



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church May, 2012

“Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.” (Job 42:3b)

From Pastor Christine,



It's amazing what can happen when one opens a Bible at random and chooses to read the first verse that catches the eye: Job – who would have thought! And yet, it perfectly reflects our reactions, as Christians, to the world around us, and certainly to a world that is always in transition.

“You’ve been here a year now,’ I can hear the voices saying, ‘so what do you mean, in transition?’ “ We are always in transition, or should be, since we exist in the living and always revealing Word of God. That’s how Job’s comment connects to our lives, as we continue forward, listening for the presence of the Spirit – and often missing what God has placed before us.

Most folks like familiarity; it grounds us, and allows us to flow through circumstances with less stress. We have been known to expect familiarity, particularly in our ‘safe’ places, like Worship and church structure. It can be disarming when someone new comes along, and we wonder if we will lose that ‘safe place.’ I hope by now everyone knows that, even with transitions, gradual revisiting of familiar traditions and new faces joining our church family, PSPC is still the safe place, the joyful place, where we gather as one in Christ.

And yet.....this is a seminal time. A season has passed, another begins. Opportunity presents itself, as I challenged your Session (now called ‘Council’ in the New Form OF Government), to be bold! How can we imagine new ways to reach out, to welcome in, to serve? Let’s encourage one another, in this imagining! We can remember Job, as he reflected on his reluctance to embrace God’s expression over a faith he had been confident in, and his revelation of God’s wisdom, foresight and plan; in his caution we might recognize our own reluctance, and in his understanding, our own possibilities to experience, as revealed by our Creator, ‘things too wonderful’ as Christ’s people in Palm Springs.

As your Pastor, I will dream with you and serve with and for you. To my time spent making calls, visits, preparing for Worship, study, serving on Presbytery committees, meeting with other Pastors, attending City events, I hope to add increased participation in civic affairs and, working with our Outreach and Evangelism teams, exploring creative ways to make our Beloved Community a *living* voice that more will want to not just experience, but share in the *expression* of Christ’s love through outreach and mission.

As you can see, it was not Job’s suffering and being tested that jumped from that passage, but Job’s re-discovery of his faith and purpose, and his claim as beloved by God. It’s about his blessing and his refreshment, and his understanding that we humans, try as we may, can’t obscure God’s counsel. We listen, and we hear, and we respond. And things too wonderful will begin to unfold in our midst.

What will we hear, when we quiet our hearts and let the mighty splendor of the Holy, lead us?

Peace, *Rev. Christine*



Session Highlights

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Wednesday, April 19, 2012 at 9:35 a.m. Elder Frances Gotenstein read spiritually excerpts from “Words that Matter – Everyday Truths Guide and Inspire Change “followed with prayer. All members were present with Nancy Spencer & Bob Wulf being excused. Also present were Anne Smith, representing the Committee of Ministry (COM).

Session approved Elders Susan McGuire & Ernie Moore with Pastor Christine to create a sexual abuse policy in conjunction with the Presbytery of Riverside’s Sexual Misuse Response Team for the next meeting. Session approved leave for Pastor Christine for April 27th thru May 6th. Session approved a tentative new member class for May 20th. Session approved purchasing a new computer for Jackie & updated accounting software of which funds were donated by an Elder for the computer and Women’s Retreat for the software. Mission Committee reported that \$220 (20 kits) was received for the Presbyterian Disaster Program and \$812.30 for the One Great Hour of Sharing. The next 5:59 Gathering will be May 17th. Great ideas for outreach and evangelism were reviewed and Pastor Christine charged everyone to

think of our roles and be bold in ideas to be discussed at the next meeting.

The Treasurer’s report showed a profit for the month of March of \$117 and a profit year to date as of March 31st of \$3,306. Session approved looking into companies and cost for accepting credit cards at our website.

Session was adjourned at 11:48 AM with prayer. The next Session will be on May 16th at 9:30 AM.

