



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church July/August, 2012

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Mt. 6:33



From Pastor Christine,

These familiar words come from the passage where Jesus is teaching about ‘worry.’ It contains descriptions of the beautiful, God-given dress of the grasses, the growth of the lilies of the field, and the bounty given to the birds of the air; he reminds us not to worry about food, clothing, and shelter, but to focus on God’s Kingdom - and all else will follow because of God’s love. Of course, this passage is immediately preceded by our being told that we can’t serve two masters, ‘God and money!’ So, what does this mean for us?

As we fold into the deep summer months of July and August, there is a tendency to bask in the nature of the season: Easy, long days, time for vacation, a sense that life pretty much rolls along on its own. For many, though, the image of well-fed birds and grasses and the beautiful clothing of lilies seems an unattainable goal even as our attitudes are lifted by the halcyon days of the season. The realities of living roll on, regardless of the wrappings that surround us.

The good thing is, we have God’s hope and promise. And, if we listen to these words in Matthew, and focus on what is right and good, our bounty will increase, both physically and spiritually. What makes our faith a living part of ourselves is that it is a verb. It needs exercise to manifest, and what better time to manifest the bounty of God’s promise than now?!

At a retreat held at Big Bear in June, others and myself played a game. We were given “currencies,” with the direction to give them to others, never more than three, at a time, and trying to end up with zero when the bell was rung. What a melee! And guess what? It was REALLY hard to get rid of all one’s ‘money!’ It was a demonstration of ‘Holy Currency’ and how, if we share, all will benefit and none will suffer. Sharing makes our blessings grow and multiply. That is how you serve God, and keep ‘money’ in its place.

As a faith community, we have accomplished many faithful acts through prayer, mission, and service. We give so that we can serve, communicate, provide a place to gather and worship. We are growing, yet still we need to move *actively* forward in faith. Our reserves are small, yet we must keep the doors open and dream programs that will manifest our (verb) Faith. Palm Springs Presbyterian has demonstrated it is a community of love, determination and grace. We thrive as a family even as many in our Denomination struggle, and if we focus on the Gospel as our call to action, we will continue to do so. And if we are a missional church, that image of a field of grasses heralded by the beauty of lilies and birds on the wing will not only be a reality, but also will build and continually renew us, as God’s people in Christ.

The meditation then, for July and August: What does a Missional church look like to you? How do we dig deeper, give more of both time and, it must be said, ‘money,’ to keep the Good News flowing and the VERB faith, growing! Your little church in the Coachella Valley loves you, seeks you, serves you, NEEDS you.

And always, sends to you God’s Blessings. Peace, *Rev. Christine*



Session Highlights

Session met on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 9:40 a.m. Pastor Christine opened with prayer and acknowledged with gratitude Anne Smith our representative from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry whose term was expiring. Elder Moore followed reading an excerpt on Jesus from an 1873 book entitled "Elegant Extracts". All members were present with Frances Gotenstein, Bob Wulf, Nancy Spencer & Sue Cooper being excused. Also present was Anne Smith, representing the Committee of Ministry (COM).

Session accepted with regret the resignation from Session Elder Nancy Spencer (moving to Oklahoma) and Elder Sue Cooper (moving to Henderson, Nevada). Session also approved Elder Sue Cooper's request to be transferred from an active member to an affiliate. On the bright side, Session voted to welcome the following new member on Sunday, June 24th: Donna Genett, Roger Taff, Richard (Dick) Schultz, Phyllis Burrows and Jody Allen.

Session approved a Congregational Meeting on July 8th to elect members for the Nominating Committee. Session also approved inviting Kristi Van Nostran to speak on August 5th. Kristi is a Missionary in El Salvador. The Treasurer's report showed a **loss** for the month of May of **\$3,316** and a profit

year to date as of May 31st of \$4,133. Session approved a revised budget projecting a cash loss of **\$10,000**. Including debt service, the projected cash loss would be **\$23,000**.

