



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of Palm Springs Presbyterian Church

November

“O give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.” I Chronicles 16: 34

When I was growing up, as it is for most, life was measured by the change of seasons. January hopefully brought enough snow to close the schools; spring meant flowers, Easter, and lots of rain; Summer meant, of course, NO school and long days of swimming, bike riding and playing ‘kick the can;’ and fall.....well, fall. Autumn brought the chill back to the air, classes back to reality, and the turning of leaves. Piles of leaves, that, while they had to be dutifully raked first, created fabulous piles of color to jump into! And that turned into a time for carving Jack O’lanterns and bags of candy and THAT turned into thoughts of Pilgrims and turkey and, most of all, the kind of family reunion that can only happen over a holiday table. Is Christmas next? You bet! But for now, I pause over Pilgrims and pumpkin pie. It feels good to be standing expectantly on the edge of the season of light and hope!

Ah, but there is no more sledding, no more rain, no more school, and if I tried to kick a can I’d probably end up on my head. The seasons are measured (setting aside the Pastoral role) by staying inside because its too hot or too cold, getting outside because its just right, a time for flu shots, and watching the unfolding of commercialized holidays while indulging in memories of a simpler joy.

Life in general is a lot like that. Our seasons change, as we move from youth to middle and later life. Some continue to be blessed with unbounded energy, while others face a downsized life. Families can be far-flung or non-existent or just look different than they used to. For sure, times change; but certain things remain constant. And the good thing is, it’s the most important that stay the same.

God’s Love. Gods’ Hope. God’s Grace. And because of these, we can always experience, Joy.

Thanksgiving, and the month that surrounds it, is often lost in a race of politics and pleasure, of looking past a day set aside for humility and towards profit and pride. The Pilgrims fled to the Americas at great risk, to escape the punishment of a judging people. They were met, and helped, by indigenous peoples who very well could have let them freeze and starve. Instead, they sat together at table, and this month we will remember that day as one of sharing, caring for one another, and giving thanks for the ways in which our Creator watches over us, often from the most unexpected quarter.

What a vision! Not just the images we have imprinted from years of romanticizing a cold New England gathering, but more, what was happening *inside* those who gathered and gather. Grateful hearts and open hands, a new kind of family. This is what we, as Christians, can vision in our lives today. It exists outside the ‘laws’ of culture, and is bound by the emotion of a blessing: ‘Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.’ It is a transformation borne of love and expressed in life, in the ways we can reach out to others, and truly ‘be at table’ with a family that extends beyond the ties of our earthly birth.

When I experience our church at work, I experience that greater family. When I watch a parade, the tears that surprise me express the happiness of diversity working as one. God's family reminds us to live, gratefully, joyfully, no matter our circumstance. Because, we are never alone, never forgotten, and each day is a treasure, a gift and a blessing, filled with a new relationship or memory just around the corner.

So jump in those leaves that are the lives that lend color and relationship, are gifts and *opportunity*, those many leaves gathered by God to live together in a humble, grateful, and thankful, world.

Peace, *Rev. Christine*



The Welcome Back Bar-B-Q on October 28 was a great event as always. The food was delicious, the weather was great and the fellowship was awesome. We had about 50 happy members and friends attend. It was a great time to visit and enjoy fabulous barbeque. Thanks so much to Harvey Stephens and his crew.





Session Meeting

Session met on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at 9:36 a.m. Elder Susan McGuire Read “Go Gently Thru the Day” from the book “Jesus Calling” followed with prayer. Pastor Christine welcomed Kathy Smith, newly elected Elder. Guests were Dick Schultz and Robert Kemp.

Session approved the following:

- The Baptisms of Harley, Katlin, Isabel & Wyatt Hohanadel and Jack Robert and Ella Rose McCracken, great grandchildren of Barbara & Harry Henderson, on November 4th.
- A Desert Chamber Orchestra Concert on December 9th. George Cebra, Bass Player in our Praise Band, is a member of this group.
- New member luncheon to be held on November 17th.
- The policy for Sexual Misconduct & Elder Abuse.
- The rummage sale was tabled until the spring.
- Approved Randy Bruno for membership into the church.
- Kathy Smith was appointed chairman of the Evangelism Committee.

