



# SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church October, 2011

## Message from Rev. Christine



How I love the fall! The air becomes crisp, leaves turn bright hues of red, yellow and orange, apples are ready for harvesting and being made into cider and pies, time to bundle up and cut wood for the fireplace! Oh, how I love the fall!

Wait! Let me start that again: How I love the fall! The heat of summer gives way to mild afternoons and cozy evenings; convertibles rule and there is a sense of rebirth, of the fullness of life. The oranges, grapefruit and best lemons in the world begin to turn the rich colors of ready-to eat-right-off-the-tree, and woollens and down are left to gather dust in the back of the closet, and golf again reigns supreme. Oh, how I love the fall!

This is a special time of year in the desert, as all of our friends, established and new-found, set their navigation systems to 'South' and head in our direction. From now on, I have been told, it will take me twice as long to navigate Hwy 111, and forget about an easy table for a 'burger at Tyler's. But do I care? Not a bit. Because it also means another season of 'many hands' ministry at Palm Springs Presbyterian Church.

This has been a wonderful summer. The warmth of this congregation, and dedication to the ministry of Christ, has carried the day again and again. We are seeing some new faces on Sundays, and the music ministry is gearing up in an impressive fashion. We are ready! Ready to welcome back, and ready to welcome 'in.' Ready to gather in community with one another, and to get out in our greater community and make a difference. I love the fall!

Your Pastor now has feet firmly planted in the desert sand. I have stopped to admire cactus blooms and have sat mesmerized as, literally, dozens of hummingbirds gathered around a particularly irresistible plant. I have danced at the sight of very impressive thunderstorms and am totally prepared to jump in full throttle during the rummage sale setup. Did I tell you I love rummage sales, too?

We are part of the fabric of Christ in the Coachella Valley, a community of faith willing to love, serve and always, to rejoice. The beauty of this place is only as wonderful as its people, and both valley and church are rich in that area. So, while the farm belt zones prepare for fall harvest, so do we. I ask that we each take the time to pray for one another, for all who are hungry for food and faith, and how we can, both individually and communally, reach out to plant new seeds of hope for the future of this church and this place.

In Christ's Service,

*Christine*



## Session Highlights

Session met on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at 9:35 a.m. Rev. Christine Dickerson opened Session with prayer followed with scripture reading by Elder Sue Cooper. All members were present with Bob Wulf, Frances Gotenstein & Harry Henderson being excused. Anne Smith, representing the Committee of Ministry (COM) was also present.

Session approved the request of the Los Ranchos Presbytery to hold their Hispanic/Latino Pastors and Lay Leaders Retreat at our church on November 27-29, 2011. Anne Smith, COM reiterated the need of Session & Congregation to remember the Presbytery Policy of no communication with the former pastor for the well-being of both the church and former pastor. Pastor Christine attended the first meeting of the Palm Springs Clergy Association on proposed Zoning Issues relating to churches. Session approved the motion that handouts on the table in the Narthex must be church initiated. Rev. Christine is a member of the Presbytery's SMRT Team and attended a Sexual Misconduct Seminar required for Pastors and received a renewal certificate good for three years and plans to encourage the Elders to attend the next seminar in February, 2012.

The Treasurer's report showed a loss for the month of August of \$2,812 and a year to date thru August a loss of \$13,486. Session agreed to look into having a presence in the Festival of Lights parade. Session approved Rev. Christine to perform weddings & funerals outside the church. Session confirmed a phone vote approving Mike Johnson as a member of the Praise Band. Elder Jackie Morgan gave a report on the Presbytery meeting at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Ontario held on September 10, 2011.

Session was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. with prayer. The next Session meeting will be October 19<sup>th</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.



**THE NEXT 5:59 GATHERING WILL BE THURS, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**

Rev Christine will be speaking about hymns. It is always a wonderful time of learning and good food. Come and enjoy the fellowship.



### 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 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.



### 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  
No host breakfast after Bible Study.

Women’s Bible Study with Rev. Christine – Fellowship Hall Tuesday 9:30 AM We are studying Song of Songs.



**Fri, Oct 21 & Sat. Oct 22**

### Mark Your Calendars

Our annual Rummage Sale will be bigger and better than ever this year!