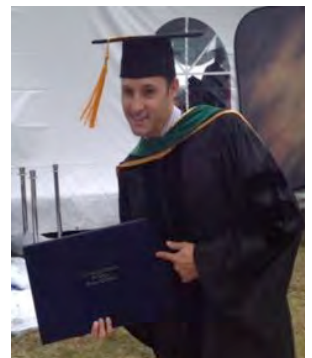
Session was adjourned at 11.55 AM with prayer. The next Session will be on June 20th at 9:30 AM.

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.

Elder Jim DeHart, Clerk of Session



Iain the acolyte at PSPC



Iain the doctor

Iain Jacob MacEwan received his Doctor of Medicine from University of California at San Diego on June 3, 2012. Congratulations Iain!! We are very proud of you.



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 is on hiatus for the Summer. Please keep watching for the date it will resume in the Fall. This is a wonderful time for learning, sharing and prayer.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE



Ernie Moore, Susan McGuire, Pastor Christine and Jim DeHart are a few of the people who helped to assemble the 36 PDA hygiene kits at the 5:59 Gathering in June. Thanks to all for your generous donations to buy the supplies for the kits and to all who helped to assemble them. These kits are an important part of the work that PDA does in times of disaster.



THE NEXT 5:59 GATHERING WILL BE THURS, July 12th.

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

This was forwarded by Morella Larsen

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go....hmm...where is my Bible? Oh, and one more thing.

Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think where are my priorities?

And no dropped calls! When Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you!



Sonshine Deadline –
August, 20, 2012

Editor's Note

This is a combined July & August Sonshine. The next issue will be published for September, 2012. Happy summer vacation everyone.

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



David, who is a neighbor of PSPC, took this picture at sunset and sent it to us. Thanks, David



Sue Cooper has moved. Her new address is Horizon Pines Senior Apts, 2570 W. Horizon Ridge Parkway, Unit 4-102, Henderson, NV 89052. We wish her well in her new home, but we will miss her. Stay in touch, Sue!



We received \$376 for this quarter from the recycling that you have given. That is up \$70 from last quarter. Thanks to all who donate their recyclables to PSPC. Thanks also to Harvey Stephens who runs the program and does all the hard work involved.



The choir is on vacation from July 8 - September. Enjoy your time off!

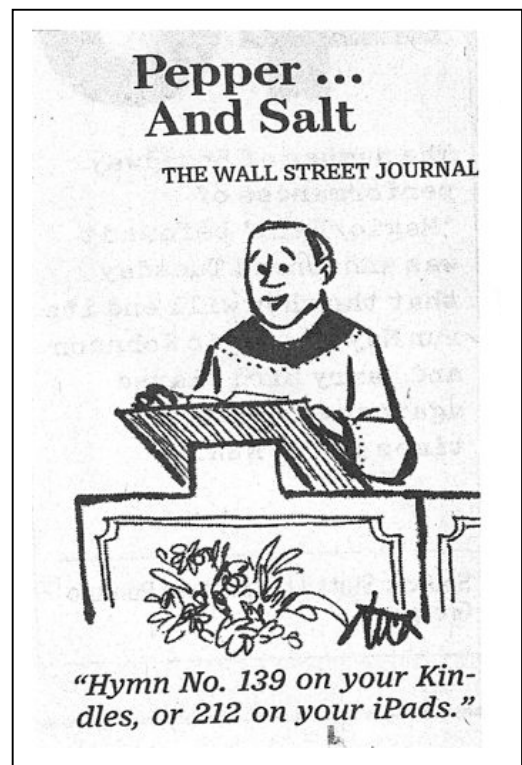


July

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

August

Karol Egan	2
Brenda Pafford Erickson	4
Marjorie Carlson	9
Harry Henderson	17
Marilyn Walker	18
Evelyn Wulf	27





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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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