Dick Schultz reported the progress on our float for the Festival of Lights Parade on December 1st along with a rendering of the design of the float. A session member donated \$300 towards the estimated cost of the float. A

committee for an emergency plan has been organized and had a speaker on disaster preparedness for the 5:59 Gathering. The Treasurer’s report showed a **loss** for the month of September of **\$1,304** and a **loss** year to date as of September 30th of **\$1,561**.

Session was adjourned at 12:30 PM with prayer. The next Session will be on November 28th 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



This is a big THANK YOU to the person who donates the flowers that are in the flower beds and in the pots leading into the church. Every year an anonymous benefactor gives us 10 flats of flowers. We find them by the back door of the church about this time of the year. We have never met him. What a generous gift! We enjoy them all season.





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.

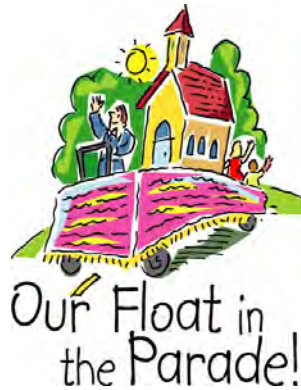


ONGOING MEETINGS EVERYONE WELCOME

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 meets on Tuesday at 9:30 AM. We are studying the Book of Job.




We will have a Festival of Lights Parade entry on this year!!

The Parade will be Saturday, December 1st and will begin at 5:45

PM. We have a team of enthusiastic volunteers, but we can always use more. There’s a lot of work involved with a project such as this, but I’m confident – as a family – we can do it. We have planned some fund raising activities so keep watching for opportunities to help finance our float. Our talented jazz worship team and choir members will be on the float as our star performers. Any questions or suggestions, call Dick Schultz at 760-565-6230 or Dirk Voerman at 805-754-3990 and get in on the fun.

5:59 Gathering



THE THANKSGIVING 5:59 GATHERING WILL BE THURS, November 15th

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



Desert Chamber Orchestra and make **Your** mark



present

Desert
Chamber
Orchestra
in concert

Christian Chalifour
Music Director & Conductor

"Can You Handel It?"

Handel Harp Concerto
also

Mozart, Bach, Ravel, Vivaldi
Gerstwin, Chip Davis, Bill Holcombe

Light classics and some Christmas favorites with a twist



featuring



Vanessa Sheldon
Harpist

**Sunday, December 9, 2012
3:00 pm**

**Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
815 South Camino Real
Palm Springs, CA 92263**

**RSVP (760) 320-2769
or e-mail info@pspresby.org**

Suggested donation \$10

Proceeds to benefit Desert Chamber Orchestra and
Palm Springs Presbyterian Church music ministry



From Jim DeHart's
Kitchen

Orange Praline Yams

Yam Casserole:

Two 2-pound 8-ounce cans yams or sweet potatoes drained, or 4 pounds cooked, peeled and sliced fresh yams or sweet potatoes.

2/3 C orange juice

1 T grated orange rind

5 T brandy (optional)

2 t salt

freshly ground pepper to taste

1 tsp ground ginger

4 T (1/2 stick) butter or margarine, melted

1/3 C light brown sugar, packed

3 eggs

Praline Topping:

2/3 C light brown sugar, packed

¼ pound (1 stick) butter melted

1 C chopped pecans

1 tsp cinnamon

In mixing bowl with electric mixer, beat yams or sweet potatoes until smooth. Mix in remaining yam casserole ingredients, beating until mixture is light and fluffy. Butter a 7 by 11 dish or shallow 2-quart casserole. Pour in yam mixture, smoothing top evenly.

Make praline topping by mixing all ingredients together in small bowl. Spread evenly over yams.

May be refrigerated covered overnight.

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes or until golden brown and bubbly. Remove from the oven and let stand 10 minutes before serving.



November 12



Thanksgiving,
November 22



Birthdays
This Month
November

Elvio Ditta	1
Fred Wallace	1
Christine Lutke	2
Bill Cushing	4
Susan McGuire	15



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

PDA has people coordinating relief efforts for Sandy victims and has provided money to help in the relief. If you would like to help, you can make out your check to PSPC and designate it for Sandy relief and we will forward it. You can also use www.presbyterianmission.org/give/DR000187 or text to 20222 to make a \$10 donation.



Palm Springs
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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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