp and most usually with strains from a Rodgers and Hammerstein musical like, 'Oh What a Beautiful Morning!'

I often think about our little church, too, and each person who sits in a pew on a Sunday or sings in the choir or participates in one of our communal meals or does any number of what there is to do in a church. This includes all of you far away for the summer, by the way! We have a unique and wonderful church family, and I have no doubt that our presence in our community will grow in the coming months and years.

This is a good time, as our busy lives slow to the pace of summer, to consider our dreams for Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. I encourage each of you to spend some time in meditation and prayer, letting yourself be led by the Spirit as you consider what God's future plans for the PSPC family might look like. This does not mean discarding past tradition of meaning and mission, as the work of the faithful souls of PSPC is the foundation for what is to come; it is more like a re-imagining. It is very much like the early dawn hours, leading us

into a day filled with possibility. Who are we as Christ's people, in this place? How can we best serve in this time, and how can we best welcome? Where might each of our gifts be helpful?

There is such joy in God's creation, and it can only be multiplied by our demonstrating this love through word and deed. As the days of summer unfold, all that PSPC has accomplished in Christ will continue to be celebrated, and all that we will accomplish in His name will be anticipated! Happy summertime, everyone!

### *Rev. Christine*



#### A Message From Our Minister

This is the message that went in the Yellow Pages of the weekly bulletin after the passage of Amendment 10-A. We are reprinting it here for those of you who may not have seen it.

Brothers & Sisters in Christ;

With the passing of Amendment 10A on May 10, 2011, many will have questions about what this means in the life of our church. I offer these words from General Assembly: "This decision begins with the unequivocal affirmation that ordained office will continue to be rooted in each deacon, elder and minister's 'joyful submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life.'"

This decision confirms the authority of tenets found in our Book of Confession and returns our church to it's roots – The Living Word, a single body with many gifts, called to service, with Christ as it's head.

Palm Springs Presbyterian is a church of "open hearts and open minds", and our focus on God's generous love is a great strength. Let us continue to affirm our belief that all are beloved by God and have much to give in service. **If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call.**

### *Rev. Christine*





## The next 5:59 Gathering will be Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>

Rev. Christine will talk about prayer.

“Prayer is one of the most powerful aspects of the Christian experience, yet we often are unaware of its many facets. We will explore the different kinds of prayer, including mediation, centering prayer, responsive, ‘breath prayer’, and praying with confidence!”

At the August 5:59, we will enjoy a video on Jerusalem. For those who have never been, it will be a time to put “faces on the places” that mean so much to us as Christians, and for those who have been blessed to visit, an opportunity to remember and share what it was like to walk those sacred streets.



Thank You! Thank YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to so many at PSPC for allowing us, and for participating and helping, in my 50th year Ordination Celebration on Sunday, June 26th. It was so good seeing so many of you with your love and

graciousness. I had a blast (although a bit embarrassed at points!) but the cards, the visiting, the warmth and the love will be with me forever. Many thanks also to those not from PSPC who participated and shared memories! What a joy.

And now, I owe Joyce big time for all the work she put in! Maybe a trip or an outing or a special dinner or ???

Again, so many thanks with all our love.

Pastor (finally retired) Bill and Joyce



## Fri, Oct 21 & Sat. Oct 22

### Mark Your Calendars

Our annual Rummage Sale will be bigger and better than ever this year! Ellie Cushing has agreed to be the chair of the committee planning, organizing and working in this huge fund-raiser for the church. If you can help, please let Ellie know right away. Her committee will meet soon to start planning. All kinds of helpers are needed to sort, price, move merchandise, publicity and a hundred other jobs. Also save your gently used items that you want to donate to the sale. Get in on the fun!



Rev. Christine will be leading a women's book study on, "Jesus Did It Anyway", The paradoxical Commandments for Christians, by Kent Keith. We will be reading a chapter a week with discussion. It's an interesting, fun and helpful guide for integrating scripture into our everyday lives, and gives us a chance to discover opportunities that might be missed! We will meet Tuesday mornings at 9:00am, beginning July 12 and continuing for the next ten weeks. The books are available on Amazon at an extremely reasonable price; if interested, we can also order in bulk to save on shipping. If you are interested in being part of this bulk order, please notify Jackie no later than Wednesday, July 6.



### **In Memoriam:**

*In assurance of the Resurrection, the Congregation extends their sympathy to Kate Walker and the friends and family of Kent McGarity on his death on June 3, 2011. No memorial service was held at Kent's request.*

*Kent was very active in the music community in the Coachella Valley and a large number of his musician friends held a Jazz Concert in his honor at Pete Carlson's Golf and Tennis store in Palm Desert.*

*Many people from PSPC attended at well as from the musical community and neighborhood. The music was a wonderful and fitting celebration of Kent's life. We will miss him.*



### **SESSION MEETING**

Session met on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 9:35 a.m. Elder Geri Bintliff presented the devotional from a "Collection of Gifts" by Helen Rice and Isaiah 40, 26-31 followed with prayer. All members were present with Elders Bob Wulf & Harry Henderson being excused. Deacon Robert Kemp was present representing the Deacons.

