



SONSHINE

Monthly Newsletter of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church
January 2016

“Now it is required that those have been given a trust must prove faithful.” (1Cor.4:2)

We are told again and again how blessed we are that God loves us, that the Christ lived among us, died for us, and overcame sin for us. And while we often read in biblical texts that such love is received with responsibility as well, I suspect we all have a tendency to focus on the gift and not the giving.

Now, I am not talking about tithing or sharing or good works, exactly here, although they all eventually come into play; rather, I am referring again to the simple act of faith and faithfulness to our Creator who cares so deeply, to Jesus who walked so humbly, and to the generosity and *presence* of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, in this passage, is reminding the early church in Corinth not to be divisive know-it-alls! Reminding the early church, already negotiating for power, to be faithful to the one and only foundation, which is Jesus Christ. To be patient and unafraid in their faithfulness - for the Christ will bring all that is right to light. It is easy to relate to this passage, because the world is relentless in its desire to judge, manipulate and punish and unfortunately it is all too often the church itself, of whatever Denomination, that provides scenarios seemingly unaware of Jesus' life or the concept of Grace. Paul was talking directly to anyone who would miss the point that power and divisiveness corrupt, and the simple truth must prevail. Thus, the requirement that the trust we have been given to share the Good News 'requires' faithfulness is not a punishing threat, but should be interpreted as a liberating, natural outpouring of our hope and joy. We should judge nothing, for Christ alone, God alone, will judge.

In this New Year, wouldn't it be terrific if we all stopped judging? If we stopped the name-calling and fear mongering and exchanged it for positive relationships and life-building engagement? What if we took Paul's words to heart and visualized Jesus, walking unafraid into life, challenging a broken status quo and transforming through love? I believe we can do this! That we, as Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, a bunch of very different personalities on the one hand, and bound together by our love of Christ on the other, can consciously, purposefully and joyfully accept the trust we have been given and faithfully engage our faith in a way that is, well, *faithful*.

As we approach our annual Congregational Meeting, I encourage each of us to prayerfully and personally consider the trust we have been given, to be leaders in building the *good* that is the church of Christ, which is in its essence the telling, sharing, demonstrating in word and deed, the *life* of Jesus. Are we faithful? Can we be more so? Who are we, and who can we be, to our community and to one another?

We are salt and light! Let's diminish the negative and accentuate the positive, love relentlessly and create fearlessly a place where all God's people will find a home of hope and welcome.

Happy Brand New Year – In His Service, *Rev. Christine*

If you would be willing to help provide transportation for a few of our members and friends at PSPC who wish to attend church and have no transportation, would you please let a Deacon know of your willingness? You may phone Peggy Lynn at 760 413 0658 or email peggylynn15@verizon.net Thank you so much for your consideration of this request.



Sessions Notes from December 16, 2015 Session Meeting

Deacons Report: Deacons are looking for drivers for parishioners who no longer drive...especially important for Communion Sunday and special holidays. No one has volunteered.

A brief congregational meeting was held on Dec 20 to approved the pastor's terms of call This had to be done prior to the end of the year. Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Jan 24. Reports will be available on Sun, Jan 17, 2016.



Jeff Morgan (Music & Worship) Committee: 2 worship services at 8:30 AM & 10:00 AM Sunday beginning January 3, 2016.

Jody Allen (Finance/Stewardship): We need to save \$2000 a month during the season in order to get through the summer. Jody presented the 2016 budget.

Motion made and seconded to approve the budget as presented.

Donna Genett (Vision Comm) - Game Day will be Thursday, Jan 14 and Italian Night is Jan 30.

Randy Bruno (Congregational Care): We will not have a 5:59 Gathering in January because Italian Night will be on Jan 30.

Meeting closed with prayer. Next session meeting will be January 20, 2016 at 5:00 PM.

ITALIAN NIGHT

*Featuring award winning
Gerald Colucci singing*

Italian love songs!