Ellie Cushing is 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. 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!



Aloha Ke Akua to all of you (God’s Aloha) Thank you for your gift to The Well and the people we serve. Your gift goes directly to meet the needs of your neighbors in need. Our administrative costs are less than 10% because we make maximum use of any monies we are given because we have always utilized volunteers to do the work. And we have worked out “deals” with our food sources to maximize what we can buy with our resources. Your gifts are especially precious to us. The Palm Springs Presbyterian Church was the first church to support The Well when we began our services in the west end of the valley 15 years ago. Bless you all for remembering who we serve. It is Christ, indeed! Wayne McKinny for The Well in the Desert

## What We Did During

**From Alex,** While camping in Mission Bay, San Diego, we rented a speedboat with a doughnut. I really don't know what I was thinking of when I decided I'll do it too...



**From Bob Wulf,** A beautiful summer on the Oregon coast, with grandchildren and bridge, but nothing exciting or particularly noteworthy. We return in mid October.



**From Claire Vilhauer,** Nothing great to report. We usually spend our summers maintaining our property here. And that was the case this summer as well. Plus, we had just about the coldest summer on record. August had 29 days out of 31 of fog! Brrr! Blessings, Claire

**From Donna Ward,** I guess you could say I had a staycation, mainly because we live on a lake year around, so it is always so beautiful and lots of fun. The boys and their families came to visit and also my sister from Pittsburgh. I'm still in the process of having our bathroom remodeled, and will be glad when it is finished. I'm looking forward to my winter in Palm Springs again. February and March can't come soon enough. Warmest regards, Donna Ward



## Our Summer Vacation



**From Suzanne Swartz** My mom and I spent my birthday on a fabulous cruise to Alaska's inside passage with our cousins from Alabama. We had a wonderful time! Here is a picture of us from the boat. When we got back I studied for and took my exegesis ordination exam. I find out my results October 26.



**From Gail Jones** I have had a very busy summer. My kids earned their Masters degrees and the graduation ceremony was in June in Seattle and it was a really beautiful event. We had a family gathering for my birthday in Ellensburg. In July everyone came for Jazz in the Valley and I went to Jan Snyder's mountain home with several others from our church group. In September we spent three days with my son and daughter-in-law in Spokane. He loves to cook so we had gourmet meals the entire time. Then went to Seattle for a cousin's gathering at my daughter and son-in-laws which included a tour of Kathy and Greg's new offices. They now have two therapists in their offices. They are loving their new careers. Then back to Seattle for an evening of fun with my granddaughter and her babies then on Sunday night we went to opera night in Bellevue. We went to the fair every day over Labor Day and to the rodeo with a friend from Bellevue on Monday. In between I am dining with my friends here and catching up before I leave on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. I am eager to return to Palm Springs and to all of you. See you soon. Love, Gail

## From Jim DeHart's Kitchen

### Cherry/Walnut Bars

2 ½ cups sifted flour  
½ cup sugar  
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened  
2 eggs  
1 cup brown sugar, firmly packed  
½ tsp salt  
½ tsp baking powder  
½ tsp vanilla  
1 (2 oz) jar maraschino cherries  
½ cup chopped walnuts  
1 tblsp softened butter  
1 cup Confectioners sugar

Mix flour, sugar & 1 cup butter until crumbly. Press into ungreased 13 x 9 x 2" pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until crust is lightly browned.

Blend together eggs, brown sugar, salt, baking powder and vanilla.

Drain and chop cherries, reserving liquid. Stir chopped cherries and walnuts into blended mixture. Spread on top of baked crust. Return to oven and bake 25 minutes. Remove from oven; cool in pan on rack.

Combine softened butter and confectioners sugar with enough reserved cherry liquid to spread easily (I also put in 1/8 tsp of almond extract). When icing has set, cut in 2 x 1" bars.

Sonshine Deadline

October 21<sup>st</sup>

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



### Birthdays October

Fae Custer	4
Rev. Ken McCullen	8
Marge Harris	8
Winnie DeVries	10
Rev. Christine	21
Charles Walker	23
Peggy Lynn	26



### PSPC OFFICE HOURS

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

Closed on Friday



Palm Springs  
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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



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