Elder Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

As the new Elder for Worship and Music, I want to gratefully thank the choir for their dedication and hard work on our special music for Maundy Thursday and Easter. We are fortunate to have some regular winter visitors join us which made for a good size group. We so look forward to their return each year, but our small and mighty choir will carry on as usual. With the great music from our band and Alex’s direction we will continue to make a joyous sound unto the Lord. I know there are some people in the congregation that enjoy singing and we would love to have you in the choir. Yes it’s a commitment, but it’s also fun and a joyous ministry. We meet every Thursday at the church at 3:30.

Come join us.

Elder Susan McGuire



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.



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.

Thanks so much to the generous member who gave the money for the new computer for the office.



Also thanks to The Women’s Retreat Committee for giving the money for new accountina software.



THE NEXT 5:59 GATHERING WILL BE THURS, May 17th.

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



You generously gave \$812.30 to OGHS this year. Thanks to all.



Birthdays
This Month
May

Jim Chabot	1
Elizabeth Morgan	6
Kathy Smith	10
Hugh Ash	13
Donna Mead	13
Don Mac Ewan	20
Charlotte Crisp	24
Helen Davis	26

Hi, from Stonehenge. We had a wonderful time in England, Scotland and Wales. We travelled with the PSHS band who was invited to play at the Edinburgh Easter Festival. On the way to Edinburgh, we saw Bath, toured many castles and saw a lot of sheep. We spent a week in Edinburgh, seeing the sights and attending band performances. The PSHS band is great. We met a lot of nice local people and travelling with the band kids was really special. *Jeff, Jackie, Daniel & Elizabeth*

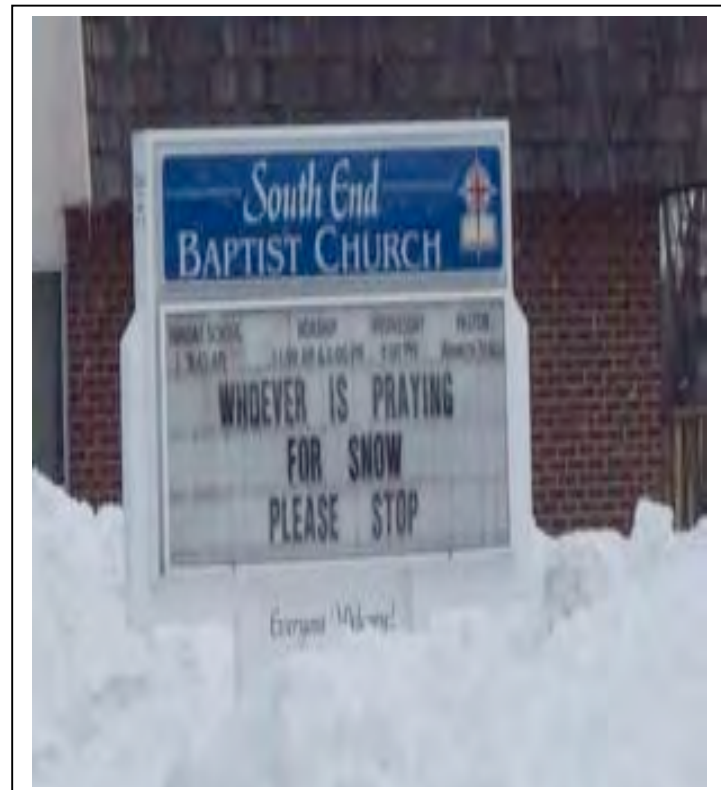
mother's
DAY *May 13th*

Sonshine Deadline – May 21, 2012

Editor's Note

The Sonshine will be leaner over the summer as there is less to report. If you have an article you would like to have in the Sonshine, please let me know.

Please e-mail articles to
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jmorgan@dc.rr.com
 or FAX to the office
 at 760-320-5089





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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.

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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