Sat Jan 30 5:15 PM

*Tickets for dinner, beverages
and entertainment are
\$25.00 per person and will be
on sale starting in early
January.*

OUR FIRST EVER GAME DAY!

THURS, JAN. 14 2:00-4:00 PM

Admission: \$3.00

Free Coffee & Cookies!

NOTE: All proceeds go to maintenance needs of our church.

2016 Church Survey Questionnaire

Two years ago, Palm Springs Church leadership launched its first Church Survey, seeking insight for church direction and visioning from you, our members and friends. It was a great help initiating certain projects in the life of our church.



Now, two years later, your Visioning Committee (a new team on the church Session, or ruling council), is offering another opportunity to make your experiences and ideas heard! Your leadership wants to hear how we are doing in meeting your Spiritual needs as well as being inclusive in church activities and where we're headed as the people of Christ. Watch for your questionnaire in the mail; if you haven't received one by **January 10**, there will be copies available in the Narthex or church office. Please return them before **January 17**, so the results can be compiled before the **January 24** Congregational Meeting. Remember, you are part of the Body of Christ!

In His Service, Rev. Christine



'Help Boost our Online Presence!'

Every time our Facebook Page gets a 'Like' or our website gets a view, we come up sooner on a search by someone looking for a worshipping community in our area! Please help by making a visit to either or both Palm Springs Presbyterian sites on the web: Pspresby.org, and the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church Facebook page. There is also an easy online giving opportunity on our website.

SOUPERBOWL IS COMING - Every year on Super Bowl Sunday, PSPC and thousands of other churches across the country, have the SouperBowl of Caring. Last year \$9.8 million in food and donations was raised to support local hunger relief organizations across the US. PSPC has a SouperBowl soup luncheon each year. There will be delicious soups to choose from and we welcome your donations which will go to The Well in the Desert. The Well provides food and services to the homeless in Palm Springs. Mark you calendars and join us for the SouperBowl of Caring on February 7th.





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" - \$20. – See Morella or Jackie

PSPC cookbook, Love Feast, is for sale for \$5. See Jim or Jackie.

Save used ink cartridges for Palm Springs Presbyterian Church. 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 1/4 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 ACTIVITIES

Men's Bible Study with Allen Perrier – Fellowship Hall Wed 9:00 AM
Breakfast after Bible Study.

Women's Bible Study meets on Tuesday at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Yoga Class Tuesday at 11:00 AM and Thursday at 5:30 PM. Cost - \$10



Do you like to sing? If the answer is yes, the choir is seeking new members. Sing the praises of God for all to hear! For more information, contact Jeff Morgan or Alex Danson. Rehearsal is Wednesday from 2 PM to 4 PM and Sunday morning at 8:30 AM. The choir welcomes singers



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Michael Lutke	6
Gina Ross Johnson	9
Richard Cuthbert	11
Norman Ross	11
Bob Coates	14
Joe Sypus	17
Dirk Voerman	17
Francis Spreitzer	31
Phyllis Burrows	31

Attention: All Seasonal Friends, Visitors or if you just miss a Sunday You can listen to the Sunday worship services on PSPC's website pspresby.org. Alex has the current Sunday Service available by Tuesday of the following week. Even if you are away you can still enjoy Rev Christine's sermons, hear our great choir and keep up with what's going on here.



Online giving is now up and running. Just get on our website, and click on the button

in the upper right hand corner. The website will guide you through the steps to take advantage of online giving. It can be used to make regular tithes to the general fund or the piano fund. You can use this option weekly, every two weeks, monthly, quarterly or on a one time basis.



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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.

You can listen to the Sunday worship services on PSPC's website, pspresby.org. They are available by Tuesday of the following week.



Pastor:
Rev. Christine Dickerson

Music Director:
Alex Danson

Office Administrator:
Jackie Morgan

Sonshine Editors:
Jeff & Jackie Morgan