Session approved changing our website address to "pspresby.org" which will be more recognizable, the purchase of 4 earphones for the hearing impaired and having an Elders Retreat in the early fall. Session approved George Cebra, base player, as a regular in the Praise Band. The Treasurer's report showed a loss for the month of May of \$3,087 compared to a profit of \$698 in May of 2010 and a year to date thru May a loss of \$7,050 compared to a YTD profit of \$1,290 for 2010. A motion was approved to adopt an abbreviated model on sexual misconduct for leadership.

Session was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. with prayer. The next Session meeting is Wednesday, July 20, 2011 in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

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.



## **BRING YOUR EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS AND PLASTIC BOTTLES**

Our goal for 2011 is to earn \$1000 for the church from recycling cans and bottles. YOU can make this happen by bringing in your cans and bottles to church. Harvey Stephens is in charge of this worthy project. Your recycling helps the budget and the environment..



**Sunday Mornings with Ernie Moore**  
For those of you who want a Sunday morning Bible Study class, this is the class for you. Ernie Moore leads this class using the Kerygma teachings. Meet in the social hall from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. It is a great time of learning, study, fellowship and growth in our faith. All are welcome.



The Men's Bible Study group is led by Allen Perrier and they are studying the passages in the Lectionary. All the men in the church are encouraged to come and grow in the knowledge of God's work. After their meeting we have breakfast at one of the local restaurants. Come and join us.



## **Please Save Your Used Ink Cartridges**

The Palm Springs High School Band is collecting used computer ink cartridges to help finance their trip to England, Scotland & Wales in 2012. The collection jar is on Jackie's desk. Thank you.



**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR**  
**SOMETHING EXCITING IN THE**  
**21ST CENTURY?**  
**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**

**ps-pc.com**

**Listen to music, hear Scripture and sermons, grow in faith and bring a friend or neighbor who is not involved in a church. Take your laptop to a shut-jn and share this wonderful gift with them or, if they have a computer, show them how to get us on the internet.**

**What a great gift.**

**REMEMBER: Our e-mail address is**  
**info@ps-pc.com**

**Please USE it & tell others!**



**Palm Springs Presbyterian**  
**Has Aprons for Sale**

*Have You Hugged  
A Presbyterian Today?*

They come in many colors and make great gifts for yourself and others.

They are a real bargain at \$16.75 and any profit benefits the church.

Please see Morella Larsen, Jim DeHart or Jackie Morgan if you would like to buy an apron.



**Worship and Music**

Summer is fast approaching and soloists, trios, duets, etc., are signing to provide music for the summer months of July and August. Anyone who would like to sing a solo, etc., please contact Jim or Alex, or me.

We were pleased to have Lucile Kraehling's son Lynn with us for one Sunday. He has his music career in Florida and doesn't get to be here usually for that long. Thanks Lynn, we enjoyed having you.

Pastor Christine has mentioned she would like to have a hymn sing at a 5:59 dinner so be sure and let her know what hymns you would like to hear. She has promised to string her guitar and practice to be ready for the occasion.

During the summer months you may see some of the choir members leading the hymns. They won't be singing anthems or offertories but will help the congregation sing the hymns.

The choir will be singing through July 3rd. There are still openings for solos etc., for the Offertories. Please contact Alex or Jim. My number for the summer is 1-760-600-6626. Have a great summer!!!!!!

Gerl Bintliff  
Elder, Worship and Music

**From Fran Gotenstein's Kitchen**  
**Guacamole**

- 2 ripe avocados
- 1 packet guacamole mix
- 1 chopped tomato
- chopped onion to taste

Mash the avocados. Mix together all ingredients. Serve with chips for dipping.



**Birthdays**  
**July**

Angie Dent	1
Emilie Warren	15
Paula Newell	20
Jackie Morgan	21
Gene Hempy	22
Joyce Johnson	22
Sabella Trujillo	23
Suzanne Swartz	23
Lucile Kraehling	24

**PSPC OFFICE HOURS**

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

Closed on Monday, July  
 4<sup>th</sup> and Fridays

**Sonshine Deadline**

**July 18th**

Please e-mails articles  
 to [jmorgan@ps-pc.com](mailto:jmorgan@ps-pc.com)  
 or [jmorgan@dc.rr.com](mailto:jmorgan@dc.rr.com)  
 Or Fax to the office  
 At 760-320-5089



Palm Springs  
Presbyterian Church  
815 S. Camino Real  
P.O. Box 582  
Palm Springs, CA 92264(3)  
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!

Pastor:

Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:

Alex Danson

Office Administrator:

Jim DeHart

Church Secretary

Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:

Jeff & Jackie Morgan



If you have received this issue of the SONSHINE in error or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please fill in your name and address below and send it back to us. Thank you.

---

---

---